

Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

April 2020

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

Church Phone: (636)228-4642
Pastor's Phone: (636)485-2048

From the Pastor...

The "new normal" is social distancing and isolation. It's being excited when finding bathroom tissue in the store. It's life without baseball or "March Madness." It's watching the worship service on our phone or computer. The new normal is a road none of us have traveled before.

Perhaps it's fitting somehow that we began traveling this road during Lent. Few of us may actually have given up any of life's pleasures during past Lenten seasons. This Lenten season, all of us have. Yet, we really didn't give anything up. God took these from us. I doubt if any of us would have willingly given up the NCAA Basketball tournament or Cardinals baseball for Lent. Not if we are true fans. But God not only took these away, He also took away the privilege of going to church for the Divine Service and Holy Communion. Kind of makes you wonder, doesn't it? Did God take this away, along with everything else, or did the devil? But even then, God is allowing this. His thoughts are not our thoughts, nor are His ways our ways.

Holy Week will soon be upon us. Before we start feeling too sorry for ourselves, let's pay attention to what Jesus gave up, willingly, for us. Everything! He was stripped of everything, even His clothing. His loyal friends left Him. Even God forsook Him. Jesus died in complete and utter isolation. That's hell. And that's where Jesus was on the cross. That's not where you and I are, no matter how isolated we feel. We have our family and friends. We have our God with us. Jesus truly traveled a road that no one, not even He, had traveled before. And because He did, we are able to travel our present road without fear. However it twists and turns, however dark and lonely this road, Jesus is here with us.

+ + + + +

I pass through trials all the way,
With sin and ills contending;
In patience I must bear each day,
the cross of God's own sending.
When in adversity
I know not where to flee,
when storms of woe my soul dismay,
I pass through trials all the way

I walk with Jesus all the way,
His guidance never fails me;
Within His wounds I find a stay
When Satan's pow'r assails me;
And by His footsteps led,
My path I safely tread.
No evil leads my soul astray;
I walk with Jesus all the way.

LSB #716 - "I Walk in Danger All the Way" vss. 2, 5

Pastor's Office Hours:

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

Prayer Service

(temporarily suspended)
Wednesday morning
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.



Inside this Issue:

- † Fish Fry Update
- † Worship Services
- † Address Change
- † Meditation
- † April Calendar

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



Attendance

March 1 - 51

March 8 - 45

March 15 - 51

March 22 - 22

March 29 - services suspended

Lenten Services - 18 average

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

Change of Address

Please make the following correction to Shirley Toedebusch's address in your directory:

Cedarcrest Manor
324 West Fifth Street
Room 108
Washington, MO 63090

Offerings

Weekly offerings can be mailed to the church at 123 Church Rd. They will be recorded to your account and deposited.

Fish Fry Report

Thanks to everyone who donated towards and worked at the fish fry. We served 200 total. 189 adults and 11 children. We had a gross income of \$2,503.69. Expenses were \$763.59. This gave us a net profit of \$1,740.10. Since we didn't have our second fish fry, we do have the following items for sale.

- Velveeta Cheese - (3) -2# boxes @ \$6.50 P/2#'s
- 32oz Elbow Mac - 1 box@ \$1.55
- Shredded Cabbage - 1bag @\$6.00
- Potato Chips - 3 bags @\$6.85 P/bag
- Fish -1-1/2 cases @\$39.00 P/case

If anyone would like to purchase any of these items, contact Larry or Diane Pieper. Thanks again to everyone for their support. The Committee.

Worship Services Suspended

As we all know, COVID-19 has changed all of our lives as of late. Worship services and all church activities have been temporarily suspended until further notice.

In the meantime, a weekly video worship service will be available on the church's website and on Facebook. We will also send out the link by email to those on the email list.

Along with weekly video services, Pastor Bell will be sharing a weekly devotion on Facebook and the church website. If you would like a printed copy of the sermon mailed to your home or if you have any other needs, please contact Pastor Bell at 636-228-4642 (church) or by cell phone at 636-485-2048.

Meditation

After man has thus become aware of his sin and is terrified in his heart, he must watch that sin does not remain in his conscience, for this would lead to sheer despair. Just as (our knowledge of) sin flowed from Christ and was acknowledged by us, so we must pour this sin back on Him and free our conscience of it. Therefore beware, lest you do as those perverse people who torture their hearts with their sins and strive to do the impossible, namely, get rid of their sins by running from one good work or penance to another, or by working their way out of this by means of indulgences...

You cast your sins from yourself and onto Christ when you firmly believe that His wounds and sufferings are your sins, to be borne and paid for by Him, as we read in Isaiah 53:6, "The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." St. Peter says, "in His body has He borne our sins on the wood of the cross" I Peter 2:24. St. Paul says, "God has made Him a sinner for us, so that through Him we would be made just" II Cor. 5:21. You must stake everything on these and similar verses. The more your conscience torments you, the more tenaciously must you cling to them. If you do not do that, but presume to still your conscience with your contrition and penance, you will never obtain peace of mind, but will have to despair in the end. If we allow sin to remain in our conscience and try to deal with it there, or if we look at sin in our heart, it will be much too strong for us and will live on forever. But if we behold it resting on Christ and (see it) overcome by His resurrection, and then boldly believe this, even it is dead and nullified. Sin cannot remain on Christ, since it is swallowed up by His resurrection. Now you see no wounds, no pain in Him, and no sign of sin. Thus St. Paul declares that "Christ died for our sin and rose for our justification" Rom. 4:25. -Martin Luther