

September 2019

A Caring Community Empowered by God to be Disciples of Christ



Dear Friends in Christ,

At the end of this month Kelsey is completing her ministry among us as our church secretary. She has been a blessing to us in so many ways over the past three years. She has excellent secretarial and administrative skills, which we saw displayed in our bulletins, newsletter, and in the way she served the various groups and ministries of our congregation.

We also were blessed by her commitment to our community and

mission as shown by her becoming a member of Cooksville Lutheran Church again, after having grown up here as a baptized and confirmed member.

Inside this issue

Autumn Fest	10
Bible Study	7
Birthdays	9
Calendar	15
Choir	9
Committee Updates	4
Community	13
Prayer Concerns	8
Quilting	11
Reflections	3
Sunday School	7
Synod News	12
Worship Leaders	14
Worship Matters	2

Please read her letter on pages 5-6. Note especially how she describes the Lord's leading her to new ventures, using imagery from the Palm Sunday story.

May we, too, *"be always turned in the direction of God's will"* — willing to transverse the land we know toward the new places Jesus leads us.

God's peace is with you. —Pastor Karla

AUTUMN FEST

Sunday
October 13
*See page 9
for more info!*





Worship Matters

O magnify the Lord with me,

and let us exalt his name together. Psalm 34:3

Sept. 1

Pentecost 12

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Sept. 8

Pentecost 13

Luke 14: 25-33

Sept. 15

Pentecost 14

HOMESTEAD SERVICE

Luke 15: 1-10

Sept. 22

Pentecost 15

Luke 16: 1-13

Sept. 29

Pentecost 16

Michael and All Angels

HEALING SERVICE

Luke 10: 17-20

Holy Communion

Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

*May the body
and blood of our Lord
Jesus Christ strengthen us in
faith and bring us to eternal
life.*



We commune by tables the
first Sunday of each month.

Upcoming
Worship Festivals

Oct. 27th
Reformation
Sunday 

 Nov. 3th
All Saints'
Sunday

Nov. 24th
Christ the King
Sunday 



Reflections

Just as water reflects the face, so one human heart reflects another. Proverbs 27:19

Labors of Love

Thomas Merton, an American monk, writer and social activist, said, "It is in the ordinary duties and labors of life that the Christian can and should develop his spiritual union with God." As the United States observes Labor Day, may we find meaning not simply in marking summer's end but in celebrating the ways nearly all "duties and labors of life" can empower ministry and faith.



Whether as a dentist, parent, artist, teacher, mechanic, gardener, city councilor, farmer, day laborer, attorney or anything else, a Christian can begin each workday or shift by praying for opportunities to serve whoever they'll encounter. We also can pray for and seek ways to grow in "spiritual union with God": cultivating spiritual fruits; actively loving God and neighbor; seeing Jesus in the vulnerable; practicing humility, gratitude and praise.

In Labor Day, may we find inspiration to make all our labors loving and faithful!

Every occupation has its own honor before God. Ordinary work is a divine vocation or calling. In our daily work no matter how important or mundane we serve God by serving the neighbor and we also participate in God's on-going providence for the human race. —Martin Luther

From the Pews...

woman one Sunday. Her friend suggested that she simply move and sit beside him, but the woman refused.

"But I was here FIRST!"

"Well, if you are not willing to move, it seems that what is really being blocked is your love for your neighbor by your stubbornness to not welcome his presence."

"I wish that tall man didn't always come in late and sit directly in front of me—he blocks my view!" complained a small





CONNECT

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Mk 12:30

The Worship Committee reconvened on August 26th.

Two members of council joined as liaisons. There was a thorough overview of past and current practices of worship planning.

The committee will now move forward as a group that will support the staff in planning and carrying out Sunday and special worship services throughout the year. The co-chairs of this committee are Nancy Krake and Jennifer Nelson. The committee members look forward to working together and interacting with the congregation in this spiritual mission.

Our next meeting will be September 23rd at 6:30 PM.

Jennifer Nelson, Co-Chair
Nancy Krake, Co-Chair
Pastor Karla
Paul Haakenson
Ilene Axford
Lynn Bednarek
Mary Remley

CONNECT met on August 21, with hopes to plan all their Fall activities. Summer food drive was just completed, with over 200# of groceries collected and donated to our three food pantries. Thanks for your response to this continued need in our communities.

New fall activities will include support and enthusiasm for Autumn Fest. Look for all of the team to be part of the baking, food serving, games, contests, prizes and music offered on Sunday, October 13.

The team is also working on something called narrative budget, which is designed to help explain budget items as "the life and practices" of our congregation and help us understand and take pride in the many things that we do.

At our November meeting, we hope to develop plans for an Epiphany event. Look for this celebration of the gift of Jesus to the whole world.

CONNECT did not have the opportunity to profile a congregation member this month, but look for more of



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

those interviews in future months. Instead please read below a message from member Kelsey Wollin Dunn, our outgoing secretary of over three years. Our next meeting will be November 14 @ 6:00 pm.

The Lord has Need of Me...

by Kelsey Wollin Dunn

On February 28, 1982 I was baptized at Cooksville Lutheran Church. This is unremarkable in that I am merely one of nearly 1,000 souls who have begun their walk with Christ here in this historic congregation. What was unusual was that I was at the time not a baby, but rather a *12-year-old child* who had been attending Sunday School for many years.



Our mother probably would have preferred to have both me and my sister baptized immediately as infants, but our father was apparently of the thinking that children ought to wait, and *choose* their faith.

My sister went first, stepping right up to Arthur Olsen when she had made up her mind in about the 5th or 6th grade and asking him quite directly how to go about this business of being baptized. I know for certain that he remembers the day clearly. That I tagged along later (and with some hesitancy) is not a surprise— it was my nature to be fearful of the unknown, and perhaps reluctant for a new responsibility! But guess who my sponsor was? That's right. It was Art.

I was confirmed right on schedule with the other kids of that age, back when Cooksville and Brooklyn were yoked. Had Ethan Dilocker and I known what the future held in store for us quite imminently, we probably would have better appreciated our fathers when they took turns driving us on those Wednesday nights. As we car-pooled, staring blankly out the windows and wishing we didn't have to go to class, we had no idea that within the next year his father would die, and that mine would go away due to divorce.

To my shame, I doubt that the church saw me more than a few dozen times over the next 30 years.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

It was my mother who told me about the church's call for a secretary a few years ago, practically insisting that I apply for it. I was hesitant and reluctant once more, but on February 24, 2016 I became your secretary.

When I showed up for work, I found myself seated around the staff's meeting table with Pastor Karla, Nancy Krake, and Jeanne Julseth—all complete and total strangers to me, as much as I had been a stranger to the church. I was pretty sure I'd made a mistake, but thanks be to God that Donna Haakenson was there at the table too. She had been a strong, dedicated, and faithful presence ever since I first came to Cooksville Lutheran in the 1970s and it was enough — that thin but resilient thread from the past that tethered my conviction that I *could* learn to do this job, *and* gain the knowledge to be of help to the church... and maybe even *belong* again, some day.

You welcomed me back as a member of your congregation on Father's Day 2018, a day I will always remember with humble gratitude and immense joy at being back in the arms of our heavenly Father. I want you to know that I am not leaving the congregation, but it is time for me to resign my position as secretary because I believe that not only is my work here done, more importantly God's work has been done—He got me back!

As the council prepared to accept my resignation, Rhonda Wethal asked, "But what will we *tell* people? How can we explain?" It isn't easy—it's not just a simple formula of time and dollars and miles to drive, it is SO much more. I thought for a moment, and this is what came:

*"Go into the village ahead of you and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; **untie it and bring it.** If anyone says to you 'Why are you doing this?' **just say this, "The Lord has need of it."** Mark 11: 2-4*

Thank you all—Pastor Karla, and the staff, and the entire congregation of Cooksville Lutheran for gathering me in as you did, and for graciously untying me to go now, trusting in the Lord's love and guidance that we be always turned in the direction of His will, and to be disciples of Christ in all the places that Jesus himself intended to go. God Bless you all! —Kelsey



Adult and Children's Classes

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Proverbs 3: 1-2

Classes resume September 15th!!

Sunday School for elementary-aged children is based on the readings for worship. Students leave worship before the sermon time to attend class, returning in time for Communion with their families.

Thank you to Curtis Brandt (*Sunday School Coordinator*), Rhonda Wethal, Sue Parsons, Connie Gregerson, and Jennifer Nelson for helping herd our little lambs! New volunteers are welcome any time as we say goodbye to Linda Sime who is 'retiring'. Thank you, Linda!

September Lessons

Sun. Sept. 15
"Lost Sheep & Coin"

Luke 15:1-10
Curtis Brandt

Sun. Sept. 22
"Two Masters"

Luke 16:1-13
Connie Gregerson

Sun. Sept. 29
"The Story of a Rich Man"

Luke 16:1-13
Jennifer Nelson

Adult
Sunday School
Class



ADULT STUDY
September 29TH 8:45 a.m.
with Betty Hamilton

CURIOUS about Christianity in other countries?

Join the Sunday Adult Class at 8:45 am, beginning Sunday, September 29th.

Sept. 29: Revival and Repression in Korea

Oct. 6: Chinese Christianity — Missionaries to Mao

Oct. 13: (*no adult class this Sunday*)

Oct. 20: Prophetic Religion in Modern Africa

Oct. 27: Liberation Theologies in Latin America

Nov. 3: The Mormons; a true American faith



Time for Prayer

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. John 15:7

Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Coming together for prayer on Wednesday mornings is an opportunity to do what the Jesus commands — to pray in God's house. Praying together also honors the people who have entrusted us with their requests. They trust that we will lift up their loved one in dedicated prayer.

If you have a prayer request and would like us to pray for it, please fill out a card at the Sunday service or call Kevin Brekke (608-669-1218).

Everyone is welcome to join in prayer on Wednesdays.

Please consider the following members and friends in prayer:

Jenn Williamson, Marilyn Kueng, Evelyn Beyer, Sid Anderson Jr., Bill Riley, Jean Lademan, Ramona Whittier, Harlow Phillips, Vicky Hubbell, John Garvan, Henry B.

CLC Special Friends: Joyce Leopold, Ruth Erickson, Dorothy Froemming, Anna Hanson, Virginia Sime.

Military: Andrew Newcomb, Ben Berge





September Birthdays

For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. - Ephesians 2:10

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Robbie Hanson | 6 Nicole Bates | 14 Rachael Whittier |
| 2 Paige Winger | 7 Pat Foltz | 15 Phil Hamilton |
| Rylee Wessels | 10 Nadine Kerl | 19 Burt Wheeler |
| 3 Ross Harried | Sherri Haakenson | 26 Dylan Brandt |
| 4 Herb Hanson | Anne Brunsell | |
| 6 Alec Lund-Olson | 11 Randall Sime | |
| Trudy Cloud | 12 Katie Haakenson | |



Help us continue the rich tradition of music here at Cooksville Lutheran!

We welcome you to **join Choir** as weekly practices resume on



September 11th!

LOOK
What's
New!

**WE ARE MEETING AT A NEW TIME!!
Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:45 pm!**

WILL IT WORK FOR YOU THIS YEAR?

See Jeanne Julseth with any questions or call her at 608-490-1175!



Labor Day, Sept. 2th

Grandparents Day, Sept. 8th

Patriot Day, Sept. 11th

First day of Autumn, Sept. 23rd

CLC Outreach Festival

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2



CLC AUTUMN FEST—OCT. 13th

Join us at Cooksville Lutheran Church for a community meal, live music, a bake sale, children's activities, and more!

Worship and communion is at 10:00 a.m. with Pastor Karla Brekke presiding. After church services, the plan is for patrons to enjoy a beautiful fall day outdoors under a tent. The remaining activities will begin at 11:30 a.m.: a BBQ pork loin cook-off, live music, a bake sale featuring lefse and Norwegian treats, an Old Fashioned Pie judging contest and auction, a silent auction featuring primarily themed baskets, a 50/50 raffle, a pumpkin decorating contest, and children's activities.

There will be a BBQ cook off on the pork loin. Contestants will need to contact Rhonda Wethal by October 6th if they want to participate in the BBQ cook-off, by email rhondamwethal@hotmail.com or phone 608-320-7184. Participants should bring their own tent and grill with their favorite recipe. Judging will take place at 11:30 a.m., with cash prizes offered.

Pie judging will be at 1:30 p.m., followed immediately by an auction of the judged pies. Tickets for the 50/50 raffle will be sold all afternoon. The drawing time for the 50-50 raffle will be at 3:00 p.m., for which winners will need be present to win.

The children's games will be a Jack O' Lantern bean bag toss, pumpkins in a row, pumpkin bowling, and pumpkin decorating.

The community meal will commence at noon, offering an adult and children's meal. The main meal will be a barbecue pork loin dinner or sloppy joe sandwich, served with cheesy potatoes, baked beans, homemade pie, and a drink. The children's meal will consist of a hot dog, chips, a bar or cookie, and a drink. Both meals will be served until gone.

***Please come out and join in the fun
and spread the word!***



Generous Hearts

Show me your faith apart from your works,
and I by my works will show you my faith. James 2:18

**Lutheran World Relief Boxcar Loading and
Congregational In-Gatherings Are Coming!**

The Lutheran World Relief In-gathering in our
synod is scheduled on Saturday, September 14.



QUILTING GROUP

**Join us in worship on September 8th as we bless the quilts being
donated this year by the Cooksville Ministry, led by Betty Hamilton.**

Thank you to all workers who gather on Mondays at 9:00 am and for
those who donate materials or contribute by taking materials home to
work on!

***"I'm tired of helping others enjoy God.
I just want to enjoy God for myself."***

With this painful admission, Ruth Haley Barton invites us to an
honest exploration of what happens when spiritual leaders lose
track of their souls. In the ***Strengthening the Soul of Your
Leadership retreat***, you will assess the state of your own soul and
explore practical ways of forging a stronger connection between
your soul and your generous leadership.

This event is open to all clergy, lay-leaders,
and congregational members alike!

Reserve Your Spot by September 15 !!

Green Lake Conference Center
November 17-19, 2019

For more information or to register:

<https://strengtheningthesoulofleadership.org/>

Additionally, you can call Jane Cahill Wolfgram at 608-438-5358
or Sue Beadle at 608-416-3981.



Synod & Churchwide News

There is one body and one Spirit ... one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I wish you grace and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior.

I write to inform you that I have resigned as your bishop. It has been an honor to have served you. I thank you for the love, the kindness and support shown to me during my ministry among you. I am grateful for the ways my ministry has been accepted. If there is any way I have sinned against you, I ask your forgiveness. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here. I continue to believe that we are beloved community, church together in the ministry God has placed before each of us.

As I move on to new ministry opportunities, I will be returning to my beloved East Coast. I wish you well, praying you will continue to move toward beloved community, walking together in Christ. Soli Dei Gloria!

Blessings and Peace,
Rev. Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld

BOLD Women-Answering the Call

14th Biennial Convention of the South Central Wisconsin
Synodical Women's Organization

September 21, 8 am to 4 pm
Good Shepherd, Verona Campus
7291 County Highway PD, Verona WI

Nationally known Keynote speaker:
Reverend Angela Khabeb at 11:00 am
Love, Light, and Salsa: Infusing the flavor of our faith throughout
the facets of our lives.

Cost - \$25, includes box lunch.
Free child care is available. Handicap accessible.

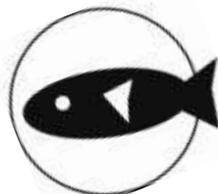
All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Bring a friend —or a careful of friends!



Opportunities Around the Community

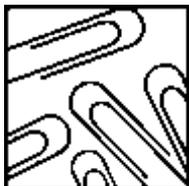
- ◆ **September 6th Norwegian Fish Boil** at West Koshkonong Church in Stoughton. Entertainment will be provided by “The Promised Band,” Tickets are available for seatings at 4:30, 5:30, and 6:30 pm. They are \$15.00 in advance, or \$16.00 at the door. Children 6 to 12 years are \$5.



- ◆ **We will have another Healing Service on the 5th Sunday of this month, September 29th.** Please invite a friend or neighbor or member of the community who would enjoy this special service and the healing prayers.
- ◆ **St. John’s Lutheran in Oregon** is hosting their annual **Turkey and Meatball Smorgasbord** Thursday October 3rd with Lunch from 11 to 1 and dinner from 4-7.
- ◆ **The Meyer Barn in Brooklyn** is hosting a **Bluegrass & Gospel Show** on Saturday October 5th—gates open at noon, music from 1-6. This is event is FREE with free parking and entertainment for the whole family. Food vendors on site.

Do you know someone who would like a part-time secretarial position of about 8-10 hours per week, right here at Cooksville Lutheran Church?

Kelsey is resigning after enjoying over three years in the position, so we are seeking a new person to assist with the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter, as well as other office duties. For more information, interested candidates may contact Pastor Karla Brekke at cooksvillemethodist@litewire.net or 608-751-0345.





September Worship Leaders

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

-Psalm 100:2

	Sept 1	Sept 8	Sept 15	Sept 22	Sept 29
Presiding Minister	Pastor Karla Brekke	Pastor Karla Brekke	Pastor Karla Brekke	Pastor Karla Brekke	Pastor Karla Brekke
Assisting Minister	Nancy Krake	Curtis Brandt	Kevin Brekke	Connie Gregerson	Ilene Axford
Ushers	Rosa Hanson Pat & Steve Foltz	Rosa Hanson Krake Family (Rocky, Lyric & Rich)	Rosa Hanson Patty Smith	Rosa Hanson Kevin Brekke	Rosa Hanson Kristie Graf
Lector	Richard Krake	Jennifer Nelson	Linda Sime	Bob Haakenson	Rhonda Wethal
Cantor	Betty Hamilton	Betty Hamilton	—	—	Betty Hamilton
Organist	Paul Haakenson	Naomi Shep	Jeanne Julseth	Naomi Shep	Naomi Shep
Sunday School Teacher	(no class)	(no class)	Curtis Brandt	Connie Gregerson	Jennifer Nelson
Coffee Hour Host	Lynn Bednarek	Ilene Axford	The Brunsell and Remley Families	Joe and Erin Wilder	Church Council

Thank you for helping us worship!

Church Staff

Church office: 608-882-4408

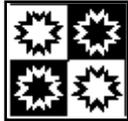
Pastor Karla Brekke: 608-751-0345,
cookvillelutheranpastor@gmail.com

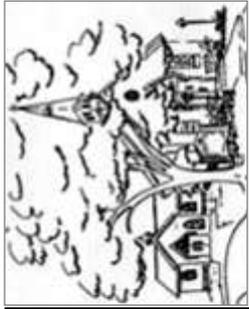
Secretary, Kelsey Dunn cookvillelutheran@litewire.net

Minster of Music, Jeanne Julseth: 882-0505



Cooksville Lutheran Calendar for September 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
1 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	2 LABOR DAY	3 9 am Maintenance Group	4 10 am Prayer Time	5	6	7 
8 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 	9 9 am Quilting	10 9 am Maintenance Group	11 10 am Prayer Time CHOIR BEGINS! 6—6:45 am	12 	13	14 LEFSE MAKING
15 10:00 Worship / Sun. School Begins 11:00 Fellowship 	16 9 am Quilting 7 pm Council Meeting	17 9 am Maintenance Group	18 10 am Prayer Time 6 pm Choir	19	20	21  «Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.»—Psalm 17:6, 8
22 10:00 Worship & Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship 2:00 Golz-Schwartzlow Wedding	23 9 am Quilting 6 pm Worship Committee	24 9 am Maintenance Group	25 10 am Prayer Time 11 am Gathering 6 pm Choir	26	27	28
29 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship 	30 9 am Quilting 6 pm Worship Committee	LOOKING AHEAD:	Autumn Fest Sunday October 13 Dinner with Pie & Ice Cream BBQ Team Cookoff Pie Judging 50-50 Raffle 			



Cooksville Lutheran Church
11927 W. Church Street
Evansville, WI 53536

Address Correction Requested