

March 2021 Light & Life
Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter
Rev. Katherine Rood

Our Mission Statement: As members of Christ Lutheran we gather in worship, grow in God's Word, serve in Jesus' name.

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Missions Emphasis for March is McLeod Emergency Food Shelf



The Mission emphasis for March is the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf. This year, the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf is celebrating 36 years of service in McLeod County. The Minnesota Food Share March Campaign brings together various Minnesota organizations, businesses, and places of worship to help keep 300 food shelves stocked statewide throughout the year. This March drive is very important to our local food shelf since monies and poundage of food collected reflect the matching fund from Minnesota Foodshare, corporate, foundation business and individual dollars secured into the Food Fund. The amount of dollars distributed to our local food shelf from the Food Fund directly correlates to total collected right here in McLeod County.

In 2020, the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf served 4,193 individuals. Of this total, 33 percent of these individuals were under the age of 18, and nine percent of the individuals were over the age of 65. They distributed 492,668 pounds of food. This is down 12 percent from 2019. Executive Director Lennie Albers explained that many other agencies were filling the gap of providing food and money to the people living in McLeod County.

In addition to traditional on-site distributions in Glencoe and Hutchison, MEFS was able to fast-track through the coordination and launch of the Mobile Outreach Program – Driving Away Hunger. Driving Away Hunger has provided just over 16 percent of MEFS's service since its first route in August. They are excited to see where this path leads! Driving Away Hunger Mobile Outreach Program distributed 15,088 lbs. at eight locations in six cities impacting an average of 86 households each month. Forty-five percent of those served were age 65 or older.

You can bring your non-perishable food items to church and drop them off in the grocery cart in the narthex. Cash donations are especially helpful since the buying power of McLeod Emergency Food shelf is much greater and your cash goes much further. Suggested items requested by the food shelf are canned fruit juices, hot and dry cereal, dry, powdered, or canned milk, hearty soups or stew, canned beef, tuna or chicken, peanut butter, canned fruits, or vegetables, canned or boxed main dishes, pasta, rice and pasta sauce, baked beans, canned chili, potato buds, crackers, sugar, flour, coffee, tea, hot cocoa, pancake or biscuit mix. Special treats like cake, packaged cookies, muffin mix, granola bars, pudding or Jell-o mix are also appreciated. Personal care items for babies, children and adults are also welcome since the Food Shelf can only buy food items.

Checks can be made out to Christ Lutheran and write on memo line "for the food shelf."

Thank you for your support.

Mission and Social Concern Committee

Lenten Services at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays



Premeditated Mercy
The Way of Transformation
A Lenten Journey of Deepening Love

This year we will be providing an afternoon Worship at 1:30 p.m. for all of our Lenten Services in addition to the 7:00 p.m. Worship. All Lenten Services will be held in the Sanctuary. A SignUp

Genius will be available online for both services at www.christluth.com or call the office at 320-864-4549.

Week 2: A Journey of Courage & Trust

Week 3: The Times of Trial

Week 4: Invitation to the Garden

Week 5: True Riches

Maundy Thursday: Rhythms of Life

Good Friday: Other Gardens

Easter Sunday: Transformation





Thank you to Duane Scharpe for refurbishing of the stand portion of the Baptismal Font. It was dedicated during the Worship Service on February 7th.

Thank you to Jane Larter, Jeanne Pagel, Loren Mueller, Kevin and Peggy Menning, Linda Roisum, Suzann Adams, and Nita Enderson for their assistance with the Baptisms on February 14th.

Thank you to the volunteers who put together the March issue of Light & Life: Jacob Christianson, Hope Kosek, Eli Kuehn, Spencer Lemke, Carter Ruschmeier, and Nathan Stoltenburg.

Thank you to Nita Enderson for mailing HomeTouch each week to our homebound members, and for mailing Splash! materials to our youngest members for their first three years.

Thank you to Dr. John Bergseng for leading the Adult Education class. Thank you to Linda Simonson and Dennis Davis for their assistance.

Thank you to Loren Mueller, Brad Hahn, and Jim Carlson for serving as Head Ushers.

Thank you to Becky Olmstead, Dennis Wendlandt, Linda Simonson, Dawn Peterson, Brian O'Donnell, Nathan Stoltenburg, Bill and Deb Heuer, Louise Carlson, Eldean Enderson, Jim Carlson, and Eli Kuehn for serving as Ushers.

Thank you to Jim Carlson, Louise Carlson, Nathan Stoltenburg, Melba Carlson, Dennis Davis, Chris Davis, and Charlotte Dittmer for serving as Lectors.

Thank you to the quartet of Chris & Denny Davis and Randy & Kay Wilson and the Bell Choir directed by Randy Wilson for Special Music.

Thank you to Becky Peterson, Katherine Grant, Dennis Davis, Kay Wilson, Chris Davis, and Vicky Harris for serving as Cantors.

Thank you to Shari O'Donnell, Jan Giese, and Jenny Kirchoff for serving on the Altar Guild for February. Thank you to Shari and Mila O'Donnell for serving as Communion Assistants.

Thank you to Cheryl McDougall for serving on the Kitchen Guild in February.

Thank you to Peg Hatlestad, Chris Starr, Jeff Iverson, and Vicky Harris for playing organ and piano for our Worship Services.

Thank you to Scott Kuehn for serving as Audio/Visual Technician and to Vicar Susan Christianson for the design of our Digital Worship experiences.

Thank you to Vicky Harris for organist and pianist scheduling.

Thank you to our Monday morning money counters and treasurer, Jeff Grant, for their dedication regarding CLC financial matters.

Thank you to Suzann Adams for the upkeep of the flowers and plants in church.

Thank you to Mark and Cindy Robertson for their ministry of caring for our church facility.

Thank you to Joanne Chrast for her ongoing care of the outdoor planters.

Thank you to all members who have served and are currently serving in the armed forces.

If we have missed someone for thank you's, please contact the church office and let us know.

Thank you to Christ Lutheran

Dear Brothers and Sisters of God ☩,

Thank you so much. You are a wonderful reminder of how much good there is in the world. We are absolutely touched beyond words for all of your gratefulness and kindness. And all we can say is "wow." Thank you for your continued prayers! ♥

David and Lisa Style

Baptisms at Christ Lutheran



Carson James Moreland, son of Donald Moreland and Nichole Binder, and **Donald Anthony Moreland**, son of Robert and Chrystal

Moreland, were received into the church through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on February 14, 2021.

Carson's sponsors were Angela Binder and Cody Meisinger, and Donald's sponsors were Nichole Binder and Cody Meisinger. May God bless Carson and Donald and their family.

Ministry requests at Christ Lutheran

If you have a need or are willing to assist with ministry to other Christ Lutheran Church members, please notify Pastor Katherine at 320-864-5077.



First Communion classes for fourth graders begin in March



Traditionally within the Church, Lent has been the designated time for candidates to be prepared for entrance into the Church and participation in the Sacraments. In keeping with that tradition, fourth graders, along with their parents/guardians, will begin formal instruction for reception at the Lord's Table at 1:00 p.m. on Sundays, March 7th, 14th, and 21st, with a final class on March 28th.

Palm Sunday will be a special celebration for the First Communion Class. Students will be recognized before the congregation during the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service. The last class, scheduled for Palm Sunday afternoon, includes final instruction, the baking of bread, and a Brief Order for Celebration of Holy Communion with students, their parents, and extended families.

Important information Christ Lutheran members should read!

- **The 2021 Giving Envelopes are in the narthex.** Please take the time to pick up your envelopes.
- **Commitment cards and Tithe, Time & Talent forms are in the Narthex.** Pick one up and decide how you can help serve Christ Lutheran Church with your financial support and talents. Return your sheets by mail or drop off in the locked mailbox.
- **If you are changing your giving amounts and are enrolled in "Simply Giving" you will need to submit the Simply Giving change form to the Treasurer or the Church Office to reflect the change in 2021. Forms are located on our website or in the Narthex.**

All-Church Email List

In an effort to keep our members up to date with church announcements, scheduling changes, and important Covid-19 updates, we are asking all members to email the church office with their current email address or addresses. Email updated contact information to office@christluth.com.

Habitat for Humanity needs our help

Crow River Habitat for Humanity has been a proud part of McLeod County since 1994. With our help, they have completed 27

homes. Each of these homes has not only changed individuals' but entire families' lives. These families are invested in our community. They pay their mortgages and support our local businesses. They are employed, their children attend school here, and they bring diversity.



In order for Habitat to continue to be a vital part of this community, they need our help. Their Annual Fund Drive has proven to be a great way to help raise funds for their mission. Although the partner families pay mortgages, Habitat still pays for the home upfront and the cost of building has increased significantly, especially this year. Additional costs include Habitat's staff to lead the affiliate, recruit volunteers, and manage construction, as well as for tools, storage, and more.

Habitat homes are more than buildings; they serve as a family's foundation and a doorway to stability and self-reliance. Your gift will empower Habitat to impact families in McLeod County and worldwide to help build a place they can call home.

Help support Crow River Habitat for Humanity in their mission to provide safe, decent and affordable homes for all families. Their address is 1020 Hwy. 7, Suite 7, Hutchinson, MN 55350. For more information call Lori Mittelsteadt, Executive Director, at 320-587-8868.



**"JUST AS I HAVE
LOVED YOU, YOU
SHOULD ALSO
LOVE ONE
ANOTHER."**

JOHN 13:34, NRSV

Worship assistants needed!



Are you able to serve as a Worship Assistant? We are looking for ushers, cantors, cantor/lectors, and lectors during March for Sundays and Wednesdays. A sign-up sheet is located on

the coffee bar in the narthex, or you may sign up online using SignUp Genius.

If you have questions about what the various responsibilities are, please call Vicky Harris at 320-327-2728. Thank you!

Stewardship at Christ Lutheran

During this challenging time, Christ Lutheran members have generously contributed to the work and ministry of our community. Thank you for your faithful stewardship. You may also use the Online Giving button at www.christluth.com and choose the way you would like to donate.



This is an ideal time to sign up for SimplyGiving. For instructions, go to our website, www.christluth.com. You can also mail your offering or drop them off in the locked Christ Lutheran mailbox. Thank you for your support!

Attend a weekly Bible study at Christ Lutheran Church



You are invited to join a Bible Study Group at Christ Lutheran. For more information, contact Pastor Katherine.

- ✝ **Wednesday Morning "Anticipating Sunday" Bible Study** – 8:00 a.m. via Zoom.
- ✝ **Rachel Circle** – 9:00 a.m. meeting via Zoom the second Thursday of each month.
- ✝ **Friday Morning Women's Bible Study** – 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Join the study and discussion!

Equal Exchange coffee items available for purchase at the Coffee Hutch



A new order of chocolate bars and olive oil has just arrived!

Check out the items at the Equal Exchange Coffee Hutch! There are coffees, teas, hot cocoa, olive oil, candy bars, etc.

Purchasing these items helps the small farmer co-ops around the world. Farmers earn a fair price for their crops, have access to affordable credit, and can invest in education, health care and sustainable agriculture, building a better future for their families. Take a look, and if purchasing, please place your monies in the locked box attached to the hutch.

Calling all Quilters!

Christ Lutheran's Quilters meet each Monday in two, one-hour shifts. The first group meets at 12:30, and the second group meets at 2:30. This allows time for clean-up and sanitizing in between groups.



Please call Elrena Scharpe at 320-864-3341 to schedule your shift and to let her know what you would like to do (for example: tie, sew, put layers together, etc.). The Council asks you to follow church guidelines by wearing masks, socially distancing, and bringing your own beverages.

Remember Our TEAF Mission!



Christ Lutheran has a TEAF fund (temporary emergency assistance fund). We have chosen the last Sunday of each month to collect donations to this fund, but, of course, donations at any time are welcome.

Please remember this mission in your giving.

Spring Forward
Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 14, 2021



Christian Education/Youth March 2021

KNOW – GROW – SHARE – LIVE – WITNESS



We continue to hold all of our CLC families in prayer. We pray and trust that God will continue to accompany us with grace during this year and help us to recognize opportunities and to face all challenges with hope, peace, joy and love.

PreK – 6th Grade Sunday School:



Sunday School (SS) for Prek – 6th grade will continue to meet in-person each Sunday, March – April @ 10:10am in the Fellowship Hall.

All students and parents/guardians must sign up to attend, which will ensure that we have plenty of supplies and give us time to prepare adequate spacing for participants. Each family will have their own table and supplies.

Please sign-up ASAP using the SignUp Genius links which can be found on the SS web page.

PreK – 4th grade students will need to have a parent/guardian attend SS with them.

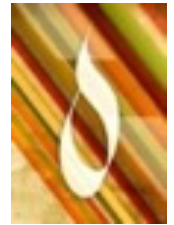
5th – 6th Grade students can attend SS without a parent/guardian.

If you are unable to join us for SS in-person and would like to receive the weekly lesson and family take-home information, please email Vicar Susan @ clceducation@christluth.com.

Face masks are required to be worn by all parents and students, ages 5 and up.

7th – 9th Grade Confirmation:

During the season of Lent Confirmation students attend Wed. Evening Lenten Worship Services @ 7:00pm and then meet with their mentors following Worship.



There are no regular Confirmation classes during Lent.

Students attend Lenten Worship and meet with mentors: Wednesdays Mar. 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and Maundy Thursday, April 1st.

*Confirmation classes will resume in-person on **Wednesday, April 7th @ 5:45pm.***

Student, Parent, & Mentor Wrap-Up

We are tentatively planning a Student, Parent, & Mentor Wrap-Up on **Wednesday, April 7th @ 5:45pm** in the Sanctuary. *Additional details will be provided as the date approaches.*










Please continue to check our CLC, Sunday School, & Confirmation web pages for the most up-to-date information regarding our Christian Education programming.

For more information on Christian Education opportunities, please visit our web pages or contact Vicar Susan @ 320.292.1032 or clceducation@christluth.com.

www.christluth.com/sunday-school

www.christluth.com/confirmation

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Masks and social distancing are required for all gatherings.</p>	<p>1 Quilting @ 12:30 & 2:30 pm (two groups meeting for one hour each). Televised Worship Service @ 3:00 pm on Channel 10. Adult Cub Scout Leaders @ 7:00 pm.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 "Anticipating Sunday" Bible Study @ 8:00 am via Zoom Women's Bible Study at Grand Meadows @ 9:30 am. Lenten Worship Service @ 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office. Televised Worship Service @ 2:00 pm on Channel 10. Lenten Worship Service @ 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office. Televised Worship Service @ 2:00 pm on Channel 10. Small Group Choir @ 5:15 pm. No Confirmation. Lenten Worship Service @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online call the office.</p>	<p>4 Worship with Holy Communion @ 10:30 am @ Grand Meadows in the Lounge.</p>	<p>5 Women's Bible Study via Zoom @ 10:00 am.</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 9:00 am. Listen to service in the parking lot @ FM 97.7. Sunday School @ 10:10 am in person. Adult Education @ 10:15 am in person and via Zoom. MN Valley Conference Assembly @ 2:00 pm @ Sibley East Elementary School. First Communion Class, 1:00 to 2:00 pm, via Zoom and in the Fellowship Hall.</p> 	<p>8 Quilting @ 12:30 & 2:30 pm (two groups meeting for one hour each). Televised Worship Service @ 3:00 pm on Channel 10.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 "Anticipating Sunday" Bible Study @ 8:00 am via Zoom Women's Bible Study at Grand Meadows @ 9:30 am. Lenten Worship Service @ 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online call the office. Lenten Worship Service @ 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online call the office. Televised Worship Service @ 2:00 pm on Channel 10. Bells @ 5:15 pm. No Confirmation. Small Group Choir Rehearsal and Record @ 6:00 pm. Lenten Worship Service @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online call the office. Council meets @ 8:00 pm.</p>	<p>11 Rachel Circle @ 9:00 am via Zoom.</p>	<p>12 Women's Bible Study via Zoom @ 10:00 am.</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 9:00 am. Listen to service in the parking lot @ FM 97.7. Sunday School @ 10:10 am in person. First Communion Class, 1:00 to 2:00 pm, via Zoom and in the Fellowship Hall. Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 am.</p>  	<p>15 Quilting @ 12:30 & 2:30 pm (two groups meeting for one hour each). Televised Worship Service @ 3:00 pm on Channel 10.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 "Anticipating Sunday" Bible Study @ 8:00 am via Zoom Women's Bible Study at Grand Meadows @ 9:30 am. Lenten Worship Service @ 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office. Televised Worship Service @ 2:00 pm on Channel 10. No Confirmation. Lenten Worship Service @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office.</p>	<p>18 Worship Service @ GlenFields @ 10:30 am in the Community Room.</p>	<p>19 Women's Bible Study via Zoom @ 10:00 am.</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 Worship Service @ 9:00 am. Listen to service in the parking lot @ FM 97.7. Sunday School @ 10:10 am in person. First Communion Class, 1:00 to 2:00 pm, via Zoom and in the Fellowship Hall.</p> 	<p>22 Quilting @ 12:30 & 2:30 pm (two groups meeting for one hour each). Televised Worship Service @ 3:00 pm on Channel 10.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 "Anticipating Sunday" Bible Study @ 8:00 am via Zoom Women's Bible Study at Grand Meadows @ 9:30 am. Lenten Worship Service @ 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office. Televised Worship Service @ 2:00 pm on Channel 10. No Confirmation. Lenten Worship Service @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Women's Bible Study via Zoom @ 10:00 am.</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 Palm Sunday Online Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 9:00 am – First Communion students recognized. Listen to service in the parking lot @ FM 97.7. No Sunday School Final First Communion class, 1:00 to 3:00 pm, via Zoom and in the Fellowship Hall.</p>  	<p>29 Quilting @ 12:30 & 2:30 pm (two groups meeting for one hour each). Televised Worship Service @ 3:00 pm on Channel 10.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 "Anticipating Sunday" Bible Study @ 8:00 am via Zoom Women's Bible Study at Grand Meadows @ 9:30 am. No Confirmation. No Lenten Worship Service.</p>	<p>April 1 Maundy Thursday Lenten Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 1:30 and 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office.</p>	<p>April 2 Good Friday Lenten Worship Service @ 1:30 and @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Sign up online or call the office. Altar Guild: Kathy Remus, Diane Adrian, and Tina Rosckes</p>	<p>April 4 Easter Sunday  Kitchen Guild: Connie Duenow</p>

