

Paul and Ruth Lemp Memorial Community Garden Gardener's News Bulletin

April 17, 2023



APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS?

Global Warming? HA!. Easter weekend kinda blew that outta the water. Now we have a new song:

Snow, Snow, go away, all our gardener's want to play!

Needless to say, there is going to have to be an adjustment on our opening day. The Easter weekend surprise snowstorm kind of stopped the thaw in its tracks. There is more snow in my front yard now than when I left 12 days ago. We'll just have to see how the thaw progresses, and we will keep you informed of the projected opening day! For now, we're looking at Mid-May. Today's weather forecast looks favorable. Here are two photos submitted by Joanne, showing her "starts! She is waiting to play!



GARDENERS WORKSHOP

Last Summer, several gardeners, suggested that we sponsor some Gardening related workshops. WE LISTENED to you, so.... our first Gardener's Workshop will be held on Thursday, April 20 from 7 to 9 p.m., in the Church Social/Fellowship Hall. Stephen Brown, U.S. Cooperative Extension Service, will join us for a seminar/question/answer session. This is the time for gardeners to ask questions etc. ***In fact, if any of our gardeners have topics they want to be sure are covered, please let us know and we will pass it on to Mr. Brown.*** He has indicated he will be happy to cover any gardening topics requested. We will make sure the decaf coffee and tea are on, and cookie surprises! ***NOTE: WE WILL HAVE A TABLE SET UP AT THE WORKSHOP FOR YOU TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR 2023 GARDEN REGISTRARION AND PAY YOUR FEES,*** For further information regarding THIS WORKSHOP ONLY, please contact Jeanette Morton at (907) 301-1855

MORE WORKSHOPS?

Last summer you gardeners were full of ideas! Well, here we are, with a new summer, and a grand start with the Extension service presentation.! Do you have any suggestions for future Workshops or subjects? Would you be willing to present one? We are more than willing to help you prepare and present. Workshops can be inside, in the COSLC Fellowship Hall , or outside, in the Garden! WE NEED A VOLUNTEER TO COORDINATE THE WORKSHOPS. If you are interested, please contact Dan at 388-8193 or 865-3275.

Thought for the day

"Gardening adds years to your life and life to your years." - Unknown

2023 GARDEN BEDS

We are in the process of assigning the beds. In most cases, those who participated last year will be able to use the same beds. However, there have been some changes. Some folks are not returning and their beds have been reassigned to other folks who wished to change locations, or requested additional beds. PLUS ... we have 20 additional beds. 10 short beds have arrived and 10 Tall ones are still on back-order. This will give us a total of 50 beds this coming season. Of those, there are still 8 Tall beds available , and possibly 3 short beds. If you have relatives or friends that might be interested, please have them contact us as soon as possible. Uncommitted beds will be planted and used for the Food Bank operated by Lutheran Social Services over in Spenard.

Another Gardening Thought

"Grow Peas of mind, Lettuce be thankful, Squash selfishness, Turnip to help thy neighbor, and always make Thyme for loved ones" from a sign in Facebook

2023 Registration

As mentioned earlier, to make it easier for you to register and pay your fees, \$15 cash or check, we will have a table set up at the workshop on April 20th for processing your application and paying your fees. It will be in the Lobby of the Church so that we don't disturb the workshop. We will open up at 6:30 pm, so that you can get into the workshop at 7:00 and we will be there until the end of the workshop for latecomers.

2023 Garden Bed Application Agreement form

Included in this newsletter is the 2023 Garden Bed Application Form, which we said would be coming. The form that was in the March 23 Newsletter was designed to help us find out who was planning to return, so that we would know how many vacant beds there would be available. The deadline for return of the form was April 7. We attempted to contact all gardeners who did not respond with their application form by telephone. In some cases we left messages on recording devices. If we did not get a response, the name was removed from the 2023 Gardeners list and the bed was assigned to someone from our Waiting List.

Every Gardener will need to complete the NEW form as it has been changed to add additional information that we discovered last year was needed in order for us to manage the Garden more efficiently. The Guidelines have also been updated and will be given to you when you bring in your application and pay your fees.

GARDENING HINTS

We get ideas from our gardeners all the time. Here are three for Spring!

- (1) If you are a new gardener, you might want to use "starts" from one of the local nurseries, or grow your own starts, if you have the space and sunlight, in your home or apartment.. Starts will give your garden a head-start! Now's the time to do it!*
- (2) Remember, Starts will have to be "seasoned" before you plant them in your Vegobed. That means exposing them to the cooler temperatures outside for several days, kinda like jumpin in the water, or splashing it on yourself before you s-l-o-w-l-y wade in! We'll have a special handout for you at the workshop!*
- (3) If you plant seeds, make sure you identify the plants and mark the rows. Them little buggers look just like weeds when they begin to sprout! My Dad taught my brothers and I to use Popsicle sticks and Kite string strung between the sticks to mark the rows. We removed the sticks and string as soon as the plants were big enough to tell the difference!*

Late Breaking NEWS
GARDEN PARTY JUNE 15

Due to an outstanding response (“we gotta do this again”) we are scheduling another POTLUCK PARTY just like last summer’s Garden Dedication. More info will be in the May Newsletter!

****NEW FEATURES FOR 2023****

We really do listen to you, so here are some surprises for this coming season:

****We have purchased an additional 450 gallon water tank. This is not for hot tubbing! Last Summer, during the hot season, we were using over 300 gallons a day, and having to refill the single tank almost every day. We hope to link them up so that only one faucet is required. You still will need to fill the cans from the provided hose/faucet.**

**** To help those of you who had difficulties with the large watering cans, we are purchasing a set of smaller ones which should be easier to lift.**

****To make it easier to transport those watering cans, we have purchased an additional wagon!**

**** We will be installing benches in the garden area for you to rest on when you get tired of pulling the wagon, watering, weeding , etc.**

****We are going to build and install a bulletin Board for us, and you, to place notes on for other gardeners, kinda like the boards at the grocery stores. It is not for complaints. Please contact us if you have problems.**

Paul and Ruth Lemp Memorial Community Garden Application/Agreement (2023)

Completion Notes:

This form must be completed in its entirety. Why?

- Newsletters are sent out by email. If you do not have email, please let us know. Some of you do not read your email everyday so we will send you an alert by text to your Cell Phone, if you let us know. If you do not receive texts, we will mail you the newsletter.
- We keep an eye out for problems in the Garden. So do the gardeners. If we discover something, such as lack of maintenance, vandalism, insects, Plant Wilt, Mold, or other plant diseases, etc, in your Garden, we will contact you. If you notice a problem, please contact us, and give us the bed number,. All beds have a number engraved on a small wood plaque that is attached to a metal post.
- You are the Primary Gardener. The Alternate Gardener can be a friend, neighbor, or anybody other than your spouse that YOU ask to take care of your garden if you have to leave town, become disabled, etc. If there is a problem and we cannot reach you, then we will call your Alternate. If we cannot contact you or your Alternate, we may consider your garden abandoned and we will take it over, giving it to someone else to maintain and harvest.

On the following form, COSLC COMMUNITY GARDEN is a shortened version of the PAUL AND RUTH LEMP MEMORIAL COMMUNITY GARDEN. COSLC represents Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church.

COSLC Community Garden Application/Agreement (2023)

I wish to reserve a raised garden bed for an annual fee of \$15.00 per bed. I understand that I will be able to reserve my bed(s) for the next season, (2024) **assuming my performance has been satisfactory**. If additional beds are not available, my name will be placed on a waiting list.

I have read and understand the guidelines for the COSLC Community Garden and agree to abide by them. I also understand that failure to abide by the guidelines may result in the immediate revocation of the use of the Community Garden, forfeiture of any plants, and future use of the garden.

COSLC will not be responsible for personal injury incurred by any gardener or person accompanying the gardener, including children, when using the garden area and surrounding area. Nor will the church assume responsibility for any theft, loss, or destruction of any property owned by the gardener.

By signing this agreement, I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless COSLC, its employees, members, council members, and the Paul and Ruth Lemp Memorial Community Garden Committee and volunteers, from any claims or liabilities arising from the negligent or intentional misconduct of myself, my family members, or persons accompanying me while I use the garden or surrounding COSLC property.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please Print:

Primary Gardener _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Alternate Gardener (person who takes care of your bed if you are gone)

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

**Please make payment, via check, to COSLC Memorial Garden.
RETURN THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO:**

**CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
attn, Lemp Memorial Community Garden
1612 Oceanview Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99515**

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Bed # (s) Assigned _____ **Amount Due \$** _____

Paid by Check # _____ **Paid by Cash** _____