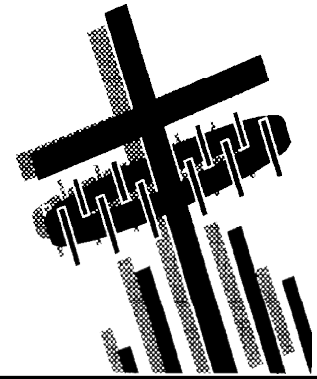


Comments



324 2nd Avenue, SE ~ Hickory, NC 28602 ~ 828-328-1483 ~ April 2024

A New Beginning

Alleluia! Christ is risen! It is wonderful to see the “Alleluia” banners back up and the joy of the resurrection permeating our worship services once again in the form of “Alleluia”!

In Advent, we began the year by contemplating the power and might of God hidden from us up until the day of Jesus’s birth. In Jesus, all has been revealed. During the short season of Christmas, we contemplated the question: what child is this? At his birth, Jesus brought the power of God, the might of heaven itself. In the Season of Epiphany, we observed the way in which Jesus revealed the power of the kingdom of God in ways that came as a surprise to all – through miracles of mercy.

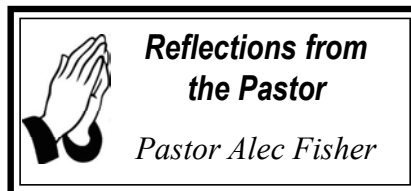
In these acts, Jesus has revealed the love that God has toward his creation, toward us. During Lent, we delved deeper into the heart of God, considering the life of King David, a conflicted figure who was confronted by his own most egregious sin, yet gave himself over to the instruction and goodness of God. We have now recounted Jesus’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem, his last supper with his disciples, his death on the cross, and his resurrection from the dead, by which he has overcome death itself and now grants us eternal life with him. He is the beginning and

the end of all things. We now turn to face the larger implications of what that means for us as individuals, together as the community of believers, and the role of the Christian church in our community and the world around us. Jesus has loved us to the very end. Jesus’s death is our death. Jesus’s resurrection is our resurrection. It’s a new start. It is the first day of the rest of our lives. “Let there be light.”

So, now we will turn our attention to the Book of Acts. In Acts, we meet all kinds of different people, many of them known well in the early church. Some are familiar to us while others have not always caught our attention. For instance, what do Simon the Magician, the Ethiopian Eunuch,

Saul of Tarsus, Aeneas, Dorcus, and Cornelius all have in common? First of all, we hear all of their stories told back to back to back in Acts chapters 8 through 10. It’s no accident that their stories are grouped together in Acts. Secondly, in each instance, they all receive a new beginning in Jesus Christ. Each of their stories is part of the larger story being told about how our resurrected Lord is continuously at work in this world. That’s what Jesus does for us all.

No matter where we find ourselves in life, no matter our station or circumstances, Jesus is



*Reflections from
the Pastor*

Pastor Alec Fisher

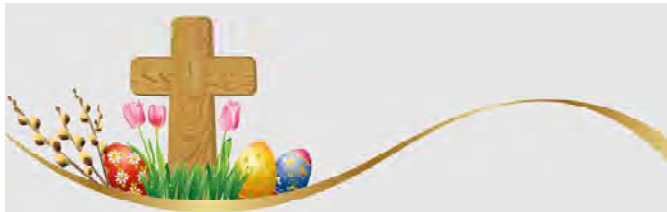
CLC Notes and News

(continued from page 1)

our beginning and our end, and our *new* beginning. We all have a new beginning in Jesus Christ. During the Easter Season that is going to be our focus. We are going to read the stories of Simon, the unnamed eunuch, Saul, Aeneas, Dorcus, and Cornelius. Toward the end of the Easter Season, we're also going to read about the word of the Lord being shared with those who were never thought to be God's people, the ascension of Jesus, and the giving of the Holy Spirit to his church. Every instance is a new beginning which informs our own lives. That is the gift that we have from God himself.

Where in your life could you use a new beginning? How might Jesus use you in unexpected ways to help someone else on their own journey as they traverse new and unfamiliar paths ahead? What is the Holy Spirit up to? Jesus is the beginning and the end, the one who comes with the power of heaven itself to show us God's own heart and have mercy on us. He is loving. He is never-ending. Every day in him is a new day for us. Though we don't always know what to expect, we cling to our Savior who has overcome all things and continually opens to us new possibilities to glorify him with our lives. This Easter Season, may we all embrace our new beginning in Jesus.

In Christ,
Pastor Alec



The LWML ladies will meet Wednesday, April 3rd, at 11:00am in the multipurpose room. Please bring your quarterly as Linda Bolick will lead the topic from it. The Zone Rally will be at St. Peters Lutheran at 3:00pm Sunday, April 28. Plan to attend.

Guiding Through God's Love

It's that time again! The **Annual CLC Yard Sale** is planned for June 8th and June 22nd. So, it is time to start sorting and gathering those items you no longer want or need to donate for the sale. We will begin accepting donations on **Tuesday, April 16th**. Donation times will be Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9am to 1pm. If you need to arrange a special time to bring your donations, please call Evelyn Crooks (495-1265).

Thank you to our Sunday School children who made the lovely Easter lilies decorating the front of the Welcome Center.

Bristol Raceway Ministries Chaplain John Abernathy is seeking individuals who would like to become a chaplain in motorsports. If you love Jesus and enjoy sharing His love with race fans, drivers and others, then this might be your calling. Please contact Chaplain John at 828-781-0205 to find out more about this awesome ministry.

Dear Friends:

Thank you for partnering with us in ministering to the needy in our community. Generous gifts like yours make it possible for us to help meet the increasing needs of those who are hungry in our area. We depend upon faithful friends like you to enable us to continue to address their needs. Thank you for all you do to serve the most vulnerable among us!

Sincerely,
Austin Pearce, Exec. Dir.
Hickory Soup Kitchen

Dear Christ Lutheran Church, All of us here at Hickory Village want to send out a big heartfelt thank you for the donated bags of hygiene supplies and coloring books that were given to all of our memory care residents for Valentine's Day. We appreciate everyone's kindness and generosity with providing these items. Thank you all for remembering our residents.



In memory of Glenn Wilson
(father of Kathie Albright)
Pastor David & Kathy Ludwig

Christ sacrifice life rejoice Jesus hope crucifixion
He is SAVIOR
RISEN
REDEEMER amazing grace LOVE mercy



Hope Beyond Trauma

Leslie's journey to ECCCM began amid a series of traumatic events that left her grappling with possible homelessness. "It just feels like I can't handle all of this on my own," shared Leslie. While juggling the needs of her two toddlers and facing financial strain due to unemployment, she sought help with paying rent. Keely, her case manager, realized that Leslie's challenges stretched beyond covering a month's rent.

"You have shown such great courage already, you are not alone, and we want to help in every way we can," Keely shared with a smile. She wanted to do all she could to help beyond Leslie's immediate needs. Keely began thinking about how long it would take for the dust to settle for Leslie and her family. In the process of completing applications for rent and power assistance, Keely discovered the thing Leslie needed most was just a gentle presence and a listening ear. The encouragement of knowing she had someone who genuinely cared and that there was a light at the end of the tunnel lifted Leslie's spirits and gave her hope.

Keely enrolled Leslie in our Crisis Assistance Coaching Program, opening avenues for her to craft future goals for her family and equip her with the tools to achieve financial stability. In this gentle inspiration, Leslie's crisis, though undeniably real, was a turning point for her to re-shift her focus and embrace this as an opportunity to move forward.

"You have truly helped us - I can't thank you enough," were Leslie's words after learning she was no longer on the brink of being homeless; she had found real hope. Through your ongoing support, we can help other young mothers like Leslie know that hope is always within reach. Thank you for being a part of our impact team for all who are struggling to find their footing. Your giving goes far beyond what you know.

Mission Sunday

April 21, 2024



LUTHERAN
HERITAGE
FOUNDATION

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings to you on behalf of Lutheran Heritage Foundation! I am excited to be with you in worship and fellowship between services on **Sunday, April 21st**, to share the wonderful work that **the Lutheran Heritage Foundation** is doing to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

You may already be aware of the work of **the Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF)**. But if not, LHF translates, publishes, distributes and introduces books that are Biblically faithful, Christ-centered and solidly Lutheran - in 167 languages to more than 90 countries, with many more in the works.

After discussion with Pastor Fisher, I am very excited that you will be adopting a special project that has been waiting patiently for a sponsor! **The Olunyole Project – 1000 copies of the Small Catechism in the Olunyole language! The translation work has been completed.**

The expense to publish is \$1.20 for each copy, for a total goal for this project of \$1,200. According to Rev. Dinku Batu, our 'Translation Coordinator' in Africa, *"the Olunyole language is a dialect of the Luhya tribe, being spoken by around 1,000,000 people. The original homeland of the language speakers is Vihiga County of Kenya. These speakers have, with time, spread throughout the country."*

"The first Lutheran Church was started by late Rev. Odundo Blasio at Mungoye Ebusiekwe Emmukolla in West Bunyore. He came from Tanzania. Evangelism spread towards East Bunyore and South Bunyore, then the Ebusiratsi ELCK (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya) and the Ebwiranyi ELCK was planted. Currently Bunyore has over 600 Lutheran members. Evangelistic work that is currently being done in these areas targets around 500,000 people who do not know the hope and comfort that comes by faith in Jesus Christ. This project of publishing Luther's Small Catechism will be very useful especially during confirmation classes and teaching Sunday School and the worship life of the Church."

In its 33 year existence, LHF has published and distributed over 1,530 titles and 5.7 million books to pastors, seminary students, missionaries, churches, parents, children and individuals – **ALL AT NO COST TO THEM!**

I hope to see you at worship and fellowship between services on **Sunday, April 21st**.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Paul Nielsen

LHF Representative – Southeast District

The Tuesday Women's Bible Study will not meet on April 2 and 9. We will resume on April 16 with the word, "children". If you are not already receiving the weekly zoom invitation to this Bible study and would like to join us, please let Sister Robie know at srrobie@msn.com.



He is risen



Vacation Bible School 2024! We will be doing something different for VBS this summer. We will meet for 3 Tuesday mornings in July from 9:00am–12:00noon. Save the dates: July 2, 9, and 16. Watch for more details to come.



Have you ever seen *Rick Setzer* up a tree? Thank him for all the yard work that he and the Building & Grounds Committee do at CLC!

The Evangelism Committee would like to do a baby shower for the Pregnancy Care Center, Hickory for the month of May. Items needed are:

- diapers size 4, 5 and 6
- baby lotion
- shampoo
- diaper cream
- 6 to 9 months sleepers- summer clothes
- blankets
- Baby Tylenol.

They will also take gently used baby clothes, blankets and crib sheets.

We will collect items May 12th to deliver the following week. Look for the baskets displayed in the narthex. Also, if you travel this summer, please remember to save the hotel toiletries for mommy bags. Thank you!

THE CHURCH FAMILY

JOYS, PRAYERS, & CONCERNS

Mission outreach for:

- our ministry of Guiding through God's Love
- local outreach ministers: CCM, Soup Kitchen, University Christian High School, Pregnancy Care Center
- Mid-Atlantic Lutherans in Mission (malim.org)
- Lutheran Heritage Foundation

Hospital: Robert Sigmon (3/17 at Iredell); Waylon Mosteller (at Levine, Charlotte, infant relative of Sylvia Lail)

Recovering: Fred Abromaitis (2/25); Judy Baker (3/24); Bill Borchardt (3/31); Ralph Day (3/17); Glenda Griffith (3/24); Lois Hunt (3/24); Bob Rinehart (3/24); Jim Starkey (3/24); Patty Starkey (2/25); Linda Sturgill (2/25); Reshea Tucker (3/3 at Catawba); Linda Sharp (friend of Robie Hillhouse)

Undergoing treatments: Doris Smith; Courtney Brown (3/3 friend of Jim & Pat Hamby); Barbara Jones (3/3 sister of Lois Hunt); Michael Pannell (3/3 friend of Jim & Pat Hamby)

Under doctors' care: Charles Beeker (3/24); Carmen Divers; Becky Rimmer; Rita Roseman; John Sigmon; Virginia Crew (sister of Jim Starkey); Angela Hallman (3/3 daughter of Jimmy Gantt); Angelique & Doris Kirby (3/3 friends of Tim Brewer)

For shut-ins: Brandon Caldwell; Juanita Isenhower at Trinity Village; Don Lefevre; Peggy Mays; Carolyn Smith; Randy Smith; Thomas Tucker at Grace Village & Memory Care, Granite Falls; Alice Yount

If not otherwise updated, prayer requests will remain on the Prayer List for four (4) weeks. Some dates are listed next to names to indicate when a person has been added to the Prayer List. Please update the church office with any changes within four (4) weeks to help us keep the Prayer List current.



Offerings



Wed., Feb. 28, 2024: \$ 75.00

March 3, 2024: \$ 3,039.00

March 10, 2024: \$ 6,369.00

Wed., March 13, 2024: \$ 99.00

March 17, 2024: \$ 4,817.00

March 24, 2024: \$ 4,288.00

Online giving from 3-18 to 3-25: \$ 625.00

The average required weekly budgeted amount needed: \$ 6,243.00

Capital Improvement Fund
published weekly in bulletin

Total: \$

April 2024

Christ Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	9:00a Circuit Mtg (Winkel) 6:00p Women's Bible Study (zoom)	Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:30a LWML	7:00p CMT (FLC) Church Council	10:00a Zumba 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	8:00a Men's Group (FLC)
1st Easter 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:00a 1 st Service ☩ & Small Group 9:15a Children's SS 10:10a Fellowship 10:30a 2 nd Service & Small Group 5:15p Family Night	10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC) 1:00p New Testament Survey	10:30a PEEPS NO Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) NO A-Z Bible Study	7:00p CMT (FLC)	10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	
2nd Easter 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00a 1 st Service & Small Group 9:15a Children's SS 10:00a Fellowship 10:10a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a 2 nd Service ☩☩ & Small Group	Newsletter Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC) 1:00p New Testament Survey	9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Soup Kitchen 1:00p A-Z Bible Study	7:00p CMT (FLC)	10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 
3rd Easter 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:00a 1 st Service ☩ & Small Group 9:15a Children's SS 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a 2 nd Service & Small Group	10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC) 1:00p New Testament Survey NO Kenworth Mtg. 	9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 1:00p A-Z Bible Study  <i>Happy Secretary Day</i>	7:00p YMT (FLC)	10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 11:30a <i>Feed the Needy</i>
4th Easter 28	29	30				
9:00a 1 st Service 9:15a Children's SS 10:00a Fellowship 10:10a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a 2 nd Service ☩☩	10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC) 1:00p New Testament Survey	9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Women's Bible Study (Zoom)				

*April 2024 Birthdays and Anniversaries
Congratulations and may God continue to bless you!!!*

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Danyon McKinney | 16 | DiAnn Wichman |
| 2 | Zachary Garber | 17 | Maddox Childers |
| | Sylvia Lail | | Glenn Roseman, II |
| | Clay Lawter | 18 | Sally Roseman-Lowery |
| 3 | Misty Lail | | Sarah Roseman-Lowery |
| | Freyja Lemaire | 19 | Skylar Abromaitis |
| | Kerri Pearson | 20 | Charles Beeker |
| 4 | Holly Hedemark | | Randy Smith |
| 6 | Ethan Kiziah | 21 | Raegan Lail |
| 8 | Beth Goans | 22 | Kayla Fulbright Erwin |
| 10 | Lea Ann Sloan | 25 | Kayli Mathews |
| 11 | Tim Isenhower | 26 | Emma Monahan |
| | Johnny Ross | | Karen Sigmon |
| 12 | Danyelle McKinney | | John Tucker, Jr. |
| 13 | Ashley McKelvain | 27 | Brian Rose |
| 14 | Lisa Brewer | | Zachary Rose |
| | Carrie Grater | 28 | Adele Houk |
| 15 | Jean Schwandt | 30 | Libba Juerges |
| | Brandon Sturgill | | |

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
1	John & Manda Tucker, Jr.
13	Frank & Elaine McClough
15	Don & Leisa Peck
19	Andrew & Adrienne Isenhower
24	Tony & Anna Lail
29	Terry & Kathy Hefner



	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28	
Preaching	Pastor Fisher	Pastor Tucker	Pr. Paul Nielson	Pastor Ludwig	
Lector	Bob Rinehart	Karla Bolch	Britt Griffith	Zach Rose	
Distributor	~*~	Zach Rose	~*~	~*~	
Acolyte	Jack Fisher	Aiden Turner	Alison Matthew	Adeline Fisher	
Elder	Robert Kraay	Jim Crooks	Jim Hamby	Sadie Lail	
Counters	Darryl & Dot Grater	Pat Hamby Angela Watts	Jim Hunt Cam Davis	David & Shawn Terry	
Audio/Video		Kyle Donovan		Cam Davis	
Media	Susan Fulbright	Rick Lail	Kyle Donovan	Karla Bolch	
Host	Anna Newton	Betty Link	Mary Puett	Pat Hamby	
Altar Guild	Laura Fite	Laura Fite	Laura Fite	Laura Fite	
Security Team	Randall Mays	Jimmy Gantt	David Puett	Britt Griffith	

Connection

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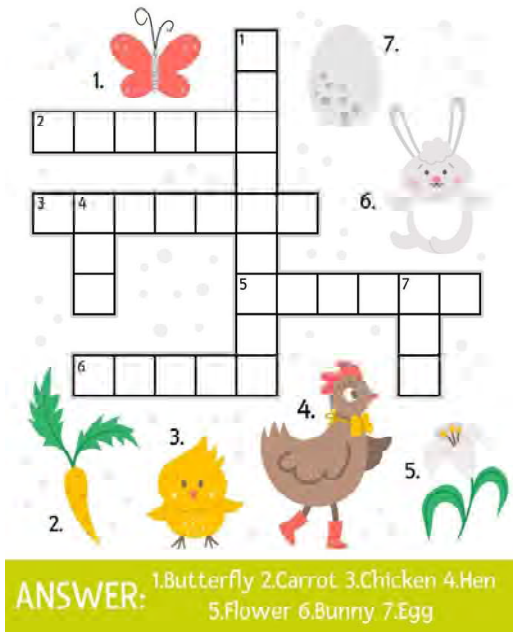


An Easter word from Martin Luther -

We should learn to remind ourselves of Christ's victory. *In Christ, we already have everything that we need. We only live to spread this message of victory to other people.* With our word and example, we tell them about the victory that Christ secured for us and gave to us. Christ, our victory, accomplished everything. We don't need to add anything to it. We don't need to wipe away our own sins or try to conquer death and the devil. Everything has already been done for us. We're not fighting the real battle. We're only suffering now in order to share in Christ's victory. All of our suffering combined, even all the suffering and blood of the martyrs and saints, wouldn't give us the victory. It's not accomplished by what we do... Christ says, "I have already won. Accept my victory. Sing about it and glorify it. Take comfort in it. And so we pray together these words from the hymn, *The Day of Resurrection* (LSB #478, v 1,3):

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
The passover of gladness, the passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
Let all the world keep triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen, their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end! Amen.**



John's Lawncare and maintenance LLC:
Does anyone need lawncare this year? Call
John Abernathy at 828-781-0205.

Christ Lutheran Church

324 2nd Avenue, SE
Hickory, NC 28602



Comments

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Our Mission Motto is

Guiding Through God's Love

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Assoc. Pastor.....Dr. David Ludwig
Assistant Pastor..Rev. Richard Tucker
Organist.....Danny Foster
Secretary.....Jill P. Lafone
Adm. Assistant.....Nancy Rinehart
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Christ Lutheran Church

