

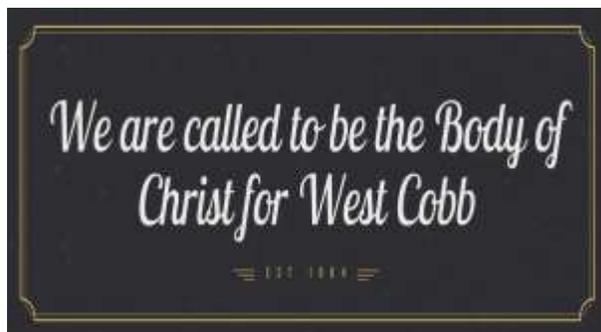
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Sunday Worship Services 8:45 and 11:00

GOOD NEWSletter



A Letter From Pastor Tim

Being a Digital Greeter

At Christ Lutheran Church we have some very fun traditions. One of those is having our greeters open the doors when people arrive. It also sometimes comes with a big hug to welcome you into the church. This invitation is a way that we try to show we care that people are here. We try to convey that God's doors are always open to all of God's children.

When we enact this tradition, we participate in a tradition of hospitality that is ancient in the Christian church: the Apostle Paul begins his letters to God's children of the first century with a distinct opening, "Grace and Peace to you." This opening invites the reader to feel at ease and encouraged right away, to experience God as they begin to hear Paul's words. It is a great first impression.

First impressions are important and make a lasting impact. They encourage openness in conversations and relationships. But they also do so much more: we here at CLC want to make sure that our first impressions, like Paul's, convey that we are open to all of God's children. That new folks not only feel welcomed but experience the warm and inviting presence of God as they come through our front door for worship.

But the “front door” is changing. We are seeing people first looking deeply through our digital presence way before they even decide to enter our doors. This makes it even more important that we extend our hospitality into the digital world.

Here is an example: on April 11th, I uploaded a photo of Christ Lutheran to Google Maps, so that when folks are looking for us they can now see a picture of the church. To my surprise, on May 2nd, less than a month later, I received an email from Google informing me that the picture I had put up was seen 1,132 times! While that doesn’t mean that Christ Lutheran Church, in particular, was searched 1,132 times in less than a month, it does mean that many searches were performed looking for churches in our area. And whenever someone did that search, instead of seeing a standard Google Maps icon, now they saw an actual picture of us.

As we think about folks moving more into the digital age, I want to encourage you to find a way to be hospitable as others look to understand CLC. This can be sharing events on your social media, identifying places that we need to update in the digital world or, most importantly, going out and leaving a review on the many places we already have a presence.

Today or tomorrow, please take 5 minutes to leave a review with your favorite search engine. It may seem small to add some stars or leave a few sentences, but due to the way algorithms work it can have an incredible impact. Think of it as doing digitally what you would do personally if someone were to walk through our physical front door: welcoming them, shaking a hand, sharing a hug.

As we work in the digital world to expand our hospitality, remember that it doesn’t change our mission or ministry here at CLC of helping real people with real problems. We want to continue to present people with an incarnational (in-the-body) God, one who knows the problems of this world and offers hope. We continue to strive in tangible ways to share in the life-changing Word that gives life and freedom. We continue to be the Body of Christ in word and deed for West Cobb.

God’s Peace,

Pastor Tim

Greetings!

Thanks so much to everyone who attended our Semi-Annual Congregation meeting on May 21st. It was great to be able to share the outstanding work of our committees and celebrate our many accomplishments so far this year. We celebrated our Sunday School & Confirmation teachers and thank them all for their ongoing commitment to our youth!

As Summer is now upon us, between well-deserved vacations and busy schedules, I hope you will stay active in our church. From our Vacation Bible School in June to our Low Country Boil in July where we will welcome back our missionary members Julia and Vincent, there is a very active summer ahead. And during our worship services this Summer, we will be hearing more about Pastor Tim's travels following the path of Paul.

Of course, the communities we serve continue to rely on our support even while we enjoy Summer, and we will stay active in our many ministries. We have so much to be thankful for as a church family and look forward to seeing you all as often as possible in the coming weeks.

As always, your comments, ideas, and feedback are greatly appreciated.

God Bless,

Mike Mahler

2017 Congregation President

VP & Mutual Ministry

We have been blessed to have Janice Gunn serve as our nursery attendant for the past 10+ years! We are seeking an additional nursery attendant(s) to serve the 3rd and 4th Sundays of each month, while Miss Janice will continue to serve the 1st and 2nd Sundays. This is an additional paid staff position that will give us more flexibility and options for scheduling. Plus, who wouldn't want to spend 4 hours each Sunday with our little ones!

If interested, or you know someone who might be, please contact Pastor Tim or Tom Mabry.

Stewardship – Can't Stop the Feeling !

PLANTING SEEDS: Last month I asked if anyone had a story to share with us. One story stood out for me and truly placed seeds on fertile soil.

A woman and her baby in South Africa was brought to the attention of a member of our church family. This young woman was a recovering alcoholic and was struggling to feed her baby boy. Due to a lack of nutrition, she was unable to produce enough milk herself to feed her baby. She had to find a way to buy enough milk to keep her son nourished and healthy. "We felt we wanted to help so we donated some money over a period of time to help her buy the milk she needed".

A few years had gone by and a note was received about the current situation of the woman and her son. She has remained sober this whole time. With the money sent to help her, she has purchased goats for milk and these goats have multiplied. She has been able to provide her son with milk and can produce enough to sell some for other supplies they need. The young boy is now attending school and they know that a family they never met cared enough to plant the initial seeds for her and her baby boy.

The seeds planted continue to grow and provide for this woman and her baby boy. We confess that all that we are and all that we have belongs to God. Faithful Stewardship is an act of worship giving out of glad and generous hearts. "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21).

God's Blessing to all, Artie Kappel

Social Ministry Committee:

The Social Ministry Committee meeting for May was canceled. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, August 8th at 7 PM at which time we will start planning our "busy" Autumn season.

Fellowship Committee:

Greetings,

There is not much to report this month. We will be having the Low Country Boil on Saturday, July 29th along with a talk from Julie and Vincent regarding their missionary work and how we can help them. I will be getting in touch with Elaine regarding a trivia night which she will host sometime this summer while she is still available before taking to her many travels. We will also be having a Rome Braves game sometime in August more to come on the date next month.

Hope you all have a wonderful summer!

Peace

Lois and Lisa :)

Witness/Evangelism Committee

June brings a new member Pizza with the Pastor and Congregational Potluck Reception. We are planning the Pizza with the Pastor for Saturday, June 3rd, and the Congregational Potluck Reception for Sunday, June 4th following the 11 o'clock service.

There are many big and little needs to be filled. If you miss the chance to help in June let me know and you can help in the fall. Thank you in advance to all who make this happen for the newest members of our congregation!

Unleashing Salt and Light,

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

Church Announcements



Christ Lutheran Church VBS 2017:

“Maker Fun Factory – Created by God, Built for a Purpose”

Save the Date!!

Sunday, June 4th - Thursday, June 8th

Dinner: 5:00 pm

VBS: 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Vacation Bible School Dinners:

Sunday, June 4th – Pasta with salad and bread

Monday, June 5th – Taco Night

Tuesday, June 6th – Chicken Nuggets, tator tots, and applesauce

Wednesday, June 7th – Sloppy Joes with chips

Thursday, June 8th – Pizza with salad and ice cream

This amazing adventure will help to ground children and adults in the solid foundation of Jesus’ love, a love that gives our lives incredible purpose. Imagine a world where curious kids become hands-on inventors who discover they’re lovingly crafted by God.

Please, Join Us!!

To register your kids or to sign up as a volunteer leader or helper, please visit our website at christlutheranchurchmarietta.org

