



NEWSLETTER

"Sharing the hope of Jesus in a troubled world"

July 2025

United in Christ Lutheran Church

(608) 846-5902

www.unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org

4650 County Rd DM, Morrisonville, WI 53571

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A congregation of the



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Regular Office Hours: By Appointment

Weekly Worship: Sundays @ 8:30 a.m.

From the Congregation President

It is a summer of changes, certainly more changes than we'd want. Pastor Jason has moved and soon Ivy will be gone, but the congregation will carry on and adjust. Along with other changes, the monthly newsletter will be different too during this period of transition. Pastor Jason has been doing the newsletter the last several months. Until we have an interim pastor or a new pastor, the newsletter will be shorter since we won't have a monthly message from the pastor or other content that Pastor Jason generated. The newsletter may differ in length and layout depending on the content we have for each month, but in any case, we'll be working to keep the congregation informed about what is happening through this time of changes. Pastor Jason also had been doing the bulletins each week. Paul will be doing them now so, if you have something that needs to be included in announcements, please get that information to him.

At this point, I believe the Sunday services are pretty well set in terms of having Pastors scheduled to conduct the services through August. Pastor Derek, Pastor Mikayla, Pastor Bruce, Pastor Gina Sterk, and Pastor Rick from Spring Prairie are lined up to lead worship for us. The plans are subject to change if the synod was to find an interim pastor that could serve our congregation. I have also talked to the group of pastors about the potential of doing services in the fall if needed and will make plans with them to schedule Sundays in September soon so we are prepared in advance.

Before leaving, Pastor Jason worked with the pastors of neighboring ELCA congregations to set up coverage for us if there are emergency needs for pastoral care (for example, needing a pastor to visit someone in the hospital). The pastors of the other 4 congregations that Pastor Jason met with are scheduled to cover different weeks on a rotating schedule, but Pastor Rick from Spring Prairie will be our contact person. If another pastor is scheduled for that week, he will take care of relaying information to them so we don't need to keep track of multiple contacts. Pastor Rick can be reached at (608) 846-4178 (Spring Prairie church number) or (262) 475-6407 (his cell phone) if there is a need.

When you receive the July newsletter, we will have had the first Dinner Church service since Pastor Jason's departure and more are being scheduled for the months of July and August. (Thanks to Pastor

Rick for leading the first of these services and to Paul for making the dinner! We had 14 attend, including 4 people from the community who are not members.) The services have been moved to Thursdays and are a bit earlier at 5:30. We still have money from the grant that Pastor Jason wrote that will fund the services this summer. The plan had been to have the services the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, but this could be subject to change depending on availability of pastors to lead the services (that is still in the planning process). Pastors from neighboring ELCA congregations will conduct the services and members of their congregations may join us.

Most summers, the Church Council has not had a scheduled meeting in July, but we will be meeting this year so we can work on making updates to the “Congregation Profile” that the Call Committee developed when we were last in the call process. This information about us is used in the process of finding a pastor. It gives potential pastors information about us and pastors complete a similar kind of document that tells us about them. This is used in working to “match” congregations and pastors that would be compatible. The synod staff will work with us as we go through the process of planning for our future. Since many things were updated over the past few years, we don’t think that the process will need to be as long or complicated as it was last time, but the Council will probably be seeking input from you in some way to help in planning for what is to come next.

- Bob Harm

July Calendar

Sunday, July 6	8:30 - Worship - “Thank You Ivy” Breakfast at 8:00
Thursday, July 10	5:30 - Dinner Church (tentative planned date)
Sunday, July 13	8:30 - Worship - fellowship following
Wednesday, July 16	11:30 - Lunch Bunch (at BB Jack’s)
Sunday, July 20	8:30 - Worship - fellowship following
Tuesday, July 22	5:00 - Church Council meeting
Thursday, July 24	5:30 - Dinner Church (tentative planned date)
Sunday, July 27	8:30 - Worship - fellowship following

Financial Update - As of Sunday, June 29, 2025

Offerings YTD	=	\$40,458
(Expected/Budgeted Offerings YTD	=	\$45,000)
Expenses YTD	=	\$51,024

Working For Christ in July

Altar Guild: Bev Harris

Head Usher: Norm Harris

07/06/2025

Ushers: Henry Lipke & Marie Rassmussen-Hall

Reader: Bob Harm

Communion: Paul Anderson

07/13/2025

Ushers: Chet Gabris & Darryl Horton

Reader: Rona Anderson

Communion: Chet Gabris

07/20/2025

Ushers: Dennis Stephenson & Bob Harm

Reader: Dennis Stephenson

Communion: Bob Harm

07/27/2025

Ushers: Rona and Paul Anderson

Reader: Chandra Diring

Communion: Marie Rasmussen-Hall

July Birthdays

07/02 Annabel Trujillo-Keller

07/11 Rona Anderson

07/15 Dennis Stephenson

07/29 John Eighmy

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, Bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin - ELCA

The **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America**

For the **people of United in Christ Lutheran Church**

Dale Molnar Family - Dale's father passed away

John Kincaid - brother-in-law of Chet Gabris - at St. Mary's Care Center

Betty Bader - at The Legacy, DeForest

Bill Mitchell - friend of the Anderson's - liver cancer

Heather Fjelstad-Bunce - niece of Dennis Stephenson - has Leukemia

Dorothy Hasey - at Columbus Health & Rehab

Joanne Quam - continued rehabilitation at home

Geno Lainberger - at Madison Health & Rehab Center

Wyatt McLaughlin - Ivy McLaughlin's brother - recovering at home from an accident

Kathy Olsen - sister-in-law of Dick & Ann Olsen - lung cancer

Dick Olsen - at Oak Park Place in Madison - in hospice

Rhonda Steinbach - recovering from a broken ankle

June Church Council Meeting Highlights

Paul discovered that we had a water leak due to a problem with the water softener (which will need to be replaced). Paul has made arrangements to have the A/C checked to be sure it is ready

for summer. The Council will meet in July to address things we need to do in searching for a new pastor. With Pastor Jason gone, there are quite a few administrative type tasks that others will need to tend to (Pastor Jason left a listing of tasks). The Council agreed to continue having Dinner Church services this summer. Plans are being made for ways to temporarily do the music for services after Ivy leaves.



United in Christ
Lutheran Church

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