

July 2023



CTC CONNECTIONS

Countryside Trinity Church - 4690 Weiss Street - Saginaw, Michigan 48603

From the Pastor

----- JANE LYNN YOUNG

I love summer! But I don't have a very long summer, because I don't really "get into" it until the 4th of July! The early days of sunshine and warm weather in June just don't feel like summer. Even when my kids were home and out of school for the summer, I didn't start think about summer until the beginning of July. I don't have any rational explanation, it is just the way I am. And mostly, it doesn't matter. Except that I have often felt very keenly that summer came and went too fast!

I have often felt that way about Christmas. I have planned to be intentional about Advent, about preparing for the new birth Jesus brings to us. This past year I was able to be very intentional about Advent. I had several devotionals I was using, and I was in my home for my second Christmas season and experienced it finally feeling like home. At church we observed Advent in worship and in fellowship time. We were filled with anticipation of the Christmas Eve service, the culmination of our preparation!

And then.....S N O W! And just like that, our Christmas Eve service didn't happen! But not to worry! On July 9th we will celebrate Christmas in July! Our service will be filled with our favorite Christmas hymns. And we will be able to bring gifts for our July mission. What could be better?

Celebrating the birth of Jesus on December 24 is an arbitrary date. It could be right, after all, there is a 1 in 365 chance it is right. But it doesn't matter. Christ is born in us anew each and every day. When we wake up in the morning, we should be filled with awe and wonder for the new things God will be doing in our lives that day. And when we go to bed at night, we should thank God for the glorious present of God's presence in our lives.

Come celebrate with us. And Merry Christmas.
Grace and truth,
Pastor Jane



July 2023



Upcoming Lectionary Readings

<p>JULY 2, 2023 <u>Semicontinuous</u> Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45:10-17 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13 <u>Complementary</u> Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-14 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30</p>	<p>Isaac finds a wife, Rebekah, in the homeland of his father.</p> <p>A royal love song; come with joy to the palace of the king. One lover calls to another: Arise, my love, and come away.</p> <p>Rejoice, O people; the humble king is coming to set you free. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, full of love. Paul confesses his inner conflict with sin; only God can save. Jesus says: Come to me; my yoke is easy, my burden is light.</p>
<p>JULY 9, 2023 <u>Semicontinuous</u> Genesis 25:19-34 Psalm 119:105-112 <u>Complimentary</u> Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65:(1-8) 9-13 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23</p>	<p>Esau trades his birthright to Jacob for bread and lentil stew. Your word is a lamp to my feet; I have promised to observe it.</p> <p>The word of the Lord will go forth to flourish and bear fruit. Praise is due to God, who blesses the earth with abundance. The Spirit of life in Christ sets us free from the law of sin and death. Jesus tells and explains the parable of the sower and the seeds.</p>
<p>JULY 16, 2023 <u>Semicontinuous</u> Genesis 28:10-19a Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 <u>Complementary</u> Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43</p>	<p>Jacob dreams of a ladder and hears the promise of the Lord. O Lord, you have searched me; if I ascend to heaven, you are there.</p> <p>I am the first and last, says the Lord; there is no god besides me. O Lord, give me an undivided heart to revere your name. The whole creation waits for redemption with the children of God. Another parable of the kingdom; weeds grow among the wheat.</p>

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Upcoming Lectionary Readings, Continued

<p>JULY 23, 2023 Semicontinuous Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128 Complementary 1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52</p>	<p>Tricked by Laban, Jacob first marries Leah, then Rachel. Children of Jacob, give thanks for the promise of the Lord. The one who fears the Lord will enjoy progeny and prosperity.</p> <p>The young king Solomon asks God for wisdom and discernment. Your law is wonderful; the unfolding of your words gives light. The Spirit helps us; nothing can separate us from God’s love. God’s kingdom is like a tiny seed, yeast, a treasure, a pearl, a net.</p>
<p>JULY 30, 2023 Semicontinuous Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15 Complementary Isaiah 55:1-5 Psalm 145:8-9,14-21 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21</p>	<p>Jacob wrestles with a man from God, and receives a blessing. Visit and test me in the night, O Lord; I will behold your face.</p> <p>Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; eat and be satisfied. The Lord is gracious and merciful, giving food in due season. Paul struggles with the issue of Israel’s relationship to the church. With five loaves and two fish, Jesus feeds a great multitude.</p>



Thank you for your prayers during my recovery. They are working because I have made a lot of progress. Also thank you for the cards. The thoughts in the cards are wonderful.

John Furlo

July 2023



TREASURER'S REPORT

Countryside Trinity Church					
Changes in Equity					
January 2023 - May 2023					
	Beginning Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Ending Balance
NET ASSETS					
UNRESTRICTED					
Memorial Fund	18,092.13	245.00	-	-	18,337.13
General Fund	16,381.31	44,652.03	(54,472.51)	7,225.00	13,785.83
Bricks Fund	1,335.85	-	-	-	1,335.85
Mission Fund	13.75	-	-	-	13.75
Minister Compensation Fun	71,675.70	-	-	(2,675.00)	69,000.70
Endowment - Expendable	71,510.15	569.48	-	(4,550.00)	67,529.63
Subtotal Unrestricted	179,008.89	45,466.51	(54,472.51)	-	170,002.89
DONOR RESTRICTED					
Food Account	1,551.52	840.00	(2,012.00)	-	379.52
Good Samaritan	2,250.64	-	(150.00)	-	2,100.64
Youth Experience Fund	245.81	-	(680.00)	-	(434.19)
Parking Lot Fund	1,115.00	-	(118.76)	-	996.24
Muriel Lakey Scholarship	6,006.43	633.55	(916.00)	-	5,723.98
Endowment Nonexpendable F	153,334.00	-	-	-	153,334.00
Subtotal Donor Restricted	164,503.40	1,473.55	(3,876.76)	-	162,100.19
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	343,512.29	46,940.06	(58,349.27)	-	332,103.08

COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH PRESENTS

MOUNTAIN SPRINGS MUSIC PRESENTS
SAGINAW SUMMER MUSIC WORKSHOPS 2023
 July 31-August 4 in Saginaw, MI

Leadership String Workshops
 9:00am-12:30pm
**Community performance Friday 11:30am*

Join us for a week of mornings filled with chamber ensembles, Music Mind Games, and various music workshops!

Recommended age: 6+, with at least one year of experience on their stringed instrument. Basic note-reading skills recommended.

Music Mind Games
 9-10am or 11:30am-12:30pm
**Community performance Friday 11:30am*

Does not have to play an instrument.

MMG 1: Recommended age 5-9, no previous music experience necessary

MMG 2: Recommended age 9+, previous music experience recommended but not necessary

For more information, visit:
www.MountainSpringsMusic.org
 Class sizes limited--register early!
 Registration closes June 4

July 2023



Betty Burr Samaritas Senior Living	Joan Comstock @ Home	Dawn Curtis @ Home
Betty Hauk Wellspring Assisted Living	Floyd & Lois Krzak @ Home	Marie Lemmer Wellspring Assisted Living
Fern Evon Little Swan Haven Manor	Virginia Lyon @ New Hope Valley	Norma Meacham @ daughters in North Carolina
Elaine Miner @ Home	Fran Prueter @ Home	Helen Reynolds Wellspring Memory Care
John & Leore Bethune @ Home	Mary Ann Parker Health Source Rehab	Judi Westendorf The Bickford

ELDERS & DEACONS – 2023 TO 2025

SESSION COUNCIL	DEACONS
Class of 2023 Mary Ann Parker Mary Longstreth Roger Scovill	Class of 2023 Barbara Groom Nancy Easlick
Class of 2024 Sidney Diggs Debbie Davis Sandy Redfield	Class of 2024 Lynne Groom Jackie Williams Ron Platt
Class of 2025 Darren Woodke Becky Pequignot Bethany Scovill	Class of 2025 Pat Denno Ronda Otway Duncan Redfield
	Co-Opted Member Dan Groom

July 2023



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC?

SUNDAY SCHOOL & TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES.

Ms. Sandy is taking a vacation for the summer months. Sunday School will resume in September. Watch the Newsletters for the date and time.



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MISSIONS OF THE MONTH: Our Missions for July are **Emmaus House & Sleep in Heavenly Peace.**

The needed items for Emmaus House is as follows:

EMMAUS HOUSE GUEST NEEDS

Sweaters (L-XXL); Sweatpants (L-XXL); Sweatshirts (L-XXL); Slippers; Bathrobes; Socks; Shower Soap; Shampoo; Deodorant; Powder; Body Lotion; Personal Hygiene Items; Gift Cards.

EMMAUS HOUSE HOUSE NEEDS:

Cleaning Supplies; Mops; Paper Supplies; Twin Sheets; Towel Sets; Laundry Detergent; Full Blankets; Comforters; Meats; Eggs; Ground Coffee; Sugar; Creamer; Butter; Gift Cards (Kroger, Walmart, Meijer, Speedway).

CHRISTMAS IN JULY – WE WILL CELEBRATE ON JULY 9TH DURING WORSHIP which will benefit **SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE. MORE ABOUT SHP ON NEXT PAGE.**



NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

Helping Children in Need Sleep Better. All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads. Across the US, too many boys and girls go without a bed—or even a pillow—to sleep on. These children end up sleeping on couches, blankets, and even floors. This can affect their happiness and health. That's where Sleep in Heavenly Peace comes in. We're a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling, and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need. Our organization has grown steadily over time, and we're working on opening more chapters in different states to serve more people.

SHP NEEDS: Twin Pillows; Twin Pillowcases; Twin Sheets Sets; Twin Mattress Pads; Twin Blankets; \$\$\$ for mattresses and building supplies for the beds.

PLEASE MARK YOUR MONETARY DONATIONS "EMMAUS HOUSE" OR "SHP". THANK YOU.

July 2023



**CTC CELEBRATES
CHRISTMAS IN JULY
JULY 9, 2023**



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE ("SHP")

SHP founder, Luke Mickelson, started by building one bed for a family in need at Christmas. After a litter of requests for more beds, SHP was born. Now SHP has over 300 chapters. At SHP, we fully believe that a bed is a basic need for the proper physical, emotional, and mental support that a child needs. If a child needs a bed, we want to make sure they get one. No kid sleeps on the floor in our town.

ABOUT SHP-AUBURN

Brian Rueger founded the MI-Auburn SHP Chapter in 2020 after learning about the organization through a magazine article. He learned more about SHP from Mike Rowe's web show, *Returning the Favor*, where Rowe visited SHP headquarters in Idaho. Our chapter hosts several builds each year and has delivered our 1000th bed in May of this year. It is hard to believe that there is so much need in our area.

MI-AUBURN chapter currently serves Midland, Sanford, Auburn, Freeland, Bay City, Essexville, and 48604 in Saginaw.

DONATIONS

- Bedding supplies must be new and twin sized.
- The following items are accepted:
- Sheet sets (fitted sheet, flat sheet, pillowcase, comforter)
- Pillows
- Waterproof mattress covers
- Bed in a bag
- Monetary donations (note **MI-AUBURN on your check's memo line**)

QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION: ASK Chuck or Debbie Davis

July 2023



DOWNTOWN SAGINAW MARKET



203 S. Washington

You'll find us under the outdoor pavilion
at the SVRC Marketplace.

2023 Season

Wednesday and Friday
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Saturday
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Mondays begin on July 3, 2023
and run through August 28, 2023**

OPEN FROM
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023
THROUGH
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023

EVERY SATURDAY IN 2023 IS
KID'S DAY

&

AREA ARTISANS WILL JOIN US
ON SATURDAYS IN 2023 TO
SHOWCASE THEIR TALENTS

As most of you know, our friend and member, Mary Ann Parker, has been experiencing some medical issues for a while now. She was hospitalized while many tests were run to try to find out what is causing her weakness. She has now been moved to Health Source for rehabilitation and would welcome short visits from those able to do so. She is in the "Wheels" Section at Health Source in room 249. Most of her therapy sessions are held in the morning – so an afternoon visit would be awesome.



July 2023



Stephen Douglas Leffler

Stephen Douglas Leffler, 95 of Saginaw, passed away Wednesday morning, June 28, 2023, with his wife Marilyn and niece Julee by his side. He was born February 25, 1928, in Shelbyville, IN, son of the late Ralph and Martha (Watkins) Leffler. Douglas graduated from Wabash College and then Garrett Theological Seminary. On June 20, 1955, he married his dear wife, the former Marilyn Anne Doyscher in Detroit and they just celebrated 68 years together. Douglas served for both Methodist and Presbyterian churches in Wisconsin, Indiana, and Michigan. For 25 years he was chaplain for Veteran's Hospitals in both Butler, PA and Saginaw. Douglas enjoyed his years in Ezekiel Project, bringing peace to civil issues. He was also a lifelong member of the American Legion. His devotion to God, his family, and Veterans will always be remembered.

Douglas is survived by his wife, Marilyn Leffler; sons, George (Diane) Leffler and Mark Leffler; grandchildren, Derek, Joshua, and Alice; one great grandson; and special niece Julee Windmiller. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Mary Louise Volz and many cousins, aunts, and uncles.

FUNERAL: Memorial services will take place at 11:00 a.m. Friday, June 30, 2023, from Deisler Funeral Home 2233 Hemmeter Road (off State). Chaplain Lee Austin will officiate.

VISITATION: Friends and family will gather at the funeral home on Friday from 10 a.m. until the time of service.

MEMORIALS: Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider Countryside Trinity Presbyterian Church, 4690 Weiss Street, Saginaw, MI 48603 or Indiana United Methodist Childrens Home, 701 West Camp Street, Lebanon, IN.

Deisler Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Leffler family. Please share your thoughts and memories with the family at the funeral home or through www.deislerfuneralhome.com.

July 2023



For the past four years, Andy Glynn has shared his wonderful musical talents with all of us at Countryside Trinity Church and we have truly been blessed with his musical ability.

Andy will be leaving us at the end of July to spend more time with his family and his work in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Over the past years, Andy has traveled about 200 miles round trip every week to enhance our worship. . .now that is commitment!

We will be celebrating Andy's tenure with us on **SUNDAY, JULY 23RD**, following worship with a special coffee hour. Please take the time to express your thanks to Andy for sharing his time, talents and dedication to our Countryside family.

Dan Groom, Director of Music



VACATION

Kathy Loviska, the CTC Administrative Assistant, will be on vacation the week of July 17, 2023. Pastor will be in the office on Tuesday, July 18th and Wednesday, July 19th from approximately 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. should you need to reach her. Otherwise, you can reach Pastor on her cell phone at 219 204-9037 by calling or texting her or via email at janelynnyoung@gmail.com

Messages left on the church telephone line will be monitored throughout the week.

Kathy will also be gone on the following Tuesday, July 25th, as she is having cataract surgery on Monday, July 24th but plans to be back in the office on Wednesday, July 26th unless there are complications following surgery. Thanks.

July 2023



BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Elaine O'Keefe
- 5 Dawn Curtis
- 11 Graham Parker
- 13 Jean Bortner
- 18 Sidney Diggs IV
- 23 Bobby Diggs
- 24 Zayden Evans (Alexa Mahan)
- 24 Dick Mallette
- 27 Susan Anderson
- 29 Holly Furlo
- 30 Lynne Groom
- 31 Rachael Barerra

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Taylor Hansen (M=Dana Woodke)
- 4 Marianne Bird
- 5 Daniel Groom
- 8 Chad Parker
- 8 Rylan Hanson
- 10 Randy Jacob
- 12 Fran Prueter turning 100!!!**
- 13 Kyle Redfield
- 15 Ainslee Mahan
- 15 Aubree Mahan
- 21 Karla Parker
- 21 Casey Redfield
- 31 Jim Lorenz

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Becky Pequignot
- 3 Rob Halase
- 5 Charles Davis
- 8 Lindsey Groom
- 13 Louis Diechman
- 14 Michael Patrick Groom
- 17 Lois Krzak
- 20 Liz Saperstein
- 22 Amanda Dean Groom
- 25 Thomas Kennedy
- 29 Tom Ladner
- 30 Vincent Martinez

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 28 Charles & Irene Ohmer

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 11 Dan & Barb Groom
- 17 Dallas & Jackie Williams
- 29 Darren & Joann Woodke
- 29 Duncan & Sandy Redfield

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 Sidney & Kermit Diggs

A very special birthday is coming up soon! Fran Prueter will be celebrating her 100th birthday on August 12th! Let's shower her with birthday cards to make her day a very special one. Her address is 4395 Ann Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48603.

July 2023



**Countryside Trinity Church
4690 Weiss Street
Saginaw, Michigan 48603**

PRAYER FOR SUMMERTIME

Loving God, Creator of all times and places, we thank you for the gift of summertime, the days of light, warmth and leisure.

Thank you for the beauty that surrounds us everywhere we look: the multi-colored flowers, the deep blue of the sky, the tranquil surface of lakes, the laughter of children at play, people strolling in parks, families gathered around picnic tables and the more time to spend with family and friends.

As we open our eyes and ears to the landscape of nature and people, open our hearts to receive all as gift. Give us that insight to see you as the Divine Artist. Help us to realize and appreciate that you are laboring to keep all in existence. Warm our souls with the awareness of your presence.

Let all the gifts we enjoy this summer deepen our awareness of your love so that we may share this with others and enjoy a summertime of re-creation.

AMEN