

The Vine



MARCH 2025

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From the Pastor's Desk...

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As I write this, we're coming up on the first Sunday in March.....Transfiguration Sunday. Transfiguration is a big church word for change...or transform.

Short story shorter: Jesus takes some of his boys up top the nearest mountain – he turns dazzling white (changes/transfigures before them) – some other dead Old Testament guys show up – the disciples are amazed and just want to hang out there in that super special cool moment – God's voice yells out, "This is my Son. Listen up!" – then Jesus scoots them off the mountain and tells them not to say anything.

I know the guy's reaction sometimes gets mixed reviews due to the messianic spanking that Jesus hands out as he pushes them back down the mountain and into ministry stuff again. But I don't blame them. Who doesn't want to hang out on the mountain tops? Who doesn't want to spend WAY more time at your wedding, your favorite vacation, that playoff game win, the SuperBowl parade, and whatever your mountain top looks like.

Mountain tops are awesome! So you can't blame the disciples for wanting to build some tents and just chill with some pretty important players in Salvation History.



But I think we all know that life is more like the valleys in between the Tops. Life is way more like those rocky paths that get us up those mountains and the steep sharp descents on the way down. Even if you look at the image above, you can see a couple "tops" and a ton of the rest of life.

But here's the good news, it's Jesus that sends us back into that regularity. It's Jesus that, before he did that for the disciples, he showed that his power and connection as God-present was with them. It's God's voice that yells out that "this is my Son that is walking down the hill with you, into that valley, that job, that family, that mission, that conversation, that hurt, that sickness, all of that!"

And so we learn from the mountain top...that it's not all about the mountain top...and more about the rest of life. And maybe that's why Jesus says "keep it on the down low." Because he wants to show them what's it's really about. A cross. Not a brilliant light, but a conquered darkness. A beaten death. A trampled devil. A quiet promise to be with him in paradise.

As we move into the church season of Lent, may you reflect on the mountain tops of your life, but may you know that the overwhelming abundance of other life moments might just be what Jesus is directing us to. So that we will know that he's walking right with us into them.

Lord, thanks for mountain top and valleys...and for being a part of both. Amen

Soli Deo Gloria, Pastor Andy Seibert





News from South Hall Community Food Pantry

In January 2025 we served 274 families, distributed 10,217 lbs. received 2,665 lbs. of donated food and spent \$3,700.00 for food. We did receive \$700 in donations in January.

The board made the decision to move the pantry to a building on the Redwine Methodist Church property on Poplar Springs Road. Our goal is to complete the move by the end of June. Due to the configuration of the building, we will be able to store stock and serve clients/neighbors in the same building. We are quite excited about the future.

If you would like to become involved in this ministry, there are opportunities to serve distributing food every Thursday and for stocking shelves every Friday.

One week a month we serve three days.

In March will be serving on Monday March 31 from 4—6; Thursday April 3 from 10-12; and Saturday April 5 from 9:30—12:30.

Contact Cathy Freeman regarding serving at freemancat46@gmail.com or 678-427-1341. For restocking on Friday contact Eugene Ferg at 724-422-8008. In March we are collecting pasta. Thank you for your continued support.



Cathy Freeman





YOU ARE INVITED

What: Magi Conference 4 Spring Cluster Gathering

When: Saturday March 22,2025

Where: Christ Lutheran Church 3612 Old Oakwood Rd, Oakwood, Ga 30566

Registration begins at 9:00 am

\$15 registration includes Synod offering, continental breakfast and lunch

Agenda:

Continental breakfast
Business Meeting, Election of Recorder (3 year term)
Program-Power Point Presentation of the Early Women of the Bible
by Toni Zavadil
Bible Study with Phyllis Solgere
Lunch and Closing with Worship and Communion by
Pastor Julie Crosby

Please join us as we share fellowship with our sisters In Christ.

Our South Hall Food Pantry supported by local churches would appreciate donations: Canned Fruit, Jelly and 24 oz Jars of Spaghetti Sauce. This is a Thrivent Action Team Event.

Women of the ELCA

RSVP: Susan Cordial cordials47@gmail.com
Text 813-493-0357
Sign up sheet in the Narthex





Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will meet on Monday, March 10th at 11:30. Lunch will be provided by Peggy Anderson, Marsha Lowe and Phyllis Solgere. A devotion will be given by Zona Buchen. There will be a business meeting and plans for the Spring Cluster 4 meeting will be finalized. The theme for the event is A WELCA woman is wise and kind.;Proverbs 31:26. The cluster meeting will be Saturday March 22. All ladies are welcome to join us for our meetings and the cluster event

Zona Buchen president , 229 591-0037







CLC volunteers prepare spaghetti for Good News at Noon, a homeless shelter in Gainesville. We volunteer the 2nd Wednesday of every month. If you are interested in helping please see Cheryl Fuller.







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Lent Services Holden Service of Evening Prayer

Join us each Wednesday from March 12th through April 9th for dinner & Holden Service of Evening Prayer (Holy Reader Theatre).

Dinner begins at 6:00 pm and service will follow at 7:00 pm.

Unity Sunday March 30th

One service at 10:00 AM A potluck lunch will follow



We are currently looking for volunteers to participate in the Holy Reader Theatre "The Potter and Me". If you are interested in participating please contact Pastor Andy.



On March 2 Jodie Massar will be leading the discussion on the findings in the book "unChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity and Why it Matters" by Dave Kinnamon and Gabe Lyons. Pastor Andy mentioned this book a few weeks ago in one of his sermons.

Bible+

The remaining Sundays in March the class will be reading and discussing parables of Jesus, to include the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the Lost Sheep.

All are welcome to join us.







Easter Breakfast
Fundraiser
Sunday April 20th
9:45 am

Free will offering benefiting Affirm participants

Youth Group will break from now until after Easter. I encourage ALL youth and their families to take part in the Lenten dinners and services.

Youth group will resume Wednesday April 23rd



Easter Egg Hunt April 20th 12:00 pm



Pop-up Women's Choir

Ladies, there is still time to sing in a treble choir for just the month of March. We are preparing SSA music to sing on Saturday, March 22 at the Cluster 4 WELCA "Chicks Day Out" service at our church service in the early afternoon. We will also sing during our Christ Lutheran Sunday services, Ash Wednesday, and Lenten services in March.

Over a dozen ladies are harmonizing together on "Near the Cross" and "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place." They sing a beautiful anthem of service called, "Lord, Let Me Serve." You will recognize a choir classic, "Seek Ye First" sung over an accompaniment of Pachelbel's Canon in D. Sound like a fun activity you are fitted for? If you are a soprano, second soprano, or alto, please attend rehearsals on Wed. March 5 at 6:00 p.m. and Wednesdays, March 12th and 19th at 5:00 p.m. Text or call 770-842-1582 or email to let me know you will sing in the "Chicks Choir" in March.

Looking forward to making joyful sounds with you!-Diane Mulkey





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Want to get updates on church happenings and cancelations?

If so, simply text @clcinfo25 to the number 81010. This will opt you in to get notifications from the church office. It's that easy.





Congregation Connection

The Nurture committee has a new name: Congregation Connection Our goal is to help the members in our congregation connect with each other and with God.

We are making plans and will be having a few events in the future that we would love for you to attend. We will be posting these as they come up along with sign-up sheets. One of our goals is to reach those who may not be able to attend services and events on a regular basis.

CALL for VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for some volunteers that may have a few extra hours a week in our busy lives to help serve with these needs. Ways to help would be: Driving someone to an appointment, volunteering to make home visits with Pastor Andy, Child care for events we are hosting if needed. Along with helping with our Unity Sundays in ways of set-up / clean-up.

We ask that you think and pray about how you may be able to help connect with our members of the congregation. Sign-up sheets will be available as we move forward. For more information contact Dee Grimshaw 321-610-0220

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Happy Birthday!

3/1 Herb Grastat 3/1 Austin Seibert 3/4 Tyler Seibert 3/6 Barbara Tiszai 3/8 Sharon Stevens 3/10 Cindy Grastat 3/12 Janet Seibert 3/13 Toni Zavadil 3/14 Gail Heneghan 3/15 Pastor Andy Seibert 3/16 Kyle Lewis 3/17 Scott McKevitt 3/20 Anthony Prunsky 3/21 Kelly Stoup 3/24 James Meyers 3/24 Sarah Douglas 3/24 Janet Falcey 3/24 Peggy Anderson 3/27 Sarah Caruso 3/31 Jill Young







Serving this month:

8:30 AM Worship Service

Readers

3/2- Toni Zavadil

3/9- Sue Joninas

3/16- Jenna Abney

3/23- Edna Jackson

3/30- Dr. Hank Lewis (10 am)

Altar Guild

3/2- Sue Joninas

3/9-Beth Marien

3/16- Cathy & Mitch Schueler

3/23- Gerry & John Travis

3/30- Lisa Sage (10 am)

Assisting Ministers

3/2- Eric Bowman

3/9- Sue McCleese

3/16- Alan Clark

3/23- Eric Bowman

3/30- Sue McCleese (10 am)

Ushers

3/2- Paul Evans & Toni Zavadil

3/9- Cheryl Neller & Dale Osterloh

3/16- Gerry Travis & Ana Mouthaan

3/23- Cheryl Neller & Paul Evans

3/30- Joel Parmer & Dr. Hank Lewis (10am)

11:00 AM Worship Service

Readers

3/2- Joel Parmer

3/9- Karen Legg

3/16- Zona Buchen

3/23- Ron Goetzke

3/30-Dr. Hank Lewis (10 am)

Altar Guild

3/2- Elke Baumgartner

3/9- Denise Simpson

3/16- Zona Buchen

3/23- Sharon Stevens

3/30- Lisa Sage (10 am)

Bread

3/2- Karin Bowman

3/5 Karin Bowman (Ash Wednesday)

3/9- Karin Bowman

3/16- Diane Bohn

3/23- Diane Bohn

3/30- Diane Bohn

Assisting Ministers

3/2- Karin Bowman

3/9- Dr. Hank Lewis

3/16- Jenny Goodwin

3/23- Don Woosley

3/30- Sue MCCleese (10 am)

<u>Ushers</u>

3/2- Joel Parmer & Dr. Hank Lewis

3/9- Carol Farrell & Janet Seibert

3/16- Michelle Bair & Ron Goetzke

3/23- Phyllis Solgere & Chris Beck

3/30- Joel Parmer & Dr, Hank Lewis (10

am)

3/30 -UNITY SUNDAY 10 AM Service





CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 3612 OLD OAKWOOD OAKWOOD, GA 30566 770-535-9938 WWW.CLCGA.ORG

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | 1:00 pm Spanish speaking confirmation class |
| 2 3:30 Worship 9:45 Bible+ II:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship I:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo | 3 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 4 9 am Morning Miracles | 5 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 12pm & 7pm Ash Wednesday Service | 6 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 6 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics | 7 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 8 10 am SHCFP |
| 9 3:30 Worship 9:45 Bible+ I1:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship I:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo | WELCA Luncheon 11:30 AM 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 11 9 am Morning Miracles 6 pm Council Meeting | 12 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 12pm Good News at Noon 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Lent Service | Alcoholics | 14 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 9:00 am Newborns In Need |
| 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo | Vine Submissions Hope St Paricks Day 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 18 9 am Morning Miracles | 19 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Lent Service | 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 6 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics | 21 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 9:00 am WELCA Cluster 4 Meeting |
| 23 3:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + II:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship I:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo | 24 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 25 9 am Morning Miracles | 26 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Lent Service | 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 6 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics | 28 8 pm 4th Dimension AA | 29 |
| 30 O am UNITY SUNDAY Iam Potluck | | | | | | |