



THE MESSENGER

April 2017

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"Lenten Check-In and Easter Invitations"

I've enjoyed spending a bit more time with some of you at Lenten meals and worship. We are now just a week before Passion/Palm Sunday and then we quickly enter the central days of the liturgical year: remembering Jesus' suffering and death for us, and then celebrating his resurrection. This is a great time to check-in with how Lent has been going for us, and to invite others to worship and table fellowship!

Has this Lenten Season led you to any deeper experience of God's grace? Have you experienced insights from Lenten disciplines of fasting, prayer or acts of charity? Have other disciplines been particularly helpful to you? Be willing to share your experiences of spiritual renewal with others.

If this time has not been spiritually noteworthy for you, there is still time in Lent to slow down, take stock of your experience, and turn toward God's love in Christ through a chosen discipline. God reaches out to us in grace daily! By grace we are saved, and this is a gift from God. I'm always open for and enjoy conversation with you about spiritual life.

Please remember to invite your friends or neighbors for Holy Week and Easter services!! Let's share the love of God in Christ our Savior.

In God's grace,
Pastor Paul

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULES: LENT, HOLY WEEK, & EASTER

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT APRIL 2

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At Easter many Christians welcome new sisters and brothers at the baptismal font. (From Sundays and Seasons)

THE GOSPEL SUNDAY IS JOHN 11: 1-45.

Wednesday April 5th - Our last midweek Lenten worship services are held at 12:15 p.m. followed by a soup lunch, and in the evening we have 6:30 p.m. soup supper, followed by 7:15 p.m. Evening Prayer in the Spirit of Taize. We focus on Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Communion. The Choir will practice at 7:45 p.m.

PASSION/PALM SUNDAY APRIL 9

We will process with Palms and the congregation will read the Passion according to Matthew.

Maundy Thursday April 13th, 2017

, we worship at 12:15 & 7:15. Holy Communion and we offer the opportunity for individual FORGIVENESS AND ABSOLUTION. We remember Jesus' new commandment to love one another

Good Friday April 14th, 2017 Our Worship services at 12:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. center in the reading of the Passion from the Gospel of John.

Sunday, April 16th, 2017 is Easter Sunday.

Worship services will be held at 6:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Invite your friends to an Easter Breakfast prepared by Council Members from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Please join us!

Monday, April 17th, 2017 is Easter Monday. The Church office will be closed.



LEARNING COMMITTEE

Adult Forum - Sunday April 2nd and April 9th, Adult Forum will be viewing the video "Praying the Devil Back to Hell", featuring Liberian Lutheran Noble Prize Winner Leymah Gbowee. "This is an inspiring story of a group of ordinary women who came together- Muslim and Christian, rich and poor, urban and rural-to bring peace to their war-torn but beloved Liberia."

After Easter - We continue the series on being Lutheran using the book, entitled *Together By Grace; Introducing the Lutherans* by Kathryn Kleinhans. Please join us Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m.

Godly Play Sunday School - Several members of the Learning Committee visited another church to learn more about Godly Play. They were able to experience a Godly Play lesson and ask questions about the curriculum. During the next months, the committee will plan lessons for next fall. Props and equipment will be needed to implement the lessons so there might be requests for help from the congregation! Stay tuned!

Confirmation Class - The confirmation class is helping to host the soup supper on **April 5th** and you are invited to join them at **6:30** that evening. Then during April they will conclude their studies of the 10 Commandments. Ask them to name the commandments for you! They can do it! Can you?

Summer Fun Nights - Plans are being made for some exciting Summer Fun Nights during the Wednesdays in July. If you have an ideas or suggestions, please contact June Bloedorn bloedorn@verizon.net.

Vacation Bible School CAMP - July 31st - August 4th. Now is the time to sign up for this summer's all-day Vacation Bible School camp led by counselors from Mar-Lu-Ridge! Registration forms are in the Information Center and on our website at www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org

Preschoolers Prepare for Easter - As we prepare for Easter and celebrate that "Jesus is Alive!" the children will go outside in the warmer weather and notice the signs of spring and of new life: the green grass, the budding trees and blooming flowers, and the birds flying around.

Register now for the 2017-2018 school year. Visit us on Facebook at www.fairfaxchristlutheranpreschool

Dan Walker



COUNCIL PLANNING RETREAT - March 17th & 18th 2017. We'll share plans from the Retreat at our Sunday, April 23 Council Informational Meeting after Worship.

CHURCH RETREAT/WORK WEEKEND - This weekend March 31st - April 2nd, Help Mar-Lu-Ridge get ready for the summer season and enjoy a great weekend of fellowship.



SENIOR HIGH ACTIVITY: GO-KARTS

Our youth challenged each other on the Go-kart course last Sunday. Please see Dan Walker for Sr. High Youth Sunday School and activity times and dates! Congrats on the driving Cory, Zach, Jacob, Dan and Aaron!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE - EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Below is a link to details of the Eagle Scout Project to begin on **April 22nd**.

[The Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping](#)

Allen Griffith

SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Service Committee served the FACETS dinner to 80 people on March 8th and March 30th. Breakfast was served on March 12th to 40 people.

ESL Registration will be April 12th at 7:15 p.m.

Phyllis Herrington

UPCOMING EVENTS - APRIL 2017

- 4-02-17 Sunday 8:45 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum
- 4-02-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service - 5th Sunday in Lent**
- 4-02-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 4-03-17 Monday 7:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 4-04-17 Tuesday 6:15 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Prime Timers' Breakfast
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 12:15 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship Service
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 12:45 p.m. Soup Lunch
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Learning Committee
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Soup Supper
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 7:15 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship Service
- 4-05-17 Wednesday 7:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 4-08-17 Saturday 8:00 a.m. Men's Ministry Bible Study Breakfast
- 4-08-17 Saturday 9:00 a.m. Spring Clean Up

- 4-09-17 Sunday 8:45 a.m. Sunday School/ Adult Forum
- 4-09-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service - Palm/Passion Sunday**
- 4-09-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour/ Sr. High SS
- 4-10-17 Monday 7:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 4-10-17 Monday 7:30 p.m. Property Committee
- 4-12-17 Wednesday 3:00 p.m. FACETS
- 4-12-17 Wednesday 5:00 p.m. NO Confirmation Class HOLY WEEK
- 4-12-17 Wednesday 7:15 p.m. Training for ESL Testing
- 4-12-17 Wednesday 7:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 4-13-17 Thursday 12:15 & 7:15 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Worship Service**
- 4-14-17 Friday 12:15 & 7:15 p.m. **Good Friday Worship Service**

- 4-16-17 Sunday 6:30 a.m. **Worship Service - Easter Sunrise**
- 4-16-17 Sunday 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast
- 4-16-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service - Easter Sunday**
- 4-17-17 Monday 7:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 4-17-17 Monday - Church Office Closed - Easter Monday
- 4-18-17 Tuesday 6:15 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer
- 4-18-17 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Council
- 4-19-17 Wednesday 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
- 4-20-17 Thursday 11:00 a.m. WELCA Bible Study & Prayer
- 4-20-17 Thursday 7:00 p.m. ESL Registration & Testing

4-23-17 Sunday 8:45 a.m. Sunday School/ Adult Forum

4-23-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service - 2nd Sunday of Easter**

4-23-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour / **COUNCIL INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR THE CONGREGATION**

4-25-17 NEWSLETTER Articles Due from Committee Chairs

4-24-17 Monday 7:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

4-28-17 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee

4-26-17 Wednesday No Confirmation Class

4-26-17 Wednesday 7:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Monthly Bible Studies & Prayer

Please join our CELC prayer/Bible Study group this month on **Tuesday, April 4th & 18th at 6:15 p.m.** in the Pastor's Office or Sanctuary. If you would like to add someone to our monthly prayer card please email the church office at

admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org

Mens' Ministry Bible Study

This group will meet next on **Saturday, April 8th, at 8 a.m.** A sign-up sheet is available at the Information Center. Please contact ALLEN GRIFFITH 703-628-0734 with questions.

Bring A Spring Blooming Flower With You Easter Morning.

We are reviving the "chicken wire" cross this year. The one we used years ago and covered with spring flowers. It will be on display outside the front doors on Easter morning, **Sunday April 16th**, so please don't forget to bring your flower and place it on the cross. It will be beautiful! Please contact Joyce Skoglund at 703-591-4017 with any questions.

GLOBAL CHURCH: COSTA RICA TRIP IDEAS

I'VE BEEN BLESSED by relationships with Lutheran ministries in Central America for many years. Accompaniment of our brothers and sisters in Christ has strengthened my faith in various ways as Lutherans from the US have served and walked with our brothers and sisters. OUR PARENTS OF YOUTH AND LEADERS HAVE EXPLORED SOME OF OUR YOUTH AND FAMILY MEMBERS traveling together with me to visit with the Costa Rican Lutheran Church this July 4-11. At this point it doesn't look like we have enough people interested to make the trip, and I'll also be very busy, so it seems best to postpone this until sometime next year. HOWEVER, if you've been thinking about going and haven't told me or Dan or Laura, please let us know immediately as this could provide us with a needed number of travelers. Our cost estimate has been \$800-1000/person + airfare. In Christ, Pastor Paul

WELCA Meeting

WELCA meeting this month will be held on **Thursday, April 20th at 11 a.m.** in the conference room. Please contact Pat Nau at 703-281-6288 with questions.

APRIL Kick-Off for ESL Thursday Classes at Christ Lutheran

We will hold ESL classes on Thursday evenings **7- 9 p.m.** from **April 20th** (registration) through **June 1st**. If you haven't already volunteered, we can still use your help. **PLEASE PRAY FOR A NEW SUCCESSFUL OUTREACH TO OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY THROUGH ESL!**

Please talk with or email one of us:

Phyllis Herrington phyllis.herrington@gmail.com

Mary Anne Rossbach therossbox@verizon.net,

Dick Alferts alfersr@gmail.com

or Pastor Paul pastor@fairfaxchristlutheran.org. We are excited to plan getting to know our community better through sharing our skills in English!

Save the Dates: May

Coming in **May: May 3rd, 7:30 p.m. The Gathering of Friends: Muslims and Christians in Dialogue**, meets at Burke Presbyterian Church to talk together about passing on our faith to new generations.

Sunday, May 21st, 2-5 p.m. Christ Lutheran co-sponsors the first "Fairfax Interfaith Unity Walk". We'll walk together from Fairfax United Methodist Church to Christ Lutheran (just over 5k), "bringing faith communities together to appreciate each other and feel part of the same whole, despite our differences." We plan to stop at 9 different places of worship, from St Leo the Great Catholic Church to the Ezher Camil Mosque. Fairfax Mayor David Meyer will join us!

PRAYER LIST



PRAYER LIST,

+ WE PRAY FOR HEALTH AND HEALING +

Zoey Angelo, Nadia Appel, Beverly and Robert L. Boulis, Jr., Rita Brice, Lois Culler, Ken Dugan, Cliff Geisbert, Alison Grohman, Olivia Immerman, Luba Kakovitch, Sally Kaplan, Janice Keck, Rhonda Kelly, K. C. Koleman, Mike March, Paul Martin, Carolyn Phillips, Lueanne White, and Allison Graves Wilson.

+ **For The Homebound** + Web Brown, **Evelyn Dise**, Herb Graul, Betty Mangler, **Rutha McGinnis** and Virginia Moul and, **Terry Toloczko**.

+ **For Those Who Mourn** + The Culler Family, on the death of Paul's father, Duane Culler.

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



APRIL 20th Larry & Roslyn Lamborn

APRIL 30th Karen & Mark Barber

BIRTHDAYS FOR APRIL



APRIL 01 Cory Maddamma
APRIL 01 Lauranne Nash
APRIL 02 Jeff Kohne
APRIL 03 Mark Pedersen
APRIL 06 Judy Diehl
APRIL 07 Jennifer DeGroot
APRIL 09 Tanya Shifflett
APRIL 11 Sara DeGroot
APRIL 14 Phyllis Herrington
APRIL 15 Barbara Hipple
APRIL 16 Betsy Green
APRIL 18 Barbara Dellinger
APRIL 18 David Gessert
APRIL 19 Hunter Walker
APRIL 22 Carl Adams
APRIL 24 Megan Green
APRIL 25 Mark Eaton
APRIL 25 Andrew Yee
APRIL 27 Karla Eaton

THOSE SERVING FOR APRIL

VOLUNTEER SERVERS ARE NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER WORSHIP

A sign-up sheet is available at the Information Center. Please volunteer to

SERVERS APR. 2nd

ACOLYTE - Stella Moyer,
ALTAR GUILD - Susan Lemarie,
LECTOR - Liisa Herweg,

ASSISTING MINISTER - Jeff Garrison,
COMMUNION ASSISTANT - Joyce Skoglund,
COUNTER - Dave Gessert,
GREETER - The Barber Family,
USHERS - Mark Barber, 3 needed.

SERVERS APR. 9th (Palm Sunday):

ACOLYTE - **one needed**,
ALTAR GUILD - Phyllis Herrington,
ASSISTING MINISTER - Cliff Diehl,
COMMUNION ASSISTANT - Jeff Garrison,
COUNTER - Len Skoglund,
GREETERS - Ginny Trygstad & Elly Burton,
Lector - **one needed**,
USHERS - Len Skoglund, **3 needed**.
READERS - Robert, Emerson, & Eowyn Worst, **6 more are needed**

SERVERS APRIL 13th (Maundy Thursday):

ACOLYTE - **one needed**,
ALTAR GUILD - Phyllis Herrington,
ASSISTING MINISTER - **one needed**,
LECTOR - **one needed**,
COMMUNION ASSISTANT - Ginny Trygstad,
COUNTER - Ed Calabria,
GREETER - **one needed**,
USHERS - **2 needed**.

SERVERS APRIL 14th (Good Friday):

ACOLYTE - **one needed**,
ASSISTING MINISTER - **one needed**,
LECTOR - **one needed**,
COUNTER - Ed Calabria,
GREETER - **one needed**.

SERVERS APR. 16th (Easter Sunrise Sunday 6:30 am):

ACOLYTE - **one needed**,
ALTAR GUILD - Phyllis Herrington,
ASSISTING MINISTER - Len Skoglund,
LECTOR - Len Skoglund,
COMMUNION ASSISTANT - Joyce Skoglund,
COUNTER - Ed Calabria,
GREETER - Joyce Skoglund.

SERVERS APR. 16th (Easter Sunday 10:00 am):

ACOLYTE - **one needed**,
ALTAR GUILD - Phyllis Herrington,
ASSISTING MINISTER - **one needed**,
LECTOR - **one needed**,
COMMUNION ASSISTANT - **one needed**,
COUNTER - Ed Calabria,
GREETER - **one needed**,
USHERS - Ed Calabria & **3 needed**.

SERVERS APR. 23rd:

ACOLYTE- **one needed**,
ALTAR - Jean Oberdick,
ASSISTING MINISTER - **one needed**,
COMMUNION ASSISTANT - **one needed**,
COUNTER - Marilyn Short,
GREETER - **one needed**,
USHERS - Marilyn Short & **3 needed**.

SERVERS APR. 30th:

ACOLYTE- **one needed**,
ALTAR GUILD - Phyllis Herrington,
ASSISTING MINISTER - **one needed**,
COMMUNION ASSISTANT - **one needed**,
COUNTER - Ed Calabria,
GREETER - **one needed**,
USHERS - Ed Calabria & **3 needed**.

Thank you for your service!

WE WANT TO PUBLICIZE your Committee events in The Messenger

Committee Chairs, please share your committee activities with our church membership through the Newsletter and Emails. To have your article published in the next issue of The Messenger, please send Connie text and/or pictures by email by APRIL 25th. The deadline for articles to be included in the May issue of The Messenger is **APRIL 25th**.

Give Hope Through a Bar of Soap!!

Your small but mighty chapter of the WELCA asks you to please help us put together Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits to take with us to the annual Washington Synod WELCA Conference on May 6. You can see the extent of LWR's worldwide service on the large poster on the bulletin board near the church office. Each kit will contain:

- light/medium weight DARK-colored bath towel - 20x40 to 30x54" (Please NO FAT FLUFFY or BEACH towels)
- 2-3 bars of bath soap (no smaller)
- a sturdy comb (not fine toothed)
- an adult-sized toothbrush
- a metal nail clipper

All items must be NEW and in their original packaging. Please place your donations in the container at the Information Center NO LATER THAN **Sunday, April 30th**.

Pastor Collinson-Streng's Office Hours

Pastor Paul's office days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The pastor usually takes his off day on Saturdays.

Share Your Favorite Hymns

Share your favorite hymns with our musicians. Sign up at the Information Center or email the Worship Committee at Steven Beck email: steven.beck0703@gmail.com or Linda Bell email: auntlinda0108@yahoo.com

CHURCH WEBSITE CALENDAR

Do you wish to use the church for an event? Please go to our Christ Lutheran Church Website Google Calendar for room availability, activity updates and details at www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org. Then contact Connie or the Pastor to schedule a church room for your event. Thank you!

Council Members Phone Numbers

Sandra Adams
sandrawadams@hotmail.com
703-359-6990

Dick Alferts
alfersr@gmail.com
703-591-7581

Eric Bloedorn
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Dan Walker
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2017 CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

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Secretary

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Jeff Kohne
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Trustee

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Trustee

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Director of the Bell Choir
Annie Welsh

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Director of Preschool and
Congregation Life Ministry:
Virginia A. Trygstad
703-273-4094 ext. 28
ginnyht@verizon.net

Custodian:
Dennis Shifflett

Preschool Staff

Preschool Director:
Virginia A. Trygstad

Two-Year-Old Teacher
Dana Candido

Three-Year-Old Teacher
Linda Chaffee

Four-Year-Old Teacher
Judy Olson

Four-Year-Old Teacher
Lynda Falkenstein

2017 PARISH COMMITTEES

Meeting Dates

Chair & Council Representative

COUNCIL

*3rd Tue.
at 7:00 pm*

Evangelism

*4th Tues.
at 7:00 pm*

*Council: Chris Rossbach
Council: Ric Fisher & Dick
Alfers*

Fellowship
(As Needed)

*John Munuo &
Melssa Moyer*

Learning

*2nd Wed.
at 6:00 pm*

*Chair:
Council: June Bloedorn*

Service
(As Needed)

*Chair: Phyllis
Herrington*

Property
*2nd Mon.
at 7:30 pm*

*Chair: Allen Griffith
Council: Karen Barber*

Worship
(As Needed)

*Chair: Cliff Diehl
Council: Mark Poyner*

Preschool
meets quarterly

Council:

Connie Hepler, Administrative Assistant
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Fairfax, Virginia 22030
(703) 273-4094
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www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org

THE MESSENGER
APRIL
2017

STAY CONNECTED



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3810 Meredith Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

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