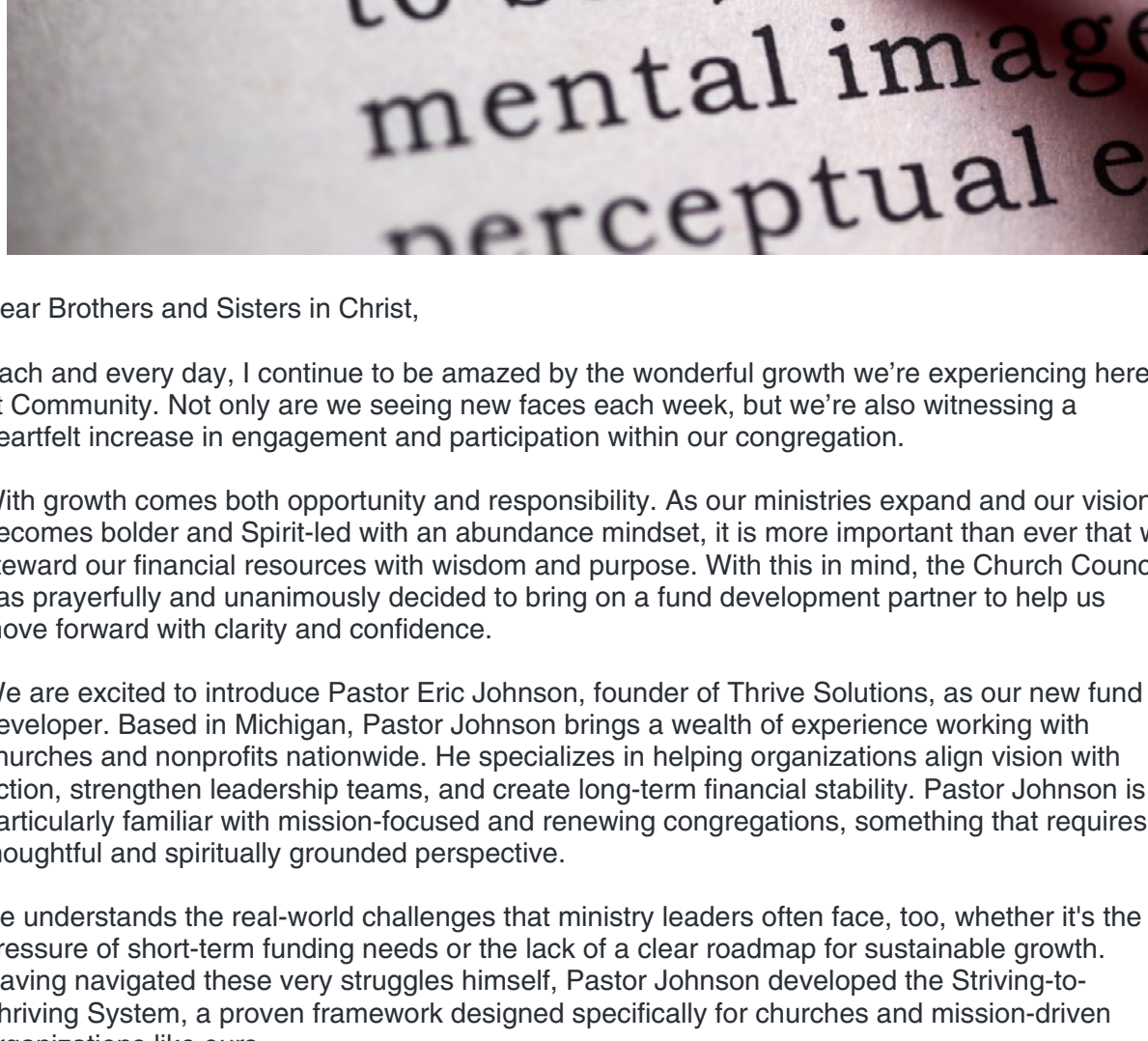


June 13, 2025

## Exciting growth and a bold vision for Community Lutheran Church



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each and every day, I continue to be amazed by the wonderful growth we're experiencing here at Community. Not only are we seeing new faces each week, but we're also witnessing a heartfelt increase in engagement and participation within our congregation.

With growth comes both opportunity and responsibility. As our ministries expand and our vision becomes bolder and Spirit-led with an abundance mindset, it is more important than ever that we steward our financial resources with wisdom and purpose. With this in mind, the Church Council has prayerfully and unanimously decided to bring on a fund development partner to help us move forward with clarity and confidence.

We are excited to introduce Pastor Eric Johnson, founder of Thrive Solutions, as our new fund developer. Based in Michigan, Pastor Johnson brings a wealth of experience working with churches and nonprofits nationwide. He specializes in helping organizations align vision with action, strengthen leadership teams, and create long-term financial stability. Pastor Johnson is particularly familiar with mission-focused and renewing congregations, something that requires a thoughtful and spiritually grounded perspective.

He understands the real-world challenges that ministry leaders often face, too, whether it's the pressure of short-term funding needs or the lack of a clear roadmap for sustainable growth. Having navigated these very struggles himself, Pastor Johnson developed the Striving-to-Thriving System, a proven framework designed specifically for churches and mission-driven organizations like ours.

Through this process, Pastor Johnson will help Community to:

- Clarify our vision and unify leadership around fund development
- Develop reliable, long-term funding strategies.
- Set meaningful goals and measure our progress with confidence.

One of the things we value most about Pastor Johnson's approach is that it's not a cookie-cutter solution. His work is custom-built to reflect each organization's unique mission and setting, including our context as a church in a vibrant resort community area.

With his guidance, we are anticipating stronger alignment across our leadership, a sustainable financial roadmap, and renewed energy for the work ahead. Our bold vision requires bold steps, and this is one we are confident will bless our church and community for years to come.

Stay tuned in the coming weeks for updates as we embark on this exciting partnership. And as always, thank you for your continued prayers, your generosity, and your steadfast commitment to the mission God has called us to fulfill together.

With gratitude and hope,  
Pastor

## One Big Pride Worship Celebration Sunday

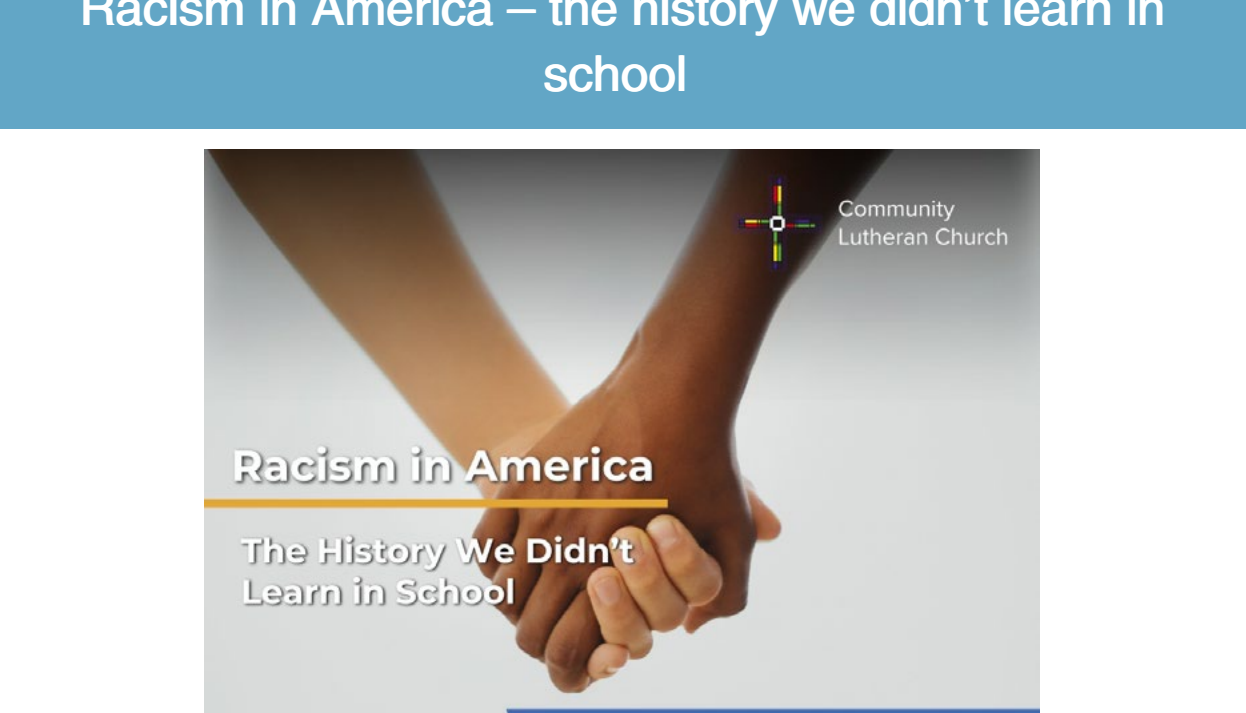


Our annual One Big Pride Worship Celebration Sunday is a joyful expression of our commitment as an RIC congregation. This special service reflects our ongoing dedication to the work of welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for LGBTQIA+ people in the life of the church.

We are proud to join hands with over 1,140 RIC partners across the United States and Canada in this vibrant and unified worship celebration. Together, we embrace this year's theme — Resilient Community — as we lift up the power of collective faith, justice, and radical love.

We're glad you're here. Welcome to the celebration!

## The Finance Team needs your help.



We're looking for volunteers to help count the offering each Sunday after the 10:30 service. It's a simple but important task that supports the day-to-day life of our church.

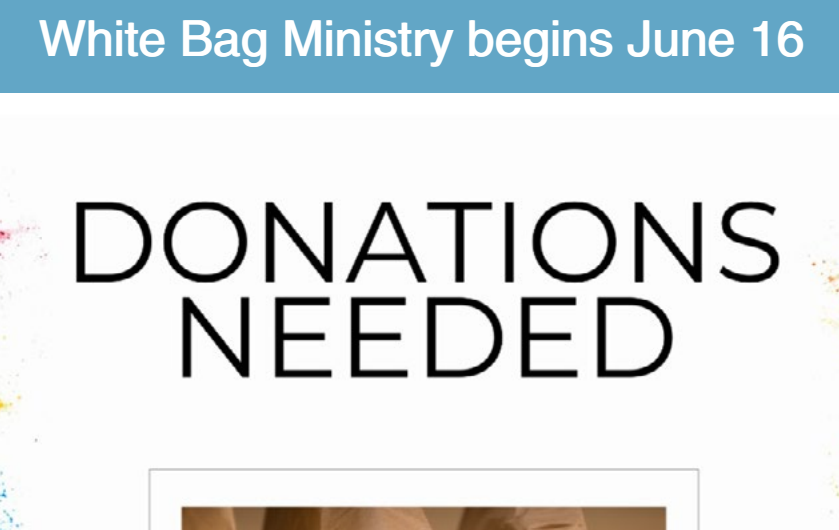
No special skills are required. Just bring a willingness to help open envelopes and record contributions.

Each Sunday, we need two unrelated people to serve as the counting team.

If you're interested or would like to learn more, please get in touch with Terri Windlan at [twindlan@gmail.com](mailto:twindlan@gmail.com).

Thank you for supporting the behind-the-scenes work that helps our community thrive.

## Racism in America – the history we didn't learn in school



Bridge Building: A Six-Week Zoom-Only Course with Sue Linderman

Join us as we seek truth, understanding, and a path forward. In this six-week series, Sue Linderman has guided us through the policies, practices, and beliefs that have shaped racial disparities in America, from slavery and Jim Crow laws to redlining, mass incarceration, and voter suppression.

Each session has explored a different period, connecting historical events to the inequities we see today. Through learning and discussion, participants have reflected on how this history informs our faith and our role in addressing inequality.

**Next Wednesday, June 18, is our final class,** and we are pleased to share that Pastor Carla will be joining the session as we close out the series together.

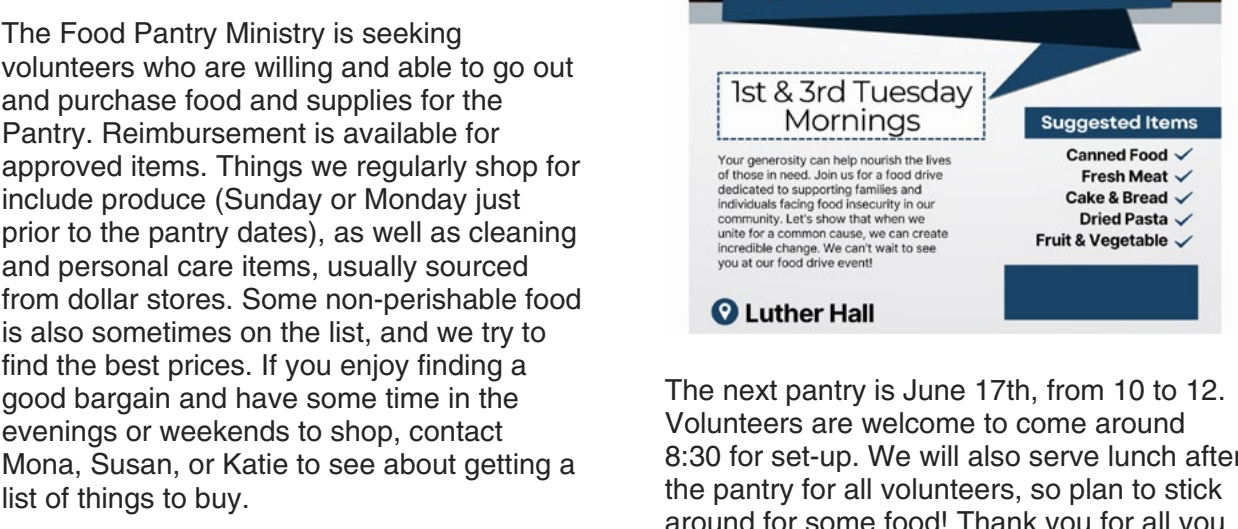
Course Topics Have Included:

- The roots of systemic racism in America
- How laws and policies reinforced racial inequality
- The Civil Rights Movement and its ongoing impact
- Voter suppression—past and present
- The role of faith communities in racial justice

The final class will take place Wednesday at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

[Register Now](#)

## White Bag Ministry begins June 16



The school year will be over before we know it! That's when our White Bag Ministry will begin. The last day of school is June 13, and we will begin packing the White Bags and delivering them to the Frankford Library on June 16. We are in need of donations and request the following:

- Granola bars
- Breakfast bars
- Mac and cheese cups
- Individual fruit cups (shelf stable, not refrigerated)
- Single-serve juice boxes
- Individual Shelf-stable milk
- Individually wrapped packs of crackers
- Pudding cups (shelf stable, not refrigerated)
- Individually packaged fruit snacks (for example, Welch's fruit snacks)
- Instant oatmeal packets

Have something else in mind? If it's shelf-stable and kid-friendly, we'd love to include it.

Donations can be dropped off at the church on any Sunday.

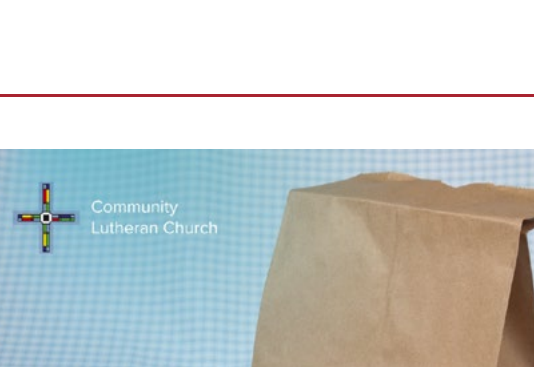
Thank you so much for your support of this important ministry. -Terri

## What's happening at Community

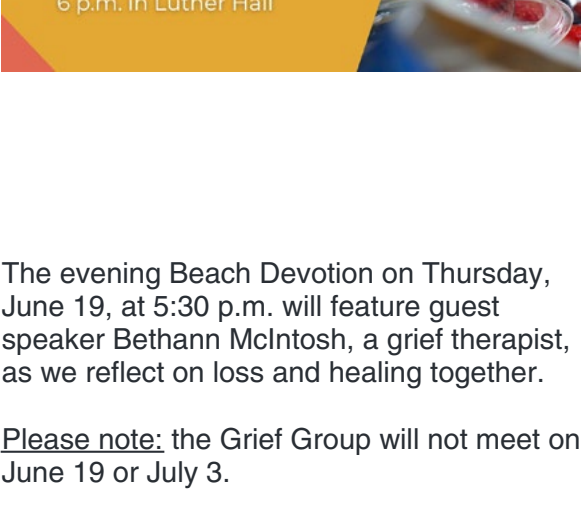
### CLC Food Pantry Donation Requests

- Black Beans (canned or dry)
- Peanut Butter (ideally 16 oz jars)
- Pasta
- Cereal
- Pineapple - canned
- Peaches - canned
- Fruit or Applesauce cups
- Cream Soups
- Pasta Sauce in jars
- Mac and cheese
- Cooking oil
- Shelf-stable Chocolate Milk

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 (Sunday or Monday just prior to the pantry dates), as well as cleaning and personal care items, usually sourced from dollar stores. Some non-perishable food is 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 see about getting a list of things to buy.



The next pantry is June 17th, from 10 to 12. Volunteers are welcome to come around 8:30 for set-up. We will also serve lunch after the pantry for all volunteers, so plan to stick around for some food! Thank you for all you do to serve the community!



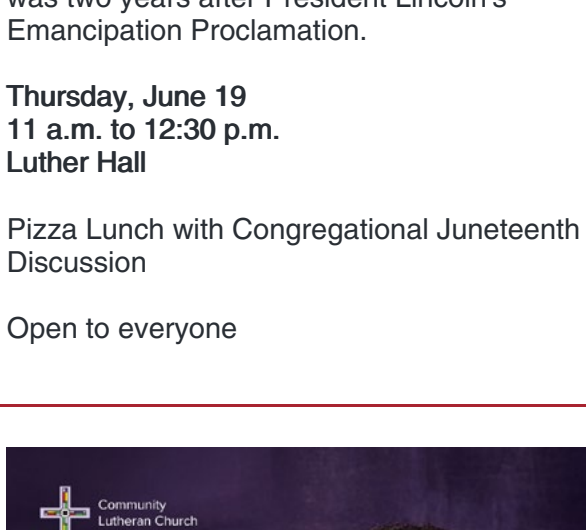
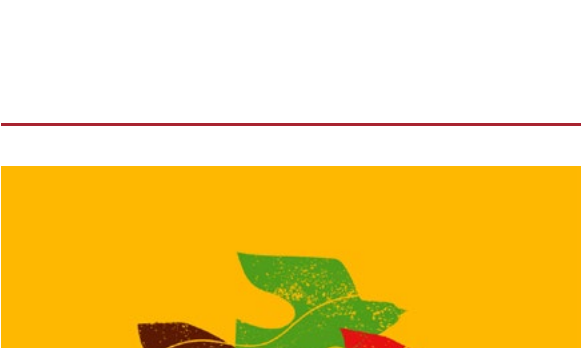
Join Community Lutheran at Milton Pridefest

Saturday, June 14, 4 to 8 p.m. | Downtown Milton

This year, pay what you can online or at the gate and be part of a vibrant, inclusive celebration of love, diversity, and acceptance. Help us keep the spirit of Pride alive.

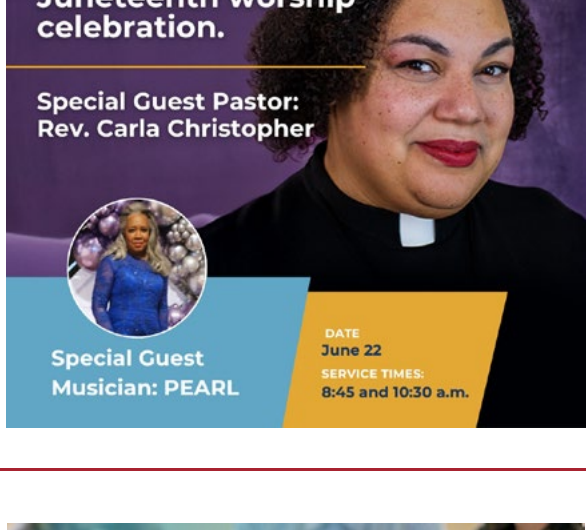
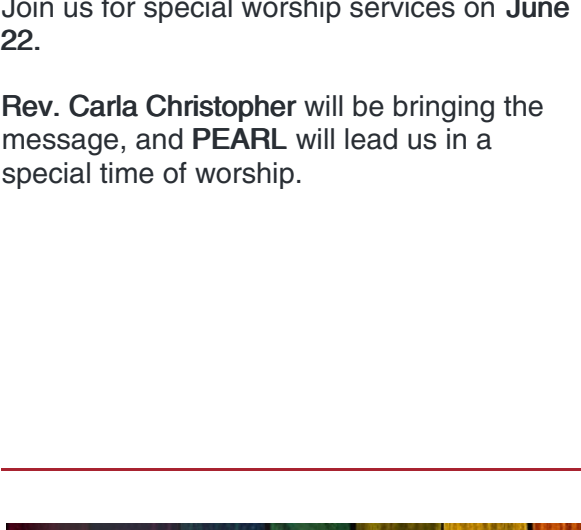
Your support with Community Lutheran, whether big or small, makes a powerful impact in uplifting the LGBTQIA+ community. Together, we create a space where everyone belongs.

Let's celebrate, uplift, and shine bright. See you there—loud, proud, and unapologetically you!



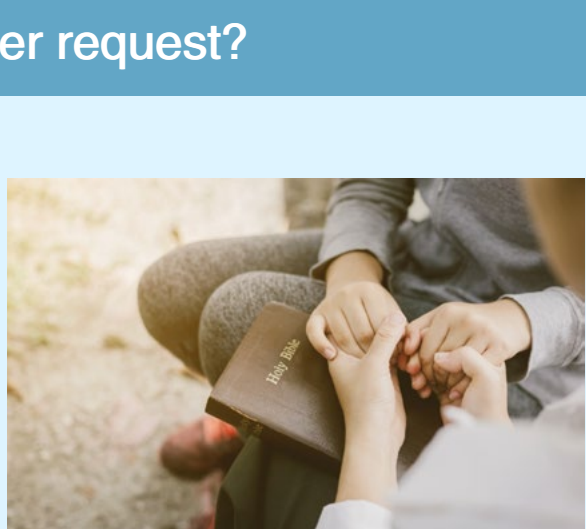
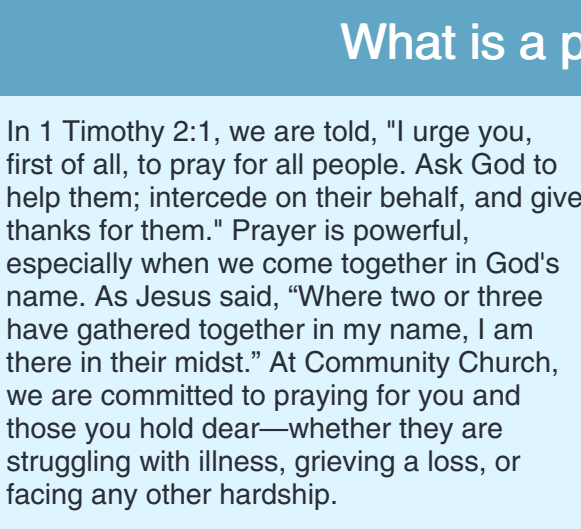
The evening Beach Devotion on Thursday, June 19, at 5:30 p.m. will feature guest speaker Bethann McIntosh, a grief therapist, as we reflect on loss and healing together.

Please note: the Grief Group will not meet on June 19 or July 3.



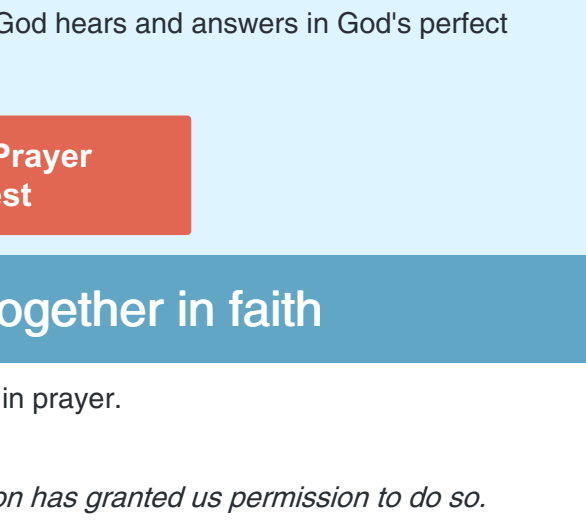
Join us for special worship services on June 22.

Rev. Carla Christopher will be bringing the message, and PEARL will lead us in a special time of worship.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:tech.clc.30897@gmail.com).