April 2018

Christ's Messenger

"To know Christ and to make Him known"

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The American Association of Lutheran Churches
A fortress of safety in a post-Christian frontier.

Tues. 6:30-8:30 PM
Money Matters
Workshops

Wed. at 6:30 PM
"Those Who Dream"
Bible Studies

Wed. 6-8 Youth Nights
at Church

Sat. Apr. 14
5-8 PM
Family Game &
Potluck Night

Christ Lutheran Church
2415 Ensign St.
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone:
218-722-7537

website:
clcduluth.org

email:
church@clcduluth.org

Facebook:
Christ Lutheran Church
Duluth

CARL'S CORNER

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion
We were like those who dream.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
And our tongue with shouts of joy.
--Psalm 126: 1

I'm a dreamer (No, not THAT kind of Dreamer). I dream every night. Most of the time the dreams make absolutely no sense and are not particularly pleasant and I try to remember before falling off to sleep to tell my brain to remind me that the dreams are not real and that I'm just dreaming. Then there are the dreams of trying to get someplace on time only to be frustrated by circumstances preventing me from doing so.

In these days of secularism, empiricism, logic and scientific realism it seems almost primitive to embrace the importance of dreams. None the less, the Bible contains accounts of many people who were dreamers:

--Jacob who wrestled with God in a dream.
--Joseph (the Patriarch) who was sold off by his brothers as a dreamer and then put his dreams to work to save the entire Hebrew nation.
--Joseph (father of Jesus) who took Mary as his wife and escaped to Egypt to save our Lord.
--Solomon who received his wisdom after a dream in which he was given options about life.
--Daniel who interpreted the dreams of the king of Babylon.

A number of books in the Bible are based almost entirely on dreams and visions. Consider the books of Daniel, Ezekiel and Revelation.

A lesser known book is Zechariah (Hebrew Z'karyah), a minor prophet whose writings are the next to the last book in the Old Testament (Tanakh). It is the dreams and visions of Zechariah to which we will turn for our Wednesday night Bible studies beginning this month.

We'll explore the visions and dreams of the prophet whose descriptions of what he saw guided the Judeans in their efforts to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and contend with those who sought to prevent them from the construction.

Regular study of God's Word is an absolute necessity to survive our secular culture and to rebuild the "walls of faith." If you have not been a part of such a study in the past, please consider attending. This study will be for three weeks, so if you find it difficult to commit to a Wednesday night Bible Study for the rest of your life, please consider participation for this limited time. The studies last one hour beginning at 6:30 PM in the Sunday School room.

Pastor Carl

My personal thanks to all those who participated in the Journey of Faith. I hope it was an exercise that helped you grow spiritually and that you found renewed enlightenment in your faith.

Interim Pastor Carl Bengtson
Cell phone: 770-828-5937

Church Office: Juliana Morgan
church@clcduluth.org
218-722-7537

Council President: Jim Carlson
Vice-President: Carolyn Lofald

Treasurer: Laurie Wiita
treasurer@clcduluth.org

Youth coordinator: Chris Stumpf
clcyouth_duluth@yahoo.com

Church Website: www.clcduluth.org

Sunday Worship

Praise Time—9:15AM

Worship—9:30AM

Sunday School -11AM

Adult Bible Study—11:00 AM

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

Mary Circle 1st Thur. 9:30 AM

Esther Circle 1st Thur. 6:30 PM

Dorcas Circle 2nd Mon. 1:00 PM

Hannah Circle 2nd Sat. 1:00 PM

Women's Bible Study -
3rd Thursday 10 AM

Lutherans for Life -
2nd Sunday 6:30PM

Council Meeting-2nd Thursday

Deadline for submitting news for the April Messenger is Thur., Apr. 26.

PACT Televised Services

Duluth:

Charter Ch. 180

Sat. @ 9AM & 9PM;

Sun. @ 7AM

Superior:

SCMC 180
Wed. @ 6:00pm
Sun. @ 10:00am

Hermantown:
Sun. @ 8 AM
Thur. @ 2 PM
Sat. 8 @ AM

April 2018 Serving Schedule

April 1
Ushers: Bob & Pam Halvorson; Gary & Carolyn Lofald
Greeter: Norma Johnson

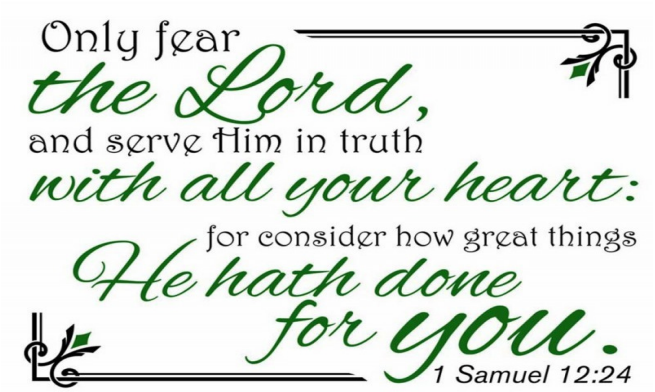
April 8
Ushers: Les Johnson & Kim Matuseski; Jim & Gayle Maruska
Greeter: Grace Wells

April 15
Ushers: Mike & Wendy Pickar; Mike & Pam Wendling
Greeters: Bob & Kay Dahl

April 22
Ushers: Bob & Pam Halvorson; Paul Holt; Jim Carlson
Greeters: Norma Johnson

April 29
Ushers: Gary & Carolyn Lofald; Jim & Gayle Maruska
Greeters: Grace Wells

May 6
Ushers: Mike & Wendy Pickar; Mike & Pam Wendling
Greeters: Bob & Kay Dahl



Trustees:

Apr. 1: Stacy Homstad & Bill Arezzo

Apr. 8: Grace Wells & Kim Mitchell

Apr. 15: Sandy Carlson & Sue Boder

Apr. 22: Wendy Pickar & Ouitdee Carson

Apr.29: Stacy Homstad & Bill Arezzo

May 6: Stacy Homstad & Bill Arezzo

Coffee Servers:

Apr.1: No Coffee Hour

Apr.8: Council Group 1

Apr.15: Council Group 2

Apr.22: Esther Circle

Apr.29: Library

May 6: Mary Circle

Please Pray for…

The Leadership of the Church

The Call Committee

Youth Group Kids & Leaders

Open Arms Daycare

Missions of the Month:

The AALC

Pray for each other

Pray for our Country, Troops & Police

Pray for Persecuted Christians throughout the World

Those with Health Needs:

Gerald Bartels
Aletha Bartels
Shirley & Sig Randa*
Bryan Goeppinger
Brian MacDonald
David MacDonald
Donna Swanson*
Shirley Kern*
Dennis Peterson**
Dick Seseman**
Larry Kubiak**
Bill & Jane McLean**
Wayne & Jean Sundstrom**
Katie Lund**
Susan Johnson**
Vi Boder
Russ & Carol Schramm
Ruth Dahl
Leo Plewa
Mary Jenny
Dan Herdina ***
Marlene Stauber
Norma Johnson

*in the hospital, recently released, or anticipating surgery
**receiving therapy or ongoing medical care
***in hospice care

If there are any people who have been accidently overlooked, please contact the church office. We apologize for any oversights.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.
And the peace of God,
which transcends all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

Philippians 4:6-7

Christ Lutheran Church Call Committee:

Jim Carlson
Lillian Fontaine
Bob Halvorson
Carolyn Lofald
Kim Matuseski
Kim Mitchell
Mike Pickar
Mark Wiita
Keith Youngren

Don't Forget!
The first Sunday of each month is FOOD SHELF SUNDAY!
Please bring an item or two to help those in need.
Cash donations are also appreciated.

The next Hannah Circle Food Share will be on April 11

It's time to start planning VBS! Mark your calendars for June 18th - 22nd. VBS will start with dinner at 5 PM and run until 8 PM. We need volunteers to help. Please see any member of the Luther League or Chris Stumpf if you are interested in helping. Thank you!

All youth and their friends are invited to the last Christian Music roller skating night of the school year. We will meet at World of Wheels on Monday May 7th at 5 PM. Please let Chris know how many are attending.

The youth are holding their annual free sale on May 5th. This is similar to a rummage sale except everything is free. We have helped many people in the community with this event in the past. If you would like to donate items please bring them to church and a member of the Luther League will be glad to assist you with your items. If you need someone to pick up your items, give Chris a call at 218-310-2747. Thank you for your support.

Once again the Luther League is selling gift certificates for hanging baskets from Engwall's. Purchase your certificate for $30.00 and redeem it in May for a beautiful 10 inch hanging basket with a retail price of $37.99. See any of the Luther League members to buy your certificate. Thank you for your support.

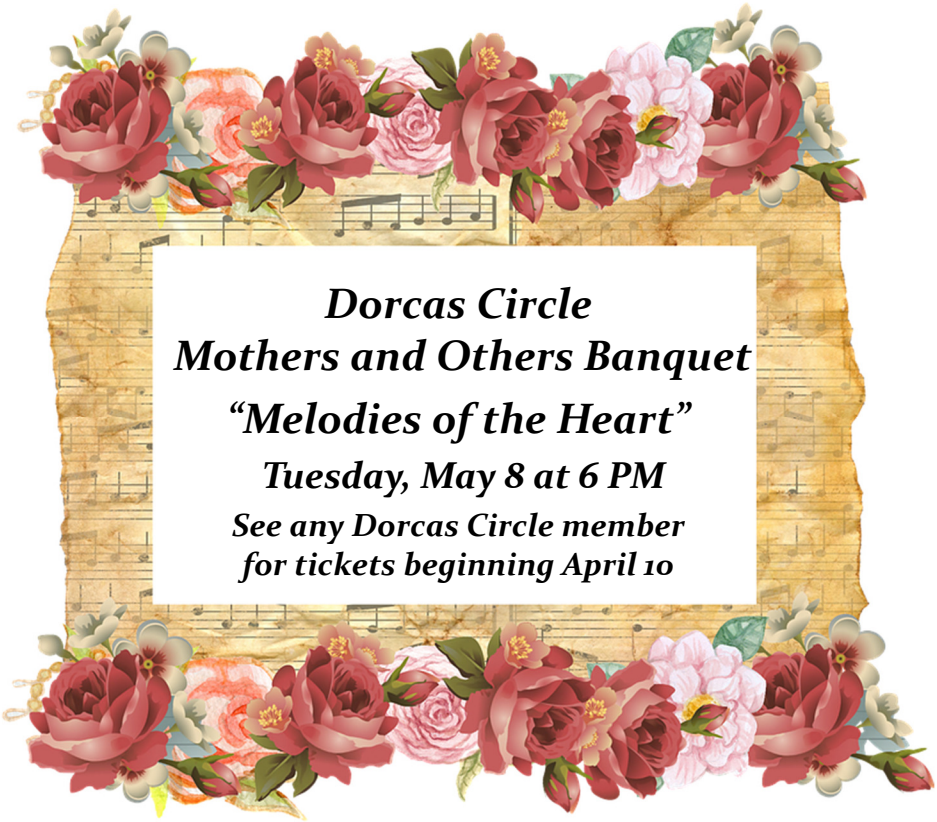
Youth night starts again in April! Luther League will meet the first and third Wednesday of the month and all youth on the second and fourth Wednesday. We will meet from 6-8. See you there!

Any questions, please contact Chris Stumpfat 218-310-2747
email at clcyouth_duluth@yahoo.com

Teach me,
O LORD, the way
of your statutes;
and I will keep it
to the end.
Give me
understanding,
that I may keep
your law
and observe it
with my whole
heart.
Lead me in the
path of your
commandments,
for I delight in it.
Incline my heart
to your
testimonies,
and not to
selfish gain!
Turn my eyes
from looking at
worthless things;
and give me life
in your ways.

Psalm 119:33-37

Happy Spring !
We have been enjoying fun times playing outside in the sunshine. We hope you are all enjoying this amazing time of year too.
Cute things kids say...
Little Cora brought powdered sugar donut holes one day for a treat. She is so great at sharing. She wanted to share some with Gwen, too. As she gave them to Gwen she said to her " These are for you because they match your hair and your jacket". We all thought that was pretty sweet.
Brekken said "My Mommy has a mom." I said she is your Grandma. He said no she isn't. I asked him what is her name and he said "Nanna."
With new babies at daycare there is always an abundance of hugs and fun conversation.
One day I overheard one of the girls telling her friends that real human mom's don't have to sit on their eggs. Then she patted her tummy where she had placed a stuffed animal under her shirt and said "Someday baby I will show you the world".
When someone asks Adam how old he is, he replies "I'm 35!" He actually just turned two.
We are working on new songs like *Sing*, *Praise Him* and *I love Jesus*. We are learning about creation, the seasons and space. Thank you Pastor Carl for the special tours of the church and sharing Bible stories with us. We look forward to church visits with you every week.
We are in need of more ride on vehicles for the kids. If you have extra tricycles, Big Wheels or even small bikes with training wheels that your children have outgrown and you would like to donate them we would really appreciate it. It's a great large motor activity and the kids love it.
Special thanks to Judi, Jim, Grace, Carolyn and Laurie for all you all do for us. You're all Great!
Mark 12:30
Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.
Blessings,
Mary Jo



Family Potluck & Game Night

Sat., April 14

from 5-8 PM

To Christ Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the spiritual care, over the years to our mother, Joyce Sletten.

Susan Sletten

Dear Jim and Christ Lutheran family,

Thank you for this year's fabulous Father Daughter Ball events! We continue to feel privileged to be a part of these incredibly impactful events in the lives of so many.

We trust as you review this year's events you will be reminded of the significant impact you are having on each family's life that is represented at the Balls and that you never grow weary in the tremendous work you are doing.

Thank you for your financial commitment and for the impact you are having on my family and each family in attendance!

Wishing you God's richest blessings!

Sincerely,
Lynette Steen
Lynette's Portrait Design

Thank you to
Christ Lutheran
Church for your participation and generosity in sharing the gospel with children around the world through a simple shoebox gift.

From the local area Samaritan's Purse

Dear Christ Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for letting us come back to share our music with your church & the community!

We love to share the gospel in song form & we pray it was an uplifting time for all that attended.

We were encouraged to see many <u>hearty</u> Minnesotans that braved the snowy weather to hear us play! Thank you also for the wonderful supper... very tasty! Kudos to the caterer! God bless, hope to see you all down the road,

Sarah Mae and the Birkeland Boys.

April Mission of the Month:
The American Association of Lutheran Churches

Three characteristics have described The AALC from our beginning:
Confessing, Caring, and Calling.

Confessing

We believe that God has saved us by grace through faith in Jesus Christ apart from any of our own works. Martin Luther called this, "the chief article of the whole Christian doctrine." The Bible alone is the source of our theology and doctrine. We believe that the Holy Bible is the inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God. It is the indisputable authority and rule in all faith and life. The Holy Bible has greater authority than our feelings, our understanding, our culture, or our comforts. Simply stated, it is God's Word.

Many people say that they believe the Bible, but they interpret it in a variety of ways. We accept the Lutheran Confessions because they are the correct interpretation and explanation of the Holy Bible.

Caring

We are a small but growing church body. This means every pastor and every congregation is dear to us. There are no disposable people here. We work hard to genuinely care for each pastor and every congregation in our Association. By the grace of God, we are growing and planting new churches. But no matter how large we grow, we are committed to being honest and gracious in our relationships among ourselves and with others. We take seriously the biblical command to be, "diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3).

Calling

We believe that God has called us to care for people beyond ourselves. We are called to reach out to people as the hands and heart of Christ. The AALC is committed to pioneering new missions across America.

Also, we are called to extend the Kingdom beyond our shores, into other lands. There are people in every nation in desperate need of the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ. We may be small, but we are powerful when we walk together. God is blessing our beloved body of churches and calling new people to "walk together" with us every day.

You may make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Thank you for your continued support in our mission *"To know Christ and to make Him known."*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Gary Lofald
April 5

Carol Schneeberger
April 6

Jim Maruska
April 10

Jillian Brula
April 10

Kim Matuseski
April 16

Ethan W'iita
April 17

Don Olson
April 20

Priscilla Olson
April 27

Grace W'ells
April 29

FINANCIAL UPDATE: Annual Budget: $241,059; Weekly $4,636; YTD Need $46,360

	Offering	Other	Daycare	Total
3/11/2018	$1,699	$500	$0	$2,249
YTD	$24,671	$3,070	$12,931	$40,672

Full Financial reports are posted in the Narthex after each council meeting

Collection for February Missions of the Month:

The Encounter: $226.00 **Fellowship of Christian Athletes: $311.00**

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21