



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
The Holy Trinity
June 15, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
Pastor Stephen C. Bond



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Steve Bond

Musical Prelude

Pam Stover

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus, and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

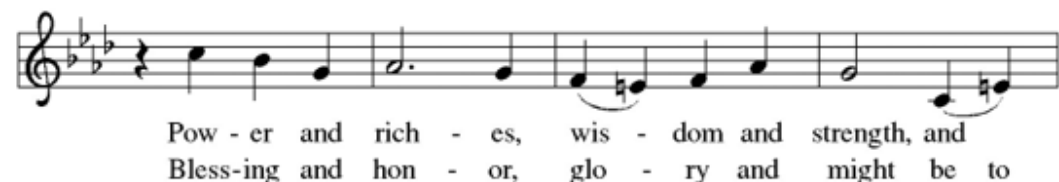
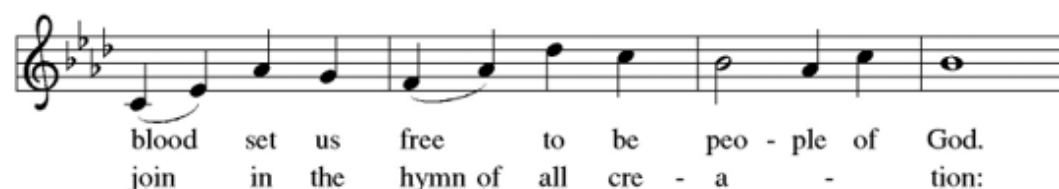
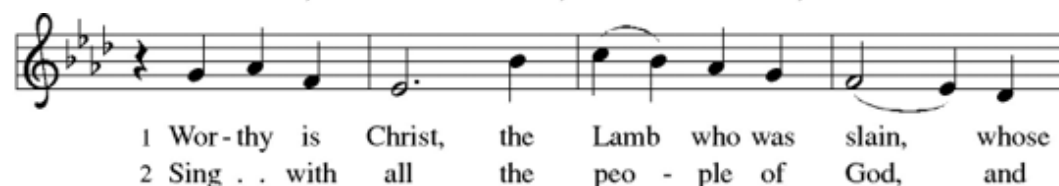
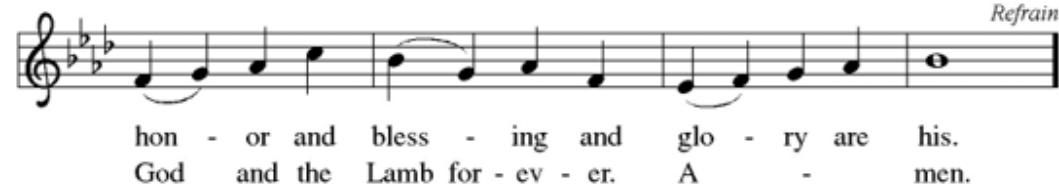
Gathering Hymn

"Come All You People"

ELW 819

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C And also with you.**

Refrain*Refrain**Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

P Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Childrens Sermon

THE READINGS

The First Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

- ¹ Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding, raise her voice?
² On the heights, beside the way,
at the crossroads, she takes her stand;
³ beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals, she cries out:
⁴ “To you, O people, I call,
and my cry is to all that live.
²² The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
²³ Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—
²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world’s first bits of soil.
²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
²⁸ when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,

³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.”

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading: Romans 5:1-5

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!



The Holy Gospel: John 16:12-15

P The Holy Gospel according to....C Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus said,] ¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P The Gospel of the Lord! C Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

"None Other, And Nothing Less"

Pastor Stephen Bond

Hymn

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty ”

ELW 413

Nicene Creed

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him, all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day, he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

P Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

AM Abiding God, your love pours into your whole church, creating faith and bestowing hope. Fill all the baptized with these good gifts in our various callings. Gather your church in every place and expression into the unity of your Spirit. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Creating God, your name is majestic in all the earth, and we are filled with awe at your creation. Renew this planet and all its wonders: springs abounding with water, earth and soil, beasts of the field, birds of the air, and fish of the sea. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Sovereign God, you delight in the whole human race. On this week of Juneteenth bring an end to racial oppression and heal the wounds of racial trauma. Grant us your wisdom, so that all people, especially those in authority, work for the life and freedom of others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Compassionate God, your mindful care for us is everlasting. Give peace to all who are troubled, endurance to all who suffer, deliverance to all who are afflicted, and healing to all who are sick *especially* **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O’Konski, Luke Holtz, Lisa Boltz, Susie Donnal, Ron Hetherwick, Jake Cope, Virginia Dillon, Sam Kenney, Staci, Martina Benton, Amy Meagher, Bev Howard, Brenda, Bill & Cheryl Garlow, Kim Mockensturm, Kian Schumaker, Lynne Lark, Charlie & Sandy Gorniak, Madelyn....** and all that we remember in silence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Living God, your glory appears in our shared life. On this Father’s Day, give to all fathers and father figures gentle hearts and strong spirits, heal the wounds in our families, and comfort those for whom this day brings pain. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Eternal God, your hope does not disappoint. We give you thanks for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection. Hold us in our grief and bring us at last to fullness of life in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

THE MEAL

All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it. A “gluten-free” host option is available upon request as well.

Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C And also with you!**
Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

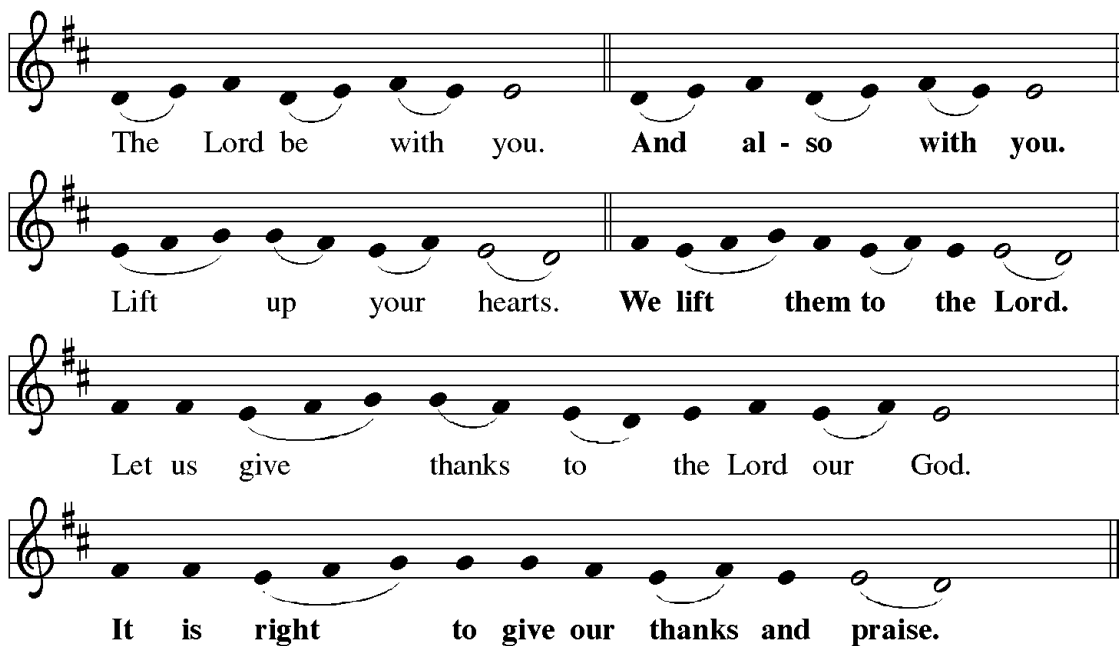
The congregation continues to stand during Tithes and Offerings if you are able.

Our Tithes and Offerings *Bring your gifts to the Altar, or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

Offering Prayer

AM Creator God, in your wisdom, you bring forth all that is good, and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving



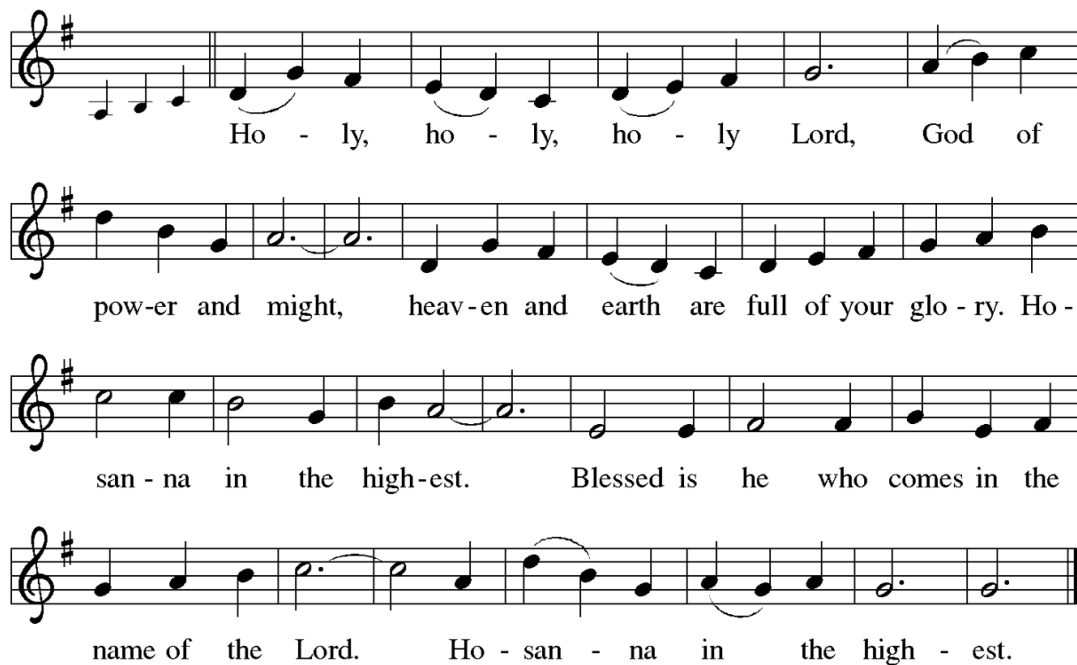
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**The Eucharistic Prayer Continues.....



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution

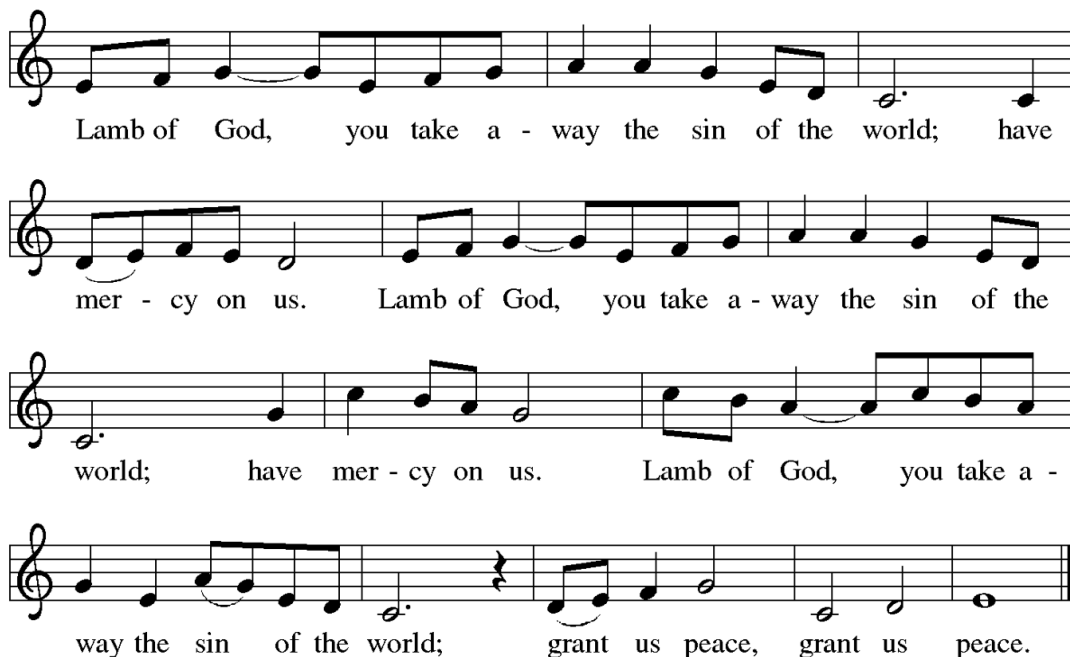
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray... **C** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymns

“Lamb of God”



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymn

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

ELW 470

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

ELW 471

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM Mothering God, you gathered us to your table, and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit **✝** bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

ELW 408

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God!**

AM And next week, **bring a friend!**

Making Jesus Known”

You're Invited! Join us for worship this Summer every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.—either in person or via Facebook Live. We'd love to see you there, and don't forget to bring a friend! Interested in becoming a member? Just fill out your information in the friendship pads or call the church office at 419-877-0607. We'd be honored to welcome you into our church family!

Hard Sayings Of Jesus—Summer Sunday Adult Forum

Join us on Sunday mornings after worship for the summer edition of our Adult Sunday School class. We'll gather in the council room (also the Thursday afternoon Bible study room) at about 10:15 a.m. for a new series that will take a look at some of the difficult sayings and actions of Jesus to explore what they mean (or what they don't mean) and to unpack some otherwise complicated and challenging teachings of Jesus. What did Jesus mean when he said, “It's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom?” What about when Jesus said, “I have not come to bring peace, but a sword?” Why did Jesus overturn the moneychangers in the Temple? And what could be going on when Jesus told his disciples to leave behind parents, family, and children for the sake of following him?

We'll be looking at a different passage and a different "hard saying" each week, so come when you can, and join the conversation, each Sunday this summer, here at Community of Christ!

Good Trouble: A Study in Amos (Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.)

In a time when people confused financial success with divine favor and focused on ritual rather than righteousness, God raised up a bold truth-teller and poet named Amos. And like all of the authentic prophets of ancient Israel, he was able to both comfort the afflicted... and to afflict the comfortable. Whether he was calling out the Respectable Religious Leaders of his day or pointing out how the most vulnerable of his society were being taken advantage of, Amos was willing to risk his reputation and his comfort in order to wake people up. He regularly got himself into what the late John Lewis used to call "good trouble." And his witness is an important one for us today, as people who promise every time, we affirm our baptism that we will "strive for justice and peace in all the earth." So, join us for an in-depth study of this prophet on Thursdays this summer as our next Thursday afternoon Bible study at 1:00 p.m., co-led by Pastor Steve and Vicar Natalie. We'll be starting up with this series on June 5, in the council room, and we'll be offering weekly video summaries as well to catch up if you can't join us in person around the table. We hope you'll be a part of this summer-long series here at Community of Christ studying Amos!

Summer Spiritual Practice group "In The Presence of God"

This summer, as part of Vicar Natalie's internship project, we will be offering a weekly Summer Spiritual Practice group. The goal of this group is to learn a variety of ways to pray and draw close to God and to contribute to the NW Ohio Synod's theme of the Year of Listening. The spiritual practice group will meet on **Thursdays from 6:30-7:45 p.m.** in the fellowship hall **ending on August 28th** (no class July 3rd). There will be a variety of pastors from the community who will help teach and lead the spiritual practice, including Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, Pastor Sarah Schaaf (NW Ohio Synod), Pastor Warren Clifton (Hope United Methodist - Whitehouse), Pastor Matt Musteric (St. Peter's Lutheran - Martin/St. Luke's Lutheran- Curtis), Vicar Jacinda Jones (St. John's Lutheran - Findlay), Pastor Chris Hanley (Glenwood Lutheran Church - Toledo), Pastor Meg Boger (Zion Lutheran - Waterville), Laurie Mauro, Pastor Steve Bond, and Vicar Natalie. Some spiritual practices include Taizé worship, centering prayer, praying with beads, visio divina, praying the labyrinth, Legos as spiritual practice, art, walking meditation - prairie meadow, improv, hymn singing. This is an *intergenerational group*, meaning all ages are encouraged and welcome to attend! For some practices, kids will break off into a separate group. Sign-ups for this event will be available at the kiosk or on SignUp Genius on our website at www.commofchrist.org by clicking the "Worship & Events Signups" button starting in May. We request that you RSVP for the dates you are planning to attend, so we can

plan for supplies. If any kids will be attending, please enter how many and their ages, or 0 if not applicable.

Kids Summer Reading Program This summer, Community of Christ will be offering a summer reading program for kids. All summer, the Gathering space will house a bookshelf with ten different faith-based picture books for kids to read throughout the summer. Kids are encouraged to pick up a reading checklist, which lists all of the books to read. They can check out up to two books per week by signing out the books on the cards found inside each book and placing them in the "check-out" slot at the bottom of the bookcase. When they are finished reading and return the books, they can take a sticker from the bookshelf and add it to their reading checklist to keep track of what they have read. Once they have read all the books, they can see Vicar Natalie for a prize! The books we are reading include: Found: Psalm 23, Where God Lives, The Apostles' Creed: For All God's Children, Miracle Man: The Story of Jesus, Who is My Neighbor? Maybe God is Like That Too, The Marvelous Mustard Seed, God's Holy Darkness, God Created, What is the Bible?

Father's Day Blessing

On this special day, we gather to honor and celebrate the gift of fathers in our lives. May God bless all fathers with wisdom and strength as they guide their families in faith and love.

Happy Father's Day!

We invite the men of our congregation to enjoy a complimentary gift! Blessings on your day!



Origami Doves As promised from last week's Pentecost service, we welcome you to pick up one of the origami doves at the front on your way back from communion!

Bridge of Hope assists migrant workers with a food pantry, resources, and outreach to the Hispanic community and seasonal migrants. They need assistance from their neighbors to help continue to make this ministry successful. If you can help with any of the following items: empty egg cartons, plastic laundry baskets, deodorant, detergent, lunch boxes, new pillows, can openers, dry beans, dry rice, thinner long-sleeve shirts, toothbrushes and paste, sunscreen, new or gently used pillowcases, new or gently used towels & wash clothes, new or gently used drink jugs, hats, socks, work gloves, sunglasses, toilet paper & paper towels, please place any donations in the box in the Gathering space **by July 27 2025. Thank you!**

Christian Group From Bethlehem (In the Holy Land!) Coming to Community of Christ on June 22, 2025, during worship, we will be hosting a presenter from *Holy Land Christian Solidarity Cooperative*, a group based out of Bethlehem in the Holy Land, who will be making visits at several Lutheran congregations around Northwestern Ohio over the summer. In a Temple Talk during worship, we'll have a chance to hear about the present-day experience of Christians whose families have lived in the Holy Land for generations. After the 9:00 a.m. service, we will have a chance to peruse a display of handmade olive wood religious articles from Bethlehem, available for purchase in the Gathering Space. HLCSC representative Dr. George Ghanem tells us, "These carvings include olive wood Nativity sets, crosses, Christmas ornaments, candle holders, angels, and many other religious crafts that could make a nice wedding, baptism, confirmation, Easter, and Christmas gifts. The carvings are handmade by Christian families from Bethlehem who rely on it for their daily bread." Dr. Ghanem also reports that "More than 70% of the Christian Community in the Holy Land depends upon tourism as their only source of income. For decades, those Christians have been enduring many hardships as tourism in Bethlehem has plummeted and access to other sources of income has been sharply restricted due to recurring bouts of war, the 12-yard wall built around Bethlehem, the COVID-19 pandemic, and right now the catastrophic ongoing war in Gaza for the past nineteen months. Because of all of these factors, tourists are afraid and unable to visit the Holy Land, which has made it very difficult for the Christian families to find their daily bread and forced them to immigrate and flee their homeland without their source of income. The Christian population of the Holy Land was 30% in the last century, today it is less than 1%. If it continues like this, in a few years we will find no Christians in the land of Christ, which could cause tragic consequences to our faith and holy sites. So, we invite you to learn more on June 22 and to consider helping to support our Christian brothers and sisters in the town of Bethlehem, where Christ was born, by purchasing their carvings, from which all proceeds will go to support Christian families from Bethlehem. Let us carefully tend to our roots, Christian children of God in the Holy Land. And let us pray together for peace in the land where our Savior once walked to tell the world the good news of salvation.

Will you help the Visitation Ministry brighten the day of Blue Creek Nursing Center residents this summer? Many of these residents receive little mail, so we thought this would be a great way to lift up their day! 😊🦋💕 It's easy! Simply choose a cheerful card, write a sentence or two of a greeting, sign it from "A friend from Community of Christ", then place it in the appropriate bag on the kiosk, Birthday or Thinking of You.

The **June Ladies Lunch** is scheduled for June 27th at 11:30 a.m. This month, we will gather at 'The Garden at Brandywine,' located at 6904 Salisbury Rd, Maumee, OH 43537. Please remember to sign up at the kiosk for reservations. If you have any questions, feel free to call Becky King at 419-349-7319. Don't forget to bring a friend!

Outreach Invites You to "Be The Evidence of God's Love" with New Apparel



The folks at the Outreach Committee invite you to be faithful—and fashionable!—while we also raise money for a neighborhood cause this summer. We invite you to order one of these new t-shirts with an original design that says, "Be the evidence of God's love" on the front, and has our Community of Christ logo on the sleeve! We'll be taking orders through July and hope to have shirts available in August and definitely in time for Blue Jean Sunday at summer's end! These will be a great way to share your faith, encourage someone to show God's love, and help a good cause. The profits will be sent to

Neighborhood Bridges of Anthony Wayne Area for their weekend backpack food program for school students. Shirts are \$15.00. You can order in person on Sunday mornings by cash or check or use the electronic sign-up on Sign-Up Genius.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EAEAA2AA0F8C34-57071426-community>

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Outreach Committee members. Thank you! Committee Chairman: Greg Myers, Committee Members: Shelly Hayes, Rose Ackerman, Robin Fritz, Kristen Schuchman, Kari Swagler, Cindy Smigelski, Tammy Myers, Cammie Abraham, Pastor Steve

Daytime fellowship activity - An up-close look at God's creation

Are you a nature lover? Do you love a good story? Prepare yourself to be awed and amazed when you spend an hour with the masterpieces of a renowned, forgotten, and then recently re-introduced 17th-century artist, Rachel Ruysch. On Wednesday, July 9, at 1:00 p.m., join Lisa Alleman for a docent-led tour of the groundbreaking Rachel Ruysch: Nature Into Art exhibition at the Toledo Museum of Art. The exhibition is free for museum members, \$10 for non-members, and parking is free. Come early for fellowship and lunch in the museum cafe at 11:45 or just come for the tour at 1:00. Sign up at the kiosk or in SignUp Genius at commofchrist.org.

2025 Building Loan Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
May	\$11,118	\$12,563	(\$1,445)
YTD	\$71,084	\$67,315	\$3,769
2025 General Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
May	\$25,588	\$38,586	(\$12,997)
YTD	\$174,133	\$186,518	(\$12,385)



**Altar Flowers given by Dale & Debbie Grimes. In honor
and remembrance of all our wonderful fathers** 💙

What's Happening!



Stewardship
Monday, June 16, 6:00 p.m.
Summer Story Time
Tuesday, June 17, 10:00 a.m.
LWR Quilt Ministry
Tuesday, June 17, 10:00 a.m.
Book Club
Tuesday, June 17, 1:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study
Thursday, June 19, 1:00 p.m.
Spiritual Practices Series
Thursday, June 19, 6:30



**Sunday mornings, @ 9:00 a.m.,
both in person and Facebook Live**

Church Office Hours
8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
(Monday through Friday)
Please note.....
Hours may vary with vacations.
Please call ahead ☺



Did one of our Bible readings capture your attention today? Was there a story you could picture in your mind? Did a phrase from a hymn or a thought from the sermon start some new ideas or inspire some reflection? Did a Scripture passage spark a question for you to think about? Use this space here as an open canvas for your faithful imagination: you can draw a picture of something you pictured, write a question, take notes from the message

or scriptures, or doodle your faith into a visible form here. Then, either take it with you or leave your thoughts and images here to be shared in an ongoing collection here at Community of Christ!