



The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

The Communicator—August

If You Sing It They Will Come

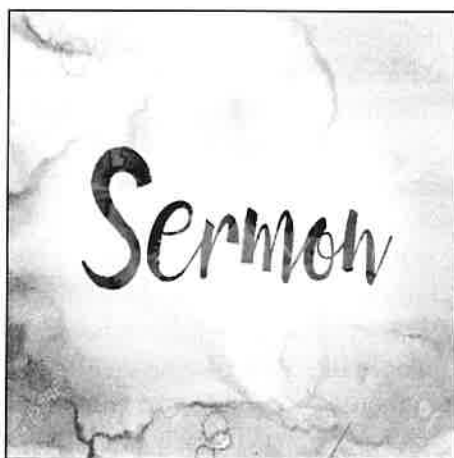
submitted by Jonathan Howell—Music Director



Where Are All The People?

You hear this all the time in churches these days. Where have all the people gone? Very smart people have tried to study and understand why church attendance has fallen off across all denominations. Sadly, as church memberships have dropped, one of the areas of worship most strongly effected has been the music ministry. As a lifelong church musician I have watched as once mighty choirs of 30 to 40 members have dwindled away to 6 or 7, then down to a couple of soloists, then down to one cantor...

Why Do People Go To Church, And What Keeps Them Going?



In Surveys conducted across faith traditions, the top three reasons regular attendees say they go to church are: the sermon, music/choir, and youth programming.

Both the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour and former Reformation church's have been blessed over the years with fine homilists. Having personally experienced some of the finest preaching, and some of the worst across New York State and beyond I can tell you that Our Saviour has been blessed, and maybe even a little spoiled to have Pastor Wilck in the Pulpit. So as long as this tradition of having top quality preaching continues, Our Saviour can check that box.✓



Both our merged churches have had fine music programs and strong choirs that go way back. When I attend worship committee meetings I often hear people like Carol Ransom harken back to the days when the choir was providing music every week. Her face lights up when she recalls all the great music making that took place and the fun that everyone had doing it. Reformation, having been blessed with it's proximity to the Eastman School of Music benefitted from a strong pool of musicians to hire and afford a place to perform. I can tell by their library that they must have had some really large choirs!

We can experience that history anew if people will join the choir.

Continued on next page.

I Found A Treasure In a Field ~*Matthew 13:44*



I have a confession to make. I am a sheet music junkie! This summer I have spent quite a few hours sorting and organizing the sheet music from Reformation, Our Saviour, and from St. Luke's music library which was acquired by Reformation Church. Down in our choir room is a treasure trove of music. I found gem after gem or music spanning the centuries. It truly is a treasure! I can't wait to start working on some of this music with you!

Now all we need are people to learn them and sing them!

"But When Will I Sit With My Family?"

Is being a member of the church choir a blessing or a sacrifice? I suppose it depends on your point of view. It certainly is a time commitment. Members of the choir are expected to show up every single week for rehearsal and for church. Typically church choir members are people who come to church regularly anyway so really it's just a matter of an extra hour for the rehearsal. But yes, as members of the choir you will be expected to sit with the choir in the choir loft for the majority of the service. If you are worried about separation anxiety from your spouse or other loved one then talk them into being in the choir too! If that is not possible, then you can always go down and sit with them during the sermon.

Participation In Worship Elevates Your Connection To God

There is a difference between viewing or spectating during church and participating in it. Members of the choir become active participants beyond the regular congregational responses that accompany the liturgy. Our music is sung prayer. When we reach out to God with our voices our bodies become connected to the Holy Spirit in a different way than those who are listening. In this way being a member of the church choir is a great blessing. It is a privilege to be one of the music makers and you are helping those who are not in the choir connect go God through the music you provide.

If You Sing It They Will Come...

We have all the tools we need to have a great choir here at Our Saviour. We have hired a fabulous organist. We have a strong history of music making with members who bring their long histories of choral worship to the group, people like Carol Ransom, Ruth Otto, the Nazarians and Bob Newbury. We have folks who are newer to being in a church choir but are eager to lend their strong voices, people like Ray McQueen and Karen Preston. We will continue to bring in young ringers from local high schools to bolster our ranks and provide a youthful spirit. We have a great Choral Library. You have a music director with 30+ years experience as a church musician and a lover of choral music...

What we don't have is you. If you can carry any kind of a tune at all you can be in the choir. If you like to sing in the shower or the car you can be in the choir. It doesn't matter if you are trained musician or you are not sure which side is up with you look at a piece of music, you can be in the choir.

"Where are all the people?," you ask? Well, they may be out there looking for a church right now. If you believe the research they are hoping to find a church with a great choir...

There are many things we can't control, we can't change the fact that young people would rather sit at home and make Tic-Toc selfies. But we can have a fabulous choir. We just need people who can sing to step up and make a commitment to lend their voices...

Rehearsals Will Begin Sunday August 27th at 9:00 a.m.

Church & Community
submitted by Ann Seppa, Chairman



Maggie's Place (Christian Lutheran Ministry) Summer Camp is going very well. Toys and cash donations were delivered to Maggie's on Wednesday, July 12. Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions. I know the children are enjoying a wonderful and fun time in camp thanks to people like you.

Please say a special prayer for a speedy recovery for Maggie Harris as she is recuperating at a Rehab facility in Newark!

St. Theodore's
CATHOLIC PARISH

A food drive for St. Theodore's Food Panty will be held from August 1-through Labor Day.

Wishing Everyone A Happy August!

Adopt a Highway
submitted by Jerry Stich

The Fall Adopt-A-Highway will be: **Saturday Sept. 23, 2023, at 9:30 am.**

Please help clean-up the 2.6-mile section of Chili Ave., from Route 204 to Chili Center.

Children 12 to 18 year old must have parent permission.

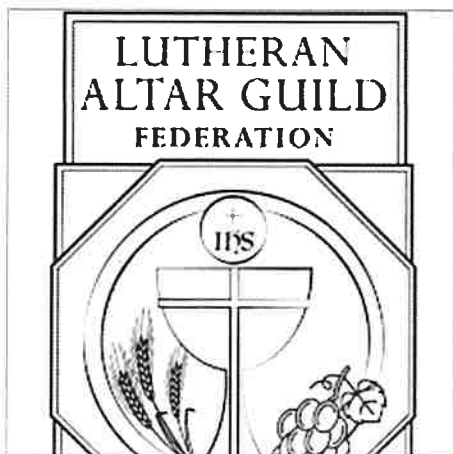
There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

We will meet at Dell Hall Saturday and start the highway pickup at 9:30 am.

For more formation, contact Jerry Stich.



ALTAR GUILD LOOKING FOR MEN



Altar Guild is much more than just setting up communion. There are many tasks involved in getting the worship space ready for services. Some tasks require lifting and some tasks are easier for taller individuals. Typically Altar Guild members have been women, but that is not a rule, in fact many include Men. Many couples like Larry & Sharon Nazarian have served together on Altar Guilds.

So, men of the congregation, please step up! Speak to Cheryl Stone about joining the Altar Guild! Help the ladies do the sacred work of preparing our sanctuary.

P.s. *(The Altar Guild does not conflict with being in the choir)*

Peanut....Peanut Butter.....Jelly.

submitted by Ann Seppa, Secretary

PROVIDING PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY SANDWICHES FOR THE HOMELESS SHELTERS IN THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.



Our first time making the sandwiches for St. Peter's Kitchen on 681 Brown Street went well. Thank you to Deb Ciccone and Ruth Otto for purchasing and providing the bread. St. Peter's provided the peanut butter, jelly and baggies. Thank you to Elaine DeVantier, Frank and Madison Johnson, Ruth Otto and Mary Ellen Saur who helped me in making 144 sandwiches.

This project will continue on a monthly basis. We are committed to provide 100-200 PB&J sandwiches the second Thursday of each month. If you are interested in volunteering to help make these sandwiches, there will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. We would like to have teams of 4-6 volunteers each month (doesn't have to be the same volunteers), **it only takes an hour and a half.**

Our next PB&J workshop will be held on Thursday, August 10 at 10:00 am in the Augsburg Room.

Each weekend St. Peter's Kitchen provides meal bags for five city shelters.



Carpet Project Thank You *submitted by Peter Sitter, Organizer*

I would like to say, "thank you," to all the people who helped with the carpet project in the church sanctuary. Many helping hands made for light work.-

Ann Seppa, Cheryl Stone, Debbie Frey, Karen Preston, Mary Ellen Saur, Daryl Jarvis, Wendy Forrest, Jerry Stich, Ed Jarvis, Rod Potter, Ray McQueen, Jonathan Howell, Rick Yackel, Roger Wood, Mary Pleten, Deb Ciccone, Frank Johnson, John Tesch, Brian Spencer, and Brayden Spencer, and all who contributed to the carpet fund.

Pete Sitter

P.s. from Jonathan Howell (we should also thank Pete Sitter for his exceptional organization and coordination of this project, from conception to realization.)

August Service Schedule

Altar Guild: Colleen Forsey

DATE	TIME	SERVICE LEADER	USHER	LECTOR	Communion Assistant
Aug 3rd	7:00 p.m.	Ed Jarvis	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Aug 6th	10:00 a.m.	Lois Dannenberg	Larry & Sharon Nazarian	Sharon Nazarian	<i>n/a</i>
Aug 10th	7:00 p.m.	Brian Spencer	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Aug 13th	10:00 a.m.	Mary Ellen Saur	Carol Werth	Kelly Cuff	Steve Brady
Aug 17th	7:00 p.m.	Ed Jarvis	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Aug 20th	10:00 a.m.	Diane Parke/Potter	Rod Potter	Rod Potter	<i>n/a</i>
Aug 24th	7:00 p.m.	Brian Spencer	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Aug 27th	10:00 a.m.	Carol Werth	Moni Stellrecht	Moni Stellrecht	Moni Stellrecht
Aug 31st	7:00 p.m.	Ed Jarvis	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/96348140580>

Meeting ID: 963 4814 0580

One tap Mobile

+9292056099,,96348140580# US (NY)

Dial in +1 929-205-6099 US (NY)

Meeting ID: 963 4814 0580

Find your local number:

<https://zpoom.us/u/aQEHdZQe2>

*On the phone you can unmute yourself by pressing * then 6.*

Here is the log in to follow along with our 10:00 service from home. If you use the Zoom app you will hear the service while viewing the bulletin.



Zoom Worship Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Birthday's in August

Jennifer Kelly (August 1)	Karen Preston (August 1)	Jakob Witt (August 6)
Elizabeth Stellrecht (August 8)	Jaime Walberger (August 8)	Jennifer Guiles (August 9)
Mary Pleten (August 10)	Gabriel Foltz (August 13)	William Vogel (August 13)
Joyce Perkins (August 15)	Christine Gear (August 16)	Patti Schulz (August 17)
Jonathan Howell (August 18)	Keely Lyons (August 22)	Sharon Castrichini (August 23)
Alexander Soveriegn (August 26)	Deborah Yackel (August 27)	

Anniversaries in August

Peter & Jacqueline Sitter—August 2 (48 years)	Drew & Jenny Emerson—August 3 (21 years)
Jerry & Patricia Stich—August 3 (49 years)	Michael & April O'Connor—August 8 (25 years)
Cindy & Charles Borzilleri—August 20 (29 years)	Wendy & Kevin Forrest—August 21 (52 years)
Anatole & Mary Pleten—August 25 (50 years)	Nancy & Karl Schwach (41 years)
Richard & Colleen Forsey—August 31 (55 years)	

Prayer Concerns

In the Hands of God - Eileen Wood

Members in Need of Prayer

Bonnie Hartfiel, Jack Erbeling, Jim Flick, Carolyn Hane, Jackie Potter, Jeffrey Mitchell, Vera & Joe Scuderi, Bob Snyder, Barb Collins, Gerry Haak, Bev Evans, Merlyn Hann, Elly Mahler, Jean Lombard, Linda Palmer, Sue Neal, Pastor Wilck

Extended Family in Need of Prayer

Sam Bagdan, Danny Baird, Michael Baird, Jr., Jeremy Balmer, Shannon Balmer, Neil "Tre" Barton, Dan Burrell & family, Annette & Casey Corbridge and family, Marlene Denz, Family of Cliff Dilg, Rich Doehl, Krystle Earle, Valerie Gingello, Stacy Harris, Kyle Hopkins, Sean Hopkins, Ken LaFave, Nancy Lenox, Greg Lombard, Zoe & John Marshall, Jeffrey Mitchell, Lucy Pilaroscia, Scott Preston, Marianna Reed, Martha Richenberg, Lois Russell, Mary Anne Schnabel, Joseph Seiler, Avrie Sinesiou, Tom Smith, Mark Spencer, Denton Sutphen, Glena Sutphen, Kerri Wallenhorst and family, Judy Whitney, Joyce Willard, Clarence Wingate, Sammy Zaffuto

Members & Friends Serving Our Country

Alexander McDonough, USCG , Dave Oliver, Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard
LTC Paul Graf, Captain Matthew Wormuth,
Major Scott Moncrief, Captain Chris Stevenson, Steve Kim, Major Joshua Davis.

Happening in August

August 1—Tuesday

St. Thomas Food Drive Begins

6:30 p.m. Council Meeting

August 3—Thursday

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

August 6—Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

August 10—Thursday

10:00 a.m. PB & J Making Session

7:00 p.m. Communion Service

August 11—Friday

5:00 p.m. @ Spencerport Exempt Bar & Banquet German Fest

August 12—Saturday

2:00 p.m. @ Spencerport Exempt Bar & Banquet German Fest

August 13—Sunday

10:00 a.m. Communion Service

August 17—Thursday

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

August 20—Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

August 22—Tuesday

9:00 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting

August 24—Thursday

7:00 p.m. Communion Service

August 27—Sunday

9:00 a.m. **FIRST CHOIR PRACTICE**

10:00 a.m. Communion Service

August 31—Thursday

9:30 a.m. Council Meeting

TOUR OF LOOP MINISTRY

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

CHANGE OF SERVICE
REQUESTED

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
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The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour— Communicator



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of Our Saviour*

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The Reverend Joachim Wilck, Pastor

*A member congregation of the Upstate
New York Synod Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

HOLD THE DATE

AUGUST 31st
ALL INVITED TO VISIT
LOOP MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER 10TH

RALLY DAY
BLESSING OF THE BOOK BAGS
GRANDPARENTS DAY
RALLY DAY BREAKFAST