



2021

CHRIST TODAY

A monthly newsletter for the friends and members of Christ Lutheran Church, LCMC /NALC

Nominations for CLC Council 2021

FIND IT QUICKLY HERE

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An important day on the calendar for this month! Please set some time aside. **There will be a congregational meeting taking place on Sunday, September 26, 2021. One worship service only @ 10:00 a.m., meeting will take place at 11:00 a.m. following the service.** The Nominating Committee is seeking individuals to prayerfully consider and learn about the vacant positions. What is especially important this year is to have a full house for church council. It's because this is one of the many key factors that a permanent pastor greatly values -and needs in order to share ministry leadership at CLC. Persons on Nominating Committee include: Lee and Nancy O'Bryan, Randy Byrne, Dennis Kruger, and Melissa Bruesehoff, chair. Thank you.

The following vacant committees include:

Council President (1)
Council Vice-President (1)
Worship Committee (1)
Property (2vacant positions), 1 is a one-year, the other is a 2year
Parish Ed (1 position)
Finance (1 position)

Melissa Bruesehoff, appointed lead chair
(amended)

ATTENTION CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMBERS: Your vote is needed. Our Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting is set for September 26 after the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service. All voting members are asked to attend. We will be voting in a new council. Have your voice heard. Make your vote count, keep current on CLC news and information.

If you are an active, confirmed member of Christ Lutheran Church, According to our CLC constitution if you have attended and made an offering in the last two years, you are eligible to vote.

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32300 Schoenherr Rd., Warren, MI 48088

Phone: 586-293-0700; www.christlutheranchurchwarren.org

A letter from Pastor Brad Miller

From the Pastor

These are busy times for CLC with many significant events on the horizon. I invite you to redouble your prayers for our congregation as we move forward. Intentional Interim Ministry – like all ministries – has been complicated by Covid19. Normally, I would have facilitated a number of group events by this point. Unfortunately, such normal activities have been precluded at times and complicated at other times. Despite these challenges, the congregation is moving forward on an aggressive timetable to seek the next settled pastor. Let me outline for all of you the key steps moving forward:

- We elect our new Church Council and Officers on September 26th.
- The Council will have a planning retreat on October 16th.
- At the end of the retreat (or soon thereafter), the Call Committee will be formed.
- The Call Committee begins working with Pastor Brandt from CORE.
- The Call Committee provides the required profile information to the NALC.
- The NALC screens candidates and forwards one or more for the Call Committee to consider.
- When they have a final candidate, the Call Committee forwards it to the Church Council.
- When the Church Council agrees, a special Congregational Meeting is called for the purpose of voting to extend a Call.

I invite your extra prayers for CLC bearing in mind the following:

- The Pandemic has added a layer of abnormality to everything.
- This is CLC's first post-ELCA Call Process. We are a member of two denominations – with two rather different approaches to pastoral selection. We have had very little lay involvement with either the LCMC or the NALC. Some of the cultural nuances are very subtle. Some of the constitutional and procedural differences are very bold. Hence, it is a crude but roughly accurate summary to say that: “We have to follow the NALC Call Process.” Expect lots of questions, misunderstandings, and false assumptions in the months to come. Pray boldly that the Holy Spirit would overwhelm all of the complications.

Your primary and most essential contribution to this process is prayer. Pray for: the Church Council; The Call Committee; your Intentional Interim Pastor; all candidates at all churches in transition; our future pastor (already known by God); and the NALC staff who will select candidates for our Call Committee to consider. Beyond prayer, keep participating in these important ways:

- **Keep learning** I will be starting a class between Sunday services which will feature “High Yield” by Berlin/Weems (the same book being studied by our staff and Church Council) plus interspersed special visits from visiting preachers. Of course, you will want to get your children and grandchildren to our regular Sunday School classes.

Continues on page 3

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A letter from Pastor Brad Miller continues from page 2

- **Keep worshipping.** We have been blessed to hear a great array of guest preachers during 2021. Their primary function is to proclaim God's Word. Secondly, they remind us of the great breadth of styles that exist among preachers. We have three more special preaching guests in the coming months, from: the Carolinas, Liberia, and Warren! Focus on the message that each will deliver, but also contemplate how the same solidly centrist Lutheran theology can be communicated in richly diverse ways.
- **Learn about our denominations.** Lutheran Week for NALC (and CORE) was held in Corpus Christi just a few weeks ago. See the NALC website: <https://thenalc.org/> . Our Michigan Mission District of the NALC gathers on October 2nd in St. Joseph. The LCMC Annual Gathering will take place in Hilliard, Ohio from October 3rd to 6th. See the LCMC website: <https://www.lcmc.net/> .
- **Give constructive input.** Watch for your upcoming opportunity to participate in a survey which will give critical insights to the Church Council; the Call Committee, and your next pastor.
- **Keep connected.** The church is the Body of Christ. An arm does not wander off and wait to see if they think that they will like the new eye or ear. Social clubs do that sort of thing. Immature Christians do that sort of thing. If you intend to sit on the sidelines and wait to see if events unfold according to your likes and wishes, at least buy the self-identifying T-shirt: *I am a shallow and immature occasional follower of Christ*.
- **Stop pouring sugar in the gas tank and/or feeding the pet tapeworms!** Avoid the gossip and negativity. We have enough real work to accomplish. See the T-shirt above.

As a final side note, thank you. I have deeply appreciated your many expressions of concern in my crazy weeks of August: my car burning up; my replacement car in Iowa in an accident; my wife's replacement car (enabling me to get her old car) delayed in production; tons of paperwork and computer work and expense switching from hosting the Servant Leadership Summit in Israel to Greece to Iowa; and the wonderful (but hectic) occasion of my daughter's wedding. I am quite relieved to be back at work in Warren!

- Pastor Miller

Be advised: the progress of our new playground set has finally outpaced the weather delays! We hope to see it completed soon. Please be aware that this entire project has been funded by an anonymous donor – with approval and oversight by the Church Council and relevant committees. It certainly compliments the efforts of many to revitalize our youth ministry – but no congregational funds have been used. All who grumble are enthusiastically challenged to provide matching donations to the Capital Campaign!

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August 24, no changes in the COVID policy **(CORRECTED VERSION)**
PHASE 3 Guidelines set by the CLC council (May 2021)

We will continue to maintain **social distancing, 3 feet apart** per the CDC guidelines when we gather.

1. **Face Masks** are suggested, but optional.
2. We will continue the **seating** of every other pew during worship using 3 ft. spacing.
3. Continuous **communion** will return, single file, one side at a time as directed by the Ushers. For those who choose not to go to the Altar, the Ushers will offer Communion kits.
4. All **doors** will open for entry as in pre-COVID.
5. We will continue to **disinfect** between worship services.
6. All CLC **Small Groups** may meet. Groups may bring in food and will be responsible for clean-up. All trash should be placed in a trash bag and placed outside the building in the appropriate trash containers. All unused food must be removed from the building. All groups must disinfect and clean up after meetings.
7. **Coffee Hour** will follow the Small Groups guideline except for food items. Individual food items will be purchased by Fellowship Committee only. No outside food items are allowed.
8. We will continue to collect the church **offering** in the Narthex.

When you are in a spiritual battle remember:

God's got this. – Habakkuk 1:5
 The Lord fights for me – Exodus 14:14
 Not today satan. – James 4:7
 I am a child of God – John 1:12
 He is able – Ephesians 3:20
 It is finished – John 19: 28-30
 His grace is sufficient – 2 Corinthians 12:9
 Joy comes in the morning – Psalm 30
 I am not alone – Isaiah 30: 21

I am fearfully and wonderfully made – Psalm 139:14
 Fear has no grip on me - Isaiah 43:1
 Christ is enough for me – 2 Peter 1:2-3
 He has overcome the world – John 16:33
 I am a new creation in Christ – 2 Corinthians 4:17
 Jesus conquered the grave – Revelation 1:18
 Sin doesn't define me Christ does – Romans 8
 Be still and know – Psalm 46:10
 God is good all the time – Jeremiah 29:11
 God is near- Joshua 1:9

Spend time with God, read the Bible, go to church,
 receive the sacraments, and pray.
 Hebrews 10, Matthew 18:20, Acts 2:42, Matthew 14:23
 Come nearer to God, and God will come close to you. James 4:8

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CALLED TO GLORY

Since the time of our last church newsletter, a member of CLC has departed from this earthly life and entered into their eternal home.

Cynthia Vitale 9-2-1953/8-14-2021

We rejoice that they are safe with the Lord forevermore and we pray that God will comfort their family and friends.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16"

CHRIST LUTHERAN STAFF

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Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00– 4:00

STAFF AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE

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HOW'S YOUR PATH?

Some Christian converts in an African village were diligent about daily prayer. In fact, they each had a special place in the thicket outside town where they prayed in solitude. Over time, they wore pathways through the brush to their private prayer areas. If someone neglected his or her prayer life, it was evident because fresh grass started growing on that particular footpath. Out of concern, fellow Christians offered this loving reminder: "Friend, there's grass growing on your path."

How worn is your own path to prayer? Are you persistent when answers don't seem to come? Do you trust that God will answer your prayers, according to his good and gracious will?

Don't abandon your pathway to prayer. When you grow weary, remember Galatians 6:9 (NIV), which promises that "at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

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THANK YOU MESSAGE FROM PARISH EDUCATION

We would like to Thank Again our CLC member who Generously donated the New PlayStation! They have also made another Generous donation to cover all the expenses needed for the Play Station, from the ground work to the installation. Along with all the their time and effort dealing with contractors and seeing it through. CLC has not had to pay for any of it. What a Blessing to CLC! Thank you our Dear Member! God Bless You!

Deb Kadluboski -Parish Ed

Special thank you to **all who helped with our Worship Services.** You play an important role behind the scenes and during Worship.

Sending Big Hugs and thanks for the many prayers for my recovery. Please keep sending them. The race is not over, but I know my Father loves me and He reassures me through you!

God bless, Jacqueline Nelson

Gratitude of thanks to **David Dietz** for keeping up with the building issues. See the Fix-It board outside the Mechanical Room for small tasks that need to be accomplished around the building.

Thank you, to the **members of CLC**, You are ALL very much treasured for your giving hearts.

With appreciation we thank **Jacqueline Nelson** for her help delivering Altar Flowers each week. If you would like to help with this ministry contact the church office.

Special thank you to Judy Krueger for her beautiful cards that she makes and shares them to those on our CLC prayer list on behalf of our congregation.

Thank you to the **Creative Card Ministry** for sharing their talent. This group makes cards for our Homebound, for special occasions. This ministry is led by **Betty Stutzky**.

Thank you to **Terry and Esther Straka** for their leadership for making all the arrangements needed to set up and clean up and ushering our Funeral Services here at CLC. Thank you also to **Karen Malugin, Gail Dietz, Ann Slavko, Sherry Carroll, JoAnn Parobek** for ushering, serving communion, preparing and cleaning the Altar for the funeral in late August.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU THANK YOU!

HOMEBOUND

We serve, care & remember our homebound church family.

A complete homebound list that includes birthdays and addresses is available through the church office.

churchoffice.tammy@comcast.net or 586-293-0700



Rally Day is September 12th.

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Worship Services

Preschool through High
School families are
invited to attend
11 AM Worship Service
and Sunday School.

The entire congregation
is invited to attend an
ice cream social
(hosted by the
Fellowship Committee)

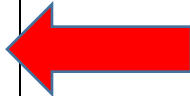
The playground
dedication

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Communion at 9:00 a.m. LIVE STREAMING AT 9:00 A.M. 11:00 a.m. Worship October Christ Today Newsletter articles due this week	6 LABOR DAY Church office is closed for the holiday	7 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir 11:00 a.m. Hand Bell 12:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting 5:30 p.m. Genesis Praise Band	8	9	10	11 Patriot's Day 
12  Communion at 9:00 a.m. LIVE STREAMING AT 9:00 A.M. CONGREGATION ICE CREAM SOCIAL AFTER THE 11:00 A.M. AND playground dedication	13 9:30 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. CLC Praise Band	14 9:00 a.m. Pins and Needles 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir 11:00 a.m. Hand Bell 5:30 p.m. Genesis Praise Band 7:00 p.m. Executive Meeting	15	16	17	18
19 9:00 a.m. Worship Communion at 11:00 a.m. LIVE STREAMING AT 11:00 A.M.	20 9:30 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. CLC Praise Band	21 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir 11:00 a.m. Hand Bell 5:30 p.m. Genesis Praise Band 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	22	23	24	25 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Life service for Eleanor Burstall at CLC
26 ONE WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY 10:00 A.M. Communion Served LIVE STREAMING AT 10:00 A.M. BI-ANNUAL MEETING TO FOLLOW WORSHIP SERVICE VOTING IN NEW COUNCIL REPS	27 9:30 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. CLC Praise Band	28 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir 11:00 a.m. Hand Bell 5:30 p.m. Genesis Praise Band	29	30		



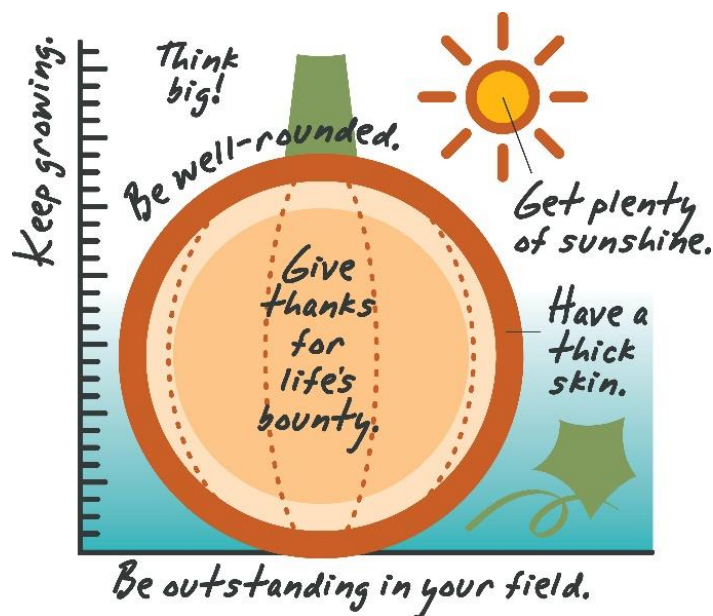
SEPTEMBER 2021

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YOUNG AT HEART AGE 50 PLUS



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

50 + WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

13 - **Donna and Richard Schiesel** / 63 years

Send a card, share a wish to our young at heart couples of Christ Lutheran Church.

But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.

Mark 10: 6-9

* homebound **Super Senior / currently active in ministry at CLC / + Charter Member

- 1- Beverly Fehmer
- 1- Karen Gurney / **
- 1- Judy Jablonski
- 7- Denise Baloga
- 10 - Richard Schiesel
- 16 - Lois Ahlstrom + *
- 19- Suzanne Sopfe / **
- 22- Anne O'Neil / *
- 22- Patricia Zawierucha
- 23- Robert Makie
- 24- Susan Heydel
- 25- Charlene VanDeKerkhove / **
- 26- Mark Woy
- 29- George Brown / **

Send a card, share a wish to our young at heart 50 + church members of CLC.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

*homebound **Super Senior / currently active in ministry at CLC / + Charter Member

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MINISTER TO YOUR MINISTER

In honor of Clergy Appreciation Month, use these alphabetical reminders of how to treat your pastors:

Accept them as people.
Build them up. Say “thank you.”
Communicate with them.
Defend them when someone tries to run them down.
Entertain them. They like to have fun, too!
Family. Allow them to have a family life.
Genuine. Be honest with them. Be yourself around them.
Honor them. Don't put them on a pedestal, but respect them.
Income. Pay them enough so money isn't a concern.
Judge not! Avoid being critical.
Kind. Treat pastors as you want to be treated.
Love. See 1 Corinthians 13.
Maintain. Their families have the same needs as other families.
Nurture. Help them grow in grace.
Offer to help. The list of things you can do is endless.
Pray for them. Lift up their names to God daily.
Quelch not. Encourage instead!
Rejoice in and with them.
Surprise them — in little and big ways.
Trust them. Believe in them.
Understand them. Put yourself in their place.
Vacation. They need time away.
Welcome them into your home. Don't wait for an invitation.
eXpend yourself, not them.
Yoke. Help them bear their burdens with grace and dignity.
Zap all gossip!



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The Event Committee announces the long overdue celebration of CLC's 60th Anniversary in Ministry!

Who: Christ Lutheran Church is celebrating 60 years of ministry

What: We are going to have a celebration.

Color theme: RED

Where: Infinity Hall, 16650 E. 14 Mile Rd., Fraser

When: Sunday, October 17, 2021

Time: 1-5 p.m. Dinner at 2 p.m.

Cost: \$15.00 a ticket, children 12 and under free. On sale each Sunday through September before and after the services. Available weekdays through the church office.

Included with the purchase of your ticket: Dinner -Family style (sit down). Beverages- Coffee, Tea and Pop. Cash bar. Sharing of memories of 60 yrs. of ministry. Entertainment.

What you can do before the event:

- Purchase your tickets. Include your children and grandchildren.
- Attend church and continue to worship and pray for CLC and bring your children to Sunday School.
- Participate in the ministries of CLC, in and out of the building.
- If you are still in contact with someone who was a member of CLC and moved away. Please share their name and address with the church office so a formal invitation can go out to them.
- Gather your thoughts of the past and be ready to share an afternoon of smiles!

If you have an idea you think could add to this celebration contact: Debbie Brown or Kathi Frezza, Fellowship Committee



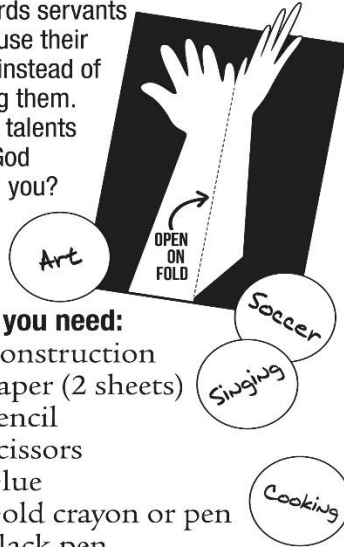
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FULL OF TALENT

In Matthew 25:14-30, the master rewards servants who use their gifts instead of hiding them. What talents has God given you?



What you need:

- Construction paper (2 sheets)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Gold crayon or pen
- Black pen

What you do:

1. Fold one sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Trace your hand and lower arm so your arm touches the folded edge. Cut out the arm and hand, keeping the folded edge uncut.
2. Glue the folded hand to the other sheet of paper.
3. In gold, draw five coins in the hand. In black, write the skills and gifts God has given you.
4. Open the fold and draw 10 gold coins in the two open hands. In black, write how you can use your skills and gifts to help others and honor God.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ages 3-7 yrs

Evalyn Gerebics	September 4
Lillian VanDeKerhove	September 26
Elliott Fang	September 30
Madeliene Fang	September 30

How can you share your talents with your family, friends, your church, and your neighbors?

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While Pastor Miller was away in August. How did "Froggy" make use of his "time?"....



Cheryl Gothro, member of CLC Praise Band



A little "Froggy" time

Sharing his talents!

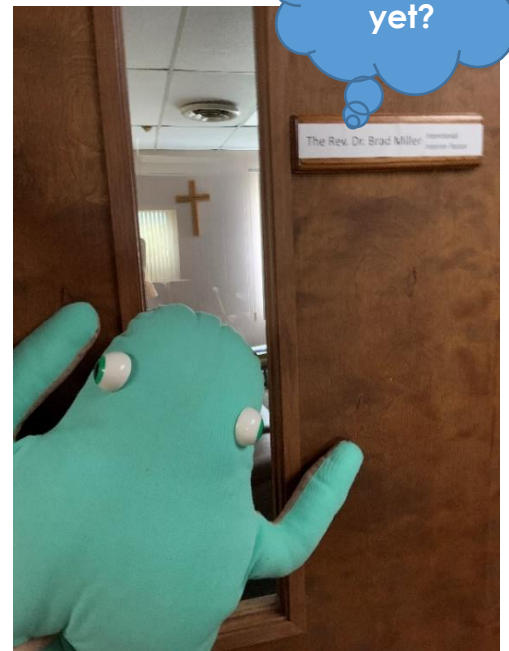
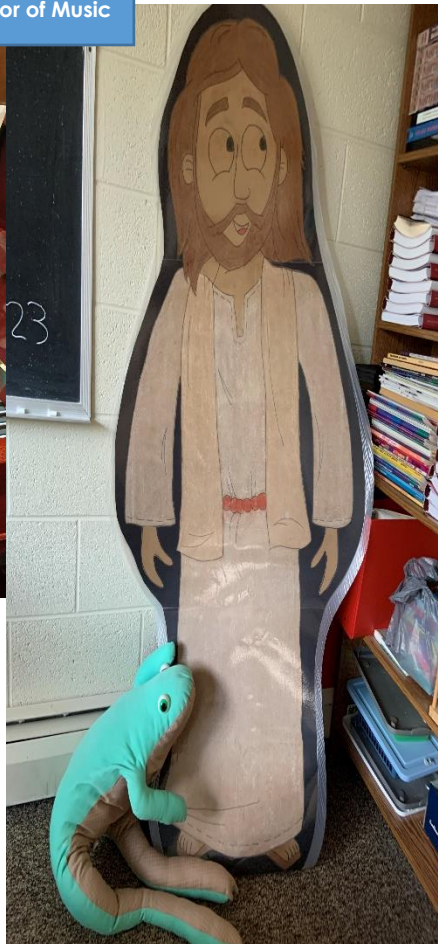


Wes, Director of Music



Greeting the children

Are you back yet?



Bible Study and Always Time for Jesus!
"Fully Rely On God"

Photos taken by Lawaun Modrich and Tammy Lozen

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CLC MUSIC MINISTRY - FALL REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

The time has come to rev. up our rehearsals for Autumn, Advent and Christmas seasons! There is a music ministry opportunity for any member of the CLC community who wants to test a call from God to become involved.

Festival Choir – open to all members from age 7 to 100! We sing well known and fun to sing hymns & songs. A short rehearsal is held on Sunday about 15 minutes before the beginning of worship.

Adult Choir – open to all confirmed members. We rehearse weekly from September through Trinity Sunday in the Spring. Adult Choir sings at three 9am services in each calendar month. We also participate in special events like Christmas services, Ash Wednesday and Holy Week.

Two rehearsal times are available, 10am on Tuesday morning and an evening, make-up rehearsal arranged as needed.

Adult Handbell Choir – Some openings are now available. We ring at one or two services each calendar month plus at special events like Christmas services. We rehearse on Tuesday morning at 11am for one hour. An evening, make up rehearsal can be arranged as needed. **Youth Handbell Group** – please contact Melissa Bruesehoff for rehearsal times.

Praise Bands offer music selections at the 11am service. We have two Praise Band groups, CLC **Praise Band** and **Genesis Praise Band**. Please contact our Director of Music, Wes Fishwick, if interested in participating.

Singers for Christ is our children's choir. 2nd graders through 4th graders are welcome. We sing one or two Sundays a month. We rehearse two afternoons a week for one hour each. Piano/keyboard instruction is included in these rehearsals free of charge. This choir remains suspended at the present time until we have a clearer understanding of how to safely gather during the current variant wave of COVID.

Adult Choir – Tuesdays at 10am beginning on September 14.

Singers for Christ -TBA

Adult Handbells – Tuesdays at 11am beginning on September 14.

Youth Handbell Group -TBA

CLC Praise Band – Monday evenings at 7pm.

Genesis Praise Band -Tuesday evenings at 5:30pm

From Wes Fishwick, Director of Music

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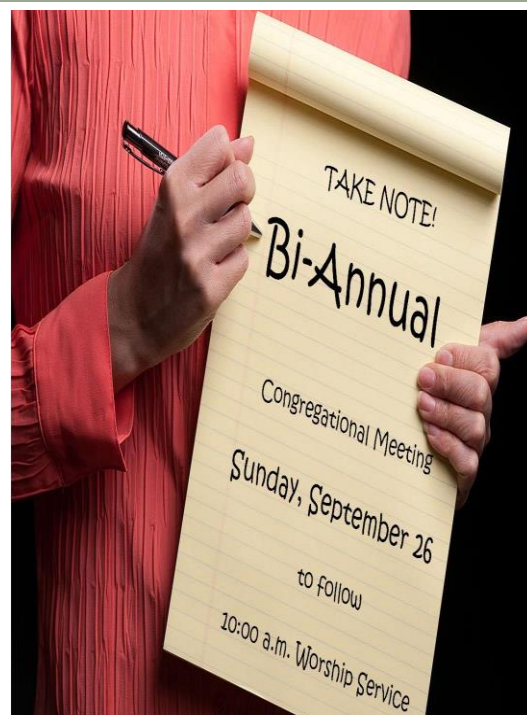


**Sunday
September 5, 2021
Worship Services 9 and 11
With Holy Communion**

**CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED ON LABOR DAY,
MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 6, 2021**

2021

A Special Congregational Meeting



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