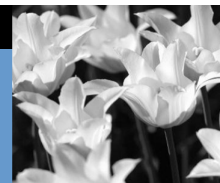




ONE IN CHRIST

Week of March 21 - 27, 2023

A NOTE FROM PASTOR MEAGAN



As we journey closer to Holy Week, closer to the cross, we return again to the first Sunday of Lent. To the desert, yes, but also to baptism. Half way through Lent, let us remind each other, and ourselves, to see Christ in one another. But most importantly, let us remember who we are: beloved children of God.

Beloved Is Where We Begin

—Jan Richardson from *Circle of Grace*

If you would enter into the wilderness,
do not begin without a blessing.

Do not leave without hearing who you are:
Beloved,
named by the One who has traveled this path before you.

Do not go without letting it echo in your ears,
and if you find it is hard to let it into your heart,
do not despair.

That is what this journey is for.

I cannot promise this blessing will free you from danger,
from fear, from hunger or thirst,
from the scorching of sun or the fall of the night.

But I can tell you that on this path there will be help.

I can tell you that on this way there will be rest.

I can tell you that you will know the strange graces that come to our aid
only on a road such as this,
that fly to meet us bearing comfort and strength,
that come alongside us for no other cause than to lean themselves
toward our ear and with their curious insistence whisper our name:

Beloved.
Beloved.
Beloved.



WE WORSHIP....



Sunday, March 26, 10:00am Worship

Access Online Bulletin

Join us for Worship in the Sanctuary. Childcare will be provided in the nursery each week.

OR

You may also attend virtually using the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us!

Masks are optional to enter the building, and will be available at entrances if needed. If you feel unwell, please care for yourself and others by staying home, and we will be happy to see you when you return. Thank you for your commitment to caring for one another!

Join Worship Virtually (via Zoom) → <http://tiny.cc/clcworship>

One tap mobile

+13126266799,278217453#,1#,971744# US (Chicago)

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 278 217 453 | Password: 971744

Worship Signup

At Christ Lutheran, our children and youth are part of our church, and we encourage people of all ages to take on leadership roles during our worship service. If you would like the opportunity to serve in worship, visit: <http://tiny.cc/worshipsignup>

For more info visit the Children's Google Drive: <http://tiny.cc/children-drive>

TO SERVE AS ACOLYTE:

Please visit <https://bit.ly/CLCacolytes> Contact Kersten Horn (horn.kersten@gmail.com) if your child needs acolyte training.

TO SIGN UP AS A LECTOR OR ASSISTING MINISTER:

Please contact Mark Roock.

Please reach out to Kate Hoerchler with questions and suggestions you have about the children and youth ministries at Christ Lutheran.



Lenten Observance at Christ Lutheran Church

Wednesday Evening Prayer Service, In-Person and on Zoom

6:00pm Dinner and 7:00pm evening prayer will be held each week shown below:

March 22 & 29 | ***James Gilliland will be sharing a reflection on March 22.***

[Join Wednesday Evening Prayer Online](http://tiny.cc/CLCwedprayer) — <http://tiny.cc/CLCwedprayer>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 873 2098 3074 **Passcode:** 63119

Interested in providing a Lenten Wednesday evening dinner? Please contact Dave Fey at davefey@me.com

Lenten Dinners 2023



Our annual Wednesday night Lenten Dinners begin on February 22 and go through April 5 – hope you're able to join us in fellowship.

Wednesdays 6:00pm

If you're interested in volunteering to bring a dinner or to help with setup and cleanup please contact Dave Fey – davefey@me.com



Holy Week at Christ Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday, April 6, In-Person and on Zoom
7:00pm Worship with communion and washing of hands

Join Maundy Thursday Online -- <http://tiny.cc/CLCmaundy>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 824 0889 7874 **Passcode:** 63119

Good Friday, April 7, In-Person and on Zoom

7:00pm Service of the Passion and Song

Worship with the Cantata, *In My Place: Remembering Christ's Sacrifice of Love*, led by Christ Church Choir, Director of Choirs Diane Drollinger.

All offerings provided in Good Friday envelopes, collected in baskets at the Good Friday service will go to ELCA World Hunger. To contribute to ELCA World Hunger, direct to Christ Lutheran Church and designate for ELCA World Hunger.

Join Good Friday Service Online -- <http://tiny.cc/CLCgoodfriday>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 858 7728 3880 **Passcode:** 63119

Holy Saturday, April 8, In-Person

7:30pm Joint Gathering in Preparation for Easter Sunday

The Vigil of Easter: This is the Night!

Join Bishop Candea and siblings from St. Louis-area ELCA churches for the Vigil of Easter, held this year on Saturday, April 8, at 7:30pm, at Gethsemane Lutheran Church (3600 Hampton Ave., St. Louis MO, 63109). This capstone to the great Three Days of Holy Week will include storytelling, the striking of a new fire, affirmation of baptism, and the first Eucharist of the Easter season. With a light reception to follow, this is a great time of fellowship and worship with folks from across the region at the pinnacle of the church year!



Easter Sunday, April 9, In-Person and on Zoom

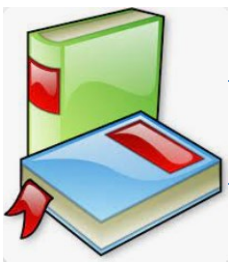
10:00am Worship with Communion in celebration of the Resurrection

We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus as we bring back the Alleluia which has been hidden for so long!

Join Palm Sunday Worship Online -- <http://tiny.cc/clcworship>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 278 217 453

Passcode: 971744



AND LEARN....

Bible Study

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet each Tuesday morning at 10:30am, in the fellowship hall. All are welcomed to join us!



Women's Group — Lenten Devotional Study

Please join the "Dwelling in the Word" women's group as we read, reflect, share and pray our way through Lent using Kate Bowler's "Bless This Lent We Actually Have." **We will meet at 11am each Sunday during Lent** - feel free to drop in for any or all of the weeks. No reading or prep work needed prior to each week's meeting!



Kate Bowler writes, "Lent is a time when we get a minute to tell the truth: Life is so beautiful and life is so hard. For everyone. Of course, the cross isn't the end of the story, but this season of grief is carved out to acknowledge the reality of Christ's sacrifice. And the reality of suffering that so many of our circumstances reflect too - our own pain and grief and despair. Easter is coming, yes. But for now, we sit in the ashes of our broken dreams and broken hearts, knowing that God sits here with us. Jesus will walk with us through whatever kind of Lenten day we are having. The lovely one. The garbage one. The one that barely seems like it counted at all. As we toggle through every kind of emotion - boredom, devastation, happiness, irritation - we want to say: Bless this Lent."

Child Safety and Wellbeing Fair

April 1, 2023 | 9:30—11:30am | Webster Groves Recreation Center

Safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments are among the most powerful, protective, and healing forces in a child's life! Join the Safe Kids, Healthy Communities Workgroup, creators of the Community Safety Pledge, in kicking off Child Abuse Prevention Month by celebrating healthy childhoods! This will be a morning of food, entertainment, and yoga/mindfulness activities with The Oxygen Project. Many other special surprises are in store!

This is a family friendly event.

[Click here to access the event flyer](#) | [Click here to REGISTER for the Fair](#)

Start Child Abuse Prevention Month by Celebrating Healthy Childhoods!

Child Safety and Wellbeing Fair



April 1, 2023
9:30am to 11:30 am
Webster Groves Recreation Center
33 E. Glendale, 63119

HOSTED BY SAFE KIDS, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES WORKGROUP



Adult Forum meets on Sundays at 9am, in the Conference Room or on Zoom. We hope you can join us!

Upcoming Sessions

March 26 — Harriet Scholle — He Had a Face: How Jesus comes to us through Art. A look at images of Jesus through time and across cultures.

April 2 — Jesse Helton — Learning About God through Science Session 2. The Sunday school children and adults perform science experiments together.

April 9 — Easter — No Adult Forum

April 16 — Jesse Helton — Learning About God through Science Session 3. The Sunday school children and adults perform science experiments together.

Recap of 3/19/23 — Alena Horn, who has a doctorate in Linguistics spoke to us about language in the Church. She began with a quote from 2 Timothy 3:16, “All Scripture is inspired by God...,” a universal belief among Christians churches. What is not universal is how Christian bodies interpret the language of scripture. Some adhere to as literal meaning as possible while others, like the ELCA, see language as constantly changing. These churches strive to convey the truth of the Word as people speak today. One difficulty such efforts encounter is the “generic ‘He’.”

In the English Bible, “He,” a masculine pronoun, is used to refer to God, who we believe is gender neutral. Alena pointed out passages like Isaiah 42:14 where God Speaks as a mother, show God with feminine traits. Alena believes the best way to use the pronoun for God is to look at the noun it refers to. If, in the text God is referred to as “Father”, then the appropriate pronoun is “He”—the Lord’s prayer is a case in point. But, she added, that language change evolves and an edict to change it seldom works.

Alena said that language reflects rather than determines how people think. She talked about the euphemism treadmill where a term that has a negative connotation is replaced by a new term that soon acquires the same connotation. For example, “loo”, “toilet”, “bathroom”, and “restroom”, are successive euphemisms referring to the same accommodation.

Here are Alena’s summary points.

- As a protestant church we should update the language of the church.
- God is genderless and transcends language.
- Grammar does not determine worldview.
- There can be viewpoint diversity even within each of us.
- Repetition of rituals reflects the constancy and continuity of God.
- Aspects of postmodern thought are in contradiction to Christianity.



SO WE CAN WELCOME....

Updates to our Reconciling in Christ Affirmation Statement

In November 2017, the congregation of Christ Lutheran unanimously voted yes to approve our Reconciling in Christ affirmation statement that publicly committed our church to include radical welcome to people of all genders and sexual orientations. Reconciling Works, the organization that supports RIC churches, has asked all RIC churches to expand our affirmation statement to include a commitment towards racial justice and to include gender expression. The Social Justice committee has worked to create updates to our RIC statement. Please look for the updated statement in coming weeks. We will be asking for your input and ideas and will need to have another congregational vote. Thank you for your ongoing work to create a welcoming, affirming, inclusive congregation!

Refreshment Volunteers Needed!



We're looking for refreshment volunteers to help provide food and snacks after church services. You may use the [online sign up form](http://tiny.cc/refreshments) to choose the date(s) you'd like to volunteer. We have dates available now through June! To sign up, just visit:

<http://tiny.cc/refreshments>

Elle Dowd Workshop - "Spiritual Imagination as a Tool for Social Change" Saturday, April 22 | 7:00 pm | Christ Lutheran Church

We are excited to host Elle Dowd in April, as they present a workshop entitled, "Spiritual Imagination as a Tool for Social Change." The workshop will take place in the Sanctuary and will be preceded with a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

[To RSVP for this workshop, please click here — tiny.cc/elleRSVP](http://tiny.cc/elleRSVP)

We are looking for volunteers to bring food and drink for the reception and also manage the refreshment table the night of the event. Refreshments would need to be dropped off by 6:00 pm on that Saturday. We will also

[Click here to volunteer for this workshop — tiny.cc/elleSERVE](http://tiny.cc/elleSERVE)



AND SERVE !



SAVE THE DATE: Feed the Need STL April 16, 2023 | 1:00 - 3:15 pm

Christ Lutheran will be working with others in the St. Louis Community to pack food for shipping within the US and internationally. **This service project is available for anyone ages 5 and over!** The project will involve standing and packing food, but they also have jobs for individuals who cannot stand for the two-hour period of time. Attached is the sign up to identify if you can help that day. If you need additional information, please contact either Sherry Mitchler or Sarah Mudd.

[Click here to sign up to help on April 16 - http://tiny.cc/CLCpack](http://tiny.cc/CLCpack)

For additional information, please visit: www.feedtheneedstl.org

Please Consider Supporting "No Mow April"

The City of Webster Groves is asking for our help in a new initiative the City is undertaking this Spring. "No Mow April" is designed to support pollinators in our community. This initiative, championed by our Green Space and Sustainability Commissions, requires not action but inaction on the part of churches in Webster Groves. During the month of April, the City of Webster Groves will support a temporary exception to the requirement that grass not exceed ten inches. The City is encouraging homeowners and community members to limit or forgo lawn mowing practices during April to provide early season foraging resources for pollinators that emerge in the spring. The city will also limit its mowing by limiting it to areas that require it for specific recreational and sports activities.



[Register here for participation in the program and request your NO MOW APRIL yard sign.](#)

Amending a Racially Restrictive Covenant to Your Property Deed in STL County

In spite of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, many homes across the country, and in Webster Groves, still have racial covenants in its property deeds. It is long past time to address this!

Earlier this month, the clergy of Webster Groves led a community forum on amending racially restrictive covenants, written to prevent anyone of color from living in certain neighborhoods, that exist on many homes in the St Louis area. As many members of our congregation have asked for additional information on addressing this problem, **you'll find attached to this week's newsletter, instructions you may follow to easily find out if your home has a racial covenant and have it removed.**

Taking action on this is a way for us as people of faith to claim in action that God's abundance is for all people, and that restrictions on who can live in our communities are not acceptable.



LET US PRAY

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include the following people in your prayer life during this week.

ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS: Those who are suffering from chronic pain & diseases, Shelly Madden, Linda Armstrong, Gege Brightman, Christine Austin, Kate and Brian Bates (John Hoffmann's sister and brother-in-law), Evan Deck, Helga Hayes, Joan (friend of the Roocks), John Hoffmann, Bev & Al Marcus (friend of John Hoffmann), Michael McMullen (Greg McMullen's brother), Anna McIntyre, Donna Munger, Doris & Harry Rahlfs (Karen Wood's parents), Shirley Wolf, and Wayne Wellman (Susanne Reimer-Fey's brother), Kerry Munger (son of Donna Munger).



IN BLESSED MEMORY: For all of those who have died and all of those who grieve, that they may know the presence of God who grieves with us.

IN MILITARY SERVICE: Josh Duncan, Chris Hudson, Jesse Proctor, Scott Warr.

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

LET'S CELEBRATE MARCH ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

Congratulations and Best Wishes! Christ Lutheran family wants to celebrate you!

ANNIVERSARIES:

03/04 — Dave & Chris Austin

03/29 — Bill & Regina Wischmeyer

BIRTHDAYS:

03/01 — Nadia Roberts

03/07 — Leon Bartek

03/07 — Jon Heerboth

03/08 — Jeff Bloese

03/10 — Dave Ringkor

03/11 — Weston Bussler

03/11 — Mike Hoyer

03/13 — Hannah Borden

03/13 — Ellie Zempel

03/14 — Alex Hill

03/14 — Faith Moore

03/15 — Theodore Bennett

03/17 — Xavier Ruff

03/18 — Jerome Egel

03/20 — Regina Wischmeyer



03/23 — Jack Wood

03/25 — Elmer Bibb

03/28 — Claire Holmes

03/29 — Sophia Bude

03/30 — Matt Bender

**Our apologies if we missed anybody!
Please let us know if we did.**

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6p Lenten Dinner 7p Prayer Service 7:30p Choir Practice	2 4p Fitness Group	3 6p Vigil for Black Lives	4
5 9a Education Hour 10a Worship 11a Dwelling in the Word Group Mtg	6 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group 7p Justice Group	7 10a Text Study 10:30a Bible Study	8 6p Lenten Dinner 7p Prayer Service 7:30p Choir Practice	9 4p Fitness Group	10 6p Vigil for Black Lives	11
12 9a Education Hour 10a Worship 11a Dwelling in the Word Group Mtg	13 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	14 10a Text Study 10:30a Bible Study 7p Church Council Meeting (Hybrid)	15 6p Lenten Dinner 7p Prayer Service 7:30p Choir Practice	16 4p Fitness Group	17 6p Vigil for Black Lives	18
19 9a Education Hour 10a Worship 11a Dwelling in the Word Group Mtg	20 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	21 10a Text Study 10:30a Bible Study	22 6p Lenten Dinner 7p Prayer Service 7:30p Choir Practice	23 4p Fitness Group	24 6p Vigil for Black Lives	25
26 9a Education Hour 10a Worship 11a Dwelling in the Word Group Mtg	27 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	28 10a Text Study 10:30a Bible Study	29 6p Lenten Dinner 7p Prayer Service 7:30p Choir Practice	30 4p Fitness Group	31 6p Vigil for Black Lives	

Facility Use Calendar: The above calendar shows congregational events for CLC. To view when areas of the building may be in use, visit <http://tiny.cc/facility-cal>.

Needing to Use the Building? Please contact the office to reserve your space. We have a busy season approaching and want to ensure there are no conflicts with the use of our building.

2023 Pledge Card: Stewarding Our Gifts

Thankful for God's abundance and continuing to worship and serve with fellow members of Christ Lutheran Church, we pledge to use our spiritual gifts to be stewards of God's love.

Print name(s): _____

I/We celebrate our spiritual gifts of:

Skills/Knowledge:

Passion:

And, therefore, pledge to be stewards in the following ways :

Including, joyfully planning to give \$ _____ in calendar year 2023

Date: _____ Contact info: _____

☐ Check here if you'd like to continue receiving paper offering envelopes.

Please return your pledge card by 12/18/2022.

You may mail this pledge card to the church office, put it in the offering basket or email your pledge form to office@christwg.org



Keep this portion for your records as reminder of your planned giving.

2023 Pledge for Christ Lutheran Church

I/We plan to give a total of \$ _____ by December 31, 2023, to support our Lord's mission and ministry through Christ Lutheran Church – Webster Groves, and to be stewards in the following ways:



Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

E-MAIL:
OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG

WEBSITE:
WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M.

REV. MEAGAN MCLAUGHLIN
OFFICE HOURS:

MON-WED, FRI 8:30-4:30
(APPTS BY ARRANGEMENT)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:
JESSICA GUNTHER

**DIRECTOR OF SENIOR
ADULT MINISTRIES AND
FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE:**
CAROLYN CROWE

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS:
DIANE DROLLINGER

ORGANIST:
MARK RUFF

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:
MAHLIK GOOD

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
TAMMY PRYOR

WEBMASTER:
MIKE WAGNER/STEPHANIE
LENHART

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Deepening people's connection to Christ,
Bringing meaning to daily life, and
Making a difference in our community.