

3612 OLD OAKWOOD ROAD  
OAKWOOD, GA 30566

770-535-9938



April



## From the Pastor's Desk....

"Peace be with you." – Jesus to the disciples that first Easter evening

Do you have that "happy place?" That place where you go to retreat, get away, find sabbath or quiet?

Or maybe it's a thing you do...work out, go for a run, take a nap, walk the dog, read a book or have a cold beer.

Or maybe it's a thing you use...cross necklace, rosary, lucky rabbit's foot, security blanket.

What is it...where is it...how is it...that you find peace?

The older I get and the more of life I experience the more certain I am that we are designed to be at peace. Except much of our lives call us away from that. So, Jesus reminds us in Scripture that peace is a gift from God...given to us... as a part of our spiritual DNA, our operating platform and our baseline.

If you're like me though, you mess it up and get it backwards – you try and cram a bit of peace into the chaos instead of how God intended it for us – start from that peace and walk into the chaotic moments.

When we start our day, our moments, our movement from a place of peace, we sense the gift of the Holy Spirit first. That's the design. Too often, once I'm knee deep in drama and chaos, I reach out reactively for a deeper connection to God's Holy Spirit to "rescue" me. Ever prayed that prayer?

(Continued on next page)

### CLC STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Andrew Seibert  
770-403-1194  
pastor@clcga.net

**Office Communicator:** Sarah Caruso  
770-535-9938  
officeadmin@clcga.net

**Musician:** Diane Mulkey  
770-842-1582  
dianemulkey@bellsouth.net

**Youth Director:** Sarah Caruso  
678-865-7911  
clcyouthdirector@gmail.com

### 2024 Church Council President

Eugene Ferg..... 724-422-8008  
eaferg@hotmail.com

### Vice-President

Jeff Winiesdorffer.....770-965-8635  
jwinni@charter.net

### Secretary / Scribe

Eric Bowman.....256-652-8264  
Richard.bowman75@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Jeanne Lewis ..... 770-654-0025  
jeannelewis0112@yahoo.com

### Property

Joel Parmer ..... 404-202-1761  
parmerjoel@yahoo.com

### Members

Michelle Bair.....843-602-5038  
shelbel1of5@yahoo.com

Shaun Baumgartner.....516-413-5339  
emssmb5928@gmail.com

Cindy Grastat.....678-231-9731  
02hounds@comcast.net

Jodie Massar.....706-684-0095  
jmassar6208@comcast.net

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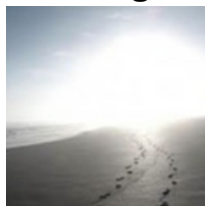
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What if your decisions today started with proactive peace? What if your conversations that might involve tension began at a baseline of peace? What if your prayers and centering today brought you first to the One who is already next to you rather than groping for an EMS-like Savior to pull you from the quick sand?

Whatever that reminder is for you today....your run, your blanket, your cross, your rest...may you hear through it the voice of the One who invites you into your peace-filled beginning as He walks right next to you on the journey.

Lord, today I am in peace. Thanks for that gift.  
Amen

Easter Blessings,  
Pastor Andy



In April, Bible + will have the following lessons:

Toni Z will teach on women's place in the church on the first Sunday in April.

The next Sundays remaining in April, Jodie and Jennifer will teach the most important Bible lessons chosen from The Lutheran Handbook. We hope you will grab your coffee and join us Sunday in between services!



WELCA Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will meet on Monday April 8 at 11:30 am in the parish hall. Lunch will be provided by Peggy Anderson, Nancy Garland, and Jennifer Sawyer. The devotion FACE OF GOD will be presented by Judy Bultman. All ladies of the church are welcome. Please come and join us.

Zona Buchen president

**SAVE THE DATE** Spring Magi cluster 4 meeting ( WELCA) will be Saturday April 20, 2024 at Trinity Lutheran Church, in Lilburn. There will be a continental breakfast, business meeting, program, bible study, lunch and a worship service. All women are welcome to attend.

Zona Buchen 229 591-0037

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**Quilters Guild will meet April 17th from 1-4 pm in the fellowship hall. We need sewers, cutters and ironers. We hope you will join us!**



Good day everyone! I want to give you an update on how we are helping families here in our community through Family Promise. As of this week there are 5 families that make up 21 people at the Family Promise facility. Our Cook team is scheduled for Monday April 15th and Friday May 31st to cook. They provide the ingredients and we just cook and deliver it to the families. Last time we were able to also provide them EVERYTHING on their pantry list thanks to so many generous donations. Again I am going to provide a box in the Narthex where you can pick up a copy of their list of needs and then drop off items. Since churches are only providing meals 3 days a week their pantry list helps fill the gaps and the other 4 days. Cash donations designated to the Family Promise fund are used to complete the list when we inventory what items have been donated. Look for the list on the narthex wall where the clipboards are if you would like to help. Thanks so much everyone.

Toni Zavadil

### CONGREGATIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The Congregation Council has decided to develop a Disaster Response Plan using the ELCA Congregational Disaster Preparedness Guidebook, which can be found at the ELCA web site searching for disaster response guidebook.

The purpose of this is to provide a plan for answering the "what if ... and what do we do now" questions in the event of any type of disaster, be it a fire, storm damage or other situation that impacts our ability to operate and or serve the wider community. The guidebook provides a step-by-step process for us to create a plan unique to our situation.

This is no small task and too much for the council to do by itself. That said, we are in need of volunteers to serve as a collaborative team in the development of the plan so that the congregation is ready to respond to a threat of and actual impact of a disaster.

If you are willing to serve on this team, please contact Eugene Ferg, 724-422-8008 or at [eaferg@hotmail.com](mailto:eaferg@hotmail.com). Also, copies of the guidebook are available at the church office for your review before making your decision. Thank you.





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### **Psalms 33:3 ---**

**1 Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. 2 Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. 3 Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.**

We joyfully celebrate the installation of Christ Lutheran's new Allen digital organ GX-215 with Genisys voices. May it be used in praise and worship for many years. God has provided this instrument through the generosity of all his children and special designated gifts. It was purchased through the Allen Organ Studio in Atlanta. Owner Jeff Ayers personally oversaw the installation, voicing, and initial instruction. Dr. Henry Lewis headed the selection process.

We also give thanks for the instruments that have been given to God's glory from 1992 to 2024. How God works----Pastor Mark Christoffersen was getting a haircut around the time our church was being built in 1992. In his conversation at the salon, he said that Christ Lutheran needed an organist. Hair stylist April Dinkins said, "My mother is an organist." Indeed her mother Wanda Brumfield became the first organist at CLC and moved her personal Hammond organ into the sanctuary, and April and her husband Dewayne became faithful choir members for many years. Upon Wanda's shoulder injury and retirement in 1996, she donated the organ to our church, and Diane Mulkey added organist to her choir director responsibilities.

In the early 2000's, Mary Couch, a former substitute organist at Good Shepherd Lutheran and an organist at St. John's Methodist Church, Gainesville, GA, was no longer able to play her organ because of limited eyesight. Through her friend Elaine Key, she wanted to donate her organ to our church and we gratefully accepted her gift of a Baldwin organ. Our Hammond organ moved on to another church in northeast Georgia. The Baldwin organ is a 1977 model and has served us well with some repairs by Weyman Holcomb until the past year. Besides Ms. Wanda and Diane Mulkey, substitute organists have played for our services including Carolyn Wierson, Mackie Brown, Rebecca Conatser of Christ the King, Cumming, GA, and even Phyllis Seibert, Pastor Andy's mother.

Our oak Kimball upright piano located in the fellowship hall was a gift from Doris Reynolds and family at the time the church was built. It was used in the sanctuary for many years. Brenda Clark donated her beautiful Yamaha ebony grand piano to Christ Lutheran when physical limitations kept her from playing it in her home. We appreciate these gifts and continue to use them to enhance worship.

Pastor Andy dedicated the new organ on Sunday, March 17 and it was played in our worship services for the first time. The WELCA ladies under the leadership of Zona Buchen and Nancy Garland hosted a celebratory reception in thankfulness for all of God's good gifts and specifically our new organ.

"To God Be the Glory, great things He has done..."



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## SOUTH HALL



## COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

In January the Pantry served 247 households and 238 in February. As of the end of February our congregation has donated \$1,777.14 to the Pantry.

Recently, after deliberation, the Board of the South Hall Food Pantry, which consists of two voting members from each of the churches serving at the pantry, decided to move towards becoming a "Choice Pantry" from a "Pre-packaged Pantry" (food that is already bagged and given to those in need). This transition will be done under the guidance and financial help of the Georgia Mountain Food Bank and is expected to occur by mid-year. The goal of this change is multifaceted, to better serve those in need, reduce waste (food that some clients may not want, use or need) and reduce the financial pressure on the pantry's resources. This transition will be a challenge, change is not easy and tough decisions await. Please keep the Pantry in your prayers.



I want to thank everyone that helped with the TNS annual Lasagna dinner. Thank-you for serving drinks, making sure the condiments were full, and hustling lasagnas out of the oven so every was able to have a hot dinner. A big thanks to Thrivent for the funds from the action team. They went a long way in helping make this night a successful one.

Our next fundraiser, if you are interested, will be the 18th Annual Golf, Dinner and wine event to be held on Monday, September 30th. More information to come.

Thanks again,  
Karin Bowman

Thank you



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# Youth NEWS

**Youth Group**

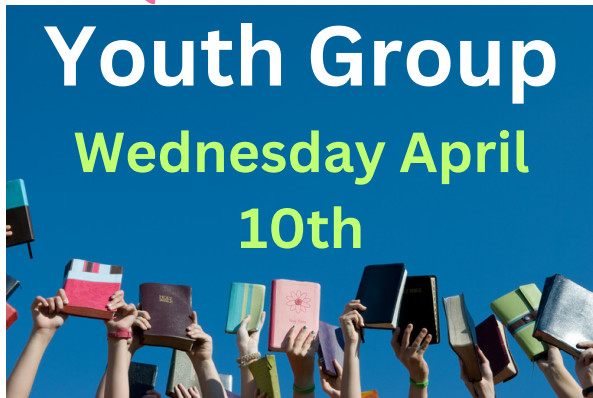
**Dates to**

**REMEMBER**

4/10 Youth Group 6 PM

4/17 Youth Group 6 PM

4/24 NERF & Nachos



AFFIRM Lutheran Camp is open to all middle and high schoolers. See Sarah for more information.



**Vacation Bible School**  
**June 3rd- 7th**



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**HAPPY**  
*Anniversary!*

04/26 Paul & Linda Evans  
4/27 David & Katie Tate  
4/29 Jacob & Ritva Wisenall



## MEN'S BREAKFAST



Wednesday mornings at 7:30 AM  
Bring your own breakfast



## Prayer & Pericope

Thursday's at 6:30 PM

**Usher's Needed**  
Please email the office  
if you would like to  
help

**HAPPY**  
**BIRTHDAY**

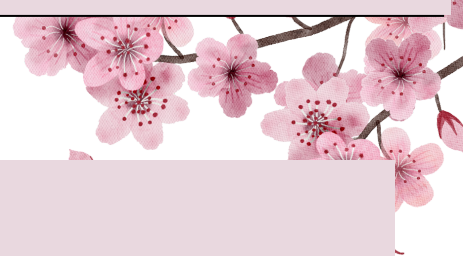
4/4 Kimberly Overcash  
4/6 Britlyn Caruso  
4/6 Brooklyn Caruso  
4/6 Cathy Freeman  
4/11 Jennifer Sawyer  
4/11 Cheryl Fuller  
4/14 Greg Kaczorowski  
4/16 Nancy Garland  
4/17 Anthony Caruso  
4/21 Carol Kern  
4/22 Mike Marien  
4/24 Paul Evans  
4/26 Lynn Osterloh



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Thank you for serving...



## 8:30 AM Worship Service

### Readers

4/7 - Cathy Freeman  
4/14 - Jenna Abney  
4/21 - Sue Joninas  
4/28 - Mindy Ellis

### Alter Guild

4/7 Cathy & Mitch Schueler  
4/14 Gerry & John Travis  
4/21 Lisa Sage  
4/28 Beth Marien

### Assisting Ministers

4/7 Eric Bowman  
4/14 Sue McCleese  
4/21 Alan Clark  
4/28 Eric Bowman

### Ushers

4/7 Richard Scott & Dales Osterloh  
4/14 Gerry Travis & Ana Mouthaan  
4/21 Cheryl Neller & Paul Evans  
4/28 Toni Zavadil & Richard Scott

## 11:00 AM Worship Service

### Readers

4/7 - Jeff Winiesdorffer  
4/14 - Peggy Anderson  
4/21 - Cindy Grastat  
4/28 - Ron Goetzke

### Alter Guild

4/7 Denise Simpson  
4/14 Zona Buchen  
4/21 Marilyn Johnson  
4/28 Diane Morhard

### Bread

4/7 Karin Bowman  
4/14 Karin Bowman  
4/21 Jill Young  
4/28 Jill Young

### Assisting Ministers

4/7 Cindy Grastat  
4/14 Dr. Hank Lewis  
4/21 Karin Bowman  
4/28 Jenny Goodwin

### Ushers

4/7 Phyllis Solgere & Carol Farrel  
4/14 Janet Seibert & Michelle Bair  
4/21 Ron Goetzke & Chris Beck  
4/28 Joel Parmer & Dr. Hank Lewis





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	2 9 am Morning Miracles	3 7:30 am Men's Breakfast  10:00 am Zoom Bible Study	4 9 am Morning Miracles AA  10 am SHFP  6:30 pm Prayer & Pericope	5  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	6
7 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	8 11:30 WELCA  6pm Church Council Meeting  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	9 9 am Morning Miracles	10 7:30 am Men's Breakfast  10:00 am Zoom Bible Study  6 pm Youth Group	11 9 am Morning Miracles AA  10 am SHFP  6:30 pm Prayer & Pericope	12  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	13
14 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	15  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	16 9 am Morning Miracles	17 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 1pm LWR Quilters  6 pm Youth Group	18 9 am Morning Miracles AA  10 am SHFP  6:30 pm Prayer & Pericope	19  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	20 9am -3 pm Newborns in Need
21 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	22  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	23 9 am Morning Miracles  Vine Submissions Due	24 7:30 am Men's Breakfast  10:00 am Zoom Bible Study  6 pm Youth Nerf & Nachos	25 9 am Morning Miracles AA  10 am SHFP  6:30 pm Prayer & Pericope	26  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	27
28 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	29  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	30 9 am Morning Miracles				