



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Monthly news & updates

October 2020

Worship & Christian Education

Sunday Worship

Anytime: Self-guided communion worship through the YouTube worship video.

9:30-10:30 am: Zoom worship where we can experience the self-guided worship together. *(Look for Zoom log on information below in Announcements.)*

10:30-11:30 am: Fellowship time in breakout rooms

1. Room one for fellowship
2. Room two for text study and discussion of the worship experience

11:30 am-12:30 pm: Zoom Confirmation for all—we will walk through the Small Catechism.

Wednesday Healing Worship

6:00-6:45 pm: Shortened, socially-distant, in-person worship—prayers with communion.

Weekly Worship Bulletins

Constant Contact self-guided communion worship bulletins will arrive in your inbox early Sunday mornings. We will also continue to mail out hard copies of the weekly worship bulletins to



Saturday, October 3rd

**beginning at 10:00 a.m.
in front of the church**

"Our call to preach the Gospel extends beyond the people in our pews in a typical week. A blessing of the animals is a wonderful way to share love with our neighbors, the furred and feathered ones, and the loving families who bring them" (<https://blogs.elca.org/worship/777/>).

Any and all pets and their human companions are invited to join us for a blessing of the animals. Water and snacks will be provided for pets. Masks and social distancing are required. Please [email](#) the church with any questions or concerns.

members who do not have email. If you have someone you would like to add to the list, please [email](#) and let us know.

Parish Events & Notes

August Church Council Meeting

Thursday, October 8th at 7:00 pm

Ministry

Need Assistance?

If you need assistance or have any questions or concerns, please call or [email](#) during office hours (Mon - Thurs, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm), or contact Pastor Meagan at pastormeagan@gmail.com.

Ways to serve . . .

You and your pet are welcome to stay after the blessing to help out at our Service Day 2020 with some weeding around the church and in the courtyard. If you prefer to serve from home, you might call someone in the congregation whom you have been thinking about recently but haven't spoken to in awhile.



From the Pastor's Desk . . .



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Fall is the season of schedules. Over the summer we let our schedules run wild. We throw caution to the wind because we can be outside. And how important being outside was this summer. It is safer to gather and meet outside, so we spent as much time with people we wanted to see - from a distance and with masks - outside. The days are longer, so we tend to make more plans; we travel, and we take advantage of the warmth.

rhythm, please keep the church schedule in mind. There are two opportunities to worship each week and quite a few opportunities to gather for community and fellowship each month.

Covid is making it hard to build community. It is also making it tricky to keep the community we already have. We are screened out by the end of the day and just can't fathom yet another Zoom gathering or meeting. Or without the need to get in a car and physically go someplace, the time for the gathering comes and goes by before you even really realize it. Life is so different now, and it is hard to create this new rhythm.

Just know that Acacia Park is here for you. When you need to feel connected, we are here. When you need to talk to your church friends, we are here. When you feel lost and need some grounding, we are here. The worship schedule above and the

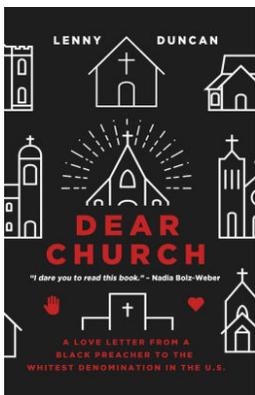
Fall sometimes feels like a magnet for me. It is like I have a force pulling me back into a routine. Having younger kids and a teacher in the family makes a schedule necessary in the fall when school begins again. But there is also something about the cooler weather that makes my nerdy side just want to plan and organize.

Acacia Park has a new fall schedule. As you begin to enter into your fall

fellowship opportunities below are the times when someone from the church will be available regularly, but also know that you can reach out to Dawn during office hours (Mon - Thurs, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm) or to me at anytime by texting or calling me at 773-885-9686.

I hope to see you or speak with you!

In Christ,
Pastor Meagan



Book Study

Wednesdays, October 7, 14, 21 and 28 beginning at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Join Pastor Meagan as we read *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.* by Lenny Duncan, the **unlikeliest of pastors**. From the [publisher](#): formerly incarcerated, he is now a black preacher in the whitest denomination in the US: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter, *Dear Church* offers a bold new vision for the church to take on forces of this world that act against God: whiteness, misogyny,

nationalism, homophobia, and economic injustice. Duncan gives a blueprint for the way forward and urges us to follow in the revolutionary path of Jesus.

You can purchase a copy of the book at [Broadleaf Books](#) or [Thrift Books](#). The church also has some copies available.

Join the Zoom Book Study meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88167531620?pwd=QVdUdFZRWUYxU2IYYlJkS3VNK1pZdz09>

Meeting ID: 881 6753 1620

Passcode: 862913

One tap mobile

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 881 6753 1620

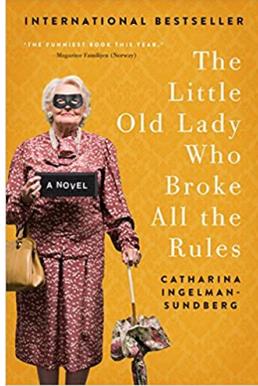
Passcode: 862913

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88167531620?pwd=QVdUdFZRWUYxU2IYYlJkS3VNK1pZdz09>

Welcome Back Book Club!

Acacia Park Book Club Resumes in October

Join us once again for fellowship, conversation, and love of books and reading as we resume and adapt our popular book club for Zoom. We'll meet Tuesday, October 20th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Our book selection



for October is *The Little Old Lady Who Broke All The Rules* by Catharina Ingelman-Sundberg.

From the publisher: Martha Andersson may be seventy-nine-years-old and live in a retirement home, but that doesn't mean she's ready to stop enjoying life. So when the new management of Diamond House starts cutting corners to save money, Martha and her four closest friends—Brains, The Rake, Christina and Anna-Gretta (a.k.a. The League of Pensioners)—won't stand for it. Fed up with early bedtimes and overcooked veggies, this group of feisty seniors sets about to regain their independence, improve their lot, and stand up for seniors everywhere. You can purchase a copy at [Thrift Books](#).

Join the Zoom Bi-Monthly Book Club Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87287642749?pwd=YIVxWDIPV3FTUXVhNGVzclY4bXJNQOT09>

Meeting ID: 872 8764 2749

Passcode: 648104

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Meeting ID: 872 8764 2749

Passcode: 648104

Find your local number: <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/87287642749>

Book Club will meet every other month on the third Tuesday via Zoom. If you'd like to secure your books and read ahead, upcoming dates and book selections are as follows:

Tuesday, December 15, 2020—*All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot

Tuesday, February 16, 2021—*The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith

Tuesday, April 20, 2021—*Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe* by Fannie Flagg

Introducing . . .

Friday Night Dinner Fellowship

Make sure to set aside the fourth Friday of every month for Friday Night Dinner Fellowship. Beginning Friday, October 23rd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, we'll gather on Zoom to enjoy one another's company over dinner. So order a pizza; make a sandwich; have a nightcap, and join us for a way to connect at the end of each month.



Join the Zoom Friday Night Dinner Fellowship Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85725852258?pwd=N29VamtlN3ZzMHJwdlBwZ2tVTmphZz09>

Meeting ID: 857 2585 2258

Passcode: 562393

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Illinois General Election **Early Voting Begins October 19th**

“My dear friends: Your vote is precious, almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool we have to create a more perfect union.” – John Lewis, 2012 speech in Charlotte, North Carolina (<https://blackalliance.org/john-lewis-quotes/>)

The Norridge Village Hall will again be offering early voting for the upcoming Illinois General Election on November 3rd. Early voting begins on October 19th and continues through November 2nd. Dates and times for early voting are as follows:

Monday through Friday, October 19th - October 23rd and October 26th - October 30th,
and Monday, November 2nd
8:30 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 24th and Saturday, October 31st
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday, October 25th and Sunday, November 1st
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

According to the Cook County Clerk's website, the Clerk's Office will also offer secure mail ballot drop boxes at early voting locations, including Norridge Village Hall, beginning October 19th. These drop boxes will be emptied every day and ballots time stamped to make sure they are counted. If you have requested a mail-in ballot and prefer not to return your completed ballot by USPS, you may drop it off at Village Hall anytime during early voting hours (<https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/service/mail-ballot-drop-box-locations>).

Anyone living in Suburban Cook County can vote or drop off mail ballots at Norridge Village Hall during early voting.

From the ELCA

Seeds Monthly, August/September 2020

Journi—Reveal your path to leadership

When someone feels God is calling them to make a difference in the world, the sheer number of questions and options can be overwhelming.

Coming this winter, Journi is a digital tool for everyone who feels called to leadership in this church. Journi will equip future leaders with tools to discover their gifts, practical resources to learn more about opportunities within the church and next steps to move forward in their leadership journey. Watch our [video](#) to learn more about our vision for Journi.



“Stories of Faith in Action”

“Stories of Faith in Action” is an annual publication highlighting how God changes lives through ministries funded by Mission Support. Mission Support is the portion of your offering that your congregation shares with your synod, and your synod shares with the ELCA churchwide organization. This publication and the resources that accompany it illustrate how

your congregational offering sustains and advances the work of this church. Stories, videos and an [interactive flipbook](#) of the publication are available at ELCA.org/SOFIA.

On Saturday morning, September 26th, Pastor Meagan celebrated Holy Baptism, and we welcomed a new member into the body of Christ: **Ziya Jean Tunious Sanford** (pictured at right).



Ziya Jean is the daughter of Kathy Felix and Deonte Tunious Sanford, and she is the great-granddaughter of Linda Jenkins.

Acacia Park Community Announcements

Self-Guided Communion Worship and Fellowship: Every Sunday morning beginning at 9:30 am. Constant Contact self-guided worship bulletins will arrive in your email inboxes on Sunday mornings before service is set to begin. Come for worship and stay for fellowship, text study and discussion.

Join our Zoom Self-Guided Communion Worship and Fellowship meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84759632088?pwd=VVRINjRMY2dDQzF0aUoxaXNtY2doZz09>

Meeting ID: 847 5963 2088

Passcode: 554322

One tap mobile

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Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84759632088?pwd=VVRINjRMY2dDQzF0aUoxaXNtY2doZz09>

Reformation Sunday--October 25, 2020: Pastor Meagan will begin a new Zoom catechism on Reformation Sunday focusing on the history, particularly the early years, of Martin Luther. This will take place during the 11:30 am to 12:30 pm time slot.

All Saints Sunday--November 1, 2020: This year, Pastor Meagan plans to be at church to ring the bell once for every passing that occurred in Norridge due to Covid-19.

Treasurer's Report

As of August 2020

	Year To Date (YTD)	YTD BudgetTrended	Variance
Offering Income	\$25,356.00	\$31,866.67	(\$6,510.67)
Other Income	\$27,417.28	\$17,066.67	\$10,350.61
Expenses	(\$68,951.58)	(\$74,863.67)	\$5,912.09

Prayer Requests



Allie: nurse at Lutheran General Hospital
Jackie: nurse
Susan Mari: medical student
Shar & George Wyatt: loss of a loved one
Katie, Gene, Sean, Megan: grocery store employees
Kelly Smith: nurse
Diana O'Connell: 911 dispatcher
Rich O'Connell: firefighter
Sheri, Lauren & Dan: Costco employees

Ringelstein Family: loss of a loved one

Carlie Figliuolo: paramedic
Haley Stec: paramedic
Frank Stec: paramedic
Erv Siemers: health
Family of Doris Mellinger: condolences
Stewart: general prayers

J.: for the promotion she is seeking
Nettie Richards
Burse Wince
Bonnie Wince
Police and correctional officers: general
prayers

If you have loved ones working in hospitals, grocery stores, or other essential-worker capacities, please share their names so that we may lift them up in prayer. You may also share other prayer concerns such as lost jobs, health, anxiety, etc. Email your prayer requests to: pastormeagan@gmail.com or acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com.

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Acacia Park Lutheran Church | acaciaparkchurch.com

4307 N Oriole Avenue, Norridge, IL 60706

708-453-3662 | acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com



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