



**Community
In Christ
Lutheran Church**

CIC NEWS

August 2021

Serving the Lake Norman area since 1977

A newsletter published for the members and friends of Community In Christ Lutheran Church, 7621 Norman Island Drive, Cornelius, NC 28031 704-892-0120 email: swheeler@communityinchrist.net www.communityinchrist.org

Worship In August

9 a.m.—Parking Lot Worship

10:30 a.m.—Worship in the Sanctuary & Livestreamed

[Facebook Link](#)

[YouTube Link](#)

Regathering Information



On Sunday, August 1st, at both our 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services, we welcome the Rev. Betsy Mitchell as our worship leader. Rev. Betsy Mitchell, ordained in the ELCA, serves as a hospital chaplain at Atrium Health Union. She lives in the Arbo-retum area of Charlotte with her two teenage children, Lee and Maryrose. Betsy loves playing her guitar, painting, swimming, and reading. She is passionate about social justice and loves writing sermons that empower people to love God, self and others more fully and deeply. Please welcome Rev. Betsy Mitchell!

From the Pastors.....

When the disciples had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

John 6:19-21

Rowing Forward

Rowing is a difficult thing to do. Not that either one of us has vast experiences in a rowboat. Virtually all our time rowing has been on cardio machines in gyms. Although, the handful of times out on the water have given us deep respect for those who do row because it takes a significant amount of strength, endurance, coordination, and awareness to accomplish it.

The odd thing with rowboats, as opposed to canoes or kayaks, is that the rowers sit with their backs facing the direction they want to go. The positioning is awkward at best. But that configuration is how one generates the most force and speed to get to the desired destination. And, in observing where one has been, one has an immensely helpful point of reference.

The disciples were caught in a storm as they were out rowing on the sea. It was far from an optimal situation. And as they were looking backwards to where they had come from, in an earnest attempt to row forward, their gaze fell upon Christ. The unusual situation was frightening and confusing for them. Recognizing their dismay, Jesus offered them his reassurance and presence. In practically no time at all, they all then reached their destination.

This storm we have been in has certainly been disorienting. And while we are likely a good way out from being completely through it, the last few months have hopefully helped us all gather our bearings a bit. And as we assess our current positions, the reality has likely hit that reverting right back to where we were before the pandemic, whether it be as individuals, families, communities, or as a congregation is not an option. The world has changed. We have changed. **But we can move forward.** Looking towards where we have been gives us a powerful perspective as we do just that. And, when we gaze back, we also see Christ. Christ is who gives us peace and strength and trust and hope to move somewhere that we cannot completely see right now.

Alongside Council leadership, we are excited to have begun the process of visioning where the Spirit is leading this family of faith. We anticipate more details about these conversations to be forthcoming as the programming year is set to begin in September. And while we don't anticipate that we will reach our desired destination(s) (whatever they may be!) nearly as quickly as the disciples did, we will get there. And those longed for results won't come from purely our own strength, endurance, coordination, or awareness. This kind of rowing is *hard* work. We are going to need each other's help to pull it off. And, most of all, we will need to keep our eyes fixed on Christ throughout the venture. That perspective, and his guidance, is ultimately what will lead us forward.

Stay well and God's Peace be with you,
Pastor Michael & Pastor Lisa

tithes & offering

Worship the Lord in Giving

Ways to Give of Tithes and Offerings at CIC:

1. Online/Direct Withdrawal

- A. Go to www.communityinchrist.org & click on the “donate now” button in the upper right-hand corner.
 - B. Select “Create Profile”
 - C. Provide your email address
 - D. Create your profile and provide the various pieces of information. Once your profile is created, you can select what types of giving you would like sign-up for.
- *When considering this option, please note that church incurs an additional service charge for credit card fees.*

2. Mail In: We have a locked mailbox at CIC that is checked frequently. CIC’s address is 7621 Norman Island Drive, Cornelius, NC 28031

3. Offering Plate: The ushers provide a contact-free opportunity for you to place your offering in the offering plate during drive-in worship.

Stock Account—Have you ever thought about giving the gift of stocks, mutual funds, or IRAs? CIC has a resource available through Thrivent Financial to transfer these funds to the church into a charitable, tax-free gift account. If you would like to learn more about this possibility or have questions please contact Gary Samuelson (704-506-3234) and/or Colleen Karpovitz (ckarpovitz@cox.net).

Office & Staff Information

We encourage calling and emailing to schedule appointments.

Pastor Lisa – pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net

Pastor Michael – pastormichael@communityinchrist.net

Stephanie Wheeler, Church Administrator – swheeler@communityinchrist.net

Sandy Barefoot, Director of Music Ministries – sandy@communityinchrist.net

Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson—financedirector@communityinchrist.net

Prayers

Congratulations to Ryan & Kelsey Kehoe on the birth of their daughter, Hadley Lynne. Hadley was born on July 20th at 10:16 pm weighing in at 6lbs 1 oz. Please keep Ryan, Kelsey & Hadley in your prayers as they navigate this new chapter of their lives!

Prayers for Members: Carla Beaver, Gary Salzman, Suzette Iskander, DiBenedictis family, Jim Carney, Martin Cuthbertson, Joan Garn, Renate Von Dohlen, Lee Tillman, Dane Horna, Jan Hamilton, Bill Rockwood, Susan Hill, Betty Classey, Don Snyder, Louanne Schweitzer

Prayers for friends & relatives of members: Margaret Orendorff (Diana Elsass's mother); Evelyn Hagedorn (Laurie Street's mother); Stacey Waddell (Carol Moser's cousin); Carrie Montgomery (Lee Tillman's caregiver); Karen Roode (Bob Liljefor's sister); Ann Donahue (Bill Langan's sister); Peg Wheeler (family of Stephanie Wheeler), Gretchen Hagedorn (Laurie Street's sister); Carmen Harte (Valerie Deabreu's mother); Joanne Menke (Susan Bauer's sister); Joel Wissell (Eileen Wissell's grandson); Kathleen Beam (Eileen Wissell's great-niece); Fred Hasben, Gary Finley & Reagan Fair (Deborah Lowe's cousins)

Prayers for all active duty military personnel and their families, healthcare workers, first responders and public servants (Community In Christ thanks you and continues to pray for you)

The Lay Pastors meet monthly to pray for all people on the list. They also send out cards letting them know they have been prayed for. Please provide addresses to send the cards. Please submit all prayer requests to the office at swheeler@communityinchrist.net or 704-892-0120.

Worship News:

Baptisms: We join in welcoming two new siblings in Christ during our 10:30 a.m. service. On August 8th, we welcome Leo Barefoot, son of Brian and Karen Bigfoot and brother of Kendyll. On August 22nd, we welcome Emerson Jade Burick, daughter of Tom & Zan Burick and sister of Dakota.

Worship Services: Our worship life together has taken many forms during the last year and adaptations have been made to meet the circumstance, location, resources, while also being mindful of risk and safety levels. The outdoor and indoor service will continue to offer the same liturgy on a Sunday, but will rotate from week to week whether the service has more of a traditional or cotemporary feel. Now that we are singing as a congregation, we are still mindful of the amount of participatory parts as well as the length of time we are in doors together. We hope you will enjoy these fuller liturgies and the variety of music that will accompany them.

Blessing of the New School Year: Youth of all ages, on Sunday, August 22nd, BRING YOUR BACK PACKS or another school supply to either worship service. We'll have a "Blessing of the New School Year" to pray for the fresh start of another year of learning, growth, and friendships.

Save the date for September 12th! Rally Sunday, New Member Welcome, Congregational Meal, God's Work Our Hands Sunday—Outreach Project and OneBlood Blood Mobile!

Group Ministry & Adult Education News.....



Tuesday Morning CIC Bible Study

Join the weekly Bible Study that meets in the narthex and on Zoom on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. to discuss the upcoming lectionary texts. Please contact the church office for the zoom information.

New Member Class



The next CIC New Members' Class will be on August 15th following the 10:30am service. If you are interested in receiving information about this upcoming class offering, please contact Pastor Lisa at pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net.



All women of the Congregation are automatically a member of WELCA.

We will resume our summer social outings (dinner out). On Monday August 9th at 6:30 p.m. at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant in Huntersville.

Please contact Laverne at 704-576-8675 (text preferred). NOTE: We are

limited in Restaurants able to service us, due to staffing problems they are not taking reservations for large group.

We, are in contact with Lakewood Care Center in Denver and are planning a Halloween Event. We plan to collect toiletries and snacks to make up treat bags for the residence.

Monthly meetings will resume in September. The group has selected "Bible Women, All Their Words And Why They Matter" by Lindsay Hardin Freeman,

Happy Times Group



Happy Times Seniors will meet Wednesday, August 18th at 11:30 a.m. at a place TBD. Keep watch in the Tuesday Take Two and the Sunday Bulletin for an update of the restaurant. We have an awesome group, with "new" attendees. Please plan to join us! To RSVP, contact Ron Major at HunterRon35@hotmail.com or (704) 622-0517

Angels & Sparrows News!



Thank You! Thank you for donating Individual Salty Snacks during the month of July! In total 1,320 Salty Snacks were collected!

August Collection: Disinfectant Wipes

Angels & Sparrows will be opening for dine-in service on or about September 5. They will need LOTS of Disinfectant Wipes (Clorox/Lysol/Store Brand) to keep the tables and chairs clean between guests during serving hours! Please fill the grocery cart with Disinfectant Wipes during the month of August to help Angels &

Sparrows be prepared to safely serve the community. Items can also be dropped off at the office during the week.



CIC Prayer Shawl Ministry

The CIC Prayer Shawl Ministry prayerfully weaves God's love and peace into hand crafted shawls, scarves, hats, blankets and prayer cloths for those in need. If you like to knit or crochet, or would like to learn how, please join us! The group and its activities are open to all CIC members, friends, and visitors regardless of age or ability. Join us and share in this

ministry! Just contact Kathy Dutton (see email address below) and she will add your name to the member/email list.

In July 2021, we gave away 20 prayer shawls and 5 lap blankets to the Levine and Dickson Hospice House in Huntersville. In August, we will continue to focus on making hat/scarf sets for those in need, as well as baby blankets and shawls. Our supply closet is full of yarn, so don't be bashful!!

We will continue to meet in person in the CIC Spirit Center on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30pm to 2:30 pm. Plan to join us if you can for some fellowship, idea-sharing, and fun! If you are interested in coming to the in-person meetings, please contact Kathy Dutton and she will send you the necessary information. Of course, you can also participate in this important ministry at home by crafting items, and bringing them to CIC.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Dutton (mamabissy@gmail.com) or Diana Elsass (dianaelsass@gmail.com).

Card Ministry News



Like to play with paper and ink? Want to help the CIC card ministry create cards that serve as physical reminders of God's love, support and presence in our lives? Consider joining the card ministry team! No experience needed!

We are planning to meet twice in August to make cards and enjoy fellowship with one another. We'll be meeting **Tuesday, August 10th at 2:00 PM** and **Tuesday, August 24th at 6:30 PM** in the **Spirit Center**.

Participants are asked to enter through the doors nearest the Spirit Center.

Need more information? Contact: Kathy Shugarman at shugs02@gmail.com or 940-300-2290.

A variety of cards are available to the congregation in the card rack on Sunday mornings or during the week through the church office. Thank you to everyone who supports the card ministry through your prayers, working hands and purchasing cards.



Preschool Registration for the 2021/2022 school year is now open. Tuition for 2021/2022: \$255.00 for 2-year-old and 3-year-old students and \$290.00 for 4-year-old, PK and TK students.

To schedule a tour contact Sharon Fuller at 704-892-0120 ext 104 or (sfuller9564@gmail.com.)

Middle & Highschool Events

-The ELCA's National Youth Gathering: On August 11th, at 6:30pm, we will gather via Zoom to discuss the upcoming national youth gathering happening summer of 2022 in Minneapolis. This is a phenomenal faith-enriching opportunity and most youth only get 1 chance to experience it as it occurs once every 3 years. All rising 8th-12th graders are eligible to attend in 2022. The dates for the gathering are: July 24-28. Parent(s) and youth are encouraged to attend. Please let Pastor Michael know if you would like the Zoom information.

-SR High Movie Night at CIC! All rising 9th-12th graders are invited to enjoy a movie, snacks, and fellowship on August 8th from 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Everyone who lets Pastor Michael know by August 1st that they will attend gets to help pick the movie



Jesus' power pulled us through!

At Rocky Railway VBS 2021, **35 happy and energetic kids and 15 adults discovered Jesus' power** can pull them through life's ups and downs. **They learned that Jesus' power gives us HOPE, helps us do HARD things, be BOLD, be able to LIVE FOREVER and be a good FRIEND.**

Incredible Bible-learning experiences, sciency-fun, crafts, games, snacks, dancing, and prayer were just a few of the activities that helped faith flow into real life. Everything was hands-on, and the kids may have gotten a little messy and wet. We discovered how to see evidence of God in everyday life – something we call God Sightings. Check out the bulletin board in the narthex to see some of their sightings.

If you volunteered to be a leader at VBS or behind the scenes, or donated items for us to use at VBS or donated things for our Operation Christmas Child mission project or brought a your child, grandchild or friend to VBS, or kept us in your prayers.... **THANK YOU!** You helped make this faith-filled Rocky Railway 2021 VBS a success!



From the Finance Team

Community in Christ Ministry Plan	Jul20-Jun21 Budget	Jul20-June21 Actual	% of Budget
Revenue			
Revenue	\$532,500	\$498,745	94%
<i>Operating Budget offerings</i>			
Other Revenue	\$181,466	\$220,297	121%
<i>Facility Usage, Preschool tuition and fees, Bank interest</i>			
Total Revenues	\$713,966	\$719,042	101%
Expenses			
Worship	\$ 2,425	\$ 2,737	113%
<i>altar supplies, devotionals, substitute pastors</i>			
Witness	\$ 1,870	\$ 1,002	54%
<i>offering envelopes, family life, evangelism, giving garden</i>			
Serve	\$ 53,250	\$ 49,658	93%
<i>synod benevolence</i>			
Administration	\$ 40,007	\$ 42,454	106%
<i>computer software, copier lease, insurance, internet, postage, office supplies, telephone, payroll service, credit card fees</i>			
Mortgage	\$ 92,196	\$ 95,024	103%
<i>principal and interest on mortgage</i>			
Property	\$ 53,818	\$ 56,559	105%
<i>building maintenance, janitorial services, utilities, lawn care, fire/security alarms, exterminating, floor/carpet cleaning</i>			
Staff	\$447,943	\$421,697	94%
<i>salaries, taxes, and benefits for four full-time and two part-time employees; staff development (partially offset by designated giving in 2016-2017)</i>			
Music Ministries	\$ 3,060	\$ 3,035	99%
<i>guest artists, music for choirs, copyright fees</i>			
Youth Ministries	\$ 6,525	\$ 2,733	42%
<i>youth mission trips, retreats, activities; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019: also includes Sunday school, camp/confirmation</i>			
Preschool	\$ 13,865	\$ 13,721	99%
<i>activities, supplies, maintenance</i>			
Total Expenses	\$714,959	\$688,620	96%
Budget Surplus		\$ 30,422	

Office Communication Please be in touch with Stephanie in the church office (swheeler@communityinchrist.net) about the following:

- If you read the newsletter online and prefer that it no longer be mailed to your physical address.
- If you have switched to giving primarily through digital means and no longer have a need for physical envelopes.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD EXPIRATION DATE IF YOU ARE SET UP FOR AUTO DEDUCTION ON OUR WEBSITE.

US Postage Paid
 Non-Profit Organization
 Cornelius, NC 28031
 Permit #5

Community in Christ Lutheran Church

7621 Norman Island Drive
 Cornelius, NC 28031
 1-77, Exit 25 2 miles west on HWY 73
 (704) 892-0120 e-mail: swheeler@communityinchrist.net




Church Council Team

Leaders
 Dean Miller
 Deborah Lowe
 Natasha Nadeau (Secretary)
 Adam English
 Debbie Davidson
 Susan Kullistam (President)
 Paul Miller (VP)
 Paul Handrock

Staff
 Pastor Lisa Beery
 Pastor Michael Beery
 Office Administrator,
 Stephanie Wheeler
 Music Director, Sandy Barefoot
 Preschool Director, Sharon Fuller
 Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson
 (swheeler@communityinchrist.net)
 (sandy@communityinchrist.net)
 (Stuller9564@gmail.com)
 (financedirector@communityinchrist.net)

Leaders
 Youth
 Adult Faith Formation (Mark Myers)
 Finance (Madalyn Wilkinson)
 Technology (Scott Brooks)
 Outreach (Kathy Dutton)
 Inviting Ministries
 Property (Stephanie Wheeler)
 WELCA (Laverne Waskieles)
 Stewardship
 Support Staff (Kathy Shugarman)
 Worship & Music
 Legal Counsel (Tim Nohr)
 Treasurer (Dean Miller)



Worship Times

6 am Parking Lot Church

10:30 a.m. Sanctuary
 Livestreamed on Facebook & YouTube

Please note that announcements for the bulletin, newsletter and facebook pages are for church related items only. Anything non-related to the church will be deleted. Thank you for adhering to this policy. Submissions for the bulletin must be received in writing to the church office by Thursdays at 10 am. Submissions for the newsletter must be received in writing to the church office by the 20th of the month.

Are you getting our E-Mails?

Each week we send out an e-mail to the congregation sharing what's going on and what's coming up. If you have not been receiving these e-mails, please let us know. Write your e-mail down in the black book and put a note by it asking us to include you in our weekly e-mails. You can also sign up for e-mails at our website.
www.communityinchrist.org