



Christ Lutheran Church

February 2017

The People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ



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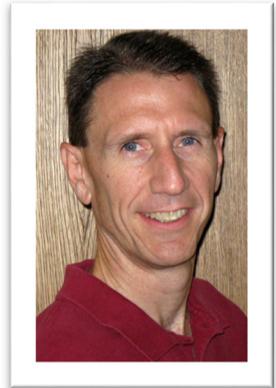
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Pastor John

Dear Friends,

I came across this passage the other day and was reminded once again how amazing is the love that our heavenly Father lavishes upon us. St. Paul reflected on the prophecy of Isaiah when he wrote: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him." (I Cor. 2:9) In other words, no one, not even in his wildest imagination, could ever begin to conceive of the blessings that God has prepared for us in Christ Jesus. No matter how wonderful and awesome and amazing that you try to imagine that life with God in eternity will be, you aren't even close to the reality.



PASTOR JOHN STENNFELD

John tried to express his vision of heaven in terms of precious stones and metals, walls made of jasper and the streets made of gold, but this too was a mere shadow of the reality that awaits us.

With the start of 2017, I have already seen the challenges and struggles that some of you are facing. We all began the new year with hopes of better things to come, but that's not always the case on this side of heaven. Sometimes the road ahead continues to be difficult. But there is hope; God has given us His word. No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him. May those words strengthen you as you face the daily challenges of life in this world.

To God be the Glory,
Pastor John

Letter from the President



The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to connect people to Jesus through inspirational worship, loving service, caring fellowship and relevant education so that they might know, and grow in, His love. These are more than just words; they guide what we do as a church body.

Each Sunday, Pastor John leads inspirational worship that points us to Jesus and His saving grace through both the Word and the Sacraments. We also have relevant education for all ages. If you aren't already doing so, now is a great time to check out one of the Sunday morning classes — whether it is Kingdom Quest for the younger kids, Lutheranism 101 for the middle school/high school, or the Catechism in Pastor's adult class. You can also try Rev. Ziehr's Bible Class on Thursday mornings or the monthly Men's Discipleship Class. *(continued on p. 2)*



Letter from the President

(ctd. from p. 1)

Christ Lutheran definitely has caring fellowship. It hasn't been that long since our German sausage meal or Rally Day. I just got back from maybe the largest ever Men and Boys Retreat at Camp Lone Star and truly enjoyed getting to know some of the first time attendees. On February 5th, we have another SUPER fellowship event as we gather for the Super Bowl-of-Chili Cookoff. Even though the Cowboys won't be playing (again), come watch the game, visit with friends, and maybe test your chili-making skills.

Finally, the people of Christ continually show His love through service to others. Our most recent effort benefitted the residents at the Marbridge community for adults with intellectual disabilities. All reports say that both the residents and the participants from Christ had a great time. We have groups that meet each month to make quilts and Braille Bibles. Even if you can't go to some of the events, you can still participate through projects like our Souper Bowl of Caring canned food drive that will benefit the Bread for All Food Pantry. February 5th will be the final Sunday of this effort. There will be more opportunities for volunteering, so keep watching the newsletter, bulletin and website.

— Alan Werchan



Thank You

To our family of faith, for the wonderful gift. We consider it a privilege to serve our Lord through the ways He gives us to serve all of you at CLC. God's blessings. – Bill and Nathan



Our recycling program is rolling!

The new recycling bin has arrived. Posters will soon be on display around the church with instructions detailing the materials to recycle. Information will also be included in upcoming announcements.

We will need to separate recyclables from trash. Items required to be recycled include paper, cardboard, numbered plastics, soda cans, and glass jars.

Annual Soap Collection for LWR

During the months of February and March, the Ladies of the Eunice Guild are sponsoring the annual soap collection for Lutheran World Relief. The LWR website says, **"Send us soap, and we will see it gets to people in need."**

They accept any brand of bar soap in original wrapping and prefer bath-size bars. Please place your donations in the washtub in the Narthex, and be sure to place it there with a prayer in your heart. Thank you!

Bread for All Update

During the month of December, we collected 95 pounds of food for "Bread for All". Some was gathered from the R&R and Eunice Guild Christmas Party and some was in the red barrel. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

Feed My Lambs Update

The sack lunch program handed out 16 lunches during the month of December, and 7 lunches in January. We continue to make fresh sandwiches on the last Thursday of each month. Please contact the church office with any questions.





Cooking with Eunice



This column is lovingly sponsored by the Eunice Guild. Each recipe includes corresponding Bible verses to use for meditation during those "down" times found in most all good recipes. God bless you as you cook "with Eunice".



TRAIL MIX TOFFEE BARS

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 1/4 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 2/3 cup trail mix, chopped in fine to medium size pieces (use any mix of nuts, raisins, M&M's, coconut, toffee or peanut butter chips, etc)

Preheat oven to 350°. Line a 13x9x2 baking pan with foil (use any mix of nuts, raisins, M&M's, coconut, toffee or peanut butter chips, etc.)

In a large mixing bowl, beat butter with electric mixer for 30 seconds. Add brown sugar, egg & vanilla, & beat. Mix in flour & salt until combined. Spread evenly in prepared pan.

Bake for 15 minutes until edges are browned. Remove from oven & immediately sprinkle with the chocolate chips. Let stand for 2 minutes, or put in warm oven, until the chips are soft.

Spread the chocolate evenly to cover. Sprinkle with the chopped trail mix or toppings and lightly pat down into the melted chocolate.

Cool in the refrigerator until set. Cut into bars. (Nothing says "love" like chocolate, so make these for your Valentine using red M&M's and coconut or white chocolate morsels!)

† Meditation verses:

John 3:16 — "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

1 John 4:16 — "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him."

R&R Group

Relaxed & Retired - but always "Rarin' to Go"!!

This group is open to anyone age 55 and over, or to anyone who just wants to come and enjoy fellowship!

Join us on February 2, at 11:15 am, in classrooms 7&8 for our "First Ever" **GROUNDHOG DAY PARTY!!!!**

Bring your lunch and come join in the FUN!! "Dessert" will be provided. Wear **Brown, Green** and/or **White** if you can. (If you have a groundhog recipe please bring it with you!!)

Questions? — ask Val or Charles.

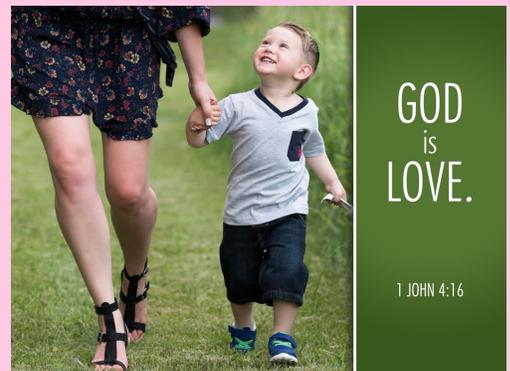


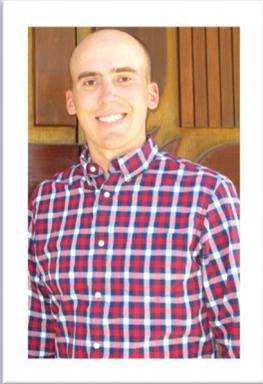
Eunice Guild

All women are invited to gather on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, at 12:00 noon, in Rooms 7/8, for a time of fellowship and devotion sponsored by the Eunice Guild.

In anticipation of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in October 2017, we will continue our discussion on Reformation history.

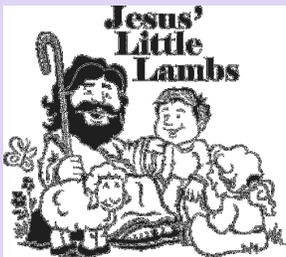
Please bring a picture or any remembrance of a special person, place, or event, meaningful to you in your faith life. It is good to reminisce, in praise and thanksgiving, for our faith, the church, and especially, the Savior we share.





JORDAN BOESSLING

Minister of Creative Communication & Community Connections



Creative Communication and 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.

Men's Discipleship Class

On Tuesday, February 7, at 7:30 pm, in the Christ's Workshop, we have the opportunity to be encouraged by The Lord, and by each other, as brothers in Christ.

Tim Ristow is leading us in reading the book of Ecclesiastes, verse by verse, and reflecting on it in a way that's relevant to our lives today.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

Central Texas Food Bank

Volunteer with the Food Bank in their new Product Recovery Warehouse on Wednesday, February 1 from 9:00 am to 12 noon.

6500 Metropolis Dr Austin, TX 78744

Volunteers must be 8 years or older. Please contact Jordan for details, and to sign up to serve.



Goodwill Greenworks

Volunteer with Goodwill Greenworks on Saturday, February 11 from 9:00 am - 12 noon. We have the opportunity to deconstruct computers for Goodwill to recycle or resell.

8965 Research Blvd Austin, TX 78758

Help do a good thing for the environment and for people seeking education and employment. Please contact Jordan for details, and to sign up to serve.

Hope Family Thrift Store

Volunteer to help with Austin Disaster Relief Network's thrift store's 2nd Anniversary Salebration on Saturday, March 4, from 9:30 am - 12 noon. We have the opportunity to help with activities like face painting, making popcorn, and filling balloons.

Austin Disaster Relief Network



1122 East 51st Street Austin, TX 78723

Please also feel free to shop at, and bring donations to, the thrift store in support of those who have affected by disasters, like fires and floods. Please contact Jordan for details, and to sign up to serve.





Super Bowl-of-Chili Cookoff



Come join us Sunday, February 5, at 5:00 pm, for our annual Chili-Cook-Off held in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack to share and try your hand at cooking a pot of the red stuff (chili).

We'll be watching the big game, and snacking/eating/judging chili entries during half-time. The Wileys will be hosting. Soda and tea will be provided. Call Bob at 512-739-3188 for questions. We look forward to seeing you all there for this fun fellowship event.

Souper Bowl of Caring Food Drive



Each year on the Sundays leading up to the big pro football game, our children support the Souper Bowl of Caring in service-learning during Kingdom Quest.

It's a congregational effort to collect cans and containers of soup for the Bread for All Food Pantry. Chip in toward our food drive during its four Sunday "quarters" through February 5.



Visual Arts Camp

We are making plans for our annual community art camps at Christ, and plan to make an announcement on Sunday, February 5, regarding this summer's program, with sign ups to start on Sunday, February 12. Please contact Jordan for more information.



Kingdom Quest & Lutheranism 101

At Christ "We Learn About Jesus All Year Long," from January to December. In February, our discipleship classes, on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am, will help us remember that "We are Loved by Jesus."

Our Kingdom Quest Kids continue to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and to witness Him teach parables and perform miracles.

Our Lutheranism 101 Teens are engaged in a book study and conversation about what it looks like to walk with our Lord and Savior.





Sharing the Love of Christ





Celebrations!



Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love. How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12th letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

- (1) You really like ice cream! _____ 
 - (16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. _____
 - (21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. _____
 - (4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. _____
 - (11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. _____
 - (17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. _____
 - (6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. _____
-  "Honor _____ and _____, and _____ your _____."

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV



Their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

Psalm 112:7, NRSV



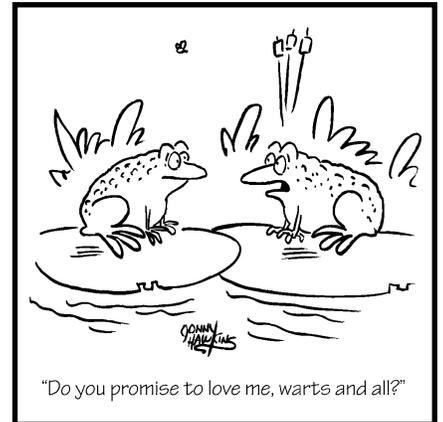
Love One Another

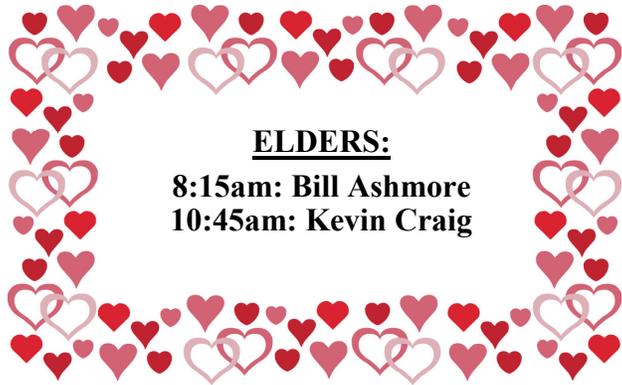


- Tommy Taylor 2/1
- Val Kanetzky 2/4
- Donn Trautner 2/7
- Richard Fletcher 2/8
- David Schaare 2/8
- Brett Egge 2/9
- Davis Lee Magruder 2/10
- Phil Etter 2/11
- Sonny Mitchell 2/11
- Freddie Richter 2/11
- Helen Karcher 2/12
- Maria Calvo 2/14
- Lisa Mokarzel 2/14
- Albert Carrion, Jr. 2/15
- Joyce Veloz 2/15
- Matthew Ristow 2/16
- Gabriella Sisbarro 2/16
- Frank Veloz 2/16
- Michael Zieschang 2/20
- Joe Albert Aguilera 2/21
- Jean Cano 2/21
- Robert Whitehurst 2/21
- Barbara Craig 2/22
- Isela Liana Martinez 2/24
- Ester Martinez 2/25
- Jo Kautz 2/26
- Joseph Calvo 2/27
- Kimberly Schaare 2/27



Alan & Alice Werchan 2/17/1996





ELDERS:

8:15am: Bill Ashmore
10:45am: Kevin Craig

February 5

Flowers: In honor of the birthdays of Brad Schmidt (Jo's son) & Celeste Albritton (Brad's daughter), from Jo and Ron Kautz

Tellers: A. Werchan/P. Mitchell

8:15am: Lector: Clayton Pillack
Acolyte: Katy Herber

10:45am: Lector: Alan Werchan
Acolyte:

Communion Guild

February 19

Flowers: In honor of Barbara Craig's birthday (2/22), from Kevin Craig

Tellers: P.Hamil / J. Wiley

8:15am: Lector: Lucille Herrera
Acolyte:

10:45am: Lector: MaryLou Moore
Acolyte:

Communion Guild

8:15am: Alex & Christine Stivers

February 12

Flowers: In memory of Alfred A. Giansonti (father), from Teresa G. Kirby (daughter)

Tellers: A. Werchan/P. Mitchell

8:15am: Lector: Mark Herber
Acolyte: Katy Herber

10:45am: Lector: Norma Nanyes
Acolyte:

Communion Guild

10:45am:

February 26

Flowers: Given by Jo and Ron Kautz

Tellers: P.Hamil / J. Wiley

8:15am: Lector: Charles Kanetzky
Acolyte: Katy Herber

10:45am: Lector: Gary Lippe
Acolyte:

Communion Guild

10:45am: Decker & Karotkin



If you cannot serve as scheduled, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement. If you know a schedule change before 9:00 am on Thursday of the week you're scheduled, please contact the church office (442-5844) to inform the secretary of the change. If a problem arises Sunday morning, please call the office and leave a message.

*** Flowers will be donated**

