



Staying Connected



In-Person Worship

Join us on Sunday, August 8th, for worship and communion at 9:30 am. Rev. Kate O’Brien Soltau will be leading our service!

Free Concert in Cokato

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cokato will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary on Sunday, August 8th! There will be a **free** concert at Peterson Park with Rachel Kurtz, a Christian singer originally from Cokato, from 1:00 pm—3:00 pm that day. Rachel is a singer, songwriter, speaker, and storyteller who speaks frankly about love, God, parenting, and heartbreak. Everyone is invited! Come and celebrate ELC’s 150th!

Save-the-Date

Mark your calendars now for September 12th! We will be **Worshipping -in-the-Park** at Memorial Park in Howard Lake, followed by a potluck picnic. Hope to see you there!

Prayer

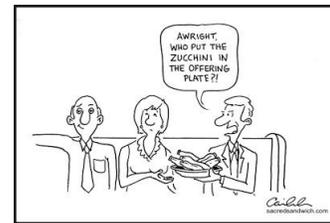
Oh Lord, I am unsure of where life is taking me right now, but I embrace the changes! I embrace the change because I know that You will lead me and be with me. I bless Your Name knowing that You will not fail me or abandon me, so I will not lose courage or be afraid.

August Birthdays:

Elaine Smith	4
Yvonne Breeschoten	8
Nic Workman	18
Brianna Higgins	19
Gene Lorentz	21
Ryker Workman	21
Gretchen Karg	23
Isaac Workman	28
Carol Chmielewski	31

Aug. Anniversaries:

Gene & Terry Lorentz	15
Bob & LouAnn Munson	20



Needed Prayers



Please Pray for...

Healing: Alice Swanson, Delores Lahr, Rose Barberg's daughter Cheryl Paicius, Chris, Lee Gutknecht, Reta Blanchette, Eugene Lorentz, and Alma Robinson's grandson, Chris Robinson

At The Lodge: Anna Hohag and Phyllis Smith

Please Pray for thankfulness and joy for. . . Charleen Schuette! Lord, please bless Charleen and her beautiful spirit!

"Let nothing perturb you, nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change.
Patience achieves everything."
~ Teresa of Ávila

Looking Ahead

- August 6 — *Hiroshima Day*
- August 8 — *11th Sunday after Pentecost; College & Young Adult Sunday; 9:30 am Worship & Communion with Rev. Kate O'Brien Soltau*
- August 10 — 7:30 pm AA Meeting
- August 11 — 4:00 pm Session Meeting
- August 15 — *12th Sunday after Pentecost*
- August 17 — 7:30 pm AA Meeting
- August 19 — 6:30 pm Stamp Club
- August 22 — *13th Sunday after Pentecost; 9:30 am Worship*
- August 24 — 7:30 pm AA Meeting
- August 29 — *14th Sunday after Pentecost*
- August 31 — 7:30 pm AA Meeting
- September 1 — *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*
- September 5 — *15th Sunday after Pentecost; Season of Peace begins*
- September 6 — *Labor Day; Office closed*
- September 7 — 7:30 pm AA Meeting

Devotion

LIFE IS CHANGE by Heather Wheatley

Do you like change? Some people LOVE change and can't get enough. Others—not so much.

Change is hard. I recently moved from one house to another. We downsized. Downsizing is code for go-through-your-stuff-and-get-rid-of-everything-that-won't-fit. Moving is already stressful. Downsizing takes that stress over the top. For quite a while, I couldn't find my cups. The important pacers from my desk in the old house are still buried in a box somewhere. I have yet to update my address at the post office. Oh ... and my toothbrush? I just gave up looking for it and bought another one. I tend to be a creature of habit, and any shift in my routine requires me to expend more energy. For example ... no more driving on auto pilot to get from home to work. Now there are new patterns of traffic to learn and alternate routes to know for those times when traffic backs up.

Moving has been tough. Change isn't easy.

If your body doesn't work the way it used to, a change in diet, exercise or life pace can be difficult to navigate. When you lose your job and stare long and hard at a budget that doesn't work, fear and anxiety can set in. And, when a loved one dies, and the phone doesn't ring like it used to, sharp pangs in the heart can abound.

Sometimes change is not just hard, it is painful. But whether we like it or not, the living of this life involves change. Locations change. Jobs change. Our bodies change. WE change. Life IS change. The longer you live, the more you know that the only thing constant in this life is change. Whether our changes seem hard or make us happy, change teaches us that life is fragile, uncertain and temporary.

Nothing lasts forever. Well ... *something* lasts forever. GOD! God lasts forever. In Malachi 3:6a, he says "For I, the LORD, do not change ..."

God doesn't change. He has always been and will always be never changing. I'm so glad to know that we serve a God who stays the same. He is the same yesterday, today and **forever**. Whether we move homes, change jobs, experience relational, physical, or emotional changes, God is a constant and dependable anchor.