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CLC NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2024



Pastor Kenneth Lentz - 928-970-1313
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I want to thank Pastor Linda Fernandez for providing pulpit supply during my absence last summer. For two summers before that, Pastor Bill Beljean covered for me. However, for this coming absence, June 18-July 31, there were no Lutheran pastors available. Yes, there are plenty of retired pastors in Florida but most of them head north for the winter. I even approached the Episcopal Church for help. Same story. Luckily, I remembered an old friend of mine, Pastor Joe LaDu, who with Kathryn, his wife, are residing at Village on the Isle in Venice. "Sure," Joe said, "I'd be glad to cover for you!" I and Joe worked together when

I was the president of the Venice Ministerium back in the 90s. However, Joe is the former pastor of the Venice United Church of Christ congregation in Venice. That's right. Joe is not a Lutheran pastor.

I regard Joe's help as an opportunity to celebrate the ecumenical oneness of the church. Some years ago, the ELCA, the Presbyterian Church USA, the Reformed Church in America, and the UCC, signed "A Formula of Agreement" pledging mutual recognition of each other's baptism, mutual consultation, and ongoing theological dialogue. The "Formula" also encouraged pulpit exchanges. Similar agreements have been made with the Episcopal Church, the Moravian Church, and the Catholic Church. Unlike the Catholics, Episcopalians, and Lutherans, the United Church of Christ pastors are not in episcopal succession. Therefore, I will consecrate the elements for communion before I leave.

Some of the best moments in my ministry have been ecumenical. I have preached in Catholic churches, in almost all churches of mainline Protestant denominations, and even once in a Greek Orthodox church (in Castro Valley, CA). When I served in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, my friend, Msgr Frank Canfield, frequently called me up and said, "Hey, Ken, I need you on the altar tomorrow for a mutual friend for his/her funeral mass." A few years ago, I received a call from a friend telling me that her husband had died. She asked that I say a few words at his funeral mass in Denton, Texas. I met the presiding priest shortly before the service and he surprised me when he invited me to step forward and deliver the homily. (I quickly had to think of something to make my comments a little longer) Although, before the mass, one of the ladies who prepared everything for the service strictly warned me against receiving the host, the priest placed the host in my hand when I approached the altar to receive a blessing.

The greatest ecumenical moment for me happened when a friend of mine, Sr. Betty Flaherty of the Adrian Dominican order, called to tell me that her father had died. I extended my condolences but she answered, "That's not why I called you. I want you to be on the altar for the concelebration of the mass." I gladly complied. The church was packed and I joined about ten priests at the altar for the concelebration. I did not receive the host out of respect for an agreement between Catholics and Lutherans for mutual reception of the host that had not yet been made. (It still hasn't) The young priest next to me scolded me because I did not receive the host. I explained why. But I think that he and his colleagues would have gladly welcomed me to receive. After the mass, I attended a sit-down dinner for the offspring and relatives of Stephen Flaherty, about 200 people. Sr. Betty introduced me as her friend, Pastor Ken Lentz of the Lutheran Church and all 200 Flaherty's stood and applauded. What did St. Paul say? "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." (Ephesians 4:5)

It seems to me that the times at present are times of declining church membership and recognition in the western world. Certainly, that is all the more reason for expressions of the universal church to recognized each other and stand in solidarity, proclaiming the gospel of Christ and praying for each other. So, give Pastor Joe a warm welcome in June!

Your fellow traveler along the way,

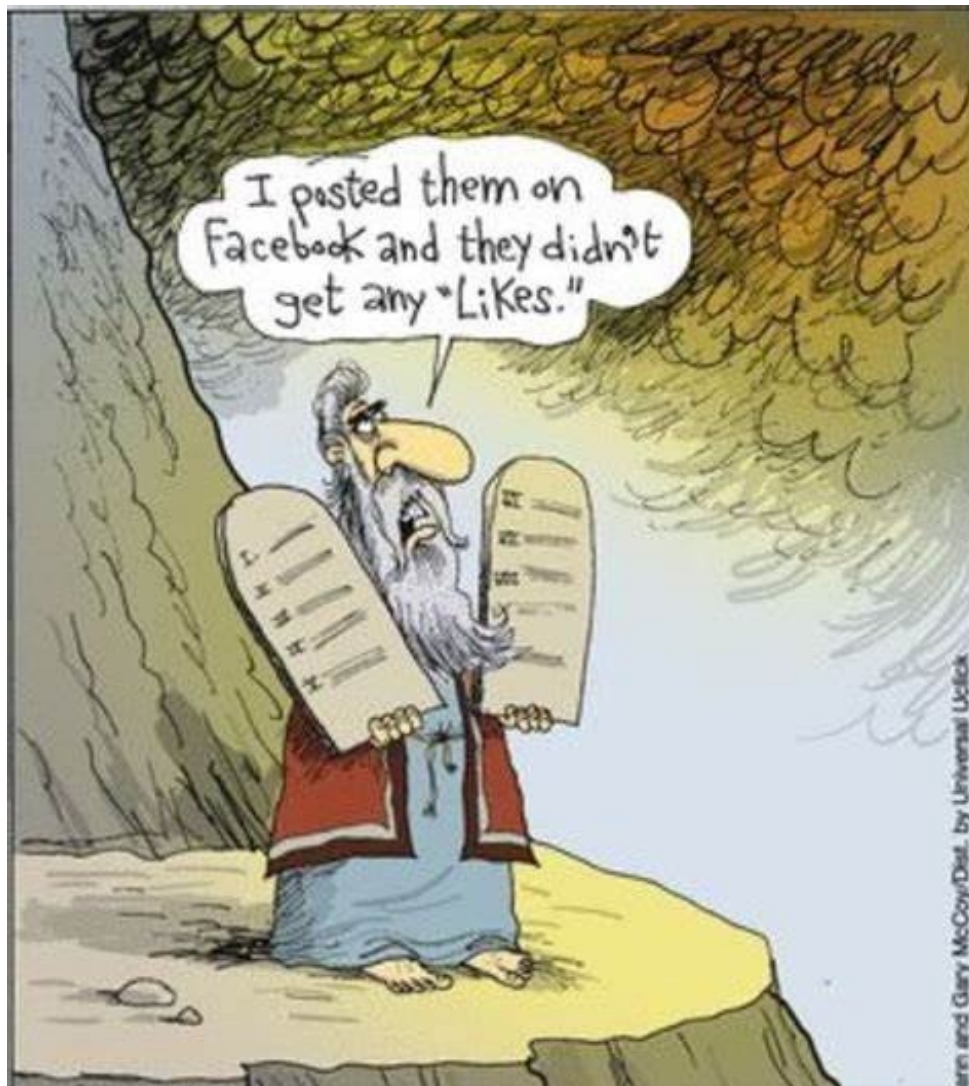
Pastor Ken

Music and Worship

The Music and Worship Committee did not meet in May.

However, the next Music and Worship Committee will take place on June 5th at 11:00^{am} in the church office. I am hoping to see all committee members and as always all are invited to attend.

*Lois Greene,
Chair Music and Worship*



OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND

With current grocery costs, you can imagine the need for food help has increased. As you are able, please continue to donate food and personal care items, placing them in our "Little Red Wagon". EHH is located on the grounds of Englewood Methodist Church. They are open to clients on W and TH, 8am-1pm. Pantry volunteers are needed June 26(W) and 27(TH). If you would like to volunteer as a pantry worker, please let Carol Rice or Mary Anne DiGrazia know.



QUILTING AND KNITTING

Please join us for a time of Christian fellowship, fun and service...no skills necessary. We meet from 9-2 (new, expanded time) every Wednesday, in the Fellowship Hall. All willing hands and hearts are welcome. Most of our quilts are donated to Lutheran World Relief. Knitted and crocheted Prayer Shawls and Lap Robes are donated locally. Do you know anyone who would be comforted by a Prayer Shawl?



THRIVENT

Are you a Thrivent member? Please remember to direct your Choice Dollars each quarter. Christ Lutheran is blessed to receive these gifts. Also, please consider applying for a Thrivent Action Grant (value of \$250) to support a special project for our church and/or the community. Grant requests can be initiated by calling Thrivent or by going online. Need a project idea? The Outreach Ministry Team will help.



KIDS' NEEDS of ENGLEWOOD

We continue to collect new and gently-used clothing for Englewood area elementary, middle and high school students (ages 5-18). Donations can be placed in the Kids' Needs collection box in the narthex. Thank you for helping children in our community!

TROSHUK FAMILY

Evelina, the oldest daughter, just graduated from high school. Please join us for a Graduation Celebration Lunch Party on Saturday, June 8, at 11:30am, in the Fellowship Hall. Please continue to support all of them with your prayers. It is approaching 2 years since they immigrated from war-torn Ukraine.



"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." This ELCA day of service will be on September 8th. Our 2024 project will be donating and assembling Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Watch for more info to come.

*Our next Outreach Ministry Team meeting is on Thursday, June 6, at 11am. All are welcome on our team. Please share your ideas for reaching out into our community with Christ's love.

Peace and Joy!

Carol Rice for the Outreach Ministry Team



Things you need to know!

If you are planning to bring baked goods to church for fellowship after service, please text or call Angie Ziegler at 941-525-7829

Joyce Hanisits, council rep to Fellowship Ministry



NEW CLC PHONE directories (blue cover) are available. Again, please let us know, via e-mail, a note, phone call, or carrier pigeon, etc. if your information needs updated. **PLEASE, if you have changed or there is an error, please let us know.** We can't express how important it is to keep us up to date by sending us any NEW info at office@christlutheranfleng.org telling us to add or correct your e-mail. And remember,

penmanship counts ... if I can't read it . . . guaranteed it will be 100% incorrect.

Christ Lutheran Church Privacy Statement . . .

The Church Directory of Christ Lutheran Church is provided to the members for the purpose of conducting church business only. The church Directory is not for sale and use of the information; including names, telephone numbers, emails or web addresses for purposes other than church-related business is strictly prohibited.



WOMAN CIRCLE - Thank you for all who helped with our Mothers day brunch. Once again it was a success. Our book club in April looked at Bishop Michael Curry's "Love is the Way." The last two chapters give us a blueprint on how to face the election months ahead, and remain friends in Christ even when we don't agree. . There are still a few books in the Narthex if anyone would like to read it. Our next gathering will be September 12 at 10^{am}. Join us as we look at planning the year ahead.

Pastor Linda



Heidi	Hose	06/05
Roseanne	Froemming	06/05
Ruth	Wyant	06/06
Natalie	Tickner	06/12
Gwen	Nicholson	06/22
Ellen	Novotny	06/29

If your birthday is not listed, and you would like it to be, please contact the office, via e-mail at . . . office@christlutheranfleng.org to share your special day.

Another adventure filled year awaits you.



May	Attendance	Giving
5	60	\$4,010.00
12	70	\$1,405.00
19	50	\$3,859.00
26	43	\$634.00
	223	\$9,908.00

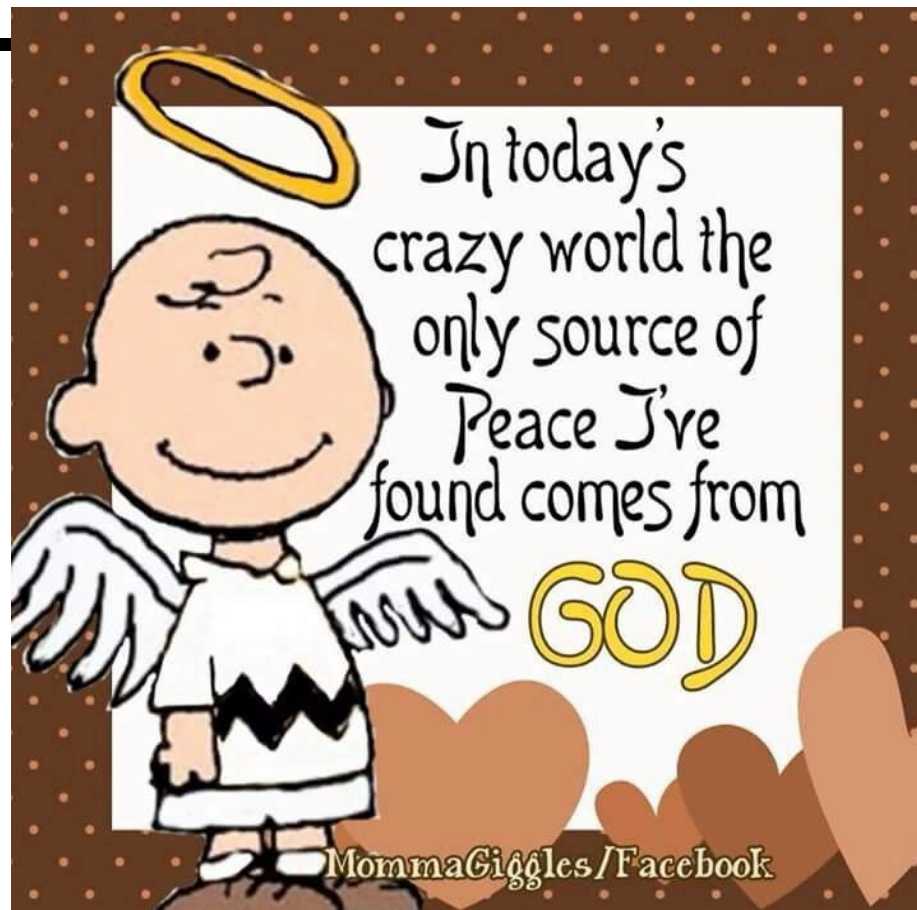


Attendance Matters



ORGAN DONATIONS -

You are invited to make a contribution for our new organ. Please make checks to Christ Lutheran Church with "organ fund" in memo section.





2024

1	SYNOD ASSEMBLY IN ORLANDO
2	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM} / SYNOD ASSEMBLY IN ORLANDO
3	VENETIAN HARMONY 6:30-9:30 ^{PM}
4	BRIDGE CLUB NOON - 5 ^{PM}
5	QUILTING 9:00 ^{AM} - 2:00 ^{PM} / WORSHIP COMMITTEE 11:00 ^{AM} / Forks & Fellowship - Outback Steakhouse 5:00 ^{PM}
6	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00 ^{AM} -NOON /OUTREACH COMMITTEE 11:00 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB NOON-5:00 ^{PM}
7	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
8	SATURDAY - NO ACTIVITIES
9	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM} / CONF. CLASS PICNIC 5:00 ^{PM}
10	VENETIAN HARMONY 6:30-9:30 ^{PM}
11	CHURCH COUNCIL 1:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB NOON - 5:00 ^{PM}
12	QUILTING 9:00 ^{AM} - 2:00 ^{PM}
13	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00 ^{AM} -NOON / BRIDGE CLUB NOON - 5:00 ^{PM}
14	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
15	SATURDAY - NO ACTIVITIES
16	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
17	VENETIAN HARMONY 6:30-9:30 ^{PM}
18	BRIDGE CLUB CLASS 10:00AM / PASTOR KEN ON VACATION BALANCE OF JUNE
19	QUILTING 9:00 - NOON
20	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-NOON / BRIDGE CLUB NOON
21	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
22	SATURDAY - NO ACTIVITIES
23	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
24	VENETIAN HARMONY 6:30-9:30 ^{PM}

25	BRIDGE CLUB CLASS - NOON - 5:00 ^{PM}
26	QUILTING 9:00 - NOON
27	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-NOON / BRIDGE CLUB NOON
28	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
29	SATURDAY - NO ACTIVITIES
30	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}

Forks & Fellowship
June 5th



**Confirmation Class
Picnic at Englewood
Beach - June 11th
5:00^{PM}**