

Christ Lutheran Church

The People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ

March 2022



Dear Friends,

As we enter into March we also enter very quickly into our season of Lent. This season of the church year is intended as a time of reflection and repentance so as to prepare our hearts to appreciate more fully the events of Holy Week, which are the events of our redemption. It is only as we come to understand in greater depth the depravity of our sin that we can then also more fully appreciate the amazing grace and mercy of God. I pray that this season of Lent might be a time of sincere repentance and spiritual renewal for each of us here at Christ.

Have a blessed Lent,
Pastor John

75th Anniversary of Christ

The planning for our 75th anniversary celebration has begun. If you have any input, or any ideas for a possible theme, please share your ideas with Pastor John or one of the other planning committee members (Jordan Boessling, David and Kim Schaare, Tommie Craig, Barbara Craig, Deborah Bynum, Milton Ihlo, Bob Wiley, Caitlin Rowlette).

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.

**PASTOR
JOHN
STENNFELD**



Special Prayers in February Worship Services

Jewel Anderson – in rehab facility
Kevin and Barbara Craig - recovering from COVID
Kyler, great nephew of Pam Hamil - heart surgery
Ronnie Gallagher - uncle of Mary Karotkin, brother-in-law of Ellen and Jerry Decker - open heart surgery.
Esmerelda Cano-cancer
Kelly Foster (cousin of BJ Zamora) - Cancer
Pete Fay – cancer
Rosa Williams – variety of concerns

Loss of Loved one

Brian Stephens' family (Brother-in-law of Betty Joyce Stephens) – Brian passed
Arless Shefstad – loss of her sister, Marla Gaye, and also her brother, sister-in-law, and best friend all in the last couple of weeks.

Prayers for Ukraine

Tatiana (friend of Pachalin Stennfeld stuck in Ukraine) and the people of Ukraine as they are under siege

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Stewardship Verse

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10



Letter from the President

The Lenten season will begin on March 2. This month we will again observe it together through weekly Wednesday services (at Noon), followed by soup and salad luncheons. I want to personally thank those that volunteered to provide soups to make these meals possible. All services can also be watched on our Facebook page live, or watch at a later time on our Facebook page.

The committee for the church's 75th anniversary met in January to develop a plan on how to celebrate this wonderful time. Please look forward to more details soon.

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



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.

Lenten Soup Lunches

Following our midweek, midday, Lenten services will be our traditional soup/salad/dessert luncheons. The services will begin each Wednesday at noon with the luncheon taking place directly following the worship services. A schedule of the soups to be served is listed below. Please consider donating a dessert for these luncheons.

Along with soup, salad, cookies, tea and water will be available.

- March 2—Chicken Noodle Soup
- March 9—Hamburger Soup
- March 16—Dumpling Soup
- March 23—Beef Stew
- March 30—Eggroll Soup
- April 6—Tortilla Soup

Lenten Worship

Our theme for our Lenten mid-week worship services this year is : “Expressions of Repentance.” We will gather for worship at 12:00 noon each Wednesday beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 2, and going through Wednesday, April 6. Please note that on Ash Wednesday there will also be a 7:00 p.m. worship service offered. Please join us as we examine some of the expressions of repentance as lived out by the people in the Holy Scriptures.

Easter Lilies

The Easter lilies are \$12.50/plant this year. Please fill out the cut away portion at the bottom of the announcement sheet or use the envelopes in the narthex and return in the offering plates or by mail to the church office ASAP. We only have 36 Easter lilies for purchase (first come, first served/paid), so please be sure to get your orders in quickly. Please make sure you write legibly, fill out the form completely, and include payment for the proper amount.

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 —

"The OLD, OLD, STORY"

"Listen, and I will tell you; God help both you and me, And make 'the old, old story' *His Message* unto thee! [He] should be son of Adam, But Son of God as well, And bring a full salvation From sin and death and hell. He lived a life most holy; His every thought was love, And every action showed it, To man, and God above." These beautiful words are selected verses from a poem by Katherine (Kate) Hankey. She was born in London in 1834 to wealthy prominent parents who belonged to the more evangelical sect of the Anglican Church. In her late teens, she began to write books and poetry of faith, giving the money from the sale of her writings to mission projects. She also began organizing and teaching Sunday School classes to children, rich and poor. When she was 30 years old, she became seriously ill, and during the long recovery, she wrote two lengthy poems on the life of Christ. In the first poem, "The Story Wanted," written in January 1866, she longs for the comfort found in Christ's story. Stanzas begin with these lines: "Tell me the story simply;" "Tell me the story slowly;" "Tell me the story often;" "Tell me the story softly;" "Tell me the story always;" "Tell me the same old story." In the second poem, a sequel to the first entitled "The Story Told" and written in November 1866, she does that very thing, telling the story simply - and beautifully. One of my favorite hymns, an old gospel song, "I Love to Tell the Story," was taken from Kate's poems. And, I do so love to "tell the Story." Unfortunately, there have been many times when I was given wonderful opportunities to witness to my faith, and instead I tried to be witty, or, I kept silent. As I get older, I find it easier to "tell The Story," but many times, I feel inadequate in knowing what to say. In Matthew's account of the Gospel, he writes about how Jesus "sent out" the twelve Disciples with instructions. My NIV Bible does not indicate Jesus said, "Tell My Story," but He did say, "As you go, preach this message: 'The Kingdom of heaven is near'" (Matt. 10:7). That is exactly what Mark's Gospel account says Jesus did: "Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' He said. 'The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!'" (Mark 1:14-15). And, St. Paul explained exactly what that "good news" - the Gospel, *Jesus' Message* to all people - exactly what that is: "Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel. By this gospel you are saved: *that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day*" (1 Cor. 15:1-4). Jesus wants us to simply tell others about Him and what He has done for us. It is the Creed we speak together each Sunday in worship. It is Christ's Story, *His Message!* We can leave the expounding and teaching of His Word to those He has called and trained. All we need do is tell the Story of the true and only Savior - that same old, beautiful, comforting story: Jesus was born, He lived and died and was raised to live again - for us! And that in this faith, we are freed from the curse of sin and death to love and live as Jesus did. Ash Wednesday is March 2nd, and the penitential season of Lent begins. Using several verses of Kate's poem in preparation for Lent, I would so love to tell you part of an old, old story, of "Jesus and His Love": "This gentle, holy Jesus Without a spot or stain, By wicked hands was taken, And crucified, and slain! Look! Look! If you can bear it - Look at your dying Lord! Stand near the cross and watch Him: 'Behold the Lamb of God!' Let everybody see it, That Christ has made you free; And if it sets them longing, Say, 'Jesus died for thee!'" *Lenten Blessings, Duannah*

Southern Shrimp Gumbo

This recipe is off The Country Cook website. It's really good, and although it takes a little time to properly prepare, it is worth every minute! Any leftovers can be frozen.

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| 1/4 cup butter | 1/2 cup canola oil | 1/2 cup all-purpose flour |
| 1 large sweet onion, chopped | 1 green bell pepper, chopped | 2 celery ribs, chopped |
| 3 cloves garlic, minced | 2 bay leaves | 14.5 oz. can fire-roasted tomatoes |
| 6 cups seafood stock, divided | 1 tsp. black pepper | 1/2 tsp. kosher salt |
| 1 Tbsp. low salt creole seasoning | 1 link andouille sausage, sliced thin | 1 link smoked sausage, sliced thin |
| 1 cup fresh okra, chopped | 1 tsp. liquid shrimp and crab boil | 2 lbs. shrimp, peeled and deveined |
| 3 green onions, chopped | | |

Melt butter and 1/4 cup canola oil in a large pot, add flour and whisk continuously over low to medium heat until the mixture (the roux) has turned to a light chocolate color. This will take time. Don't rush it and do not turn the heat to high. Add the chopped onion, bell pepper and celery and continue to cook, stirring for about 10 minutes. Add the chopped garlic, stir for two more minutes. Add the canned tomatoes, half of the seafood stock, the bay leaves and the seasoning. Stir well and cover. Allow to gently simmer. In a large skillet (12") add 2 Tbsps. canola oil and the okra (add okra while oil is cool). Turn heat to medium, then add the sausage. Cook stirring often for about 15 minutes or until sausage is a bit browned, and okra is soft. Pour the remaining stock into the skillet and scrape up the stuck bits which add good flavor. Add these contents to the pot, stir and bring to a boil. Cover and simmer for about 45 - 60 minutes. Meanwhile, in a bowl, add the liquid shrimp and crab boil to the fresh shrimp and stir to coat. Cover and place in refrigerator. 10 minutes before you're ready to eat, add shrimp to the gumbo, stir, cover and cook on low for 10 minutes. Remove bay leaves. Add green onions. Serve over cooked rice.

If you do not like seafood, leave the shrimp out, or substitute chicken. For added flavor, we fried 2 slices chopped thick sliced bacon in 1 Tbsp. canola oil until crisp and added all to the pot with the vegetables.



March Birthdays

Gary Lippe	3/1
Jordan Boessling	3/3
Jane Carrion	3/6
Nathan Emmrich	3/12
Duannah Ashmore	3/21
Divina Stennfeld	3/22
Donald Lewis	3/23
Joyce Jakobeit	3/26
Shirley Hoes	3/27
Pachalin Stennfeld	3/30

March Anniversaries

Matias & Belinda Reveles	3/2/1996
Bert & Louise Stuenkel	3/4/1972
Brian & Mary Karotkin	3/19/1990

Lectors

3/6/2022	MaryLou Moore
3/13/2022	Gary Lippe
3/20/2022	Alan Werchan
3/27/2022	Micah Stennfeld

March Flower Chart
Given by...

March 6
Shirley & Harold Hoes

March 13
David & Kim Schaare for
Benjamin's Baptism

March 20

March 27
Benjamin Schaare

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.

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

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 next Men's Discipleship Study will meet on Tuesday, March 1st at 7:30 pm in-person in the Christ's Workshop. Our topic is the CPH book and FaithCourse "Callings for Life: God's Plan, Your Purpose" by Jeffery Leininger. We are studying the book of Philippians. Please contact Jordan for details.

Thursday Morning Bible Class - Our study about CPH LifeLight Bible Study called "Proverbs" concludes Thursday, March 10. Please contact Jordan for more information.

Marbridge - We have the opportunity to write cards of encouragement and to design crafts for the residents of Marbridge. Possible themes include Easter, as well as springtime and the months of March and April. You can provide your own stationary or pick up supplies provided by the church for an "at home" service project. We will be collecting these cards and crafts in the narthex from March 6th thru March 27th, to then deliver/send to Marbridge. Please contact Jordan with any questions.

Bread for All - A total of 163.6 pounds of foods from the recent food drive (for Souper Bowl of Caring) was processed by Bread for All recently. Thank you for donating cans and cups of soup, as well as canned goods and grocery bags!

Set Apart to Serve—Do you know any young man who would make a great pastor? How about someone who would be a great Lutheran school teacher, deaconess or DCE? Jesus gives His church people who work full time in service to the Gospel. He told us to pray for such workers. The LCMS continues to pray, and has begun *Set Apart to Serve (SAS)*, an intentional effort to encourage young people to consider church work as their career. Your opinion can help improve *SAS*. Please fill out a brief survey at [lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey](https://www.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey) by March 15, and let us know how you think *SAS* can be beneficial to your congregation. Thank you.