Doug Bratt, a Christian Reformed Pastor writes: “*E Pluribus Unum* ("out of many, one") is one of the United States’ oldest mottoes. It originally referred to the diverse American colonies’ desire to unite into one nation. Throughout American history, people have also seen it as the motto for the incorporation of diverse people into American society. This exact premise is currently causing, not unity but division; people are landing on both sides of the wall, so to speak.

Several times over the summer I was challenged by a few loving brothers in Christ about several ELCA decisions and publications that felt much too political, much too partisan. I was deeply touched that they confronted me about these things eye-ball to eye-ball. And what could have been an uncomfortable conversation ended up being unifying and blessed.

Often these kinds of conversations occur during Faith and Culture, too. On Thursday evenings we have been known to tackle tough issues without animosity. When we finish our conversations, we walk together from the fellowship hall to the Sanctuary to participate in hearing the Word and breaking Bread at the table where all are welcome…conservative, progressive, Republican, Independent, and Democrat, too. The Lord’s table is the great equalizer; the place where we all come in humility needing forgiveness, seeking eternal life and God’s unconditional love.

Paul exhorts the Christians in Ephesus to “make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit.” Ephesians 4 implies that *E Pluribus Unum* might be one of the *Christian church’s* mottoes, too. After all, it reminds its readers that a wide variety of people with diverse gifts and interests make up Christ’s worldwide Church.

What we all know about our loving God is, that God gives God’s children a wide variety of gifts and talents that some might be preachers and teachers, others musicians and artists. And when the body works together in unity, when we use those gifts to the glory of God, problems and differences become secondary to loving relationships that accomplish the work God has called us to. What we often perceive as awkward—our differences and diversity—is what really makes the church so incredibly special. Christians come from different backgrounds with different personalities, persuasions and interests. Though very different people, by the power of Christ’s Spirit, we grow in faith as one heart and voice.

I must say one of my favorite hymns is “We Are Called.” When we sing this hymn on a Sunday morning, I feel the Spirit drawing us together as one voice. The last verse is: “Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign and we’ll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!”

The refrain reminds us “We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.” Maybe this is *OUR* motto…God reigns and we are one. In the months that lie ahead, may we work together as one body to bless a world that seems so deeply divided and may we work together with peace and in love.
Rally Day
Sunday, September

We return to two services each Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. on Rally Day, Sunday, September 8. Choir sings for the 10:30 service and Sunday School and Adult Faith Formation return at 9:15 a.m.

Hello Evergreen Lutheran Church!

My name is Joel, and I am looking forward to our year together as your pastoral intern. Both my wife (Aimée) and I completed three years of study at the Lutheran seminary in Philadelphia this past May. Aimée is also serving as a pastoral intern at Advent Lutheran Church in Westminster and your congregation has partnered with the Advent community to provide an apartment for us in Westminster this year; thank you!

Since we are just beginning to know one another, here is a bit more about me. I was raised in a small town in northwestern Wisconsin. Yes, I still appreciate Wisconsin’s food group exports: sausage, cheese, beer and cranberries. My parents (John and Martha) retired from owning and running a private practice clinic (Dr. J.M. Pakan Chiropractic) a few years back and now live in Minnesota. I am the second of four siblings and most of my immediate family now call the Minneapolis area home. The Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA is my home synod.

Aimée and I met in college in 1995, but didn’t start dating until five years after that initial meeting. In those years, we both built up followings as musicians, so when we married in 2001, we immediately started receiving requests to perform for church-related events around the country. For the vast majority of our 18 years together, we’ve performed music under the name Tangled Blue. Musical performances (both as entertainers and as worship leaders) and recording projects have been our bread and butter. As Tangled Blue, our work has brought us to communities as far flung as Hawaii in the west, to Slovakia in the east and from the northern Canadian Rockies to the mountains of Guatemala in the south. We love to travel and in our time together have called many places “home” including New Orleans, Austin, Minneapolis and most recently Philadelphia.

Both Aimée and I grew up in the Missouri-Synod expression of Lutheranism and attended multiple Lutheran schools from pre-kindergarten through college. Pastor Vera and I actually had the same theology professor at Concordia College in St. Paul! Conversations around vocation and call were a big part of my spiritual formation, which ultimately led both Aimée and I to the ELCA seminary and our upcoming year together in ministry.

When I am not in the office, you’ll most likely find me either hiking a trail to anywhere with Aimée or reading and writing. The only thing that tends to replace a coffee cup in my hand is a guitar or a notebook. I tend to have a couple of books open at any given time. I am currently reading “Solus Jesus” by Emily Swan & Ken Wilson, “Slow Church” by Chris Smith and “Discernment” by Henri Nouwen.

I would enjoy meeting you and hearing more about what you love about your community. You can reach me through the church office and via email at joel@tangledblue.com. I look forward to our work together and seeing Christ revealed in one another this year.

Joel Pakan
Pastoral Intern

Seminarian Support Fund

Having met our interns, you can fully understand the importance of supporting students/seminarians studying to fulfill their calling to Word and Sacrament ministry. You can donate to the Seminarian Support Fund via check (write “Seminary Fund” on memo) or on our website: evergreenlutheran.org/donate.

Please, in this time of declining numbers of pastors, let us pledge ELC’s support of a needy student who has been called by God to spread God’s Word. For your information, we almost reached our 2018 goal of $5,200 by collecting $4,803.
Finishing Strong

I recently read about the Alcatraz Sharkfest Swim, which is the swim the Anglin Brothers and Frank Lee Morris successfully attempted in their escape from Alcatraz on the night of June 12, 1962. Margaret Finberg local author recently wrote about her observation of this event and her words are timely for us.

“I've noticed the most bizarre behavior. Nine hundred swimmers jump off a ferry near Alcatraz island. They swim through frigid waters toward a tiny bay and the finish line. When they reach the shallows, they make their way toward the finish line.

For some, as soon as their feet touch the bottom, they stand and take off their goggles. They look around at the other swimmers. They mosey through the water toward the beach. Others reach the beach and just stop. They run their hands through their hair. They look back at where they came from.

There's only one problem. Every swimmer receives a timing chip on their ankle, and the race doesn't stop until they cross the finish line. Just because you made it shore, doesn't mean the race is over. In those last 20 feet, I've watched countless swimmers passed and lose a medal simply because they didn't finish strong.

It's easy to see this displayed in the Alcatraz Sharkfest Swim, but how often does this happen in our lives?

Your child reaches a milestone—off to kindergarten, old enough to stay at home on their own, passes a driver's license test, packs up for college, and the water feels shallower but you're not done.

You receive the promotion, the raise, the new job, hit your growth goals, and the water feels the shallowest it has ever been, but you're not done. You enter into retirement, and you can feel the sand beneath your feet, but you're not done.

Hear me. All of those are opportunities to release a sigh of relief and celebrate. Life stages, professional growth, attaining goals are all wondrous! But when it comes to faith, you're called to finish the race set before you. To swim strong, to run strong, to fill-in-your-favorite-sport strong until the very end. The race isn't over until you cross the finish line.” (Hebrews 12:1-2).

This fall seven Adult Faith Formation opportunities will start up again. These will provide opportunities for you to grow in your faith, to finish strong, and also help others do the same. Will you join one? Will you lead one? Maybe that sounds scary. If so, rest assured, God will strengthen you and give you everything you need to do everything he calls you to do. Let's finish strong, all the way to the finish line.

Kim Williams,
Director of Adult Ministry

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation begins Sunday September 8

- Fellowship Hall: Tom McEwen will lead us in an intriguing study “What happened in the Comma?” Have you ever noticed the huge leap the creed makes between “born of the Virgin Mary” and “suffered under Pontius Pilate”? A single comma connects the two statements, and falling into that yawning gap, as if it were a mere detail, is everything Jesus said and did between his birth and his death! Called the “Great Comma,” this gap certainly invites some serious questions. Did all the things Jesus said and did in those years not count for much? Were they nothing to “believe” in? Was it only his birth and death that mattered? Does the gap in some way explain Christianity’s often dismal record of imitating Jesus’s actual life and teaching? Rohr, Richard. The Universal Christ (p. 103). The Crown Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

This is a study for what happened in the comma. Between baptism (with a little about what happened before) to Passion. We will look at the theologies around the comma, and to some extent, why the life of Jesus is reduced to a comma in the creed, and what that means for us now.

- Memorial Hall: Parenting by Faith led by Jim and Terry Ritter

Wednesdays

- Stephen Ministry will meet Wednesday, September 18 at noon in Fellowship Hall.
- Women’s Book Group meets at 6:15 p.m beginning September 11.
- Mountain Men Bible study meets at 6:15 p.m. in the small conference room beginning September 11.

Thursdays

- Java and Jesus begins a new study on September 5, 9:30 a.m., called The Shelter of God’s Promises. We will search the Scripture for what God has promised us, what those promises mean, and how these promises provide the foundation for daily confidence, joy, hope, and shelter. Come and join us. If you need a ride or you need child care for Thursday morning please let Kim know, 303-674-4654.
- Faith and Culture Thursdays at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall.
- Lunch Bunch will gather at noon, Thursday, September 19 at Casa Tequilas in 1193 Bergen Parkway near King Sooper’s. This is a no host lunch. Please call the church office if you plan to attend so we can let the restaurant know we are coming.
Worship & Music

What a great way to live!

Psalm 104:33 – “I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.”

Several times a year we have a Master Calendar Meeting, so we can try to make sure our ministry activities don’t overlap, and that we don’t forget anything. There is always a sense of anticipation for me. I like being organized, prepared, and knowing what’s ahead, but there is also a sense of being overwhelmed and wanting to be ready Right Now!

It gets more real for me when I do the choir schedule for the fall/winter season, which I just completed. As the choir will attest, it’s sometimes hard for me to pare it down to what is doable during our rehearsal times.

We often have to decide on letting a piece go until another time, because I get excited about singing just one more piece.

This summer the choir sang for Dave Kirberg’s Memorial Service. Dave was a singer in our choir so it is a deep loss for us. Before we gathered to rehearse, I felt a little fragile and not sure how we would come together to sing our faith and feelings. Then we began to sing. There is something special that happens when we share the music and text of a song together, especially when we are honoring the memory of a loved one. We have always felt that our choir of angels sings with us to support and give us strength.

The next week, the Glory Ringers, directed by Carl Cox, played “Amazing Grace” on the hand bells to honor the life of Gary Baldwin. Marva, Gary’s wife, directed the Bell Choir for 22 years at Evergreen Lutheran Church, taught music at Marshdale Elementary School and directed a community bell choir for many years – The Mountain Ringers. Generally, the choir rehearses 2-3 weeks before they play for worship. This time, they had one rehearsal and they played beautifully. The gift they gave Marva and her family was from the heart and one they knew would have special meaning. It blessed Marva and it blessed them.

I’m so grateful for the gift of our passions – whether it is music or some other special thing we enjoy. It gives our lives depth, color and life! And I’m deeply grateful for all those in this congregation for how generously they share them – from Pastor Vera to our little ones.

As we move into our fall schedule, I encourage everyone to find a place to use their gifts and passions. It lifts us up, it lifts up our neighbors, and it glorifies God. What a great way to live.

Peggy Fetchenhier
Minister of Worship and Music

Choir Retreat

Come and sing with us! We are going to have a one day choir retreat on Saturday, September 7 from 9:00 to 2:00 at Evergreen Lutheran Church in the Sanctuary.

We will work ahead on music for the fall season. There will be a brunch break about 11:00 so we can have a little social time. If you are interested in coming to try it out, call Peggy Fetchenhier, 303-674-4759, dmfetch@gmail.com, or just come.
Memorable Quotes

Here are some memorable and thought-provoking quotes from Grandpa Lee’s Gems for the Fireside.

“Pray thee, take care, that tak’st my book in hand, to read it well; that is to understand.”
—Ben Johnson

“Books cannot always please, however good; Minds are not ever craving for their food.”
—George Crabbe

“I love to lose myself in other men's minds. When I am not walking, I am reading; I cannot sit and think. Books think for me.”
—Charles Lamb

“Books are life-long friends whom we come to love and know as we do children.”
—S. L. Boardman

“Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, some few to be chewed and digested; that, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not seriously; some few to read wholly, and with diligence and attention.”
—Francis Bacon

“The most original modern authors are not so because they advance what is new, but simply because they know how to put what they have to say, as if it had never been said before.”
—Johann Wolfgang Goethe

God's peace,
Lloyd Peltzer
ELC Librarian

Prayer List

We have decided to be good stewards of our resources, and will not print the prayers in the bulletin each week to save paper. They will be sent electronically each week. A number of printed lists are available in the narthex. If you have updates to the prayer list, call the office.

Theater and Theology for ELC

The Theater and Theology season has begun again for ELC and the line-up of shows is spectacular. First up is A Doll's House, by Henrik Ibsen. The production is presented as two plays, the first on October 8 and the second on October 15. It is your choice to attend one or both. The story revolves around Nora, whose life in Part 1, seems picture perfect on the surface, but contains a secret underneath which she fears will tear her family apart. So she leaves home. For Part 2, skip forward fifteen years after Nora leaves her family. Her unexpected return confronts her decision head-on in a hilarious Tony nominated sequel.

Reservations for either show may be made by calling Sydney Bernard-Hogling at 303-674-8058, or Tara Alexander-Walker, in the office, at 303-674-4654. Payment for tickets must be given to the Church office. The reservation and payment deadline for Part One is Tuesday, September 12. The performance date for Part 2 is October 15, making the deadline for reservation and payment September 19.

If you are writing a check, make it payable to Rocky Mountain Synod-ELC. Please note on the check "T&T", name of show, and congregation. Theatre and Theology is a collaboration between Denver Center for the Performing Arts and the Rocky Mountain Synod. Following each performance in our package, we are invited to join Pastor Dan Bollman as he examines and discusses the shows through a theological lens.
Outreach

WorkShip 2019

Workship is ELC's day of giving to people and organizations in the Evergreen community who may need a little home care, yard work, painting, mending, or other needs. Helping Hammers crew leaders will take out teams of workers into the community to help our neighbors. After a few hours of work in the morning, come back to ELC at noon for lunch and entertainment!

“The Mountain Resource Center relies on Evergreen Lutheran Church to help us, help the most vulnerable citizens of western Jefferson and eastern Park counties. Our Family Advocates work diligently to assist community members faced with crisis but often find that their hands are tied when it comes to being able to provide financial assistance. Donations from Evergreen Lutheran Church allow us to help our community members with utility assistance, rent, medical payments or critical repairs. This generous giving provides the hand up our neighbors need to work towards stability and self-sufficiency.”

Please choose the work team you’d like to be on, including helping with lunch! Saturday, September 14, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for Workship 2019. A sign-up is in the narthex or you can sign-up online: https://tinyurl.com/yy5b8zr3. Worship is ELC’s day of giving to people and organizations in the Evergreen community who may need a little home care, yard work painting, mending, or other needs.

Opportunities to help during Workship:

**Mountain Resource Center**— Help with a maintenance project, yardwork, weeding, and raking

**ECHo Client**— Porch repair and painting outside of house

**ECHo Client**— Yardwork—mowing, weed-wacking, raking

**ECHo Client** — porch and fence repairs

**Food Team** — Help prepare lunch for Workship work crews at ELC

**Music Team** — Entertain work crews during lunch

Sign-up in the narthex or online: https://tinyurl.com/yy5b8zr3
Christian Outreach Disciple

Dave Kirberg, who completed his baptismal journey, was a good and faithful servant. He was involved in many ministries at ELC including the Emergency Shelter Program, Christ's Body Ministries, Men's Retreat, Workship, and other outreach programs. His death leaves a deep void in our hearts and also at ELC as we consider all the good work he did.

Janet Anderson, Pam Moe, and Pastor Vera are praying that some of you will step forward to pick up where our brother Dave left off.

Please prayerfully consider how you might serve in some of these outreach areas.

For more information call Janet Anderson at 303-842-2180.

Bowl Painting for MRC Fundraiser

Paint bowls at Go Paint! for the Mountain Resource Center Bowls Project fund raising event. Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team, the cost for paint and bowls will be covered. If you paint a second bowl the cost is $12.

- **Tuesday, September 10, 10 a.m.**, followed by lunch at Beau Jo's, thanks to an Action Team.
- **Friday, September 13, 6:30 p.m.**, wine & appetizers provided.

No skill needed! RSVP: Marcia Henderson, 303-653-7735, marciajerry2@gmail.com.

Blue Spruce Habitat Build

Thrivent Financial and Blue Spruce Habitat for Humanity team up for Building on Faith Day, **September 28**. We’ll frame the exterior walls for an entire house in one day. Construction and non-construction opportunities are available with two hour blocks of time. All the work will be done in the parking lot of the ReStore in Bergen Park. Register: https://tinyurl.com/y3an9hde find the 2-hour shift you want and click “Sign Up” (First-time users need to register). Contact Mary Ellen Carlow, 303-674-1127, mecarnlow@bluesprucehabitat.org.

Split & Steak

Our annual work with Conifer Community Church to split and prepare firewood for people who need it to heat their homes this winter will be **Saturday, September 21, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** The donation is $10 but included is a steak lunch and t-shirt. Sign-up: http://conifercc.org/split-steak.html. The sign-ups close on **September 1** so we can get the t-shirts and food ordered. Questions, see David Hood.

Mountain Backpacks

Mountain Backpacks is a supplemental food program whose mission is to help kids stay full and focused throughout the school year. We do this through the power of voluntarism and community support. We are a service project of the Evergreen Rotary and Evergreen Lutheran Church and a proud partner of the Food Bank of the Rockies.

We work closely with and have been mentored by Evergreen Christian Outreach since we began in 2013. From our home base in the Church House of Evergreen Lutheran, we support children living in Jefferson, Clear Creek, and Gilpin County.

There are many ways to get involved. See our web site: www.mountainbackpacks.org and click on the “Get Involved” tab.

**Packing on Wednesdays**—prepare backpacks for students in need. We have one shift at 4:00 p.m. and pack until we’re done. Plan on 45 minutes to an hour and a half. It’s an easy service project for people of all ages.

**Lead Packing on Wednesdays**—Two Packing Leaders are needed every Wednesday to oversee volunteers. We will provide a training before you start.

**Pantry Delivery on Tuesdays** — We have several schools who participate in our on campus pantry program. We can provide quick meals for breakfast and lunch, snacks and take home meals if needed. Pantry food is packed on Monday and needs delivered on Tuesday to each school.

**Backpack Delivery on Thursdays**—Volunteers pick up and drop off backpacks to our participation schools on Thursday morning between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

More information about each volunteer activity is on our website, www.mountainbackpacks.org
September Calendar

4 — 6pm TED, Confirmation
8 Rally Day! — 9:15am Sunday School
11 — 6pm TED, Confirmation
18 — 6pm TED, Confirmation
20 — 6pm 8th Grade Confirmation
25 — 6pm TED, Confirmation

Sunday School Returns
Sunday, September 8 at 9:15am

Join us at 9:15 a.m. in the Great Hall (downstairs) for an hour of learning the gospel of Jesus taught through stories, games, music, and crafts.

There are classes for all ages, pre-K through High School.
September Birthdays
1 Brittany Thompson
2 Owen O’Brien
6 Lauren Hellmuth, Shana Schubert, Laura Harms
7 Kurt Johnson
9 George Golder, Seaton Berne
10 Connell O’Brien, Conrad Biller
11 Carolyn Bergner
12 Barbara Barclay
13 Cathy Taylor
14 Brian Schubert
16 Kim Halingstad, Alicia Harker
17 Paul Lundquist
18 Chuck Schueler
20 Barb Streett
21 Tupper Briggs
22 Carol Brice
24 Myra Purkey, Finn Knudsen, Scott Moriarty, Barbara Blum, Chris Besler
26 Hank Falvey
27 Val Prolow
28 David Van Auken
29 Samuel Rogler

September Anniversaries
1 Phyllis & Ken Scott
3 Sherry & Bill Lightcap, Nancy & Wayne Lowe, Carisa & Bryan Smith
5 Cody & Michael Knopf
6 DeNae & Jim vanWestrienen
8 Karl & Kristin Andersen
10 George & Ruth Krauss
12 Gene & Chris Enebo
16 Millie & Darold Sage
19 Ron and Karen Schutt, Karrie & Tom Jones
22 Stephanie & Andrew Seaton, Jen Frye & Rusty Brunner
25 Bob & Colleen Norgard
28 Bob & Jean Terry
30 Phyllis & George Wittenberg, Patti & Jamie Fuelling

Mom’s Apple Crisp
From “Welcome to Our Table, Recipes from Evergreen Lutheran Church”, available in the ELC Library
- 6 to 8 large baking apples (Fuji, Pink Lady, Gala, Golden Delicious)
- lemon juice
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 c water
- 1 c sugar
- 1 c graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 c flour
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1 stick butter, melted

Peel, core, and thinly slice the apples.

Line the bottom of a 13x9 baking pan with the apple slices. Sprinkle with a few drops of lemon juice, the cinnamon, and the water.

In a medium bowl, combine the sugar, graham cracker crumbs, flour, and salt. Drizzle the melted butter on the sugar mixture; stir with a fork until crumbly and well mixed. Spoon crumb mixture evenly over apples. Bake at 325 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes until apples are tender.

Serves 8.

A foolproof classic. If you’re not going to eat it all in one night, you can halve the recipe (there’s nothing soggier than yesterday’s crisp). If you like a tarter crisp, use a Granny Smith or two. ~ Sandy Sajbel

Knit / Craft Night September 14
Bring whatever craft project you’re working on and a snack to share Saturday, September 14 at 5:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

Tech Class for Seniors
Outreach is planning a tech class and we’d like to gauge the level of interest in our congregation.
We’ll cover computer, smartphone, and internet basics. As an added treat, we’ll pair each person with a teen to help with their devices! If you’re interested, sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.
Janet Anderson
All who serve in worship, please arrive 15 minutes early and check in with the lay minister when you arrive on Sunday to let them know you are present.

Thank you for serving during worship.

We are looking for Ushers and Communion Servers. If you can help, please let the office know. Thanks!