



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



At Acacia Park Lutheran Church, we welcome you!

Connect

Wonder

Celebrate

Share

September 2018

Dear Church Family,

Each of you who make up the Acacia Park family consistently amaze me. I was gone for two weeks visiting family in the Northwest, and when I came back, I found a transformed church. The space has been rearranged to welcome and create space for New Life. I learned about life events that caused personal change either by starting school, medical information shared, or the death of a loved one or a pet. And I was welcomed back to dozens of emails about things that keep a church running and upcoming meetings. That's what happens with a family. People take care of each other, and life continues to move forward even if pieces of the family are missing or there are so many changes that life begins to feel a little unrecognizable.

It may feel that way in the building right now. We are easing into sharing space with New Life, and furniture is being moved around. Additionally, our worship space has new speakers and a sound board in the back; the lounge area has been moved to one of the classrooms on the first floor in the education wing; and there are likely a few other changes that you have noticed here and there. We all know change is rough, and adapting to new situations takes time. But it can also be exciting, and we can learn from the new experiences.

For the past year the council worked on creating a partnership with New Life through meetings and contracts. A Space Sharing Committee met a few times to talk about all of our partnerships and to try to anticipate any rough patches before they happen. This month the council will reach out to people to join a Review Committee. This team will meet with members of New Life to talk about relationship building and address any concerns that may come up as we learn to share space together. Once this committee is formed the information of who is serving on the team will be shared. If you feel called to serve on the committee, please speak with Karen Lanners before the council meeting on September 19th when the council will be discussing possible members for the team.

If you have any questions or concerns about sharing space or if you would like clarification on something you are not quite sure about, please know that the members of the Space Sharing Committee are available to speak with you: Tony Valentino, Marion Engler, Patti Mann, and Karen Lanners. I am always open to a conversation, but if you would rather remain anonymous, you can write your concern or question out and place it in the suggestion box which gets checked on Sunday after worship.

In Christ,

Pr. Meagan Sherman-Sporrong

Treasurer's Report (as of July 31, 2018)

	YTD	YTD BUDGET TRENDED	DIFF ACT/BUDGET
Offering Income	\$29,741.57	\$28,772.92	\$968.65
Other Income	4,675.49	4,433.33	242.16
Expense	60,023.83	62,216.06	2,192.23
Net	(25,606.77)	(29,009.81)	3,403.04

Worship and Christian Education

WORSHIP RETURNS TO THE SANCTUARY

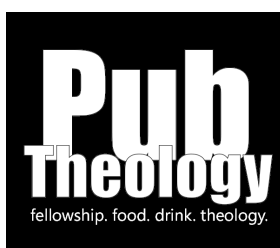
On **Sunday, September 9th**, worship service returns upstairs to the Sanctuary.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

A special time for children will be offered on **Sunday, September 9th** during worship and will be led by one of our lay leaders. Children will be dismissed right before the sermon to participate in faith formation activities designed just for them. In addition to a story and theme for the day, there will be a related project for all participants. All children ages 3 through 6th grade are welcome.



PUB THEOLOGY



We will meet on **Tuesday, September 11th** at 7:00 pm at Marion Engler's home, 4842 N Crescent Ave, Norridge for fellowship and friendly discussion of topics including faith, spirituality, current events, and just about everything in between. If you would like to bring an appetizer or treat to share, that would be great! All are welcome. Call or email the church office at 708-453-3662 or acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com for more information.

YOU AND THE WORD BIBLE STUDY

On **Sunday, September 30th** immediately following worship, our Bible study group will meet in the downstairs lounge. Please mark your calendars, and plan on joining us in fellowship, study and discussion.

Parish Events and Notes

"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." WORK DAY



On **Sunday, September 2nd** immediately following worship we will be making raffle gift baskets for the Unity in Community Foundation's 10th Annual Fundraiser and Food Drive, which will be held on **Saturday, September 8th** from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. Proceeds from the event will go to assisting the Giselle Gomez family in their struggle to keep up with medical expenses and to local scholarship programs.

The evening will include live entertainment featuring Mike Toomey, Chicago's Very Own WGN Morning News Announcer; raffles; a silent auction; dinner and dancing; and a cash bar. The event will be held at The Underpass Restaurant & Lounge, 9400 Grand Avenue, Franklin Park. Ticket price is \$20 and includes dinner. Please bring a non-perishable food item for entry into the special Door Prize raffle where the grand prize is a 43" Smart TV. We're hoping that many Acacia Park members will be able to attend this very special fundraising event.

For more information about our "God's Work. Our Hands." work day on September 2nd, please contact Kären Tompkins at 847-344-0359.

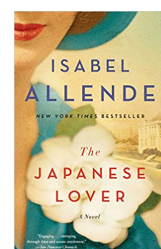
For more information about the Unity in Community Foundation's fundraiser on September 8th, please contact Tim Brimie at 847-233-9178.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The church council meets on **Thursday, September 13th** at 7:00 pm.

BOOK CLUB

Our next Book Club selection is *The Japanese Lover* by Isable Allende. We will meet to discuss the book on **Tuesday, September 25th** at 7:00 pm at the church in the downstairs lounge. A few books are still available in the office for church members to borrow courtesy of Eisenhower Public Library. Please remember to add your name to the sign-out sheet when taking a book. Any questions, please call or email the church office: 708-453-3662 or acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com.



Serving the Congregation and Larger Community

THE NIGHT MINISTRY

We will once again be "taking it to the streets" to serve a meal to the homeless on **Sunday, September 16th** with [The Night Ministry](#). We need volunteers to help prepare the sandwiches and pack the dinner bags as well as volunteers to drive and help distribute food. If you or anyone you know is interested in going to the location to hand out food and visit with the recipients, please contact Karen Lanners at 773-439-9893. This will be our last Night Ministry of the year.



ST. CYPRIAN'S FOOD PANTRY

Canned and non-perishable goods for [St. Cyprian's Food Pantry](#) continue to be collected. Food donations may be left in the bin in the Narthex. **No open packages or expired food, please.**

CLOTHING DONATIONS

We will not be accepting any more clothing donations until the weather gets colder, and then we will be limiting our collection to coats, hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, etc. If you have clothing that you would like to donate now, the Salvation Army Citadel at Cumberland and Foster accepts donations year round. Thank you so much for your past clothing donations.

From the ELCA

CONNECT TO STEWARDSHIP RESOURCES THROUGH THE STEWARDNET E-NEWSLETTER



StewardNet is an e-newsletter published quarterly by the ELCA to help better connect congregations and leaders with stewardship resources that will make a difference. Each issue of stewardNet has a central theme; perspectives on mission interpretation with links to books, videos and articles; and a calendar of upcoming events. Each issue strives to distill ideas that surface through conversations, presentations and research from across the ELCA and other denominations and organizations. The orientation of stewardNet is

less about technical stewardship fixes and more about adaptive change. To subscribe, please send your name and email address to stewardnet@elca.org.

Life Passages

Former Acacia Park Church member **Laura Chrisine Roman** (nee Peterson) passed away on August 12th after a long illness.

Memorial Gifts

The following people have given memorial gifts in loving memory of **William Parry** to be directed toward the church's Building Fund and General Fund. Thank you for your kind and generous donations.

**Diana Parry
Laura Parry
Lisa Pace
Sandra Toms
Linda Lowery
Kathy Gisseler
Roberta McCutchan
Linda Lichner
Mary Kay and Steve Meimaris
Lori and Frank Marlette
Ed and Tammy Sreniewski
The Schroeder Family
The Mazurkiewicz Family**

The following person has given a memorial gift in loving memory of **Bill Porter** to be directed toward the church's Building Fund for new church doors. Thank you for your kind and generous donation.

Claire Porter

Sending Out Our Thanks

Thank you to everyone who attended and/or volunteered for our pancake brunch fundraiser on August 5th. We raised close to \$1,200, kicking off our **Raising the Roof and Opening the Doors** Capital Campaign to help replace the roof and the front doors of the church.

During the brunch, we served approximately 80 people. We used 13 pounds of pancake mix, which made about 325 pancakes, and we cooked and served 250 sausages. We had a variety of fruit available including berries, melons, bananas, cherries and clementines. Our guests drank three gallons of orange juice, a gallon of milk, a 1/2 gallon of lemonade and close to 100 cups of coffee. Additionally, guests were treated to cookies, coffee cake, cupcakes and a delicious chocolate sheet cake to welcome our six new members of the congregation: Patti, Bobby and Katie Dupree, Linda Jenkins, Elsie Michelsen and Wanda Nagel. Everyone had plenty to eat.



We also celebrated Ruth Igoe's 88th birthday with a resounding chorus of Happy Birthday!

We finished up with a raffle drawing for some great prizes including Amazon gift cards, Mariano's gift cards, and dining gift cards to a number of excellent restaurants in our area. Our 50/50 raffle was the final drawing of the day and saw the winner, Per Lynnerup, give his half of the pot to Acacia Park and to Save the District 80 Band. Thanks so much, Per, for that generous donation!

A special note of thanks goes to Pastor Meagan, who applied for Thrivent Action Team funding for this project. Through Pastor Meagan's request, Thrivent Financial supplied the necessary seed money to get our pancake brunch fundraiser up and running. Thank you Pastor Meagan! And thank you to Isaac Sporong for sharing his wonderful photos of the day with us. You can see them here and on our website: acaciaparkchurch.com.



Shar Wyatt makes pancakes.



We celebrated Ruth Igoe's 88th birthday.

Fundraising

AMAZONSMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Acacia Park Lutheran Church every time you shop and at no cost to you. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience--including Amazon Prime member benefits--at Amazon.com. You'll also have the added bonus that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Acacia Park. Log on at <https://amazonmile.com> to get started shopping.



Monday, September 3rd is Labor Day. The church office will be closed.

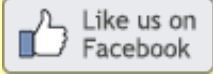
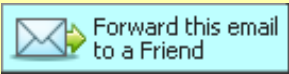


Connect

Wonder

Celebrate

Share



Connect with us on the web or by email by clicking:

acaciaparkchurch.com

acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com

Share your thoughts with us by phone:
708-453-3662

Celebrate with us Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.

Church office hours: Monday - Thursday, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Acacia Park Lutheran Church, 4307 N. Oriole Avenue, Norridge, IL 60706

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