

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles

May 2017

Worship

Sunday 10:30 A.M.
Holy Communion

Wednesday 11:00 A.M.
Holy Communion

1st Saturday Celebration 3:30 P.M.

Pastor

Rev. Russell Craig
(518) 369-7631

Deacon

Thomas Craig

Secretary

Madison Murray
(518) 456-1530

Music Director

Sharon Calka

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

Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

During 2017, the Church celebrates the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted onto the doors of his Wittenberg church 95 propositions concerning repentance, God's grace, and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. He wanted to start a theological discussion, but instead sparked a revolution within the universal church that continue today. 500 years later ... it's still all about Jesus.

Below are some quotations from Pastor Martin.

+Pastor Russ Craig)

MARTIN LUTHER QUOTES

God wants us to pray, and he wants to hear our prayers-not because we are worthy, but because he is merciful.

God does not need your good works, but your neighbor does.

I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.

I have so much to do today, I'll need to spend another hour on my knees.

Prayer is climbing up into the heart of God.

We need to hear the Gospel every day, because we forget it every day.

When Satan tells me I am a sinner he comforts me immeasurably, since Christ died for sinners.

This is the most dangerous trial of all, when there is no trial and everything goes well; for then a man is tempted to forget God, to become too bold and to misuse times of prosperity.

A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.

The sin underneath all our sins is to trust the lie of the serpent that we cannot trust the love and grace of Christ and must take matters into our own hands

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it one thousand times. This confidence in God's grace and knowledge of it makes men glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and with all creatures; and this is the work of the Holy Ghost in faith.

Unless I am convicted by Scripture and plain reason-I do not accept the authority of popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other-my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

FIRST SATURDAY CELEBRATION: MAY 6

Our next 1st Saturday Celebration will be held on May 6th at 3:30 P.M. Everyone is welcome – either to serve as a volunteer or to sit and enjoy a special time of worship. Contact Deacon Tom Craig for information.

NEW WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY: MAY 8

We will study the Epistles of John & Peter on May 8, 15 & 22 and June 12, 19 & 26.

Two sessions each day – 10:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

LUNCH & LEARN – “DOWNSIZING”: MAY 21

Our next Lunch & Learn will focus on tips for downsizing – how to enjoy life more with less. A light lunch will be served at Noon followed by the presentation. A sign-up sheet has been posted in the narthex.

ANNUAL STRWBERRY FEST: JUNE 10

Christ Church Women will be holding their annual Strawberry Fest on Saturday, June 10th from 12:00 to 4:00 PM.

The women’s group meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 12:00 Noon in the Shepherd Room. All women of the congregation are invited. Please contact Sandy Smith or Judy Bliven.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Vinny DeMoor	Carol Fike	Arlene Giroux	Hilda Griessel
Hazel Lanza	Herta Haupt	Joe Henstenberg	Fritz Herzog
Gloria Maki	George Pomakoy	Dorothy Van Deusen	Lori Zeh

Family & Friends

Ed Beutel	(brother of Bea White)
Elizabeth Beers	(sister of Mark Hendricks)
Raymond Beers	(brother-in-law of Mark & Sue Hendricks)
George Bradt	(husband of Virginia Bradt)
Erin Carhart	(niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
Andy Chainyk	(brother of Davia LaChapelle)
Shirley Curry	(widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)
Jean Davis	(sister of Anne MacIntosh)
David Dilloway	(uncle of Matthew Woehlke)
Niko DiNovo & Family	(friends of Madison Murray)
Linda Fitzgerald	(sister of Barbara Kunkel)
Jackie Gregory	(friend of the Bliven family)
Mary Kelly	(sister-in-law of Tom Urbano)
JoAnn Kniskern	(sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)
Bob Kushner	(friend of Lorraine Urbano)
Harold Mathis	(brother of Carol Fike)
Vicky Quay	(friend of Congregation)
Maryann Raymond	(friend of Lois Gerhardt)
Wayne Smith	(brother-in-law of Sandy Smith)
Dee Yates	(sister of Lorraine Urbano)

MAY BIRTHDAYS

4	Doris Pleydle
9	Steven Benedetto
19	Linda Sickler
23	Vincenzo DeMoor
31	Arlene Giroux

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY - MARCH 2017

Income	\$ 56,134.17
Expenses	\$ 32,238.67
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Difference	\$ 23,895.50

REMINDER: CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH IS "SMOKE FREE"

Since June 2015, the smoking of any tobacco product, the use of oral tobacco products or "spit" tobacco, and the use of electronic cigarettes and their variants, has not been allowed anywhere on Christ Lutheran Church property. This policy applies to all staff, church members, visitors, and groups on church property.

Tell your friends and family to please not smoke while on church property, including in the parking lot, walkways and lawn areas.

LECTIONARY SUMMARIES: MAY 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (7 May 2017)

Acts 2:42–47 + 1 Peter 2:19–25 John 10:1–10

The Crucified and Risen Lord Jesus Christ Is Our Good Shepherd

Although we “*were straying like sheep,*” the Lord Jesus Christ has willingly suffered and died for us, bearing our sins “*in his body on the tree*” (1 Peter 2:24–25). We are healed by His wounds (1 Peter 2:24), and in His resurrection He gathers us to Himself as our Good Shepherd, by whose righteousness we “*have life and have it abundantly*” (John 10:10). Now through other shepherds whom He calls and sends in His name, He guards and keeps us in the green pastures of His Church, leading us beside the quiet waters of our Baptism and spreading the feast of His table before us. Since He has called us by the Gospel to be His own dear sheep, we also “*hear his voice*” and “*know his voice*” (John 10:3–4) in the faithful preaching of His Gospel, and we follow Him by faith. When we receive His Gospel, we have the abundant life and common unity of the entire flock under one Good Shepherd, in “*the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship*” and in “*the breaking of bread and the prayers*” (Acts 2:42).

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (14 May 2017)

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60 + 1 Peter 2:2–10 + John 14:1–14

The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Way, the Truth and the Life

The risen Lord Jesus alone is “*the way, and the truth, and the life,*” and we come “*to the Father*” only through Him (John 14:6). God is thus “*glorified in the Son,*” and those who believe in Him will do the works of Christ because He goes to the Father for us (John 14:12–14). Stephen, “*a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit*” (Acts 6:5) and “*doing great wonders and signs among the people*” (Acts 6:8), did the works of Christ. When he was falsely accused and put to death, he “*gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God*” (Acts 7:55). Fixing his hope there, he commended his spirit to the Lord Jesus and prayed for his murderers. In the same way, all the baptized are called to follow the example of Christ Jesus by faith. Though He was “*rejected by men*” in the sight of God, He is “*chosen and precious*” (1 Peter 2:4). He is the chief cornerstone of the Father’s “*spiritual house,*” and we are built upon Him as “*living stones*” (1 Peter 2:5).

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (21 May 2017)

Acts 17:16–31 + 1 Peter 3:13–22 + John 14:15–21

The Lord Jesus Comforts Us with the Preaching of His Resurrection

“*The God who ... gives to all mankind life and breath and everything*” (Acts 17:24–25) wants all people to seek Him that they might “*feel their way toward him and find him*” (Acts 17:27). But in our sinful ignorance, we humans turn instead to idols “*formed by the art and imagination of man*” (Acts 17:29). Therefore, God appointed the Man of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, and “*has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead*” (Acts 17:31). Because He lives, we also live (John 14:19) in His forgiveness, and thus we love Him and keep His commandments (John 14:15). While the risen Lord prepares us for His ascension, He will not leave us “*as orphans*” (John 14:18), but He gives “*another Helper,*” the Holy Spirit, to be with us forever (John 14:16) through the preaching of “*Jesus and the resurrection*” (Acts 17:18). Because He “*suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous*” (1 Peter 3:18), we “*honor Christ the Lord as holy*” and are always “*prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks*” for the reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15). Our Baptism “*now saves*” us “*as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ*” (1 Peter 3:21).

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (28 May 2017)

Acts 1:12–26 + 1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11 + John 17:1–11

Our Lord Jesus Is with Us in the Upper Room of His Church on Earth

On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus prayed for His apostles and His Church on earth. “*The hour*” had come when the Father would glorify His Son by the cross (John 17:1). Through the shedding of His blood, He would bring forgiveness for the sins of the world, and in His resurrection and ascension He would unite all Christians with the Father “*that they may be one*” with God (John 17:11). He manifested His name to the apostles and gave them the words of the Father to speak in His name. The apostolic witness of His cross and resurrection (Acts 1:21–22) gathers disciples together “*with one accord*” into the one Body of Christ (Acts 1:14). “*Devoting themselves to prayer,*” they wait upon the Lord in “*the upper room*” (Acts 1:13–14), the place of His Holy Supper. Strengthened by the Gospel, Christians bear the cross of Christ in patience and peace, rejoicing to share in His suffering, in order that they “*may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed*” (1 Peter 4:13).

MAY 2017

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
31 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	1 <i>Office closed</i> No bible study 2:30pm TSL 7:00pm Council	2 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	3 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	4 2:30pm TSL	5 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	6 3:30pm <i>First Saturday Celebration</i>
7 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	8 <i>Office closed</i> 10:00am Bible Study 2:30pm TSL 6:30pm Bible Study	9 12:00pm CLC Women 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	10 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	11 2:30pm TSL	12 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	13
14 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	15 <i>Office closed</i> 10:00am Bible Study 2:30pm TSL 6:30pm Bible Study	16 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	17 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	18 2:30pm TSL	19 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>
21 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 4:00pm Apostolic Church	22 <i>Office closed</i> 10:00am Bible Study 2:30pm TSL 6:30pm Bible Study	23 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	24 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	25 <i>Ascension Day</i> 2:30pm TSL	26 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	27
28 10:30am <i>Service of Word</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	29 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Office closed</i> TSL Closed No bible study	30 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	31 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	1 2:30pm TSL	2 <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	3 3:30pm <i>First Saturday Celebration</i>

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

Date	Communion Assistant	Lector
7	Linda Halbrend	Linda Halbrend
14	Alan Fike	Alan Fike
21	Bill Spolyar	Deacon Tom Craig
28	No communion	Mark Hendricks