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CLC NEWSLETTER

APRIL

2026



Spring has arrived

Pastor Kenneth Lentz - 928-970-1313
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Let's face it. Easter is about life but it is also about death. Without death, there can be no Easter because the resurrection of Jesus is about victory over death, sin, and the devil. It's tough to face a person who is close to the door to eternal life. They are people with terminal illnesses, for example, people with bodies no longer recognizable, people waited upon by friends or relatives who care for them while traumatized themselves by the presence of an unyielding power. But death is a component of life. One might tear a

page from Ecclesiastes (3:2-9) and be comforted by the words:

There is a time to be born, and a time to die;
A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal
A time to weep, and a time to laugh
A time to mourn and a time to dance

And so there is a time to die; it is not a bad thing to die. Who wants to live forever, especially when one grows weary tending to bones that easily crumble, to a heart that wants to call it quits, to aches and pains that only get dull when pills are administered? Yes, I have seen death come like a friend. I have heard those who love say, "Grandma passed away last night. It was a blessing."

But I have seen death come as the enemy. War is a dramatic, graphic depiction of death in one of its most horrific forms. Now we see death in war in Ukraine, in the Sudan, in the fighting between Thailand and Cambodia, and, unfortunately, fresh images now from Iran and Middle Eastern countries. I have never had to fight in a war but I listen closely when those, who have, tell me about the carnage. I once spoke to a friend about the graphic carnage in the movie, *SAVING PRIVATE RYAN*. He said, "Yes, it was real. But one thing was missing: the stench." In my years of ministry, I confronted death the enemy in some funerals I conducted, funerals I will never forget. The young girl in her early twenties who was senselessly shot to death by a couple of thugs who broke into her home. The young mother who was destroyed by melanoma within just a couple of months. The other mother in her late 30s, the victim of months of suffering at the mercy of lupus.

Is death the thing that permeates life with senselessness and mindlessness? Or is it the great friend? It is neither. It is both. It is a power that can no longer threaten us because of God's greater power of love. There are weapons with which we can contend: faith, hope, and love. To commend a young mother to mother earth can destroy those left behind only when faith, hope, and love are missing. The tragedy of death is mediated when we fight death with love and faith, the gifts of Easter. Once a little boy who, when asked about Enoch, the son of Cain (Genesis 4:17f), replied. "Enoch was a man who went on walks with God—and one day he didn't come back." (Hebrews 11:5)

Easter means a lot but one of its messages is that one day we shall go on a walk with God and not come back. Not a bad thought for Easter, 2026.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ken

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Ken

Music and Worship



EASTER

2. Holy Thursday April 3rd, there will be a communion service at 3:00 at the end of which the altar will be stripped reverently by volunteers and the processional cross draped in a black veil in preparation for Good Friday the following day.
3. Good Friday – April 4th – there will be a non-communion service at 3:00 with appropriate hymns and devotions.
4. EASTER SUNDAY – April 5th, 9:30 communion service. “Hallelujah, he has risen indeed!!!”
5. If you sponsored a Easter Flower, don’t forget to take it home.

The next Music and Worship meeting will be announced later.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Greene
Leader Music and Worship

OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND (EHH) -- Thank you for donating food and personal care items to EHH! It is wonderful to see our Little Red Wagon full! EHH is located on the campus of Englewood Methodist Church, 700 E Dearborn St. and is open to clients on W and TH, from 8am-1pm. It is exciting to see the building addition progressing. Thank you to our March volunteers: Joyce Hanisits, Carol Rice, Brenda Sahlstrom and Kat Smith. If you would like to volunteer as a pantry worker, please let Carol know.



QUILTING AND KNITTING - Please join us for a time of Christian fellowship, fun and service...no skills necessary. We meet in the Fellowship Hall from 9-noon every Wednesday. All willing hands and hearts are welcomed and needed. Our quilts are donated to Lutheran World Relief and sent throughout the world at times of disaster.

With so much beautiful fabric, a special project during March was making and donating 25 pillow cases to CARE (Center for Rape and Abuse Emergencies). Attached to each pillowcase was a verse from Matthew 11:28. "Come to me, all that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest." Special thanks to Jeanie Patterson for leading this project!

Beautiful knitted and crocheted Prayer Shawls and Lap Robes are donated locally. We need help making more prayer shawls. If you know someone who would be blessed by a prayer shawl or lap robe, please let Pastor Ken or Carol Rice know.



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. Most Thrivent members can qualify for 2 grants per year. 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. These donations can be placed in the Kids' Needs collection box in our narthex. Pastor Ken continues to enjoy volunteering with KN. He even does Magic tricks for the kids!



TROSHUK FAMILY - Pastor Ken and Ellen N. visit the Troshuks on many Saturdays for stories, games and language lessons. Please continue to support our Ukrainian family with your prayers, including prayers for immigration relief and world PEACE!??



GREETING CARDS- We thank Ellen Novotny for continuing to send notes and cards to our members.

*The next Outreach Ministry Team will be on TH, May 14 at 10am in the office meeting room. There will be no meeting in April.

HOUBOUND MEMBERS- "Hymns and Lilies"-On March 30, Nancy Berry, Pastor Ken, Pastor Linda Fernandez and Carol Rice took lilies and visited several of our homebound members. It is a joy to share smiles and reminders of Christ's love and presence in our lives.

Peace and Joy!

Carol Rice for the Outreach Ministry Team Pastor Ken, Ellen Novotny, Pastor Linda Fernandez and Kat Smith



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



NEWCLC PHONE directories (orange 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.

Christ Lutheran Men

April 2026

MEN'S MINISTRIES,

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men of Christ Lutheran Church meet in Christian Fellowship to share and serve our Lord and our Church. **All Men are welcome** and encouraged to join with us.

"He is Risen, He is Risen indeed"

Meeting Dates and Times. The Men's Group will meet bi-weekly on Thursday (twice a month) 9am in the Church Conference Room. There will be some special events, held on different dates; TBA

**Next Meetings: Thursday April 16th, 9am at church.
Thursday May 7th, 9am at church**

An Opportunity to Serve:

Roadside Clean-up: Sincere thanks to Bob Closser and the many CLC Men and Ministry Members who participated in the CLC sponsored, Clean-up of 776. It was a very successful community support mission. Our appreciation to all who helped.

Meeting, Thursday April 16: Men will meet at 9am in the church conference room. We will be working on our meeting and activity schedule for the balance of 2026; Friday Nights Done Right, Halloween Safe Walk, Holiday Parade, Chamber Tree Lighting, sporting events and community out-reach. Please bring your ideas, suggestions and passions to share.

Facility Project:

Painting: Paint the exterior of Fellowship Hall doors
Date TBA

Mark Baker, Facilitator



**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**

April		
Carson	Erickson	04/09
Moira	Ehlers	04/10
Barbara	Kopp	04/14
Margaret	Jenkins	04/15
David	Warring	04/16
Susan	Yankowski	04/21
Beth	McGhee	04/24
John	Gronski	04/27

Church Attendance

March	Attendance	Giving
03/01	73	\$22,400.00
03/08	85	\$5,126.00
03/15	80	\$4,896.00
03/22	102	\$4,585.00
Bread & Soup totals	120	\$120.00
03/29	98	\$1,374.00
	558	\$38,501.00



Please assist the church by completing a survey for each member in your household. The information in the survey is a very valuable tool to Christ Lutheran Church. It allows us to know which of our members would be good on which committees, who is willing to serve in which areas, and which of our members have talents that can be shared with the church. This may involve education, training, and practice in various fields, always with the intent of glorifying God. It's been many years since we did our last survey and it is important to have up-to-date information about the gifts God has given to each of us to use for His glory. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. This survey can be picked up in the Narthex and returned at your earliest convenience. Forms are available in the church office. Thank you!

TWO KINGS (page 40)

B	A	L	S	A	M		T	R	O	D
O	R	I	O	L	E		R	A	R	E
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TIME &
TALENTS
Survey



4/01	QUILTING 9:00 - 2:00 ^{PM}
2	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9-12:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
3	NO TAI CHI
4	
5	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
6	DANCE 2 B FIT 9:30-10:30 ^{AM} / VENETIAN HARMONY 6:30-9:30 ^{PM} / PASTOR KEN ON VACATION
7	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10:00 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
8	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
9	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
10	NO TAI CHI
11	
12	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
13	DANCE 2 B FIT 9:30-10:30 ^{AM} / VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
14	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10 ^{AM} /BRIDGE CLUB 12 -5 ^{PM} / CHURCH COUNCIL 2:00 ^{PM}
15	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
16	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
17	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
18	
19	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
20	DANCE 2 B FIT 9:30-10:30 ^{AM} / VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
21	BOOGIE CHAIR 9:00-10:00 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
22	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
23	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
24	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM} / PASTOR KEN RETURNS
25	
26	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
27	DANCE 2 B FIT 9:30-10:30 ^{AM} / VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
28	BOOGIE CHAIR 9:00-10:00 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
29	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
30	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}



TWO KINGS

ACROSS

1. An aromatic resin
7. Stepped (on)
11. Orange-and-black bird
12. "I will make men more ___ than fine gold..." (Isaiah 13:12)
13. King of Assyria (2 Kings 18:13)
15. Count start
16. 90°, on a map
17. Lion's locks
19. Got together
20. IRS IDs
22. Puts on
25. Very British drink
27. Classical guitarist Romero
29. Disciple who was "full of good works" (Acts 9:36)
33. Elongated fish
34. A priest and king of Salem (Genesis 14:18)
36. A Great Lake
37. Shade of meaning
38. Puppy bites
39. Indisputable facts

DOWN

1. "Be not quick to anger, for anger lodges in the ___ of fools." (Ecclesiastes 7:9)
2. Sports stadiums
3. Like Tabernacle curtains (Exodus 26:1)
4. Absalom, to David (2 Samuel 13:1)
5. "When I Was ___" (Gilbert & Sullivan song)
6. Vade ___ (handbook)
7. Locale for a rocking cradle, in a lullaby
8. ___ avis (exceptional one)
9. "...___ my flesh of brass?" (Job 6:12)
10. Obligation
14. Pay attention to
18. "A man of violence ___ his neighbor and leads him in a way that is not good." (Proverbs 16:29)
21. Third son of Adam and Eve (Genesis 4:25)
23. "You ___ bother" (are not obliged to)
24. Moses called himself "slow of ___ and of tongue" (Exodus 4:10)
26. Take ___ (follow advice)
28. Tennis's Clijsters and others
29. Federal agents
30. Prefix meaning "gas"
31. Dot on a radar screen
32. France's Cote d' ___
35. ___ de cologne



1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13						14				
15				16						
17			18		19					
	20			21		22		23	24	
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34							35			
36					37					
38					39					