

THE SEED

Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

April 2011



Making a Holy Week Pilgrimage

The English word “pilgrim” comes from the Latin *peregrinus* which means “foreigner”. Christians have a long history of pilgrimages. The pilgrim travels to a foreign land, often for religious purposes. For many it is a rite of passage, a sign that one has moved from one stage of life to the next. When one is a pilgrim, you no longer are living fully as a citizen of your home country, and yet you are not quite a full citizen of the visited country either. **You enter a new liminal state of being.** Often the goal is to experience a deeper or renewed sense of holiness so that one comes to serve God and one’s neighbor more faithfully.

Here at Christ Lutheran, we experience the yearly pilgrimage called “Holy Week.” Beginning with Passion/Palm Sunday, we reenact the great entry of Jesus into the Holy City of Jerusalem and join him in the story of his Passion (this year it’s from the Gospel of Matthew). **Palm branches waiving, we shout Hosanna!**

On Holy Thursday, or Maundy Thursday (7:00 P.M.) we begin the holy Triduum (holiest of three days of the church year). The final days of Lent come upon us. **We encounter the humble Messiah who bears a towel** to wash our feet. He comes sharing himself in bread and wine, promising that someday he will drink the cup anew with us in the reign of God. We conclude the service with the austere Stripping of the Altar.

There are more surprises awaiting us on Good Friday (7:00 P.M.). The cross of Christ reveals that God must endure pain because of humanity’s rejection of God. **The one born in a stable and laid in a manger now hangs on a cross in utter agony,** wondering why the Father has abandoned him. Is this portion of the pilgrimage too much for us to bear? The liturgy features Solemn Reproaches with the congregational refrain: **“Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.”** If you haven’t experienced a Good Friday service in a while, you will find it to be a truly, moving time.

The culmination of the entire Holy Week, the High Festival of festivals, the Resurrection of our Lord brings us to **the celebration of the Lamb, Risen from the dead.** He shares himself with us in the Eucharist, as a foretaste of the feast to come. Many of you will attend the Easter services with relatives who are travelling on their own “pilgrimages.” We hope that you will renew your commitment to Christ by being a traveller on the journey with us and Christ. The Holy Spirit moves us to faithfulness when there are so many other options on the way. **We have Easter services at 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. with breakfast served in between.**

God Bless each and every one of you on your Holy Week pilgrimage.

Pastor Chris Hale



Christ Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2011

Council Members present: Sue McLennan, Dick Klusmeyer, Joan Kammerlohr, Jim Bailey, Trish Santos, Bonnie Scranton, Pastor Hale, Reth Stolberg, Donna Parke, Ashley Maas, Bruce Holderbaum, Sue Reeder, and Tom Holte

Pastor Hale led us with opening prayer. Bonnie Scranton provided the opening devotions and Bruce Holderbaum will do devotions in April. President Sue McLennan called the meeting to order at 6:40. The minutes of the Special January 23rd meeting were read and approved as corrected with a note that Joan Kammerlohr and Tom Holte were absent. The February 8th Council minutes and the minutes from the February 26 Council Retreat were approved as written.

Reports of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer:

It was discussed that the profits from the candy and Bergner coupon sales would be put in the call committee fund. The reports were discussed and approved subject to audit. We discussed the Audit committee report. All receipts need to be turned into the treasurer along with a note telling who, what, and why the expenditure was made. We decided not to accept the donation of a second dishwashing machine.

President's Report: No report but keys were passed out to members who needed them.

Interim Pastor's Report:

Peggy Bailey will head up an Interim Pastor Support Committee.

Five families have volunteered to host Cottage Meetings. They will be contacted. The meetings should be finished by Easter.

Ash Wednesday service will follow the ELC book. Communion will be by intinction.

Deacon Terry Moore will meet with us on Sunday, March 20th. He will be available for Adult Forum and the two coffee hours. Members of the church will take him out for lunch.

A copy of the Constitution in effect with the synod is available. It was last amended in 2001. Pastor and Tom Holte will work on possible revisions.

He suggested that we need to train lay people to make home/shut-in communions. He will need a list of the shut-ins. He made two home communions and one visit of anointing the sick.

The Memorial service for Irma Bertelsen is Saturday, March 12th at 11AM. Bonnie will serve as usher and Bruce will find a keyboardist. A luncheon will follow immediately after the service.

We now have a Facebook page.

New phones will be purchased this week, along with setting up an answering machine message.

We discussed ideas for Adult Forum. Give new ideas to him.

We decided that we have the money to send confirmation kids to camp this year. The Learning Ministry Team will try to coordinate activities with the youth of Luther Memorial.

Pastor will work with the choir director for trying some new liturgy pieces for Lent.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS:

Stewardship: Jim reported that the operating pledges received in 2010 were \$138,360. The pledges received for 2011 are \$129,890. He will write an article for the Seed.

Service: No report

Property: Dick reported that the city water inspection has been completed. There will be some warranty work done on the heat pumps.

Worship: Sue Reeder reported that hymns and the Lenten services have been planned. The Wednesday services will concentrate on world hunger. Sign-up for soup suppers will be passed around. We discussed the pros and cons of the electronic Seed/

Witness: No report

Learning: Donna reported that a game night will be on March 26th at 6:00. Easter activities will be on April 23rd at 1:00. We discussed the idea of creating a youth room in either the yellow store room or in the carpeted meeting room. If they used the nursery fund money and \$500 from the Youth Ministry fund, there would be enough money to purchase games and equipment. Each learning team should discuss how these two rooms are currently being used. We will discuss this further next month.

Fellowship: Char Tooke left a list of some equipment needed in the kitchen. We discussed the pros and cons of using glass products instead of paper products.

Call Committee: No report

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COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Old Business:

Bonnie discussed the facilities needed for hosting Lutherfest. She will be meeting with the Parks Department tomorrow to see what they have available. The church can be used as a back-up.
Bonnie reported that a Financial task force group met and documented what they are currently doing and what else they can do. They will continue to meet in the future.
Tom and Pastor will work on the Constitution and Bylaws.

New Business:

1. Motion was passed to approve Andrew Maas as the new Treasurer. Robin will work with him
2. Motion was passed to pay Pastor 51 cents per mile for out of town mileage.
3. Council reaffirmed that Pastor will get time off for any extra work he does during Lent. He will conduct the Services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.
4. Motion passed to establish a petty cash fund for Ashley to buy stamps and other materials in the office.
5. We discussed the SWOT Analysis worksheet. We need to fill out the opportunities and threats part of the worksheet.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted
Secretary Joan Kammerlohr

Next meeting is April 12th

EASTER LILIES

We will decorate our chancel with lilies this Easter season. The Altar Guild will purchase the plants. We invite you to donate a lily in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Your order and check need to be received in the church office by April 17th. If lilies are purchased at a more reasonable cost, the remainder of the money received will be deposited in the flower fund, to reduce costs for future flower purchases.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

___ Lilies at \$10.00 each

___ Given to the Glory of God

___ Given in Memory of _____

___ Given in Honor of _____





BOOKS & BREW

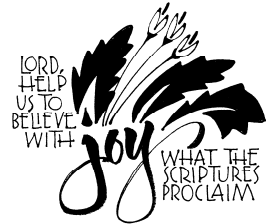
The April 26th meeting will be at the Hy Vee restaurant beginning at 6:00 pm. Our selection for April will be "A Walk On the Beach", by Joan Anderson. In May we will be reading "The Wedding", by Dorothy West. Off for the summer and in September, our selection will be "The House on Malcolm Street" by Leisha Kelly, October will be "Promise of the Heart:", by Michelle Tournear. We will then meet again on March 22nd at Panera at 6 pm. Join us at any time, we'd love to see you



ATTENDANCE

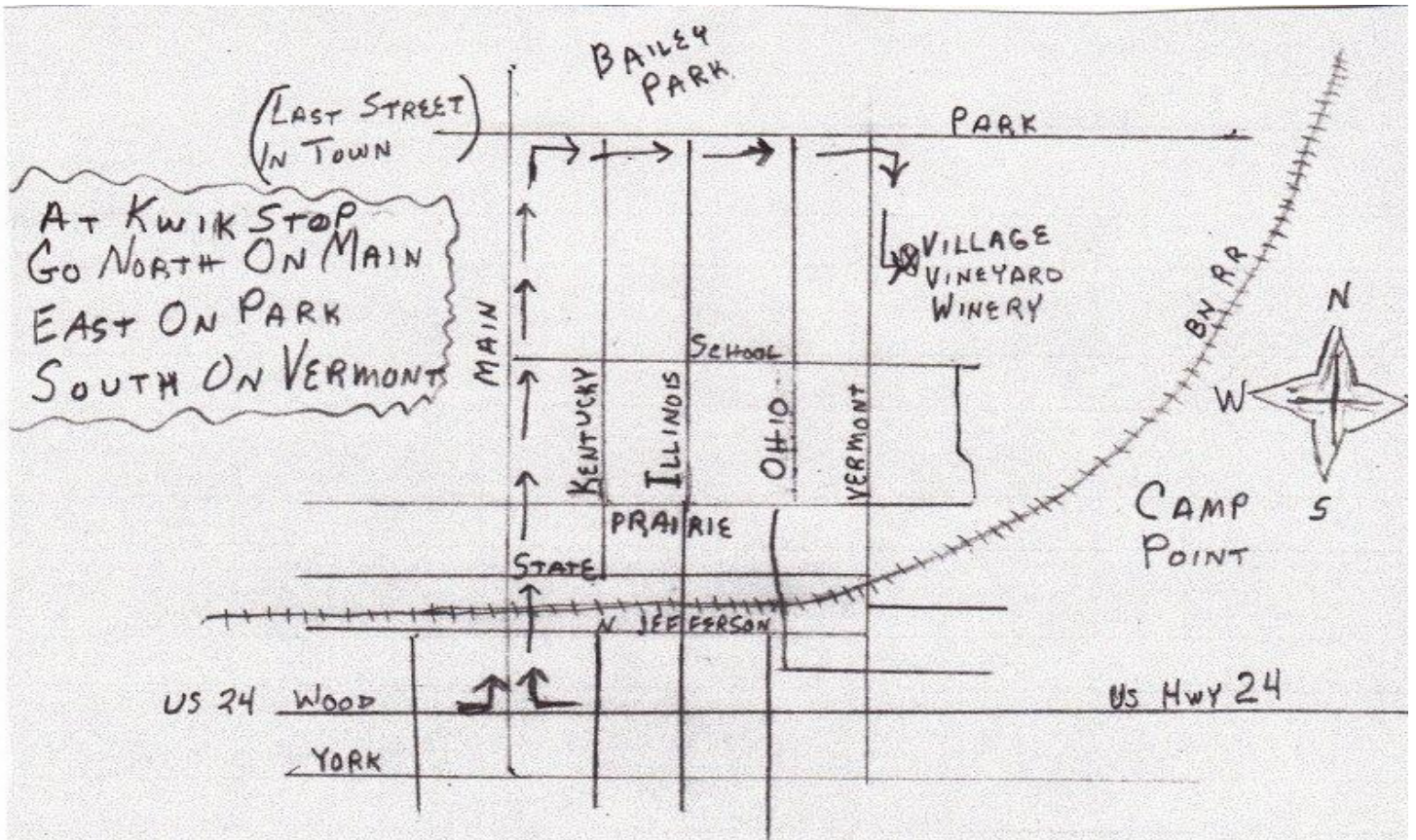
AVERAGE SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR

10 weeks 2010	70
10 Weeks 2010	85



McLennan's 50th Anniversary April 16, 2011

Sue & Wayne McLennan would like to invite the Christ Lutheran congregation to their Open House, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, April 16th from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. This is being held at the Village Vineyard & Winery in Camp Point. You will find the map below with directions. NO GIFTS PLEASE





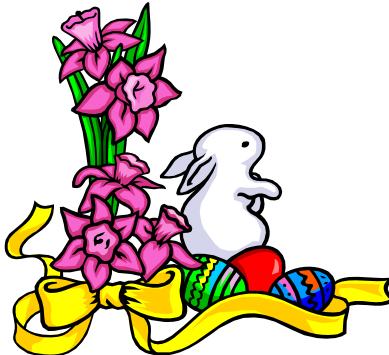
Hand Made Easter Gourmet Chocolates, & Caramels



The box is an assortment of high quality, hand crafted artisan chocolates, famous caramels, along with filled Easter Eggs and Solid Chocolate Bunnies, and Crosses



All Proceeds Benefit Christ
Lutheran Church



ALL ORDERS MUST BE TURNED IN BY MONDAY, APRIL 18

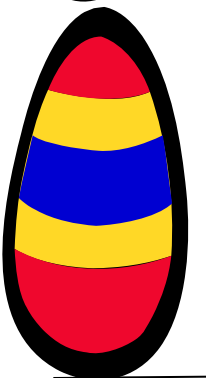
Name _____

Phone _____

Pick up Thursday 21st ____ or Sunday. April 24

of Boxes _____ * \$15 = _____

(Questions—653-3545)





STEWARDSHIP REPORT

BY: JIM BAILEY

At our annual meeting in January, the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church approved a budget for 2011 of \$170,000.00. As of March 4, 2011, 45 pledges have been submitted, reflecting a total of \$129,890.00. You will recall that we no longer separate the pledges into an Operating Fund and a Building Fund, so this total reflects the monies, to date, available for both funds.

During last year 2010, we received total pledges in the amount of \$138,360.00 in support of both the Operating and Building Funds. As you can see, we presently are down \$8,470.00 in pledge money as compared to last year.

Considering the fact that we did not conduct a formal stewardship drive last year, the church council would like to commend the congregation for the financial support already received. We also, however, must stress the importance of maintaining financial stability during this challenging time of pursuing a new pastor. The everyday expenses of the church are ongoing and we still carry a considerable mortgage on our building. We also have the added expense of securing and moving a new pastor for our church.

Again, to those of you who have already submitted your pledge for 2011 — **THANK YOU!** If you have not submitted a pledge for 2011, please consider doing so. More than ever, **we need your support...spiritually....actively, and financially.**



1. All candy orders must be turned in by **APRIL 18th.**
 2. Easter Lily orders must be turned in by **April 17th.**
 3. Easter Egg Hung on **Saturday, April 23rd. From 1-2:30 pm.**
 4. Mid-Week Lenten Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Service.
 5. Fellowship list of kitchen needs for church in March Seed.
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CAMP OPPORTUNITY

If anyone is interested in sending their child to Church Camp, please contact Trish Santos at (217) 653-3545. It is truly an experience you won't forget for years to come.



The Fellowship Committee wishes to thank everyone who has donated dishes for the kitchen. We don't use them all the time, but we are very much appreciative of the gift.

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR APRIL

	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 21	April 22	April 24
ASSISTING MINISTER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Sue Reeder Crystal Bennett	Bonnie Scranton Jerri Klusmeyer	Joan Larner Jim Bailey	Ron Larner	Joan Larner	Tom Holte Mary Reeve
USHER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bob Bolte Mary Reeve	Stu Bell David Maas	Ron Larner Wayne McLennan	Wendy Maas	Ron Larner	Virgene Gilkerson Darrell Kruse
READER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Kathy Wolters Nick Kruse	Pat Bell Richard Klusmeyer	Sue Tabb Peggy Bailey	Joan Larner	Ron Larner	Stuart Peters Samantha Stollberg
GREETERS 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Phil & Bonnie Conover Kaye Marshall	Tom & Nora Holte Norma Tofall	Joanne Brubaker Randy & Ruth Ostebur	Virgene Gilkerson	Judy Kaufman	Ron & Joan Larner Nelson & Bernice Colgrove
DEACON 8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Bonnie Scranton Barb Rhinberger	Ron Larner Crystal Bennett	Bruce Holderbaum Cheryl Brinkman	Joan Larner		Joan Larner Jim Bailey & Reth Stollberg
SOUND SYSTEM 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bill Wolters Olin Shuler	Kathy Wolters Bruce Holderbaum	Stuart Peters Andrew Maas	Bruce Holderbaum	Bruce Holdebaum	Bill Wolters Olin Shuler
COFFEE HOUR	Group 6	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3		Group 4

If you cannot help on your assigned Sunday, please find a replacement and make a change on the appropriate sheet on the office bulletin board. Many Thanks!



If you have a birthday in April and your name does not appear on the following list, we would appreciate it if you would notify us so that we can complete our records.

April 4 Jordan Mathes	21 Kara Osterbur
6 Bonnie Conover	23 Katie Bigley
12 Wendy Maas	27 Laura Mikkelson
15 Matt Bolte	28 James Mathes
17 Savana Santos	30 Aden Stapleton
Jennifer Wingerter	Audra Stapleton
19 Kim Glasgow	



If you have a wedding anniversary in April and it does not appear below, please notify the church office.

April 6 Dennis and Jill Mathes	14 Stu and Pat Bell
11 Nelson and Bernice Colgrove	21 Dick and Sue Tabb
Olin and Norma Shuler	