

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles August 2016

Message from the Pastor

Dear Saints of Christ,

I have never been one to dwell on the past or long for the golden days of yore. When I do take stock of the past, it is usually for the purpose of learning from my mistakes so I can do better today and look forward to tomorrow. But lately I have found myself more than a little nostalgic for one aspect of the past that seems to be lacking today – **civility**.

I miss the days when people were courteous to friend and stranger alike; when you bit your tongue rather than spout off with your opinion, especially when talking with someone you did not know well; when you were expected to treat everyone with at least of modicum of respect.

This sense of having a right to say or do whatever one wants, of a disregard for common courtesy, is particularly prevalent in social media, such as Facebook and Twitter.

As Christians, we are called to follow a higher standard than what is acceptable on Facebook. We have been called to follow Jesus Christ. Christians have always been counter-cultural, heeding the commands of God rather than the sinful whims of the world.

God's Word gives us much guidance on how we are to interact with other.

Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; (Luke 6:37)

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (Colossians 3:12-13)

But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, (Matthew 5:44)

God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. (2 Timothy 1:7)

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (Philippians 4:8)

We are encouraged by Jesus to make a bold witness for the sake of the Gospel, so we do not have to sit silently on the sidelines, but before we lash out or post something nasty on social media, let us remember these words from St. Paul:

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ. (Ephesians 4:15)

Amen.

+Pastor Russ Craig

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

Deacon

Thomas Craig

Church Office (518) 456-1530

*Closed Monday & Friday
Open 9:00 A.M to 12:00 P.M
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday*

*church@clcalbany.org
www.clcalbany.org*

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

Throughout June, July & August we will be collecting food for the Guilderland Interfaith Food Pantry. A list of specific items needed by the pantry is available on the table outside of the church office.

NEW MINISTRY STARTING AT CLC

Deacon Tom Craig is organizing a new ministry for various members of our community, with a focus on those of differing abilities. Initially, the focus will be on providing a monthly worship service designed for individuals and families with differing needs. The first service has been scheduled for Saturday, October 1st at 1:00 P.M. If you are interested in helping, please contact Deacon Tom.

PASTOR AWAY AUGUST 6-8

Pastor Russ and Deacon Tom will be visiting Gettysburg. A non-communion Service of the Word will be held that Sunday.

FELLOWSHIP HALL USE

Please be aware that the fellowship hall is not available for any functions, including after-funeral receptions, during TSL Adventure's hours of operation. The large enrollment limits their ability to shift children to another location.

From September through June, the fellowship hall is usually available for use by church members Monday to Friday until 2:00 P.M., all day Saturday, and Sunday 12:30-3:00 P.M. TSL operates weekday all-day and half-day programs when Guilderland schools are on vacation. There are also occasional church functions scheduled throughout the year, so check with the church office.

During July and August, TSL uses the hall on weekdays from 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY – JUNE 2016

Income \$ 69,865.40

Expenses \$ 66,057.66

Difference \$ 3,807.74

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Joe Fahd

William Faulkner

Carol Fike

Pastor Arthur Gerhardt

Arlene Giroux

Hilda Griessel

Herta Haupt

Joe Henstenberg

Fritz Herzog

Reggie Jakubec

Hazel Lanza

Dorothy Van Deusen



Family & Friends

Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)

Christopher Bombardier (relative of Dell & Joe Henstenberg)

Elizabeth Brickman (US Navy, Camp Lemmonier, Djibouti, Africa)

Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)

Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)

Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)

David Dilloway (uncle of Matthew Woehlke)

Bennett Faso (grandson of Joan Long)

Linda Fitzgerald (sister of Barbara Kunkel)

Kenny Holsopple (friend of Sandra Smith)

JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)

Kim Krizan (friend of Davia LaChapelle)

Bob Kushner (friend of Lorraine Urbano)

Jack Lecakes (uncle of Bishop Derek Lecakes)

Heather Mires (granddaughter of Loretta Flanders)

Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)

Bertie Nash (daughter of Loretta Flanders)

Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)

Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)

Nicole & Alex Rodrigous (relatives of Della & Joe Henstenberg)

Diane Schwegler (cousin of Sandy Smith)

Katrina Sussman (friend of Tom Craig)

Jenise Sutherland (sister of Sandy Smith)

Robert Way (WWII brother of James Way)

Kyle Zindell (friend of the Bentsen Family)

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Michael Hoffstetter

6 Patricia Spolyar

11 Anne MacIntosh

14 Victoria MacIntosh

17 Tom Okure

Susan Schildt

28 Virginia Bradt

Phyllis Mattice

LECTIONARY SUMMARIES: AUGUST 2016

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (7 August 2016)

Genesis 15:1–6 + Hebrews 11:1–16 + Luke 12:22–34 (35–40)

The Lord Is Surely Coming to Give You His Kingdom

The Lord Himself was Abraham's shield and great reward. For "*the word of the LORD came to him*" and sustained the patriarch's faith in the face of death (Gen. 15:4). By divine grace, Abraham "*believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness*" (Gen. 15:6), on account of the holy Seed, Christ Jesus. To that one old man, the Lord granted "*descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore*" (Heb. 11:12). The Lord is likewise faithful to you. It is His glad desire "*to give you the kingdom*" (Luke 12:32). Therefore, "*do not be anxious about your life,*" but instead "*seek his kingdom*" (Luke 12:22, 31). Set your heart on that treasure. "*Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning ... for the Son of Man is coming*" (Luke 12:35, 40).

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (14 August 2016)

Jeremiah 23:16–29 + Hebrews 11:17–31 (32–40); 12:1–3 + Luke 12:49–53 (54–56)

Christ's Suffering and Death Bring Division

The Lord Jesus causes fear and trembling and division because His Word is "*like fire ... and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces*" (Jer. 23:29). His Law puts us all to death, whereas only His Gospel can bring us to life. He has fulfilled that Word for us by His cross and in His resurrection from the dead. He undergoes such a distressing Baptism, accomplished by His death, in order to open the way for us through our Holy Baptism into His cross and resurrection. So, then, if we are able "*to interpret the appearance of earth and sky*" (Luke 12:56), let us mark this sign of His cross — recognizing that this world is subject to death, but knowing that Christ Jesus also has conquered death and obtained life everlasting for us. Let us fix our eyes on "*Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith*" and "*run with endurance the race that is set before us*" (Heb. 12:1–2).

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (21 August 2016)

Isaiah 66:18–23 + Hebrews 12:4–24 (25–29) + Luke 13:22–30

The Cross of Christ Is the Way into the Kingdom of God

With the cross of Christ, the time has come "*to gather all nations and tongues*" (Is. 66:18). The sign of the cross is set forth in the preaching of the Gospel, the declaration of the Lord's glory "*among the nations*" (Is. 66:19). Many "*will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God*" (Luke 13:29), but only by the narrow way of the cross. Those who refuse to follow Christ crucified will ultimately find only "*weeping and gnashing of teeth*" (Luke 13:28), whereas Christ's disciples, called from all the nations, will eat and drink with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of God. They will come into "*the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem*" (Heb. 12:22).

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (28 August 2016)

Proverbs 25:2–10 + Hebrews 13:1–17 + Luke 14:1–14

We Are Humbled and Exalted by the Cross of Christ

"*Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,*" Jesus proclaims, but "*he who humbles himself will be exalted*" (Luke 14:11). For your hope is in the name of the Lord, who humbled Himself unto death on the cross and was exalted in His resurrection. So, are you humbled by His cross, and "*at the resurrection of the just,*" He will say to you, "*Friend, move up higher*" (Luke 14:10; 13–14)? By His grace, the King will honor you "*in the presence of a noble,*" where your eyes will gaze upon the Prince, His dearly beloved Son (Prov. 25:7). As He has dealt so graciously with you, "*do not neglect to do good and to share what you have*" (Heb. 13:16) and "*do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers*" (Heb. 13:2). Humble yourself and exalt your neighbor.

AUGUST 2016

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
31	1 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Study	2 7:00am TSL All Day 12:00pm Al Anon	3 7:00am TSL All Day 11:00am Communion	4 7:00am TSL All Day	5 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 7:30pm AA	6
7 10:30am Service of the Word 4:00pm Apostolic Church 5:00pm ValleyCats	8 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day No Bible Study Classes Today	9 7:00am TSL All Day 12:00pm Al Anon	10 7:00am TSL All Day 11:00am Communion	11 7:00am TSL All Day	12 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 7:30pm AA	13 3:00pm Apostolic Church
14 10:30am Communion 11:45am Finance Committee 4:00pm Apostolic Church	15 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Study	16 7:00am TSL All Day 12:00pm Al Anon	17 7:00am TSL All Day 11:00am Communion	18 7:00am TSL All Day	19 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 7:30pm AA	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>
21 10:30am Communion 4:00pm Apostolic Church	22 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Study	23 7:00am TSL All Day 12:00pm Al Anon	24 7:00am TSL All Day 11:00am Communion	25 7:00am TSL All Day	26 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 7:30pm AA	27
28 10:30am Communion 4:00pm Apostolic Church	29 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day	30 7:30am TSL All Day 12:00pm Al Anon	31 7:30am TSL All Day 11:00am Communion	1 7:00am TSL All Day	2 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day 7:30pm AA	3

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

Date	Communion Assistant	Lector
7	No Communion	Lois Ruppert
14	Judy Zamurs	Judy Zamurs
21	Bill Spolyar	Jeff LaPorte
28	Pat Spolyar	Lois Ruppert