



The Christ Messenger

Christ Lutheran Church
Vienna, West Virginia

September 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!

9-10 Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.¹¹⁻¹³ Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality. (Romans 12:9-11)

As I write to you on this hot August afternoon, Liz and I have just finished packing out the house and are waiting for the moving people to load the truck so we can begin our adventure in ministry together with you. This move has not been without its bumps, much like the world we are living in. That is why I chose this writing from Paul's epistle to the Romans.

Did you notice how it begins? Love from the center of who you are, don't fake it. Have you ever done that? It takes real effort to put yourself out there to the world with all of our shortcomings that we wear on our sleeves. But Paul says we should love deeply, not any of this on the surface stuff, but straight from the heart. And don't think you are better than anyone else, so as Paul says start playing second fiddle. We all stand on the same level ground at the foot of the cross. We all have been given God's gifts to serve one another and we do because of the love we have.

Most important, Paul says don't burn yourself out. Keep yourself fueled and aflame with the word of God that strengthens us and informs our lives. And Paul says, don't quit during the hared times, but pray harder asking God to help you and know that He is already working to make your request come true.

When we come together officially in October, there will be a lot of good ministry work to do. But, for now, let's love from the center of who we are, and be genuine in our relationships. And who knows maybe, little by little through our very actions we change the world in which we live. I look forward to seeing you on both September 19 and the 26th as we worship together. In the meantime have a great rest of the summer and know we are so very anxious to be with you.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tom

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Church Web Page:

<https://christlutheranviennawv.org/>

Church Facebook Page:

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

ELDERBERRIES

We, along with a few hundred other people, enjoyed lunch at DaVinci's in Williamstown, on Thursday, August 19, 2021. They had not gotten my revised number of guests, were two short and had no extra tables to put up. So, we squeezed together and, as far as I know, didn't spill food on each other! It was a pretty noisy atmosphere and Tom kind of got pushed out, but it was still fun. We are an "adjustable" group.

Those attending were Kay Rowan, Loreta Delaney, Fran and Tom Williams, Judi and Ron Clampitt, Jenny and Mike Knotts, Carolyn Stanley, Larry Armstrong, and Delores and Jerry Steege.

Next month, we plan to meet at Cheddars in Vienna. It will be on Thursday, September 16, at noon. Hope to see you then. Sign-up sheet at church or call Delores. (304) 428-2056.

Good Samaritan Center Item of the Month



Corn Muffin Mix

September Schedule

September 5, 12, 19, 26

10am Service

Communion Service on the 26th

LCW Meeting September 12th after the Service



Birthdays

September 1 – Vicki Wilson

September 10 – Madison Padgett

September 10 – Millie Padgett

September 11 – Jessica Fordyce

September 18 – Barb Volker

We keep the following people in our prayers:

Russell Behnke; Jerry John DiNicola; Sally Ebeling; Family of Ron Goben; Pam Goots; Heather; Mary Hennen; Laura Lemley; family of Jim McGuier; Rob Miser; Gary Miller; Gean Secreto; April Sowards, Mildred Stanley; Caren Thomas; Donna Vincent; Terry & Vicki Wilson; 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.

Quiet Moments – September 2021

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the blessing of being your new Pastor and wife. We are looking forward to getting to know each of you better.

Prayer is a focal part of our lives so each month I will share a quotation and a few thoughts on it for you. This is my way of letting you know me better.

You see I believe in miracles as I have experienced the power of prayer. Here is just one instance.

It was 18 years ago when two of our grandsons, then 3 and 5, had a serious event. Nathan, the youngest, wanted to cook french fries by himself. A fat fire ensued. Conner, seeing what happened, threw his brother out of the kitchen and threw water on the flames. The fire came back on him and severely burned his hand to the point that the flesh was webbed together! The pain was excruciating.

My daughter called and told me what happened and that the surgeon was planning on operating the following day to repair the fingers.

I contacted my church family and the prayer group I belong to and began to storm the heavens for my grandson. The next day, the surgeon unwrapped Conner's hand and began to cry.

There wasn't a mark on his hand!! It was perfectly normal like nothing happened!! It touched him so much and he told my daughter to have whoever was praying for her family to never stop.

You see, Dear Friends, miracles aren't gone. We just need to ask God to answer in His infinite wisdom and love. It may not be as we want but it is His will. Yes, He does hear our cries!

Blessings

Liz