

# Light of Christ

This is an abridged version suitable for web and social media viewing.

The newsletter of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. See the email version for birthdays and other personal information contained in the hard copy and email version.

July 2023



## **Connect with Christ Lutheran Church:**

[www.Christ-in-Heath.org](http://www.Christ-in-Heath.org)

(740) 522-4505 and (740) 522-9782

Pastor Christopher Adams: [Pastor@Christ-in-Heath.org](mailto:Pastor@Christ-in-Heath.org)

Office Email: [mail@Christ-in-Heath.org](mailto:mail@Christ-in-Heath.org)



Greetings, Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church!

As we approach the beginning of July, I remember the July Fourth holiday when we celebrate our nation's freedoms as well as our independence from foreign powers.

Depending upon the region, we cook various barbecue styles, and we fix various sides. We have parades, speeches, and fireworks. People experience an upswell in the spirit of patriotism as we remember a significant moment of our nation's history.

At the core of our civil liberties lies a critical question, "What do we do with these liberties?" How do we live into our freedoms? Do we still consider them freedoms, or have we allowed them to devolve into entitlements? Do we celebrate freedom of speech against the government, or do we metamorphosize that freedom into saying anything one wants regardless of who one hurts?

Part of the Christian walk of discipleship is to keep wrestling with what we do with the freedoms God has given us as Christians. (Especially for us, as Christians living in America.) We are freed from the wages of our sin through the grace of God expressed most fully by Jesus' death on the cross. Within that freedom, the Holy Spirit showers each of us with gifts, talents, and abilities. Those spiritual gifts have been given for a few purposes – as a sign of the freedom

God has given us, to enrich the lives of our fellow saints, and to empower the Body of Christ to further God's Kingdom.

As we celebrate our nation's independence as well as the freedoms that independence created for us, let us pray to God how best we can live into that freedom. Just as President John F. Kennedy once challenged a generation of people, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," so too does God challenge all of us to be like Christ who came to serve others, not to be served. Happy Independence Day!

Peace,

Pastor Chris

## COUNCIL

There is no Council meeting in July. Council will meet again on August 8 at 6:30pm.

## DONATE BLOOD IN MEMORY OF **MATTHEW OFFERS, JR.**



American Red Cross Blood  
Drive

Christ Lutheran Church

Saturday, July 29

10:00am-4:00pm

To schedule an appointment,  
email Matt Offers, Sr. at  
[moffers@g.heath.k12.oh.us](mailto:moffers@g.heath.k12.oh.us) or  
visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)

(sponsor code: HeathHS).

## FAMILY & YOUTH

The Christ Lutheran Youth Missions' Week will be held from July 25 to July 28 (10:30am-2:30pm each day). All youth, grades 6 and up, will be serving our local community and sharing God's love with others.



## FELLOWSHIP



Join us Tuesday, July 25 for  
**Dime-a-Dog Night at the  
Columbus Clippers!**

We'll meet at the church at 5:00pm to carpool to the game.

Interested? Please use this link to register:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?  
go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=0FC0C9DEF5C8FA60&cs=09B5  
B ADF8FC48B107B0A640F5BB79BCE&sortBy=l.title](https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=0FC0C9DEF5C8FA60&cs=09B5B ADF8FC48B107B0A640F5BB79BCE&sortBy=l.title)

You can also sign up at the church or by calling the office.

## FINANCE

Thank you to all who have supported the ministry of Christ Lutheran with your gifts as well as your talents. Giving through May has been strong. Please don't forget that the church expenses continue during the summer when many are away and attendance is often lower.

I recently saw an article that said the post office is not recommending that we mail checks because of many thefts. We have installed a locking mailbox to help ensure that any checks sent to the church are as safe as possible. After we had a check stolen last year and the ensuing forgeries, I have made every effort to pay the church bills with electronic transfers or a credit card whenever possible. I only mail checks inside of the post office.

For those of you who use checks and cannot always bring them to church, there are several other options. We still offer Simply Giving although the name has changed to Vanco Solutions. That does involve a very small charge that the church pays. Bill Pay through your bank is free to both you and the church. We have not yet investigated online giving but if there is enough interest from members, we can do that. I know many congregations offer that. Please let me know if you would be interested in online giving.

Wishing you a safe and blessed summer.

Denise



### **Summer Music Opportunities**

I encourage you to come and participate in our summer worship services! We have lots of opportunities for vocalists and instrumentalists. If you would like to participate this summer, contact Marilyn Yekisa with dates you are available.

### **Sunday Morning & Wednesday Evening Worship Teams**

We need 2 or more singers to lead the congregational singing in supporting the live-streamed service on Sunday mornings.

We meet at 9:35 Sunday mornings to review the music and warmup. (July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Aug. 8, 13, 20, 27; Sept 3).

On Wednesday evenings, we meet at 6:40 to review the music and warmup. (July 5, 12, 19, 26; Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30)



## **NEW PRAYER GROUP**

Beginning on Thursday, July 13 at 10:00am, a Prayer Group will be meeting once per month to pray for each other, our Pastor, our church family, and God's world. Everyone is welcome! Questions? Please see Cherie Boyer or Joyce

Williams.



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THANK YOU NOTES

I wanted to say thank you to everyone who prayed for me while I had some health issues. Still working through them, but should have answers soon!

Thank you to all of you,  
Mena

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Dear Care Committee & Prayer Shawl Ministry,

This thank you is way overdue, yet is sincere. Thank you for the lovely prayer shawl and pocket swatch. It has helped enormously to know that you have been praying for me during this process of grief.

I've been getting by with help from family and friends. But, as you know, it is very hard.

Blessings to you,  
Miriam





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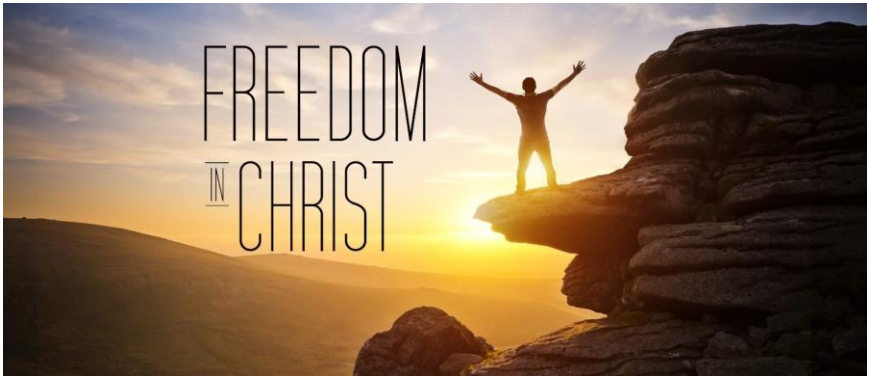
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## SERVANT SCHEDULE FOR JULY

<b>Date</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>Lay Reader</b>	<b>Counter</b>	<b>Auditor</b>
<b>7/2</b>	Communion canceled due to illness..	Kathy Mehler	Yolanda Rosato	Ed
<b>7/9</b>	Ed Roach & Roger Pyle	Seth Patton	Lynsey Whisner	T
<b>7/16</b>	Joyce Williams & Karen Schmidt	Larry Ploetz	John & Deb Groff	T
<b>7/23</b>	Larry & Denise Ploetz	Volunteer Needed	Denise Ploetz	T
<b>7/30</b>	Joyce W., Barb M., & Barb Bauer	Roger Pyle	Christi Brooks	T

# BEAUTY & WISDOM WORTH SHARING

(written and/or shared by members)



## **Freedom in Christ** (by Sarah Magoon)

Jesus the Jail-Breaker  
Life-Maker Sorrow-  
Taker: Chains of  
destruction Broken  
right off.

Jesus the Soul-Saver  
Path-Paver Life-  
Flavor: Chains of  
corruption Broken  
right off.

Jesus the Heart-Healer  
Spirit-Sealer Truth-  
Revealer: Chains of  
deception Broken  
right off.

Jesus the Rock-Shaker  
Tomb-Breaker Soul-  
Waker: Chains of  
inferno Broken right  
off.

**BIRTHDAYS - See**  
email edition

**BAPTISMAL**  
**ANNIVERSARIES**

– See email edition

**RECENT PRAYER**

**CONCERNS – See**  
email edition

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