



The Christ Messenger

Christ Lutheran Church
Vienna, West Virginia

June 2021

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Our Mission:

As Children of God,
nourished by the Word,
Sacrament and Fellowship
of loving, forgiving, and
hopeful believers—
WE are guided by the Holy
Spirit to WITNESS to Christ's
saving presence in the
World!

The Enduring Love of Church Cookbooks

With numerous online recipes at any cook's fingertips, people might think that church cookbooks are a thing of the past. But in Lutheran congregations, with their long history of congregational meals and food ministries, cookbooks are still beloved.

Many vintage and contemporary Lutheran church cookbooks pop up in an online search, with some sold by collectors and others on Amazon, Etsy and eBay. With names such as *The Lutheran Ladies Cookbook* and *Lutheran Church Basement Women: Lutefisk, Lefse, Lunch and Jell-O*, the books offer an array of recipes for shareable dishes.

A congregation might create a cookbook to commemorate an anniversary, strengthen community, engage members or to simply compile church favorites in one handy spot. The books can also convey a congregation's story and history.

Perhaps the most historic cookbook connected to the ELCA is *Mohawk Valley Cook Book*, published in 1889 by the Ladies' Society of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Canajoharie, N.Y. With a Library of Congress copyright number, the first edition can be viewed on the Internet Archive, and numerous reproductions are available for purchase online.

The preface of the 108-page book reads: "The *Mohawk Valley Cook Book* has been prepared and carefully revised with special reference to the needs of the young and inexperienced housekeepers. ... Much of the information which it contains will be found useful in every home, of which the 'house-mother' is herself the head."

June Schedule

June 6th, 13th, 20th
10am Service in the Sanctuary

June 27th
1pm Service in the Sanctuary

(The Church Office will be closed the week of June 6th)

Church Address:

4513 Grand Central Avenue
Vienna, WV 26105

Church Web Page:

<https://christlutheranviennawv.org/>

Church Facebook Page:

[Facebook.com/christlutheranchurchviennawv](https://www.facebook.com/christlutheranchurchviennawv)

Since those early days of "housemothers," St. Mark has grown and merged with another congregation to become St. John and St. Mark Lutheran, whose pastor is Elisabeth Aurand. Not much is known about the historic cookbook, she explained, and a flood damaged the congregation's archives in 2006. But the *Mohawk Valley Cook Book* isn't the only one to come from the congregation. It has also produced *Crumbs of Comfort*.

The congregation has food at the center of some of its ministries, including its community garden. "In general, food is a part of culture, and for Lutherans, Christ and culture are in tension," Aurand said.

Excerpt from Living Lutheran
By Wendy Healy
April 21, 2021

ELDERBERRIES

With short notice, Elderberries met for the first time since February 20, 2020, due to COVID shutdowns. We met at noon at the I Don't Care Restaurant in Vienna. It was great to see and socialize with everyone again and in a comfortable setting. And the food was delicious.

Those attending were: Norton Woodward, Judi and Ron Clampitt, Kay Rowan, Fran and Tom Williams, Mike Knotts, Rocky Freeman, and Delores and Jerry Steege.

In case you've forgotten (or never knew), Elderberries was formed for the over 50's crowd—but we're glad to have anyone of any age join us!

Our next lunch will be at noon on Thursday, June 17, at Mary B's in South Parkersburg. Please tell Delores Steege if you plan to attend. (Sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex.)

We keep the following people in our prayers:

Russell Behnke; Jerry John DiNicola; Sally Ebeling; Ron Goben; Pam Goots; Heather; Mary Hennen; Laura Lemley; family of Jim McGuier; Rob Miser; Gary Miller; Phyllis Perkins; Gean Secreto; April Sowards; Mildred Stanley; Caren Thomas; Donna Vincent; Terry & Vicki Wilson; Lois (Steege) Wood; police and first responders; our troops; Christians and other minorities in the Middle East; people in the Ukraine and eastern Europe; pray for peace; and for our military, especially for Airman Elijah Modesitt (U.S. Airforce), for all who have been diagnosed with COVID 19 and/or hospitalized for the virus, for all who have died from the virus, for all of our medical personnel and first responders who are treating patients, for all families and loved ones separated by quarantines, for people who do not have access to medical care to be treated, for folks who are unemployed and the underemployed.

Good Samaritan Center
Item of the Month



Jello

ASCENSION SERVICE

First Lutheran was the host on a beautiful evening at a beautiful location—Fort Borman Park, on Thursday, May 13. Attending from Christ Lutheran were Rocky and Dave Freeman and Delores and Jerry Steege. It was a very nice worship service (with live music) using the Holden Evening Prayer service and Pastor Read giving the sermon.

Box lunches and fellowship were enjoyed before the service and Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopalian, and Presbyterian churches were represented. They have this every year so hope you can plan to go next year.



Birthdays

June 2 – Helen Read
June 17 – Mysti Cunningham

Anniversaries

June 11 – Andrew & Kelley Padgett
June 16 – Jerry & Delores Steege

OHIO-KANAWHA VALLEY CLUSTER MEETING

Women at Christ Lutheran will be Cluster meeting on Saturday, June 19. This is a group from church units hosting the Ohio-Kanawha Valley in Charleston, Huntington, Hurricane, and Vienna. (southwest fourth of the state) It will be a small group.

It will start at 10 and finish by 2. We will have coffee hour, program, lunch, and devotions. Details will be posted later and we will probably be asking for help from our ladies hope you can plan to attend and meet other Lutheran ladies and share our fellowship.

