



## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

I encourage you to attend the annual meeting where we elect our leaders, discuss our life together and our hopes and priorities for our congregation. If you don't make it I would like to thank you for your participation in Christ Lutheran's mission. Annual reports are available in the narthex, or in the kiosk, or online. There are probably more details than you want to know, but collectively we are tending to our mission to make Christ's love known by equipping all ages to love and serve God.

Wherever I find myself serving with God's people I keep reminding myself to keep the main thing, the main thing. I return often to the great commission and the great commandment given by Jesus.

Matthew 28:16-20 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Authorized by Jesus and knowing that He is present with us until the end, we press on together to baptize and make disciples. When Jesus was asked what was the most important commandment He said: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Making disciples who grow in love for God and neighbor is our primary task as the people of God following Christ in God's mission. Together, let's stay focused on what is most important.

Lent begins February 22 with Ash Wednesday with communion and optional imposition of ashes. The readings in Lent head towards the cross, which was the reason Jesus came, to be our savior. I am looking forward to hearing "Stories of Faith" as told by our congregational members.

Pastor Steve

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

All active, confirmed members of Christ Lutheran are encouraged to attend and be a part of the decision making process of our church. Questions regarding the meeting may be addressed to any church council member.



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Senior Pastor

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# EDUCATION/YOUTH

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS - FEBRUARY** - If you are interested in volunteering or helping in the classrooms please contact Francine Kovash at 507-951-2234. or [fkovash@hotmail.com](mailto:fkovash@hotmail.com)

The lessons for February will be:

2/5 - The Year of Jubilee Celebration - Leviticus 25:8-22

2/12 - Samuel Obeys Eli - 1 Samuel 3

2/19 - No Sunday School

2/26 - Nehemiah and the Israelites Build the Wall - Nehemiah excerpts

Offering collected during Sunday School 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 will go to the Channel One Food Shelf.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** - This month we look at the book of James: Recipe for a living faith. In this study we will consider the topics that are essential to a dynamic and powerful faith journey. Please join us for discussion, Pastor Nirmala

**SUNDAY MORNING VIDEO & DISCUSSION IN CHOIR ROOM** - This video series is an invitation to search, question, and discuss. After the 11-14 minute video there will be a 10 minute discussion from 9:20 - 9:45am. Feb 5 - Annual Meeting; Feb 12 - Rich; Feb 19 - You; Feb 26 - What Matters Most

**YOUTH COMMITTEE UPDATES - 2023 Mission Trip** - We have booked 15 spots, 2 adult leaders and 13 youth spots to Benton Harbor, MI for the week of June 25-30, 2023. The final \$125 payment is due April 1. We have 2 open spots remaining. Registration forms are on the kiosk. Total trip cost is \$375/student. Please consider joining us!

**Lenten Soup Supper** - The traditional Lenten Soup Supper is back! Join us Ash Wed, Feb. 22nd for fellowship and supper at 5pm. The soup suppers are a free will donation supporting youth Bible Camp and Youth Mission Trips.

**Mission Trip Shares** Forms can be found on the kiosk. Shares are \$25 each and help cover youth and chaperone expenses on the mission trip. There will be a presentation following the trip in June.

**Bible Camp Scholarships** Registration forms for Bible Camp Scholarships are on the kiosk or on our website. CLC will pay 60%, up to \$225, of the registration fees at Good Earth Village, our congregational supported camp. For other Christian Bible Camps we will pay 50%, up to \$225 or 1/2 of the camp cost, whichever is less. Some area camps to consider are Good Earth Village, Camp Victory, and Camp Omega. To access the scholarship form online: [www.clcbyron.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Biblecampedcom.pdf](http://www.clcbyron.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Biblecampedcom.pdf)

**GOOD EARTH VILLAGE** - Good Earth Village is offering traditional summer camp: overnight youth camp, day camps, and intergenerational camps. [Goodearthvillage.org](http://Goodearthvillage.org)

**SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** - Scholarship applications will be located on the kiosk in later February.

**CABIN FEVER - FEB 10, 6-9PM - THE FIREMEN ARE COMING!!**

**Full Armor of God** - Enjoy a date night while the Confirmation and mission trip students babysit your kids. The Byron fire department is going to have a demonstration along with planned activities including crafts, games, snacks, a movie, and lots of fun!

The Youth Committee is sponsoring this fundraiser with a free will donation to support the mission trip and bible camp scholarships.

Please invite your neighbors and friends!

## REMIND TEXTS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL -

Parents can now sign up for Remind texts for Sunday School by texting @clcriv to 81010. Contact Francine Kovash with questions. [www.remind.com/join/clcriv](http://www.remind.com/join/clcriv)

## CONFIRMATION NEWS - FEBRUARY 2023 -

The Confirmation class continues to learn about the Old Testament before Ash Wednesday and Lent worship starts this year. 2<sup>nd</sup> year students need to start working on their Faith Statements which are due to their mentors on April 2. Excerpts from their papers will be read during the sermon on Confirmation Sunday, which is April 23. If you have questions, contact Dani Esser at [esser.danielle@mayo.edu](mailto:esser.danielle@mayo.edu).

## OLD TESTAMENT FOR ALL AGES

Wednesday evenings at 7pm, everyone is invited to sit in on 35 minute lectures by the pastors on the Old Testament.

February 1 - Exile (Ez 5:5-8; Zechariah 1:1-6)

February 8 - Judah 2 (Isaiah 5:1-7; Jer 31:31-34)

February 15 - Job (Job 1-2, 40-42)

February 22 - Ash Wednesday/Soup Supper





# YOUTH/FELLOWSHIP

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**YOUTH RINGING INVITE** - If you like music and want to try a new easy adventure, you are invited to do a short-term session of easy handbell ringing. Please let Jane Cabaya know, and for more info 507-775-6183, [janecabaya25@gmail.com](mailto:janecabaya25@gmail.com) Practices are Tuesdays from 6:15-7pm for 3rd grade and up.

**LADIES LUNCHEON** - (Formerly the Mother/Daughter Luncheon) Please bring your mothers, sisters, daughters, grandmas, aunts, nieces, and friends!! The theme is the "Great MN Escape". An undetermined Saturday in April from 11 - 12:30. If you are interested in helping with this event, contact Kristine Ihrke.

**THANK-YOUs** - Thank you for the prayers during my hospitalization and recovery at home. I am so blessed. Mavis Perry

Dear CLC family - A heart full of love and tenderness to each of you in making dad's funeral and luncheon extra special in every way. Dad truly loved and honored the church. May the blessings of God be upon you all. God's peace and love, the family of Don Sotebeer

Thank you all so much for the bag of goodies and also for the wonderful prayer shawl. We don't get out much lately so this was a pleasant surprise. God bless you all. Denny & Nona Nepstad

Thanks so much for the Christmas package. I enjoyed everything I got from you. Happy new year 2023. God bless. Stella Anderson

A big thanks goes out to the gals at CLC, for the wonderful bag of goodies I received at Christmas time. What a sweet and welcomed surprise that was to receive. Thanks a million, you are the best! Most sincerely, Bev Smith

Thank you for the lovely Christmas gift from CLC. Everything was very useful and good. Thanks again, Kay McKay

Dear Friends - Thank-you for your generous donation of paper products and other household items given to the Dorothy Day Hospitality House. Your support is appreciated! Your donations are critical as we provide food and shelter to the people who live at our homeless shelter. - Dorothy Day Hospitality House

**JOY GROUP** - The Joy Group will meet at the Bear's Den at 11:15am on Tues, Feb 14 to celebrate Valentine's Day. We will meet Tues, March 14. The where and when will be discussed in Feb.

**BOOK CLUB** - Our next meeting for Book Club is Tuesday, February 7th. We will be discussing "The Sound of Gravel" by Ruth Wariner. After our discussion, the book for our March meeting (This Tender Land) will be distributed. Anyone is welcome to join us if interested.

## ROCHESTER TEEN GOSPEL

**CHOIR** - Rehearsals start in Feb with a May concert. Contact Tim or Elaine Meek for carpooling. [Teenhopeministries.org](http://Teenhopeministries.org)

**CARD MAKING** - Please join us at CLC on Saturdays, Feb 18, Mar 18, and Apr 15 for card making. We will set up at 8am and craft from 9-noon. Contact Joan Skare or JoAnn Brooks if you have questions.

## Recently seen at CLC



## CLC Card Making



## Cabin Fever - Jan Moses/10 Commandments K9 Unit Human Bingo



## OUTREACH/WORSHIP/NEW MEMBER

**SALVATION ARMY FOOD COLLECTION** - CLC collects food in the blue barrel by the front door for the Salvation Army. Thank you for your donations.

**FAMILY PROMISE - IHN - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - Volunteer options are: overnight volunteer, evening engagement, life skills. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4FA4AA22A3F94-volunteer1> To sign up for "Feed A Family", <https://www.fprochestermn.org/feed-a-family>

**SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY** - Please bring in your Food Shelf items to donate, or a cash donation for Channel One on or before Souperbowl Sunday, Feb 12.

**2023 LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS** - Christ Lutheran Church will be returning to the traditional soup suppers this year with CLC committees providing the soups and bars/cookies for the meals that the youth will serve. The soup suppers will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22, and continue weekly on Wednesdays through March 29. The soup suppers are a free-will donation.

Below is the schedule for committees providing food for the Lenten Soup Suppers:

February 22	Worship Committee/JuBELLance/Chancel Choir
March 1	Education
March 8	Church Council
March 15	Altar/Memorial/Wednesday AM Bible Study
March 22	Evangelism/Stewardship
March 29	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. Each weekly committee group needs to provide the following totals: 7 containers of soup, 5 quarts or more ; 7 pans of bars or cookie equivalency---kids' kinds are great.

The food needs to be at the church by 4:00 PM. If you plan to drop off your soup cold before noon, please bring to the kitchen by noon and plug it in. If you bring it hot, 4:00 PM is fine. Serving by the confirmands is from 5:00-6:00 PM so the soup needs to be hot and ready to serve then. The Lenten service starts at 6:30 PM. The confirmation classes will set up and clean up. In return, the money raised will help support the youth attending summer Bible camp and the youth mission trip.

During this time 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, Worship & Music Chair, with questions.

Home: 775-6174 Email: [tgehrking@citlink.net](mailto:tgehrking@citlink.net)

**SUNDAY MORNING TREATS ARE NEEDED** - For the month of February, if your last name starts with A - E, please contribute a batch of cookies/bars for fellowship time. Sandy Erickson coordinates this project. Volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up after fellowship. 507-259-2321

**EPHESIANS 6:12** For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

**ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT OFFERING** The Ash Wednesday offering will go into regular giving in the general account. Offerings from the five Wednesday night Lenten services will be sent to Channel One unless it is placed in your Sunday offering envelope.

### LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

**BOOKLETS** - The theme for our devotions this year is death vs life or endings vs new beginnings. For example when you are going through job loss, a death, or an ended relationship, you may feel depressed or in despair. Somehow in difficult times God intervenes to provide you with new blessings to strengthen your faith. This is one option for your topic, you are welcome to write on a different topic also to give the devotional some variety.

Please choose the Bible verse that you would like to write on. Write a devotion of 250 - 500 words and send it to Julie Carlbom by Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. A sign up sheet will be at the sign up table, outside the office. Email Pastor Nirmala with questions.

### LENTEN SERIES

"Stories of faith" will be the theme of our Wednesday evening Lenten worship services for the 5 Wednesdays after Ash Wednesday and before Holy week. Pastor Steve is looking for members who will share 10-12 minutes about: 1. How God got you through a difficult time. 2. How faith is helping you get through a difficult time. 3. How your faith makes a difference at work. 4. Key chapters/moments or people that helped you grow in your relationship with God. You can respond to any of these subjects or just one. Please email Pastor Steve if interested in sharing your story [clcpastorsteve@gmail.com](mailto:clcpastorsteve@gmail.com)

# WORSHIP/STEWARDSHIP

## CLC COUNCIL MEETING 1/17/23

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm by Mark Turany.

Members present: Pastor Steve Rheingans, Pastor Nirmala Reinschmidt, Mark Turany, Candee Ostreng, Naomi Meek, Joan Skare, Allie Petersen, Dave Schlobohm and Linda Danielski. Members not present: Anna Palmer, Ben Johnson, Joe Biewer and Jason Pfeilsticker.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Candee Ostreng and seconded by Joan Skare. Motion passed.

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by Candee Ostreng and was seconded by Joan Skare. Motion passed.

The church annual meeting will be held on February 5th. Both Pastor Rheingans and Mark Turany discussed the reports they will present at that meeting.

Discussions were held regarding the budget for this next year. Joan Skare motioned that we approve that the budget go to the annual meeting. Linda Danielski seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The proposed ballot for this next year was presented by Mark Turany. A motion was made by Candee Ostreng that the ballot as written, with one student slot open and an opportunity to fill that slot, be moved forward to the annual meeting. Joan Skare seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Linda Danielski made a motion that we adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Candee Ostreng. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be held on February 21, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Danielski, Council Secretary.

**CLC NOMINATING COMMITTEE** - If you no longer want to serve, please let your committee chair, know. If you are new to the church and would like to serve in various committees, according to your gifts, please let the council president know or complete our Time and Talent Form. [www.clcbyron.org/time-talents/](http://www.clcbyron.org/time-talents/)

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** - Many members have communicated about not receiving offering envelopes for Jan/Feb. We apologize for this inconvenience. Our envelope vendor had supply chain and staffing issues, both of which are now resolved, that caused envelopes to not be sent out. Jan and Feb will not be sent out but you should expect to receive March envelopes.

To make a donation in the meantime, use one of our generic envelopes at the registration tables (be sure to write your name on the envelope), use an old offering envelope, or give an electronic donation.

[www.clcbyron.org/giving/](http://www.clcbyron.org/giving/)

## WORSHIP OPTIONS AT CLC

- In-church worship with traditional style at 8am and contemporary style at 10am (communion offered the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month for in church and in car worship).
- In-car worship on Sunday mornings at 8am & 10am in the parking lot on 87.9 on the FM radio
- Watch the Live Streamed service at home using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@christlutheranchurchbyronm10/streams>

## NON-MEMBER DONATION STATEMENTS OR ENVELOPES

If you are a non-member that gives donations to CLC and would like a donation statement or regular envelopes, please contact the office.

## 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 office hours.

**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 "Choice Dollars" and continue with the prompts. Thrivent is no longer sending out emails indicating you have money to direct. We received \$84 in November in Thrivent Choice Dollars.



Christ Lutheran Church  
 201 Frontage Road NW  
 Byron, MN 55920      [www.clcbyron.org](http://www.clcbyron.org)  
 Office Hours: 9am - 3pm Mon - Thurs  
 507-775-6646      [office@clcbyron.org](mailto:office@clcbyron.org)

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

## February 2023



### Worship Times

8am Traditional Worship  
 9:05am Sunday School/Adult Ed  
 10am Contemporary Worship  
 LiveStream Worship  
*Communion is the 1st and 3rd Sundays*



## CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastors can be reached by office phone 775-6646 or  
 Pastor Steve 612-250-9724 or [clcpastorsteve@gmail.com](mailto:clcpastorsteve@gmail.com)  
 Pastor Nirmala 507-271-0348 or [clcreinschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:clcreinschmidt@gmail.com)  
 President, Mark Turany 507-259-3820 or [mturany@charter.net](mailto:mturany@charter.net)

**ZUMBRO RIVER CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY** - Sunday,  
 Feb 5, 2023, online via Zoom at 1:30pm. Please let Pastor  
 Steve know if you are interested.

**WEATHER AND WORSHIP** - If there  
 is heavy snowfall/wind, please check  
 KTTC, CLC Facebook page, or watch for  
 an email from CLC for worship service  
 announcements. It is possible that the first  
 service could be canceled and not Sunday  
 School or the 2nd service.

**MOVIE TIME** – Movie Time is coming  
 back in March!

## 2023 COMMUNION REGISTRA-

**TION** - Please register for communion  
 once annually by writing your name on the  
 communion list on the registration table.

**PSALM 46:10** "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** - Please  
 pray for Rob Larson, Harriet Douglas, Cindy  
 Wiebusch, Judi Bale, Mavis Perry, Gary  
 Bausman, Jim Gronvold, and Ann Korbel.

**TIME & TALENTS** (Volunteer Opportunities)  
 can be left in the offering plates or update online  
 at [www.clcbyron.org/time-talents/](http://www.clcbyron.org/time-talents/)

## ATTENDANCE

DECEMBER 2022

Weekly Avg 239

2021 Dec Avg 180

JAN 2023	In Person	In Car
1/1/2023	53	0
1/8/2023	160	0
1/15/2023	186	0
1/22/2023	187	0
1/29/2023	?	?
Weekly Avg	147	0
2022 Jan Avg	92	5 total



"Thanks for calling the Believer's Support  
 Line. For a word of encouragement, press one.  
 For a verbal pat on the back, press two. For  
 immediate praise and adulation, press three.  
 For a faith that worketh patience, press on!"