

# The *Celebration!* Connection

**Celebration Lutheran Church**

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**Facebook: [facebook.com/celebrationlc](https://facebook.com/celebrationlc)**

*Celebration is a part of the Southeast Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



## In this Issue

1 From the Pastor

3 Trunk or Treat

4 Oktoberfest

4 Outreach Events

5 Sponsorships

5 Bible Study

6 Birthdays

6 Anniversaries

6 Christmas

Devotionals

Sunday Helpers

October Calendar

(The most up-to-date calendar can be found on the church's website)

## FROM THE PASTOR

Once a pastor ran into the cleaners to pick up his shirts. They had told him they would be ready, but now they couldn't find them. They began searching and he stood there thinking, "This is great. Every clerical shirt I own is at the cleaners - except for the one I'm wearing."

While he was waiting for them to find his shirts, a woman walked in carrying an old laundry basket. Inside the laundry basket, lying on a green towel were five little puppies. They were about five or six weeks old - cute little balls of brown, playful fur.

While he and the other customers were admiring the puppies, a boy about eight or nine years old walked through the door. He had a big smile on his face as he looked at all of the puppies in that laundry basket. He looked up at the woman and asked, "What kind are they?"

The woman replied, "They are Yorkshire Terriers. They don't get much larger than this."

The boy just kept looking and smiling at those puppies. The woman picked one up and asked him, "Would you like to hold this one?"

A simple look at the boy's face and we knew it was a silly question. Very carefully, he cuddled the puppy in one hand, stroked the puppy's head with his other hand, held the puppy close and softly talked to him.



Looking around the room, everyone standing there - the five or six customers and the clerk - was smiling. In that moment, there was joy in their hearts and lives as they watched that little boy cuddle the puppy.

Joy.

It seems as though that the necessary isolation and separateness that came with the pandemic, so many have seemed to have lost a sense of overall joy. Joy in each other. Joy in the Lord!

As I write this on September 25<sup>th</sup>, I came to the realization that Christmas is only three months away!!! And what did the angels sing to those shepherds in the fields?

*... Behold, I bring you good news **of great joy**, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord.*

The announcement is made by the angels with joy. And after the shepherds go to the manger and find the child, one emotion that they experienced is recorded: on the way back they glorified and praised God - they experienced joy!

Joy!

I believe that joy is something we need to give ourselves. It is certainly better than mere happiness, (although happiness is important). But joy, **THAT** is something that abides. Joy is a kind of being. Joy is a quality. You know when you have joy and when you don't. Joy is the sense of security that things are going to be all right in the long run, however painful they might be now, because of who God is. The shepherds went to the manger and found the child. On the way back to their flocks in the field, they were glorifying God, and they had a sense of joy.

But how can we have this joy? Well, first of all, let us recover (or at least develop) a sense of humor. Before joy can ever really be a part of our lives, we need a sense of humor. This does not mean that we must always be laughing. That would be weird – or you've been over medicated. But, a sense of humor is a flexible way of being able to enjoy life.

Once there were two women discussing the state of their health. They talked of poor eyesight, hearing problems, and various other ailments. One woman turned to the other and asked, "Do you have a cataract?"

The other woman smiled and said, "No, I have a Buick."

Another time, there was a church that had recently redecorated their parlor. The wallpaper they chose had large flowers - black and red and brown and white flowers. When you walked into the room, that loud flowered wallpaper was the first thing that caught your attention.

When the redecoration was finished, they held an open house, and a visitor walked into the parlor and said, "I don't like it! It's too loud. I wonder what a bride would think when she walked into this room?"

A woman standing beside her, a member of the church, said, "I was on the decoration committee for this parlor."

Without a moment's hesitation, the visitor smiled and said, "They outvoted you, didn't they?"

A good sense of humor can diffuse a tense situation and enable us to experience life with a sense of joy.

Let us see joy in the hearts and lives of others all around us. Ah, but the difference really comes when we, ourselves, begin to **experience** joy! There's a huge difference between talking about or observing joy in the lives of others, and being a person whose life is filled with joy. Joy is within you... or you simply don't have it. If it is not within you, as far as you are concerned, it is nowhere. Joy is something you experience in an inward way. You find joy inside your own life. Your life can be filled with joy. That was announced when Jesus was born, and Jesus taught that all of his life.

Are you looking for joy?

Maybe a good place to start looking is within community, like here at Celebration.

You never know what joy you might find here!

See you in church!

**Pastor Fogle**

*P.S. I wanted to remind you that if you are in need of any pastoral care at all to please contact me directly. You can do this by either contacting me through my cell phone number which is in the directory, or, by leaving a confidential voice mail on my church voice mail (extension 201), or, by sending me an email through my church email (revfogle@celebrationlc.com) or my personal email (revfogle@hotmail.com). There is no guarantee that I will be informed in a timely manner (if at all) if you go through a third party, no matter who it may be, or, even if you leave a voice mail through the church's general phone number (Jodi is only in the office twice a week and it may not be checked frequently). I want to be there for you, but I cannot do so if I only find out your needs days, weeks, or in one case, months after the fact!*

*P.J.*



Bring your ghosts and goblins to the Celebration parking lot between **3 and 5 pm on Saturday, October 29** for a fun experience called "Trunk or Treat".

Folks from our congregation will be hosting from their cars hoping to be entertained by the "young'uns" and the "young at heart". We have found that many of the neighborhood participants are likely newcomers to our country, living nearby. The children and families are very appreciative and polite and a little intimidated by these strange American customs. We invite members of the congregation to help provide treats even though you cannot be present at the event.

Watch for more information. To participate as hosts, email Christine@Snowden.com or sign up on the bulletin board. (h) 734-451-7489 or (c) 734-673-8191



**October 8 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm**

Bratwurst and Knockwurst

Roasted Chicken

Sauerkraut

German Potato Salad

German Chocolate Cake

Beverages (including beer)

Music

Adults: \$12.00

Children 6 and over \$6.00

Children 5 and under – free

Tickets are available after worship services



## Noah Project

Please join us on **October 9th** to prepare 300 lunches for the Noah Bag Project in collaboration with Central United Methodist church in Detroit. The project serves those who are food insecure as well as homeless folks in the surrounding area. A sign-up sheet is located on the Communications board. You can also sign up utilizing the Sign-up genius link that was emailed to you. If anyone is interested in volunteering to hand out the lunches, please see Cindy Sweier for further information.

## Bring One Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup>

The Good Hope Food Pantry is in desperate need of ANY non-perishable foods. They are currently having to delay deliveries and pick-ups due to lack of food in the pantry. If you would rather donate money, please write your checks out to the Good Hope Food Pantry.

If you have questions regarding this ministry, contact Greg and Gloria Tapper at 734-427-1142 or [Getapper@yahoo.com](mailto:Getapper@yahoo.com).

**Reformation Sunday**

**is October 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**Wear Holy Spirit Red!**

## Crafty Connections Plus!

Have you noticed all the yarn in the basket under the mailboxes? Katie Frank has generously donated it so you can make hats, scarves, and mittens for the Warming Tree. (This is one of our annual December projects.) The weather will be turning very cold before you know it.

We have several people who knit or crochet. Join them for *Crafty Connections* on the second Monday of the month (October 10) and the last Wednesday of each month (October 26).

- + 1 Not a knitter or crocheter? Bring whatever craft you are working on and enjoy some fellowship while doing it.

*Psst!*

- + 2 Halloween Crafts will be available at the Oktoberfest.

## Altar Flowers

Please consider sponsoring a vase of flowers, they are \$23 each. This may be in honor, memory, or in celebration of someone or some event. Sign-up; on the Communication Board, call the office (734) 582-4112 or email the office (officelc@celebrationlc.com). Payment can be put into an envelope in the offering plate on Sunday or mailed directly to the church.  
**This month's sponsors are:**

### October 2:

Justin and Michelle Lair in celebration of their anniversary

### October 9:

Phil and Cindy Sweier in celebration of Mike's birthday

**October 16:** George and Sally Evalt in celebration of their adoption "Gotcha" Date.

### October 23:

Rick and Jodi Reed in celebration of Jodi's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday



### October 30:

## Live-Stream Broadcasts

Please consider sponsoring a week or more of live-streaming for \$15 per Sunday. **This month's live streaming has been sponsored by:**

**October 2:** Steve and Andrea Kolhoff

**October 9:** Barbara Heidmann

**October 16:** Steve and Andrea Kolhoff

**October 23:** Bernie Vaughn

**October 30:** Available for Sponsorship



## Jesus and Nature: Teachers of Faith

On **Wednesday, October 19**, the Women's Bible study group will meet **at 1:00 p.m.** to discuss the second session entitled "Soil".

There is more to dirt than we will ever know. The granules of earth involve not only minerals and rocks, but organic matter, liquids, gases and bugs. Soil is where most everything grows. It does more than store water and transform atmospheres.

Dirt also shows up in scripture, nearly as much as it does in our lives. It's not just an analogy for sinfulness, which is washed off by the grace of God in Christ. Dirt surely must have caked Jesus' feet and provided him with a canvas for drawing. Dirt and soil also turn up as subjects for Jesus' parables.

"Soil" will dig deeply into the parable of the soil (otherwise know as the parable of the seed, Matthew 13) and other Biblical accounts that relate to care for this part of creation, while looking at models of growth that involve wholeness and wellness.

## Change of Address

Marilyn Briegel has moved to Fox Run. Her new address is:

41340 Fox Run Rd.  
Apt #206  
Novi, MI 48377



## October Birthdays

6 Gregg Droste  
8 Leo Albert  
9 Mike Sweier  
10 Marge Gask  
12 Esther Bowers  
    Ericka Williamson  
13 Catherine Holt  
14 Marian Pye  
16 Oliver Hoste  
20 Benjamin Holt  
21 Julie Livingston  
22 Kristina Wommer  
25 John Gambotto  
27 Jodi Reed  
28 Debby Hoepner  
31 Katie Reid  
    Dennis Bramigk



## October Anniversaries

1 Justin and Michelle Lair  
4 Julie and Jeremiah Livingston  
9 Terry and Glenda Tarr  
    Dave and Deanna Holt  
13 Tom and Beth Codd  
15 Al and Cathy Buchfinck  
17 Gerald and Roberta Schmucker

### **CHRISTMAS IS COMING! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Believe it or not, the Christmas season will be quickly be upon us! Not only that, but Christmas Day is on a Sunday this year !!!! So, be sure to mark the following dates on your calendars now to make sure you'll be able to participate in everything!

- Church decorating – Date/Time TBD
- Congregational Christmas Dinner – December 10<sup>th</sup> (time to be determined)
- Christmas Eve Candlelight worship – 7pm
- Christmas Day worship with communion – 9:30am
- Lessons and Carols Worship, January 1 – 9:30am

(Christmas Day is expected to be a bit more casual than a regular Sunday worship service)

**Each week we pray for members of the congregation during intercessory prayers. This month we pray for:**

### **October 2**

Nasim Haider  
Carole Hakala  
Viona Hakala  
Hewitt Hammer

### **October 9**

Jim, Susan, Jenna, Rowan, and Reece Hardy  
Bill and Laura Harrison  
Larry and Georgia Hartsell  
Steve Hartsell

### **October 16**

Barbara Heidmann  
Anne Heikkinen  
Tim and Debby Hoepner  
David, Deanna, Benjamin, and Catherine Holt

### **October 23**

Robert, Christine, Zachary, and Faith Hurd  
Stewart Israel  
S. Bud Johnson and Annie Featherstone  
Marion Jones

### **October 30**

Emily, Nathan, Oliver Jung-Hoste  
Karin Klein  
Miriam Kleven  
Ruth and Ed Klosterhaus



## October Daily Devotionals

Saturday, October 1  
Psalm 37:1-9  
Isaiah 7:1-9  
Matthew 20:29-34

**Sunday, October 2**  
**Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4**  
**Psalm 37:1-9**  
**2 Timothy 1:1-14**  
**Luke 17:5-10**

Monday, October 3  
Psalm 3  
Habakkuk 1:5-17  
James 1:2-11

Tuesday, October 4  
Psalm 3  
Habakkuk 2:5-11  
1 John 5:1-5, 13-21

Wednesday, October 5  
Psalm 3  
Habakkuk 2:12-20  
Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

Thursday, October 6  
Psalm 111  
Leviticus 14:33-53  
2 Timothy 1:13-18

Friday, October 7  
Psalm 111  
Numbers 4:34—5:4  
2 Timothy 2:1-7

Saturday, October 8  
Psalm 111  
Numbers 12:1-15  
Luke 5:12-16

**Sunday, October 9**  
**2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c**  
**Psalm 111**  
**2 Timothy 2:8-15**  
**Luke 17:11-19**

Monday, October 10  
Psalm 61  
2 Kings 5:15-19a  
Acts 26:24-29

Tuesday, October 11  
Psalm 61  
2 Kings 5:19b-27  
Ephesians 6:10-20

Wednesday, October 12  
Psalm 61  
2 Kings 15:1-7  
Matthew 10:5-15

Thursday, October 13  
Psalm 121  
Isaiah 54:11-17  
Acts 17:22-34

Friday, October 14  
Psalm 121  
Genesis 31:43—32:2  
2 Timothy 2:14-26

Saturday, October 15  
Psalm 121  
Genesis 32:3-21  
Mark 10:46-52

**Sunday, October 16**  
**Genesis 32:22-31**  
**Psalm 121**  
**2 Timothy 3:14—4:5**  
**Luke 18:1-8**

Monday, October 17  
Psalm 57  
1 Samuel 25:2-22  
1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Tuesday, October 18  
Psalm 57  
1 Samuel 25:23-35  
James 5:7-12

Wednesday, October 19  
Psalm 57  
1 Samuel 25:36-42  
Luke 22:39-46

Thursday, October 20  
Psalm 84:1-7  
Jeremiah 9:1-16  
2 Timothy 3:1-9

Friday, October 21  
Psalm 84:1-7  
Jeremiah 9:17-26  
2 Timothy 3:10-15

Saturday, October 22  
Psalm 84:1-7  
Jeremiah 14:1-6  
Luke 1:46-55

**Sunday, October 23**  
**Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22**  
**or Sirach 35:12-17**  
**Psalm 84:1-7**  
**2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18**  
**Luke 18:9-14**

Monday, October 24  
Psalm 84:8-12  
1 Samuel 2:1-10  
1 Peter 4:12-19

Tuesday, October 25  
Psalm 84:8-12  
Daniel 5:1-12  
1 Peter 5:1-11

Wednesday, October 26  
Psalm 84:8-12  
Daniel 5:13-31  
Matthew 21:28-32

Thursday, October 27  
Psalm 32:1-7  
Proverbs 15:8-11, 24-33  
2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Friday, October 28  
Psalm 32:1-7  
Job 22:21—23:17  
2 Peter 1:1-11

Saturday, October 29  
Psalm 32:1-7  
Isaiah 1:1-9  
John 8:39-47

**Sunday, October 30**  
**Isaiah 1:10-18**  
**Psalm 32:1-7**  
**2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12**  
**Luke 19:1-10**

Monday, October 31  
Psalm 50  
Nehemiah 13:1-3, 23-31  
1 Corinthians 5:9-13