

Foresight

Looking to the Future

Christian Church of Villa Park
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Pastor: Rev. Laura Jennison Reed



Tuesday, July 5, 2022



Lazy summer days...time in the sun, relaxing, playing, laughing...an idealized summer... (and if we're lucky, at least moments of our summer will reach that ideal).

In the summer we tend to slow down, take more breaks from all those things we regularly engage in. Maybe we travel more, maybe we stay home resting from our busyness. Either way, we're taking a step back.

This can be a wonderful, beautiful thing. Times of rest are often times of dreaming, of rejuvenation, of creativity. They can let us better evaluate how we feel about all that we are engaged in, something that is often impossible when we are in the midst of our regular routines. That is one of the many reasons we send our leaders on sabbaticals as a church. Times of rest give us new perspectives and new energy. They can reaffirm our calls or they can point us in new directions. Rest is necessary and beneficial.

However, taking breaks from those activities which form us as community, which develop our relationships with others, can also lead to loss. We may begin to feel disconnected, we may realize our sense of connection actually began to wane long ago. Once we get used to not doing something it can be much harder to get back to it. Other things begin to fill that space.

This summer, as we take breaks as individuals and community let us be aware of all these things. We are taking a communal break from in person worship as many of us take individual breaks for travel. We will still have the opportunity to gather every week for online worship, but the way we meet and gather is different when we are online than when we are also in person. As we rest, let us dream of what God is calling us to and what God is no longer calling us to. As we take breaks at home and around the world, let us imagine new ways of connecting that do not require us to be in the same physical space to develop and sustain deep, faithful relationships. As our time fills with other things, let us be honest with ourselves and one another about what we are not willing to take back up.

Summer is a time of dreams, of rest, of possibility. Let us see where our dreams will take us.

Laura

Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday School starts at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday, *September through May*.

All ages are invited to gather together to hear the Bible story before we break into groups for conversation, crafts, and games.

Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. in person and on Facebook Live

Please note that worship will be online only July 10, 17, 24, and 31.

Love Your Neighbor Day 2022 Will Be Held on September 17, 2022 Volunteers Are Needed!



The Christian Church of Villa Park and other area churches will be working together again this year to hold the 8th annual Love Your Neighbor Day on Saturday, September 17, 2022 (rain date September 24, 2022). This is an important ministry of CCVP which only continues with the support from our members, family and friends through volunteering. On Love Your Neighbor Day 2021 over 130 volunteers provided assistance to 28 homeowners.

We know that God calls us to love our neighbors. LYND is an opportunity to put our love into action and show God's love by showing up at a neighbor's home and providing much needed assistance. Most of our applicants have been unable to keep up with projects around their home due to physical limitations (age or health problems) or financial limitations.

You can help these neighbors in need by filling out a volunteer sign-up sheet and agreeing to volunteer on September 17, 2022 (rain date September 24, 2022). All work will again be outside this year.

If you don't feel like you have the ability to do the physical work at a neighbor's home, Ruth Martin is in need of volunteers who will help with the food – setting up coffee and breakfast treats at the morning gathering and/or delivering lunches to the teams on the job site.

It would be very helpful to the LYND Planning Team to receive your volunteer commitments as soon as possible so that they can let some of our applicants know that there will be enough volunteers that their applications can be accepted. You can obtain volunteer sign-up sheets on the church website, or by e-mailing loveyourneighbor15@yahoo.com. Contact Doris Carter if you have any questions. We hope you can volunteer and encourage family and friends to join you.

Looking Ahead...

- The Stewardship Council will meet via Zoom at 7:00pm on Wednesday, July 13.
- Elders will meet via Zoom at 7:00pm on Sunday, July 24.
- CCVP 20/20 will meet via Zoom at 1:00pm on Monday, July 25.
- The Pastoral Relations Committee will meet via Zoom at 7:00pm on Monday, August 8.

June 30, 2022 Financial Summary

	April	May	June	Year-to-date
Income for budget items:	\$6,991.07	\$8,021.03	\$9,692.21	\$47,713.30
Budgeted expenses:	\$7,168.71	\$6,995.13	\$6,726.57	\$41,946.73

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Disciples Food Pantry

April Stats:
106 Households served
701 People served

May Stats:
100 Households served
386 People served

June Stats:
97 Households served
393 People served

The Pantry is open every Wednesday 9:30-11:30am.
Clients enter from Villa Avenue and receive food by the parking lot door.

Foresight News Deadline

The next quarterly issue of this newsletter will come out on October 11 with a news deadline of 11am on October 10. Feedback? Contact Betty Prorak and/or Laura Reed.

Poem: no name (06/27/2022)

I would love to share what happened; what has changed.
What helped me to step out of the cloud of the deranged.
Maybe I'm on cloud 9 and the downpour is yet to come.
But what about just being thankful in knowing where I came from.
That the heartbreak is of the now memory past.
And the, now, present visual placing my soul last.

No, no. Do not get me wrong.
I can be selfish...wanting to control the pong.
Upon placing myself last, I placed many first
Until my dreams rolled by in a Hearst.
Simply reminding me that it's not about myself but us
It's not about just us but you. The we giving a fuss.
The we, the us, you, then I.
Yet sometimes, in the deep, I cry
Don't you. Maybe you create holes in the walls, teeth marks on your arms
Maybe we are no different besides the definitions' alarms.
Stop trying to see the faults, the failures haunting "them"
Because maybe the healing is in the power of the hem.
Tender Sender (T.M.A.)

We Find Joy and Give Thanks...



- for the completely full schedule for our Good Friday Prayer Vigil on April 15. Thank you pray-ers!
- for the baptism of Daniela Felix that took place on Easter morning.
- for the children's enthusiastic participation in worship.
- with the Reed, Prorak, Carter and Martin families and others for summer vacation and family time together.
- for birthdays and their celebration.
- for the recovery of many of our church family from COVID.
- with John Martin on his successful surgery in May.
- with the Robbins being able to sometimes join us for in-person worship.
- for Tina Amodeo's return to her home after months of hospitalization and rehab.
- for the continued progress Jane Reid is making recovering from the stroke she had in May; she is home now.
- with Tina being able to get to in-person worship on June 26.
- for sabbaticals, which Ruth and John Martin are experiencing until September 5.
- for being able to worship together online even when we are physically in many places.

Please Pray for...



- Tina Amodeo
- the health of Teresa Shoff (John Martin's sister).
- John Martin's health; he will have shoulder surgery near the end of the month.
- Ruth Martin.
- Joan Fuller's sister Gloria's health; Gloria recently had shoulder surgery.
- Joan Kagebein and her family.
- Carol and Jerry Robbins.
- healing for Debra Studniarz's hands.
- Fred Kohrt's family. Fred was a former member of CCVP and passed away on May 24.
- Dan Carter and the First Church of Lombard mission team who leave for work in Costa Rica this Friday, July 8.

August, September, October Celebrations

August 17 September 3 13 18	Debra Studniarz Doris Carter Raja Philip James Schultz		October 8 11 21 28 29	Jerry Robbins Haley Felix Ed Slinkman Sofia Felix Melina Felix
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October 17 Sue and Ray Severino

Fund-raising with Amazon, Gift Cards

Do you shop at Amazon.com? If you do, a portion of your purchase price for qualifying items can come to the Christian Church of Villa Park by choosing the church as your recipient in their AmazonSmile program. It doesn't cost you anything extra to participate; it just shares the profit with a charity of your choice. If you have any questions, ask Betty Prorak.



RaiseRight (formerly ShopWithScrip) gift card orders will be due on September 4. There are many different gift cards available, each giving the church a portion of your purchase price. If this will be your first order from <https://www.raiseright.com/>, please contact Betty Prorak (BLProrak@yahoo.com) for the church's enrollment code.

The next orders for Jewel gift cards will be placed at the beginning of August and October. Please let Betty Prorak know what card(s) you would like to order by August 1 and October 2 for them to be delivered by August 7 and October 9. The church receives 5% of the cost of any cards we order as a group.