Week of February 15 - February 21, 2021

Wisdom for the Journey



Ash Wednesday is in just a few days, and with that begins the season of Lent. The Lenten season is a time of prayer, reflection on our relationships with God and others, and recognition of our own sin and brokenness. It is also preparation for Holy Week and Easter when we will remember the death—and resurrection—of Christ. During Lent, we at Christ Lutheran will reflect on the meaning of our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes that we receive on Ash Wednesday reminds us of our human mortality and frailty. In Jesus, God became flesh, and entered into our human experience in very vulnerable ways.

In this time where so much confusion, violence, hatred, and oppression in our world, we have heard the words of Pontius Pilate echo: "Truth? What is truth?" We are as people of faith **Called to Truth**. As we gather on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings during Lent, we will seek God's truth in our lives in this season. Together, we will confess our brokenness and ask forgiveness, read scripture, and pray for guidance. And most of all, we will affirm our trust in a God who brings life and transformation out of all things, even death.

How can you observe Lent this year?

- Pray! Lent is about our relationship with God, and with one another. We are all invited in Lent to work on our relationship with God, noticing what gets in our way and working on spending time with God. Pick a way of praying, and commit to praying each morning or evening.
- Seek life. Lent is about acknowledging that death is a part of life, and we know because of Jesus' death and resurrection. Your household got a packet of seeds with your Lenten envelope. Plant the seeds, take care of them, and watch them grow.
- Serve. We are called to serve at all times, but especially in Lent, look for ways to be of service to your family, your neighborhood, school, and community.
- Participate in Christ Lutheran's Lenten Wednesday service, at least once during Lent. This is a way to take time out in the middle of the week to reflect on our faith.

Blessing the Dust For Ash Wednesday

All those days you felt like dust, like dirt, as if all you had to do was turn your face toward the wind and be scattered to the four corners or swept away by the smallest breath as insubstantial did you not know what the Holy One can do with dust?

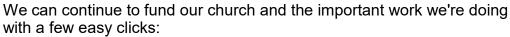
This is the day we freely say we are scorched. This is the hour we are marked by what has made it through the burning. This is the moment we ask for the blessing that lives within the ancient ashes, that makes its home inside the soil of this sacred earth.

So let us be marked not for sorrow. And let us be marked not for shame. Let us be marked not for false humility or for thinking we are less than we are but for claiming what God can do within the dust, within the dirt, within the stuff of which the world is made and the stars that blaze in our bones and the galaxies that spiral inside the smudge we bear. —Jan Richardson, *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*.



Stewardship & Offerings

We continue to worship and reach out to people in different ways than we're traditionally accustomed. Staff and members are reaching out proactively to make sure everyone in our congregation is cared for, and connected, as much as possible. We are re-imagining ministry! Now more than ever, it takes all of us to make that happen.



1. Visit <u>our donation website</u> directly or go to <u>www.christwg.org</u> and scroll down to the 'Give Now' button.

2. You may make a one time or recurring gift. There are NO FEES to withdraw directly from your bank account. Fees do apply for debit/credit card transactions.

3. Optional: set up a profile to be able to change your recurring gifts at any time or view your giving history.

4. Want to walk through the steps with someone? Contact Kate Hoerchler, 314-805-

1751,katehoerchler@gmail.com

If you prefer to make your offering by check or cash, there are mailing envelopes included in your offering envelope package.

Joan O'Brien and Lynnae Ruff, Stewardship Chairs



Have an idea for how Christ Lutheran Church can make your experience better? Submit an anonymous note at <u>http://freesuggestionbox.com/</u> <u>pub/stwuunh</u> and we will do our best to help! You





Ash Wednesday, February 17

7:00 pm Worship with communion and distribution of ashes (done virtually, ashes sent by mail). Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u> Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

Wednesday, February 24

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 3

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 10

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 17

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 24

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

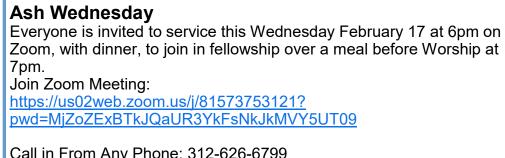
Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 31

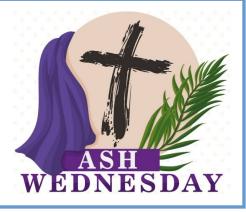
7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

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Information about Good Friday, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday will be published soon.



Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398



Black History Month: Movie Discussion Invitation

February is Black History month! There are many movies and books that share stories of black lives in the US, some more serious providing insight into the impacts of racism in our country, and some sharing everyday life with its joys and challenges. We challenge you to take time this month to learn about black history and culture.

Here is one opportunity! We invite you to watch the movie Drumline. Everyone is invited to stay on after Evening Prayer **Wednesday, February 24 at 8pm**, same Zoom link, and then join us for a discussion of the movie. We hope you will join us!

Drumline is a 2002 American coming-of-age teen drama film directed by Charles Stone III. The screenplay, which was inspired by the Southwest Dekalb High School Drumline, was written by Tina Gordon Chism and Shawn Schepps. The film follows a young drummer from New York, played by Nick Cannon, who enters the fictional Atlanta A&T University and bumps heads with the leader of his new school's drum section. Zoe Saldana, Leonard Roberts and Orlando Jones also co-star.

Youth Zoom Hangout, Sunday February 21 at 12:30 PM

If you have been confirmed and are interested in connecting with other youth, join us for discussion during our normal time on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 12:30 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/924665200?pwd=OWYvT0Z5MmdoVG84R3dDUmJXVXd5dz09

Meeting ID: 924 665 200 Password: 271433

One tap mobile +16465588656,,924665200#,,1#,271433# US (New York)

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



WORSHIP

Sunday, February 21, 9:30 am — Zoom Worship

Access Online Bulletin Follow the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us! OR Join Zoom Meeting One tap mobile +13126266799,,278217453#,,1#,971744# US (Chicago)

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 278 217 453 Password: 971744



Remembering Cletus Romay, Zoom Visitation

Friday, February 26th, at 11:00am, we will have a Zoom Visitation for Cletus. All are welcome to join us to remember and share stories about Cletus.

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84880276634?pwd=RW1CRk11R1ZLTG5hc3B6TG9sdHBUQT09

Meeting ID: 848 8027 6634 Passcode: 982050

Dial by location: +13126266799 (Chicago) +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Please keep Cletus, his daughter Cathy and son Ron, family and friends, and all who grieve at a distance, in your prayers.

Fall and Winter In Community

As the weather turns and opportunities for outdoor gatherings are reduced, we want to invite us all to be creative about how we can stay connected and continue to be in community through the winter months. If you would like to be matched with another household or two to be in intentional connection, if you have ideas for online activities, if you have ideas for outdoor winter activities, or any other thoughts about how we can stay connected, let Pastor Meagan or Council know!

Fellowship at CLC

Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday February 16th, 10:00 am "David was a man after God's own heart."

What does it mean to be someone "after God's own heart"? David, Old Testament shepherd, king and psalmist, offers an answer in the shape of his own life.

The Tuesday morning Bible study group is using a study guide by Charles R. Swindoll, "David: A Man of Passion & Destiny." We meet at 10 am via Zoom each Tuesday. The long-time participants in this group have each received a copy of the book, and if others would like to join us for this discussion, please let us know so that additional books can be ordered. All are welcome to join us!

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/82643945421?pwd=V3dxdWY0YkZsRFptWkE2dDBCM3VLUT09

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Call in From Any Phone: 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 826 4394 5421 Password: 127284

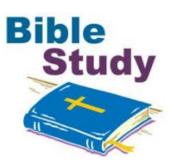


Join the interfaith community for four conversations on the ways systemic racism permeates our city and region. We will learn background from topic experts, hear stories of people directly impacted and learn two wavs we can take action.

Each session begins at noon and will last an hour.

All are welcome to stay for 30 minutes after for Q&A and discussion.

Topics: February 10th - Economic Inequities March 10th - Healthcare April 14th - Environmental Justice May 12th - Court Systems **Register Here:** https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYqc-CuqDgjG9Rgj-4-EJMWk8SDWcr2SHjB



Adult Forum February 21—Observing Lent in the Time of Covid. A panel, consisting of Mark Ruff, John Hoffmann, and Pastor Meagan will help us understand how we can grow spiritually during the season of Lent. John will give us a brief history of lenten observances, Mark will tell us the season's unique music, and Pr. Meagan will talk about the challenges of being together and alone as we prepare for Easter.



On Sunday, February 14, Lydia Wood a figurative artist and pediatric emergency room nurse talked to us about trauma from gun violence. Not just the physical trauma suffered by the person who is shot but the wider trauma to the families who share the pain, to the first responders and medical workers who care for the victim, and the community that sees gun violence happen again and again.

Lydia cited Center for Disease Control data to show how children exposed to personal, family, community trauma—particularly from guns—are more likely to die early. And she shared the contrast she observes when she picks up her son from pre-school in Webster Groves and thinks of the neighborhoods where other preschoolers live with the sound of gunshots and threat of bullets.

Creating water color portraits works for Lydia in two ways: It is an outlet for the trauma she experiences working in the emergency room and painting allows her to tell the stories of victims and of people who help them. She mentioned two in particular. Dr. L.J. Punch is a critical care trauma surgeon who has started *Stop The Bleed STL*, an organization that provides kits that will help staunch the bleeding from a wound until first responders arrive. Dr. Punch has also began a community group called *Brick*.

Then Lydia showed a portrait of Darren Seals, once involved in gun violence, now the founder of *Sankofa Unity Center* in the Walnut Park neighborhood. There he works with young men to steer them away from violent behaviors that often lead to an early death.

And Lydia told the story of Arnetta, a college professor who moved her family away from a violent neighborhood only to have her son catch a fatal bullet on a visit back there to see family.

She said that area pediatric hospitals have programs for children who have recovered from gun violence. More information can be found at:

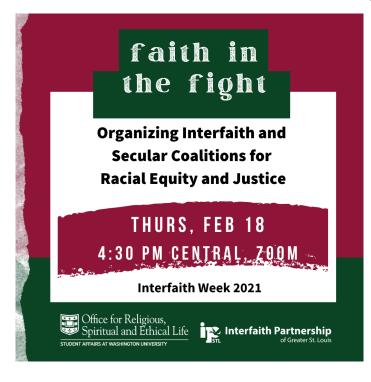
Lydia's site <u>https://www.lydiawood.com/alookbehindthebrush/2020/2/19/self-assessment-on-secondary-trauma</u>

The CDC <u>https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/resources.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%</u> 3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fviolenceprevention%2Facestudy%2Fresources.html

Alive and Well Communities https://www.awcommunities.org/be-well

STL Area Violence Prevention Council https://www.stlareavpc.org/

Dr. LJ Punch and The T STL <u>https://www.thetstl.com/</u><u>https://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/st-louis-trauma-surgeon-battles-the-bullets-from-the-operating-room-to-the-community/</u> article_744ceb3c-8184-5012-9fdc-51ffca94c668.html



JOIN US--THURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 4:30 -6PM

You're invited to an Interfaith Week webinar engaging opportunities and challenges associated with interfaith organizing and anti-racism strategies on university campuses, in local communities, and the world. *Hosted by the Office for Religious, Spiritual & Ethical Life at Washington University in St. Louis.*

Event Link:

https://www.facebook.com/ events/1105060243270912/

Creation Care

Last year in anticipation of Earth Day 2020 the Creation Care team was collecting pill bottles. Unfortunately like so many things in 2020, this project was placed on hold due to COVID. The bottles are reused for mission trips by an organization called Matthew 25: Ministries. Our role will be to sort, organize and prepare the pill bottles to be sent to their offices in Ohio. We are hopeful that there will be an opportunity to gather in person to work on preparing the pill bottles to be sent to Matthew 25: Ministries. However, we will wait until closer to Earth Day 2021 - April 22nd to make any definite plans. In the meantime please either continue or start collecting used pill bottles that can be reused for mission trips. They can be either prescription medication bottles or over the counter medication bottles. If you can remove the labels from the prescription bottles that will assist in preparing them and also ensure privacy about any medications prescripted for individuals. There is a basket in the fellowship hall to place the bottles in, or we will have a set day closer to April to request the bottles to be brought to church. Please contact me by email if you have any questions. Thank You on behalf of the Creation Care Team. Sherry Mitchler-s.mitchler@sbcglobal.net

Thanks, Sherry



The 2021 sign-up for flowers is shown below. If you wish to underwrite the cost of the altar flowers for a particular week, please inform Lisette of the date you would like, two families may share the cost for one date. Please send your payment to the office, the cost is \$40 per arrangement. Until we meet in person, the flowers will be available to deliver to the homebound or sick.

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February 21, 2021	Lent - no flowers
February 28, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 7, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 14, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 21, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 28, 2021	Palm Sunday - palms
April 4, 2021	Easter - lilies
April 11, 2021	Lilies
April 18, 2021	
April 25, 2021	

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

CELEBRATING FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

ANNIVERSARIES:

2/14 Joan & Robert Rivas

2/14 Mari & Travis Roberts

BIRTHDAYS:

- 2/01 Calvin Ciorba
- 2/01 Shirley Wolf
- 2/02 Julia Bruns
- 2/02 Helga Hayes
- 2/03 Kevin Drollinger
- 2/03 Sarah Ely
- 2/03 Larry Hill
- 2/04 Aishlyn McCarty
- 2/06 Kathy Kuziel
- 2/07 Sarah Keifer
- 2/08 Amy Chelgreen
- 2/09 Shaun Chelgreen
- 2/09 Carol Brockelmeyer
- 2/09 Patty Hopper
- 2/10 Hanna Lauer
- 2/10 Mark Roock
- 2/13 Julia Wood
- 2/13 Sylvia Rogers
- 2/19 Christine Austin

- 2/19 Henry Knapp
- 2/20 Robert Crowe
- 2/20 Elisabeth Long
- 2/23 Bob Brockelmeyer
- 2/25 Caitlin McMullen
- 2/28 Sally Wachtman

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



Christ Lutheran Face Masks

Fabric face masks were included in the Advent packages sent to each household. We have extras in the office if you did not receive one and would like one. Email or call the office to request one.



Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA 1 Selma Avenue at Lockwood Webster Groves, MO 63119-3199

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

E-MAIL: OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG

ZOOM WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAY AT 9:30 A.M.

RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE HOURS: MON-THUR 8:30-4:30 APPTS BY ARRANGEMENT

> COUNCIL PRESIDENT: KEVIN DROLLINGER

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

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS: DIANE DROLLINGER

> ORGANIST: MARK RUFF

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: LISETTE KREITLER

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: TAMMY PRYOR

> CUSTODIAN: KELLY LAKIES

WEBMASTER: PERRY YEE

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

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