

## **CHIMNEY ROCK LUTHERAN CHURCH -- AUGUST NEWS**

### **Pastor's Message . . .**

Mid-Summer. What an extraordinary time of year. As I write this, we have just passed the middle of summer and as we all know, it is a very busy time. Everyone is so busy mowing lawns, tending gardens and flowers, and on the farms, haying is in full gear. But our necessary busyness is also packed with the busyness of fun: county fairs, state fairs, local festivals, holiday parades, back-yard get-togethers, barbecues, camping, fishing, boating, class reunions, family reunions, family vacations and of course, weddings. And we do all of this in addition to our normal work schedules. Why on earth do we ever think of summer as filled with glorious "lazy days?" Frankly I find it can sometimes feel down-right exhausting! But the Lord does not want that for us. He gave us the Sabbath so that we could have an opportunity to rest from our hectic, busy lives – even when they are fun. He wanted us to pause, to catch our breath and re-center ourselves. In last week's Gospel, Jesus said to the disciples after they had returned from their mission trips, "Come away to a deserted place...and rest a while." (Mark 6:31) That is good advice for us as well. To take an opportunity to shut out all the busyness and noise of this world and listen to what God has to say. The Gospel says that when the crowds followed Jesus and the disciples to this deserted place – to this place of quietness – Jesus taught them "many things". (Mark 6:34) Isn't that how it is with us as well? Only when we pause from all of our busyness and all of our activities and quiet ourselves, only then can we hear our Lord's voice – coaching us, teaching us and guiding us. God wants us to enjoy ourselves, of course, but He also encourages quietness. In Psalms 46:10, we are told, "Be still, and know that I am God." In these crazy busy, fun-filled days of summer, let us remember the words of that beautiful old hymn: "Blessed quietness, holy quietness, What assurance in my soul! On the stormy sea, He speaks peace to me, How the billows cease to roll!" In the midst of your busy summer, make time for quietness – a holy quietness – and experience the peace that only God can give.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Sands

### **Save the Date for "Heart for Luther Park"**

Luther Park's Annual Fundraising Event will be held Sunday, August 4, 2024. The day will begin with worship at 9:30am, followed by a chicken dinner, pie and ice cream at 11am, silent auction 10am-1pm, live auction at 12 noon, and children's activities. More information can be found at [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org), [info@lutherpark.org](mailto:info@lutherpark.org), or by calling 715-859-2215.

### **Worship Assistants Needed**

Please check the green sheet in the narthex and sign up to read, greet, or usher on open dates in June. Also, if you're musically talented, contact Pastor Sands or Monica and volunteer your talents.

### **We Acknowledge the Following Memorials . . .**

- ❖ Dale, Roxie and Terry Erickson memorials to the Cemetery Fund given by Jerry Erickson.

### **Please Inform Pastors of Illness & Hospitalizations**

If you hear that one of our members is hospitalized, please let Pastor Sands or Monica know. Because of HIPAA laws, hospitals no longer contact pastors when someone is admitted. Also, please contact them about illnesses—even when the member isn't hospitalized.

### **Membership**

If anyone is interested in becoming a member, please talk to Pastor David Sands or Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM) Monica Dejno. Their contact information is located on the calendar page and also in the weekly bulletins.

### **The Strum Area Food Pantry Is Here to Serve**

The Strum Area Food Pantry is here to serve our community and provide individuals and families assistance in meeting their nutritional and person care needs. They always need non-perishable food items, personal care products, paper products, and well as monetary donations. Donations may be dropped off at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Strum. If you would like to arrange a specific date and time to drop off donations or would like more information, please call 651-398-8861. For monetary donations, please make checks payable to "Strum Area Food Pantry" and send to PO Box 98, Strum, WI 54770. Thank you for your continued support. The Pantry is open the first Saturday of each month from 9-11am and the third Wednesday from 5-7pm.

### **Strum Is Senior Dining Site**

Trempealeau County ADRC began offering Senior Dining at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Strum in 2022. The meals are catered by Sweet Temptations, are now served both Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am-12:30pm, and the suggested donation is \$5 for those who qualify (60 years and older). Reservations are required by 9am a day prior by calling 715-695-3511. This is not only for senior citizens from Strum—anyone can attend if you meet the age requirement and call ahead.

### **Church Offerings**

Please remember that our church needs your continued financial support. Jason has put a "donate" button on our church website ([www.chimneyrockchurch.org](http://www.chimneyrockchurch.org)) for those who wish to contribute electronically. E-Pay information is also included in this issue. Of course, checks are the preferred method of donation and should be made payable to Chimney Rock Lutheran Church. If you don't attend Sunday worship, your offering can be sent to one of the addresses listed below.

Chimney Rock Lutheran Church  
N43255 Church Rd.  
Strum, WI 54770

Daniel Solfest  
N43178 State Rd. 93  
Strum, WI 54770

### **E-Pay Available at Chimney Rock**

If anyone would like to send their contributions to the church electronically, please contact Treasurer Dan Solfest for the correct information. You will need the church's account name, account number, depository bank's name, and bank's Federal Reserve Bank routing number. You will also need to tell your bank the amount to send and frequency of remittance. Dan can be reached at 715.985.3242 or in church on Sundays. Thank you for your interest in supporting Chimney Rock Lutheran Church.

### **Newsletters**

For those who can't access the monthly newsletters electronically via email, our church website, or Facebook, please pick up a printed copy the last Sunday of each month for the next month's calendar and news. Newsletters will be mailed to those who don't have electronic access or aren't in church to pick up a copy. Any questions, please contact Barb Sylla at 715.985.3496 or [bbsylla8246@gmail.com](mailto:bbsylla8246@gmail.com). Information to be included in the newsletter should be submitted by the 20th of each month.

### **Our Vision Statement**

Be alive and well in ten years with healthy evangelism and vital family fellowship.

### **Our Mission Statement**

We, as a family of God, rooted in the strength and inspiration of God's Holy Spirit, are called forward facing challenges by the promises of God to reach out in love to our rural community, especially cherishing and welcoming children.

### **August Birthdays and Anniversaries**

2<sup>nd</sup>--Randy Olson, M/M Codey Bisek  
4<sup>th</sup>--Lucas Olson  
5<sup>th</sup>--Leeta Lee  
6<sup>th</sup>--Katie Solfest  
7<sup>th</sup>--Soren Hovey  
8<sup>th</sup>--Leslie Coburn  
9<sup>th</sup>--Logan Bautch, Weston Bisek. Eden Ottum  
11<sup>th</sup>--Mandy Olson  
12<sup>th</sup>--Vanessa Loesel  
15<sup>th</sup>--Pastor David Sands  
16<sup>th</sup>--M/M Dennis Dubiel  
19<sup>th</sup>--M/M Chuck Girtman  
22<sup>nd</sup>--Susan Jacobson, M/M Robbie McGee  
28<sup>th</sup>--Randy Pederson, Joaziah Rindal  
29<sup>th</sup>--Kevin Kolve, M/M Monty Loomis  
30<sup>th</sup>--Ione Jacobson  
31<sup>st</sup>--Jocelyn Perry, Rylan Olson

## Council Members

Trustee	Randy Olson	715.985.3309 715.797.2988
Trustee	Richard Gunderson	715.797.3721
Trustee	Don Solfest	715.287.4562 715.797.3014
Deacon	Bev Paulsen	715.287.3323
Deacon	Barb McGee	715.695.3448
Deacon	Jerry Erickson	715.530.2079
Memorial Secretary	Forrest Nutter	715.695.3487 715.533.1720
Treasurer	Dan Solfest	715.985.3242
Secretary	Barb Sylla	715.985.3496 715.530.0338

**No Council Meeting was held in July.**

**The next meeting is scheduled immediately after worship on August 11.**

## Church Attendance

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As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much.

You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together.

The church needs you.  
And you need the church.

-Michael Carl