

2610 Campbell Street • Valparaiso, Indiana 46385 • (219) 462-6660 clcvalpo.org • office@clcvalpo.org

The Good News August 2023



CLC Social Ministry and Mission

August 2023

Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are helpless. (Proverbs 31:8)





Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) https://www.lirs.org has a vision that all migrants and refugees are protected, embraced, and empowered in a world of just and welcoming communities. LIRS mission is witness to God's love for all people, standing with and advocating for migrants and refugees, transforming communities through ministries of service and justice. For over 80 years, LIRS has been a champion for migrants and refugees from around the globe. A legacy of courageous and compassionate service has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people who have sought safety and hope in America's communities. LIRS history reflects American Lutherans' deep immigrant roots and passionate commitment to welcoming newcomers, especially those who are most in need. In partnership with community-based legal and social service providers nationwide, LIRS has helped over 500,000 migrants and refugees rebuild their lives in America.

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) https://www.lbwinc.org has existed since 1943 to show the love of God to people with visual disabilities and to bring them into a growing relationship with God. LBW does this by engaging some 5,000 volunteers in over 115

Production Centers | (lbwloveworks.org) throughout the United States. Volunteers joyfully produce approximately 250,000 volumes a year of Braille and specialized Large Print Bibles and Christian literature. CLC is one of these Work Centers and is involved in making Braille books of the Bible for the blind. volunteers' work every Tuesday in CLC's Fellowship Hall. Monthly emphases gifts go towards national LBW activities and to help with supplies for CLC's Work Center.

Help achieve our goal of \$2500 in August (over and above giving combined with CLC's budgeted amount of \$1200). Use your weekly worship giving envelope mailed with check to CLC and indicate "LIRS/LBW" or contribute through Subsplash on the CLC website https://clevalpo.org via the "Give" button and choose Monthly Social Ministry Emphasis. Thank you to members for supporting monthly social ministry emphases.

Additional Opportunities:

Northwest Indiana Lutheran Food and Supply Pantries Donations.

Men's Shelter (and Resale Shop) https://newcreationresaleshop.com at 2102 Calumet Ave, 219-548-3548. You can help feed our neighbors experiencing homelessness: New Creations Men's Center continues to be home base for both single men and women in between having a "home", providing daily meals and a space to be during the day. You can help feed their guests at their daytime Center: lunch supplies can be dropped off at the resale shop counter during open hours (usually 10-5). Needed items include: lunch meat, fruit, individual juice, snack cakes, and chips. Call 219-548-3548 for more information. There is a basket inside door #3 for food donations.

Housing Opportunities https://hoi.help/pantry 2001 Calumet Ave., 219-548-2800. Food Pantry Needs: Peanut butter, Jelly, Spaghetti sauce (in jars), Tuna, Canned Chicken, Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo. Non-Pantry Needs: New Pillows, Twin size sheets (can be used – no stains). One click donating! on Amazon wish list – items shipped directly to the shelter! www.hoi.help/pantry or drop off items in lobby at 2001 Calumet Ave.

Immanuel Food Pantry https://immanuelvalpo.org/food-pantry 1700 Monticello – drive up drop off items. Donations can be dropped at Immanuel, best done Tuesdays and Thursdays 1-3 pm, at entrance between church and school.

Hilltop Food Pantry https://www.hilltophouse.org/hilltop-food-pantry 606 Union St.

AMERICAN RED CROSS



DONATE BLOOD. HELP SAVE LIVES

BLOOD DRIVE CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH ACTIVITY CENTER—DOOR 14

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22 1:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: ChristLutheranValpo to schedule an appointment.

LITTLE LAMB PRESCHOOL

A Few Openings

Little Lamb Preschool has a few openings for the 2023-2024 school year in the Beginner 2 Session class [Tuesday and Thursday from 8:45-11:15 (Your child must be 3 by August 1, 2023 to be eligible for this class)} and our Beginner 3 PM Class [Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12:30-3:00 PM (Your child must have turned 3 by February 2023 to be eligible for this class)]. We also have a few openings for the 2023-2024 school year in our Young 5 PM class [Monday-Friday 12:30-3:00 PM (Your child must have turned 4 by June 2023 to enroll in this class)]. Please contact Jen with any questions or interest. 219-462-6660 #14 or LLP@CLCValpo.org You may also look on our website for more class information. clcvalpo.org. Class begin soon!

Faith Building

Please pray for us! We would love your prayers during our school year. Please pray that God continues to bless this ministry for our CLC families and community as we share God's love with each and every precious child and family that enter our doors.

Christian Mission Statement

Little Lamb Preschool, in union with Christ Lutheran Church, serves God by shepherding God's children as we nurture the whole child in partnership with families.

Educational Philosophy Statement

We are a Christian preschool whose goal is to provide excellence in education and a loving, safe learning environment for every child. Based on the philosophy that young children learn best through play, we provide developmentally appropriate opportunities for them to explore, make discoveries, and learn respect for themselves and others. We firmly believe that all children are wonderful gifts from God to be cherished and nurtured. In collaboration with families, we encourage and support children to learn and grow socially, emotionally, academically, physically, and spiritually.





Faith Formation Opportunities Sundays 9:20 a.m.			
Date	Sanctuary	Church Hall	120 (Library)
August 6	Costa Rica Trip Forum- Confirmation project Valerie Hernes		The Righteous Reign of God Dave Keammerer
August 13 Beachfront Worship			The Righteous Reign of God Dave Keammerer
August 20	Displacement/Connection: Grief, Growth, and Gifts of the Pandemic Gretchen Buggeln, Aimee Tomasek	Adult Leader Training— Youth Program Kaitlyn Jedrzejowski	The Righteous Reign of God Dave Keammerer
August 27 Confirmation			The Righteous Reign of God Dave Keammerer

Supporting the AMOS TEAM Traveling in NOVEMBER 2023

Needles, yarn and things like that, could you help us make a baby hat. New to this world a babe is born, breezy and cold. Let's keep him warm.

Off to Guatemala in November will be, training the midwives, thanks, CLC. AMOS and our ladies, hand-in-hand, making a difference, together we stand.

August Altar Gifts

Holy Communion Brian & Michele Sutherland ~ Celebrating their anniversary

Altar Candles Sara & Jeremy Long ~ In memory of our grandparents:

Carson & Vera Abbott

Perry & Ruth Cozza ~ Celebrating the birth of their granddaughter, Charlotte Margaret (born July 17, 2023)

Eternal Lamp Candles Given to the Glory of God



Sunday, August 13 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Service



Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, and chips will be provided. **Bring a** side dish to pass and a chair or blanket to sit on.

We need people to grill, serve, set-up, and clean-up. Task sign-up in the Gathering Space or here

Questions? Contact Kathy Sutherland (219)309-4414



A special thank you to all our sisters & brothers in our CLC Family who so lovingly cared for Malcolm and me during his ALS journey. The prayers, cards, calls, visits, meals, helping hands, caring conversations and kindness were such special gifts to us and we saw Jesus in each one of you. Our family and I are filled with deep gratitude and love. The Peace of Christ be with each of you!

Marilyn McGawn

Update on Deepening our Welcome

Deepening Our Welcome Listening Post has been cancelled for August 6th. We are excited to hear from Valerie Hernes as she reflects on the Costa Rico trip in the Adult Forum on August 6th. Kyle Otten and Kathy Sutherland will be available after that forum for conversation about the Deepening Our Welcome program.

QuiltsBaby Care KitsFabric Care KitsPersonal Care KitsAluminum Can Project2023 Goal: 5002023 Goal: 5002023 Goal: 150Kits Completed: 5857/13/2023—\$98.00Quilts Completed: 276Kits Completed: 625Kits Completed: 144(10 towels/10 yds of flannel purchased)

Baby Care Kits July Needs are HATS, JACKETS, and SHIRTS sizes 6 months to 2T.

Fabric Kits July Needs are three yards of cotton fabric.

Check out stores for clearance, mark downs, reduced, and summer sales for cotton fabric and baby clothing. Resale and retail shops will soon be changing their stores from summer to the fall and winter seasons. Cash donations are always appreciated.

CANS CAN help our BUYING POWER. NO DONATION is too small. White Basket/Red Truck are places to place CANS.

LWR School Kits

Even School supplies are in the stores! I found some great prices at Walmart on supplies for our school kits for Lutheran World Relief:

Notebooks are 35 cents each.

Crayons are 50 cents a box.

Pens are \$1.27 for ten.

Pencils are \$3.97 for 24.

Scissors are \$1.58 each.

Our goal this year is to collect enough supplies for 100 kits, each kit containing the following:

FOUR – 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½" (LWR cannot use loose-leaf paper).

ONE - 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other (two for \$1 at Dollar General).

ONE – pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well).

FIVE – black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink).

ONE – box of 16 or 24 crayons.

ONE - 2.5" eraser.

FIVE – unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers.

There is a basket in the Gathering Space for donations, or you can purchase from an Amazon wish list and choose to have the items delivered directly to the church. There are a variety of suggestions on the list, with some items in bulk; you may be able to find cheaper items as the inventory changes. The link to the Amazon wish list can be found by searching Amazon lists for "CLC School Kit," or by clicking the link below.

Amazon CLC School Kit wish list

If you find any great deals on supplies, please let me know at <u>kathyjopage@gmail.com</u> and I will share with others. We will be collecting through mid-October.

Gathering supplies with your children as they begin a new school year is a great way to remind yourself and them that we need to continue to love our neighbors, near and far. It helps us all remember that God's love is everywhere! Thank you for your support!



Quarterly Statements

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE for continuing to support the ministries of Christ Lutheran Church! Giving to the operating fund is an act of faith. Together, we can take those seeds of faith and grow them into ministries that impact our congregation and our community. Your contributions have allowed us to:

- Rejoice in the resurrection of our savior Jesus Christ through the music of our sanctuary choir, handbell choir, brass quartet with timpani, and dozens of voices joining in Handel's Hallelujah Chorus;
- Maintain our pipe organ and celebrate five years of worship with our beautiful instrument;
- Commemorate ten years of Pastor Tim's ministry with us;
- Grant a sabbatical summer to Pastor Erica, giving her time for study, reflection and refreshment;
- Welcome our guests from New Creations for housing, meals and fellowship;
- Celebrate the accomplishments of 75 Little Lamb graduates who will leave us for kindergarten;
- Nurture the faith and curiosity of 45 preschoolers at Little Lamb's STEAM camp;
- Grow the faith of 56 students who feasted from the "Great Food Truck" of God's love at Vacation Bible School;
- Send 3 youth and 2 adults to minister alongside their peers from the Indiana-Kentucky Synod in Louisville, KY;
- Send 5 youth and 2 adults to explore and nurture their faith at confirmation camp;
- Provide \$3,295 to support 22 youth and adults travelling to Costa Rica on our first intergenerational vision trip;
- Raise \$6,277 to share with the ministries of Housing Opportunities, Project Neighbors, and Foodbank of Northwest Indiana; and
- Share \$15,117 with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the ELCA to support the ministries of the wider church.

We could not accomplish any of this without you - THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!

Please check your email for your second-quarter giving statement. Statements were sent electronically on Tuesday, July 18; look for an email from Subsplash Giving (noreply@secure.subsplash.com). If you did not receive your statement, or if you would like a hard copy, please call the church office or email our Business Manager, Heather Budnik (heather.budnik@clcvalpo.org).



MUSIC AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Everyone is welcome!

- Sanctuary Choir (high school adult)
 - ➤ Rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 7:30 9:00 pm (Sanctuary)
 - First rehearsal on September 7, 2023
- * Celebration Ringers Handbell Ensemble (adult)
 - Rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 6:00 7:00 pm (Music Room)
 - First rehearsal on September 7, 2023
- Treble Makers Handbell Ensemble (grades 3 8)
 - Rehearsals on Sunday afternoons from 12:00 12:30 pm (Music Room)
 - > First rehearsal on September 10, 2023
- ❖ Youth Handbell Ensemble (grades 9 12)
 - Rehearsals on Sunday evenings from 5:30 6:00 pm (Music Room)
 - > First rehearsal on September 17, 2023
- Not ready to commit to the choir or an instrumental ensemble, but interested in singing?
 - Contact Brian Bartusch about being a cantor for Sunday morning worship!

Anyone interested in any of our music ensembles, feel free to contact Music Director Brian Bartusch at <u>brian.bartusch@clcvalpo.org</u>, or at the church office (219-462-6660, x. 18). Sign-up sheets will be available outside the Music Room.



Quilts 2023 Goal: 500 Quilts Completed: 276 **Baby Care Kits** 2023 Goal: 500 Kits Completed: 625

Fabric Care Kits 2023 Goal: 150 Kits Completed: 144 Personal Care Kits Aluminum Can Project

Kits Completed: 585 7/13/2023—\$98.00 (10 towels/10 vds of flannel purchased)

Baby Care Kits August Needs are SHIRTS, ONESIES, JACKETS, SWEATERS, AND SWEAT SHIRTS sizes 6 months to 2T.

Fabric Kits **August Needs** are three (3) yards of cotton fabric.

Check out stores for clearance, mark downs, reduced, and summer sales for cotton fabric and baby clothing. Resale and retail shops will soon be changing their stores from summer to the fall and winter seasons. Cash donations are always appreciated.

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Monthly Book Club

When: First Tuesday of the Month (August 1)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: CLC—Brides Room (107)

Host: Susan Rodeck: 317-435-1876 (text) or e-mail: carlsonshome@msn.com



Harvest of Rubies By Tessa Afshar

Sarah, the prophet Nehemiah's cousin, is Senior Scribe to the Queen of Persia - the only woman to have held such an important post in the Persian Empire. A genius who is more at home with scrolls and accounts than with people. Sarah finds her worth in her achievements.

After solving a particularly thorny plot, she loses the job that is at the center of her life, and finds herself married to a man who despises her. Through the heartache of loss,

Sarah discovers the joys of friendship and the peace of God. To her astonishment, she learns that she has something to offer that is worth far beyond her ability with languages and sums. Her very being proves a blessing to others.

Can she win the heart of her stubborn aristocratic husband, whom she has grown to love?



Popcorn Fest Volunteers

With Popcorn Fest right around the corner, preparations are beginning for our annual fundraiser! The success of this fundraiser is all due to the amazing support of the CLC community! With that being said, we need your help for another successful year.

This year, we need individuals who are willing to help pre-cook the brats prior to the day of the event. The brats will be available for pick-up at the church starting September 5th. Volunteers are also needed to help set-up the booth the morning of the event. And finally, we need volunteers to help serve each of the shifts on the day of Popcorn Fest! If any of these volunteer opportunities is of interest to you, be sure to check out the sign-up sheets, which will be posted out in the Gathering Space beginning in August.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Kaitlyn (<u>kaitlyn.jedrzejowski@clcvalpo.org</u>). Thank you all for supporting our fundraising efforts!

Popcorn Fest Committee

With Popcorn Fest, there will also be the formation of the Popcorn Fest Committee. This committee will meet to plan, prepare, and organize for the day of the fest. There are various roles on the committee that cater to specific aspects of the event. The roles in need of filling are as follows:

Grillers Coordinator
Set-Up/Tear Down Coordinator
Volunteer Coordinator
Store Run Coordinator
Health/Safety Coordinator
Cashier/Money Coordinator
Inventory Coordinator
Shift Manager Coordinator

The committee's first meeting will be this August. The committee will meet each year beginning in late June and will temporarily disband in September after the Popcorn Fest. Each position on the committee will be a 2 year term. If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please contact Kaitlyn (kaitlyn.jedrzejowski@clcvalpo.org)



A Letter to the Congregation

CLC Congregation,

Warm greetings from the Youth room! As the month of August approaches, so does opportunity! With youth programs soon starting up, there are a plethora of ways for members of the congregation to become involved with our youth. One such way is serving with Circle and walking alongside the youth that are a part of it. If you are interested in volunteering with Circle, in any capacity, please consider attending the adult leader training on August 20th during the formation hour. Whether it be providing a dinner for Circle or volunteering each week, your support makes a huge difference in the lives of the youth.

Confirmation Sunday is also approaching on August 27th. During this Sunday, Confirmands have the opportunity to share their testimony and experiences in Confirmation. At formation hour in the Sanctuary, each Confirmand will share their "Witness to the Church," which elaborates on what they have learned in Confirmation, where they have seen God, and how they will continue in their faith. Please consider attending!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at <u>kaitlyn.jedrzejowski@clcvalpo.org</u>.

Blessings, Kaitlyn Jedrzejowski Director of Youth Ministries



August 2023 Schedule

Adult Leader Training | August 20th during Formation Hour Parent Orientation | August 20th after the 10:30 service

High School (9th-12th)

Gail's Pool Party | August 13th from 2-7pm First Circle | August 20th



Got a thumb, whether green or not??

Have you ever been curious about the plants growing in the parking lot greenspace (bioswale)? Come join our Bioswale Buddies!

We meet on Thursday mornings from 8 -10 A.M.

We were fortunate to have received a NIPSCO grant last year which kick started the rejuvenation and maintenance of the south bioswale. We are very excited with how

beautiful it looks, and are continuing to work in both the north and south bioswales. Of course there are always weeds to remove, but we also focus on adding diversity to the native plants, and thinning them out as they spread throughout the gardens.

Volunteers are always appreciated! You may help on any Thursday morning you are available. Any amount of time volunteered is also appreciated. There is no requirement to be there each week for the full two hours.



For more info please email Betty Luckett: rblucky67@gmail.com

We are excited to welcome "budding" gardeners of all experience and capabilities!!!!

Will you be the voice for a child in need?

There are children in Porter County who need your help!

Porter County CASA will be holding a **Virtual Information Meeting** for members of the community who are interested in learning more about becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate.



The CASA program trains volunteers to advocate for the needs and best interests of abused and neglected children in the court system. The need for CASAs speaking up for children in the court process has never been more vital than in these times.

The meeting will take place on August 9th at 5:30pm on Zoom.

Interested potential volunteers can RSVP by emailing casainfo@fysb.org to receive a Zoom link to the Information Meeting.

Learn more at portercountycasa.org.