

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles *September 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 newsletter message for the past two months has focused on the topic of prayer. In June, we looked at Luther's explanation of the Lord's Prayer and how it really is His prayer and He prays it with us. My August message to you reminded us that we may bring all our needs to the Lord, but first and foremost, we should pray for the Holy Spirit to grant us fruits of faith - love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

This month, I want to continue sharing some thoughts about prayer. We know that we should pray, that God wants to hear our prayers, and He even teaches us how to pray. But now I wonder ó When should I pray?

As always, we should turn to God's Word for guidance. During the summer, our Tuesday morning group studied the Old Testament books of 1 & 2 Samuel. Here we meet two men, Saul and David, who provide two very different examples of faith. Both were anointed by God to be king over Israel. When they are introduced to the reader, both seemed to have strong faith in God. Unfortunately, soon after his coronation, King Saul falls into the traps of power, and follows his own will and whims, rather than seeking the counsel of God. The Lord removes His blessing from Saul and chooses David to be the new king. In David, God found "a man after His own heart."

David, even with all his personal faults and his many sins, was a man who sought to know God's will for him and trusted the Lord with his life. David was courageous, smart, charismatic, and, above all, a man of prayer. As you read 1 & 2 Samuel, one phrase will be repeated often: "David inquired of the Lord."

Before going off to battle, before setting up a new capital, before he made important event, David first prayed for God to guide him to make the correct and God-pleasing decision. David sought God's heart and God's will throughout his life. Through sincere, frequent prayer, he stayed connect to the Lord. And through this connection, David received God's guidance, strength, hope, and forgiveness. We get a fuller picture of David's prayer life in the Psalms, many of which were written by him. Here we read his prayers for help, for comfort, for strength, for forgiveness. We also read David's wonderful prayers of joy and thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

While you and I probably do not face the huge challenges of a national ruler, we do struggle with our own tough battles every day. Health issues, money problems, family concerns, spiritual uncertainty ó all critical to us and all in need of God's help.

Let us not be like Saul who thought he was strong enough to handle everything on his own. Instead, let us be more like David who sought to know the heart and will of God through prayer. Bring you needs, concerns, joys, and sorrows to Him. God promises to hear you and He will provide more than you can ever imagine.

I encourage you to keep in mind St. Paul's words: "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Let us pray for each other.

+Pastor Russ Craig

CHURCH NEWS

+ Church Picnic September 30

Enjoy food and fellowship right after morning worship. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the narthex bulletin board. Contact Judy Bliven if you have any questions.

+ Bible Study

Sunday morning classes resume on September 30th at 9:15am

Tuesday morning classes will resume on October 9th.

+ Pastor Craig on Vacation August 26 – September 4

Deacon Bob Fricke will lead worship on September 2.

Pastor will be back at church on Wednesday, September 5 for the 11:00am Eucharist service.

+ Congregation Care Ministry Training, Sept. 23 (changed from the 16th)

A training class for our volunteer caregivers will be held at 12:00pm on Sunday, 9/23. The focus will be on how to have a beneficial visit with your care receiver.

+ **Property Sale:** No news since last month.

+ Newsletter Deadline

All newsletter articles and announcements must be submitted to Madison by the 20th of each month.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY TO JULY

Income \$ 51,697.00

Expenses \$ 50,201.78

Difference \$ 1,495.22

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Madison Burrell
Betty Jane Casatelli
Carol Fike
Hilda Griessel
Linda Halbrend
Herta Haupt
Alan Kenyon
Richard Smith



Family & 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)
Sally Davis (sister of Judy Bliven)
Teresa Deane (friend of Goodie Scherer)
Carter Deeken (friend of Lois Gerhardt serving in Afghanistan)
Tammy, Jackson & Andrew Deeken
Alicia Diegel (friend of Madison Burrell)
The Diegel Family (friends of Madison Burrell)
Dustin Donovan (grandson of Virginia Bradt)
Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)
Jeannie Fike (wife of Alan Fike's cousin)
Samantha Fike (niece of Alan & Carol Fike)
Teresa Grice (mother of Judy Zamurs)
Ellen Klein (friend of Lois Gerhardt)
Barbara Kline (friend of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)
Vincent LaHart (son of Judy LaHart)
Laura Langabeer (niece of Judy Zamurs)
George Lipani (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)
Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)
Dan Urbano (grandson of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)
Ruth Varney (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Kyle Wagoner (friend of Madison Burrell, serving in US Navy)
Sharon Willet (friend of Larry Bohn)
Our Armed Forces, especially those in Afghanistan

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Gloria Maki
7 Richard Smith
14 Edith Gerhardt
18 Janet Pomakoy
21 Brian Flood

SEPTEMBER 2012

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						1
2 10:30am Service of the Word 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	3 <i>Labor Day</i>	4 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	5 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	6	7 7:00pm AA	8
9 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	10 7:00pm Council	11 9:00am Pastors Meeting 12:00pm Christ Women 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	12 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	13	14 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	15
16 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	17	18 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	19 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	22
23 10:30am Communion 12:00pm Care Ministry 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	24	25 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	26 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	27	28	29
30 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 12:00pm Church Picnic 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA						

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS			ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS	
Date	Lector	Communion		
2	Lois Ruppert	n/a	Arlene B. Giroux and the Halbrend Family	In loving memory of Wilfred J. Giroux
9	Lorraine Urbano	Bea White Lorraine Urbano	Madison Burrell & Vinny DeMoor	In celebration of our uncle, Richard Smith's, birthday.
16	Linda Halbrend	Bill Spolyar Pat Spolyar		
23	Vinny DeMoor	Sandy Smith Bea White	Jeff & Mary LaPorte	In loving memory of Mary's mother, Kathleen Noonan
30	Alan Fike	Joe Fahd Alan Fike	Lois Gerhardt & Wilke Family	In memory of my husband, Ronald Wilke

Flowers are provided, and part of the cost has been donated, by Emil J. Nagengast Florist.