



The Messenger

*News about our church,
our ministries and our people
JULY & AUGUST 2021
Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool*

This is a combined newsletter for July and August.

September Fellowship Event Crockpot Luncheon, Sunday, September 26

By Karen Hoeppner

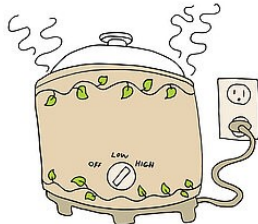
We have some exciting news to give you for the upcoming Fellowship Event scheduled for September!

There will be a Crockpot Luncheon on Sunday, September 26, in the Fellowship Hall, following the church service.

Anyone who wants to come and participate, but doesn't want to bring an entrée in a crockpot, is invited to bring rolls, salad or dessert. We hope everyone will come and join together for a great lunch and fellowship.

There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex in August for you to sign up if you're coming and also what you would like to bring. We're looking forward to seeing everyone as it's been way too long since we've been able to get together.

Blessings,
The Fellowship Committee



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A note from your Living Waters Stewardship Team

Watch your mailbox or your email inbox for a copy of your 2021 mid-year financial giving statement. It will be sent out in July for your review.

And again, ***A Special Thanks*** for your ongoing support of Living Waters Lutheran Church, both through your financial stewardship and the volunteer support you contribute throughout the year.

Also, please remember your mailed in offerings are welcomed, if you are unable to attend services or while you're away on a summer vacation.

Rich Pelto, Stewardship

Baptism of Cooper Dylan Bozich, June 7, 2021

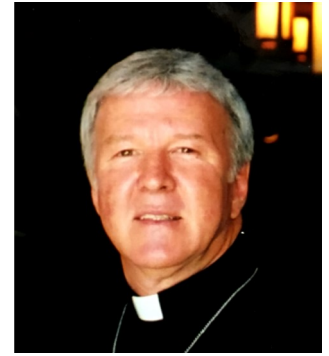


Cooper is the grandson of members
Ila and David Bozich.

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you: I have called you by name, You are mine. Isaiah 43:1

From the Pastor

By Rev. Lyle Truitt



“Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy..... meditate on these things.

Philippians 4:8

Greetings Dear Ones!

When I was a boy, I recall hearing older folks saying that time is more precious than money, or any other accomplishment that a person might achieve in their lifetime. How true this is! Time is indeed a forward-moving process that doesn't wait on anybody. And there's no **'DO OVERS'**. Time is a commodity that you must use with utmost care, for even the minutes you have just spent reading this newsletter will not be returned to you.

When we are young, we lose sight of the value of time. We get so busy with our day-to-day lives that we don't even notice when the hours pass into days, into weeks, and into months. Occasionally, a significant event such as someone's birthday, or someone else's major health concern, jars a person into recognizing their own vulnerability.

I think most of you know that I have difficulty with balance because of numbness in my feet. I've been dealing with it for five years, and had concluded it was caused by peripheral neuropathy. And of course there isn't a cure for this illness; one just has to 'buck up' and put up with it. It has truly changed my life, and slowed me down, and narrowed my options of day to day activities. I have so many times ministered to, and prayed with, and encouraged others who are coping with ailments; and lo and behold, the table has turned.

Well recently, my family physician suggested I see a neurologist to see if this numbness may be caused by something else besides neuropathy. And so I did, and lo and behold, he explained to me that the numbness is sometimes caused by spinal stenosis in the cervical spine area. So, I had an M.R.I. and yes, I have stenosis in my cervical spine. Then the neurologist suggested I be examined by a neurosurgeon to get a second opinion. And so I did that, and the neurosurgeon had me do another M.R.I., and after reviewing it along with the tests that the neurologist completed, he suggested surgery.

He said the stenosis would become a greater problem for me, so it should be removed; and the surgery could possibly diminish or remove the numbness in my feet. SO, after talking this info over with my dear wife, Loni, and praying, we have decided to schedule the surgery to remove the stenosis, and ROLL THE DICE to see if the numbness may be diminished....which would hopefully change my life FOR THE BETTER! The surgery will be August 2!

But folks, regardless of the outcome of this surgery, this experience has had me looking in the mirror, and studying myself and my life. And I think God has helped me to realize that I am so much more than who I think I am, or who I FEEL I am at the present time. Regardless of the physical condition of my body, I am confident that God will rekindle in me a confidence and an energy to continue to live each and every day with vitality.

God has helped me to realize once again that every day is to be enjoyed! We need to embrace each and every season of our life, and to grow into that person that no one else has ever seen before or will ever be again-----YOU!

See you around town! Pastor Lyle

Council Meeting Recap—June 14, 2021

Submitted by Barb Cartwright, Council Secretary

The meeting opened with a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the May 10 meeting and the Council Retreat on May 22 were approved.

The Worship Committee report included - the offering plate will remain in the center aisle for now, but the plate will be brought forward for the blessing at the altar by Pastor. Communion will remain as it currently is through the summer. Sign up sheets for volunteer opportunities will again be available in the Narthex. Announcements are now displayed on the front wall before services, so no

bulletin will be printed. The newsletter will be distributed by email, with only a few copies available in the Narthex.

Community meals will continue with pick-up only through the summer.

There will be no council meeting in July and August unless needed. The next meeting will be Monday, Sept. 13, 2021.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Calling All Veterans

By Steve Vaughan

As we celebrate the 4th of July, we thank God for the blessings our nation has received from Him. And, we remember those who have served in the military, those who fought to win our independence, and all those who have served to protect and preserve it.

With that in mind, we are looking four months forward, to Veterans' Day on November 11th. We would like to honor all members of our congregation who have served in the military. If you were in the armed services or if you are the surviving spouse of a church member who served, please help us honor that service and sacrifice for our continued freedom.

Please contact me in person, via email, or phone call to be included in this recognition. You deserve our gratitude and our congratulations.

Stephen Vaughan
443-690-4678
captainhappi@hotmail.com



Worship and Music

By Kim Vaughan



I have been so excited lately! It has been so nice to be able to sing as a congregation again!

When I was a young girl in the Methodist Church, I was always fascinated that in the front of the *United Methodist Hymnal* you could find John Wesley's rules for singing. The eight rules were first published in the 1761 hymnbook. Lately, I have had rule number 4 on my mind:

"Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan."

It is so wonderful on Sunday mornings to hear everyone's voices singing praises to our God. After a year of not being able to sing we should never take singing together for granted. We should all sing lustily and with good courage for the rest of our days here on earth!

In the fall we will be resuming choir rehearsals. I have been busy selecting music for when we resume.

I am hoping to have a music series of at least two special music events at our church next winter. One is a collaborative event with Fellowship. Peg and Emery Williams will be presenting their music at the Wine and Cheese Event.

We will also be having a concert by "Tammy Renee". She is a Nashville recording artist who lives here in Port Charlotte and has graciously agreed to come sing for us! More information to come about these two events.

Blessings, Kim

Kayaking in a Hidden Florida

By Craig Bitler

I have been boating and sailing since I was about 4 years old. It wasn't until I retired that I started kayaking. Kayaking has become a very enjoyable pastime. So much so, that I started to acquire extra kayaks to allow my children and grandchildren to join me during their visits. Our Kayaking adventures have been memorable. There is a hidden Florida



out there, which can only be accessed by very small vessels, like a kayak. There are small streams and rivers of "living waters," teeming with fish, manatees, turtles, cormorants, otters and, of course, alligators. The water is also full of lilies and other water plants. Out of the water, we find exotic birds of all sizes and colors. Oak trees are not my favorite trees, especially in parking lots. However, to kayak under the shade of an Oak tree, completely covered with ferns, moss, flowers and multicolored air plants,

is spectacular. The flora along the streams is beautiful. We have also kayaked some of the most well-known mangrove tunnels in Florida. To get out in nature and witness God's creations is breathtaking.



Pastor Lyle

This year I made a resolution to get out on the water more frequently and experience this hidden Florida. I also thought how wonderful it would be to include my Church Brothers and Sisters in these adventures. I have kayaks and all the necessary

Marty Savard and Craig Bitler



Terry Bowman, Marty Savard, Barb Cartwright for a lunch stop

equipment for seven people. We are also inviting anyone who may have their own kayaks to join us. We have been making two scheduled adventures per month, along with a few special events. Normally we plan to get underway at 10 a.m., eat lunch (often rafted up and afloat on the water), and then return by 1 p.m. There are hundreds of kayaking locations in Sarasota and Charlotte counties. No experience is necessary. You are welcome to join us in our adventures and experience God's work in nature. Kayaking details for our next adventure are distributed by email. Would you like your name added to the list? If interested, please contact me for more information either at church, by email at cdbitler@comcast.net, or by phone at (941)234-6311.

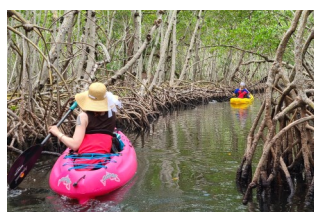
Blessings. Craig Bitler



Kim and Steve Vaughan... and ...Kim's fish that got away.



B. Cartwright with her new kayak



Mangrove tunnels at S. Lido Key, Sarasota

Living Waters Lutheran Church & Preschool — July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	2 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	3
4 Worship Service 10:00 AM	5 Council Reports Due	6	7 Cut Ups 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	8 Bread & Pastry Ministry 10:30 AM	9 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	10
11 Worship Service 10:00 AM	12	13	14	15 Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	16 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	17
18 Worship Service 10:00 AM	19	20	21 Cut Ups 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	22 Bread & Pastry Ministry 10:30 AM	23 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	24
25 Worship Service 10:00 AM	26	27	28	29 Bread & Pastry Ministry 10:30 AM	30 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	31

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship Service 10:00 AM	2 Council Reports Due	3	4 Cut Ups 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	5 Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	6 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	7
8 Worship Service 10:00 AM	9	10	11	12 Bread & Pastry Ministry 10:30 AM	13 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	14
15 Worship Service 10:00 AM	16	17	18 Cut Ups 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	19 Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	20 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	21
22 Worship Service 10:00 AM	23	24	25	26 Bread & Pastry Ministry 10:30 AM	27 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	28
29 Worship Service 10:00 AM	30	31				



Happy Birthday

Surprise someone on the list by sending a birthday greeting.

July 3 Deb Poe
 July 5 Brit Lund
 July 6 JoAnnDorrough
 Donna Suchy
 July 10 Giulia Morgan
 July 13 Erzell Wade
 July 21 Phyllis Shantz
 July 27 Stanley Bliss
 July 31 Bonnie Jensen
 Christine Norton

August 4 Carmine Tortora
 August 9 Pat Dinges
 August 15 Bob Hatfield
 August 17 Dennis Proto
 August 19 Barbara Eriksen
 August 25 Joni Anderson
 Valerie Biassi

Need some batteries! We have free batteries in the narthex! They are used for our headset microphones and need to be replaced every week. So they are lightly used! Help yourself!

Physical Address

Living Waters Lutheran Church
 and Preschool
 12475 Chancellor Blvd,
 Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Mailing Address

PO Box 8064, North Port, FL 34290

941-625-8090

www.livingwaterslutheran.com

Church Office: Kris Dines

kris@livingwaterslutheran.com

Pastor Lyle Truitt:

plylet65@gmail.com

Deacons:

Kim Vaughan	Steve Vaughan
notmuchafraid	captainhappi
@hotmail.com	@hotmail.com

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Mon-Thurs.

Council Members:

<i>Craig Bitler, President/Property</i>	<i>Marty Savard, Financial Sec/</i>
<i>941-234-6311</i>	<i>Member Care</i>
<i>cdbitler@comcast.net</i>	<i>941-766-6139</i>
	<i>savardmarty@comcast.net</i>

Joanne Carlock, Vice
President/ Fellowship
941-426-5434
jcarlock99@yahoo.com

Sue Hill, Member at Large
941-255-9089

Barb Cartwright, Secretary
941-743-4770
anchorstitch@aol.com

Rich Pelto, Treasurer
941-426-9160
randdjpelto@gmail.com

Carolann Cortese, Small
Groups
941-429-0422
carolanncortese@aol.com

Bill Steen, Property Maint.
352-445-9476
billysteen11@gmail.com

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To have information included in the newsletter, please write your content and send it to Barb Cartwright, editor and publisher: anchorstitch@aol.com or phone 941-743-4770. Articles must be submitted by the 21st of each month. Articles may be edited.

If you have questions about our church, its ministries or about becoming a member, please email Pastor Truitt at plylet65@gmail.com or call 941-625-8090.