



The Beacon

March
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 - 8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study & Sunday School

Sunday - 9 a.m.



Being in the midst of Lent, we once again are reminded of the seriousness of sin in God's eyes. From our human perspective, some sins are bad and others are not so bad. But, our source of information on how God sees things gives us an entirely different picture. Based on God's perfect nature, all sins are bad no matter what. In the book of James, we read: *If you obey every law except one, you are still guilty of breaking them all*" (James 2: 10)

Because our imperfect (fallen) nature is not capable of gaining forgiveness for the sins we have committed (let alone keeping ourselves from committing future sins), God had to come to our rescue. As a just God, He simply couldn't pronounce that our sins are forgiven — someone had to pay the penalty for those sins **AND** someone had to provide us a righteousness that would enable us to be seen as "worthy" in God's eyes (worthy of eternal life with Him). Once again, because of God's perfect nature, that someone had to be perfect as well.

The only remedy for this problem was to have God Himself take on our human nature in order to live and die in our behalf. **THAT REALITY** should make clear in no uncertain terms how God views sin. In his letter to the Christians living in the region called Galatia, the Apostle Paul wrote: *"Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law"* (Galatians 3: 10). These are the truths of Scripture. Many people may think that it's too harsh; too unrealistic. But, truth is truth.

To me, it brings up a big problem that exists in our world (society) today. Too many people question whether or not there really is such a thing is truth. To them, truth lies in the eyes of the beholder. One person's experience in life determines how they understand truth. Another person's experience in life determines a different understanding of truth. And, with each person having value (which happens to be a Scriptural truth), what person has the right to declare what is truth and what isn't?

This perspective in life leads to the demand that we be "tolerant" of others. We need to be tolerant of other people's understanding of truth, because how can anyone person have "a corner on the market" as to what is true? As some people have stated in the past, this attitude of tolerance leads to "truth decay". When truth is ultimately determined by each person's idea of what truth is, in the end, there is no such thing as absolute truth.

Fortunately, our source of information in how God sees things provides us some "light" in the midst of this darkness. John 1: 17b says: *"Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ"*. As Jesus carried out His ministry, He stated: *"If you abide in My Word, you truly are My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free"*. (John 8: 31b-32)

Yes, we believe that truth is contained in God's Word! That truth is not subject to a person's idea of what truth is — it is truth regardless of what any person thinks. And, that truth declares that all of us have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Consequently, we all deserve God's wrath as opposed to His mercy, grace, and love. Even though it may be hard to accept that truth, it, nevertheless, is truth. And, thank God, that God the Son was willing to take upon Himself our nature in order to live and die for us so that we might have the forgiveness of our sins and the confident hope of where we will spend eternity.

As God's people, we are called to share these hard truths with the rest of the world. Because they are hard truths to swallow, we always need to offer them in a merciful, gracious, and loving way. May God bless our efforts to always proclaim these truths!

Pastor Bernecker

Midweek Lenten Series

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.

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.



H O L Y · W E E K

March 28 Palm Sunday (9 a.m.)

April 1 Maundy Thursday (6:30 p.m.)

April 2 Good Friday (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

April 3 Holy Saturday Vigil (6:30 p.m.)

April 4 Easter Day (9 a.m.)

Call List

The call committee received 12 names of pastors to call, they have narrowed the field to 4 Pastors. We are asking the congregation if they have any valid objections to any of the listed pastors. You have until March 28, 2021 to submit objections in writing to the call committee.

The four pastors, in no particular order are:

Rev. Christopher A. Lieske,
Alive! Lutheran Church, Monticello, MN

Rev. Mark A. Moldenhauer,
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brenham, TX

Rev. Rodney M. Serbus,
St. John Lutheran Church, Darien, IL

Rev. Timothy J. Steckling,
Trinity Lutheran Church, Bergland, MI

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.

Private Communion Available

Wednesday, March 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 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.

Wednesday Service Change

Beginning April 7th, Christ Lutheran will be changing how our Wednesday evening service "relates" to the Sunday morning service. For some time, the Wednesday evening service has been a repeat of the **previous** Sunday morning service. Ever since COVID-19 became an issue, our Sunday morning church service had to be pre-recorded (on Wednesdays) in order to be available for congregational members on Sunday morning. This arrangement required the pastors to give their Sunday morning sermon on Wednesday (to be pre-recorded for the next Sunday), and then, turn around and provide the previous Sunday morning sermon/service at the actual Wednesday night service. If the same pastor gave both sermons, it required a little "focus" for them to not mix up the two sermons. If the two pastors were involved in the two sermons, it required both pastors to be present on the same Wednesday. To do away with this "inefficiency", it was decided to change how the Wednesday night service "relates" to the Sunday morning service. Beginning April 7th, our Wednesday evening service will **precede** the Sunday morning service. So, as an example, the April 7th service will be the same as the April 11th service. It may take a little "adjustment" for congregational members to get use to this new arrangement, but the church leadership believed that the benefits of the change outweighed keeping things the same. So, be ready for the change beginning April 7th, the Wednesday evening service will be the same as the **upcoming** Sunday morning service.

Church Council

February 11, 2021

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

Call to order: Len Campbell

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bernecker

Call for additional agenda items: None

Approval of Minutes: Wayne made the motion to accept the January 14, 2021 minutes and Don Seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried

Pastor's Report: We had a discussion regarding sermons at Wednesday services. Deacons can make the decision on their own. Len will talk to Mike about it. We had two people come for communion on Wednesday. It was thought that maybe we could have it in the evening so the working people could come.

Treasurer's Report: Checking Account Balance: \$25,628.60. Sharyn made the motion to accept Checking Account Balance as written. Don seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board of Trustees:

In Process:

2 boilers
New Expansion tank
Copper pipe
Gas piping
Venting
Electrical
Labor

Brushing:

Trying to find someone to brush the front of the church Looking like we may have to wait until next year. Have tried several avenues and have not found anyone that can do it now or has the equipment to do the job.

Leak in women's restroom ceiling:

May be roof related
Suggestion to have energy audit from SWLP to help expose the leak
May need Perrault Construction to review

Timers:

Looking into having outdoor lights and boiler tiers updated to automatic and Wi-Fi enabled systems. Since Belknap is working on a bid for the boilers they are coming up with a proposal for the timers, too. Would be done at the same time as the boilers.

John Robinson has left us a list of various items on who to reach for plumbing, organ, etc. The information was given to each of the Trustees.

Took ideas for things to start working on.

Suggested:

Floor tile replacement for main halls, Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

Needs to be looked at is not a high priority because funds and current low building use.

Gutters:

Need to have gutters in the main entrance area
Need to contact Perrault Construction to see if they can make a proposal so roof run off can be

moved to a better place instead of the sidewalks and parking area.

Perrault was suggested because we have a 50-year warranty on the roof with them.

Parking Lot:

Need to find out what specific coating is needed.

Believe that Jim Lemmerman may have that information.

Pastor's Office:

Once pastor has vacated his office, we need to take care of some things before the new pastor comes in.

Paint/remove wallpaper (probably can be done by Lawrence)

Strip and wax floor. Also has been suggested to carpet office

Thorough cleaning of desk/cabinets (probably can be done by Cari)

Altar flooring:

Has been discussed for years probably should investigate further with Altar Guild and Deacons.

Hard surface? Soft surface?

Replace large Christmas tree for the altar

Would like to replace with a 10' to 12' "skinny tree to give more room to move around. Some discussion was also made on the ornaments for the new tree Size of current ornaments ok?

New ornaments: **Make new Chrismons? Funding?**

Sturdier ladder 10'

Current ladder getting a bit wobbly. Funding?

Mapping the building:

Where are electrical boxes? Mark circuits on outlets.

Where smoke detectors are

Inventory building:

Need to take an inventory of building

Will need to do a room-by-room inventory

Hope to get assistance from congregation

Should be done for insurance purposes if nothing else

Start setting up schedules of maintenance

Example: Change batteries in smoke detectors/exit signs

Cleaning altar carpet

Stripping/waxing tile floors

Board of Deacons: No Report

Board of Stewardship and Evangelism:

Old Business:

Len gave an update on funds through 2020 unrestricted mission funds which were approved and disseminated in the following manner: \$200 each for Super One gift certificates, Military Bible Sticks, and Orphan Grain Train, and \$135 for Project 24-Christ's Care for Children in Kenya.

The Damiano Center is still not asking for volunteers to work the soup kitchen; however, they continue to accept clothing donations by appointment only.

Fourteen people signed up and will be participating in the Guardian Angel Program I 2020.

New Business:

We discussed sending cards to shut ins. Each member took two cards and will include a bible verse and a personal note. The plan was to get the cards out by the end of the week.

We plan to send out a postcard to the balance of our members to include church related information, and to let everyone know we are thinking of them. We discussed viewing the 2nd Spiritual Conversation Curve Workshop” and plan to view this information at the next meeting. We will also consider opening this u to the congregation later after viewing the 2nd workshop.

Next Meeting: 5:00 pm, Tuesday, March 2 2021

Memorial Committee: Report received and filed.

Endowment Committee: Report received and filed!

Memorial Garden: Resting!

Old Business:

Consider Second PPP Loan: Wayne will bring this to the Voter’s Meeting.

Call Committee Report:

February 7, 2021

The Call Committee has received a list of Call Candidates from the District Office. The list consists of 12 candidates, including the one nominated by a member of or congregation.

The next step for the Call Committee is to narrow the list of candidates down to Prime Call List of between 3 and 6 for presentation to the congregation. This step may involve telephone interviews. A meeting of the congregation will be called once the Prime Call List is set in order to elect the candidate to whom the Call will be offered. Then we will await his decision, If he accepts, we plan the installation. If he declines, we start over, hopefully using the remaining candidates on the Prime List after checking with the District to make sure they are still available.

Please continue to pray for the Lord’s guidance as we proceed in this important task.

Mike Miller

Call Committee Chairman

New Business:

Officer/Board Member Nominating Committee. Committees are in place.

Budget Discussion: We had a small discussion!

Requests to use Fellowship Hall:

Motion was made by Sharyn and seconded by Don, that we grant the use of the Fellowship Hall to Pastor Shield on October 3, 2021. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Other: Voter’s Meeting Sunday, February 14, after Service.

Next Council Meeting: 5:30pm Thursday, March 11, 2021

Adjournment-Lord’s Prayer

Voter’s Meeting

February 14, 2021

Call to order: Len Campbell

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bernecker

Minutes from December 13, 2020 Voter’s Assembly:

Motion was made by Wayne, and seconded by Peg to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2020 Voter’s Assembly. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Member Transfers and Releases:

Transfers Out: None

Transfers In: None

Treasurer’s Report: Checking account balance: \$25,628.60. Motion was made by Sharyn and seconded by Jim B to receive and file the Treasurer’s Report as printed. All in favor. Motion carried.

Board and Committee Reports: These reports are published in the monthly newsletter

Old Business

Update on New Pastor Call: The congregation surveys were received. A list of candidates from Synod were received (12). From this list it was downsized to (3), We will then extend the call. There will be a special meeting after Sunday service.

New Business:

Paycheck Protection Program Loan Application:

A vote was taken and it was decided that we would apply for The Protection Program Loan.

Consideration of Synod Proposal:

Shall the Synod add a year to the current 2-19-2022 triennium, allowing districts to hold their conventions in either 2021 Or 2022, and moving the up-coming national Synod Convention from 2022 to 2023? (Thereafter, the triennium cycle will continue forward from 2023 in three-year increments, as before (i.e., district conventions held in 2025, 2028, etc. and Synod Conventions held in 2026, 2029, etc.)

A vote was taken: All in favor!

Officer/Board Member Nominating Committee

Appointments:

Peg Campbell, Len Campbell, Don Hauser, Mike Kramer, Sharyn Vengrin, and Deb Winans.

Next meeting: May 16, 2021

Adjournment: Lord’s Prayer

Stewardship

Hudson Taylor, a Nineteenth Century British missionary to China, is reported to have said, “God’s work, done in God’s way, will not lack God’s supply.” To know God’s way, we need to know His Holy Word. Or to say it another way: you need to know your Bible.

St. Paul, before he spends two chapters on giving, wrote that every thought is to be taken captive to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor 10:5). Doctrine matters. And doctrine matters because the Scriptures matter. And the Scriptures matter because this is where we learn the teaching of Christ. Our thoughts must be brought into line with the teaching of Scripture so that our work is what God wants done and so that we do this work in His way.

A good tree bears good fruit. A bad tree bears bad fruit. We have been made good trees in holy baptism. We are fertilized and pruned for bearing good fruit by constantly hearing God’s Word preached and taught in sermon and Bible Class and in receiving the life-giving, faith-sustaining food of the Lord’s Supper. Remember your

doctrine, hold on to the Lord's teaching, and your thoughts will be taken captive to the obedience of Christ.

Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is recognizing that God does provide. The Lord's Prayer teaches us to pray for daily bread. Praying this day in and day out reminds us that the Lord is the giver of our daily bread, and that we are to give thanks for His daily provision of it. God is rarely early and never late in His work, as Abraham learned on the mount of the Lord it will be provided. The Lord's generosity forms our generosity in return.

Thus, we set aside for the work of God a generous, first-fruits, proportion of the daily bread that God has given to us. This act of trust in the Lord's provision is the working out of our faith in Him. When budgetary discussions pop up our natural reaction is to point fingers. But remember your doctrine, and what your mother taught about pointing fingers. Our first natural reaction is not always right. In fact, when our thoughts are brought into captivity of Christ, our first reaction should be repentance. It should raise questions in our own lives. As good trees in Christ who are to bear good fruit, we should ask whether our thoughts have been taken captive by obedience to Christ. Have we given generously? Have we given our first-fruits? You know. And God knows. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him" (2 Chron 16:9).

God will provide. He always has and He always will. He gives His meat in due season. He has not left you as orphans but has grafted you into His own family. You belong to Him. Remember this, letting this thought dwell in you richly. And you will then be rich toward others.

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
2012 East Superior Street., Duluth, MN 55812

Daylights Savings Time

A reminder the Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 14! We lose an hour. Move your clocks ahead 1 hour on Saturday night. It is another sign of spring and the changes that are coming our way, we hope.

Gifts for Easter, Confirmation, Etc.

Concordia Publishing House offers a variety of gifts for Easter, Confirmation and various other events (800-325-3040 for a catalog or to place an order). Help confirmands keep their confirmation day close to their heart by giving them a *Concordia Study* or *Concordia Reference Bible* and their own copy of the *Lutheran Worship Hymnal* engraved with their name on the cover. The new edition of *Lutheran Book of Prayer* is another fine gift. My *Book of Confirmation Memories* is the perfect place for memorabilia, with guest pages and inspiring text.

The Heating Season

The heating season is upon us again, please double check that all doors are locked, all lights are turned off (including bathrooms), and thermostats are turned down before your group leaves the church. Thank you!

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

March Birthdays

- 1 Maci Heytens
Steven Olson
- 3 Gloria Vreeland
- 4 Chris Filteau
- 8 Jonathan Schoessow
Carol Corrine Evans
Brian Maslowski
- 9 Russell Hagberg
- 11 Jim Kari
- 12 Nancy Durand
- 17 Caryl Lehto
- 20 Cheryl Harkabus
Brandee Dittbrender
- 21 Kayti Flynn
Elizabeth Flynn
- 22 Una Privette
Judy Pohl
Eliana Mack
- 23 Amanda Fudally
Donovan Pattee
- 26 Taylor Amundson
- 28 Peggy Campbell
Nick Kirchoff
- 30 Belinda Sternberg
Grant Thompson

Puzzle!

Using the code, fill in the blanks to discover what we should do each day.

CODE



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Answer: Talk to God and listen for God. "Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)