

In the neighborhood...
For good.



Worship with Us

The Seventh 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 - July 24, 2022

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

This Sunday, July 24 at 9:30AM



WORSHIP WITH US

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Psalm: 138

Second Reading: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

Christ Lutheran Church

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

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

Lord, teach us to pray

LUKE 11:1



Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.” ~



Southwestern PA Synod News

As a congregation of the SWPA Synod, we support and contribute to the ministry of the whole church in many ways! Check out what the Synod is up to, what other congregations are doing, and read about ministry and mission in Southwestern PA! Here are two links to the Synod Website:

Weekly Newsletter and Quarterly Magazine:

<https://www.swpasynod.org/wayfarer>

Synod News and Letters from the Office of the Bishop:

<https://www.swpasynod.org/synodnews>

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SUNDAY STEAM

SCIENCE

TRUTH

ENGINEERING

ART

MUSIC



PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 6

SUNDAYS AT 8:30AM

Sunday School Starting!

Planning is in the works for children's Sunday school called "Sunday STEAM" starting in the fall! Talk to Pastor Erin or Mandy Freiss to get on board and watch for a mailing!

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JOIN OUR CONGREGATION FOR A

POTLUCK LUNCH!

SUNDAY AUGUST 14TH

AFTER WORSHIP

BRING A SIDE DISH OR
DESSERT TO SHARE!



food pantry update



CLC
MILLVALE
Christ Lutheran Church

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WEDNESDAYS

5:00PM-7:00PM

IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

RAMEN NOODLES

BOXED PASTA

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

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141st Annual Summer Festival

Sunday, July 31, 2022

12:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Lund Care Center Backyard, 134 Marwood Road, Cabot, PA 16023

Kids Fishing Derby & Activities

The Mikey Dee American Variety Band 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Haven Apartments Open House, 1-3 p.m.

Car Cruise (weather permitting), 12:30-3 p.m.

Worship Service at 4 p.m. featuring

Rev. Duane Voorman, Chaplain,

Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Summer Picnic Themed Menu



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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.

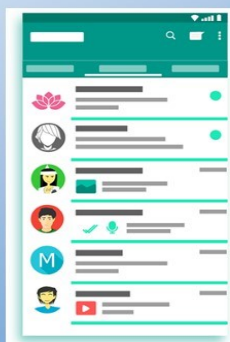
With our online giving platform, Vanco, it's super easy! Or do like I do, and schedule a check to be sent once a month through your bank's website. If you've already done this, or you remember to mail an envelope when you can't be physically present with us, thank you!

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.

Tradition



Joseph Imhoff

As the musical *Fiddler on the Roof* opens Tevye, the milkman of the village, is explaining how everyone relates to everyone else, how business and social interactions are conducted: Tradition!

Tradition is what holds everything together, the glue, it keeps things stable just because it's there, otherwise life would be a shaky as a fiddler up on a roof top. 'Oy vey, such a thing should happen!

A number of years ago *The Lutheran*, now *Living Lutheran*, in one edition ran a group of interconnected articles by five contributors on that very subject and its importance to the Church.

Tradition within the Lutheran Church begins with its founding and founder Martin Luther who was not a maverick but traditional in his faith choosing not to sweep away 1500 years of Church tradition but return it to its roots, deny what was injurious to faith, affirm the good and create traditions as the Holy Spirit would guide it.

Traditions come and go depending on tastes but only up to a point. Lutherans have a guide to follow, *The Book of Concord*, made up from the writings of Martin Luther, those with him, containing the explanations of who we are, what we believe and why we are what we are at the beginning of *The Reformation*.

Important to that is instruction, Luther wrote a small and large catechism and stacks of other material to instruct we the ignorant in faith. He was appalled by what the people who called themselves Christians and went to church regularly didn't know and went about to correct it.

The other strong suit in Lutheran tradition is the liturgy we use every Sunday, inherited from the practices of those prior 1500 years, not shunted aside as was done by some reformer who preferred a total break with the Catholic Church. The words may change, we no longer speak or are familiar with King Jamesian English, and the music settings run the gamut from Gregorian style chant to exciting contemporary.

The worship and music committee is in the process of planning out the worship events for the upcoming fall, taking into consideration church-wide events and local celebrations, changes to the musical setting denoting the transition all with the boundaries of TRADITION! ~



God's Goodness Doesn't Sting

Sometimes when people are in need, they pray. And then they wait. They wonder. They wait some more, and pray some more. Is God listening? Will God answer my prayer? Some people may worry that they have done something to deafen God's ears to their needs. Maybe they fear they are unworthy to be heard and helped, or that their lives don't matter. Maybe they just give up on themselves and on God.

Jesus is well aware of the challenges of being a person of faith and trusting in God when life is tough. He invites people into a deep trust in God. Why? Because God gives us everything we want, even if it is bad for us? No! God doesn't give scorpions to sting us, even if we ask for them. Jesus invites people into a deep trust in God because of God's profound goodness. Jesus urges us to ask God for the sustenance we need: bread, fish, eggs, mercy, justice, love. God will give us such good things because God is so good.

The heart of Jesus' message is rooted in God's goodness. It is not centered on our worthiness, but on God's generous heart. God is good. God is merciful. God is compassionate. God responds to our need out of that benevolence. The Good One gives good things for those in need. This is who God is for us.

This doesn't resolve our tough and appropriate questions about when and how prayers get answered. It does tell us that we are invited to trust that we are cared for no matter what. We are provided for beyond our comprehension, not because of our goodness, but because of God's. We can come forward to Christ's table—hungry for acceptance, longing for the bread of mercy—and know we will receive that bread in our hands. ~

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

Upcoming Commemorations

James, Apostle

Monday, July 25, 2022

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

Thursday, July 28, 2022

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, Messiah, is a setting of scriptural texts.

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany

Friday, July 29, 2022

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030

Friday, July 29, 2022

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.

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This Week at CLC:

Sunday

July 24 - 9:30am Worship @ CLC

Monday

July 25 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY;
5-6pm TOPS CLUB

Wednesday

July 27 - 4-7pm MILLVALE COMMUNITY COUNSELING
5-7pm FOOD PANTRY
6pm SEWING

Thursday

July 28 - 7pm CHOIR PRACTICE

Friday

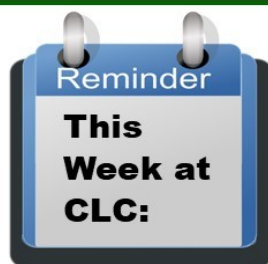
July 29 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY
7:30pm NA

Saturday

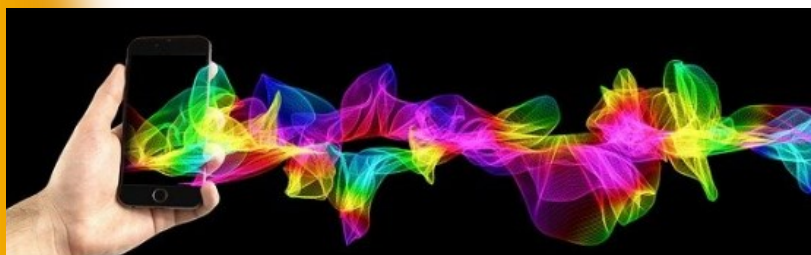
July 30 - 9am AA, 7pm NA

Sunday

July 31 - 9:30am Worship @ CLC



JULY						
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



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