

Making Christ Known

April 2019



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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STEVE

During April we will continue our Lenten journey toward the cross. Much will be revealed about the world and God's love for it. We hear the fickleness of the crowds, the courage of Jesus to speak truth to power, the last supper with His friends, betrayal, humiliation, suffering and death. Jesus fully experienced the darkness of this world. If ever you wonder if God knows the depth of pain that humans experience we need look no further than the events of Holy Week. Yet we know that from the depths of darkness, that God reveals his love. "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13

Martin Luther summarizes what the life, death and resurrection means for believers in his second article explanation in the Apostles' Creed...

I believe that Jesus Christ—true God, Son of the Father from eternity, and true man, born of the Virgin Mary—is my Lord. At great cost he has saved and redeemed me, a lost and condemned person. He has freed me from sin, death and the power of the devil—not with silver or gold, but with his holy and precious blood and his innocent suffering and death. All this he has done that I may be his own, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus we have forgiveness, freedom and power to love and serve God and our neighbor. We have both an unending and an undying life. May you experience more fully the depth of God's love for you this April.

I encourage you to invite neighbors who maybe haven't yet found a church home to come celebrate Easter with us. Also, this year we will celebrate confirmation the week after Easter on the 28th at 10:00am.

Pastor Steve

LENTEN OFFERINGS

Offerings from the five Wednesday night Lenten services will be sent to Channel One unless it is placed in your Sunday offering envelope.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

We continue weekly on Wednesdays through April 10. The soup suppers are a free-will donation supporting youth Bible camp and youth mission trips.

Committees providing food for the Lenten Soup Suppers:

April 3 Evangelism/Stewardship
April 10 Building & Grounds/Youth Committee

If you find you do not have enough members of your group who are able to donate soup and/or bars, please contact Martha Gehrking. Help will be found for you.

Please assign members of your group to bring the following:

7 containers of soup, 5 quarts or more
7 pans of bars, kids' kinds are great.

The food needs to be at the church by 4:00 PM. If your soup is cold, please bring to the kitchen by noon and plug it in. If hot, 4:00 PM is fine. Serving by the confirmands is from 5:00-6:00 PM. The Lent Service starts at 6:30 PM. The confirmation classes will set up and clean up.

During this season of Lent, may we all enjoy our fellowship together, support our youth, and renew our spirit of Christ the Lord and Risen Savior.

Contact Martha Gehrking with any questions.

Home: 775-6274 Email: tgehrking@citlink.net

CHANCEL CHOIR & JUBELLANCE

Volunteers are welcome for the Lent and Easter services. Please contact Terry Bird at tbird@vacava.com or Jane Cabaya at libbugjane@frontiernet.net.

EASTER BAND

If you are interested in playing in the band for the Easter service please contact Terry Bird at tbird@vacava.com or Jane Cabaya at libbugjane@frontiernet.net.

LENT SERIES

The following two Wednesdays in lent will be based on the letter of First Peter "A Living Hope". Peter wrote this letter to encourage communities who were facing persecution. Services will be 30-35 minutes using the Holden Evening prayer. Each Wednesday we will explore a chapter of First Peter to understand more fully our reasons for hope.

April 3rd..... Living for God

April 10th.....Cast Your Anxiety on Him

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Lent continues in April. It is mandatory for confirmands to attend all of the services and to participate with their group at their designated station each week. **Each student must have at least 1 parent or guardian serve along with them during Meal Prep and Serve/Cleanup week**

APRIL LENTEN SOUP SUPPER 2019 SCHEDULE

	Meal Preparation	Serve/Cleanup	Service/Ushering	Small Group
Report Time	4:30	5:00	5:45	6:00
	Serve 4:30-5:30, then meet for small group/eat at 5:30	Small group/eat at 5:00, then serve 5:25-6:25	Small group/eat at 5:45, then start welcoming at 6:15	Small group/eat before attending service at 6:30
April 3rd	8th-mixed	8th-girls	7th-girls	7th-boys
April 10th	7th-boys	8th-mixed	8th-girls	7th-girls

Other Important dates:

Saturday, April 6th: Second year MANDATORY retreat.

- They will be creating their stoles for Confirmation Sunday

Wednesday, April 17th: Holy Week - no class

Thursday, April 18th: Maundy Thursday service

Friday, April 19th: Good Friday service

Sunday, April 21st: Easter Sunday

Wednesday, April 24th: First year's last class for this year

-Second year has pictures and rehearsal with parents.

Sunday, April 28th: Confirmation Sunday, 10am service

Wednesday, May 1st: Year end mentor meeting

As we wrap up this year, have a plan to finish your sermon notes and service projects. Remember acolyting duties continue year round. As plans begin for next year, please let us know if you would be willing to mentor our youth.

Thank You,

Lynette Magnuson dmagnuson@gmail.com

Confirmation Coordinator

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; John 11:25



ROMANS 8:16

RIVER OF LIFE NEWS

If you are interested in volunteering to teach or helping in the classrooms please contact: Francine Kovash at fkovash@hotmail.com or 507-951-2234.

The lessons for April will be:

4/7 - Psalm 68:18-20; Acts 1:1-20 - Jesus Passes on His Power

4/14 - No Sunday School- Spring Break

4/21 - No Sunday School- Happy Easter!

4/28 - Easter Lesson - John 19:16-20:18 - Jesus Has Victory Over Death

April 7th -3-year-olds through 2nd grade will sing at the 10 AM service
April 28th - The Education Committee will host an Easter Egg Hunt for the ROL kids during Sunday School.

April 28th -Confirmation will be during the 10 AM service

Offering collected during ROL and to the left of the altar in the sanctuary from January through June will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief to assist in the Africa Drought crisis. July through December money collected will go to the Channel One Food Shelf.

Thank you!

Francine Kovash

APRIL ACOLYTE SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

- | | | |
|----------|------|-----------------------------------|
| 04/07/19 | 8am | MaKana Schroeder, Abigail Hall |
| | 10am | Nathan Matter, Abbi Dodge |
| 04/14/19 | 8am | Abby More, Ethan More |
| | 10am | Luke Bjelland, Kyra Kraetsch |
| 04/21/19 | 8am | David Deutz, One Needed |
| | 10am | Zachary Vanderpool, Carter Geerts |
| 04/28/19 | 8am | Olivia Yennie, Allie Petersen |
| | 10am | Austin Hart, David Deutz |
| 05/05/19 | 8am | Paige Halder, Zachary Vanderpool |
| | 10am | Abby More, Ethan More |

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will continue to meet between 5pm and 6pm for the soup supper on April 3rd and 10th. Join us in the youth room for good food and conversation. We will worship together at 6:30pm. There is no service on April 17th, but we welcome you to attend one (or all!) of the Holy Week services on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Regular youth group will resume on Wednesday, April 24th at 7pm.

MISSION TRIP SHAREHOLDERS

Mission trip shares cost \$25 each. You may purchase as many shares as you would like. The cost per youth is about \$500. We hope to keep the family out-of-pocket cost at \$250 per youth.

The Mission Trip youth and families will host a Shareholder Dinner on Sunday, August 4th at 5:30pm. There will be a power point presentation and the youth will share about their experience. It will be an evening of education, fun and fellowship. Purchase your shares today!

Your completed form and check can be dropped in the offering plate or left in the church office. Please make check payable to Christ Lutheran Youth. Information will also be available on the kiosk. You can also access the form online at <http://www.clcbyron.org/youthworks/>

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Morning adult Bible study is from 9:45 - 10:45. Pastor Nirmala will lead an in depth study on the Book of Philippians during the month of April. This book has no definite plan, but it is the sweetest of all Paul's Letters. There is no scolding. It is a love letter. Please come!

Pastor Nirmala

PALM SUNDAY FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST

April 14, 2019 ~ 7:00–11:30am

The profits from this event help sponsor CLC youth at Summer Bible Camp and/or the Youth Mission Trip. Summer Bible Camp and Youth Mission Trip opportunities are wonderful experiences for our youth. Many of our youth attend summer after summer. What a great way to invest in our youth; the future of our church!

French Toast Breakfast volunteers needed!

Campers and Mission Trip youth & families are expected to volunteer in the kitchen/dining room, although all are welcome to come help.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH POEM

The office has some printed copies available to the congregation of the "Christ Lutheran" poem, created for the 50th Anniversary by member, Dick Bedney. They are located on the tables by the office.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All scholarship applications can be found on the kiosk. Please submit scholarships individually in sealed envelopes marked with the scholarship's name. All applications are due in the church office by Sunday, April 28, 2019.

BRENDA HALLAWAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Brenda Hallaway Memorial Scholarship will award \$200 to assist any person entering or continuing in an educational program. His/Her goal should be to enhance his/her skills.

GEORGE JAMSA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Jamsa Scholarship will award \$250 to a student who has contributed to the music ministry at Christ Lutheran and who plans to incorporate music education while continuing studies beyond high school.

YOUTH COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP

All 2018 graduating seniors, who are members of Christ Lutheran, may apply for this \$300 scholarship.

BIBLE CAMP SPONSORSHIP

Equipping all ages to love and serve God and people is a priority at Christ Lutheran Church. In order to encourage families to invest in Bible Camp, we offer camp sponsorships for youth currently in 1st through 12th grade. Most young people remember the great times and the learning experiences of camp for their entire life. Parents have told us that they were amazed at the change in their young person during the Bible camp week.

The Bible Camp Sponsorship Application forms can be found on the church website at clcbbyron.org/bible-camperships/ or on the kiosk. Please use one form per child. Forms are due by May 15.

BIBLE TALK

Whether part of the Sunday readings from that day, or part of your Bible reading plan during the week, we all have questions about the Bible. The aim of "Bible Talk" will be to share our questions, thoughts, and a-ha's with others in an effort to know Christ better, glorify God, and learn about His Word. Anyone (including Youth) is invited to attend on Sundays at 9:20 in the Chapel.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.
1 Pet 5:7

CABIN FEVER DATE NIGHT

Cabin Fever Date Night is here!! The 2019 Mission Trip students and Confirmation students are offering their child care services on Apr. 26th, 2019.

Kids can be dropped off at church beginning at 6:00pm and need to be picked up by 9:00pm. No meals will be provided but snacks will be served - along with games, movies, and a good time. Parents can enjoy a date night together while kids enjoy playing with church friends. We will have adult supervision at this event.

Donations for the Mission trip and Bible Camp Scholarships will be greatly appreciated!

Questions, contact Tim Meek at timothymeek@gmail.com or call 775-2061.

SOLSTICE STOMP 5K RUNNING FOR A MISSION JUNE 21, 2019 AT 7PM

BEARWOOD EVENT BARN, 5901 COUNTY ROAD 105 NW, BYRON

Here is your chance to get some exercise and have some fun! The Youth Committee is planning the 2nd annual Solstice Stomp 5k 'Running for a Mission' on June 21st at 7pm. New this year – the race will be a trail run through the woods at the beautiful Bearwood Event Barn located at 5901 County Road 105 NW, Byron. There will be a kids run for our littlest runners age 8 and under at 6:30pm. Registration begins at 6:15. Sign up forms can be found on the kiosk or online at: <https://raceroster.com/events/2019/22415/solstice-stomp-5k-trail-edition>

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

A blood pressure clinic will be offered between church services on Palm Sunday, April 14th. Blood pressure checks will be done by a nurse and will be located in the youth room (the room with the couches near the kitchen). If you would like your blood pressure checked, remember to wear a shirt that allows easy access to your upper arm. Informational handouts from the American Heart Association will be available at that time as well. If you have any questions, please call Holly Alsleben at 507-951-9284.

Thank you for your time!
Holly Alsleben

Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS ~ IHN

The next host week for Family Promise is June 9-16. Please say yes if you are able when our coordinators contact you to help with driving, fixing and serving meals, and staying overnight.

Bob & Karen Brekke	775-6339	Overall Coordinators
Bob Brekke	775-6339	Driver Coordinator
Elaine Meek	775-2061	Meal Coordinator
Hertha Lange	775-6726	Overnight Host Coordinator

CHARITABLE GIVING AFTER AGE 70 ½

Individuals age 70 ½ and older may distribute up to \$100,000 tax-free each year from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) to certain charitable organizations without including the amount of the charitable distribution in gross income when filing their tax return. The entire distribution must otherwise be deductible as a charitable contribution.

Why does this provision in the Internal Revenue Tax Code take on more importance in 2018?

The recently passed income tax act, passed by Congress, increases the standard deduction for individuals to \$12,000 and to \$24,000 for married couples (\$26,500 for couples who are both over age 65). It is estimated that only 15% of federal tax returns filed for 2018 will itemize deductions.

The provision referenced in the first paragraph will allow taxpayers who have reached age 70 ½ to direct the custodian of their IRA account to make a direct distribution from their account to a designated charity. This results in reported taxable income being reduced to the extent of the charitable distribution and achieving a result similar to prior years when they would have itemized deductions.

An added benefit is this method of giving also reduces gross income for the calculation determining the amount of Social Security benefits that may be taxable.

MOVIE TIME - APRIL 14TH AT 2:00

A Christian drama with medical themes will be viewed.



FEBRUARY MEMORIALS 2019

IN MEMORY OF NANCY CEDERBERG

Music Fund.....Irv and Nancy Nehring

4TH ANNUAL MOTHER/DAUGHTER LUNCHEON SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH 11AM-12:30PM

Join us for a luncheon, games, and crafts. Cost is \$7.00. Tickets go on sale April 14th. Don't miss this annual event to honor the fabulous women in our lives.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER - MAY 2, 2019

Pray for America

Theme verse: "Love one another; just as I loved you." John 13:34

Prayer Service: There will be a half hour service led by pastors at 11am and 6:30pm. There will be a time for individual prayers afterwards.

The sanctuary will be open from 9am - 8pm on May 2nd to encourage people to pray for our nation and leaders. Prayer guides will be available.

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP	2019	2018
Total Attendance	677	893
Avg Sunday Attendance	226	223

MARCH ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP	2019	2018
1st Sunday	216	199
2nd Sunday	131	185
3rd Sunday	275	255
4th Sunday	251	395
5th Sunday	no data at printing	----
Total Attendance	873	1,034
Avg Sunday Attendance	218	259

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1

Go GREEN!

Did you know the office prints and mails out almost 300 newsletters each month? The office also emails the newsletter to over 400 email addresses, monthly. To save a tree, as well as the cost of printing, time for assembling, and mailing, consider receiving the newsletter via email only. This can be done by contacting the church office at office@clcb Byron.org or 775-6646 or sign up on the clipboard on the table outside the church office.

ELECTRONIC GIVING FORMS

To give to the mission of Christ Lutheran Church electronically, please complete an electronic giving form found on the kiosk in the narthex, or access the website and click on "Online giving" to set up an account with your own password. Thank you for supporting the future of Christ Lutheran.



This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

1 John 3:16

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAMARITAN BETHANY

SAMARITAN BETHANY TURNED 97 THIS PAST MONTH!

Below is an abbreviated history.

The Samaritan Convalescent Hospital and Hotel of Rochester began its operation on March 7, 1922 at 25 7th Street NW, Rochester, Minnesota. It was established and operated by the Men's Fellowship of Peace United Church of Christ of Rochester as an extension of the church to serve those in need. As the need for long-term care for the aged, infirm and chronically ill became more prevalent the facility was remodeled and converted to a nursing home in February of 1956. The modern 113 bed nursing home provided complete nursing care on an around the clock basis and was known as the Samaritan Nursing Home.

Over the next 70 years Samaritan Bethany evolved to better serve the needs the community.

In 1999, it became evident that a bridge between independent living and skilled nursing home care was a relevant need within the community. With that in mind, the Foundation began a fundraising campaign to raise capital for the renovation of the third floor of the Home on Eighth. The renovation was designed to meet the pressing need of area seniors for affordable assisted living units. The 24 new assisted living units were offered to the public in February 2000 and later another five units were made available in February 2001.

Samaritan Bethany, Inc. is the "owner" of The Home on Eighth, Arbor Terrace, and Samaritan Bethany Assisted Living on 8th. Samaritan Bethany Foundation, Inc. remains a separate corporation.

The corporation is affiliated with and sponsored by:

Bethel Lutheran Church	Rochester
Christ Lutheran Church	Byron
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church	Rochester
Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Rochester
Peace United Church of Christ	Rochester
Zumbro Lutheran Church	Rochester
Hosanna Lutheran Church	Rochester

If you have questions, please contact Terry Bird – Christ Lutheran's Board Representative.

BOOK CLUB

Apr 1 Lab Girl

Hope Jahren

May - undecided

The book club typically meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00pm at Christ Lutheran Church. We often get “Books in a Bag” so the next month’s books will be distributed at the meetings. We take turns bringing treats and each person brings their own beverage. Everyone is welcome to join us in reading and discussion of the monthly books.

JOY COFFEE HOUR

Our next coffee hour will be Monday, April 1st **at Ruth Brooks home** located at 411 3rd Ave NW in Brookmoor homes area.

JOY Coffee Hour is a group of women who gather monthly for a social hour of conversation and coffee time. We take turns furnishing the treats. An annual picnic is planned in July at a park in Byron. A noon Pot Luck is planned in December. Anyone interested, we welcome you to join us. We meet the first Monday of the month at 9:30am at church. Occasionally, we plan lunch outings, visits to museums, or attending plays/concerts in the area. It has been a lot of fun for all of us who currently belong. Three new ladies joined late in 2018 and one in 2019. We welcome all newcomers. Think about becoming a JOY Club member!

DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

If you are someone who cannot get to church and needs a ride, please sign up at the welcome center, or call LeAnn Bieber at 507-421-5862 to get added to the list.

CAN YOU GIVE A RIDE TO CHURCH?

Please sign up at the welcome center. We will try to match you with someone on your route to church.

EARN EXTRA CASH WHILE HELPING OTHERS

Become a Senior Companion Volunteer in the Rochester area by making friendly visits to older adults in need. Senior Companions must be 55 years of age or older; service of 10 hours or more a week earns a small hourly tax-free stipend, plus receive travel reimbursement. For more information, contact Ashley at 507-512-1036.

Ashley Lushinsky
Program Coordinator
Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota

MARCH 19TH, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

Call to order at 6:30 - Randy Holz

Members Present: Pastor Steve, Ben Johnson, LeAnn Bieber, Joan Skare, Candee Ostreng, Dave Schlobohm, Josh Heinz, Aaron Anderson

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by LeAnn Bieber, 2nd by Dave. Motion carried

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Candee, 2nd by Aaron. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report:

February 2019 was a down month ending \$13,654.42 in the red. Expense exceeds income for the year by \$15,399.28

February Income	\$16,134.08	YTD Budget	\$58,548.00
February Expense	\$29,788.50	YTD Income	\$41,406.33
February Difference	(\$13,654.42)	YTD Expense	\$56,805.61
		YTD Difference	(\$15,399.28)

2018 YTD Difference was (\$9,251.28)

Note on Financial Deficit: Due to bad weather and lower attendance, an unusual amount of snow removal and fixing the parking lot lights and timer, we are about \$6,000 behind where we were last year at this time. We are planning to replace a large furnace/AC unit which will take another \$7,500.00 out of general fund.

Action Items: Motion made by Joan Skare, 2nd by LeAnn Bieber to approve \$400.00 Leadership development expense for discernment process for Owen Hoegh who is exploring the possibility of ordination. This comes from a request from the SE MN Synod office which oversees pastoral development. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made by Candee, 2nd by Dave Meeting Adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Next Council meeting will be April 16th at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Joan Skare

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

John 1:12

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 14 - WORSHIP 8AM, 10AM
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - 6:30PM
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - 6:30PM
EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 21 - WORSHIP 8AM, 10AM
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY APRIL 28 - 10AM

OFFICE HOURS
9:00AM- 4:00PM MON-THURS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

