

**CHRIST LINE**

# March Newsletter



Spring  
is when you feel like  
whistling  
even with a shoe full of  
slush.

- DOUG LARSON

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH IS ON FACEBOOK!!!**

“Like” our page for information, events and updates!

Look for: Christ Lutheran Church -ELCA Arcadia, WI



*- In Christ, All Things Hold Together -*

## Pastor's Message

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Dear People of Christ:

During Lent, the prophet Joel declares the Lord's invitation: *Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.*

The prophet Joel shared these words with people who were experiencing extreme hardship: a plague of locusts had obliterated the crops of the land; people and animals were starving; there was no grain, wine, or oil to offer sacrifice to God; the land itself was parched and thirsty. Joel's prophecy is a biblical rarity in that Joel places responsibility for this calamity neither on the people nor on God. Joel simply describes the barren reality and he names the harsh reality thoroughly. Then, he places this reality side by side with the compassionate call of God to return.

Joel is aware that difficult, disastrous, challenging things happen in this life, and it is often not-so-helpful to try to assign blame – whether blaming ourselves, others people, or God. Joel, in the midst of great suffering, God calls God's people to return, *"...return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing."*

**EVERYONE**, Joel reminds us, is called to return to the Lord with all their heart, with all they have in them to offer – children and nursing infants, newlywed couples and their celebrating friends and family; leaders and those of low status – all are called to return to the Lord, to renew their faith, their trust, their dependence upon a reliable God through visible acts of devotion.

Visible acts of devotion are the classic spiritual disciplines of the season of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday. Several traditional spiritual disciplines of Lent are giving alms or money, acts of mercy, prayer, and fasting. For Joel, such visible acts of devotion were shared together in public assemblies of God's people –where we confess our brokenness and seek to renew our experience of and trust in God.

Through spiritual disciplines, through devotional acts, we find ourselves renewed in our experience of the breathtaking, liberating, and energizing love of God – the scandalously generous love that is gracious and free, and available to all that God has made.

Return to me with all your heart, God says through Joel.

Remember that God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, says Joel.

Come to God in honesty, intimacy, and vulnerability, says Jesus, and you will be rewarded.

All of us, whether life is going well or whether life is a mess, need a season of renewal in our relationship with God. May your renewal begin this Lenten season.

Work whatever discipline will place you in a good place to receive the renewal God has in store for you – whether you need public, shared practices OR private practices that God alone can see, OR, more likely, a healthy mixture of both. May you know and feel the abundance of life God so yearns for you and those you love to live, each and every day.

Pastor Cheryl

### Membership Statistics

**Transfer Out:** Sara Baumgartner - Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church -2/24/20

# First Daft February Council Minutes

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**MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED!!**

Christ Lutheran Church Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
 Wednesday February 12, 2020 @ 6:30pm

**Present:** Judy Borchert, Brad Duellman, Shannon Ely, Tony Myers, Dan Reit, Connie Scharlau, Shanna White John Wiemer, and Pastor Cheryl Matthews **Youth Representative:** Kaiden Rotering **Not Present:** Dale Howard,  
 President Tony Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and brought a devotion.

**Announcements:** Eagle Scout, Ben Weltzien is still on track to build a shelter at the Glencoe Cemetery.

**Secretary's Report:** *Motion Made, Seconded and Carried (MSC) to accept minutes of the January 8, 2020 council meeting.* No revisions made.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kay was not present, but she provided a written report showing profit and loss of January through December of 2019 and profit and loss comparison for January 2019 and January 2020.

**MSC to receive the treasurer's report as a faithful accounting.**

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Cheryl summarized her work of the last month. There will be a youth committee meeting on February 20. The National Youth Gathering this year will be this summer in Minneapolis. We would like to send a delegation. Perhaps the Trust Fund could provide \$500 per student to attend. No action taken.

## **Old Business:**

1. We discussed a pictorial directory for the congregation. We are not hiring a photographer to do this. We would like to find a congregation member to collect photos from congregation members and put together such a book. No action taken.
2. There are pews from CLC stored in Paul Sobotta's barn. Tony reported that they are waiting for the right day to move those pews to be stored at Tony's farm.

## **New Business:**

1. Budget info in News Notes - Shanna: We will need \$195,000 to meet our budget for 2020.
2. Question? Are the money counters required to be members of the congregation? No action taken.
3. Security Camera – payment? Brad reported that the cost of the security camera will be paid out of the Property and Management budget.
4. Plan / Process for the annual meeting - Shanna: The annual meeting will use same agenda as always.
5. "Stewardship for all seasons" – Pr. Cheryl: This two year program has been used successfully to increase giving in a congregation. We would need a team of five people to do this and the cost would be \$3,000. It was agreed that we would look into this further.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Property and Management:** *Brad* – Schaffner Plumbing was called to look at our furnace. On their third visit they found the problem. The car port has been fixed.

**Trust Fund:** *Tony* – Decided at their meeting they will pay what is needed to keep up the archives.

**Youth Committee/Milestone Ministry:** *Dan, Shannon:* Pr Cheryl reports fifth graders are ready for first communion.

**Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, March 10 @ 6:30pm

**March Causes of the Month:** **Local:** Luther Park      **Outreach:** Volunteers in Medical Mission in Columbia

**March Newsletter Deadline:** – February 21

**MSC to adjourn with the Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,      Connie Scharlau, Church Council Secretary

## Lenten Season Schedule

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### **Wednesday Lenten Season Schedule starting March 4th through April 1st 5:30pm - 6:30pm Soup & Sandwich Supper 7:00pm Lent Service**

Lent is just around the corner, and that means the chance to visit with friends and neighbors over a bowl of warm soup and delicious sandwiches is almost here! Please plan on joining us starting Wednesday, March 4th through April 1st. Invite your friends, neighbors and family for a free delicious meal. You and the public are invited to the suppers between 5:30pm and 6:30 pm.

**The suppers are free, but free will donations are welcomed. Remember to thank the cooks!**

## March Causes of the Month

### **Local: Luther Park Building & Rejoicing Campaign**

Luther Park is in the process of building a new year round Ministry Center to replace their 1934 summer chapel building. The plan was to build this in 2021 after funding was completed. A generous anonymous donor offered Luther Park a one million dollar, interest free loan, IF the building was built now. As a result, the ground was broken in November 2019 and it is on schedule to be finished in May 2020. In addition, the Dave & Carolyn Cleveland Foundation has offered to match all gifts from supporting congregations, up to \$500,000. This match is for congregational donations, but not gifts from individuals. The camp is hoping to obtain the majority of this match by April 2020, but the match offer is good through 2021. The grand opening of the new Ministry Center will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2020. If Christ Lutheran would make the Luther Park Building & Rejoicing Campaign a cause of the month, the total gift from our congregation would be doubled through this challenge match!! This is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to make an impact on the faith life of all who come to Luther Park, including the youth from our church.

### **Outreach: Volunteers in Medical Missions**

VIMM is a team of Christian faith doctors, physician assistants, nurses and so many other volunteers that tend to the physical and spiritual needs of men, women, and children in developing countries all over the world. They provide medicine, medical supplies and equipment to the developing clinics in need, as well as catechism, bibles, and prayer journals to help spread God's word. This trip will be to Barranquilla, Columbia. The team will be hosted many families through out the city during the stay. We will hold pop-up clinics through the city and surrounding communities to provide primary medical care. The majority of these communities can not afford medical attention when needed. We believe that through faith and through medicine we can touch the lives of so many of Columbian people who truly need it most. For a truly healthy life one must have an equilibrium between the mind and the body, which is what the goal of VIMM is.

## Youth

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### Easter Sunday Youth Pancake Breakfast

Serving 7:30am to 8:30am on Easter morning before our 9:00 a.m. service. More information to come, so stay tuned!

### Hey all of you youth out there!

We looking for our high school age members to participate in some upcoming events! Please contact Dan Reit at 608-484-1900 if you are interested. Some events include bowling with other parishes. We will be making plans to attend the Lutheran Youth Convention in Minneapolis in 2021.

### 5th Graders First Communion Classes

The 5th Grade First Communion classes will be meeting Sunday morning at 10:15am to 10:45am from March 15th through April 5th. Students completing the First Communion class are welcome to receive their First Communion during Holy Week at the Maundy Thursday Worship Service on April 9th at 7:00 p.m. If your family must be out of town on April 9th please let Pastor Cheryl know and your child will be welcome to receive the sacrament on the Sunday after you return. As part of their preparation for their First Communion, students will prepare and bake bread during the Sunday School hour on Palm Sunday—April 5th.

## Luther Park

### Register Early For Luther Park Bible Camp

Have you taken time to look at the summer camp programs offered at Luther Park and Luther Woods this summer? There are camps for every age from kindergarteners to senior high students and if you don't fit into that age range, there's Family Camp to cover everyone. There are day camps and half week camps for the younger students and five day camps for everyone else. For older, more adventurous campers, Luther Park offers a Boundary Water Canoe Trip, a Namekagon Canoe Trip, Adventure at the Woods, and Trading Spaces. There are two new outdoor programs — a Bike Trip and Expedition at the Woods. If you register and pay the deposit before May 1, 2020, you will receive the Early Bird Discount of \$40 off the full week price or \$20 off the price of partial week camps. Brochures are available on the table at the back of church, or you can check it all out at [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org)

### Rewarding Summer Work

Do you know a college student who is good with kids and is looking for a fun and rewarding summer experience? Luther Park is now hiring passionate young people from our church community to be summer camp counselors. If you know someone who might be interested, please direct them to [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org) where they can complete an online application, or have them contact Luther Park at 715-859-2215

## Updates & Events

### Thank you!!

Thank you Tim Putz for topping the maple tree and cleaning up the brush!

### Sew and Celebrate

Saturday, March 21, is **National Quilting Day**. Why not grab a "quilt top kit" from the back of church, to sew and celebrate the day? You will be helping the Christ Lutheran quilters make warm quilts for people around the world in need of a helping hand.

## Updates & Events Continued...

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### Property & Management Committee is need of some help!

Property & Management is looking for volunteers to help with some maintenance duties in the church. No date set yet. If you are interested in helping, please contact Brad at 507-458-5760.

### Spring Cleaning Time! - SAVE THE DATE!

We are going to do a spring cleaning day on April 25th! **WE NEED EVERYONES HELP!!** Mark them calendars!

### Pictorial Directory

Hey Christ Lutheran Members—we are wanting to update our Pictorial Directory! We need some volunteers that would be interested in forming a committee to get this process off the ground! If you are interested, please contact the church office!! [christlutheran@trivest.net](mailto:christlutheran@trivest.net) or 608-323-3572!

### Missing Confirmation Photos

We have recently digitized all the confirmation photos that are displayed in the church fellowship hall. We did not find photos for the following years: 2003, 1970, 1928, 1926, 1923, 1917, 1916. If you have a confirmation photo from any of these years, or if you have any information about confirmation in those years, please call the church office.

### Prayer Requests

The church women maintain a phone prayer chain that all members of the congregation are welcome to call whenever there is an urgent or private need for prayers. This is not the prayer list that appears in the Sunday bulletins. These prayer requests are not published unless you want them to be. If you have a prayer need, you can call Nancy Schultz at 323 7322 and she will put the prayer chain into action.

### Mission Store

The Mission Thrift store needs store volunteers to ensure that we are able to keep the store open on the following days of the month: **Fridays, from 3pm to 6pm and Saturdays from 10:00am to 1:00pm, 3rd, 4th, and 5th** Presently each volunteer hour brings about \$8.50 in receipts to the Mission. Working a 3 hour shift donates over \$25.00 to assist families and individuals struggling to make ends meet. Call Cyndy Jacoby at 715-530-0949 for more information. The Mission store is also in need of stockers to stock shelves. Please contact Cyndy Jacoby at 715-530-0949 if you are able to help!

### Quilts for Sale

Our church quilters recently received money from Thrivent Financial to purchase quilting fabrics to make quilts we could sell. The quilts are bargain priced and the money earned from the sales, will be used to purchase batting and other supplies to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Please take a look at the quilts on display at the back of church. (Checks can be made out to the Christ Lutheran Quilters.)

### Quilting and Knitting Groups

The quilters and knitters are busy working on Lutheran World Relief projects for 2020. Check the church calendar for dates and times and come join us. If you would rather help on your own time schedule, call Michele Ziegeweid or JoDeen Forsyth. We have lots of sewing and knitting you can do at home.

### Coming Events for W-ELCA

The LaCrosse Area Synod W-ELCA Spring Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 18, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cashton. The speaker will be Nickolas Butler, the international best-seller author from Eau Claire, WI. (Google his name.)

The North Conference Women's Summer Event will be held on Wednesday, June 10, at Living Hope Lutheran Church in Ettrick.

# Easter Information

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## Easter Garden and Special Gifts

On Easter we will have a colorful Easter Garden of a variety of plants spring up around the cross on the day of our Lord's Resurrection. Tulips, begonias, hydrangeas, lilies, chrysanthemums, daffodils, daisies, dahlias, geraniums - a burst of spring color will enhance our senses as we worship together



All you have to do is call one of our local florists to place the order. They will deliver the flower to church and record the person or persons that you would like to remember or honor. **Please contact the church office at 323-3572 if you have any questions.**

Another option for Easter, instead of donating a plant to Christ Lutheran, is to donate a monetary gift in honor or memory of someone to one of our special funds. Please fill out the form and designate which fund you would like the donation to go to, or whom you are honoring or remembering, and your name. **Return the form and donation to the church office by Monday, April 6th.**

### EASTER SPECIAL FUND GIFT

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

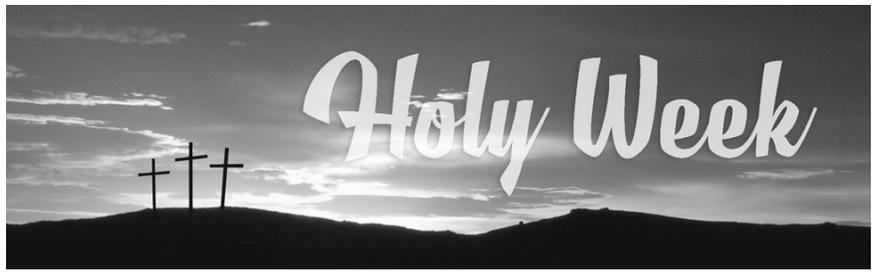
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Special Fund: (Please circle the fund you want to donate to)

General Fund      World Hunger      Music      Youth

Trust Fund      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_



**Palm Sunday - April 5th at 9:00am**

**Maundy Thursday - April 9th at 7:00pm**

**Good Friday - April 10th at 1:00pm (no 7:00pm service)**

**Easter Sunday Youth Pancake Breakfast 7:30am to 8:30am**

**Easter Sunday - April 12th at 9:00am & 10:30am**

# Keeping in Touch

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**with Christ Lutheran Church Arcadia,  
the La Crosse Area Synod, and the ELCA**

**Pastor: Cheryl Matthews**

Office Hours: 9:00am to 12:00pm - Monday, Wednesday & Thursdays

Cell Phone-608-863-1697 / Church Phone: 608-323-3572

E-mail: clcpastor@trivest.net

**Church Office Administrator: Tiffany Lambright**

Office hours: Monday through Friday - 8:00am to 12:30pm

Church Phone: 323-3572 E-mail: christlutheran@trivest.net

**Bookkeeper: Kay Wiemer**

Leave a message on church phone or at home: 323-3916

**Choir & Music Director: Danielle Tamke**

**Custodian: Becky Weisenberger**

### Christ Lutheran Church Website

Information about Christ Lutheran Church can be found at the Christ Lutheran Church website at [www.christlutheran-church.org](http://www.christlutheran-church.org). You can find information on coming events, pdf files of the latest Christ Line newsletter and newsnotes. There is also information on the history of our church, pastors who have served our church and well as information on the various groups in our church and organizations in the community that we support. There is information on the staff of the church also.

**Lutheran Social Services:** Free assessment and referral — For on-going care they accept insurance billing or, if you have no insurance, a sliding scale is available. **La Crosse 608-788-5092**

### The OLPH Mission/Thrift Store

419 South Washington St. (the former convent on OLPH grounds)

#### Volunteers needed at the OLPH Mission-Thrift Store

contact Cyndy Jacoby at 715-530-0949

#### Thrift Store Hours:

**Mon:** 9:00 to noon **Wed:** 1:00 to 4:00 **Fri:** 3:00 to 6:00 **Sat:** 10:00 to 1

**Dial 211 Free/Confidential 24 / 7**

Help with: Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Sexual Assault, Suicidal Thoughts, Other Crisis Situations  
Information about: Support Groups, Drug/Alcohol Abuse, Food Resources, Housing, Many other needs



Gods Work. Our Hands

### Prayer List

- Jay Wiltse
- Steve Kletzke
- Janet Abts
- Sherri Fredrickson
- Brenda Suchla
- Bill Borchert
- Jerry, Janet, & Eric Magnuson
- Liviana Eaton
- Gary Pahl
- Selah - Jeff & Ann Stim's Granddaughter



### 2020 Council Members

- Tony Myers - President.....608-797-1398
- Shanna White - Vice Pres. ....608-863-1326
- Shannon Ely-Treasurer .....608-317-7627
- Greg Konkell - Secretary.....608-863-1262
- Brad Duellman.....507-458-5760
- Pat Rohn..... 715-896-9007
- John Wiemer ..... 608-797-6794
- Judy Borchert.....715-495-6380
- Dan Reit.....608-484-1900