

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles *September 2016*

Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is

... to welcome all,

... to learn about the love of God in Christ Jesus, and

... to share that love with each other, our community, and the world.

That is our official mission statement and it provides a pretty good focus for how we are to live out our faith as a congregation. This mission statement should be the template with which we evaluate all of our activities – from worship services to fellowship events to administrative decisions to building repairs. Everything we do should support our efforts to welcome, learn and share in the Name of Jesus.

You and I will have a new opportunity to welcome people to CLC, help them learn about God, and share with them Jesus' love. On Saturday, October 1st, our church will host a "***First Saturday Celebration***".

Everyone is invited, but the service will be specially designed to engage individuals with special needs. Invitations are being extended to local community residences and families. Deacon Tom is leading this new ministry with the goal of bringing Jesus to often forgotten members of our community.

As the name implies, the plan is to hold a ***First Saturday Celebration*** on the first Saturday of every month. The service will be approximately 45 minutes in duration and followed by a 30-45 minute fellowship time.

Your help is needed to set up, assist individuals in and around our building, to provide after-worship snacks, and to clean up.

Before He ascended into heaven, Jesus commanded us to

... Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in [b] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

(Matthew 28:19-20 ESV)

Please prayerfully consider serving your Lord Jesus, your church and your community by volunteering to be a part of this new ministry.

+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 HAS ENDED

Thank you to everyone who supported our food drive for the Guilderlad Interfaith Food Pantry. We are no longer accepting donations. The next drive will probably take place around Thanksgiving.

FIRST SATURDAY CELEBRATION: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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 special needs. **The first service has been scheduled for Saturday, October 1st at 3:30 P.M.**

Volunteers are needed to help people get out & in vans, welcome worshipers, and assist with snacks after the service. Tom has been consulting with the chaplain department of Warren-Washington-Albany ARC and with Bethesda Lutheran Communities. Bethesda is a LCMS recognized service organization which helps people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to become active members of their faith community. If you are interested in helping, please contact Deacon Tom (tomcraig1980@gmail.com or 518-937-6006).

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 to church members Monday to Friday 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., all day Saturday, and Sunday 12:30-3:00 P.M. TSL operates 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.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY – JULY 2016

Income \$ 79,859.20

Expenses \$ 73,483.74

Difference \$ 6,375.46

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
Sandy Smith
Dorothy Van Deusen



Family & Friends

Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)
Christopher Bombardier (relative of Dell & Joe Henstenberg)
Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
Andy Chainyk (brother of Davia LaChapelle)
Jim Craig (brother of Pastor Russ Craig)
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)
JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)
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)
Lee Schwegler (cousin of Sandy Smith)
Robert Way (WWII brother of James Way)
Kyle Zindell (friend of the Bentsen Family)
Diane Zinnanti (friend of Jim & Madison Murray)

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Gloria Maki
Timothy Schildt
7 Richard Smith
21 Brian Flood

LECTIONARY SUMMARIES: SEPTEMBER 2016

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (4 September 2016)

Deuteronomy 30:15–20 + Philemon 1–21 + Luke 14:25–35

Christ Jesus Has Paid the Cost of Discipleship for You

A disciple of Jesus Christ will “*bear his own cross*” (Luke 14:27) and follow the Lord through death into life. Discipleship is costly because it crucifies the old man with “*all that he has*” (Luke 14:33), in order to raise up the new man in Christ. The disciple disavows “*his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life*” (Luke 14:26), in deference to Christ. That way of the cross is impossible, except that Christ Jesus has already paid the cost. His cross is set before you as “*life and good, death and evil*” (Deut. 30:15). Taking up His cross is to “*choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him*” (Deut. 30:19–20). To live that life in Christ is also to bear His cross in love, “*that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord*” (Philemon 14).

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (11 September 2016)

Ezekiel 34:11–24 + 1 Timothy 1:(5–11) 12–17 + Luke 15:1–10

Jesus Christ Is the Great Shepherd of His Sheep

“*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners*” (1 Tim. 1:15). As He had mercy on Paul, in order to “*display his perfect patience*” (1 Tim. 1:16), so also does He seek out His sheep “*from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness*” (Ezek. 34:12). To deliver His flock, He “*will seek the lost, ... bring back the strayed, ... bind up the injured, and ... strengthen the weak*” (Ezek. 34:16), and “*they shall no longer be a prey*” (Ezek. 34:22). He sets over them one great Good Shepherd, the Son of David, who “*shall feed them and be their shepherd*” (Ezek. 34:23). For Christ Jesus is the one man who, “*having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them,*” would “*leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it*” (Luke 15:4). When He finds the lost one and brings it home rejoicing, “*the angels of God*” and all the company of heaven rejoice with Him, with great joy (Luke 15:7, 10).

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (18 September 2016)

Amos 8:4–7 + 1 Timothy 2:1–15 = Luke 16:1–15

The Lord Is Rich in His Grace and Mercy

Because God, our Savior, “*desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth*” (1 Tim. 2:4), He urges “*that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people*” (1 Tim. 2:1). Christians should so pray “*without anger or quarreling,*” but “*adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control*” (1 Tim. 2:8, 9). For the Lord does not forget “*the poor of the land*” (Amos 8:4). He remembers them according to the foolishness of the cross. “*For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God*” (Luke 16:15). Though we try to justify ourselves “*before men,*” God knows our sinful hearts and calls us to repentance (Luke 16:15). Though we are “*not strong enough to dig,*” and we are “*ashamed to beg*” (Luke 16:3), He justifies us by His grace and welcomes us into His “*eternal dwellings*” (Luke 16:9). More shrewd than even “*the sons of this world*” (Luke 16:8), He requires His stewards of the Gospel to bestow forgiveness freely.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (25 September 2016)

Amos 6:1–7 + 1 Timothy 3:1–13 + Luke 16:19–31

Our Help Is Not in Worldly Riches

“*The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side,*” and “*the rich man also died and was buried*” (Luke 16:22). The poor man Lazarus, who knew many bad things on earth, began to be comforted forever, whereas the rich man, after a lifetime of good things, began to be “*in anguish*” (Luke 16:25). Therefore, “*woe to those who are at ease in Zion*” (Amos 6:1), for “*the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away*” (Amos 6:7). The wealthy are urged “*not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches,*” but “*to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share*” (1 Tim. 6:17–18). Covetous desire for what God has not given is idolatry and “*a root of all kinds of evils*” (1 Tim. 6:10). Contentment belongs to faith, by which the Christian has “*great gain*” in godliness (1 Tim. 6:6).

SEPTEMBER 2016

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
28	29 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day	30 7:00am TSL All Day 12:00pm Al Anon	31 7:00am TSL All Day 11:00am <i>Communion</i>	1 7:00am TSL All Day	2 <i>Office closed</i> TSL Closed 7:30pm AA	3
4 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	5 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>Office closed</i> TSL Closed	6 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	7 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	8 2:30pm TSL	9 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	10
11 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	12 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:00 pm Council	13 12:00pm CLC Women 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	14 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	15 2:30pm TSL	16 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	17
18 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	19 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL	20 <i>Newsletter</i> <i>Deadline</i> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	21 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	22 2:30pm TSL	23 <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	24
25 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	26 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL	27 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	28 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	29 2:30pm TSL	30 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	1 3:30pm <i>First</i> <i>Saturday</i> <i>Celebration</i>

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

Date	Communion Assistant	Lector
4	Sandy Smith	Deacon Tom Craig
11	Joe Fahd	Joe Fahd
18	Alan Fike	Alan Fike
25	Mark Hendricks	Mark Hendricks