



5987 Williams Lake Rd
Waterford, MI 48329

All are welcome...
...no really!

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10AM

OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Thursday
9:00am to 2:00pm

PHONE
248-673-7331

CHURCH EMAIL:
office@christwaterford.org

WEBSITE:
www.christwaterford.org

WATCH ONLINE
<https://christwaterford.org/online-worship/>

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
www.facebook.com/ChristutheranWaterford

INSTAGRAM
[@christlutheranwaterford](https://www.instagram.com/christlutheranwaterford)



Parish Caller

CLC's Monthly Newsletter

August 2026



To God Be the Glory

There are seasons in the life of the church when all we can do is pause, smile, and simply say, **"To God be the glory!"** This has certainly been one of those seasons at Christ Lutheran Church.

Before I share some of the many blessings we've experienced recently, I want to say something from my heart.

The past few weeks have been difficult for my family as we grieved the loss of my stepfather, Jim. Through it all, your prayers, cards, hugs, meals, kind words, and understanding have been a tangible reminder of Christ's love. **I am deeply appreciative of everyone's prayers and support. Grief is heavy and burden is lightened by those who care. Thank you all for that gift.** Thank you for carrying part of that burden with me. I am deeply grateful for this family of faith.

Now... let's celebrate what God has been doing!

We recently welcomed **EIGHT new members** into the life of Christ Lutheran Church. What a joy it is to watch God continue to draw people into this community of faith. Every new member brings new gifts, new stories, and new opportunities to grow together as disciples of Jesus. Thank you for being the kind of congregation that welcomes others with warmth, authenticity, and open hearts. You truly live out our mission of being a place **Where Love Makes Space.**

Cont. pg.2

Pastor Stephanie Newman
pastorsteph@christwaterford.org
Secretary Edelyn Rose
office@christwaterford.org
Treasurer
treasurer@christwaterford.org
Bookkeeper Karen Hillestad
Custodian Dave Kane
Music Ministers
John Joannette and Tracy Hoffman
music@christwaterford.org

Church Council
President: Charlie Moritz
Vice President: Scott Fahr

Administrative
Charlie Moritz
Children & Youth
Kathy Reddeman
Community & Cong. Life
Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach
Communications
Edelyn Rose
Education
Stephen Cooperrider
Finance
Lisa Kargol-Stephens
Property
Kate Smith
Worship and Music
Cindy Edwards

Cont. from pg. 1

Our **Annual Church Picnic** was another wonderful success! It was a beautiful afternoon filled with laughter, great conversations, delicious food, games, and the simple joy of spending time together as God's family. Thank you to everyone who attended, everyone who brought a dish to pass, and everyone who helped create such a welcoming and joy-filled day. These moments of fellowship strengthen the relationships that make our church family so special.

A heartfelt thank you goes to **Elisabete** for organizing and coordinating this year's picnic. Thank you also to **Lisa, Mindy, Pastor Julia** and our entire **Congregational Care Team** for all of the planning, setup, hospitality, serving, and cleanup that happened behind the scenes. Your servant hearts made the day possible, and we are deeply grateful.

One of the greatest highlights of the picnic was celebrating **FIVE baptisms at Loon Lake**. It isn't every day you see a group of Lutherans heading into a lake for full-immersion baptisms!

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In Our Prayers

Members lifted in prayer, Cindy Edwards, Jane Madsen, Karen Kush, Barb Harris, Paula Corrin, Jack Negele, Jamie Schutt, Carol Segal, Scott Fahr, Robin Hansen, Steve Fante, Christopher Nestor, Arlene Mikolowski Page, Michael See

Our Armed Service and support personnel: Aaron Butora; Cole Nichols (Fred & Jill Jones), Kurtis Barney (Terry Young), Logan Head (Lisa Head).

August Birthdays

8/8	Linda Williams	8/8	Grace Trapp
8/9	Yvonne Meter	8/12	Steve Fante
8/15	Marga Rotsel	8/15	David Sobczak
8/17	Aubin Whitmer	8/18	Jerry Scrivo
8/19	Danielle Granger	8/19	Lisa Kargol-Stevens
8/21	Deborah Fahr	8/24	Phyllis Folsom
		8/28	Karli Koskinen



Cont. from pg. 4

See Edelyn to pick up "Sit With Me" invitation cards and begin praying about who God might be placing on your heart to invite.

Friends, when I look around Christ Lutheran Church, I don't just see a busy calendar. I see the Holy Spirit at work. I see lives being changed. I see new members finding a church home. I see children and adults entering the waters of baptism. I see volunteers serving with joy. I see people carrying one another through grief. I see generous hearts feeding hungry children. I see a congregation that continues to choose love, hospitality, and hope.

That is something worth celebrating and saying "To God be the Glory!!"

May God continue to surprise us, stretch us, and use us as we share the love of Christ with one another and with our community. I truly believe God has wonderful things in store for Christ Lutheran Church, and I for one, wait with an expectant and joyful heart, and can't wait to see what comes next.

Thank you for your part in this family of faith, dear ones...

Grace and peace,

Pastor Stephanie Newman



Cont. from pg. 2

We usually gather around the baptismal font, but God's promises are just as real knee-deep in a lake as they are at the font. Watching God's beloved surrounded by family, friends, and their church family while hearing God's promises proclaimed in such a beautiful setting was something truly special. It was a joyful reminder that God's grace is abundant, life-giving, and always at work. It was a Spirit-led day!

I also want to extend a special thank you to **Krystal Edwards**, and anyone else who graciously stepped in to help with the church office and so many other behind-the-scenes responsibilities while I was away and Edelyn was out sick. Your flexibility, generosity, and servant's heart have been an incredible blessing to me and to our congregation. **Thank you** for helping keep everything moving forward.

As we celebrate what God has been doing, we're also excited about what lies ahead.

On **Sunday, August 23**, we will install and bless our newly elected **Church Council members** during worship. Please join us as we pray for these faithful leaders who have answered God's call to serve Christ Lutheran Church. Leadership in the church is a sacred calling, and we give thanks for each person willing to share their gifts in Christ's service.

Throughout **August**, we are wrapping up our fundraising drive to support **Fueling Kids' Futures**, an incredible ministry that helps ensure children in our local schools have food to eat on weekends.

Just \$160 provides weekend meals for one child for an entire school year. If you would like to support this important ministry or learn more, please see **Karen Hillestad**. Together, we can make a real difference in the life of a child right here in Waterford.

Looking ahead, **please save the date for Sunday, September 13**, when we'll celebrate our annual **Blessing of the Backpacks** during worship.

Cont. pg. 4

Cont. from page 3

Whether you're heading to preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school, college, graduate school, or you're a teacher, administrator, school employee, homeschool family, or simply beginning a new season of learning, we invite you to bring your backpack, briefcase, computer bag, or whatever accompanies you into your daily work. Children and adults alike are invited as we ask God's blessing, wisdom, protection, and encouragement for the year ahead.

Have you been blown away by what's been happening here and our increasing attendance and excitement? Well, I've got news for you, dear ones...God is just getting started! I want to remind you of God's vision for our future. We believe Christ Lutheran Church is called not simply to maintain what has always been, but to faithfully follow where the Holy Spirit is leading us. **We continue striving to be a church where people encounter Jesus, build authentic relationships, serve our neighbors, and know beyond a doubt that they are welcomed, loved, and valued.** Sometimes growth stretches us, but I am excited to see how this family of faith is opening its doors wide! Every person who walks through our doors should experience the love of Christ in tangible ways.

Lastly, this is the season when we focus on intentional invitation. It is time once again for our **"Sit With Me" Campaign**. We all know someone who may be searching for hope, community, or simply a place to belong. Maybe it's a friend, a neighbor, a coworker, a family member, or even someone you meet while waiting in line at the grocery store. Maybe it's someone important to you whom you want to invite to see what God is doing here at CLC. Don't underestimate what God can do through a simple invitation. Invite them to worship with you. Sit with them. Introduce them to others. Help them experience what so many of us have found here - a church family that truly cares. *Cont. pg. 10*

WORSHIP SERVANTS-AUGUST

If you cannot be there on your scheduled day, please switch with someone or find a substitute and let the church office know of the change.

Lay Assistants

8/2 – Mike Mitchell

8/9 – Ole Anderson

8/16 – Pat Scott

8/23 – Stephanie Radke

8/30 – Donna Butora

Ushers

8/2 – Ron & Kris Goetze

Todd Cooper, Gerry Cleasby

8/9 – Hanna & Riana Forbing

Norm Kinnison, Jim Austin

8/16 – Anna Findley, Jill Jones

Gerry Cleasby, Jim Austin

8/23 - Jacen Schnitzer, Jim Austin

Sharon Morse, Norm Kinneson

8/30 - Vicki Hill, Gerry Cleasby

Cathy Roller, Todd Cooper

Counters for August

Ron Goetze - Head Counter

Kris Goetze, Diane Harris

Julie Zarembo

Altar Team for August

Paula Corrin, Jo Naylor

Nicole & Brandon Middleton

Greeters

8/2 – Jill Jacobson, Jill Jones

Ruth Korhonen, Elizabeth Nestor

8/9 - Linda Jensen, Linda Martin

Mary Catherine Gadany, Karen Hillestad

8/16 – Elisabete Nestor, Vicki Hill

Julie Zarembo, Sheri Riverd-Baker

8/26 – Mary Vatherine Gadany

Karen Hillestad, Cindy Edwards
Jill Jacobson

8/30 - Linda Jensen, Jill Jones

Ron & Kris Goetze

Coffee Hour

8/2 – CLC

8/9 – Council Team #2

Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach

Kate Smith

Cindy Edwards

Lisa Kargol-Stephens

8/16– WELCA

Linda Greiser - Chair

8/23 – Men's Group

8/30 - WELCA

WORSHIP SERVANTS-AUGUST

Tech Team

8/2

Switcher: Ole Anderson
Projection: Edelyn Rose
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Emmet Morse
Andy Nestor

8/9

Switcher: Krystal Edwards
Projection: Tara Ondusky
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Brian Domain
Tracey Barney

8/16

Switcher: Brent Gobler
Projection: Krystal Edwards
Sound Up: Edelyn Rose
Cameras: Andy Nestor
Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach

8/23

Switcher: Ole Anderson
Projection: Tara Ondusky
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Kim Harris
Emmet Morse

8/30

Switcher: Krystal Edwards
Projection: Kerri Kinneberg
Sound Up: Edelyn Rose
Cameras: Tracey Barney
Brian Domain

Communion Assistants

8/2 - Karen Hillestad
Mary Bratun, Vicki Hill

8/9 – Stephen Cooperrider
Paula Corrin, Linda Geiser

8/16 – Donna Butora, Phyllis Folsom
Joan Kossman

8/23 – Hanne & Riane Forbing
Pat Scott

8/30 - Mary Bratun, Janet Dennis
Marsha Fante

Join Our Tech Team!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to give back to our church?

We need YOU to help us enhance our services by joining the Tech Team!

No skills or experience? No problem! We will provide all the training you need.

Your support will help us create a welcoming and engaging environment for our congregation.

This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved and make a difference!

Interested? Please contact the office for more details or to sign up.



August Wedding Anniversaries

8/2 Dave & Wendy Kane
8/3 Emmet & Sharon Morse
8/5 Ron & Margie Gobler
8/11 Steven & Vickie Hill
8/21 Mark & Trudi Koskinen
8/23 Ole & Anne Anderson
8/23 Craig & Donna Butora
8/31 Doug & Maryellen McKnight



Peace Garden Workdays

Every Saturday in August

10am – 12pm

Weather Permitting



A heartfelt thank you to **Pat, Linda, Ruth, Steve, Lisa, and our entire SCUBA VBS volunteer team** (Too many to name but you know who you are!) for making this year's Vacation Bible School a raging success! Your countless hours of planning, decorating, preparing lessons, leading games, organizing crafts, singing energetic songs, introducing our Bible Buddies, sharing God's Word, serving a delicious dinner each evening, and caring for every child and adult who walked through our doors made for an unforgettable week. Because of your generosity, creativity, and servant hearts, our children not only had an incredible time—they experienced the love of Jesus in meaningful and lasting ways. Thank you for sharing your gifts so faithfully. Your ministry made a difference, and we are deeply grateful. **To God be the glory!**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 AUGUST 2026						1 Peace Garden 10am-12pm 8pm AA
2 10am Service Pent 10	3 7pm Scouts	4	5 	6  TOPS 5-6pm	7 	8 Peace Garden 10am-12pm  8pm AA
9 10am Service Pent 11	10 7pm Scouts	11 Office Closed/Work Retreat 7pm MS Support Group	12 Office Closed/Work Retreat 5 pm Weiner Wednesday 6pm SCSA 7:00pm Emmaus 8pm AA	13 9am Quilting Group TOPS 5-6pm	14	15 Peace Garden 10am-12pm 8pm AA
16 10am Service Pent 12 Noisy Offering-WYA	17 6:45pm ALS Support Group 7pm Council Meeting 7pm Scouts	18	19 1pm Bible Study 5 pm Weiner Wednesday 7:00pm Emmaus 8pm AA	20 9am Quilting Group TOPS 5-6PM	21	22 Peace Garden 10am-12pm 8pm AA
23 10am Service Pent 13 Installation of new council	24 6:30 Men's Food & Fellowship 7pm Scouts	25	26 1pm Bible Study 5 pm Weiner Wednesday 6pm SCSA 7:00pm Emmaus	27 9am Quilting Group TOPS 5-6PM	28	29 Peace Garden 10am-12pm 8pm AA
30 10am Service Pent 14	31 7pm Scouts	  PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION AUGUST 5TH – 8TH 				