

# Christ Lutheran Church

The People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ

May 2022



Dear Friends,

I grew up hearing, “April showers bring May flowers.” Now that may be true in Indiana, but it doesn’t seem to be quite as true in Texas. It probably would be true if there were any April showers, but since it has been so dry I don’t think our May will be full of flowers. But it will still be full of the beauty of God’s goodness as we gather each week to worship Him and to celebrate and give thanks for His many blessings. On May 1st we will recognize and thank God for all our members who have worked to make our worship services so special through the years. On May 8th will remember and honor and thank God for our moms. On May 15th we will witness Holly Herber confirm her faith before the congregation through the Rite of Confirmation. And on May 29th we will remember and thank God for those men and women who gave their lives in defending the freedoms we enjoy in this nation. So while we may not have a lot of flowers in May, we do still have much which brings beauty into our lives. I hope you will be here to celebrate these things with us.

To God be the glory,  
Pastor John

## Special Prayers in April Worship Services

Jewel Anderson – in rehab facility after a fall

Pete Fay – cancer

Ladda Scott – (Pachalin’s Aunt) – stroke

Mitch Teeters and family as his father approaches death.

Kendra (the daughter of friends of Phil and Sue Etter) - recently diagnosed with leukemia

Lucille Herrera—nasal surgery

## Prayers Peace

The people of Ukraine.

## Prayers for Rain

## Traveling

Susan and Jackie Sermons

Michelle Bennight

Alan & Alice Werchan



**PASTOR  
JOHN  
STENNFELD**

## WHAT’S INSIDE

- 2-3 Around the Church
- 4 Celebrations!

## Stewardship Verse

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;  
then your barns will be filled to overflowing,  
and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10



## Letter from the President

It was great to see so many attend our Easter celebration last month and also to take part in the fellowship afterwards.

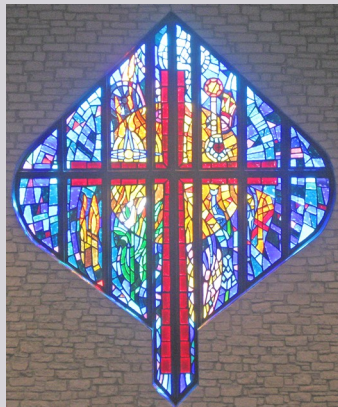
I want to personally thank all those that have provided refreshment for the fellowship after church. I know that our members that attend enjoy the fellowship. Also, another big thank you to those that provided soups and desserts for the luncheon after the midweek Lenten services as well as providing refreshments.

We held our voters meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to all that attended and help make business decisions for the church. During the meeting, the congregation voted to replace the AC units for the youth room and classrooms 7 & 8. Also, a committee was created for the kitchen remodel project.

The kickoff to the church's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary will start on May 1<sup>st</sup> where we will honor those who are involved with the "Inspirational Worship" which is one of our mission statements.

Please continue to keep Christ Lutheran Church in your prayers as well as Pastor John and Jordan as they continue to bring the word of God to us every Sunday. On a final note, even though the way we attend church might have changed, the financial needs have not. Please continue to contribute to the church so that we can continue to bring the word of God not only to the members of Christ Lutheran Church, but to those that might find our website or our YouTube channel.

David Schaare  
President



### ***Mission Statement***

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

- † *Inspirational Worship*
- † *Loving Service*
- † *Caring Fellowship*
- † *Relevant Education*

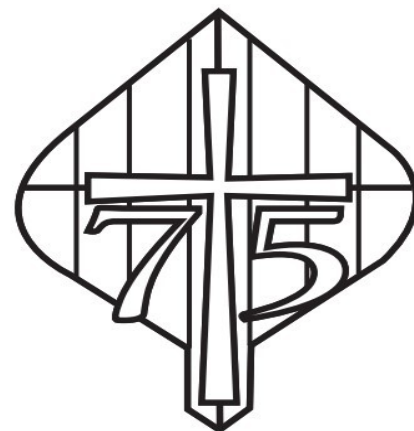
*So that they may know, and  
grow in, his love.*

### **Communion Set-up Assistants**

Since the beginning of Covid, Pastor John has been setting up the elements for Holy Communion, and taking them down also. He would like to surrender that activity back over to our laity. If you would be willing to help out with the preparation for and clean up from Holy Communion, please contact Susan in the church office so that you might be added to the schedule. Thank you in advance for your willingness to play a part in serving the other parts of this body of Christ at Christ Lutheran by tending to the elements of this precious sacrament.

### **75th Anniversary of Christ**

In honor of our 75th anniversary, we as a congregation will recognize those who have been part of the four mission statements of Christ Lutheran Church. We will start off in the month of May with those who have been a part of our "Inspirational Worship." If you are, or have been a musician, member of a choir, lector, acolyte, Altar guild, assisted with video or audio of a service, communion guild, and usher we want to recognize you. Please join us on May 1st to be recognized and join us in a time of fellowship after worship in the fellowship hall. In the months following, we will be honoring those that were involved in other parts of our mission statement. For June we will honor 'Loving Service,' for July 'Caring Fellowship,' and in August 'Relevant Education.' As a final celebration, we will be having a worship service on October 23 with the Texas District President, Pastor Mike Newman, as our guest preacher. Following the service, we will have a catered meal, more details to come.



***Creative  
Communication  
and  
Community***



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.



## Eunice Guild

St. Paul says in 2 Tim. 1:5, that Eunice, the mother of Timothy, was a woman of "sincere faith." She loved her Lord and Savior, and she lived her faith. It is our prayer that we may all be granted this same sincere faith. God be with you and bless you as you spend time in Meditation and in Cooking With Eunice.

This page is sponsored  
by the Women of the  
Eunice Guild.

### Meditation —

#### "HE KNOWS"

A sweet friend said something several months back that still occupies my thoughts. It was only two words, and although I feel I understand their significance, maybe I really don't? The words were spoken after I mentioned that with all the troubles and heartbreak in the world, in the church, in our families and our own lives, I sometimes feel I no longer know what to pray for. She wisely responded, "He knows." I keep thinking about those two words, "He knows." Well, of course He knows. By faith, we know God knows all things past, present and future! But, doesn't your sinful nature sometimes tap you on the shoulder and ask, "Yes, but does He understand, really, how you feel?" Do you ever think it may be better if you could just "explain" it to God? Maybe be really sure He knows what you want? Several weeks ago, my brother and I sat mesmerized as we watched on real-time television, severe weather events taking place all around us. Cameras seemed to be everywhere capturing rotating clouds teasing threats of becoming a tornado. The weather forecasters were sadly almost comical as they tried to keep up with it all. Suddenly, a camera showed a funnel quickly form, cross a busy highway and begin its path of horrifying destruction! The weather news people were all talking at once when one exclaimed that a tornado warning hadn't even been issued! You could hear his unbelief that their advanced weather technology could not detect any rotation in time to warn the public! They did not know! "But," I thought, "God knew." So often, my evening prayers are little more than miserable ramblings late into the night as I try to make sure God knows - whatever. I know better, but as a child of God AND a sinner, well, I am often conflicted and anxious in prayer. In Psalm 139 (a favorite!), David sings a very personal and intimate prayer to God: "O Lord, you have searched me and you know me . . . when I sit and when I rise . . . my going out and my lying down. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." He beautifully rambles on and on telling God things He, of course, knows, and he acknowledges that God is fully involved in his life - knew how he was formed, his actions, thoughts, future - that "God knows!" Then David says, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me . . .". I've never given these last two verses much thought, but it seems David, too, was anxious in prayer. His solution? First, he asked God into his heart and thoughts to find the source of his anxiety - his sins. Then, he ended his psalm with, "and lead me in the way everlasting." David told God in prayer the things he knew God knows, asked Him to search out his sins, and finally to lead him to the source of peace - His Salvation. Then he was silent. As I anxiously ramble in my most intimate prayers telling God what He already knows, acknowledge His presence, and ask forgiveness, I always feel a peace come over me before I'm even finished. It is then I find myself falling into the Heavenly Father's open arms, and I go silent. It is then the Savior leads me to know the impact of His presence, His unfailing love and compassion, not only in my life, but in ALL things. It is then He leads me to know His Holy Spirit's power to make my prayers right before God. It is then I know true peace in His death and resurrection for the forgiveness of my sins - His Salvation! Those brief moments in the night before I close my eyes to sleep, yes peacefully, are truly the most wonderful moments of my life! You see, it is then that the Savior tells me, "I know!" *Ever in Christ! Duannah*

#### Our Pasta Carbonara

Such a quick and easy recipe! One of our favs! Perfect for a summer evening. For a complete meal, we add veggies and quick meats.

8 oz spaghetti (broken in half)  
2 - 4 slices bacon, large dice  
1 cup Spam (diced), and/or frozen meatballs (thawed slightly & halved)  
2 large garlic cloves, minced  
1/2 cup onion, diced  
1/2 cup bell pepper, small dice  
1/2 cup frozen green peas, room temp  
2 large eggs, well-beaten  
1 cup freshly grated Parmesan, divided  
1/2 tsp black pepper  
Red pepper flakes (to taste)  
Salt (to taste according to saltiness of meat)

Cook pasta according to directions. Drain but reserve at least 1/2 cup of the cooking liquid and set aside. While pasta is cooking, brown bacon over medium high heat in a large skillet until crisp. Remove bacon with a slotted spoon and set aside. Add the Spam and/or meatballs to the skillet and lightly brown. Add veggies to the skillet and cook until tender, adding 1 Tbsp. butter if needed. While veggies cook, mix together in a small bowl the eggs, about 3/4 cup Parmesan, black pepper and red pepper flakes, and set aside. When veggies are tender, add the drained pasta and mix well. Remove the skillet from the heat, and quickly stir in the egg mixture, tossing quickly to prevent scrambling. Be sure all of the ingredients are coated with the luscious egg/Parmesan sauce. Add reserved pasta water, a little at a time, if the sauce is too dry. Taste and add any needed salt. Plate and top with the remaining Parmesan.



# Christ Lutheran Church

May 2022

## May Birthdays

Julian Campos	5/2
Yvette Emmrich	5/4
Betty Shaw	5/6
Teresa Kirby	5/6
Mark Herber	5/6
Katherine Richter	5/7
Kasey Hentschke	5/13
John Mitchell	5/14
Norma Nanyes	5/15
Taylor Teeters	5/15
Justin Vail	5/18
John Stennfeld	5/19
Kristen Boessling	5/22
Jimmy Westfall	5/22
Fran Ross	5/27
Onyema Ogwuegbu	5/28

## May Anniversaries

Robert & Yogi Strait

5/23/2009

Donald & Teresa Kirby

5/27/1978

Joe & Maria Calvo

5/29/1960

## Lectors

5/1/2022	Alan Werchan
5/8/2022	Micah Stennfeld
5/15/2022	Taylor Teeters
5/22/2022	Clayton Pillack
5/29/2022	MaryLou Moore

## May Flower Chart

Given by...

May 1

May 8

Given in the honor of all mothers, the women across the world who, out of great love and sacrifice, dedicate their lives to the service of all people; children, community, and the world.

We are eternally thankful.

May 15

Hamil for Justin's Birthday

May 22

Jordan Boessling for Kristen's Birthday

May 29

**Online Giving** -- A word of thanks to all of you for your continued support of our ministry here at Christ Lutheran Church, and a special note of thanks to all of you who have chosen to give online through our website with the Vanco portal. In a time of less volunteerism due to Covid-19 and such, the online giving is less cumbersome and more streamlined for our Financial Secretary to manage. That being said, we would ask those of you giving through this online way to consider giving through your bank accounts (savings or checking) as opposed to using a credit/debit card. We are charged a 2.75% transaction fee whenever a credit/debit card is used, and while that may not seem like a lot for a \$25 offering (\$0.69 fee), for a \$500 offering (\$13.75 fee) those fees become quite significant. Again, we are grateful for any and all offerings and gifts to Christ Lutheran, but in order to be the best stewards of what God has entrusted to us we do kindly ask all of you credit debit card givers to consider using one of your bank accounts instead. Thank you.

**Fellowship after Worship** - We have a Fellowship after our worship service each Sunday. A signup sheet is posted in the narthex that has a list of Sundays available for you to choose from to bring some type of snack. Fellowship committee will provide coffee and juice and paper products. Please consider hosting one of our Sunday Fellowships.

**Thank you** everyone who brought something to share for the fellowship after church Easter Sunday, April 17th, 2022. It was greatly appreciated.

**New Flower Chart** - The flower chart for the 2022 calendar year is now posted in the narthex. Sign up early to get your preferred dates. If you sign up for a particular date, please remember to send/turn in your payment for your flowers, \$45 per arrangement (in advance of that Sunday).

**Men's Discipleship Study** - Our Men's Discipleship Study for 2021-2022 will conclude on Tuesday, May 3rd at 7:30 pm in-person in the Christ's Workshop. We will reflect on an overview of our topic regarding the CPH book and FaithCourse "Callings for Life: God's Plan, Your Purpose" by Jeffery Leininger. We will finish up our study of the book of Philippians, by reading and discussing Philippians 4. Please contact Jordan for details.

**Lutheran Witness Texas Messenger**— Rev. Ziehr was featured in the April 2022 edition of the Lutheran Witness Texas Messenger in the article "Three remaining classmates are all fathers of LCMS pastor." A copy of the article is posted on a bulletin board in the Narthex.

**Bread for All Food Pantry** — Please consider donating non-perishable food as well as grocery bags to Bread for All. Donations of plastic grocery bags from HEB and paper grocery bags from Central Market and Randall's greatly help toward this ministry serving the community. Bring item donations for Bread for All to the red barrel in the narthex.

## Christ Lutheran Social Media

[www.christaustin.org](http://www.christaustin.org)

**Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/Christ-Austin-78704-121095017909219/>  
(Facebook Live streaming of our Worship services)

**Twitter** - <https://twitter.com/ChristATX78704>

**You Tube** - [@ChristAustin78704](https://www.youtube.com/@ChristAustin78704) (Videos of Pastor John's sermons and hymns from the previous Sunday)