

Christ Lutheran Church

Volume 34 no. 9 September 2023

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person--questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

TheClarion

Welcoming all with grace. Worshiping God through praise. Witnessing Christ through service.

A Message From Pastor Sellers

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Summer is drawing to a close and the fall program year is upon us. Students, from kindergarten to college have been getting ready to return to the classrooms teachers have been busily preparing. Businesses are getting back to business as the vacation season ends. The church also has been gearing up for another year of worship, confirmation, faith formation, choir, and activities and events that build community both within and beyond the congregation. It is an exciting time as the planning and preparation gives way to fully embodied activity. Mark Sunday, September 10 on your calendar. Renewal Sunday will kick off a dynamic year of sharing the Love of Christ. This year we are focusing throughout all our ministries on the

third section of our mission statement: Witnessing Christ through Service.

A witness is someone who expresses what they experience. When

DON'T JUDGE EACH DAY BY THE HARVEST YOU REAP

but by the seeds that you plant.

- ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

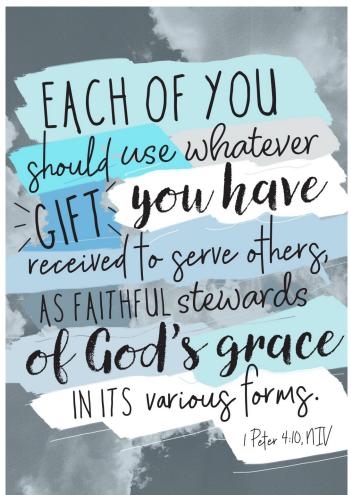
someone takes the witness stand- they are meant to convey what they have seen with their own eyes and observed for themselves. The attorneys for the prosecution and defense may try to shape the story one way or another to convince a judge or jury – but the job of the witness is just to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. It is not their job to persuade or prove anything. A witness just honestly tells what they know from their own experience.

An effective witness is also someone who is a good observer and pays attention. They notice what is going on. Their eyes are open, and their ears are listening. They are alert, aware and curious about what is happening around them.

So witnessing Christ is about being alert to what God's love is doing in and around us, and expressing that in our lives. Sometimes that means telling the truth about what we have seen and experienced – but even if we never say a word – the truth is our lives are already bearing witness in our actions. If someone wants to know what you believe about yourself, and what you think is important, it is written large in the way you live. Your schedule, browser history, and check book give a good indication of what matters to you, and how you think the world works. For years the advertising industry has been trying to understand you. They track hundreds of thousands of data points about everything you do. They want to know what makes you tick – so they can design an advertising appeal that will hit you right in the heart. They use what they know to make you buy what they are selling,

whether it is an idea, an identity, or a product. Who you are and what you do is of interest to the principalities and powers of this world – not because they care about you – but because they care about your vote, your money, and the ways that they can use you to promote their own ends. This may sound like a cynical way to view the world – but to the best of my knowledge, there is truth in it. But if it were the whole truth, we would be in a pitiful state. The whole truth is the principalities and powers are not the only ones who care about who you are and what you do. God cares. God cares about every appointment in your calendar, Google search, and entry on your bank statement, God cares about how you interact with your neighbors, and the people you do not know. God cares about every thought, word and deed, not because he wants to exploit you – but because he loves you.

God knows there are ways of living and moving through the world that lead to a rich and fulfilling life



for you, and for the whole of creation. God wants that for you. God's way of living increases connection, honor and peace. The way of Jesus helps us give and receive more love, and leads to embracing each day with gratitude and hope. God cares about you and wants you to have a life that is really life!

God knows there are other ways of living and moving through the world that lead to death. Not just the death of our bodies through unhealthy choices, addictions and despair, but the death of selfrespect, vibrant communities and even our souls. Investing in the values the world is selling drains our life of real meaning and purpose. As we are urged to focus on our basest desires, valuing the created over the creator, and our egos over all, the ways that lead to true life get squeezed out. When we substitute the values the principalities and powers are selling for the ones that Jesus offers for free, we are trading gold for dross, true life for dust.

It comes as no surprise, if you have been paying attention, that the Christian church in America has been in decline for the last sixty years. Fewer and fewer people in the U.S. identify as people of faith, or participate in a congregation year by year. Subsequent generations are more likely to seek meaning and purpose apart from God, and are looking to the world to give them values worth living for. I don't think this is because God has stopped offering the true treasure of abundant life, but I fear the church has not been a particularly effective witness to the truth we have found. Too often Christians have treated our experiences of God's grace and love as something to hide and hoard for ourselves. When we have embraced Christ's directive to share the Gospel, we have tried to package and "sell" faith in an appealing way instead of giving honest witness to what the gospel has been to us, how we have personally experienced the love of God in our lives. In that way we have allowed God's grace to look like everything else on offer in the marketplace – rather than as the amazing irreplaceable gift that it is.

I honestly believe our world is hungry for the bread of life that is the way of Jesus. But our neighbors are cynical since everyone is trying to sell them a fad diet. If God has given us that true bread to eat, this year may be about figuring out how to pass it along to those who are starving from a diet that does not, and cannot, truly satisfy. This may be the year to stop trying to compete with the world and start just telling the truth – with our words when necessary – but also with our lives. Can we lean into openly living the way of Jesus by truly welcoming all with grace, worshiping God through praise and witnessing Christ through service?

We have quite a challenge this year, but I'm looking forward to tackling it with you. We won't do it perfectly. But God tends to bring strength out of weakness, and perfection out of the imperfect. I know from my own life the love of God can transform everything. I think if we can learn to bear authentic witness to Christ's presence – Christ will change this congregation, this community, and the world.

Your Sister in Christ, Pastor Serena



September 10 is Renewal Sunday with one service at 9:30 followed by a breakfast in Weaver Hall hosted by church council.

September 17 starts the regular two service schedule. One service at 9am that is livestreamed to Facebook and YouTube and one service at 10:30am and Sunday School Classes.

September 3	9:30am	On-Line / In-Person Service Communion	
September 10	9:30am	Renewal Sunday Communion Installation of Sunday School Teachers Blessing of Students & Teachers	Breakfast after service Church Council
September 17	9:00am	Communion On-Line / In-Person Service	God's Work Our Hands
	10:30am	Communion	1st Sunday School Class
September 24	9:00am	On-Line / In-Person Service	Bring your own Bible for blessing
	10:30am	Communion	



Social Media Handles





Youtube ch Christ_kulp

Instagram Clccomm

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"Witnessing Christ Through Service"

In September the church will be entering the third year of its focus on the mission statement. In 2021 - 2022 it was "The Year of Welcome" as the congregation pondered what it means to welcome all with grace. In 2022 – 2023 it focused on "Worshiping God with Praise" including worshipping in some new and old ways. This year the congregation will dig deeper on the third and final segment of the mission statement. In preparation for Renewal Sunday, please share some of the ways that you Witness Christ through Service. Your



responses can be sent directly to the pastor at her email: <u>pastorss@christlc.org</u> or mailed to the church office at 2211 Mainland Road, Harleysville, PA 19438. Thanks!

COMMUNITY BLOOD BLOOD BRIVE

Blood Drive

It's not too early to sign up for the September 27 blood drive that will be held in Weaver Hall, 2-7pm. There's a shortage of blood and you can help by donating one unit of blood and saving up to three lives. You can sign up by going online at <u>https://</u> <u>www.redcross.org/give-blood.html</u> and search for the date.

If you are unable to do that contact Marlys at <u>marlysthomas1@gmail.com</u> and she will be able to make the appointment for you. Thank you!

Make a joyful noise!

Christ Lutheran Church Music Ministry

The team is looking for youth and adults to join CLC's Music Ministry! If you enjoy singing, Sanctuary Choir has a place for your talents. Or you may want to share your instrumental talents in our orchestra ensemble, be it a band or string instrument. The Sanctuary Choir's first rehearsal for the Fall will be September 6 at 7p.m. in the Sanctuary. Orchestra and band rehearsal times T.B.A.

Please Join Us! For More Information, See Michael Hillegas or Bev Stover.



Deadline for Clarion articles the 20th of each month Please do not send pdf files. Linda Nyce Landis, Editor clcclarion@gmail.com



Council Highlights Wednesday, August 2

Pastor's Report (Pastor)

July was a super busy month. VBS was good but a little chaotic –

Pastor shared that she was so appreciative of all of the support from the volunteers.

Letter went out to the congregation regarding Phil – received a

lot of good feedback regarding and have received some donations, however Phil has not been back since the start of VBS.

Not able to find a preacher for vacation – sermon is pre-recorded and Karolin/Walt will help with the liturgy. Pastor John Hansen will provide communion on the 13th. Pastor will be vacationing again in September.

Pastor shared worship and music is working on purchasing communion carts.

Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team is working on Endowment Fund allocations and the Chris Johnson Memorial Fund.

Mutual Ministry Team

Each liaison should discuss with ministry teams regarding Memorial Fund process.

Welcome Ministry Team

As a council we are discussing how we can support them while Bob is recovering.

Property Ministry Team

Ceiling tile fell overnight during VBS due to A/C. The A/C in Weaver Hall – parts are being ordered. Annex floor renovations – could potentially be a little disruptive while they complete them.

Old Picnic Tables – looking at getting rid of. Gerri has a call out to Kelly Bonsignore as one of her sons made them for an Eagle Scout Project.

Council liaisons need to remind their teams to be sure they are cleaning up after Saturday activities – BJ cleans on Saturday mornings.

Locks have been changed – everything went very smoothly.

Shepherd's Shelf Ministry Team

Distributing backpacks. Still looking for coats.

Lisa suggested having something set up over at the church to leave donations

New Business:

Discussion on disbursement of Fritz Fund for church leadership, Weaver Fund for seminary education, and Mission Endowment Fund:

Lee informed Council that Stewardship and Finance needs to know about the disbursement of the funds.

Andria informed the team that the motion was made by Pastor in our May meeting. Linda Landis had seconded the motion and all approved so the motion was carried for the disbursement of the funds. Below is the breakdown of the fund disbursement:

Endowment Fund (\$1,874) - Utilize money to pay for the animals of the live nativity.

Weaver Fund (\$1,807) - Full time students of the Seminary who are going for Master of Divinity do not current pay tuition but they do pay room and board, books, and some other various fees. Pastor will reach out to candidacy committee to see if there is someone specifically in our Synod who might need additional assistance for room & board, books and other fees.

We would consider asking them to join us one Sunday.

Fritz Fund (\$814) - Designate \$150 for home communion training – currently have one person that stepped up.

Investigating the purchase of tablets to assist with improved visibility for those who need it.

Chris Johnson Memorial Fund:

A recommendation was made by Property to utilize the funds from the Chris Johnson Memorial Fund to get new chairs for Weaver Hall. This is one of Chris's last projects that he was working on. Gerri provided Council with some very basic information on some minor research that had been done regarding the cost of the chairs.

Pastor suggested we could have a Game Night fundraiser if we need additional funds for the project. Julie Munden made a moiton to allocate the funds from the Chris Johnson Memorial Fund money to get new chairs for Weaver Hall. Lisa DeLong seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was approved and carried.

Sanctuary Village Fundraiser – Grace Lutheran Hatfield (8/17/23 at 6 PM)

Marlys is doing a team with her family. They are still looking for more teams.

Treasurer's Reports and Financials (Chris Martin)

MTD we are under budget in giving, online \$845 and envelopes a bit more this month at \$4,976. July 2022 ordinary receipts totaled \$20,845, compared to July 2023 receipts of \$23,152.

YTD giving is under budget online \$4,946 and envelopes \$2,776. The P & L Prev Year Comparison of ordinary income shows 2023 is \$11,357 less than 2022 YTD.

MTD ordinary expenses are nicely in line with budget, YTD expenses are under budget by \$12,266 As mentioned previously, YTD 2023 ordinary expenses are higher than 2022 due to normal cost of living payroll increases.

Shepherd's Shelf Golf Outing receipts and expenses should pretty well be complete through July. YTD Golf Outing receipts totaled \$43,797, and expenses associated with the outing totaled \$19,333, a net of \$24,464! Congratulations to Steph and her staff of volunteers on their ongoing hard work and dedication.

One other thing I would like to mention is that although we are under budget in ordinary giving/ receipts MTD and YTD, Building Fund offering is over budget YTD \$9,543. Also, 2023 Building Fund actual giving is \$3,748 higher than actual YTD July 2022. This may reflect a choice in where people are choosing to fund their giving, although it doesn't make up for all of the \$11,357 ordinary income decrease from last year.

		Actual	Budget
	July Income	\$23,152	\$29,496
	July Expense	\$31,161	\$31,290
	Net Ordinary income	-\$8,008	-\$1,794
Church Finances	YTD Income 2023	\$200,293	\$207,274
	YTD Expense 2023	\$214,191	\$226,457
	Net Ordinary income	-\$13,898	-\$19,183

September Women's Group

Calling all women! Come on out to the next Women's Group gathering at the Healys. Bring your favorite appetizer, dessert, or drink for a casual night of fun! Friday, September 15th 107 Harvest Glen Drive Harleysville, PA 19438 Please RSVP at <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da9a62ea3f85-</u> womens



GOOD SHEPHERD WINDOW GARDEN

Calling all Gardeners

Hoping for some cooler weather to work on the front native garden. The team is in need of a rototiller to loosen and amend the soil. Please ask around if any gardener friends have one.

Next will be some gardeners willing to plant some shrubs and trees. Research has been completed on native plants that would work best for the sunny location, that are deer resistant and that will not block the window when fully grown.

Anyone interested in helping with this project, please call Paula at 267-261-4564 or email plm21354@msn.com.

PLAYGROUND PAINTING PARTY-PHASE 2

Now that cooler weather is on the way, it's a good time to work on more playground stencil painting. Most stencils only need two people to measure and paint. Volunteers could come back whenever is convenient for them to paint the second coat. The hopscotch is large and multi-colored, so it may need several times allotted complete.

Anyone interested in joining the painting party, please call Paula at 267-261-4564 or email at plm21354@msn.com so a few dates can be picked that are convenient for most. Weekdays could

Team CLC: Biking the MS City to Shore September 30-October 1

Team CLC is a group of CLC members and friends who ride together. The team rides socially and in charity rides with the National MS Society's Bike MS City to Shore Bike ride as the end of the year ride. This year's ride is on September 30 and October 1.

The team members started riding in April! Three members tackled the LuLackaWyco Hundo on April 23, a grueling start to the season with 4426 feet of climbing over 45 miles of gravel and paved surfaces. Various team members have also ridden in



the Indian Creek Foundation Roll, Stroll & Run, Bikes and Beers (benefitting a local biking charity), the Iron Tour (benefitting the French Creek Watershed conservation) and the Covered Bridge Ride (benefitting Lancaster county covered bridge conservation). Each of these supported rides has an entry fee which has been covered by the individual riders.

In order to ride in the City to Shore each rider must secure \$300.00 in donations. An opportunity to donate will happen on Sunday, September 24 when cyclists will be available between services, or you can do so here, <u>https://events.nationalmssociety.org/index.cfm?</u> <u>fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=37147</u> either for the team in general or to any individual team member to help them meet their goal. If you are unable to donate, the team asks for prayers for safety on the road as they prepare and for the event. As you are driving please be aware of cyclists on the road and pass them safely, allowing 4 feet of clearance, as per PA law. Thank You

Another CLC team: The Witnesses!

On August 17, at the Sanctuary Village Battle of the Lutherans trivia night, CLC sent two teams to compete. Our team, The Witnesses, finished in a three-way tie for first place! The other winners were Emmanuel Lutheran, Souderton, and Resurrection Lutheran, Horsham. Other participating churches were: Trinity Lutheran, Lansdale, St Paul's Lutheran, Telford, Little Zion, Telford, Grace Lutheran, Hatfield and Christ Lutheran, Chester Springs.

Plans are in the works for another trivia night. The team correctly answered 79 out of 100 questions. Next time they could use some help with popular music and sports. Keep it in mind!

Start Thinking About Trunk or Treat coming October 28.

This event is always a favorite, as it draws children from the community and gives our CLC members a chance to shine with displays of their artistic ability, inventiveness, generosity and hospitality. More information coming in the October issue..





09/01 Cathy Laguna 09/02 Katie Kulp 09/03 Randy Smith 09/04 Roy Overholtzer 09/04 Eric Alderfer 09/05 Teresa Parris 09/07 Jim Godshall 09/07 Howard Griffin



09/09 Gary Reehl 09/10 Ruth Seasholtz 09/10 Patricia Esposito 09/11 Samantha Geissel 09/12 Daniel Palmer 09/14 Christine Martin 09/15/1967 Rob Kagarise 09/16 Barbara Dilks 09/16 Gordon Shearer 09/16 Tyler Williams 09/18 Heather Stover 09/19 Abby DeLong 09/21 Carolyn Trupp 09/21 Sharon Houseal 09/21 Jonah Heim 09/22 Bob Walker

- 09/22 Darren Carpenter
- 09/25 Christopher Strohl
- 09/26 Morgan Hasara
- 09/28 Doris Fischer
- 09/28 Richard Smith
- 09/28 Christopher Swoyer
- 09/29 Thomas Donnelly
- 09/29 Beau Fontaine
- 09/29 Beckett Fontaine
- 09/30 John Wilson
- 09/30 Courtney Katz
- 09/30 Lizzie Wilson

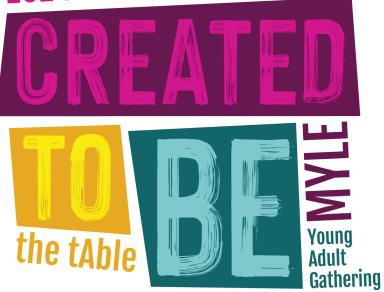
CHURCH

The exterior locks have been changed at Church by Dann Stephens' father in law Joe Flyzik. New (numbered) keys were distributed by Brooke several weeks ago. Your old keys will no longer work on the exterior church doors, but will work on interior doors. The office locks were not changed. The work was challenging and Joe was at church for most of the day. Many thanks to Joe for his hard work, perseverance and generosity.



Oodles of thanks go to Karolin Brechbill and Gary Johnson-McNutt for their many hours spent painting the annex to get it ready for new carpets. Thanks, as well, go to Ed Childs for scraping and painting the many wrought iron railings on the church property. One more thank you to John Stoler (not pictured) for fixing our broken pew. You are all SO appreciated!

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering



Youth News

By Karolin Brechbill

The Youth Gathering is Next Summer! Let's Get Ready!

Since the current students in our youth program have not had the opportunity to attend an ELCA Youth Gathering, I figured I'd take a moment to write a little bit about it and encourage those eligible to consider attending. There will be an **Informational Meeting on Sunday, September 24 at 11:45am** (following 10:30am worship and Faith Formation classes). All interested

parents, students and youth volunteers are

welcome to attend. We plan to register for the Gathering in early October.

What is the ELCA Youth Gathering? The Gathering is a four-day event, held in a host city, every three years. The Gathering offers a multitude of faith building, relation deepening, Lutheran-centered activities and programming in an electric, vibrant setting. Although the planning team is new and there are some changes being made, the group can expect to cycle through a day of service, a day of Synod Bible/Worship and a day at the Interactive Experiences center. Each evening culminates with a Mass Gathering, where the participants will hear from inspiring speakers, pastors, and musicians, and will experience collective worship with all participants (our last Gathering had over 35,000 participants!)

Who can attend the Gathering? The ELCA Youth Gathering is open to students who have completed 8th grade-12th grade at the time of the event (so this Fall's current 8th grade class to seniors) and adult companion volunteers. Generally the group travels with one adult per 4-5 youth. This year, there is also a young adult participant group (ages 18-35), that will have a concurrent Gathering. Andria Alderfer has agreed to lead that age group, if there are interested young adults. **Where and When is this year's Gathering?** The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held on July 16-20. It will be held in New Orleans, LA. I am very excited about the location, as it is a wonderful host city! I have shepherded a youth group to that city twice during my tenure and have to admit that those were my favorite Gathering experiences. The reasons are many, but it is mainly because the city is very walkable, easy to navigate, and the people are exceptionally welcoming. (It doesn't hurt that the food is great too!).

Why go? There are so many positives to a trip like this. You can deepen existing friendships. You meet tons of new people. You get to experience a new city and a culture so different than our own.

You are challenged with big questions and inspired by amazing people. And, there is just something truly amazing about walking through the city streets, encountering thousands of other youth, all sharing the same experiences and all working to have a positive impact on the community. Also, worshipping with 30,000 people (and taking communion) is just a sight to behold. Your spirit will be lifted and your faith expanded in ways you never imagined possible. Youth from our congregation that have attended in the past have been inspired into careers, have had their college choice affected, and have had their faith deepened and matured. I have known teens that later went on to choose to be in the ministry or to work for a non-profit, or to become a volunteer or advocate, simply from their experiences at a Gathering. It really can be transformational. It's also honestly, just a lot of fun!

I hope that you prayerfully consider attending the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering. Please come to the informational meeting on September 24, ask questions, and get excited! Once the team determines who wants to go, they will get to work with Getting Ready Meetings and Fundraising initiatives so that all are fully prepared and ready to travel to the Big Easy!



Faith Formation is Gearing Up!

Plans are being made for the upcoming Faith Formation academic year. The combined team (consisting of Youth Ministry Team members and Christian Education Ministry Team members) met in August to discuss the year, what they want to accomplish, and what steps need to be taken for the future.

Part of the discussions involved reviewing the past year. 2022-2023 was a fairly successful year in regards to getting back to regular programming and traditional events, following the disruptions of the covid pandemic. Numbers for the community events in particular were a highlight, with Trunk or Treat involving 80 community children, Touch a Truck being wildly successful (with more than 100 child participants), and VBS registering 40+ students for the week, most from the community and many new to us. From the youth perspective, there was decent turnout for the Winter Retreat, Youth Sunday

participation was great, and some even had the chance to go on a mission trip to Kentucky. The two "red flags", so to speak, as it pertains to our families with children and youth this past year was weekly attendance for both Worship and Sunday School classes, and limited teaching staff. There are many, many reasons for the decrease in attendance: smaller class sizes, the time change to our worship schedule, the busyness of our families (the competing schedules of work and school activities and sports), the availability of on-line church, and quite frankly, many larger issues posed by the pandemic and our changing world. As far as the teacher



shortage, in-part it is due to some teachers stepping down during the pandemic, and then if I'm honest, I think it is taken it for granted that "someone" will do it...they always have. The church is not alone in experiencing these struggles, as many congregations are dealing with similar situations, but that doesn't give us license to ignore them either.

So, what are our plans to handle these issues? Firstly, the teams are full steam ahead with a FULL calendar of classes, special community events, worship opportunities, social activities and the like. They strongly feel that they must continue to offer a variety of programs and events that appeal to all our families as well as continue to reach out to the community. If programs aren't offered, then numbers will surely diminish further. However, there is an importance to looking critically at what is offered and making sure volunteers do not burn out. Good, solid programming is offered without overscheduling, and so the schedule set for the year, intentionally keeps that balance in the forefront of our decision making. The second solution our team decided upon is to offer a survey to the reasons people are choosing to attend less regularly, what types of programming is lacking, what programming should continue or expand, and what changes should be considered for the future. Please use this link to access the survey. <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HTF9LSV</u>

In regards to Faith Formation classes on a Sunday, the team is going to try to recruit another teacher for the lower grades, and possibly ask parents to sit in on classes on a rotation basis. There will also be times where all classes will meet together, to afford our teachers a flex day. In the Jr/Sr high class, there are plans to have an adult guest of the week, who can sit in on the class and perhaps offer a short personal witness to the class. The team felt this would embody the theme of witnessing while adding more adults into the mix. I also plan to offer a special class each month that centers around the theme of the upcoming Youth Gathering. On that day, the second adult would be whomever is attending the Gathering, and will therefore provide our regular teachers a week off. So, that's our upcoming year, at a glance. I am hopeful that the ministries can continue to grow and find ways to best serve the children and parents of our congregation and our community. I ask for prayers for our teachers, volunteers, and students and I ask each of you reading to prayerfully consider how you can play a part in our mission.

Savior	
teach me	
day by day love's sweet lesson	
to obey,	Contraction of the second
sweeter lesson	Andreas as in
cannot be,	
loving him who first loved me.	
first loved me.	
–Jane Eliza Leeson (1842)	

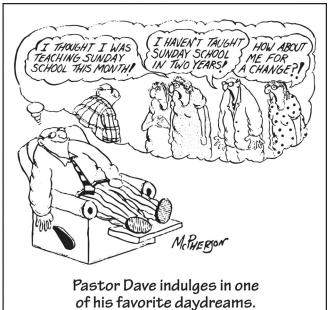
Faith Formation 2023 Fall Schedule

Faith Formation classes will begin on September 17 at 10:30 am. There will be classes for younger elementary (3 yrs-3rd grade), older elementary (4th-6th grade), Jr/Sr High, and Adult. There are special events planned throughout the year for all to enjoy! Take a look at what is scheduled for the next two months:

Sunday 9/10	9:30am	RENEWAL SUNDAY
	11am	Congregational Breakfast and Sunday School Class Registration
Fri-Sat 9/15-16	TBD	Confirmation Retreat (at Ocean City, NJ)
Sunday 9/17	10:30am	First Official SS Class
Sunday 9/24	10:30am	Regular Class- Bible Sunday
	11:45am	ELCA Youth Gathering Info Meeting
Sunday 10/1	10:30am	Regular Class
Sunday 10/8	10:30am	Regular Class
	11:45am	All Team Meeting
Sunday 10/15	9:30am	Children's Sunday! One Service Only.
		Children serve as worship leaders
Thursday 10/19	6:30- 8pm	First Tween Activity Night (4 th -7 th grades)
Sunday 10/22	10:30am	Regular Class
Saturday 10/28	5-6:30pm	Trunk or Treat Event!
Sunday 10/29	9:30am	Reformation Worship Service- NO SS CLASSES

To register, simply stop by the table during the congregational breakfast on 9/10, or you can pick up paperwork for your child(ren) the first few weeks of class. Karolin will have a table set up in the Narthex with all pertinent information/forms through the month of September.

The same as last year, pre-k through sixth grade will begin the morning in 10:30am worship and then the students will be led down to their classrooms by their teachers. Youth are asked to start their class in worship the first week (9/17) and then they will meet in the youth room at 10:30am, subsequent weeks. The adult class will also meet in their classroom at 10:30am.





Ways to Witness through Service at Shepherd's Shelf! The Shelf has added a daytime distribution on Tuesday's from 10-11:00. This day and time have been added to the sign up genius, so if you are able to help (see below) sign up. Shepherd's Shelf distributes every Monday and Wednesday evening from 6:30-8pm. We are ALWAYS looking for more volunteers to help during distribution times. Adults and youth 12 and older are welcome to help. No experience necessary, training will be provided. Anyone interested in helping can sign up. Any questions contact

Steph or call the church office.

If you are interested in volunteering please sign up at <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/10c0f4da9a62ea3f85-shepherds Donations are accepted during church office hours. Please see <u>www.christlc.org</u> to get the most up to date needs list. Thank you to everyone in our church congregation and in the community for your continued support of this very important feeding ministry! If you are interested in getting more involved, please contact Steph Sharkey at <u>shepherdsshelf@christlc.org</u> or call the church office.

Shepherd's Shelf Summary

In July the Shepherd's Shelf served our greater community. There were 117visits from eligible households. Diapers were distributed 20 times and wipes 11 times. Feminine hygiene products were distributed 33 times. Volunteers from CLC and from the community logged 208 hours. The estimated value of donations for the month is \$28,080.

Shepherd's Shelf is planning for the fall and winter. To help our clients get ready for cold weather the team is collecting <u>new</u> coats (to distribute in October). With the increase of clients this year, they are in need of more items than in the past few years. Please see this link for more information (ages/sizes) and to sign up for items we need. <u>https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/</u> <u>showSignUp/70A054FAEA723A5FD0-</u> <u>backpack</u>



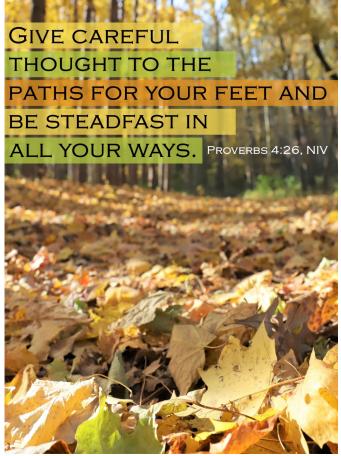


Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Clarion **Published monthly by Christ Lutheran Church** 2211 Mainland Rd. Harleysville, PA 19438 215-256-8738 Web Address: www.christlc.org E-mail Address: clc@christlc.org The Rev. Serena S. Sellers Karolin Brechbill, Dir. of Faith Formation **Brooke Kuhlen, Office Manager** Marge Blum, Financial Secretary Summer Sunday Service Schedule Summer Schedule One Service 9:30am In person and live stream. Sunday Service Schedule beginning September 17 9:00am in person and live stream on Facebook and YouTube (Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays) 10:30am with Sunday School opening (Communion every Sunday) **Sunday School Classes** 10:30am **Choir Rehearsal**

Wednesday at 7:00pm Deadline for Clarion articles the 20th of each month. clcclarion@gmail.com



CLC's Ministry Teams

The following are the Ministry Teams, their chairs and council liaisons:

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September 2023

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If you would like to be a part of any of these teams Please reach out to one of the listed contacts





Kids Activity Page



Godly, biblical wisdom is more valuable than gold or silver. Make this do-it-yourself toy to practice your searching skills.

What you need:

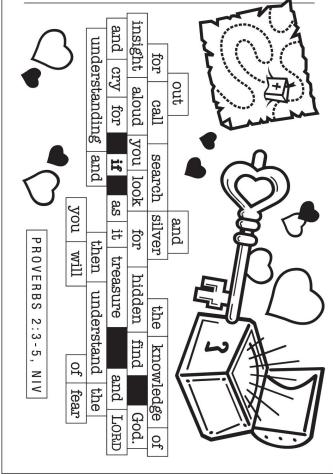
- 12 small, smooth rocks
- An empty, clean egg carton
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic paint (gold or silver)
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

- Clean the rocks and egg carton. Place newspaper on a table to protect it from paint.
- 2. Paint all sides of the rocks and carton. Let dry. Add a second coat, if desired.
- 3. When rocks are dry, number each rock (1-12) with marker. Place rocks in the carton.
- 4. Play hide-and-seek with a friend. Take turns hiding the rocks in a room, sandbox or backyard. Give clues, if needed, and count the rocks as they're returned.
- 5. Use your imagination to incorporate a treasure hunt into study time or family devotions.

Puzzle!

Starting on the bold word, follow the maze to read a Bible passage. Move from one box to another if the sides or corners touch. Some boxes are used multiple times.



Answer: If you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. Proverbs 2:3-5, NIV