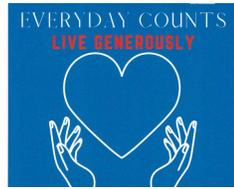


**New Life
Lutheran
Church**

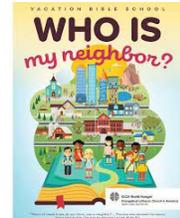
**WE EXIST: TO GROW
IN FAITH AND MAKE
CHRIST KNOWN**



**JULY SERMON SERIES
"EVERY DAY COUNTS
LIVE GENEROUSLY"**



**MIDDLE SCHOOL
MISSION TRIP
MILWAUKEE, WI
JULY 11-16**



**WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 18-22**

MONTH IN REVIEW

In Case You Missed It

We want to spend a moment making available to you some news and notes from the past month together. July was an unusually ‘well traveled’ month. The High School Mission Trip returned from New Orleans on July 3 just in time to celebrate Independence Day and our Middle Schoolers left for a 5 day Mission trip to Milwaukee on July 11.

On July 4, the high school students that spent their mission trip in New Orleans shared some of their experiences and what they learned from the individuals they spent time with on their trip. As a congregation we should be very proud of these young men. Likewise our middle school students shared some of their experiences from their trip to Milwaukee with us on July 18. Watching & listening to these young people makes it abundantly clear that our future is in very good hands!

On July 11 Brynley Alaine Hofmeyer daughter of Jason and Nicole Hofmeyer was baptized into the family of God through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Vacation Bible School ran from July 18 -22. This year we used a VBS curriculum provided by the ELCA titled “Who is My Neighbor.” We learned all about the parable of The Good Samaritan. We had 17 children in attendance and over 20 volunteers throughout the week. Even though our numbers were lower than previous, pre-pandemic years, this was a very successful and worthwhile event. This event was not advertised as in years past

We were pleased to welcome Pastor Gary Liedtke on July 25 to lead us in worship while Pastor Nate took some time off with his family. The July *Journey Together* event on July 25 took on a ‘Donuts &

Financial Snapshot

Monthly goal: \$20,446.
June total offerings: \$16,186
YTD: - \$12,379

By the (in-person)
attendance numbers:
July 4: 54
July 6 *Outdoor*: 15
July 11: 131
July 18: 109
July 25: 70

Food Pantry Use

Approximately 120 families (360 individuals) in our community are utilizing the Food Pantry on a regular basis (visiting the pantry more than once a month)

Discussion” formate and saw 9 folks of various ages come together to learn more about our recent VBS event and discuss ideas and aspirations for next year’s program.

Girlfriends in God wrapped up their in-person study based on Christine Caine’s book “Unexpected”. They also enjoyed a social time event at Lisa Smith’s home. Their new study based on Candace Payne’s “Defiant Joy” began August 2. As you remember may, The Norwalk Area Ministerial Association (NAMA) has starting a shoe closet to provide kids in need with new tennis shoes that fit for the 2021-2022 school year. In July our Noisy Offering raised \$124 for socks to go with those shoes and our VBS kids donated many more pairs of socks through their *Who is My Neighbor* ‘caring for others’ project which included collecting over 200 food items & socks during VBS week. (For their efforts, they were rewarded with pizza & ice cream on the final night of VBS).

We continue to work toward our goal of discovering where God is calling New Life in the future utilizing resources and directives from the Kairos group. On July 15, 17 members of our congregation took part in a Zoom Community Listening event with 4 of our community leaders to explore the needs of our community and how best we can respond to them as a congregation. Our final Community Listening event will be held at the church on August 4. We’ve invited; Greg Staples (Norwalk Police Chief), Carlos Guerra (Norwalk Schools Transportation Director), Jill Anderson (Lakewood Elementary Principal) and Sara Coburn (Norwalk Parks and Recreation) to join us. We hope you will too.

Coming in August

New Sermon Series - *Past, Present, Future*

August 4 - Community Listening Event 7:30 (with ice cream)

August 6 - OWLs @ 1908 Draught House

August 8 - Guest Rev. Joe Crowther

August 22 - Guest Rev. Dan Kuckuck

Backpack Blessing

August 26 - Blood Drive

Mission: Milwaukee



11 of our Middle School youth and 3 adults spent 5 days in the Milwaukee area doing mission work at a ALICE’S Gadetn a community garden sight on the north side of downtown Milwaukee and at Grant Park. One of their task during the week was removing invasive, foreign vegetation from the forest area and community garden spot.