

JANUARY  
FEBRUARY  
2016

# The Good News

of Christ Lutheran Church

## “The Season of Lent”

The season of Lent is early this year. Ash Wednesday is February 10<sup>th</sup>, and the First Sunday in Lent is February 14<sup>th</sup>, which also happens to be Valentine’s Day. Our thoughts go to love, and I am reminded of this verse in Romans, “God demonstrates love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

You may want to mark your calendar with these Lenten events:

- ◆ Ash Wednesday Breakfast and Service at 9:30 AM
- ◆ Ash Wednesday Worship with Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 PM
- ◆ Lenten Worship Services each Wednesday at 7:00 PM with Soup Supper at 6:00 PM (A couple of people have suggested to me that we

offer more variety of food from week to week instead of soup and bread. Tell me what you think!)

This year during Lent I will focus on the theme “Living as God’s Beloved Child”. I would like to form several small groups with 4-6 people in each group to study portions of Luther’s Small Catechism and the Gospel Lesson from the appointed Sunday lectionary during Lent. My vision is that a few people will be inspired to serve as “mentors” or “catechists” who would meet with people wanting to explore the faith of the church during the year. Pray about this and let me know of your interest. I will post sign-ups in the narthex about a week before Ash Wednesday.

This year will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> time we do the Easter Vigil

Service on Saturday night before Easter morning. This is a beautiful service, which celebrates Christ’s Passover from death to life with readings, rich liturgical actions, and celebration of Holy Communion. Following the service we break the Lenten Fast with desserts and champagne. If you have not attended it yet, I encourage you to take part this year.

Finally, I am so excited to welcome Tracy McClure as our new Associate in Ministry – Youth Coordinator. Please pray for her as she gets acquainted with us, and as she begins to meet our youth. Parents, please encourage your children to introduce themselves to Tracy. She has lots of great ideas for our youth, and I know you will appreciate her ministry.

Pastor Joel



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Office Hours

Mon-Thu 9 AM - 4 PM

Fri 9 AM—1 PM





**The Annual Business Meeting**  
of Christ Lutheran Church will take place on  
**Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 AM**

**On this day we will have one combined worship service at 9:30 AM, followed immediately by the Annual Meeting.**

All voting members are encouraged to attend. Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members shall have communed and made a contribution of record during the current or preceding year.

Annual Reports and the proposed Budget for 2014 will be available at the Information Desk the Sunday prior to the meeting.

**Ash Wednesday, Lent and Holy Week Services**



**ASH WEDNESDAY BREAKFAST SERVICE:** We start Lent with a 9:30 AM worship service on February 10<sup>th</sup>, that includes the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. After the worship, there will be a Continental Breakfast with hard-boiled eggs, coffee cakes and beverages. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex early in February, so we will know how much food to prepare. Don't worry if you forget to sign-up—just come anyway!

**ASH WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE** on February 10<sup>th</sup> will be at 7:00 PM and includes the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

**SOUP SUPPERS**, beginning on February 17<sup>th</sup>, will start at 6:00 PM. You don't have to be here right at 6:00—suppers will be served until about 6:40.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICES**, beginning on February 17<sup>th</sup>, start at 7:00 PM.

**PALM SUNDAY**, March 20<sup>th</sup>, worship at 8:30 AM (Traditional) and 10:30 AM (Contemporary).

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**, March 24<sup>th</sup>, worship at 7:00 PM.

**GOOD FRIDAY**, March 25<sup>th</sup>, worship at 7:00 PM.

**AN EASTER VIGIL**, March 26<sup>th</sup>, worship at 7:00 PM. This service will begin outside at a small fire and then move inside.

**EASTER SUNDAY**, March 27<sup>th</sup>, worship at 8:30 AM (Traditional) and 10:30 AM (Contemporary).

**Spirited Women**

Sharon Whiting

Are you interested in helping others...  
Are you anxious to have fellowship with other Christian women...  
Are you interested in exploring the Bible...  
And would you like to become more involved in your church?

Well, may we make a suggestion? Come to the Holy Grounds coffee shop on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM and visit the Spirited Women. Have coffee, meet us and become a part of this ministry at CLC!

## Outreach

Bridget Witt-Schuardt

Celebrating Christ's birth is a wonderful time of year. Beginning a new year makes me want to reflect on setting goals for the new year. For example: exercise more, eat healthier, travel and enjoy life experiences more. As I reflect on earthly issues, am I including more of Jesus in my plans for 2016? Am I including what He wants me to do this year? In my heart the Holy Spirit tugs at me to include Him in my 2016 plans. I pray that all of us let the Holy Spirit guide us this year to let Jesus do His will in our lives.

### Update

We sponsored three Thanksgiving baskets and 30 angel tags for the Palatine Township community projects. Thank you Jessie Kalinowski for helping with these projects.

We collected \$800 dollars to sponsor ELCA good gifts during Christmas. These gifts grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives.

\$800 dollars in gift cards was collected for Palatine Faith In Action. These gift cards were given to homeless teens in Palatine.

We supported the Dream Center, Salute Inc, Journeys the Road Home (formerly known as PADS), ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Disaster Response Middle East & Europe Refugee Crisis, Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Social Services. Thank you for blessing others with your resources.

We will be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

We will be collecting diapers and formula for PHD. PHD is an organization in Palatine that helps women and babies in need. More to come on this collection.

### CLC Supports Missionaries Around the World

In 2016, Christ Lutheran is helping sponsor five missionaries who have devoted time in their lives to spread the Gospel and the command of Jesus to minister to those in need throughout the world. They are Krystle Moraska-Madrussan serving in Argentine/Uruguay, Rev. Dr. Elisabeth Johnson serving in Cameroon, and Patrick McClain serving as a Young Adult in Global Missions in Jerusalem/West Bank all through the ELCA Global Missions area. We also sponsor Henrik and Patty Christopherson serving in Peru (who visited CLC this past June) and Dr. Antje Oosterkamp serving as Medical Director of a Lutheran hospital in Bangladesh.

It is through our gifts to CLC that we can be proud that our church is helping in the work of these missionaries. As each writes updates on their activities during the year, their messages will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Holy Grounds coffee shop for all to read and experience what is happening in their area of mission.

## Learning

**Adult Education:** In September, we took a look at present day Israel and Palestine, and of the conflict there. That sounds so simple, but we discovered it is anything but. Come now to take a closer look at the land under dispute - the Land of the Bible! Join us for a 3 week study, beginning January 10<sup>th</sup>. If you can't make all three, come when you can!

**Youth Religious Education:** A focus for our children during Youth Education has been prayer! The connections our children are making through the focus on prayer are amazing. With just a little encouragement they are discovering the power of prayer a little more each week. Mrs. Greinig

loves listening to their reports of how they "catch themselves" saying an "unexpected prayer" during the week. Are you hearing them at home too?

The children are enjoying thank you notes from recipients of their fall service project! In February they will be engaged with a new project for our homebound seniors!

Is there a little voice that is urging you to get involved with our youth? It's not too soon to be thinking about next year. Youth Education will be looking for a couple new teachers to help out. This year, there has been a new curriculum that the teachers are finding fun to work

## Melanie Andres

with. So, if teaching is something in which you're interested, stop by and check out what's happening during the 10:30 hour at CLC! You'll see if it's something you might just like to do.

Guess what?! VBS has already started planning for another amazing year!!

**Thanks:** Thank you to Theresa Greinig for the amazing job she has done fixing up and organizing the youth education storage spaces after the flood. She even re-stained bulletin boards to be useful again!

Thank you to John Blyth for his help moving items, consulting, rehanging curtains and so many more jobs that always need to be done! These two are tireless!

## ♪ Notes from Music Ministry

Many thanks to all the musicians and readers who gave so much of their time and talent to prepare and lead worship on Christmas Eve. We offered a joyful noise unto the Lord to celebrate His birthday! May we keep that joyful spirit in our hearts throughout 2016.

The 2016 Concert Series is planned and booked. Look for the flyers describing the entire season to be distributed during services soon.

Please keep sending me your favorite hymns and/or praise songs for the special service in spring of 2016. Thank you to the few who have already done so, but we certainly could use more.



**Thank You** to those who baked communion bread over the past several months: Pat Trecka, Mavis Storry, Judy Baker, Diane Winters, Doreen Truckenmiller, Judy Linke, Joan Eunson, Kathy Secora and Judy Payer

Would you like to bake bread? Talk to Sandy Kramlich or call the church office.

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**Mission Quilters:** Thanks to all who have donated sheets, material and donations as the Mission Quilter continue to keep up an increased number of quilts forwarded to the distribution warehouses of Lutheran World Relief. But help is needed with sewing more quilt tops. The material is provided by the Mission Quilters with instructions. Please contact Lois Frey or Paula Spengler. Save the date for the annual Friends of Lutheran World Relief Luncheon: Friday, April 22, 2016.

### Seniors Group Wednesday Schedule:

- Jan 13, 11:30: Lunch at Heng Wing's
- Jan 20, 10:30: Cut quilt squares; bring lunch
- Jan 27, 10:30: Play Bingo (bring a white elephant); bring lunch
- Feb 3, 10:30: Cut quilt squares; 11:30, Bible Study with Pastor Joel; bring lunch
- Feb 10, 11:30: Lunch at Billy's Pancake House
- Feb 17, 10:30: Cut quilt squares; Potluck Lunch, bring a dish to share
- Feb 24, 10:30: Play games; bring lunch

## Thanks to All Those Who Provided Poinsettias this past Christmas!

### In Memory of: (unless stated differently)

|                             |  |   |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Anonymous                   | Alice Walter   |  |
| Rob & Melanie Andres        | Our parents  |   |
| Dick & Marlene Aumuller     | Our parents  |   |
| Warren & Judy Baker         | Our parents  |   |
| John & Donna Blyth          |  |   |
| Jim & Judy Brenner          |  |   |
| Jack & Jo Brynildssen       |  |   |
| Don & Dianne Cook           | David Oak  |   |
| Bill Darman                 |  |   |
| Ron & Joy Entzminger        | Our parents  |   |
| Bill & Joan Eunson          | Barb, Pat & Margo  |   |
| The Graese Family           | Robert Graese & Peggy Wright                                 |   |
| Lee Granell & Family        | Don Granell  |   |
| Eloise Haverland            | Edna Stone   |   |
| The Huskie Family           |  |   |
| Harriet Kummerow            | Glenn Kummerow   |   |
| Toby & Carolyn Mangold      |  |   |
| Dorothy McDaniel            |  |   |
| Sterling & Darlene Mische   | Loved Ones   |   |
| Barbara Moller              | Rich Moller  |   |
| Herbert & Judy Payer        |  |   |
| Marcia Rogers               |  |   |
| Douglas & Arlene Schneiss   |  |   |
| Jim & Kathy Secora          |  |   |
| John & Dorothy Shartle      | In honor of the marriage of Whitney Shartle and James Remmes |   |
| Brad Sims & Family          |  |   |
| John & Nancy Smylie         |  |   |
| Jim & Susan Spengler        |  |   |
| Ken & Paula Spengler        | Our parents  |   |
| The Stoffel Family          | Pat & Jerry Stoffel  |   |
| Mavis Storry                |  |   |
| Arnold Sylvester            |  |   |
| Patricia Talanian           |  |   |
| William & Pat Trecka        |  |   |
| Doreen Truckenmiller        | George Truckenmiller   |   |
| Curt & Susan Vevang         |  |   |
| Nancy Wasmer                | Bob  |   |
| Annetta, Don & Sue Werneske | Tony Werneske, Marj Wood & Brittany Smith                    |   |
| Jason Whiston               |  |   |
| Joe & Diane Winters         | Our parents  |   |
| Vera Wisniewski             |  |   |