

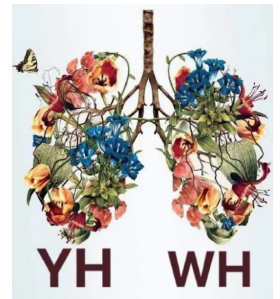
SEPTEMBER 2025



## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

In worship recently, I noticed that when we sing together and when we recite phrases or sentences together, the congregation is breathing in sync. We all inhale at the same time, and we all exhale at the same time so that our voices are joined in our words and in our songs.

I read somewhere a long time ago that the name of God, YHWH, is actually breath sounds. When we breathe in, we make the sound YH; when we breathe out, we make the sound WH. Every breath we take proclaims the name of God. In worship, as we are breathing together to sing, to pray, and to confess our faith, we are collectively and repeatedly proclaiming the name of God to each other and to the world.



God breathed God's very own breath, the breath of life, into the nostrils of humans at creation to make them come alive (Genesis 2:7). We know scientifically that respiration, pulling oxygen in and pushing carbon dioxide out, is essential to staying alive.

Maybe, what it means to be alive is to continually proclaim that God is here and God is good.

Keep breathing, friends!  
Pastor Julie



As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.

~1 Peter 4:10

Our annual Stewardship  
Campaign will begin in  
September

Be on the lookout for your stewardship packet soon!

### **You're Invited to the September Meeting of Women of Joy!**

Join us for another inspiring and fun-filled gathering with **Women of Joy!** Our group offers a variety of programs throughout the year designed to inform, inspire, and make life just a little bit better.

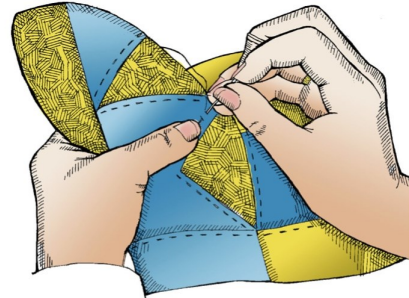
This year, we're adding an exciting twist to encourage participation—**Door Prizes** for all attendees! You could win cash prizes ranging from \$50 to \$100 just by showing up. So, come for the fellowship, the laughs, and the chance to walk away with a little extra joy (and cash)!

This September, we're thrilled to present a **Quilt Trunk Show** by the talented **Char Maeda**. Whether you're a quilter or simply appreciate the beauty of handmade art, this is sure to be a highlight of our season.

Do you have a quilt or craft you'd like to share? Bring it along! We love showcasing the talents of our congregation and celebrating the creative spirit within our community. And who knows? You just might go home with \$100 in your pocket!

#### **Details:**

- **Date:** Tuesday, September 16
- **Time:** 9:00 AM
- **Location:** Joy in Christ Lutheran Church – Narthex
- **Program:** Char Maeda – Quilt Trunk Show



**Business Meeting:** Char – Devotions, Melanie - Refreshments

Mark your calendars and bring a friend! We can't wait to share this journey of joy with you.

See you there!

Melanie, Char, Dianne and Sue

### *Bible Project*

Join us as we read through the bible in a year using the reading plan by BibleProject. All are welcome to join in the conversation and there is no commitment required.

THURSDAYS AT 10 AM



In September we are collecting 6oz box of Stove Top Stuffing mix. Thank you for your help.

### **JOY IN CHRIST COUNCIL MINUTES**

You are welcome to read the minutes from each council meeting, which are located on the church website, [joyinchristhsv.org](http://joyinchristhsv.org), at:

#### **Reports/JIC Reports**

You will be asked for a password. The password has changed so please call the church office to get it.

Scroll down and all the minutes are listed for your viewing.



Bud & Shirley Swanson      September 16 (71yrs)  
Warren & Gail Taylor      September 26 (55yrs)



Susan Maser      September 6  
Al Ness      September 7  
Connie Zervas      September 9  
Joan Coulson      September 16  
Penny Lewis      September 17  
Barb Woodman      September 21  
Phil Gustafson      September 25  
Dorothy Fager      September 28

### Some recommendations from the pastor:

**Reading:** God Pause is a short daily devotional provided by Luther Seminary. You can read it [here](#) each day or subscribe to have it delivered to your email each day.

**Watching:** "Conclave" is a completely fictitious, very entertaining movie about the process of selecting a new pope for the Roman Catholic Church. It is available to stream on Amazon Prime Video.

**Listening:** I've compiled a short playlist of some faith-based music I've been listening to this month. You can access it [here](#) on youtube.

**On your smart phone or tablet:** "Hallow" is an app endorsed by celebrities and advertised on tv. It includes prayers, devotions, meditations, bible reading, music, podcasts, and so much more, even without the subscription!



### Treasurers Report

	<b>July</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b>Income</b>	13,668	22,625	140,125	158,375
<b>Expenses</b>	<u>26,402</u>	<u>22,585</u>	<u>156,326</u>	<u>158,096</u>
<b>Surplus</b>	(12,734)	40	(16,201)	279
<b>Cash on hand</b>		515,644		
<b>Liabilities</b>		4,921		
<b>Dedicated Funds</b>		<u>397,047</u>		
<b>Operating Capital</b>		113,676		



The month of July ended with a deficit of \$12,734. Income for the year-to-date was under budget by \$18,250. Year-to-date expenses were under budget by \$1,770. The operating capital, cash less liabilities and dedicated funds, is \$113,676.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask me.  
John Keller, treasurer

### **Volunteers Needed for the Joy in Christ Trunk Sale!**

Mark your calendars! The Joy in Christ Trunk Sale is happening on **Saturday, October 4**, and we need **your help** to make it a success.

We're looking for volunteers to assist with:

- **Directing traffic**
- **Setting up before the event**
- **Cleaning up afterward**

This is a wonderful opportunity to serve, connect with others, and be a part of a fun day that welcomes our community to share and shop for hidden treasures.

We've scheduled volunteer shifts so you can still enjoy shopping:

- **Morning Shift:** 7:15 AM – 11:15 AM
- **Midday Shift:** 11:00 AM – 3:30 PM
- **Cleanup Crew:** 2:45 PM – 3:45 PM



**Look for the sign up sheet in the narthex.** Whether you're available for one shift or just the cleanup, your help makes a big difference!

Let's come together to serve joyfully and show the love of Christ to all who attend.

### **Dementia Family Caregiver Workshop** **Wednesday, October 8 | 1:00–4:00 PM**

Caring for a loved one with dementia is both a calling and a challenge. Whether you're currently a caregiver or may become one in the future, we invite you to join us for a special **Dementia Family Caregiver Workshop** presented by the **Oaklawn Center on Aging**.

This free 3-hour seminar will provide helpful information and practical tools for anyone navigating the journey of caregiving. Topics will include:

- Understanding dementia and Alzheimer's disease
- Effective behavior and communication strategies
- Dementia-friendly activities
- Local mental health resources  
...and more.



We encourage you to invite friends, family, and neighbors who may benefit from this informative and supportive session.

**Please sign up in the narthex or call the church office at (501) 915-9569 to reserve your spot.**

Join us for an afternoon of **education, encouragement, and community** as we learn how to better care for those we love.



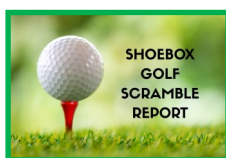
Our August 10 Shoe Box Scramble was a hot one, both in terms of the day's temperature and the players' competition! We had a couple cancellations and a couple of "old guys" on IR (injured reserve) so we ended up with 3 threesomes playing. To show how close the competition was, there was only 1 stroke and 1 putt between first and last place!!

Par is 36 and the team of Ken Poulsen, Jerry Barnoske, and Beth Mielke had a one under 35 with 11 putts. Richard Peck, Suzi Poulsen, and Adam Edmonson had two under par 34 and 13 putts. The winners with the distinct honor of "Honking the Chicken" were Peter Mielke, Don Gohr, and Terry Sterzik with a two under par 34 and the tie breaker: 12 putts.

John Reynolds and Dick Coulson were the "old guys" on IR and participated as rules officials/ cheerleaders! Char Maeda and Karen Sterzik were beer cart girls and were right there when needed to provide ice cold liquid refreshments.

We then gathered on the patio at Cafe Isabella to pass the shoe box to generously support the kids at Mountain Pine and Jessieville H.S. Other guests and spouses also joined us to share in fellowship and dinner.

As you read this, think about joining us for golf and/or dinner at our next outing on September 14. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex!



## Member Spotlight

Member Spotlight  
of the Month

**Ken and Suzi Poulsen**

have been chosen for the

**Member Spotlight of the Month!**

Be on the lookout for a feature in next month's newsletter  
and on the Narthex TV.

Brought to you by your Evangelism Team. Meetings are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday  
of each month at 1:00pm. All are welcome to join!

### Caring & Sharing Group I

Some of the members of the Caring & Sharing Group 1 met for tea, cookies and a good old-fashioned chat at the Gunderson's. Great stories were shared. The treats were over the top, homemade chocolate chip cookies, nut bread, super selection of summer fruits plus more.

A wonderful afternoon among friends. Nothing better in the Village.



Many of you may remember Mike Anderson. He was a member here for many years. Joanie Ibinger went to visit him in St. Cloud Minnesota. He's lonesome

for his HSV church friends but has made many new friends. It was a lovely day, and he and Joanie spent quite a bit of time catching up.

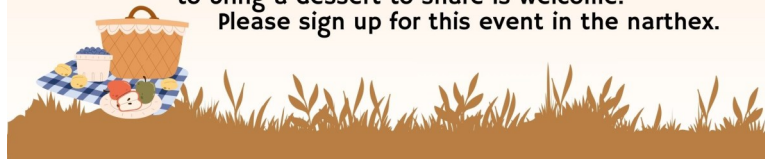


### Coming soon...Food, Fellowship & Fun!



The Joy in Christ Fall Picnic is almost here! It will be held at the Cortez pavilion on Sunday, September 14. The service will begin at 10:00 followed by a meal catered by Home Plate. There will be a free will offering for the meal. Anyone wishing to bring a dessert to share is welcome.

Please sign up for this event in the narthex.



Special thanks to **Missions Committee** who provided refreshments before worship during the month of August.

In September, the **Men's Group** will be providing the goodies.





**All are welcome!**

**WISDOM**

--- Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes &  
Song of Songs

**PROPHECY**

--- Isaiah through Malachi

Starts September 9th

Contact Jerry Fager or Erwin Hoeft



The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Village Walk for Cancer Research will kick off on **Saturday, September 27, 2025** with an opening ceremony at 8:00 a.m. at the Balboa Pavilion, 476 Ponce de Leon Dr., in Hot Springs Village. The walk is 5 miles, but you can walk as much or as little as you wish. The registration fee is \$35 and includes a T-shirt (\$40 after Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>). Enjoy your choice of a hot dog or brat with chips and drink when you finish. Visit the many vendor booths, get your flu shot and browse the silent auction to find your next treasure.

Proceeds from the Walk support cancer research and cancer-related projects in our community. This year we will highlight lung cancer. Help us raise \$100,000 for cancer research. Forms are available in many Village businesses and online at [www.WalkForCancerResearch.org](http://www.WalkForCancerResearch.org).

**God's Work Our Hands Weekend**



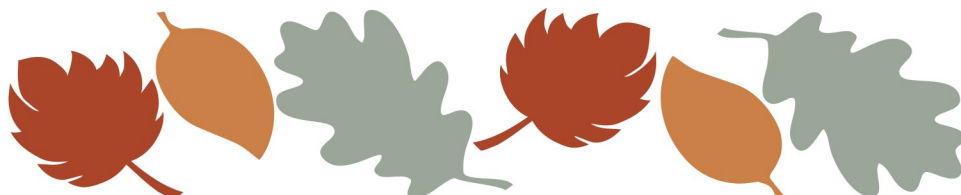
Joy in Christ will celebrate God's Work Our Hands on the weekend of Sept. 20/21.

On this weekend ELCA congregations across the country will undertake special projects to demonstrate how we use our hands to do God's work in our world. We will work on a project to create comfort kits for rape victims who are taken to area hospitals. Often these victims must leave their clothing as evidence for law enforcement, so the comfort kits provide them with sweatpants, t-shirts, sweatshirts, socks and underwear. The kits also provide soap, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste so the victims can take a shower at the hospital.



kits

Creation of these kits will happen as part of the worship service on both Saturday and Sunday, so please plan to attend and participate in this project.



# STEPHEN MINISTRY



**MORE SMILES!** You might not realize the impact your smile has on someone or how much it means to a friend when you call or send an encouraging note. Even a quick text with an encouraging thought or scripture verse can brighten someone's day.

Just showing up when a friend is in need can be the most powerful kindness of all!

Bowler

-From [7 Prayers for Uncertain Times](#) by Kate



*Remember, a trained Stephen Minister can walk with you as you face difficulty in your own current situation. In confidence, of course. Or maybe you have a friend who needs someone to listen? Contact Pastor Julie or one of Joy in Christ's Stephen Leaders.*

On Wednesday, August 13, the Singles group met at The Sunset Grill for a delicious meal and lots of visiting. We had a very small group, seven to be exact, as the others were all on vacation. So, they all voted to go to the Balboa Club on Wednesday, Sept. 10th at 5:00 P.M. The last time we went there we had 18 happy faces. Let's top that number this time.

Joanie sent a picture of herself and Mike Anderson (see page 5) having a nice visit at Mike's in Minnesota. She said that he is doing well and is happy. He misses all of us...he has called Jerry three times this week and they had nice visits.

We all need each other so let's get together. If you need more information, call Sally Johnson at 501-922-3360.

## SINGLES GROUP



### Oct. 5th Love Lunches



It will be our joy to once again serve as God's hands in feeding the hungry at Love Lunches on October 5th. We had several requests for peanut butter again when we served in August.

If you would like to help, please donate a 16 oz. jar of peanut butter by Oct. 5th.

We are also in need of 3 bakers to make 4 dozen cookies to include in the lunches on that day. If you would like to make cookies this time, please let Karen Sterzik know.

We can always take clothing and shoes if you have some to donate for distribution on that day.

Thank you in advance for your generous support of this ministry.



Thank you, Thank you!

A huge thank you to the volunteers who worked during the month of August to deliver Meals on Wheels, on behalf of Joy in Christ, to our neighbors in need in the Hot Springs Village area. Thank you to Phil and Linda Keller, Char Maeda, Susan Jamison, Ken and Suzi Poulsen, Jerry and Dorothy Fager, Don and Robin Pearson, Jan Folstad, Terry and Karen Sterzik.

Your efforts helped make sure our neighbors had nutritious meals five days per week.

Thank you for a job well done.







# 2025

**Office Hours**  
**Tues, Wed, Thurs,**  
**Friday**  
**10:00 - 2:00**  
**501-915-9569**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 12:30 Mahjong	2 1pm Lake Forest	3	4 10am BibleProject	5	6  4:30 pm Hospitality 5 pm Worship
7 8:30 am Hospitality 9 am Worship	8 9am Finance 12:30 Mahjong	9 9am Council 1pm Fellowship  3:30pm Wisdom & Prophecy Bible	10   5pm Singles at Balboa Club	11 10am BibleProject  2pm SCAT	12	13   4:30 pm Hospitality 5 pm Worship
14 10am Picnic at Cortez  2pm Golf Scramble	15 <b>Pastor out till 9/26</b>  12:30 Mahjong	16  3:30pm Wisdom & Prophecy Bible	17  1pm Stephen Ministry	18 10am BibleProject	19 <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	20  4:30 pm Hospitality 5 pm Worship— Service of the Word
21 8:30 am Hospitality 9 am Worship— Service of the Word	22  12:30 Mahjong	23  3:30pm Wisdom & Prophecy Bible	24	25 10am BibleProject  1pm E-Team	26	27  4:30 pm Hospitality 5 pm Worship
28 8:30 am Hospitality 9am Worship	29  12:30 Mahjong	30 8am Breakfast at Debras  3:30pm Wisdom & Prophecy Bible				