

Christ Lutheran Church

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May 2019

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I hope that all of you are enjoying the warmer weather as much as I am, and I am looking forward to planning my flower seeds soon. I know many of you like to garden also.

Spring always make me think of the parable Jesus told about the farmer who was out sowing seeds. (Mark 4:1-20) As he was scattering the seeds some fell on the path and were eaten by the birds, and some fell on the rocky places and sprang up in shallow soil. Others landed in the thorns and were choked out by the weeds, but those who fell on the good soil grew and produced a crop.

As disciples of Christ, we are asked to sow the seeds of His Word everywhere we can. We never know what type of soil they will fall on or when one of the seeds will take root in someone's heart. We need to remember that just like when we plant seeds in the ground, not all seeds will grow into plants, and that many will grow slowly. God's kingdom also

grows slowly. So, don't be discouraged if your sowing does not show quick results. Let us all try to share the spiritual fruit that comes from the Holy Spirit, that of love, truth, peace, joy, kindness, and compassion with all of those we come in contact with.

I wish you all a happy spring. May you enjoy the sunshine, and sow many seeds.

Many Blessings,
Pastor Linda

MARTIN LUTHER SAYS:

For in the true nature of things, if we rightly consider, every green tree is far more glorious than if it were made of gold and silver.

Martin Luther



**“FIRST WEDNESDAYS”
Are back!!**

Come join Pastor Linda on **Wednesday, May 1st** for fellowship, coffee, and a short Biblical devotion. We will meet from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the County Seat Restaurant at 6 W. Main Street in New Bloomfield. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Linda at 717-386-8762 or Lindashank@centurylink.net.



“SECOND SUNDAY SWEETS”

Don't miss this chance for fellowship right after the Sunday Service on **May 12th**.



“MORNING GLORIES” TO MEET!

The “Morning Glories” will meet on Monday, **May 13th from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** at the Church. We are continuing our knitting and crocheting. Even if you have never knit or crocheted before, come, and learn. Many prayer shawls and prayer squares are underway. Quilted items and baby blankets have been added to the list of needed items the Ladies are working on. You are also welcome if you just want to drop by and share in the fellowship.

HOLY HUMOR:

**BLOOPERS IN CHURCH
BULLETINS**

Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

The Rev. Merriwether spoke briefly, much to the delight of the audience.

The pastor will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, “Break Forth Into Joy.”



**“BOOKS AND BEYOND” BOOK
LAST MEETING UNTIL FALL**

The group will meet on Wednesday, May 15th at 10 a.m. at the library to discuss *A Piece of the World* by Christina Baker Kline. The group will resume meeting in September.

Fall Selection:

Sept 18 *Little Fires*
Everywhere by Celeste Ng

Oct. 16 *Miss Julie Hits the Road* by Ann B, Ross

Nov. 20 *Winter Sisters* by Robin Oliveira



Our church website has been updated, not only does it include current photos, but you can find the Pastor's sermons, newsletters as well as current news articles posted there. You can easily reach the site by googling Christ Lutheran Church in New Bloomfield or <http://www.clcnewbloomfield.org>. Check it often to keep up with the latest happenings at Christ Lutheran!



UP DATE OF "YOUNG VOICES" AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM JOINT PROJECT

In the fall of 2018, Christ Lutheran partnered with the Methodist Church in obtaining a \$1000 grant from the Harrisburg District of the United Methodist Church. Between 8 and 18 children now come every week on Wednesdays after school for singing, crafts, snacks, and activities that emphasize good manners and positive behavior. The program is open to any Perry County child in kindergarten

through 5th grade, and all are welcome regardless of experience or ability. The children are directed by Bob Buyer who is the Choir Director at Enola Emmanuel United Methodist Church and works with the youth choir of the Susquehanna Choral. The children have recently been invited to sing at this year's Memorial Day celebration here in New Bloomfield. This will be their first public performance. Please come and show them your support.

The steering committee is also in the process of applying for grants for the next school year. I applied for a Mission Support Grant through our Synod and am happy to say it was granted to us. We are also trying to raise enough money to purchase t-shirts for the children to wear when they sing in public.

Please consider volunteering to lead a craft or tell a story in the future. If you are interested, let Pastor Linda know at 717-386-8762 or Lindashank@centurylink.net



R3 Team Report –

R3 Team members Lee Groff, Martha and Dick Hoffner, Pastor Linda and Gay Weller traveled to York on March 30, 2019 for an R3 reunion meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to share how we are doing in the R3 process and how we are planning to carry forward.

We gathered first to review the process and materials presented to help us. We critiqued the process and what we had done with the information presented to us. Pros and cons of the process were discussed as well as suggestions for the future. The major point stressed that day was that we are in the middle of our process and always will be as long as we strive to grow. Team members and projects will change but the main mission of growth and spreading God's love continues.

Teams prepared story boards of their R3 project and other projects happening in the different congregations represented. A great time was had sharing our Street Fair project and puppet ministry (Fozzie Bear attended this workshop with us.) and looking at others projects.

Following lunch we were commissioned by our Bishop, Rev. James S. Dunlop, to carry on with this growth and development and we participated in worship and communion before heading home.

Pastor Linda, Lee Groff, Suzanne Eicher and Larry and Gay Weller will continue as our R3 Team. Brenda Kahley has agreed to serve on the team also. This group will act as a steering team as we continue forward. There is the possibility of other training sessions in the future and sharing with new churches going through the R3 Process.

Others team members Sue Adams, Sally Ann Ely, Martha and Dick Hoffner, and Kelly Spotts agreed to work on specific projects as they come up and help carry on the ones we already have started with the help of others from the congregation. We thank these members for their service on the team for the last 2 years.



Mark Your Calendar

» UPCOMING EVENTS

April 22 -28 – Pastor Linda on vacation.

April 27 – Women’s Retreat at Trinity Christian Church from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The theme for this year’s retreat is “Living Godly in an Ungodly World”. A light breakfast and lunch will be served at no cost. All women are invited regardless of church affiliation.

May 1 – First Wednesday, 9:30 am at the County Seat Restaurant

May 5 – Adult Bible Study following worship, Confirmation Class at 11 am and Perry Village at 2pm

May 12 – Mother’s Day, Second Sunday Sweets and Confirmation Class at 11 am

May 13 – Morning Glories 9 a.m. and Lion’s Club 6:30 p.m.

May 14 – Congregation Council 7 p.m.

May 15 – Books and Beyond Book Club 10 am at the New Bloomfield Library

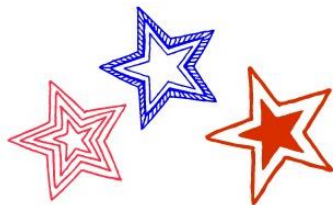
May 20 – 27 – Pastor Linda on vacation.

**May 27 – Church Office Closed for Memorial Day
Thank you and Blessings to All Veterans
“Young Voices” sing at the Memorial Day Program**

MEMORIAL DAY FUN

I O R F T L C R E P Q F P K P
 A A S H N O F C L I B Z C U P
 R K C J U S I O J S E J O O R
 E P H N B F O K Y F Y I V Y N
 H S T X I Z A L P Q B F V M A
 H R H R O R Q K D B Z Q V N M
 Y S C F S W I M M I N G B S G
 Q A S C I N C I P C E O R M C
 S R B H Y X R J I Z R R A H V
 I A E L W W O U J E Q H V S E
 U I G M T R N U H Q S R E M V
 L P Q U M O O S J T M R R J C
 L A B G M U H N T W Z G Y D H
 F M E H E B S A X X D I F U N
 X T S R V Z X N E U I Z X J M

BRAVERY
 COUNTRY
 FUN
 HERO
 HONOR
 PICNICS
 SACRIFICE
 SOLDIER
 SUMMER
 SWIMMING



THINKING OF YOU – HAPPY BIRTHDAY – are just a sample of the greetings that will be sent to our Christ Lutheran family. Evelyn Spotts and Diane Grindle will work with Sue Adams as the Greeting Card Ministry Team and they will need your help. How will this work? Greeting cards have been donated and cards are made during the Morning Glories meetings. During Morning Glories, the first Monday of each month, cards for the month will be chosen and addressed. During 2nd Sunday Sweets, folks can help with the ministry by signing and sealing one of the greeting cards for the month. The plan is to start in May. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to our January, February, March and April members. We will catch up with you the next time around!



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chibird.tumblr.com

