THE COMMUNITY Spirit
THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - COLUMBIA, IL
AUGUST 2018

Being Church Near & Far

ServantsGarden
a ministry of Christ Community

One of the ways we are "being church" locally is by feeding the hungry through our Servants Garden. The harvesting has begun with dozens of crates already having made their way to area food pantries.

Over the next two months, hundreds of crates and thousands of pounds of fresh produce from our own "back yard" will be delivered to 7+ different food pantries who will then pass it along to people in need of assistance. This garden exists because of your generosity in your regular giving as well as the amazing efforts of the Garden Team. If you'd like to help with the harvest season or delivery, please reach out to Mark Hendershot or Bob Bauer today!!

We are also "being church" when we join with other churches in our synod to accomplish more than we could on our own. This summer ten youth participated in a week long leadership camp called Leadership Lab put on by all three synods in Illinois. These ten young people come back to us with their faith on fire and newly equipped to be better leaders in their church, their community, their family, and their school.

National Youth Gathering

Finally, we are also church nationally and even globally. One amazing expression of this is the triennial National Youth Gathering which ten members of our church attended in Houston last month along with over 30,000 others from around the country! Everyone served, worshipped, learned, connected, and came together as God's Church in amazing ways!! This trip was made possible because of the generosity of many in the congregation over the past year of preparation!! Thanks to all who gave, prayed, and supported to make this life-changing journey possible!

Next stop? 2021, Minneapolis, MN

New Office Assistant Hired

A year ago we were preparing to expand our Hilltop Kids Ministries by expanding an existing classroom to make way for more kids in our early childhood learning center. That expansion concluded in 2017, all new spaces have since been filled with families on waiting lists, and the program continues to grow and flourish. What an amazing blessing Hilltop has become to the community! We are very proud of its reputation throughout Monroe County and grateful for how Hilltop fosters the strength of our overall church.

As a result there is so much more to do these days in order to maintain the excellence that families have come to expect at Hilltop. The need for an Office Assistant, while already approved for this year's budget, has amplified tremendously and become an urgent priority. So it is very exciting to report that the council has officially hired Amanda Stapf as our new Office Assistant.

Amanda comes to us with over ten years of experience and will be a tremendous asset to our staff team. She will bring a wonderful presence as the first face and voice you will hear when reaching out to the church. Additionally, Amanda has great reason to want to see everything at Christ Community blossom and grow as her vestment goes beyond a job—Amanda, her husband Matt, and their son Logan pictured above, joined our fellowship almost a year ago. So for Amanda, it's more than a job. This is an opportunity to work and serve the Lord in this place, and through her efforts, help the ministries of Christ Community grow and touch lives.

Amanda begins on August 6th and in general will work from 7 to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday. She will be assisting both our Director of Hilltop Kids Ministries, Jenese and our Office Manager, Penny. Welcome her when you have a chance either during the week or when you see her on Sunday mornings.

Welcome to the office team, Amanda. We are thrilled to have you!

Church Council Leadership

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These are people of the church just like you - people who have families and jobs and lives outside of this place. As members of council they are committed to giving their all to serve God's mission in this church and represent you all. If you have thoughts, questions, or concerns, they would love to hear from you directly and get to know you more. Feel free to reach out to them personally as you're able. Remember there are also monthly "Fireside Chats with Council". It's an informal chance to visit with a couple members of council and occurs every month or so.

Getting Ready for a New Year

We Pray as a Faith Community for All Our Students
We Pray for Learning, Growth, Safety, & Nurture
We Pray for Teachers, Administrators, Coaches, Conductors, & Staff
We Pray for Parents, Grandparents, Guardians, & Caregivers

Bring your backpacks and join in during worship this day!
A special memento will be given to each student attending!!

No Experience Necessary.
A love of young people and the Lord
is all it takes!

Teaching as a Team…
Each class is formed by a team of at least three people. What does that mean to you? It means this gives some more flexibility so you are not lesson planning every week and you have the opportunity to attend Adult Ed periodically.

NOT SURE IF YOU CAN TEACH?
That's OK. We need great assistants who can support the teachers and love the kids.

The rewards are endless when it comes to helping others discover God in their lives!

Interested?
Contact Ryan Kriesch to find out more!

Youth & Family New Year Orientation

Youth & Family

As your young people prepare to head back to school, it's time to look ahead to a new year of youth ministry at CCLC and this year will take on a whole new look as we hit the road with our new youth director, Ryan.

Please plan to come to a very important informational session on Sunday, August 12th, right after worship. This is for ALL parents of kids 3rd grade and up.

Ryan truly hopes to have the opportunity to meet each and every one of you, share his hopes for the new year, and give you a preliminary look at the calendar of events for the entire year including some fun summer possibilities for 2019! This is a REALLY important meeting for all families so mark it on your calendar right now!!

CONFIRMATION

Back to school time also means the beginning of another year of Confirmation. Confirmation is about faith formation and relationship building for young people in 7th & 8th grade. All such students AND their parents are invited to an orientation session on Sunday, August 26th following worship. It will be a time to learn more about the year ahead, the schedule of classes, and the expectations for this important faith milestone in the lives of these young people. This session is for both new AND returning students and at least one parent (both where possible). Talk to Pastor Jared if you plan to enroll your son/ daughter.

Mission & Outreach at CCLC

Offering the Heart of Christ with our Hands

Mission and Outreach would like to thank our wonderful congregation for their support of the summer missions! A small but mighty group passed out free lunches on most Tuesdays at Metter park for the Twigs program as we partnered with our brothers & sisters from Bethany UMC all summer long. We also raised $380 through your generous donations for our Savers mission!

With back to school looming ever closer for our students, we are again collecting school supplies for children in need. See our bulletin board for suggestions of what to donate.

FINALLY, we are also looking to change some of our fall missions, so be sure to check on what may be new and different (don't worry, the Fair Trade market and Adopt A Family are not going away!).

Take a break from the heat this summer and join in one final special movie night offering sponsored by our Faith Formation Team. Films reflect our real life in some shape or form, so within this popular form of entertainment lay lessons to be learned and embraced. August 8th is your last chance to get in on these great discussions with a film fit for young and old.

Our feature film is "***COCO***".

Come at 6:30 pm and bring a snack to share!

Child care will be provided.

"An animated feature for the whole family to enjoy and learn from!"

THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

August 9-10, 2018 | willowcreek.com/summit

A dozen people are slated to attend this year's Leadership Summit being held this year on Thursday & Friday, August 9th & 10th, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days. This is a high-quality event that exposes every participant to world class speakers and transformational material relevant to our lives as leaders at home, work, church...anywhere! We still have some spots available so don't miss out! Contact Penny if you're interested. Cost is only $109...less than half the regular rate.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 9th

God's Work | Our Hands Sunday

It's our fifth straight year of spending one simple Sunday morning to worship through our service! ***God's Work | Our Hands Sunday*** invites us to worship the Lord through our actions—*DOING* God's Work instead of just *TALKING* about it! And on this 5th anniversary of GWOH our "service" will take on a brand new form and have a singular focus as we ALL spend that morning helping to feed the hungry of the world right here in our own church! No experience necessary—God just needs YOUR hands for HIS work! Details coming soon! (see the article to the right about GWOH shirts)

Sunday, September 16th

RALLY SUNDAY

This day marks the beginning of the Fall Worship Schedule (with worship changing back to 10:30 a.m.), Sunday School, Youth Group, and so much more. A festive spirit will mark the whole morning that young and old can be excited about. Make sure you're here as we launch into another amazing year together!! Stay tuned to next month's Community Spirit for all the details!

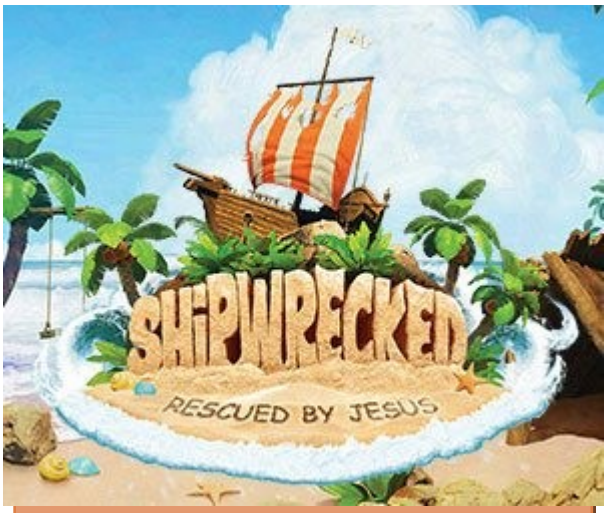
Official GWOH Shirts

Buy or Swap

Show your serving spirit on God's Work Our Hands Sunday. Wear/Buy/Update your blue GWOH shirt! As in past years, we will have an exchange basket for t-shirts and there will also be a limited quantity of new shirts for sale. For any questions contact Emily Velnosky today.

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Raising Young People to Know God and be Transformed by Christ



Vacation Bible School 2018

By the time this newsletter is in your hands, VBS will be just a couple days away from launching into another amazing summer adventure!! But it's not too late even now to get involved. If you need your child signed up please contact Penny. If you still want to volunteer or have a question about the week, please contact Ryan. Regardless, hold this week of faith exploration and transformation in your prayers. May it be a fun and exciting time, but so much more. May God use it to change lives!!

Don't miss the finale of VBS on Sunday morning, Aug 5th, when our young people give their own witness of Jesus through their words, songs, & prayers during worship.

Thanks in advance to all who helped, donated, participated, and prayed for this year's Vacation Bible School! It happens each year only by the grace of God and that grace is expressed in part through the hearts of so many who give of their time, talents, and treasures.

Youth & Families Final Summer FUN

AUGUST 2ND
Amplify Lunch Break
12:30 at Burger King

AUGUST 5TH
Hello/Goodbye Party
Following worship—Location TBD
A fun day of welcoming the incoming 6th graders to Ignite, the incoming 9th graders to Amplify and we say goodbye to the outgoing graduates before they go off to college.

August 7th
Youth Steering Team Meeting
6:30 pm at CCLC.

August 11th
Parents' Day Out
9 am to 2 pm.
Do you want a day for back to school shopping, or maybe a lunch date with spouse? Let us take care of your kids while you have a day to yourselves. We provide lunch and fun. Freewill donations will be gladly received for to support youth ministry at CCLC.

August 12
Backpack Sunday
Children, Youth and Family Orientation, 11 am to noon
The Rock, noon to 2 pm

August 16
Wake Up Call Kicks Off
McDonald's 7 am

August 19th
CCLC Back to School BBQ
11 am to 3 pm
Join us after worship for games, activities and fun for all after worship service. All ages are welcome and activities for all ages including Water Wars. Lunch will be served at noon.

August 26th
Confirmation Orientation
11 am to noon
All 7th & 8th Graders and Parents
See related article on page 3

August Birthdays

3 Thaddeus Hubler
5 Allie Sternau
6 Jennifer Preston
9 Aleiya Abram
Mikaela Renaud
Beth Bauer
10 Dotty Merchant
14 Allan Lourwood
Heather Speckhard
17 Margaret DeBonis
Ryan Kriesch
18 Sandra Menees
William Timmons
19 Josie Craig
Jennifer Gavlin
20 Heather Gutknecht
Kyle Vogt
21 Ryan Rodemich
25 London Cronin
26 Hannah Eichner
27 Marilyn Raban
29 Jill Georger

Congregational Offerings

We give thanks to God for all who generously support the mission and ministry of Christ Community.
We can't do God's Work without your support!

Budgeted Year-to-date Offering Goal	**$ 94,750**
Actual Year-to-date Offerings	**$ 94,394**

Amounts as of end of June

LIFE PASSAGES

WEDDING

Bound through Love in Christ
Taylor Schoentag
Daughter of Chris & Bev Schoentag
&
Nick Sitzes
Married—July 22, 2018

BAPTISMS

Brought into the Family of God
Nolan Jack Sternau
Son of Tim & Allie Sternau
May 27, 2018, 2018

Charlotte Rose Eugea
Daughter of Craig & Rhonda Eugea
June 3, 2018

Kellan Jon Kovarik
Son of Jonathan & Dana Kovarik
June 17, 2018

Adults in Action This Summer

TOP OF THE HILL GANG
Join us Aug 5th, right after church at Joe's Pizza and Pasta. They are opening especially for us with a buffet of pasta and salad. See Bob Bauer for more details or sign up at the Welcome Center.
All Are Welcome

The SSALT of Christ Community
SSALT ladies meet monthly this summer
All women of CCLC are always invited

- Aug 12, 7:30pm at Karen Walker's
- Aug 19—provide side dishes for the Back to School BBQ

Group 133 Men's Group
August 18th
Saturday Morning Breakfast
8:30 a.m. at CCLC

Grow in God's Word for Your Life Every Week

Dig into God's Word each week

Week of Aug 5th—Time after Pentecost
Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 78:23-29; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

Week of Aug 12th—Time after Pentecost
1 Kings 19-4-8; Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

Week of Aug 19th—Time after Pentecost
Proverbs 9:1-6; Psalm 34:9-14; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

Week of Aug 26—Time after Pentecost
Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18; Psalm 34:15-22; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

Use these scriptures as one way to read God's Word as a regular discipline. Draw close to God's Word and you draw close to God...

Join in on Sunday Morning

Sunday School in Sumer Recess
9 a.m.—Fellowship Time
9:30 a.m.—Worship

Dive in Deeper

Join a ministry team or volunteer in a myriad of ways. Make your faith come alive! Fill out a Ministry Opportunity Form located at the Welcome Center or talk to Pastor Jared.

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 29 9a-Fellowship 9:30a-Worship	July 30	July 31 7:45a-Prayer Breakfast (Aunt Maggie's) 9:30a-KidZ Campfire	1 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff	2 10a-CCC Worship 12:30p-Lunch Break Burger King	3	4
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—Evenings from 6:15 to 8:30 p.m.						
5 9a-Fellowship 9:30a-Worship **11a-Hello/Goodbye Party** **11:00-Top of the Hill Gang @ Joe's Pizza**	6 7p-Boy Scouts	7 7:45a-Prayer Breakfast (Aunt Maggie's) 9:30a-KidZ Campfire 6:30p-Youth Steering 7:30p-Worship Team	8 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff 6:30p-Movie Night "Coco"	9 Global Leadership Summit 8:30a-4:30p (off-site) 5p WCM Family Carnival	10 Global Leadership Summit 8:30a-4:30p (off-site)	11 9a—2p Parent's Day Out
12 **Backpack Sunday** 9a-Fellowship 9:30a-Worship **11a-Youth & Family Orientation** **Noon-The Rock Youth** 7:30p-SSALT @ Karen Walker's home	13 7p-Boy Scouts	14 7:45a-Prayer Breakfast (Aunt Maggie's) 9:30a-KidZ Campfire 6p-Finance Team 7p-Church Council	15 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff	16 7a Wake Up Call McDonald's	17	18 8:30a-Group 133 Breakfast at CCLC
19 9a-Fellowship 9:30a-Worship **11a Back to School BBQ, Games, Water Wars**	20 7p-Boy Scouts	21 7:45a-Prayer Breakfast (Aunt Maggie's)	22 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff	23 7a Wake Up Call McDonald's 6:30p—Girl Scouts	24	25
26 9a-Fellowship 9:30a-Worship **11a-Confirmation Orientation**	27 7p-Boy Scouts	28 7:45a-Prayer Breakfast (Aunt Maggie's)	29 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff	30 7a Wake Up Call McDonald's	31	Sept 1 Labor Day Weekend

CCLC Staff Directory

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