

In the neighborhood...
For good.



Worship with Us
The Fruits of the Spirit
Third 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 26, 2022

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

This Sunday, June 26 at 9:30AM



WORSHIP WITH US

The Fruits of the Spirit

Third Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

*A special Service of the Word
with readings and hymns.*

Christ Lutheran Church

917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209 ~ 412-821-4300 ~

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



...the fruit of the
Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience,
kindness,
generosity,
faithfulness,
gentleness,
and self-control.

Galatians 5:22

**Join us on June 26 for a special Service of the Word
with readings and hymns, celebrating and
praying for the fruits of the Spirit to be
growing in us.**

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit. ~

Pastor Erin will be on vacation for the next two weeks. Please call Patty in the office at 412-821-4300 if you need anything, and she can get in touch with Pastor Jennifer Soltis who is providing coverage for emergencies.

**CLC Website: <https://www.clcmillvale.com/>
Youtube: clcmillvale ; Twitter: ChristMillvale ;
Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale.**

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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.

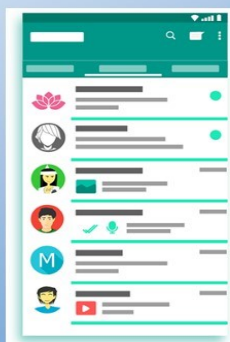
With our online giving platform, Vanco, it's super easy! Or do like I do, and schedule a check to be sent once a month through your bank's website. If you've already done this, or you remember to mail an envelope when you can't be physically present with us, thank you!

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

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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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 NEEDS FRUIT!

CANNED
peaches, pears,
applesauce,
pineapple, or
mandarin
oranges!



The Food Pantry is Open Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:30am, and on Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

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.



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A Counting

Joseph Imhoff

As I noted last week we are now in what is called the Ordinary Times of the Church, the color being green for growth. But ordinary does not mean plain or uninteresting, instead it is the means by which they are numbered. Remember! There are two numbering systems in use based on their Latin names.

1) Cardinal (not the bird or ball team) which we use when counting:

Unus, duo, tres....

One, two, three.....gazillion.

2) Ordinal which we use when placing things in a series:

Primus, secundus, tertius....

First, second, third.....nth.

All of the Sundays beginning with Pentecost are given numbers with Pentecost being the first and Trinity Sunday second. Years ago these Sundays were as the Sundays AFTER Trinity but now the counting starts with the celebration of Pentecost which is more important in the liturgical year. This Sunday is the Third Sunday of Pentecost.

There can be as many as 33 Sundays in the Season of Pentecost followed by Christ The King Sunday which is the last Sunday of the Church year, the week after the last Sunday will be the First Sunday of Advent, the Church's New Year. ~



"For freedom Christ has set us free." Galatians 5:1 (NRSV)

What does this mean?

We are free for living our baptism:

- To live by the Spirit
- To claim the five Spirit-given gifts of discipleship
- To bear the fruit of the Spirit

"...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things." (Galatians 5:22 NRSV)

NOTE: The fruit of the Spirit is singular, but contains nine virtues (habits) and is expected of each Christian.

These virtues are not automatic, but we pray to live in the Spirit and bear the fruit of the Spirit.

Our Daily Diet of Prayer: Fruit of the Spirit

Option 1: MORNING PRAYER

Each morning, begin your day in prayer, asking to be filled with God's Spirit so you might bear fruit.

Gracious God, set me free to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Fill me with your Spirit, so that I

might bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness,

and self-control. There is no limit to this fruit. May it be so in my life. Amen.

continued

Option 2: MEALTIME PRAYERS

At each of your meals, focus on three virtues of the fruit of the Spirit. You know your day. Feel free to switch your prayers from one meal to the next.

- BREAKFAST: Holy One, fill me with love, joy, peace. Amen
- LUNCH: Holy One, fill me with patience, kindness, generosity. Amen
- DINNER: Holy One, fill me with faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Amen

Option 3: THROUGHOUT THE DAY

Remember the fruit of the Spirit as you pray multiple times throughout the day—as you wait at a traffic light, in carpool lines, for a meeting to begin, or while you exercise. Check whether you can recall all nine virtues of the fruit of the Spirit. Pay attention to which of the nine virtues jump to your mind immediately or which ones you have a difficult time remembering. Perhaps the Holy Spirit is trying to tell you something.

Read more at the ELCA online: <https://search.elca.org/Pages/Results.aspx?k=fruit+of+the+spirit>

This Week at CLC:

Monday

June 27 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY;
5-6pm TOPS CLUB

Wednesday

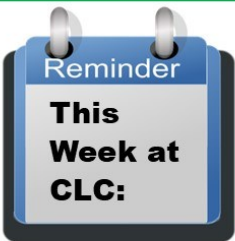
June 29 - 4-7pm MILLVALE COMMUNITY
COUNSELING
5-7pm FOOD PANTRY
5:30pm SEWING

Thursday, June 30 - 7pm CHOIR PRACTICE

Friday, July 1 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

Sunday, July 3 - 9:30am WORSHIP SERVICE

Monday, July 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY
National Holiday



Upcoming Commemorations

Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, died 444

Monday, June 27, 2022

Cyril defended the orthodox teachings about the person of Christ. After a conflict involving all of the major Christian leaders of the time, it was decided that Cyril's interpretation, that Christ's person included both divine and human natures, was correct.

Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, died around 202

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

This important early church leader tried very hard to hold to the faith handed down by the apostles. An opponent of the movement known as gnosticism, Irenaeus was one of the first to speak of the church as catholic, or linked together.

Peter and Paul, Apostles

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

These two strong-willed apostles are the pillars of the church in the first generation after Christ. Peter was one of the Twelve, one who both offered a glorious confession of faith and later denied knowing Jesus. Paul once led the persecution of Christians, then was converted and helped bring the faith to non-Jewish people.

**Catherine Winkworth, died 1878; John Mason Neale, died 1866;
hymn translators**

Friday, July 1, 2022

Neale was an English priest who specialized in the translation of Latin and Greek hymns into English. Winkworth lived in Manchester, England, and devoted herself to translating German hymns. Almost all English-speaking hymnals include many of their translations.

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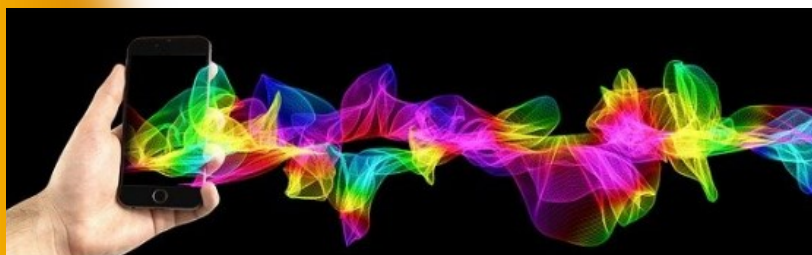
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