

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2-14-21

Stuff to know about Christ Lutheran during the pandemic

Worship in February is at 10:00am on Facebook live.



February 17, 2021 - ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday, Pastor Chad will be available at church from 7:00am - 6:00pm for anyone to come receive ashes in-person. Simply pull up to the curb in front of church and Pastor Chad will come outside on the sidewalk for a short time of socially distanced confession, absolution, and the imposition of ashes.

Please note: Each Lent-in-a-Bag will also contain ashes. At our online service for Ash Wednesday (7:00pm), there will be a time for you to put these ashes on your own head at home.

LENT 2021:
Listen
STORIES & PRAYERS FROM JESUS

This year for Lent our theme will be "Listen: Stories & Prayers from Jesus." We have some exciting things in the works, including daily videos, Wednesday evening worship services, exploring various prayer forms, and a Lent-in-a-Bag for each household. Lent begins this week. Our daily videos about the Lord's Prayer will start being posted on our Facebook page Monday morning. The Lent-in-a-Bags are ready for pick up and you definitely want yours by Ash Wednesday. Swing by church anytime to grab yours, and feel free to take one to a friend.

Vaccine Notes

As your parish nurse – I'd like to share information on the COVID vaccine with you. Jim, Brittany & I have all received both doses as health care workers (I went to work part-time at Via Christi in December to help with vaccine administration). Jim manages the vaccine allotment for Via Christi & I've worked numerous hours at the vaccine clinic. So between the two of us – we hope to help you all with questions or concerns. Here are a couple of common ones.

1. Was the vaccine rushed through too quickly?

Answer: No. **Messenger RNA technology** was first developed in the 1990's. "**Genome Sequencing** (first developed in the 1970's) enabled the world to rapidly identify **SARS-CoV-2** and develop diagnostic tests and other tools for outbreak management. Continued **genome sequencing** supports the monitoring of the disease's spread and evolution of the virus." (taken from a document of the World Health Organization) These two technologies pair together perfectly in the creation of our new mRNA vaccines. As far as the timeline – I feel that's a God thing – a modern day miracle that such a vital tool in fighting this pandemic could be developed in a matter of months.

2. Is the vaccine safe?

Answer: Yes. The thousands of people in the studies & the millions that have already taken the vaccine are a testament to that.

3. How soon will the vaccine be available?

Answer: It is coming as fast as it can. Neighborhood pharmacies will be receiving doses to administer within the next few weeks – along with the county health departments. Those over 65 years old will be done before others in the Phase 2 category, *in general*. Counties can adjust some rules as they see fit. For now, we have to be persistent & patient.

4. Will the Messenger RNA vaccine change my DNA?

Answer: No. From the Harvard Health Newsletter: "An mRNA vaccine – cannot change your DNA. mRNA, or messenger RNA, is genetic material that **contains instructions** for your body to make proteins. mRNA vaccines for COVID-19 contain man-made mRNA. Inside the body, the mRNA enters human cells and **instructs** them to produce the "spike" protein found on the surface of the COVID-19 virus. Soon after a cell makes the spike protein, the **cell breaks down the mRNA into harmless pieces**. At no point does the mRNA enter the cell's nucleus, which is where our genetic material (DNA) lives.

The immune system recognizes the spike protein as an invader and produces antibodies against it. If the antibodies later encounter the actual virus, **they are ready to recognize and destroy it** before it causes illness." This is a great website for answering questions:

<https://www.health.harvard.edu/diseases-and-conditions/preventing-the-spread-of-the-coronavirus>

I'm happy to help with personal questions any time.

Stay safe & healthy!

Mary Garrelts RN, Parish Nurse

316-640-7009 (leave a message & I'll return it ASAP)

mbgarrelts@cox.net

ELCA WORLD HUNGER BIG GAME CHALLENGE

It is official! Although the Kansas City Chiefs did not come out on top in last Sunday's football game, the Central States Synod DID manage to repeat as winners of the Big Game Challenge, scoring over \$8,900 to help end hunger. Congratulations to everyone across the synod. Combined with Florida-Bahamas Synod's \$6,600, and another \$7,950 in undesignated gifts (maybe for the referees?), we helped raise a total of \$24,478! The real winners are those whose lives are transformed by your generosity.

Thank you to everyone who helped & participated.

Let's do it again next year!

Women's Bible Study

Please contact me for meeting information for Thursday, February 18th. Communion will be offered to all who come.
Rosie Harder at
316-200-3233 or
Email: ma28rr77@cox.net.

COVID TESTING AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

On Thursday, February 18th, our building will be used again as a mobile COVID testing site for the Sedgwick County Department of Health.

For more information call at
316-830-1130

Please avoid coming to the church that morning. (unless you need to get tested).

SANDWICH SATURDAY

- Our next date to provide sack lunches is Saturday, February 27. We will need help on Friday, February 26 at about 5:00pm to make the PB&J sandwiches and put together the rest of the lunches. We will practice social distancing and do everything as safely as possible.
- We will also need help delivering the lunches on Saturday morning, February 27. We will simply drop them off at St. John's Episcopal, but we do need one or two people willing to help transport the food. We will not be distributing them directly to the people because their staff will do that.

Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief sent out a plea for personal care kits to help protect vulnerable families from COVID-19. These kits contain a towel, soap, nail clippers, toothbrush and comb and the LWR warehouse shelves are nearly empty and they can't keep up with demand.

Rich & I applied for and received a Thrivent action grant to pay for supplies and have scheduled a day to put the kits together on Thursday, February 25th at 1:00pm at the church.

Please let me know if you would like to participate and we will keep the group to less than 10, wear masks and social distance. I have been making these kits for a number of years so can give some instruction.

When you notify me that you would like to help please include a time that would work for you. Thanks!

Rosie Harder 316-200-3233 ma28rr77@cox.net

JESUS LOVES YOU!

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

14 ⁶And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

16 ^aFor God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

17 ^aFor God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

For the week of February 14, 2021

God's Story @ Home

PRAYING GOD'S STORY

Mealttime Prayer: Help us to listen to your word, dear God. Open our ears to hear and our eyes to see all that is good in front of us. Feed our souls with your tender care and feed our hearts with your love so we can share you with people everywhere. Amen.

READING GOD'S STORY

Listen as you read: What do you hear God saying in each of these stories?

Sunday	Luke 9:28-45	The Transfiguration
Monday	Isaiah 55:1-3	An Invitation to Abundant Life
Tuesday	Luke 9:46-50	True Greatness
Wednesday	Luke 9:51-62	Jesus Sets His Face Towards Jerusalem
Thursday	Luke 10:1-12	The Mission of the Seventy
Friday	Luke 10:17-20	The Return of the Seventy
Saturday	Luke 10:21-24	Jesus Rejoices
Sunday	Luke 10:25-42	The Samaritan, Martha, and Mary

CONTEMPLATING OR DISCUSSING GOD'S STORY

Take a moment to check in with each other or to use the questions below.

? Highs and Lows: What is something that made your heart happy today? What is something that made your heart sad?

? Thinking About This Week's Story: On the mountain, the voice of God told the disciples to listen to Jesus. Who did you listen to today? Who did you ignore?

? Getting Ready for Next Week's Story: Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan and visits with Mary and Martha, two beloved friends. Both stories share the spirit of helping others. What did you do to help others today?

LIVING GOD'S STORY

SERVICE is how we enact God's great love for the entire world.

Practice listening to each person in your family this week. Write down what you hear and use those concerns and joys as your daily prayers.