

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

June 2022 Newsletter

Call Process & Update

- A congregation's Call Process contains several "mile markers" by which the journey is charted:
- A pastor announces that they are leaving the congregation...
- An interim pastor is identified, merges with congregational life, and begins to develop a sense of the congregation and a familiarity with the parishioners...
- A **Mission Exploration Team (MET)** is formed and works to engage the congregation in the self-learning and investigation that reveals a thorough understanding of the congregation's history and journey, the present reality of the congregation, where the congregation believes God is calling them, and what kind of pastoral leadership might best partner with them in pursuing that mission...
- A Call Committee is formed and utilizes the work of the MET for assessing pastoral candidates in interviews...
- The Church Council receives the Call Committee's pastoral candidate recommendation...
- ...and at long last...The congregation votes on the Church Council's recommended pastoral candidate and a call is issued.



The MET is formed, and its work is beginning. Regular updates on the MET are also shared in the mid-week emails from Christ Our Savior and in Sunday's printed and verbal announcements. Why bother with the MET at all, you may ask? This group of leaders is responsible for helping gather the information that most accurately represents Christ Our Savior, is used by the synod office to source pastoral candidates, is used by pastoral candidates to assess Christ Our Savior and used by the Call Committee to assess pastoral candidates. The MET might be best understood as your community Dream Team – they help lead the congregation to gather its thoughts and reflections and to articulate what it believes God's dream for the ministry at COS to be. While the MET works to support the whole congregation, the whole congregation can support the MET through its prayer and encouragement.

Good Tidings in Times of Transition

Beginning on Easter Sunday and then continuing throughout the Sundays after Easter, the first scripture reading is taken from the book of Acts and follows a narrative that describes the growth of the early Christian church. In plain terms, it was a season of monumental transition and challenge, and those early faith communities encountered every type of stress imaginable. But perhaps most of all, those Acts stories describe the resiliency of burgeoning faith communities in remaining connected to the source of their hope (Jesus) and their impressive willingness to acknowledge that the Good News that captured their hearts and lives couldn't be owned and possessed by them but had to be transmitted to include those outside their immediate field of vision. Perhaps we can say that a dominant image of the early church in Acts is that it is "ever-opening." Toward whom or what might God be opening COS?

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Michael

From the Pastor

As we turn our calendars to June, I look forward to all the summer activities that await. Going swimming, throwing around the frisbee, grilling out, going to live outdoor music – for as much cold weather as we get in Wisconsin, I really try to savor the warm weather. One activity that our household has planned for this year, is a trip to family camp.

In August, we will be taking a week to go to church camp at Imago Dei Village in Clintonville, WI. This is the camp that Katheryn and I met at, and also the same location where we had our wedding back in 2010. And, we've decided for our household, that the tradition of church camp is one that we want to share with Lily. I'm eager to see what grabs her attention, and what parts of camp she is drawn to.

While I expect family church camp will be a good opportunity for our daughter to be encouraged in her faith journey, I know that time spent at camp continues to be an important part of my own walk of faith. In a world, and a season of life where it feels as though the expectation is to be "always on" and the headlines come at us faster than we can process and respond to them, the rituals and rhythms of a week at camp are vital for disrupting my typical busyness.

As you and your household prepare for all the plans of summer, may you find delight in the joys of this season. But, may you also set aside time to allow God to disrupt the busyness of your life, and remind you the value of stillness and slowness, of rest and restoration. When we ground ourselves in the rhythms of God's life giving community, we are sustained for the path of repentance and the work of renewal.

God's blessings for you
and your family,
Pastor Joe



IMAGO DEI VILLAGE
CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRIES

Youth & Family Ministry

Graduate Blessing

Sunday June 5th at 10:00 a.m.

We will be honoring all the 2022 high school graduates on Sunday, June 5 at the 10:00 a.m. service. Please join us and invite family members. We have a blessing and a gift for each graduate, and a time of laying on of hands.



Last Call for Summer Mission Trip

Youth who are currently 6-11th grade are invited to join us this summer. We will be working with our mission partners and staying at Christ Our Savior. The dates will be June 26-29. Cost is \$100.

Friends are welcome. [Register here.](#)

Tentative Schedule

Sunday, June 26 Arrive 6:00 p.m.

dinner, games, outdoor movie, opening worship

Monday, June 27 Day of service, Hartford Waterpark, Worship

Tuesday, June 28 Day of Service, Lake Country DockHounds baseball game, Worship

Wednesday, June 29 Day of Service, Closing worship and cookout with family and mission partners

For questions, please contact Kim Lewin at kim@coslc.com



Adopt-a-Garden

This Summer, we invite you and your family to adopt a garden to help keep our property looking top notch!! We have about 12 garden and flower beds around our church that need occasional weeding and care throughout the summer months and into early fall. Each area is small in size, so commitment is only 1-2 hours per month. Adopt your garden plot on SignUpGenius. If you have questions, contact Amy at amy@coslc.com.



T.A.C.O.S. Outreach Ministry and the Youth of Christ Our Savior

Wednesday, June 15th 6-8:30 p.m.

We are having a campfire dinner and game night! If you have marshmallow roasting sticks, hot dog roasting sticks, or Pudgy Pie Makers please be sure to label them and bring them with you. Sign up [HERE](#).

Dinner Menu

Variety of Pudgy Pies

Hot Dogs

Smores' and More



Activities include

water games, campfire, songs and much more!

Contact Kim Lewin with any questions at kim@coslc.com

Lawn Mowers Sign-up Available

The sun is out, we've had plenty of rain, and the grass is growing! Time to mow the church lawn! We have a lawn mowing team that keeps our property looking well maintained. We've divided the lawn into front and back halves, each one takes about 1 1/2 hours to cut with one of our riding lawn mowers. If you would like to join the team to mow the church property, sign-up on SignUpGenius to select dates and contact Chris Stromberg at c.k.stromberg@me.com

for training or questions.



Electronic Giving

Sunday morning church attendance isn't the primary way we live out our Christian faith. Direct deposit is one means of financial stewardship that ensures no matter what your schedule looks like, you are consistently supporting the ministries of our faith community. If your household is interested in signing up for direct deposit, fill out the green form on the welcome table.

How To Increase DD Contributions?

Simple, just email Sandy in the office at office@coslc.com and let her know what you would like changed.



SUMMER Invitation to Serve During Worship!

Our worship assistant SignUpGenius is now available for you to select your dates over the summer. Signups are available for Altar Guild, Bread Bakers, Communion Assistants, Lectors, Offering Counters, Hosts, and Ushers. All adults, high school youth, and confirmation students are encouraged to participate. If you would like to serve, but are new to the role, we will provide you with training. Serving during worship is a rewarding experience, so we hope that you will consider this opportunity. You can find the sign-up on our website under volunteers or click [HERE](#).



Fellowship Time - Goodies

Sundays 9:00-11:30 a.m.

We need goodies for over the summer. If you haven't had the opportunity to bring a treat yet, we invite you to do so. These treats can be homemade or store-purchased, it's up to you. Bring your favorite treats such as muffins, breads, donuts, cupcakes, bars, cookies, brownies, etc. NO NUTS due to allergies!



We ask that you bring 2 dozen/per person and have them here in time for our Sunday fellowship time, which begins at 8:30 a.m. You can also drop them off early on the table in our entryway Saturday night. Signup [HERE](#) to donate items or volunteer to help with fellowship time. If you have questions, contact Marion Jaskulski at marjask5@wi.rr.com.

COS Cabaret Show Update

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our highly entertaining and successful first ever Cabaret show this past Saturday evening at church. A great time was had by all and almost \$1000.00 was donated to help fund youth programming at COS. Special thanks to our singers; Tim Papenthein, Heather Uzowulu, Leslie Malotky, Marion Jaskulski, and Gavin Damato. Thanks as well to the Lewin's for arranging and managing the snacks and Jason Schiller for his sound board assistance. Additionally the audience was ever so kind as to help us reset the sanctuary for Sunday service. I appreciated the help. You're all the best. We'll do it again in the fall I hope!!



Bread of Healing Meal

Wednesday, June 8th

Our next Bread of Healing meal is on Wednesday, June 8th. Take a moment this summer to be a part of our Bread of Healing team as we help feed the hungry in Milwaukee. Join us in the COS kitchen on Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m. as we prepare, make, and assemble the to-go meals. If you would like more information, contact Larry & Edie Schaffner at elschaffner02@live.com or Chuck Liedtke at chuck.liedtke@sodexo.com.



Serenity Inns

Tuesday, June 21st

Our next meal at Serenity Inns is on Tuesday, June 21st. We are looking for a few people to help with making the meal and/or dessert. If you would like to help with the meal, please contact Hank Wallenkamp at 262-525-1211 or signup on the outreach ministry board. Please label items for Serenity Inns and drop them off by NOON on Tuesday in the east entryway.



Spring/Summer Collection

As you are cleaning out your closets for spring, consider donating gently used shorts, shirts, hats, sunglasses, and lightweight jackets to Serenity Inns. Donations can be placed in the bin in the east entryway.

Community Banquet

Thursday, June 23rd

Community Banquet typically happens twice a month. In June, Community Banquet will be only on Thursday, June 23rd. There will be no meal on June 9th due to the St. James Rummage Sale. We do not have a role this month, but you are still welcome to enjoy a meal at 5:30 p.m. The next time we serve is on Thursday, July 14th, and our role is cooking. Please reach out to Diane Otto at dotta@wi.rr.com or 262-691-3778 if you would like to help with the meal or with any questions.

Feeling Under the Weather?



We encourage congregants to be attentive to their health and to our community precautions. Sunday services are streamed live each week on Facebook and YouTube and if you sense you might be under the weather, please consider taking advantage of those virtual gatherings.

Eileen Swierczek is Retiring

Psalm 150

Praise the LORD!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
 praise him in his mighty firmament!
Praise him for his mighty deeds;
 praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound;
 praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance;
 praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals;
 praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD!

After 23 years of offering and organizing praise to the Lord in worship, Christ Our Savior's Co-Director of Music Eileen Swierczek has informed the church council of her decision to retire from music ministry August 31, 2022.

Worship is the at the heart of Christian community life and COS has been truly blessed to be the beneficiary of her wonderful gifts these many years. In these remaining months of Eileen's service to COS, may the community continue to celebrate her musical offerings and surround her with prayers of support as she prepares to begin a new phase of life.

Thank you for your ministry, Eileen! God bless you in your life transition!



MET Update!

Sunday, May 22 the COS MET held its first meeting. Their subsequent gatherings are scheduled for every two weeks - please stay on the lookout for more announcements about their work and for invitations to participate in the Mission Exploration process.



Save the Date!

Sunday, July 31 COS's MET invites you to a Congregational History Event as a part of the Mission Exploration process. Congregational participation is enormously important to the call process; commit to attending and make sure your COS friends are with you! Stay tuned for more details about this great occasion.



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