

Foresight

Looking to the Future

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



Tuesday, October 11, 2022



Where do we find grace? How do we see and know God and our own belovedness? I hope that you have a few places or people or moments that spring to mind. But I also wonder...why do we only have a few of those?

We proclaim that God is always with us and I deeply believe that to be true. However, I also know that I don't always deeply *experience* that to be true. Why is that? Why am I (and maybe you) only able to sense the presence of God and

God's grace in particular moments and ways?

Maybe I'm just not looking for it. I get caught up in the day-to-day things I have going on, the ordinariness of my moments and actions, the dependability of my relationships, and I stop seeing the sacred. I can't live every moment in a state of awe. There are too many other emotions that need to be expressed too. But still... maybe I need to stop expecting all my encounters with grace to be of peace and awe and certainty. Maybe God and grace are also found in the grocery store checkout or the school morning drop off, in my worries about schedules and wishes the laundry would do itself. Maybe all I need to do is remind myself that God is there, always.

Not to say that that's easy. That's probably the hardest part. It's much easier to keep God and grace contained in their own little category and space. Sunset on the beach: There's God. The quiet stillness first thing in the morning: God. Sunday morning: definitely God. But the rest of the time it's easier to just not notice.

But what happens to us (to our lives, our relationships, our faith) when we only locate grace "over there," not right here and right now. Does the rest of our faith only play out over there too? Do we stop being able to pause long enough even in those identified times and places to really experience God and God's grace? Can we truly see God's grace wherever we are?

Laura

Remembering Our Saints

On November 6 we will be remembering those who have formed us and are gone. This year we will be particularly lifting up those from this church community, the Christian Church of Villa Park, who have gone before us.

If there is someone from our congregation's history who has particularly formed you that you would like to share about, we would love to hear from you in worship. There will be opportunity for multiple people to share how their lives and faith has been formed by the saints of our community.

If you would like to share, please let Pastor Laura know by Sunday, October 23. Email: ccvppastor@yahoo.com. Phone: 509-389-3012.

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

September 30, 2022 Financial Summary

	July	August	September	Year-to-date
Income for budget items:	\$4,714.12	\$5,088.64	\$6,833.17	\$64,349.23
Budgeted expenses:	\$7,417.62	\$7,277.70	\$6,634.59	\$63,276.64

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Looking Ahead....

- The Stewardship Council, Elders, and CCVP 20/20 will meet together via Zoom at 7:00on on Wednesday, October 12.
- The Stewardship Council will meet via Zoom at 7:00pm on Wednesday, October 19.
- Elders will meet via Zoom at 7:00pm on Sunday, October 23.
- Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00am on Sunday, November 6. Set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on November 5.
- Consecration Sunday in on November 20. Financial estimates of giving will be consecrated during worship.
- The Pastoral Relations Committee will meet via Zoom at 7:00pm on Monday, December 5.
- The Christmas Eve worship service will be held at 7:00pm on Saturday, December 24.

Disciples Food Pantry

July Stats:	August Stats:	September Stats:
117 Households served	130 Households served	133 Households served
449 People served	513 People served	503 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 January 10 with a news deadline of 11am on January 9. Feedback? Contact Betty Prorak and/or Laura Reed.

8th Annual Love Your Neighbor Day



The 8th annual Love Your Neighbor Day 2022 on September 17, 2022 was a success thanks to the support, prayer and participation of CCVP and 10 other churches in Lombard and Villa Park. Over 140 volunteers came out for LYND 2022 and we were able to help 23 homeowners in the Lombard/Villa Park area. Check out our Love Your Neighbor Day Facebook page to see photos from the day.

The work that was done included rebuilding a section of fence, repairing steps, repairing soffit and fascia, installing new window frames, tearing down a dilapidated shed and fence, exterior painting, power washing, and lots of yard clean up and weeding and trimming of bushes and trees (we filled almost 400 yard bags and bundled lots of limbs). We left every home in better shape than when we arrived. However, the impact of LYND goes well beyond the actual work done on the homes. Here is an excerpt from a message from one of our homeowners: “I cannot express how much I appreciate the service your team generously gave me today. I feel so much lighter looking at my yard cleaned up, and am grateful for the tar mending on my foundation. I know how hard the work is...I am grateful for all your kind volunteers and this program! I look forward to paying it forward. May God bless all of you!”

We were again able to cover the cost of materials and supplies needed for doing the needed work for our homeowners with donated funds. We were also able to provide breakfast treats for our volunteers and lunches for our volunteers and homeowners with the contributions made by local businesses, including Chick-fil-A in Elmhurst, Mike’s Meat Market, Kuppies Bakery, McDonald’s, and Jewel in Villa Park, and Lilac Bakery in Lombard (and thanks to the efforts of Ruth Martin in soliciting these contributions). Lakeshore Recycling donated yard waste stickers, the Village of Lombard donated the use of a dumpster, and Waste Management picked up yard waste for our Lombard homeowners for free. This year Lombard Christian Reformed Church made a \$2,000 contribution to LYND and we recently received another grant in the amount of \$2,000 from the Village of Villa Park.

Love Your Neighbor Day continues to be a vital ministry for CCVP which is embraced by the community. Thanks to CCVP members Dan Carter, Ruth Martin and Heidi Gomez who served on the Planning Team, to Josh Reed and Betty Prorak who served as team leaders, and to Heidi’s daughters Haley, Daniela, Sofia and Melina, Laura and Amelia Reed, Tina Amadeo and her parents, and Joan Fuller who helped with food preparation and delivery.

Doris Carter

Here are a few photos. Check out our [Love Your Neighbor Day Facebook](#) page for more:



Gathering before going to work



Josh’s team at their site.



Dan at work with another volunteer



Betty’s team at lunch time

We Find Joy and Give Thanks...



- for the work that Dan Carter and others did in Costa Rica in July.
- with the Proraks for their trip to the Svalbard Islands early in July; lots of arctic wildlife, ice, and glaciers.
- for John Martin's continued recovery from shoulder surgery late in July.
- with Amelia Reed who got to attend the rescheduled church camp for beginners.
- for special time with family over the summer months.
- for Pantry volunteer Janey and her full recovery from knee surgery (she's back to work in the Pantry).
- with all the volunteers for the wonderful weather on both Love Your Neighbor Day and the CROP Hunger Walk.
- for Doris Carter and the work she put into organizing Love Your Neighbor Day.
- with the Carters and Martins who have enjoyed trips out of the country.
- for Jane Reid's recovery from the stroke she had in May. Her son Randy brought her to in-person worship on September 25.
- with the Reed family who got to spend some time together in London while Josh was there on business.
- for our pastor Laura. (It's Pastor Appreciation month, though we give thanks for her year round!)

Please Pray for...



- Tina Amodeo, who is in Ascension Alexian Brothers Rehabilitation Hospital in Elk Grove Village.
- the health of Teresa Shoff (John Martin's sister).
- Ruth Martin.
- Joan Fuller's sister Gloria's health.
- Dan Carter and Joan Fuller as they each prepare for knee surgery in November.
- Joan Kagebein and her family; Joan is in hospice care at Elmhurst Hospital.
- Carol and Jerry Robbins; as of this writing, Carol is receiving care in the Springs (the nursing care part of Monarch Landing).
- Lois Reynolds' family. Her son Gary let us know that Lois passed away at the age of 93 on Thursday, September 29.
- CCVP and our calling.

November, December, January Celebrations

November 2 John Martin
 7 Roger Mendoza
 9 Julian Mendoza
 11 Ken Newton
 15 Steve Prorak (#70!)
 17 Melancthon Philip
 24 Tina Amodeo



December 4 Daniela Felix
 5 Betty Prorak (#70!)
 8 Nancy Mendoza
 January 6 Vivian Mendoza
 8 Justin Verson



November 19 Heidi Gomez & Jose Felix
 26 Carol & Jerry Robbins
 December 9 Joan & John Fuller
 28 Minni & Raja Philip
 January 3 Diane & Chuck Bohl
 9 Doris & Dan Carter

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.



The next orders for Jewel gift cards will be placed for beginning of December. Please let Betty Prorak know what card(s) you would like to order by November 27 for them to be delivered by December 4. The church receives 5% of the cost of any cards we order as a group.

RaiseRight (formerly ShopWithScrip) gift card orders will be due on November 6 and January 8. 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.

Thanksgiving Special Offering November 13 and 20

The Thanksgiving Offering supports Disciples colleges, universities and theological institutions. Disciples have a long history of post-secondary and theological education. This offering provides a direct connection to 15 colleges and universities, 7 seminaries and theological programs. Gifts from this offering continue the Disciples tradition of developing leaders for our communities and the Church.

Christmas Special Offering December 11, 18, and 24

The Christmas Offering supports regional ministries. In 31 regions across the United States and Canada, ministers are nurtured and congregations are provided opportunities for work and worship. Often recognized for the ministries of camps and conferences, regions also play a critical role in the preparation and authorization of ministerial ordination. Both are key to church leadership and development. Regions partner with congregations to support the work required to call a new minister.