



Soup and Prayers Schedule

Lenten Soup and Prayers will be held each Thursday night in the Family Room during Lent.

Please mark your calendar for March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22 and March 29 at 6:00pm for a delicious soup and bread supper followed by a Lenten Program on The Book of Mark.

Chapel News

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

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

Return Service Requested

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Permit No. 22

Christ Lutheran's February 2012 Calendar of Events

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>(CH) Church (FH) Fellowship Hall (FR) Family Room (OB) Office Building (PA) Parsonage</p>		<p>1 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am</p>	<p>2 Groundhog Day Staff Meeting (OB) 11:00am Worship Service at Dell Ridge Nursing Home 1:30pm Choir Rehearsal (CH) 3:30pm</p> 	<p>3 Pre-Wedding Meeting (OB) 7:00pm</p>	<p>4 Crochet and Knitting Group (OB) 10:00am</p> 
<p>5 Boy Scout Sunday Souper Bowl Sunday Family Worship Service followed by Sunday School (CH) 9:00am Worship Service (CH) 10:30am Coffee Hour following Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p> 	6	7	<p>8 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am</p>	9	10	11
Pastor's Vacation						
						
<p>12 Family Worship Service followed by Sunday School (CH) 9:00am Worship Service (CH) 10:30am Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p>	<p>13 <i>Pastor Kent's Sabbath</i> Council Meeting (OB) 7:30pm Chapel News deadline</p>	<p>14 Valentine's Day Pastor's Bible Study (River Edge) 10:00am</p>	<p>15 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am</p>	<p>16 Staff Meeting (OB) 11:00am Choir Rehearsal (CH) 3:30pm</p>	17	<p>18 Crochet and Knitting Group (OB) 10:00am</p> 
Pastor's Vacation			<p>22 </p>			
<p>19 Transfiguration of Our Lord Family Worship Service (CH) 9:00am <i>No Sunday School</i> Worship Service (CH) 10:30am Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p>	<p>20 Presidents Day <i>Church Office Closed</i> <i>Pastor Kent's Sabbath</i> Martha Circle (OB) 9:30am</p>	<p>21 Pastor's Bible Study (River Edge) 10:00am Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper (FH) 5:30pm</p> 	<p>23 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am Imposition of Ashes (CH) 12:00pm Worship Service at Dell Ridge Nursing Home 1:30pm Worship Service of Imposition of Ashes with Holy Communion and Music (CH) 8:00pm</p>	<p>23 Staff Meeting (OB) 11:00am Choir Rehearsal (CH) 3:30pm</p>	24	25
						
<p>26 Family Worship Service followed by Sunday School (CH) 9:00am Worship Service (CH) 10:30am Korean Cong. Worship (CH) 1:00pm</p>	<p>27 <i>Pastor Kent's Sabbath</i></p>	<p>28 Pastor's Bible Study (River Edge) 10:00am</p>	<p>29 ESL Intermediate (FR) 9:30am</p>	<p>1 Staff Meeting (OB) 11:00am Soup and Prayers (FR) 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CH) 8:00pm</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">Next Month</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div> <p>Daylight Saving Time begins March 11</p> <p>Annual Spruce Up Day TBD</p> <p>Palm Sunday April 1</p> <p>Easter Sunday April 8</p> </div> </div>	

Chapel News

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



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*“To love another person
is to see the face of God.”*

*Lyrics from Les Misérables,
Claude-Michel Schönberg*

Annual Statements of Giving are Available

Pat Berinato, Recording Financial Secretary



Have you picked up your annual statement of giving for 2011?

The reports are available and may be picked up on Sunday mornings at church. If you are unable to pick yours up and wish to have it sent, please contact the church office at 201.262.0138.



Staff and Council

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

Are You Planning to Attend College or an Advanced (Post High School) Training Program?

If you are an active member of Christ Lutheran Church and will be furthering your education (undergraduate, graduate, technical or trade school) this fall, you may be eligible to apply for the Reverend Stover Crouthamel and Dolly Crouthamel Vander Plaat Memorial Scholarship.

Please stop by or contact the Church Office for the application. Applications are due on April 16, 2012, and applicants will be considered based on church activity, community activity and academic achievement.



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We should be more extravagant!

After all, we are the children of an extravagant God!

It is human nature to want to preserve what we have. There is some kind of protective mechanism that works in people to try to hold on to our possessions, probably out of fear that if we don't that one day we will have nothing. So we accumulate things, and pile up supplies and ration out what we have. In its extreme form it is called hoarding, and it has gotten to the point in our society that we actually have TV shows about it.

But that is not the way of the church. We follow the Christ who teaches us to give up all we have for the Gospel and the work of God in the world. We follow the Christ who gave up himself for us and calls on us to do the same. The essence of being a follower of Christ is giving and living in trust that God will supply all that we need.

From the manna that mysteriously appeared each morning in the desert as the People of Israel made their way to the Promised Land, to the abundance of Grace poured out from the Cross of Christ, God's message is the same. God calls on us to trust that God will provide, each and every day. We can be extravagant with what we have received because we have the assurance that more is coming tomorrow.

That is the essence of the petition of the Lord's Prayer – "Give us this day our daily bread." We pray in confidence that God will give us today what we need for today and will do so again tomorrow.

When we face financial problems, the tendency is to hold back with our giving in the fear that what we have will run out. But God calls us to generous giving; giving that is based on the faith that God is generous with us. We can give in faith and not in fear, for our extravagant God has promised to care for us always.

in Christ,



Pastor Kent



TACKLE HUNGER
WITH US IN 2012!



BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO TACKLE HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Souper Bowl of Caring helps young people across America develop a stronger connection to their communities by caring for their neighbors in need. Join the movement that is transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Learn more at tacklehunger.org.

Date / Time: February 6, 2011

Location: Christ Lutheran Church

Collecting for: Paramus Human Services



Helen Abt, Erin Barbarito, Colleen Bartlett, Chris Brooks, Kevin Carew, Kerry Doherty, Keith Drake, Linda Evans, Christine Fischetti, Al Frielink, John Frielink, Gloria Galifione, Bill Geerlof, Erin Geerlof, Stephen Gerhardt, Frank Granuzzo, Nasch Heston, Inge Johannsen, Peter Kelly, Jennifer Kruk, Walter Kruk, Sean Larkin, Adam Lupinski, Marie Lupinski, Faith Macias, Kelly Mallet, Joseph Marone, Valerie Martin, Edith Michael, Barbara Minasian, Ann Muccio, Dorothy Mulroe, Emma and Richard Murphy, Aiden Nolan, Tony Paradiso, Alfred Pascarella, Linda Polise, Dovetta Pollitt, Don Porterfield, Raymond Potts, Jessy Rajavelu, Joan Rogers, Vivian Rolaf, Maria Massel Rosato, Dorothy Sakala, Marie Santhouse, Helene Schaefer, Cathy Schramm, Gerd Schubert, Joan Sroka, Ron Svarney, Ginny and Keith Taylor, Marge Tomaselli, Betty Tuthill, Edward and Angelica Mendez Wiskidensky, Helen Wisneski, Eleanor Witte and Clara and Bill Zeman

And those serving in the military;

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

And those who can't always be with us;

Eleanora Frankle and Bill Tiedemann

Pastor Kent's Sermon January 8, 2012

The story of the Baptism of Jesus appears in all four of the Gospels and so every year we read of that event at this time in the Church year. Each year we hear of John the Baptist appearing in the wilderness outside of Jerusalem calling on people to repent and be baptized for forgiveness of sins. And each year we hear how Jesus came to him to be baptized. And each year we come to the same question: "WHY?" Why would Jesus come to be baptized?

John baptized for repentance. Repentance means to turn around. John is telling the people "you are going the wrong way – turn back to God!" But Jesus was going the **right** way. Jesus **was** the way

John baptized for forgiveness of sins. But Jesus had no sin.

John baptized to proclaim the Messiah and to turn us back to God, to make us sons and daughters of God. But Jesus **is** the Messiah. Jesus is already God's son.

Yet Jesus was baptized for us. It is something we share with Jesus. It links us to him, and baptism links him to us. We share something else with Jesus. We have something in common with Jesus that makes baptism necessary – ours, and his.

What we share with Jesus is our humanity. Jesus was human as well as divine. and he shared all the things that come with being human – including death. Jesus comes to baptism because he will die, just like we will.

Baptism is our protection against the power of death. It keeps death from having control over us. Death's power comes in making us think it – death – is the end. It tries to convince us that it is final, that there is nothing beyond it. Jesus' resurrection shows us that is not true, and in baptism we are linked to Jesus resurrection and receive eternal life. Baptism is our protection against the power of death.

But which baptism are we talking about? Today, we baptize like John did – with water. We bring our child or grandchild to the font, and water is put on their head. We share that baptism with all Christians, whether that water is sprinkled on their head or they are dunked in it. We do it because of Jesus command to baptize, and we use water as a symbol of the washing and cleansing and dying and rising that is given to us.

But there is more to baptism. John baptized with water, but he proclaimed the one who was to come – the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. The problem with rituals – the symbolic actions that we do in church, like baptism – is that we can come to think that what we do and how we do it is what matters.

When we have a baptism, it looks for all the world like we are doing something, like I, as your Pastor, am the one making it happen. We can pretend that we are controlling things; that we are in charge. We schedule baptisms thinking that we can decide when it happens, that we can see when the child is washed of sin, the instant when the child is brought into God's family, the moment when the child is given eternal life.

But we don't, really. The best we can do is schedule the date when we acknowledge what God has already done.

God does baptisms, just like God is the server at communion, as well as the meal. It is God who gives the blessings; it is God who grants eternal life; it is God who receives us into God's grace. And thank God that it is so!

We are to do the rituals because they remind us of what God has done for us and that remembrance is something we can turn to in time of trial. Baptism does not end the tribulations that come our way. Actually, in many ways we are baptized because of the trials to come, the same reason as Jesus. But with baptism we can face the future in confidence, knowing God is with us, and that not even death can keep us from God's care and grace.

We can say with Martin Luther when tempted to doubt, "I am baptized." It's interesting and, I think, significant, that Luther didn't battle temptation with, "I am a Christian" or "I believe." The strength of his faith was found in his baptism – when God put his claim on him. Baptism is relying on what God has done rather than relying even on our own faith.

We have the assurance through baptism of being children of God and being filled with the Holy Spirit – even when it seems as though everything is saying otherwise. When the world thinks we are a nobody, our baptism tells us God thinks we are special. Our baptisms are not what we have done, but what God has done to us.

We go out from our baptism as new people. We go out from the baptism of Jesus, not to rest on the bank of the river or go home with lists of things to do or not to do, but to go into the world with the good news about a powerful washing that gives life. In Jesus, we, too, are the Sons, the Daughters, the Beloved. With us God is, well, pleased.

Amen

Refocus for Lent

Give up complaining — focus on gratitude.

Give up harsh judgments — think kind thoughts.

Give up worry — trust God to provide.

Give up discouragement — be full of hope.

Give up bitterness — turn to forgiveness.

Give up hatred — return good for evil.

Give up anger — be more patient.

Give up pettiness — become mature.

Give up jealousy — pray for trust.

Give up gossiping — control your tongue.

Give up sin — turn to virtue.

Give up giving up — persevere.

*Dear Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Thank you all for your thoughtfulness — The Sunday School's home made wreath and their picture, the Congregation's lovely poinsettia plant, the Martha Circle for keeping in touch with me, and the enjoyable visits from Pastor. And, of course, my angel, Marilee.
God bless you all, Eleanora Frankle*



February

Lay Assistant/Acolyte/Usher/Altar Guild Schedule

February 5
10:30am

Lay Assistant
Marilee Kadonaga

Acolyte
Jimmy Chalmers

Usher
Barbara Frielink

Altar Guild
Peggy Klophaus

February 12
10:30am

Lay Assistant
Pam Sakala

Acolyte
Corinne Sakala

Usher
Ralph Braun

Altar Guild
Dolores Brickman

February 19
10:30am

Lay Assistant
Pat Berinato

Acolyte
Tanya Chalmers

Usher
WaiKai Soong

Altar Guild
Lore Braun

Ash Wednesday
February 22
8:00pm

Lay Assistant
Chris Nilsen

Acolyte
Sean Larkin

Usher
Anna Kruk

Altar Guild
Lore Braun

February 26
10:30am

Lay Assistant
Fred Hesse

Acolyte
Gabi Denicola

Usher
Bonna Kennedy
Corinne Sakala

Altar Guild
Lore Braun



Birthdays

Robert Kennedy
February 3

Joe Wisneski
February 3

Jennifer Pinto
February 4

Heidi Rogers
February 9

Judy Brown
February 11

Elenor Rogers
February 11

Julie Wagner
February 11

Caitlin Carney
February 14

Lenox Brooks
February 16

Tia Brooks
February 19

Lore Braun
February 24

Jennifer Chalmers
February 25

Jim Chalmers
February 28



GALATIANS 5:13, NIV