



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The American Association of Lutheran Churches

A fortress of safety in a post-Christian frontier.

Thoughts About Earth Day

The first part of the Nicene Creed states, "We believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible."

This year, April 22nd was Earth Day, all over the world and here in Duluth. God has given humanity the responsibility to care for this earth. Have we done so? I don't think we have. With the rise of technology, and the knowledge of how to turn rock into steel, we have come to pollute our air and waterways.

From a Christian point of view, life should be eucharistic. The word "eucharist" means thanksgiving. It is used as the definition of the Sacrament where we receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. But in viewing life and the creation, we must see it all as a celebration of thanksgiving. This celebration is the outcome of being responsible for our earth and all of its contents.

When Adam and Eve sinned, we lost the earth as a means of communion with God. The life we live, and this earth we live on, is supposed to be a life of communion with God. The earth before the fall of humanity was filled with the Divine Presence of God. Since then, and now, the created earth appears void of the Divine Presence.

The Holy Scriptures tell us that in God "we live, move, and have our being." That includes the earth! When we purposely destroy rain forests that disrupt the ecology; when we purposely shoot pollutants into the air creating holes in the O-Zone layer, we go against the sacred meaning of our relationship to this planet. God gave humanity everything it needed to survive. God gave us fruit, vegetables, and plants to eat from. But then, after the fall, and after the great flood of Noah's time, God allows us to eat meat. This isn't a plug for being vegetarian, but humanity was vegetarian in the beginning. When God killed an animal to cover Adam and Eve, it opposed the understanding of their relationship with the earth and all of creation that God inherently gave them.

Alexander Schmemmann wrote in his book entitled *Holy Week: A Liturgical Explanation for the Days of Holy Week*, "...world and food, once they are deprived of their initial sacramental meaning as means of communion with God; once they are not received for God's sake, and filled with hunger and thirst for God; once, in other words, God is no longer their real "content," can give no life, satisfy no hunger, for they have no life in themselves." This is what has become of humanity. Nothing satisfies, so we go for more. Nothing gives life, so we think we can create it. Our hunger and thirst is not for food or that which satisfies, but it is a hunger and thirst for union and communion with God.

Holy Scripture declares, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come! Everything is from God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. That is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed the message of reconciliation to us. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making His appeal through us. We plead on Christ's behalf: "Be reconciled to God." He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (CSB)

As I ponder "Earth Day," I pray that we at Christ Lutheran Church continue to look to God as our source, as our satisfaction, and the One who fills our hunger and quenches our thirst. For nothing is more important to the earth today, than our coming back to what was once sanctified; a world of thanksgiving and adoration of God our Creator. Let us yearn and direct ourselves toward a more perfect life of thanksgiving that is filled with God's Spirit, and watch it become again a Divine and immortal life that He has given to all humanity, especially to those who believe in God through Jesus Christ.

Join us for prayer
Every Tuesday at Noon

Thur., May 2 at 9:30
Mary Circle

Thur., May 2 at 6:30
Esther Circle

Mon., May 13 at 1:00
Dorcas Circle

Thur., May 9 at 6:30
Council Meeting

Sun., May 12 at 6:30
Lutherans for Life

Sat., Tues. & Thur. 4- 9 PM
Dance Classes

**Christ Lutheran
Church**

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President:: Ouitdee Carson
V.P.: Carolyn Lofald
Treasurer: Laurie Wiita

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Evangelism Committee meets Wed., May 1 at 9 AM
- Wednesday Night Bible study begins again on May 1 at 6:30 PM. The study is called "Marks of the Church."
- The Youth are hosting a Mother's Day brunch following the service on May 12.
- Quilting group on May 1st, 10-3, bring a bag lunch. All skill levels welcome, bring sewing machine and basic sewing supplies if desired - other supplies (fabric, mats, rotary cutters, rulers) provided. We will focus on baptismal quilts so we can get ahead and talk about charity projects.
- Join us every Tuesday at Noon for a time of prayer in the Sanctuary

May Missions of the Month

PROJECT TIMOTHY

We are part of an unbroken chain. Paul - Timothy - faithful pastors - and on and on through the years. This pattern of carefully passing on the faithfully entrusted message is the heartbeat of the Christian church and her mission. The death of Jesus Christ has made a way for God to bring sinful men back to a right relationship with Him— by grace alone through faith alone. This is the message to be proclaimed!

From its inception the Christian church has sent teachers into the world with this message. Well-trained pastors are critically needed in Kenya. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya is the fastest-growing Lutheran church in Africa today. But the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya has a mere 140 pastors to serve 700 congregations with 100,000 members. Project Timothy-Kenya is dedicated to providing a remedy for this need, equipping leaders for the dramatically growing church in Africa.

HEAD OF THE LAKES CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP

Child Evangelism Fellowship is a Bible-centered organization composed of born-again believers whose purpose is to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and to establish (disciple) them in the Word of God and in a local church for Christian living.

CEF has many different ministries for children, but the primary ones are the Good News Club and the 5-Day Club.

The Good News Club and 5-Day Club ministries take place in neighborhood settings such as homes, backyards, schools and community centers all over the world. These fast-paced, one-hour programs are designed to bring the Gospel of Christ to children on their level in their environment. There are 9 good news club in the Duluth area. Christ Lutheran Church is involved with the Good News Club that meets at Piedmont Elementary School once a week through school year with 10 -12 children attending.

Along with these clubs, CEF also has fair, camping, open-air, and internet ministries for children. Last year through these combined ministries over 22.9 million children worldwide heard the Good News.

Please prayerfully consider a donation to either of this month's chosen missions. 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."

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Romans 12:12

Our Pastor & the Leadership of the Church
Youth Group Kids & Leaders
Open Arms Daycare
Mission of the Month: Project Timothy &
Child Evangelism Fellowship

Each other
Our Country, Military & Police
The teachers and students at all schools
Persecuted Christians throughout the world

THOSE WITH HEALTH NEEDS:

Carol Schneeberger	Jean Sundstrom	Pastor Tom Stover
Gerald & Aletha Bartels	Katie Lund**	Mark Malander
Shirley Randa	Vi Boder	Del Sandberg
Bryan Goeppinger	Russ & Carol Schramm	Kathleen Randa
Brian MacDonald	Ruth Dahl	Melanie Saeland
David MacDonald	Florence Kubiak	Olivia Schadel
Shirley Kern	Leo Plewa	Diane Malander
Dennis Peterson**	Mary Jenny	Darlene Saaf
Bill & Jane McLean**	Marlene Stauber	Carol Blair

*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 accidentally overlooked, please contact the church office. We apologize for any oversights.

May 2019 Serving Schedule



If you are able to volunteer for one Sunday each month or every other month that would lighten the load and be so helpful. Please sign up on the Usher & Greeter lists that are in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your help in this ministry!

Trustees:

May 5: Grace & Kim
May 12: Sandy & Bill
May 19: Jim & Wendy
May 26: Grace & Kim

Coffee Servers:

May 5: Mary Circle
May 12: Luther League
May 19: Dorcas Circle
May 26: Council Group 1

Everyday is a blessing at Open Arms!



We are enjoying spring to it's fullest, including another fun parent night out which happened to be the night of the big snowstorm. The parents and the children had a fun time and everyone got home safely. The Lord surely blesses us with the beauty of the big piles of snow, sunny skies and April showers.

*You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace.
The mountains and the hills
will burst into song before you
and the trees of the field will clap their hands.
Isaiah 55:12*

We have many fun things planned for May. The children will be singing a few songs at the Mothers and Others Dinner at church. We have outdoor adventures and really fun spring projects planned.

We are so excited to share the good news that we have a new baby at Open Arms! Adorable little Hendrik started in April. We are so happy that he and his mom and dad, Pete and Stacey, are also attending Christ Lutheran Church.

Speaking of babies, as I mentioned in the April newsletter Joshua has been wishing and praying for another baby in his family. I'm so happy to say that

his request was granted! The Lord has blessed his family again. His mom is expecting a sweet new baby. Joshua is so excited that his little brother will get to be a big brother, too. God is so good all the time!

Thank you Norma for the special lesson, lunch, and Easter treats. You are a great blessing to us. We are excited to see what you have planned for your next visit.

Thank you Pastor Gary for reading to the children. We are so happy to get to know you and look forward to seeing you again.

We are in need of a few tricycles for outdoor play. We had to retire the two that we had. If there is anyone who would like to donate a new or used tricycle we would be so grateful!

Thank you!

Happy Spring!

Blessings to Everyone!

Mary Jo

*How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.
With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!
I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.
Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!*

Psalm 119:9-12



CLC Services are now on our own YouTube channel!

Go to YouTube and look for Christ Lutheran Church Duluth. Services are added each week.

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.

PACT Televised Services

Duluth: Charter Ch. 180
Sat. @ 9AM & 9PM; Sun. @ 7AM
Superior: SCMC 180
Sun. @ 10:00am; Wed. @ 6:00pm
Hermantown: MediaCom Ch. 7
Sun. @ 8AM Thur. @ 2 PM Sat. @ 8 AM



THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

The movie we went to on Saturday before Easter was even better than I had hoped, brimming over with powerful spiritual truths both fearful and joyful, as we traveled with Christian, Faithful, and Hopeful on the path of Salvation to the Celestial City! I can't wait for the release of the DVD so we can watch it again and invite more friends!

Y-GATHER BIBLE STUDY

CLC Lighthouse Youth will be starting a new Bible study on our *Identity and Purpose in Christ* Wednesday, May 1st at 6:30 pm in The Loft.

LET'S GO ROLLER-SKATING!

Monday, May 6th from 5:00-7:30pm is Christian night at World of Wheels in Superior. Learn more here: <https://wowskatecenter.com/special-events/>

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

CLC Lighthouse Youth will be hosting a delicious brunch on Sunday, May 12th after church with beautiful flower baskets on sale from Engwall's!

VBS 2019

Christ Lutheran Church will be presenting *Miraculous Mission VBS* the third week of June (6/18 – 6/22) followed by a Celebration and Potluck during the Sunday worship service on 6/23. We already have a team of over 15 volunteers who will be leading and serving for stary night storytelling, Bible challenge, creative crafts, healthy snacks, active games, and great songs of praise and worship to our Creator. Please pray that God will bring many children to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ and be encouraged in their faith while having a great time meeting new friends!

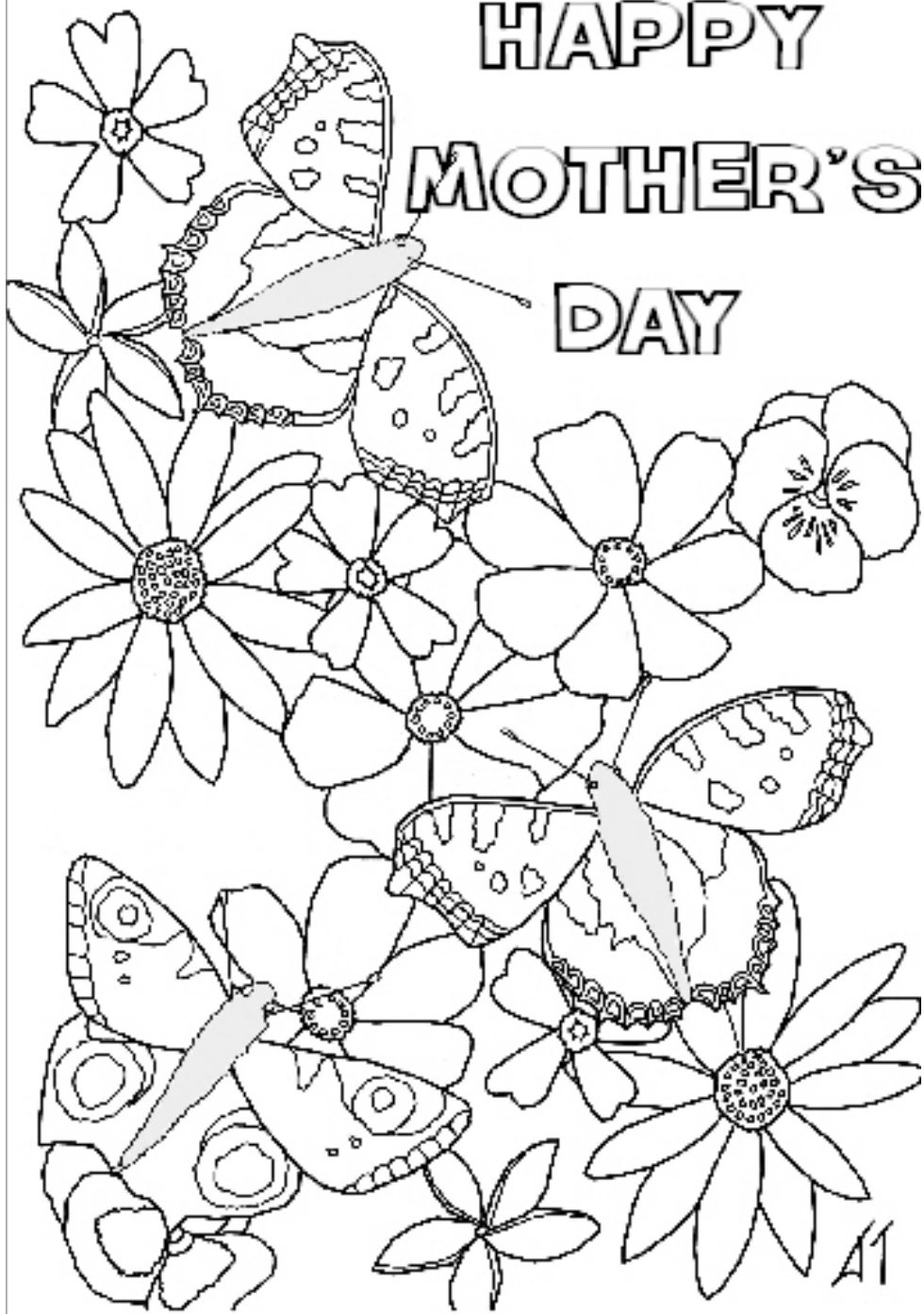
AALC YOUTH CONFERENCE MEETING

All youth attending the conference this July will meet in The Loft on Wednesday, May 8th at 6:30 pm for prayer and preparation for this important trip. Please spread the word to any students who will be going with us from other churches. All attendees are required to participate in these meetings. There will also be a meeting in June and July, dates to be determined.

Happy Mother's Day to all you wonderful Mothers and Grandmothers! We love you!

Love and blessing to you in Christ,
Sue DeSha
320-815-1561





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dan Jezierski
May 4

Ryan Kent
May 17

Gerald Bartels
May 19

Chelsea Holt
May 28

*All the days ordained for me
were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
How precious to me are your
thoughts, O God! How vast is
the sum of them!
Psalm 139:16,17*

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

2019 Annual Budget: \$230,899; Weekly \$4,440; YTD Need \$71,040

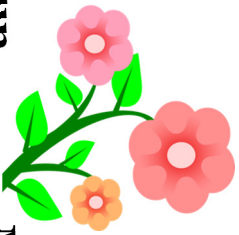
	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Daycare</u>	<u>Total</u>
4/21/2019	\$6,855	\$0	\$0	\$6,855
Year to Date	\$56,937	\$3,706	\$16,998	\$77,641

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

Collection for February Mission of the Month:

The Encounter - \$262.50 Fellowship of Christian Athletes - \$873.50

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21



MAY 2019



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			9:00 Evangelism Comm. 10-3 Quilting Group 6:30 Adult Bible Study & Y-Gather	9:30 Mary Circle 6:30 Esther Circle		
9:30 Worship/Comm. 11:15 Sunday School & Bible Study Servers: Mary Circle	10:00 Hookcrafters 5-7:30 Youth at World of Wheels 6:00 AA 7:30 AA	12:00 Prayer 6 PM Dorcas Circle Mothers & Others Banquet	5:30 VBS Planning Mtg. 6:30 Adult Bible Study & Y-Gather	5:30 Deacon/Trustee Meeting		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 Worship 11:15 Sunday School & Bible Study 6:30 Lutherans for Life	9:30 Worship/Comm. 11:15 Sunday School & Bible Study 6:00 AA 7:30 AA	12:00 Prayer 5:30 VBS Planning Mtg. 6:30 Adult Bible Study & Y-Gather	5:30 VBS Planning Mtg. 6:30 Adult Bible Study & Y-Gather			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30 Worship/Comm. 11:15 Sunday School & Bible Study Servers: Dorcas Circle	6:00 AA 7:30 AA	12:00 Prayer	5:30 VBS Planning Mtg. 6:30 Adult Bible Study & Y-Gather			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30 Worship 11:15 Sunday School & Bible Study Servers: Council One	MEMORIAL DAY 6:00 AA 7:30 AA	12:00 Prayer	6:30 Adult Bible Study & Y-Gather			
26	27	28	29	30	31	