

# Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

## Chronicles April 2015

### *Message from the Pastor*

Dear Saints in Christ,

The calendar says that Spring has started, but it sure looks and feels like Spring has not fully sprung from Winter's grasp. It's been a snowy, cold winter and I hope the nice weather gets here soon.

Yet, Spring brings its own issues and problems. As the snow melts and the ground thaws, sections of my yard become quite soggy with sections of mud puddles. And these are irresistible to our dogs and our older grandson. So entering the house involves much more than simply walking in (or running in as Jack and the canines do). First, we close a door so everyone is restricted to the laundry room, then the towels come out and feet are cleaned and dried before access to the rest of the house is allowed. And this process will be repeated several times a day until the ground finally dries.

Our own spiritual lives can often be a lot like Springtime "mud season", can't they? I'm referring to how we keep on stepping into puddles of temptation and get covered with the mud of sin. We try to clean ourselves off, but we can never remove all of the stains, and we can't stop ourselves from falling back into sin.

But do not give up in your struggle against sin, because you are not alone. Our loving and merciful God comes to save us from our dire predicament. The Father sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to jump right into the mud of our sinful lives. Jesus faced all the temptations that we face and He did not give in, but lived the perfect life of submission to the Father in our place. Jesus took our sins upon Himself and bore them all the way to the Cross. Jesus rose again to life and came out of the tomb, defeating for us, the chains of sin and the bondage of Satan. And then Jesus gives us His victory, His perfection and His life. Through God's gracious gift of faith, in the saving water and Word of Baptism, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are washed clean of sin and now stand before God forgiven, unstained and pure.

Mud puddles will continue to dirty our shoes and paws, but sin can no longer leave lasting stains on the souls of those who have been reborn into Jesus Christ.

As we celebrate Easter, remember this promise: *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:9)

And hear Jesus declare to you, *"Already you are clean because of the Word I have spoken to you."* (John 15:3)

He is Risen! Rejoice in the new life that is yours through Him.

**+Pastor Russ Craig**

### **Worship**

Sunday 10:30 A.M.  
Holy Communion

Wednesday 11:00 A.M.  
Holy Communion

### **Wednesdays in Lent**

Holy Communion  
11:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.

### **Holy Week Services**

Holy Wednesday 11:00 A.M.  
Maundy Thursday 7:00 P.M.  
Good Friday Noon & 7:00 P.M.

### **Easter Sunday**

10:30 A.M. Holy Communion

### **Church Office Hours**

Tuesday to Thursday  
9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.  
Friday  
8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

### **Pastor**

Rev. Russell Craig  
(518) 369-7631

### **Secretary**

Madison Burrell

### **Music Director**

Sharon Calka

Office: (518) 456-1530

church@clcalbany.org  
www.clcalbany.org

## CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

### + Gospel of Mark Bible Study Continues

This bible study continues to meet Mondays at 10:00 A.M. and Tuesdays at 6:30 P.M.

### + TSL-CLC Building Proposal Update

On March 4, representatives of CLC and TSL met with two local architects to discuss what TSL needs are for an addition. TSL would like an approximately 7,000 sq. ft. structure with rooms for about 40 daycare infants-preschool children plus a large activity room for another 40 school-age children. The current after-school program would continue to use our fellowship hall. Details about the proposal were shared with the congregation after Sunday worship on March 8. As of March 22, the preliminary plans have not been received. We will consult with another architectural firm so we can have different ideas and options. Cost estimates cannot be made yet, but initial contacts have been made with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. When all of the details have been worked out, this project will be brought to the congregation for a vote before we commit to it. For more information, please contact Joe Fahd, Bill & Pat Spolyar, and Brian Maki.

### + Pastor Craig On Vacation April 29 – May 4

Pastor will be on vacation from Wednesday, April 29, through Monday, May 4. Pastor William Hemphill will lead the Wednesday service and Deacon Tom Craig will be here on Sunday, May 3. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor's cell phone (518-369-7631) and leave a message including your name, phone number and the nature of the emergency. He will call you back and will arrange for a local pastor to help you.

### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES (March 29 – April 5)**

Palm Sunday 10:30 A.M.  
Holy Wednesday 11:00 A.M.  
Maundy Thursday 7:00 P.M.  
Good Friday 12:00 P.M. & 7:00 P.M.  
Easter Sunday 10:30 A.M.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2015**

Income \$ 30,421.00  
Expenses \$ 19,792.59  
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Difference \$ 10,628.41

### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Carol Fike  
Pastor Arthur Gerhardt  
Hilda Griessel  
Herta Haupt  
Joe Henstenberg  
Audree Marie Fahd  
Huehn Family



#### *Family & Friends*

Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)  
Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)  
Deacon Tom Craig (son of Pastor Russ & Carole)  
Benjamin Chagnon (infant being treated for neuroblastoma)  
Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)  
Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)  
Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)  
James Kniskern (brother of Judy Bliven)  
JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)  
Kim Krizan (friend of Davia LaChapelle)  
Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)  
Heather Mires (granddaughter of Loretta Flanders)  
Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)  
Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)  
Robert Way (WWII brother of James Way)  
Our Armed Forces, especially those in Afghanistan

#### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

2 Marilyn Pier  
Kufre Okure  
5 Barbara Kunkel  
14 George Pomakoy  
19 Linda Lambert  
20 Judy Bliven  
Bea White  
26 Carole Craig

## APRIL 2015

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			<b>1</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Lent Service</b> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	<b>2</b> <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 2:30pm TSL <b>7:00pm</b> <i>Maundy Thursday Service</i>	<b>3</b> <i>Good Friday</i> <b>12:00pm</b> <b>Good Friday Service</b> 2:30pm TSL <b>7:00pm</b> <b>Good Friday Service</b> 7:30pm AA	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <i>Easter Sunday</i> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> 4:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	<b>6</b> 7:30am TSL All-day <b>10:00am</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>7:00pm</b> <b>Council</b>	<b>7</b> 7:30am TSL All-day 12:00pm Al Anon <b>6:30pm</b> <b>Bible Study</b> 8:00pm AA	<b>8</b> 7:30am TSL All-day <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 7:30pm GA	<b>9</b> 7:30am TSL All-day	<b>10</b> 7:30am TSL All-day 7:30pm AA	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> 4:00pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	<b>13</b> <b>10:00am</b> <b>Bible Study</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>14</b> <b>12:00pm</b> <b>CLC Women</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL <b>6:30pm</b> <b>Bible Study</b> 8:00pm AA	<b>15</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	<b>16</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>17</b> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	<b>20</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> <b>10:00am</b> <b>Bible Study</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>21</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL <b>6:30pm</b> <b>Bible Study</b> 8:00pm AA	<b>22</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	<b>23</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>24</b> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	<b>27</b> <b>10:00am</b> <b>Bible Study</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>28</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL <b>6:30pm</b> <b>Bible Study</b> 8:00pm AA	<b>29</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	<b>30</b> 2:30pm TSL		

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>Lector</b>
<b>5</b>	Linda Halbrend	Linda Halbrend
<b>12</b>	Alan Fike	Alan Fike
<b>19</b>	Sandy Smith	Lois Ruppert
<b>26</b>	Linda Halbrend	Jeff LaPorte