The CEW Spirit Newsletter

Summer 2026

www.lakeshorecew.com

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~Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and You shall renew the face of the earth~

Spiritual Direction- Notes from Deacon Mark

Every year, a quiet kind of magic happens at the **Lakeshore Christian Experience Weekend (CEW)**. It doesn't happen because of a fancy schedule or big speeches, it happens because of the people who show up to build it, step by step, together.

At its heart, CEW is a community renewing itself from the inside out. It's built on the simple idea that everyone has a seat at the table, and everyone brings something meaningful when they pull up a chair.

Whether you've been attending for years or are stepping in for the first time, there is a place specifically for you to belong and lend a hand:

- **Living the Community Beyond the Weekend:** Gathering throughout the year for Community Renewal Events from praying together at the Commissioning of the team and meeting for Labor Day Sunrise Mass, to joining seasonal events at Lumen Christi Farms and participating in gatherings hosted by fellow community members.
- **Gathering at the Table:** Being present during the retreat, listening to one another's stories, and sharing in the laughter, quiet moments, and spiritual renewal that define the weekend.
- **Serving as Team Members:** Walking alongside attendees as part of the weekend team, keeping the heart of the event warm, organized, and focused on genuine connection.
- **Working Behind the Scenes in the Kitchen:** Cooking meals, washing dishes, pouring coffee, and making sure everyone is nourished and cared for throughout the retreat.
- **Joining the Candle Crew:** Serving quietly in the background to set the atmosphere, prepare sacred spaces, and handle the small, thoughtful details that make the weekend feel special.

Community isn't something we just watch happen from the sidelines—it's something we build with our own hands, shared meals, and open hearts.

Come take your seat at the table. Whether you are here to receive, to serve in the kitchen, to light the candles, or to walk as part of the team, your presence makes this weekend what it is.

Rector's Corner

A note from the upcoming Women's Rector, Deb Schmidt

For God so Loved the world that He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

As I have been reflecting on the theme for our Women's CEW this fall, my heart kept coming back to this passage from the Gospel of John. God is so good and only wants the best for His children. His Son came to earth as a man and taught us so much about Our Father and His infinite love for us. So many of the teachings in the Bible are about God's unconditional love for us- even when we fall; when we fail to do His will. How many times have we heard the Prodigal son-His father welcomed Him back with open arms, much as God welcomes us back to the Table of the Eucharistic banquet. Or about the Good Shepherd who leaves the 99 to find the one that is missing- that is how important we are to Our Father. Even St. Peter, who denied knowing Jesus three times.... was forgiven for His denial. Remember Jesus meeting Him while fishing after His Resurrection and three times asking "Peter do you Love me?" **God's LOVE is never-ending and so immense for us!** How amazing is that?!
In the Christmas homily in 2022, Father stated-"Nothing out does God. We need to make room in our heart for God."

I am so blessed and humbled to be the Rector for our Women's CEW to be held at St. Peter the Fisherman October 23-25, 2026. The Holy Spirit has been moving and working hard. I am so excited to share this experience with all the ladies who will be attending. Please join in praying for the women as they come to know the love of our Father more deeply and draw closer to Him who is Love.

Help out at the next CEW!

A successful CEW weekend is made possible by a large group of people behind the scenes. Please consider helping set up, coordinate a meal, spend time in Eucharistic Chapel, write Palanca, bring kitchen donations, or attend a Speaker's Chapel. See www.lakeshorecew.com for details.

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Rector's Corner

A note from the upcoming Men's Rector, Mike Reel

"Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters..." — Isaiah 55:1

There is something deeply inviting about those words from Isaiah. They are not spoken only to the strong, the certain, or those who have everything figured out. They are spoken to the thirsty—to those who know they need something more.

That is at the heart of a Christian Experience Weekend (CEW). In our busy lives, we can become spiritually thirsty without even realizing it. We thirst for peace, for forgiveness, for hope, for belonging, and for a deeper awareness of God's presence. Isaiah reminds us that God's invitation is simple: "*Come* to the water."

The water represents the life, grace, and refreshment that God freely offers. We do not have to earn our way to it. We do not have to arrive with perfect answers. We simply come.

A CEW weekend is an opportunity to step away from the noise and distractions of everyday life and make room for God. And perhaps most importantly, CEW reminds us that we do not come to the water alone. We come together as a community—people with different stories, different struggles, different gifts, and different journeys of faith. We encourage one another, listen to one another, laugh together, pray together, and discover again that God's grace is abundant enough for all of us.

Isaiah's invitation continues: "Come to the waters."

If you are thirsty for renewal, come.

If you are longing for hope, come.

If you need to be reminded that you are loved, come.

If your faith feels strong, come and share it.

If your faith feels uncertain, come anyway.

The invitation is for everyone.

As Lakeshore CEW continues its ministry, may we never forget the simple beauty of Isaiah 55:1. There is a place at the water for every thirsty soul. Christ calls us to come, to receive, and then to carry that living water back into our homes, churches, workplaces, and communities.

Come to the water. Come and be refreshed. Come and experience the love of Christ.

Community Renewal Events (CRE)

Sunrise Mass- Monday, Sept 7th at Neshota Beach (Two Rivers)

All are welcome to join us on Labor Day at Neshotah Beach in Two Rivers for Sunrise Mass. What could be more beautiful than watching God's creation open up to a new day as the mass unfolds?

Be sure to arrive before 6:15 am to the pavilion. Remember to bring a lawn chair, and sunglasses if desired.

Questions contact: Lynn Krupka 920-905-9291.



Please participate in our **Commissioning on Saturday, September 26th starting with 4 pm mass at St Peter the Fisherman in Two Rivers** to pray for those that God is calling to be on the weekend, both as participants and Team Members. After mass, we will have a short Commissioning service and potluck to follow.

Can't wait to see you there!

Invite someone to an upcoming CEW!

It may be the most important invitation we ever receive or offer. Think about the people in your circle and invite them to attend an upcoming weekend. Anyone interested can reach out to the upcoming rector or register on the CEW website, or use the registration form on the next page.



Registration form- fill in and send with payment

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address:_____

_____

Email: _____

Will you be staying overnight? Yes or No

Age: _____

Single or Married or Other:_____

Church/Parish (if any):

_____

Have you been on a previous CEW? Yes or No
If so, where?_____

Friends/Relatives who have made a CEW/Cursillo/TEC: _____

Friends/Relatives who are also making this CEW:

_____

Please list any special needs you may have. (Diet, Medications, difficulties, etc.)

_____

_____

_____

Check the weekend you plan to attend:

☐ **Women's Retreat** - October 23-25, 2026

☐ **Men's Retreat** - November 6-8, 2026