

On our way rejoicing, proclaiming, teaching, and sharing God's love!



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 346

228 Main Street

Sharon, WI 53585

Phone: (262) 736-4757

March

2021

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 4:40 Kid's Lenten ZOOM Meetings	3 *Midweek Lenten Service Video e-mailed	4	5	6
7 10:15 Worship- In Person and Facebook Live 11:00 Everett Roth Baptism Facebook Live	8	9 4:40 Kids' Lenten ZOOM Meetings	10 *Midweek Lenten Service Video e-mailed	11 6:00 Council Meeting	12	13
14 10:15 Worship- In Person and Facebook Live End of Service-11:45 Drive-Up Communion	15	16 4:40 Kids' Lenten ZOOM Meetings	17 *Midweek Lenten Service Video e-mailed	18	19	20
21 10:15 Worship- In Person and Facebook Live End of Service-11:45 Drive-Up Communion	22	23 4:40 Kids' Lenten ZOOM Meetings	24 *Midweek Lenten Service Video e-mailed	25	26	27 *Newsletter Deadline*
28 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 10:15 Worship- In Person and Facebook Live End of Service-11:45 Drive-Up Communion	29	30 4:40 Kids' Lenten ZOOM Meetings	31 *Midweek Lenten Service Video e-mailed			

Christ Lutheran News

On our way rejoicing, proclaiming, teaching, and sharing God's love!

A word from the Pastor

This Lent I have been thinking about angels. Until this year, I hadn't given angels of Lent much thought. Normally, we think of them as Advent and Christmas beings. The Angel Gabriel comes to Zechariah in the Temple to tell him he and Elizabeth will have a son, John, who will help prepare the way for Jesus. Gabriel comes to Mary to tell her she will be the mother of Jesus. On the night of Jesus' birth the Angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds to tell them about the birth of a Savior, and the whole sky filled with them. I've always liked my angels tucked away with the Christmas decorations. It seemed like that's where they belonged.

But this Lent, angels are on my mind. Carol Frederick gifted me with a beautiful handmade stole. The print is made of deep purple palm branches. The stole is decorated with a larger cross and a couple of smaller crosses.

Purple, palm branches, and crosses are all symbols we expect to encounter in Lent, but this stole has a surprise. Clear, glassy angels have been lovingly affixed to the fabric. When I see them, I think, teardrop angels!

The first Sunday in Lent this year, I couldn't help but notice that there was a similar surprise in the Gospel text. Angels showed up in the wilderness. Jesus was in the wilderness with the wild beasts, and Satan tempted him for 40 days. It was a true wilderness experience, but in the desolation and the struggle, angels came and waited on him.

Our 40 days of Lent mirror Jesus' time in the wilderness. In a spiritual way, we enter the wilderness too. We leave the comfort of our safe ideas about God. We ask difficult questions. We contemplate the cross. We remember our mortality, and allow all the questions, fears, and truths of that reality to lead us to God and what is important in life.



The wilderness is a scary place. We are tempted to leave the wilderness and return to our safe and easy ways. The wild beasts confront us—the shadow sides of ourselves, and the pain of sin and suffering in the world. But there in the wilderness, the angels also come to us. They are the presence of God coming to sustain us even when it seems we are completely alone.

The presence of God shows up all kinds of ways. God makes God's presence known in moments when we experience the deep knowing that we are not alone. It shows up through people, through natural beauty, through waves of peace that overtake us, through scripture, through little miracles that get us through the day, sometimes even, and I think this is very common, through animals. God is with us. In the wilderness, God finds us and gives us the strength to make it another day, continue with the hard questions, to see one more thing through.

As I was thinking about Lenten angels, I remembered that there is another incident of Lenten angels in the Bible. On Maundy Thursday, when Jesus was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, the Gospel of Luke records, "Then an angel from heaven came to him and gave him strength." (Luke 22:43)

This Lent, I will be thinking of angels, teardrop angels who understand our trials and struggles, who know what we need, who come to us in the wilderness and find us in Thursday gardens, bearing the abiding love of God. I will be thinking of angels bringing hope and accompaniment as sustaining as bread.

My prayer for you this Lent is that you are visited by these attending angels in exactly the moments you need them.

Peace,

Pastor Kalen Barkholtz

Lenten Midweek Reflections

Normally we gather for worship and a meal on Wednesdays in Lent. As we begin to reopen the church building, council and the worship committee have decided to prioritize Sunday mornings as our in-person worship gathering. Even though we are not gathering in the building for worship midweek, it's still Lent, and we are offering a virtual option to worship on Wednesdays. Cindy Wuttke will be leading us through a series of video reflections each Wednesday. These short videos offer a time to pray, hear Scripture, and reflect. A link will be emailed to the congregation on Wednesday mornings. You are free to watch them at your convenience. The link will also be posted on Facebook.

Lent Kid's Time on Tuesdays

On Tuesday's Pastor Kalen is offering a Lenten kids' time on ZOOM. If you would like a link to this program, and have not already been contacted, reply to this email, and we will make sure you get one.

Schedule for Kid's Time:

4:40-5:00 Littles (preschool and under, babies welcome!)

5:00-5:30 Kindergarten-2nd Grade

6:00-6:30 3rd Grade-5th Grade



Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday - April 1st - In person at church - 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 2nd - Outdoor service in the church parking lot - 6:00 p.m.

Easter - To ensure safety, Council and the worship committee are planning on having more than one service if there appears to be a need. To determine the number of service offerings and times, we will be sending out a survey to find out how many are planning to attend in person, and what worship times people prefer. The survey will be sent via email. It will take seconds to complete. The council and worship committee would appreciate your responses. Information about Easter service times will be communicated in the April newsletter and through email and Facebook. Thank you for your help!

Baptism!

Everette Roth was born in December to parents Jessica and Zachary, and big sister Georgia! Congratulations to his family! His baptism will be celebrated on Facebook live March 7th at 11:00. The congregation is invited to join us online that day to cheer him on as he becomes a baptized child of God.

April 14th Virtual Talent Show!

Calling all kids and grownups who sing, dance, tell jokes, juggle, play a musical instrument, write poetry, read aloud, do magic tricks, or have other fun and interesting talents to share! Christ Lutheran will hold a virtual talent show Wednesday, April 14th at 6:00. It will be a ZOOM talent show, bringing us together from our homes. In place of admission and entry fees, we are requesting a free will donation to support the high school youth mission trip this July. All are welcome to participate. To register as a performer or audience member, please email the church at clcsharon1845@gmail.com.

A Message From the Council

Friends In Christ,

As many of you are aware and some may not, the council is made up of committees. These committees each deal with an area of church function. These committees each have a chairperson responsible for reporting to the council. This year we have added two new committees: a Renewal Team representative to help keep the council informed of their activities and ideas and, out of necessity, a Technology committee, to help us use all of the technical resources we have at our disposal. Through this technology, and I only know a little, we were able to hold services live on Facebook and YouTube. The council was able to meet and conduct business as a group on Zoom.

The following is a list of committees and chairpersons for the coming year:

- Christian Education - Stacie Sheppard
- Evangelism - Stephanie Smith
- Property - Collin Frederick
- Stewardship - Beth Frederick
- Worship and Music - Jacqueline Webster
- Youth - Mike Dowden, Kelly Alicea
- WELCA Rep.- Robin Ruosch
- Renewal Rep. - Kelly Alicea
- Technology- Mike Dowden & Collin Frederick

2020 was a very challenging year for all. Like you, I hope and pray that little by little we can put it all behind us. We, as a council, look forward to more normal times. We will continue to keep everyone's health and safety first and foremost as we try to bring more normalcy back to church, bit by bit.

Stay safe and healthy,

Dan Way

Council President

Passing Down Traditions



Mary Kline, one of our members, has been passing down a time honored tradition at Christ Lutheran Church by graciously teaching Rosie Alecia the skill of quilting.



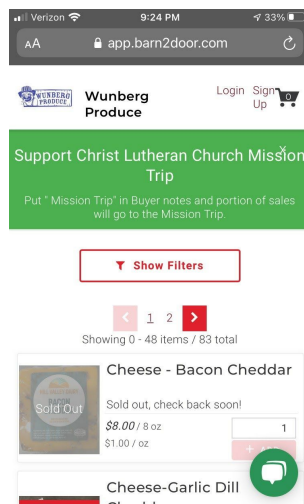
High School Mission Trip Fundraising

Four of our high school students, Jacob Schmig, Gianna Webster, Brendan Sief and Kaylee Fredrick, will be going on a mission trip this summer to Bemidji, MN to visit the Leech Lake Ojibwe reservation. They will learn about Ojibwe culture, meet new friends, volunteer in a children's center, do some service projects around the reservation, and worship.



There are three ways to support them financially:

- Purchase items from the Wunberg produce website. Wunberg Produce is so very excited to be a part of Christ Lutheran's high school mission trip. You can buy products on our online store and a portion of the sale will go toward this mission trip. If you buy products on our online store, all you need to do is put a note in the buyer notes stating that you



are supporting the mission trip. Just put “mission trip” in buyer notes. You will receive no contact delivery service to your doorstep. It is an honor that Wunberg Produce can give back where we live/farm/employ to support the mission of our loving Savior Jesus Christ. One of the greatest commissions we as Christians were given is outlined in Matthew 28:19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and son of the Holy Spirit.”

- Attend our Christ Lutheran ZOOM Talent show on April 14th. Share an act, or just enjoy the entertainment. There will be no cost for the talent show, but participants and viewers can make a free-will donation.
- Purchase stock in the mission trip. Invest in the students’ faith formation by purchasing shares in their mission trip for \$25 a share. Investors receive a stockholder’s certificate, a postcard from a student while on the trip, and an invitation to a stockholder’s dinner where students will give a presentation about their experience. In the case that a dinner is not possible because of COVID, we will provide investors with a take home meal and will find an alternative way for the youth to share their experience. If you wish to purchase stock, email the church at clcsharon1845@gmail.com Or fill out and mail the request form in this newsletter.

To purchase shares in the high school mission trip, please cut below the line and send a check to Christ Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 346 Sharon, WI 53585.

I would like to invest in the faith formation of youth at Christ Lutheran Church who will be attending the mission trip to the Leech Lake Ojibwe Reservation in Bemidji, MN this summer. I will receive a stock certificate in the mail, a postcard from a youth attending the trip, and an invitation to a stockholder’s dinner on Sunday, July 25th. If you are not able to attend the dinner, you can still purchase stock.

I would like to purchase _____ shares for \$25 each, totaling \$_____.

Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____

Checks can be made out to Christ Lutheran Church with “mission trip” written in the memo. Thank you!

LET'S celebrate

Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations This Month!

(If you or someone you know is not listed here, or if our information is incorrect, please let the Church Office know.)

Birthday Celebrations

3/2 Toby Fredrick	3/9 Kensington Frederick	3/19 Orrin Bangert
3/3 Kaden Rambatt	3/9 Daniel Huff	3/19 Robert Webster
3/4 Brandon Hardt	3/10 Mark Ruosch	3/22 Jerry Gibbons
3/4 Conner Ruosch	3/13 Tom Dowling	3/23 Steve Jacobs
3/4 Karly Ruosch	3/13 Chet Forsythe	3/24 Makenzie Dowden
3/5 Daniel Mizelle	3/14 Gage Wuttke	3/25 Franchezka Hardt
3/5 Kelly Timmons	3/17 Marlo Crump	3/27 Stephanie Smith
3/6 Kimberly Casteel	3/18 Travis Frederick	3/28 Alex Zimmerman
3/8 Chris Lynch		3/29 Terry Berryman

Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

3/8/2014 Travis & Kaylee Frederick

3/20/1993 Terry & Sarah Berryman

3/31/2012 Michael & Caitlin Dowden

Baptismal Anniversary Celebrations

3/9 Dani Lawler	3/22 Orson Bangert	3/29 Kim Jacobs
3/22 Orrin Bangert	3/25 Carol Frederick	3/30 Brooke Berryman
	3/27 Beth Frederick	

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.



Please remember these people in your prayers: Cindy Bangert, Orson Bangert, Ginny Bursh, Kim Casteel, Tom Fredrick, Denise Gibbons, Mike Haeberlin, Dan Hammett, Kim Jacobs, Erik Jelinek, Tom Kleiber, Mary Kline, Jean Kovarik, Marilyn Lowry, Ray Lowry, Bill Piculas, Janit Roach, Peggy Rotta, Janet Schilke, Joy Smith, and Flo Supay.

Please remember our members in care facilities:

Your cards, letters, and notes mean so much at this time.

Ginny Bursh is at Golden Years

Ginny Bursh
Golden Years
270 Ridge Rd.
Walworth, WI 53184

Tom Fredrick is at Delavan Health Services

Tom Fredrick
Delavan Health Services
905 Geneva St.
Delavan, WI 53115

Tom Kleiber is at Sunnyside Assisted Living

Tom Kleiber
Sunnyside Assisted Living
1 Eastown Manor
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Featured Family of the Month

The Dowden Family

Mike and Caitlin met at Big Foot High School. They live in Walworth with their four daughters Kylie, Mia, Makenzie, and Karlie. They also have two dogs, Spot and Blue, and a cat named Riggs.

Mike is a math teacher and Varsity Basketball and Track Coach at Big Foot High School. Caitlin works at Walworth Elementary School where she currently serves as the Dean of Students. She is also the Varsity Volleyball Coach at Big Foot.



Family hobbies: attending sporting events, community events, and the Sharon Ice Cream Shoppe. The girls love to play dress up, and participate in scavenger hunts at our parent's cabin.

Second Sunday Offering

The Second Sunday Offering for March benefits the Students for Good Choices Organization at Big Foot High School. Here is a message from their Vice President:

Dear Congregation of Christ Lutheran Church,

Firstly, a word of thanks coming from each member of Students for Good Choices. It's the actions of people such as yourselves that help fund our club; we could not operate without you.

Amid the Covid-19 pandemic it has been difficult to map out what activities would and would not be permitted. As you all may know, we are in charge of hosting Big Foot High School's Post Prom event. It is likely that there will not be a traditional Prom



this year, and this unfortunately means that Post Prom will also be quite different.



Currently, our plan is to work in tandem with the Junior class to host Prom outdoors. Our goal is to set up raffles and games, but we will stay true to our mantra of creating a safe environment for everyone. We want to thank you in advance for your donations and we promise that it will be put to good use.

Of course we wish that we could give you this message in person, but this is difficult given our current situation. We greatly appreciate your time in listening, it truly means the world to us.

Best Regards,

John Rouse

SFGC Vice-President