

The Good News

of Christ Lutheran Church

Pastor Joel

John 20:21-22 “Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

Jesus commissioned the first disciples on the first Easter evening to share the news of his resurrection. After assuring them of the gift of peace, Jesus sent them, just as the Father had sent him.

There was no time to waste. The urgent message needed to be shared with the world, beginning in Jerusalem, and extending to the uttermost ends of all the nations. Seems a little presumptuous doesn't it that Jesus would choose a tiny band of uneducated followers who were hiding behind closed doors to share the message of his resurrection?

But Jesus did not send them out into the community and into the world alone. The text says, “He breathed on them and said to them, receive the Holy Spirit.” They went out filled with the

power and the person of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit would give them the words to say and the courage to say them!

Beloved of Christ Lutheran! Do you ever feel like hiding behind the doors of our church? Do you ever sense that we are gathering in what some have called the “Holy Huddle”? Christ calls us as well to go with the message of his resurrection. And we too have been filled with the power and the person of the Holy Spirit. We do not go alone – God goes with us, and gives us courage to share the greatest message ever proclaimed: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Here's an idea. Invite a couple of friends or neighbors to come with you to our Wednesday night service at 7:00 PM. Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to speak a word of hope and encouragement to them as they hear the Word and share the supper. Let your light shine and let the love of God draw them to Jesus!

JUST A REMINDER

GERANIUMS

Geraniums are offered for purchase to adorn our worship space on Pentecost, June 4, when we also celebrate Confirmation Sunday. Red is the liturgical color for Pentecost. The sturdy 8 inch ,wrapped, red geranium plants, \$16.50 each, will make a beautiful array of color around our altar. You may purchase for your own use or to celebrate Confirmation Sunday and they will be planted around our church grounds. Please place your donation in a blue pew envelope and mark it “Geraniums” and place your envelope in the offering plate. The final Sunday to order is May 28.

COME HEAR PASTOR JOEL

Pastor Joel will be speaking at the Sikh Gurdwara in Palatine on Wednesday May 24. The Interfaith discussion starts at 4:00 PM and will feature several area speakers.



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Office Hours
Mon-Thu 9 AM - 1PM
Fri 9 AM—Noon

Out Reach Bridget Witt Schaurdt

Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting. - Mother Teresa

We will be hosting a Community Meal on Thursday May 25th. A Community Meal event is where individuals from the community are invited for a meal and fellowship. What is the Community Meal vision? The Community Meal is a living statement of who we are in Christ, how we treat one another, and how we serve one another. The Community Meal was founded on the values of love, compassion, commitment and grace. We want to build enduring relationships with our neighbors in the communities we serve and beyond. Everyone is welcome to come. For more about the community meal visit, www.thecommunitymeal.org.

LOOKING AHEAD

Good Shepherd Hospital will present two programs at CLC: Mental Health, Depression and Anxiety on Tuesday September 19th from 7-8 PM and How Your Diet Affects You Physically and Mentally on Saturday, November 4th from 10-11AM. Plan to attend these informative programs.

Youth Happenings

2017 is shaping up to be an outstanding year for Youth Ministry! Since the beginning of the Lenten season, our Confirmation class has been buzzing with activity. During Lent, we discussed Jesus' last week on Earth and reflected not only on what Jesus went through for us, but also how His sacrifices have shaped our faith. The Confirmands took some time out to have fun with the CLC congregation by throwing a "pizza party" during this year's last Lenten supper. I'm happy to report that Holy Grounds was filled with laughter during this well-attended event! Upon returning from Easter break, our Confirmands learned about the building block that is known as the Apostles' Creed, then had an end-of-the-year party complete with Laser Tag on Sunday, May 21st. Three of our

Confirmands – Jason Haas, Matthew Huskie and Samantha Mogensen - will be making their Affirmation of Baptism during the **10:30am service on Sunday, June 4th**. Please plan on attending the Confirmation service that day to not only celebrate our Confirmands, but also to let them know how proud we are of their accomplishments! Our High School Youth Group has been very busy with fundraising for our upcoming mission trip to South Carolina. On March 4th, the Christ and Peace youth groups hosted their first fundraiser, the 13th Annual Holy Spaghetti Dinner and Auction, at Peace Lutheran Church. This turned out to be a wonderful evening! 175 people attended the event and our youth raised a total of **\$5,943!!** It was amazing to see our youth working hard together and to watch not

Tracy McClure

only our youth groups, but our congregations, get better acquainted with each other! The Fellowship Hall at Peace Lutheran was rocking with conversation and laughter! Our second fundraiser, Flapjack Frenzy Pancake Breakfast, was held on May 6th at Christ Lutheran. Once again, our congregations came together for a remarkable morning of fellowship – and we were able to raise a total of **\$1,063!** All proceeds from both events will go towards expenses for the mission trip, which I have been diligently planning with our South Carolina hosts, Mount Horeb UMC, and Next Step Ministries. If you see any of our youth, please give them a hug, a high-five or a pat on the back. Not only are they excited about going on the mission trip in July, but they have all worked incredibly hard to make this happen.



Here we are approaching the end of another “ministry year”. What does that mean? It means that the Chancel Choir and the Handbell Ensemble are on hiatus. Please take a moment to thank all the musicians who participate in Music Ministry (Paula Spengler, Kathy Mills, Kathy Secora, Jamie Larsen, Joanne Courtney, Marlene Aumuller, Kirsten Petersen, Donna Blyth, Pastor Joel, Jim Secora, Bill Trecka, John Balster, Bill Darman, Jeff Sims, Neal Heatherly, Tom Fuller, Deb Fuller, Tracy McClure, Sue Duma, Joy Entzminger, Jane Maradik, Marcia Rogers, Judy Baker, Lindsey Perone, and Ken Spengler) and our tech crew (Craig Bezek, Jim Minasola, Jim Perone, Chris Milford). It does NOT mean that we won’t have music in worship during the summer. The services will be simpler and everyone who attends is asked to participate a little more heartily so that we can continue to make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Looking ahead ... the second “concert” in the 2017 concert series will be held on June 11th, beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will have the opportunity to hear a presentation by the Eastland Disaster Historical Society. While not technically a “concert,” I think we will all find the program informative and entertaining. As usual, the concert is open to the public and free to all. (A free will offering will be received.)

Over the summer, I will be busy planning the music for the Chancel Choir for the next ministry year, continuing to plan and play with the Praise Band, and booking the groups for the 2018 Concert Series. If you have suggestions for songs you’d like to sing in worship or group(s) you’d like to see in concert, please contact me by e-mail: music.clcpalatine@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. I’m looking forward to a pleasant summer worshipping with (as we say in the south) all y’all!

Mission Quilters-Paula Spengler

Mission Quilters and friends attended the 40th annual Friends of Lutheran World Relief Luncheon on Friday April 28 at Avalon Banquets in Elk Grove Village. The 16 who attended from CLC learned about the work of LWR beyond the quilt and kit ministry. The guest speaker, Geri Sicola, vice president for Strategic Partnerships and External Relations, where she oversees philanthropic engagement, marketing and creative services and new business development. She recently returned from Peru where she assisted in exploring ways that LWR may help farmers become more productive and sustain their families. She told stories of how LWR has many interests in working with countries to promote good farming practices, education and water safety. During our time together, congregations displayed quilts with comments on how each of the 24 congregations represented meet each month, the number of quilts produced each year, how supplies and costs are handled. The 134 persons gathered also had an opportunity to purchase Fair Trade coffee, tea, and chocolate from Our Savours’s L.C. in Arlington Heights who have an active shop. Also Motif, a Fair Trade representative who supplies kit bags made in Bangladesh and sold to congregations collecting LWR school kit items. Each congregation also received a resource packet containing the latest of information from LWR.

Religious Education and VBS News

Youth Religious Education

We Are Family!

One of CLC's greatest attributes is the feeling of family everyone experiences when they walk in our doors. That same feeling amplifies itself when our students come together for Youth Religious Education. It is wonderful to witness God's love through our children as well as their interactions with each other and our teachers!

As with any family, it is important to occasionally cut loose and just have a good time. During our Valentine party, we did just that. We played games, decorated cookies, and laughed so hard we could be heard upstairs in the sanctuary! The kids also enjoyed creating the "Jesus Loves You" hearts they snuck into people's coat pockets and used to decorate Holy Grounds during service.

As always, our weekly lessons are fun, hands-on, Bible focused, and relate to everyday life. In addition, serving others is an idea we try to include whenever possible. To help kick off the season of Lent, students helped to burn last year's palms and create the ashes used for Ash Wednesday. Not only was this a new experience for the students, it created a unique situation for them to ask questions and better connect to the meaning of Ash Wednesday.

Continuing the theme of service, students completed a second Kingdom Project for

our shut-in members. They created 15 Easter baskets. Each basket contained a card, jelly bean butterfly treats, and a handmade Easter wreath. The kids look forward to hearing from the Stephen Ministers as to how our members liked them.

Our first Sunday of the month 10:30 Family Services have begun, the YRE students have enjoyed them. They have expressed three favorite components of the service: the reading by Pastor, using the iPads to create a memory of the service, and "Cookies with Pastor". I look forward to witnessing these services evolve and engage our families!

As the YRE year draws to a close, there is much to look forward to during summer break and planning for next fall!

Please remember guests are welcome in YRE anytime. Our door is always open to visitors who to come with a friend, who simply wish to check out the program, or who just want to experience what our family has to offer!

May God continue to fill your hearts!
Theresa Greinig

Vacation Bible School 2017

Excitement is building for the most creative week of the summer as Christ Lutheran Church presents **Maker Factory VBS – Created by God, built for a purpose!** This summer, July 10-14, we will explore a world where curious kids become hands-on inventors. Kids and adults will experience God's Word and will discover they're lovingly crafted and built for a purpose! This adventure will help everyone involved grow in their relationship with God. We're praying this awesome VBS program will touch children's hearts and lives with Jesus' love. We are grateful to announce that once again, we will provide snacks, a t-shirt, a music CD, and daily take home science gizmos FREE to every child!

We feel honored and blessed to have been entrusted with facilitating this program. We are excited to bring our best program yet to CLC this summer. However, we can't do it without your help. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!** You can register as a child, Junior Leader, high school helper, or adult volunteer by simply visiting www.clcpalatine.org. Click the VBS link, it's that simple!

Thank you for your support and prayers!

Theresa Greinig and Michelle Minasola