

# Friendly Messenger

September 2019

Greetings in the name of Christ! I pray you had a blessed summer! I am grateful for each of you and am happy to reflect upon the summer as one with strong attendance, generous giving, and lots of activity. In addition to our ministry here at Sardis, I was able to extend our greater participation in the larger church by attending Churchwide Assembly (CWA) in Milwaukee the first week of August. In my last month's newsletter article, I shared the purposes and goals of CWA. It was the first time I had attended Churchwide Assembly and, true to form, we fulfilled these goals and purposes of conducting church business and the work needed for the continued mission and ministry of the ELCA.

It was a full and wonderful week! I attended with 14 other elected folks from NC as well as our NC Synod staff. The Assembly was grounded in worship before each session and often before each vote. We worshiped, prayed, engaged in Bible study, deliberated, and conducted business in plenary sessions. I learned a lot about the many ministries of the ELCA, appreciated the hard work of those presenting a direction to consider as well as the diverse perspectives and interests represented. I have included a summary of what we accomplished at CWA.

I am happy to be back home and am ready to gear up for an exciting Fall. Looking ahead, we want to reach out to our neighbors in need, the community at large, and of course to support each other. September is a very busy and exciting month. Here are a few events to put on your calendar.

**Homecoming: Sunday, September 8**

**Fred T. Foard Football Team: Friday, September 13**

**Prayer Service: Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 pm**

**Camp Sunday: Sunday, September 29** This is a new event for us! Instead of going to Lutheridge this year, a little bit of Lutheridge is going to come to us! A few staff members will come to share about the camp experience, lead us in song, and share with us in worship. Dress casually and wear your Sardis or Lutheridge shirt if you have one!

**Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays: Sunday, October 6** Thank you to everyone who has looked up their baptismal birthdays! On the first Sunday of each month, we are going to recognize baptismal birthdays at the start of the service. These are special days, days that changed our lives forever—bringing new life in Christ, vocation, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. If you have found your date and would like to give it to the office, we will put it in our parish registry and have it for future reference.

As we are gearing up for a new year of celebrating God's love in our lives through worship, outreach, and mission. Let God's mission in and through Sardis always remain before us:

Sardis Evangelical Lutheran Church serves together as disciples of Christ, teaches the word to invite people into a life of knowing Jesus, encourages each other in faith and personal mission through reaching out to the needs of the community and individuals.

*Blessings*  
*Pastor Adrienne*

# Sardis Lutheran Church

Council Minutes  
July 14, 2019

Dwayne called the meeting to order at 7pm. Bruce had devotions. Minutes for the May Council meeting were read. Motion was made by Ken to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Nelson, and the motion carried. The Treasurer's report was given by Dwayne;

Carolyn motioned to accept the Treasure's Report, Ken seconded and the motion carried.

Pastor Adrienne gave her report;

- Attendance is staying up for the Summer
- Tryston Sylvester is attending Lutheridge this week and Confirmed his Affirmation of Baptism on June 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Gave special thanks to Ken and Bruce for their work on the front yard sign
- The Sub-Evangelism Committee has been working hard on getting the visitors bags and pew information finished.
- In addition to worship planning, pastoral visits and administrative tasks she has been working and starting research for her thesis.
- August 5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Pastor will be in Milwaukee for Churchwide Assembly, leaving after Worship Service on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Rev Malcom Lerch will supply on the 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Will be taking a week of vacation August 25<sup>th</sup> – September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rev Robert Allen of LRU will supply on the September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Taking snacks to Agape Summer Camp this week.
- Made 26 visits, taught and attended VBS, attended Synod Assembly, Trinity Ridge, FTF Seniors meeting, and others. Planning for Youth Sunday, Back to School Event, and Wild Women Day at Sardis.

## Old Business

- ⇒ Some paving needs to be finished at back of church, Ken is getting a price
- ⇒ Front sign on front lawn has been finished
- ⇒ Narthex doors are ready to be stained by Appwood Doors.
  - Council voted on a choice of stain.

## New Business

- ◇ Homecoming to be held on September 8<sup>th</sup> with the confirmands of year ending in 9 leading the service. Picnic will be held in front yard weather permitting.
- ◇ Property Committee to discuss the cleaning up of bushes surrounding the church.
- ◇ Dwayne discussed our council retreat follow up
  - Tim and Rick is forming a committee on how the land at the rear of the church can be used.
- ◇ Graveyard needs to be updated with who has plots reserved. Ken is working on this along with the Cemetery Committee.
- ◇ Tim and Rick switched months for Council contact.

Council went into closed session to further discuss a personal issue.

August Council Meeting will be on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer

Submitted: Jane Moretz for Terry Bledsoe Council Secretary



The **Fred T. Foard Senior Citizens** group meets on the first Wednesday of each month for lunch and a program. The group will meet September 4th at Plateau Methodist Church. Lunch is catered today! All are invited to join us for fun, food, and fellowship.

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### Hymn Choir

September Hymn Choir will sing the first Sunday *"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"* and will resume the second Sunday singing starting in October. We welcome you to join us in the choir room to prepare for worship. Hymn Choir is an open invitation to members of the congregation to be part of the Music Ministry without weekly commitment. Come, join us on the second Sunday of the month.

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### Pastor Shaw/Bethany Lutheran Church

Bethany Lutheran Church is having a Chicken Pie Fund Raiser. To place your order call Max Johnson at 828-345-6694. The pies are homemade and come frozen. There are two different sizes. You will be called back with a date and time to pick up your pies at their parish center.

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### Finance Committee

Upcoming 2020 Budget planning meeting will be scheduled very soon. Any committee budget request for 2020 must be turned into Dwayne Whitener ASAP.

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### Sardis will be celebrating Homecoming on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Special guests from our Confirmation Classes ending in the years 9 have been invited back. Marilyn Teague will be our guest speaker. (Class '59) Make plans to attend and stay for our lunch on the front lawn after Worship Service.

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### Nellie B's Crocheting and Looming

Summer is almost over and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday's of the month the Nellie B's will be meeting at 10 AM for fun, conversation and crafting. Please join us...we can teach you how to crochet and knit.

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### Interested in Joining a New Committee

A future Land Use Planning Committee is forming and looking for members. The first meeting will be held on Monday, September 9th at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in joining this committee please contact Tim Whitener or Rick Johnson. We will be discussing all ideas about how the land behind the rear parking area can be best put to use in the years to come.

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### Youth Sunday School

Volunteers needed; have fun in Youth Sunday School! As we plan for a new Sunday School year wanting to provide a Safe Gathering for our youth, Christian Ed is seeking volunteers to consider donating time (45 minutes, one Sunday a month or as needed) to being an extra adult in one of the three Youth Sunday School Classes. No prep work, no assignment, no leading - just have fun with the kids and support the teacher. See sign up sheet in Narthex.

SUNDAY  
SCHOOL

## WELCA NEWS & EVENTS

On Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, Sardis will host the Fred T Foard Tiger football team for their pregame meal. We are asking for help with Brownies or Cookies for dessert. We also need help with serving and clean-up. If you could help, please be at church by 3 so we know how many volunteers we have and can assign everyone to a duty so things run as smoothly as possible. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex to bring brownies or cookies or to volunteer your time.




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### Thank You

Thank you April, Nena, Sherrie and Meredith for hosting the mini Wild Women at Sardis. "Seasons of the Spirit" on Saturday, August 17th. and to Susan for the card craft. This was a small introduction to what is experienced during the Wild Women three day retreat held each year at Lutheridge. We started the morning by breaking into groups using the four seasons of the year, Winter/Spring/Summer/Fall, using our birthday month to determine which group we were in. We sang songs, had Bible Study, and devotions. We engaged in activities, fellowship, crafts and had brunch catered by Cracker Barrell. If you didn't get to attend but would like more information on the Lutheridge retreat ask April, Nena or Sherrie. Sheila Ramsey

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### VBS 2020

VBS 2020 On the Farm Community VBS will be a time to focus on caring for creation and how to be good stewards to the earth. The goal is to incorporate practical activities like gardening, harvesting, preserving, etc. Next planning meeting Oct 15th at 6 pm




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### Wild Women Weekend at Lutheridge 2020

Sardis ladies are planning to attend March 20-22. Registration is \$229, which includes lodging, meals and activities. Please register online [www.lutheridge.com](http://www.lutheridge.com) or call 828-209-6328.

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**BIRTHDAYS****September**

9/2 Dorothea Wyant  
Amy Jones  
9/3 Faye Hoke  
9/6 Elaine Propst  
Ken Propst  
9/7 John Cushing  
9/8 Tim Whitener  
9/11 Nena Babb  
9/13 Ray Weaver  
9/14 Betsy Ellington  
Dena P Townsend  
9/17 Amanda Revetta  
Lexie Rudisill  
9/22 Jennifer M. Whitener

**Anniversaries:**

**Ray & Margaret Whitener**  
9-11  
**David & Mildred Fulbright**  
9-27  
**Ralph & Wanda Stallings**  
9-28

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS****ACOLYTE / CRUCIFER / COMMUNION ASSISTANT**

**Sept 1st** Samuel Biggerstaff Marilyn Teague Sandra Roseman  
**Sept 8th** Jane Moretz Nena Babb Tim Whitener  
**Sept 15th** Tryston Sylvester Roger Teague Becky Gladden  
**Sept 22nd** Ray Whitener Samuel Biggerstaff Kathy Weaver  
**Sept 29th** Kathy Weaver Bruce Sigman Rick Johnson

**USHERS**

Kenneth Propst, David Fulbright, Joe Biggerstaff, Wayne Jarrett

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

**Sept 1st** Osama & Carrie Yousef  
**Sept 8th** Betty Whitener  
**Sept 15th** Ethan & Heather Carroll  
**Sept 22nd** Darrell Jarrett  
**Sept 29th** Bill & Mae Whitener

**LAY READERS & GREETERS**

**Sept 1st** Sylvia King Al King, Betty Whitener  
**Sept 8th** Al King Sherrie Midgett, Kristin Teague  
**Sept 15th** Jon Gladden Evelyn Fulbright, Nena Babb  
**Sept 22nd** Jane Moretz Felicia Hollar, Barbara E. Whitener  
**Sept 29th** Leevada Wood Sherrie Midgett, Annette Richard

**COMMUNION PREPARATION AND CLEAN-UP**

Jane Moretz Sherrie Midgett

**COUNCIL CONTACT & ASSISTING MINISTER**

Terry Bledsoe Gene Biggerstaff

**SATURDAY MEAL DELIVERY**

**Sept 7th** Carolyn Truitt  
**Sept. 14th** No Meal Delivery  
**Sept 21st** Rita Lutz  
**Sept 28th** No Meal Delivery

**OFFERING COUNTERS**

**Sept 1st** Sherrie Midgett, Dwayne Whitener, Patsy Johnson  
**Sept 8th** Dwayne Whitener, Al and Sylvia King  
**Sept 15th** Sherrie and Mike Midgett, Dwayne Whitener  
**Sept 22nd** Susan Jones, Nena Babb, Sandra Roseman  
**Sept 29th** Susan Jones, Nena Babb, Sandra Roseman

**SECURITY**

**Sept 1st** Ralph Stallings  
**Sept 8th** Darrell Jarrett  
**Sept 15th** Ben Whitener  
**Sept 22nd** Bruce Sigman  
**Sept 29th** Nelson Speagle

## September 2019 Sardis Lutheran Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service & Holy Communion Hymn Sunday 6:00 WELCA	2 LABOR DAY Office Closed	3	4 12:00 FTF Seniors Plateau 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7
8 <b>HOMECOMING</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service & Holy Communion 12:00 Lunch on the lawn 2-4 Confirmation, Mt. Olive, Hickory 7:00 Church Council	9 6:30 PM Land Use Planning Committee meets	10	11 10:00 Nellie B's 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	12	13 3:00 Feed FTF Football Team	14
15 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service & Holy Communion Fulbright Reunion	16	17 SARDIS SISTERS...Kick Back Jacks. Time TBD	18 6:00 Handbells 6:30 Prayer Service 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	19	20	21
22 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service & Holy Communion 11:45 Prayer Group 3:00 Trinity Ridge	23 Sardis ECCCM	24	25 DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NL 10:00 Nellie B's 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 <b>CAMP SUNDAY</b> 9:30 Lutheridge Staff 10:30 Lutheridge Temple Talk & Holy Communion 6:00 LMM	30			MARK YOUR CALENDARS OCTOBER 5TH GOLDEN AGE BANQUET		

**\*\*NOTE\*\***

*If you have a birthday or anniversary and they are not listed please let the office know. Also, check your Family Bible and advise your baptismal date. Thank you.*

## 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly summary of actions

8/14/2019 2:10:00 PM

CHICAGO — Gathering under the theme "We are church," voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) made a number of key decisions to further the mission and ministry of this church. The

assembly, the chief legislative authority of the church, met Aug. 5-10 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee.

More than 900 voting members:

- Reelected on the first ballot the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop.
- Elected Deacon Sue Rothmeyer to a six-year term as ELCA secretary. Rothmeyer, currently serving as executive for administration with the Office of the Secretary, was installed during the assembly's closing worship on Aug. 10 and will begin her term Nov. 1.
- Approved the social statement "*Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action*" and its implementing resolutions. The social statement, in part, names patriarchy and sexism as sins and calls the church to action on a range of issues, including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.
- Adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which will serve as church policy for inter-religious relations. The policy statement was adopted with the witness of 39 ecumenical and inter-religious guests in attendance.
- Approved the triennium budget for 2020-2022, which includes a current fund spending authorization of \$68,378,325 for 2020, a current fund income proposal of \$68,442,034 for 2021 and \$68,507,018 for 2022; and an ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$21.5 million 2020, and an income proposal of \$21.5 million for 2021 and for 2022.
- Adopted the "Strategy Toward Authentic Diversity in the ELCA," which consists of a report and recommendations on how the ELCA exhibits authentic diversity and formulates goals for racial diversity and inclusion.
- Witnessed the presentation of the "Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent," which was accepted by the Rev. Lamont A. Wells, president of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ADLA), and members of ADLA.
- Adopted 26 memorials en bloc, ranging in topics from gun violence to engagement in the Holy Land and gender identity to seminary tuition.
- Adopted a memorial that affirms the ELCA's long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declares the ELCA a sanctuary church body.
- Adopted a memorial that calls for the development of a social statement and social message on the relationship of church and state.

## 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly summary of actions cont.

- Adopted a memorial to encourage all synods and congregations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ELCA's ordination of women in 2020, the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women of color in the Lutheran tradition and the 10th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to remove barriers to ordination for people in same-gender relationships.
- Adopted a memorial to support the vision and goals of the Poor People's Campaign that align with the ELCA's social teachings.
- Adopted a series of amendments to the "Constitutions, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America," including one that makes ordination the entrance rite for ministers of Word and Service, and an amendment to no longer count deacons as laypeople for representational principles.
- Adopted a resolution that committed the ELCA to support the World Council of Church's "Thursdays in Black" campaign toward a world without rape and violence.
- Adopted a resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance in the ELCA for the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9—the nine people who were shot and killed June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.
- Adopted a resolution to condemn white supremacy, calling all ELCA congregations to engage in a "study of the structures and rhetoric that empower and fuel racism and white supremacy and to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in the eyes of God."
- Celebrated the end of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, which concluded June 30 with nearly \$250 million raised in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gift commitments. At the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, voting members approved the \$198 million campaign to help sustain and grow ministries of the church.
- Elected members to serve on the ELCA Church Council, churchwide committees and churchwide boards, including Portico Benefit Services, the Mission Investment Fund and 1517 Media.