Pastor Marcus Lohrmann pastor@commofchrist.org 6517 Finzel Rd Whitehouse, OH 43571

COMMUNITY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Making Jesus Known

419-877-0607 www.commofchrist.org

### from Pastor Marcus Lohrmann



Join us on Facebook Live or in person! Summer Worship 9:00 a.m. only

Sunday Morning Bible Study 10:15 a.m.

Ladies Craft Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.

Council Meeting Tuesday, June 13, 7:00 p.m.

Book Club Tuesday, June 20, 1:00 p.m.

> Closed June 1 & 2 and July 3 & 4

Hymn Sing July 2

Worship Services
Available on the net

Available on the net www.commofchrist.org

Church Office Hours
8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Monday – Friday
You may want to call first
due to vacations!





Dear Friends in Christ,

Summer 2023

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus who grants us the Holy Spirit that we may be filled with the gifts of faith, hope, and love.

As we move into the summer months, many of us will experience times when the pace of our lives gives way to new patterns. In the gospels, we learn how Jesus took time away-sometimes going to a high mountain, sometimes to the wilderness, sometimes to the Sea of Galilee where we learn that he slept even in the midst of a storm. Most often these also were times of prayer. Times of rest provided renewal for the times of labor and stress.

If Jesus needed time away and times for rest so, do we. For some of us, vacations provide such an opportunity to get away and get a new perspective. For those fortunate to be able to travel to other countries, we also gain insight into what life is like in other places for other people. For others of us, time away provides precious time for being with children and grandchildren. There is something about pushing children on a swing for 20 minutes that brings joy and deep satisfaction. Often the time away creates gratitude for the return to rhythms of daily life-sleeping in one's own bed, cherishing co-workers and friends whom we meet with regularity, and experiencing gratitude for the "stuff" of daily life.

How do you provide opportunities for such holy rest for yourself? Admittedly, different stages of life require different patterns. It's a bit more of a challenge for busy parents of young children to create space for such holy rest. Yet that very busyness may be that which makes it all the more important to create patterns that provide opportunities for mediation, prayer, and renewal.

I hope that the next months will provide you with time for rest and renewal. Even more, no matter your situation, I hope that you might have space for prayer, for conversation with the God who has called you "beloved" in Christ Jesus and who promises to renew you with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Personal Update: I continue to be most grateful for the support I have received from the congregation and its leadership since the time of my diagnosis and subsequent surgery. Thank you and know that I thank God for you! It's also a gift to have Pastor Lee Ann Pomrenke as a partner in ministry. Mindful of my need for a slower pace during my time of recovery, I will be moving away from a 2/3-time schedule and sharing Sunday morning ministry with Pastor Lee Ann during the summer months. I anticipate still being available for crisis ministry and some hospital and shut-in calls. I typically will be in the office on Mondays and some Wednesdays for those who would like an opportunity for conversation.







## from Pastor Continued!

A Few Thoughts as We Approach Independence Day, July 4: What do you associate with "the Fourth of July"? Many of us think quickly of time off from work, gatherings with family and friends, and, for better or worse, fireworks offered in a dramatic display and keeping us awake at night. Some of us will take time to think about the Declaration of Independence and the degree to which our nation has lived up to the values reflected in that document.

Can this also be a time for deep prayer for this nation and for those entrusted with leadership? Can this be a time during which we ask how our being "baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection" shapes our role as citizens who live in a democracy where behavior, choices, and votes have implications for those within this nation and around the world? Can this be a time of learning about issues that confront our community, state, and nation and sharing our perspectives with elected officials through telephone calls, letters, and emails?

The vision of our founders of a nation committed to freedom can never be taken for granted. Neither can it be assumed that it was ever a reality for all. But it is worth pursuing with humility, with prayer, and with engagement.

**Summer Schedule:** Beginning on May 28, we moved to the Sunday Schedule with worship services at 9:00 am and an Intergenerational Bible Class (which means folks of any age!) at 10:15 am, beginning on Sunday, June 4. When you are in town, we hope that you will make worship a priority. When you are out of town, visit a congregation, bring back the bulletin, and share your experience.

#### And Finally,

May these months provide you with some opportunity for refreshment and renewal. May the Holy Spirit enable you to grow in faith and hope during this "green time" in nature and in the church year.

Together with you in Christ,
Marcus C. Lohrmann, Interim Pastor



We honor **DAD** and the memory of our fathers, Sunday, June 18.



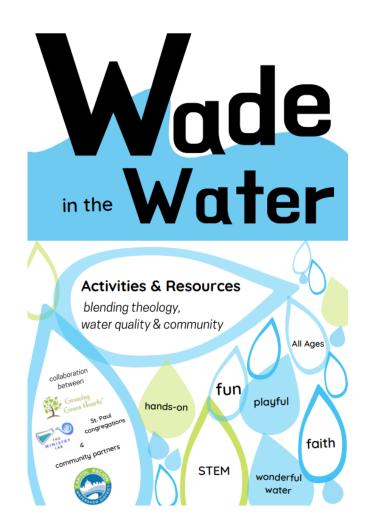
Meeting Dates
June 10 @ 10:00 a.m.
August 14 @ 10:00 a.m.



Meeting Date August 7 @ 10:00 a.m.

### GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path!" (Psalm 119:105)



#### Wade in the Water!

Starting in June, all ages are encouraged to participate together in hands-on thoughtful activities around water and faith, after the worship service. This will be a time to build relationships across generations, engage with the land and water around the church, and explore biblical images of water and its impact. We'll be guided by (but not restricted to) this free curriculum, fitting it to our own context. Wear your walking shoes!



As the weather becomes nicer, the Choirs are ending their season. We would like to thank all of our choir members, band, and individual vocalists for your time and talent throughout the year! If you are still interested in singing or playing an instrument to fill the time during our Summer months, please contact Eric Dickey at music@commofchrist.org at any time!

### HYMN SINGULLY 2nd!!

YOU CHOOSE THE HYMN!! Come prepared on Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. to choose your FAVORITE HYMNS for Eric to play and you to sing!!!



# GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

Congratulations to our 2023 Confirmands
Jacob Allen, Natalie Quinn,
Parker Richard and Nathanael Scott!!

















# Ministry Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for a way to give a little of your time to YOUR CHURCH??? We welcome volunteers of all ages! Be a Door Greeter or Lector, Distribute Bulletins, Assist as an Acolyte, or Worship Assistant. Operate the camera for live streaming or help with Communion Set-up/Clean-up. To volunteer simply go to <a href="www.commofchrist.org">www.commofchrist.org</a>, click on "Volunteer for Worship", select the "tab" for which you'd like to volunteer, click on the "sign up" box in the date(s) you are available, scroll to the bottom and click on the "Submit and Sign Up" button and follow the steps from there! And, for your convenience, you will receive an acknowledgment email and another reminder shortly before your assignment. \*\*\*Should you need to cancel your scheduled date, please contact another volunteer to fill your position and time slot. Also, cancel in Sign-Up Genius so the person covering you can sign up. Training can be provided at any time by contacting Laurie Mauro (419) 877-5366 or Carol Wiemken (419) 261-3577.















# Worship Volunteer Schedule, 9:00 - Summer 2023

Week	June 4	June 11	June 18	June	25	July 2	Ju	ıly 9	July 16	July 23	July 30	
Acolyte/	Joseph	Voluntee	Volunteer	Nate		Volunteer	Jo	e	Volunteer	Volunteer	Voluntee	
Crucifer	Perkins	r Needed	Needed	Yoku	m	Needed	Pe	erkins	needed	Needed	r Needed	
Bulletin	Becky	Zach	Kari	Rick		Dean	Vc	olunteer	Joseph	Volunteer	Becky	
	King	Weber	Swagler	Yoku	m	Nofzinger	Ne	eeded	Perkins	Needed	King	
Camera	Rick	Kevin	Don	Neil		Rick	Ke	evin	Don	Neil	Rick	
	Yokum	Swagler	Schroede	Raym	non	Yokum	Sv	vagler	Schroede	Raymond	Yokum	
			r	d					r			
Communion	Becky	Kari	Joseph	Volun		Cheryl	Be		Volunteer	Becky	Voluntee	
Prep/Clean	King	Swagler	Perkins	r Nee		Fischer	_	ıdwig	Needed	King	r Needed	
Greeter East	Volunteer	Voluntee	Volunteer	Volun		Volunteer	Ro	-	Volunteer	Volunteer	Voluntee	
	Needed	r Needed	Needed	r Nee		Needed		hntopp	Needed	Needed	r Needed	
Greeter West	Dean	Natalie	Becky	Volun		Volunteer	Jill		Volunteer	Becky	Voluntee	
	Nofzinger	Rilling	King	r Nee	ded	Needed	Kc	hntopp	Needed	King	r Needed	
Lector	Joseph	Lisa	Greg	Nate		Cheryl	Jo		Liss	Kathryn	Greg	
	Perkins	Alleman	Aubell	Yoku	m	Fischer		erkins	Alleman	Whitacre	Aubell	
Worship Asst	Joseph	Laurie	Cheryl	Kara		Joe		athryn	Dean	Don	Voluntee	
	Perkins	Mauro	Fischer	Yokuı	m	Perkins	W	hitacre	Nofzinger	Schroeder	r Needed	
Week	Aug 6 Aug 13		Aug 20			Aug 27		Sep 3				
Acolyte/	Volunteer Needed		Nate Yokum Vo		Volu	Volunteer Needed		d Volunteer Needed		Volunteer Needed		
Crucifer												
Bulletin	Kari Swag	er	Rick Yokum		Volunteer Needed		ed	Dean Nofzinger		Becky King		
Camera	Kevin Swa	n Curadar Dan Cahraa		odor	eder Sarah Rockwell		_	Rick Yokum		Kevin Swagler		
Gamera	Nevili Swa	uici	Don Schroede		Jaran Nockwell			PICK VAI			Troviii Owagiei	
		9.5.	Don Come	,cuci	Jaia	in Rockweii		RICK YO	Kum	Treviii owa		
Communion	Kari Swag						ed		er Needed			
Communion Prep/Clean	Kari Swag		Joseph Perkins			nteer Neede	ed			Volunteer N		
	Kari Swag	er	Joseph		Volu			Voluntee			Needed	
Prep/Clean	J	ler Needed	Joseph Perkins	itopp	Volu Volu	nteer Neede		Voluntee	er Needed er Needed	Volunteer N	Needed Needed	
Prep/Clean Greeter East Greeter West	Volunteer Ellen Buch	ler Needed er	Joseph Perkins Rob Kohn Jill Kohnto	ntopp pp	Volu Volu Nata	nteer Neede nteer Neede lie Rilling	ed	Voluntee Voluntee Becky K	er Needed er Needed ing	Volunteer N Volunteer N Volunteer N	Needed Needed	
Prep/Clean Greeter East	Volunteer	ler Needed er	Joseph Perkins Rob Kohn	ntopp pp	Volu Volu Nata	nteer Neede	ed	Voluntee	er Needed er Needed ing	Volunteer N	Needed Needed	

Volunteers signed up in Sign Up Genius effective 05/20/2023 – changes can and do occur

\*\*\*Should you need to cancel your scheduled date, please contact another volunteer to fill your position and time slot. Also, cancel in Sign-Up Genius so the person covering you can sign up.

<u>Lectors</u>: The readings are available for preview on our website at <u>www.commofchrist.org</u> under "Worship and Bulletins" and then the appropriate bulletin date.

<u>Bulletin Assistants</u>: Arrive 15 minutes before service to pass out bulletins. Count the number of people in attendance (including worship volunteers and all in the nursery if applicable) and mark this number on the chart inside the kiosk.

<u>Door Greeters</u>: Arrive 15 minutes before service to greet members and visitors at the doors of both entrances of the church.

Should you have any questions, please contact Laurie Mauro (419) 877-5366 or Carol Wiemken (419) 261-3577. Thank you all for your time and attention to helping make our Worship Services run smoothly!



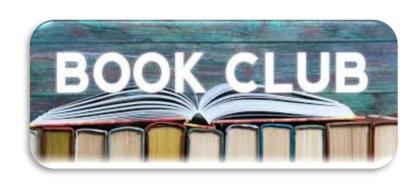




# GROWING IN Friendships "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)



- June Lady Lunch: June 23rd 11:30 @ Teke'la 25381 N Dixie Hwy Perrysburg OH 43551
- July Lady Lunch: July 28 LaRoe's @ 11:30
   24138 Front St Grand Rapids OH 43522
- August Lady Lunch: Aug 25 @ the White House Inn @ 11:30 10835 Waterville St WH



#### Book Club! 1:00 p.m.

June 20, 2023, World of Curiosities by Louise Penny





#### Friendship Pad--- Please pass it along!

A great way to make a new friend! Please share the friendship pad each time you worship! You may update your address with our church office—or indicate a prayer concern, or the desire for a pastoral visit. Visitors—we would love to communicate a welcome to you! Please introduce yourself following worship on Sunday morning! Pass the pad! Thanks!



#### **Caregivers Support Group**

We meet on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The group is open to anyone providing care for a loved one. We offer encouragement, suggestions from our own experiences, and local resources. The group is designed to be an open group, available to you when you feel the need to attend. Contact Kristen Schuchmann at 419-279-7759 with questions or just stop in.



**Brian Lowell** 



**Kathy Depinet** 



Chad, Eyrn, Evan, and Cole Ackerman



Doug, Rose Marie, and Alex Ackerman





**Tim and Carrie Tuohy** 



to our new members!







Exciting news from our church! We are offering you more giving options to support our church's financial needs. Council and Finance Committee (as well as the Synod) have recommended the use of a new online safe and secure tool to be able to give online electronically. The program is through Tithe.ly company used by many other churches and organizations. It has several options to be able to give as noted below:

- Your donations are recorded for your giving records, and confidential to the financial secretary.
- When you donate, you designate the fund you would like to designate your monies to go toward e.g., building, general, thank-you, or other.
- -There are four methods to give:
- 1. On the church website - @ https://tithe.ly/give?c=2746426
- 2. Online (through tithe ly website, search for Community of Christ)
- 3. By text: simply text the word **give** to get started. Community Of Christ Lutheran Church: (833) 985-2568
- 4. Download the app and give.

#### Notes:

- The app and the web link allow you to input credit/debit card information. The text method will charge through your existing cell phone bill.
- There is a fee for this service for the convenience that it offers:
  - You can choose to cover this fee in addition to your donation, OR if you don't, the fee is deducted from the donation to the church. Tithe.ly
  - This fee is a percentage typical of this type of service.

PLEASE REMEMBER ---we also offer an <u>electronic offering</u>, (Simply Giving) that will withdraw your offering automatically from your bank account. THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD'S WORK AT COMMUNITY OF CHRIST AND THE ENTIRE CHURCH!

#### SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM

This is a regular electronic withdrawal that supports your congregation when you can't attend in person.



#### Let us be cheerful givers to the Lord!

2023 Building Loan Fund							
	Income	Expense	Diff.				
Apr	\$11,016	\$12,563	(\$1,547)				
YTD	\$45,473	\$50,252	(\$4,779)				
2023 General Fund							
	Income	Expense	Diff.				
Apr	\$38,562	\$26,475	\$12,087				
YTD	\$126,930	\$119,472	\$7,458				



# Praying for God's People Blessings & Prayers



Please remember the following members who are ill, shut in, recently hospitalized, or Military:

Sue Brown, Kay & Dick Burdo, Troy B., Brianna Chavez, Shirley Cofer, Susan Dental, Brittany Dewitz, Jim & Sue Enk, Carl Gottwald, Tom Jennings, Betty Lloyd, Susan Meyer, Carl & Judy Mock, Dave & Nancy Myerholtz, Leah Herner-Patnode, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Deann Schiavone, Peter Schultz, Dennis Studer, Phyllis Sturgeon, Lois Wise, Jay Rasmusson

Please remember them in your daily prayers. Thank you.



Please continue to pray for the family of Brad Dick. May they continue to find peace in their hearts through all the wonderful memories made. May the Lord bless you today and the days ahead.



PASTOR MARCUS, CINDA, ERIC, MICHEUR, AND OTHERS AT CC OFC WHO HELPED WITH GRAD'S VISTATION AND FLAGRAL. YOU ARE ALL GLESSINGS IN OUR LIVES AND WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR YOU WERE THERE TO HELP US. TUST LOOKING OVER CHOICE VERJES TONIGHT TO SOMEHOW CHARACTERIZ. YOUR ACTIONS, AND I THINK IT IS ROMANS 12: 9-13. THANK YOU. BUZSINGS.



There are times when those we love need prayer but may not want to be added to our prayer list. With that, we offer a prayer through our Prayer Chain. If you are not already a part of our email Prayer Chain and would like to be added to our list, please email Michelle at secretary@commofchrist.org.



Prayer Shawls - Irene Rang and Mary Moats are responsible for the prayer shawls. If you are interested in making a prayer shawl or know of someone who would be blessed by receiving a prayer shawl, please contact Irene at 269-832-7714



Prayers of the Church - For us to keep our prayer requests current and fresh in worship---we update our prayer list every two weeks. The names you provide will be included in the prayers of the congregation for two weeks. If you would like to renew your prayer request, please use the form available in the gathering area or contact the church office. Thank you. Continue to pray for one another!

# Upcoming Events!!







Attention Community of Christ members! Outreach is looking for individuals who would like to participate in two local festivals, Cherry Fest and Roche de Boeuf. We are looking for individuals interested in participating in the parade at Cherry Fest on June 10th at 1 p.m. We will be walking and passing out candy during the parade.

Roche de Boeuf festival is September 25, and we have many opportunities for volunteers. We are in need of volunteers for the booth to help set up, take down and attend. Festival is from 9am to 5pm. We will also be looking for volunteers to be in the parade at 10am and if we have enough volunteers and interest, we may create a float!

Please look for the signups at the kiosk for each of the events and let Outreach know what areas interest you. You can contact Greg Myers at 419-466-6998 for more information.



Tuesday, June 13



#### **Identifying the Need for Grief Support**

A committee has come together to help identify how we can help members of our congregation through the grief process. We have met with Hospice of Northwest Ohio grief counselors to get information and resources. Please check the bulletins and kiosk for an educational program coming in September. This meeting will feature counselors from Hospice, who will share their expertise on what resources are available. We will then look for feedback from attendees on how best to connect our members with the needed resources.

Throughout the summer we will have written information available on grief resources. Look for printed material where the monthly church readings are kept, outside the office.

If you have a specific request for grief resources, please feel free to reach out to Kristen Schuchmann at 419-279-7759 for direction.

#### Save the Dates:

2024 marks Community of Christ's 50th Anniversary of ministry. We will have two major celebrations to mark two key dates in the birth of our congregation. The 1st on Sunday, September 10, 2023, will be a Blue Jean Sunday outdoor worship followed by potluck and activities - a tradition from our earlier years. The 2nd will be a dinner at Anthony Wayne High School on Saturday, May 3, 2024, followed by special worship services on Sunday, May 4, 2024. Stay tuned for more details!







Bill Happel Jr	06/01	Jerry Reed	07/01
Carson Ruhe	06/01	Donald Schroeder	07/03
Fred Ortner	06/01	Kathryn Meyers	07/03
Reid Moser	06/01	Stanley Patterson	07/03
Jeff Swartz	06/03	Elaine Lammon	07/04
Joan Schwartz	06/03	Kathryn Whitacre	07/04
Ellen Bucher	06/05	Norman Brettel	07/04
Timothy Roth	06/05	Diane Ohns	07/05
Becky Massey	06/06	Jackie Schalitz	07/05
Kevin Steinman	06/06	Michael Mock	07/06
Wendy Gehring	06/06	Bea Ludwig	07/07
John Spilker	06/09	Julie Dick	07/08
Tim Schmidt	06/09	Maci Bartley	07/08
Carol Wiemken	06/10	Nathanael Yokum	07/08
Christopher Alleman	06/10	Tim Owczarzak	07/08
Jana Dorton	06/12	Ursula Winkelman	07/08
Natalie Rilling	06/12	Lorri Britsch	07/09
Frederick Doering	06/14	Simon Gottwald	07/09
Thomas Davis	06/14	Barney Stewart	07/10
Linda Metcalf	06/15	Brea Weber	07/10
Stephen Archer	06/15	Molly Wachtmann	07/13
Brenda Carpenter	06/17	Sara Archambeau	07/15
Donna Wagner	06/17	Kay Terveen	07/16
Bonnie Smigelski	06/18	Cindy Davis	07/17
Matt Davis	06/18	Ginny Fahrer	07/17
Melissa Colburn	06/18	Grace Donley	07/17
Jordan Brosten	06/19	Mariah Britsch	07/17
Dawn Rose Sohnly	06/21	Susanne Donnal	07/18
Karly Bocian	06/22	<b>Brittany Ortner</b>	07/20
Jake Reid	06/23	Mitchell Stewart	07/20
Lisa Alleman	06/23	Thomas Ohns	07/20
Olivia Sohnly	06/25	Vera Mae Reid	07/20
Tony Colburn	06/25	Audrey Smucker	07/22
Donna Longnecker	06/26	Mallory Smucker	07/22
Janet Rozick	06/26	Jim Shaw	07/23
Richard Pratt	06/26	Rachel Rardin	07/23
Joshua Kohntopp	06/30	Wade Bucher	07/23

1	Gloria Eberly	07/24
3	Marsha Cochran	07/24
3	Troy Baden	07/26
3	Tyler Baden	07/26
4	Jim Stiles	07/28
4	Michael Wise	07/28
4	Rick Metcalf	07/28
5	Susan Nofzinger	07/28
5	Kathy Phillips	07/29
6	Rob Archer	07/29
7	Dawn Haack	07/30
8	Diane Kuhlman	07/30
8	Amy Brenneman	07/31
8	James Fritz	07/31
8	Robert Sautter	07/31
0		









Elaine Hetherwick	08/03	Evan Schreiber	08/14	Kelly Reid	08/25
Sarah Petrell	08/03	Graci Pollock	08/14	Lora Keil	08/26
Melinda Peters	08/04	David Malohn	08/15	Rosalie Stewart	08/27
Mark Winkelman	08/05	Joel Schuchmann	08/15	Brian Jones	08/28
Stephanie Phillips	08/05	Marcia Curtis	08/15	Josie Hartbarger	08/28
Craig Burdo	08/06	Max Weber	08/15	Kerrianne Powers	08/29
Ava Davis	08/07	James Merritt	08/17	Benjamin Kuhlman	08/30
Linda Nichols	08/07	Katherine Ray	08/17	Catherine Malohn	08/30
Carrie Tuohy	08/08	Kathy Chamberlain	08/17	David Massey	08/30
Shelby Myers	08/08	Mark Kuhlman	08/17	Karen Jennings	08/31
Lauren Swartz	08/10	Sandy Korb	08/18	Sandy Boehly	08/31
Wilfried Schubert	08/11	Jasin Wise	08/19		
Dave Greenhagen	08/12	Ann Reisner	08/20		
Myron Myerholtz	08/12	Steven Dick	08/21		
Delaney Boltz	08/13	Ken Sheetz	08/22		
Makayla Stewart	08/13	Sarah Rockwell	08/22		
Pat Rison	08/13	Bill Reisner	08/23		
Saundi Ludwig	08/13	Alyssya Stout	08/24		
Steve Smigelski	08/13	Tim Holliker	08/24		









# Thank you, Community Toolbox Crew!!!!

Dan, Don, Dean, and Jerry







Dear Friends, 5-11-23

Thank eyou to much

for all the work on our

yard today.

Ye thank our Lord for

Sending you to us!

Dave + Manay





# Creation of a Prairie Meadow Stewarding the Land



Planet Earth is losing its wildlife and native species at an alarming rate. Two-thirds of its wildlife has been lost since 1970, and 3 billion birds have been lost in the US alone. The population of the US is growing at a rate of 4,800 people per day and is developing 2 million acres of land each year (the size of Yellowstone National Park). Only 5% of the land is currently available to native wildlife, with the rest taken up with housing, infrastructure, industry, and agriculture. The US has 48 million acres of lawn, which has commonly been referred to as an "ecologic dead zone" by environmentalists.

Native plants and creatures run our food web and ecosystem. For more than 100 years, American culture has favored non-native plants in landscaping (the things you normally buy at most nurseries and garden centers). Native insects and animals prefer/require native plants as food, as native plants, insects, and animals have evolved together. Non-native ornamental shrubs/trees support 29 times less insect species than native plants. Non-native plants decrease insect biomass by 96%. So even though non-native plants support some pollinators, native plants support so many more. Examples of non-native ornamental plants commonly found in our landscape that are invasive include *Callery Pear* and *Autumn Olive*.

Lawns fail to support the environment by not supporting a complex and diverse food web, by not providing food and housing for wildlife, by not helping manage the watershed, and by failing to move carbon from the atmosphere to soil. Hence, lawns are detrimental to the environment. Informed landowners and public land managers are converting lawns and gardens into places where native plants can live. Shrinking lawns, eliminating non-native ornamental invasive plants, and planting native plant species will help preserve our native insect, bird, and animal species.

Converting part of the church's lawn to a native prairie meadow will help preserve native species. A native prairie meadow includes native plants, flowers, and grasses that are genetically similar to plants of our region which thrive in our growing conditions. Examples of nearby prairie meadows include the NW corner of SR 64 and Finzel Rd., Blue Creek Metropark behind Whitehouse Library, Cannonball Prairie Metropark, and Faith Lutheran Church, Swanton. It will take a number of years to create the prairie. The lawn will be treated with herbicide this spring (May), which will be followed with tilling (June), and further herbicide and tilling (July/Aug), so that the seeding can occur this next Fall/Winter. The first year, summer 2024, we will see green growth, and some early blooming perennials, but more full blooms will not be seen for 3-5 years or more. Professional guidance for the creation of the prairie meadow is being provided by Penny Niday, Director of Toledo Metroparks Seed Nursery, with additional support from the native plant organizations Wild Ones Toledo and Sacred Grounds Toledo (NWF).

You can help with this project and or learn more about native plants by joining the Prairie Meadow Task Force of the Property Committee and taking steps to shrink your lawn, plant native plants, and eradicate non-native invasive plants.

We will be touring Toledo Metroparks Blue Creek Seed Nursery on July 12 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The nursery is the largest publicly owned nursery in Ohio. Its staff are providing guidance in the development of our prairie meadow. The production fields of native wildflowers will be in peak bloom during our visit, so this is a fantastic opportunity to become acquainted with the native wildflowers of our area. The tour will be provided by Blue Creek Seed Nursery staff. The Seed Nursery is at 7790 Schadel Rd, Whitehouse, behind the big white barn (the old Work House property). The nursery collects seeds from more than 170 species, including wildflowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees. It has 58 species in production including 12 species of state-listed plants. The nursery provides seeds and plants to restore natural areas in our region.



# Ministry & News!



#### 4th Sunday---"Clean & Feed!"

We continue to set aside the **fourth Sunday** of the month for us to share love offerings for those who have needs at Salem Lutheran Church & the Whitehouse Food Pantry!

While Salem Lutheran Church does not have a food pantry, they do welcome gifts of bar soap, other unused toiletries, toilet paper, and socks. They also welcome bulk food items such as pasta, sauce, green beans, corn, and baked beans in large cans (Gordan Foods, Costco, or Sams Club). These large quantities are used for their community dinners served weekly.

We also welcome smaller food donations for the <u>Whitehouse Food Pantry</u> as they continue to help support our local families. Some needs are brownie/cake mixes, frosting, noodle bags, flavored noodle pouches, rice pouches, rice-a-roni, soup, canned beans, hygiene products: toothbrush/paste, shampoo/conditioner, bar soaps, toilet paper, etc. KIDS single lunch items: fruit cups, granola bars, peanut butter crackers, individual bags of chips, microwavable lunch cups such as spaghetti-o's, ravioli, beef-a-roni, soups, etc.

The collection baskets are placed under the long table in the hall. Each is labeled for each ministry. Please place your items in the baskets accordingly. Thank you for your generous offering of support!



#### **Church Office Hours**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday)

Please note...... Hours may vary with vacations, please call ahead ☺

The office will be Closed June 1 & 2, and July 3 & 4



"Smores with the Bishop"



Community of Christ will be hosting a blood drive on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please mark your calendars and be on the lookout for more information!

#### **Church Office Hours**

**8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.** (Monday through Friday). Hours may vary with vacations, please call ahead <sup>©</sup>

419-877-0607

secretary@commofchrist.org www.commofchrist.org

6517 Finzel Rd., Whitehouse, OH 43571

