



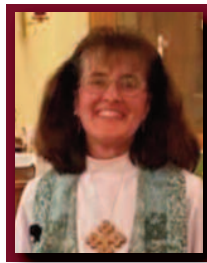
Christ Lutheran Church
 115 Church St.
 Duncannon, PA 17020
 717.834.3140
www.clcduncannon.org

Community Aid # - 10119



August 2025

The Herald



Pastor's Reflection

My grandma always used to tell me to make sure that I “stop and smell the roses.” This was always easy when I was visiting my grandparents’ house because my grandma always had amazing flower beds, carefully tended and filled with beautiful flowers. Every summer, each time I visited, we would walk outside and she would show me around, and we would look at how everything was doing. Each year, there were the returning perennials which somehow thrived under her careful watch, but then also the new things she would try, and the beautiful, vibrant annuals that surrounded the house. These are beloved summer memories, and remind me that my grandma’s grandma, Great-Grandma Weller, who raised my grandma used to own a greenhouse where my barefooted grandma used to run around when she was just a young child. The flowers connected the generations, but my grandma had learned the lesson already that time flies by quickly. She sought to share that wisdom with me too. “Stop and smell the roses” now because the summer flies away soon – always much too soon.

My grandma knew that I worked too much. She saw the stress on my face. She knew that I was “always at work.” When we are caught in the hectic cycle of too-much busyness, it is hard for us to notice and even if we do, hard for us to stop. That is why we need the wisdom teachers in our lives. It is why we need to slow down and listen to

them. Wisdom has been built into the fabric of Creation from the very beginning. In the grand narrative of Genesis, in the first creation account, God creates and then God rests. God brings life to every good thing, and then God shows us that we must rest and dwell with God among the wonders of this world ~ *stop and smell the roses*. God calls this Sabbath. God commands us to keep the Sabbath rest – let it be sacred. It is that important. God’s wisdom intertwined within the cycle of life from the very beginning. God made the Sabbath *for* us, not as a demand, but as a gift.

Throughout our scriptures, wisdom teachers offer guidance and practical knowledge. The wisdom teachers speak of real life. In books like Proverbs, Psalms, Job, Ecclesiastes, Ruth, and Esther, we receive guidance of living faithfully amidst the realities of life. The writer of Ecclesiastes is sometimes accused of being hopeless or at least being a terrible pessimist. To be certain, he is not a “rose-colored glasses” kind of person. He is a realist, and he asks us to join him in his reality, not because he wants us to be depressed but because he wants us to pay attention, to enjoy the time we have, to live this life while we have it, to grasp ahold of the gift of living in this world that God has created for us, where we are able to dwell only for a little while. It is from this writer that we

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President's Paragraph

As I was growing up, I was told there were only two things for certain in life: death and taxes! Well, that is not true. I have come to learn that the generosity of this congregation is the third certainty in life.

Several weeks ago, I came in front of you telling of a need for

a new furnace for our church. I explained that council had a plan for financing this project but we were about \$6,000 short. Council felt we would ask the congregation for this money in an effort to pay for the furnace without having to borrow any money. Within the next

couple of weeks numerous individuals stepped up and gave more than \$6,000 for this project.



Bill Brookhart
Council President

I can now announce that our furnace will be installed in several weeks and is completely paid for. Thanks to the generosity of our church family. Thanks be to God!

This was not the first time I had to ask for your financial help. I wasn't surprised that our congregation again came through.

See you Sunday!

Bill

Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly

What do you call it when 500 Lutherans are gathered together? The Lower Susquehanna Synod calls it the 2025 Synod Assembly.

This year's theme was: *Celebrating 50 Years of ELCA World Hunger*. Everyone was invited to participate in a special challenge: Kick It to Hunger! For every person who showed up in red socks, shoes, laces, red toenails and posed for a picture, Bishop Dunlop and his

wife, Connie, donated \$5 to ELCA World Hunger.

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Pastor's Reflection

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receive the phrase, "eat, drink, and be merry!" He is not recommending that we lead a life of hedonism or debauchery. He does not wish us to be careless, but he, like my grandma, is saying – "work and your to-do list isn't everything." Go out and enjoy this beautiful summer, wherever and whenever you can.

Jesus is a wisdom teacher too – among his many other titles and roles. He is the Messiah who brings salvation, the one who will break the bonds of death bringing

life eternal. He will lead us into the kingdom in time. But throughout his ministry, he teaches about the here-and-now. He is speaking to those who are living here on earth, and his messages transcend time and place which is why we recognize the wisdom in them. Wisdom is powerful because it can speak truth that applies in the United States in 2025 as it did on the shores of the Sea of Galilee in the year 30; to people who watch Tik Tok on their iPhones and to a people who only knew the land of Palestine and the reaches of Rome.

Jesus teaches us how to live well and how to live well together. Jesus wants us to find peace and rest in him and not to get caught up in all of the turmoil and striving that the empires of this world tempt us with. There is only fear and sadness in that way. We are called to a better way – the way of Jesus Christ. Be a follower of that way.

It is a way of peace, love, and mercy for our sake, for the sake of Creation, and for the sake of our neighbor. The time is always now. Find those roses.... **Amen.**

Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly

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The gathering was held June 5-7 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in York. The purpose was to conduct the business of the 238 congregations in the Lower Susquehanna Synod. These churches are located in nine counties in central PA.

Outgoing Bishop Jim Dunlop's opening message reflected on the state of the church. Drawing on the story of Gideon (Judges 7), he

reminded us that this is Christ's Church, and God is still moving in powerful, surprising ways.

This year was a very important assembly. In addition to normal church business, a new bishop was elected. The Rev. Stephen Herr was elected to serve a six year term beginning in September.

Cindy and Bill Brookhart were the voting members representing CLC, along with Pastor Jenn and Lisa.

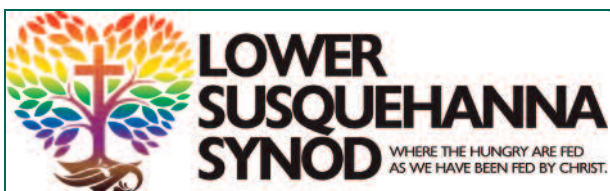


Several opportunities for education and study are available to the CLC community – including friends and family! The group meets on Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm via zoom. This is a joint session with folks from Mt. Zion so it is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and learn together. The next session which will begin in September is going to be a study of the Nicene Creed – its history, its controversies and new discussions. This is an ancient creed which we sometimes call a “statement of faith” that dates back to the 4th century CE. It remains an important part of

our church doctrine, but do we know where it came from, what it really means, and why it helped cause a fracture in the church in the year 1054 CE? This controversy is being studied anew by the Lutheran World Federation. Even after 1,000 years, might reconciliation and forgiveness be possible? Come and see what it's all about!

The Perry Conference welcomed Pastor Allen Vijjeswarapu as the called pastor to Good Shepherd, Liverpool.

Picture (l to r): Pastor Bob Lescalette, St. John, Barner's; Pastor Jenn; Pastor Allen Vijjeswarapu, Good Shepherd, Liverpool; Pastor Dennis Probst, Mannsville and Christ, New Bloomfield; Pastor Eric Petty, Messiah, Elliottsburg and St. Paul, Newport; and, Pastor Beth Martini, LSS Assistant to the Bishop.



The Lower Susquehanna Synod has an active Hunger Committee that is responsible for promoting awareness and programs related to hunger in our area. One of the key initiatives that they champion is offering grants to congregations in the synod for hunger-related programs and initiatives. The Hunger Committee

is interested in finding some new members. If you are interested, please let Pastor Jenn know. Lisa has served on this committee previously so she could give you further insight.

That's A Wrap!

Another Appalachian Trail Hiker Spaghetti Dinner season is in the books. Our final meal was served on Wednesday, July 16 with an attendance of ten hiker friends.

The hostel at the Assembly of God Church was not open in 2024, as well as part of 2025 due to water damage in their facility. CLC donated a portion of our funds from the Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser this past April to the hostel. Thankfully they were able to open again in June.

Throughout this season, we welcomed hikers from all over the US, in addition to those from Ireland, Switzerland and Australia (we loved that Australian accent).

The final tally of those fed was 85 (maybe a few more). Thanks to our greeters, most of the hikers were asked to sign our guest book when they arrived, however, sometimes a few slipped through without that happening. Our numbers were a bit better than last year, with attendance peaking at 12. Each week our friends came with hungry appetites!

During the last meal of the season, we were gifted with a beautiful piano serenade. The video can be viewed by visiting the CLC website at www.clcduncannon.org

THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way. Thanks to those who made desserts each week. Thanks to you who donated salad fixings. Thank you to those who donated your time every single Wednesday with set-up and clean-up! We are also grateful to Shirley and Allen Imler for carrying on the tradition of "Jerry Bell's fruit salad." Jerry surely smiled when he saw it.

We have said before what a blessing this hiker ministry is to our congregation, the community and especially our hiker friends. CLC has become a recognized name to the folks who hike the trail. We hope to keep serving spaghetti for a long time!



Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I was blessed by your hiker ministry last night with a delicious dinner and amazing fellowship. Thank you so much for sharing Christ's love through food and opening your church to us! One of the biggest things I miss on trail is my church family and your fellowship gave me a little piece of home! I am attempting a thru hike from Georgia to Maine and feel blessed by the Lord to have been in Duncannon on a Wednesday night so I could be a part of your dinner. Thank you again for your ministry and being the hands and feet of Jesus to the community and those passing through! I will attach some photos I had taken of your amazing group last night! Thank you again!!

May the Lord bless you and my His face shine upon you-

*In Christ's Love,
Carey Tuck "Tuck"*

@Tuckstreck on YouTube & Instagram.

From Gardendale, AL

Christmas in July



“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas....” Well, actually amidst this mid-summer heat wave, that may not be exactly true. But, on July 24, it certainly sounded like Christmas as we celebrated Christmas in July – five months until Christmas Eve.

We gathered to sing Christmas hymns and hear prophecy and proclamation of the coming Christ child. It is a reminder amidst the busyness of summer that we are to be a people who are always preparing for the coming of Christ. We live in a world that is always in need of a word of hope, a word of joy, a word of transformation that God’s redeeming work is already underway.

Mary carries the Christ already. Our world waits in hopeful expectation for the coming of the One who will bring healing to the world. A gift of grace given by our God who loves us so much that God would not leave us to suffer in our sin but rather chooses to take on the frailty of this fragile human existence in order that we might know God more surely, more fully. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:16-17).

Christmas is coming....Christ is coming.
Hallelujah!

Another Movie Night

As part of our Genesis Bible study, CLC hosted a movie night for the Christ Lutheran and Mt. Zion church communities along with family and friends. The movie was the 1999 film adaptation of the Andrew Lloyd Webber Broadway musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

With a great deal of flair and musical surprises, the movie tells the story of Jacob’s favorite son, Joseph who receives special attention from his father, much to the anger and jealousy of his eleven other brothers. Joseph dazzles in his amazing “technicolor dreamcoat” while his brothers plot a devious

demise for their show-off brother.

More than 30 people gathered in the fellowship hall to sing to the music and share lots of snacks and goodies all while we learning a bit more about our Bible stories.

There are so many ways that we can learn and engage with

scripture, and sometimes even Elvis (a/k/a Pharaoh) can inspire us to learn that....any dream will do.



Walking in Fellowship

Hello from your CLC Fellowship Committee. Our first season of chair yoga has come to an end. It was fun to create this upbeat class together as a group with scripture and music. As we go into the fall season, CLC would like to offer a walking in fellowship opportunity. So get out your best walking shoes and stay tuned for more info!

Celebrating 40 Years Together

Lynn and Cathy Cooper celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 15 by renewing their wedding vows in a beautiful service held at CLC.

When asked for a bit of history, Cathy provided this beautiful love story:

"We met while working



Community Aid Update

Message from Community Aid

We Can Now Accept Your Items with Padding!

At the beginning of June, our donation centers were equipped with the necessary capacity to accept and sterilize items with padding and cushions. That includes pillows, quilts, sleeping bags, furniture items, and more. These items, which we previously had to turn away or find alternative means of disposal, are now finding their way to our sales floor and into our shoppers' homes, where they get a second life!

CLC's Partner Number is: 10119. This number must accompany all donations.

together at Food Service Specialist in Mechanicsburg. Lynn worked in the warehouse, and I worked in the office.

We dated for six weeks before we got engaged. After the first date I told my roommate, 'This is the guy I'm going to marry.' Of course she laughed at me. We were married at St. Paul's UCC in Mechanicsburg the following June.

After we got married, we lived in Duncannon for about six months before we bought our first house in Summerdale. We lived there for about three years until we got pregnant with Maxine and moved to Dillsburg. She decided to come while in the middle of moving, so I got to lay in a hospital with a newborn while everyone moved everything into the house and got it set up for me. Shawn was born almost three years later to finish off our perfect little family.

We moved from Dillsburg to Snellville, GA (45 minutes NE of Atlanta) in 1995. We moved just in time to get to go to a few of the 1996 Olympic events. We lived there till 1999, when we moved back to Mechanicsburg.

We lived in the house that my parents built and my sister, brother and I grew up in. Maxine and Shawn went to the same high school I did and had some of the same teachers.

Lynn finally got his wish in 2017, when we moved back to Perry County. He is a true Perry

County boy. Both kids moved out and bought homes of their own.

"Shawn got married to Kayla in 2022, and they have a beautiful 2-year-old son (Bryson) and another boy due in January.

Maxine is a teacher for Pre-K Counts in Mechanicsburg.

It hasn't always been easy, but love is stronger than anything, as long as you are willing to fight for it."

Lynn and Cathy invited the congregation to share this day with them as well as the amazing luncheon following the vow renewal. Thank you Coopers!

We pray God will bless you with many more years of marriage and family!

Speaking of vows, they wrote their own. Ask Lynn about that sometime.



CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

Council is pleased to announce that with the help of the congregation, funds are now available to move forward with the purchase of a new furnace. Thank you for your donations to this much needed project. Furnace installation is set to begin in August.

Council would also like to report that the church committees have been quite active and will continue to be for the foreseeable future as there are a lot of activities happening within the church and in the community. If you would like to lend a hand to any of the committees, please reach out to any Council member and they will direct you to the committee chairperson.

Fundraising events are planned for the upcoming months. Specifically, the apple dumpling sales and the bazaar and cookie auction. Continue to watch your bulletin for more details.

The website taskforce continues to keep our website updated on a weekly basis. New historical details have been added so be sure to check it out.

As always, the building committee is sure to take care of needs as they arise. A special thank you to Bing Hofer for the great job he does with our yard and flower beds.

The Faith Formation, Community Outreach, Fellowship, and Social Ministry committees are always busy with activities that bring the church community and larger Duncannon community together. For example, the church had a vendor table the recent AT Hiker Festival, National, Night Out and Rock the Block party, and, we have helped the Duncannon EMS fill backpacks for their Back to School program. Oh, you don't want to miss the upcoming Hymn Sing and Peach Fest! That happens on August 27.

Emma Attends Confirmation Camp

My first ever stay at Camp Nawakwa was filled with adventure. Everyday was filled with new lessons and engaging group activities. I got to experience an all camp candle prayer, restore a

Prayer Labyrinth, and even go on a high ropes course. The camp had a very welcoming community and kind staff. Overall, I really enjoyed my week at camp and am so thankful for the opportunity.



The Perry County Conference has approved our joint project for God's Work. Our Hands. We will be holding a food drive for the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank

on Sunday, September 7. We will be able to drop off our collection at NHN after worship. A planned potluck luncheon to be held at Christ, New Bloomfield, with social time at 1:00 and lunch at 1:30. A speaker from Neighbor Helping Neighbor will be there to talk about the work they do and the current needs they are seeing. Watch your bulletin for needed items.



Legos Highlight Open House

If you think Legos are primarily a toy for kids, think again! There is an entire world of Legos out there just for adults. There's even a name for this hobby: AFOL: Adult Fans of Legos.

Pastor Jenn and Lisa hosted an open house at their home in Carlisle on July 12 for the CLC and Mt. Zion congregations. On display were many, many complex Lego creations, all done by Lisa.

Here is Lisa's Lego story, in her own words: *"I am an accidental Lego enthusiast. I did not have Legos as a child. We had the old school large ones when we were little but no individual sets.*

My sister bought me my first Lego during COVID. It was the Night Bus from Harry Potter (from the third movie). Then Jon, my brother-in-law bought me my next set - 4 Privet Drive. This is another Harry Potter set from the first movie. Once you have one, you might as well have two and after that why not all the sets!

I think I enjoy how much detail they actually have. It's not just

a building where you see just the outside; but when you turn the set around there is so much detail on the inside of the set itself. Each set has unique features and hidden gems within them.

The hardest set I've put together has been the Lego Typewriter. The keys actually work as a working typewriter. If it only had a real ink ribbon!

The gears were very hard to put together correctly to get the whole alphabet to type like a real typewriter. It took me over a month to put together. At one point I had to put it away for a couple of weeks because it became so frustrating!

My favorite sets include Van Gogh's Starry Night and Gringotts Bank from the Harry Potter movie. The Van Gogh set is a replica of the painting in 3D. It's made to actually hang on your wall as a piece of art would.

The Harry Potter Bank set is so rich in detail. It has the above ground bank and the below ground caverns along with the flying dragon. It

stands almost three feet tall. It has a working train coaster to take you through all the caverns and an exploding bank vault.

My other favorites include the creator sets where one Lego set can be more than one thing. You can take it apart again and again and keep creating.

I love watching videos of what other people can create with just random Lego pieces. It's has been so fun to

watch what Lego has been able to come out with each year."

Thank you Pastor Jenn and Lisa for opening your home and allowing us to be amazed at this incredible Lego collection!



Financial Statement

Christ Lutheran Church Financial Summary As of July 31, 2025

CLC's Current Fund income is \$76,154 through the first 7 months of 2025, \$460 less than in 2024. During the same period, our total Current Fund expense is \$85,803, which was \$5,096 higher than 2024. Combined, this amounts to a \$5,556 profit shortfall compared to 2024.

Please note, a gift of \$20,000 received from St. Matthias was originally included in our Current Fund results. Subsequently, the entire gift was moved to other funds: \$2,000 to Other Benevolence; \$6,000 to a new Outreach / Education Fund; and \$12,000 to the Furnace Fund.

As of July 31, 2025, our Current Fund loss is (\$9,649). Please keep in mind, that although the gift from St. Matthias is excluded from our Current Fund, our income still includes \$3,006 fundraising income and \$13,811 salary income from Mt. Zion. Without these 2 sources of income, our Current Fund loss would be (\$26,466) after only 7 months in 2025.

Our total assets are currently \$97,594, which is \$35,038 greater than a year ago. Our Current Fund Balance is a positive \$12,690, which is \$7,269 greater than July, 2024. Our assets continue to benefit from the same 3 income items noted above, although our new furnace will be installed during August, with an expected cash outlay of nearly \$22,000.

Summary of Income and Expenses

(Excluding St. Matthias gift)

	2025 July YTD	2025 Expense Budget	Over (Under) Budget
Total Current Fund Income	\$ 76,154	\$ 81,998	\$ (5,844)
Total Current Fund Expense	\$ 85,803	\$ 81,998	\$ 3,805
Net Income (Loss) - Current Fund	\$ (9,649)	\$ -	\$ (9,649)

Summary of Assets

	July 31, 2025	July 31, 2024	YOY Change
Checking - Members 1st	3,583	860	
Savings - Members 1st	2,154	2,081	
Money Market - Members 1st	41,229	10,116	
Mission Investment Accounts	50,628	49,499	
Total Assets	97,594	62,556	35,038

WAYS TO GIVE GIVING BACK TO THE LORD



In Person

Sunday Service - 11:00 a.m.



Online

www.clcduncannon.org



Mail

115 Church St., Duncannon, PA 17020

Documentary: A Case for Love

What is unselfish love? This is the question asked in the documentary "A Case for Love."

Pastor Jenn offered this educational opportunity in June. A group of members of the CLC congregation, in addition to folks from the community gathered to view the film and discuss it afterwards.

Our society is more divided than ever. Many see the world from an "us versus them" point of view. The teachings and writings of Bishop Michael Curry, most well-known for his passionate sermon about "The Power of Love" at the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, inspire this documentary. It examines the question of whether or not love, specifically unselfish love, is the solution to the extreme societal and political divide facing the world.

In the documentary, the film team travels the U.S. searching for people living their lives selflessly and interviews them about how that way of living affects others and themselves. Random people on the street are also interviewed to discuss where they've witnessed unselfish love and where they've seen its absence.

The subjects explored were racial justice, military service, foster care, politics, sexual trafficking, disability, loss of loved ones, refugees, sexual identity, volunteering, food justice and more.

If you have an opportunity to see this film, please don't pass it by.

What will your verdict be on "A Case for Love"? Is unselfish love the antidote to what ails us? Decide for yourself!



In Memoriam

Gracious Lord,
in sure and certain hope of the
resurrection to eternal life through our
Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to
God's loving care,
our sisters and brothers,
**Eunice Cotton, Pat Dallago,
Jerry Bell, and Keith Hite.**
Eternal rest grant them, O Lord;
And let light perpetual
shine upon them.

Thank You

Dear Christ Lutheran Church,
On behalf of the
Hikers Ministry team,
we want to extend our
deepest thanks for your
generous donation.
Because of you &
your faithful support,
we will be opening
our doors again on
Saturday, June 21st.
Thank you!!
"God's Work, Our Hands"
Sincerely,
Duncannon Assembly of God
Hiker's Ministry

Congregational Connections

Meet Nancy Carpenter

Nancy moved from Florida to Pennsylvania with her husband and five children in 1990. The reason for the move was her husband's health. For a short time they lived in Perdix before moving to the community of Duncannon. Nancy found employment at Stonebridge Health and Rehab. She worked there for five years and eventually retired in order to spend more time with her family. Sadly, her husband passed away.

Nancy regularly went to the Duncannon Senior Center. It was there she met Donald Carpenter who was a recent widower. As with many relationships, they began as friends. There were many telephone conversations as well as time spent together at the Center. They began dating and were married on the Fourth of July, 2013.

The wedding took place at the Penn Township building which was previously an elementary school. They were married in a classroom where Donald had been a student.

Nancy and Donald began attending CLC and eventually joined our church family. Nancy said when they came to Christ Lutheran, she felt like she was home.

Following their marriage, they did a lot of traveling. They went to Hawaii as well as on many bus trips throughout the United States.

In 2020, as the pandemic was in full force,



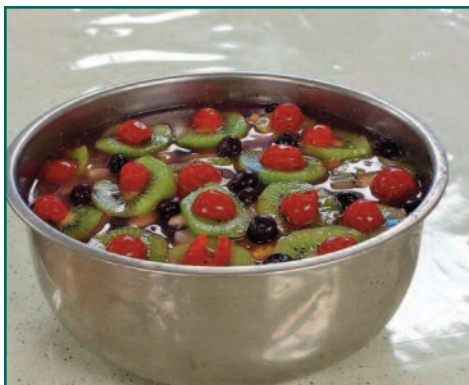
Donald became ill. It was not covid related, however, he had to be hospitalized. Our dear Nancy was not allowed in the hospital to see him and when he passed away, she had not even gotten a chance to say goodbye. What a heartbreak this was/is for her.

Nancy is an active member of our CLC congregation. She is on the Social Ministry Committee, participates in the hiker meal ministry and attends chair yoga. She continues to go to the Duncannon Senior Center as well as spend time with her friends and family.

The Fruit Salad Tradition Continues

by Cindy Brookhart

Every Wednesday during CLC's hiker spaghetti dinner season, Jerry Bell would show up with a large stainless steel bowl of fruit salad. It was made with a wonderful variety



of fresh fruits, from blueberries to kiwis, and was always a hit with our hiker friends.

Jerry's fruit salad was recommended on the Appalachian Trail Hiker Facebook page by previous hikers to those who were still heading towards Duncannon.

This year when I read the first post about the awesome fruit salad at the Lutheran Church in Duncannon, my heart was hurting badly at the recent loss of Jerry. Reading those kind and thankful words lifted my heart and provided some healing. I replied to each person who

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The Things We Do



Celebrating Shirley's 91st birthday; A visit with Darlene; Enjoying Harshbarger's fundraiser day; Teaching VBS kids about hiking the Appalachian Trail; Wednesday hiker meal; Wearing red at the Synod Assembly; Christian Chair Yoga

Fruit Salad Tradition

continued from page 11

posted, thanking them and giving them the news that this trail angel was no longer with us.

Enter Allan and Shirley Imler. This hiker meal season they kept the fruit salad tradition alive! In honor of Jerry, they stepped into his empty shoes and each week made a bowl of delicious fruit salad, complete with blueberries, maraschino cherries, and kiwis, and served in a stainless

steel bowl. I know Jerry is smiling down on us. Thank you Allan and Shirley!

Our hiker friends who come to CLC for a delicious meal are amazing folks. They are so appreciative of the food and just can't say thank you enough times.

A recent comment on the AT Hiker Facebook page was: "Awesome place for dinner. Good people and good food!"

Giving to God

Throughout 2025, we continue to meet monthly – on the fourth Sunday of the month, after worship, to discuss faith and stewardship, utilizing the book *Giving to God: The Bible's Good News about Living a Generous Life*. To be clear – this isn't a discussion simply about our offering that goes into the church plate. It is

GIVING

as an act of worship

BEFORE GOD

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

inviting us into something more, growing our understanding of our faith as **stewards** in all aspects of our life. This is much more complex, but so much more meaningful. How we support our church and faith communities through our financial giving is one aspect of being a steward. The author of our book reminds us that God has given everything to us – all that we have – what-

ever that may be. It may be a lot or a little, but it all comes from God, and it all *belongs* to God. God grants us the ability to use these gifts of every kind, for just a time, in this beautiful life we are granted. We are to use these gifts as God intends, for God's purposes. That is part of our faith journey – searching and seeking for what it is that God intends. What does God ask of us? This is part of our prayer life and our spiritual walk with God. We pray for God's "kingdom to come, here on earth as it is in heaven," just as Jesus taught the disciples. We need to seek those answers. What serves God? What does God wish for me to? It matters to God.

The Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell, offers us a guide for our work. He says, "When we are faithful stewards, (1) we **Acquire** our money/gifts in God-pleasing ways; (2) we **Regard** our money/gifts in God-pleasing ways, (3) we **Manage** our money/gifts in God-pleasing ways, and (4) we **Spend** our money/gifts in God-pleasing ways." We hold in our **ARMS** all that God has entrusted to us for the sake of God's work in the world. Please consider joining us for these conversations!

Stewardship

In the gospels Jesus teaches more about our relationship to money than almost any other thing. The only thing that he speaks about more is the coming of the Kingdom of God. We are to be stewards of the kingdom in search of lives that align with God's kingdom goals. Jesus cares so much about humanity's relationship to money because he teaches, often, that our relationship to money and things (material goods or "mammon") get in the way of our relationship to God. They become a source of idolatry, Jesus preaches that where our treasure is, there our heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21 – from Jesus's famous Sermon on the Mount). Our quest for riches and wealth and things steals our hearts away from God, and Jesus knows this, and he preaches about it because he wishes to heal us from this sin. The author of 1st Timothy writes "The **love of**

money is the root of all evil" (1 Timothy 6:10) which is a powerful accusation but one that seems to flow directly from Jesus's teaching. Greed and selfishness break the new commandment that Jesus gave on the night of his betrayal, that we are to love one another just as he loved us (John 13:34). The ways of our modern world promote the hoarding of money and wealth. This is not the kingdom's way of joy, love, and sharing. Jesus comes to break the bondage of sin and idolatry, capturing our hearts for God alone. Our stewardship work is a gift from God that will shape our lives for the better, when we let God do that work within us.

*giving back
to God*

*"...for everything in heaven and earth is Yours
-1 Co 29:11*

Join Us for the Next Book Club in September

“A mesmerizing new historical novel” (O, The Oprah Magazine) from Lisa See, the bestselling author of *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*, about female friendship and devastating family secrets on a small Korean island.

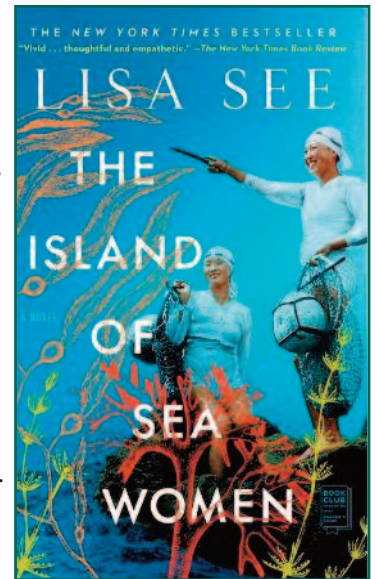
Mi-ja and Young-sook, two girls living on the Korean island of Jeju, are best friends who come from very different backgrounds. When they are old enough, they begin working in the sea with their village’s all-female diving collective, led by Young-sook’s mother. As the girls take up their positions as baby divers, they know they are beginning a life of excitement and responsibility—but also danger.

Despite their love for each other, Mi-ja and Young-sook find it impossible to ignore their differences. *The Island of Sea Women* takes place over many decades, beginning during a period of Japanese colonialism in the 1930s and 1940s, followed by World War II, the Korean War, through the era of cell phones and wet suits for the women divers. Throughout this time, the residents of Jeju find themselves caught between warring empires. Mi-ja is the daughter of a

Japanese collaborator. Young-sook was born into a long line of haenyeo and will inherit her mother’s position leading the divers in their village. Little do the two friends know that forces outside their control will push their friendship to the breaking point.

“This vivid...thoughtful and empathetic” novel (The New York Times Book Review)

illuminates a world turned upside down, one where the women are in charge and the men take care of the children. “A wonderful ode to a truly singular group of women” (Publishers Weekly), *The Island of Sea Women* is a “beautiful story...about the endurance of friendship when it’s pushed to its limits, and you...will love it” (Cosmopolitan).



Begin or Enhance Your Spiritual Journey

As I mentioned in a recent sermon, you are invited into a time of intentional dwelling with God. While originally proposed for the month of August, you may start it now as this is as good a time as any. Jesus teaches the disciples to pray to God - Holy One, loving parent - for daily sustenance, for forgiveness, for help in leading us toward God's will for us and for the world. We seek God in prayer, but prayer is not a one-sided speech, it is a conversation with God. One speaks, one listens, and then the other speaks, the other listens. Many of us have learned to pray by talking to God, but we have often had much less practice at listening for God which requires us to slow down and be quiet. The world and our busy lives rarely encourage us to do this. But I invite you to give it a try! As the summer days are warm and lingering, you are invited to intentionally listen and look for God's presence.

Dedicate five minutes (just five!) to take time to dwell in quiet. Let God know you have come to sit for a time. You have nothing to do but just be. There are no expectations, no demands. Do this for a week.

And then, for the next week, try to increase the time to 10 minutes, then 15 minutes for week three, and 20 minutes for week four. Be patient with yourself, especially if you have not done this before. If you miss a day, there is grace, try again the next. If you struggle with five minutes, try three. Ask Jesus to help you find some quiet and peace. God may simply dwell alongside you, and that is beautiful.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me. May you be blessed in this journey!

In peace,
Pastor Jenn

**INDIAN MOBILE MISSION
P.O. BOX 838, SNOWFLAKE, AZ 85937
928-536-4350**

Maggie and me we sip our tea. She is native I am me. Our eyes talk, we know, we remember each other. We still hear the drums we feel the feather float by "its message, 'you're sisters' Maggie and me we sip our tea. Maggie remembers when cancer visited her, Maggie and me we sip our tea. I miss her.



The owl hoots at night, fear flows, there will be a death, soon a tragedy will follow. Stillness covers the camp even the dogs hide in old junk cars. Hunger will not bring them out. Fear is powerful, fear feed fear.



The trails on the reservation are long and dusty. The people greet us with hugs. A bright flash hits my eyes. An Indian lady sneds a signal with a broken piece of mirror. Three flashes signal we're home, waiting for you.



The letter said, I am from Missouri, I work at a chicken pluckin' plant. I can sew. I want to visit you. She arrived with her sewing machine. Soon, small children were running around in bright colored sack shirts. the girls' shirts were long to the ankles, the boys came to the knees. Handy because in the summertime small boys wore no pants.



We had a party at school for the children. The elderly heard about it and here they came. They never had a party or a school. They were ready for some fun. The older girls showed the grandmothers how to use the hula hoops. The laughter was contagious. Gramma's were laughing at themselves and each other. Long traditional skirts got tangled up in the hula hoops...and fun-fun-fun. The grampa's hid their chuckles behind their coloring books, yup all ages love to color. Art is their passion.



The children were sad, Grampa passed away. He always told us to go to school, learn our letters and numbers. We miss him they repeated. We put a cell phone in the coffin so we can still tell him "Grandpa we love you."



News From the Reservation

On the reservation, we encourage education with lots of reading. We are pleased to see “home Bible studies” popping up. Because of you, many wonderful things are happening. The Joy of Jesus replaces depression.



Years ago, I found a Navajo Indian family with three small children living in a junk car. The children called it home. The back seat was their bed. Wherever I found them I gave them books to read and crayons. I would talk with the parents about life and the good news of the gospel. Fast, fast, forward, the girl is a lovely lady now and the principal of a school. The boys are fine men, one works on the railroad, the other joined the Marines.



You are with us on the trails and in our hearts. You make shopping and everything else possible.

Love beyond measure,

Sylvia and Sylvia



We Wanna Go to School!

CLC in the Community

Christ Lutheran is a big part of the greater Duncannon area community. We do not hesitate to make our presence known, whether by offering services and activities that are open to the public or by participating in community events. Most recently, we offered a Christmas in July service that was open to the public, both in person and online. Additionally, we participated in the Appalachian Trail Festival, Duncannon EMS Bingo, National Night Out and Rock the Block Party.

Appalachian Trail Festival

In June, a group of volunteers hosted a table at the festival held to honor the hikers who pass through Duncannon and to celebrate the community's part in the overall trail. Anyone who wanted could make a birdfeeder craft using pine cones, peanut butter and bird seed. This was especially enjoyed by the children who stopped by our table. Additionally, crocheted items were sold as part of our fundraising efforts. The event was well attended by locals, hikers and out of the area folks.



Sue, Nancy, Clyde, Becky, Terry, Bev, and, Joe host the AT Festival table for CLC.

Christmas in July Service

Held on July 24, this service was well attended. Worship and fellowship included Christmas hymns and remembering that the promised, incarnate One is on the way. There was also time to enjoy some Christmas goodies

after the service. Although it is the heart of summer, only five months remain until Christmas Eve (for those who are counting!).

Duncannon EMS Bingo

Several CLC members tried their hands at Bingo in support of the Duncannon EMS. CLC also donated items as coordinated by the Social Ministry Committee. Proceeds and donations



from the event were used to support local children with back to school supplies.



National Night Out

National Night Out is a country-wide campaign that takes place annually. The intent is to promote police-community partnerships and enhance relationships between neighbors and law enforcement to make neighborhoods safer. The borough of Duncannon provided hotdogs and drinks. CLC grilled them and gave them to passers-by.



Judy prepares the food table at National Night Out.

Rock the Block Party

Duncannon Main Street Committee and Parks and Rec sponsored a night of food, fun and

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 15 - Online Evening Prayer Service -
Mary Mother of Jesus

August 18 - Website Taskforce Meeting

August 19 - Bible Study

August 21 - Social Ministry Meeting - 2:00 at
Sue Masser's Home

August 23 - Farewell to Bishop Dunlop

August 24 - Giving to God Following Worship

August 25 - Community Outreach Committee

Meeting - 7:00 via Zoom

August 26 - Bible Study

August 26 - Harshbarger's Fundraiser

August 27 - Hymn Sing and Peach Fest - 6:30

September 7 - God's Work. Our Hands

September 10 - Book Club

September 20 - Pioneer Day

October 26 - November Newsletter Deadline

December 5 & 6 - Christmas Bazaar &
Cookie Sale

CLC in the Community

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festivities on August 9. The event was held on Market and Cumberland Streets. Local businesses and organizations participated in various ways to make the event fun and free for everyone.



Sue and Lisa prepare a sno cone for a little visitor.

Community members and visitors enjoyed sno cones provided by CLC. In

fact, more than 200 people enjoyed the cool, refreshing treat!

Additionally, we sold crocheted items as part of our fundraising activities. It was a very successful event and CLC was well represented with volunteers staffing the table and preparing sno cones.

As you can see, our church is very active. However, we could not do this without the support of our congregation. We greatly appreciate all of the volunteer time and donations each of you have given so that CLC remains a visible entity within our community. THANK YOU!

Worship Followed by the Annual CLC Picnic

The annual Christ Lutheran Church picnic was held on August 10, immediately following worship.

Eighteen people enjoyed great food and fellowship under sunny, blue skies. The



temperature and humidity was also perfect for the event.

We did not live stream the service, however, you can watch it on facebook or on the clc website: clcduncannon.org.



Prayers for Compassion

