

In the neighborhood...
For good.



Worship with Us

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Presiding Minister: Pastor Erin Evans

Christ Lutheran Church, 917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209

CLC Council and Congregation

Leonard Jansen, President
Ed Kapsha, Director of Music and Liturgy
The Reverend Thomas R. Stennett - Pastor Emeritus
Steve Slepecki - Seminarian
Pat Bauer - Children's Music Director
Patty Ellison - Office and CLC Kids Support
Jade Lane - Minister for Youth
Sherrie Lane and Michelle Hilliard - Sextons

CLC Weekly Update - June 19, 2022

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

This Sunday, June 19 at 9:30AM



WORSHIP WITH US

Second Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Isaiah 65:1-9

Psalm 22:19-28

Second Reading: Galatians 3:23-29

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

Christ Lutheran Church

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eMail: christlutheran917@gmail.com ~ www.clcmillvale.com

*Declare how much
God has done
for you*

LUKE 8:39



This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you." ~

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen



The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. †

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Juneteenth

FREEDOM DAY

There has been a noticeable increase in Juneteenth celebrations across the United States over the past few years, following the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and the Black Lives Matter movement, and the latest racist massacre of 10 Black people at a supermarket in Buffalo.

Juneteenth is annual commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States after the Civil War, has been celebrated by African Americans since the late 1800s. President Biden signed legislation last year that made Juneteenth, which falls on June 19, a federal holiday.

There is tension in the holiday itself - celebrating the joyful emancipation of Black Americans from slavery while Black and Brown Americans today continue to experience horrific racism. There is also tension when you place this holiday alongside the next major federal holiday of July 4th, Independence Day.

“Juneteenth helps us understand the history of this country in more honest ways than July 4th ever has... Juneteenth, in contrast, offers a more honest view of the struggle for genuine freedom in the United States, which has often been delayed and denied to black people (and for our indigenous siblings.)

Drew G. I. Hart, a theology professor at Messiah College and author of Trouble I've Seen and Who Will Be A Witness?

We commemorated the lives of the Emmanuel Nine this week - gunned down in a racially motivated massacre in their own church - by a young white supremacist, who just happened to be Lutheran. The church has to pay attention with our whole heart to what's going on here, especially in the whitest denomination in America, the ELCA. This Sunday, not only will we prayerfully give thanks for the fathers among us, but we will remember our black and brown siblings, the joy they celebrate and struggles they face daily. ~

Read more at: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2021/06/juneteenth-day-150-years-later/> and <https://www.elca.org/>



SUMMER STEWARDSHIP NOTE FROM PASTOR ERIN

It's my fervent hope that this is a relaxing and **SAFE** summer for all! My own family has roadtrip plans, camping plans, beach plans, and plans to see some close friends who live far away.

We all know that summer worship attendance takes a dip while we all enjoy the great outdoors(or air conditioned bliss!), but can we talk about our summer offerings and tithes?

No matter the amount, the most helpful way to give to the ministries of the congregation is regularly and consistently. Whether it's weekly or monthly, make a prayerful decision ahead of time this summer, and commit to a consistent amount.

With our online giving platform, Vanco, it's super easy! Or do like I do, and schedule a check to be sent once a month through your bank's website. If you've already done this, or you remember to mail an envelope when you can't be physically present with us, thank you!

Go to: <https://www.clcmillvale.com/donate/>



With great sadness, we let you know that Rick Dreves, Husband of Bev Dreves, entered Eternal Life on June 12. A service was held on June 16 at Schellhaas in West View. Please keep the Dreves family in your prayers. ~

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CLC Council News

Dear Christ Lutheran Church Members:

We as a council have committed to more regular communication with the congregation, so we hope you appreciate another letter! You can also speak to any one of our council members, especially officers, if you have questions. We have also committed to a covenant with each other. We'll share pieces of that with you as the summer goes along, but here is the opening paragraph.

"A congregation is like a living organism – it can become ill, but it can also intentionally engage in healthy practices that build immunity to certain threats to its health. This Covenant strives to foster healthy communication and relationships in the church. The Bible is full of covenants, from those made with Noah, Abraham, and David, to the new covenant of love, reconciliation, and blessing God made with us through Jesus Christ. This agreement binds us together, gives us boundaries, and emphasizes priorities."

Pastor Peter Asplin, Assistant to the Bishop, visited our May Council Meeting to check in with us and see how we were doing. We had an honest and helpful discussion with him about how things have been going here and what we are looking forward to in the future. He will return soon to explain the process of calling a pastor, and our next steps, so that we are prepared and actively working towards our future.

We had a great Potluck Picnic on June 5th, celebrating our Confirmands and kicking off Summer. Thank you to everyone who made that happen—from setting up tents to baking desserts. ***It feels good to be working as a team again!*** Speaking of teamwork, we have over 15 weekly volunteers for our food pantry, but we need one more to complete the team! Can you help Wednesday nights from 5-7pm? This has become our busiest time and our neighborhood is counting on us.

Mark your calendars for our next Potluck Picnic at the end of the Summer: Sunday August 14th, following worship.

In the meantime, let's get together this summer a few times! Pastor Erin would like to host a few children's activities and a couple ones for the grown-ups too! Stay tuned and check your Weekly Update emails and bulletins at church. We are preparing to have a Sunday school once again in the fall, and will be planning for that over the next few months.

Our next council meeting is Monday, July 11th at 7pm. See you in church!

In Christ's Love,

Church Council, Christ Lutheran Church.

CLC FOOD PANTRY DONATE ! VOLUNTEER!

PANTRY HOURS

Mondays & Fridays

9:30am-11:30am

Wednesdays

5:00pm-7:00pm

NEEDED:

Cereal

Cake Mix

Jello

Pudding



FOOD PANTRY NEWS:

All Food Pantry Volunteers (shift workers, delivery receivers, donation providers) are asked to attend a meeting after church on **Sunday, July 10th**. We'll start to formalize more volunteer work and put together a regular meeting of volunteers to lead this ministry.



CHURCH DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS!

It is our hope that we'll have a basic member directory to share with you soon, but we'll need your help!

If you would NOT like your contact information listed, please let the office know. Once we have a draft, we'll have it available to be checked after Sunday worship to make sure we have your information listed correctly.



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Now is the time of the Church!

Change of Seasons

Joseph Imhoff

We are all aware of the seasons, Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring; poets have written odes to them, musicians written concertos and oratorios about them, nature writers have expounded to no end. Shortly the summer solstice will occur, the longest day of the year, the first day of Summer!

The Church too has its seasons, some even celebrated in ancient times by the Hebrews before Christianity but forming the bases for what we do today. Now, with a stretch of the imagination, let us consider the Church Year. The first six months, roughly December through May, are packed with most of the significant events the Church celebrates: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, The Transfiguration, Lent, The Passion, Easter, Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday.

The Church is entering what is known as the Ordinary Times, and as it sounds, it is a time when not much of significance takes place except when a few Commemorations or Saints' days happen to fall on a Sunday and are celebrated with appropriate liturgical colors and lessons. It seems that all of the important events of the Church have happened, now it will be one boring liturgically Green Sunday after another. "Now the green blade rises...Love is come again like wheat arising green!"

Now is the time of the Church, the Holy gave us our orders on Pentecost and much work needs to be done. I always enjoyed the column that Colin McNickle wrote in the Tribune Review on Saturday because during the summer it was about his garden and how it was growing. Gardening is hard work, tilling the soil, watering, fertilizing, cutting away dead growth, and worse, pulling weeds.

The Bible is full of images of seeds, trees, roots, vines, and branches. CLC is our orchard, our vineyard, our garden; we have our work to do in order to cultivate it and have it bear fruit in season. We are in Millvale to stay, not just to grow at 917 Evergreen, but to broadcast seed, cultivate new fields, nurture that which is already growing. We have an expert gardening consultant to rely on, The Holy Spirit! ~

What is Your Name?

There is in Cairo an eerie, demonic site, terrifying to the human soul. Far into the chaos and noise of the city that never slumbers, there is another city—"the city of the dead." A vast tangle of tombs and mausoleums that, through the windows of tour buses, remains grim, distant, and quiet is, at close encounter, not a place of repose at all. It is a wretched, loud, busy, suffering place lived in by Cairo's least and lowliest.

But there is no need to travel to Egypt to see the grim scene. Cities of the dead are all around us, if we care to look—places where the condemned, dirtied, ridiculed, blamed, and broken spend their demonized days living as if dead in cells and wards, beneath plastic and cardboard, in rust and garbage, among decay and rot, forgotten and lonely. There, beyond our windows, so used to their own condemned life, the most they hope for is to be left alone. "I beg you, do not torment me" (Luke 8:28). "I beg you." The gospel says "beg"!

He'd had enough—the man could endure no more judgment, no more religious platitudes, no more being the topic of conversation, no more shame, no more chains and shackles. It was—it is—bad enough to be plagued by demons in the cities of the dead, so please, no more torment! I beg you.

"What is your name?" (v. 30). Those four beautiful words stun the ugliness on the hillside. "What is your name?" In that question there thunders a spoken truth: the desire to know, not ignore; to approach, not pass by; to dare, not cower.

"And they were afraid" (v. 35). Those four riddling words confuse the swinish hillside. In that spoken truth there is exposed a question: Afraid of what? Of knowing the banished one? Of approaching the wild one? Of daring to welcome the troubled one home?

What is your name? Legion? No: **Child of God.** ~

This Week at CLC:

June 20 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY;
5-6pm TOPS CLUB;
6:15pm YOGA

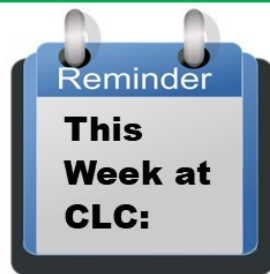
June 22 - 4-7pm MILLVALE COMMUNITY
COUNSELING
5-7pm FOOD PANTRY
6pm SEWING

June 23 - 7pm CHOIR PRACTICE

June 24 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

June 25 - 9am AA
12Noon-6pm GATHERING PLACE BOOKED
7pm NA

June 26 - 9:30am WORSHIP SERVICE



**Happy Father's Day
to all our CLC Dads,
and to Fathers everywhere!**

from the ELCA,

"The Push and Pull of Father's Day"

Read at:

<https://blogs.elca.org/worship/1049/>

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

Upcoming Commemorations

Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured, enslaved, and taken to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there.

John the Baptist

Friday, June 24, 2022

John said, "[Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease." And so his birth is celebrated half a year before Jesus', just as the daylight in the northern hemisphere begins to wane. Jesus honored John as being the greatest prophet.

Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530

Saturday, June 25, 2022

On this day in 1530 the German and Latin editions of the Augsburg Confession were presented to the Emperor Charles of the Holy Roman Empire. The Augsburg Confession was written by Philipp Melanchthon and endorsed by Martin Luther, and consists of a brief summary of points in which the reformers saw their teaching as either agreeing with or differing from that of the Roman Catholic Church of the time.

Philipp Melanchthon, renewer of the church, died 1560

Saturday, June 25, 2022

Though he died on April 19, Philipp Melanchthon is commemorated today because of his connection with the Augsburg Confession. Colleague and co-reformer with Martin Luther, Melanchthon was a brilliant scholar, known as "the teacher of Germany."

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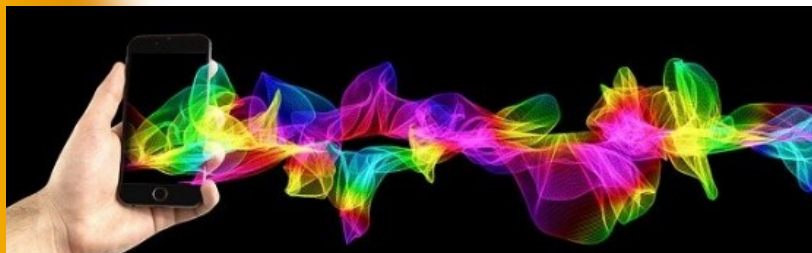
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What is Your Name?: Detail from the Gerasene Demoniac_Brooklyn Museum - My Name is Legion - James Tissot_Public Domain - Wikimedia Commons



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Youtube: clcmillvale ; Twitter: ChristMillvale ;
Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale.**

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