



CLC
MILLVALE
Christ Lutheran Church

CLC Weekly Update

5th Sunday after Epiphany

“from now on you will be catching people.”

February 6th, 2022

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

this Sunday, February 6 at 9:30AM

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

please visit us at: <https://www.clcmillvale.com>

WORSHIP WITH US

5th Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Psalm 138

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

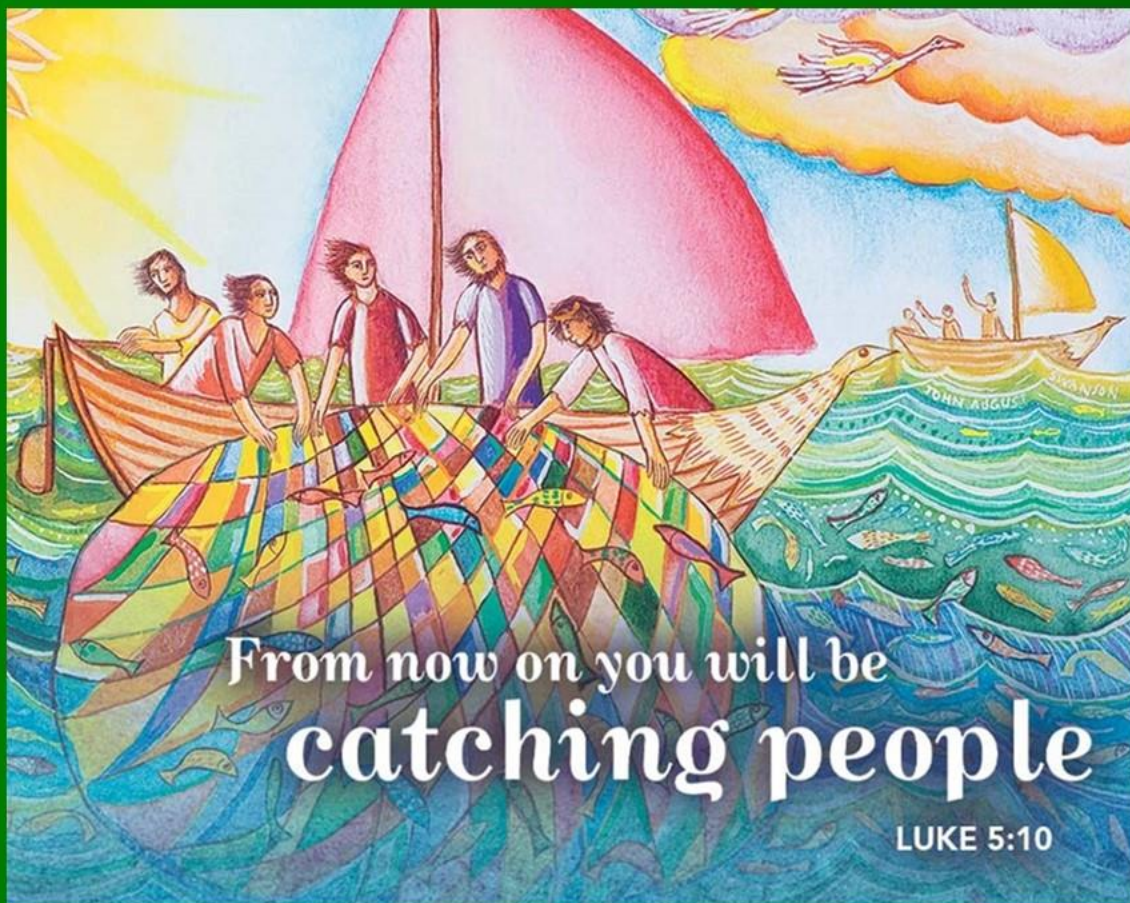
Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

Looking for a
Church that

In the neighborhood...

For good.



The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called. ~

COUNCIL CORNER

Congrats and thank you to those who accepted the Council's nominations. Our officers for 2022 are as follows:

President - Leonard Jansen

Vice President - Becky Nyren

Recording Secretary - Jackie Marfisi

Correspondence Secretary - Bernadette Thompson

Treasurer - Ray Lardin

Our Staff Support Committee is beginning its work this month, and since spring time is right around the corner, we'll be putting together a Property Committee asap to care for the church's grounds and basic maintenance. Please pray for your leaders and find a way to be in

pastor's pizza party!



**COME TO LUNCH AFTER
CHURCH ON FEBRUARY 6TH &
MAKE VALENTINES FOR OUR
HOMEBOUND MEMBERS!**

PLEASE DISTANCE YOURSELF
ACCORDINGLY AS WE GATHER



Pastor's Pizza Party!

Join me after church this Sunday, February 6th to make Valentine's Day cards for our homebound members! All ages are welcome, but please let me know if you're coming so we have enough pizza! I'll provide craft supplies, but if you have extras please bring some to share!

pray & crochet

No matter your skill level, we'll pray together and make blankets for those who might need an extra layer of compassion. Join us!

SECOND THURSDAY OF
THE MONTH

CLC



Black History Month



In honor of Black History Month, I lift up the voices of African Descent Leaders in the Lutheran Church, whose stories you may not know. I'll share videos and articles about pastors and lay people who were/are instrumental in the life of the whole church. **Check the new links each week to learn more about powerful and humble leadership in our church.**

The ELCA sadly remains a predominantly white denomination for many reasons, but the voices are out there. Let us continue to listen to those whose experience differs from ours, to those who speak from the margins, and to those who challenge us to do better.

*In Christ's Love,
Pastor Erin Evans*

Rev. Jehu Jones: The First Black Lutheran Pastor
*an article from our SWPA Synod's Authentic Diversity and
Justice Team*

African American Lutheran church pioneer Dr. Grover C. Wright persuaded dozens of Black scholars to serve as
Lutheran professional leaders.
watch a video celebrating his life and work



Groundhog Day

Joseph Imhoff

I am writing this on Wednesday, today is Groundhog day, I set the alarm earlier than usual so I could look in this yearly ritualistic event. I flipped through the channels on the television set in my bedroom looking for a hint of the event. I remember one year Larry Richert and the KDKA news team were in Punxsatawney broadcasting from 6:00 AM, when it was still dark, until the prognostication was revealed. Suddenly at 7:25 there was the live feed from Gobbler's Knob and, "My shadow I did see, six more weeks of winter there shall be!" The nation and the world took notice.

Little notice was taken of another event that the Christian Church has on its calendar but rarely celebrates except when it falls on a Sunday. The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, which occurs 40 days after Christmas recorded in the Gospel of St. Luke.

This was done in accordance with the laws of childbirth written in Leviticus and the consecration of boys to the Lord's service. His first time coming to the Temple was not heralded by a noisy procession with the waving of palm branches but in his mother's arms. It did not go unnoticed, Mary and Joseph encountered Simeon to whom God had promised he would not die until he had seen the Messiah, proclaiming, "Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel."

Also there was aged prophetess, Anna, who proclaimed aloud Jesus



Ripple Effect

The word of God has the power to transform even the most impossible circumstances into new life. Exasperation gives way to awe. Scarcity is transformed into abundance. Discouragement is replaced by hope. Ordinary lives are transformed by God's holy call to discipleship.

Jesus steps into the lives of these ragtag fishermen and settles in, quite literally meeting them right where they are. A masterful teacher, Jesus uses language and circumstances these men are familiar with and invites them to pay attention to God's work within their own context. With a simple request to once again cast out their nets, Jesus reveals to them the abundant power of God. This kind of power doesn't wait for these fishermen to feel holy or capable. It doesn't wait for a full profession of faith or a carefully curated list of beliefs. It only requires a drop of faith and a single act of obedience, and suddenly there are enough fish not just for these fishermen but for the entire community!

This encounter sets off a ripple effect: these new disciples begin to follow Jesus, bringing in more people and eventually bearing witness to his life, death, and resurrection. The movement that began during a conversation and an act of divine abundance in a simple fishing boat reaches out to us today. We too are invited to examine the ways God's Spirit stirs among us in our own lives: in our churches, schools, workplaces, and homes. And then, with Christ at work in us, we are encouraged to take the next faithful step of discipleship—to take what we know, what we've heard, and what we've experienced of God's love, and use it to embody God's reign of justice, mercy, and

Upcoming Commemorations

Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs
Monday, February 14, 2022

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

The CLC Food Pantry is open 9:30-11:30am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.



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Groundhog Day: Wheelock Arthur K. Jr. ed. *The Leiden Collection* 2017 Gerbrand van den Eeckhout Simeon in the Temple *The Leiden Collection Catalogue*, 2nd ed. New York. 2017–20. <https://www.theleidencollection.com/archive/> (archived May 2020)

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