



## PASTOR'S MESSAGE - MAY

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Our Easter celebration continues. Easter is more than one day, it is the season of unbounded hope, joy, awe, and wonder. Proclaiming "Christ is risen, he is risen, indeed", always reminds us that the worst thing is never the last thing, because God acts beyond our expectations and human understanding.

Living by faith, we are an "Easter people", because we always view the world as full of possibility, that things are not always what they seem, and that God can make a way out of what appears to be "no way". Easter reframes our hope and our fear, for in Jesus, we see that God is always working to bring life, even out of death.

Because the first Easter, or appearance of the risen Christ, occurred on the first day of the week, it was decided at the Council of Nicea, in 325 AD, that Christians should celebrate His resurrection, and worship, on the first day of the week. For Christians, all of life is understood through the lens of God's decisive action to overcome sin, evil and death with the power of self-giving love and new life.

On the first Easter evening, the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples, who were hiding behind closed doors. The first thing he says to them is, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." There was much they didn't understand. They were deeply afraid, and Jesus understood this. Still, he wants them

(and us) to trust that nothing they (or we) fear is greater than God's ability to transform it. No one, and nothing, can separate us from his love and presence.

Now, we see everything, and everyone, in a new way. We find courage and strength for each day. We are sent, to share this new reality, so that others might also embrace the amazing good news that there is a truer way of being, knowing, and responding, which is Christ, himself, who makes all things new. Alleluia!

Pastor Susan



## SUMMER TIME CHANGES

Sunday worship: May 25 - Aug 31 at 9am

Office Hours: Jun 2 - Aug 27, Mon - Wed from 9am - 1pm



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Pastor  
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Inside This  
Edition:  
Page 2-3: Education/  
Youth/Misc  
Page 4-5: Church Life/  
Outreach/Worship/  
Stewardship  
Page 6: Prayers/  
Attendance

## EDUCATION/YOUTH

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS FOR MAY

May Sunday School Lessons:

5/4 - Saul to Paul - Acts 9:1-20

5/11 - Peter and Tabitha - Acts 9:36-43

5/18 - Year End Program/Celebration!

The End of Year Program will be on 5/18 starting at 9:05. There will be donuts and coffee served in the Fellowship Hall for Sunday school kids and their families. Preschool through 4th graders will practice music in the sanctuary from 9:05-9:20 in preparation to sing at the 10:00 service. All parents, teachers, and Sunday school kids will meet in the sanctuary at 9:20 for a presentation and slideshow. Thank you to all the volunteers that made this school year great!

Please let Francine Kovash know if you would like to teach or be a helper in Sunday School next year! 507-951-2234 or [fkovash@hotmail.com](mailto:fkovash@hotmail.com). Those that volunteer to teach next school year will have the Sunday School registration fee waived for their kids!

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.

Thanks! Francine, Sunday School Coordinator

### GOOD EARTH VILLAGE - SUMMER CAMP

Registration is available for youth summer camp at [www.goodearthvillage.org/summer](http://www.goodearthvillage.org/summer) Good Earth Village is our congregationally supported church camp. CLC pays for 60% of camp costs (up to \$225 max per kid) for kids attending Good Earth Village.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

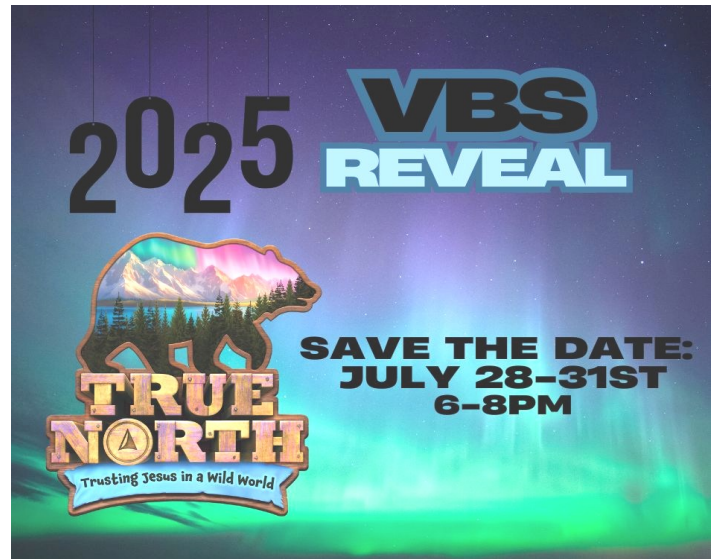
Please join our pastor led Bible Study at 10am.

### CONFIRMATION NEWS - MAY

We are looking for a 2025-2026 Confirmation Coordinator and mentors for 7th grade confirmation. If you are interested, contact the Education Committee. Tina Jordahl, Confirmation Coordinator

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 CONFIRMANDS!!

Eva Brennan	Norah Brown	Olivia Buesking
Alexis Deutz	Emily Dickman	Hank Fossum
Maci Hessedal	Eli Hince	Liam Hince
Nicolas Jordahl	Olivia Petersen	Weston Pirk
Camdyn Snell	Morgan Solberg	Lauren Stalboerger
Hadley Voigt	Norah Weis	



### Set Your Compass to True North! Join us for Vacation Bible School

This summer, we're going on an exciting journey to discover **True North** – the ultimate direction for our lives! Through fun games, powerful lessons, music, and crafts, we'll explore what it means to follow God and find our true purpose.

**Dates:** July 28th-31st

**Time:** 6-8pm

**Location:** Christ Lutheran Church

**For Ages:** Preschool-5th Grade

\$10/child event with snacks, activities, and lots of fun!

**Ready to set your compass for an unforgettable adventure?**

### 2025-2026 SUNDAY SCHOOL AND

**CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION** - Registration for Sunday School and Confirmation will be available in later May. Watch for more details in the weekly emails. **Mandatory Confirmation Retreat is likely Saturday, September 6 at Eagle Bluff.**

### TEEN GOSPEL CHOIR CONCERT

Sunday, May 4 at 3:30pm at Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 3rd Ave SE, Rochester, MN





## SENIOR SUNDAY

High School senior recognition Sunday will be May 4th. A reception with cake and coffee will be at 9am, and recognition at the 10am worship service. Seniors, your CLC church family congratulates you on completing another important milestone.

## BIBLE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

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

## KWIK TRIP CAR WASHES

The Youth Committee is selling Kwik Trip Car Washes to support the mission trip and Bible Camp Scholarships. The cost is \$40/5 washes. The Youth earn \$20/card. Cards will be sold between services by the mission trip kids, or in the office.

**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 with treats and a video, for shareholders.

## MISSION TRIP - KANSAS CITY, MO

June 22-27, 2025 - 20 kids are attending and 4 adult leaders. Total trip cost to families is \$375 (total per student cost is about \$650).

## THANK-YOUs

Altar Committee would like to extend a thank you to all the members who donated lilies/mums for the Easter Service. It beautified our sanctuary celebrating our risen Lord.

CLC Ladies - Thanks so much for the Easter basket! I enjoyed everything in it! The cookies and candy were super good. God bless, Stella Anderson

**YOUTH GROUP** - Wednesday nights from 7-8pm. Warmer weather is making its way here. This means the youth group will be having their youth meetings outside roasting marshmallows and enjoying the outdoors, so bring a blanket or camp chair.

**8th graders, please join us!**

Dates to remember this summer: May 7 - Outdoor Movie night at Heinz house 7pm; June 11 - Meek House 7pm; July 9 - Esser House 7pm; July 12 - Feed My Starving Children Food Pack, time TBD; July 30 - Johnson house 7pm; Aug 20 - Heinz house movie nite 7pm; all other Wednesdays we will meet

Thank You to all the wonderful folks who donated baked goods and candy for our shut-in Easter Baskets. A special thank you to Fareway for their donations of apples, oranges and candy. What a fun time we all had putting together the baskets for our shut-ins! All our shut-in friends sure enjoyed their sweet treats. Thank You, Thank You!! Diane Bisping, Evangelism chair

Thanks to all members that helped at the Spring Clean Up! Many hands make light the work. -the Building and Grounds Committee

## CLC LIBRARY PICKS BY PASTOR SUSAN...

Come browse the CLC Library for inspiration and a spiritual feast. Here are some suggestions you can check out at the Welcome Center, or find other titles or CDs that are of interest to you.

**Making sense of the Cross**, by David J Lose

**The Cost of Discipleship**, Dietrich Bonhoeffer

**The Hiding Place**, Corrie Ten Boom

**Vanishing Grace**, Philip Yancy

**Signs of Belonging**, by Mary E. Hinkle

**Music CD: Great Hymns of Faith**, The St. Olaf College Choir

## PALM SUNDAY FRENCH TOAST

**BREAKFAST** The Youth Committee would like to thank everyone who donated food and baskets for our French Toast Breakfast and Silent Auction. Over \$3,000 was raised on Palm Sunday!!

## CLC RUMMAGE SALE

Save the date!! Rummage Sale will be July 25 and 26. Setup/Drop off will be July 23 and 24. A flyer for volunteers will be posted soon on the kiosk. Contact JoAnn Brooks for more details.



at CLC, outside, around the fire pit. More details will be coming on a pool party.

Please contact Kim P or sign up on the calendar outside the youth room at church if you can volunteer (Youth Parent/Guardian) on a Wednesday during the summer months to be a leader for the night. You could be at your house when you host, or host at church. Would love parents to help out to keep the kids having their fellowship time each week learning and sharing God's word.

If you have questions or want to connect with this group, contact Kim Postier, Youth Group Leader

## CHURCH LIFE/OUTREACH

**BOOK CLUB** - Book club will meet Tuesday, May 6, at 6pm at CLC. We will discuss the book "A Week in Winter" by Maeve Binchy. Please join us, even if you haven't read the book! Book Club does not meet during the summer months so after May 6, we will not meet again until Sept. 2. If you have questions please email: Ruth Ramsey at Auntierootie@gmail.com or Kristie Nelson at Kjn0312@gmail.com

### MOVIE TIME - SATURDAY, MAY 3, 6:30PM

Please join us for a family friendly movie in our movie theater! We have a new screen and sound system. Movie title is posted on the kiosk. Popcorn will be provided, but bring your own beverage. All are welcome!

**CARD MAKING** - All crafty ladies, gentlemen too, looking for a fun activity? Join us in making cards for others. We meet the 3rd Saturday of the month, May 17, at CLC from 9 am-noon. Contact is Kari Prigge.

**MEALS ON WHEELS** - Christ Lutheran members are delivering Meals on Wheels during the month of June. If you are interested in volunteering, call Sandy Erickson at 507-259-2321.

**JOY CLUB** - JOY Club meets May 13th. We will be going to The Union Coffee Cafe in Dodge Center. Please meet at CLC parking lot at 10:30am to car pool for 11am reservations or meet in restaurant parking lot by 10:55am. Hope to see you for a spring day adventure!!

**BYRON FOOD SHELF** - located at DACS building, 630 1st Ave NW, Byron. Hours are: Mon 10-11am, Wed 9-11am and 12-2pm, and Thur 12-2pm. Request an appointment for other times, 507-775-2336. CLC sends our food collections to the Byron food shelf.

### SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE HOUR - MAY

Fellowship time between the two services needs cookies or bars. If your last name starts with M - P, please provide a batch of cookies or bars. Drop off the treats at the CLC kitchen before the 8am service. Contact Sandy Erickson, if you are interested in volunteering to help clean-up after fellowship time on Sundays.

### QUILTING/SEWING GROUP - MAY 10, 9AM - NOON

Our group is going to work on quilts for Project Linus. Contact Chris Polzin with questions at mpolzin@frontiernet.net or 507-269-7579 All are welcome! (www.projectlinusrochmn.org)

### SAMARITAN BETHANY GOLF

**CLASSIC** - June 26, 2025, Willow Creek Golf & Events Flyers are on the kiosk for more information.

*Recently seen around CLC...*





## STEWARDSHIP/WORSHIP

### CLC COUNCIL MEETING 4/15/25

The CLC council meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Joe Biewer.

Members present: Joe Biewer, Randy Holz, LuRaye Eischens, Carol Smith, Tim Anderson, Ashley Ebenhoh, Tom Tweite, Cece Meek, and Pastor Susan Li.

Members absent: Luke Brown, Linda Danielski, Jason Pfeilsticker, and DrewAnne Oestreich

Joys and Concerns; Devotions: By Tim Anderson

Approval of Agenda: Joe added the Call Committee update to the agenda. Motion made to approve the agenda by Randy Holz. Carol Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approval of March minutes: Motion made by Cece Meek to approve the March minutes. Tom Tweite seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report: In Jason's absence, Joe Biewer presented the Treasurer report. March income/ expenses: \$-329.78; YTD: \$1,636.77.

Pastor Lesson: Pastor Susan led a discussion on the church council as leaders and what we would like to see happen in the next five years.

#### Discussion Items

Tom Tweite gave a brief update on behalf of the Call Committee. Joe Biewer expanded on that and informed us of an all-congregation meeting to be held on Wed, April 30 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This meeting will be for the congregation to vote on the new pastor that the Call Committee is considering.

### 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.

### WORSHIP AT CLC

- In-church worship at 8am, traditional style and 10am contemporary style
- Communion offered 1st and 3rd weeks of the month at both services.
- Live Streamed services: <https://www.youtube.com/@christlutheranchurchbyronm10/streams>

**DONATIONS AND THANK-YOU** - Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. Donation options include 1) mailing your offering to Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Frontage Road NW, Byron, 2) online giving <http://www.clcbyron.org/giving/>, or Venmo, or 3) drop off your offering during church services or office hours.

**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 \$798 in March in Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Randy Holz updated us on the parking lot raffle. So far 495 tickets have been handed out with another 605 tickets available to hand out. Discussion was held on other possible ways to fund the parking lot.

Pastor Susan led a discussion with hand-outs regarding the structure of the church and council.

#### Action Items:

Alex and Stephanie Goettl were received into membership of Christ Lutheran Church by affirmation of faith. Motion was made by Ashley Ebenhoh and seconded by Tom Tweite to approve this. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn: Motion made by Randy Holz to adjourn the meeting. Tim Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be May 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by LuRaye Eischens, council secretary

**MUSIC FOR WORSHIP** - Share your musical talent with your church family this summer! Contact Julie Carlblom ([jcarlblom@kmtel.com](mailto:jcarlblom@kmtel.com) or 507-250-1302) to schedule a time to enhance a worship service with your musical message. Vocals and instrumentals are welcomed, but songs do need to be pre-approved for streaming.



### PAVE THE PARKING LOT - RAFFLE 2025

Packets can be picked up in the entry for you to sell to your neighbors, family and friends. The drawing will be Sunday, July 27.

### ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS



Venmo

Vanco



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

**May 2025**



### Worship Times

8am Traditional Worship

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 Susan 507-254-9875 or [clcpastorsusan@gmail.com](mailto:clcpastorsusan@gmail.com)  
 Pastor Judy 507-330-0722 or [peacejudy@hotmail.com](mailto:peacejudy@hotmail.com)  
 President, Joe Biewer 701-261-5932 or [jbiewer@hotmail.com](mailto:jbiewer@hotmail.com)

## 2025 COMMUNION REGISTRATION

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

## 2025 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Saturday, May 30-31 in Mankato, MN at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center.

## QUALIFIED CHARITABLE

**DONATIONS** - At age 70 1/2 and older, individuals may distribute tax-free up to \$100,000 annually 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 reduces gross income for the calculation determining the amount of Social Security benefits that may be taxable.



**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** - Please pray for Kay McKay, Donna Cahill, Nora Schnick, Ed Korbel, Liz Alsbury, Sarah Holloway Watkins, Sue Hoenk, and Ali.

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

## ATTENDANCE

Feb 2025 Avg	131
Feb 2024 Avg	187
Mar 2025 Avg	134
Mar 2024 Avg	243
4/6	176
4/13	190
4/20	348
4/27	239
Apr 2025 Avg	238
Apr 2024 Avg	211