



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR NIRMALA

EASTER EVERY DAY Recently, I was asked what determines when we celebrate Easter Sunday? Before you read any further, do you know the answer? Easter Sunday is held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox, the moment the Sun crosses the celestial equator (the imaginary line in the sky above the Earth's equator) from south to north (www.timeanddate.com). In other words, Easter Sunday is tied to the transitions of nature so that the date moves from year to year.

There are lots of reasons why it was set up this way. Here are two I like. First, Easter is connected to a change in the season. Something new is happening. The world is on the brink of change and will look different soon. Second, Easter doesn't have a specific date. That connects with the church's view that every Sunday is a celebration of Easter. It is not just once a year we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Easter is the way we live our faith, ask questions, offer our prayers, gather as the body of Christ, serve in and through our shared ministry, and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Easter encourages us to live Easter's good news of new life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ every day. The greatest way we can do that is to do what the first disciples did. They gave testimony to how they saw the Lord. Jesus appeared in all kinds of places - in locked rooms, along the road, in the midst of fear and doubt, injustice and despair, to people who longed for meaning, purpose, wholeness and faith, and certainly in the joys of being found, healings, and the discovery of God's way and will.

Where do you see Jesus? How are you experiencing new life in this Easter season? The good news of Easter tells us that wherever we look, regardless of what day it is, Jesus is there, waiting to be seen, waiting for our eyes to open and see new life and new possibilities.

As you open this newsletter, I hope that your eyes will be opened to the wonderful ways God is working through us and calling you into new life. When I see the breadth and impact of our ministry, I can't help but say, "I have seen the Lord!!"

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! -Pastor Nirmala Reinschmidt

COVID19 IMPACT AT CLC

All activities involving more than 10 people are cancelled until further notice. Sunday and Wednesday Lent worship services are online at: <http://www.clcbyron.org/media/> or on Facebook or Zoom. ROL Sunday School and Confirmation classes are cancelled until further notice. Office hours have been reduced to 9-12, Monday through Thursday.

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Crisis Info/IHN/ Samaritan Bethany



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Senior Pastor

clcpastorsteve@gmail.com



Pastor Nirmala Reinschmidt

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CONFIRMATION SERVICE AND 2ND YEAR RETREAT WILL BE IN OCTOBER

CONFIRMATION NEWS

For all students who need to complete sermon notes: Sunday and Wednesday worship services have been canceled until an unknown date. Pastor Steve, Pastor Nirmala and many of our church members are finding ways to bring us the word of the Lord. Follow Christ Lutheran Church on FaceBook and/or go to the website and you will find devotionals and sermons that you can share with your child. Have them fill out a sermon note that is found on the Confirmation website. Email the completed form to both myself and their mentor, I will get the progress chart updated.

For all students who need to complete Service Projects: I have blankets that can be made - I can meet you at the church to either take new ones OR if you have some to return, I can get those from you as well. There are opportunities that are popping up such as: Sewing Masks: <https://kttc.com/2020/03/22/olmsted-medical-center-seeks-volunteers-to-sew-face-masks/> Create Cards or write letters to send to nursing home residents - they are not allowed visitors but you can still brighten their day! Be creative. We will be understanding about the deadline - but keep in mind, there are many people in need. Email the completed form to myself and your child's mentor.

I don't know when or if classes will resume this year. Some mentors have talked about using different tools such as Zoom to connect with their group. Please watch for communication from your mentors.

For all students - share the devotionals and video services with your youth - we hope these will bring you peace and comfort during this time. Remember your church family is here for you, so reach out if there is anything that we can help with. Confirmation page: <http://www.clcbyron.org/confirmation/>

Worship Videos: <http://www.clcbyron.org/media/>

~Diane Theobald, Confirmation Coordinator

SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

High school senior recognition Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 17 at the 10am service. More details on submitting your bio and participating in the service as your CLC church family congratulates you on completing another important milestone will be coming. Scholarships will be presented.

BRENDA HALLAWAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

One scholarship will be awarded for each of the three scholarships below. All scholarship applications can be found on the kiosk or we can mail the applications out by request. Please submit scholarships individually in sealed envelopes marked with the scholarship's name. Scholarships must be turned in by April 26th, 2020.

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 CLC and who plans to incorporate music education while continuing studies beyond high school.

YOUTH COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP

All 2020 graduating seniors, who are members of Christ Lutheran may apply for this \$300 scholarship.

YOUTH COMMITTEE NEWS - APRIL 2020

CANCELLATIONS

Due to social distancing guidelines to prevent the spread of coronavirus, the remainder of the Lenten soup suppers, Cabin Fever Date Nights, the Palm Sunday French Toast Breakfast, and Silent Auction were cancelled. Fortunately though, due to the generosity of our congregation at past fund raisers, we are still providing Bible camp scholarships. We hope area camps are able to operate by summer.

SOLSTICE STOMP 5K

Assuming society is able to return to normal activities soon, the 4th annual Solstice Stomp 5K will be held on Thursday, June 18th starting at 7pm! Information on the race can be found on its FaceBook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Solstice-Stomp-5K-1158441940942320/>). If we are able, the Youth Committee would like to hold a Couch to 5K program leading up to the 5k. This would start at the end of April or early May.

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are available on the kiosk in the narthex or use this link on the website: <http://www.clcbyron.org/bible-camperships/> Fundraisers sponsored by the youth committee provide scholarships to cover 50% of camp cost up to \$225. The application deadline is the end of May. Area camps to consider are Good Earth Village, Camp Victory, Camp Omega, and Camp Shetek.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Diane Theobald and Matt Petersen will lead a group of 13 teenage members of our congregation on a YouthWorks mission trip to Pine Ridge, SD on June 20-26. Pray that this enriching experience can happen.



MISSION TRIP - DEPOSITS AND REGISTRATION PAPERWORK DUE

Final deposits of \$125 are due for the youth mission trip by April 19, 2020. Mission Trip information packets are now available on the kiosk for the families to pick up. The final Youthworks registration must be done for each student attending and can be done online. Please access the link below to register your student. Please contact the office if you have any questions or issues.

<https://go.youthworks.com/trip-signup/c1fdfee6-6fca-e911-a973-000d3a1d7966>

MISSION TRIP SHARES - Forms can be found on the kiosk or mailed out on request. Shares are \$25 each and help cover youth and chaperone expenses on the trip. There will be a shareholder dinner after the mission trip in June.

SAVE THE DATE - VBS FOR 2020

VBS will be held on August 3-6, 2020 from 6-8pm. VBS is open to kids aged 3 years old thru completion of 5th grade. Contact Sherri Biewer with questions or to volunteer at sdathe@hotmail.com.



FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP	2020	2019
Total Attendance	804	677
Avg Sunday Attendance	201	226

MARCH ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP	2020	2019
1st Sunday	253	216
2nd Sunday	179	131
3rd Sunday	no services - corona	275
4th Sunday	no services - corona	251
5th Sunday	no services - corona	<u>243</u>
Total Attendance	432	1,116
Avg Sunday Attendance	216	223

REMEMBER IN PRAYER - Tricia Dickison, Ed Voll, Cindy Wiebusch, DelLorain Schoenfeldt, Sandy Erickson, Marie Enser, our leaders, medical workers, First Responders, and all whose jobs are affected by the COVID19 virus.

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING**CATECHISM CLASS - ONLINE!**

Join us from 9-9:30am to study further, Luther's Small Catechism. There will be a 2-3 minute video about an element of the Catechism followed by questions and discussion, facilitated by Owen Hoegh.

Where: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/469954510> (map)

Who: ohoegh@gmail.com - organizer

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/469954510>

Meeting ID: 469 954 510

One tap mobile: 469954510# US Toll

Find your local number: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/469954510>

MUSIC VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Do you like to sing or working with kids? Christ Lutheran Church is looking for a volunteer to assist Kaia Long during ROL music class from 9:05-9:15 on Sunday mornings and for performances during church services. Please contact Francine Kovash at 507-951-2234 or fkovash@hotmail.com if you are interested in helping out.

CLC YOUTH GROUP - FLEECE BLANKETS - THANK YOU!

The teen youth of Christ Lutheran Church would like to thank all who donated materials and or time to the fleece blankets. We received 43 blanket kits! We had a great time cutting and making so many blankets. It is rewarding knowing that these are going to children/young adults in our area who are in great need.

We appreciate all the support in this outreach effort!

**THANK YOU**

Thanks to the brochure team for all their hard work in putting together our new Christ Lutheran brochure for new members. Team members included Janet Splinter, Stacy Kraetsch, Chris Polzin, Patty Boyum, and Sarah Johnson.

5TH ANNUAL MOTHER/DAUGHTER LUNCHEON

The Mother/Daughter Luncheon has been cancelled for April 19th.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Gary Himmerich, Walt & Joni Prigge, Dan & Liz Alsbury, Earl & June Hart, and Gayle Jaben. They delivered the Meals-on-Wheels through March, even with the quarantine threat. ~ Ruth Brooks, coordinator

THANK YOU

Thanks to Jerry Rieser for painting some of the Sunday school rooms as well as the hallways.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 17, 2020

Call to Order at 6:30 – Mark Turany

Members present – Randy Holz, Tracy Leron, Kaia Long, Jason Pfeilsticker, Candee Ostreng, Ben Johnson, Joan Skare, Pastor Steve, Mark Turany

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Kaia, 2nd by Randy, motion carried

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Candee, 2nd by Kaia, motion carried

Treasurer's Report

February 2020 was a down month ending \$7,317.04 in the red. Expense exceeds income for the year by \$9,718.44.

February Income	\$19,620.73	YTD Budget	\$60,030
February Expense	\$26,937.77	YTD Income	\$43,513.99
February Difference	-\$7,317.04	YTD Expense	\$53,232.43

2020 YTD Difference -\$9,718.44 2019 YTD Difference was -\$15,399.28

Zoom Meetings (Email the Link)

Discussed if the line of credit was still open and how to proceed

Facebook live services and video

Cancel everything until further notice

Helpline for members

Local CDC Corona Virus scam

Staff hours reduced – 2 pastors & Elaine, 9-noon Monday – Thursday

Letter to members on giving

Motion to Adjourn by Jason, 2nd by Candee, motion carried. Adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Next Council meeting will be April 21 at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Skare

CLC BROCHURES ARE READY

A team of members created a new brochure reflecting all CLC has to offer. They are located on the kiosk. Please feel free to grab some to give to new neighbors or those looking for a church home.

DONATIONS

Though we are not currently meeting for public, in person worship, the church is still in mission to its members and has expenses for utilities and temporarily reduced staff. Donation options include online giving <http://www.clcbyron.org/giving/>, mailing in a donation to Christ Lutheran Church 201 Frontage Road NW, Byron, or dropping off a donation during our office hours from 9 - noon, Monday thru Thursday. Please contact the church office at 775-6646 or office@clcbyron.org with questions or comments.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DONATIONS

After age 70 1/2 and older, individuals may distribute up to \$100,000 tax-free each year from their IRAs to certain charitable organizations without including the amount of the charitable distribution in gross income when filing tax returns. 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.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

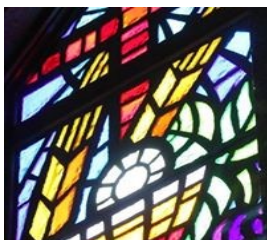
Memorials given in 2020 will not be posted in the newsletter but can be found on the kiosk.

THANK YOU

Thanks to the many members that have recently dropped off donations, mailed in donations, or set up online giving. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness.

Christ Lutheran Church
 201 Frontage Road NW
 Byron, MN 55920 www.clcbyron.org
 Office Hours: 9:00am - 12:00pm Mon - Thurs
 507-775-6646 office@clcbyron.org

Non-Profit Organization
 US Postage Paid
 Byron, MN
 Permit Number 17



April 2020

Worship ~ Traditional	8:00 AM
ROL	9:05 AM
Adult Ed	9:20 AM
Worship ~ Blended	10:00 AM



Outreach

CLC CRISIS TEAM

Pastors will do homebound visits for emergencies only.
 Pastors can be reached by office phone 775-6646 or
 Pastor Steve 612-250-9724 or clcpastorsteve@gmail.com
 Pastor Nirmala 507-271-0348 or clcreinschmidt@gmail.com
 Joan Skare 507-271-0330 or joanskare@yahoo.com
 Mark Turany 507-259-3820 or mturany@charter.net
 Feel free to call above numbers any time if you just want to talk
 with someone or if you need help.
 If you would like to volunteer helping others, call Joan Skare.
 Watch FaceBook at CLCbyron and CLCbyron.org sites for some
 digital worship resources.

COVID-19 Update

**Families can drop off food
 or other items** such as

clothing and incontinent prod-

ucts at the front desk for staff to pick up for the residents. The 7th
 Street doors are opened from 8am-7pm during the week and
 8:30am-2:30pm during the weekend.

All non-essential appointments will be cancelled or postponed. For
 essential appointments, we ask that you meet your loved one at the
 appointment location.

SAMARITAN BETHANY NEEDS MASKS

We are running very short on protective face masks. This is a 'life-
 saving' issue for our staff and residents. We are asking our Church
 Partners to sew masks for us. **Contact the Christ Lutheran office for
 an email copy of instructions or to mail instructions with
 pictures on how to make the masks.** Please drop off finished
 masks at Samaritan Bethany, 24 8th St NW, Rochester, MN, be-
 tween 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday or between
 8:30 AM and 2:30 PM Saturday and Sunday. Please email Rita
 Hawkins at rhawkins@samaritanbethany.com or 507-923-4723 to
 make other arrangements.

IHN UPDATE

Family Promise is doing a week-long emergency fundraiser. It can
 be found here: [https://www.fpgives.org/organizations/family-](https://www.fpgives.org/organizations/family-promise-rochester)
[promise-rochester](https://www.fpgives.org/organizations/family-promise-rochester).

