



**Community
In Christ
Lutheran Church**

CIC NEWS

September 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 September

September 5th: 9 a.m. (Parking Lot); 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)
September 12th: One Worship Service at 10 a.m. (Sanctuary & Livestreamed on a big-screen under the breezeway for those who wish to be outside)
September 19th: 9 a.m. (Parking Lot); 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)
September 26th: 9 a.m. (Parking Lot); 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)

[Facebook Link](#)

[YouTube Link](#)

Regathering Information



September 12th Event:

We hope you are able to participate in as many of the events on the 12th as possible!

- ⇒ **9 a.m.:** Rally Sunday for our 3yr old – 5th grade Sunday School students. Enjoy a morning of outdoor learning and fun Olympics Style! There just might be some bounce house excitement to enjoy!
- ⇒ **10 a.m.:** Our 1 worship service this day will include a welcome of new members as well as a special anthem sung by the choir! The service will be indoors AND we will have the livestream playing on a big-screen under the breezeway for those who would prefer staying outside.
- ⇒ **11 a.m. Options:**
 - ⇒ Service Project: It's the ELCA's God's Work Our Hands Sunday and we have a project lined up that all ages will be able to participate in.
 - ⇒ Congregational Picnic: Pack your lunch and enjoy fellowship outdoors with one another. You can even tailgate if you would like to!
 - ⇒ Games: An array of activities and games will be set-up for all to enjoy! If you have a Corn Hole set, Ladder Golf, or other easily-portable game you'd like to bring and set up, please do!
- ⇒ **9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donate Blood, Give Life!**

One Blood's Big Red Bus will be at CIC! Schedule a time to donate blood before or after worship or continue to worship via the livestream while on the bus! Please see One Blood's website for eligibility FAQs. All blood donors must wear a mask regardless of vaccination status. All donors will receive a \$20 eGift card. Sign-up to donate Whole Blood or Double Red Cells at the following link: https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1130952

From the Pastors.....

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. Galatians 6:9-10

Do you have a junk sleep problem? Recently, one of the national mattress chains released a clever ad campaign asking that very question. To illustrate what “junk sleep” is they reference various things that people do when they are tired: misplace items, forget important details, mix up various memories...if you have not seen the commercials, they are quite humorous.

A good mattress and a quality night’s sleep can go a long way in helping us avoid the negative effects of “junk sleep.” But, there are a lot of other reasons as to why we might be feeling exhausted at this point in time. The last 18 months have been incredibly hard on everyone. And, as we have heard from other colleagues and mental health professionals, this current stretch we are in might just be the most difficult period thus far.

How then can we not “grow weary” in doing what is right as Paul said in his letter to the Galatians? The best mattress in the world cannot alleviate the stressors and unknowns that we carry. How do we not lose heart when so many people are blatantly flippant about the reality of the virus, how do we not lose heart when we see crisis and death happening in Afghanistan, how can we not lose heart when areas are repeatedly hit by hurricanes, how do we not lose heart when bomb threats are made during the first week of school, how do we not lose heart when we witness parents berate school board members who instill policies recommended by health professionals, how do we not lose heart when each day more and more stories are shared of doctors and nurses resigning because of burnout?

The situation we find ourselves in is exhausting! There is no way around it. And yet, Paul’s words still ring in our ears. “Do not grow weary in doing what is right...” Paul shares the why we shouldn’t grow weary. Paul’s rationale is because he doesn’t want us to miss the harvest time. Because, if we are “doing what is good”, we are planting seeds of hope, forgiveness, compassion, justice, grace, and love. And, in time, those seeds will eventually grow and bloom...an experience that is too good to miss. That is why Paul says we shouldn’t stop doing the very things God has instructed us to do.

But the question of “how” still remains. How do we not grow weary? Jesus has an answer to that pondering. Jesus tells us to come to him. That whenever we are feeling weary and are carrying burdens that are just too much, that we are to come to him. In worship. In prayer. In water, bread, wine. In fellowship. In service. Jesus is present in all of these things offering to us his love and grace, which fuel us to do the good we do in this life.

A new mattress might do wonders for your junk sleep. The kind of weariness we are enduring though, we need something far more powerful than that. Lucky for us, we know where we can access the love and grace that is crucial for us to keep going. And, inevitably, when we begin to lose heart, when the weariness does set in, Jesus is still present and ready to give us the rest we need to continue doing the good we are called to do. Let us make sure we utilize the opportunities God gives us for rest and renewal.

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

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

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); Fred Hasben, Gary Finlay & Reagan Fair (Deborah Lowe's cousins); Dennis Kuk (Kathy Dutton's brother); Dana Heidelberger (friend of Pat & Scott Wood); Family of pre-school teacher Melissa Martucci; Jordan Becker (Grace Becker's son); Stephanie Holt (Anna Roth's granddaughter); Elizabeth Short (sister-in-law of Rod & Norma Short); Eric Johnston (extended family of Pastor Lisa)

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.



Things to take note of:



Director of Inviting Ministries: CIC is seeking a new Director of Inviting Ministries. The DIM is entrusted to embody and foster a sense of Christian hospitality and inclusion within CIC's family of faith. This part-time position involves a range of interpersonal and technological skills that will aid in people feeling welcome and a part of the congregation. If you are interested in learning more about the position or applying, please contact the church office (704-892-0120, swheeler@communityinchrist.net)

Angels & Sparrows News! THANK YOU for donating over 70 containers of sanitizing wipes to Angels & Sparrows this month! We will take a pause from the grocery cart for the month of September while Angels & Sparrows assesses their upcoming Fall needs.

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 Synod Wide Bible Study: Dialogues on Race is a new Synod Wide Bible Study that begins on Thursday, September 16th. There are a variety of ways to participate in this study. Check out the synod's website for more information (<https://www.nclutheran.org/congregations/engage-the-bible/>). If you are interested in engaging in a congregational group for the study, please e-mail Pastor Michael.

Adult Sunday School will resume soon. Please look to weekly emails and bulletin announcements for up-to-date information as available.

Group Ministry News.....



Help Wanted!: The Coffee Cart is looking for hosts! Contact Carol Moser to learn more or sign-up at cbmoser@aol.com.

WELCA



If you are a female member of the Congregation, you are automatically a member of WELCA. We will resume our Monthly meetings at the church on **Monday, September 13th at 6:30 p.m.** “*Bible Women, All Their Words And Why They Matter*” by Lindsay Hardin Freeman, has been selected as our study material. Diana Elsass in the study leader for September, refreshments will be provided by Laverne Waskielis. If you have any questions please contact Laverne Waskielis at 704-576-8675.

Lakewood Care Center – Denver, We, are planning a Halloween Event. We will be collecting toiletries and snacks to be delivered on Saturday October 30th. The exact amount of participation will depend on the covid protocols in effect.

The NC SWO Annual Gathering is being held at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Mooresville on September 18th. The election of state officers will be held.

Happy Times Group



Happy Times Seniors will meet Wednesday, September 15th at 11:30 a.m. at Duckworth’s Tavern, 16609 Statesville Road in Huntersville. We have an awesome group, with “new” attendees. Please plan to join us! To RSVP, contact Ron Major at 704-622-0517 or HunterRon35@hotmail.com.

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. The group and its activities are open to all CIC members, friends, and visitors regardless of age or ability. 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



Help the CIC card ministry create cards that serve as physical reminders of God’s love, support and presence in our lives. No experience needed! We are planning to meet twice in September to make cards and enjoy fellowship with one another. We’ll be meeting Tuesday, September 14th, at 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, September 28th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Spirit Center. Participants are asked to enter through the doors nearest the Spirit Center. A variety of cards are available to the congregation in the card rack on Sunday mornings or during the week through the church office. Questions? Contact: Kathy Shugarman at shugs02@gmail.com or 940-300-2290.



Preschool, Sunday School & Youth News:

Preschool Registration for the 2021/2022 School Year

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. There are currently a few spots open for the TK class.

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

Youth Sunday School

- ⇒ On Sunday, September 12th, Youth Sunday School will meet as a large group outdoors at 9 a.m. for some Rally Day learning, prayer, and fun! Come prepared to move around a bit!
- ⇒ For September 19th and 26th, while we continue to get deeper into the beginning of our school years, we will meet as a large group outdoors between services.
- ⇒ Parents!: During the month of September, together we'll evaluate safety needs, comfort levels, and leadership volunteerism to look toward October. Do we always meet outside? Can some meet indoors with masks? Do we meet as a large group? Or do we break into two groups by age? Do we have the volunteers? All questions to think about as we gather this month and journey through each month with the current information available to us. If you are interested in leading a Sunday School lesson, please contact Pastor Lisa at (pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net).
- ⇒ SAVE THE DATE!: Agapé Day Camp will be returning to CIC next summer during the week of June 20-24, 2022, for those who are currently in Kindergarten through 5th Grade! Pencil the week into your calendars to have on hand when you start making plans for next summer!

Middle & Highschool

Confirmation Orientation: Orientation for the 2021-2022 Confirmation Program will be on September 19th at 6:30 p.m.. All 6th-8th grade students/parents are encouraged to attend. If you would like your youth to participate in confirmation this year, please e-mail Pastor Michael in advance of the meeting (pastormichael@communityinchrist.net).

Senior High: Will be gathering for dinner together outdoors as they work on assembling Operation Christmas Child boxes with time and date to be determined. Please watch for text and email updates.

From the Finance Team

Community in Christ Ministry Plan	Jul20-Jun22 Budget	July 21 Actual	% of Budget
Revenue			
Revenue	\$532,500	\$ 45,629	9%
<i>Operating Budget offerings</i>			
Other Revenue	\$185,898	\$ 23,254	13%
<i>Facility Usage, Preschool tuition and fees, Bank interest</i>			
Total Revenues	\$718,398	\$ 68,883	10%
Expenses			
Worship	\$ 2,425	\$ 610	25%
<i>altar supplies, devotionals, substitute pastors</i>			
Witness	\$ 1,870	\$	0%
<i>offering envelopes, family life, evangelism, giving garden</i>			
Serve	\$ 53,250	\$ 4,238	8%
<i>synod benevolence</i>			
Administration	\$ 41,337	\$ 5,739	14%
<i>computer software, copier lease, insurance, internet, postage, office supplies, telephone, payroll service, credit card fees</i>			
Mortgage	\$ 80,424	\$ 6,702	8%
<i>principal and interest on mortgage</i>			
Property	\$ 55,234	\$ 4,784	9%
<i>building maintenance, janitorial services, utilities, lawn care, fire/security alarms, exterminating, floor/carpet cleaning</i>			
Staff	\$323,008	\$ 25,179	8%
<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	\$ 4,409	\$ 64	1%
<i>guest artists, music for choirs, copyright fees</i>			
Youth Ministries	\$ 9,525	\$ 180	2%
<i>youth mission trips, retreats, activities; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019: also includes Sunday school, campfirmation</i>			
Preschool	\$146,909	\$ 3,960	3%
<i>activities, supplies, maintenance</i>			
Total Expenses	\$718,391	\$ 51,456	7%
Budget Surplus		\$ 17,428	

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.



After all the 18+ months have brought our congregation, the 2021-2022 CIC Council has been focused on an initiative that has turned our attention to how we, as a congregation, can best prioritize, support and engage one another as we continue to look **forward** in ministry together. Over the past two months, council members have been prayerfully discerning how we can best serve the needs of each other and our community. To that end, we have identified five areas we think will have the most impact and where we will focus in the coming year:

- Welcoming & Inclusion: Debbie Davidson, Adam English, and Deborah Lowe-Council Representatives
- Stewardship: Dean Miller-Council Representative
- Worship and Music: Susan Kullstam-Council Representative
- Youth and Family Ministries: Paul Handrock and Natasha Nadeau Council Representatives
- Outreach: Paul Miller-Council Representative

We will be engaging the congregation as we begin to shape each of these areas of focus and welcome your input and questions. We are eager to move **forward** as a **community** in **Christ** and explore the future of our ministry together as a family of faith!

In Christ,
CIC Council

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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

Leaders


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

Church Council Team

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)

Staff

Pastor Lisa Beery
 Pastor Michael Beery
 Office Administrator,
 Stephanie Wheeler
 Music Director, Sandy Barefoot
 (sandy@communityinchrist.net)
 Preschool Director, Sharon Fuller
 (Sfuller9564@gmail.com)
 Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson
 (financedirector@communityinchrist.net)



Worship Times

9 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