



# The Messenger



SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER  
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR



## Sunday Morning Format Changes to Better Enable Sunday School Participation

Our Savior's Sunday morning format for worship and faith formation is changing on September 4 to better enable children to participate in Sunday school before their extra-curricular activities begin at noon. The decline in Sunday morning participation at the 10:30 worship and Sunday school by families with school age children is directly attributed to activities that begin at noon, making it impossible for children to participate in both. The Worship and Music Committee recommended, and the Council approved, the following new Sunday morning schedule.

### NEW SUNDAY FORMAT

**8:00-9:00:** Traditional worship as has been provided to date.

**9:00-9:30:** Coffee Fellowship in narthex.

**9:30-10:30:** Traditional worship in sanctuary with livestream on Facebook Live. All blessing rites, choir anthems, and baptisms will occur during this service.

**9:30-10:10:** Children aged 4 to Grade 6 attend Sunday school classes before joining families in sanctuary worship for the Meal and Sending portion of worship.

**9:30-10:10:** Reflections Interactive Worship in the Parlor and by Zoom. Participants will join the sanctuary worship for the Meal and Sending portion of worship. (SEE SEPARATE ARTICLE)

**10:30-11:00:** Coffee Fellowship in narthex.

The goal each week will be to provide a meaningful worship experience for each service with the second worship services ending by 10:30, regardless of additional worship rites and music. When there are baptisms, blessing rites, and anthems all in one service the 9:30 worship will need to be pared down of less essential components of the liturgy. The following prioritized practices will be implemented to facilitate such services lasting approximately sixty minutes.

### WEEKLY STANDARD

- Announcements will begin at 9:25 followed by the Prelude. The **Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness will begin promptly at 9:30.**

- Hymns will be selected with no more than four verses, or 3-4 verses will be selected to be sung of hymns with five+.

### AS NEEDED FOR TIME CONSTRAINT PURPOSES (Prioritized list)

- The Kyrie and Hymn of Praise will not be sung/read.
- The liturgy will be spoken rather than sung.
- The sermon will be ten minutes or less.
- Holy Communion distribution will be by intinction rather than at the rail.
- Holy Communion liturgy will be limited to the Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer, and Lord's Prayer prior to distribution.
- The Sending Hymn will be omitted, but only if all other time reducing options have been implemented and the anticipated time of worship will exceed 65 minutes.

Obviously, if some or all these time reduction measures are implemented for the 9:30 worship the 8:00 worship will end sooner than 9:00, most likely by 8:50 or earlier. This will give Music Director Pauline Worusski the opportunity to rehearse with the choir(s) prior to the 9:25 start time. The Reflections Worship will begin at 9:30 in the Parlor but will be led by a Worship Assistant who will facilitate the interactive reflection portion of the worship as well as the parts of the liturgy not requiring a pastor. It will continue to offer both in-person and Zoom participation. *(See the separate article on Reflections Worship in this September Messenger for greater details). Article continues on page 7*

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord, proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs, and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.*



## “Showing Up Is 80% of Ministry”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

Woody Allen had a famous saying. “I have learned one thing. Showing up is eighty percent of life. Sometimes it’s easier to hide home in bed. I’ve done both.” Somehow, I think this quote is indicative of ministry as well. Especially after the Covid pandemic. For the first year we were basically told, “Don’t show up. Stay at home and hide from the virus.” Some even chose to do so in their beds. Zoom Meetings or Google Meets were the way we “showed up” for work, school, confirmation, Sunday school, and even some worship services. We said we missed being with people, but the ability to attend activities without ever having to get into your car or change out of your pajama bottoms became a convenience we got used to.

Here's the thing. Even God realized the necessity and importance of “showing up” in the flesh when it comes to experiencing the love, grace, and hope God has for us. God’s love for us “showed up” in the flesh in the person of Jesus Christ. God tried the law (Ten Commandments) and God used the prophets (God’s virtual voice), but neither of them was sufficient. God’s love and hope for the world needed to become incarnational, in the flesh, for us to truly experience what God’s kingdom life of love and grace was really all about. I think it still does.

Rally Sunday is September 11. It will be a day I am looking forward to being a Sunday where those who used to regularly “show up” on Sunday for worship and Sunday school will do so again after a long pandemic hiatus of staying at home. Granted – there are some changes since you were here last. The 10:30 worship and Sunday school will now be at 9:30 in the hopes Sunday school families will be able to show up amidst noontime activities. The Reflections worship will now begin in the Parlor and end with Holy Communion in the sanctuary with those attending that worship service and Sunday school children. All these changes were made to better enable people to “show up” for worship and ministry on Sunday morning.

And showing up for ministry isn’t just on Sunday morning. I invite you to consider what other ways you can show up to not only experience but reveal God’s love, hope, and grace to others around us. I invite you to show up for Bible Discussion for Daily Living. I invite you to show up as a confirmation Small Group Guide. I invite you to show up as a Sunday school teacher or Oasis Senior High Guide. I invite you to show up with a meal for My Father’s House. I invite you to show up as an usher, communion assistant, reader, greeter, acolyte, or Altar Guild member to facilitate worship.

Most of all, I invite you to just show up. Show up and re-member yourself to the body of Christ that is this faith community of Our Savior. The pandemic may not be officially over but the need to hide at home in our beds is no longer encouraged. It’s time to show up. I hope to see you when you do. I know there are many who are looking forward to seeing you too. God bless until then.

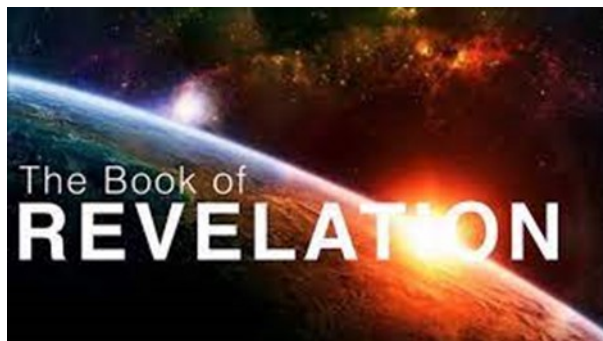
## From Beginning to End: 6-Week Study in Revelation Topic Begins Week of Sep 19/21

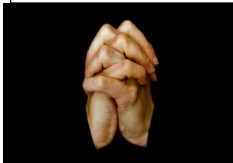
For many in the church, Revelation is a confusing book. Martin Luther himself thought the images in Revelation were incomprehensible and found the book’s meaning unclear. It is a book that disturbs us and, especially given many popular (and incorrect) interpretations, frightens us.

The bizarre, confusing images, however, have inspired poets and artists, musicians and moviemakers. They also offer us glimpses into who Jesus is and who we are called to be in response. The 6 sessions in this Bible study explore the following images of Christ found in Revelation.

Sep 19/21	The Freeing Jesus	Rev. 1:4-8
Sep 26/28	The Slain Jesus	Rev 5:11-14
Oct 3/5	The Cleansing Jesus	Rev 7:9-17
Oct 10/12	The Renewing Jesus	Rev 21:1-6
Oct 17/19	The Enlightening Jesus	Rev 21:10, 22-22:5
Oct 24/26	The Coming Jesus	Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

Participants are welcome to attend either the Monday night discussion group that meets in Room 112 from 7:30-9:00 PM or the Wednesday morning group in Room 112 from 9:30-11:00 AM. Each participant will receive a Learner Guide for the course that will enhance their discussion experience. Please contact the church office to reserve your copy to insure there are sufficient guides.





### Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Sam Lee, Noelle Corressel, Matula Family, Clive Crosby, Doris Rell, Dick Wilson, Shirley Stambaugh, Caryl Wallace, *Mike DiMartinis, Shuvanon Shabid, Eric Kelly, Julia MacNamara, Shellee Conley, Steven Alutore, Brenda Jarger, Dale Runge, Lois Cummins, the people of Ukraine, Barbara Riper, Suzanne Ferguson, Rich DeBella, Ralph Volpe, Charles Bakes, Jack Kain, Peggy Miller, Rosemary Dougherty, Caren Kaufman, Colin Lawlor, Amelia Marchese, Albert Kern, Michelle Mavis, John Rell, Lynn Hoppe Kaminski, Larry Thatcher, Scott Hansen, Abby Phelps, Bill Getty, Carmela Crawford, Jacob Berard, Keith Maull, Connie Verner, Judy Yerkes, Daniel Mandel, Susan Maziuka, Saunders Family, Barbara Kerrane, Sandy Ferguson, Terry Mitchell, Ken Koehler, Bette Roncace, Nicholas Juele, Frank Marche, Beckham Williams, Ed Clark, Col. Fred C. Anderson, Fred Moffitt, Lily Gregorio, Julie Bartlett, Jimmy Lombardo, John Daggan, Betty Schurmann, Elva Mastrando, Chuck Atkinson, Sophia Campos, William T family, Ryan Roberts, Ed Miller, David Wenck*



### Pantry

The LCOS Pantry is Going Green!

The times, they are a changing! Like the rest of NJ, the Pantry is transitioning to using reusable grocery bags, and we can all help. The first step in this process is asking you to donate new or used re-usable grocery-sized bags. Just place your bags in the shopping cart in the foyer when you bring in your food donations.

Please do your part to help Our Savior reduce its carbon footprint. Thank you in advance for supporting the Pantry and for being a dedicated steward of our earth and our neighbors.



- Meals in a Can
- Mac & Cheese
- Cereal
- Paper towels
- Acme or Shop-Rite Gift Cards
- Monetary Donations



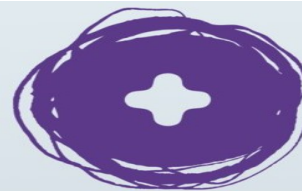
Coffee Fellowship

### Coffee Hour Schedule

With our new Sunday morning format for worship, we will begin a new Coffee Hour format, too. Coffee Hour will be right after both worship services 9:00 & 10:30 AM.

With this change also comes a change in who will be setting up, providing the treats and cleaning up. The church will be providing treats for coffee hour and if anyone would like to contribute please feel free to bring whatever you would like. If you can lend a hand every once in a while with clean-up Sandy would be most appreciative!

*Many Hands  
Make Light Work*



FAITH STEPPING STONES

### Faith Stepping Stones Blessing Services

September is once again a month chock full of blessing services for our families participating in our Faith Stepping Stones ministry of faith formation. There will be some changes in when the blessing services are held now that Sunday school children are going first to their classrooms on Sunday and joining parents for the Meal and Sending portion of worship around 10:10. Please take note of the dates, times, and locations of when each blessing will occur as some changes from the norm have been made.

**Sep 4: Backpack Blessing:** 9:30 worship service for all school age children and teachers.

**Sep 11: Stepping into Sunday School** for all 4–5-year-olds for whom it is their first year in Sunday school.

**Sep 11: Sunday School Teacher Blessing** after the Faith Stepping Stone blessing.

**Sep 18: Stepping Into the Catechism** at the 9:30 worship service prior to the Prayer of the Day.

**Sep 25: Stepping into Serving at the Altar** for teens serving as acolytes at either the 8:00 or 9:30 worship services prior to the Prayer of the Day.



### Sixth Graders Invited to Serve as Acolytes. Training Sep 16 @ 7:00 in Sanctuary

Beginning this year, the eligibility to serve in worship as an acolyte is extended to youth in the sixth grade. Boys and girls who are interested in being an acolyte will need to attend the training session held on Friday, September 16, from 7:00-8:00 in the sanctuary in conjunction with the beginning of the Confirmation Fall Retreat where seventh and eighth graders will also be receiving instruction. A "Stepping Into Serving at the Altar" blessing rite will be held at the 9:30 worship service on Sunday, September 25 for the sixth, seventh, and eighth graders who will be serving as acolytes. Please contact Pastor Wayne ([wzschech@yahoo.com](mailto:wzschech@yahoo.com)) if you plan to attend and begin serving as an acolyte in worship.



## Pulling Out All the Stops! Children Invited to Organ for Postludes

Starting Rally Sunday, September 11th, all children (and those young at heart and with a curiosity about the organ!) are invited to come up to the organ during the postlude to watch the organ. After the postlude, there will be a brief time for the children to get to “pull out all the stops” and “play” themselves!



## Choir Times - A Note Or Two

As our adult choirs are getting ready to start back up in September, there will be a small time change for those playing bells: adult bells will begin at 6:45pm and end at 7:45pm, adult choir will be 8-9:30pm. The 15 minutes between adult bells and adult choir will allow for a short lesson in music theory for those interested in learning how to read music. You don't need any experience and don't need to be in any of the choirs (but hopefully our company will inspire you to join!) to join the lessons. They will be short and simple. Anyone interested in joining who cannot make it to church at that time can request to join by Zoom, just let Pauline know by September 1.

All cherub, tween, and youth choir times will be decided based on schedule availability of the children participating. If your child is interested, please email Pauline so your schedule is considered in the choosing of rehearsal times.

*Pauline*

**Our Savior's Library has it all.  
Come on in and look around.**

**Books**



**Jigsaw  
Puzzles**



**Family  
DVD's**

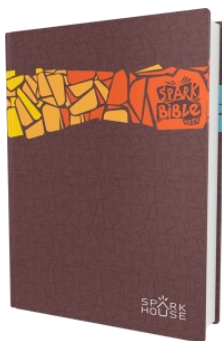


~The Library Ladies



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grader & Parents to Attend First Bible Class Sunday, Sep 18 at 10:30 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade First Bibles Bestowed on Reformation Sunday, Oct 30

Third graders and their parents are invited to attend the 60-minute Faith Stepping Stone class “Stepping into God's Stories” on Sunday, September 18 immediately following worship from 10:30-11:30. The focus of the class is on the importance of studying God's word of the Bible in a disciple's daily life. Parents and children will highlight key passages in each book of the new Spark Bible (NRSV) the children will be receiving each night using the FAITH5 model for Family Home Huddles. Parents will also write a dedication to their child inside the Bible. The Spark Bible was chosen for its focus on teaching children how to read, understand, and reflect on God's Word WHILE they are reading the Bible. Those participating are asked to confirm their attendance by calling or emailing the **Director of Youth & Family Ministry, Sabrina LaBelle** at 856-429-5122 or [smgvasta@gmail.com](mailto:smgvasta@gmail.com).





Annually on September 17<sup>th</sup>, the ELCA commemorates Hildegard of Bingen, a monastic from the High Middle Ages. Hildegard was a polymath—with capacities in the fields of philosophy, music, medicine and mysticism. Beyond these fields, she is also considered by some scholars to be the founder of scientific natural history in Germany.

Her work in that field and in the mystical collide in her vision of “viriditas” or “greening”. Viriditas comes from Latin, meaning “green-truth”. This image or idea had appeared in previous writers in the tradition, such as in the work of Augustine, but it is applied by Hildegard with frequency and import. Due to her extensive use of the term, it could offer various meanings, but generally-speaking, it refers to the power that makes living things both grow and heal.

Dr. Victoria Sweet, a medical historian, in her book *Rooted in the Earth, Rooted in the Sky: Hildegard of Bingen and Premodern Medicine*, connects Hildegard’s vision to her medical practice. Monasteries, at that time, were places that were organized to provide the right conditions for growth and healing, much like a gardener would arrange a garden—providing for proper soil conditions, enough water and sunlight—while offering enough spaciousness for a seed to do what a seed does best: find the light. Monasteries were essentially hospitals. Hildegard’s medical efforts, then, were guided by the design of viriditas, or as Hildegard herself succinctly defines it: “the greening power of God”.

The impact of this vision for her theological teachings was profound, and perhaps one could say, truly timeless and even prescient. Hildegard’s vision broke from a dualistic understanding in which God was distant and separate from the earth, all living beings and humanity. At a time such as ours, with the effects of climate change more obvious than ever, Hildegard’s words on the interdependence of all our life could not be more timely: “Humanity, take a good look at yourself. Inside, you’ve got heaven and earth, and all of creation. You’re a world—everything is hidden in you.” And if that was not clear enough, she also says, “The earth which sustains humanity must not be injured. It must not be destroyed!”

Hildegard’s vision teaches that within all of humanity, made in the image of God, there is a “verdancy of justice”, a deep desire for all to be right, for all to be well, such as the desire for the green shoot within the seed to break forth from broken seed through dark soil to radiant light. Her vision teaches us that healing is possible both within us and without us, and that sometimes all we require is a little space for things to move of their own accord.

This time of ours requires urgency. As we commemorate Hildegard of Bingen this month, let us recommit ourselves to the task of seeking a more verdant and just world as the greening power of God guides our hands and feet. **Vicar Tom**

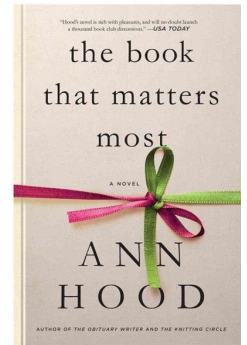
## Reading "The Book That Matters Most" (Literally!)

Our book club will resume on September 21st with "The Book That Matters Most" by Ann Hood. To accommodate those attending the Memorial Gifts meeting, we will be meeting earlier than usual, at 6pm, and attendees are welcome to bring their dinner with them as we discuss the book!

Here is Goodreads' description of this "enthraling novel about love, loss, secrets, friendship, and the healing power of literature:"

Ava’s twenty-five-year marriage has fallen apart, and her two grown children are pursuing their own lives outside of the country. Ava joins a book group, not only for her love of reading but also out of sheer desperation for companionship. The group’s goal throughout the year is for each member to present the book that matters most to them. Ava rediscovers a mysterious book from her childhood—one that helped her through the traumas of the untimely deaths of her sister and mother. Alternating with Ava’s story is that of her troubled daughter Maggie, who, living in Paris, descends into a destructive relationship with an older man. Ava’s mission to find that book and its enigmatic author takes her on a quest that unravels the secrets of her past and offers her and Maggie the chance to remake their lives.

We hope you join us! Any questions can be directed to Pauline.



## SAVE THE DATE! Congregational/Mustard Seed Childcare Oktoberfest Event @ Tap Room Oct 2 Noon-3:00

Join the congregation of Our Savior and the families of Mustard Seed Community Childcare at Our Savior for an afternoon of intergenerational fellowship, fun, and German food as we celebrate Oktoberfest at the Tap Room. The menu is not finalized but brats and sauerkraut, hot dogs and mac and cheese, and beer are sure to be on the menu. There will be a variety of outdoor games for family and friends to play including a cornhole tournament. We will have the back outdoor area for our event and

also an indoor room. Tickets will be sold through the church office or Mustard Seed office and the event is limited to the first 200 guests. Don’t miss out on a great way to reacquaint yourself with not only the congregation but the families of our outreach ministry of Mustard Seed. Watch your e-mail, the church website and the Sunday bulletin for more information.





## Stewards of God's Love: God's People Reach Out

When we think about the many miracles Jesus could have performed in his first public act, we have to wonder about the significance of why he chose to turn water into wine. This generous act wasn't done in front of crowds, and it didn't get a lot of attention. According to the second chapter of John's gospel, only the servants and Jesus' disciples knew what He had done. The significance is that, as he continually did, Jesus gave freely of himself to help others in need.

The Rev. Paul Hoffman, a retired ELCA pastor writing in the devotional booklet *Christ in our Home*, notes: "Everyone who attended the wedding received freely a gift of unparalleled quality in great abundance. In this, his first act of public ministry in John's gospel, Jesus sets the tone for life in Christ. Freely given, offered to all, what we receive at His hand is only the best.

Following Jesus' model, it is our delight to freely offer the needy world *our* very best, and in great supply. 'Don't hold back,' Jesus teaches by His living example. In a world bent on gathering as much as possible for ourselves, Jesus shows us a different way. Each day in our world is like a wedding where we show up and freely offer our very best in great abundance in response to the needs of others. Such a way of life is as astonishing today as it was in Cana when Jesus' Spirit blew over the waters and began the New Creation."

**Our LCOS 2022 Stewardship theme, God's People Reach Out**, reminds us that God wants us to share his generous blessings all year long, not just during the annual fall Stewardship campaign. As Pastor Hoffman concludes in his devotional message, "As God's baptized ones, we are anointed little Christs for the sake of the world." How will you show up today and freely give of your best to a needy world?

## Justice and Peace Committee: Looking Behind the News



### September 15 to October 15: Recognizing Our Hispanic Neighbors

Each year Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. This observance started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson, and in 1988 President Ronald Regan expanded it to a 30-day period, becoming law that year. The 2022 theme is "Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation."

### October 11: National Coming Out Day (NCOD)

Have you ever noticed that it's not uncommon for the media to carry stories of famous people who come "out of the closet" in the fall, usually around October 11? There's real significance to this date for our friends in the LGBT community—also known as the queer community.

National Coming Out Day is observed annually to raise awareness of the queer community and the need to continue advocating for their civil rights. The date of October 11 was chosen because it is the anniversary of the 1987 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights. Inaugurated the following year by Robert Eichberg, New Mexico psychologist, and Jean O'Leary, lesbian political leader and long-time activist from New York. Along with other activists, they did not want to respond defensively to anti-LGBT actions because they believed it would be predictable. NCOD was established to maintain positivity and celebrate coming out.

The first decades of observances were marked by private and public people coming out, often in the media, to raise awareness and let the mainstream realize that everyone knows at least one person who is part of this community. In more recent years, because coming out as LGBT is far less risky now in most Western countries, the day is more of a holiday. Participants often wear pride symbols, such as pink triangles and rainbow flags.

The initial idea was grounded in the feminist and gay liberation spirit of the personal being political, with the emphasis on the most basic form of activism being coming out to family, friends and colleagues and living life as an openly queer person. This belief is founded on the idea that homophobia thrives in an atmosphere of silence and ignorance, that once people know that they have lesbian and gay loved ones, they are far less likely to maintain homophobic or oppressive views, especially if they live in developed countries.



**NATIONAL  
COMING  
OUT  
DAY**  
October 11

**The next meeting of LCOS' Justice and Peace Committee is Sept. 18, 10:45 a.m. in the Parlor. All are welcome.**

## **POTENTIAL BENEFITS FROM THIS CHANGE**

In addition to the potential for increased Sunday school and worship participation by families with children this new Sunday format also allows for additional potential blessings.

- Coffee Fellowship will allow participants from all three worship times and formats to engage in conversation and enhance congregational life and relationships.
- Sunday school parents who may have been interested in the interactive worship can now choose to do so while their child(ren) is/are in Sunday school.
- 9:30 is identified by mission developers as the most popular time people choose to worship on Sunday morning. This may increase the likelihood of first-time guests to worship who also will have a choice of worship format.
- More of the congregation will be able to gather together around the Lord's Table for Holy Communion.

The worship staff and leadership realize that this kind of change will negatively affect some who have difficulty in getting out of the house for a 9:30 worship time. It is their hope the livestream will offset that inconvenience when they are unable to attend. However, if we don't change when Sunday school is offered, we will continue to experience a lack of families being able to participate who have activities that begin at noon.

## **Reflections Worship Gathers in Parlor Starting Sep 4 Led by Lay Worship Assistants**

Beginning September 4 the Reflections Interactive Worship that has been meeting in the sanctuary at 9:15 will begin their worship in the Parlor. The service will include the Gather and Word portion of worship before participants will gather in the sanctuary with the other worship service for the Meal and Sending portion of worship. The Parlor will be reconfigured in the style of a meditation room or small chapel within the front to allow for participants to read from the slides as well as Zoom participants to be seen and engage with the in-person attendees. Initially, Vicar Tom Natalini will be leading the Reflections worship when he is not preaching or at Bridge of Peace, with Pastor Wayne leading it when Vicar Tom preaches. A lay worship assistant from the Reflections regular parishioners will need to lead worship when neither the pastor or intern are available.

**What would a normal worship look like?** Here is a tentative worship schedule breakdown. Keep in mind the intimate setting of this worship greatly facilitates the opportunity to develop a greater sense of connection within the faith community and is an asset for anyone seeking such in their journey of faith.

- 9:30: Gather in the Parlor for worship. Share with those attending both in person and by Zoom the joys and challenges of your last week that later in the Prayers of the Church can be lifted up by the one leading prayer.
- 9:40: Prayer of the Day is read by all in attendance from the slide followed by the reading of the Scripture of the Day by the lay worship leader.
- 9:45-10:05: Interactive reflection among attendees of the questions prepared by Pastor Wayne prior to the service. The lay worship leader serves as a facilitator for this part of worship.
- 10:05-10:10: Prayers of the Church led by the lay worship leader
- 10:10: The Reflections Worship participants join the Sanctuary worship participants in the sanctuary for the Offering as well as the Meal and Sending portion of worship. A reserved section of the sanctuary near the narthex entrance will be reserved for those joining the rest of worship.

**Why is this worship format so important?** Participants who have attended for many years agree is it the only time on Sunday when they actually get to talk about their faith. If you're a person who's always wanted to interrupt a sermon to ask a question this worship format is perfect! Questions are encouraged!! Secondly, it provides participants with an opportunity to actually practice talking about their faith. Ever felt intimidated when those around you are talking about their faith, the church, or religion in general even though you had something to say? This worship format is a safe place to try this out.

**What are the other benefits of Reflections Worship being held simultaneously with the 9:30 Sanctuary worship and Sunday school?** There are two main benefits. First, more of the congregation will get the opportunity to engage in fellowship with each other every Sunday. 8:00 worshippers can share coffee and conversation from those gathering for either of the 9:30 services thereby creating greater connection with the congregation at large and body of Christ. Second, parents with Sunday school age children have an option of which of the two services they may want to attend. Those wanting a more intimate setting with an opportunity for open discussion of the readings as well as participate in the Meal with the greater congregation and their children now have that option.

**What does this new format for Reflections need to succeed?** This new format will live or die with the willingness of regular attendees to volunteer as lay assistants. The role is not difficult. The worship slides will be prepared in advance by Pastor Wayne and he will connect with the lay leader for the week prior to Sunday as to how the questions for interactive discussion were developed. When able he will also provide a video of his comments. All of the liturgy for the service is scripted so lay leaders need only read what is on the page/slide. The biggest challenge will likely be ensuring the group is ready to join the sanctuary worship at 10:10!

So this year why not try a new way to worship at 9:30 you may never have had the opportunity to do so? Come out to Reflections Worship in the Parlor for a worship experience that may change the way you encounter God and the body of Christ on Sunday.

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR: JULY 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

## NARRATIVE

July Envelop Offering of \$31,585 was above plan of \$26,501, generating an anticipated year end estimate of \$5,000 above plan.  
 Other Income is slightly above plan, generating Total Revenue to be estimated \$6,765 over plan.  
 Expenses are anticipated to be above plan by \$8,765 due to the negotiated salary of the Director of Youth & Family,  
 Continued Ed and Administrative expenses above our initial plan. Therefore, we anticipated a Deficit of \$2,000 by year end.  
 We have resources from the Dedicated Accounts to fund any year end Deficit if needed.

<u>FINANCIAL SUMMARY</u>	2022	YEAR TO			
		JULY	DATE	YEAR END	ESTIMATED
	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>ESTIMATE</u>	<u>YE VARI- ANCE</u>
REVENUE					
Envelopes	418,000	31,585	231,690	423,000	5,000
<u>Other Income</u>	<u>69,412</u>	<u>4,999</u>	<u>45,040</u>	<u>71,177</u>	<u>1,765</u>
Total Revenue	487,412	36,584	276,730	494,177	6,765
EXPENSE					
Salary & Benefits	310,312	29,072	174,907	316,312	6,000
Property	54,600	3,249	27,441	53,500	(1,100)
Administration	47,900	3,939	27,533	50,565	2,665
<u>Program Ministries</u>	<u>74,600</u>	<u>5,848</u>	<u>40,606</u>	<u>75,800</u>	<u>1,200</u>
Total Expense	487,412	42,108	270,487	496,177	8,765
INCOME	0	(5,524)	6,243	(2,000)	(2,000)

## Mustard Seed Community Childcare

### Summer Camp

It is hard to believe that the 8 weeks of summer camp have come and gone! We welcomed 68 campers over the summer with the majority of them coming all 8 weeks. Over the time the campers had fun experiences with themed weeks such as Dinosaur Week, Ocean Week, Sports Week, Superhero Week, STEM Week, and special days as Disney Day, Carnival Day, Random Acts of Kindness Day and more. Many parents treated the campers and staff to popsicles, and

Dunkin Donuts over the weeks. On August 4<sup>th</sup> the campers and staff went on a field trip to Shady Brook Farm. They got to experience a wagon ride out to the sunflower field, walk the maze through the field and pick a sunflower to take home, but it seems the most exciting part was the ride on the school bus (a novelty for children living in Haddonfield as they live in a walking district.) They also ate lunch and played on the playground before returning to the bus for the ride back home. I am happy and proud to say 2022 Summer Camp at Mustard Seed was a huge success!

### KED Program (Kindergarten Extended Day)

All of our staff positions have been filled and we are getting ready to start the new school year. In preparation for opening day two of the classrooms will be painted and the teachers will be getting the rooms ready. Staff will have orientation for two days to have them trained on the requirements of licensing by the NJ Division of Children and Families. On September 6<sup>th</sup> we will welcome 81 children to the KED program for the 2022-2023 school year! The staff is excited to get the year off to a fantastic start. The MSCCOS Board of Trustees and I are proud to announce that we will have 4 classrooms opened this year!





## September 2022 Regular Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
8:00 & 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship & 9:30 AM Facebook Live & Reflections  9:00 AM Coffee Hour	5:30-8:30 PM ChildrenSong  4:30-8:15 PM Jess in Choir Room	10:30 AM Pastors' Pericope Zoom  2:30 PM Staff Meeting  5:30-6:30 PM Jess in Choir Room	3:00-4:00 PM Tai Chi  7:30-8:30 PM Jess in Choir Room	6:00-7:00 PM Jess in Choir Room		

## September 2022 Special Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9:00 AM Fix-It Team  9:30 AM Mission Quilts  Pastor	2   Vacation Until 9-3	3
4 9:30 AM Backpack Blessing	5 Labor Day	6 6:30 PM S-I-S @Deb Tredinnick's House  7:00 PM Social Ministry Mtg.  7:00 PM Toastmasters  Pauline	7 8:00-6:00 Lifeline Screening   Vacation	8 9:30 AM Mission Quilts  6:45-7:45 PM Bell Choir  7:45 PM Music Theory  8:00 PM Adult Choir	9      Confirmation	10      Retreat
11 Rally Day/Mr. Softee  Faith Stepping Stone Entering Into Sunday School  9:30 AM Sunday School Teacher Blessing  6:30 PM Confirmation Orientation &	12	13 11:30-2:30 HGC  3:30-5:00 PM Girl Scouts  7:00 PM Church Council  7:00 PM Toastmasters	14 10-12 Singing Angels – Choir Room	15 Messenger Deadline  9:00 AM Fix-It Team  6:45-7:45 PM Bell Choir  7:45 PM Music Theory	16      Confirmation	17      Retreat
18 9:30 AM Confirmation Blessing  11:45 AM J & P Mtg.  6:00 PM First Bibles Class  Sandy Off	19 7:30-9:00 PM Bible Discussion	20 7:00 PM Toastmasters	21 9:30-11:00AM Bible Discussion  10-12 Singing Angels – Choir Room  6:00 PM Book Discussion – “The Book That Matters Most”	22 Messenger Mailing  6:45-7:45 PM Bell Choir  7:45 PM Music Theory  8:00 PM Adult Choir	23	24
25 Acolyte Blessing  Confirmation Adult Huddle	26 Rosh Hashanah  6:30 PM Congregation Resources  6:30-8:30 PM Possibility Players-PH	27 12:00 noon EPIC Group  3:30-5:00 PM Girl Scouts	28 9:30-11:00 AM Bible Discussion  10-12 Singing Angels – Choir Room  7:00 – 8:30 PM Historical Society	29 6:45-7:45 PM Bell Choir  7:45 PM Music Theory  8:00 PM Adult Choir	30	

## Thank you for Personal Care Items for Caring Hearts and Camp Bright Feathers

Social Ministry Committee assists Caring Hearts families that are seen by Cooper Hospital's Pediatric Infectious Disease Practice. We usually support the seasonal holiday parties by providing baked goods and refreshments as well as a collected item (underwear, baby wipes, socks, deodorant, and gifts from Advent Giving Tree) and provide assistance at these parties. We also support Caring Hearts with a monetary donation in March and a special Christmas donation. All in-person events were cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. So far, no in-person events have been planned in 2022. Caring Hearts will not be able to hold an in-person Back-to-School event this summer. The children will still receive backpacks which the Cooper staff is getting from the Cooper Foundation. Each family will also receive a \$50 Walmart gift card to purchase other things they need.

LCOS collected full size toothpaste and toothbrushes, men's and women's deodorant, and bars of soap during the Spring and again this summer. Caring Hearts assembled tote bags filled with various personal care products including the toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorants, and soaps that the Cooper staff will give to the families at upcoming appointments. The goal was to fill at least 2 dozen tote bags with these personal care items.

### Caring Hearts Collection for Camp Bright Feathers

In addition to the collection of personal care items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, men's and women's deodorant) to be included in tote bags for the families, Caring Hearts also collected items to be donated to Camp Bright Feathers. This is a week-long summer camp in Medford, NJ for children affected by HIV/AIDS to be held August 21-26, 2022. Requested items for Camp Bright Feathers included 20 tubes toothpaste (full size), 10 bottles shampoo (regular size), and 10 bars soap (regular size).

For more information on Camp Bright Feathers, go to: [www.campbrightfeathers.com](http://www.campbrightfeathers.com). (<http://www.campbrightfeathers.com>)

Thank you to LCOS members for your generosity, the goals have been exceeded. *Betsy Kuehn*



Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Lutheran Church of Our Savior on Monday, March 7, 2022. A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

#### Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)

An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries (a pair of blood vessels in the neck that deliver blood to your brain) for buildup of fatty plaque. This buildup, called atherosclerosis, is one of the leading causes of stroke.

#### Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening

An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs. It is important to screen for PAD because it increases the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, or stroke.<sup>1</sup>

#### Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm. AAA can lead to a ruptured aortic artery, which is a serious medical emergency.

#### Atrial Fibrillation

A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for Atrial Fibrillation. AFib can lead to blood clots, stroke, and heart failure, and other heart-related complications.<sup>2</sup>

#### Osteoporosis Risk

An ultrasound is performed to measure the shin bone for abnormal bone mass density. This can help assess the risk of osteoporosis, a disease where bones become weak and brittle.

These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$139 and take 60-90 minutes to complete.

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441, text the word "circle" to 797979 or online at <https://llsa.social/HSC>



I wanted to start by thanking all of the families who responded to the survey that was sent out in the beginning of the summer regarding how Lutheran Church of Our Savior can best serve you and your children in worship and faith formation. From those results and from the many conversations I and the rest of the staff have had with congregation members, it seems that one of the best ways the church can serve families is to move the service time that includes Sunday School from 10:30 to 9:30am. So that is what will happen starting in September.

I am so excited about the new curriculum that the Sunday School youth (**ages 4 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade**) will be engaged in this fall. There will be a theme that lasts for four weeks, and each of the four weeks will be focused on an activity related to that theme from storytelling to art to music to drama, even science and cooking options! It will be very hands-on, which is something I think both teachers and learners appreciate. Sunday School begins September 11 at 9:30am. Pre-registration for Sunday School is now open. We would love to have as many youth registered before Rally Sunday as possible to help with planning. You can register on the website or by copying and pasting this link in your browser: <https://forms.gle/Ny6Bx6TPrS9h2jSn9>. There will also be paper copies of the registration form at church and in this Messenger on the back of the calendar.



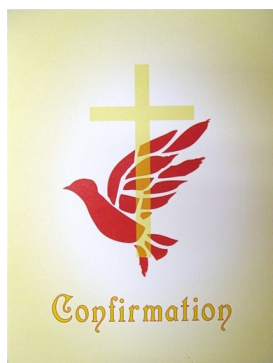
I also want to say thank you to all of the volunteers and leaders who made VBC such a great success this year! We had 32 youth signed up, with 26 coming on a daily basis. We had some great adult shepherd leaders who guided the youth through the different rotations, fantastic volunteer snack and craft leaders, and some amazing teen helpers who made everything run smoothly. I think everyone had a really fun time! I know I did.

I am also excited to re-start the high school youth program here at LCOS. In the discussions I've had with high school students so far (with more to come!), the consensus seemed to be that they didn't have time to meet every week but would love to have opportunities a few times a month for service activities and fellowship events. What a great way to form a tight-knit and supportive group and to give back to the community. Youth Planning Meeting, Thursday, August 25@1:00 PM.



Lastly, there are several intergenerational activities planned for the fall that I want to highlight, not just for our families, but for everyone at LCOS. The first is Rally Sunday, which is September 11. Sunday School will begin on that Sunday. And Mr. Softee is coming (a treat for kids and kids at heart of all ages!). Mr. Softee will be in pastor's driveway after the 9:30 worship service. On October 2, we are planning a congregation-wide Octoberfest at the Tap Room from 12:00 – 3:00, more details to follow. In November there will be a community Thanksgiving service for all ages. And in December, the church will hold several intergenerational events, including a Deck the Halls celebration with food and crafts and community Christmas caroling.

I can't wait to see what the Fall will bring to this church family! *Sabrina LaBelle, Director of Youth and Family Ministries*



### Confirmation Ministry Begins with Orientation on Sept. 11 - 6:30-8:00

The beginning of another year of confirmation ministry with catechetical instruction begins Sunday, Sep 11, at 6:30 with an In-Person "Back to Confirmation Night" orientation for both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth and parents. Parents and youth are to gather in the sanctuary. The goals and volunteer opportunities of the program will be reviewed at that time as well as the unique roles parents will be asked to engage in. The class of about 14 seventh and eighth grade youth along with parent Small Group Guides will cover the Sacraments, Worship, Lutheran Heritage, and Apostle's Creed at bi-weekly Learn Events. Each Learn Event's theme will utilize the Teen Study Bible all youth entering the ministry receive, Luther's Small Catechism, and a Faith5 Journal at every event. They will also process what was shared in Small Groups with an adult Guide facilitating the conversation. In addition, the program includes:

- Play Events coordinated with the Oasis Youth ministry
- Serve Events ranging from making meals for My Father's House, hosting an Easter Egg Hunt and Youth Sunday Worship leadership, to serving either as an acolyte, usher, reader, or singing in the Youth Choir.

This year in particular Confirmation isn't just for youth. Parents are invited and encouraged to use the Faith5 Journals provided to each youth to amplify the experience with the Home Devotions included with each Learn Event theme if possible. Pastor Wayne strongly believes the most important way to teach faith to our children is to first teach and empower loving adults to model and share the faith with them. In addition, parents have the opportunity to explore what they once learned in confirmation from the perspective and life experience of an adult and how that impacts their own faith in daily life.



## Environmental Happenings



God's People and God's Planet and God's Animals

The lovely Spotted Lanternflies  
A natural defense on contact is using vinegar and dish detergent mixture.  
It is much safer for children, pets, and ourselves.

**Be The CHANGE God's World Needs !!**

### The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033 (856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245(fax) [www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org](http://www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org)

**Worship 8:00 AM Traditional in Sanctuary, 9:30 AM in Sanctuary + Facebook Live**

**Interactive Reflections Worship 9:30 AM in Parlor + Zoom**

#### CHURCH COUNCIL

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***September 2022 Messenger***

***Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed August 18, 2022***

***Address Service Requested***



Sep 1	Nolan Doyle	Sep 15	Maxwell Querns	Sep 23	Evan Giamboy
Sep 1	Johann Hintz	Sep 15	Shirley Stambaugh	Sep 24	Jeannette Jelonek
Sep 2	Pat Haines	Sep 15	Suzanne Trevena	Sep 24	Chris LaBelle
Sep 3	Christina Schaffer	Sep 16	Elizabeth Lehr	Sep 24	John Madiraca
Sep 3	Paul Schmeck	Sep 16	Jane Lehr	Sep 24	Lily Morgan
Sep 4	Theodore Fetter	Sep 16	Gavin Schmeck	Sep 24	Rachael Simpkins
Sep 4	Luanne Fogelson	Sep 16	Kyla Schmeck	Sep 25	Gary Jones
Sep 4	Fred Stine	Sep 16	Christine Tyrell	Sep 26	Vince Bleistein
Sep 6	Timothy Howley	Sep 17	Scott Leverick	Sep 26	CiCi LaBelle
Sep 8	Ethan Quanci	Sep 18	Luke Baxter	Sep 26	Donna Stillwell
Sep 9	Jonathan Standke	Sep 18	Bobby Bridges	Sep 27	Amy Adams
Sep 10	Bonnie Richards	Sep 19	Sidney Speas	Sep 28	Daniel Parker
Sep 11	Logan Gebhart	Sep 21	Susan DeNinno	Sep 28	Olivia Roncace
Sep 13	Anna Riley	Sep 21	Steven Schaffner	Sep 28	Stephen Woltz
Sep 15	Timothy Gonzalez	Sep 21	Sarah Smith	Sep 30	Debby Madiraca
Sep 15	Carole Howley	Sep 22	William Ryan	Sep 30	Thomas Melcher

***Happy Birthday!!!***