

The Crusader

Christ Lutheran Church

315 N Shipley Street

Seaford, DE 19973

Rev. Ray M. Rogers

Seaford, DE 19973 Phone: 302-629-9755

8:30 am Praise Worship

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Traditional Worship



APRIL

APRIL 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When you were younger, did you ever imagine yourself launching a jumper at the final buzzer and hitting nothing but net to win the game for your team? Or perhaps you saw yourself at the plate in the 9th inning of the seventh game of the World Series, with the bases loaded and your team down by two runs. There were two outs, and the count was 3 and 2. The pitcher delivers and you hit a line drive that just clears the left field wall. In either case, your teammates lift you on their shoulders, accompanied by the deafening roar of your adoring fans.

Truth be told, neither of these fantasies is going to come true for us. Even if you or I were to find ourselves in the place of one of these game-winning heroes, a victory on the basketball court or on the baseball diamond doesn't guarantee ultimate happiness in life. Plenty of sports heroes who've accumulated bags of cash, palatial homes, and exotic cars have ended up in poverty, in addictions, and in broken relationships.

No matter how successful you are on the playing field or in business or in finance, there's two "competitors" in life that are always going to get the best of you: the aging process and death itself.

As God reminds us in 1 Corinthians 15, death's "sting" comes from the fact that we are all sinners, convicted by God's Law. But Jesus has taken away the sting and ultimate victory of death by dying on the cross and rising again.

Jesus victory on Easter Sunday means that sickness and death and sorrow do not have the final word in our lives.

I believe that Jesus has the final word and will heal me in this life or heal me by taking me home to the Father's house in heaven. I believe Jesus will have the final word and call me by name from my grave on the Last Day, giving me a new and glorified body that will never perish. I believe that Jesus will one day wipe every tear from my eyes and put an unending song of praise to God on my lips.

I may root for a favorite team in any sport. I may celebrate their winning or lament their losing, but my life will not be greatly changed either way. But as you and I gather to celebrate Jesus' victory on Easter Sunday, His victory makes all the difference for our lives, both here in time and hereafter in eternity.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ray



From the Pastor

Pulpit Exchange: The congregations of Bethany, Salisbury; Immanuel, Easton; and Christ, Seaford have all been blessed by the interchange of pastors preaching in our pulpits, first on February 27th and most recently on March 17th. I'm praying that this might be the opening of a door for greater cooperation in both spiritual growth and socialization. Who knows what avenues might open in terms of youth ministry, training in witnessing and Sunday School Teaching, bus trips, and friendly competition in corn-hole or other sports.

Standing in the Gap prayer time for our church, community, and country will be on Saturday, April 6th at 9:30 a.m. This coincides in part with the Bible School for Special People, and this time of the morning on a Saturday may be challenging for some, so we are reconsidering the day and time for this prayer gathering in the future. Your suggestions are much appreciated.

Professional Workers' Conference—Ashville, NC—April 8-10, 2024. Pastor Ray and Linda will be attending and exploring the topic of spiritual, emotional, and physical wellness and their impact on the servant/leaders in congregations. Pastor Ray will have much relevant information to share with the congregation upon their return. Ray and Linda will be taking some time off from Thursday, April 11 through Sunday, April 14th. Pastor Charles Gustafson will be the guest preacher on April 14th.

Is 8:00 a.m. on a Saturday, Too Early for You? We're moving our next church-wide gathering at Star-Gate Diner to **Wednesday, April 17th at 11 a.m.**

Midweek Bible Study—"The Chosen"—restarts on Wednesday April 17th at 7 pm in Luther Hall. Please invite your friends!

Food Shelf Report

Such a blessing to be blessed!

The needs of our neighbors were met through our food donations and monetary gifts. One hundred fifty (150) non perishable food items were donated and electric bill assistance was provided.

Love INC shared the success story of “Ms. N” who moved from homelessness to having a place of her own and Christ Lutheran was a part of that success story!

Some highly needed items follow. The full list of items and “level of need” can be found on the food shelf in the Narthex.

Food items needed: bottled water, spaghetti noodles, pasta sauce, canned soup, spaghetti-o’s; single-serve fruit cups and snacks (crackers, trail mix, chips); shelf-stable milk and shelf-stable microwave meals.

Dignity items needed: antibiotic cream, sunblock; travel size hand sanitizer, shampoo, conditioner, and body wash.

Proverbs 11:25

The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped.

Blessings

Food Shelf Coordinator

Linda Boone

LWML Mission Highlight

National Grant

MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING AND OUTREACH, LCMS LIFE MINISTRY | \$96,500

Upheld by God's Hand — Mental Health Outreach

Care for mental illness was a concern prior to the pandemic, but now it has become critical. LCMS church workers have expressed concern about the rise of anxiety, depression, and other mental disorders. Our teachers, youth leaders, pastors, and other church workers are continually requesting resources and training to be equipped for outreach and Christian care. Millions of people in the United States and around the world are suffering with mental illnesses and disorders. There is a tremendous need and opportunity for Lutheran outreach to both the people struggling with mental issues and their family, so that they may receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Public health researchers have conducted studies that indicate people with mental illnesses or disorders are more likely to approach a pastor or professional church worker than a medical doctor or counselor.

The LCMS Task Force for Mental Illness, Health, and Wellness collaborating with expert LCMS contributors will develop the materials, resources, and training programs. LCMS Life Ministry will coordinate the production of materials and rollout of the training for church workers.

Chesapeake District Grant

Concordia Seminary Center for International Students, St. Louis, MO - \$4,000

Concordia Seminary is committed to furthering the Great Commission with its Graduate School's ongoing acceptance and preparation of highly qualified international students and addressing the significant shortage of well-formed pastors in most countries. This grant will assist with the cost of education for these international students, providing support as they are preparing for ministry.

February Mite Box Collection: \$287.05



Saturday, April 13, 2024
11:00am
Stargate Diner
23415 Sussex Hwy
Seaford, DE 19973

We hope to see you there

April BSSP News Article

In March, the class was treated to a performance of flag waving by fellow BSSP student, Paul Bouton. Paul performed with his flags to Christian music. Thank you Paul!

April Calendar and Bible Stories

April 6 – The Conversion of Paul

April 13 – Dorcas

April 20 – Peter and Cornelius

April 27 – Paul’s First Missionary Journey



Upcoming Events

- Friends Supporting Friends—Mondays at 11 am
- April 6th@9:30 am Prayer Group, 10 am BSSP
- April 7th and 21st-Holy Communion at both services
- April 13th@9:30 am Prayer Group, 10 am BSSP, 6:30 pm Bunco
- April 14th-Food Shelf Sunday
- April 16th@3 pm Lay Ministry Meeting
- April 17th@11 am breakfast/lunch at Stargate Diner
- April 18th@2 pm LWML Meeting
- April 20th@9 am Zone Rally at Our Redeemer Church in Newark, DE



Altar Flowers

April 7
April 14
April 21
April 27

Peg Farmer
Lynn Kirk-Flury
Carol & Russ Taylor
Deanna Thomas



April Birthdays

- 01 Margaret Wall
- 04 Don Miller
- 04 Carol Harris
- 05 Dana Hiller
- 11 Rosemary Horn
- 16 Jim Bruhn
- 18 Daryl Calhoun
- 22 Walt Moyer
- 23 Ray Williams
- 24 Steve Hoffman
- 26 Joan Shade
- 27 Joyce Chovan
- 28 Carol Schreffler
- 30 Linda Davis

April Anniversaries

- 02 Don & Carol Miller
- 07 Rick & Patrice Morris
- 30 Fred & June Tidwell

Christ Lutheran LWML Upcoming Events

April 18 – LWML Meeting @ 2pm. Our April meeting will feature a presentation by Love INC, a Christian organization mobilizing churches to work together to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ (INC). Join us as we learn more about how we can help strengthen our community and minister to our neighbors together with Love INC.

April 20 – Spring DelMarVa LWML Zone Rally, 9am to 2pm. Join us as we carpool to Our Redeemer Lutheran in Newark, DE, for fellowship and fun with LWML Zone members.

May 16 – End-of-Year Dinner @ 5:30pm. All women are invited to dinner at Passwaters Restaurant at Heritage Shores on the veranda for an evening of fellowship and fun.



As Stephen Ministers, we are not always able to visit our care receivers in person! One of our training sessions was called **Telecare: The Next Best Thing to Being There**. Our CLC family also reaches out to each other with telephone calls. This caring support for each other is what makes Christ Lutheran such a very special church.

Just a few tips to listen for when you are talking to someone you are concerned about. **Tone:** Do they sound friendly, intense, worried, or sarcastic.

Pitch or Volume: A monotone can be a sign of sadness or boredom. Speaking loudly might indicate anger. A soft voice may mean that they are feeling insecure or unsure. Deep Sighs may indicate they are feeling down.

Crying: Listen for sniffing or catches in breathing. A crack in their voice may also be a sign of crying.

Thank you for sharing Christ's love with your friends, family, and church family. Please let the Stephen Ministry Team know if there is someone that you are especially concerned about. You can contact: Aileen Watkins 302-930-7070, Kathryn Lamberton 302-841-9622, or Call Pastor Rogers at 443-523-8579.



THURSDAY, MAY 2nd

12TH ANNUAL
Salisbury Area
Prayer Breakfast
Speaker:
Dr. Jerry Regier
Public Servant, Scholar and Christian Leader



Tickets \$20 per person
Table of 8 - \$160

Tickets available at The Country House
For information contact Ted Evans 410-430-4189
To order tickets by mail, send check payable to: Salisbury Prayer Breakfast Committee
PO Box 521, Salisbury, MD 21803

For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.
2 Samuel 22:29-31

SAVE THE DATE



Bloom where you are planted.

Lutheran Women in Mission
Spring Rally

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

10 Johnson Road, Newark, DE

9am-2pm

More info to come!

April 2024

Mar 2024		April 2024							May 2024
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
	1 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	2 7 pm Council Meeting	3	4	5 Office Closed	6 9:30 am Prayer GThroup 10 am BSSP			
7 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service w/Communion	8 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	9	10	11	12 Office Closed	13 10 am BSSP 6:30 pm Burco			
14 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11 am Traditional Service Food Shelf Sunday	15 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	16 3 pm Lay Ministry Meeting	17 11 am breakfast/lunch at Stargate Diner	18 2 pm LWML Meeting	19 Office Closed	20 9am-2 pm Zone Rally Newark, DE 10 am BSSP			
21 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11 am Traditional Service w/Communion Mite Box Sunday	22 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	23	24 7 pm Review of "The Chosen"	25	26 Office Closed	27 10 am BSSP			
28 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11 am Traditional Service	29 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	30							