



**Community
In Christ
Lutheran Church**

CIC NEWS

July 2023

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

Join us for worship in July at 10 a.m. on Sundays both in the sanctuary and on livestream!

Enjoy Coffee and treats before and/or after service!

[Facebook Link](#)

[YouTube Link](#)



Welcome, Reverend Dr. Marcus Miller!
Pastor Miller will lead CIC in worship on Sunday, July 16th.

Pastor Miller was born and raised in Southgate, MI (a Detroit suburb) where his father was a Lutheran pastor and his mother an elementary school teacher. He served in five calls from 1971-2012: teacher of religion and German at Martin Luther High School in Maspeth, New York (1971-73), Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mt. Vernon, NY (1973-79), Pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn, OH (1979-95), Bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA (1995-2006), and President of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, SC (2006-12) while Pastor Lisa and Pastor Michael were students. From November 1, 2013 until August 31, 2014, he was the Interim Bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod upon Bishop Eaton's election as Presiding Bishop of the ELCA. He has served numerous congregational interims in his retirement including here at CIC. Pastor Miller supports and encourages various ministries of social justice and compassion both during his time as a parish pastor and a synod bishop and now in retirement. Pastor Miller and his wife, Katherine, a retired Registered Nurse and Middle School Band Director, live in Huntersville. They have two children and five grandchildren they are happy to share about!



Church Center App



- Have you joined CIC's new online photo directory yet?
- The directory is through a program called Church Center, it is also an app.
- Follow the QR code to get started.
- If you need assistance, there is tech support in the narthex before and after worship.



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 debit and 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 an opportunity for you to place your offering in the offering plate during 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 Madalyn Wilkinson at financedirector@communityinchrist.net.

A



From Your Music Team:

It has been a busy and enjoyable first two weeks serving as music director. Thank you, CIC, for the wonderful welcome reception and beautiful Cross/Treble Clef artwork. Yes, it did come in and it is beautiful!

Even with hectic summer schedules your CIC Choir has been rehearsing and will be presenting a wonderful anthem on July 9.

With occasional variances, my office hours will be 8:30-4:30 M-W and 1:00-8:00 on Thursdays. Drop by and see me. Your music team wants each Sunday’s musical offerings to glorify God and enhance your worship experience. I would love suggestions and feedback so that we can be successful in that endeavor.

May God be gracious to you - Ruth 2:4

Sherry

2023 CIC Golf Outing – August 21st



Save the date for this year’s golf outing at Northstone Country Club. Start forming your teams and inviting your guests. As with last year, the proceeds will be used to support the rapid growth of our youth program at CIC. This year we are asking for assistance with fundraising. If you know of anyone that has a business or is in a place within a company that has a say on how marketing/advertising budgets are spent, please contact either Bob Shugarman, Ron Gomilla, Chris Nadeau or Paul Miller (or if you or someone you know has a marketing/advertising background, please let one of us know.) In addition, if you would like to help us with planning the outing, please let one of us know. We could use your help!

Cost to Golf: Individual Golfer \$150, Golf foursome \$600 **Dinner Only:** \$15/Adult; \$10/Child; \$50/Family

Sign-up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a094ba8af2fa46-2023#/> or click on the QR code

Pay for golfing or the dinner either by check made out to CIC with “golf” in the memo line or on the Donate Now button on the website.



July Grocery Cart Collection



July’s grocery cart has a different look! The July Grocery Cart is moving to the VBS collection area for the month of July. Be on the lookout for the marked collection area near the first sanctuary door entrance! Items to fill up the VBS service project are: *low-sugar granola bars, low-sugar fruit cups, pretzel snack-sized bags, goldfish/cracker packs, and mini water bottles.*

When you’re out shopping this month, please consider purchasing some of these items that will support the children’s service project activity during VBS! Your generosity to the grocery cart and different-lookin-cart collections is greatly appreciated! Please see the VBS announcement page for full details!

Prayers

Prayers for Members: Gary Salzman, Suzette Iskander, Joan Garn, Janet Shuping, Betty Classey, Pat Hamby, Gregg Bottemiller, Lucy Price, Joyce Phelps, Shirley McNeilis, Blaire Hart, Warren Hamby, Deb & Mark Myers, Laverne Waskielis, Janice Kaufmann, Bill Rockwood, Sandy Barefoot, Debbie Davidson, Anne Randolph, John Iverson

Prayers for friends & relatives of members: Jackie Deville, Demetrius Watkins (friends of Phil & Deborah Lowe); Toddy Sumsy (Suzi Hinrich's sister); Carl Morris (Carla Henley's father); Terry Park (friend of Gary & Sharon Kautz); Shirley Barton (friend of Bob & Kathy Shugarman); Beth Ward (friend of Judi Labuda); Bishop Tim Smith (NC Synod Bishop); Sheila Dotson (friend of Pat & Scott Wood); family of Audrey Wagner (coworker of Cory Wilkinson); Sondra Sigmon (friend of Pat & Scott Wood); Allison Holt (friend of Christ Spano)

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 704-892-020 or swheeler@communityinchrist.net.

Things to take note of:



Big Red Bus: Thank you for participating in One Blood's Big Red Bus on June 11th!

Tuesday Morning CIC Bible Study: Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Narthex.

Sunday Mornings Can Use Your Help! We are looking to expand all of our teams!:

- **A/V Booth**—Slides, Streaming, Sound
- **Ushers**—The ushers will pass the offering plate around during each service, Communion direction
- **Worship Assistants**—Readings, Prayers, Communion Distribution
- **Communion Assistants**—Communion Distribution
- **Altar Guild**—Communion preparation, set up, and clean up, Changing of paraments
- If you are interested in learning more about any of these ways to serve on a Sunday morning or are ready to be added to the rotation, please contact [Pastor Michael](#) or [Pastor Lisa](#).

Hand Bell Choir Schedule: Calling all ringers! Interested in making a joyful noise with us this fall. Please complete the following survey by July 11th. No musical experience required, just a willingness to learn and have fun. Any questions please contact Ashley Knoy [ashleyknoy@gmail.com or 704-208-6922] <https://forms.gle/aEm6Xp2tF6SXZq5m7>



New Members: Are you interested in learning more about the congregation? Are you ready to join the congregation? Please reach out to Pastor Michael and Pastor Lisa (pastormichael@communityinchrist.net and pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net) to talk more about upcoming New Member Class opportunities.

2023 Men's Retreat @ LutherRock: Okay gentlemen! The men's retreat is fast approaching and it is time to start signing up [Sign-up Genius](#) or click on the QR code. We will be heading to LutherRock on Friday, September 22 through Sunday September 24. If you want to carpool with someone, we can arrange that for you or you can make your own arrangements. We just ask that you get there by 6:00-6:30 for dinner (if you want dinner). If you are interested in playing golf at one of the mountain courses along the way Friday, let me know. I know that some of us will be playing. Friday evening, we will have an introduction and a little study with Pastor Marcus Miller. Pastor Miller will be sending out a letter to all who are going about the study. In general, we have switched from reading the book "The Cost of Discipleship" to studying the Sermon on the Mount, our vocations and the challenges and difficulties that we face. Saturday morning and Saturday evening we will continue with Pastor Miller and Saturday we will have free time with lots of fellowship. (I am sure there will be a football game on TV somewhere!!!). Sunday we will have our service and then make the journey home. The cost will be \$160.00 per person. You can pay through the "Donate Now" button on the CIC website and write in that it is for the men's retreat. It will be two people per room. We will set up teams for meal prep, serving and clean-up. The retreats in past years have created several memories and friendships. I strongly encourage you to sign up as soon as possible because we are limited as to the number of beds (unless someone once to sleep on the floor).



Office Update:

- ⇒ Office Administrator Stephanie Wheeler will be out of the office Monday, June 26th, through Wednesday, July 5th.
- ⇒ The church office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, July 3rd and 4th.
 - ⇒ The pastors will be out of the office July 10th through 17th.
- ⇒ Pastor Michael will be out of the office, July 30th through August 4th.

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

Finance, Madalyn Wilkinson—financedirector@communityinchrist.net

Music, Sherry Malia—musicdirector@communityinchrist.net



Group Ministry News.....

Property Team: There will be a property work day on Saturday, July 8th, beginning at 8 a.m. Projects being addressed are: Fence repairs and maintenance, Sidewalk cleaning and pressure washing and window washing. Coffee and donuts will be provided!

WELCA: Hello Ladies of CIC! If you would like to be part of the next survey for our women's group please contact Jill Brooks at (jllbrooks@gmail.com.) We will gather this summer to design questions for the structure of our group and ideas for the upcoming year. Looking forward to developing some awesome ideas!

Happy Times Seniors: Happy Times Seniors will meet on Wednesday, July 19th at 11:30 a.m. at Duckworths Grill & Tap House in Huntersville. Please RSVP to Ron Major at 704-622-0517 or hunterron35@hotmail.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: If you like to knit or crochet - or would like to learn how - please join us! No experience necessary!!!! 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. 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, we will continue to rebuild our supply of prayer shawls, as well as hat and scarf sets for those in need during the upcoming fall and winter months. We 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! 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: The CIC card ministry group creates cards that serve as physical reminders of God's love, support and presence in our lives. Everyone is invited to come and make cards! No experience needed! We will only be meeting once in July to make cards and enjoy fellowship with one another. The meeting will be on Tuesday, July 11th, at 2:00 p.m. in the Spirit Center. Participants are asked to enter through the doors nearest the Spirit Center. Need more information? Contact: Kathy Shugarman at 940-300-2290 or shugs02@gmail.com. Thank you to everyone who supports the card ministry through your prayers, working hands and purchasing cards.

Quilting Ministry: If you enjoy sewing or want to learn please join us! In July we will meet Thursday, the 13th, & 27th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Classroom #1. All sewers are welcome! Questions? Contact Barbara Eaker at 704-483-2060.

Preschool: There are openings for our 2 year old and 3 year old classes. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$85.00 per child is due at time of enrollment. Tuition for 2023/2024: \$285.00 for 2-year-old and 3-year-old students. To schedule a tour contact Sharon Fuller at 704-892-0120 ext 104 or sfuller9564@gmail.com.



VBS 2023 UPDATES
July 23-27 6:00-8:00 PM
Open for ages 4 through 5th grade!
Register online: myvbs.org/CICLC

Registration is open. Please let your friends, neighbors, and family members know we have plenty of space for more Chefs! There are still a few openings for Middle School/High School or Adult volunteers. If you would like to join one of the Food Truck Hosts to guide the Chefs from station to station or be a Bible Story actor/actress, we could use a couple more helpers.

PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE THE ONE QUESTION SURVEY ABOUT HAVING FOOD

TRUCKS AVAILABLE FOR REAL FOOD! The one question about VBS that has not been asked is, “Will there really be food trucks there?” The answer is, That is up to all of us! In order to have a food truck owner agree to setting up during the week, we need to give them a number of customers who will be attending the “EXPERIENCE OF FOOD TRUCK EATING” Please respond to the survey below so we can have an idea of interest from our CIC family. Food Truck Interest Form - [Google Forms](#)



MISSION FOODTRUCK UPDATE:

Food Truck Party VBS is based on Matthew 6:11 (NRSV): “Give us this day our daily bread.” Because God loves and cares for us, we, in turn, can love and care for the rest of the world. With that in mind, we are collecting healthy snacks and mini water bottles to share with Gethsemane Baptist Church for their back-to-school backpack program. Examples of the Healthy snacks requested are:

- ⇒ low sugar granola bars
- ⇒ low sugar fruit cups
- ⇒ pretzel snack size bags
- ⇒ goldfish/cracker packs
- ⇒ mini water bottles

Please consider helping us collect enough snacks to prepare 80 bags. Donations will be accepted July 2- July 25. There will be a collection area near the first Sanctuary entrance. Thank you for helping our children to share their daily bread.

BIBLE STORY FOOD TRUCK UPDATE:

Volunteers are needed to “act out” the Bible stories each evening. There is no need to memorize any lines; the script is already prepared for you. Please let me know if you are interested.

IMAGINATION FOODTRUCK UPDATE:

These volunteer opportunities can be done in the comfort of your home:

Cut yarn into 5-foot lengths...yarn is provided for you.

Clip pictures of food from magazines.

Help prepare items for our Chefs to complete during their VBS week.

RECREATION/SNACK FOODTRUCK UPDATE:

Our hosts for this station are so excited about the games and snacks that are planned for the Chefs. There is a “Food Truck Request” on the display in the narthex for a kiddy pool. If you have one, we could borrow, please let me know.

SET DESIGN UPDATE:

Please plan to come help create our scenery...Sunday, July 9th. Time and more details will be provided in the weekly bulletins and our Tuesday Take Two. If you have large cardboard boxes, please let Suzi know. We need many boxes to help create our scene. Check out the Food Truck requests on the display in the narthex. There are MANY items needed for the construction of an awesome set for our Assembly and Wrap up Worship Food Truck.

QUESTIONS? Contact Suzi Hinrichs at 630-841-7124 suzihinrichs@gmail.com



Lutheridge Recap

Campfirmation at Lutheridge was a blast! CIC's group joined with over a 100 other confirmation students from Virginia, NC, SC, and Georgia. The theme for the week was prayer and each day focused on a different element of it. When the instruction combined with the fun of outdoor ministry, it made for a wonderful time of faith formation!



Save the Date! Family Camp at Camp Agapé

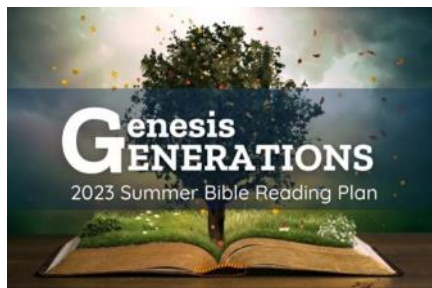
Head to Camp Agapé, located about 45 minutes south of Raleigh, September 1-4 for a weekend of Family Camp! Grow closer to God, in community with your family unit with daily worships and devotions. Enjoy God's beautiful creation with hikes, archery, and swimming. Pastor Lisa & Pastor Michael are the chaplains for the weekend providing family devotions and leading worship. Find more information here: https://agapekurebeach.org/retreats/family_camp/

NC Synod Assembly - June 2-3 in Greensboro



The 2023 NC Synod Assembly was held June 2nd and 3rd in Greensboro, NC. We thank Judi LaBuda, Kathy Shugarman, Pastor Lisa, and Pastor Michael for representing CIC. The Synod gathered together under the theme of "Who do you say that I am?" engaging together in Bible Study, devotion, prayer, and worship. In the 16th chapter of Matthew, Jesus asks Peter, "Who do you say that I am?" At this year's Synod Assembly, we considered the same question as we dove deeper into the synod core values: Christ-Centered, Generosity, Relationship, and Reconciliation Together, we: updated the constitution, approved upcoming budgets, held elections for various committees and offices, welcomed a new congregation onto the ELCA's roster, and heard reports from numerous ministry partners like Lutheran Services Carolinas, Outdoor Ministries, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, and more! Check out Assembly summaries here: <https://nclutheran.org/category/assembly-2023/>

Synodwide Summer Reading



Let's read the Bible together this summer! Join this summer's Bible Reading Plan: Genesis Generations. The reading plan will begin on Sunday, July 2. There are a number of ways to participate:

- subscribe to receive a daily email in your inbox,
- watch the NC Synod webpage and Facebook page for daily posts,
- listen to the daily podcast series available from LibSyn or wherever you get your podcasts,
- read each devotion on the printed compilation (available by July 2)

For more information visit: <https://nclutheran.org/congregations/engage-the-bible/#summer-reading>

Finance Team

May 2023 financial gifts brought in \$42.5k, for a year-to-date total of \$515.8k, 5% ahead of the Budget. Preschool does not record tuition in May (tuition is recorded a month in advance). We also earned additional \$400 on our Money Market holdings at Fidelity, proving that this investment was a very good strategic decision. Expense items of interest include: ~\$2k combined related to new Music Director start (office refresh and painting, telephone setup, new computer), \$550 of guest musicians, \$290 for annual USPS bulk postage permit, \$200 replacement of broken mic headsets for the Pastors. Our year-to-date Surplus is \$37.5k. It is expected to decrease a little more by the end of the fiscal year as we continue with necessary year-end building maintenance while not receiving regular monthly tuition at the Preschool over the summer. ~Madalyn Wilkinson, Director of Finance.

Are you a Thrivent Financial member? You may be eligible to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to enrolled non-profits that you care about – including our church! Feel free to contact your Thrivent agent to check your eligibility! We appreciate your support of CIC's ministry through Choice Dollars!


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.

Community in Christ Lutheran Church Ministry Plan	Jul22-Jun23 Budget	May23 Actual	% of Budget
<i>Revenues</i>			
Member Contributions	\$534,000	\$515,765	97%
Other Revenue <i>Facility usage, Preschool tuition and fees, Bank interest, credit card rewards</i>	191,005	169,582	89%
Total Revenues	725,005	685,347	95%
<i>Expenses</i>			
Worship <i>Altar supplies, devotionals, substitute pastors</i>	4,100	4,451	109%
Witness <i>Offering envelopes, new member activities</i>	2,130	1,434	67%
Synod benevolence	53,400	51,536	97%
Administration <i>Computer software, copier lease, insurance, internet, postage, office supplies, telephone, payroll service, credit card fees</i>	42,020	41,314	98%
Mortgage <i>Principal and interest on mortgage</i>	80,348	73,653	92%
Property <i>Building maintenance, janitorial services, utilities, lawn care, fire/security alarms, exterminating, floor/carpet cleaning</i>	56,093	62,308	111%
Staff <i>Salaries, payroll taxes, and benefits for four full-time and one part-time employees; staff development</i>	315,843	266,331	84%
Music Ministries <i>Guest artists, music for choirs, copyright fee, handbells, AV maintenance</i>	3,375	10,991	326%
Youth Ministries <i>Youth mission trips, retreats, activities, VBS, Sunday school, campfirmation</i>	7,150	4,318	60%
Preschool <i>Staff salaries and benefits, activities, supplies, maintenance</i>	159,210	131,521	83%
Total Expenses	723,668	647,856	90%
Surplus	\$1,337	\$37,491	

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



Moving forward in
 Outreach
 Stewardship
 Welcome & Inclusion
 Worship
 Youth & Family Ministries
 As a Community
 in Christ

Worship Times

9:30 a.m.—Coffee Cart
 10 a.m.—Worship (Sanctuary & Live streamed)
 11 a.m.—Coffee Cart

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

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Church Council
 Dean Miller (Treasurer)
 Deborah Lowe
 Natasha Nadeau (Secretary)
 Adam English (VP)
 Carl Yarger
 Susan Bauer
 Paul Miller (Pres)
 Tracy Lyon

Team Leaders
 Youth
 Adult Faith Formation (Mark Myers)
 Finance (Madalyn Wilkinson)
 Technology
 Outreach (Kathy Dutton)
 Inviting Ministries
 Property (Stephanie Wheeler)
 WELCA
 Stewardship
 Support Staff (Kathy Shugaman)
 Worship & Music

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 Pastor Michael Beery pastormichael@communityinchrist.net
 Office Administrator, Stephanie Wheeler (swheeler@communityinchrist.net)
 Preschool Director, Sharon Fuller (Sfuller9564@gmail.com)
 Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson (financedirector@communityinchrist.net)
 Music—Sherry Malia (musicdirector@communityinchrist.net)

