

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles February 2013

Worship

Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion

Wednesday 11:00 a.m.
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 Fellow Sinners Forgiven in Christ,

The season of Lent is almost upon us. On Ash Wednesday, the Lord God calls us to come to His house to hear His call to us to turn from our sins and find true forgiveness and eternal life in His Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Throughout Holy Scripture we hear God beseeching fallen mankind to turn away from lives of sinful destruction and turn toward Him. The prophet Isaiah cries out,

*Give up your crooked ways
and your evil thoughts.*

Return to the Lord our God.

He will be merciful

and forgive your sins. (Isaiah 55:7 Contemporary English Version)

As a baptized Christian, God has removed from you the guilt of original sin because of the merits of Jesus Christ. Through His grace and mercy, you have been given new spiritual life and the Holy Spirit's power to daily live and grow in true faith and good works. But that old sinful nature has not been completely removed. You battle daily with temptation and sin, as you live as both saint and sinner. You are not to take for granted God's forgiveness and use it as an excuse to keep on sinning. Instead, our Lord wants you turn to Him every day and beg Him to help you to overcome your sinful failings.

In the liturgy for Ash Wednesday, we hear the words, "You are dust and to dust you shall return." In face of our mortality and our own spiritual weakness, let us use this season of Lent as a time to sincerely turn to the Lord for forgiveness, healing, and strength. Let us return to the Lord with all our hearts, strength and spirit.

+Pastor Russ Craig

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WORSHIP AT CLC

+ Sundays at 10:30 a.m –Holy Communion

+ Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m –Holy Communion

This quiet, 30-minute service provides a great mid-week spiritual boost.

+ Lent Begins on February 13

Connect with your loving Lord and let Him work in your heart to lead you to repentance, forgiveness and hope.

Ash Wednesday Holy Communion, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 pm. (Feb. 13)

Thursday Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m. (Feb. 21 & 28; March 7, 14, 21).

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, 7:00 p.m. (March 28)

Good Friday Services, 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. (March 29)

Easter Sunday Celebration, 10:30 a.m. (March 31)

GOD'S WORD TO US: THE HOLY BIBLE

God continues to speak to His people and wants you to join in the conversation.

Sundays at 9:15 a.m.: The Gospel of Mark

Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m.: Isaiah 40-55 (no class Feb. 12)

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

+ Annual Congregation Meeting

On January 20, our congregation held its annual meeting. Highlights include:

1. Passing of the 2013 Budget totaling \$98,616. This is a \$1,012 decrease from the 2012 operating budget of \$99,628.00. Last year, the church's received \$93,486 in regular income and \$6,563 in designated income. Expenses for 2012 equaled \$89,087.
2. Election of new Council members: Karen Benedetto, Alan Fike, Judi Terraciano, Lorraine Urbano, and Judy Zamurs. They join the other members who were not up for election this year: Judy Bliven, Joe Fahd, Nancy Fahd, Carol Fike, Linda Halbrend, Brian Maki and Sandy Smith.
3. Election of members to the Parish Relations Committee: Lois Gerhardt and Jeff LaPorte were reelected. Bea White also serves on this committee.
4. The Long-term Planning Committee will expand its focus beyond the sale of property and lead investigations and discussions of issues involving the future life of the congregation. Its first topic will be the future of our outdoor Christmas display. The congregation is divided over whether to keep the existing scene or look into something new. Other issues to be addressed will include how to respond to our aging membership, possible new ministries, etc.
5. Given our decreasing attendance and membership, we need to revise the number of people required to have a quorum at congregation meeting. Currently this is set at 30. A proposal has been made to set the quorum to a percentage of our annual Sunday worship attendance. The Council will work on this and bring the necessary Constitution revision to the congregation in the near future.
6. CLC is a generous congregation which supported the following ministries during 2012:
 - + Albany Maritime Ministries
 - + Atlantic District and LCMS Missions
 - + Capital City Rescue Mission
 - + Cornerstone Campus Ministry at UAlbany
 - + Good Samaritan Lutheran Home and Health Center
 - + Good Samaritan Kenwood Manor
 - + Guilderland Interfaith Food Pantry
 - + Homeless Shelter at First Lutheran Church
 - + Hurricane Sandy Relief
 - + Lutherans Capital Area Relief Effort
 - + Lutheran Malaria Initiative
 - + Lutheran Women's Missionary League
 - + Operation Christmas Child
 - + Souper Bowl of Caring.

+ Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate the altar flowers in memory of a loved one, to honor an event, or to praise God, please sign-up on the flower chart posted in the narthex.

FOOD & FUN

+ Pie Sunday, February 10

Bring your appetite and extra money as Christ Lutheran Church Women hold their annual Pie Sunday. Proceeds are used to support ministries at CLC and elsewhere.

+ Bowling & Pizza, February 23

Enjoy an afternoon of bowling at Westlawn Lanes. We will meet there at 1:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the narthex bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact Judy Bliven.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY 2012 TO DECEMBER 2012

Income	\$ 92,746.81
Expenses	\$ 89,087.55

Difference	\$ 3,659.26

CONCORDIA COLLEGE CHOIR TO SING AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN

Mark your calendar! On Friday, March 8 at 7:00 PM, the renowned Choir of Concordia College-New York will present a concert at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Delmar. Admission is free and reservations are not required.

The choir will be touring the states surrounding the Great Lakes including PA, OH, IN, MI, and Upstate NY from February 27 - March 8, 2013. The program will feature a wide variety of music from the Lutheran choral tradition to gospel, folk and new music. Some of the highlights will be Paul Manz's *E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*, William Billings's *Easter Anthem*, and Larry Fleming's *Every Time I Think About Jesus*.

♪ FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR ♪

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for their cards and gifts during the past Christmas season. They were greatly appreciated.

Our hymn for the month is "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" written by Ray Palmer with music by Lowell Mason. The scripture references are Psalm 118: 8-9; Isaiah 40:28-29 and 2 Corinthians 12:9.

At twenty-two, Ray Palmer was having a tough year. He wanted to go into the ministry but was stuck teaching at a girl's school in New York City. He was lonely, depressed and sick. One night at his boardinghouse, he wrote a poem in a little morocco-bound notebook to bolster his own courage. Later, he recalled "There was not the slightest thought of writing for another eye, least of all writing a hymn for Christian worship."

About two year later, while visiting Boston, he ran across his friend Lowell Mason. Mason, a major figure in American music in the early 1800s was preparing a new hymnal. He asked Palmer if he'd like to contribute anything. Palmer bashfully showed Mason these verses. Mason hurried into a nearby store, got a piece of paper, and copied the poem. When he handed the notebook back to Palmer, he said, "You may live many years and do many good things, but I think you will be best known to posterity as the author of "My Faith Looks Up to Thee". That night Lowell Mason went home and wrote the music for the word that Ray Palmer had held in his pocket for two years.

Sharon Calka

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Virginia Bradt
Madison Burrell
Betty Jane Casatelli
Carol Fike
Arlene Giroux
Hilda Griessel
Herta Haupt
Alan Kenyon
Barbara Kunkel
Richard Smith



Family & Friends

Melissa Bernard (sister of Madison Burrell)
Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)
Ethan Bradt (grandson of Virginia Bradt)
Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
Rylee Cavins (goddaughter of Sue Lawton)
Keith Cole (friend of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)
Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)
Roy Davies (friend of Pastor Russ & Carole Craig)
Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)
Alicia Diegel (friend of Madison Burrell)
Dustin Donovan (grandson of Virginia Bradt)
Bennett A. Faso (grandson of Joan Long)
Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)
Richard Freehling (brother of Judy LaHart)
Barbara Kline (friend of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)
Laura Langabeer (niece of Judy Zamurs)
Mary Jean Laraway (aunt of Nicole & Gabriel Gardner)
George Lipani (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Carl Madresse (brother-in-law of Bea White)
Trevor Mastro (great-grandson of Dorothy Van Deusen)
Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)
Martha McKinley (friend of Madison Burrell)
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)
Sharon Walsh (daughter of Phyllis Mattice)
Nathaniel Wasson (brother of Sarah Halbrend - in Afghanistan)
Sharon Willet (friend of Larry Bohn)
Richard Zink (father of Valerie Morales)
Our Armed Forces, especially those in Afghanistan
All who are recovering from Hurricane Sandy

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Joan Long
5 Karen Benedetto
11 James Way
15 Matthew Woehlke
25 Goodie Scherer
27 Joseph Fahd

FEBRUARY 2013

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1	2 3:00pm Micronesians
3 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	4 7:00pm Council	5 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	6 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	7	8 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	9
10 <i>PIE SUNDAY</i> 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 11:30am Pie Sale 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	11	12 <u>No Bible Study</u> 12:00pm CLC Women 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	13 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 11:00am <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Service 7:00pm <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Service 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	14	15 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	16
17 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	18 6:30pm Deacon Meeting	19 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	21 7:00pm <i>Lent Worship</i>	22 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	23 1:00pm Bowling
24 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	25	26 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	27 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	28 7:00pm <i>Lent Worship</i>		

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS			ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS	
Date	Lector	Communion		
3	Lois Ruppert	Pat Spolyar		
10	Lorraine Urbano	Lorraine Urbano	Nicole & Gabriel Gardner	In honor of Hannah Gardner's baptism.
17	Madison Burrell	Bea White		
24	Vinny DeMoor	Joe Fahd		

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