



Christ Lutheran Church

The Clarion

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

A Message From Pastor Sellers

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

An old saying states "April showers bring May flowers." This is a fairly straightforward statement about traditional spring weather patterns and peak bloom times, but it is also a helpful metaphor. Sometimes a less than pleasant time lays the necessary groundwork for a time that is more joyful and fruitful. Holy Week, with the procession into Jerusalem followed by Jesus' arrest, unfair trial, humiliation, beating and crucifixion, as terrible as it was, was the necessary precursors to Jesus' glorious resurrection. The depth of God's love that was revealed on the cross was not apparent to the disciples at the time it occurred. It could only be understood in hindsight. During the events of the arrest and crucifixion I am sure the followers of Jesus felt only anguish, despair and panic. They felt Jesus was abandoning them. They were convinced Jesus was the Messiah and would lead them to victory, but once he was arrested being associated with Jesus put them in danger. They feared for their lives. God's love was the last thing they would have thought was being revealed to them as Jesus hung on the cross and laid in the tomb.

On reflection, looking back at the events of Holy Week from

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April 2024

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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.





beyond Easter Sunday, the disciples could reexamine what took place, and understand all of Jesus' teaching anew. They saw with what great love Jesus had willingly endured suffering and humiliation for their sake. Only after he greeted them with peace, rather than demanding retribution, did they recognize the power of God's forgiveness. Only in retrospect could they comprehend they had never been abandoned in the first place. The new understanding they discovered, after the shock of the resurrection appearances,

allowed them to truly, profoundly, understand the good news. It was this new understanding that inspired and equipped them to pursue their mission to share the good news of God's love with all the world.

In the past months our congregation has wrestled with some deep and difficult questions. People have felt very strongly about the issues at hand. Relationships have been strained, and trust has been bruised between some of our members. The struggle we have been going through is not comparable with the state of the disciples during the passion of Jesus, by any means. Yet, there is wisdom in recognizing that although we experienced events in real time, like the disciples, the richest lessons we can learn from our experiences are discovered by reflecting on them after the fact.

At a tense congregational meeting in mid-March a question about the ministry of the congregation was decided by a clear up and down vote. When asked whether we would permit homeless people to remain on church property while they pursued permanent housing the clear answer was no, but it was a split decision. For many members of the congregation it may seem best to put this difficult and painful experience behind us as quickly as possible.

I understand that urge. But I also know there are some important things we might learn if we take the time to truly reflect. Some legitimate areas for inquiry are: How did the issue become so big and divisive in the first place? What can we do as a congregation, and as individual members, to prevent other issues from becoming so challenging to address in the future? Is there a better way for us to work through difficult issues going forward? Taking the time and making the effort to reflect may allow us to take something of value from the pain we have experienced together.

At the recommendation of the Mutual Ministry team, the Church Council approved the engagement of a consultant, Dr. Dolores Littleton from Penn Council on Relationships, to work with the staff, the Church Council, and the Mutual Ministry team to reflect and learn from recent events. This decision was made before the congregational meeting was held, because it was clear even then, regardless of the outcome, many people would not be satisfied with the vote and healing would be necessary.

Either a yes or no decision would result in some people being hurt and unhappy. The Mutual Ministry team and Church Council saw the forecast coming. April showers, indeed.

This congregation is in an important season. We can avert our eyes, swallow our discomfort, and just try to get through it, or we can trust that indeed, "all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28). Even this season. I pray Dr. Littleton will be able to help us learn from our experience. It is my sincere hope we will not let our pain and struggle go to waste, but will find the faith to believe God will help us as we strive to heal and grow stronger as a congregation by learning what we can about getting to and maintaining peace.

To this end, members of the congregation are invited to join in a discussion of the book "**The Peacemaker**" by **Ken Sande**. The book is available to order on-line at Amazon or through other book sellers. The Church Council and Mutual Ministry team have already been using this book. The book is in four sections of three chapters each. Beginning on April 14 a discussion of the book will be available for any interested members on a series of Sunday evenings. We will offer a discussion covering one section (three chapters) at each meeting in a hybrid format so anyone can participate in person or on Zoom from 7 pm. The schedule will be:

Sunday, April 14 - Glorify God,

Sunday, May 5 - Get the Log Out of Your Own Eye

Sunday, June 9 - Gently Restore, and

Sunday, June 30 - Go and Be Reconciled

In person we will meet in the Annex. Zoom links will be included in the Weekly News and Notes. In this Easter season, there is a flowering of hope because Christ has created peace with God. May we reflect the intention of God by growing in our understanding and pursuing peace within ourselves and with one another.

Your Sister in Christ,

Pastor Serena





What to expect at CLC—In-Person– 2024

The 9:00am service is in-person and livestreamed to those watching at home on Facebook or YouTube.

The second service begins at 10:30am with Sunday School Students present at the start of the service and dismissed to their classrooms after the Children’s Sermon.

April 7	9:00am 10:30am	Communion	
April 14	9:30am	Youth Sunday Communion	
April 21	9:00am 10:30am	Communion	Pulpit Exchange Earth Day Liturgy
April 28	9:00am 10:30am	Communion 10:30	

Faith Formation Spring Events!

April 14- Youth Sunday– One service at 9:30 am to celebrate Youth Sunday at CLC. Come join for this special day as the youth of the Congregation provide the worship service for the day.

April 21- College Care Boxes will be packed during the Sunday School hour this day. The SS Children will write/color cards, pack the boxes and pray for our college students. If you are interested in providing an item to go into the boxes, please see the sign-up provided in the Thursday email blast. We will also be looking for individuals to send the boxes.

April 27- Touch a Truck Event! Everyone is excited to offer the second annual Touch a Truck Event for our community. Come on out to explore the many cool and varied vehicles, get some free snacks, enter the raffle, listen to the DJ, and have a great time with your CLC friends. The event runs from 10 am- 1 pm. It is open to the public. Participants should park across the street at the CCC lot. Traffic controllers will be there to help you cross safely.

May 12- Last Day of Sunday School- with Pentecost being early this year, our last day of SS classes will be on May 12, which happens to be Mother’s Day. That’s ok! The Bingo Party will still be happening and there will be time to spend thanking the SS teachers that day during the SS hour. See you at 10:30 in Weaver Hall!



® **HE IS RISEN! LET'S RISE AGAINST HUNGER!**
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 10 AM WEAVER HALL

The Lenten offerings have been dedicated to hosting a Meal Packaging Event on Saturday April 6 in Weaver Hall. With a happy soundtrack keeping everyone moving volunteers will be packaging over 10,000 meals in about two hours. Fighting global hunger has never been more fun! Sign up with this link - <https://rah.my.salesforce-sites.com/events/homepage?id=701Pj0000074EzflAE> or call the church office and we will register you. This is a great opportunity to *bring a friend* to a fun and meaningful event at your church. **Witness Christ through Service! He is Risen Indeed!**

Saturday, April 13, 8am - noon

Let's get our Church building spic and span, inside and out! Jobs include outdoor chores: mulching, cleaning flower beds, sweeping stairwells and sidewalks, clean up pavilion, and indoor chores: cleaning the kitchen and tables in Weaver Hall. Two picnic benches near little library will be demolished and trashed. Eye protection gear will be needed.

ALL ages are welcome to help out. Snacks and coffee are provided



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Red Cross Blood Drive Thursday, April 18

The need for blood is constant. The gratification is instant. On April 18, 11am to 4pm, (Please note the new time for this drive!) the Social Ministry Team is hosting another blood drive at Christ Lutheran Church.

You can sign up by clicking [here](#) If you not able to sign up through the link or have any questions, please contact [Marlys Thomas](#) and she will answer your questions and help you with your appointment.

Please sign up and help make our blood drive successful! Thank you.



Social Media Handles



Facebook
Christ Lutheran Church



Youtube
Christ_kulp



Instagram
Clccomm

April Women's Group Event Friday, April 19, 6:30-7:30pm,

Join the group at Scent and Sip (323 W. Main St. Lansdale) to make a product with a fragrance you create. You can make candles, body care products, home fragrances, hair care products, personal fragrances, or bath and shower products. You will have one hour to make your products, so get there on time. I am told that is plenty of time.

Here is a link to the product and price list: [Scentables - Scent & Sip \(scentandsip.com\)](http://scentandsip.com)

If you decide to make a candle, Marlys will be happy to pick it up for you the following day.

As the name suggests, bring snacks and drinks.

We need to let them know how many are attending so they can set up for us. So please sign up through the Signup Genius.

If there is more fun to be had after the one hour we can move down the street to the Stove and Tap. RSVP [here](#) if you are able to attend.



Touch a Truck

Saturday, April 27 10am-1pm

Everyone is so excited to offer the Touch a Truck Event again this year! Last year, even with yucky weather, volunteers were able to welcome 20 vehicles and 150+ visitors to our property, and the group hopes to make it even bigger this year!

Children of all ages are welcome to view up close all

the cool vehicles and ask lots of questions of the owners. There are hopes to have fire trucks, police vehicles, RV's, municipal vehicles, farm equipment, army jeeps, classic cars...all manner of wheeled vehicles! Free snacks, a raffle and prizes for the kiddos and even a DJ will be provided!

If you have an interesting vehicle we would LOVE to have you participate! All you need to do is arrive at our parking lot between 8:45 and 9:15am and then stick around to meet all the excited children (and parents) who will ask you all manner of questions about your special vehicle. Please reach out to Karolin Brechbill (kbrechbill@christlc.org) or Lynda O'Neill (Lyndajo1108@gmail.com).

For those of you interested in attending, all visitors are asked to park across the street at CCC and walk over to our lot. There will be crosswalk assistance provided for the duration of the event.

Finally, if you would like to be a volunteer for the event, we can always use help! Individuals will be needed to help with the food prep and distribution, engaging with the visitors, traffic control, and with set-up/clean-up. Please see Lynda or Karolin for details!

IRON PIGS TICKETS - GAME TIME: FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 7:05 PM

CLC friends and family are invited to visit Coca-Cola Park in Allentown on Friday, June 21st, as the Iron Pigs take on the Norfolk Tides.

Your \$12 game ticket includes: \$2 credit redeemable for food, beverage, or merchandise at the stadium, Field level seating, Fireworks following the game, A great night of fun and fellowship.

Celebrations Ministry will be taking reservations and payment for tickets following worship services on April 21, 28 and May 5, 12. May 12 is the last day for ticket sales.

Tickets must be paid in full to hold your reservation. Please make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church, with Iron Pigs game in memo. If you are interested and not able to purchase your tickets following worship service, please contact Karen Johnson at 267-992-2966 by April 23rd. Hope you will join in the fun!



Registration for the 2024 golf outing is now live. The outing is Monday, June 24th at Indian Valley Country Club. Click [here](#) to register!

Opportunities to Serve

Ushers & Usher Coordinator Needed

Each Sunday as you enter the Sanctuary you are greeted by a smiling face and someone ready to hand you your preference of bulletin. That person also assists with collecting offering and guiding folks to receive communion during worship. If you are interested in possibly volunteering in this role, please reach out to the office or [Michael Hillegas](#). Michael is acting coordinator for the ushers right now.

Previously Cory Brechbill coordinated the ushers - thank you to Cory for handling it for the many years that you did. Any questions, please contact the office.



THE CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE

Although there will not be anyone staying at our church, the housing crisis in our community has not gone away. The team feels the congregation needs to be educated about the issue of homelessness, serve and advocate for the people in the community who are without housing. The Church Council has authorized the Homelessness taskforce to continue their work. Watch for upcoming educational events. A series of programs is being planned for the coming months.



Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School is July 22-26, 2024!

We are so excited to provide Vacation Bible School for our church family and community members!

This year, VBS will take place July 22-26, from 9 am -12 noon. Each day of VBS is filled with fun songs, awesome crafts, exciting Bible stories, interactive games, and snacks galore! VBS is open to all

children, ages 3-12 (please note: 3's need to be out

of diapers). Tweens and teens are welcome to help as volunteers. Registration will be open on our website starting in May. VBS is free to attend, we just ask that all participants register so we can plan accordingly. The Theme of VBS 2024 is SCUBA! Dive into Friendship with God!



One important notice: Our VBS director (Karolin Brechbill) will be away with the Youth at the ELCA Youth Gathering the week before VBS. That means more help than ever will be needed to decorate our spaces for the big week, because not only will she be unavailable until Sunday, but also some of our best teen decorating helpers will be with her in New Orleans! If you are at all interested in setting up tables, making props, decorating hallways, or setting up the stations, WE COULD USE YOUR HELP! The church will be open on Thursday, July 18 from 10 am-2 pm for anyone who wants to come help. Materials and suggestions/ideas for decorating will be provided, and Brooke will take the lead in supervising the volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, but can't make it on Thursday, we will be finishing up decorating and putting the final touches on our sanctuary space on Sunday after worship, so you are welcome to join in then.

Finally, if you would like to volunteer during the week of Vacation Bible School, please reach out to Karolin for details (kbrechbill@christlc.org or 215-256-8738). There are all sorts of jobs to do: four station leaders, helpers at each station, registration table, and age-group leaders. Each adult who leads a station or is an age group leader needs their PA State clearances on file in order to participate. If you need assistance in getting those, please reach out to Karolin. It's free for volunteers and all on-line.

Come on out and enjoy VBS at CLC!

Deadline for Clarion articles the 20th of each month

Please do not send pdf files. Linda Nyce Landis, Editor clclarion@gmail.com



2 Alexandra Rush	9 Claudia Heim	19 Paul Sharkey
3 Jack O'Neill	9 Stella Heim	21 David Alderfer
4 Bruce Elliott	10 Gabriel Heim	24 Patty Winkler
4 Kaelan Landis	15 Marge Blum	24 Steven Jay Landis
4 Morgan Strohl	15 Tyler Itterly	25 Sarah Walker
8 Laura Swoyer	17 Richard Haslam	26 Edie Landes
9 Emma Daubert	17 Ben Brigaman	26 Kerry Kagarise
	17 Shaun Stover	29 Gerri Test
	18 Joan Caldwell	30 Jeff Bream
	19 George Bell	30 Sage Munden
	19 Hannah Brown	
	19 Laura Baymor	

March into Peace

As warmer, longer days grace us, snowy and icy conditions gradually dissipate, marking the transition from winter to spring. This period, known as winterkill, contrasts starkly with the budding stages of springtime renewal that emerge everywhere. As Lent accompanies us, we gather midweek for soup and prayers, embracing the season's reflective spirit.

This moment presents an ideal opportunity to incorporate walking into your journey for 2024. While walking programs can commence at any point, it's the small, incremental steps that foster healthy habits and relationships, imbuing the process with joy. Remember to rejoice in the Lord always, as the scripture encourages.

In anticipation of the **10-mile Christmas Peace Pilgrimage on Saturday, December 14, 2024**, from Nazareth to Bethlehem PA (peacewalk.org), we will be providing training tips and organizing fun events to keep you inspired and energized. If you've been sedentary this winter (Who, me?), consider making Peace Walking a regular part of your weekly routine. Start by walking for 15 minutes, three or four times each week. Invite a loved one to join you, focusing on a God-centered experience.

Claim your walking time as an opportunity to reconnect with your favorite scriptures, those discussed during worship services, or those from your daily devotions. As Philippians 4:9 reminds us, "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." Stay tuned for more training tips, tricks, and upcoming events in our weekly communications as we cultivate a community of walkers. Let's stride together in peace. For more information, please contact Ginny Ward or Dann Stephens.





Council Highlights March 12 Meeting

Attendance in Person: Allison Healy, Andria Alderfer, Bob DiNunno, Jim Laguna, Lee Wolfe, Linda N. Landis, Lisa DeLong, Pastor Sellers, Rick Fox, Scott Swindells, Jason Dodge

Attendance on Zoom: Gerri Test

Meeting called to Order by Allison Healy at 7:04 pm

The meeting was opened with the Bridge Builder Prayer and the Mission Statement. The council members shared joys and concerns.

Peacemaker Book Discussion:

As a group we discussed our thoughts and feelings

around the second chapter of "The Peacemaker" book.

Agenda Topics:

Mutual Ministry Report: (Lisa DeLong):

Mutual ministry made recommendation to Council to change the timing on the letter of expectations. The following recommendations were made:

Monday from 8am-4pm and 6pm-8:30pm

Tuesday from 8am - 4pm

Wednesday from 8am-4pm and 6pm-8:30pm

Thursday from 8am-4pm

Whenever snow plowing is being done.

Whenever requested by the pastor or a member of the relationship team.

An exception to this would be if the person(s) are participating in a church event (including but not limited to soup suppers, chili cookoff, game night, and shepherd shelf)

Linda N. Landis made the motion to accept the recommendation from Mutual Ministry. Lisa DeLong seconded the motion. All in favor and motion passed.

Mutual Ministry is proposing to hire Dr. Littleton as a third party to assist with communication and relationships

Fees come out to be about \$3,500

Dr. Littleton would work with staff member, council and mutual ministry

Not required by staff but mutual ministry members will work on getting in touch with staff members

See attached contract

Lisa DeLong made a motion to engage Dr. Littleton's services to assist the congregation by working with the staff, council and mutual ministry team as outlined. Linda N. Landis seconded motion. Motion was amended that we engage Dr. Littleton services for up to \$4,000. All were in favor of capping services at that amount.

Homelessness Task Force Reports:

Met last evening. Here are the updates from each of the subcommittees:

Education:

Scott has been speaking with Mark from Access Services

Reviewed various courses that they offer -Supporting those with Mental Illness in your Congregation and Community, Biblical View of Mental Illness, and Mental Health and Homelessness

Still waiting to hear regarding cost – may be free

Scott made a motion to continue to engage with Mark and Access Services to offer various courses about mental health and homelessness. Andria Alderfer seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion was passed.

Safety:

Met with some of the staff members

Buzzer for the office has been approached and there is a bid that is in the works

Bid will go to property and potentially to Council

Recommended for a ring door bell as well

Relationships:

Gone to various education and trainings that they have gone to

New case manager with Access Services

Mike now at Towamencian Mennonite – various conversations have been going on between churches

Task force is asking the Council to affirm that the Task Force is going to continue its work no matter the outcome of the meeting

Looking to send Thank You cards to various groups/organizations that have been on the journey with us

Pastor's Report – Pastor Sellers

No questions or concerns about Pastor's report

Welcome Walk – Saturday at 10 am

Welcome Ministry still does not have a chair – reminder about our goals

March 17th Congregational Meeting:

Agenda was passed around.

Paper Ballot – Yes or No vote

Brooke Kuhlen, Andria Alderfer, Tracy Beasley and Scott Swindells will count votes.

Zoom available – Brooke will have a private survey available for those who sign on to zoom.

Zoom will be recorded

Tracey A. Beasley, Synod VP – will be mediating our meeting.

Tracey suggested that Dr. Littleton be present at our meeting for assistance. Dr. Littleton will be joining us for the meeting.

Tracey will not be charging us but instead we will get her a floral arrangement as a thank you.

Council will also honor Tracey and Dr. Littleton with Easter flowers in church.

Discussion around Agenda and purpose of meeting - various changes were made to the agenda Allison will work on getting new updated agenda out to Council

Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team reminded to team liaisons to discuss the use of the Endowment Funds with their teams.

Next Regular Council Meeting, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm Hybrid

Meeting was adjourned by Allison Healy at 9:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Andria Alderfer, Council Secretary

Youth News

By Karolin Brechbill



Created to Be FREE

In the February and March Clarions, we explored the themes of Created to be Brave and Created to be Authentic. Our third installment of the ELCA Youth Gathering Theme is Created to be Free.

The word FREE is a loaded word, isn't it? It takes on a certain meaning depending on the context. There's freedom in the sense of having a voice, your ability to determine your government, your ability to pursue your life goals, your ability to espouse to a certain religion (or

not) and your ability to make your own decisions when it comes to career, family and recreational pursuits. The beauty of being free is not only can all of those be determined by you, but also, you can rank them to the level of importance as you see fit.

Sounds great. But it also sounds messy. When does my pursuit of freedom impede with someone else's? What if our choices conflict with one another?

When I taught a lesson on this in Sunday School, we talked about freedom in the context of what is written in the Bill of Rights; those freedoms that are "guaranteed" by our government: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom to dissent to government, freedom to peaceably assemble, a free press. There are lots of other "rights" given in the Bill of Rights, but these freedoms are listed first thing, in the first amendment. But then we talked about something FDR said in his historic 1941 state of the union address, when he gave the whole idea of being FREE a new spin. He talked about the four universal freedoms that all humans should possess (not just Americans). FDR stated that those four universal freedoms were: the freedom of speech, the freedom of religion, the freedom from want, and the freedom from fear. Woah, those last two are very interesting aren't they?

Especially his use of the word "from" rather than "of". How do you regulate the absence of something? And even if you could, how do you qualify it, since everyone has a different idea of what want and fear are?

Obviously, FDR was talking about these four universal freedoms because the world was facing Nazi Germany and the rise of a dictatorship that was endangering these freedoms for certain sects of people. So perhaps his words were just meant to be highlighting the dangers ahead, or perhaps they were meant to be simply inspirational. Either way, the concept of a freedom being the absence of something is interesting and muddies the water a bit. How do you define the freedom FROM want? What is a want? I feel like perhaps he meant that all humans have the right to have their basic needs met, but then why didn't he say, "freedom from need?" And even then, even if that's what he meant, it's problematic because depending upon the societal norms; one person's needs could be vastly

different than another's. Hmm. And then there is the idea of freedom from fear. From ALL fear? How would that even be possible? And again, how do we separate one person's freedom from another's when they clash? For example, what if something you say (which you have a right to do) causes fear in someone else? What if your pursuit of financial gain impacts another's freedom from want? You can see how difficult and complicated this conversation can be.

Ok, so after this quagmire of thought, let me change the subject to Jazz music. The Gathering is in New Orleans, after all, and I promise that I will circle back. I would say that Jazz can be considered one of the most "free" forms of music, right? There are improvisations and changes to the length of the songs and a variety of instruments used. When I played in the Jazz Band in middle school, I was exceedingly uncomfortable with the free style nature of the whole thing...I dreaded when the band director would point his baton at me for a solo...I had no idea what to do. I preferred to have my notes laid out on the page for me to follow. But as an adult, as I look at it, I realize that Jazz is not so loosey-goosey as all that. It still has a time signature, everyone still plays in the same key and they all watch the band director so they can stay together. And even within each solo, there are guardrails provided by the rest of the band so that the soloist gets a feel for where to go and when to stop. There are rules to Jazz music that all the musicians have to follow in order for the music to have a cohesive, pleasing sound. If there were NO rules, it would be chaos...sort of like the sound an orchestra makes when they are all warming up at the same time.

That got me to thinking back about those universal freedoms. It seems even though we all have a right to those things, we also have to work within a framework of rules and regulations so as not to impede or hurt each other. Society and the government work together to decide what is expected of its citizens and what behaviors are outside of the framework.

And then THAT thought got me thinking about faith. There it is, you knew I was going to get there eventually, right? It occurred to me the freedom our faith provides is analogous to Jazz music. There are certain rules that guide us along (the ten commandments, our creed, the teachings and example of Jesus), but yet within that framework, each and every one of us is FREE to have a specific, personal relationship with God and to worship him how we feel appropriate. We are free to improvise and go out on our own for a solo, but the guardrails are there to catch us when we go off course. True freedom comes with the knowledge that God is God and we are not, and as free as we are, we are still guided by his loving mercy and are provided pathways to follow that will lead to compassion and contentment.

So, I challenged the youth that are going to New Orleans to listen for the Jazz music. And when they hear it, they remember they are FREE to pursue a relationship with God however they see fit and they are encouraged to play their own instrument in a solo written by them, and inspired by their creator. What wonderful music that freedom will create!



Treasurer's report Feb 24

February giving looks a little more normal. Total general fund (GF) receipts are over budget by \$2,436 thanks to envelope giving. Envelope giving for February 2024 is \$800 over February 2023.

YTD GF total receipts are under budget due to lower January giving, keeping in mind the Dec-Jan total receipts from last year compared to this year was \$5,566, per my January notes.

As a result of January 2024, the Previous Year Comparison reflects a variance of \$25,291 less

receipts than 2023.

General fund expenses for February are under budget by \$1,806.

YTD expenses are under budget \$764.

The YTD Ordinary net loss of \$18,074 versus a budgeted loss of \$11,973 leaves a variance of \$6,091, again this is primarily due to lower than usual January receipts.

2024 YTD GF expenses of \$72,152 are \$8,993 higher than YTD February 2023. Snow removal this winter of \$5,655, as well as advertising and the purchase of new paraments this January make up the variance.

Shepherd Shelf (SS) receipts for February are \$200 under budget and expenses are \$624 under budget, a net of \$424 variance ahead of budget.

SS receipts YTD are over budget \$1,750, expenses over budget \$469, a net variance of \$1,282 ahead of budget.

SS net income is \$665 behind our YTD income comparison to 2023.

Building Fund receipts for February are \$8,423 ahead of budget, YTD ahead of budget by \$6,217.

YTD comparison of Building Fund receipts are just \$300 ahead of 2023 YTD.

	Actual	Budget	Budget Variance
Feb '24 Income	\$33,157.87	\$30,721.33	\$2,436.54
Feb '24 Expense	\$30,727.43	\$32,533.03	-\$1,805.60
Net Ordinary income	\$2,430.44	-\$1,811.70	\$4,242.14
YTD Income 2024	\$54,087.93	\$60,942.67	-\$6,854.74
YTD Expense 2024	\$72,151.66	\$72,915.55	-\$763.89
Net Ordinary income	-\$18,063.73	-\$11,972.88	-\$6,090.85
Previous Year to '24	2024	2023	Change
Income Jan-Feb	\$54,087.93	\$79,379.19	-\$25,291.26
Expense Jan-Feb	\$72,151.66	\$63,158.58	\$8,993.08
Net Ordinary income	-\$18,063.73	\$16,220.61	-\$34,284.34



Ways to Witness through Service at Shepherd's Shelf!

Shepherd's Shelf distributes every Monday and Wednesday evening from 6:30-8pm and Tuesdays from 10am - 11am. 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, we will train you when you come. 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 [https://](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da9a62ea3f85-shepherds)

[www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da9a62ea3f85-](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da9a62ea3f85-shepherds)

shepherds Donations are accepted during church office hours. Please see <https://www.christlc.org/shepherds-shelf> 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 shepherdsshelf@christlc.org or call the church office.

Shepherd's Shelf Summary

In February the Shepherd's Shelf served our greater community. There were 128 visits from eligible households. 7 new households were added consisting of 22 individuals (14 adults, 6 children and 2 seniors). Diapers were distributed 23 times and wipes 15 times. Feminine hygiene products were distributed 51 times. Volunteers from CLC and from the community logged 240 hours. The estimated value of distributions to our clients for the month is \$30,720.

**Correction: Due to a sticky laptop key the January count of new children served was mistakenly reported as 224. It was actually 24.*

Shepherd's Shelf is celebrating 20 years of helping our community! You and your family are invited to stop by Shepherd's Shelf on May 17 anytime between 6pm - 8pm for a night of food and fellowship to celebrate. We couldn't have done it without the help of all our wonderful volunteer and countless donors throughout the years. Please RSVP below by May 8.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054FAEA723A5FD0-48275451-2024>

March 10 was Cross out hunger Sunday.

Thank you to all who contributed.





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Clarion

Published monthly by Christ Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Serena S. Sellers

Karolin Brechbill, Dir. of Faith Formation

Brooke Kuhlen, Office Manager

Marge Blum, Financial Secretary

Sunday Service Schedule

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

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



Way Maker,
MIRACLE
WORKER,
PROMISE KEEPER,
LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS.

My God,
THAT IS
WHO
YOU
ARE.

CLC's Ministry Teams

April 2024

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

Celebrations- June Alderfer, kjaldfer@hotmail.com, Allison Healy, allison.healy@foxroach.com

Cemetery- Mike Kuhlen mike.kuhlen@gmail.com, Gerri Test, mushedpickle@yahoo.com

Christian Education - Karolin Brechbill, kbrechbill@christlc.org, Scott Swindells, swindiculous@gmail.com

Communications- Dann Stephens, dann.stephens571@gmail.com, Linda N. Landis, lindalandis7@gmail.com

Finance & Stewardship- Brian Sharkey briansharkey@outlook.com, Lee Wolfe, lee.wolfe831@gmail.com

Mutual Ministry- Michelle Martin, michellepmartin2001@yahoo.com, Lisa DeLong, lisardelong@yahoo.com

Property- Rob Kagarise, rkagarise@verizon.net, Jim Laguna, laguna@comcast.net

Shepherd's Shelf- Steph Sharkey, shepherdsshelf@christlc.org, Rick Fox, Rfoxx18@gmail.com

Social Ministry- Ginny Ward, gwrfine@verizon.net, Andria Alderfer, andrialalderfer@gmail.com

Welcoming - No Chair, Bob DiNenno, robertdinenno@gmail.com

Worship & Music- Michael Hillegas, mchillegas@yahoo.com, Jason Dodge, Jasondodge777@gmail.com

Youth Ministry Team- Karolin Brechbill, kbrechbill@christlc.org, Scott Swindells, swindiculous@gmail.com

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

