



The Beacon

August 2022

Christ Ev. Lutheran
Church

320 N 28th St E
Superior, WI
54880

Office Phone
715.398.3680

Web Site
Christlutheran-superior.org

Divine Worship
Services
Sunday - 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study & Sunday
School
Sunday - 10:15 a.m.



On June 24th, the Supreme Court overturned the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling that recognized a woman's constitutional right to have an abortion. In the view of our (LCMS) church, it was a good thing. Now, the decision for the right to have an abortion rests in the legislative hands of each individual state. No question, we should continue to pray that God's wisdom would prevail in each of the fifty states.

Hopefully, we all know God's perspective on this very controversial matter. In the church's view, the matter is not about the rights of one person, but, rather, it's about the rights of two people (the mother and the unborn child). In the Fifth Commandment section of our catechism, it states: *"The living but unborn are persons in the sight of God from the time of conception. Since abortion takes a human life, it is not a moral option except to prevent the death of another person, the mother."*

In a number of places, the Bible speaks to the reality that human life begins in the womb. We should be familiar with the Scriptural references that speak out so clearly on this matter (Exodus 21: 22-25; Psalm 51: 5; Psalm 139: 14-16; Jeremiah 1: 5; Luke 1: 41-44). Besides the clear references just mentioned, there are other Scriptural references that refer to human life existing in the womb. For example, even though I've read the book of Job a number of times, in my last reading of it, chapter three, verse three, stood out as yet another testimony that life begins at conception.

Even though death now occurs as a natural part of life, God is a God of life. He created us with the intent that we would live forever. It was only after the Fall into Sin that death became a reality in life (Genesis 3: 19). Fortunately for us, God provided a way for us to overcome the reality of death. The Second Person of the Trinity became one of us so that He could live the life that we were suppose to live and pay the penalty of our sinfulness through His death on the cross. When we have a faith that the life and death of Jesus can be counted as our life and death, we can have a confidence of our resurrection from the dead (the ultimate defeat over death). Because God cherishes life, we, as His people, should cherish all life (no matter what the circumstances around a life may be).

For me, the biggest and best example that God cherishes life is made in our understanding of the judgment of the living and the dead at the end of time. For those who have faith in what Jesus has done for them, there is everything to look forward to. But, for those who don't have a faith in what Jesus has done for them, there is nothing to look forward to. Specifically, they will forever live in a place of suffering and torment (a place we call hell).

Because the reality of hell is such an "uncomfortable thought" for people, there are some who deny its reality. Their thinking is: God could never be so "harsh" to send people to a bad place forever. Consequently, some people want to believe that God will instead "annihilate" unbelieving people on Judgment Day (they will be eternally destroyed). But, because God cherishes life, He will not destroy people's lives. Rather, He will "quarantine" unbelievers in the place called hell. To our limited mind, that thought may seem to be unloving, but it will happen nevertheless because God cherishes all life (both good and bad)!

Pastor Bernecker

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all Officers, Board members, and the many seen and unseen members who have served the Church in the past year. I also want to extend a huge thank you to those members serving the Church in Officer and Board positions in the 2021 - 2022 Church year. Our Church would not be what it is today without "everyone's" dedication to service, stewardship, and generosity.

Thanks again for your efforts and God Bless.

Len Campbell

Boards Resume

All boards could still use a few people especially the Altar Guild. Each board meets once a month, here are the current meeting days and times (subject to change);

Altar Guild – Quarterly

Board of Deacons – 2nd Monday @ 5 p.m.

Christian Education – TBD @ 5 p.m.

Stewardship/Evangelism – 1st Tuesday @ 5:00 p.m.

Church Council – 2nd Thursday @ 5:00 p.m.

These meeting times are subject to change as the new boards meet and get underway.

Your 2022 – 2023 Board Members:

Welcome to our new and returning board members:

President: Len Campbell
Vice President: John Keske
Secretary: Sharyn Vengrin
Treasurer: Wayne Ploetz

Board of Deacons:

Jim Lemmerman, John Allen, Jim Bolin, Audrey Kidd, Mike Miller, Len Campbell, Lois Teich, Mike Kramer, Millie Derick

Board of Stewardship & Evangelism:

Peg & Len Campbell, Mike & Christine Stumpf, Dave Severin, Peder & Jean Becken, Asley Demars, Kim Klomhaus

Board of Christian Education:

Debbie Winans, Helena Frost, Sara Kroeplin, Jill Markee, Jennifer Keske

Board of Trustees:

Don Hauser, Shane Kroeplin, Mike Kramer, David Grimm, Patrick Field

Thank you to everyone for their service, if you volunteered and are not listed please contact the office.

Installation of Officers

The various officers and board members will be installed during the service on August 21. Whether you are new or old please try to attend the installation service.

Thank you to the Gardeners

Thank you to everyone who has been working hard in the gardens weeding, they are looking very nice. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

Sermon Series

In the month of August, our sermon series on "The Christian Atheist" will continue and then end. The following are the upcoming topics:

August 4 & 8	"When You Believe in God but Pursue Happiness at Any Cost"
August 11 & 15	"When You Believe in God but Trust More in Money"
August 18 & 22	"When You Believe in God but Don't Share Your Faith"
August 25 & 29	"When You Believe in God but Not in His Church"

Join us as we are challenged to live out the beliefs that we have toward God — to live the life that God wants all of us to live. Bring a friend or two as we discuss how we can be more consistent in living out the Christian faith that we proclaim!

Teachers Needed

We need Sunday school teachers this fall. With enough volunteers it will not be an every Sunday commitment. Please prayerfully consider being a teacher to the children in our congregation, share your love of Jesus and the Bible with them. If you would like to volunteer please contact the church office with your name and a grade preference either by email clcoffice320@gmail.com or call 715-398-3680. Thank you for considering teaching.

Confirmation Starts

Our congregation has a solid and exciting program for the catechesis (teaching) of our children (in the process of confirmation). Confirmation process starts for children in 7th grade. Our first class for catechumens (learners) is on **Wednesday, September 14 at 4:15 p.m.** Parents are welcome to attend to see what is needed. We will outline our confirmation process and confirm our weekly schedule so that together we can enable our children to thrive in their Christian faith and life. A Faith Alive Bible and a catechism will be supplied if the students do not have those already.

Christ's Men Group

The Christ's Men's meet the first Tuesday each month. Their next meeting is August 2, 11:30 AM, at Superior Family Restaurant, it is on the first floor, alley side of the Androy Hotel, at 1213 Tower Ave. Hope to see as many as possible there.

CTK Scholarships Awarded!

This year we have two recipients for the CTK Scholarship! Each will receive a \$2000.00 scholarship to the school they are attending. Our recipients are: Mr. Jacob Franck of Duluth, a member of Mt. Olive English Evangelical Lutheran Church in Duluth. Jacob is currently attending Concordia University- Chicago, His area of study is the Pre-seminary, Theological language & Philosophy.

The other recipient is Ms. Holly Klomhaus of Poplar, WI and a member of, Christ Lutheran. Holly is currently attending Concordia University in Mequon, WI. Where she is studying business working towards a BS in Entrepreneurship

Church Council Minutes

No meeting in July

Stewardship

The Ceremony of the Offertory

Have you ever noticed the subtle ceremony involved in receiving the offerings during the Divine Service? After all the offerings have been collected, they are brought forward and given to the pastor or one of his assistants. The pastor then turns toward the altar, and as he slightly bows his head, the collection plates with the offerings in them are raised slightly to the Lord and then placed either on the altar or a table for the offerings. Why do we do have this ceremony? And what does it teach us? For that is what ceremony does; it teaches, as the Augsburg Confession tells us, what we need to know about Christ (AC XXIV, 1–3).

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion—the bread and the wine—were brought forward along with the offering plates. As the offering plates and the elements were lifted toward the Lord, and placed upon the altar, the elements would be put in the center and the altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord's Supper.

These gifts brought to the altar came from the sweat of the people's brow. It is the bread and wine, the fruits of the peoples' labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people would bring a generous proportion for the Lord's work. It was set upon the altar and offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into His service for His gracious work in and among them.

For what they offered to the Lord from the sweat of their brow, the bread of anxious toil, came back to them as the bread of life, the bread come down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup would receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

This is not unlike what the Lord did for His people in the Old Testament:

You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that

comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household.

What a blessing! God provides for us in all things. He provides bread from the sweat of our brows, and He receives this from us in the first fruits offerings we give to Him in thanksgiving and praise. He receives and turns it into spiritual bread, heavenly bread, the bread of eternal life and gives it back to us so that we might have joy. So, the next time you are in the Divine Service, watch this ceremony in wonder, that the Lord gives back to us, what we have given to Him so that we may rejoice in the salvation He has won upon the cross and gives to us in His supper.

Did You Move? Or Someone You Know Move?

Summer is a time when many people move. If you or someone in your family has moved recently, please let the church office know your new address. If you have moved to another city, remember to transfer your church membership to one of our sister LCMS congregations by simply requesting a transfer from the pastor of the church you wish to be transferred to. There are many reasons to transfer your membership when you move, but the most important is that you will have a place close to home where you can regularly hear the Word of God and receive the Body and Blood of the Lord in His Supper. So if you've moved recently, and distance keeps you from weekly worship at Christ Lutheran, now is the time to answer God's call be remaining faithful to our faithful Lord!

Defending the Faith, Teaching the Truth

Issues, Etc. is a talk radio show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Recent topics include: Same-Sex Marriage, Reformation *Solas*, Depression, Radical Islam, What Boys Need, Pro-Life Women and more. Listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

Food for the Local Food Shelf

The first Sunday of every month is when you need to bring in your donations of non-perishable food items for the local food shelf. You may put your items under the table in the narthex. This is given to those in need and then to the local food pantry.

Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

Are you receiving email from Christ Lutheran? If not, you are missing important and timely information from your church. We will not flood your inbox or share your email address (addresses are always hidden when sent from church). Please help us keep you informed! Call the office at 715-398-3680 or send it to clcoffice320@gmail.com

Looking for something?

The LCMS staffs the "Church Information Center", which offers a great deal of help and resources on a variety of topics. To contact the CIC with your questions, you may write: infocenter@lcms.org or call toll free 1.888.843.5267

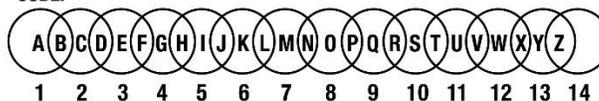


- 1 Jill Austin
- 2 Millie Derick
- 4 Justin Michalski
Kimberly Kroll
Carson Frost
- 14 Gene Loughren
- 15 Natalie Schultz
- 17 Robert Janicki
- 18 Doris Toms
- 20 Barbara Johnson
- 21 Thomas Bedard
- 22 Jesse Pfeil
- 23 Lorraine Kramer
- 24 Patrick Field
- 25 Connie Noble
Jerry Broderson
- 26 Kevin Kroll
- 27 Dee Meadows
- 28 Michael Miller
- 29 Don Hauser

Puzzle!

Use the code to complete the blanks — and find out how God wants us to treat people.

CODE:



1,2 3 6 5 7,8 2,3 1 7,8 2,3
 2 8 7 8,9 1 10 10 5 8 7,8 1 10,11 3
 10,11 8 8 7,8 3 1 7,8 8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10'
 3,4 8 9,10 4 5 11,12 5 7,8 4 3 1 2 4,5
 8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10' 5,6 11 10 10,11 1 10
 5 7,8 2 4,5 9,10 5 10 10,11 4 8 2,3
 3,4 8 9,10 4 1 11,12 3 13 8 11

EPHESIANS 4:32, NIV

Answer: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32, NIV