What’s Inside:
Info on S.T.E.P.’s school supply drive
2 great View from the Pew articles (one with some contributions from the choir and the other about where we were 9 years ago)
Information about our 10th anniversary celebration on Sunday, June 9
And more!
Worship Assistants This Month

**Sunday, June 2nd**
Lector: Anne Kraft  
Ushers: Team 6 (Linda and Lowell Brandt, Greg and Karen Flatten)  
Powerpoint Operator: Bret Hanson  
Money Counters: Deb Schmitz

**Sunday, June 9th**
Lector: Jeanne Worm  
Ushers: Team 7 (LeRoy Murray, Anne Kraft, Dick and Nancy Brammer)  
Powerpoint Operator: Dina Strachota  
Money Counters:

**Sunday, June 16th**
Lector: Lowell Brandt  
Ushers: Team 8 (Renee Compo, Marcee Larsen, Deb Schmitz, Jeanne Worm)  
Powerpoint Operator: LeRoy Murray  
Money Counters:

**Sunday, June 23rd**
Lector: Carolee Cohen  
Ushers: Team 9 (Mark and Carolee Cohen, Harding Hanson, Bruce and Dina Strachota)  
Powerpoint Operator: Nikki Christensen  
Money Counters:

**Sunday, June 30th**
Lector: Carolee Cohen  
Ushers: Team 1 (Samantha Andrew, Courtney Hanson, Mae Harmsen, Sophia Wasvick, Alyssa Willis)  
Powerpoint Operator: Mark Cohen  
Money Counters:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 2</td>
<td>11:00am Worship (Pastor Wes Syverson presiding)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00pm Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 8</td>
<td>6:30am Shelter Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 9</td>
<td>10th Anniversary Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am Choir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00am Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00pm Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 13</td>
<td>7:00pm Church Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 16</td>
<td>Father’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00am Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00pm Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 20</td>
<td>1:00pm Active Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Men’s Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prayer Shawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 23</td>
<td>11:00am Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00pm Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 30</td>
<td>11:00am Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00pm Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7:00pm Boy Scouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Fellowship Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>5:30pm Women's AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Green Room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7:00am N A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30pm Desire AA (Green Room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social Action Calendar – June to August 2019

June 2019
8  Shelter Breakfast 6:30 to 8:30am

July 2019
10  Shelter Supper 6:00 to 8:30pm

August 2019
10  Shelter Breakfast 6:30 to 8:30am

Our Saviours Shelter Breakfast – June 8th

On Saturday, June 8th, Spirit of Christ will serve breakfast at the shelter. We will be serving French toast, bacon, sausage, juice, fruit, and milk. We serve breakfast at 7am and leave church between 6:15 and 6:30am. If you would like to join us for serving or make a donation of coffee or tea, talk to Mark or Carolee at church, email c-cohe@umn.edu or call 952-935-5608 to learn more.

STEP Collections over the summer months! Food and School Supplies!

Food donations will be taken to STEP for the summer. When kids are out of school, there is a higher demand at the food shelf. Please think about donating some healthy, kid-friendly meal supplies when you are out shopping for your own family. STEP recently created an informational video about their organization: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvQollnKqcg so check it out!

STEP School Supply Drive Starts now!

STEP is preparing for their annual school supply drive. Our neighbors can register for the Back to School program in July. STEP packs a bag for each registered St. Louis Park child based on the supply list for their school and grade. Last year, 400 students received the school supplies needed to start their year. Donations of school supplies will be accepted by STEP during June, July and August. Backpacks are needed earlier so please bring those to church by July 28th. Other supplies will be taken to STEP after Sunday August 11th.

Critically needed school supplies are:

- Zip Binders – Must be 3 inch
- Paper folders without prongs: RED (No purple or black)
- College ruled spiral notebooks: BLUE,GREEN,YELLOW (No purple)
- Wide ruled spiral notebooks: RED
- Loose leaf paper – College and Wide ruled
- Plastic folders without prongs: RED
- Plastic page protectors
- Crayola Colored Pencils – 12 count
- Pink bar erasers
- Highlighters – Thick/Large (no thin)
- Crayola washable markers – 10 count package
- WASHABLE 8 pan paints – Prang or Crayola
- Pencil Pouches
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Post-it Note pads – 3X3
- Plastic rulers
- Ballpoint Pens: BLUE (No black or red)
- Expo Dry Erase Markers – package of 4 colors (NO BLACK)

Items that are NOT needed are:

- Comp Notebooks (Black), Blunt Scissors, Wooden rulers, Pronged paper or plastic two-pocket folders
STEP has online wishlists at Target and Amazon. So, if you don’t have time to shop in stores, you can visit those sites, place an order and send your donations directly to STEP. (Reminder for SOC members to be sure to log into the Amazon Smile site to support Spirit of Christ when you shop for donations and this will double your donation’s impact by sending a small percentage of your purchase total to SOC!)

As always, if you prefer to shop ‘the old-fashioned way’, you can bring donations to church to the table in the rear of the narthex and we will bring the items to STEP for you.

Get involved with Social Action!
The Social Action team (aka SOC SAC) welcomes everyone in the congregation to join us to plan and organize mission and social action events. This could be an ongoing activity or a one-time commitment. Talk to anyone on the Social Action Team: (Mark or Carolee Cohen, Wendi Harmsen, Pat Latvala, Deb Schmitz, Joanne Stone or Jeanne Worm) if you want to help!

Announcements

June 2nd

On Sunday, June 2nd, former SOC Pastor Wes Severson will be preaching. Please join us for worship and a special fellowship hour.

10th Anniversary Celebration

On Sunday, June 9th, we will be celebrating our 10th anniversary as Spirit of Christ! Our Synod Bishop Ann Svennungszen will be preaching and Alyssa Willis and Dina Strachota will be getting confirmed during worship.

Join us after church outside (weather permitting) for a picnic. Former SOC Pastors Wes Syverson and Kevin Bergeson will be in attendance that day as well.

If you got a 10th anniversary t-shirt, you are encouraged to wear them that day!

You will also have an opportunity to hear an update on where we are with our $10,000 fundraising goal for mission and have an opportunity to contribute.

10 Year Anniversary = $10,000 goal

In honor of our 10 year anniversary, we have a goal of raising $10,000 to support local mission work. The money will be split between Our Saviour’s Community Services, S.T.E.P., the St. Louis Park BirdFeeder Program, and the Minneapolis Area Synod.

To help us reach our goal, we’ve got two things going: envelopes and noisy offering.

If you want to check the progress, there’s a sign in the back of the sanctuary with a garden on it that will get petals and flowers added to it as we continue to raise money.

Thanks for supporting this fundraising effort and celebrating 10th years “Being Led By The Spirit”!
**View From the Pew - By Bruce Lindquist**

**Week of May 12, 2019, Vol. 2, No. 16**

“They let me sing in the choir!” — In this week’s installment on members of the SOC choir, **Linda Brandt** offers her unique and highly-readable take on her time in our choir, and her musical life before SOC. “I was rejected from the eighth-grade choir at my junior high school. This was my first big rejection. I console myself with the fact that the conductor didn’t want me to quit the orchestra as there were very few violinists. Nonetheless, I did carry the stigma with me for a long time. Besides, I had no training in how to sing in harmony, even though I played “second fiddle” in the orchestra. It took a lot of courage to sing in public again, but the joy I get out of it is wonderful. I always tell people, ‘they let me sing in the choir!’ I see choir, both midweek rehearsal and Sunday worship anthems, as a ‘centering’ of my spiritual life. For many years, I have prayed for my hospice patients during rehearsal, and pray for family and friends. We are part of the community of SOC, the choir, and a smaller community: the altos. I also sing for my mom, who died of ALS 26 years ago. She wanted to sing, then the disease took her voice. There is no time like the present to sing to the glory of God!”

**SOC Choir** director and organist **Steve Stucki**’s mother, **Gloria Stucki**, and mother-in-law, **Millie Pearson**, both passed away within a week and a half of each other. Steve relayed this information in an email last week: “We saw Millie on Easter, two days before her death, and she was doing quite well. So, although she was 95, it seemed pretty sudden. My mother, 91, had been in decline for a few months, but it was fairly fast at the end (May 1). But both passings were quite peaceful.” Millie’s burial was on Wednesday, and Gloria’s funeral was held last Thursday in Red Wing. Our thoughts and prayers are with Steve and his family at this time.

**Thanks to** the SOC Adopt-a-Highway crew for completing the spring portion of our twice-a-year cleanup along Hwy. 100. **Pastor Durk, LeRoy, Jeanne, Greg, Dick, Cindy** (and BL) accomplished the clean-up, stretched over two days, which turned out to be for the best, since the heavily-traveled and very trash-laden thoroughfare seems to require more time than other area roadways in the state’s DOT program.

**Is the miracle over?** -- Two years ago, the city planted a couple of boulevard trees along Minnetonka Boulevard in front of SOC. Then, during the winter of 2018-19, a snowplow severely damaged the tree nearest the driveway, to the point where it was almost horizontal to the ground.

Last spring, I had intended to call the city to order a replacement tree, when I happened to notice a few buds on a lower branch while mowing. Almost completely snapped-off at the base, connected only by a couple-three threads of bark, the little tree was still alive! Somebody said it was a miracle from above, and I agree. While tending the garden, **Cindy Guddal** and others dragged the hose out to the boulevard on a regular basis, and the tree responded with upright, green growth throughout the summer.

But, as of last week, nothing. Is the miracle over? Maybe not, but the clock is ticking . . .
Week of May 26, 2019, Vol. 2, No. 17

About us – 9 years back -- Dina Strachota passed along the following article from the archives of “Story Magazine,” which features updates on Luther Seminary alums. In this one, from 2010, you will recognize two former pastors from our church’s combined history. Keep in mind that the story, by Melanie Boulay Becker, is nine years old, so some of the facts have changed, but the message is still compelling. In light of SOC’s 10th anniversary next month, it’s also a fun read!

“Pastors Wes Syverson, ’74, and Kevin Bergeson, ’07, describe Spirit of Christ as Garrison Keillor with jalapenos. ‘We may look and smell Lutheran, but we are provocatively adding doses of new, mission-minded DNA into our way of being church,’ says Bergeson.

“Two smaller congregations (Ascension and First Lutheran) united in passion for shared social-action ministry, consolidated to form SOC. They have since joined area congregations in a shared social-action ministry called Spark, a collaboration they consider crucial to truly being the body of Christ,” says Syverson.

“The church pursues interfaith relationships, touring area synagogues, serving at the local food pantry and hosting social-justice conversations. ‘With Minneapolis’ history of Jewish-Christian backgrounds, we’re building bridges with a new generation that is curious, respectful and willing to learn about the deeply intertwined faith traditions to minister to our community together,’ says Bergeson. “They shocked their neighbors by showing up at the community barbeque. ‘Now we partner in hosting the event,’ says Bergeson, explaining that ‘most churches don’t realize they are completely invisible to their community. Being present, being visible, is essential.’

“Syverson and Bergeson credit both the Holy Spirit and members’ roles in making the new church possible. ‘Our new ministry would not exist had it not been for the Holy Spirit moving in the hearts of the people in the pews here,’ says Syverson. Adds Bergeson, ‘It was their leadership and seeing something different that made this possible. As pastors, we helped, but in the end, local leaders willing to risk for the sake of the gospel made us fly.’

“Syverson and Bergeson believe there is no longer one traditional ministry. ‘I am inspired by Jacob’s Well and Mercy Seat (churches) because they are willing to take risks regardless what has preceded them in models of Christian community,’ says Bergeson. ‘It reminds me that churches must be willing to thoughtfully engage those who have given up on church but not Jesus.’

“By the (2010) numbers: Spirit of Christ Community Lutheran Church – Attendance, more than 100 each Sunday; founded, Pentecost, May, 2009; churches that formed Spirit of Christ were started in 1924 and 1955; How fast is it growing? 15 percent in two years; major liturgy/worship service of the week, Sunday at 10 am with a Sunday Pause informal/conversational worship at 7 pm; cultural breakdown, 90 percent white, 10 percent multiracial; draws from, 70 percent first-ring suburban, 20 percent exurbs, 10 percent urban; bricks and mortar location, 5801 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park, Minn.”