

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles August 2015

Worship

Sunday 10:30 A.M.
Holy Communion

Wednesday 11:00 A.M.
Holy Communion

Pastor

Rev. Russell Craig
(518) 369-7631

Secretary

Madison Murray
(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

Message from the Pastor

Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

It is the rare person who does not like being forgiven. Unfortunately, far too many Christians stubbornly resist forgiving others. Each of us can fall into picking and choosing who we forgive, and come up with some great rationalizations for doing so. But we must recognize that refusing to forgive a sibling, parent, neighbor, fellow church member, pastor, or anyone, is not only very sad, it is dangerous for your eternal salvation. Below is an excerpt from an "Explanation of the Small Catechism" (Concordia Publishing House, 1991) that reminds us about the importance of being forgiven and forgiving.

+ Pastor Russ Craig

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

What do we confess when we pray this petition?

We confess that we sin every day and deserve nothing but punishment.

Prov. 28:13 He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

What do we ask for in this petition?

We ask that our Father in heaven would for Christ's sake graciously forgive our sins.

Ps. 51:1-2 Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. Luke 18:13 God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Why do we include a prayer for forgiveness of sins in these petitions to our heavenly Father?

We are not worthy of the things for which we pray and have not deserved them. We therefore need God's forgiveness so that we may pray to Him confidently and in good conscience.

"Where the heart is not right with God ... it will never dare to pray.... A confident and joyful heart can come only from the knowledge that our sins are forgiven" (Large Catechism III, 92). Gen. 32:10 I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness You have shown Your servant. Ps. 32:5 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord"-and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

What does God want us to do for those who sin against us?

Our heavenly Father wants us to forgive and to do good to those who sin against us. Matt. 18:21-22 Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times." Eph. 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

What does it show when we forgive others?

It shows that we truly believe that God has forgiven us.

"Inasmuch as we sin greatly against God every day and yet He forgives it all through grace, we must always forgive our neighbor who does us harm, violence, and injustice [and] bears malice toward us.... If you do not forgive, do not think that God forgives you" (Large Catechism III:94-95). Matt. 6:14-15 If you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

+ Tri-City Valley Cats Game: August 9th

Tri-City Valley Cats Game, Sunday, August 9th at 5:00 p.m. at "The Joe". We have reserved 15 premium seat tickets in section 130. Ticket price is \$10.50. If 20 or more sign up the price will drop to \$9.50. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex as soon as possible. Any questions, please contact Linda Halbrend at 423-6742.

+ June 28 Special Congregation Meeting Update

Two motions were approved by the voters' assembly:

1. The Design/Build proposal from BBL Construction Services was approved. Per this agreement, TSL is responsible for the costs of the project. Long-term financing will be obtained through The Lutheran Church Extension Fund which will designate Christ Lutheran Church and TSL as co-borrowers. This means we now begin the design-permit-approval phase. A committee consisting of CLC and TSL representatives will work with the BBL design team. The required governmental applications will be submitted. Contract/agreements between CLC, TSL and BBL will be developed with the help of our attorney. The design phase cost is \$69,500 which will be financed through a loan with the Lutheran Extension Fund to be paid by TSL Adventures.
2. The smoking of any tobacco product, the use of oral tobacco products or "spit" tobacco, and the use of electronic cigarettes and their variants, will not be allowed anywhere on Christ Lutheran Church property. This policy applies to all staff, church members, visitors, and individuals and groups on church property. Failure to abide by this policy may result in monetary penalties and/or the cancellation of an individual or group's authorization to use the facility, as determined by the Church Council

+ New Bible Study Begins in September: "See Through the Scriptures"

This 8-session course provides the basic framework needed to understand the sweep of the Bible's narrative, and thus see how the "jigsaw pieces" of Scriptures fit together. "See Through the Scriptures" brings clarity to the biblical story and will help you gain deeper insights into the profound, radical nature of Jesus' life and ministry.

When: Mondays beginning September 21.

10:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M. sessions to fit your schedule.

Cost: \$20 per person for a student manual & workbook (couples may share one set).

Cash or check to "Christ Lutheran Church" (note "Bible Study").

Payment due by Sept. 21 (happily accepted earlier).

Bring or mail payment to the church - include your name and phone.

Registration is required by September 4.

If you will attend, contact Pastor Russ Craig.

Email rjcraig@gmail.com

Cell 518-369-7631.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY - JUNE 2015

Income \$ 61,116.06

Expenses \$ 65,615.02

Difference \$ -4,498.96

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Carol Fike
Pastor Arthur Gerhardt
Hilda Griessel
Herta Haupt
Joe Henstenberg



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Michael Hoffstetter
6 Patricia Spolyar
11 Anne MacIntosh
17 Tom Okure
Susan Schildt
28 Virginia Bradt
Betty Jean Casatelli
Phyllis Mattice

Family & Friends

Donald Bellanger (close friend of Sandra Smith)
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)
Kenny Holsopple (friend of Sandra Smith)
Lucas Kebea (grandson of Pastor & Carole Craig)
JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)
Kim Krizan (friend of Davia LaChapelle)
Bob Kushner (friend of Lorraine Urbano)
Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)
Heather Mires (granddaughter of Loretta Flanders)
Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Jaxson Prudhomme (cousin of Madison Murray & Vinny DeMoor)
Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)
Jerry Sutherland (brother-in-law of Sandy Smith)
Robert Way (WWII brother of James Way)

August 2015

<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 Communion 4:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	3 7:30am All-Day TSL	4 7:30am All-Day TSL 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	5 7:30am All-Day TSL 11:00am Communion 7:30pm GA	6 7:30am All-Day TSL	7 7:30am All-Day TSL 7:30pm AA	8 7:00pm Micronesians
9 10:30am Communion 4:00pm Micronesians 5:00pm Valley Cats Baseball Game 7:30pm GA	10 7:30am All-Day TSL	11 7:30am All-Day TSL 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	12 7:30am All-Day TSL 11:00am Communion 7:30pm GA	13 7:30am All-Day TSL	14 7:30am All-Day TSL 7:30pm AA	15
16 10:30am Communion 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	17 7:30am All-Day TSL	18 7:30am All-Day TSL 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	19 7:30am All-Day TSL 11:00am Communion 7:30pm GA	20 <i>Newsletter</i> <i>Deadline</i> 7:30am All-Day TSL	21 7:30am All-Day TSL 7:30pm AA	22
23 10:30am Communion 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	24 7:30am All-Day TSL	25 7:30am All-Day TSL 12:00pm Al Anon 8:00pm AA	26 7:30am All-Day TSL 11:00am Communion 7:30pm GA	27 7:30am All-Day TSL	28 7:30am All-Day TSL 7:30pm AA	29
30 10:30am Communion 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	31 7:30am All-Day TSL					

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

Date	Communion Assistant	Lector
2	Bill Spolyar	Jeff LaPorte
9	Linda Halbrend	Linda Halbrend
16	Pat Spolyar	Judy Zamurs
23	Joe Fahd	Joe Fahd
30	Alan Fike	Alan Fike