



Holy Week

Holy Week Brings Many Opportunities for Worship & Contemplation

Palm/Passion Sunday...On Palm Sunday, we will process into the sanctuary with palms, on the strains of *All Glory, Laud & Honor*, reenacting Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Noting the jarring change from celebration to condemnation that Jesus faced, we will then hear a special telling of the Passion History, from the Gospel of Mark.

During Faith Formation time on Palm Sunday, we will have our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** on the church lawn. Scot and the youth will hide the eggs and supervise this fun and chaotic event. Prior to the hunt, Pastor Heidi will read an Easter story to the children.

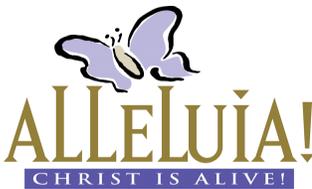
One Service: Three Days

Traditionally, our Maundy Thursday worship service begins a three-day, continual worship experience leading into Easter Sunday. You may have noticed, for instance, that we do not have a dismissal at the end of Maundy Thursday or Good Friday worship; we simply leave in silence. Then we get to join our voices in praise and thanksgiving at Easter worship.

At **Maundy Thursday** worship, taking place on **April 2 at 6:45 p.m.**, we will commemorate Jesus' last supper with his disciples in the solemn act of stripping the altar. We will also celebrate First Communion.

Good Friday worship will take place on **April 3 at 6:45 p.m.** This service will feature our Sanctuary Choir performing a moving Lenten Cantata titled *Touched by the Christ*, by Lloyd Larson.

Easter Sunday—He Is Risen! We are offering four opportunities to worship the Risen Lord on Easter this year. We will begin the day with a **Sunrise Service** at 7 a.m. outside on the patio (weather permitting). Then we will have our traditional worship services at **8:30 & 11 a.m.**



Easter Breakfast...Once again, our youth will prepare a breakfast feast for Easter Sunday. The meal, which helps to fund summer mission trips for the youth program, will be served after sunrise worship and between 8:30 and 11:00 worship. Please join us for a special meal!

Our last worship service on Easter Sunday is a new offering for us—a **German Easter service**, with music, liturgy, and preaching all in German. This service will take place at **5 p.m. at CLC**, and we hope it will become a favorite new tradition for our members and the community.

Christ's Blessings!
Pastor Heidi

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2015 Lenten Worship

See below for our 6:45 p.m. mid-week Lenten worship topics.

March 11	Following
March 18	Family
March 25	Future



Preschool Appreciation & Spring Fling

On Sunday, April 12, we will once again lift up and celebrate our Preschool and its teachers/staff in worship. Afterwards, we will enjoy our annual Spring Fling on the church lawn. More info coming soon on how to help with and participate in this special day!

A Community of Faith Reaching Out to Change Lives!



Adult Education Series on Islam: Opening Minds, Building Bridges

For many of us, much of what we know about Islam stems from the fully-covered women we pass in our community or the violent images that we see on TV. In recent times, what we see or hear in our nightly news has seemed quite negative. As Lutherans, we are called to be bridge builders as we reach out to our neighbors with compassion and grace. In order for us to work toward a society of peace, we must overcome negative stereotyping that stems from ignorance and fear.

This month, we will begin an Adult Faith Forum Series that will inform and educate us about our Islamic neighbors. Join us on March 15 at 10 a.m. as we get an introduction to Islam. Then on March 22, we will hear from one of our Islamic neighbors, who will talk about her faith. As part of this forum, we have invited families from the Turkish American Women Center to join us for worship and a fellowship lunch. Help us to live out the gospel by building bridges toward, not barriers against, our neighbors.

We ask that CLC members bring vegetarian dishes for the luncheon. The Turkish community will bring meat dishes and baklava. A sign-up sheet for attendance will be on the kiosk in the narthex, or you may RSVP to the church office. We hope to have a large number of CLC disciples in attendance to welcome our neighbors with Lutheran hospitality!

Christ's Blessings,
Pastor Heidi



A Very "Lutheran" Use of our Financial Gift!

In 2014, our CLC Endowment Fund Committee, with council approval, gave a financial gift to SOUL Church, the downtown, outdoor worship experience that some of our members have attended on

Outreach Sundays or at other times. In a letter thanking us for the donation, Pastor Leon Birdd shared that they are using the funds we gave to convert a utility trailer into a coffee dispensing trailer. He said this improvement will be a big help to the volunteers who rise at 3 a.m. each Sunday to boil many gallons of water for coffee.

It's always nice to be reminded how much we all have in common, and to give thanks for the little things that make life more pleasant.



Family Retreat Opportunity

The weekend of **April 24-26**, in conjunction with the NT-NL Mission Area Convention, Briarwood Retreat Center will host a retreat aimed at helping families build a strong faith foundation and support one another's faith journey. To register, contact Aaron Colwick at aaron@briarwoodretreat.org or 940-241-2099.



Mosaic Residents Appreciate Valentine's Day Love!

Once again, the clients of Mosaic homes were grateful to receive Valentine's gifts from CLC members. A big thank you to all who filled and gave the Valentine sacks. In keeping with our goal to calculate stewardship in all ministries, I would estimate the gifts of the valentine sacks totaled approximately \$1,000. That is a lot of goodies, CDs and DVDs!



Save the Date: NT-NL Mission Center Dedication

The dedication of the new Mission Center at Briarwood will be held on **Saturday, April 25**, with festivities beginning at **2 p.m.** The

event will include speakers, a dedicatory worship and one of Briarwood's famous cookouts. In addition, choir members and directors from area churches are invited to participate in the Dedicatory Choir.

Nurturing One Another in Faith & Fellowship



Adult Classes

Adult Education in March

Our Sunday Adult Forums will have some thought-provoking discussions this month. All are encouraged to join us. We meet in Room 220 at 10 a.m.

Date	Topic
March 8	Death & Dying—Grief II
March 15	Introduction to Islam
March 22	Speaker from Turkish Center*
March 29	Islam in Europe

* See page 2 for more information.

Wonderful Food, Fellowship at CLC Lenten Dinners

The catered boxed dinners are off to a great start! The food is so yummy, and it's nice to have a choice of sandwiches each time. The best part is that no one has to cook/serve/clean during the Lenten Season -- *a true midweek respite for all!* Thank you to Courtney Teter, CLC member and owner of Highland Park Kitchen, for working with us. She's a blessing to our congregation.

Please join us between **5:30-6:30 p.m.** each Wednesday evening for dinner before the 6:45 pm **Lenten service**. The food is great, the fellowship is friendly, and the atmosphere is relaxing. The dinner has a suggested donation of \$5/person, to cover food costs. We also offer a few boxed dinners "to go" for after the service.

The Men's Bible Study has moved its March meeting to **Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 a.m.** due to weather issues. Jack Strobel will bring breakfast, and Mark Bradley will present our lesson on John 11:1-44. All men are invited to join us!



Friends at Christ, a fellowship group for singles and adults, will meet on **Sunday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m.** at the home of Mark & Mary Bradley. The meal will involve pork loin and an

Irish theme. Please bring an appetizer, a salad, a dessert, or a beverage. You can RSVP via email and let us know what you're bringing or sign up in the narthex.

Easter Flowers on Sale!

You are invited to purchase Easter lilies to the glory of God or in honor or memory of a loved one. They may be taken home after the 11:00 a.m. Easter service. Write checks to Christ Lutheran Church with the notation 'Easter Flowers.' The cost is \$8.75 per plant.



Flower order forms and payment may be submitted in the church office, in the offering plate, or in the box in the narthex. Orders must be in by **Monday, March 23**.



The M&Ms Group will meet on **Monday, March 9** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Pam Stein to fill and wrap Easter baskets for children in protective care in Dallas County. If you would like to come, please contact Pam to find out what items are needed for the baskets. We welcome new members who enjoy sharing fellowship while giving back.



All women are invited to attend our Bible study circles!

Deborah Circle will meet on **Tuesday, March 10** at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Carolyn Laivins. We will discuss pages 16-24 of Chapter One in our study book. We will collect donations for fans that the VNA will deliver to those in need during the hot summer months. Carolyn will send St. Patrick's Day cards to the homebound.

Ruth Circle will meet at **9:45 a.m. on March 8** in the CLC lounge for Bible study. All women are welcome! No preparation necessary.

The CLC Bridge Group will meet on **Thursday, March 5** at noon in Room 220 at the church. Pat Brougner will be our host. All are welcome!

Nurturing One Another in Faith & Fellowship



Robbery in the Temple—A devotion by Pastor Noel Ilagan

A few days before Jesus was arrested, Caiaphas said about Jesus: "...it is better that one man should die for the people than for the whole nation to be destroyed (John 11:50). As high priest, he was concerned about the growing number of Jews following Jesus, an upstart rabbi that the chief priests and Pharisees were accusing of blasphemy. But he also understood that if Jesus wasn't stopped, there would be serious political and economic repercussions on Temple operations.

During that time, Rome had assigned the local administration of Judea and Samaria to the Temple authorities, most of whom came from the wealthy families. Rome appointed a Roman governor to ensure the subjects' submission, maintain order and collect the tribute owed the Empire. The Roman governor had the authority to fire the high priest (Borg and Crossan, The Last Week).

Each male Jew paid a Temple tax once a year to show loyalty to the homeland and the Temple. The tax had to be paid in exact amount in currency acceptable to Temple authorities. Since the pilgrim-worshippers brought various currencies (Syrian, Greek, Roman, etc.) to Jerusalem, it became necessary to have money changers (W. Barclay, Daily Devotions). The money changers made huge profits by charging a commission for currency conversion; if they had to give change for a larger coin, they charged a separate commission.

For pilgrims who wanted to offer animal sacrifices, there were officially-appointed Temple inspectors to ensure that the animal was without blemish and was acceptable to the priest. (John 2:14). Thus, instead of the pilgrim dragging a lamb up the road, it was safer to buy it from the animal booths set up in the Temple premises -- even if they were priced 10 to 15 times more (Barclay). Some of these booths belonged to the high priestly family (J. Jeremias, Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus). The system worked well as far as the Temple leaders were concerned.

The scene that triggered Jesus' overturning the money tables and seats in the outer court of the Temple was this: smelly sheep bleated, doves' wings fluttered, coins clinked and noisy haggling rang out as money changers and animal sellers raked in huge profits at the expense of the poor worshippers. By allowing these things to happen, the Temple authorities, headed by Caiaphas, legitimized the victimization of those who came to worship. The Temple had been converted into a "den of robbers" (Mark 11:15-17).

As we **journey through Lent**, there is a place for individual piety, acts of charity or giving up certain pleasures that will help turn our hearts to God. But there is a place, too, for identifying the unjust conditions that take advantage of the voiceless, the marginalized and the powerless. My ethics professor summed it up in the words of Micah 6:8: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

How would you handle a situation where the "system" treats someone unjustly? Would you speak up or write your congressman? Ignore it? Join a protest action? Pray? How would your faith in Christ affect your action?

Nurturing One Another in Faith & Fellowship

FROM THE



VICAR

At the beginning of our adventure in Texas, we thought: “Wow, Texas, that’s going to be hot!” And then we needed another blanket, a warmer jacket, even the heater! But we got to the point where we had acclimated ourselves very well. And then there was this ice storm, which brought almost everything in Dallas to a stop. Someone told me that an ice day is like an unofficial holiday and people really enjoy it. So we did too. But to be honest this is springtime weather in Germany, so the ice and the snow aren’t a big deal to us. Texas is surprising us again and again.

And I want to surprise Texas, too! That’s why I came up with an idea for this year’s Lenten services on Wednesdays: The “F-series.” We’re talking about big words like faith and family, and congregation members are sharing their stories. I invite all of you to join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 for a thought-provoking worship experience. I love seeing all of you wearing your purple F-Series buttons!

Christ’s blessings to y’all!
Vicar Michael



The awning over the parsonage window drips with icicles!



A Reminder from the University Park Police Department...In response to recent car break-ins at preschool pick-up time, the UP police remind us not to leave purses, laptops or other valuables in plain sight. Thieves are often watching and are aware of high-traffic times at the church.

Caring For Our Children & Youth



First Communion instruction began on February 25, when the youth received their First Bibles at Lenten worship. On March 1, they went on an outing to Purple Glaze, a pottery shop, to paint their First Communion chalices. On March 24, they will have a retreat from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. At this retreat, the First Communion youth will learn about the importance of Holy Communion in the lives of Christians.

On Wednesday, April 1, the First Communion youth will meet at 5:30 to bake communion bread for Maundy Thursday. They will receive their First Communion during Maundy Thursday worship.



Faith Milestones

Faith Milestone: First Communion

Our third-grade youth will celebrate their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, which is April 2. In the meantime, they will receive their First Bibles, make their own wine chalices, have a retreat and make communion bread.

Our next milestone will take pace in May and will honor our graduating seniors.



Faith Formation classes continue to meet on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Please see below for our upcoming lesson topics!

- March 8 Mary Anoints Jesus
- March 15 The Widow's offering
- March 22 The Last Supper
- March 29 Easter Egg Hunt at CLC

Our **Littlest Lutherans**—children ages 0-3—continue to meet for opening with the “big kids” in the sanctuary followed by a short Bible story, songs and other activities in the preschool area.

Confirmation

March 2014

Sunday Schedule

10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Faith discussion & mentor time, Room 218 upstairs

Wednesday Schedule

6 to 6:30 p.m. Dinner
6:45 p.m. Lenten worship

During Lent, our Confirmation youth are participating in worship and completing a Lenten worship log as part of their Confirmation requirement.

Reminder for Confirmation Youth: You should be filling in your Lenten worship books each week. If you need a book, please ask Scot for one.

Confirmation/Handbell Schedule

Due to the limited time between Wednesday dinners and church services, we will be alternating confirmation class and handbell rehearsal during Lent, as noted:



- Wednesday, March 11 Spring Break
- Wednesday, March 18 Confirmation
- Wednesday, March 25 Handbell rehearsal, 6:10 p.m.

We are scheduled to ring on Palm Sunday, March 29, with the Youth Chime Choir. It is **very important** that all ringers be present at practices.



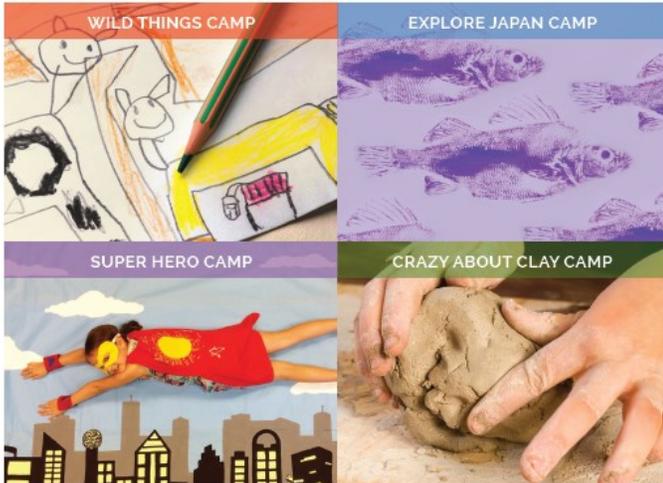
High School Bible Study Schedule

- Mar 8 Dinner & Bible study
- Mar 15 Lunch & Bible study
- Mar 22 Dinner & Bible study
- Mar 29 Dinner & Bible study

Caring For Our Children & Youth

Summer is for Exploring.

Choose from four different art camps designed to spark your child's creativity.



Classes are taught by University Park Elementary School art teachers Mrs. Torres and Mrs. Elrod. Classes are limited to 15 students, and they fill up quickly. **The registration deadline is Friday, April 10.** The classes will be held at Christ Lutheran Church in June and July from 9 a.m. to noon or 1-4 p.m. Learn more and register at mrstorres.com.



Mrs. Torres' Art Camps



February was such an eventful month in the Preschool. Traditional Valentine Day Parties were enjoyed by all, and the school was full of hearts and love! The students enjoyed a day off on February 16 in observance of Presidents Day while the teachers attended a fabulous workshop lead by Albert Wright of Wright One Training.

Looking forward, the Preschool's 4th Annual Easter Hat Parade is set for April 1 at 10 a.m. The Easter egg hunt will be the following day at different times with a classroom celebration to follow in each classroom at 2:30 p.m. We will be closed on Good Friday, April 3, and Easter Monday, April 6.

As we prepare for Easter, we remind the children that Christ is with us *always!* As it says in one of the favorite songs that we sing each day, "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!" This month, the children are learning about God through the stories of: Jesus Feeds 5,000; Mary and Martha; Zacchaeus; and Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet.

Please be reminded that Christ Lutheran Preschool has an "Open Door Policy." We invite and encourage you to visit the school anytime to see the teachers and children engaging in great, age-appropriate learning!

In Christ,
Paige Baldwin, Director

Music Ministry at CLC



I would like to thank the St. Paul's Bronze Ringers and Nancy Krause for blessing us with their beautiful music on February 22. It was such a joy to see so many talented kids ringing for His glory. Bell ringing at CLC will continue in both services on March 15 as the Handbell Ensemble will perform for the first time this year with a new rendition of *Amazing Grace*.

The Sanctuary Choir has been very busy preparing for the "F Series" midweek services, Lenten services on Sundays and our Easter Cantata, *Touched by the Christ*. The cantata is a real masterpiece, and I join the publisher in saying: It is our hope that this cantata will prompt your own reflections upon the wonder and mystery of the Incarnate God Who, for the love of His people, humbled Himself, dying for our salvation and triumphing over death.

Blessings,
Hando Nahkur

March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship 9:45 AM Faith Formation 10:00 AM Adult Forum & Confirmation class 12:30 PM First Communion youth lunch & chalice painting 5:00 PM High School Bible Study	2 7:00 PM Book Club	3 12:00 PM Staff meeting 6:00 PM Communications Team meeting 7:00 PM Spiritual Life Ministry team meeting, Room 218	4 10:00 AM Worship & Wonder Chapel 11:00 AM Bible study, Room 218 5:30 PM Lenten supper 6:00 PM Confirmation, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Choir practice 6:45 PM Lenten Worship 7:45 PM Bell Choir practice	5 12:00 PM Bridge group, Room 220	6	7 9:00 AM German school at CLC
8 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship 9:45 AM Faith Formation 9:45 AM Ruth Circle, Lounge 10:00 AM Adult Forum & Confirmation class 12:30 PM New Member Class	9 7:00 PM M&Ms meeting	10 9:30 AM Deborah Circle	11 10:00 AM Worship & Wonder Chapel 11:00 AM Bible study, Room 218 5:30 PM Lenten supper 6:00 PM Confirmation, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Choir practice 6:45 PM Lenten Worship 7:45 PM Bell Choir practice	12 7:30 AM Men's Bible study, Room 218	13	14 9:00 AM German school at CLC
15 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship 9:45 AM Faith Formation 10:00 AM Adult Forum & Confirmation class 12:00 PM High School Bible Study 6:30 PM Friends at Christ	16	17 1:00 PM Staff meeting	18 10:00 AM Worship & Wonder Chapel 11:00 AM Bible study, Room 218 5:30 PM Lenten supper 6:00 PM Confirmation, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Choir practice 6:45 PM Lenten Worship 7:45 PM Bell Choir practice	19	20	21 9:00 AM German school at CLC
22 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship 9:45 AM Faith Formation 10:00 AM Adult Forum & Confirmation class 12:15 PM Congregational Lunch, Fellowship Hall	23	24 6:00 PM Preschool Board meeting, Room 218 7:00 PM Council meeting, Room 218	25 10:00 AM Worship & Wonder Chapel 11:00 AM Bible study, Room 218 5:30 PM Lenten supper 6:00 PM Confirmation, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Choir practice 6:45 PM Lenten Worship 7:45 PM Bell Choir practice	26	27	28 9:00 AM German school at CLC
29 Palm/Passion Sunday 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 AM Adult Forum & Confirmation class 12:00 PM High School Bible Study	30	31	1 10:00 AM Worship & Wonder Chapel 11:00 AM Bible study, Room 218 5:30 PM First Communion Bread Baking 6:00 PM Choir practice 7:30 PM Bell Choir practice	2 6:45 PM Maundy Thursday worship 6:45 PM First Communion	3 6:45 PM Good Friday worship	4 9:00 AM German school at CLC