



Christ Lutheran Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

605 S. 5th Street, Norfolk, Nebraska
402-371-1210 + www.clnorfolk.org

VISION STATEMENT:
Growing together in faith

Week of July 20, 2025

FOCUS

***This week's opportunities
to serve and participate in
the ministries of Christ Lutheran***

Sermon Series Theme: Let's Talk About It ... the 7th Commandment

Readings: Exodus 20:1-3, 15, Ephesians 2:13-22, John 13:31-35

Pastor Carretto's sermon: *"The 7th Commandment
and Jesus' Simple Question!"*

Hymns for 5:30 & 8:00 services

Liturgy: Divine Service 4, pg. 203ff
#853 – "How Clear Is our Vocation, Lord"
#845 – "Where Charity and Love Prevail"
#848 – "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"
#699 – "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"
#700 – "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
#816 – "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

WORSHIP AIDS – please see an usher
for the following ...

- **Personal hearing devices** for the hearing impaired.
- **Non-alcoholic wine** and **gluten-free wafers** are available for Holy Communion.
- **Large print LSB hymnals** for those with limited vision.

Songs for 10:30 service

"Here I Am to Worship" by Hillsong
"Counting My Blessings" by Seph Schlueter
"All the People Said Amen" by Matt Maher

**** FUNERALS** – *Russ Sila* was called to his Savior's side on July 10, 2025. Funeral service and Christian burial were held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025.

Pamela Jacobsen was called to Eternal Rest on July 8, 2025. Christian graveside rites were held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025.

SPECIAL VOTES MEETING - Sunday, August 3 between services (approximately 9:15 a.m.)
Agenda: approval of bylaw change regarding membership attendance. Your participation would be greatly appreciated for this short, yet important meeting. Watch for more detailed information next week.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT

**** NEXT SUNDAY** – The 3rd **Annual Hymn Festival** is just one week away – Sunday, July 27 at 3:00 p.m. Come hear and sing some of your favorite hymns accompanied by brass, strings, woodwinds and handbells. The event will feature a 30-voice choir, 25 instrumentalists and 11 handbell ringers. Some of the featured hymns include: "Thy Strong Word," "Abide with Me," "Praise to the Lord," and "God's Own Child I Gladly Say It." There's much more. Bring your friends and come join us for this musical event!

**** FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION** – Christ Lutheran is responsible for serving the Norfolk Food Pantry during the month of July. Nonperishable grocery items and canned goods are being collected here at the church until July 27. Please look for the collection boxes in the narthex under the south coat rack.

ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD

**** SUNDAYS** – 9:15 in Fellowship Hall. Join Pastor Carretto in a study of **1st Corinthians**.

**** MONDAYS** – 7:00 p.m. Join Pastor Carretto for “**Minor Prophets of the Old Testament**” – Delve into the stories behind these individuals and discover how they carry out their role in God's plan.

**** TUESDAYS** – 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. All are welcome to join us for fellowship and faith conversations studying God's Word. Meet at Inspire Home & Land Realty, 2100 Market Lane – Suite 700.

Tuesday Men's Breakfast/Bible Class meets bi-weekly at 7:00 a.m. at Orphan Grain Train (enter east door)

**** WEDNESDAY MORNINGS** – 9:30-10:30 a.m. Join Pastor Moreno in the Fellowship Hall. Current study on the **Book of Luke**.

**** THURSDAYS** – 6:30 a.m. “**The Letters of the Apostle Paul**” is the current focus for Men's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast is included. Led by Monte Glaser.

YOUTH CONNECTION

**** NO YOUTH EVENTS THIS WEEK** – No youth events are scheduled this week because of the National Youth Gathering. See you next week for our “normal programming!”

- **9-12 grade girls:** Your Small Group with Megan continues at Skyview Park from 6-7:00 p.m. on Monday. Meet at the tables by the playground.
- **ALL boys:** Meet for fishing at Ta-Ha-Zouka this week on Tuesday from 5-6:30 p.m.
- **ALL 9-12 grade youth:** Join our leadership Bible study Tuesday from 7-8:00 p.m. at the Woltmann home.

**** PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING** for the 21 youth and 5 adults in New Orleans for the Youth Gathering.

Have you been getting the texts? Email Cori Woltmann at cwoltmann@clnorfok.org or text at 507-456-5380 to make sure you are added!

**** GETTING THE EMAILS?** - If you have not been getting the weekly Focus emails, it means your profile needs to be updated in our system! Emails are sent out weekly, and if you have children, updates about youth and children's ministry are sent out that way also. If you think your profile needs updating, you can contact Lynn Walmsley at lwalmsley@clnorfok.org, and she can help you!

**** PARENT RESOURCE:** We have a couple awesome resources to share with you (and remind you about!)

1. **Axis.org** – This is an organization that takes a Biblical approach on tons of worldly and parenting topics. There is so much awesome stuff on their website (check it out!), but specifically, I want to recommend the “Culture Translator” – their free weekly newsletter that sends a summary of what is going on in the culture of youth, and how to talk about it with your kids ... everything from the latest movie, current events, slang, etc. It is a quick, informative read. Plus, it gives you an opportunity to learn cool words and try them out on your kids and grandkids. *(Let us know what look you get.)* Here is the link to try it out – <https://axis.org/culture-translator/>
2. **Plugged In** - This is a website through Focus on the Family that gives an honest review of not only movies, but books, YouTube channels, music, etc. It gives a look at the positives and negatives of multiple areas. <https://www.pluggedin.com/>

**** THANK YOU** – For everyone who filled out the pledge card some months ago, thank you again! If you give electronically or by bank draft, please insure that the amount taken out reflects your pledge. We are so grateful for you and all who support the ministries of Christ Lutheran Church!

STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE (through General Fund Offerings)		
Week of July 13, 2025	Actual	\$ 29,030
STEWARDSHIP OF TIME		
Week of July 13, 2025	Worship	474

**** LB531 BENEFIT:** The LB 531 tax credit recently brought \$45,000 to our income. We faced a deficit this year and we are grateful to receive this wonderful gift that will partially defray expenses. And the best part is: It is an avenue to redirect payments from state taxes to Christ Lutheran! Thank you!

Building Healthy Families: It's been said that children may not always be good at listening to adults, but they never fail to imitate them. Consider this: the words you speak are less important than the everyday life you lead. Your children (and grandchildren) are constantly learning about life by watching you. What an immense responsibility. What an incredible privilege! Pray that God will help you to be the kind of adult you want your child (or grandchild) to become. Find inspiration from the One whose love, humility, obedience, honesty, and faithfulness we're encouraged to imitate. (Ephesians 5:1-2; Philippians 2:5-11; and 1 John 2:6) Lutheran Family Service www.LutheranFamilyService.org	LIFE QUOTE: July 20 "Sometimes the answer to a problem is as simple as asking for help. Let's not hesitate to bring all our questions, troubles, and needs to the Lord. Thank Him for the people He provides for our help. Pray that He will give you the opportunity today to be His help to others." <i>Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org</i>
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**** FLOWER CALENDAR BOOK** – If you would like to sign up to provide flowers on the altar for worship services, the Flower Calendar Book is now located at the Connect Desk in the narthex. Please select your dates on the calendar provided and then fill out a flower form to return to the Church Office. Providing flowers for the altar is a wonderful way to honor a special occasion or remember a loved one.

**** RECYCLE DEVOTION BOOKS** in the box on the narthex shelf. Orphan Grain Train will happily take them.

**** BOOK CLUB** - The next Book Club meeting will be Monday, August 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel. We will be reading "Memories of the Heart" by Valerie M. Bodden. Contact Ann for more information.

**** CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** – designed to provide caregivers with the resources to care for their loved ones while also taking care of themselves. The group meets on Tuesday, July 29 at 10:00 a.m. at The Meadows, 500 South 18th Street. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact The Meadows at 402-371-1730.

**** BIRTHRIGHT BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER** – Norfolk Knights of Columbus are hosting a delicious breakfast on Sunday, July 20, from 8:00-11:30 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 105 Elm Street, Norfolk. All proceeds from this breakfast benefit Birthright of Norfolk and the clients that are served by them. Please plan to attend to enjoy some great food and fellowship. A free will donation will be accepted.

Birthingright is your local pregnancy center. They work with young ladies that may be experiencing an unplanned pregnancy by walking through the pregnancy with them and then assisting them with their childcare needs once the baby is born.

**** CLICKERS/LIVESTREAM:** We need people to click the slides or run the camera for the worship services. Training is provided. All Sunday services need volunteers. Please consider helping one Sunday a month. Contact Lynn (lwalsley@clnorfolk.org) or Ann Henny (ahenny@clnorfolk.org) for more information.

LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHEAST

Educating for Life + Promoting the Faith



Lutheran High Northeast

2010 N. 37th St. Norfolk, NE 68701
Office 402-379-3040 Fax 402-379-8340
Email info@lhne.org Web www.lhne.org



JR. EAGLES VOLLEYBALL INTEREST FORM GRADES 3-8

This is an interest survey to get an idea of the athletes in grades 3rd-8th who would like to play volleyball in the fall with the Jr. Eagles.

SurveyCode:<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdY2oN8FSXqOZb4kRZ42t3uuSmXznAD9zxMF31VxiyFfJu87g/viewform?usp=header>

**** 2025 BEEF BLAST – August 24!** We would love your help making the Beef Blast this year a great success! On Sunday, August 24, the school is transformed into a welcoming place full of delicious food, silent and live auctions, and games. This is our largest fundraiser of the year for student tuition aid, the mission and ministry of the school, and student needs. We need your help to make this day successful! Throughout the summer, we will be receiving donated items to put on the silent and live auctions. Would you or your business have an item or service that could be added? Items vary greatly, and usually auction for more than their value, which makes the donation even more meaningful. We would love to have your support through a donation, and keep Sunday, August 24th, free for a fun day!

**** SPIRITWEAR STORE OPEN** - The LHNE Spiritwear Store is up and set to close on Friday, August 15th at 10 a.m! Here is a link for you to share with everyone: <https://lhnespiritwear25.itemorder.com/>

**** EAGLE CARD SALES** – 2025-2026 LHNE Eagle cards are now available from the LHNE office or a LHNE student. Cost is only \$10 for a lot of great local business deals.

**** UPCOMING EVENTS**

Thursday, August 7 – Registration Day

Monday, August 11 – New Student Orientation

Tuesday, August 12 – First Day of School

SCHOOL CONNECTION



**** SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE** – is currently underway. List of specific needs for various grade levels is available in the narthex. There is also a need for boxes of Kleenex for the classrooms. All contributions are appreciated as we look forward to a new school year beginning next month.

**** UPCOMING EVENTS**

Tuesday, August 5 – Registration Day (9 a.m. – 7 p.m.)

Thursday, August 14 – First Day of School (11:45 dismissal)

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 20 – National Youth Gathering

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Bible Class
- 10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, July 21

- 1:00 p.m. Finance
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Tuesday, July 22

- 6:15 p.m. Board of Education

Wednesday, July 23

- 9:30 a.m. NO Bible Class this week

Thursday, July 24

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 1 1:15 p.m. Veterans Home Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Hymn Festival Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, July 26

- 9:00 a.m. Mass Festival Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday, July 27 – Hymn Festival Day

- 8:00 a.m. Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Bible Class
- 10:30 a.m. Communion
- 3:00 p.m. Hymn Festival

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
and Friday, 8 a.m. – 12 noon**

**ITEMS FOR NEXT WEEK'S FOCUS ARE DUE
BY 10 A.M. WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**

SUPPORT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHILDCARE – *AND GET IT ALL BACK!*

Exciting news for Nebraska taxpayers! You can now make a meaningful impact on faith-based early childhood education and receive a 100% Nebraska state income tax credit through the **LB531 Child Care Contribution Tax Credit**. This is a unique opportunity to give generously – at no net cost to you!

Here's What You Need to Know:

- **100% State Tax Credit** – Every dollar you contribute to Christ Lutheran Childcare is credited back to you on your Nebraska income tax return.
- **Who Can Give?** Nebraska individuals, businesses, and corporations with state income tax liability are all eligible.
- **Simple Process** – Write a check to Christ Lutheran Church (memo: "LB531 Childcare Contribution"), drop it off at the church office, and complete the provided forms.
- **We'll Help You Through It** – the church office will assist with forms and provide everything you need to submit your application to the Nebraska Department of Revenue.
- **Invest in What Matters** – Your gift supports a quality, Christ-centered early learning environment – shaping young hearts and minds for life.

Questions or Ready to Give? Call the Church Office at 402-371-1210. We're here to help!

PRAYER REQUESTS 07.20.25

Please remember the following in prayer during the coming week. You may also want to send a card or note to those on this week's prayer list to let them know they are being thought of.

- For those battling cancer, for their families and caregivers.
- For those homebound, in care centers, nursing homes, suffering long-term illness; facing tests, uncertainties about their health, undergoing surgery, or going through difficult times.
- For those with health concerns this week including Stacy Tjaden, Keith Johnson, Ryan Schulz, Dorothy Freudenburg, Robert Schulz, April King, Evelyn Kurpgeweit,
- For those celebrating 80 years or more of birthday blessings including: Terri Hankins (7/22), Lucy Sanders (7/22), Stephen Salisbury (7/27)
- Thanksgiving for a baby boy, Weston Jay, born to Damian and Alexis Smith (7/15).
- For Doug and Twylia Speidel and family in the loss of their son, Jeffrey.
- Blessings for the 21 youth and 5 adults participating in the National Youth Gathering.
- For Pastor Kapels and family as he deliberates his newest call to Beautiful Savior, Lavista as well as his call to serve here at Christ Lutheran.

PRAYER REQUESTS & PASTORAL NEEDS – for Prayer Requests or special needs requiring pastoral care, please contact the Church Office (402-371-1210). We will handle needs on an individual basis.

PARTNERING PROJECT FOR O.G.T. CHRISTMAS BOXES

Priscillas and Christ Lutheran Childcare are partnering to collect items for the Orphan Grain Train Christmas Gift Box project. Donations will be accepted through July 31, 2025. **The collection point for these items is Christ Lutheran Childcare.** A list of these items is provided in the following article.

- ♥ **Drop-off info:** Items can be dropped off inside the Childcare entryway between **8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday**. They will then be delivered to Grace Lutheran Church for packaging.
- ♥ **Interested in seeing our childcare facility?** We'd love to show you around! Stop by between 10:00 - 1:00 a.m. on any Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday when dropping off your OGT donations.

Monetary items and Thrivent cards are welcome and can be placed in the Priscilla mailbox at the church.

- ♥ **PACKING - Priscillas** and guests will be packing the Christmas boxes at Grace Lutheran, 416 West Park Avenue on Tuesday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m. (Please use the door off the north parking lot to enter and go to the basement.)

**** ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN CHRISTMAS GIFT BOXES** – Last year was a milestone for our Christmas Box Project! Since we started six years ago, we have sent 10,301 Christmas boxes to children all around the world. Once again, we are collecting monetary gifts, clothing, and toys to pack more boxes. This summer we are collecting the following items:

dolls, Barbies ,blocks (Legos, Duplos, wooden)
baseball gloves, small cars (Matchbox, Hot Wheels)
pony beads - embroidery floss - and scissors
decks of playing cards
hair barrettes (and rubber bands, bows)
play food, jump ropes, stuffed animals
T-shirts (sizes 2T-Youth L)
new 24-count boxes of Crayons
new underwear (sizes 2T-Youth XL), new socks (sizes 2T-Youth L)

All items (except crayons, underwear, and socks) may be either new or used and can be dropped off at Grace Lutheran Church (416 Park Avenue). Monetary donations will be used to purchase other items to fill the boxes and can be sent (marked "Grace Lutheran Christmas Box Project") to Grace Lutheran Church or Orphan Grain Train, Norfolk. We are collecting donations through July 31. If you have any questions or would like to help pack the boxes, contact Kelly Asbury (402-371-3521). You can help these children know they are precious and that Jesus is the greatest gift of all!