

Special Ordination Service for Pastor Wes Asheim on Sunday July 18th with lunch following!

God's call on Wes to be a pastor has a good story to it from days at I- Point Bible camp to being a youth director and attending seminary and being an associate Pastor in Connecticut. It has been a life journey for him that comes to that point of ordination on Sunday July 18th. We will have a fellow pastor from the LCMC with us that Sunday. Wes will make his promises and commitment to God and our congregation and the LCMC to serve God faithfully in the teaching and preaching of God's word and being a faithful pastor among us. There are many steps along the way for a pastor, and there is also a step for us as the congregation to make a commitment to work with the pastor. Following the worship that morning we will have lunch to celebrate this point in Pastor Wes's life and the life of our congregation. We are planning a lunch with great chicken, French fries, coleslaw, and we ask you to bring a favorite desert! Please sign up for the lunch on the sign-up sheet in the narthex! Thanks.

Christ Lutheran Women

*At our **CLW MEETING** on Saturday, June 12, 2021, we made several decisions for the rest of this year, including benevolence giving.*

We will NOT be having a **rummage sale** this year. We again ask people: PLEASE DO NOT BRING RUMMAGE SALE DONATIONS TO CHURCH. Our shed is full of treasures and we have no available space. We will hold a one-day sale on **WEDNESDAY, JULY 14TH**. We will move the sale items out of the shed and onto the lawn, where people can take what they want and leave a free-will offering. Those items that are not taken will be donated to charity.

Video Crew...We Want You!

One of the good things to come out of the pandemic was for us to be able to share our worship with people who live at home. People get to see and hear their fellow church members, read, and sing at church. When people are on vacation or in the south for the winter, they stay in touch with Christ Lutheran through our live online worship! In order to do this, we need a few people to operate the camera. It is as easy as turning a steering wheel or shifting gears on an automatic transmission. We are seeking 5-6 people who would operate the camera during worship once every six weeks. Not a bad gig!

Worship and Music Director Eric Hutchison is offering a brief training on Sunday July 11th at 10:15 am. Please come and check it out.

We will hold a **Silent Auction and Quilt Raffle** on two Sundays, September 19th and 26th. If you are willing to donate an item, please talk to Val Homuth (763-442-8766) or Marilyn Rönnkvist.(612-245-2207). Thank you!

Our next meeting will be combined with a Women's brunch on **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021**. You are cordially invited, so please mark your calendar!

God Bless! Your Sisters in Christ,

*Jean Flatten, Val Homuth,
Mona Hawkinson & Bonita Heilman*

Cornerstone

JULY 2021



“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites...”

May I encourage you to pray more intentionally, more often, and with radical hope. Jesus encouraged his disciples to pray and recognize the absolute goodness of God, the Father. Praying to God the Father was like having the greatest love, joy, and strength. It pushed away the worry, the doubts, the feeling of being an orphan. In Matthew 6:1-13 Jesus talks about the prayers that sound good to humans but do not recognize God's awesome character and God's willingness and passion to be our help.

Often, we seek answers and deliverance in prayer, but God desires a relationship with us. He is not our “answer guy”, he is our heavenly Father. God speaks in many ways, through his word, through events in our lives, through people, through silence,

through our waiting, and more. God speaks perfectly to us to cast out our longings, our despair, our worries, but sometimes we have a hard time accepting how he is speaking to us. We keep asking God to speak something else into our lives. God calls us to follow His lead, His ways, and to be still and rest in Him. It is amazing in how important it is to have Sunday be a day of rest and a day of worship.

Every day and every second God is holding the universe together for our sakes, because He loves us. It is not just because he is all powerful and all knowing, but that He is a God of love. In each and every one of our challenges he speaks how he is sending blessings and love our way. He is the God of fulfillment who

Outdoor Worship at Baker Park on Sunday July 25th at 10:00 am!

We are renting Driftwood Picnic Area at Baker Park on Sunday July 25th!

Bring a lawn chair or two as we worship on the shores of Lake Independence.

This is a great day to bring neighbors and friends. The gospel lesson for the day is the day Jesus sent the disciples across the Lake on their own and they think they see a ghost walking on the water, but the encouraging words of Jesus, “Take courage, it is I” brings the disciples peace!

Please sign up for bringing a salad, or desert! Brats, hotdogs, and drinks will be provided! We hope everyone will be able to be there! Including you!

breaths his life into us.

Jesus encouraged his disciples not to pray in public but to pray in their closets when they were alone. Jesus encourages us not to have many words but to have many moments. Jesus encourages us to pray about everything not just what we want to pray about. Jesus encourages us to listen.

May I ask you to join the Prayer Team for a few weeks and read and pray with us through the book called “Whisper” by Pastor Mark Batterson. As he says, ‘It is far more important for us to hear what God is saying than for God to hear what we are saying’. With a few words God created the universe! God’s word is love and it is power. There will be a sign-up sheet for “Whisper” as we learn together how prayer is much more about relationship and God’s presence, than hearing a few thoughts. Please sign up and join us for a few Monday nights at 6:30 pm. We will meet in July on Mondays the 19th and the 26th. In August on the 2nd, 9th, and 23rd. Each person will receive their own book. It is totally fine to miss a meeting or two, but I do not think you will want to.

God’s Peace, Pastor Ron Boettner



Loving Your FIRST Neighbors

In Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus tells us what the greatest commandment is. *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”* It is one commandment split into two parts, loving God, and loving your neighbor. Many times, people focus on loving their neighbors next door, other times they focus on their neighbors across the country or across the world. One group of neighbors that can often get overlooked however is our very first neighbors, our families: brothers, sister, parents, and children.

God created the family at the beginning of creation with Adam and Eve and gave them the charge to create the rest of humanity by being fruitful and multiplying. In Exodus God shows how serious he takes being a part of a family as he gives the command to honor your father and mother within the Ten Commandments. In Deuteronomy God tells the Israelites how important it is for them to teach their children the commands of the Lord and how the Lord has loved and cared for them. The New Testament continually makes reference to how Christ has made a way for us to be adopted into the family of God and how we can be brothers with Christ and sons and daughters of the father. God clearly LOVES the family.

Yet how many times do we treat our family members poorly. We often say and do things to our family members that we would never think of doing to our friends and certainly not to strangers. Yet too often our family members get our worst behavior. This is NOT how God intended it. When Jesus calls on us to love our neighbors, we should first start with our family members. How can we love our neighbors outside our family when we treat our own family poorly?

Family is a gift from God. Our parents are the first people who cared for us. Our siblings are our first friends that have been with us from the beginning of our lives. Many times, friendships, even the strongest friendships, fade when separated by great distances. Yet our family is always our family, no matter how much distance separates us. We are to be there for them and love them through the highs and lows, just as they many times carry us when we need it.

Ezekiel, UFO’s, and the Worst of Times...

Without any doubt Ezekiel, the prophetic book of the Old Testament, is one of the most vivid, interesting, and amazing books of prophecy in the Old Testament. Many people believe that he was describing UFO’s. Which was not likely since UFO’s like to disappear, and Ezekiel talked about the God who wanted to be with us.

Ezekiel lived in one of the lowest times in Israel’s history as people were led off as captives

to Babylon after Jerusalem and Judah were overtaken. There were other prophets living at the time of Ezekiel, especially Jeremiah, Habakkuk, and Obadiah. Ezekiel himself was an exile taken to Babylon.

This was a time when people refused to believe in God’s word. Much like today’s world, God was scorned and pushed aside. As Ezekiel liked to say, “Then they will know that I am the Lord”. Far

Love Your FIRST Neighbors... continued

The call to love our first neighbors is a call to obedience. We don’t love our family because they deserve it, but because God loved us first. Plus, let’s face it, our family doesn’t love us because we deserve it, because we don’t. We love each other because God placed us together. Let us stop giving our family the worst of us, but instead look for ways to show them love. Our families are so easy to take for granted because we are with them so much, yet this is the opposite of

what our attitudes should be. Instead ask yourself “how can I be intentional in loving my wife/husband/ brothers/sisters/ parents/children?” What can you do that shows your family that they are valuable to you? Look for ways to bless and support your closest, first neighbors, just as God has blessed you undeservingly!

Pastor Wes Asheim

too often we ignore the teaching and understandings of the Old Testament in modern Christianity.

In Ezekiel we learn again about a truly holy God. Imagine if God had a fault or an inconsistency! We would have no god at all. We would be at the mercy of all the powers and chaos of the universe. But Ezekiel speaks of God in the greatest terms of grandeur and timelessness, God is awesome!

I know it is summertime but let us join in a real study of one of the

famous prophets that we hardly ever take time for. This study is open to everyone!

We will cover the main visions, the dramatic prophecies, and most of the book. We will meet five times but again do not worry about missing a meeting. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet at church. The dates are Wednesdays at 6:30 – 7:30 pm on July 21, and 28 and August 4, 11, and 25!

Hope to see you, get ready, the book of Ezekiel should get your attention!

Pastor Ron

Financial Update for Christ Lutheran

Recently the congregation voted to move \$18,000 from savings to the general fund for the purpose of remodeling our bathrooms this August. There will be new tile floors, new counters, new touch-less dispensers and faucets, new lights, mirrors, and ceilings. This leaves our current savings at \$101,000. Our offerings for May were \$17, 048. Which is below our monthly average of \$23,000.

Even though we do not pass an offering plate at worship currently, we do want to take time during worship, to worship God with our offerings of love, praise, and commitment. The Christ Connect Card is a tool to do this. We invite you as you come to worship to regularly make an offering of thanks, love, and praise to God along with your financial offering. Praise be to God! The offering basket is in the narthex by the worship folders every Sunday. Thanks to you.