



# The Messenger

Family of Christ Lutheran Church, School, and CDC | August 2017 | Volume 1, Issue 4

## From the Pastor

By Pastor Dave Haara

Every Friday at noon a group from church comes into the office to put together the bulletins for the weekend. There are usually 3-6 volunteers and they have a good time helping out each week and we are so thankful for their help. However, there is one issue that sometimes troubles them and it is with their staplers. These are larger staplers that they use to keep the bulletins together. All too often they jam and fail. Charlotte Sears, one of the faithful volunteers, being determined to find something better, went out to find a replacement and bought a new stapler. Here was the exact description on the box for this stapler.

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### *EXPERIENCE BETTER*

*Life throwing lemons your way?  
Grab your Paperpro to  
experience better. INDULGE in  
its EASY-TO-USE, one-finger  
stapling technology for a  
MOMENT OF BLISS that whisks  
you away to your HAPPY  
PLACE.*

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What a description! I had never thought a stapler could bring you to your happy place. And if a stapler is the happiest place you have in life maybe you need to re-examine your life. What is your happy place?

I have a few. With our family we go to one restaurant almost every week, Cappy's, in the Tampa Palms Publix mall. It is hard to beat salad and pizza for the perfect dinner (and they do serve Chicago style pizza). They also have big oversized booths that give a great sense of intimacy. Most of all, this question made me think of this one verse.

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*“Better is one day in your  
courts than a thousand  
elsewhere.” (Psalm 84:10)*

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I now can only imagine what it will be like to be in the presence of God one day. To see Jesus face to face and to hear Him speak will be amazing. To experience the glory of God, and to eat and drink with them is far better than anything or place this world has to offer. I can get to this place now sometimes by prayer and sometimes in church worship services and most often in Holy Communion. I think the struggle we all have is that even when we pray or are in church our minds can be somewhere else. We can all too easily become preoccupied with the lemons that life sometimes brings. Remember that Jesus has plans for you and in your life even in the hardest days. The best place for all of us is always with Jesus.

PS. By the way, the moment of bliss stapler that was purchased was the exact same model that we had already been having issues with. EXPERIENCE BETTER—JESUS

# Events Coordinator

By Leanne Ferguson

God is For Us! I was reminded of this in Vacation Bible School. July 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 40 children and 25 youth and adult volunteers gathered for VBS here at Family of Christ. Each day, we worshiped God and discovered Bible truths, played games and used our imaginations to create cool crafts and gadgets.



We also learned about families in Peru who are thankful for the gift of clean water and the message of Jesus. Did you know that \$5.00 will provide water for a family in Peru for 1 year! Children participating in VBS brought in cash donations for this mission as well as bottled water for our Homeless Ministry in Tampa.

Last month our church family enjoyed a wonderful breakfast between services that was prepared by the youth with assistance from the Bock Family. We enjoyed farm fresh eggs given to us by Claude Ware, one of our members, as well as pancakes and sausage.

If you are a middle school or high-school



student that would like to help with Youth Breakfast Fundraiser on the second Sunday of each month, please contact Leanne Ferguson in the church office to sign up (558-9343, extension 116). All funds raised will go toward reducing costs of the Mission trips and other activities throughout the year.



Sunday school teachers will meet Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, for lunch and time of appreciation after the 10:45 service. We looked at a potential new curriculum called 'Spark' which is an age appropriate Bible learning program that engages children and activates faith as they participate and interact in each lesson. We are hoping to begin this new program when Sunday school resumes in August. We are so grateful for all of the Sunday school teachers and youth helpers who serve each week here at Family of Christ.

As Fall quickly approaches, I would ask that we all pray about how God can use us in service here at Family of Christ. There are so many opportunities weekly as well as the upcoming seasonal events. Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving.

In closing, Romans 8:31 says "If God is for us, who can be against us." Let us trust in him as we serve and grow our church!

Have a blessed summer!

## Youth

By Kurt Steinbrueck

July saw our biggest Lighthouse Service yet. The youth-led service, held on July 2, had nearly 30 high school and middle school kids come to be a part of games and worship...and, of course, food. We played capture the flag, had a hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill (Thanks Mark Harmon!) and ended the evening with a worship service led by the youth. It was a great night!

Our next Lighthouse youth-led service will be on August 20th at 6pm. We'll be playing soccer before the service this month. We'll also be collecting canned goods for the needy.

Upcoming Youth Events:

- August 7<sup>th</sup> - Typhoon Lagoon: We will be heading to Typhoon Lagoon as one last hurrah for the summer.
- August 20<sup>th</sup> - Lighthouse: Soccer, food, and worship. We're also doing a canned food drive as part of the event.
- September 9<sup>th</sup> - Rock the Universe: We'll take the bus over to Universal Studios for a night concerts and rides. Tickets are \$60. Sign up is in the narthex.

God Bless!

## Praise Band

By Kurt Steinbrueck

I'd like to welcome Edna Butterfield to the praise band. Edna has been a wonderful addition to the band, bringing her wonderful voice to add to our worship leadership. God Bless!



## Choir

By Jon Bock

Greetings to all of you, as summer winds down, which means that choir is about to start winding up at church again. We are looking forward to another season of serving our Lord with music, but we need your help!



The basis of a choir is singers, and we need several of you to donate your time and talent to helping beautify our services.

Often times I hear excuses like, "I don't have any training," or, "I can't read music," or, "I don't know if I'm ready to stand in front of a congregation like that." I will tell you this: if you can hum in the shower or along with the radio in your car, you can sing in choir. We work hard and have a good time. We laugh and learn each week. We will be starting somewhere near the end of August with an exact date still being decided upon. We will be meeting Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30 PM. Please consider joining us in making our services even more beautiful.

## Handbells

By Jon Bock

I'd like to extend a huge HUGE thank you to all the people who gave of their time and talent to ring a bell in our services this past year. We are looking forward to another wonderful season of creating music to honor our Savior as the summer winds down. We are always looking for ringers and could use you to help beautify our services. If you can tap your foot along with the radio, you can ring a bell. I promise. Consider joining us on Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM in making music to our Lord. An exact date will be posted in the church bulletin very soon. I look forward to making music with all of you.



# Trustees

By Denny Murray

The Trustee's led a work day effort on Saturday, July 8th to replenish the sand on both the CDC play areas and the school grounds at the swings and gym. Tree trimming activities also were done this day on the school playground along with raising the tree canopy over the basketball court. Trustees extend their appreciation to all the individuals who showed up with their tools and energy to help that morning.

The painting of the two selected classrooms in the school has been completed. One room is planned to have the heavy white boards re-hung. The teachers are busy preparing their classrooms for start of school.



An ongoing assessment of the Air Conditioning System is underway at the CDC. Inspections and bids for replacements are being obtained for evaluation by Church Council and Trustees. There is probability the age of the building is a factor and recent heavy rains have resulted in the CDC roof being questioned as to the probability for a roof replacement. Inspections and bids are being obtained for Trustees and Church Council evaluation.

Lastly, but important is the paving work for the front entrance has been completed. This was followed with the installation of the new LED signage for Family of Christ Lutheran Church, School and CDC. We will have

graphics and announcements on the sign soon!

## Publisher's Message

By Deborah Murray

The summer is quickly coming to a close. The children will be returning to the School and CDC and we will again hear laughs and giggles through the halls. The smiles on the children's faces are a blessing for Family of Church Lutheran Church.

This also means we begin Sunday School again in August with a new program. Leanne Ferguson our Lead Event Coordinator for the church events has been very instrumental in helping to enhance our educational materials and train the Volunteer Sunday School Teachers. Leanne conducted an introductory training and distributed the materials for advance preparation during a luncheon for the Volunteer Sunday School Teachers.

I would like to express a sincere appreciation to Kimberly Shuck for the monthly Newsletter enhancements. Kimberly has introduced fun pictures and ensures all Leadership is providing news worthy details. If you see Kimberly please share with her your thoughts about other topics of interest as well as any news worthy information you would like to share. Communication is our greatest asset to keeping you informed and growing in faith.

My message for thought this month is: Psalm 9 – "Thanksgiving to God for His Justice" "Will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all the wonderful things you have done; I will sing with joy because of you; I will sing praise to you Almighty God."

## Child Development Center

By Jill Hammond

Over in the CDC we are enjoying the last few weeks of summer camp while gearing up for the start of school, which is August 10<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to seeing all the new and returning families and the smiles on the children's faces. It's hard to believe the start of a new school year is almost here along with the ending of what has been a very busy and exciting summer for us.

Thanks to everyone who helped raise money with the golf tournament. We are going to be adding a new playground climber for our younger playground with the funds raised and are hoping to be able to purchase one for our older playground after the CDC fall cookie dough fundraiser.



Our campers have enjoyed some really exciting activities including cooking days, reptile visits, and we have a lot more in store.

We hope all of our families are getting to spend some time relaxing this summer and we can't wait to see everyone

soon! The teachers and support staff will be installed at the 10:45 AM service on Sunday, August 27th.

## Fellowship

On September 3<sup>rd</sup> we will have a new Family First Service and Fellowship Day. Only one service will be held, at 10 am, with a barbeque and potluck lunch afterwards. We will put up the water slide for the kids and have corn hole and other activities for the adults.



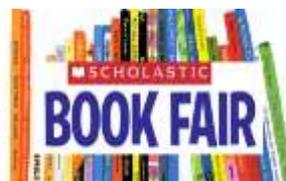
## School

By Patti Harmon

The start of the school year is almost here. Students and their families are invited to attend "Meet the Teacher" on Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. They can visit their classrooms and get reacquainted with their classmates. The first day of school is Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Classroom orientations take place Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> (K, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>) and Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>) and are a great opportunity for parents to familiarize themselves with their child's day and ask the teachers questions.

The teachers and support staff will be installed at the 10:45 AM service on Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.



Sponsored by the Parent Teacher League, Scholastic Book Fair takes place from August 28<sup>th</sup> - September 1<sup>st</sup> in the Narthex.

## Women's Ministry

By Ariana Denney



### Family Of Christ

The Women's Ministry  
would like to **THANK YOU** for all  
your support **towards**  
our AED



**DEFIBRILATOR Fundraiser.**  
Family of Christ is the proud owner  
of a new Phillips Defibrillator,  
which will be installed in the  
**Narthex shortly.**

Stay tuned for more details regarding a training session  
for all Members. Additional funds raised will be put  
forward for AED maintenance.

**Thanks Again**



# August 2017 Calendar

google@familyofchristtampa.com, School, Christian Holidays, Holidays in United States Aug 2017 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1 7:30pm - Alanon	2	3 6pm - Homeless 7:30pm - Praise	4 Middle School Lock-in @ Family of Christ 12pm - Bulletin	5 6pm - Worship 7:30pm - Spanish
6 9:15am - Tradition 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Mid- 10:45am - Contem 11am - Sunday 4:30pm - Tamil	7 Typhoon Lagoon	8 7:30pm - Alanon	9 10:30am - Meet	10 First Day of School 5pm - Homeless 7:30pm - Praise	11 12pm - Bulletin	12 6pm - Worship 7:30pm - Spanish
13 9:15am - Tradition 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Mid- 10:45am - Contem 11am - Sunday 4:30pm - Tamil	14	15 Assumption of Mary 6pm - Kindergarten, 7:30pm - Alanon	16 Sunshine Breakfast	17 6pm - 1st, 2nd, 3rd 5pm - Homeless 7:30pm - Praise	18 12pm - Bulletin	19 6pm - Worship 7:30pm - Spanish
20 9:15am - Tradition 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Mid- 10:45am - Contem 10:45am - Teacher 11am - Sunday 4:30pm - Tamil 6pm - Lighthouse	21	22 6:30pm - OCD 7:30pm - Alanon	23	24 6pm - Homeless 7:30pm - Praise	25 12pm - Bulletin	26 Distribution of 6pm - Worship 7:30pm - Spanish
27 9:15am - Tradition 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Mid- 10:45am - Contem 11am - Sunday 4:30pm - Tamil	28 Scholastic Book Fair		29 7:30pm - Alanon	30 6:30pm - Choir 7:30pm - Hand 5pm - Homeless 7:30pm - Praise	31	1
						2



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