



Christ Lutheran Church

# The Clarion

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

## A Message From Pastor Sellers

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month we proceed with Jesus and his disciples into the very heart of our faith. We journey through Lent to Holy Week, which stands as a solemn period of reflection and mourning, marking the final days of Jesus before his crucifixion. It is a time of profound grief and contemplation for Christians, as we walk alongside our Savior in his journey towards Calvary. Yet, from the darkness of the grave, a radiant beacon of hope emerges with the dawn of Easter Sunday, heralding the triumph of life over death, and joy over sorrow.

After Jesus turns over the tables in the temple (March 3), welcomes a disciple who will approach him only under the cover of darkness (March 10), and faces the full impact of what is to come (March 17), Lent transitions into Holy Week.

Palm Sunday, March 24, commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Our palm procession is followed by the passion reading. Although greeted by crowds waving palm branches and hailing him as their Messiah, this jubilant scene swiftly transitions into somber reflection as we recount the events leading to Jesus' betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion.

## Volume 35 no. 3 March 2024

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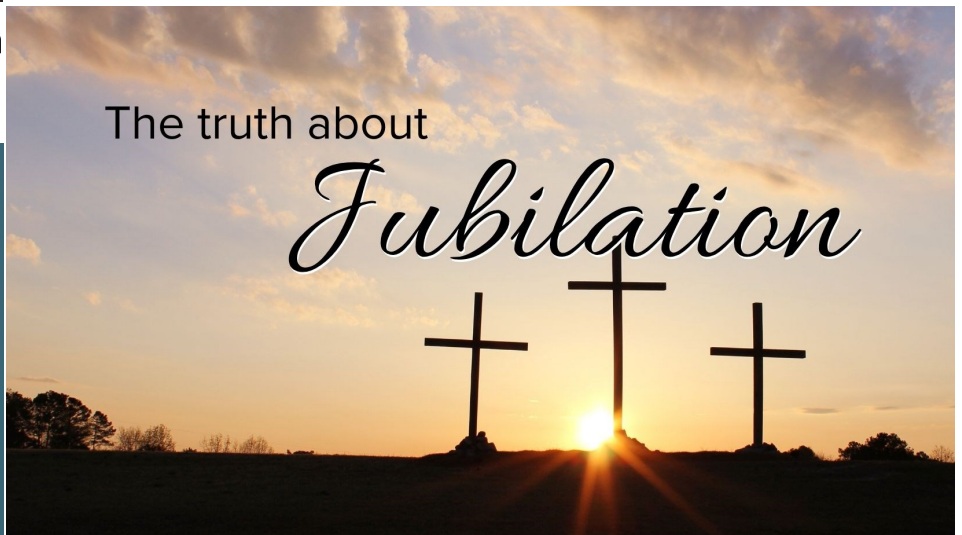
**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

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.

The truth about

*Jubilation*



Although the events from Thursday to Sunday include several gatherings – they are considered one unbroken worship service. The poignant rituals of Maundy Thursday remind us of the depth of Jesus' love and sacrifice. In the washing of feet, Jesus demonstrated that our love for him is best expressed in loving service to one another. He shared the Last Supper with his disciples, offering himself fully to them and for them. As we take the bread (baked by our first communicants) and drink the wine made body and blood by his promise, we also experience the presence of our Savior and the forgiveness of sin. As the altar is laid bare at the end of the service, we come to see the table is similar in form to a casket, and we experience a foreshadowing of the events to come.

Good Friday stands as the pinnacle of Holy Week, a day of unfathomable sorrow and grief. We gather to remember Jesus' crucifixion, meditating on the brutality he endured for the redemption of humanity. The solemn services, marked by the dimming of the sanctuary into darkness as the Passion narrative is read, and the bidding prayer and veneration of the Cross, invite us to enter the sorrow of Christ's suffering and reflect on the weight of sin and the cost of salvation. We exit the sanctuary in profound silence, confronting the reality of death and echoing the disciples' grief and confusion in the aftermath of Christ's crucifixion.

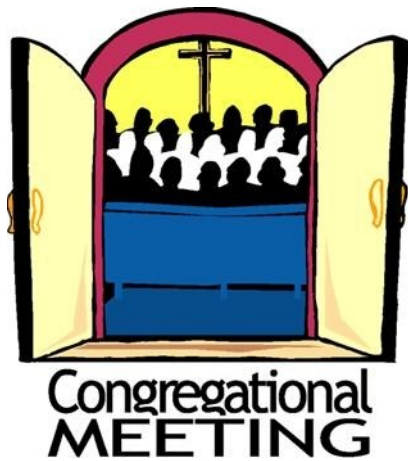
Yet, with the first light of Easter morning, the world is transformed. The tomb is found empty, and the promise of resurrection is fulfilled as Jesus rises victorious over death. The despair of Holy Week gives way to unbridled joy and exultation as we celebrate the triumph of life over death and the fulfillment of God's promise of redemption.

Easter Sunday is a day of jubilant worship and celebration. Christ is Risen! (He is Risen Indeed!) The darkness of Holy Week is replaced by the radiant light of hope, as we rejoice in the irrepressible promise of new life and the assurance of salvation. The hymns of Easter resound with praise and thanksgiving, as Christ's resurrection becomes the cornerstone of our faith and the source of eternal hope.

In the grief of Holy Week and the joy of Easter, we encounter the full spectrum of human experience—the deepest depths of sorrow and the greatest heights of exultation. It is a journey that mirrors the complexities of the life of faith, where all human emotion is transformed by God's love and grace. Holy Week reminds believers of the profound truth that, through Christ's death and resurrection, they are invited into a new and abundant life—a life marked by forgiveness, reconciliation, and the promise of eternity in the presence of God.

Join Christ in the journey through Holy Week, where we are reminded that the grief of the cross is inseparable from the joy of the empty tomb. Embrace the fullness of your humanity, knowing that in Christ, there is always hope beyond the darkness, and joy that surpasses all understanding. Your sister in Christ, Pastor Serena





## Special Congregational Meeting-Sunday, March 17th

There will be a special Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, March 17th at approximately 10:30am. Because of this meeting, there will be ONE (1) service at 9:30am that day. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. **A quorum of 50 voting members is needed.** A zoom link will be provided as the date gets closer.

The purpose of this meeting will be the following:

1. Discuss the recently presented motion from the Homelessness Task Force, which outlines protocols for individuals seeking sanctuary on the Church property. This motion has been temporarily approved by the Council, as of the February 12th, 2024 meeting. Documents can be found on the church website or at the usher's station in church.
2. In accordance with the Church Constitution, Chapter 5 (C5.03-g), found below, the Congregation will vote upon whether or not it approves the use of Church property for this purpose.
3. If approved, the Homelessness Task Force will seek guidance from legal counsel, the township (zoning), insurance company and any other relevant entities regarding hosting up to 2 individuals.

Excerpt from Church Constitution: Chapter 5.

### POWERS OF THE CONGREGATION

\*C5.03. Only such authority as is delegated to the Congregation Council or other organizational units in this congregation's governing documents is recognized. All remaining authority is retained by the congregation.

The congregation is authorized to:

- a. call a pastor as provided in Chapter 9;
- b. terminate the call of a pastor as provided in Chapter 9;
- c. call or terminate the call of associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers in conformity with the applicable policy of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;
- d. adopt amendments to the constitution, as provided in Chapter 17, and amendments to the bylaws, as specified in Chapter 16, and continuing resolutions, as provided in Chapter 18.
- e. approve the annual budget;
- f. acquire real and personal property by gift, devise, purchase, or other lawful means;
- g. hold title to and use its property for any and all activities consistent with its purpose;**
- h. sell, mortgage, lease, transfer, or otherwise dispose of its property by any lawful means;
- i. elect its Congregation Council and require them to carry out their duties in accordance with the constitution, bylaws; and continuing resolutions; and
- j. terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as provided in Chapter 6.

## What to expect at CLC—In-Person– 2024

The 9:00am service is 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.

|                 |                  |                   |   |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|---|
| March 3         | Lent 3           | 9:00am<br>10:30am | Communion   |
| March 6         | Mid-week service | 7:00pm            |   |
| March 10        | Lent 4           | 9:00am<br>10:30am | Communion 10:30<br>Spring ahead                     |
| March 13        | Mid-week service | 7:00pm            |   |
| <b>March 17</b> | <b>Lent 5</b>    | <b>9:30am</b>     | <b>Communion<br/>Special Congregational Meeting</b> |
| March 20        | Mid-week service | 7:00pm            |   |

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



|          |                 |                   |  |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| March 24 | Passion Sunday  | 9:00am<br>10:30am | Processional of the Palms<br>Reading of the Passion<br>Communion                           |
| March 28 | Maundy Thursday | 12 noon<br>7:00pm | Absolution of Sin<br>Foot Washing (7pm)<br>First Communion (7pm)<br>Stripping of the Altar |
| March 29 | Good Friday     | 12 noon           | Good Friday Service  |
|          |                 | 7:00pm            | Tenebrae Service   |
| March 31 | Easter Sunday   | 9:00am<br>10:30am | Festival Service<br>Communion<br>No Sunday School  |



### Social Media Handles



Facebook  
Christ Lutheran Church



Youtube  
Christ\_kulp



Instagram  
Clccomm

Wednesday Soup Suppers continue through March 20. Each week a ministry team or two will host a simple and delicious meal of soup and bread. Here is the [signupgenius.com](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D48A9AE22A31-47286866-lenten#/) (https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D48A9AE22A31-47286866-lenten#/) if you would like to contribute a soup one of these evenings.



### Easter Candy

It's that time of year again. Time to start thinking about Easter Candy. The youth and adult helpers have already started hand rolling, hand dipping and tap, tap tapping those chocolate covered pretzels (if you know, you know!) If you are interested in purchasing these famous yummy candies, order forms are available in Weaver Hall and on line. Any questions, please feel

free to call the office.

### Easter Flowers

The altar will be decorated with FOUR types of Easter Flowers: lilies, daffodils, tulips and hydrangeas. **Orders will be taken through March 21.** Order forms will be available at the ushers' station. Payments can be made through the mail (check payable to Christ Lutheran Church), drop in the plate, or drop in the box outside of the office. Flowers will be available to take home after the 10:30am service on Easter Sunday.



### Daylight Savings Time Begins March 10

Remember; before bed on Saturday, March 9, set your clocks AHEAD one hour.

**Deadline for Clarion articles the 20th of each month**

**Please do not send pdf files. Linda Nyce Landis, Editor [clclarion@gmail.com](mailto:clclarion@gmail.com)**

# WELCOME HOME

**Welcome Home Kits** Transitioning into a home can be overwhelming and daunting for someone coming from homelessness. The Welcome Church is collecting new items to make up Welcome Home Kits for people who are ready for this step. If you'd like to help, sign up on this [Sign-Up Genius](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4DAEAC2DA57-46466822-welcome#/) ([https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4DAEAC2DA57-46466822-welcome#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4DAEAC2DA57-46466822-welcome#/)/). The collection will run until Palm Sunday (March 24). A box is in Weaver Hall for your donations.

## Women's Group - Monday, March 11

Back by popular demand, we will be doing trivia again in March, so mark your calendars for March 11. This time we are going to try trivia at Lansdale Tavern. If you are planning on coming, please let Steph know by March 4, so we know how big of a table to get. Trivia starts at 7:30, but I hear it gets busy, so some of us plan to get there around 5/5:30 to save room.



## Walk in love

Ephesians 5:2

## Welcome Walk Saturday, March 16, 10am

It's that time of year again for the annual Welcome Walk to two new/newer developments. Volunteers will gather in Weaver Hall at 10am on **Saturday, March 16** to stuff the Welcome Bags with invitations to upcoming events, a Welcome letter from Pastor Serena, and some Easter goodies. Just hang on the door handle. It's that easy! With the volunteers for the Christmas Walk, the group was

completed by about noon. If there is extreme inclement weather, we'll postpone till the following Saturday, March 23. Please contact Paula Morris at 267-261-4564 to volunteer. That will give a better idea of how many bags we should anticipate filling."

## Opportunities to Serve

### Saturday, March 23, 8am start

There will be a brief "spruce-up" of the church in preparation for Holy week and Easter. This would include sweeping the sidewalks and straightening up in the building.

A more comprehensive clean up will be scheduled for **April 13th from 8am until noon** when the weather is more appropriate for outdoor chores: mulching, cleaning flower beds, sweeping stairwells and sidewalks, clean up pavilion. ALL ages are welcome to help out. Snacks and coffee are provided!



### 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 (mchillegas@yahoo.com). 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.



### Help Needed for Holiday Marketplace to Continue!

After many years of organizing and running a successful tradition at CLC, Social Ministry has decided to step back from spearheading Holiday Market Place and would like to pass on the leadership of this event to our Church Community in the hopes that it doesn't go away for good. We are looking to get a

committee together to run this event. There are a few members of Social Ministry that would like to help. We do need someone to head up running this event and others to volunteer to be on the committee. This event has brought hundreds of community members through our front doors as well as raised thousands of dollars for various charities. If you would like to be part of this great event, please let Steph know at [sharkeys2013@gmail.com](mailto:sharkeys2013@gmail.com) or talk to anyone on the Social Ministry team. We are hoping to have a committee in place so we can start planning by April.



## **Touch a Truck**

**Saturday, April 27 10am-1pm**

We are so excited to offer the Touch a Truck Event again this year! Last year, even with yucky weather, we were able to welcome 20 vehicles and 150+ visitors to our property, and we hope 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. We hope to have fire trucks, police vehicles, RV's, municipal vehicles, farm equipment, army jeeps, classic cars...all manner of wheeled vehicles! We will also provide free snacks, a raffle and prizes for the kiddos and even a DJ!

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](mailto:kbrechbill@christlc.org)) or Lynda O'Neill ([Lyndajo1108@gmail.com](mailto:Lyndajo1108@gmail.com)).

For those of you interested in attending, we are asking all visitors 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! We will need individuals 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!



## Synod Assembly Election of Bishop May 3 & 4

### Synod Mission Profile

As you may or may not know, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod (which CLC is a part of) will be electing a new bishop at the Synod Assembly in May. Here is a [link](https://ministrylink.org/2024-synod-assembly/2024-bishop-election/) (https://ministrylink.org/2024-synod-assembly/2024-bishop-election/) to keep up with the latest information.

The process has entered the second phase, discernment. This means the people of the synod have time to review the mission profile and participate in prayerful conversation under the leadership of the Discernment Team. The team will host an in-person discernment session and offers a video Bible study for your use pre-identifying persons for consideration. That in-person session will be held on **Saturday, March 2nd from 10am – noon** in Benbow Hall at the Brossman Center on the campus of the United Lutheran Seminary. This will include a recap of the Mission Profile and time to engage the Bible study with the attendees. seating is limited. [Register here](https://ministrylink.org/2024-synod-assembly/2024-bishop-election/discernment/). (https://ministrylink.org/2024-synod-assembly/2024-bishop-election/discernment/)

The Synod Mission Profile, which is based on the results of a survey of synod members and leaders and interviews with Bishop Davenport and other key leaders, was published by the Transition Team on January 8, 2024. You can access that Mission profile by clicking [here](https://ministrylink.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/FINAL-SEPA-MISSION-PROFILE.pdf) (https://ministrylink.org/wp-

content/uploads/2024/01/FINAL-SEPA-MISSION-PROFILE.pdf).



As part of our year of **“Witnessing Christ Through Service”** Christ will be hosting a meal

packaging event in Weaver Hall to create 10,000 meal Kits on Saturday April 6 from 10am to noon. We focus

on local hunger through the Shepherd’s Shelf ministry, but these meals will be provided to people in need around the world. The meals are mostly distributed through school feeding programs, which encourages school attendance for children in poverty who are often deprived of an education so that they can work.

See this as an opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to come to church. Sometimes it is easier to invite someone to church for a service event, rather than to worship. Since this is such a fun event, it may be a less intimidating way for a friend to get to know us, and see how we are following Jesus.

Space is limited. Registration will be found on the Events menu on our church website, and should be opening soon. The event is open to those ages 5 and up. Our Lenten midweek offerings will be supporting this event, and the event is free for participants but free-will donations can be made on the registration page to help us meet our fundraising goal.





## Monday, February 12

**Council Members in Person:** Allison Healy, Andria Alderfer, Bob DiNenno, Jim Laguna, Julie Munden, Pastor Sellers Scott Swindells, Rick Fox

**Council Members on Zoom:** Gerri Test, Lee Wolfe

**Congregational Members Present:** Jackie Swanson and

## Church Council Meeting

Michelle Martin **Excused:** Lisa DeLong

**Peacemaker Book Discussion:** As a group we discussed our

thoughts and feelings around the first chapter of the Peacemaker Book.

**Report from Mutual Ministry Chair (Michelle Martin)** Another emergency meeting was held. Multiple staff members have concerns regarding communication within the office. Multiple staff members have concerns around Mike being in the parking lot. There are concerns about a communication breakdown between staff and Pastor. Mutual ministry is working towards resolving these issues.

Steph Sharkey had a meeting with Pastor that went well but still would like a mediated conversation. Mike's presence is hindering some of the staff completing their jobs.

Looking for a third party to help mediate conversations.

**Michelle will keep Council updated on mediated conversation and next steps.**

### **Reports from Homelessness Task Force and Sub-Committees**

Property recommendations from Safety Sub-Committee:

Addition of security light (motion sensor) on far side of the Pavilion mounted to face the dumpsters and far portion of the property. Re-paint the directional arrows on the pavement. Adding a remote lock to allow Brooke to buzz folks in from her desk and the archive.

The following recommendations were presented: A Procedure/protocol if someone is found staying overnight on the church property, a Letter of Expectations if someone is to seek sanctuary. Both documents are available at the ushers' station. The letter of Expectations was amended to include "no firearms on property".

Discussion around zoning, legal implications and insurance liability – the Homelessness Task Force will need to discuss and research further.

Discussion around the potential of allowing sanctuary overnight only.

As a group we decided to present this information to the congregation at a special congregational meeting to ensure that the congregation is agreeable to utilize the property in this matter.

**Approval of the protocols that were presented by the Homelessness Task Force on a temporary basis until a Congregational Meeting is held. Rick made the motion and Linda N. Landis seconded the motion. Motion was carried and approved**

**Council President Resigns:** Julie Munden informed the Council that she is stepping down from Council President and Council effective immediately.

Vice President Allison Healy will now act as President.

**Scott Swindells made a motion to approve the fundraising application for Youth Easter Candy Sales on March 10, 17, 24, & 31, to raise funds for the ECLA Youth Gathering; goal \$3000-\$5000 – Pastor Seconded the motion. Motion was carried and approved**

Lee Wolfe brought a proposal to provide extra monetary support to the Synodical Mission; a motion to approve use of monies allocated in the Endowment Fund investment earnings. This will need to be deferred to the congregational meeting in June, as the recommended amount exceeds council's authorization. Linda N. Landis made a motion to defer to the June Congregational Meeting. Allison Healy seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

**Next Regular Council Meeting**, Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm Hybrid

Respectfully Submitted, Andria Alderfer, Council Secretary

**Treasurer's Report**

Online giving for January 2024 is comparable with December 2023, in line with the budget and just under January 2023 online giving.

On the other hand, envelope giving for January 2024 is less than December 2023 by almost \$34,700, under budget by \$9,471 and less than January 2023 envelope giving by \$26,485. The question here is whether folks gave in December or January for their year-end donation. The total envelope giving for December 2022 plus January 2023 is \$58,658, versus December 2023 plus January 2024 is \$53,092, a difference of \$5,566.

Keep in mind that the budget is evenly divided by 12 months. Envelope giving tends to fluctuate. A reminder here from Brian's budget presentation in January that if we can encourage folks to keep their giving about the same each month the income would have less of the "roller coaster effect" on a graph.

Ordinary expenses are just over budget in January 2024 by \$1,000 and higher than January 2023 by a payment normally made later in the year that was paid in January.

Shepherd Shelf receipts are over budget by \$1,950 .and \$900 more than January 2023 receipts. The expenses are also over budget, pending a grant to offset this expense and comparable to January 2023 with the exception of the expense pending the grant

Building Fund giving is also down in January 2024 as compared to budget by \$2,123, \$1,500 less than December 2023 and \$8,500 less than January 2023. December 2022 plus January 2023 receipts were almost \$16,000. December 2023 plus January 2024 were \$8,000, half as much.

|                             | Actual           | Budget           | Budget Variance  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Jan '24 Income</b>       | \$20,930         | \$30,221         | <b>-\$9,291</b>  |
| Jan '24 Expense             | \$41,424         | \$40383          | \$1,041          |
| Net Ordinary income         | <b>-\$20,494</b> | <b>-\$10,161</b> | <b>-\$10,333</b> |
| <b>Previous Year to '24</b> | <b>2024</b>      | <b>2023</b>      |                  |
| Income Jan                  | \$20,930         | \$47,385         | <b>-\$26,455</b> |
| Expense Jan                 | \$41,424         | \$38,649         | \$2775           |
| Net Ordinary income         | <b>\$20,494</b>  | \$8,735          | <b>-\$29,230</b> |



# Youth News

*By Karolin Brechbill*



## **Created to Be...AUTHENTIC.**

Last month, I offered an article about the theme of the upcoming ELCA Youth Gathering. The theme for the 2024 Gathering is Created to be Brave, Authentic, Free, Disruptive and Disciples. Last month's article was a deeper dive into the first word, Brave.

This month's word is AUTHENTIC.

Interestingly, the word Authentic was listed as the Webster's Dictionary top word of 2023. When I

taught a Sunday School class about this, we discussed why that might be. We decided that it was likely due to the topic of AI becoming prevalent in 2023 and how in response, people were discussing the authenticity of images, videos and news stories.

Either way, it a pretty cool coincidence that the ELCA has lifted up this particular word to be a core value of our Christian faith...what the Creator has created us to be.

So, what exactly does it mean to be authentic? Webster's definition is "real, true, not false" and "true to one's personality, spirit or character". Also listed was "worthy of acceptance or belief as conforming to or based on fact". In our class discussions, we decided that someone who is authentic is real to themselves; not fake.

So, with those definitions in mind, we discussed why it is important to be an authentic person, and we came up with this answer: because we are all truly unique and it is our differences that gives us strength. When we are truly authentically ourselves, we are stronger. It's an easy connection to make then to our faith. Paul writes in 1Corinthians, Chapter 12 about the church being one body with many members, and how each member has specific gifts and abilities. It is when we work as a whole, integrating each one of those parts, that we mirror our life in Christ; "For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body".

Now, the difficult part is that in being authentically you, you must also allow for others to be authentically themselves. And that is not always easy to do. There are going to be times when we don't recognize another's gifts, or we don't understand their part in the whole, or perhaps we don't value it. But if we don't allow others to be authentic, and we don't embrace others fully, then we risk the result of people diminishing themselves. And, of course there is a Bible passage about that too! Think about Matthew 5:14-16 where it says, "You are the light

of the world...like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. NO one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives out light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light so shine before others that they might see your good works and glorify the father in heaven." We are not only called to be authentic ourselves and let our own lights shine brightly, but we are also called to let others shine alongside us. When we don't agree or don't see something in the same way, we can feel threatened and want others to hide their own lights under a basket, which to that, God (and the famous Sunday School song) says "No!".

There's a song, more modern than "this Little Gospel Light of Mine", that is about all of this as well. It is called "City on The Hill" by Casting Crowns. I was drawn to it because I know that Christ Lutheran Church is sometimes referred to as the Light on the Hill, because of our location. The song tells about a city on a hill that attracted all sorts of people, and for a while they lived in harmony and worked together, enjoying each other's gifts and talents. But over time, they let their authentic natures go, and demanded others to diminish themselves. "Each one thought they knew better/but they were different by design/instead of standing strong together/they let their differences divide." At the end of the song, the city is darkened and the Creator is standing at the top of the hill with his arms stretched out, saying, "Come home".

Yikes. Doesn't that sound a little familiar right about now? The world seems consumed with division and disagreement. And that is SOOOO not what God wants for us. God made each one of us uniquely different and rejoices in our differences.

When we come together authentically, we are stronger and make a brighter light. We find our home in God's Kingdom and help it to shine. At the end of our Sunday School class, I challenged each youth going to the Gathering with these words; "Christ has called you not just as you are, but BECAUSE of who you are. YOU bring something unique to our community. Your voice, your thoughts, and your ideas and not just wanted, but NEEDED. So, bring your authentic self to the experience". I pray that we all answer this challenge and meet one another at the top of the hill.





# EASTER

How many different words can you make using these letters?

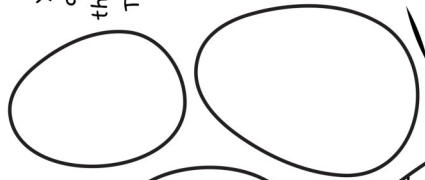
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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Make your own design on these eggs. Then color them!



## DID YOU KNOW?

Eggs are a sign of new life, just like our new life in Christ!



You can have new life too! Use the alphabet code and your Bible to solve the puzzle and find out how.

"IF YOU C 3 15 14 6 5 19 19 WITH YOUR

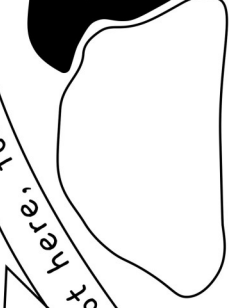
MOUTH THAT 10 5 19 21 19 IS LORD AND BELIEVE IN

YOUR 8 5 1 18 20 THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE

DEAD, YOU WILL BE 19 1 22 5 4 "

ROMANS 10:9, ESV

### HE IS RISEN!

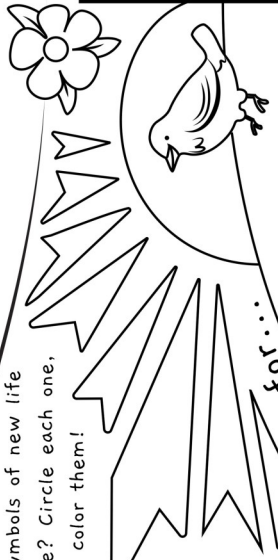


He is not here, for...

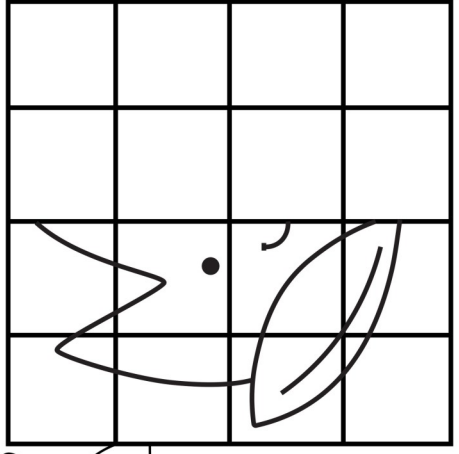
Matthew 28:6

# HAPPY EASTER!

Can you find 9 other symbols of new life on this page? Circle each one, then color them!



Use the grid to draw the other side!






# Grape EXPECTATIONS

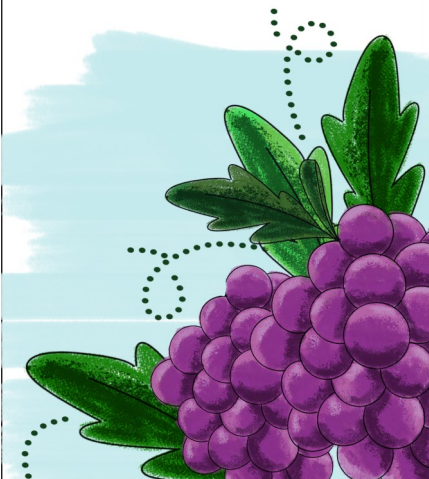
Try this chilly new take on a healthy snack.

### What you need:

- 30 grapes, washed and dried
- ½ cup vanilla yogurt
- 4 graham crackers, crushed
- Toothpicks
- Parchment paper

### What you do:

1. On a baking sheet lined with parchment paper, arrange grapes in a single layer. Freeze for two hours.
2. Insert a toothpick into each grape.
3. Dip each grape into the yogurt, coating half of it.
4. Roll each dipped grape in the crushed crackers. Place back on the parchment.
5. Freeze for two more hours. Enjoy!



# Kids Activity Page

# Puzzle!

Connect the dots to find two symbols of Easter. Then write the words in the correct blanks to complete an Easter poem.

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 2  | 4  | 6  | 8  | 10 | 12 | 14 |
| 16 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 24 |    |    |
| 26 | 28 | 30 | 33 | 35 | 37 | 39 |
| 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 |

Answer: God gave us Jesus Christ, his Son, the holy, loving, righteous one. He died to save us all from sin, and on Easter day he rose again.



## 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](http://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.

## Homeless Task Force - Message from Education Team

**Psalm 82:4** - Protect the poor and the needy; deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.

**Fact:** From the National Coalition for the Homeless.

"Homelessness increases vulnerability to violence among people who are homeless, not among people who are housed. This violence comes in the form of hate crimes. From 1999 to 2017 the number of hate crime deaths among the general population was 183. In this same time period, 483 homeless people were killed in attacks perpetrated by housed people.





# MARCH

Birthdays

1 Bonnie West  
2 Karen Johnson  
4 Clara Saltzer  
5 Francisco Matos  
7 Kelly Bonsignore  
8 Madison Reehl  
9 Tyler Mathe  
9 Noah Brechbill  
10 Pam Smith  
10 Tommy Greene  
11 Karson Curry

14 Stephanie Fontaine  
15 Brian Sharkey  
15 Hailey Landis  
16 Dave Williams  
17 Bob DiNenno  
17 Peg Walker  
18 Natalie Peterson  
19 Dawn Baxter  
19 Skip Dodge  
19 Sarah Bardman  
20 Jackie Swanson  
21 David Dilks  
21 Thomas Wolff  
22 Maggie Wilson  
23 Trent Donnelly

23 Aidan Frye  
24 Mary Reinoehl  
4 Scott Bardman  
24 Scott Burr  
24 Maddie Knauss  
25 Pat Smith  
27 Mackenzie Daubert  
8 Richard Metz  
28 Anna Bingley  
28 Allison Healy  
29 Tina Brown  
30 Shania Daubert  
30 Henry Kulp  
31 Jamie Mathe



## Stewardship Corner

*"For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it." – Mark 8:35*

Jesus is pretty clear that we are not to spend our time on earth amassing stuff and seeking to extend our lives and capital but rather to give ourselves away in grateful response to the gospel. Saving one's life is about loving and giving instead of fortifying one's own status and economic condition.



**Cluster Mardi Gras.**

About 60 people attended. There was singing, joke telling, a wonderful meal and great fellowship among the churches. The palms from all the participating churches were burned together, ground into fine ashes, and blessed in preparation for Ash Wednesday distribution. Cindy Wood was the meal planner and chief chef of the event. Karolin Brechbill spoke about New Orleans and the ELCA Youth Gathering and led a prayer for all who will be participating this summer.

Fastnachts were provided by the team at Little Zion Lutheran Church and the coffee served was New Orleans style with chicory. Delicious!



**COMMUNITY  
BLOOD  
DRIVE**

CLC did it again; donors exceeded the goal set by the American Red Cross for the number of units collected! Each time we exceed our goal the Red Cross bumps up our goal, and each time we have exceeded that goal. None of our success would be possible without generous donors like you. The Social Ministry Team thanks you for your commitment and kindness. Next Blood Drive is Thursday, April 18th from

11am - 4pm. Please note the new time for this one!



**Ways to Witness through Service at Shepherd's Shelf!**  
The Shelf has added a daytime distribution on Tuesday's from 10-11:00. The new 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, 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://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da9a62ea3f85-shepherds>** Donations are accepted during church office hours. Donations can also be dropped off at the Franconia Heritage Museum. 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](mailto:shepherdsshelf@christlc.org) or call the church office.

### Shepherd's Shelf Summary

In January the Shepherd's Shelf served our greater community. There were 147 visits from eligible households. 13 new households were added consisting of 54 individuals (25 adults, 224 children and 5 seniors). Diapers were distributed 24 times and wipes 14 times. Feminine hygiene products were distributed 51 times. Volunteers from CLC and from the community logged 273 hours. The estimated value of distributions to our clients for the month is \$35,280.



**FOOD**  
Donation

### Thank You

Shepherd's Shelf received a carload delivery of donations from the second grade class of Corpus Christi. They also donated a check for \$375. Thank You for your support of our mission.

### Golf Outing Plans!

Plans for the 2024 Richard D. Stephens Memorial Golf Outing are under way. The team is always seeking more committee members to help plan this year's outing. If you are interested in helping, please contact Steph Sharkey at [shepherdsshelf@christlc.org](mailto:shepherdsshelf@christlc.org)





# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

## The Clarion

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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

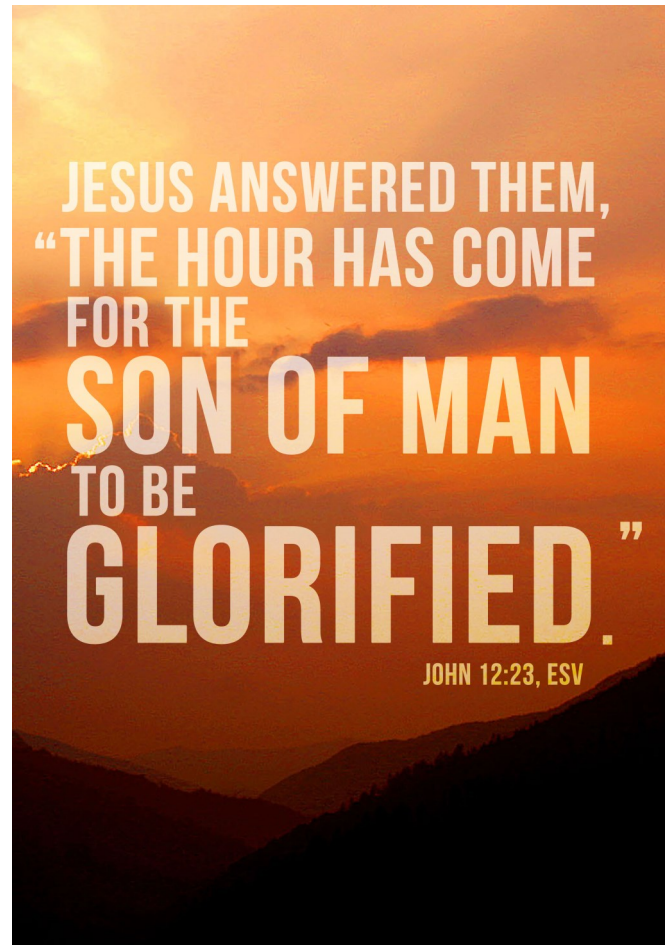
### Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday at 7:00pm

*Deadline for Clarion articles the 20th of each month.*

*[clcclarion@gmail.com](mailto:clcclarion@gmail.com)*

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



## CLC's Ministry Teams

## March 2024

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

**Celebrations-** June Alderfer, [kjaldferfer@hotmail.com](mailto:kjaldferfer@hotmail.com), Allison Healy, [allison.healy@foxroach.com](mailto:allison.healy@foxroach.com)

**Cemetery-** Mike Kuhlen [mike.kuhlen@gmail.com](mailto:mike.kuhlen@gmail.com), Gerri Test, [mushedpickle@yahoo.com](mailto:mushedpickle@yahoo.com)

**Christian Education** - Karolin Brechbill, [kbrechbill@christlc.org](mailto:kbrechbill@christlc.org), Scott Swindells, [swindiculous@gmail.com](mailto:swindiculous@gmail.com)

**Communications-** Dann Stephens, [dann.stephens571@gmail.com](mailto:dann.stephens571@gmail.com), Linda N. Landis, [lindalandis7@gmail.com](mailto:lindalandis7@gmail.com)

**Finance & Stewardship-** Brian Sharkey [briansharkey@outlook.com](mailto:briansharkey@outlook.com), Lee Wolfe, [lee.wolfe831@gmail.com](mailto:lee.wolfe831@gmail.com)

**Mutual Ministry-** Michelle Martin, [michellepmartin2001@yahoo.com](mailto:michellepmartin2001@yahoo.com), Lisa DeLong, [lisardelong@yahoo.com](mailto:lisardelong@yahoo.com)

**Property-** Rob Kagarise, [rkagarise@verizon.net](mailto:rkagarise@verizon.net), Jim Laguna, [laguna@comcast.net](mailto:laguna@comcast.net)

**Shepherd's Shelf-** Steph Sharkey, [shepherdsshelf@christlc.org](mailto:shepherdsshelf@christlc.org), Rick Fox, [Rfoxx18@gmail.com](mailto:Rfoxx18@gmail.com)

**Social Ministry-** Ginny Ward, [gwrfine@verizon.net](mailto:gwrfine@verizon.net), Andria Alderfer, [andrialalderfer@gmail.com](mailto:andrialalderfer@gmail.com)

**Welcoming** - No Chair, Bob DiNenno, [robertdinenno@gmail.com](mailto:robertdinenno@gmail.com)

**Worship & Music-** Michael Hillegas, [mchillegas@yahoo.com](mailto:mchillegas@yahoo.com), Jason Dodge, [Jasondodge777@gmail.com](mailto:Jasondodge777@gmail.com)

**Youth Ministry Team-** Karolin Brechbill, [kbrechbill@christlc.org](mailto:kbrechbill@christlc.org), Scott Swindells, [swindiculous@gmail.com](mailto: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

