



Life Lines

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Volume 37 Issue 2

February 2024

a message from our pastor

This year Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day. February 14 is both Valentine's Day and it is the beginning of our Lenten journey to Easter. At first I was thinking, "Boy, that is a strange combination." But the more I thought about it, I began to see where it makes a lot of sense.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of our 40 day sojourn to the joy of Easter Sunday. It is not simply a day of doom and gloom, it is the beginning of victory and ultimately a powerful symbol of God's love for humanity. Perhaps Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day have something in common.

The celebration of love is far more than the Hallmark version with candy, flowers and little red hearts. A day commemorating love has to take into account the totality of the enterprise. Love is durable - forgiving - patient - long suffering. Love is far more than infatuation. It is serious business.

As we mark the beginning of Lent, we are called, compelled and invited to focus intently upon God's love for humanity. This love is shown in the sacrificial love of Christ for all humanity. That love is durable - forgiving - patient and long suffering. That love is the foundation of our life in community and in the life to come.

I invite you to gather on this Ash Wednesday and celebrate the gift of love which God provides to us. Enter into the life-long journey of exploration and stewardship! We come as individual's and leave as community - centered and focus upon and by our baptism into Christ.

And, as a brief commercial, on the Wednesdays during Lent, we will explore another gift of love. We will plan our own memorial services - a gift of love for our families and also for the community which will gather. Those services will then be filed away either in the office or your home for use at a later time.

On Ash Wednesday we hear serious words of remembrance:
Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. True words, but not the final word. Our final home is not niche or grave, but eternity with God. In preparation thereof, we begin another Lenten journey. Head up - eyes forward. We walk into the future which God holds secure.

God's Peace-

Pr. Groce

From our President.....

January was an interesting month for CLC. We had a new roof put on, a Snow Out (canceling church services) and the passing of wonderful members, Ruby, Joe, and Dave. They will be missed. Condolences to all of the families. The office was closed for a week due to the weather and then our Administrator was sick for another week. We had our first new Council meeting with the restructured group and the usual Team Meetings. We also had two successful Town Hall Meetings with very good exchange of thoughts and ideas (more information to follow on those ideas).

The message of this article is through the excitement of a new roof, the sadness of friends passing, and bad weather, CLC working together makes things continue to move forward with positive outcomes. You are an amazing congregation. Pastor and staff have proven again how they, as a team, get it done. Please thank them!

Let us continue to pray for our church, the congregation and their families for a safe and healthy 2024.

God Bless,
Gary Deierlein

Christ Lutheran Church family,

What a joy to be part of this family! The Learning Tree items were delivered to our Salt and Light classroom, the truck was full. Students came out to carry the items into the classroom. Statements of "wow" and "all this for us" were heard. The teachers expressed how wonderful it is for their students to be remembered in this way. They said they tell their students all the time that they are loved and cared for, but this is a concrete sign that at least in this church they are loved. In an email received later it stated "We are overwhelmed!" Smiles and hugs were the rule of the day. Thank you to our faithful members for your generous spirit and loving actions.

The Service Team



READINGS FEBRUARY 2024

February 3 & 4, 2024 5th Weekend of Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 40:
Psalm: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

February 10 & 11, 2024 Transfiguration of Our Lord

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm: Psalm 50:1-6
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

February 14, 2024 Ash Wednesday

First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Psalm: Psalm 103:8-14
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10
Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 17 & 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10
Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22
Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

February 24 & 25, 2024 Second Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31
Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25
Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

POTLUCK PLANNED



After the Congregational meeting on February 18th, there will be a potluck for all. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the office. Let us know what you plan to bring and how many will attend. Thank you from your Fellowship Team!

BARREL MINISTRY

Morgan Scott Project *For Cooperative Christian Concerns*

Morgan and Scott counties have experienced consistent loss over recent years. These counties are some of the most poverty stricken counties in Tennessee.

They need donations of Household items, such as gently used linens, kitchen appliances and utensils, pots and pans, etc. and personal hygiene items that are not provided by food stamps. This request includes toilet paper, deodorant, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, lotion and shampoo and conditioner. Cleaning supplies would also be appreciated.

Easter Baskets



The Service Team will start collecting baskets, colored grass, individually wrapped candies and more for the House of Hope. The Easter baskets are for kids in Foster Care. Collection will start in late February as Easter is March 31.

THE 2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

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**A big Thank You to our
LK Players for their participation
in the *Sounds of the Season*.**



Stephen Ministry

Feeling sad, depressed, lonely, etc., please contact your Stephen Minister Leaders to see if you could benefit from a Stephen Minister. All communication is confidential and results are impressive.

On the flip side, a new class will begin soon if you feel called to train to become a Stephen Minister. Applications are available on the Stephen Ministry bulletin board or by contacting the church office.

Questions should be directed to Beverly Olin or Pastor Groce.

Prayers and Deepest Sympathy

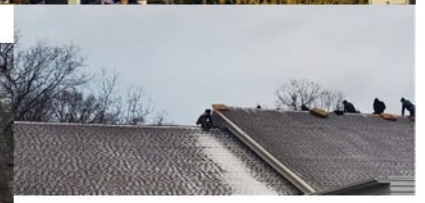
Our prayers and deepest sympathy are extended to former member, **Sue Anderson** as her husband, our beloved **Denny N. Anderson**, joined the Church Triumphant on January 26.

We rejoice with all the saints in heaven and on earth as we share our hope in the risen Christ and the promise of eternal life.



ROOF REPLACEMENT

JANUARY 10 & 11, 2024



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep the following in your prayers.

PRAYER CONCERNS

- o Betty Anderson
- o Hazel Bardash
- o Sherry Botsford, rehab at Life Care Center, room 154B
- o Jan Deibel
- o Jude Dzubinski
- o Paul Kronau
- o Richard Queen
- o Duane Schiller, visitors welcome
- o Paul Sloboda
- o Ben Welch
- o ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL
- o Kiswahili Lutheran Mission Church, Nashville, our mission partner
- o ELCA Global Mission
- o Abby, granddaughter of Bob & Barb Boyce
- o Barbara Bejcek, sister of Kay Wode, undergoing chemo for cancer in her neck/face
- o Dani, daughter of Bill & Pat Bock, underwent surgery Friday, January 19
- o David Corrado, CLC Seminarian
- o Katherine Corrado, mother of CLC Seminarian David Corrado
- o Roz Kerr, mother of Bill Kerr
- o Maxwell LeBreux, grandson of John & Linda Lebreux
- o Christopher Lee, step-brother; Karol McCarthy, step-mother; and Robert McCarthy, father of Kathleen McCarthy
- o Connie Reagan, Bread of Life



Birthdays

- 2 Mary Cooper
- 3 Denise Angel
- 3 Hazel Yaskanin
- 4 Becky Utz
- 5 Mike Morgan
- 6 Miriam Simmons
- 10 Sharon Oniga
- 11 Millie Kendall
- 14 Ron Borges
- 14 Gloria Floros
- 16 Bill Neeb
- 22 Linda Farber
- 22 Joe Garner
- 26 Matthew Christiansen
- 26 Carl Resh



Life Lines submissions are due
February 21 for publication in
the March issue.

Items can be submitted
by email to Vickie at
info@christlutheranffg.org

Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|----------|
| 5 | Bruce & Diane Klockars | 52 years |
| 6 | Gene & Linda Ferris | 42 years |
| 7 | Jon & Fay Kowalsky | 37 years |
| 11 | Don & Debbie Gunsten | 57 years |
| 17 | Fred & Paul Rehorst | 28 years |
| 23 | Al & Cindy Love | 51 years |

FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<p>1</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Kinseekers Fairfield Glade</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Welcome Team Meeting</p>	<p>2 Pastor's Day Off</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Hetrick Bible Study</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Cumberland Swing Experience Rehearsal</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Pastor Joe Nilsen Memorial Service and Reception 5:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion 6:00 p.m. Game Night</p>
<p>4</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 10:45 a.m. Sunday Education Time</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fairfield Glade Ladies' Club Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Personnel Team Meeting</p> <p>1:00 p.m. P.E.O. Sisterhood Meeting</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Knitting Group 10:00 a.m. New Grace Church of Christ Bible Study 1:00 p.m. GriefShare 1:00 p.m. 3-Year Planning Team Meeting 2:30 p.m. Property Team Meeting 3:30 p.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p>	<p>7</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group 11:00 a.m. Smooth Moves 12:00 p.m. Class on Prayer 1:00 p.m. Stewardship Team Meeting 2:30 p.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal 4:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Lent Madness Chili Supper</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p>	<p>9 Pastor's Day Off</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Team Meeting 10:00 a.m. Hetrick Bible Study</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Cumberland Swing Experience Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Upper Cumberland Jewish Community Service</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion</p>
<p>11</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 10:45 a.m. Sunday Education Time 12:30 p.m. Serving Lunch at Bread of Life</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Stephen Minister Leaders Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Communication/IT Team Meeting 10:00 a.m. Knitting Group 10:00 a.m. New Grace Church of Christ Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 p.m. GriefShare</p> <p>3:00 p.m. Plateau PC Users Group 3:30 p.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Memorial Golf Team Meeting 9:30 a.m. Machine Embroidery Sewing Society 9:30 a.m. Stephen Ministers Meeting 11:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group 11:00 a.m. Smooth Moves 1:00 p.m. Korean War Vets Association 2:30 p.m. Worship & Music Team Meeting 2:30 p.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal 4:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service 5:30 p.m. Cumberland County Civil War Round Table</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p>	<p>16 Pastor's Day Off</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Hetrick Bible Study</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Cumberland Swing Experience Rehearsal</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p> <p>11:00 a.m. David Farber Memorial Service and Reception</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion</p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 10:45 a.m. Sunday Education Time</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Life Lines submissions due 10:00 a.m. Knitting Group 10:00 a.m. New Grace Church of Christ Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 p.m. GriefShare 1:00 p.m. Congregation Council Meeting</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group 5:30 p.m. Lion's Club Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Good Samaritan Society Service of Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group 11:00 a.m. Smooth Moves 12:00 p.m. Class on Prayer 2:30 p.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal 3:30 p.m. Service Team Meeting 4:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lent Service supper to follow</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p>	<p>23 Pastor's Day Off</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Hetrick Bible Study</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Cumberland Swing Experience Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Upper Cumberland Jewish Community Service</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 10:45 a.m. Sunday Education Time</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Knitting Group 10:00 a.m. New Grace Church of Christ Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 p.m. GriefShare</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group 11:00 a.m. Smooth Moves 12:00 p.m. Class on Prayer 2:30 p.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal 4:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lent Service supper to follow</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Via de Cristo Reunion Group</p>		