

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles

June 2015

Message from the Pastor

Fellow Saints of Christ,

Have you ever felt overwhelmed by a crisis, weak in the face of life's trials, or struggling to pray to God for help and forgiveness? We all have those moments when everything seems so dark and hopeless ... when we feel alone and cut off even from God ... when we cannot find the words to pray to our Father ... when the chaos and fear and confusion pushes even the thought of prayer out of our minds.

In those times, we can feel guilty for not praying or somehow praying the wrong way or that we are unworthy to pray. But our loving God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – wants you to know that when you feel far away from Him, He is still with you and He hears even your unspoken prayers. God knows our weaknesses and give us His Spirit to help in our times of need.

Last month, I shared Martin Luther's morning and evening prayers. This month, I want to pass along Luther's wonderful encouragement for all who face the trials and tribulations of life. During these difficult times, know that the Spirit cries out to God the Father for all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

+Pastor Russ Craig

Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." Galatians 4:6

Paul could have said, "God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who prays, 'Abba, Father.'" But he purposely says "calls out," to indicate the anguish of the Christian who is still weak and needs to grow in faith. In Romans 8:26, he describes this calling out as groans that cannot be expressed in words.

But in the middle of trials and conflicts, it's difficult to call out to God, and it takes a lot of effort to cling to God's Word. At those times, we cannot perceive Christ. We do not see him. Our hearts don't feel his presence and his help during the attack. Christ appears to be angry with us and to have left us. Then during the attack, we feel the power of sin, the weakness of our bodies, and our doubt. We experience the flaming arrows of the devil (Ephesians 6:16) and the terrors of death. We feel the wrath and judgment of God. All this raise very powerful and horrible shouts against us so that there does not appear to be anything left but despair and eternal death. However, in the middle of these terrors of the law, the thundering of sin, the shaking of death, and the roar of the devil, the Holy Spirit in our hearts begins to call out, "Abba! Father!" And his cry is much stronger and drowns out the powerful and horrible shouts of the law, sin, death, and the devil. It penetrates through the clouds of heaven and reaches up to the ears of God.

(From *Faith Alone*, Zondervan, 2005)

Worship

Sunday 10:30 A.M.

Holy Communion

Wednesday 11:00 A.M.

Holy Communion

Pastor

Rev. Russell Craig

(518) 369-7631

Secretary

Madison Burrell

(518) 456-1530

Music Director

Sharon Calka

Church Office (518) 456-1530

Tuesday to Thursday

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Friday

8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

church@clcalbany.org

www.clcalbany.org

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

+ Strawberry Fest June 13

Christ Church Women will be holding their annual Strawberry Fest on Saturday, June 13th from 1 to 4PM. We will gratefully accept any donations for our Bake, book or White Elephant tables. Please note any item NOT SOLD must be picked up after the Sunday Service, June 14. Any questions please contact Bea White or Joan Long. PLEASE no clothing, furniture or electronics.

+ Janet Pomakoy Memorial Service June 20

A memorial service for Janet Pomakoy will be held on Saturday, June 20, at 11:00 A.M.

+ Special Congregation Meeting June 28

A congregational voters' meeting will be held after Sunday worship on June 28. Two motions will be on the agenda (both have been approved by the Council):

1. CLC will proceed in partnership with TSL Adventures to build an addition for a new TSL daycare and afterschool program. BBL will be the developer and funding will be done through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund.
2. CLC will be a smoke free campus with all smoking prohibited by all people on church property.

+ TSL Summer Vacation Program Begins June 29

Children will be participating in TSL's all-day program at CLC beginning 6/29. This program will continue until the start of the new school year in September.

+ Atlantic District Convention June 4-6

The pastors and congregation leaders will gather for the triennial convention of our Atlantic District at Concordia College, Bronxville, NY. The most critical issue will be the election of a new District President/Bishop. After serving for 24 years, Rev. Dr. David Benke has decided to not seek reelection. Please keep the delegates and nominees in your prayers. Pastor Craig and Joe Fahd will represent CLC

+ Burrell-Murray Wedding June 6

As some of you know, I am getting married in June. I would like to let everyone know that anyone and everyone from our congregation is more than welcome to attend the ceremony, which will be held on **Saturday June 6 @ 2:00 P.M.** at Christ Lutheran Church. Hope to see you all there! ~Madison ☺

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY - APRIL 2015

Income \$ 47,736.78

Expenses \$ 37,479.27

Difference \$ 10,257.51

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Judy Bliven
Carol Fike
Pastor Arthur Gerhardt
Arlene Giroux
Hilda Griessel
Herta Haupt
Joe Henstenberg



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2 Nancy Huehn
Ruthie Teller
6 Lois Gerhardt
7 David Kunkel
10 Thomas Urbano
12 Catherine Way
15 Peter Halbrend
16 Brian Maki
18 Fritz Herzog

Family & Friends

Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)
Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
Benjamin Chagnon (infant being treated for neuroblastoma)
Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)
Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)
Ellen Faulkner (mother of William Faulkner)
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

June 2015

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 2:30pm TSL 7:00pm Council	2 2:30pm TSL 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	3 2:30pm TSL 11:00am Communion 7:30pm GA	4 2:30pm TSL	5 Office Closed 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	6 2:00pm Burrell- Murray Wedding
7 10:30am Worship 4:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	8 2:30pm TSL	9 2:30pm TSL 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	10 2:30pm TSL 11:00am Communion 7:30pm GA	11 2:30pm TSL	12 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	13 1:00pm Strawberry Fest
14 10:30am Communion 4:00pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	15 2:30pm TSL 6:45pm Deacon Meeting	16 12:00pm CLC Women 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL 8:00pm AA	17 11:00am Communion 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	18 2:30pm TSL	19 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	20 <i>Newsletter</i> <i>Deadline</i> 11:00am Janet Pomakoy Memorial
21 <i>Fathers Day</i> 10:30am Communion 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	22 2:30pm TSL	23 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL 8:00pm AA	24 11:00am Communion 11:30am TSL Half-Day 7:30pm GA	25 11:30am TSL Half-Day	26 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	27
28 10:30am Communion 12:00pm Congregation Meeting 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	29 7:30am All-Day TSL	30 7:30am All-Day TSL 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA				

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

Date	Communion Assistant	Lector
7	Joe Fahd	Joe Fahd
14	Alan Fike	Alan Fike
21	TBA	Pastor Craig
28	Lorraine Urbano	Lorraine Urbano