

## Announcements March 13, 2020



With your help, they will once again enhance our chancel as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday, April 12. The order form will be in this Sunday's bulletin, as well as next Sunday, March 22, and Sunday, March 29th. The cost is \$12. Please remit your check payable to Christ Lutheran Church (designate Easter Lilies) with the order form. Thank You!

#### From Pastor Mary

Dear Church, Dear Families:

As we move deeper into the Lenten season where we commit ourselves to a richer reflection on our baptism, our discipleship, and on the gift of each other; I give thanks for all of you. Thank you for all the ways you have given yourself to study more, do more, pray more and serve more. You inspire me!

As most know, we had a challenging time in our congregation from September through January as we found ourselves a divided community centered around our affiliation with The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. After much conversation, discernment, prayer, and constitutional abiding; we voted in mid-January to



remain in our denomination. That decision caused some members of our community, both full members and some associate members, to step away from Christ Lutheran. While no one has officially resigned from the congregation or asked for a Letter of Transfer, their absence is felt and our prayers for all continue.

And so now, we are in a time where we are healing and where we are articulating a new vision of how to be faithful in our community during this season of the Church Christ has

given to us. It is both a tender and a hope-filled time for us.

One of the ways the Council and I discussed to help us heal and make a strong path forward in mission is to hold regular **Holy Conversations** for our church family and friends. I'll share the details of this simple process in a moment, but it's also important to give the purpose for doing this. First of all, I came to the pastoral conclusion over the past year (before I came to CLC), that regular (perhaps guarterly) gatherings of the congregation for the purpose of "checking in" with each other is a way to maintain the health of a parish. As many of you have heard me say, I think of it as going for a regular well-visit to the doctor. This is a check-up to do a fuller examination that isn't done when you are sick or injured. It's when your doctor spends more time asking you how things are going for you and a time to do a full blood work-up. It's a time when some things may be discovered, even though you think everything is fine. Perhaps you discover that you have high blood pressure now and so it's caught before you have a stroke. These regular Holy Conversations are intended to be like that. We're not coming together to speak and to listen to each other because anything is wrong or because we're in crisis; but because we are siblings in Christ being Church together for the sake of the world. We need to know each other more deeply, to hear what is on the hearts and minds of others, and to speak what might be needed: forgiveness, love, encouragement or peace. In less pastoral language, it's a way to make sure we aren't sweeping things under the rug, to shine a light on some dark corners, and to give a structured opportunity to hear how God is speaking to each of us about ways we are being called in mission.

The process will be simple when we gather for these events. We'll fill our plates, sit at tables or somehow group ourselves into small groups of four or five. At this first one, we'll be asked to share with each other three things:

- 1. Share one fun fact about yourself that people might not know.
- 2. Share one "high" (positive thing) you see at CLC right now.
- 3. Share one "low" (a concern, a worry) you see at CLC right now.

After a time of sharing these with each other, we'll spend some time sharing our highs and lows with the whole group. Council members will make a list of your highs and lows and then will discuss this feedback at their next meeting and work on ways to address your concerns. Then, they'll schedule a next Holy Conversation and may have different questions for us to ponder at that one.

Now, here are the details on our first gathering:

Holy Conversation Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Combined Service 11:30 Lunch in Heinrich's Hall Christ's Loyal Chefs will provide meats and drinks. Attendees are asked to bring sides, vegetarian entrees, gluten-free dishes, and desserts.

Blessings to you, God's peace be with you, Pastor Mary

#### **LENT 2020**



#### Mondays in Lent 9:30 am Prayer Circle

Our new prayer group will continue on Mondays in the Church Parlor. Consider adding this opportunity to your devotional life this season.

#### Wednesdays in Lent

6:00 pm Come to Heinrichs Hall for a Soup Supper. Two soups are provided each night. Attendees are encouraged to bring a salad or dessert to share.

6:15-6:45 pm Pastor Anderson will lead us in a study of The Apostles' Creed. Deeper reflection on The Small Catechism has long been a traditional practice in Lutheran congregations.7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary

#### Holy Week

April 5<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup> Holy Wednesday Service of Healing + Blessing of Oil 7:00 pm April 9<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm April 10<sup>th</sup> Good Friday Worship at Noon & 7:00 pm

#### A Lenten Fast

Want to fast from something besides chocolate? Want to do a fast that will help the world? The Confirmation Group (Johnathan DeMaria, Elise Sullivan and Gunnar Ternstrom) invite the congregation to consider a 40-day fast from **carbon**!

Each of the days of Lent, from Ash Wednesday to the Vigil of Easter, we will provide you with a daily way to consider reducing your carbon footprint. The confirmands will be doing this and will give a Temple Talk in the middle of Lent about their experience in doing this kind of fast.

Wonder what it's about? Hard copies of the whole



# God provides answers to our prayers. Please pray for:

- -- Steve Bassford
- -- Emily Caudle
- -- Bob Harding
- -- Donna Putrino
- -- Lois Rockefeller
- -- Sandy Heins
- -- Ron (friend of David & Tami
- Kuhlmann)

Please use the Blue Cards in the Pew Racks to forward a prayer concern or update to the office.

## St. John's Lutheran in Nashville needs your support!

As you well know. It was destroyed by the tornado last week. This congregation will continue to be in our prayers throughout this Lenten season. Your staff and lay leaders also feel called to invite our congregation to collect a Love Offering for this congregation. We will do this over the next two weeks: March 15, and 22. If you write a check, please write in the memo line: St. John's. If you are giving cash, use one of the envelopes in the pew and mark it appropriately. As residents on and visitors to HHI, we know the realities of natural disasters and we have been the beneficiaries of the compassion and generosity of other congregations when we stood in harm's way. Thank you in advance for any gifts you can offer.

#### **Coronavirus Update:**

In the face of all of this information and what we know at this point, I suggest the following for our congregation after consulting with calendar will be provided outside the office and in the narthex throughout the season.

#### March 15th

Are you recycling everything you can? Refresh your memory with the Madison Recyclopedia.

#### March 16th

Re-use an item you would have thrown away, like a jam jar or a plastic yogurt container.

#### March 17th

Eliminate single use plastics-when out to eat, request no straw.

#### March 18th

Try some new "green" cleaning products or make your own.

#### March 19th

Fill a reusable water bottle instead of using a single use plastic bottle.

#### March 20th

Stop unwanted junk mail to save trees, cut down on carbon emissions, and reduce waste.

#### March 21st

Bring reusable bags with you to get groceries and leave them in your vehicle for future trips.

### **NEW! CLC IN WEEKLY PRAYER**

We are offering a contemplative prayer time every Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the parlor! Come for a time of silence, prayer, mediation and an opportunity



to start the week by focusing on God and His will for us personally and His church.

#### COFFEE HELP!

The coffee fellowship table in the Narthex needs an army of people (men and women) to provide the goodies we all enjoy (or at least look at) every week with our cups of coffee or tea. Many members have stepped up to shore up the team, but some health professionals and some congregational leaders:

- Don't go anywhere if you feel sick with any kind of cold or flu. It just isn't worth it.
- Do what you feel you need to do. That might include not coming to gatherings at church. It might mean you don't shake hands, that you wear latex gloves (our hand-to-hand contact is the most likely to spread infection, more than giving somebody a hug or even a kiss on the cheek), that you don't come up for communion or that you only take the bread at the eucharist.
- I encourage us all to respect each other's concerns and decisions about these things.
- 4. Since hand sanitizer is disappearing off store shelves, if you find some or have extra at home, could you bring it to church for us to use in the fellowship hall and in the sanctuary?
- 5. And regarding

*communion:* Those of us serving communion will use hand sanitizer right before handling the elements. Since we use intinction rather than common cup, this helps greatly. It will also help if worshipers avoid making contact with the wine in the cup when dipping in their wafer. It is also theologically and liturgically acceptable a/k/a "good, right, and salutary" to receive only the bread at communion. We trust and believe that Christ is present in the bread alone. If part of your decision is to not receive the bread or wine, you are invited to come up for a blessing, indicating your intention by crossing your arms over your chest. Some may think that it would be a good idea to use the individual glasses and I have

more are needed so that the same people are not being called upon to provide this weekly fellowship.

**PLEASE** contact Chris Wilcox at <u>christineewilcox@aol.com</u> or call her at 843-342-9711 and offer your help.

You don't have to be gifted with the baking gene; you can shop at the grocery and bring in goodies from the baked goods section! So little effort is needed.

Help grow this vital and appreciated fellowship team! Thank you!



We need monthly bakers for St. James Soup Kitchen. If you wish to donate cookies, please contact Leslie Heavener at 706-830-3943, or 843-363-5789 or email her at pjst48e2@gmail.com

#### **Preschool Easter Egg Hunt**

Please help us once



again by **donating individually wrapped candy** that we can use to fill recycled plastic Easter eggs during our lenten suppers! We will fill 1000 eggs for **our very own preschool Easter Egg hunt on April 4 from 10-11:30am!** Please join the fun and the good cause for providing this wonderful outreach to our preschool families! thought about that. However, consider that these little cups will be handled by those on the altar guild who are filling them and by the communion assistants who will be giving them to you. And since the only way to "handle" them is to pick them up by the rim you will drink from, I question whether this is truly better.

Because this illness and the story of it will keep developing and because you will offer your experiences and wisdom, we may be editing these recommendations as we move along. We continue to pray for those already affected, and for those researchers and medical personnel who are working hard around the world to find vaccines and to guide us all in ways to prevent the spread of such illnesses. God bless them, what a weight on their shoulders.

## Hilton Head's First Diversity Weekend April 24, 26



Christ Lutheran is pleased to host the first Diversity Weekend on Hilton Head Island! We are blessed to welcome Representative Jim

Clyburn as the Keynote Speaker for the Panel Discussion on April 25. To reserve your seat for any event over the weekend, please visit:

https://comingtogetherhhi.eventbrite.com

Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to the event!

## An Update on the Renovations

The Christ Lutheran Renovation project is a \$1,000,000 project designed to:

- Ensure our church building is a safe and functional structure for our needs, through repairs and renovations to the Main Entry & Plaza, Foyer, Narthex, Sanctuary and Sanctuary Hallways.
- Provide updates and fresh design to interior spaces in and near the Sanctuary.
- Provide an infusion of funds to our Capital Reserve Fund for ongoing building expenditures.

Your Renovation Ministry Team has been busy working behind the scenes to keep this important priority moving forward. Here is a brief update on where we stand at this time and current priorities.

Our first priority has been to work with the architect to complete final design plans. This is important because the final plans allow our builder (Highsmith Construction) to give us a final cost estimate before we give the go-ahead to begin work. This process has taken longer than we originally thought but is on track to be completed by the end of this month.

The builder will then provide a final cost estimate so that we can compare this with our original budget. Work may need to take place to make some choices regarding our design to close any gap between the final cost estimate and our original budget. We regret that providing video capability in the sanctuary would not be prudent at this time. The current cost of this capability as well as the current state of technology to meet our needs led us to decide to not include this at this time and is something that can be added at a later date. We do plan to ensure that we design in the proper power wiring so that it can be added in the future.

We also need to reconfirm our pledges from last year so that we can move forward with confidence regarding what revenue we can expect for the project. Shortly we will be sending out a letter to each person who made an original pledge asking each person to reconfirm their pledge, an update on giving to date and ask that people reconfirm their commitment. Much has transpired over the past year and we just want to reconfirm contributors commitments so we have a good handle on what revenue we can expect. Recall that our pledging campaign allowed contributors to give over a three year timeframe and generated nearly \$700,000 in pledges.

Other important approvals are in place. Approvals from the Town as well as final approval of our loan from the Mission Investment Fund has gone smoothly. It should be noted that we will not begin to draw on the approved loan or pay any interest until after construction begins.

Once we have final cost estimates from the builder and confirmation of pledges, we will be in a better position to recommend to council our ability to proceed with the project. We are optimistic that we will be able to move forward and it is important that we bring to fruition what our Congregation approved in July 2019.

Thank you for your continued support of this important church project and we look forward to providing more updates on a regular basis.

**Renovation Ministry Team** 

# **CLC PRESCHOOL**



**OFFICIAL REGISTERED CHARITY** 



UPDATE: We are off to a great start to our Birdies for Charity campaign. We have reached 20% of our goal with 100 pennies pledged so far. Thank you to those who have contributed. One 400 more pennies to go!!

Please help fill our Birdies' Bank.

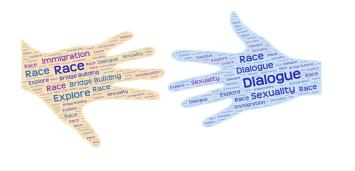
The kickoff to our seventh year of participating in the Birdies for Charity fundraiser starts March 1st. Your support the last six years has made it our most successful fundraiser each and every time. The Birdies for Charity is sponsored by the Heritage Classic Foundation associated with the RBC Heritage. From now until April 19th, you can make a per birdie pledge or a flat donation. Every donation will be matched with an additional 15% by the Heritage Classic Foundation. It's so easy to do. Simply go to www.heritageclassicfoundation.com and click on Donate Now. Or you can fill out a pledge form in the Narthex and Janet Betts from the Preschool will take it from there. Won't you please help us again this year? Our goal is 500 pennies pledged. This year we hope to replace ancient computers and bring ourselves into the 21st century. In addition, it is time to redo our bathroom floors in the big room for safety and sanitation purposes. The residual amount will be placed in our scholarship fund for additional families that may join during the year and need assistance.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

# **CONNECTED - SPIRITED CONVERSATIONS**

#### THE DIALOGUE IN ON

CONNECTED is now on lenten hiatus until April 22, when we will resume our spirited conversations! We finished our series on The Refugee Crisis and will be coming forward with an action plan soon! Stay tuned!



# **CLC Community Ministry**

# LOCAL MISSION: ST. JAMES SOUP KITCHEN - every Thursday -- 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

CLC is called to mission at the soup kitchen EVERY THURSDAY of the month! Why not come by and offer your hands in service on a Thursday? If you are interested in volunteering or simply want more information

Please Contact Alice Graeb -- 740-298-1086 or the church office.

#### LOCAL MISSION: BACK PACK BUDDIES

Back Pack Buddies is our program to feed underserved children on the weekends. These children get their lunches and sometimes breakfasts at school during the week but may go hungry on the weekends. We furnish them with two breakfasts and two lunches every Friday, including two pieces of fresh fruit.



Any questions call Doris Stickel, 843-842-4710 or DLStickel@aol.com.

#### LOCAL MISSION: DEEP WELL



Recent church discussions and the viewing of the movie "Hiding in Plain Sight" have focused on the homeless population in our backyard, Hilton Head Island. It is timely then to note that our local non-profit social service agency, The Deep Well Project provided over 265 hot showers in 2019 for our homeless neighbors. 93 loads of laundry were done in the DW pantry washer and dryer during the same period of time. Both services

are free and open to walk in clients and are gratefully received! When the need comes out for laundry detergent, bath soap, shampoo etc., please know that these

items are really needed and greatly appreciated! 616 qualified island children received toys from the Santa Shop and 141 new bicycles were given out this Christmas season. It's been busy at Deep Well.

Let's fill the blue wagon in the Narthex with the following most needed items: Juice---no sugar added, large containers and /or small individual boxes Fruit Bars Granola Bars Grits---bags and/or individual packets Shampoo---large bottles Deodorant

# **CLC Faith Formation**

**K-5th Graders** meet every Sunday at 9:45 am in the Sale Building

Youth (6th-12th grades) meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 10am.



**Confirmation Group** meets on scheduled Wednesdays at 4pm. Additional instruction is conducted on-line.

Preschool Chapel at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Sanctuary

#### **Sunday Faith Formation Classes for Adults**

At Christ Lutheran we offer two opportunities for adults to come together to study and reflect on scripture, theology, and our spiritual questions that emerge at the intersection of God's Word and our daily lives. Both take place at 9:45 am each Sunday.

**The Augsburg Bible Study** class meets in Heinrichs Hall and is facilitated by Kathy Mork this February and March. This class makes use of the well-loved Augsburg study series that covers a wide range of biblical books and themes. Join in any time!



This class is building a team of 4-8 people interested in facilitating our Sunday morning discussions. By building a leadership team, no one is required to commit to leading every Sunday. The study beginning in March, "Justice and the Prophets" takes a look at how today's issues of justice are not all that different from justice issues in Biblical times. A Leader's Guide is available and Pastor Mary has agreed to provide a bit of mentoring if you need her. If you are interested, please contact Tamara Kuthlmann or Pastor Mary. If you are curious what our Sunday studies are about, drop by Heinrichs Hall on Sunday at 9:45 and be part of the conversation.

# From David Kuhlmann: We begin a new, eight part series this Sunday called ProFuture Faith: The Prodigal Species Comes Home.

Having "squandered our inheritance on profligate living," we are a prodigal species. Industrial civilization and our insatiable appetites have us hurtling toward irreversible consequences - not in some distant future, but right now. The good news is it's not too late. At the intersection of science, spirituality, and sustainability is a deep love of life and a passion for our posterity - a ProFuture Faith. Eco-theologian, author, and TEDx speaker, Rev. Michael Dowd will guide us on

a journey that accepts what is inevitable, avoids what is futile, and inspires to attend to what is urgent. See you this Sunday.

#### CLC Book Club



On Saturday, March 21 the CLC Book Club will meet to discuss **An American Marriage** by Tayari Jones. A winner of numerous awards, this fictional book is "a moving portrayal of the effects of a wrongful conviction on a young African American married couple." Join us at 1:30pm March 21st at Jackie Longo's home. Please contact Jackie if you plan to attend so that Sea Pine gate passes can be issued--- <u>imlongo25@gmail.com</u>. We

welcome new participants, part time members, visitors and guests to our lively discussions.

## **Events Happening at CLC**

## MARCH 15, 2020

Coffee Fellowship: Joyce Prange

- 8:30 a.m. Lector: Doug Felton
  Ushers: Chris Wilcox & Carol Benton
  Music: Alice Graeb, Jim Fritz, Doug and Elsa Felten & Kirk Taylor
  Communion Assistants: Kirk & Cherie Taylor
- 10:30 a.m. Lector: Marajean Zodtner
  Ushers: Wayne & JoAnn Sebulsky & Barbara Johnson
  Communion Assistants: Don & Barbara Bethman
  Altar Guild: Paulette Sefanick

Friday, 3/13	ALL DAY	Church Office Closed	
1 Huay, 5/15			
	5:00 p.m.	Friday Night AA Group	
Sunday 3/15	8:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Service	
	9:45 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship	
	10:30 a.m	Traditional Worship Service	
Monday 3/16	9:30 a.m.	CLC Prayer Group/parlor	
	10:00 a.m.	Quilting Group Meets	
	5:00 p.m.	NAMI Group Meeting	
Tuesday, 3/17	12:00 Noon	Service Ministry Team,	
		Heinrich's Hall	
Wednesday, 3/18	10:00 a.m.	Exec. Committee Meeting	
	1:00 p.m.	Women's AA group	
	3:30 p.m.	Choir Practice	
	5:00 p.m.	Hand Bell Choir Practice	
	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Supper, Lenten Study	
	7:00 p.m.	Holden Evening Prayer	
Thursday, 3/19	Noon	Soup Kitchen	
Friday, 3/20		Office Closed	
	6:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 843-785-5560	
Like us on Facebook	