



## PASTOR MESSAGE

Rally Sunday is around the corner and Christ Lutheran's ministries will soon be going on all cylinders. Together we are making Christ's love known by equipping all ages to lovingly serve God and people.

With Sunday school and confirmation starting it's good to remember education and service opportunities for adults.

Adults are welcome to the confirmation Bible lectures open to all ages on Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 7:35. It is an invitation to sit in on teaching with discussion on key events, people, and stories in the Bible. It is an opportunity to see how the bible is connected and what God is up to in the world. This school year the focus will be the New Testament.

In October the once a month men's group will meet at Otto's. October is when the mixed Wednesday morning Bible study will start up so watch for details. We will continue offering a Sunday morning short discussion with occasional videos in the choir room between services during Sunday school from 9:20 to 9:40.

God's people have lived through all kinds of crazy things in the past 3500 years. What has remained constant is God's faithfulness to His promises. God doesn't promise us a trouble free life but promises to be with us through all the seasons of our lives. We live in hope because we know who holds the future.

Jill was listening to the radio a while back and told me the speaker said that he thought we currently live in the anxious States of America instead of the United States of America. Sometimes in my head I wish some people (chronic complainers and pessimists) could be sent to places in the world where people really do have things to be anxious about. Perhaps they would realize how blessed they are and maybe let go of some of the whining. Reading the Bible carefully helps us to be rooted in God's peace and God's promises, especially during times of anxiety

I hope your summer was a time of renewal for you and your family. I encourage you to continually participate in sharing Christ's love and the Good News. There are lots of opportunities to share your gifts in service to our faithful God. Together we are equipping all ages to lovingly serve God and people. Remember, God invites you to be a participant, not just a spectator following Christ together in God's mission.

Pastor Steve

**FIRST SUNDAY PRAYER TIME** - On the first Sunday of each month, Pastor Steve or Pastor Nirmala will be available for individual prayer and anointing (optional) at the altar railing. Prayers could include physical or emotional healing for yourself or loved ones. Requests at the railing will be kept confidential.



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## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS - SEPTEMBER

This year we are switching curriculum from Spark Lectionary to Augsburg Fortress. The lessons will correspond to the Revised Common Lectionary that is used in worship service to connect kids with Bible stories heard in worship.

We still need more teachers for this year! We have at least one teacher for each grade already, but would love to have 3-4 teachers for each class to decrease the commitment on each teacher. As a "thank you" we are waiving the registration fee for children of parents who teach. Please let Francine Kovash know if you are interested in teaching or helping in the classrooms! (507) 951-2234 or [fkovash@hotmail.com](mailto:fkovash@hotmail.com)

Sunday school teacher orientation will be Sept 6th at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you signed up to teach, watch for an email with the details.

Sunday school will run from Sept 10th, 2023 to May 12th, 2024 and is for 3 year olds - 6th graders.

Registration forms and class schedules will be in the narthex. Class runs from 9:05am - 9:50am. Preschool through 2nd graders need to be picked up and dropped off by parents/guardians.

Rally Sunday for the start of Sunday school will be September 10th at 9:05am. Parents/guardians meet in the sanctuary with your children for a short meeting and then we will have a fun carnival to celebrate the start of the school year. Parents will stay with their child(ren) for the carnival and get to see the classroom and meet their teachers.

### September Lessons

9/10 - Rally Sunday Carnival

9/17 - Lectionary 24/16 Pentecost: Joseph Helps His Family (Genesis 45:1-15; 50:15-21)

9/24 - Lectionary 25/17 Pentecost: The Vineyard Workers (Matthew 20:1-16)

3rd graders will receive their Bibles on 9/17 during the 8 am and 10 am services.

Thanks! Francine Kovash, Sunday School Coordinator

## CONFIRMATION NEWS - SEPTEMBER

Confirmation classes for 2023-2024 begin in September. Welcome to all incoming 1st year (7th grade) students and welcome back to all 2nd year students. There is still time to register if you haven't yet. We are looking forward to a great year of growing together in faith. This year we are studying the New Testament.

Upcoming dates:

Wednesday, Aug 30, 7:00pm – Mentor meeting

Wednesday, Sept 6, 7:00pm – Student/parent orientation and acolyte training for 7th graders

SATURDAY, Sept 9- MANDATORY Eagle Bluff retreat for both 1st and 2nd year students. Med Release forms must be completed for all attendees!!

Wednesday, Sept 13, 7:00pm – 1st regular class: Old Testament Review and introduction to New Testament

Any questions please contact Shay Baumbach at [clconfirmmentor@gmail.com](mailto:clconfirmmentor@gmail.com)

**MEN'S MORNING GROUP** - We will meet the first Saturday of each month at Otto's bakery starting on Sat., October 7 at 9am and finish before 10am. Pastor Steve is leading this group.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** - Study will resume on Wednesday, October 4 at 10am.

## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT ED - SEPTEMBER

Sept 17: Matthew 1-13; Sept 24: Matthew 14-28

There will be Bible project videos with a brief discussion held from 9:20 - 9:40am on Sundays in the chapel.

## UNDERSTANDING THE NEW TESTAMENT -

Wednesday nights starting Sept 13, 35 minute lecture from 7 - 7:35pm, as part of confirmation class, open to all ages.



## VBS Memories





# YOUTH/FELLOWSHIP

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP** - Senior high kids in grades 9-12, please join Kim Postier and Diane Theobald on Wednesdays at 7pm at CLC. Bring your friends.

*Youth Group was active over the summer months with often having 10-12 kids in attendance. We are a blessed church.*

**MISSION TRIP - 2024** St. Louis, MO from June 15-21, 2024 CLC has booked 13 youth and 2 adult leader spots. If interested for youth spots please submit a \$150 deposit and registration form, found on the kiosk. Interested adults, please contact the office. Trip is open to youth that complete 8th - 12th grade in 2024. Total trip cost details will be available soon, likely around \$400/student. Scholarships are available, contact Pastor Steve.



**MOVIE TIME** - Movie Time is on Sunday Sept 10 at 2pm. Movie titles are posted on the kiosk, bulletin board, or movie room door. Please join us in the theater room while we watch a family friendly movie. Popcorn will be provided but bring your own beverages. Open to all ages.

**BOOK CLUB** - Book club will be meeting again on Tuesday, Sept 5th. We meet Sept - May at 7pm, on the first Tuesday of the month at the church. In Sept 5th, we will be discussing "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. After discussion, the book for next month will be distributed. If you have any questions about joining our group you can email Kristie Nelson at [kjn0312@gmail.com](mailto:kjn0312@gmail.com).

Sept 5: The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society", by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows  
 Oct. 3: Good Eggs, by Rebecca Hardiman  
 Nov. 7: The Personal Librarian, by M Benedict & V Christopher Murray  
 Dec. 5: The Great Alone, by Kristin Hannah  
 Jan. 2: The Red Tent, by Anita Diamant  
 Feb. 6: Heart in the Right Place, by Carolyn Jourdan  
 March 5: Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine, by Gail Honeyman  
 April 2: The Martian, by Andy Weir  
 May 7: Invisible Child, by Andrea Elliott

**JOY GROUP** - We will meet on September 12th at 10:30am. The hostesses are Gail Heller and Donna Hoffman. New members are always welcomed!

**CARD MAKING** - Join the creative card making group on Saturday, Sept 16 from 9am - 1pm in the room off the kitchen at CLC. Contact Joan Skare with questions. We hope to see you there! This group meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday.



*Many thanks to Tom VanHeuklom, Jerry Rieser, and Howie Eischens for their hours spent painting and staining around CLC.*



## BEGINNER QUILTING/SEWING GROUP

Beginner quilting/sewing group will meet monthly on the second Saturday, starting in October from 9am - Noon. Please join us on Oct 14!

Contact person: Chris Polzin: 507-269-7579 or [mpolzin@frontiernet.net](mailto:mpolzin@frontiernet.net)

## FELLOWSHIP/OUTREACH

**SUPPER CLUB SMALL GROUPS** - Anyone can sign up: singles, couples, and families. You will be placed with 2 to 3 other family units and each will host a supper or snacks and conversation one time during the year. Your commitment is to host once, at your home, at a park, or even at the church, and then simply enjoy the hospitality of the others in your group. The sign-up sheet is on the table by the office or contact the office directly. Groups will be formed in October.

### ALTAR COMMITTEE NEEDS MORE MEMBERS

Altar Committee currently has 6 members. Ideally, we need a minimum of 7-9 to help share in the responsibilities. We are more of a behind the scenes committee. Monthly meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday @ 7 pm at CLC. Our committee duties consist of: decorating the sanctuary for the liturgical year, changing the banners, and paraments, and decorating for fall, Advent, Christmas and Easter. We put the names on the baptismal and funeral banners, maintain the acolyte robes; purchase communion supplies and assist with communion set up and clean up, maintain the candles, and acolyte lighters, and make and repair banners. Our committee sponsors the Sharing Tree which is displayed in the narthex each fall/advent.

For further information, contact Chris Polzin, Altar Chair 507-269-7579 or [mpolzin@frontiernet.net](mailto:mpolzin@frontiernet.net)  
Thank you for your consideration!

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!

We have at least one teacher per grade already, but would love to have 3-4 teachers per class to lower the time commitment. We are in most need of preschool, 3rd, 5th, and 6th grade teachers. As a "thank you" we are waiving the registration fee for children of parents who are teaching. Please let Francine Kovash know if you can help! (507) 951-2234 or [fkovash@hotmail.com](mailto:fkovash@hotmail.com)

### CLC SHARING THE HOLIDAY SEASON 2023

This year CLC Sharing tree will be collecting items for Woman's Shelter House in Rochester. The Sharing Tree will be put up mid-October.

The focus of the Woman's Shelter is to provide temporary shelter and services to people impacted by domestic violence while transforming our communities through education and leadership for social change. Their goal is for all people to live safely with freedom and dignity in our communities.

A list of the items needed will be available on the Sharing Tree mid-October. You may donate needed items through Sunday, December 17, 2023. Thank you in advance for your consideration and generosity.



### SALVATION ARMY FOOD COLLECTION

CLC collects food in the blue barrel by the front door.

### FAMILY PROMISE - 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>

**KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - Help is needed for kitchen cleanup after fellowship on Sunday mornings. Please contact Sandy Erickson if you are able to assist.

### TRICK OR TREAT COSTUME PARTY

October 29th from 6 - 7:30 pm at CLC

Kids will trick or treat from door to door inside the church, followed by snacks and music in the Fellowship Hall. Free event to our congregation and the community.

Look for a sign up sheet for families wishing to sponsor a door. Families provide candy for the trick or treaters. Decorating your door and dressing up is optional, but encouraged.



### BYRON COMMUNITY BLOOD

**DRIVE** - September 5, 2023

More Donors are Needed! Call 507-516-5259 to sign up. Located at Byron City Hall in the new Mayo Clinic Bloodmobile.



### HOSPICE ADULT GRIEF SUPPORT

**GROUPS - MAYO CLINIC** - Fall 2023: Week of Oct 9 - week of Nov 13 Available for in-person or online Zoom attendance. More info: 507-284-4002

### MAYO CLINIC GRIEF EVENTS - CHILDREN

Flyer is posted on bulletin board by north door. For more info: [rsthospicebereavement@mayo.edu](mailto:rsthospicebereavement@mayo.edu)

**MAUI WILDFIRE RESPONSE** - Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. To learn more or give online, visit the ELCA website: [link here](#)



# STEWARDSHIP/WORSHIP

**CHANCEL CHOIR** practice begins Wed, Aug 30th, at 6:30 PM in the Chapel. We'll practice every other week and bless the 8 o'clock Sunday service once a month. You don't need a solo voice to enhance the music, just a willingness to share the voice you have been blessed with. It's not a big commitment, about 45 minutes/practice, and it really does "do ya' good". For more info, contact Julie Carlblom - 507-250-1302 or [jcarlblom@kmtel.com](mailto:jcarlblom@kmtel.com)

**JUBELLANCE**, our handbell group, begins Wed, Sept 6th, at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary. We'll practice every other week for about an hour, and will bless the 8 o'clock Sunday service once a month. For more info, contact Jane Cabaya at 775-6183 or [janecabaya25@gmail.com](mailto:janecabaya25@gmail.com)

## 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.

## KEEPING COLLEGE STUDENTS CONNECTED

If your college student wants to stay connected to what's happening at church, please give the office their email address to get newsletters or the weekly email.

## 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
- Live Streamed services 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.

## STEWARDSHIP - CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

"Grandma, I'll pay you back right now with Venmo", Berklie said.

"Ven who?" I asked as I stopped in the middle of the aisle at Penneys.

"Grandma, I can transfer money to your bank account using my smart phone."

WOW, I didn't know that I could do all this money stuff on line! I give my church donation on line and pay my bills on line, but I had no idea who or what Venmo was. Turns out it's an App for your cell phone.

On line giving fits the normal practices and patterns of many in our congregation for their personal finances. At CLC we have an opportunity for on-line giving just by going to the CLC website and click "giving". You can decide the amount and frequency in the comfort of your home. And we're working to be able to provide other options such as Venmo, using your cell phone right here in church.

On line giving also helps with budget planning for implementing our church's mission statement, especially if the gift is recurrent throughout the year.

Despite intensive searching, I did not find a Bible verse about online giving, but here are several passages reminding all of us how we are blessed to be a blessing to others.

Proverbs 3:9-10; 2 Corinthians 9:7-10; Luke 6:38; James 2:17-22. Amen

**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 \$25 in July in Thrivent Choice Dollars.

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

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

**September 2023**



**Worship Times Change Sept 10**

8am Traditional Worship  
 9:05am Sunday School  
 9:20am 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  
 Pastor Nirmala 507-271-0348 or clcreinschmidt@gmail.com  
 President, Mark Turany 507-259-3820 or mturany@charter.net

**SUNDAY MORNING TREATS ARE NEEDED**

Please provide a batch of cookies/bars for fellowship time during September, if your last name starts with P-T. Help is needed with set up and clean up after fellowship time. If interested, contact Sandy Erickson at 507-259-2321.



**FALL TIME CHANGES** - Starting Sun, Sept 10, worship times will be traditional service at 8am, Sunday School at 9:05 - 9:50am, adult ed from 9:20-9:40am, and contemporary service at 10am. Fall office hours will be Mon - Thu from 9am - 3pm starting Sept 5.

**THANK - YOU** for thinking of Family Promise and doing a donation drive for us. We are very appreciative of your continued partnership and support.

**THANK - YOU** to all my church and JOY Friends. It was so nice to be remembered with prayer, cards, and phone calls after my surgery. I am anxious to be back into the swing of things again, as I feel so much better. God bless you all, Millie Broin

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** - Please pray

for Bonnie Poulter, Harriet Douglas, Jan Longmuir, Allyson Yennie, and Eric Bisping.

**2023 COMMUNION REGISTRATION**

Please register once annually by writing your name on the communion list on the registration table.



"I realize we've run into the lunch hour, and I'm sorry. Now, who's the wise guy who ordered pizza?"

**ATTENDANCE**

May 2023 Avg	161
May 2022 Avg	125
June 2023 Avg	115
June 2022 Avg	111
July 2023 Avg	109
July 2022 Avg	105
8.6.23	152
8.13.23	130
8.20.23	149
8.27.23	140
Aug 2023 Avg	143
Aug 2022 Avg	112