

July 11, 2025

Gratitude, grace, and the journey ahead

"I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what really matters."

Philippians 1:3-10

My beautiful new friends, allies, colleagues, and co-conspirators in faith - I have no great wisdom or humorous one-line zinger to leave you as I complete my month of worship, prayer, listening, strategic and logistic support, training, and joyful fellowship with you. I have learned about shore traffic and how back-road knowledge is essential. I have been introduced to the best local bands, watering holes, and farm markets. Together, we have celebrated Juneteenth and Pride. We have also held flood and fire, illness, and even death in clasped hands and loving circle. Life "stays lifeing", and through it all, we continue to deepen our faith and outreach, strengthened by learning, prayer, and encouraging companionship. No matter what our place in space or calling, we are one in the Body of Christ, in full unity through the sacrament and the Holy Spirit flowing across any and all boundaries. Be of good courage, church. There will be challenging days ahead. And in all of them, the abundance of the Holy Spirit will be present as inspiration and comfort. You are deeply loved. And never alone.

Pastor Carla

Pastoral coverage during summer 2025



Pastor Karis will be away for contextual education from **June 23 through July 11, 2025**. During this time, she will be unavailable and will not be responding to calls, texts, or emails.

For any pastoral care or ministry needs during this period, please contact **Pastor Carla Christopher**:

- cchristopher@lss-elca.org
- 717-875-7723 (call or text)

If you would like to share something with Pastor Karis, for when she returns, you may email her at pastor@bridgebuilder.church. Please note she will not respond to any messages until after July 11. Please do not send emails to her personal email address or to her cell phone via text.

We ask that you give Pastor Karis the full space and grace she needs for this time of renewal and re-creation as she prepares for the next season in our shared ministry.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Join us in thanking Pastor Carla



We will celebrate and thank Pastor Carla for her faithful service during June and July with a special gathering between services on **Sunday**, **July 13**. All are welcome to stop by, share your gratitude, and enjoy fellowship together.

What's happening at Community

CLC Food Pantry Donation Requests

- · Canned vegetables and fruits
- Pasta

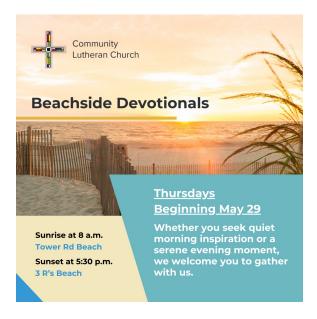
- Canned or dry beans
- Personal care and cleaning supplies
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Cereals

The Food Pantry Ministry is seeking volunteers who are willing and able to go out and purchase food and supplies for the Pantry. Reimbursement is available for approved items. Things we regularly shop for include produce (usually on Sundays or Mondays, just prior to the pantry dates), as well as cleaning and personal care items, which are typically sourced from dollar stores. Some non-perishable food items are also sometimes on the list, and we try to find the best prices. If you enjoy finding a good bargain and have some time in the evenings or weekends to shop, contact Mona, Susan, or Katie to request a list of things to buy.



The next pantry is July 15th, from 10 to 12. Volunteers are welcome to come around 8:30 for set-up. Thank you for all you do to serve the community!









We will meet every Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. until August 28.

Couldn't make the "Small Groups; Best Practices and Empowering Ideas!" training?



YouTube

What is a prayer request?

In 1 Timothy 2:1, we are told, "I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them." Prayer is powerful, especially when we come together in God's name. As Jesus said, "Where two or three have gathered together in my name, I am there in their midst." At Community Church, we are committed to praying for you and those you hold dear—whether they are struggling with illness, grieving a loss, or facing any other hardship.



To ensure privacy, we will only include first names in prayer requests, though you are welcome to share your relationship to the person being prayed for. We also ask that you refrain from sharing personal details about others without their consent.

How Can We Pray for You?

If you would like to submit a prayer request for yourself or a loved one, please contact tech.clc.30897@gmail.com.

We are here to support you in prayer, trusting that God hears and answers in God's perfect timing.

Submit a Prayer Request

Prayer requests: together in faith

No requests this week. Continue to lift one another in prayer.

Each person mentioned in this newsletter publication has granted us permission to do so.

Team Leaders

Please submit e-newsletter articles every Tuesday at noon for publication each Friday.

Articles should be emailed to tech.clc.30897@gmail.com.







How did you like this email?







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