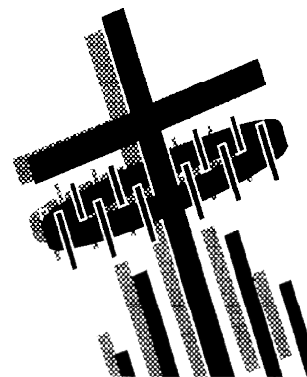


Comments



324 2nd Avenue, SE ~ Hickory, NC 28602 ~ 828-328-1483 ~ May 2025

Resurrection Power

We have just celebrated the resurrection of our Lord Jesus and his victory over the grave thus beginning the Easter Season. Just as the resurrection of Jesus shook our world, along with all of God's creation, this Easter Season we are going to be talking about the power of Jesus's resurrection in our everyday lives. Each Sunday, we will focus on a different way that the power of Jesus's resurrection overcomes the suffering and hardship of this broken world. We will talk about the power of good over evil, healing over illness, forgiveness over shame, freedom over tyranny, life over death, transformation over rejection, and hope over despair.

St. Paul writes about the power of good over evil in the life of a Christian when he writes "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:21). God has revealed to us what his goodness looks like and he calls us to cling to it over evil in our lives.

We see the power of healing over illness in the early church as Luke writes, "The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed" (Acts 5:16). That power comes from God, and there are so many we commend to God in prayer every day and every week trusting that he alone has the power to heal.

When Peter asked Jesus, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Matthew tells us that Jesus responded, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:21-22). In the resurrection of Jesus, we see the power of forgiveness over shame, which gives a way forward when all seems lost.

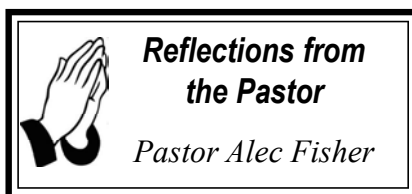
The power of the resurrection is also freedom over tyranny, not in a worldly sense, but freedom from the brokenness of the world itself.

When the time had come, Moses tells us, "At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt" (Exodus 12:41). Just as God brought his people out of

Egypt, he continues to watch over us and gives us a new start.

Of course, the resurrection of Jesus shows us the power of life over death. St. Paul writes, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:54-57). Jesus has been raised and so will we! We have an eternal future with our God.

Jesus's ascension shows us the power of transformation over rejection. Not long before Jesus would take his seat in glory ruling over



CLC Notes and News

(continued from page 1)

heaven and earth, he told his disciples, “Behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high” (Luke 24:49). Rather than rejecting us, because we’re not good enough, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit in power to transform our lives.

Our resurrected Lord is at work in our lives. As he reigns over heaven and earth, he exercises his authority on our behalf that we might have life and have it abundantly. That doesn’t mean that life will be without suffering. Jesus himself suffered and so did many of his first disciples. In many different ways, God’s people suffer today. We live in a world wrought with evil, illness, shame, tyranny, death, and rejection—all things which might cause us to despair.

Even in the midst of all of those things, Jesus’s resurrection reveals to us the power of hope over despair. With the victory of God’s goodness, his healing power, his gracious forgiveness, godly freedom, abundant life, and divine transformation, Jesus’s resurrection gives us a new future. The certainty of Jesus’s resurrection gives a reason to hope. When Peter is preaching to the crowds on Pentecost, as the Holy Spirit has been poured out, he quotes the prophet Joel: “And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved” (Joel 2:32a).

In the end, the power of Jesus’s resurrection is making all things new. Jesus is with us in our suffering and hardship, so that we will also be with him in new life. This Easter Season, cling to the power of Jesus’s resurrection, which transforms our lives and always gives us a new start.

In Christ,
Pastor Alec



LWML will have their May meeting on May 14 at 11:00am in the multi-purpose room.

This is the second Wednesday, not the first. Please bring your spring quarterly and mites. Linda Wilson will have the topic on “divine times.” This will be our last meeting until September 3rd. Anna Newton takes her birthday cake to the men’s group home on May 15. DiAnn Wichman takes one to the group home on July 31 and Rita Roseman has a cake for our men’s group home on September 1st.

Guiding Through God’s Love

If you or a member of your family had been a member of the Stephen’s Ministry, please contact Nancy Rinehart or Debbie Wolf. We are working on the church history for the 125th Anniversary.



In memory of Alice Yount:

Pastor David & Kathy Ludwig
Calvin & Janice Buchanan

In memory of Jim Starkey:

Pastor David & Kathy Ludwig

In memory of Peggy Mays:

Pastor David & Kathy Ludwig
Mrs. Dara Jarrett

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 putting your compassion into action. Thank you so much for your kindness, caring, and generosity! You are a huge blessing for our guests!

Sincerely,

Austin Pearce, Exec. Dir.

Christ Bible Camp: June 2-5, 2025, 9:00am–Noon (lunch is included). Our theme this year is “Living Water”.

Registration forms are available online or by completing a form at church. Children must be 3 years old (potty trained) through rising 6th grade. Registration deadline is May 15th. Would you like to volunteer? Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Sister Robie (srrobie@msn.com).

Christ Bible Camp

“Living Water”

June 2 - 5



Pastor Alec’s Book of the Month: Pastor Alec invites you to read books that he’s now revisiting. Each month a new book will be recommended for your own enjoyment. For the month of April, Pastor Alec will be reading *The Reason for God*, in which Timothy Keller talks about “belief in an age of skepticism”. If that’s a topic that might interest you, you’re encouraged to pick up a copy and read along!

125 Years – God is still making all things new: Christ Lutheran Church was formed in 1900 and officially brought into the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod in 1903. So, 2025 marks 125 years of our life together as a congregation! This year, we will have all kinds of reminders about what God has been doing and continues to do at CLC. Our Theme verse for this year is: *And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new”* (Revelation 21:5a). God has been making all things new at Christ Lutheran Church for the last 125 years, and he continues to do so today. We pray that this year of fellowship, celebration, and trust in God’s future plans for us will be a reminder to us all! Happy 125th anniversary!

Our first Hobby Day was a great success.

Thanks to all church members who came to hear from our presenters of their hobby, or collection, or just what interests them. Each presenter had a fun hobby to share. It was a great time for fellowship and a great meal afterwards. We already have plans for another Hobby Day. Please contact David Puett at 828-291-7228 for more information.

IN LOVING ♥
Memory

Peggy Mays
Jim Starkey
Alice Yount

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: John Sigmon (4/20 VA, Asheville); David Sigmon (4/27 @ VA, Asheville)

Surgery: Pat Hamby (TBD); David Pingel (4/29 father of Kathryn)

Hospice: Ken Pingel (4/27 uncle of Kathryn)

Recovering: Teresa Mays (4/20); Eric Yount (4/13); Robin Turner (4/6 sister of Pat McKinney); Cathy Dunn (4/20 friend of Pat McKinney)

Undergoing treatments: Tim Brewer (4/6); Doris Smith; Barbara Jones (sister of Lois Hunt); Thekla Sebaugh (4/13 sister of David Ludwig); Courtney Brown (4/13 friend of the Hamby's)

Under doctors' care: Fred Abromaitis (4/6), Kathie Albright; Shelly Baker; Carmen Divers; Jimmy Gantt (4/20); Glenda Griffith (4/6); Lois Hunt; Rita Roseman; DiAnn Wichman; Paul Cates (4/13 husband of Angela); Evan Lail (4/13 father of Tony); Wayne Daniels (4/20

neighbor of Tony & Anna Lail); Judy McKinney (4/6 friend of Pat McKinney)

For shut-ins: Juanita Isenhower at Trinity Village; David & Donna Lumb; Becky Rimmer; Robert Sigmon (Autumn Care, Statesville); Carolyn Smith (Autumn Care); Randy Smith

For those who are suffering due to *Hurricane Helene*

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.





Financial Stewardship

	Actual: March 2025	Actual: Jan.-Mar. 2025
Income	\$ 24,752.79	\$ 74,975.43
Expense	\$ 26,547.85	\$ 82,731.54
Net Income	– \$ 1,795.05	– \$ 7,756.11

May 2025

Christ Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Holy Communion † - early †† - late				1 7:00p CMT (FLC)	2 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba	3 7:00a Yard Sale
3rd Sunday in Easter 9:00a 1 st Service † Small Group 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a 2 nd Service 11:45a <i>Breaking Bread Together</i> - Sunday Lunch	5 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba 1:00p <i>Matthew Monday</i> w/ Pastor Alec	6 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Womens Bible Study (Zoom)	7 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 1:00p Bible Study w/ Pastor Alec	8 7:00p CMT (FLC)	9 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba	10 9:00a Mother's Day Brunch (FLC)
Mother's Day 4th Sunday in Easter 9:00a 1 st Service Small Group Sunday School 10:00a Fellowship 10:10a Ad. Choir Reh. 10:30a 2 nd Service †† 11:45a Elders	12 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba 1:00p <i>Matthew Monday</i> w/ Pastor Alec	13 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Womens Bible Study (Zoom)	14 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a LWML 1:00p Bible Study w/ Pastor Alec	15 7:00p CMT (FLC)	16 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba	17 
5th Sunday in Easter 9:00a Meal Service † Small Group Sunday School 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a 2 nd Service	Newsletter Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba 1:00p <i>Matthew Monday</i> w/ Pastor Alec	20 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Womens Bible Study (Zoom)	21 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Soup Kitchen 1:00p Bible Study w/ Pastor Alec	22 7:00p CMT (FLC)	23 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba	24 11:30a <i>Feed the Needy</i>
6th Sunday in Easter 9:00a 1 st Service Small Group Sunday School 10:00a Fellowship 10:10a Ad. Choir Reh. 10:30a 2 nd Service ††	26 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba 1:00p <i>Matthew Monday</i> with Pastor Alec 6:00p Kenworth Assn. Mtg. (CLC PH)	27 	28 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC)	29 7:00p CMT (FLC)	30 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba	31 

May 2025 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Congratulations and may God continue to bless you!!!

1	Mary Puett	21	Adeline Fisher
	Jonathan Ross		Sarah Helmick
3	Mark Kiziah	22	Chris Mundy
	Betty Link		Lisa Smith
	Phoebe Wall	23	Lois Hunt
4	Glenda Setzer		Anna Lail
5	Bob Rinehart, Sr.		Karsyn Warren
8	Alison Matthews	25	Sam Isenhower
	Candace Moore		Steven Parlier
9	Raegan Hicks	25	Carolyn Smith
	David Terry	26	Rick Setzer
11	Angela Parlier	27	Billy Barnes
12	Judy Baker		Dycie Bolick
13	Aubrey Clemons		Rose Martin
15	Ken McLeod	31	Maggie Bates
16	Terry Hefner		Tim Brewer
19	Daniel King		Lucy Fisher
	Logan Kraay		Robie Hillhouse
20	Britt Griffith		
	Joel Lackey		
	Richard Tucker, Sr.		

Anniversaries

7	David & Wendelynne Pearson
8	Calvin & Janice Buchanan
12	Byron & Debbie Yarbrough
15	David & Mary Puett
17	David & Donna Lumb
21	Chris & Lauren Harms
29	Roger & Betsy Downs
	Mike & Robie Hillhouse



	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	
Preaching	Pastor Fisher	Pastor Ludwig	Pastor Fisher	Pastor Tucker	
Lector	Cam Davis	Pastor Tucker	Adeline Fisher	Pastor Fisher	
Distributor	~~*~~	Alison Matthews	~~*~~	Jim Hunt	
Acolyte	Jack Fisher	Adeline Fisher	Jack Fisher	Adeline Fisher	
Elder	Angie Ewing	Nicole Rose	Robert Kraay	Bill Lail	
Counters	Darryl & Dot Grater	Pat Hamby Bob Rinehart	David & Shawn Terry	Cam Davis Kathryn Pingel	
Audio/Video	Noah Lail	Kyle Donovan		Cam Davis	
Media	Rick Lail	Kyle Donovan	Karla Bolch	Lisa Smith	
Host	Anna Newton	Betty Link	Mary Puett	Pat Hamby	
Altar Guild	Sadie Lail	Anna Lail	Sadie Lail	Anna Lail	
Security Team	Chris Mundy	Randall Mays	Jimmy Gantt	David Puett	

Connection

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Every three years, our Southeastern District gathers in convention. This year the Convention is May 5-9. SED staff, pastors and congregation delegates will gather via zoom May 5-7 and in person in Richmond, VA, May 8-9. Members of the SED Spiritual Life Team have written prayers for each month leading up to the Convention. Rev. Doug Meilander, of Baltimore, MD wrote the following prayer for the month of May. Please keep Pastor Alec, Robert Rinehart, our CLC delegate, and everyone involved with the Convention in your prayers.

Lord Jesus, as we gather in the Southeastern District Convention, we pray for Your Living Presence in a mighty way. Open the hearts of the delegates to “see” Your cross and empty tomb. Fill them with the immeasurable hope that comes from Your victory over death. Capture their hearts and shine through all that they do. Let them experience the peace and unity that You have given to them. Fill their hearts with the compassion that You have for all people.

Help the delegates to know that this is not just a business meeting. Send your Holy Spirit to enable them to discern Your will as You lead Your church. Guide them to elect leaders who will serve You. Enable them to pass resolutions that will inspire and equip Your church as You send us into the world.

We look forward to what You will do through these servants in Your church. We celebrate the immeasurable hope that You continue to give to us. Enable us to shine Your hope into the world where You have sent us.

We praise You with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



Mother's Day Brunch – May 10

Mothers and children of Christ Lutheran Church are invited
Saturday, May 10th, 9:00-11:00am in the Family Life Center

Sign-up at the Welcome Center!

All **MEN** who would be willing to help, please contact Dale Matthews (828-612-5159), sign-up at the Welcome Center, OR call the Church Office (328-1483).

Christ Lutheran Church

324 2nd Avenue, SE
Hickory, NC 28602

Comments

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Our Mission Motto is

Guiding Through God's Love

CHURCH STAFF

Adm. Pastor.....Rev. Alec Fisher
Assoc. Pastor.....Dr. David Ludwig
Assistant Pastor..Rev. Richard Tucker
Organist.....Danny Foster
Secretary.....Jill P. Lafone
Adm. Assistant.....Nancy Rinehart
Newsletter Staff.....Nancy Rinehart
and Jill Lafone
Contributors: CLC Family & Friends



Christ Lutheran Church

