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Monthly Publication of Christ Lutheran Church Marietta, GA



Sunday Worship Services 8:45 and 11:00

GOOD NEWSletter

We Are Called to Be the Body of Christ for West Cobb.

EST 1984

A Letter From Pastor Tim

What is Holy week and why is it important to remember?

Feeling busy this time of year, and when we get closer to times of celebration it increases the feeling of being overwhelmed. Adding one more thing to an already compressed calendar can seem like just too much. This year I want to challenge you instead of leaning into the cleaning and food prep, lean deeper into the reason why we Gather. Our stress comes from a pressure we feel to make things good or even perfect, but in this Holy Week we learn about Christ's transformation of our brokenness.

As we deepen our understanding of Holy Week, so we deepen the understanding of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. It can be a powerful week to share our faith with family and friends. This is a week where timid Lutherans can be bold to talk about our faith and its importance in our lives.

Holy week begins on Palm Sunday it is a time when we celebrate the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem. This entry doesn't happen in the way we might expect a grand leader to come in. Imagine if the chancellor of Germany showed up in a 1983 Chevy Cavalier. Not exactly what folks would call impressive, yet this is the way Jesus chose to make his entrance.

On Thursday we celebrate Maundy Thursday, not to be confused with Monday Thursday. Maundy comes from the Latin word for commandment, Mandatum. , the first word of the phrase "*Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos*" ("I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.") John 13:34. We gather to remember the commandment along with hearing again about the betrayal of Jesus.

On Friday we remember the day when Christ was crucified. We join, in silence and hear the story. In the stillness and darkness, we remember this love and the hope we have in Jesus. On Good Friday we do not celebrate, it's a solemn day. If you are not able to make the service try to abstain from a celebration of any kind, take time and read the story and live into the mystery of faith.

On Saturday we celebrate a Vigil of Easter, this year we will not have a service at Christ Lutheran Church, but you can do this at home also. We gather to remember Christ's passage from death to life. A simple way to do this in your home is after the sun goes down to light a big candle as if you were waiting for someone to come home. Read Romans 6: 3-11 and think about what it means to be tied into Jesus death and resurrection and know Sunday is coming...

God's Peace,

Pastor Tim Wrenn

Greetings!

It is an honor to represent our congregation as a member of our council. As I mentioned last month, we held our first visioning session in March where we focused on goal setting for the coming year. We aligned on key priorities for our efforts as a council over this term to help continue moving forward with our mission and serving our members. The key focus areas for 2017 will be:

Long Term Growth Planning – including membership goals, a review of our physical space, and financial planning

Christian Education – both youth and adult programming, as well as other spiritual growth opportunities

Communication – internal communication to our members, soliciting regular feedback, and external communication about our church in the community

Discipleship / Social Ministry –community outreach and opportunities to increase our impact on the communities we serve while giving our members additional opportunities for involvement

Governance – reviewing current structure and adding new structure as needed in areas such as our constitution and mission, job and committee descriptions, risk management, and records management

In the coming months as we dive deeper into each of these topics monthly, I'll share with you what we've been working on. We'll also plan to update in additional detail during our Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting on May 21st. As always, your comments, ideas, and feedback are greatly appreciated. Please pray for us as we work together to serve the Lord and further our mission together.

God Bless,

Mike Mahler
2017 Congregation President

Stewardship – Can't Stop the Feeling

Time, Talents, and Treasure are three words we associate with stewardship. As I was preparing to write something for the newsletter this month I struggled. Then as I was sitting in the pew Sunday morning the 19th of March I found my inspiration.

The choir prepared to sing the anthem. Scotty turned to the members of the congregation and asked us all to participate. As the choir sang and we later joined in I noticed a special energy coming from the congregation. One woman caught my eye as tears streamed down her face. I spoke to her after service to make sure she was okay. She was and in fact very happy!! She was touched with emotion by the rendition of “O Blessed Spring”. The choir and the congregation worshipping God with the voices he gave us, “what a beautiful sound” she said.

God has given each of us unique gifts and talents. One of the primary places God has called us to use these gifts and talents is through our works. Using these, is how we express our love for God our families and our neighbors. In what way is God calling us as individuals and as a congregation, to steward our Time, Talent and Treasure?

Psalm 24:1-3

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

God's Blessing to all,

Artie Kappel

Social Ministry Committee:

The Social Ministry Committee met on 3/14 with 8 people in attendance. (We can always use more members! We are a fun group!) We had 2 special guests representing Family Promise of Cobb County. They explained their program to us, and our interest was piqued by their program. We also did some visioning for the future of our Committee. We want to find more ways to show God's love to our community. In that regard, don't forget to fill up your pink Lenten piggies! We will be collecting them during Holy Week. Read Dana Bonham's article about the United Way Shoebox Campaign which takes place in April. Finally, The Stewardship, Witness and Evangelism, and Social Ministry Committees hope that you enjoyed MUST Night instead of Pasta night on March 29th. This was a way to demonstrate to the congregation what is served every month at MUST! Our next meeting will be the 2nd Tuesday of May at 7PM!

2017 Hunger Walk – The Results are In!

On Sunday, March 5th, 2017, Christ Lutheran Church had a strong showing at the 2017 Hunger Walk in Downtown Atlanta. Between our 2 teams, we had 22 walkers/runners, and raised nearly \$3,000! These proceeds will benefit food pantries, shelters, community kitchens, senior centers and child care centers across metro Atlanta and north Georgia through Lutheran Services of Georgia.

While the youth team had energy and stamina, the adult team came out on top in money raised and number of participants. All had great fun supporting a great cause.

We appreciate all the support from CLC to give back to our community, in both West Cobb and greater Atlanta!

Tom Mabry

Emily Mabry

Witness/Evangelism Committee

Happy Easter from the Witness/Evangelism Committee!

We have welcomed quite a few new visitors this year, and continue in the cookie ministry. With Easter upon us there will be many opportunities to meet and welcome someone new to CLC.

Our greetings are memorable to those who visit and worship with us. Many times I have been told that they felt welcomed and the first thing they noticed was our warm hospitality. Thank you for greeting them with a smile and an introduction.

Unleashing Salt and Light,

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

Romans 15:7 – Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.



Lutheran Chick's Book Club

Lutheran Chick's book club will be on Friday, April 21st at 7:00 pm held at the Buehners' home. We'll be discussing the book "The Charm Bracelet" by, Viola Shipman.

Thrivent Financial Seminar

Considering all the variables, deciding when and how to take Social Security can be difficult. Come as our guest to hear "Mr. Social Security," Jim Caulder present informative and entertaining updates on this important subject.

You will learn:

How to avoid costly mistakes.

The most up-to-date information on Social Security

Cost: Free!

When: April 18th, 2017 at 7:00 pm

Where: Christ Lutheran Church of Marietta

RSVP: Jill Martin (770) 856-0870 or Jill.martin@thrivent.com

Property Committee:

Our church is planning a cleanup work day on Saturday, April 8th from 9:00 am - Noon. Please plan on joining us, many hands make light work!

In his service,

Roger

Church Announcements

Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction

Where: Christ Lutheran Church, 176 W. Sandtown Rd. SW Marietta

When: Sunday, April 9, 2017

Why: All proceeds will pay for our youth and chaperones to complete their mission work in Toronto Canada this summer.

Pasta Dinner tickets \$10 each

Children 10 and under are FREE!

Silent Auction items available to bid on from 4:30 pm - until 6:20 pm. Baskets will be awarded to the highest bidder at that time.

Come join the fun and fellowship!

Easter egg goodies:

Our Easter egg hunt is on Sunday, April 16th at 9:45 am. Instead of filling our eggs, we ask if you'll please bring in your candy or chocolate contributions to

make Easter egg goody bags for the children.

New Pictorial Directory!

Sign up for your family portrait today! Everyone who participates will receive a complimentary 8x10 professional family portrait, one printed directory, smartphone app, and online directory. All appointments are on a first-come, first serve basis, so make your appointment today. We need everyone to participate in helping make this directory complete. Additional quality family portraits will be offered at competitive prices. Thank you for your participation! Quick Tip for your photos: Please avoid wearing green, as we will be using Green Screen Technology to photograph! (Like what they use in action and superhero movies) Please click the following link to make an appointment:

Sunday, May 14th Monday, May 15th

12:30 pm - 6:00 pm 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm

<http://www.appointmentquest.com/scheduler/2230093342?schedule=christlutheranchurch>



Lutheran Chicks News

The 2017 United Way Shoebox Project is back! Last year we successfully decorated and filled over 40 shoeboxes for United Way. These shoeboxes were filled with personal care and basic need items for women and children at homeless shelters throughout the 13-county region that United Way serves. We will be concentrating on collecting these boxes during the **month of April** and they will be delivered to United Way by **Monday, May 1st**. This year, rather than ask for donations, we are asking that everyone take a flyer and create and fill your own personal box. Shoeboxes may be wrapped in colorful wrapping paper or, if you happen to have the big, one-piece boxes, you may find that painting them and then decorating them would be easier. If you have some extra adult-size shoeboxes that you could drop off, those would be welcomed. If you would like to help by donating money, just mark your check "shoebox project" and put it in the collection plate and we will fill a box for you! Check out the boxes in the narthex to see samples. This is a great project to do with your children, as boxes are needed for children also.

Items to put in boxes:

shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, lotion, hair comb/brush, sun protector, lip balm, adhesive bandages, hand towels, antibiotic ointment, socks, tampons, panty liners, travel size water bottles, rain ponchos, resealable zipper storage bags, prepaid phone cards

Items that cannot be accepted:

medicine, food, sewing kits, used or opened items, mouthwash, razors

You can read more about the Shoebox Project at

<https://www.unitedwayatlanta.org/shoebox-project/>.

