



**Check it out and get in gear!
Rally Day is here!**

Sunday, September 12th 9:00am

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
A growing congregation in the heart of Bergen County, New Jersey

Chapel News

Return Service Requested

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
337 Farview Avenue
Paramus, New Jersey 07652

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Paramus, NJ 07652
Permit No. 22

Christ Lutheran's September 2010 Calendar of Events

Sunday

Monday






Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	<p>October 2 Pet Blessing 10:00am</p> <p>October 17 Service of Healing 10:30am</p> <p>October 24 Celebration of 60th Anniversary of congregation</p>	<p>1 Staff Meeting (OB) 10:00am Wedding Planning Meeting (OB) 7:30pm</p>	<p>2 Worship Service at Dell Ridge Nursing Home 1:30 pm Sunday School Meeting (OB) 7:30pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Crochet and Knitting Group (OB) 10:00am</p>  	
<p>5 Summer Choir Rehearsal 9:40am (CH) Worship Service (CH) 10:00am <i>Blessing of our labor</i> Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p>	<p>6 Labor Day <i>Church Office Closed</i></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Staff Meeting (OB) 10:00am</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 ATRIOT DAY Patriot Day Sunday School Teacher Training (Ewing, NJ)</p>
<p>12 Rally Day Family Worship Service and Sunday School (CH) 9:00am <i>Installation of Sunday School teachers</i> Worship Service (CH) 10:30am <i>Installation of ESL teachers</i> Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p>	<p>13 <i>Pastor Kent's day off</i> ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am Chapel News deadline</p>	<p>14 Pastor's Bible Study (River Edge) 10:00am</p>	<p>15 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am Staff Meeting (OB) 10:00am Bible Study (PA) 7:30pm</p>	<p>16 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm (CH)</p> 	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Building walk thru 10:00am Crochet and Knitting Group (OB) 10:00am</p> 
<p>19 Family Worship Service and Sunday School (CH) 9:00am <i>Blessing of book bags</i> Worship Service (CH) 10:30am Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p>	<p>20 <i>Pastor Kent's day off</i> ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am Martha Circle (OB) 9:30am Council Meeting (OB) 7:45pm</p>	<p>21 Pastor's Bible Study (River Edge) 10:00am</p>	<p>22 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am Staff Meeting (OB) 10:00am Bible Study (PA) 7:30pm</p>	<p>23 First Day of Autumn Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm (CH)</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 NJ WELCA Convention St. Paul Lutheran Church, Beachwood, NJ</p>
<p>26 Family Worship Service and Sunday School (CH) 9:00am Worship Service (CH) 10:30am Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p>	<p>27 <i>Pastor Kent's day off</i> ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am</p>	<p>28 Pastor's Bible Study (River Edge) 10:00am</p>	<p>29 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am Staff Meeting (OB) 10:00am Bible Study (PA) 7:30pm</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>(CH) Church (FH) Fellowship Hall (FR) Family Room (OB) Office Building (PA) Parsonage</p>	

Chapel News

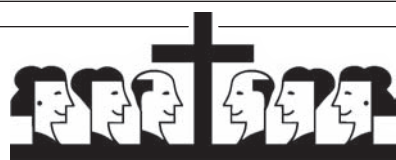
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church 337 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey 07652 201.262.0138 christinparamus.org

September 2010



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Staff and Council

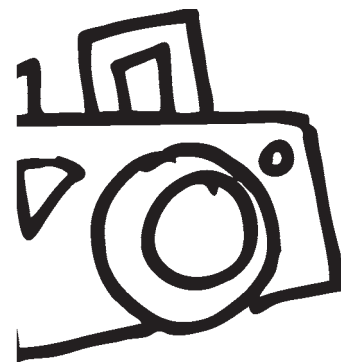
Pastor	Rev. Kent Klophaus
Secretary	Debbie Geerlof
Music Director	Ron Svarney
President	Chris Nilsen
Vice President	Sue Ehlers
Secretary	Linda Polise
Treasurer	Paul Berinato
Recording Financial Secty	Pat Berinato
Financial Secretary	Marge Tomaselli
Worship Team	Charly Wells
Shepherd Team	Linda Polise and Anna Kruk
Financial Resource Team	Pat Berinato and Sue Ehlers
Servant Team	Marilee Kadonaga and Anne Carman
Property Team	Barbara Frielink
Christian Education Team	Bob Denicola

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet on September 20 at 9:30 am – join us. We will be at the Church Office waiting for you. Surprise us and surprise yourself!

— June Schmidt, Barbara Frielink, Kathey Chalmers, Mary Soong, Evelyn Schramm, Edith Sachs, Edith Lodge and Joan Sroka

Come Be a Part of the Big Picture!



On October 24th we will be celebrating Christ Lutheran Church's 60th Anniversary. One of the activities that day will be a congregational group photo. Plan to be in church that day so your face is part of the Big Picture!

To Whom It May Concern,

I feel so fortunate to have been chosen as a recipient of the Rev. Stover Crouthamel and Dolly Crouthamel VanderPlaat Memorial Scholarship of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Thank you so much for your generosity. I will be a freshman at Loyola University in Maryland in the fall and I will be majoring in Journalism. I am truly grateful for the assistance that I am receiving because of you.

Sincerely, Allison Carney



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This month I want to talk about number 2. No, not that number 2!

I hope you will all agree that the number one most important thing we do as a congregation of Jesus Christ is worship. Worship is the center of what we do as children of God. Worship provides the focus of our relationship with God. It is number 1.

So, what is number 2? We have many options here and different churches emphasize different things. Some emphasize service and devote the next largest amount of energy and resources on feeding the hungry or building homes or traveling to servant trips. For some congregations the number 2 emphasis is on justice and they focus on standing with the oppressed or those on the fringes of society. For some congregations it is the proclamation of the Gospel and they focus their resources on telling people about the Good News of God in Jesus through sharing of the Word.

All of these things are important, and God calls all congregations – including ours – to do all of these things and more. It is not a matter of deciding which we will do and which we will exclude, but a matter of emphasis – which is most important for us right now?

I would suggest that for our congregation, right now, number 2 is Christian Education.

Christian education of our youth is essential if the church is to continue. Someone said that the church is always only one generation away from dying out. We need to bring up our children in the faith if that faith is to continue. But beyond that, Christian education provides a basis for making decisions as we live our lives. It provides our children with a standard from which they can go into the world and make decisions that will lead them to a full life and avoid tragedy. Christian education teaches our children that God loves them, that they have value in God's eyes and that God has a plan for us so that our lives can be meaningful and joyful.

But Christian Education is not just for kids! We are never too old to learn about God's love or grow in God's grace. The Bible always has something new to speak to us and God is always waiting to bring us greater knowledge and peace that comes from God's Word.

There are two "number 2" events coming up – Rally Day, which marks the start of Sunday School for the new year, is September 12. We will kick off the new year at the 9am service which resumes that day. Come and support our young people as they return to their classes. Second, Bible Study resumes at the Parsonage on Wednesday, September 15, at 7:30pm as we look at "Creation and Fall – Genesis 1-3" in 5 weekly sessions.

We must always keep worship number 1 but perhaps we can "try harder" to grow in our Christian education!

in Christ,



Pastor Kent

Have You Heard?

As of July 1, Paramus will continue to collect recyclables, but will no longer collect garbage from churches. Thus we have hired a private contractor to do the job. Earlier this year, the town discontinued plowing our large parking lot. This resulted in extra plowing costs for the church. The Council is discussing plans for the upcoming snow season.

In addition to these two events, we discovered that we have been hosting some unwanted "guests" in the education building. Termites were found in the altar area so we have hired an exterminator to treat the problem.

A few years ago I received a letter from the Jimmy Carter of The Carter Center, perhaps you did, too. It told of their efforts to irradiate the Guinea worm which causes a debilitating, painful disease. What impressed me was the approach the Center took to bring help to the people affected. I wanted Social Ministry to help! Instead of spending millions of dollars to set up hospitals staffed with foreigners, they chose to go to small settlements most affected. They spoke with respected group leaders and trained them. The people were receptive to their own members and began to follow

their advice. The answer to the problem was a simple water filter which eliminated the eggs of the Guinea worm.

In 1986, over three million people in 20 countries were affected by the Guinea worm, now less than 3,200 cases in four countries remain.

I'm so glad that Christ Lutheran Church is a part of this humanitarian effort. Please read the letter below from one who has suffered from this disease.

June 5, 2010

Dear Friend:

It has been more than one year since a Guinea worm broke through the skin of my foot and began coming out, and I am grateful to be able to thank you and the other people who have helped me.

It was not my first worm, so I knew it would hurt very much. Before, I always had to stay inside for months when the terrible pain signaled me that a worm was coming. But this time I went to one of the Containment Centers that President Carter and people like you helped bring to my country.

All the weeks that the worm was coming out, the people at the Containment Center helped me.

They gave me food, bandaged my foot, and tended the piece of gauze they would use to wind the worm around and draw it out. Most important, they taught me and my village how to use the filters they gave to us to make our water safe to drink.

I am not sure how they knew, but I am told that the Guinea worm they took from my foot would be the very last one that would give such pain to anyone from my country. The health volunteers that come to my village tell me that because of the work President Carter's Center has done, everyone in Nigeria now knows how to filter their water and keep the worm from their body.

It was a very hard thing to get rid of this worm, which had been part of our lives since the earliest times I can remember, when I was a small child and I would see others in my village suffer. Then I also got the worm and learned how others suffered.

We did not know where they came from, so I was never taught how to not get them. The worm and the pain it gave us was part of our lives and we did not know there was a way to make it go away.

Then the people from Jimmy Carter came and told us how. We could not see the things they told us were in the water and would become worms in our bodies. But the people were Nigerians, too, so we believed them when they said we must filter our water and not put our bodies into the stream when the worms were coming out of our blisters.

All over Nigeria they have said these things and worked hard to convince people. And now after more than 20 years they say there is more Guinea worm in Nigeria!

They have told me that it is because of people like you that they are able to do this work, so I very much want to thank you for freeing my village and my country from this terrible worm. I hope that you would continue to help so that the other countries where the worm continues to hurt people can be free, too.

Again, thank you so very much. You are in the prayers of everyone in my village.

Sincerely, Grace Otubo

Dear Church Family,

We can't thank you enough for allowing us to have Ean's Second Birthday party on the great lawn. With how wonderful last year's was, we couldn't think of a more perfect spot for this one. And it was a spectacular day... the weather couldn't have been more beautiful to relax with food and fellowship or enjoy the water activities.

Christ Lutheran is a very important part of our lives and we were thrilled to be able to share the day with friends and family.

Much love,

Carrie, Sam and Ean



At this month's Council meeting the budget was the main topic along with the cash flow problems we will be experiencing for the remainder of 2010. Seems our spending has increased due to cost for snow removal, increased utilities, garbage collection cost and other areas of expenses. The Council agreed to form a committee to review the budget and needs of the church and to make recommendations for decreasing our spending and other alternatives that can be applied.

The Servant Team advised that the plans for the Walk-in event were finalized and the event would be held as scheduled. Other topics were the Honduras presentation that BJ would be giving at the Sunday service and the scheduling of a presentation by Richard Denicola about his trip to Costa Rica. Both these humanitarian trips were sponsored by the Mae Van Sickle Youth Fund.

Also, with the help of the Mae Van Sickle Youth Fund, we sponsored Amy Frielink and Jimmy Chalmers for a week at Crossroads Camp this summer. Suggestions are always welcome as to how we can help children both in our congregation and around the world with these funds. Please speak with a Council member or Pastor if you have any suggestions.

Two trips, one to Great Adventure and one to see the Jackals play, were also discussed. The Christian Ed Committee is scheduled to meet to plan Rally Day and the upcoming curriculum for Sunday School.

— Linda Polise, Council Secretary



Cheryl Berinato
September 4

Deb Witte
September 5

Mary Soong
September 6

Lauren Kohl
September 7

Inge Johannsen
September 9

Jessica Lee
September 11

Jonah Wells
September 13

Pat Berinato
September 15

Rosemary Rajavelu
September 15

Gretchen Crane
September 17

Kara Kostovski
September 19

Matthew Wells
September 19

Al Frielink
September 22

Betty Tuthill
September 23

Ed Crane
September 24

Pam Sakala
September 25

Marge Tomaselli
September 25

Pat Abrahamsen
September 26

Jimmy Chalmers
September 26

Jeff Berinato
September 29

Dot Keller
September 30

Helen Wisneski
September 30

Pastor Kent's Sermon

August 15, 2010

One thing I hear from time to time is something like this:

I'm talking with someone about different churches, or different religions, or different practices and someone will say, "Well Pastor, it doesn't really matter; it's all the same – after all – we all worship the same God."

Well, with all due respect – I do not think we do all worship the same god. We are all loved by the same God, but the god whom we love – in whom we put our trust – is often very different.

Some people worship a god of wrath – a god who sets up rules and then waits for people to break them or to fail to live up to them. And then that god pounces, bringing misfortune or sorrow or damnation.

Some people worship a god who loves only some people. There seems to be many different gods like this because the people those gods love are often different. For some people the god they worship only likes people of a particular color and for others their god shows favoritism to rich people, or maybe their god loves Americans more than people from other countries.

And then some people worship a god who hates. Perhaps one who hates gay and lesbian people, for example, or a god who hates people of other religions, or people who drink or dance or who live differently than we do.

And some people worship a god who values wealth; a god who – if we are good – rewards us with those things and a "good life" – however we define that (usually with lots of money and possessions).

And some people worship a god who doesn't seem to care all that much and who lets us do whatever we want without demanding a lot; a god who says that whatever we do is OK.

Some people worship a god who is sort of out there some place but who has very little contact with us as we live our lives – a god who is not much more than a vague spirit

You see – from the gods that people worship there seems that there are a lot of different gods out there. So I have to say no, we don't worship the same god; and it's not all the same; but it DOES matter.

For there is only one God, and we are all loved by that God, and those other gods I mentioned are not the true God. They are gods we create in our image, not the God who created us.

But how do we know what that God is really like? Well, we have a way of knowing – from scripture – from the Bible and especially the gospels – which tell us about the God who came to live with us in the person of Jesus Christ; who came to us at Christmas.

Christmas is a special story unlike any other, with a claim and a message unique in the world. Christmas says that God was born of a woman – a particular woman, named Mary, in a particular place in the world – a town called Bethlehem, in a particular time in

history – a time so special that we started counting years all over again.

And the story says that that God took on human form and lived with us a baby. And that this God incarnate – God in the flesh – grew up to be an adult human being who did all the things that we do. This God ate and drank, and laughed and cried, and walked and slept, and loved and died.

And the story of Christmas says that when we look upon this person Jesus, we see who God really is; what God is really like. We see a God who loves all people; people like us, and people very different than we are. People who live here and people who are far away. People who have everything and people who have nothing.

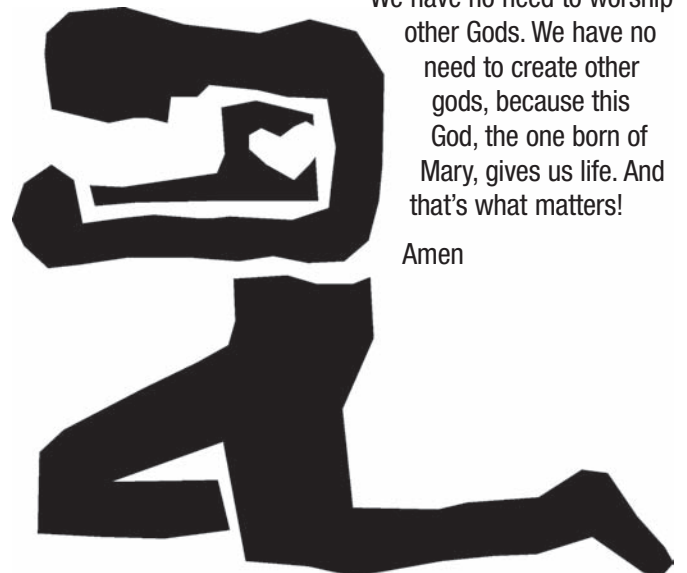
We see a God who cares too much to leave us on our own, who gives us guidance so we will turn to life and away from death. A God who shows us love and who seeks our love in return.

We see a God who comes to us in hope and joy, and who brings us mercy and forgiveness. And most of all, a God who gave everything – even life – that we might live an abundant life.

And we see a God who keeps coming back to us even when we turn away to other gods.

And this God is a physical God, a real presence in our world: a person who bled and suffered, who chose to go to the cross so that we might be forgiven, who was raised from the dead that we might live, and who comes again to be with us as we share in the holy meal given in his name that we might be strengthened and nourished.

This is a God we can touch – who comes into our lives, not because we are special or possess certain skills or skin tone or belong to a particular nation, but who comes because God loves us. This God comes – not to some, but to all; not because of what we do – but because of who God is.



We have no need to worship other Gods. We have no need to create other gods, because this God, the one born of Mary, gives us life. And that's what matters!

Amen

Hello, I'm one of the volunteers here at Spangdahlem AFB (52 MSS, Unit 3655, Box 65, APO AE 09126) that helps distribute the wonderful coupons you clip and send. We can use any manufacturers coupons 6 months past the expiration date.

I would like to say, "THANK YOU." We very much appreciate the support.

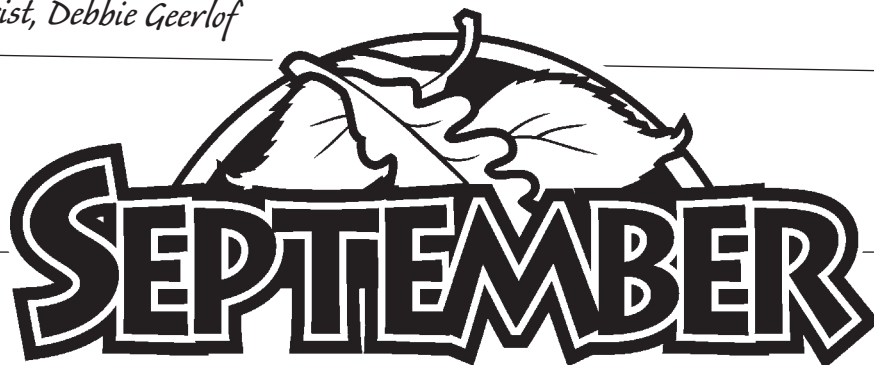
Best Wishes from Germany, Birgit



Dear Members of CELC,

Words cannot express my thanks and gratefulness for the compassion that you have shown my family and I during and following Erin's surgery. Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls and concern shown. But most of all, I thank you for your many prayers and words of comfort. You have truly shown the love of Jesus through your kindness. May God bless you all.

in Christ, Debbie Geerlof



Lay Assistant/Acolyte/Usher/Altar Guild Schedule

September 5
10:00am

Lay Assistant
Charly Wells

Acolyte
Olivia Pascarella

Usher
Anna Kruk

Altar Guild
Linda Polise

September 12
10:30am

Lay Assistant
Chris Nilsen

Acolyte
Gabi Denicola

Usher
Bonna Kennedy/Corinne Sakala

Altar Guild
Dolores Brickman

September 19
10:30am

Lay Assistant
Pat Berinato

Acolyte
Tanya Chalmers

Usher
Chris Nilsen

Altar Guild
Peggy Klophaus

September 26
10:30am

Lay Assistant
Marilee Kadonoga

Acolyte
Jimmy Chalmers

Usher
Linda Polise

Altar Guild
Marge Tomaselli



Alyssa Abrego, Helen Abt, Dot Appleheimer, Diana Arnote, Colleen Bartlett, Kyle Beam, Tia Brooks, Barbara Coccaro, Rose Denicola, Kerry Doherty, Keith Drake, Fernandez Family, Al Frielink, John Frielink, Gloria Galifione, Erin Geerlof, Stephen Gerhardt, Elsie Golden, Fred Hesse, Susan Jaichner, Peter Kelly, Jennifer Kruk, Walter Kruk, Marie Lupinski, Joseph Marone, Valerie Martin, Edith Michael, Ann Muccio, Emma and Richard Murphy, Aiden Nolan, Tony Paradiso, Dovetta Pollitt, Don Porterfield, Jessy Rajavelu, Joan Rogers, Maria Massel Rosato, Rosemarie Safarian, Marie Santhouse, Helene Schaefer, Gerd Schubert, Joan Sroka, Ron Svarney, Ginny and Keith Taylor, Jacquelyn Trainor, Betty Tuthill, Helen Wisneski, Eleanor Witte, Anita Yelp and Clara and Bill Zeman

And those serving in the military;

Bill Abrahamsen, Kyle Clements, Lee Diaz, Ralph Fiorelli, Brian Fleming, Mike Lehmke, Robert Mueller, Derek Romano, Daniel Trabal and Eric Wester

And those who can't always be with us;

Eleanora Frankle and Bill Tiedemann