

# Christ Lutheran Church

The People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ.

Sunday Worship
Services
8:15am & 10:45
Discipleship Class
9:30am

## Whats Inside

- 2-3 Around the Church
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- & Community Connections
- 6 Sharing the Love of Christ
- 7 Celebrations!
- 8 Serving this Month

Dear Friends,

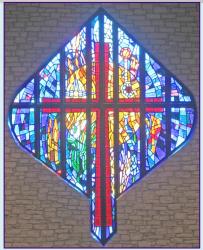
One of the great gifts that God has given to us is the gift of prayer. It is a means by which we can enter into the presence of God and lay before Him the yearnings and groanings of our hearts. And by far one of the greatest prayers by which we can do this is the prayer

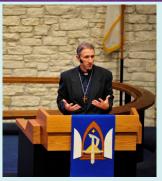


**PASTOR JOHN STENNFELD** 

that Jesus himself taught us. I am referring, of course, to the prayer we know as The Lord's Prayer. In an effort to know and understand this prayer better, we will use it as the text for our meditations during the Lenten midweek services. Each week we will examine one of the petitions, as put forth by Luther, to lead our thoughts as we gather to reflect upon the passion of our Lord. Please join us each week as we meet for our midweek worship.

In Christ, -Pastor John







## Stay connected

Videos of Pastor John's messages are available each week online! (visuals added in) Our website links to YouTube to help us stay connected to Jesus throughout the week. Stay connected with our social media pages to get the latest information.

## Website

www.christaustin.org

## Facebook

look for

"Christ Austin 78704"

## **Twitter**

@ChristATX78704

#### Lenten Soup Schedule 2019

March 6th, 2019	March 20th, 2019	March 27th, 2019
Chicken Noodle	Corn Chowder	Tortilla Soup
Soup	Salad	Salad
Salad	Cookies	Cookies
Cookies	Tea/Water	Tea/Water

	1 ea/ w au	er	1 ea/ w at	er	1 ca/ w a
April 3rd, Vegetable Salad Cookies		April 10th Noodle So Salad Cookies		April 18th Sloppy Jo Salad Cookies	
Tea/Wate:	r	Tea/Wate	r	Tea/Wate	r

Online Giving—Christ Lutheran is pleased to announce the addition of an electronic option for making regular or one-time offerings. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account, or processed using a credit or debit card. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and provides much needed donation consistency for our congregation.

How to set up your online giving:

- 1—Go to www.christaustin.org . Scroll down on the right to "Online Giving \$". Click the link.
- 2—You must select the fund to which you would like to contribute. The current choices are General Fund or Building Fund.

Select if this is a one-time or recurring donation.

- 3— For recurring, you will have to create a GivePlus online profile (or sign into your existing profile if a returning user). Follow the on screen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.
- 4—For one time donations, enter the amount and click Add Donation. Follow the on screen instructions to complete your transaction. You can get a receipt emailed to you immediately by adding your email address in the box.
- 5—If you wish to contribute to multiple funds, you can do so by repeating the process of selecting the appropriate fund, entering an amount and clicking Add Donation.
- 6—There are minimal fees attached to doing this, but you also have an opportunity to click a box to increase your contribution to cover the fee and it shows the amount that will be added.

  If you have any questions contact Alice Werchan.

## Letter from the President

The Lenten season begins March 6th . This month we will again observe it together through weekly Wednesday services (at noon). These are a great opportunity to invite friends and co-workers to see what Christ Lutheran has to offer.

In Pastor John's Sunday morning class, we have just wrapped up a study of Titus and are about to begin a new study of one of the Gospels. Pastor mentioned last Sunday in his class that the most harmonious churches have a high percentage of attendees regularly studying the Word in addition to attending worship. If you haven't attended in the past because you didn't want to join in the middle of something, now is the perfect time to try it out.

Our new online giving program is up and running on the Christ Lutheran website (www.christaustin.org). Instructions are featured in another newsletter article. If you have additional questions about the program, contact Alice Werchan.

Over the last month or so, I have visited with some of our newer attendees to ask how they find out about us. In all cases, they mention our website and the ability to watch Pastor John's sermons even before coming to visit us. Our staff does a great job keeping the latest information on it. To stay abreast of the latest or to catch up on a sermon you may have missed, check our website or follow us on Facebook (look for "Christ Austin 78704") or Twitter (@ChristATX78704).

- Alan Werchan



This column is lovingly sponsored by the Eunice Guild. God bless you as you cook "with Eunice".

#### Meditation

"Inspiration Found - in a Restroom"

There's a pretty wall hanging in the handicap stall of the women's restroom closest to the sanctuary. Many of you have seen it, including you men who go in there to keep things clean and in working order—thank you! It is a white framed picture of colorful flowers around these words: "You are fearfully and wonderfully made" (Ps. 139:14). It's been there for several years, yet I am just now getting around to saying "thank you" to whoever put it there. Did you purposely hang it in the only facility fully accessible for those of us who push a walker or are on wheels, knowing it would remind us that even though our bodies do not function in "normal" ways, we are still our Heavenly Father's awesome creations? You see, I have two rather rare but serious medical conditions that keep me painfully aware that while my body was forming in my Mother's womb according to God's perfect will, sin was already at work on it. I was born with a congenital anomaly (birth defect) called a Chiari Malformation (CM). My skull was too small and portions of the lower part of my brain (the cerebellum) were squeezed through the opening at the bottom of the skull and against the spinal cord causing damage. This was diagnosed when I was 33 years old. By then, the CM had caused another condition, Syringomyelia (SM). A long syrinx (fluid filled cavity) had formed inside my spinal cord, and nerve endings touched by this are being damaged from the inside outward. The CM/SM is slowly and very painfully reducing my ability to perform many functions normally taken for granted, and there is no cure. Yet, I am most definitely "fearfully and wonderfully made!" Not only that, but God had special purposes - or jobs - in mind for me. He said so in Eph. 2:10: "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to Do. "Wow! Doesn't that make you feel so very special? God wanted a Duannah, and He chose me to be her! He knew my life would have its imperfections and struggles, but He also knew that He would be by my side every moment to help me accomplish His purposes. (And this is true for each of us!) It hasn't always been easy. At one very low point in my life, with paralysis in all four limbs and little hope of improving, I asked God just how in the world He expected me to be of any good to Him sitting in a wheelchair in a rehab hospital! That evening, a man wheeled into my room and asked if he could talk. "Sure," I lied. He began to cry and said he wanted to die. I didn't know what to do, but I heard myself say, "Yeah, I'm feeling that way also, but I know that as long as God allows me to live, He has work for me to do. I don't know what it is or how I will do it, but what's important is that He knows. He loves us so much that He sent His Son to die in punishment for our sins so that we can be called His children and live with Him forever. He sure is not going to ever turn His back on us! "With that, a woman looked in from our shared bathroom, and said she was listening through the door and could she join us. We talked until the nurses made them leave - smiling. (True story!) We certainly do not know the turns our lives will take or why, but God does, and our God, the only true God, is an awesome God! "He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted!" (Job 5:9) Dear Lord, "You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful," and yes, I do so "know that full well." (Ps. 139:13, 14).

> -Duannah With Joy in Christ!



## Banana Bread

1/2 c buttermilk 2 c flour 1 tsp baking soda 3 or 4 bananas 1/2 tsp salt 1 c chopped pecans (optional)

1/2 c raisins (optional)

3/4 c butter, room temp.

1 1/2 c sugar 1/2 c dried cranberries (optional)

2 eggs 1/2 c coconut (optional) 1 tsp vanilla cinnamon (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease two 4X8 inch loaf pans. Mash bananas using a potato masher or fork, leaving a few lumps, to measure 1 1/2 cups. In a small mixing bowl, combine the flour, baking soda & salt, & set aside. In a large mixing bowl, cream the butter & sugar. Add the eggs & vanilla, mixing until fluffy. To this mixture, stir in the flour mixture, alternating with the buttermilk. Fold in the bananas, & optional ingredients as desired. Divide & spread the batter into the two prepared loaf pans & bake for 45 minutes, or until it tests done. Remove from oven & cool on a wire rack. When cool, drizzle with a simple icing made by combining 1 c. powdered sugar, a few drops vanilla or banana extract, small pinch salt & 1 T hot water (or more as needed).



# **Christ Lutheran Church**





#### JORDAN BOESSLING

Minister of Creative
Communication
&
Community
Connections

Please contact Jordan for more information on any of the activities on pages 4-5.

Just a reminder that we often take photos, and at times, video, of ministry events to put up around Church on the screen on Sundays and to post to the web that publicizes the worship, service, fellowship, and education life of Christ Lutheran.

Easter Egg Hunt - Our annual Easter Sunday festivities for families (from toddlers through 5th Grade) will be on Easter Sunday, April 21 at Christ. We'll gather for an Easter object lesson in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am, then walk on over to the Workshop to search for treasures and treats around the yard. Starting Sunday, March 24, please be sure to sign up your family by Palm Sunday, April 14, to secure your spots to be a part of our Easter Egg-stravaganza (so that we can prepare for the activities accordingly). Please contact Jordan for more information, and to sign up to participate.

Concordia Crossing - Family, Friends, Alumni Please join us on the campus of Concordia University Texas for the 3rd Annual Concordia Crossing (Homecoming) on March 8-10. Tour the campus, reminisce with fellow graduates, faculty & staff, root for the Tornados baseball team, and make new memories as you reconnect with our local Lutheran University. To check out the weekend events, visit www.concordia.edu/crossing/.

<u>Church Pictorial Directory</u> - Please contact Jordan ASAP to have your photo taken after Worship if you have not already done so. In addition, please complete a Directory Information Card to help us make sure that your contact information on file with the Church Office is correct.

Austin Disaster Relief Network/Hope Family Thrift Store - Volunteer to help with Austin Disaster Relief Network's Hope Family Thrift (<a href="www.hopefamilythrift.org">www.hopefamilythrift.org</a>) on Saturday, March 30 from 10:00 am - 12 noon, with a tour of Austin Disaster Relief Network's (<a href="www.adrn.org">www.adrn.org</a>) headquarters at 9:30 am. Volunteers must be 10 or older. Only 10 volunteer spots available. After learning more about the work of ADRN, we will help out in the thrift store to sort and clean and prepare toys for ADRN to later resale, or give to disaster survivors. Please also consider shopping at and bringing donations to the thrift store (1122 East 51st Street, Austin, 78723">www.adrn.org</a>) on your own time in support of those who have affected by disasters like fires and floods. ADRN also has an Open House every first Friday of the month from 8-9 am and 5-6 pm toward presenting opportunities to find out who ADRN is, how to get involved, and where to engage with ADRN. Please contact Jordan for details, and to sign up to serve.

<u>Men's Discipleship Study</u> - Our "The End of Me" study will continue on the first Tuesday of March, the 5th, at 7:30 P.M. Please contact Tim, or Jordan, for information.

<u>Marbridge-</u> We are making plans to volunteer again at The Ranch (assisted living) of Marbridge (<u>www.marbridge.org</u>) on Saturday, April 6th from 9:45 - 11:15am, to lead/help with arts and crafts, and to have games available too. Marbridge is located at 2310 Bliss Spillar Road, Manchaca, TX 78652. Please contact Jordan for information, and to sign up to serve.







# <u>On Sunday Mornings</u>

Pastor's Class – Titus
Discipleship Classes for All Ages
Our Nursery Room is available throughout the morning.

<u>It's My Park Day</u>- Austin Parks Foundation is hosting their annual It's My Park Day on Saturday, March 2 from 8:30-11:30 am. One of the many opportunities to improve parks and greenbelts around our city includes helping with trash collection and removal in both East and West Bouldin Creek as part of this nearby neighborhood's 28th Annual Clean-up event. To learn more about the description of this project, and what's provided for volunteers, and to register through Austin Parks to lend a hand, please visit <a href="https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/101856-Bouldin-Creek-28th-Annual-Creek-Cleaning-Party">https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/101856-Bouldin-Creek-28th-Annual-Creek-Cleaning-Party</a> Please contact Jordan for more information.

<u>Texas Ramp Project</u>-Volunteer to build a wheelchair ramp for the homebound with Texas Ramp Project (<u>www.texasramps.org</u>), and a crew from Redeemer Lutheran Church, on Saturday, March 23 from 8:00 am to 12 noon (give or take depending on the time necessary to complete the project). Location TBD. It is useful, but not required, to bring a drill. No experience necessary. Volunteers must be 16 or older. Please contact Jordan for details, and to sign up to serve.

### **Eunice Guild Announcement**

Everyone is invited to a gathering on Tuesday, Mar. 19th, at 12:00 noon, in Rms 7/8 for a time together in Christ centered devotion, discussion and fellowship sponsored by the ladies of the Eunice Guild. Even if you cannot make it by noon or need to leave early, we are generally together for at least one and a half hours, and you are welcome to arrive at any time! This is always a wonderful and relaxed opportunity to be together as sisters in faith.

Lutheran World Relief Quilters - Can you sew a straight seam, cut a fabric square, or tie a knot? We would love to have you join the quilters group. The group meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 11:00 am. (Some work, like cutting and/or sewing squares, can be done at home.) Come help put the finishing touches on some beautiful quilts and send them out into the world to be a blessing in someone's life. If you are looking for an opportunity to fellowship and do great works, come join

us. Donations of fabric pieces and "gently used" sheets are appreciated. Please contact Katherine Richter for more details and to get involved.



## Mission Statement

The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to connect people to Jesus through:

- 4 Inspirational Worship
  - + Loving Service
  - **Caring Fellowship**
  - # Relevant Education

So that they may know, and grow in, his love.

# **Sharing the Love of Christ**









Thursday Morning Bible Study

## **CLC New Members!**



Nick & Emily Wright



Mitchell Teeters

# **CARTOON PUZZLE**



## TRUE OR FALSE? WHICH OF THE NUMBERED ITEMS OR FIGURES WERE AT THE ACTUAL NATIVITY?

1	
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3	
4	
2 3 4 5 6 7	
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a	

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17	

(source: the Bible)

# "If we're all dust, why take a bath before the service?"

Stewardship Word for the Month

Deuteronomy 10:14

"To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it."

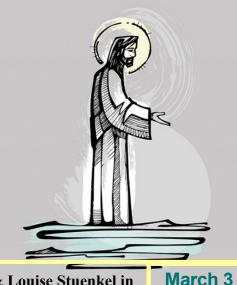
# March Birthdays

Gary Lippe	3/1
Jordan Boessling	3/3
Alex Stivers	3/3
Jane Carrion	3/6
Geneva Alvarez	3/8
Nathan Emmrich	3/12
Duannah Ashmore	3/21
Divina Stennfeld	3/22
Joyce Jakobeit	3/26
Shirley Hoes	3/27
Pachalin Stennfeld	3/30



# March Anniversaries

3/2/1996
3/4/1972
3/6/2010
3/7/2015
3/12/1983
3/19/1990



# Christ Lutheran Church

March 2019

Flowers: David & Kim Schaare in Honor of Benjamin's Baptism

Tellers: C. Kanetzky/V. Kanetzky

8:15am: Lector: Charles Kanetzky

**Acolyte: Katy Herber** 

10:45am: Lector: Norma Nanyes

**Acolyte: Ben Ristow** 

**Communion Guild** 

8:15 am Felix & Louise Alexander

10:45 am Trinity Stennfeld

**Fellowship:** 

Flowers: Bert & Louise Stuenkel in Honor of Their Anniversary

Tellers: C. Kanetzky/V. Kanetzky

8:15am: Lector: Alex Stivers

**Acolyte:** 

10:45am: Lector: Kevin Craig

Acolyte: Adam Werchan

**Communion Guild** 

8:15 am Kim & Ben Schaare 10:45 am Divina Stennfeld

Fellowship: The Hoes

March 17

Flowers: Harold & Shirley Hoes

Tellers: P. Hamil/J. Wiley

8:15am: Lector: Clayton Pillack

**Acolyte:** 

10:45am: Lector: Connie Ziehr

**Acolyte: Emily Richter** 

Communion Guild

8:15 am LeMorris Galbreath 10:45 am Pachalin Stennfeld

Fellowship:

If you cannot serve as scheduled, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement.

If a problem arises Sunday morning, please call the church to let Pastor know.

Elders: 8:15 am: Roy Pietsch

10:45 am: Tommie Craig

Flowers: Sophie Werchan in Honor March 24

of her Husband, James.

Tellers: P. Hamil/J. Wiley

8:15am: Lector: Mark Herber

**Acolyte: Katy Herber** 

10:45am: Lector: Marylou Moore

**Acolyte: Katherine Werchan** 

Communion Guild 8:15 am

10:45 am Jean Linderman

Fellowship: Don & Gwendy Lewis

Flowers: Douglas & Deborah Bynum in Honor of Their Anniver-

sary

Tellers: P. Bost/ S. Etter

8:15am: Lector: Alex Stivers

**Acolyte:** 

10:45am: Lector: Marylou Moore

**Acolyte: Seth Werchan** 

Communion Guild 8:15 am Kim & Ben Schaare

10:45 am Albert & Jane Carrion

\* Flowers will be donated