



"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Will churches ever go back to normal? Some may answer 'yes' or some may say 'no' depending upon their experience with their own churches.

We all know that the Church is the body of believers, not the building in which we gather. For many, the thought of being back in community with other believers is an exciting thought. For others, it is much more anxiety producing.

The main reason I say 'yes' to the above question is that the Church is the Lord's, not ours, and by virtue of that, the individual local church will reconvene.....be back in business.

Jesus said, "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church." (Matthew 16:18)

It is our prayer that Christ Lutheran will advance for the remainder of 2021 and into 2022 like never before. God's hand is on us. He will guide us as we commit to worship, serve and share our blessings to the Byron community and the wider world.

Thank you all for your faithful generosity to support the mission of Christ Lutheran Church.

Peace - Pastor Nirmala Reinschmidt

SERMON SERIES This fall we will be reviewing the Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Ephesians is like a catechism, providing foundations for understanding the nature and purpose of the church. As we re-emerge after/during covid we hope to refocus our attention to what really matters as God's people. The following link will help you prepare for the series.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y71r-T98E2Q>

9-19	Ephesians 1	Remembering whose we are
9-26	Ephesians 2	Made right by Grace to do good
10-3	Ephesians 3	The Mission
10-10	Ephesians 4	Gifted/Empowered for God's mission
10-17	Ephesians 5	Empowering families for mission
10-24	Ephesians 6	Wrestling with the powers of evil
10-31	Reformation	Understanding the Reformation and Luther



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EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS - AUGUST

Teachers are needed for the upcoming Sunday School year! 4 teachers for each class would assure team teaching so there would only be a 1-2 Sunday per month commitment for each teacher. No experience is required! It is a fun and rewarding way to learn about the greatness of God alongside the kids. Teacher orientation is September 8th at 6:30pm. Please let Francine Kovash know if you are interested! fkovash@hotmail.com or (507) 951-2234

Rally Sunday for the start of Sunday School will be September 12th at 9:05 am. Sunday School will run from September 12th through May 15th and is for 3 year olds through 6th graders. Registration forms and class schedules are on the kiosk. Thanks! - Francine Kovash, Sunday School Coordinator

Sunday School money left in the globe, which is now located on the registration table, will be sent to Channel One through December 31. Globe money from January to June will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Relief.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be held at Christ Lutheran Church on August 9th-12th from 6-8pm. Please register online at <https://www.myvbs.org/clcbyron/> or pick up a form at the kiosk. Children from age 3-completion of 6th grade are welcome to attend. Anyone older is welcome to volunteer. Please email Sherri at sdathe@hotmail.com or call 701-261-9110 if you have any questions or if you are interested in volunteering.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2021-2022 Sunday School year is under-way. Registration forms can be found on the kiosk or on the website at: <http://www.clcbyron.org/sunday-school/>

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

2021-2022 Confirmation registration forms for 1st and 2nd year students are on the kiosk at church and online at: <http://www.clcbyron.org/confirmation/>

YOUTH TONE CHIMES DIRECTOR

CLC is looking for someone to direct the Youth Tone Chimes this year. This person would lead one weekly practice and at least one Sunday service performance each month. If you are interested in directing this group, please notify the church office. Contact Martha Gehrking for a job description.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

2021-2022 Confirmation will start in September and will highlight the New Testament this year. A mentor meeting will be held at the church on Wednesday, September 1st at 7:00pm. The first night of confirmation, orientation night, will be Wednesday, September 8th at 7:00pm. At least one parent must attend with the confirmation student the first night. The mandatory retreat at Eagle Bluff will be Saturday, September 11th.

- Brenda Bendix, Confirmation Coordinator

CANOE TRIP BECAME TUBE TRIP

The canoe trip became a tubing trip due to the lack of rain.



Despite the weedy water, the group had a good time, and enjoyed smores afterwards.



SUMMER BIBLE STUDY IN AUGUST

Pastor Nirmala will be continuing her Bible Studies in August with the topic: Where is God in my suffering and the Biblical response. This study will run Wednesdays from August 4 through the 25th at 10am at CLC in the fellowship hall. Please contact Pastor Nirmala with any questions. We hope to see you there!



YOUTH/OUTREACH

2022 MISSION TRIP - LAKE TRAVERSE, SD, JUNE 26 - JULY 1, 2022

One of the most unique partnerships YouthWorks is developing in Lake Traverse is with the old middle school in the middle of town, which is being converted into a community education and activity center. Your group will help facilitate children's programming at this building, serve the residents in local assisted living facilities/nursing homes and help out with other work projects in the community. You'll learn about Dakota culture from a community friend, and explore a state park that is spiritually significant to the local tribe. YouthWorks has partnered with this community since 2005.

CLC has reserved 15 spots for this mission trip. To register, please submit a registration form located on the kiosk along with your \$125 deposit by December 1, 2021. Space is limited so priority will be based on when checks are received. With fundraisers, our goal is to keep out of pocket costs to \$250/student. The total cost of mission trips are about \$6,000 with \$3,000 covered by the families. Students are expected to assist with Youth Committee sponsored fundraisers. The mission trip is open to youth that complete 8th through 12th grade by June 2022.

YOUTH NEWS

BIBLE CAMP SPONSORSHIPS - CLC Youth sponsored 4 kids attending church camp this summer at Good Earth Village and Camp Victory.

YOUTH GROUP - Youth Group will be starting up in September. We welcome all newly confirmed kids to join our senior high youth on Wednesday nights!

KANSAS CITY, MO - JUNE 2021 MISSION TRIP

CLC sent 6 youth and 2 adult leaders to Kansas City, MO in June 2021. Due to COVID, the trip was very different, including less contact with other church attendees and less contact with community members. The CLC attendees spent the week working in community gardens and working at a thrift store. A meaningful experience was had by all. Thank-you to our leaders, Sherry Bjelland and Connie Benjamin, for leading the youth on this trip.

The group gave a short presentation in church on Sunday, July 25 on their experience, with coffee and cookies following and a free will donation to raise funds for the 2022 mission trip. The group is grateful for the over \$800 that was raised at this fundraiser! Thank-you CLC!



SAMARITAN BETHANY – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are considering resuming worship in the Chapel here at Samaritan Bethany. I'm seeking volunteers to help with getting residents to and from worship on Sunday mornings at 10am. The process for getting this underway will be different than in the past. Before the pandemic, our supporting churches rotated monthly twice a year. Now, we'll need a more stringent screening process for those who volunteer - a background check and orientation that lasts about a half hour that Ronnie Robertson will oversee. This may mean a smaller pool will rotate according to personal schedules rather than supporting churches rotating monthly. Thank you for your attention and willingness to consider this ministry opportunity.

-God Bless, Pastor Glen (507-251-9557 gholland@samaritanbethany.com)

FELLOWSHIP

JOY CLUB

Plans are being made to start the JOY group in the fall. All Joy group members will receive a letter mid-August with details of dates, times and location for our monthly gatherings. Any suggestions are welcomed. Please call Sandy Erickson at 507-259-2321 with ideas or if you are interested in joining this group.

DINER'S CLUB

The Diner's group will be open to new members starting at the September lunch. If interested please e-mail bikeclearlake@gmail.com or leave name and contact information at the church office.

A small group covenant has the following values. 1) Priority- we give priority to our group meetings. 2) Confidentiality- the group is a safe place to grow. 3) Participation- we encourage and support one another. 4) Accessibility- we agree to help each other in times of need. 5) Openness- we are open and honest with each other. 6) Respect- communicate in ways that are respectful and give advice only when it is requested.

Open chair- we keep an empty chair for others and seek to reach out to people, who need a place of caring and growth. The Diner's group meets once a month for lunch. We each bring our own lunch and meet at various locations. In warm weather we meet outside at park shelters and at the CLC lawn. When the weather turns cold, the meetings will be at CLC per protocol. Topics discussed over the past year included: how we were dealing with covid, health concerns, positive changes because of covid, things we are doing to recycle more and decrease our environmental impact. We do one service project as a group each year.

We would like you to join us! Contact person: Gayle Jaben (641-430-5324)

OXBOW FELLOWSHIP OUTING - AUGUST 15, 6:30PM - 8:30PM

Please join us for a time of fellowship, outdoors, at Oxbow Park on Sunday, August, 15th from 6:30 to 8:30pm. We will have a fire going with smores and visiting. We will also have bean bags, ladder golf, and Can Jam. Please feel free to bring games along. This event is open to all ages. Contact Diane Theobald or the office with questions. This event is sponsored by the Youth Committee.



ARK ENCOUNTER & THE CREATION MUSEUM TRIP

Glenn's Motorcoach Tours is offering a bus trip from September 20-24, 2021 to Erlanger, KY to see the Creation Museum, a life sized replica of the ark, and attend a River Boat Dinner Cruise. Contact Glenn's Motorcoach Tours to reserve a spot at 507-288-1329. Flyers are located on the kiosk and the bulletin board by the north entrance. Pastor Nirmala is planning to lead the group with consultation from Gary and Alice Blom, who have taken this trip and are willing to discuss their experience. Registration is due by August 16.

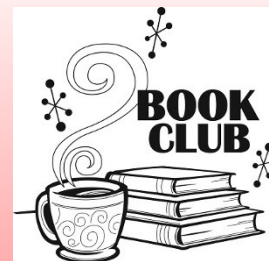
An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, August 8 directly following the worship service. Contact Pastor Nirmala with questions at clcreinschmidt@gmail.com



BOOK CLUB IS BACK IN SEPTEMBER!

We will meet monthly, September 2021 - May 2022 at 7:00pm at Christ Lutheran Church on the first Tuesday of the month. Our September book is a little tougher to distribute, but after that I will have picked up the book bag prior to us meeting so I can pass out the next month's book when we get together.

Each month, we need a host. That person brings a store purchased dessert and/or snacks and leads the discussion. Each person brings their own beverage. I will take September and we can decide when we meet about subsequent hosts. Below are the books I have reserved so far. Starting Aug 1, you can pick up the Sept. book in the church office - "The Story of Arthur Trulov". If you are interested in joining this group contact Kristie Nelson.



Tuesday, Sept. 7	"The Story of Arthur Trulov" by Elizabeth Berg	7:00 at CLC	Kristie hosts
Tuesday, Oct. 5	"The Worst Hard Time" by Timothy Egan	7:00 at CLC	
Tuesday, Nov. 2	"The Stranger in the Woods" by Michael Finkel	7:00 at CLC	
Tuesday, Dec. 7	"The Geography of Bliss" by Eric Weiner	7:00 at CLC	

Let me know if you have any questions. Looking forward to seeing everyone again! - Kristie Nelson

AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship - In Church, In Car, Online	2	3	4 10:00 AM Bible Study	5	6 8:00 PM AA	7
8 9:00 AM Worship - In Church, In Car, Online	9 6:00 PM VBS	10 6:00 PM VBS 6:30 PM Exec.	11 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM VBS	12 6:00 PM VBS	13 8:00 PM AA	14
15 9:00 AM Worship - In Church, In Car, Online 6:30 PM Oxbow Fellowship Outing	16 7:00 PM Altar Com- mittee	17 6:30 PM Council	18 10:00 AM Bible Study	19	20 8:00 PM AA	21
22 9:00 AM Worship - In Church, In Car, Online	23	24	25 10:00 AM Bible Study	26	27 8:00 PM AA	28
29 9:00 AM Worship - In Church, In Car, Online	30	31	1 7:00 PM Confirmation Mentor Meeting	2	3 8:00 PM AA	4

CHURCH LIFE

CLC COUNCIL MEETING 6/08/2021

Members present: Pastor Steve, Mark Turany, Jason Pfeilsticker, Randy Holz, Candee Ostreng, Joe Biewer, Ben Johnson, David Schlobohm, and Linda Danielski.

Members not present: Kaia Long, Anna Palmer, Naomi Meek and Lindsey Dickison.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Randy Holz and seconded by David Schlobohm.

A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Candace Ostreng and seconded by Joe Biewer.

Jason Pfeilsticker submitted the treasurer's report. May ended with \$2,371.00 in the black. Income exceeds expenses for the year by \$35,993.00 because of the PPE loan forgiveness.

A discussion was held on updating the church air conditioner and furnace. Randy motioned that we accept the proposal for updating the HVAC system of the church. The motion was seconded by Joe Biewer. (The most recent proposal is \$23,494 for both the sanctuary rooftop hvac and north hall air-conditioning.)

A discussion was held regarding the current guidelines for worship, weddings, and funerals, because of COVID. Linda Danielski motioned those guidelines be rescinded. Motion seconded by Joe Biewer.

Pastor Steve reported that the church website has been updated. It is much better on a smart phone.

New guidelines for worship, weddings, and funerals were discussed. The following are the new guidelines proposed:

CHRIST LUTHERAN GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP, WEDDINGS, & FUNERALS 6/08/2021

Respect one another. Social distancing, wearing or not wearing masks, shaking hands or choosing not to shake hands, and deciding to stay or not to stay after services to visit are all personal choices.

Masks are no longer required at worship if you are vaccinated. You are asked to wear if you are not vaccinated. If you have health concerns, or just feel more comfortable wearing a mask please feel free to do so.

If you have any symptoms of Covid-19, including but not limited to fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell, or if you have recently been exposed to someone with Covid-19, please stay home.

Hand sanitizer will still be available in multiple locations within the church. Please use as needed. Social distancing measures will be in place throughout the church. We will still only use every other pew. Fellowship hall seating will be 4 per table for all gatherings. (54-person capacity). Offering will remain at the Sanctuary door for collection. (E-giving is encouraged), Communion will continue with the Wafer & Wine individual package picked up when entering the Sanctuary.

Church social gatherings will resume with social distancing and capacity limits in place. Food and beverages can be brought in from purchased sources to consume. No home baked/cooked items or items made at the church kitchen. Serving wear like glasses, cups, plates, utensils, serving containers must be disposable.

Outside organizations that meet in the church will resume August 18th.

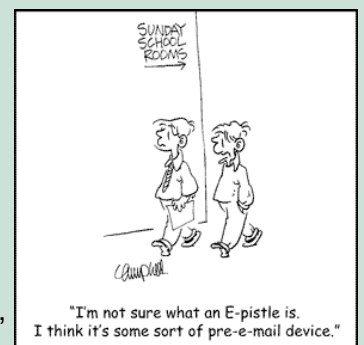
Randy Holz motioned we accept the new guidelines for worship, weddings, and funerals. Motion was seconded by Jason Pfeilsticker. A motion to adjourn was made by Joe Biewer and seconded by Candace Ostreng. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be on August 17, 2021 at 6:30pm. Respectfully submitted by Linda Danielski, council secretary.

CHANCEL CHOIR - GET READY TO MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

Are you ready to sing out in praise to our awesome God? Covid has robbed us of so many joys, and until recently, singing out in our church services has been one of them. If you've missed that feeling you get when you sing to the Lord, please consider joining us this fall for choir. We're planning to sing for services once a month (at least to start with), and practice twice a month. Watch the weekly church news or contact Julie Carlblom (jcarlblom@kmtel.com) for more information.

WEEKLY EMAILS

CLC is switching our weekly email carrier from Constant Contact to Mail Chimp in August. If you find you have stopped receiving our weekly emails and/or newsletters, please let the office know so we can get you set up with the new carrier.



WORSHIP INFORMATION/STEWARDSHIP

THANK-YOU...

Thank you for the CLC Youth Committee Scholarship. This will help my tuition cost at Mankato State. Thank-you, Annika Anderson

Dear Friends at Christ Lutheran - Thank you for your support of \$500 to the ministry of Good Earth Village. We pray that you are staying safe and well. Your generosity provides outdoor ministry experiences across SE MN, and lays a foundation of faith formation for a closer walk with Jesus. -Dianna Parks, Exec. Director

God has blessed us with a great circle of friends and family! Thank You for all your thoughts and prayers over this time while Mom (Connie) struggled with her health; and for all who attended the Visitation and/or funeral. We know Mom's at peace now, and we know we'll see her again. Thank You! -Connie Bird Family

WORSHIP OPTIONS AT CLC

We have three options on Sunday mornings, with blended and traditional style alternating, every other week.

- In-church worship at 9am (communion offered the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month).
- In-car worship on Sunday mornings at 9am in the parking lot on 87.9 on the FM radio (communion offered the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month).
- Watch the Live Streamed service at home using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAdS22Tn6Epi6yZqzmNKK2g>

DONATIONS AND THANK-YOU

Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. Donation options include mailing in a donation to Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Frontage Road NW, Byron, online giving <http://www.clcbyron.org/giving/>, or dropping off a donation during church services or our office hours from 9 - 1, Monday through Wednesday (summer schedule).

DONATE TO CLC THROUGH YOUR WORKPLACE!

We are now listed with United Way as a 501C3 which means your employer can direct donations to CLC through United Way. Please contact the office with any questions.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

You can direct your Thrivent Choice dollars online or call 800-847-4836. When prompted, say "Thrivent Choice", Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice programs Terms and Conditions. If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth. A representative will work with you to direct Choice Dollars. Thrivent is no longer sending out emails indicating you have money to direct.

SUMMER WORSHIP & OFFICE HOURS

Summer worship times will continue to be a single service at 9am. Summer office hours, starting June 1 and running through Wednesday, September 1 will be Monday through Wednesday from 9am to 1pm. The church office will be closed on Thursdays and Fridays during the summer months.



BIBLE STUDY REUNION

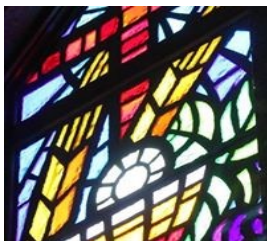
A good time was had by all at the Wednesday morning Bible Study reunion in July. They look forward to meeting again in October. To connect with this group, contact the office.



Christ Lutheran Church
 201 Frontage Road NW
 Byron, MN 55920 www.clcbyron.org
 Office Hours: 9:00am - 1:00pm Mon - Wed
 507-775-6646 office@clcbyron.org

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

August 2021



Worship Schedule

In Person Worship - Sundays, 9am

In Car Worship - Sundays, 9am

LiveStream Worship

Communion is offered the 1st and 3rd

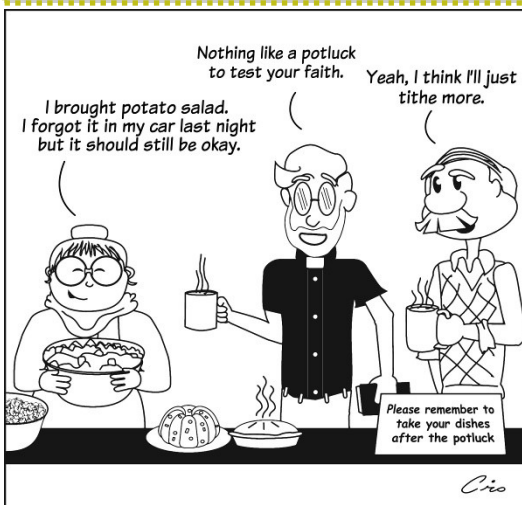
Sundays at in person and in car worship



CONTACT INFORMATION

CLC CRISIS TEAM

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 507-990-8946 or joanskare@yahoo.com
 Mark Turany 507-259-3820 or mturany@charter.net
 If you would like to volunteer helping others, call Joan Skare.
 Watch FaceBook at CLCbyron and CLCbyron.org/media/



PASTOR VISITS - Feel free to call above numbers any time if you want to talk with someone or need a visit from a pastor.

ATTENDANCE

JUNE

Date	In Person	In Car
6/6/2021	88	4 cars
6/13/2021	105	5 cars
6/20/2021	83	1 car
6/27/2021	106	4 cars

JULY

Date	In Person	In Car
7/4/2021	76	2 cars
7/11/2021	112	3 cars
7/18/2021	85	0 cars
7/25/2021	152	0 cars

UPDATED WEBSITE

Please check out our new website!
www.clcbyron.org

PRAYERS IN THE CHURCH

Please pray for Jerry Hutchinson, Tanner Leron, Paul Douglas, Gary Bausman, Dennis Damerval, and all who serve and protect our country. Include in your prayers active military, health care workers, and first-responders. Pray for families who have COVID or have lost a loved one due to COVID.