

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

Rooted in the Past; Sheltering the Present; Reaching Out to the Future; Empowered by the God of the Ages

P. O. Box 484 5983 South Main Street Mt. Jackson, VA 22842
540-477-2421

mcoffice@shentel.net www.mountcalvaryva.com



Mount Calvary Lutheran Church Virginia

Rev. Matthew A. Diehl, Pastor (mtcalrev@shentel.net)

Members of Mount Calvary, Ministers



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
Day of Service



- a 9"x13" cake pan
- a box of cake mix
- a can of icing
- a box of birthday candles



As you are able, you are asked to bring any of the following items to church during the first few Sundays of September:

These items will be assembled into kits for food pantry patrons looking to prepare a birthday cake for a family member.



Sunday, September 22, you are invited to gather at the Shenandoah Caverns Pavilion for our annual **Outdoor Worship Service and Picnic**.

Following the service, we will enjoy a potluck picnic on the grounds. Hotdogs, and beverages will be provided. You are invited to bring a side dish or dessert to add to the meal.

Plan now to be a part of this very special worship and enjoy the fellowship and food which follows.

FROM PASTOR DIEHL ...

*"I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety."
(Psalm 4:8)*

Dear friends in Christ,

I stated in last month's newsletter that the days of summer were beginning to slip away. Well, here we are, and the summer days seem to be all but gone now that vacations are over, and school has resumed for another year. Nevertheless, as you read this, I hope that you have enjoyed your summer and are ready to embrace the next season. Remember ... it's always a good day to have a good day! 😊

As I shared with you last month, for many Christians, beginning a good daytime habit, such as daily prayer, may be hard to do or even seem impossible. Oftentimes many folks don't even know where to begin. As Christians, we know the Lord's Prayer. It's always a great prayer at any time and any place. However, we may not know other prayers and might feel intimidated in any attempt to "make up" our own prayer.

Last month I shared with you how praying Martin Luther's Morning Prayer is a great way to begin the day. Well, guess what? Luther also wrote an Evening Prayer that is an equally meaningful way to end each day. Luther's Evening Prayer is the following:

I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

This is followed by Luther's comment: "Then you are to go to sleep quickly and cheerfully."

We never know what events of any given day are going to come our way after we awake. However, when we go to bed at the end of our day, we have the opportunity to think back on our day and know exactly how our day went. It could have been a good day or a bad day. We will have undoubtedly sinned against God, committed errors against others, or maybe experienced an unexpected (and unwanted) turn of events in our lives.

So, what do we do when we go to bed at night with a bad day in our rearview mirror? Do we lie in bed fretting over what we did or didn't do? Do we lay in bed staring up at the ceiling and watch the ceiling fan go round and round thinking, "If only I had said/done that a little bit differently?" Do we sometimes find it difficult to fall asleep? Are we thinking about what may come the next day?

Notice what Luther's Evening Prayer says ... *"Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine."* As we prepare to close our eyes and rest for the night, we are resting in the loving and abiding presence of our Savior Jesus Christ who always orders our days and deeds in peace. We are giving our all to Jesus.

We are basically saying to Jesus in this prayer: *"Forgive me of my sins, turn the troubles of this life from distresses into blessings, and allow me to receive a rest that you and only you can give."* There is really no better way to rest at night than to do so knowing that we are always resting in the arms of our forgiving and loving Savior.

Friends, as I said last month, beginning a habit of daily prayer does not need to be a daunting task. We can begin with simple steps like praying Luther's Morning and/or Evening Prayer. Why not try it out for a week? Pray Luther's Prayer (Morning or Evening . . . or both!) every day, for one week. We can be assured, there is no better way to begin and end our days!

I look forward to greeting you in worship next Sunday.

God's peace be with you,



CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



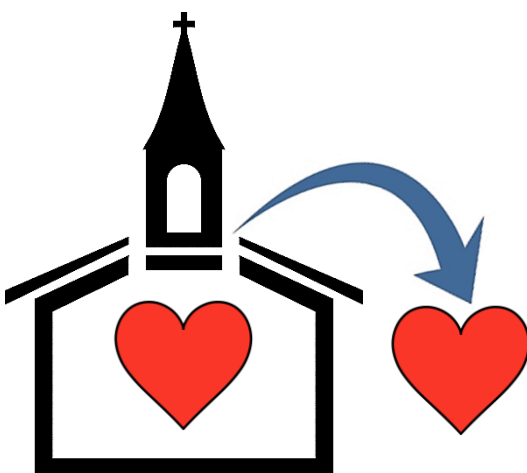
The Congregation Council met Monday evening, August 19, with the following members, staff, and guests present: Pastor Diehl, Heather Diehl (Secretary), C.J. Frye, Pat Holleman, Bill Holtzman, John Minnick, Steve Povlish, Phyllis Richards, Randy Richards, Jessica Rinker (MCELC Co-Director), Laura Ryman, and Russ Shank (Crutchfield Project Manager). Roger Rudy was unable to attend.

- The Early Learning Center report cited an enrollment of 59 children supported by 16 staff members. The tuition of 20 of the enrolled children is supported by the subsidy program. The Center has a waiting list for most age levels. Painting of the infant room has been completed.
- It was announced that the date and location for the Annual Outdoor Service and Picnic has changed. The worship and picnic will be held on Sunday, September 22, in the pavilion on the grounds of Shenandoah Caverns.
- A report from the Worship and Music Committee noted the annual bell polishing and Singer/Ringer Lunch held Saturday, August 10. The regular Sunday worship time (10:30) will resume September 1. Children's Church will resume September 8. The committee agreed to the use of the "themed liturgy" (versus the ELW liturgy) for all Sunday services.
- Pastor noted that a Constitution Committee had been re-convened to complete the updating of Mount Calvary's constitution and bylaws. One work session has been held. Another is planned.
- Reporting for the Golf Committee, Randy Richards provided a summary of tournament information: 100 golfers in 50 teams, over 120 sponsors and supporters, and \$27,427.50 raised for the General Fund. Randy emphasized the importance of an early start in contacting potential sponsors for the 2025 tournament (July 12-13) as well as increased involvement of church members in promoting and supporting the tournament.
- Russ Shank, Crutchfield Project Manager, presented the company's bid for replacement of the sanctuary sound system and responded to questions from Council members. The Council unanimously agreed to accept Crutchfield's proposal at a cost of \$5,018.95. Church family who wish to contribute to this purchase are encouraged to make their donation to the Building Fund.
- Members continued sharing and discussing information received from June's Small Group Gatherings. A meeting with Pastor John Wertz, Assistant to the Virginia Bishop, is to be scheduled to support on-going discussions regarding the future of Mount Calvary ministries.

Our Monthly Outreach Offering

July's Outreach Offering generated \$1,450 for the Early Learning Center. The August offering will benefit the Shenandoah County Animal Shelter. At the end of September, our Outreach Offering will be donated to Shenandoah County Public Schools' Weekday Religious Education Program.

Each Sunday, as you are able, the church family is invited to drop loose change, cash, or checks (payable to Mount Calvary Lutheran Church) into the little church donation box located in the narthex.



Thank you for supporting this extension of our ministry to various agencies and service organizations within the area.



YEAR FOUR OF THE TOURNAMENT

– ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS!

Mount Calvary's 4th Annual Open Golf Tournament (July 13-14) was a tremendous success. A total of 100 golfers in 50 teams participated in the tournament held at New Market's Shenvalee Golf Resort. The tournament was supported by over 120 sponsors, donors, and volunteers (see below). After expenses, this fundraiser generated \$27,427.50 for the General Fund.

Many thanks to our golfers, sponsors, donors, volunteers, and all who supported the tournament in any way.

2024 GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORS AND OTHER SUPPORTERS

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Melissa Andrews | First Bank | McDonough Toyota | Roger Rudy |
| Appalachian Freight | Fleet Care | Mike Funkhouser Constrn | Wayne Rudy |
| Rich Armell | Sonny & Judy Fultz | Anita Miller | Laura Ryman |
| Justin Banks | G.B. Foltz Contracting | Lisa Miller | Pam & Orville Ryman |
| Eric Blosser | Will Gangwer | John & Crystal Minnick | Schewels Home |
| Blue Ridge Motorsports | Glass & Metals | Shirley Minnick | Schrock Financial |
| Blue Ridge Ready Mix | Harmon Construction | Cristen Monroe | Shenandoah Caverns |
| Bob Rush | Sharon Harrison | Melinda Monroe | Shenandoah Grounds |
| Bob Wade AutoWorld | Haun-Magruder, Ins. | Dick & Melissa Moore | Shenvalee Golf Resort |
| Rhonda Bowers | Heishman's Funeral Home | Brad Morris | Sign Pro |
| Bradley Funeral Home | Hepler's Paving | Mt. Jackson Farm Service | Diana Steadman |
| Bryce Resort | Hepner Tire | Mulligans Golf | Streett Trucking |
| Buffalo Wild Wings | Pat Holleman | New Market Café | Ray Swartz |
| Matt Bush | Holtzman Oil Corp. | New Market Eagles | Tempest Storm Rentals |
| Cabin Hill T's | Home Store | New Market Exxon | Thrivent Financial |
| Chip Coffman | House of Oaks | Pendleton Community | Tobacco & More |
| Coffee to Grow | Integrity Home Mortgage | Syvilla Pence | Traffic Safety Supplies |
| Jonathan Comer | Island Wings | Petroleum Fleet | Truck & Equipment Corp. |
| Community Store | Italian Touch | Donnie & Barb Pifer | Valley Custom Homes |
| Construction Mgmt Svcs | Jackson's Corner Café | Brian Plum | Valley Florist |
| Court Reporting Services | Edward Jones | Teresa Poole | Valley Sports Connection |
| Dan's Steakhouse | Keystone Fireworks | Brian Ratliff | Valley Subaru |
| Dav's Landscaping | LD&B Insurance | Becky Rhinehart | Scratchy & Huggy Veney |
| Dellinger Funeral Home | Lakeside Books | Craig Richards | Charlie Whetzel |
| Shirley Dellinger | Lantz Construction | Randy & Phyllis Richards | Erika Whetzel |
| Pastor & Heather Diehl | Stuart Leake | Rinker/Frye Memorials | Kay Whetzel |
| Dirty Dog Cleaning | Eddie, Cindy, & Jeff Litten | Roadcap Livestock | Whitecap (John Hudson) |
| Eddie Edwards Signs | Mary Ann Mahoney | Corey Roadcap | Wholesome Foods, Inc. |
| Karen Estep | Massanutten VFW #2447 | Rockingham Redi Mix | Bill & Vickie Williams |
| Evans & Driver Law Firm | James & Mitzi McClure | Rockydale Quarries | Woodstock Moose #575 |
| Excell Trucking | McDaniel's Contracting | Route 11 Potato Chips | |



Ministries

During June's small group gatherings, many church family members were surprised and amazed at Mount Calvary's many ministries. This month, after a summer hiatus, many of those ministries resume their work and their service to our Lord, to our church, to the community, and to the world.

***You are strongly encouraged to find your place within one or more of these ministries.
Each one will welcome you!***

WORSHIP MINISTRY

CONTACT PERSONS

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Acolyte Guild | Susan Foltz (540-984-4477; sffoltz@shentel.net) |
| Altar Guild | Randy Richards (540-333-1439; randyrichards61@yahoo.com) |
| Assisting Ministers | Roger Rudy (703-407-0335; rrudyva@shentel.net) |
| Lay Readers | Roger Rudy (703-407-0335; rrudyva@shentel.net) |

FAITH FORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday Morning (youth and adults) Resumes September 8; 9:00 a.m. | Pastor Diehl (540-477-2421; mtcalrev@shentel.net) |
| "Jesus And Me" (JAM) (children) Resumes September 8; 5:30 p.m. | Pastor Diehl (540-477-2421; mtcalrev@shentel.net) |
| Children's Church Resumes September 8 | Cathy Brennan (540-975-2192; bbrennan@shentel.net) |

MUSIC MINISTRY

| | |
|--|--|
| Vocal Choir Rehearses Wednesdays; 6:25-7:25 p.m. | Roger Rudy (703-407-0335; rrudyva@shentel.net) |
| Hands of Harmony Ringers Rehearses Wednesdays; 7:30-8:00 p.m. | Roger Rudy (703-407-0335; rrudyva@shentel.net) |

YOUTH GROUP

C.J. and Noel Frye (540-477-4133; cjfrye76@gmail.com)

QUILTERS GUILD

Resumes September 12; 9:00-12:00 p.m.

Barb Pifer (540-477-3735; bdpifer@shentel.net)

OUTREACH MINISTRY

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Outreach Committee | C.J. and Noel Frye (540-477-4133; cjfrye76@gmail.com) |
| Golf Tournament Committee | Randy Richards (540-333-1439; randyrichards61@yahoo.com) |
| Apple Butter Boil October 25-26 | Pastor Diehl (540-477-2421; mtcalrev@shentel.net) |

SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Shirley Dellinger (540-477-3538; sdelorra1@gmail.com)

MEALS AND FELLOWSHIP

Barb Pifer (540-477-3735; bdpifer@shentel.net)

ARCHIVE COMMITTEE

Pat Holleman (540-624-2393; patfalls77@gmail.com)

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Anabel Jimenz Luna (540-477-9645; mcdc@shentel.net)

***THE HIGHEST FORM OF WORSHIP
IS THE WORSHIP OF UNSELFISH CHRISTIAN SERVICE.***

Billy Graham (1918-2018)

You've Got Mail



May 2024

Mount Calvary Church Family,

Thanks for being a life support in our community.

Your friends at SCPC
(Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center)

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church,

Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. God has blessed us so much.

May God continue to bless your church.

For the family of Raymond Davis,

Debbie Davis
(cousin of Karen Estep)

The St. Mary's Pine Lutheran Church family invites you to join them Saturday, September 14, for a Pig Roast, 2:00 until dusk. The day will include

- a Classic Car Cruise (2:00),
- Bluegrass music by "Five of a Kind,"
- a worship service (4:00),
- dinner (5:00),
- a benefit auction* (6:00), and
- a bonfire at dusk.

Snack foods will be available throughout the afternoon for purchase. Pork, drinks, plates, and plasticware will be provided for the meal. You are invited to bring your own lawn chair and a side dish to share.



* The auction will benefit the "Tunnels to Towers Foundation" (t2t.org).



This month these members of our church family can celebrate their baptism anniversary and their public confirmation that they are a child of God.

Hayden Foresman September 3
Waylon Richards September 12
Kaitlyn Nebgen September 22

Jane Grant Burner September 28
Jennifer Woofter September 29

Sunday Scripture Readings for September



September 1 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| First Reading | Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 |
| Psalms | Psalms 15 |
| Second Reading | James 1:17-27 |
| Gospel | Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 |

September 8 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| First Reading | Isaiah 35:4-7a |
| Psalms | Psalms 146 |
| Second Reading | James 2:1-17 |
| Gospel | Mark 7:24-37 |

September 15 – 17th Sunday after Pentecost

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| First Reading | Isaiah 50:4-9a |
| Psalms | Psalms 116:1-9 |
| Second Reading | James 3:1-12 |
| Gospel | Mark 8:27-38 |

September 22 – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| First Reading | Jeremiah 11:18-20 |
| Psalms | Psalms 54 |
| Second Reading | James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a |
| Gospel | Mark 9:30-37 |

September 29 – Michael and All Angels

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| First Reading | Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3 |
| Psalms | Psalms 103:1-5, 20-22 |
| Second Reading | Revelation 12:7-12 |
| Gospel | Luke 10:17-20 |

Celebrated on September 29, worship on the day of Michael and All Angels – called “Michaelmas” – recognizes the reality and presence of angelic beings, the heavenly host, and their participation and ultimate victory in the war against evil.



Operation: Christmas Child: September

As you are able, during your September shopping, our OCC shoeboxes could use

SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

Here are some ideas for you: pencils, pencil sharpeners, glue sticks (*not* liquid glue), erasers, markers, crayons, colored pencils, pencil pouches, scissors, small notebooks, calculators, activity books, coloring books, drawstring bags, and stickers.





The Mount Calvary church family is very happy to welcome six new members:

- Curtis Goodwin,
- Autumn Grogg,
- David and Sue Osborne (Associate Members),
- Hayleigh Rhinehart, and
- Rebecca ("Becky") Rhinehart.



Please give our new members a warm welcome, inviting them to join in on our fellowship and ministry opportunities, and letting them know ...

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Early Learning Center News



Happy September,

The weather is getting a wee bit cooler, and the leaves will soon start changing. It is hard to believe we are already in the month of September.

During September, the children will learn about community helpers, family, apples, leaves and trees. They will also explore the theme: "God Made Me".



The children have started back to chapel with Pastor Diehl and look forward to it each week. The preschool children also enjoy library time with Mr. Roger. We are truly thankful for the children to have these opportunities.

**PRESCHOOL
STORY
HOUR**

On Friday, September 6, we will have a luncheon in the social hall for the children's grandparents in celebration of Grandparents' Day.



The Center will be having a candle fundraiser. If you would like to order candles, please let Anabel or Jessica know, and we will get you an order form.

September has many Center birthdays: Khai and Ms Kelly (9/4), Linny (9/5), Ms Hannah R. (9/7), Ms Anabel (9/10), Paul (9/18), Josy and Raven (9/26).

Thank you to the Board and the church family for your continued support.



Blessings,
Anabel & Jessica

Church Family Birthdays

September

October

1 Phyllis Richards
4 William Vogel
4 Kay Whetzel
5 Randall Craig
5 Emmo Roberts
7 Alex Bodanske
8 Tracy Litten
10 Diana Steadman
11 Wayne Rudy
12 John Minnick
16 Melanie Hepner
22 Sue Sigler
25 Elliott Holtzman
26 Katherine Pool
27 Hayden Foresman
27 Michael Funkhouser
29 Julie Bean

1 Kris Long
4 Barbara Frye
6 Carissa Richard
8 Kenna Fansler
8 Orville Ryman
9 Shirley Dellinger
9 Ann Holtzman
12 Barb Pifer
14 Luke Ritenour
16 Todd Holtzman
16 Tadhg Murphy
18 Karen Estep
19 Rhonda Richard
20 Amanda Rushe
21 Nathan Davis
21 Kristen Van Stee
22 Elizabeth Murphy
22 Brystal Silvius
24 Delores McDonald
25 Eli Proctor
26 Olivia Proctor
27 Shelley Whetzel
30 Judy Fultz

Happy Birthday

COMING SOON



MOUNT CALVARY HOMECOMING

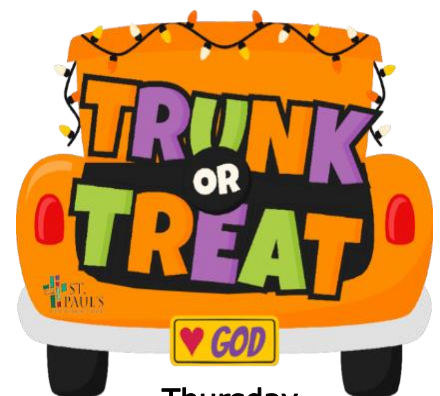
Sunday, October 20
CELEBRATING 180 YEARS!


**MOUNT CALVARY
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
Mt. Jackson, Virginia

APPLE BUTTER

APPLE BUTTER BOIL
Friday-Saturday
October 25-26

As you are able,
our Apple Butter project
needs
PINT SIZE JARS.



Thursday
October 31

In our prayers for healing, let us remember

our members:

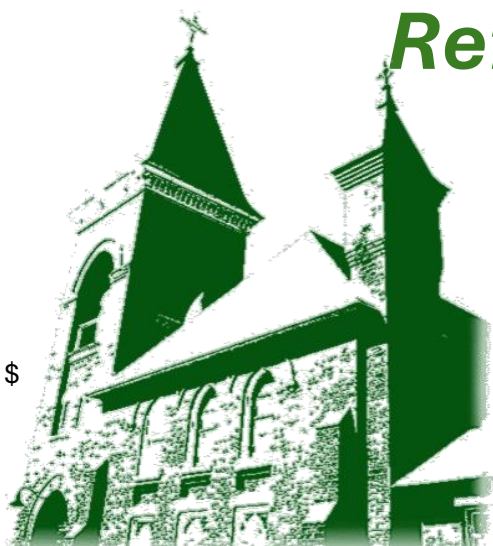
- ♥ Terry and Gloria Chambers ♥ Tommy Frye ♥ Pat Funkhouser
- ♥ Frances Gerow ♥ Pat Holleman ♥ June Hyde ♥ Delores McDonald
- ♥ Sue Sigler



and our family and friends:

- ♥ Tim Ambrose, son of Larry Ambrose ♥ Bonnie Andes, sister of Buddy Polk ♥ Pastor William Ballance, former pastor of Mount Calvary ♥ Mike Beddow, friend of Karen Estep ♥ Earl Carter, brother-in-law of Roger Rudy ♥ Ken Chambers, son of Terry and Gloria Chambers ♥ Beverly Dirting, friend of G.B. and Susan Foltz ♥ Janet Dovel, mother of G.B. and Susan Foltz's friend, Pam Hanger ♥ Meghan Earls, daughter of Amy Proctor's friend, Bonnie Stultz ♥ Candy Feddon, friend of John and Crystal Minnick ♥ Sonny Fultz, husband of Judy Fultz ♥ Betty Funkhouser, friend of Noel Frye ♥ Tyler Funkhouser, nephew of Karen Estep ♥ Sue Gelosh, sister of Steve Povlish ♥ Owen Gladwell, friend of Hayden Foresman ♥ Pandora Golden, friend of Bryan Rudy ♥ Sheila Green Higdon, friend of Vicki Williams ♥ Pat Hoyle, friend of Mary Ann Mahoney ♥ William Jennings, brother of Jessie McIntosh, uncle of Noel Frye ♥ Ana Jermstad, friend of Karen Estep ♥ Ann Laing, sister of Barb Pifer ♥ Diane Lewallen, friend of Bryan Rudy ♥ Diane Lonas, mother-in-law of Joel Miller ♥ Angel Mejia, husband of Anabel Jimenez-Luna ♥ Jessie McIntosh, mother of Noel Frye ♥ Patricia Sue Miller, sister-in-law of Anita Miller ♥ Jay O'Neil, friend of Roger Rudy ♥ Sherry Pebworth, Hands of Harmony ringer ♥ Bob Perry, friend of G.B., Susan, and Adam Foltz ♥ Randall Richards, Sr., father of Randy Richards ♥ Linda Ryman, sister-in-law of Laura Ryman ♥ Jillian Shirkey, grand-daughter of Rick and Yvonne Lytton ♥ Tammy Sibert, friend of Kay Whetzel ♥ Jerry Smith, friend of Kay Whetzel ♥ Mark Tavenner, friend of Pat Holleman

To be faithful, prayer requests should be fresh and active, and so we ask that you keep the church office informed of health situation changes at least every 30 days. Please notify the office of any changes or updates to our Prayer List. (540-477-2421; mcoffice@shentel.net)



Reflections of Mount Calvary

| | Worship Attendance | Offering Received* |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| July 28 | 40 | \$2,690 |
| August 4 | 35 | \$3,037 |
| August 11 | 33 | \$3,555 |
| August 18 | 37 | \$2,850 |
| August 25 | 30 | \$1,925 |
| AVERAGES | 35 | \$2,811.40 |

*Budget needs per week: \$3,780