

## Community Lutheran Church

30897 Omar Road — Frankford, DE 19945

Church Office — 302-732-1156

[www.c1c19945.org](http://www.c1c19945.org) (Email) [cicomarAmchsi.com](mailto:cicomarAmchsi.com)

Blog: [www.cicomarblodspot.com](http://www.cicomarblodspot.com)

**September 2019 Vol. 25, Issue 9**

# GRAPEVINE

**The Reverend Mark Molter**

Dee Austin, Secretary

Deacon Jim Gelato, OSSD

Tom Richardson, Director of Music

Ted Byram, Cantor - 8:00 AM Service

Norma Rodney, Cantor - 10:30 AM Service

Kathy Waluk, Assistant Organist

Bev Stalnaker, Newsletter Editor

September is a wonderful time to think about new beginnings as we wind down the summer, prepare for school and, especially for Community Lutheran, as we start thinking about our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in September 2020. We have so much to be thankful for and a lot to think about as we begin preparing for what our next 25 years of ministry will look like in this place.

In Sunday worship as part of the prayers for communion, we hear:

*It is indeed our right, our duty, and our joy that we should, at all times and in all places, give thanks and praise to you almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.*

### **As Martin Luther might ask, “What does this mean?”**

*It is our right.* Through baptism we are claimed as Children of God as Romans 8:17 says “and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.” We are reminded that it is a privilege and a gift to claim Christ as our own. It is a right and privilege to even be able to give thanks and praise to God. We are made worthy through the love and forgiveness we receive from Christ’s life, death and resurrection. Let us also give this same love and forgiveness to those around us.

*It is our duty.* As in the Spiderman comics, Uncle Ben reminds a young Peter Parker “with great power comes great responsibility.” Our baptism gives us new life in Christ, a life in which we know we are claimed by Jesus and given the gift of forgiveness. We must never forget it. As 1 John 4:19 says “*We love because he first loved us.*”

We are also reminded of the many gifts God gives us when we say in the Lord’s Prayer “give us this day our daily bread.” Next time you take communion look around. Take a note of who is not here with us. Who needs daily bread but might not have it. Daily bread as Martin Luther points out includes house, spouse, shoes, clothing and everything in between. God has given us so much we are called to share it. Let Jesus’ words be a reminder of our duty.

*‘I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothed you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’*

Matthew 25:36-40

*It is our joy.* While being in worship and being a child of God is indeed a right and a duty, we are reminded that it should be a joy as well. It certainly is easier to give thanks and praise when we have joy. Joy is one of the many fruits of the spirit given to us who believe. Life isn’t always sunshine and roses, but we know we can rest in God’s promises because we trust in the resurrection. Psalm 30:5 reminds us that “*though there is sorrow and weeping in the night, joy comes in the morning.*” If we start with praise and thanks for all God did, is and will do, there is joy. I urge you take a moment every day to find something to thank God about. I know you will find joy.

*Continues on next page.*

Communion above all else is a sign of unity with Christ and with our brothers and sisters in Christ. When we all come to the table in love for Christ and each other it is the completion of Christ's Joy as Jesus told us in *John 15:9-11*:

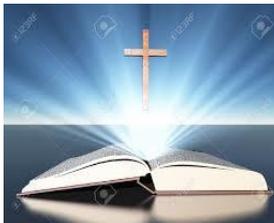
*"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete."*

That we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Christ' life, death and resurrection is worthy of praise each and every day. Christ is the focus and center of our lives as a community of Christians. Christ offers life, love and forgiveness, and is always worthy of our praise and thanks.

This September take some time to think, pray and find ways to express how much Jesus means in your life. Consider our congregation and how you might increase your time, money or talents for the work of Christ we do here. Consider how you might see God in all your neighbors, giving thanks for them and showing them compassion. Consider what it means to give thanks and praise to God even in difficult times. Consider taking up a daily practice of prayer and being more aware of how God might be speaking to you in scripture, hymns and prayers.

**Rev. Mark D. Molter, n/OLF**  
**Community Lutheran Church**  
**Frankford, DE**  
**Child of God, Servant for Christ, Pastor**  
**Office (302) 732-1156**  
**Cell (540) 226-6444**



Dear CLC Family,

I invite you to read Colossians 1:1-28.

What is the common thread that holds the church together? God's people are of every gender, race, ethnicity, and creed. Their age span stretches from birth to the saints in heaven. We have differing responses to political justice, service, worship styles, and even biblical interpretation.

St. Paul in his letter to the Colossians says, "He Himself is before all things, and in Him all things hold together" (v.17). The common thread that holds us together is Christ. We are held together by our mutual experience of brokenness, and our need for forgiveness. We are held together by the One who spoke the world into existence in love and the One who came to walk with us, die for us, redeem us, and breathe the hope of new life back into us. When we believe this and hold onto this as our common thread, then we are challenged to look for and discover Christ in the face of each person we meet.

Divisions of all kinds challenge us, sometimes to the point of breaking. We ask God to give us eyes to see His face in the eyes of our neighbors, that we might love even those with whom we struggle, as we remember the mystery of faith, "which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

***With gratitude, Jim Gelato, OSSD***



## OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD

### GOALS FOR THE NEXT 25 YEARS 2020-2045 WOW!

Every year around this time we ask you to get ready for the Annual Meeting, which is Sunday, November 3, 2019. There are reports to write and budgets to plan. We ask you to help the church set a path for the coming year. We've had "Cottage Meetings." The most successful were held at church before or after services. But this year is a really special one with many ideas to discuss. What makes this year so special is that it marks 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Community Lutheran Church!

Many people made countless important decisions – all with the idea of serving Christ – to be His disciples in our community.

This year I'm calling these gatherings TOUCHDOWN SUNDAYS!

Of course at this time of year I'm looking forward to some great Steeler games, but seriously – let's get in TOUCH with what is happening at church. Let Christ lead us and TOUCH our hearts. Let's open our minds to new ideas – and get DOWN to living the life He has planned for us.

I'm excited to be leading this effort. So join me for some open, down-to-earth discussions! The dates are this Sunday, AUGUST 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am (no choir rehearsal this week). And SEPTEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:15am and again at 11:30am.

COFFEE PROVIDED!

**TOUCHDOWN, Cathy Kunst**



**Sunday, September 8, 2019**

*A grandparent has been there, done that child-rearing stuff, & has the wisdom of experience. And so, in some ways, they're free to love without anxiety of being actual parents. They are free to give.*

**Jewel Parker Rhodes, Writer & Professor**

## SEPTEMBER PRAYER FAMILIES



**THEME:** Stewardship

**VERSE:** Matthew 25:23

*Well done good and faithful servant; You have been faithful over a little. I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master!*

### Prayer Families:

Joan Hennessey  
Bill & Linda Hinkelman  
Doug & Debby Hiob  
Glenn & Deborah Hodges  
Ed & Beverly Jeffries  
Bob & Charlene Jordan  
Carrie Kauffman  
Kaye Kellam  
Alan & Joan King  
Mary Kline  
Tom & Debby Koerner  
Reed & Mary Kruper  
Bill & Cathy Kunst  
Jim & Lorna Landis  
Louise Lauterbach  
Chuck & Barb Levine

Pastor Bettye, Mother's in Hospice  
Mary Fern, Recuperating  
Pr. Gary Stiegler on the death of his wife, Jan.

Please feel free to add family and friends!

***Praying for all, Cathy Kunst***

### Providing Joy for Our Homebound

Our homebound members would love to hear from you! Please take a moment to let them know you are thinking of them. A cheery card or phone call would really mean so much when you care for others, you care for Christ.

Anne Hanna, Lee Driscoll, Richard Riehl,  
Ed & Bev Jeffries, Nancy Ritenour.



## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>** – Blessing of the Backpacks

**Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** – Choir Workshop

**Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** – Celebration of Tom Richardson's 60 years in the Music Ministry, Reception immediately following 10:30am Liturgy in Luther Hall.

**Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>** – Dinner Group resumes! Check Sunday Bulletin Inserts for location.

**Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>** – Commitment Sunday

**Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>** – 1<sup>st</sup> Silver Jubilee Committee Meeting. See details below.

### Planning Waaaaay in Advance!

There is a Silver Jubilee Committee meeting planned for Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> (amended from September 4<sup>th</sup>), at 11:30am. Community celebrates 25 years together as a church in 2020! See separate article. All are welcomed to participate. Sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in Luther Hall.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> is the date of our Annual Meeting. There will be two services that day. Attendees at the 8:00am service are encouraged to return at 11:30am for the Annual Meeting, immediately following the 10:30am Liturgy.

### Monthly Dinner Group Open to All

On the fourth Thursday of each month, we gather at a local restaurant to share a meal (Dutch-treat) and enjoy good camaraderie. We begin gathering for dinner at 5:00pm, with the meal beginning at 5:30pm. (Note: during the winter months we meet for lunch at 1:00pm). A different restaurant is chosen monthly with info posted on the bulletin board in Luther Hall; no calls are made. It's great fun!

This group did not meet during the summer months but will resume on September 26<sup>th</sup>, place to be announced later (check the Sunday Bulletin Inserts).

If you are interested in coming, contact Judy Striebig, 302-541-0815, so we'll know how many to expect when making reservations. Remember, you must phone to confirm your attendance.

### Silver Jubilee in 2020!

In September 2020, CLC will be celebrating its Silver Jubilee – 25 years since coming together as a church. Council has approved the formation of a Silver Jubilee Committee to make arrangements for this festive occasion. All are welcomed to participate. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Luther Hall for everyone who'd like to be part of the planning of this big event. There is one brief meeting planned for Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30am, where ideas will be shared and preliminary plans for meetings beginning in 2020 will be made.

### DE/MD Synod Southern Cluster (aka G-4): Pulpit Exchanges

Lutheran churches in the DE-MD Synod Southern Cluster include Community in Frankford, DE; Grace of God in Millsboro, DE; St. Peter's in Ocean City, MD; and Faith in Salisbury, MD. These four churches exchange information, share training sessions and participate in pulpit exchanges, when two clergy exchange their respective ministry of assignment for a day to lead the congregations and preach. Information on events and happenings of our sister churches will be posted when made available.

The pulpit exchanges for 2019 have been completed with the exception of the exchange between St. Peter's and Community, which had to be postponed due to a funeral. Rescheduling will be announced in our Bulletin Inserts.

Pulpit exchanges give both pastors and congregations opportunity to become familiar with each other.

### DE/MD Synod Southern Cluster (aka G-4): Council Leadership Training

On Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 3:00pm at Faith Lutheran Church on Old Ocean City Boulevard in Salisbury, there will be a training opportunity, Council Leadership Training, led by the Reverend Dr. Paul Hoffman. Brochures are available for pick up in the Narthex. Please notify Pastor Bettye Wolinski by Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> if you'd like to attend.

### **Tuesday Noonday Prayers**

Beginning Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> Pastor Mark invites you to Noonday Prayers held weekly on Tuesdays from 11:30am to 12noon in the Sanctuary. This is a time of meditation and reflection through prayer. All are welcome!

*"Truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."*

Matthew 18:19-20

## ELCA Advocacy Council of Delaware

We at Community Lutheran Church now have a Lutheran Advocacy Representative. The Council has approved Pam Pedersen to represent Southern Delaware at the ELCA Advocacy Council of Delaware. There are 13 ELCA churches in Delaware. Community now has the opportunity to help influence the Delaware Legislature on issues of importance to us. Pam will be looking forward to getting to know more about Sussex County and issues of importance to the people here.

We will start out slowly and build as the Advocacy Council plans for training and learns to work together. Topics of immediate interest seem to be related to homelessness, hunger, and affordable housing.

Our Prayer Theme for August was Witness. Advocacy is a witness made publicly for God's People. Advocacy at the Congregational Level is part of our call. Here at Community we advocate for those in need through our Food Pantry/Clothing Closet, White Bag Lunches, School Supply Collection, and our desire to help the homeless.

The thread of caring that runs through our congregation makes us uniquely prepared to teach legislators about our community members. Why? Because we work closely with those in need here in Sussex County. You are all a part of this thread of caring.

We have much work to do together. Let's talk about what our Faith Voice will sound like. Pam is interested in hearing from you. Share your knowledge and ideas.

***Yours in Christ, Pam Pedersen***



Please note specific requests are: rice and boxed potatoes, cereals, canned vegetable soup and pasta sauce (all varieties), canned fruit, canned meats (tuna, ham, chicken, Spam), powdered and fresh milk (please place in kitchen refrigerator), laundry & dish detergents, toilet paper. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. A complete list of recommended pantry items is posted on the Pantry room door.

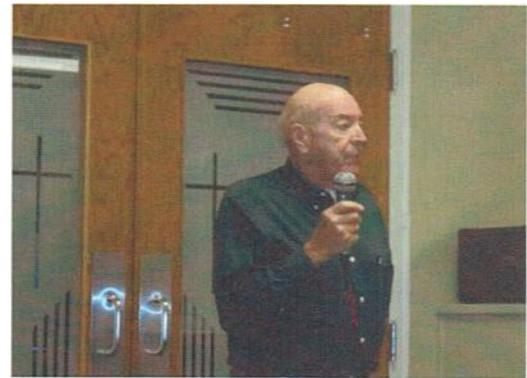
***Blessings, Barbara Breinich, Pantry Coordinator***



## Altar Flowers, Sanctuary Candles & Bulletin Dedications

Opportunities to sponsor flowers, candles and bulletins each week are available! Sign-up sheets are posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Please consider honoring or remembering loved ones, or celebrate a special event, by dedicating Altar Flowers (\$26 for 2, \$13 for 1), the Sanctuary Candle (\$5) and/or a Bulletin (\$5). Complete the Dedication Order Form to ensure your dedications are complete and accurate, and place it along with your payment in the envelope supplied in the Offering plate or submit to the Church Office.

## Finance Report



### OPERATING FUND REPORT

**As of July 31, 2019**

<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$120,883</b>
<b>Actual Income</b>	<b>\$117,127</b>
<b>Actual Expenses</b>	<b>\$123,021</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss of Reserves</b>	<b>(\$5,894)</b>
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	<b>\$70,835.57</b>

Thanks for your continued support.

***Jim Landis, Treasurer***

## Financial Commitment Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup>

*With joy and thanksgiving, we offer ourselves,  
our time, and our possessions;  
signs of God's gracious love.*

2020 is on its way and your Stewardship Team is asking you to prayerfully consider your financial giving for the New Year. Giving a portion of your money to sustain, and even grow, the ministry of Community Lutheran Church is vital for a sound future. Please consider God's love and your response to this love when deciding what you promise to give. Once the promise is made, it becomes a commitment worth keeping.

Commitment cards are coming by mail the second week of September. Take the time to consider why we are a church before making your commitment. Spiritual discipline encourages us to increase our offering each year. Completed Commitment Cards can be placed in the offering plate on or before September 29<sup>th</sup>.

If you prefer to make your commitment electronically, you will be given instructions through an email. This email will arrive the first week of September. Simply follow the instructions to offer your financial commitment for 2020.

Please, either complete a card and place it in the offering, or make your commitment following the instructions from the email CLC will send.

Thank you for participating. Thank you for financially supporting God's Mission through Community Lutheran.

**Sandra Wachter-Myers**

## Updating Our CLC Church Directory

Please continue to report any changes or corrections to our Church Office, as changes are made regularly and updates issued. Just place a note in the Offering plate or call the Church Office. Thank you.

## Mortgage Reduction Fund

Community will celebrate her 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in September 2020. Wouldn't it be great if we could also celebrate with a mortgage pay off!!

A huge THANK YOU to all participating in this program. Equally huge THANK YOU to all who consistently provide for Community with their time, talents and treasures!

In September 2020, CLC will be celebrating her Silver Jubilee — 25 years since coming together as a church. Council has approved the formation of a Silver Jubilee Committee to make arrangements for this festive occasion. All are welcomed to participate. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Luther Hall for anyone who'd like to be part of the planning of this big event. There will be one brief meeting tentatively planned for October 2, 2019 at 11:30am, where ideas will be shared and preliminary plans for meetings beginning in 2020 will be made

## Phone Tree for CLC

In an effort to keep in contact with all our members, even those who chose not to have an email address, Council has created a list of members to be contacted when we need to inform them of upcoming events or cancellations, etc.

I will begin the Phone Tree by contacting our volunteers: Barb Bartges, Linda Hinkelman and Norma Rodney.

If you would like to be notified by phone, as opposed to email, please contact the Church Office and you will be added to the Phone Tree.

**Cathy Kunst, Council President**





## WE NEED YOUR UNUSED EYEGLASSES

There is something new on the donation counter in Luther Hall. It's a small box placed there by Lord Baltimore Lions Club. For decades Lions Clubs nationwide have supported sight. The unused eyeglasses that you put in box will be sent to countries in the world which have no eye exams. Adults and children can get glasses that help them see better and improve lives. Eyeglasses must be whole and not terribly scratched. Children's glasses and sunglasses are welcome. Thank you so much for your help

**Joan King**



Karen Russo  
Barbara & Reggie Swenson  
Jan Volker



Friends at Community!

Thank you all for your prayers for Jan during her illness and for me after her passing. Knowing that so many people have us in prayer helps soften life's struggles. You are the "wind beneath our wings."

God bless you in your ministry to the people of the Eastern Shore.

Pastor Gary Stiegler

To the CLC Family,

Thank you for the many expressions of sympathy during my brother, Douglas Goslin's valiant battle against pancreatic cancer. Your kindness to me during this most stressful time is very much appreciated. Blessings to you all!

Dee Austin

## September Birthdays

- 9/1 – Mary Ellen Engler
- 9/1 – Norma Rodney
- 9/2 – Sarah Naar,
- 9/2 – Zachary Naar
- 9/2 – Linda Riehl
- 9/4 – Ted Byram
- 9/5 – Cheryl Mezzaroba
- 9/5 – Ed Waluk
- 9/6 – Ed Jeffries
- 9/6 – Eileen Magar
- 9/8 – Sophia Riehl
- 9/8 – Janet Shifflett
- 9/9 – Nancy Ritenour
- 9/13 – Paul Hanke
- 9/16 – Mark Barnhart
- 9/17 – Barb Bartges
- 9/22 – Hans Neas
- 9/22 – Tom Richardson
- 9/22 – Gene Schaffner
- 9/29 – Phyllis Dobson
- 9/30 – Kathryn Riley



## September Anniversaries

- 9/2 – Chuck & Barb Levine
- 9/7 – Jim & Lorna Landis
- 9/17 – Bob & Gloria Hagelstein
- 9/29 – Dick & Sophia Riehl



Pastor Mark offers prayer in celebration of Carol & Tom Clarke (28 years on August 11<sup>th</sup>) and Karlyn & Doug Fields' (52 years on August 12<sup>th</sup>) wedding anniversaries. We offer blessings and best wishes to you!

# CLC Calendar – September 2019

As the calendar schedule is subject to change, please verify @ [www.clc19945.org](http://www.clc19945.org) before attending.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	AA Meetings Held Weekly Mon & Thurs @ 8:00 PM	11:30 AM – Noon Noonday Prayers (Sanctuary)		Breakfast with Bob Every Thursday @ 8:00 AM, Country Kitchen, Millsboro	Pastor Mark's "Open Door" Fridays	
<b>1</b> <i>Blessing of the Backpacks</i> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Service No Choir Rehearsal/1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday Coffee Hour Today	<b>2</b> <i>Labor Day</i> Church Office Closed/No Ministries	<b>3</b> 9:30 Quilters 10:00 –12:00 Food Pantry Open 4:00 EXCOM Mtg	<b>4</b> 8:15 Men's Study Group 9:30 Stewardship 10:30 Hospitality & Fellowship Mtg 1:30 Cards	<b>5</b> 10:00 Ministerium Mtg (Union Wesley UMC, Frankford)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:00-12:00 Choir Workshop (Sanctuary) 10:00 Atlantic Shores Worship Service 9:00-5:00 Outside Group (Luther Hall)
<b>8</b> <i>God's Work/Our Hands</i> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Bible Study <b>9:00 Choir Rehearsal</b> 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Reception Honoring Tom Richardson	<b>9</b> 12:00 Bible Study	<b>10</b> 9:30 Quilters 10:00 Mutual Ministry 10:00 –12:00 Food Pantry Open	<b>11</b> 8:15 Men's Study Group 2:30 Worship & Music Mtg 4:00 Council Mtg	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 –1:00 AARP Smart Driving Course (Luther Hall)	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <i>Pr. John Burk, Guest Speaker</i> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Bible Study 9:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship Service	<b>16</b> 12:00 Bible Study	<b>17</b> 9:30 Quilters 10:00 –12:00 Food Pantry Open 12:00 Congregational Care Mtg	<b>18</b> 8:15 Men's Study Group 1:30 Cards 4:00 Growing Team Mtg	<b>19</b> 1:00 Finance Mtg	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <i>Touchdown Sunday</i> 8:00 Worship Service 9:15 Touchdown Discussions 9:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Touchdown Discussions No Bible Study Today	<b>23</b> <i>Fall Begins</i> 12:00 Bible Study  <i>Grapevine Deadline</i>	<b>24</b> 9:30 Quilters 10:00 –12:00 Food Pantry Open	<b>25</b> 8:15 Men's Study Group 4:00 Renaissance Worship Service	<b>26</b> 5:00 Dinner Group (Location TBD)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <i>Commitment Sunday</i> 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Bible Study 9:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship Service	<b>30</b> 12:00 Bible Study					