

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles July 2013

Worship

Sunday 10:30 A.M.
Holy Communion

Wednesday 11:00 A.M.
Holy Communion

Bible Study:
Gospel of Matthew
Tuesdays
9:45 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

Pastor

Rev. Russell Craig

Secretary

Madison Burrell

Music Director

Sharon Calka

Custodian

Fritz Herzog

Office: (518) 456-1530

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www.clcalbany.org

A Message from the Pastor

Dear Fellow Saints of Christ Jesus,

During the past weeks, our Tuesday Bible study groups have been reading through the Gospel of Matthew. This book is chock full of wonderful teachings from Jesus, including the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer, the parable of the Prodigal Son, and so much more. Two particular verses have stuck in my mind ...

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-29)

Everyone has those times when what they're trying to do burdens and wearies them. For some it's math, for others it's things mechanical, or computers -- or even understanding people. You know the feeling. No matter how hard you try, you just can't get it. Trying to make yourself right with God, trying to make up for your sins, will lead you to spiritual despair, as the burden of guilt and your inability to get rid of it by yourself just wears you down. We try to follow God's commandments. We strive to be "a good person". Then we wake up and find that we have failed again.

St. Paul knew our struggle and even confessed it in his Letter to Romans: *"I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. . . . For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing."*

Paul finally throws up his hands as if in total frustration: *"Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?"*

If you look truthfully at yourself, your life -- like Paul's -- is a constant struggle with sin. We don't do the good we desire. We're sinners, wretched sinners just like Paul. Most of the time you try to hide this from yourself. You try to forget it, try not to think about it, even try to explain it away with some rationalization. But the heavy burden of guilt remains.

But know this: God the Father does not want you to be weary and suffer the burden of your sin. Christ came to bear that burden for you -- all the way to the cross. With the crossbeam on his shoulders like a yoke, Christ took your sins on himself on the cross.

Christ calls you to Himself and promises you forgiveness and the comfort it brings. Today, Jesus calls all who are heavy laden and weary by sin to come to Him for rest.

+Pastor Russ Craig

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CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

+ LCMS National Youth Gathering: July 1-5

Vinny DeMoor will be traveling with the young people from Immanuel Lutheran Church, Niskayuna, to the Synod's National Youth Gathering in San Antonio, Texas. One of the adult chaperons will be *Deacon Tom Craig*. Please keep all who are attending this event in your prayers.

+ Thrivent Member's Event: July 21, 2013 at 4:00 P.M.

Members of the Capital District Chapter of Thrivent Financial are invited to attend the Tri-City Valley Cats vs. Hudson Valley Renegades baseball game at Bruno Stadium in Troy. Enjoy a pre-game buffet at Top of the Hill, and reserved seat tickets for the 5:00 P.M. game. **Tickets are \$5 for Thrivent members. Non-Thrivent tickets cost \$25.** Please make check payable to "Capital District NY Chapter Thrivent Financial" and send to *Ralph Schultz at 24 Whitestone Way, Slingerlands, NY 12159*. Your tickets will be waiting at the game. Please include name, phone number, and email address with your order. Hope you can join us! Questions? *Call Ralph Schultz at 518-458-7231*.

+ Christ Lutheran Fellowship Event: ValleyCats Baseball Game, August 11 at 5:00 P.M.

Our next fellowship event will be attending a Tri-City ValleyCats baseball game on Sunday, August 11. The price per ticket is \$7.50 and everyone will purchase their own food and beverages. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the narthex.

+ Sandy Recovery Continues: Able-bodied Volunteers Are Needed

Sandy Recovery volunteers are still mucking and gutting. Construction work on homes, from Long Beach to Mastic Beach, is really slow even though our volunteers are working six days a week (Mondays off). New volunteers are always needed. We need able-bodied servants to help with these Long Island projects. Volunteers coming from a distant location who require a place to stay can stay at Risen Christ in Brooklyn. There are dorms and a full kitchen, however, meals are not provided. The Sandy Recovery team is working through the volunteer management component of Long Island Long Term Recovery Volunteer Organizations Assisting Disasters. *If you would like to volunteer, please contact Tom Cusanelli at adsandyrecovery@gmail.com*

+ A Thank You From Christ Church Women

Christ Church Women would like to extend our sincere thanks to the congregation for their support of our *Strawberry Fest*. We would like to acknowledge the Stewarts Corp. for their very generous donation of their delicious vanilla ice cream and also Ryan's Produce for allowing us to purchase the strawberries at cost. Our profit from this, our only fund raiser, will allow us to continue to support the work of our church and to assist with the endeavors of the charitable organizations in the area.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY – MAY 2013

Income	\$	38,470.77
Expenses	\$	39,064.80

Difference	\$	-594.03

If You Will Be On Vacation ...

Winter is finally over and we all look forward to enjoying good weather by traveling and spending time with our families. If you will be away, remember that the ministries of our congregation go on. Please continue to provide your financial and prayer support even if you will not be able to attend Sunday or Wednesday worship.



Want to follow the LCMS National Youth Gathering while *Kyra Lecakes*, *Amanda Rice*, **Vinny DeMoor**, *Pat and Rich Blanchard*, and *Deacon Tom* are in San Antonio for it (who knows, maybe you'll see them there)? Just go to www.lcmsgathering.com to watch all of the Mass Events on your computer. The times are Monday, July 1 – Wednesday, July 3 at 8:00pm Central/9:00pm Eastern; Thursday, July 4 at 10:00am Central/11:00am Eastern, 7:30pm Central/8:30pm Eastern; and Friday, July 5 at 9:00am Central/10:00am Eastern.

You can also follow on Facebook or Twitter, just go to:

- > <https://www.facebook.com/LCMSYG>
- > <http://www.twitter.com/LCMSNYG>
 - o Tweet words of encouragement to us and all those attending through tweeting #LLtogether

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! All of us going to the 2013 National LCMS Youth Gathering, would like to thank each and every one of you for your support (whether donating money, time, and prayer). We could not have done it without your help!

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Virginia Bradt
Madison Burrell
Sharon Calka
Betty Jane Casatelli
Carol Fike
Hilda Griessel
Herta Haupt
Alan Kenyon
Barbara Kunkel
George & Janet Pomakoy



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)
Darlene Clark (friend of Carole & Pastor Russ Craig)
Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)
Roy Davies (friend of Pastor Russ & Carole Craig)
Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)
Dustin Donovan (grandson of Virginia Bradt)
Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)
Richard Freehling (brother of Judy LaHart)
JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)
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)
Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)
Ed Snyder (father of Jeff LaPorte)
Dan Urbano (grandson of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)
Ruth Varney (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Sharon Walsh (daughter of Phyllis Mattice)
Sharon Willet (friend of Larry Bohn)
Our Armed Forces, especially those in Afghanistan

JULY BIRTHDAYS

4 Shirley Sheridan
Alan Fike
8 Daniel Flood
20 Dorothy Van Deusen
21 Kimberly DeMoor
24 Brittany Fahd
30 Bruce Huehn

JULY 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 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	4 <i>Independence Day</i> Church office closed	5 Church office closed 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	6
7 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	8	9 9:45am Bible study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA 6:30pm Bible study	10 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	11	12 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	13
14 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	15	16 9:45am Bible study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA 6:30pm Bible study	17 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	18	19 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>
21 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 4:00pm Thrivent Baseball 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	22	23 9:45am Bible study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA 6:30pm Bible study	24 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	25	26 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	27
28 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	29	30 9:45am Bible study 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA 6:30pm Bible study	31 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA			

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS			ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS	
Date	Lector	Communion		
7	Lois Ruppert	Bill Spolyar	Shirley Sheridan	In loving memory of my husband, John Sheridan.
14	Alan Fike	Alan Fike	Virginia Matthews Fritz Herzog	In loving memory of my dear ones on their birthdays. In loving memory of my wife, Shirley Herzog.
21	Linda Halbrend	Linda Halbrend	Madison Burrell & Vincenzo DeMoor	In celebration of our mother, Kimi DeMoors' birthday today. Happy Birthday Mom!
28	Lorraine Urbano	Lorraine Urbano	Pastor Russ & Carole Craig Bea White	In celebration of Jack Kebea's 2 nd birthday. In loving memory of my husband, Robert White

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