



The Beacon

May 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 - 10 a.m.



Even though it's sometime away,

May 26th will soon come and go for many Christians, but it shouldn't. It will mark the 40th day since Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday morning. The day is significant, because it's the day Jesus ascended back into heaven.

Our Catechism asks the question: What do the Scriptures teach about Christ's ascension? The answer given says: *"They teach that 40 days after His resurrection, Christ, in the presence of His disciples, ascended bodily into the glory of His Father, to prepare a place for us in heaven."* Jesus did make the statement: *"In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am."* — John 14: 2-3

Of course, we should also know that Jesus ascended into heaven in order to (officially) send the Holy Spirit into the world. Later in the Gospel of John, Jesus said to His disciples: *"It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send Him to you. And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment."* — John 16: 7-8

It was 10 days after He arrived in heaven that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit. We call it the Day of Pentecost. Besides helping people to have faith in Christ and to live a God-pleasing life, the Holy Spirit helped Jesus' followers to remember all that He taught them over the three years of His ministry and to write it down (those writings would eventually become our New Testament Scriptures).

Getting back to Jesus' ascension, we say in the Creeds that Jesus now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. In making sure that we understand what those words mean, our catechism says: *"with this expression Scripture teaches that Christ, as true man, is not only present everywhere, but also now fully exercises His divine power over the whole universe."* We would often like to see a clearer demonstration of Jesus exercising His divine power over the world today. Living in a world by faith, it sometimes seems that things are more out of control than they are in control. But, the Apostle Paul clearly says, *"God seated Christ at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church."* — Ephesians 1: 20-22

Regardless of our ability to clearly see Jesus exercise His power over all things today, our catechism says we should find comfort in it. The catechism says: *"We know that the exalted God-man, Christ as our Prophet sends people to proclaim the saving Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit; as our Priest pleads and prays for us before the Father; and as our King rules and protects His church and governs over all the world especially for the benefit of His church."*

The information about Jesus' ascension and what He is doing now isn't just for the purpose of having more knowledge. Rather, it's for the purpose of making our hope more certain and having a confidence that God is indeed in control of things (despite our inability to see it). God has a plan for us individually and for the world as a whole. We need to realize that plan includes using us to proclaim the saving Gospel message to others. As followers of Christ today, we are here to reach out to others. I believe that God conveys that mission to us when we pray in the Lord's Prayer: *"Thy kingdom come"*. God could easily have His kingdom come without us, but He intends to use us to make that request a reality!

Pastor Jerry Bernecker



SATURDAY May 7th

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Christ Lutheran Church
320 N 28th Street E
Superior, WI

Bring mom out for a Spring Fling Craft & Vendor Fair!

Wonderful crafts like beadwork, rope baskets, scrubbies and jewelry along with goods from vendors like Pampered Chef, Lularoe, Lilla Rose, and Norwex.

Come support the Christ Lutheran youth group and check out their table. They will have crafts from members of the church, baked good and concessions.

Voter's Meeting

May 15, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Election of officers and board members.

Thank You to Our Sunday School Teachers

Another year of Sunday school has flown by with the last day of Sunday school being May 22 and the Board of Christian Education would like to thank all of our hard-working Sunday school teachers who work hard teaching our children the Word of God and bringing the love of Jesus to them. So, when you are dropping your kids off be sure to thank them for their devotion to your children. Our Devoted teachers are:

Pre K – Kindergarten – Jessica Stumpf & Mallory Allen
1st & 2nd Grade – Shannon Allen & Kim Klomhaus
3rd – 5th – Shane Kroeplin, Jill Markee & Deb Winans
6th & 7th Grade – Youth – Helena & Dominic Frost
Elisabeth Hannula & Donna Manos– music
Pastor Schield – Confirmation & Bible Study
Pastor Bernecker - Adult Bible Study

Shannon Allen for doing the Nursery Roll, which sends out cards and stuff to the kids who are not old enough for Sunday School.

And to the substitutes that helped out during the year.

Thank you to John Keske for serving as the Sunday school Superintendent!

Please consider teaching for the 2022-2023 school year, help is really needed.

Christ's Men

Men, Let's Do Lunch

Christ's Men will meet on Tuesday, May 3 at 12 noon at Superior Family Restaurant. This is an opportunity to gain guidance and spiritual support from God's Word as well as an excellent opportunity for Christian friendship.

Church Council Minutes

April 14, 2022

Members Present: Pastor Bernecker, Len Campbell, Wayne Ploetz, Don Hauser, Mike Kraemer, John Keske and Sharyn Vengrin

Call to order: Len Campbell

Opening Prayer: Pastor Bernecker

Call for additional agenda items: None

Minutes from Council Meeting: Don made the motion to accept the February 10, 2022, minutes, Wayne seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor and Jenny Schoessow transferred to Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Duluth.

Treasurers Report: Ending Balance: \$63,452.03. Mike made the motion to accept the ending balance.

Seconded by Sharyn. All in favor. Motion carried

BOARD AND COMMITTEE R REPORTS:

Trustees Report:

February:

Clearing snow

Have completed brushing the front areas of the church. Rick's Tree and Stump Removal completed. Estimate was \$2,000. Came in at \$1,360.00. Under budget \$640.00

Superior Fire Department made a building inspection 2/10/22. We had a failure on our emergency lights.

Need to change batteries.

March:

Changed batteries in all emergency lights. (Interstate-BSL0905 @ \$10.75 each x6 plus shipping and tax.)

Changed light in Sunday School Hall

Board of Deacons:

Old Business: Thanks to all who helped with soup and sandwiches.

New Business: All sitting Deacons whose terms are up were asked if they would serve another year. All said yes.

A new member has shown interest in becoming an officer or Deacon. They will be contacted.

Pastor Bernecker questioned our policy for canceling church due to inclement weather.

We will address before next winter.

We need 2 people each Good Friday service for candles and lights (all set). We also need help stripping the altar on Maundy Thursday (all set). Len has prepared an

informational post card about our church to send to our membership It was approved to mail out.

Millie brought a lighted, framed picture of Jesus to be donated to the church. We will determine where to put it at a later date. Thanks Millie.

Next meeting on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 5pm.

Board of Stewardship & Evangelism:

Old Business:

Len thanked those members of the Board for a good job in putting on the advent Soup and Sandwich on March 30th. About twenty-five people were in attendance. We discussed options to improve the Time and Talent forms and changes that can be made. Pastor Bernecker updated the board with information related to a process for congregational members to figure out what their passions and talents are. The overall process could lead to awareness of the gifts they have to help the church do God's work. Our board will go through a shortened training session with Pastor Bernecker at the next meeting and then decide if we want to pursue this avenue with Congregation.

New Business:

The board reviewed and discussed sending out a postcard to all members with information pertaining to the operation of the church. The postcards will be sent out in the next couple weeks.

Len informed the group that the Damiano soup kitchen was opening. An announcement was made at the church service on Sunday, April 10. As we will be looking for volunteers to work at the soup kitchen, a sign-up sheet has been posted on the office door. A bulletin announcement will be April 17 bulletin. We will be working the second Monday of the month from 8:30am to 1:00pm beginning May 9. A member told the board that he is looking for a space at the church to host a gaming night for his son and friends. He was told that this will need to go to the Council for consideration. He will attend the May board meeting to discuss.

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: Monday, June 6, 2022 at 5:00pm.

Board of Education: Fund raising is going well. No Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Memorial Committee: No Report

Endowment Committee: As printed.

Memorial Garden: Still resting.

Old Business:

Nomination of Officers/Board Members for 2022-2023. Reminders were made.

New Business

Payments to Concordia Plan Services: Wayne will find out.

Request to use Fellowship Hall: None

Next Council Meeting: May 12, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

Adjournment: Lord's Prayer

Stewardship

Living Sacrifices

Stewardship is not just about giving money to the church. It includes this, to be sure, but it is not limited to

it. Stewardship involves our whole life – everything we have and everything we are.

Let us not, though, fall into the trap of thinking that because we give of ourselves in one area then we can neglect giving in another. Stewardship is not stealing from Peter to pay Paul. It is not a game that we play whereby we justify ourselves in not giving a tenth of our income because we have given in some other way. This is why our Lord warns: "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others." (Matthew 23:23) We are given to do both – tithe of ourselves and what we have.

And so it is that St. Paul makes his appeal to us: "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:1-2)

We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God. We are not to have the mind of the world, where we exchange equal weight of this for an equal weight of that and think that we have done what God has required. Our whole life is given over for service in and for the Church of God. This is to be done in thanksgiving for what God in Christ has accomplished for us. This is our spiritual worship, the reasonable response to what He has done for us. Not one for the other but all in all.

But what does this look like? St. Paul never lays down a general principle without also giving us some practical application of what shape that principle is to take concretely. He gives the general principle that our bodies are to be living sacrifices to God. And, after admonishing those who have been given particular gifts of grace to serve the church, St. Paul then speaks generally of what is expected of all. He says:

"Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality." (Romans 12:9-13)

This is what it looks like to present your bodies as living sacrifices. This is how we live out the grace of God here in time.

Let us then heed the apostle's teaching. Let us present our bodies – everything that we have and everything that we are – as living sacrifices to God, our reasonable response to what God in Christ Jesus accomplished for us by His death and resurrection. Through this, we have forgiveness of sins, a new life in Christ, and eternal salvation. And through this worship, the grace of God is made manifest in His saints – for the church and the world.

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!

Attention All Graduates

If you know someone graduating from college, or high school please contact Roni at 715-398-3680 so the names can be listed in the bulletin

The June/July Newsletter will be out mid-June.

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.

Checks should be made to: MSL Northland

Please send contributions c/o:

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

2012 East Superior Street

Duluth, MN 55812

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

MAY BIRTHDAYS

2	Missy Mormann
3	Ryan Lull Lois Teich
4	Michael Stumpf
5	Mary Hannula Edward Sielaff
6	Gloria Meier
7	Lori Flynn
8	Michael Flynn
10	Erin Filteau Rebecca Noble
13	Bob Blomquist Jason Pahlen
14	Arthur Pfeil
15	Harriet Barnard Tom Vengrin
17	Repeka Tuinei
18	Mickey Sternberg
20	Nancy Doane Jonah Kroeplin Katerina Pfeil
22	Samuel Kroeplin
23	Ashley Harkabus
24	Brent Winans
26	Samuel Stenroos Sandy Kari Wendy Schultz
27	Jeffrey Allen
28	Claudia Grenier
29	Lukas Fudally Matt Pfeil
30	Donna Dittbrender
31	Ashley Swanson