



The Beacon

February
2021

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.



In Philippians Chapter 3 St. Paul wrote:

...I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, that many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and their glory is in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and we await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord, my beloved. (Philippians 3:18-4:1)

One day a man was walking by a tree whose roots stretched out over the riverbank. He happened to notice that the river was rising, and a scorpion caught in the roots was about to drown. The man crawled out on the roots and reached down to free the scorpion, but every time he did so, the scorpion struck back at him. An observer came along and said to the man, "Don't you know that's a scorpion, and it's in the nature of a scorpion to want to sting?" To this the man replied, "That may well be, but it is my nature to save, and must I change my nature because the scorpion does not change his?"

We will soon be in the season of Lent; beginning this month we will take our journey with Jesus to the cross. The Apostle Paul wrote the above Scripture passage because he knew beyond a shadow of a doubt what a truly amazing and wonderful thing Jesus has done for us! That the Son of God would come to our world and live a perfect life for us and then die in our place is beyond our comprehension. All this when, like the scorpion, we lashed out at the One who came to save us! But we have been given the blessing of faith to believe that Jesus is indeed our Savior. So, like St. Paul, in the midst of the trials and tribulations of this world we are able to live lives filled with joy and purpose. After all, we who know Jesus as our Savior from sin and death have so much to look forward to knowing that "our citizenship is in heaven, and we await a Savior from there..."

But St. Paul makes no bones about the fate of those who still strike back, who are still the "enemies of the cross of Christ": Their destiny is very serious-separation, shame, and sorrow for all of eternity. To all of us who know the love and forgiveness of Christ God gives the great mission, that is, the privilege of proclaiming this forgiveness to others who don't know Him. Through St. Paul God tells us not to be afraid or discouraged even if they strike back at us like that scorpion. We can tell of the love of Christ in our words but also with our deeds. It's been said that, "We show what we know when we act on the fact."

By the power of the Holy Spirit each one of us can be instruments of our living and loving God to lead others to Jesus, their Savior. ☺

Pastor Kirk Schield

Private Communion Available

Starting Wednesday, February 3, Pastor Bernecker will be offering private communion on the first Wednesday of each month by appointment between the hours of 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Appointments will be 15 minutes long. Appointments should be made in advance no later than noon on first Wednesday of the month. You can reserve a time through the church office either by phone 715-398-3680 or email clcoffice320@gmail.com. Hopefully this will help those of you who are not ready for in person church still receive the Holy Supper on a regular basis. Please contact the office with any questions.

Midweek Lenten Services

The Lenten Season begins on February 17th with Ash Wednesday. In our Lenten midweek services on Wednesday at 12:15 and 6:30 p.m., we will take a look at the seven statements that Jesus spoke from the cross. To help enlighten the significance of those statements, we will compare them with some of the parables that Jesus spoke during His ministry. Join us as we strive to prepare ourselves for the greatest day in the church - Easter Sunday morning. If you are unable to attend and would like to read either a digital or printed copy of the sermons (available the day after a given service), please contact the church secretary, and she will send you a copy.

February 17 - Ash Wednesday (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

February 24 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

March 3 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

March 10 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

March 17(12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

March 24 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

Soup & Sandwich Suppers

Unfortunately, once again we are unable to host soup & sandwich suppers.

Christ the King Memorial Scholarship

The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarship assistance to LCMS students pursuing higher education at LCMS colleges, universities or seminaries. The Fund earned net income sufficient enough that \$2,000.00 is available for scholarship awards in 2021. Any award granted shall be for tuition purposes only. Any student who is a communicant member in good standing of CLC or another LCMS congregation is eligible to apply for an award. Application forms and related instructions are available from the church office. Students must return completed applications to the church office no later than April 1, 2021. Applications will then be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

Church Council Minutes

January 14, 2021

Members Present: Len Campbell, Wayne Ploetz, Pastor Bernecker, Don Hauser and Sharyn Vengrin

Call to order: Len Campbell

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bernecker

Call for additional agenda items: Wednesday Church Services

Approval of Minutes: Don made the motion to accept the December 10, 2020 minutes and Mike Seconded.

All in favor. Motion Carried

Pastor's Report: Pastor Bernecker stated that he was glad to be here.

Treasurer's Report: Checking Account Balance:

\$27,388.47 Mike made the motion to accept Checking Account Balance as written. Don seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board of Deacons:

Wednesday night services were discussed. Attendance is very low.

We would only have communion on the 1st and 3rd Sunday.

This will be discussed for the next voter's meeting. It was discussed that we could have communion for people who cannot make it to church.

Board of Trustees:

Fixed pilot light on kitchen stove. Pilot lights need to be cleaned. Don will do this.

Leak in the women's bathroom. Currently not leaking. Will watch. Roni will call Belknap or Young if it starts leaking again to have them look at it.

Fixed Parking lot lights. They were not coming on at 4pm. Found that someone had turned the timer 12 hours ahead, so lights were coming on at 4 am.

Have contacted Chris Scharte at Belknap Heating and Plumbing. John had been in contact with him and he is creating information for us for a 2- boiler system.

Looking into changing out the outside light timers to one astronomical electronic controller. Don is checking on this.

Trying to contact Badger Excavation to see if they will brush in front of the church.

Don will be meeting with trustees on January 30, 2021 at 9:00 am.

Board of Stewardship & Evangelism:

We will look at "zoom or other phone apps for future meetings if meeting in person does not work.

Checks have been cut and sent out, and certificates have been purchased for Roni/Pastors to hand out to those in need. The following funds were approved for

- Super One Gift Certificates totaling \$200.
- Faith Comes by Hearing (Military Bible Sticks): \$200
- Orphan Grain Train: \$200.
- Project 24-Christ's Care for Children in Kenya: \$135.

Damiano Center Soup Kitchen: No update.

The Guardian Angel Program will proceed. We are accepting registrations through January 17 for those that want to participate. No potluck this year! Len will pull names out of a hat, and match them up with their 2021 Guardian Angel, and inform those that participated in 2020 who their Guardian Angel was.

Len Updated the Project Connect Rack with the following new booklets.

- Why did Jesus die?
- Who is Jesus?
- What is Faith in Jesus?
- How to talk about your faith
- My Digital Voice.

Follow-up Workshop Question

In November we reviewed the Lutheran Hour Workshop 1, entitled: "Spiritual Conversations." The next step would be to view Workshop 2. "The Spiritual Conversation Curve", if the board so wanted.

Our next in-person monthly meeting is scheduled for 5:00 pm, Tuesday, February 2nd at the church in the fellowship hall.

Board of Education: No Report

Memorial Committee: Same

Endowment Committee: Doing very well!

Memoriam Garden: Resting

Old Business: None

New Business:

Consider Second PPP Loan: Wayne will look at this for 3rd Quarter. Motion was made by Don and seconded by Wayne to table until next meeting.

LCMS Letter re Upcoming District and Synod

Convention: This was discussed. 3 people are to be nominated. Pastor and Len were nominated.

Mike wanted to know about Sunday School. Mike will contact the Superintendent.

Requests to use Fellowship Hall: None

Next Council Meeting: 5:00 p.m., Thursday, February 11, 2020

Adjournment-Lord's Prayer

Stewardship

"I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:8-9).

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: "But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving" (2 Corinthians 8:7). In other words, just as we grow in faith and speech and knowledge of eternal

things by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, so also do we grow in giving from the same Spirit through the same Word.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. It's not so much that we stop giving, but we don't put it first. We treat it like all the other bills that must be paid. It becomes a chore, just one more thing to check off a list of things to do. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

On top of that, since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, a lack of excelling in giving is sure sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well.

Thus St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity: the generosity of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we who are poor might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord on the cross is the reason, source, and driving force for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ who was rich became poor so that we might be rich in His grace—of which generous giving is part—so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing His grace into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find that your heart has grown cold or indifferent toward it, immerse yourself in God's Word. Read it at home. Attend Bible Class. Hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service. Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death. For this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving excel also.

Online Information

LC-MS Website

lcms.org

Minnesota North District Website

mnn.lcms.org

Lutheran Witness Online

www.lcms.org

Click on 'Lutheran Witness' in left column

LC-MS Synod Radio Stations

www.kfuo.org—or—classic99.com

www.issuesetc.org

Information on Pregnancy, Parenting & Adoption

getrealwithyourself.com

**My Savior Lives Northland LCMS
Service of Worship for the Duluth region
televised by KBJR Channel 6.**

"My Savior Lives Northland" is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North District of our LCMS, along with a 30 minute remastered program called "This is the Life" from Lutheran Hour Ministries (starting at 10:00 a.m.). MSL Northland is broadcast every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Central time on KBJR Channel 6 NBC and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations. Please check your local listings as sometime the program is moved to a different channel due to programming conflicts on NBC.

Please send contributions c/o: Mt. Olive Lutheran, 2012 East Superior St, Duluth, MN 55812. Checks should be made to: MSL Northland

February 7

Pastor Matt Kohl, Our Redeemer, Cloquet

Youth Upcoming Events

All 7th – 12th grade youth are invited to attend any or all events! We study God's Word in a variety of ways – music videos with today's current Christian artists, creative Bible lessons, and issues that relate to the youth! Join us! Bring a friend!

Religious Greeting Cards

There is an assortment of religious greeting cards for sale in the library. Everything from Get Well, Thank you, Birthday, Sympathy, Wedding & Anniversary, Confirmation and Baptism and many more. Cards are \$.50 each and may be purchased (for now) on Sundays between early and late services.

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 *So/as*, 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.



- 2 Patricia Miller
- 3 Michael Field
Debbie Winans
Ruth Keppers
- 5 Kyra Bradley
- 9 Greg Pahos
Angie Mack
- 10 Gary Plesko
Mason Lull
- 14 Anthony Miller
Marilyn Pingel
- 15 Scott Pahos
- 16 Scott Markee
- 17 Steve Kidd
Kellsey Allen
Lora Randa
- 19 Lana Broderson
Patty Ayotte
- 22 Cindy Michalski
Nola Stenroos
- 24 Donna Manos
- 25 Lydia Noble
Tom Pingel
- 27 Jennifer Heffner
Andrew Vengrin

***March Newsletter
Submissions are due by
February 15***