

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles August 2012

Worship

*Sunday 10:30am
Holy Communion*

*Wednesday 11:00am
Holy Communion*

Pastor

Rev. Russell Craig

Secretary

Madison Burrell

Music Director

Sharon Calka

Custodian

Fritz Herzog

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A Message from the Pastor

Dear Saints of Christ,

My message last month focused on the Lord's Prayer, especially on how Jesus Himself prays with us. This should be a comfort when we are struggling in our daily life or our spiritual life. In His prayer, Jesus models how we may go to God the Father as loved children, asking Him to provide what we need to live, to protect us from falling into sin, and to show His power in our lives and in the world. Our Lord assures us that we can go to the Father with any and all requests. There is nothing too big or too small to bring to God in prayer.

It is wonderful that I can talk to God about anything. That got me thinking about what are the most important things to ask for. Of course, the welfare of my family and of the congregation are up there on the list. Health, safety, discernment, a positive resolution to problems, world peace, those are biggies, too. But I still felt like I was missing some very critical items. Then I happened to read St. Paul's letter to the Galatians, and there in chapter 5 I found the best things to seek from the Lord.

St. Paul writes in Galatians 5:22-23, "*But the fruits of the spirit are love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*" He then adds, "*against such things there is no law.*"

What I really need is the Holy Spirit. In Baptism and through God's grace, working through the Word, we receive the Spirit, but too often we allow our sinful self-interests to push aside the Spirit of God. It is with the Holy Spirit that we receive the most important blessings of God – saving faith, forgiveness of sin, life with God now, and life with Him eternally in heaven. We are also promised that the Spirit will remake us day by day in the image of Christ, and as this happens the world will see less of our sinful nature and more of Christ's righteousness.

It is through the Holy Spirit we receive the blessing of changed lives as and God transforms our anxiety to peace, our jealousy to congeniality, our greed to charity, our hurt to forgiveness, our pride to humility, our selfishness to selflessness, our dissensions to unity, our hatred to love. Health and other physical blessings are wonderful and God does give them to us as we ask. But the gifts of the Spirit which will sustain us all our days, enable us to walk confidently through life's trials, and allow us to be fulfill our destiny as God's children.

Bring all your needs and desires, hopes and dreams to your heavenly Father. Also ask that He kindle the Holy Spirit within you and those you love.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+Pastor Russ Craig

CHURCH NEWS

+ Bible Studies

Tuesdays, 9:45am: *1 & 2 Samuel* (continues thru August 21).

+ Pastor Craig on Vacation August 26 – September 4

Deacon Bob Fricke will lead Service of the Word on Sunday, August 26 and September 2. Our Wednesday morning communion service will not be held on Aug. 29. Pastor will be back at church on Wednesday, September 5 for the 11:00am Eucharist service.

+ Congregation Care Ministry Training, Sept. 16

A training class for our volunteer caregivers will be held at 12:00pm on Sunday, 9/16. The focus will be on how to have a beneficial visit with your care receiver.

+ Property Sale News

After several years of no interest from any parties, the church has received a proposal for the purchase of our vacant property. Negotiations are in progress with the main issues being the price and access. An informational meeting will be scheduled as soon as something concrete has been worked out. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Fahd.

+ Fellowship and Confirmation Photos

Photographs of church fellowship events and Confirmation classes are available to look at on Sunday mornings after the worship service. These will be on the back table in the fellowship hall.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY TO JUNE

Income	\$ 45,211.00
Expenses	\$ 43,858.72

Difference	\$ 1,352.28

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Madison Burrell
Sharon Calka
Betty Jane Casatelli
Carol Fike
Hilda Griessel
Herta Haupt
Alan Kenyon
Dorothy Siebert
Richard Smith



Family & Friends

Lori Archer (sister of Pastor & Carole's friends)
Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)
Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
Rylee Cavins (goddaughter of Sue Lawton)
Deidre Chalkowski (daughter of Virginia Bradt)
Keith Cole (friend of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)
Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)
Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)
Teresa Deane (friend of Goodie Scherer)
Carter Deeken (friend of Lois Gerhardt serving in Afghanistan)
Tammy, Jackson & Andrew Deeken
Dustin Donovan (grandson of Virginia Bradt)
Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)
Teresa Grice (mother of Judy Zamurs)
Ellen Klein (friend of Lois Gerhardt)
Laura Langabeer (niece of Judy Zamurs)
George Lipani (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)
Ruth Varney (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Kyle Wagoner (friend of Madison Burrell)
Sharon Willet (friend of Larry Bohn)
Our Armed Forces, especially those in Afghanistan

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Michael Hoffstetter
6 Patricia Spolyar
11 Anne MacIntosh
14 Victoria MacIntosh
17 Susan Lawton
Tom Okure
28 Virginia Bradt
Betty Jean Casatelli
Phyllis Mattice

AUGUST 2012

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	2	3 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	4
5 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	6	7 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	8 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	9	10 7:00pm AA	11
12 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	13	14 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	15 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	16	17 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	18
19 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	20	21 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	22 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	23	24 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	25
26 10:30am Service of the Word 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	27	28 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	29 11:00am No Communion Service Today 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	30	31	

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS			ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS	
Date	Lector	Communion		
5	Lois Ruppert	Bill Spolyar Pat Spoylar	Linda Sickler	In memory of departed loved ones
12	Lorraine Urbano	Lorraine Urbano Bea White		
19	Linda Halbrend	Joe Fahd Linda Halbrend	Barbara & David Kunkel	In memory of loved ones
26	Madison Burrell	n/a	Phyllis Mattice & Loretta Flanders	In memory of our loved ones

Flowers are provided, and part of the cost has been donated, by Emil J. Nagengast Florist
*The 2012 Flower Chart has been posted on the narthex bulletin board. Remember to **sign-up** and **submit a dedication form.***
If there is one donor the cost is \$27 and if there are two, the cost is \$13.50 each.