

Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

May 2017

Bible Study/Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Church Phone: (636)228-4642
Pastor's Phone: (636)228-4773

From the Pastor...

What does Jesus' church look like? Does it resemble a pro sports team, such as the St. Louis Cardinals, where everyone is a great athlete and contributes to the team's success? Not at all. Is Jesus' church similar to a Fortune 500 company in which every employee carries his/her weight and can be counted on to do their job efficiently? Hardly. For a more accurate picture of Jesus' church, look no farther than your local hospital where patients are struggling with ailments and diseases of all kinds.

This is a picture of the church, and this is what we see on Easter evening. The disciples are gathered behind locked doors, and they are a sorry looking group of people. They're hiding in fear. In this "hospital" is a man named Peter who had denied his Lord three times. Lying on one of the beds is a man named Thomas who had refused to believe the report that Jesus was alive. Everyone of these patients, sick with sin, is carrying with him a heavy conscience, a load of guilt, a life of shame. But Jesus, the Great Physician, comes. He gives them His peace. He forgives them. He makes their hearts glad with the medicine of the Gospel.

"You and I are Jesus' church today, not because we are strong, noble disciples of our Lord, but because He comes to us just as He came on Easter evening."

You and I are Jesus' church today, not because we are strong, noble disciples of our Lord, but because He comes to us just as He came on Easter evening. We could change our sign out front to "Christ Lutheran Hospital." A hospital is not a place where the sick are placed to die, but where they come for help. This help, this medicine is what we need. Not one of us can be proud of our past. Not one of us has the right to boast of how strong in the faith we are. We, like those on Easter evening, are weak, perhaps fearful. We are carrying with us guilt, and shame, and doubts. There are Peters and Thomases among us. But we are the church, for Christ is among us in His Word and Sacraments. And He is here to forgive us and to give us peace.

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*Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide, for round us falls the eventide.
O let Your Word, that saving light, shine forth undimmed into the night.*

*Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true; preserve our faith our whole life through,
Your Word alone our heart's defense, the Church's glorious confidence.*

LSB #585—"Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide" vss. 1 and 6

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Prayer Service

Followed by Bible study
each Wednesday morning
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.



Inside this Issue:

- †What is a Lutheran?
- †Church Directory
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- †Confirmation
- †May Calendar

*"Thy Word is a lamp unto
my feet and a light unto
my path." Psalm 119:105*



Attendance

April 2 - 60

April 9 - 66

Maundy Thursday - 28

April 16 - 102

April 23 - 56

"I was glad when they said to me, let us go to the house of the Lord!" Psalm 122:1

Church Directory

The 2017 Church Directory update is now available on the table just outside the sanctuary doors in the Education Wing. Please be sure to check off your name and the names of any friends/relatives you are picking up copies for on the member list next to the directory copies. This will help us keep track of who has not yet received a copy. Thanks!

Easter Breakfast

The Easter breakfast was well attended and another success this year. Thanks to all who helped and donated towards it. The children enjoyed the Easter egg hunt. \$150.00 was collected as start up money and the free will offering netted \$560.00. Expenses were \$29.55 resulting in a net profit of \$680.45.

First Quarter Financial Update

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Loose Plate and
White envelope | \$20,920.75 |
| Operating Expenses | <u>\$25,134.12</u> |
| Operating Loss | (\$4,213.37) |

What is a Lutheran?

While there are a variety of ways one could answer this question, one very important answer is simply this, "A Lutheran is a person who believes, teaches and confesses the truths of God's Word as they are summarized and confessed in the Book of Concord." The Book of Concord contains the Lutheran confessions of faith.



Perhaps you have attended an ordination of a pastor and heard him promise that he will perform the duties of his office in accord with the Lutheran Confessions. When people are received into membership into a Lutheran congregation through confirmation they are

asked if they confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as they have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true.

These solemn promises indicate to us just how important the Lutheran Confessions are for our church.

What is the connection between the Bible and the Confessions?

We confess that, "The Word of God is and should remain the sole rule and norm of all doctrine" (FC SD, Rule and Norm, 9). What the Bible asserts, God asserts. What the Bible commands, God commands. The authority of the Scriptures is complete, certain and final. The Scriptures are accepted by the Lutheran Confessions as the actual Word of God. The Lutheran Confessions urge us to believe the Scriptures for "they will not lie to you" (LC, V, 76) and cannot be "false and deceitful" (FC SD, VII, 96). The Bible is God's "pure, infallible, and unalterable Word" (Preface to the BOC).

The Lutheran Confessions are the "basis, rule, and norm indicating how all doctrines should be judged in conformity with the Word of God" (FC SD RN). Because the Confessions are in complete doctrinal agreement with the written Word of God, they serve as the standard in the Lutheran Church to determine what is faithful Biblical teaching, insofar as that teaching is addressed in the Confessions.

Fish Fry Update

Thank you to everyone who donated items and/or their time towards our two fish fries. It was very much appreciated! We served 162 adults and 23 children at our first fish fry and 173 adults and 25 children at our second fish fry.

Income:

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Start-up donations | \$690.00 |
| Income (both) | \$4,082.00 |
| Sales from leftover items | <u>\$53.00</u> |

Total Income **\$4,825.00**

Expenses: **\$1,756.55**

Net Profit: **\$3,078.45**

Audit Committee Report

The Auditing Committee met on April 6, 2017, as required by the Church Constitution. We chose the months of January and June 2017. The bank deposits matched the teller sheets and the journal entries. We found a workable system in place, the entries were neat and legible, and all invoices and contracts were filed and easy to retrieve.

Our suggestions to improve the recordkeeping are as follows:

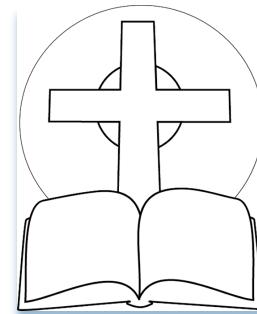
- Change title from Transaction by Account to Income and Expense Journal.
- Identify payments and withdrawals from the Line of Credit in the journal.
- Remove and destroy any old paperwork beyond seven years of age.

Al Jacob, Gordon Coates, and Jackie Nadler—Auditing Committee

Confirmation



On Sunday, April 9, 2017, we welcomed Peggy Recktenwald and Samantha Kersting into our church membership through the Rite of Confirmation.



Easter Sunday—April 16, 2017



May 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--|---|---|
| | 1
Jerry Nadler | 2 | 3
7:15 Men's Bible
Breakfast | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7
Elders Mtg | 8
7:00 Council | 9
Glenda Drier | 10
Kelly & Carol
Latham | 11
Nick & Patricia
Baravik | 12
7:00 Ladies Bible
Study | 13
Teri Nadler |
| 14
Mother's Day | 15 | 16 | 17
7:15 Men's Bible
Breakfast
Scott & Sandra
Toedebusch | 18 | 19
Geoffrey Ballmann
6:30 Wedding
Rehearsal | 20
1:00
Ballmann/Kersting
Wedding |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25
Jennifer Pieper
Ascension Day | 26
7:00 Ladies Bible
Study | 27 |
| 28 | 29
Memorial Day | 30 | 31
Mary Jacob | | Office Hours:
Monday and
Wednesday
mornings 9-12 | Prayer Service:
Wednesday
mornings 11-11:30 |