

July 2019

*A Caring Community Empowered
by God to be Disciples of Christ*

Cooksville
Lutheran
Church



It is
for
FREEDOM
that
CHRIST
has set
us
FREE.

Galatians 5:1

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The Fruit of the Spirit is ...

Pastor Karla

This Sunday's second lesson comes from Galatians, chapter 5. My favorite verse is 22-23, "***The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.***"

When I first read this in High School, after Jesus got a hold of my heart, I said to myself, "Yes, that's exactly how I feel!" I had a joy, peace, and love that I knew came from Jesus. The Spirit filled me and I discovered that I **wanted** to be kind, patient, and gentle toward others.

But life has a way of weighting us down with worries, troubles, and fears. It is easy to lose the joy that comes from God. Nehemiah 8:10 says, "the joy of the Lord is your strength." When I take the time to pray and sing out loud, it really does strengthen my soul. And I again sense the joy that comes from God.

I almost always experience joy, peace, and love on Sunday during worship. Opening up myself to God's love and joy, singing out loud, praying with my sisters and brothers in Christ, these things do bring me a joy I do not experience elsewhere.

When God's Spirit is alive and growing inside us, the fruit (the result) is "love, joy, peace." If we are being filled

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Worship Matters

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. -Psalm 100:2

July 7	4th Sun. after Pentecost	<i>Luke 10 : 1-11, 16-20</i>	10:00 a.m.
July 14	5th Sun. after Pentecost	<i>Mark 4 : 30-32</i>	10:00 a.m.
July 21	6th Sun. after Pentecost	<i>Luke 10 : 38-42</i>	10:00 a.m.
July 28	7th Sun. after Pentecost	<i>Luke 11 : 1-13</i>	10:00 a.m.

Pastor Karla will be on vacation starting July 5th, and returning on July 19th.



For the weeks of July 14 through August 25th we will be doing the **"Bread of Life"** Liturgy from With One Voice (the blue book).



In September we will revisit the **"Service of Creation"**!



And hold on to your hats for our ****new**** **Homestead Services** as they blow into town this Fall!! You're going to love them!

On Sunday, July 7th, Cooksville Lutheran will be holding a lay-led worship service at 10:00 am, followed by Fellowship Time. The worship will begin with the Sunday readings and hymns. The second part of the service will be patriotic songs and readings.



Come for a refreshing and uplifting summer morning!



Words in Action

Then His disciples asked Him what this parable meant. Luke 8 : 9

I sometimes STOP listening to my favorite radio station, Life 102.5, and instead I *force* myself to punch a different button in the car, to turn the knob on the kitchen radio a few clicks either up or down. Why do I do it if I like “my” station so much? Oh, believe me, I do not want to do it! God asks me to.

I do not change the station because I think I will find something more enjoyable or more wonderful, I know better than that. On the station I listen to, there is delightful Christian music, uplifting faith stories, information about upcoming family-friendly events, and hardly any of those annoying commercials! I think the station manager there must be so enlightened as to not even have a need for Earthly weather information, because I’ve noticed they hardly ever waste time on that!

The reason I hold my breath and turn that dial sometimes is to make sure I do not forget what the rest of the world is up to, although I often wish I could. It seems awful out there.

There are so many things going on that I do not want to hear about! Disasters, shootings, politics, celebrity gossip—all of that stuff that can get you down, shock your morals, make you angry, or pop your eyebrows to a whole new elevation on your forehead! Pain, money, ego, sin. Braced recently for whatever I might be assaulted with as I flipped the channel, I squeezed my eyes shut and steeled myself—but instead my eyes flew wide open and I found myself actually chuckling instead!

A country station was inviting morning listeners to call in and tell yuk-yuk jokes — the kind of goofy, corny, kid-friendly stuff you can’t believe hasn’t gone extinct in our modern age, but there it was. I’m not normally good at remembering jokes when I hear them, but this one stuck like a barn-fly to a pest strip:

How do we know Jesus was a farmer?

Because he had a pair o’ bulls!

I know, it’s NOT very funny at all, but it made you smile didn’t it? See page 4 for more kid-friendly material as we explore some of the parables that Jesus taught. And enjoy your summer!!!

~Kelsey Wollin Dunn

Talents

Sheillah Sheldone Charles, an articulate 9-year-old Kenyan featured in a BBC News Africa video, attributes her artistic gifts to God. It's comical to hear her say, "I also teach children," but her rationale is profound: "If you have a talent, don't just say: 'It's mine alone. I should not teach others.' So you should also share your talent out there."



Jesus' parable of the talents in **Matthew 25:14-30** teaches us to share our God-given abilities for purposes larger than our own. Sheillah is a fine example: Besides teaching children, she often draws women to highlight their suffering and their importance.



Wheat

Many of Jesus' parables liken the kingdom of heaven to wheat growing abundantly in a field, as opposed to weeds planted by the evil one. When God "sows" the gospel broadly, some soil produces great crops of wheat (believers, people who become part of God's family); elsewhere, wheat (belief) flourishes briefly or not at all. Wheat also symbolizes the bread of Holy Communion and Christ, the bread of life. **See Matthew chapter 13 for an abundance of teaching.**

Seeds

The Bible often uses seeds as symbols of faith or God's Word. In the Old Testament, seeds also refer to offspring. Jesus said people who believe in him can perform mighty deeds with "faith the size of a mustard seed" (**Luke 17:6**).



Many of Jesus' teachings use seed imagery; for example, in the parable of the four soils, he said the seed, God's Word, can grow only when people hear it, "hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance" (**Luke 8:15**).

The Lamp

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven (**Matthew 5:14-16**).



The Speck and The Log

Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?

You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye (**Matthew 7:1-5**).

New Cloth on Old Garment

No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse.

Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved (**Matthew 9:16-17**).



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Children & Families



Summer School is adjourned for the summer, and we thank all who helped with our “Camp 4-5” sessions in June that we held after worship. See below for opportunities and ideas to keep the children in your lives and neighborhoods engaged for the rest of the summer!

Take some time to read favorite bible stories and discuss them!

The church has several children’s bibles that you may borrow for those special summer vacations with your little ones, or visits from them this summer! Please ask in the office! See pages 4-5 for some parables to discuss also.

When the heat and the overactivity of the summer rush gets to be too much, keep sketch books and crayons handy and spend some quiet indoor time together to draw pictures of your favorite characters from the bible such as John, Jesus, Ruth, or Rachel. Many kids also enjoy animals—ask them to draw the camels the magi rode, Daniel’s lions, or any animals that might have been around the manger on the night Jesus was born in Bethlehem. His story doesn’t have to wait until December to be enjoyed! You might even have a “Christmas in July” and keep his light shining bright! Blessings on your summer!



Lily Sarah-Grace Paulson-Cardona
Baptized June 30, 2019

Born: June 8, 2019
Daughter of:
Jimmy Leroy Paulson and Chris Cardona-Correa



Mutual Ministry

"A Caring Community Empowered
by God to be Disciples of Christ"

As a result of the Council Meeting on June 17th, several new groups will be forming — with the support and enthusiasm of those interested in being a part of them! We thank you in advance for considering joining the following ministries:

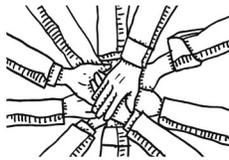
"STEWARDSHIP TEAM"



Task: Find the answer to "Why should I attend this church?"

Goal: Explore ways to share it to increase membership and welcome the people who would cherish the talents and charm of CLC.

"SHARING THE WORK TEAM"



Task: Implement a Time and Talent Survey of the congregation.

Goal: Discover how to use it to invite people to try new things for a wider base of workers.

"HEALTHY ENCOUNTERS TEAM"

Task: Assess the climate / environment of meetings and groups. Do people leave feeling spiritually stronger, or drained of their energy?

Goal: Work with the worship team to assess what things we do that offer the most spiritual help to people, and share this with the staff for planning.

****Talk with a member of Council or Pastor Karla today!****

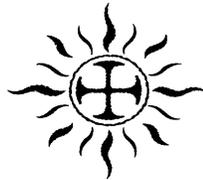
The Pledge of Allegiance of the United

States is an expression of allegiance to the flag of the United States, and the republic of the United States of America. It was originally composed by Captain George Thatcher Balch, a Union Army Officer during the Civil War (1861-1865).



The form of the pledge used today was largely devised by Francis Bellamy in 1892, was formally adopted by Congress as the pledge in 1942, and the official name was given in 1945. **But it wasn't until after almost 100 years, on Flag Day in 1954, when the words "under God" were added:**

I pledge allegiance to the Flag
of the United States of America,
and to the Republic for which it stands,
one Nation under God, indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.



July Birthdays

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. -1 John 3:1

2	Connie Gregerson		
5	Jennifer Williamson	19	Rebekah Winger
		22	David Harrington
6	Lisa White		Georgia Erickson
	John Haines	24	Rhea Wethal
	Lillian Hatlen	26	Carol Harried
9	Nathan Axford	27	Delbert
10	Dorothy Froemming	29	Schneeberger
			Jenna Wethal
14	Mary Farberg	30	David Viney
18	Curtis Brandt		
	Alex Wileman		



Together in Prayer

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. - Acts 2:42

Please remember the following members and friends in prayer:

Joyce Leopold, Rhea Wethal, Jenn Williamson, Marilyn Kueng, Evelyn Beyer, Bishop Vivianne, Regina Kucharik, Jean Lademan, Ramona Whittier, Harlow Phillips, John Garvan, Henry B.

CLC Special Friends: Ruth Erickson, Anna Hanson, Dorothy Froemming, Virginia Sime, David Nelson.

Military: Andrew Newcomb, Ben Berge.



Heavenly Father,

There is no greater feeling of liberty than to experience the freedom from sin and death that you provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. On this Independence Day, I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ.

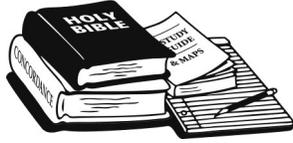


Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that a very high price was paid for my freedom. My freedom cost others their very lives.

Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their needs and watch over their families. Amen.

(Like this prayer? Find more at <https://www.learnreligions.com>)

Be Nourished



Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things -Philippians 4: 8

The Bible teaches that we should meditate on the words of God, but it also gives us the message above, from Philippians, chapter four. Said another way, it conveys that books, music, movies and television programming can all encourage holy living, be helpful in our walk with Christ, deepen our understanding of Scripture, and increase our empathy for our fellow man. In the Fellowship Room, we have a small bookshelf library. All are welcome to borrow any materials. If you have a book, or a "Book Review" you'd like to share, please submit it to the office with information about the title, author, content and message and we will share it on the shelf and in a future newsletter!

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The Divided Kingdom



But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons."

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

"Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house. "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters (**Matthew 12:24-30**).

Find more at <https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/parables-of-jesus/>.



Generous Hearts

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. -1 Peter 4:10

The CONNECT team

is sponsoring the second annual

SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

July 21 through August 4

During these two weeks, a tub will be available on the church front steps for drop offs of donations during the week. We were able to make extra food donations to our three food pantries in August last year and hope to do that again! As always, thanks for your response to this need year round, but be aware that the needs increase in summer when other food sources (like school lunches) are not available.



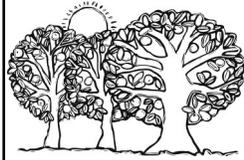
Gathering met in July and started planning ahead for Fall activities. We want to make lefse available for sale within the congregation and for fundraising. So, **we have set aside two Saturday dates in August for making lefse. Put August 17 and August 24 on your calendars.** We need lots of help to make the work go quickly and get lots of lefse in the freezer. Thank you!

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with the Spirit, then our heart overflows with patience, kindness, generosity, gentleness.

When life wears you down, it can be difficult to experience joy. I encourage you to pray and sing and open your heart to God's Spirit. Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit. And He will.

May God's love, joy, and peace be with you always,
Pastor Karla



Opportunities

Around the Community

It's FAIR TIME!

The **Stoughton Junior Fair** runs Wednesday July 3 through Sunday July 7th. If you have kids or grandkids participating, consider attending the Fair and enjoying the **indoor worship service at the Mandt Center at 9:00 am**. Stick around afterwards to meet some of the local 4-H kids and admire their projects! Children need and deserve our encouragement and respect for their hard work and dedication.

The **Dane County Fair** opens July 17th and runs through the 21st. A non-denominational church service will be held **Sunday at 9:00 a.m.** **The service will be led by Calvary Baptist Church of Sun Prairie.** The service is hosted by Charlie's Concessions and will be held in their tent, closest to the Exhibition Hall. All are welcome — please help spread the word if you have friends or families with 4-H kids in Madison for the Fair so that they can enjoy a service right on the fairgrounds!



The **Green County Fair** in Monroe also runs July 17-21st, while the **Rock County 4-H Fair** in Janesville is being held July 23—July 28 this year. Neither website lists any worship services being held on their fairgrounds, but if anyone has information, please share it and we can get it in the bulletins or out to the families of our FFA and 4-H youth. Thank you!

Let's Keep in Touch!

Church office: 608-882-4408;
11927 W. Church St., Evansville, WI 53536
Pastor Karla Brekke: 608-751-0345
cooksvillemusic@litewire.net
Office: cooksvillemusic@litewire.net
Kelsey Dunn, Secretary
Worship Coordinator & Choir Director,
Jeanne Julseth: 608-882-0505

Staff meetings are Saturdays at 11:00 am.

Pastor Karla is usually in the office on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Please call and make an appointment if you would like to visit with her. 608-751-0345.

She returns from vacation July 19th.



The Choral Choir is adjourned for the Summer but will resume this fall. If you are interested in joining, or have any questions, please see Jeanne Julseth and watch for us to announce the upcoming annual Choir Party!!



On the first Sunday of the month, a free blood pressure screening will be offered following worship in the Narthex. This service is offered free of charge for all who are interested. **Please invite others who may benefit from these free screenings!**

Local Food Pantry Needs:

Anyone may drop off items in the basket in our Narthex year-round.

Thank you so much!

Please see the information on page 11 regarding the 2nd annual Summer Food Drive sponsored by the CONNECT team — please help spread the word about this important ministry for our neighbors in need! Thanks!

Food & Fellowship

We always have such a good time visiting and encouraging one another following worship. Please stay a while to snack and enjoy good conversation. There is a **Food and Fellowship Sign-up Sheet** if you would like to host or sponsor refreshments on one of the upcoming Sundays.



July Worship Leaders

Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

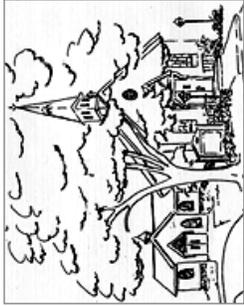
-Psalm 100:2

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Presiding Minister	(none)	Jack Finney	Karla Brekke	Karla Brekke
Assisting Minister	Erik Haakenson	Curtis Brandt	Kevin Brekke	Ilene Axford
Lector	(several readers - tba)	(none)	Jennifer Nelson	Jennifer Ehle
Cantor	(none)	Betty Hamilton	Betty Hamilton	Betty Hamilton
Organist	Naomi Shep	Jeanne Julseth	Jeanne Julseth	Paul Haakenson
Ushers	Rosa Hanson			
Altar Guild	Sue Parsons & Cheryl Haakenson			
Coffee Hour Host	(Please sign up in the Fellowship Room)			



Cooksville Lutheran Calendar for July 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
	1 9 am Quilting	2	3	4	5	6 OPEN HOUSE
7 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	8 9 am Quilting	9 9 am Maintenance Group	10 10 am Prayer Time	11	12	13
14 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	15 9 am Quilting 7 pm Council Meeting	16 9 am Maintenance Group	17 10 am Prayer Time	18	19	20
21 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	22 9 am Quilting	23 9 am Maintenance Group	24 10 am Prayer Time 11 am Gathering	25	26	27
28 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	29 9 am Quilting	30	31	PASTOR KARLA IS ON VACATION JULY 5TH THROUGH JULY 18TH. We will have a lay-led service on July 7th, and Pastor Finney will be preaching on July 14th.		



Cooksville Lutheran Church

11927 W. Church Street
Evansville, WI 53536

Address Correction Requested