

*We are called to be the Body of
Christ for West Cobb*

EST 1984



**Christ Lutheran Church -
November 2017**

Being Called

This past month has been tremendous for this congregation and its ministry. I personally enjoy nothing more than watching the gifts that God has given to people being used. We've talked recently about the call of Moses in Exodus. He had many reasons why not, but ultimately, after God answered his questions and pleas, Moses was left with the same words and a vastly different tone: Why not?! Why can't I be the one whom God has called to lead his people? Why can't I overcome the obstacles that I see in front of me? Why not, if God promises to help me!

We at CLC have more opportunities that we are being called to as a leaders and ministers in God's word; and sometimes, like Moses, it's the internal struggles that can hold us back from God's explosive form of sharing grace.

Are you feeling called to Kenya? Our missionaries have made the offer--has God been nudging you in the direction to answer the call? To be a witness in a far off and sometimes scary place, where you will be outside of your comfort zone?

Are you feeling called to Stephen's Ministry? Some of you have expressed a sense of being led to help care for others in the congregation. Do you feel that you just don't have the time or maybe the right words to do this work?

Are you feeling called to other areas of ministry? Maybe there is something that God has put on your heart or an itch on your brain about where we are being lead in ministry. Maybe you think someone else will have a better plan or we are already doing so much. Do you think that God could be calling on us to add new or different work?

I want to leave you with something I got when I started being a camp counselor and was sure this was going to be the greatest mistake God had ever made.

Moses stuttered.

David's armor didn't fit.

Timothy had ulcers.

Rehab was a prostitute.

Amos' only training was in the school of fig-tree pruning.

Jacob was a liar.

David had an affair.

Solomon was too rich.

Jesus was too poor.

Abraham was too old.

David was too young.

Peter was afraid of death.

Lazarus was dead.

John was self-righteous.
Naomi was a widow.
Paul was a murderer.
So was Moses.
Jonah ran from God.
Miriam was a gossip.
Gideon and Thomas both doubted.
Jeremiah was depressed and suicidal.
Elijah was burnt out.
John the Baptist was an introvert.
Martha was a worry-wart.
Mary was lazy.
Noah got drunk.
Did I mention that Moses had a short fuse?
So did Peter, Paul -- well, lots of folks did.
But God doesn't require perfection.

But God doesn't hire and fire like most bosses because God is more like a parent than a boss. He doesn't look at financial gain or loss. He's not prejudiced or partial, nor sassy and brassy, nor deaf to our cry. He's not blind to our faults. His gifts to us are free. We could do wonderful things for others and still not be wonderful ourselves. Satan says, "You're not worthy!" Jesus says, "So what? I AM." Satan looks back and sees our mistakes. God looks back and sees the Cross.

Author unknown

God's Peace,
Pastor Tim

Greetings Church Family-

It's hard to believe we are almost thru another year! We have a tremendous amount to "Give Thanks" for (a subtle nod to our Stewardship Campaign theme). We have a healthy and growing congregation, many great opportunities for our members to engage with one another and our community, and an exciting new way to worship together thru The Story.

Speaking of our Stewardship Campaign, I know it is probably looked forward to about as much as your favorite band saying at their concert "...and the next song is from our new album", but I really applaud the work Artie and the stewardship team have done to help this year's campaign be even more engaging and relevant for our members. Please take time to prayerfully consider getting involved in something new for 2018. It is thru the increased involvement of our members that we are making even great impacts for each other and our communities.

I continue to give thanks for each of you and Happy Thanksgiving to all of you and your families.

God Bless,
Mike Mahler

Giving Thanks to God

1 Corinthians 1:4 – “I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ”

A Steward is defined as someone to manage or look after another’s property. When we commit to follow Christ, we become stewards of His Kingdom and managers of the resources that God grants to us. When we understand that everything belongs to God and that we are appointed to manage his resources ownership ends, and stewardship begins.

So, what are we really stewards of? God provides each of us with a different amount of resources, and we can use what we have been given to improve our communities and the lives of others. There are things like our time, talents, finances, sharing the Gospel and so many other opportunities are provided for us. Without Christ, in our life, these resources come in and out of our life, and some are usually wasted. By taking Christ out of the equation, we return to ownership mentality. With this mindset, we are not able to utilize all of Gods Blessings.

When we fully commit to serving the Lord in every aspect of our lives the dynamics of stewardship changes drastically. These sacrifices we make, gifts, tithes, offerings, we give are going to be blessed and used in remarkable ways to transform the lives of so many people in our communities and throughout His Kingdom. God uses us, ordinary people to build a caring and loving foundation in an otherwise broken world. At one time or another, you may have felt the Holy Spirit in your life. You may not have recognized it right away but when you think about it doesn’t it bring a smile to your face.

Being fully committed to God allows the Holy Spirit to work through us to change lives and bring God’s Grace to so many. Being a good steward is a choice, choose God, give thanks to God.

God’s Blessing to all,

Artie Kappel

Fellowship Committee:

Greetings,

Another busy month for us all as we get ready to celebrate Thanksgiving with our family and friends. We have had our Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat and hopefully, everyone had a good time. We can now focus on our annual Christmas Party. Once again we will have this coincide with the children's rehearsal for their Christmas Program on December 10th following the 11:00 a.m. service. We will provide the main course and have sign-up sheets for sides and desserts.

Peace in Christ,

Lois and Lisa

Witness/Evangelism Committee:

Happy Thanksgiving!!

We are **Giving Thanks** for the new members we welcomed in October and the cooler fall temperatures that bring rich fall colors! I am also **Giving Thanks** for each visitor that walks through our doors and blesses our church.

Thank you for being such a welcoming congregation and church family. Our new members expressed how welcoming you are, and how that played a large part in them joining our church.

Giving Thanks for each and every one of you!

Unleashing Salt and Light,

Tiffany (with Joe, Braden, and Evan's help!) Sorrentino

Social Ministry Committee:

The Social Ministry Committee met on 10/10 with 6 people in attendance. Julie Ridings started off the meeting by informing us about the progress of the Drive-Thru Pasta Dinner. Thanks to Macaroni Grill for donating the pasta and Olive Garden for the breadsticks. Thrivent provided seed money. As of this writing, more than \$2,100 will be given to Lutheran Disaster Relief. We also discussed the Worship in Pink Sunday and our Cobb Diaper Collection. We have surpassed last year by 1,000 diapers. This year we collected 6,657 diapers! We will meet again Tuesday, November 14th at 7 PM to go over our numerous December programs. Like to give thanks to the Lord? Come join The Social Ministry Committee. Besides being so caring and loving, this Committee is a blast!

Christmas Card Photo Display:

We will begin collecting your families Christmas Card Photo's for display on our bulletin board in the Narthex by the end of November.

Budget & Finance Committee:

Financial Summary (as of September 30, 2017)

Year to date income:	\$204,718
Year to date expenses:	<u>\$194,125</u>
Year to date net income:	\$10,593

Year to date expenses as a percent of annual budget: **75%**

Checking/Money Market Balance:	\$96,639
Mission Investment Fund:	<u>\$20,096</u>
Total Cash Balance	\$116,735
Mortgage balance:	\$157,969

Christian Education Committee:

Christmas Musical

The Christmas Program will take place on Sunday, December 17 at 8:45 and 11:00 am. Rehearsal will take place on Sunday, December 10th after the 11:00 a.m. service and Saturday, December 16 in the morning. This year's program will showcase the talents of our youth. Please contact Maxine Langford or Lisa Fallin for details concerning the program. We would love to have the participation of all of our youth.

Mission Trip - 2018

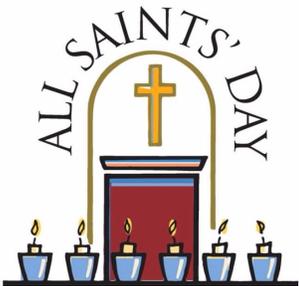
Following the success of the Mission Trip to Canada, the high school youth and their parents will vote on the destination of a mission trip for 2018.

The choices are:-

- The triannual ELCA youth gathering in Houston - June 27- July 1st.
- New Orleans - July 7- 14 or July 14-21
- Daytona Beach - July 7- 14 or July 14-21

GIVING THANKS - 1 Corinthians 1:4 – "I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ"

Please take a moment and write down something that you are thankful for on the enclosed red leaf.



We celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 5th, remembering the saints among us who have gone to meet our Lord. There will be a table set up in the Narthex. Please feel free to bring a picture of a loved one you would like to remember, along with a card noting their name and relationship to you. Also, if you'd like your loved one's name listed in the service, please contact our church office.

CHURCH CLEAN UP

Join us on Saturday, Nov. 11th at 9:00 a.m. to Noon to do some light and deep cleaning around the church. We will meet at the church at 9 am. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Thanks to everyone for helping at our church.

Copyright © 2016 Christ Lutheran Church of Marietta, All rights reserved.

Monthly Church Newsletter

Our mailing address is:

Christ Lutheran Church of Marietta

176 W. Sandtown Road SW

Marietta, GA 30064

770-424-2850

<http://www.clcwestcobb.org/>

Find us on Facebook @CLCMarietta