



Community Lutheran Church February 2024 Newsletter



Inside this issue:

Pastor's Message	1
Ministry Team Reports	
Hospitality & Welcoming	2
Spiritual Growth	2
Let's Talk	2
Food Pantry	2
Outreach	3
Mission Development	3
Facilities, Security, Safety	3
Special Music - March 17	3
Grief Group	3
LGBTQ+	4
Moving Forward	
Stations of the Cross	4
Summer Bible School	4
Palm Sunday Services	5
Hand & Foot Cards	5
Church Dinner Group	5
Eyeglasses & Hearing Aids	5
Mission & Vision Statements	6
ELCA News	6
Newsletter	6

Pastor Karis Message



For Roman Catholics throughout the world, the Stations of the Cross are synonymous with Lent, Holy Week and, especially, Good Friday.

But for Lutherans?

During recent years the Stations of the Cross have become one of the most popular devotions and the stations can be found in many Western Christian churches, including those in the Lutheran, Anglican, and Methodist traditions.

This devotion is also known as the Way of the Cross, the Via Crucis, and the Via Dolorosa. It commemorates 14 key events on the day of Christ's crucifixion.

The Stations originated in medieval Europe when wars prevented Christian pilgrims from visiting the Holy Land. Later, for the many who wanted to pass along the same route, but could not make the trip to Jerusalem, a practice developed that eventually took the form of the 14 stations currently found in almost every church. It was St. Francis of Assisi who devised the list of stations and started the tradition of reciting it as a type of devotional service. European artists created works depicting scenes of Christ's journey to Calvary.

In 1761, St. Alphonsus Liguori wrote: "The pious exercise of the Way of the Cross represents the sorrowful journey that Jesus Christ made with the cross on His shoulders, to die on Calvary for the love of us. We should, therefore, practice this devotion with the greatest possible fervor, placing ourselves in spirit beside our Savior as He walked this sorrowful way, uniting our tears with His, and offering to Him both our compassion and our gratitude."

We will continue discussion the Stations of the Cross next month, Wednesday, March 6 at 10am at the Parish of St Ann in Bethany Beach.

The Stations of the Cross found during Lent:

Station 1 Jesus Is Condemned to Death

Station 2 Jesus Carries His Cross

Station 3 Jesus Falls the First Time

Station 4 Jesus Meets His Afflicted Mother

Station 5 Simon Of Cyrene Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross

Station 6 Veronica Wipes the Face Of Jesus

Station 7 Jesus Falls the Second Time



- Station 8 Jesus Meets the Women Of Jerusalem
- Station 9..... Jesus Falls a Third Time
- Station 10 Jesus Is Stripped of His Clothes
- Station 11 Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross
- Station 12 Jesus Dies on the Cross
- Station 13 The Body of Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross
- Station 14 Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb

~Pastor Karis Graham~

Hospitality & Welcome Ministry Team

After a wonderful sermon on the 28th of January celebrating RIC Sunday, we continued our celebration in Luther Hall with coffee and a beautiful cake provided by Fred and Judy Dayhoff.

Coffee hours continue on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, and now we are welcoming donations of home baked goods! We will be sure to alert anyone who is sensitive to certain ingredients and trust, that if you have allergies, so please ask if you are uncertain.

Please join us in a relaxing opportunity to meet new members and renew friendships.



We, of course, welcome anyone who would like to join the Hospitality and Welcoming Team. We can always use another pair of hands.

See you in Church,

~Linda and Ted Byram, Team Leaders

Spiritual Growth & Education Ministry Team

Let's Talk Sunday Sessions

In between services on February 11, March 10, and again April 14, 2024, we will listen to a Podcast, from Faith for All, the Reverend Dana O'Brien of the Church of Glory, Homer Glen, IL continues on about Welcoming in the ELCA's Reconciling in Christ Community Church.

Sunday, February 11, 2024, Welcoming Part 2; Welcome Like Jesus.

Sunday, March 10, 2024, Welcoming Part 3; Welcome as we have been welcomed.

Sunday, April 14, 2024, Welcoming Part 4; Radical Welcome.



~Submitted by Debbie Micsky

Food Pantry Ministry Team

The cold weather and the start of the new year did not deter families from coming to our Food Pantry. In January we fed 62 families or 257 people. We had hat, gloves, and scarves donated to the pantry in January and they were scarfed (no pun intended) up quickly by our clients. I'm sure if anyone has these types of items that you are not using, we can give those away, too.

As always, your donation of food is appreciated, keep up the great work. Dollar Tree is a good source for many of the items on the donation list. We could use box cereal. The clientele seems to prefer sweetened flavors of cereal and quick or instant oats. Thank you for your unending support.

~Mona Burns, Team Leader

Outreach Ministry Team



The Outreach Team is seeking donations for Paws for People for the month of March.

This is a nonprofit organization committed to improving the lives of people in our community by lovingly providing individualized, therapeutic visits with specially trained volunteers and their certified gentle, affectionate pets.

From hospitals and skilled care facilities to chemical dependency centers and elementary schools, they are in need of cash donations to help with goods and services which help them meet their mission.

Please put donations in the Love envelopes marked "Paws for People" and place in collection plate. There will also be a container in the narthex with a Paws for People wish list of other items needed such as dog training treats, new dog and cat toys, animal stickers for children and greeting cards.

~Contact Cindy McDaniels at cmcdaniels7@yahoo.com for more information.

Mission Development Ministry Team

The Mission Development Ministry Team (formerly Stewardship) meets the third Wednesday each month via Zoom. The upcoming meetings are scheduled on:

February 21 at noon

March 20 at noon

April 24 at noon

If you would like to join this important ministry, please contact Dave Potter David.J.Potterpe@gmail.com.

~Dave Potter, Team Leader

Facilities, Security & Safety Ministry Team

Robbie Murray, President of Frankford Fire Company, is offering First Aid & CPR training to anyone who might be interested. I am unable to provide a cost per person at this time. The cost will depend on how many people sign up. The church will provide a signup sheet to see how much interest there is.

~Linda Miller, Security Team Leader

Special Music – March 17 – Both Services

Guest Musician, Dr. Diana Wagner is a sought-after folk and blues musician on Maryland's Eastern Shore,

Diana is a Professor of Education Leadership at Salisbury University, where she teaches research methods, Holocaust and social justice education, and outdoor leadership.

She is an amazing liturgical and contemporary guitarist and vocalist.



Grief Group Ministry Team

New Grief Group meeting information beginning in February 2024

Times: First Thursday of Every Month: 11am to 1pm (Luther Hall)

Third Thursday of Every Month: 6:30pm to 8pm (Sanctuary)

Place: Community Lutheran Church

30897 Omar Road, Frankford, Delaware 19945

~Pastor Karis, Team Leader



LGBTQ+ Ministry Team

The LGBTQ+ Team Ministry Description

The LGBTQ+ Team Ministry offers resources and guidance while encouraging LGBTQ+ equity conversations to those who wish to deepen their affirmation and inclusion of LGBTQ+ people. This ministry team also coordinates and plans inclusive and affirming events within the LGBTQ+ community and among its allies.

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

The LGBTQ+ Ministry is pleased to announce the upcoming Pride Gatherings:

Saturday, June 1, 2024 in Dover, DE

Saturday, June 8, 2024 in Milton, DE

Thursday through Sunday, July 18 – 21, 2024 in various Rehoboth, DE venues



Another upcoming event to which this ministry invites you to is a night of fun, party games and camaraderie. The date is Friday, April 12th, 2024 starting at 5:30 pm in the home of Rita and Lynn at 30539 Homestead Court, (Swan Cove), Selbyville, DE 19975. BYOB (alcohol or non-alcohol) and bring a food item to share in this pot luck event.

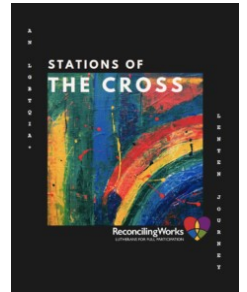
And don't forget to save Sunday, June 8, 2024, when Colby Martin, author of 'Unclobber' will be speaking at both services.

Please plan to join in and participate in these events. Details to follow. Any questions in the meantime, contact Henry Eckhardt via email at henryeckhardt3@gmail.com or call Henry at 410-370-2707.

~Henry Eckhardt, Team Leader

"Stations of the Cross Lenten Journey"
Devotional by ReconcilingWorks

This resource is intended to be a way to live into knowing how God has gone before us. It is up to us, as the hands and feet of the Divine, to allow our hearts and minds to be transformed and in so doing, we transform the world as it is in this moment into a place where all are truly welcome and celebrated. Just as God has already gone before us to prepare the place, as we walk through the journey of Lent toward Holy Week, let us be reminded that the experience of faith, hope, and love, lived out in our everyday lives, is not only the promise God has made to us, but the promise we make to one another as we live into, celebrate, and become our most authentic selves. Click on the title to read more.



When: Wednesday, February 7

Time: 11:00 am

Where: Luther Hall

When: Wednesday, March 6

Time: 10:00 am

Where: Parish of St Ann Catholic Church
691 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach

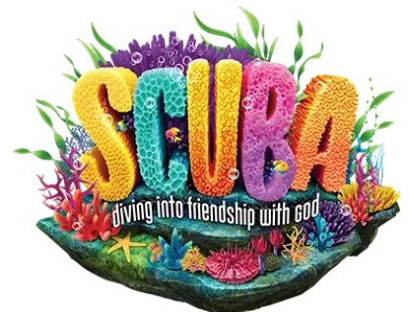
VBS Summer June 24-27, 2024

Save The Date!

This summer we will be *doing a deep dive* into our VBS theme:
SCUBA (diving into friendship with God).

We have expanded our enrollment to 30 children and it will be held from 9 am-2 pm at Donna's Goat Farm located in Frankford, DE.

Look for more information in the next few weeks and let me know if you would like to be a volunteer!



~Submitted by: Eva Nemeth



THE REV. CARLA CHRISTOPHER WILSON VISITS COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ON PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024



Rev. Christopher serves as the Assistant to the Bishop in Charge of Justice Ministries for the Delaware Maryland Synod and the Lower Susquehanna Synod. She will be preaching at both the 8:45 & 10:30 worship services. Rev. Christopher will also be speaking during the discussion coffee hour at 9:30 am. To learn more about Rev. Christopher, visit her website at: www.carlachristopher.com

Hand and Foot Cards

Enjoy playing cards?
Come join us every first and third Wednesday of the month at 1 PM for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. We play the game 'hand and foot'. If you do not know how to play, we will gladly teach you so you can enjoy a fun filled afternoon. Of course we always have snacks and beverages.



~Submitted by Karlyn Fields

Church Dinner Group

We would like to revive the church dinner group which would be held the third or fourth Thursday each month at 5:00 pm. We will arrange for a different restaurant each month from October to May. This is a perfect way to socialize and get to know other church members. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Narthex each month with the name of the restaurant and date. We need to make a reservation so please sign up at least by the Monday before the date of the dinner or RSVP to Hans Neas (toby533@sbcglobal.net) or Doug Fields (dfields1943@gmail.com). For the month of February, we plan to go to Harpoon Hanna's in Fenwick Island on February 29th. The "Special" that night is Prime Rib. The March date will be the 21st.

~ Submitted by Hans Neas

Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids Needed



I'd like to let everyone know there is a need for used eyeglasses and hearing aids. There is collection box on the small table in Luther Hall for donations. The articles will be picked up occasionally by Alan King who will deliver them to the Lord Baltimore Lions Club in Ocean View.

~Submitted by Alan King

As a congregation we adopted a new Mission Statement:
“Glorifying God by accepting all people as we are created.”

This led us to a new Vision Statement:

“We believe all people are created in God’s image. We accept, welcome, and embrace people of every race, color, culture, age, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status faith story, economic situation, physical and mental ability, educational level, work history, political affiliation, or citizenship status. All are welcome to the worship life of this congregation, including access to the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, and all are welcome and encouraged to join in our congregational life and ministries. By accepting all people as we are created, we are committed to the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and to making inclusivity a reality for our community.”

ELCA Sanctuary Denomination

In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith; we, as church together, want to be public and vocal about this work.



In baptism, we are brought into a covenantal relationship with Jesus Christ that commits us to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Following the example of Martin Luther, we believe that advocacy is a crucial expression of baptismal identity. As a church, we have advocated for stopping the detention of children and families for decades. We have spoken out against family separation, sought a pathway to citizenship for community members who have lived in the U.S. for many years, and have taken steps to address the root causes of migration in a way that honors the humanity in people who must flee.

Through the ELCA’s AMMPARO strategy, welcoming people is not a political issue for us – it is a matter of faith.
To read the entire article go to: elca.org/sanctuarychurch

Newsletter

The Community Lutheran Church Newsletter will be published every month.

The deadline for articles to be included will be the 10th of the month and the publishing date will be by the 17th. Submitted articles should be created in MS Word, MS Publisher, an Adobe PDF file, or just typed into an e-mail. Photos should be in .jpg format, or just copy into your e-mail message. Any font and size is fine, I can change it.

The editor’s e-mail address is: judy@dayhoff.org.



 Community Lutheran Church

