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From the Pastor's Desk...

“Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and relents from punishment.” – Joel 2



Ash Wednesday services will be held on February 18th. Yes...already! And as we head into the church season of Lent, I have a confession to make...I hate having to return things at the store...any store! I get frustrated and anxiety ridden just thinking about it. Because it seems that every return policy is different and I'm never quite prepared and it is amazingly rare (unlike the picture) that I actually have the receipt.

So I get to the counter and there's questions about do I have the receipt...or a frequent shopper card...or a passport...or an enhanced license or a green card...or all of them! And I never have any of them.

So there I stand with my bags of "stuff" that I don't want, need, can't use and shouldn't have, tense, anxious and frustrated.

The prophet Joel simply shares God's simple and open return policy: return...all of you...no questions asked...no paperwork needed... and you will find love, grace and welcome... not punishment.

This is Lent. And this return policy is what Lent is about.

And if you really think about it...this is the whole Biblical story. God's story and our story have continually intersected with God wanting us back, to return, to be whole again, to be deeper in relationship, to be one and to be redeemed.

So if that's who God is and that's what God wants and that's what God has been trying to tell us...why do I still have these bags that I'm carrying around? Why not go to the counter with them and hear God's invitation and grace?

This season of Lent is an amazing gift to empty your baggage. Not just the ground curry that you bought my mistake...but instead the things that are keeping you away from God, the fears that we carry holding us back from real change, the anxiety that holds us from taking steps in the direction God is leading us, and the nervousness of coming to God with our whole self and allowing the One who created us to be the One that rules our life.

Because with that emptying into God's return policy, there is no punishment or harsh judgement. There is only grace. Mercy. And steadfast love.

Lord, thanks for making this return policy easier than we could imagine and exactly what we need. Amen

Soli Deo Gloria,

Pastor Andy

Pastor Andy's
Lunch Bag
Bible Study



Thursdays at Noon
beginning Jan. 8th
Bring your lunch!

SOUTH HALL



COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

It has been a busy January at the South Hall Community Food Pantry. We are well on our way to serving 300 families this month. A special thank you to Ron Lowe who has dealt with the cold weather to handle the parking lot.

For the month of February, we will be collecting dry pasta. Thank you for your continued support.
Cathy Freeman

Item of the month:

Dry Pasta



Thrivent Choice Supports Christ Lutheran Church!

Good news! In 2025 Thrivent members - through their Thrivent Choice Dollars member benefit, directed to Christ Lutheran over \$400 more than in 2024!

Thrivent is improving this benefit for ALL Thrivent members beginning in April 2026. To find out more, come talk with Thrivent Financial Advisor Jeff Huenniger after each service on March 8th.

He will be in the Fellowship Hall to share what is being improved and answer your questions.

We thank you for your continued generosity and support of the mission and ministry of Christ Lutheran Church!

Bible

We will continue our study of the prophets in the Old Testament on February 1 and 15. On February 22, the first Sunday in Lent, the class will discuss "Things to Give Up for Lent" and "Things to Do for Lent".



SCAN ME!



Vanco Online Giving

Good News at Noon
February 11th
For more information call
Cheryl Fuller 762-466-8489



Council's Corner



Upcoming dates to remember:

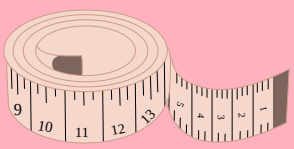


Mark your calendars for our Annual
Congregation Meeting:
February 8th
9:45 AM

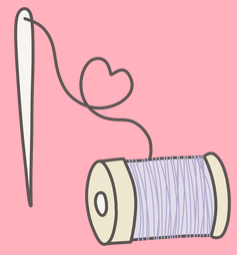


**Lutheran
World
Relief**

Quilters Guild will meet
Thursday February 19th
from 1-4 pm.



ALL ARE WELCOME!





Welca , Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church will meet on Monday , February 9 at 11:30. There will be a luncheon, devotion, and business meeting. Lunch will be provided by Carol Farrell, Diane Morehard, and Diane Mulkey .

Also mark your calendars for February 28 a Saturday. This will be the Magi Cluster 4 Spring Meeting. It will be held at Trinity Lutheran in Lilburn. The time for the event is 8:30 -11:30 with breakfast provided.



Congregation Connection

The end of the month 2/25/26 starts off our Wednesday evening Lenten meals. Council will be providing soup and sandwiches for all to enjoy.



On 3/11, there will be a potluck dinner, so plan on bringing something to share.

Saturday, March 7th from 2- 5pm we will be hosting another fun game get together. Drinks will be provided and we ask that you bring a snack to share. Sign up in the Narthex.

Hint.....





Souper Bowl of Caring
Sunday February 8,
2026

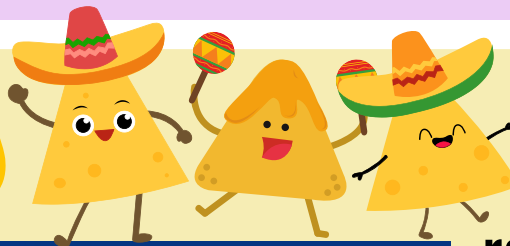
Sign up in the Narthex
to bring a soup or
sandwich. All
monetary donations
will go to the
Sunshine Seniors
Ministry

For youth Group notifications
join our GroupMe by scanning
the QR code.



Youth Group will be on a hiatus during
Lent February 18- April 1st. During this
time **we encourage all families to
attend Lenten Supper & Service each
Wednesday at 6pm**

Reschedule



Nerf & Nachos has been
rescheduled to March 14th
6-8pm





Lenten Activities

2/18- 12pm Ash Wednesday Service
7pm Ash Wednesday Service

2/25- 6pm Lenten Supper (provided by council)
7pm Lenten Service

3/4- 6pm Lenten Supper (provided by Bible+)
7pm Lenten Service

3/11- 6pm Lenten Supper (Potluck)
7pm Lenten Service

3/18- 6pm Lenten Supper (provided by WELCA)
7pm Lenten Service

3/25- 6pm Lenten Supper (TBD)
7pm Lenten Service

4/2- Seder Meal

4/3- 7pm Tenebrae Service

EASTER

4/5- 7am Easter Sunrise Service

8:30 am Easter Service

9:45 am Easter Breakfast Fundraiser

11:00 am Easter Service

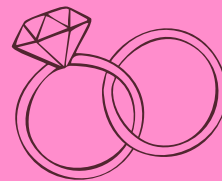
12:00pm Easter Egg Hunt





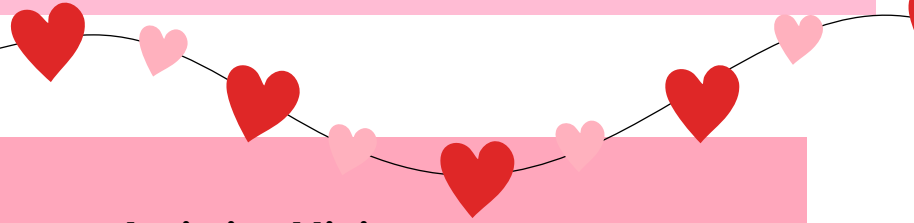
2/1- Michelle Bair
 2/2- Judith Cook
 2/3- Bill Stevens
 2/3- Marilyn Johnson
 2/7- Brenda Yerger
 2/8- Alan Overcash
 2/12- Kathy Singer
 2/16- Alan Clark
 2/17- Gerry Travis

2/18- Rick Miklos
 2/22- Lucy Terry
 2/26- Norman Sage



2/16- Gerald & Judy Bultman
 2/18- Joe & Karen Vinson

Serving this month:



8:30 AM Worship Service

Readers

- 2/1- Sue Joninas
- 2/8- Cathy Schueler
- 2/15- Toni Zavadil
- 2/22- Eugene Ferg

Altar Guild

- 2/1- Beth Marien
- 2/8- Cathy Schueler
- 2/15- Sue Joninas
- 2/22- Linda Evans

Assisting Ministers

- 2/1- Sue McCleese
- 2/8- Alan Clark
- 2/15- Eric Bowman
- 2/22- Alan Clark

Ushers

- 2/1- Ana Mouthaan & Cheryl Neller
- 2/8- Paul Evans & Toni Zavadil
- 2/15- Gerry Travis & Dale Osterloh
- 2/22- Gerry Travis & Ana Mouthaan

11:00 AM Worship Service

Readers

- 2/1- Karen Legg
- 2/8- Rick Welch
- 2/15- Joel Parmer
- 2/22- Hank Lewis

Altar Guild

- 2/1- Zona Buchen
- 2/8- Denise Simpson
- 2/15- Diane Morhard
- 2/22- Marilyn Johnson

Bread

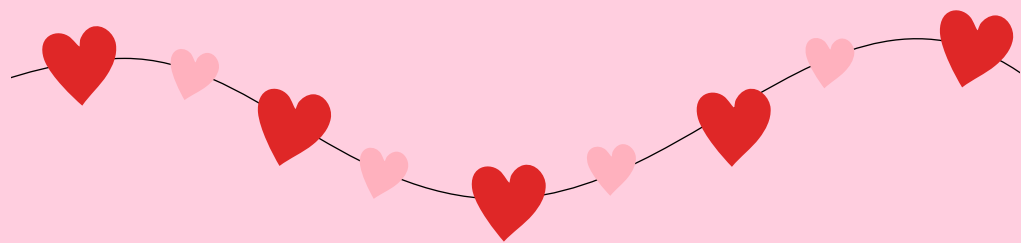
- 2/1- Karin Bowman
- 2/8- Karin Bowman
- 2/15- Diane Bohn
- 2/22- Diane Bohn

Assisting Ministers

- 2/1- Cindy Grastat
- 2/8- Don Woosley
- 2/15- Karin Bowman
- 2/22- Jenny Goodwin


Ushers

- 2/1- Cheryl Fuller & Dr. Hank Lewis
- 2/8- Ron Goetzke & Chris Beck
- 2/15- Connie Coupal & Janet Seibert
- 2/22- Michelle Bair & Debbie Glass



FEBRUARY

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
 3612 OLD OAKWOOD
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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 8:30 Worship 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	2 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	3 9 am Morning Miracles	4 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10 am ZOOM Bible Study 6pm Youth Group	5 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 12p Lunch Bag Bible Study 6 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	6 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	7
8 8:30 Worship 9:45 Annual Meeting 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 12pm Souper Bowl of Caring 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	9  WELCA Luncheon 11:30 AM 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	10 9 am Morning Miracles 6 pm Council Meeting	11 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10 am ZOOM Bible Study 12 pm Good News at Noon 6pm Youth Group	12 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 12p Lunch Bag Bible Study 1 p Quilters Guild 6 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	13 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	14
15 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible+ 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	16 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	17 9 am Morning Miracles	18 Ash Wednesday 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10 am ZOOM Bible Study 12pm Ash Wed. Service 7pm Service	19 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 12p Lunch Bag Bible Study 6 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	20 Vine Submissions Due 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	21 9 am Newborns In Need
22 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible+ 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	23 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	24 9 am Morning Miracles	25 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10 am ZOOM Bible Study 6pm Lenten Supper 7pm Lent Service	26 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 12p Lunch Bag Bible Study 6 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	27 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	28 YOU ARE LOVED

