

A publication of Christ Lutheran Church, Stevensville, Michigan

## **Pulling Weeds or Growing Seeds?**

by Jill Measel



### **What's Inside**

- 2 In our Thoughts & Prayers
- 3 Financials
- 4 From Pastor Yeager's Desk
- 5 2020-2022 Officers & Board Members
- 6 Memorials & Gifts
- 7 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 8 News & Events
- 9 Shut-Ins
- 10 August Calendar



Sunday Services:  
8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School and  
Bible Class: - 9:30 a.m..  
Thursday Evening Service  
at 7:00 p.m.  
Christian Day School:  
Preschool through 8th grade

It was a gorgeous summer evening - the perfect night for sitting on the front porch swing and surveying a job well done. She took a sip of her lemonade, and got up to take one last look at the yard before going into the house to get ready for bed. The marigolds smiled brightly, the daylilies burst forth their cheery yellow flowers, and the lavender was finally beginning to bloom. Everything was beautiful. She stepped around to the side yard, and felt her blood pressure dangerously rise. Weeds!?!

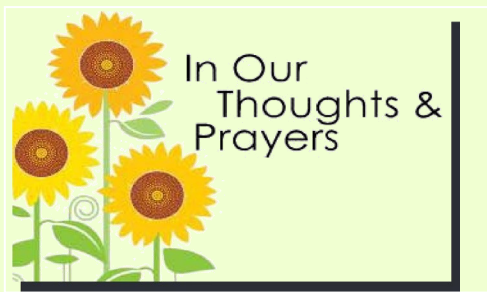
The bare patch on the side of the house had clearly been neglected. It wasn't visible from the driveway, or from the sidewalk to the front door. Nothing had been planted there, so she hadn't been visiting the side yard during her nightly flower-waterings. It was no surprise that the weeds had taken advantage of that strategic location. They reached out with their prickly little arms as if to say, "I dare you!" She took the dare. Putting on her leather work gloves, she rolled the large garbage can into place. After about an hour, she was exhausted, but victorious. The weeds were gone!

A few weeks went by, and once again, the side yard lay forgotten - forgotten by her, that is. The weeds remembered. She pulled them up again, and then did some research on her computer. She found that this weed - a type of thistle - was particularly resilient, and existed not as a single weed but as a network with deep and hearty roots. She would have to pull, pull, and pull some more. It was suggested that chemicals might be necessary to destroy the weed down to its root. Website after website, they all had one more suggestion in common: plant something to help block the growth of the thistle. In other words, she had to do more than just rely on her own efforts at removing the weeds - she had to help something grow in their place so that they could not do so any longer. Something else would have to be planted; something else would have to grow.

When faced with a particularly resilient sin (and aren't they all?), a Christian can be tempted to think that it is enough for her to pull, pull, and pull some more until the sin appears to be removed from her life. But is that really enough? We all know that appearances can be deceiving, and that danger often lurks in the roots just below the surface, waiting for us to lose sight and quite simply forget. We may think a sin is gone and forget to check the side yard for a few weeks, only to find that the sin is back yet again - or had it ever gone away in the first place? It is easy to overlook the corners of our lives, the inconvenient locations we don't often see, and think that there is no sin in those places. When the weeds are pulled, if nothing is planted, what remains is bare ground just waiting for something - anything - to grow. What will grow in your bare ground?

Scripture, planted in us, has the power to cover over even the barest of places. I'm sure we all know all too well the places I mean in saying this. Just think about where you feel the most empty, the most fearful, and the most weak - these are likely the same places at which the devil will take his most careful aim. The devil does not want us to notice his work at the corners of our lives, those inconvenient locations we don't often see. However, they may also be the very places where God most wants to touch our lives, for it is there that we can most clearly see just how desperate is our need for Him.

Although pulling weeds is still a good plan, it is clearly not enough. Seek to nurture the Word planted within you, and it will surely grow. It will cover your emptiness, your fear, and your need. It will cover you completely, just as surely as Christ has covered you with Himself now and forevermore.



## **HEALING**

**Addie Scheffler**  
**Amanda Clark**  
**Ameë Mantei**  
**Barbara Maul**  
**Bea Rudlaff**  
**Connie Schmidt**  
**Dave Knuth**  
**Deleigh McClintock**  
**Denice McClintock**  
**Ferny Rantz**  
**Jim Walters**  
**Laura Lesher**  
**Laura Schornhorst**  
**Mary Panzica**  
**Miro Virsik**  
**Nancy Duke**  
**Ron Szoke**  
**Sally Knuth**

**Aubrey Hamby**—nephew of Dee Payovich  
**Austin Arndt**—grandson of Linda Steinke  
**Bill Bunte**—cousin of Mary Spaulding  
**Bruce Wurdeman**—brother of Diane Strohacker  
**Chris Dunn**—nephew of Thelma Szoke  
**Gertrude Keen**—mother of Debbie Tietz  
**Grace Gerken**—niece of Andrew & Terri Gerken  
**Jim Russell**—brother of Mark Russell  
**Karyn Peterson**—mother of Kim Alles  
**Marian Gerken**—mother of Andrew Gerken  
**Paula Hicks**—niece of Dee Payovich

**Phil Oberhaus** – brother of Susan Jackemeyer  
**Taryn Schrader**—sister of Tamara Paulun  
**William Maul** – brother of Charles Maul

## **♥Servicemen in our Prayers**

**Alex Root**  
**Allison Blake**  
**James Vieregge**  
**Joseph Schaffer**

## **Deaths**

**Ron Sortland**  
**John Lenich, father of Tamara Paulun.**

## **SO BLESSED!**



Christ Lutheran Church & School is blessed with so many wonderfully generous members. Donations have been trickling in to help safely reopen our school. So far we have received 19 cases of water bottles (drinking fountains are closed), 8 gallons of hand sanitizer, and 350 disposable masks!

We have members voluntarily coming over to pull weeds on the playground, mow the lawn, move furniture, help with technology, and devise plans to reopen the school. We want to take a moment to recognize all these hard working unsung heroes that make things happen behind the scenes.

The following members have been spotted over the past few weeks:

Chris Alles, Ron VanderMeer, Denny Kern, Joe Schalon, Mike Jackemeyer, Gerry Kabelman, Ken Verriege, Phil Cole, Abigail Cole, Andrew Cole, Adam Cole, Phillip Cooper, Neil Webb, Jeff Wallace, Angie Webb, and Amy Cole.

**DONATIONS** - We are still in need of donations to help safely reopen the school. Some items that we are still looking for are:

Bottled Water - 12-16 ounce sizes are best  
 Latex Free Gloves - Adult sizes M - XL  
 Disinfecting Wipes - Good Hunting!  
 Disposable Masks - especially the pediatric / child size

## Financial Update – June 2020

The church reopened for services in June under social distancing guidelines. The school year was completed via online classes.

For the month of June we ran a deficit of \$10 thousand, leaving us with a full year surplus of \$5 thousand. This compares to a \$10 thousand deficit we ran in our previous year.

Total receipts for the year were \$16 thousand higher than last year. Faith promise receipts were \$28 thousand higher than last year. Tuition receipts are \$23 thousand lower than last year. General fund memorials ran \$16 thousand higher than last year, while Thrivent receipts ran behind last year by \$3 thousand.

Spending for the full year was \$1 thousand higher than the previous year. Administrative spending was \$18 thousand higher than last year. Compensation and benefits spending was \$27 thousand higher than last year, but was partially offset by lower spending on debt payments and missions. Properties spending was \$15 thousand lower than the previous year. We benefited from a milder winter with lower heating costs and less snow removal. Capital projects spending was also reduced.

In early May, our loan application was approved for the Federal Government's Payroll Protection Program (PPP) forgivable loan program and we received a loan of \$144 thousand. During May and June approximately \$121 thousand of this loan was used to offset the costs of payroll, benefits and utility costs. The remaining \$23 thousand will be exhausted during July, and we will then file for loan forgiveness in August.

Our general checking account, which does not include PPP funds, had a \$55 thousand balance at the end of June. At the end of June 2019 our checking account balance was \$9 thousand.

### CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL Listing of Memorial Funds and Emergency Needs

<u>FUND</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2020</u>	<u>Last Activity/ Status</u>
Bell Tower - Repair Old Tower	150	Jan-20
Capital Projects	0	Jun-20
Enhance Ministries (youth, young adults and families)	91,431	Jun-20
Floor Coverings for Entire Facility	19,422	Jan-20
Fricke Memorial for Organ Concerts	2,755	Aug-18
Radio Broadcast Funding	1,050	Mar-19
Rainy Day Funds	55,750	Jun-20
Roof Repairs	10,714	Feb-20
Technology - Church and School	18,758	Jun-20
Unallocated	<u>13,528</u>	NA
Total Memorial Funds	213,558	
Emergency Needs Fund	<u>2,758</u>	
Total Account Balance	216,316	

## VBS News

Due to the lack of interest and the suddenness of time, we will no longer try to hold the micro VBS that we had been planning on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August. Instead, Pastor Yeager will be offering a 'Take-home' VBS devotional for the kids and families of our school and congregation. This devotional will consist of a devotion on the specified topic, instructions on a 'do it yourself' craft, and a 'do it yourself' snack. Watch for the devotional coming next week. When it is complete, Christine will email the information to the Christ Times email list and Pastor Yeager will put them out on the credenza. Please pick one up and take it home for your friends and family.

Thank you!

Pastor Yeager

### Financial Comments - Continued from page 3

During the month of June the memorial fund received contributions for capital projects and those who have recently passed from us.

Funds in the school technology account were transferred to the memorial fund at the end of June, as going into the new school year the church will be funding technology from tuition receipts. This account may also provide more visibility for potential gifts.

At the end of June funds were transferred from the general checking account to establish a rainy day fund, which will be used to cover emergencies, as agreed by voters.

A large payment was made out of capital projects to pay for replacing sewage lift pumps and a new control system for the heating and cooling systems. Both of these expenditures were approved by voters.

### Discover what Scripture says about your money!

Tell your money where to go instead of wondering where it went! Financial Peace University is a nine-lesson class designed to help you build a budget, dump debt, grow your wealth, and leave money stress behind. Each lesson is based on biblical wisdom and common sense. We will host classes here at Christ and / or online. Class will start The week of September 20. Watch for more information..





# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

## Officers & Board Members

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022

Board of Assimilation	Board of Church Properties	Board of Education
Director: Sharon Lowmaster Bob Wolfanger	Director: Ron Vandermeer Chris Alles Walt Clark Al Kasewurm Joe Schalon Dennis Kern Mike Jackemeyer	Director: Tamara Paulun Gerry Kabelman Vince Virsik Suellen Klein Keith Bonner Kala Hoover (ex-office advisor)
Board of Elders	Board of Evangelism	Board of Fellowship
Director: Mike Jackemeyer Glenn Scowcroft Phil Cole Dennis Kern Zachary Leshner Joe Panzica Len Timm Richard Wandel Mark Russell Andrew Copi Delmar Lange	Director: Thelma Szoke Rosemarie Castonguay Virginia Jennings	Director: Christine Quardokus Pattie Allred JoAnne Ciboch Kathy Damron Joan Kern Laura Leshner Kathryn Robinson
Board of Public Relations	Board of Stewardship	Board of Youth
Director: Jeff Harris Amy Cole Neil Webb Ryan Post Kate Ott (Adviser)	Director: John Cooper	Acting Director: Steve Matheny Phil Cole Jennifer Steffens Jill Measel Terri Gerken
Officers		
Executive Director: Fred Pieplow Assistant Director: Steve Matheny Assistant Director: Dennis Kern Treasurer: Craig Klein Assistant Treasurer: Steve Ross Secretary: Florence Ziemer		



**In Loving Memory of Erika Steffen**

Harriet Gotsch  
Charles & Jeanne Hartman  
Al & Kathy Kasewurm  
Jerry & Wilma Malinasky  
Arne & Sharon Nystuen  
Mary Spaulding  
Ron & Thelma Szoke  
Harry & Rebecca Steffen

**In Loving Memory of Doug Beezley**

Harry & Pat Jaeger  
Ron & Carol Bonczkowski  
Harriet Gotsch

**In Loving Memory of Mary Walters**

Don & Sharon Jeschke  
Ken & Lorraine Ziebart



Altar Flowers

August 2 —In loving memory of Alan Schmaltz given by Bob & Sandy Dixon.

August 9—In honor of Nicholas & Lyndsey Phillips wedding

August 23— In honor of Loren & Margaret Gerber on the occasion of their 68th wedding anniversary.

August 25—In honor of Matthew & Julianne Mast on the occasion of their 13th wedding anniversary on September 1.



**The August radio broadcasts are sponsored by the following:**

- ♦ **August 2** —Mike & Terrie Smith, in loving memory of Gladys Schadler.
- ♦ **August 16**—Mary Spaulding, in loving memory of Bill Spaulding.
- ♦ **August 30**—Matthew & Julianne Mast, on the occasion of their 13th wedding anniversary.



**Joining the Church Triumphant  
Member recently called home  
to Heaven:**

**Arlene Dorothy Dinges  
October 9, 1941 ~  
July 27, 2020**



**Addison Jean Dunn was baptized on  
July 30th during the 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday service.**

**She is the daughter of Ryan & Andrea Dunn.**

**Her sponsors are Tom & Laurie Ulmer.**



Brielle Mensinger	8/1	Steven Ross	8/16
Helen Quardokus	8/1	Adeline Scheffler	8/16
Hiroshi Aida	8/2	Bryan Yeske	8/16
David Castonguay	8/2	Kathryn Conrad	8/17
Sara Huycke	8/2	Jamison Kabelman	8/18
Donald Kamp	8/2	Amelia Nach	8/
Charlotte Witt	8/2	Evan Silcox	8/18
Sarah Garrison	8/3	Karen Pieplow	8/20
Diana Klein	8/3	Beatrice Rudlaff	8/20
Eric Kern	8/4	Joseph Klupp	8/21
Klaus Nixdorf	8/5	Daniel Scowcroft	8/21
TJ Moneta	8/6	Suzanne Steele	8/21
John Schulz	8/6	Kayla Clark	8/22
Sydney Weisser	8/6	Andrew Conrad	8/22
Cindy White	8/6	Donna Lausman	8/22
Phil Medo	8/7	Charles Hartman	8/24
Nichole Ray	8/7	Natalie Strefling	8/24
Elisa Herrman	8/8	Emily Nash	8/25
Joshua Gatz	8/9	Delmar Lange	8/25
Lara Harris	8/10	Kenneth Mach	8/25
Cecilia Pinne	8/10	John Paulun	8/26
Thelma Szoke	8/10	Bob Brown	8/27
Sibyl Kish	8/11	Courtney Drews	8/27
Seth Zombory	8/11	Arlene Fobel	8/28
Jacklyn Davis	8/13	Timothy Judkins	8/28
Mark Russell	8/13	Lyndsey Shembarger	8/28
Eric Beck	8/13	Julie Medo	8/29
P. Medo	8/15	Hallie Davis	8/30
Teresa Siemans	8/15	Amelia Harris	8/30
Carter Root	8/16	Julie Moneta	8/30
		Robert Wolfanger	8/30



Bruce & Susan Bittenbender	8/2/1969	51
Dale & Betty Spencer	8/2/1969	51
Mark & Theresa Steffens	8/2/1968	52
Delmar & Lynn Lange	8/3/1974	46
Philip & Valerie Quardokus	8/3/1974	47
Miro & Sharon Virsik	8/4/1966	54
Tim & Annette Garrison	8/5/1978	42
Craig & Suellen Klein	8/5/1979	41
Arne & Sharon Nystuen	8/6/1961	59
Zachary & Ashley Leshner	8/6/2015	15
Dale & Carolyn Zombory	8/6/1977	43
Robert & Deborah Appelget	8/8/1981	39
Donald & Rochelle Necas	8/8/1998	22
Bob & Sandra Dixon	8/9/2015	5
Eric & Mariam Kern	8/10/2012	6
Klaus & Deborah Nixdorf	8/10/1974	46
Ken & Ronda Schadler	8/10/1991	29
Jerry & Janet Reimann	8/12/1961	59
Gerald & Wilma Malinasky	8/13/1960	60
William & Sue Batson	8/14/1965	55
Jason & Joy Harness	8/15/1959	61
Donald & Lee Yeske	8/18/1951	69
Robert & Julia Flood	8/18/1973	47
Leonard & Faith Timm	8/19/1972	48
David & Elizabeth Sellke	8/19/1979	41
Loren & Margaret Gerber	8/23/1952	68
Robert & Sibyl Kish	8/30/1980	40
Alois & Leni Weisser	8/30/1958	62

If you find that your name is left off the birthday and anniversary list, please contact the church office so that our records can be updated.  
Thank you!

Be sure to check out the **NEW** Christ Lutheran Church

blog at: [CLCBlog](https://clcblog.com) or <https://christ-luth.blogspot.com/>

Reminder we are still streaming the 8:00 AM church services, go to the blog above to get the link.



OUTDOOR  
WORSHIP  
SERVICE

**Outdoor  
Contemporary  
Worship Service**

**Sunday,  
August 16  
10:45 a.m.**

Folding chairs are available, but feel free to bring along your own lawn chair or a blanket. Bring along a friend too!



**PRAYER REQUESTS** - If you would like to request a prayer to be included in our weekly worship, please contact Christine or one of the pastors in the church office at 429-7222.



**August 12**—All Boards Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

**September 9** —All Boards & Parish  
Planning Meetings—7:00 p.m.

**September 15**—Voter's Meeting

**2020-2021**  
**VOTERS' MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Monday, September 21, 2020** – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 15, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 17, 2021- 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 14, 2021- 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 18, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.

**Monday, May 17, 2021** – 7:00 p.m.



To receive text messages from the church about worship services, Zoom Bible classes, board meetings, special events, cancellations, and more, text the key word:

ChristEvLuth to 797979

or

Call Christine in the office or e-mail at [cquardokus@gmail.com](mailto:cquardokus@gmail.com), and your name will be added to the text list.



**SCHOOL  
BEGINS  
AUGUST 31**





Please take the time to call or  
send a card to one of our shut-in  
members.

Lydia Ruhno  
Pine Ridge  
4368 Cleveland Ave.  
Stevensville, MI 49127  
Phone: 429-4547

Donna Lausman  
Pine Ridge  
4368 Cleveland Ave.  
Stevensville, MI 49127  
Phone: 556-9626

Donna Klug  
Caretel Inns  
3905 Lorraine Path  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Norma Priebe  
11159 Red Arrow Hwy. E-9, #66  
Bridgman, MI 49106  
Phone: 269-363-9065

Bob & Addie Scheffler  
9550 Ridge Dr.  
Bridgman, MI 49106  
465-3057

Bea Rudlaff  
3037 Washington Ave.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
429-4897

Jean Mort  
2800 S. State St.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Phone: 983-5131

Harriet Gotsch  
9252 Marlene Drive  
Baroda, MI 49101  
422-1589 or 269-326-7123

Ida Gaul  
Crown Pointe  
4232 Red Arrow Hwy.  
Stevensville, MI 49127  
429-1241

Ron Szoke  
Royalton Manor  
288 Peace Blvd.  
St. Joseph, MI

Ferny Rantz  
Golden Age Manor  
4167 N. Roosevelt Dr.  
Stevensville, MI 49127

John Dorn  
3017 Johnson Rd., #48  
Stevensville, MI 49127  
419-8019




Diane Ross  
1153 W. Glenlord #75  
St. Joseph, MI  
429-5547

Jim Walters  
5447 St. Joseph Ave.  
Stevensville, MI 49127  
429-0504

Lois Huff  
Stately Living  
2824 S. State Str.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
269-408-8424

# August 2020

## Christ Lutheran Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Spread Some Sunshine!</b> 					<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 8:00 am Worship Service 9:30 am Zoom Bible Class 10:45 am Worship Service	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Private Communion: 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. 7:00 pm Worship Service 8:00 p.m. Private Comm.	<b>7</b> 4:30 Wedding Rehearsal	<b>8</b> 4:00 p.m. Phillips/Shembarger Wedding
<b>9</b> 8:00 am Communion Worship Service 9:30 am Zoom Bible Class 10:45 am Communion Worship Service	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 p.m. All Board Meeting</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Private Communion: 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. 7:00 pm Worship Service 8:00 p.m. Private Comm.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Outdoor Worship tomorrow at 10:45 a.m.
<b>16</b> 8:00 am Worship Service 9:30 am Zoom Bible Class 10:45 am Outdoor Contemporary Worship Service	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Private Communion: 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. 7:00 pm Worship Service 8:00 p.m. Private Comm.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:00 am Communion Worship Service 9:30 am Zoom Bible Class 10:45 am Communion Worship Service	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Christ Times Week</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Private Communion: 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. 7:00 pm Worship Service 8:00 p.m. Private Comm.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00 am Communion Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Zoom Bible Class 10:45 am Communion Worship Service	<b>31</b> <b>First Day of School</b>		