

# Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

April 2016

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...*

Nothing good comes from missing church. Just ask Thomas. He wasn't there with the other disciples on Easter evening when Jesus made His appearance. This was their worship service. Jesus was present to bless, with His gifts, those who were gathered. The others sought Thomas out and told him they had seen the Lord. But he refused to believe. Why not? Because he had not been in church with them. He had not received the same gifts which Jesus had given to the others. Had Thomas missed church a week later, he would never have believed. But God, in His mercy, drew Thomas to that gathering, appeared to them again, again gave them His gifts, and now Thomas believed.

Every good comes from being in church. Maybe it's a little like going to the gym (although the church is not a gym, but more like a hospital). I've heard people say that they hate going to the gym, but afterwards they are glad they went. When Jesus came to His disciples, He forgave them, He gave them the Holy Spirit, and He showed them the proofs (the scars) of His crucifixion. He does the same for us in our worship services. He comes to forgive us. He speaks the same word of peace and pardon to us as He did to His disciples behind locked doors. He gives us the same Holy Spirit so that we are strengthened in our faith and life. And in His Holy Supper He shows us the nail marks in His hands and feet, for when we partake of this Sacrament *we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.*

Jesus' disciples were able to live the risen life only because their Risen Lord kept coming to them with His gifts again and again. This is just as true for us. We are no match for our sinfulness, for the world's temptations, for the power of the devil. We need the Risen Christ to come to us again and again in our worship services, through Word and through Sacrament, to bless us with His gifts. How wonderful, therefore, that this is what He does.

+ + + + +

God Himself is present: Let us now adore Him  
And with awe appear before Him. God is in His temple;  
All within keep silence; Humbly kneel in deepest reverence.  
He alone, on His throne, Is our God and Savior;  
Praise His name forever! LSB #907 "God Himself is Present" vs. 1

*"We need the Risen Christ to come to us again and again in our worship services, through Word and Sacrament..."*

## **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:**

- † Food Drive
- † Fish Fry Report
- † Easter Breakfast
- † Voters Meeting
- † April Calendar

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



## Attendance

February 28 - 47  
March 2 - 26  
March 6 - 47  
March 9 - 28  
March 13 - 45  
March 16 - 26  
March 20 - 45  
Maundy Thursday - 39  
Good Friday - 39  
March 27 - 104

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

## **Augusta Community Spring Food Drive**

The Spring Food Drive will begin on Sunday, April 3rd and continue through Sunday, May 15th. There will be a table set up in the Education Wing with a list of items needed such as non-perishable foods, personal care products, etc. A container for monetary donations will also be available. Please contact Diane Pieper with any further questions; thanks in advance for your support of this important community outreach!

### **2016 Fish Fry Report**

#### **Income:**

Donations for Start-up	\$865.00
February 26 Fish Fry	\$1,801.00
March 11 Fish Fry	\$1,783.00
Extra Food Items Sold	<u>\$55.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,504.00</b>

#### **Expenses:**

**\$1,758.00**

**Profit \$2,746.00**

#### **Served:**

February 26	March 11	Total
170 Adults	132 Adults	302 Adults
18 Children	7 Children	25 Children

## **Calling all Graduates!**

If you or someone you know will be graduating this spring, let Pastor or Julie know so they can include you in an upcoming newsletter.



## **Portals of Prayer**

We have reduced the number of copies from 40 to 30 per quarter. The cost to our congregation has, as a result, been lowered from \$200 to \$120 per year. We made this change due to the number of issues consistently being left over. If you would like to support this mission, there is an envelope designated for this in your offering box.

## **Daily Devotion**

*"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself...They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the Scriptures?'" Luke 24:27, 32*

For so many people, the Scriptures are a closed book. They don't read them, perhaps, or come to church much. But most of all, the Scriptures are closed because the Risen Lord, for them, is not in them. If the Bible isn't about Jesus then it's worthless. If God's words are just rules to follow and interesting stories, who needs them! But the Bible is all about Christ from cover to cover. Jesus says so. Every bit of it is about Him. Jesus is the Word of God. And so when we sit and read, or sit and listen, the same Lord who conquered sin, death, and hell is coming into us, and He can handle any trouble, any sin, any depression and guilt that dwells within us.

The Scriptures are open for us when we believe, by God's working within us, that Christ died for us, that He is risen, that He has baptized us into His death and resurrection, that He comes to us in bread and wine with pure forgiveness. You and I cannot deal with our own guilt, but Jesus can. You and I cannot rid ourselves of our anger, but Jesus can. You and I cannot overcome sin, temptation, and depression, but Jesus can. You and I are not able to defeat death and the grave, but Jesus defeated these enemies for us. He did all this for the two disciples from Emmaus, and He can, and does, do all this for us.

## Voters Meeting

The next Voters meeting will be Sunday, April 17 following the service. Along with regular business, we will be discussing the church's financial situation. We would like everyone's input on ways we can increase our study of God's Word, attendance at Sunday services and Bible class, and our stewardship. Please make it a point to attend, as your prayerful thoughts and suggestions are desired. Thank you!

## Paul Flo Update

Paul Flo, St. Louis Seminary student, fills in for Pastor Bell from time to time on Sundays when Pastor is out of town. Paul was recently selected as a recipient of a 2016 Fellowship at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics (FASPE). Paul was one of only 12 recipients selected out of 175 applicants, and the first St. Louis Seminary student to be selected for this fellowship. For more information, please click on this link: [FASPE Fellowship](#).

## Congratulations Paul!!

+ + + + + + + + + +

## Easter Breakfast

Thank you to everyone who donated items, worked, and attended the Easter breakfast!

Income - \$619.00

Expenses - 102.29

Net Income - \$516.71



# April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday mornings 9-12	Prayer Service & Bible Study: Wednesday mornings 11-11:30				1	2
3	4 Brianna Overschmidt	5	6 (no prayer service)	7	8 Elaine Rutherford	9
10	11 Brenda Ford  6:00 Elders 7:00 Council	12 Helena Ballmann	13	14	15	16
17 Justin Ballmann Julie Kurtz Austin Pieper Voters after church	18	19 Vernon & Ollie Borgmann	20 David Warnecke	21	22 Tim & Sharon Beumer	23 Ashley Hunter
24	25	26	27	28 Dayton Sullivan	29 5:00 Wedding Rehearsal	30 Emma Hilsabeck 3:00 George Baravik/Sarah Kurtz Wedding