

The Bridge

March 3, 2023

The memorial service for John Conway (Vera Conway's husband) will be held on **Saturday, March 4th at 11am.**There will be a luncheon following in Heinrich Hall.

Don't forget! Donation Sunday is March 5

Welcome to Christ Lutheran



Lent 2

Jesus and Nicodemus Henry Ossowa Taylor Here is our YouTube link for Sunday's Worship

> 2 Lent March 5, 2023

LIVE STREAM WORSHIP at 10AM on SUNDAY

Just click on the link! That's it!

https://youtube.com/playlist? list=PLotbYu7kUgY9WtkoAcVthi-ueKguDUR7c

You can also find the link on the homepage of our website: www.clchhi.org

Worship Volunteers for this Sunday:

Lector: Linda Kondor

Communion Assistants: John & Joyce Prange **Greeters:** Paulette Stefanik & Suzy Makalous

Ushers: John & Joyce Prange Altar Guild: Jo Ann Sebulsky

The music this Sunday will be by: Rick Radcliff, Elsa and Doug Felten and the Dulce Jubilo Bell Choir and our other music leaders

Thank you to all our volunteers!

The History of Reconciling Works

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. –**Hebrews 13:2**

In December, our council voted for us to go forward with examining the feasibility of Christ Lutheran Church becoming an Reconciling in Christ congregation. Our new council affirmed that direction in our February meeting. Becoming Reconciling in Christ means that a



congregation would make a public welcome to all people including, specifically, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people (LGBT).

Before I came to Christ Lutheran I've been a part of 6 Lutheran congregations either as a member, student, or pastor. Of those, only two have NOT been Reconciling in Christ. I have quite a bit of experience with Reconciling Works, the organization that maintains the Reconciling in Christ list of congregations, with the program itself, and what happens to a congregation that decides to go in this direction.

I want to tell you about the history of Reconciling Works.

Reconciling Works was formerly called "Lutherans Concerned" and before that "Lutherans Concerned for Gay People". The organization started in Minneapolis (as many Lutheran things do) in 1974. Their objective was to open dialogue about sexual orientation so that the church would be "less a source of oppression" for LGBT people.

One of the things that Lutherans Concerned did through the 1990s was "Sanctuary Worships". Since many Lutheran churches were "sources of oppression", LGBT people, parents, families, and allies of LGBT people gathered together and had Lutheran worship at a time other than Sunday morning (usually Sunday night). They met at a Lutheran Church that was friendly, and they brought in a Lutheran pastor who was either gay or lesbian or an ally of LGBT people. They knew they would hear a sermon that would be inclusive of them and wouldn't judge them for their sexual orientation or gender identity, and they gathered with people they knew would be supportive. This was a safe place where people felt they could safely express their spirituality, worship God, be Lutheran, and still be open about their relationships and who they really were. It was a place where they could be fully themselves in God's presence. I went to quite a few with my friends in New York in the 1990's.

Sometime in the 1980's, the people of Lutherans Concerned decided to prepare a list of churches who were welcoming to LGBT people every Sunday. The list was on paper and you had to write to Lutherans Concerned with a self-addressed stamped envelope to get it. At first there were very few churches on the list (maybe 25 or so) and at first and they were mostly centered in large cities across the US. My home church, Trinity Lutheran Church of Manhattan, decided to be on that list in the late 1980's.

In the early 2000's Lutherans Concerned changed their name to Reconciling Works. They stopped focusing on Sanctuary Worships and focused their attention on making more churches welcoming and safe places for all people on Sunday Morning and every day. Now there are 1015 churches, universities, seminaries, and synods on the RIC list.

Reconciling Works objective is just to make more churches open and inclusive of all

people (including LGBT people). They basically maintain the list (which is obviously now available online) they tell churches how they might go about making this decision, and they offer resources on how to be a more welcoming congregation. There are only two staff members working in Reconciling Works for the whole of North America. They have never reached with more than occasional fundraising requests (like any other non-profit) and occasional information. (If anything, I wish they were more assertive).

RIC is basically an evangelism tool. It helps churches tell people outside the church who the church is and that they would be welcomed in. If a church is welcoming (like ours is) then it can help us let other people - LGBT people AND their families, and their friends, and people who are also welcoming - know about it!

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE RIC PROGRAM, COME TO THE INFORMATION SESSION AFTER WORSHIP.

Rev. June Wilkins

To read Pr. June's Sermon from last week, click here: http://revjunewilkinssermons.blogspot.com/

Reconciling In Christ Informational sessions Sundays March 5 & 12th Immediately after worship - 11:45am In the Sanctuary



Reconciling in Christ a program where Lutheran Churches make known their welcome of all people including LGBTQ+ people.

We really need to hear about your feelings about this program! Please stay for a few minutes following worship to hear about it, ask questions, and give feedback!

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Next Wednesday: March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29

5:30 pm Soup, Study, Worship in Heinrich Hall



We will eat soup and bread and we will move through the Lenten season together, engaging with familiar table stories from the Gospels.

Then we will worship with Holden Evening Prayer.

Everything will be in Heinrich Hall.

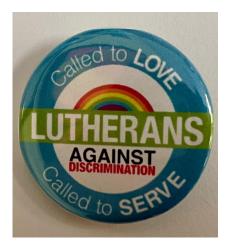
Join us and Jesus at the table as we move towards Holy Week.

Our eating, study and worship are all happening around the table in Heinrichs.

It's best to come to all of it, starting at 5:30.

If you can't come right at the beginning, don't let that stop you,
but there are no hard times for the start of any part,
and we will most likely be done by 7pm.

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX TO BRING SOUP AND BREAD!



RIC INCLUSIVITY TEAM

CLC has a dedicated team of members who have a heartfelt and often very personal interest that we as a church extend a warm, loving, caring and truly inclusive welcome to ALL. You will hear from them during our "inclusivity moments" on Sundays and you can find them before and after worship wearing this button.

"Called to LOVE. Called to SERVE.

Lutheran's AGAINST discrimination"

Here the members of this team:

Marajeane Zodtner, Ingrid Low, Pastor June Wilkins, Pastor Rick Klotz, council member Pastor Julie Raino, Susie Fidler, council president Chris Wilcox, council member Doug Felten, Tami & David Kuhlmann, Silke & Oliver Pyrlik, Ray & Suzy Makalous.

You are invited and encouraged to contact any one of these members to voice your support and concerns or to ask questions about becoming Reconciling in Christ.

Please attend our informational sessions after the worship on one of the following Sundays:

March 5, or March 12, 2023

If you would like to become part of the inclusivity team please let us know!



Donation Sunday

Sunday, March 5th

Donation Sunday is always the 1st Sunday of every month.

Your Service Ministry Team is requesting specific items for the month of March. CLC's Little Free Pantry is in great need of **canned fruits**, **individual canned our microwaveable meals**, and **single serving**, **shelf ready milk**. Other donations are greatly appreciated, but the above items seem to be in great demand daily.

As always, we appreciate bottled water, which is distributed every Thursday in bagged

lunches as part of our Thursday Lunch Break Program.

Please place your donations in the blue wagon located in the Ministry Lobby before or after church.

We are making a difference on Hilton Head due to YOUR GENEROSITY!!



Reminder: There is a Quilting group meeting on Monday, March 6, at 10 AM. in the Craftroom.



MEN'S OUT TO LUNCH

MONDAY, MARCH 6 at 11:30 am at Hudson's on the Docks Call Ray Makalous for more information 816-510-3041

The CLC Ladies Book Group is meeting

Please join us on Saturday, March 11 at 1:30pm in Heinrichs Hall. We will be discussing **The French House** by Helen Fripp. "A breathtaking novel of courage and determination,



inspired by the true story of the woman who built the world's greatest champagne house---Veuve Clicquot" Who knows; there may be a tasting? Call or email Chris Wilcox at 843-384-1667 cwilcoxhhi@gmail.com.



Remember, daylight saving time officially begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 12.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Class



March 19th after worship New Member Installation March 26th during worship

If you would like to become a member of Christ Lutheran, please contact

Silke <u>silkepyrlik@clchhi.com</u> or Pr. June <u>pastorjune@clchhi.com</u>



Saturday, March 25th 9:00 to noon

Lunch to be provided
We will be sprucing up the church, both inside and out

Your Service Ministry Team has determined that a little
CLC house keeping is needed before Easter!
We want the church and grounds to sparkle
during Holy Week when anticipate many visitors to our church.

You all know that saying "many hands make light work". Please consider lending a hand or two on March 25th. We will have clean-up projects on the outside of our property, in the sanctuary, and in Heinrichs Hall!

Please sign up in the Narthex so we know how many will be helping!

A light lunch will be provided to participants after all the odd jobs are complete.

HOPE & TRANSFORMATION LENTEN RETREAT

Growing Together in Faith

Hope. It is the beacon we cling to when we wander in the darkness. It is the nourishment needed by a weary soul. This retreat celebrates God's faithfulness and his refusal to abandon us, even when we drift away. God's promise to us can result in a transformation that is not a miraculous alteration of our

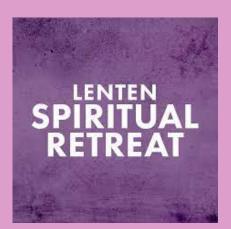


circumstances but a change within ourselves.

We will learn, play, pray, worship, eat and built connections - vertically with God and horizontally with each other!

All overnight spots are taken but we can accommodate a few daytime participants on Saturday, March 18 beginning at 9:30AM. (\$20 for the day (lunch included, \$30 with dinner included as well)

Please let Silke (Email Silke) know if you would like to join in on Saturday!



We will meet at **Wesley Garden Retreat Center** from March 17-19, 2023.

There will be a meeting of all participants on March 5 after the service in Heinrichs Hall! If you are registered you will get an email invite for the meeting as well.

Wesley Garden website

MARCH

March1-- Raymond Stickel March 4--Gunnar Ternstrom March 19--Philip Peter March 23--Robin Peter March 31--Silke Pyrlik



Congratulations to:

Nick and Patty Gosdin--25 year Anniversary on March 10 John and Chris Wilcox--40 year Anniversary on March 18



CLC Grief Support Group

The new community grief support group will be meeting **Tuesdays at 11AM weekly** in the "sofa room"of the educational building.

Please contact Silke in the office or via email if you would like to be part of a group of people who all grieve the loss

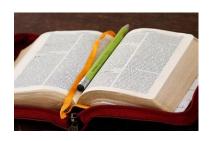
of a loved one in different and individual ways but can now share the pain and suffering as well as the joys and hopes that life still has to offer.

Contact Silke Pyrlik for more information!

Wednesday Bible Study 11 a.m. via Zoom

NEW Zoom Bible Study Starting March 5
"Jesus Calls Us" March 5 – May 28

The purpose of this study, "Jesus Calls Us" is to examine three questions: When does Jesus call us? Where does Jesus call us?



How do we answer Jesus' call? Our mission is to explore the theme of call in biblical and modern times.

The members of this study group are from various ELCA congregations across the country who share a common desire to grow and serve. If you can't make it every week, that's okay. We'll welcome you as often as you can join us. Contact <u>Kathy Mork</u> for more info. Study Guides are available in the church office.

Zoom Information

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6729108287?pwd=aytMaXFCc2JYQXoxRGtuZXVUekJ0UT09 Meeting ID: 672 910 8287



EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to help get Flowers for the Easter Altar, there are order forms in the Narthex. Please return it to the office with your payment no later than **Friday, March 31.**

You can dedicate them to a loved one and you can take them home after if you want.

Thanks so much!

Click here to print off your own copy: Flowers for the Easter Altar



OUR MEMBERS:

Elsie Meccariello, Carla Holm

MORE PRAYERS NEEDED FOR CLC FRIENDS . . .

Friends of Joe and Mary Jo Etter: Theresa Battista (declining health), Josh Blunt (cancer surgery), Gus & Judy Kane (death of daughter)

Pastor June's mother, Carole.

Linda French (Karen Momberger's cousin)

Our Sympathies to Carol Skujins (friend of Barbara Johnson) whose husband recently passed away.

Nancy Skaggs, (friend of Barbara Johnson) open heart surgery end of January

Ruth Keightley, Carol Benton's mother

Layne Carver, surgery at MUSC, Charleston (friend of Ray & Suzy Makalous)

Ginny Majsztrik, broke both arms (friend of Fran & Robin Baselice)

The people of Chimney Cove

Audrey Ongman— My dear friend of many years who is living with advanced Alzheimers. (from Julie Raino)

Gabe Federici— My step son and his parents as they grapple with his mental illness and reduced capacities. (from Julie Raino)

Gary Gregory (Lois Gregory's son)

Nancy Sloane (a friend of Fran and Robin Baselice), diagnosed with leukemia

Dana Dapolito, relative of Robin and Fran Baselice for recurring cancer

Any prayer requests for Christ Lutheran members or friends can be shared with Linda in the church office at **info@clchhi.com** or with Pr. June at **pastorjune@clchhi.com**. Please include the person's address that you wish us to pray for. If you'd like to call the office, you can do so between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday-Thursday at (843)785-5560.



Sunday, March 5
10:00 am Worship- 2 Lent, Sanctuary
After Worship - 11:45 - RIC Information Session, Sanctuary

Monday, March 6

10:00 am Quilting Group Meeting, Craft Room 2:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting, Craft Room

Tuesday, March 7

10:00 am Church Staff Meeting, Craft Room11:00 am Grief Support Group1:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting, Craft Room4:00 pm Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 8

11:00 am Bible Study via Zoom 4:30 pm Men's Choir, Sanctuary 5:30 pm Lent Service, Sanctuary

Thursday, March 9
10:00 am Lunch Break Program

Friday, March 10 5:00 pm Shag Club, Heinrich Hall

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm 843-785-5560

Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool | 829 William Hilton Parkway, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Unsubscribe info@clchhi.com

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