

Pastor's Report — May 21, 2024 – Joint Council

Book: *The Invitational Christian*

Our devotional for this month's joint council meeting will be a discussion of chapters 5 & 6 of *The Invitational Christian*, by Dave Daubert. It will be helpful if as much as possible, everyone's read the chapters ahead of time – thanks!

Continuing Education

I attended the *Inspired to Thrive* one-day conference from the Siebert Foundation in Brookfield on May 14, which included ideas for “fresh expressions” church communities, and a helpful workshop on cultivating leaders.

Podcast

I'm excited that as of this month, we've passed 1,000 downloads of our sermon podcast, which started at Christmas 2022. It's impossible to know how many actual listens it has, but the average number of downloads per weekly sermon is 11.

Service Project

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in the Feed My Starving Children event on May 4! Our combined group of people from CTK, Living Hope, and Lighthouse had 35 people signed up, of which about 20 showed up and had a great time packing food. I also got to deliver 80 bagged lunches made at the Lighthouse Lock-In to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission on Saturday. Wonderful ways of living out our faith!

Looking forward, we need ideas for a project on God's Work; Our Hands Sunday on September 8. We will have separate worship services at our usual times that day, but a service project could be for the same cause or something different.

Thank You

Thank you to Ralph & Patti Luedtke, Robin Honish, Vicky Lidicker, and Laura Coleman for participating in Synod Assembly last weekend!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the FMSC food packing event!

Thank you to Lindsay Nelson for chaperoning the Lighthouse Overnight Lock-In, and to Becki Hill & Deb Bruns for providing breakfast!

Vacation Bible School

We are hosting Vacation Bible School! Our theme is *All God's Creatures*, and VBS will take place for four mornings June 24-27 here at Living Hope. We need lots of volunteers and some donations to make this happen. We've used a Thrivent Action Team grant to send out about 300 postcard invitations and run some Facebook advertisements, but haven't had much community response. The best way to get people to participate is personal invitation, so if you know anyone ages 3-completed 4th grade whom you can invite to VBS, please do so! Christin Flucke is coordinating, so talk to her for details.

Worship

We've completed the Easter season and are moving into “Ordinary Time.” I'm hoping to put together a sermon series looking at what we as church have to say to the divisions in our culture for July – not sure what that will look like yet.

On June 30, we will have a joint worship service at 10:00 am at Living Hope, followed by a family fun day with a meal, bounce house, and some petting zoo animals to mark the end of VBS. Christ the King will host our other joint service of the summer on August 18 at 10:00 am at Upper Lake Park.

2024 Combined In-Person Attendance Average: 71 (Living Hope: 39; Christ the King: 32)

2023 Combined In-Person Attendance Average: 66 (Living Hope: 33; Christ the King: 33)

2022 Full Year Combined In-Person Attendance Average: 50

Weekly online “attendance” has averaged 8-9 at each congregation so far for 2024.

Pastoral Records for 2024

Baptisms – 1 (1 at LH, 0 at CTK)

Funerals – 3 (0 at LH, 2 connected to CTK, 1 community)

Vacation and Continuing Education for 2024

Vacation Days Taken: 5 (including 1 weekends) Vacation Days Unused: 23 (including 3 weekends)

Continuing Ed Days Taken: 3 (incl. 0 weekends) Continuing Ed Days Unused: 11 (incl. 2 weekends)

Please let me know if you have any questions about my report or anything else I’m working on. Thank you for your faithful partnership in ministry!

In Christ,

Pastor Daniel Flucke