

The Sundays of



CLC Weekly Update - January 15, 2023
In-Person Worship

on January 15th at 9:30AM

WORSHIP WITH US
Second Sunday of Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Gospel: John 1:29-42

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

Christ Lutheran Church
917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209
Phone 412-821-4300 ~ Fax 412-693-9742
CLC Website: <https://www.clcmillvale.com/>
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Visit Us at [CLCMillvale.com](https://www.clcmillvale.com)

*In the neighborhood...
For good.*

CLC
MILLVALE
Christ Lutheran Church



Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us. ~

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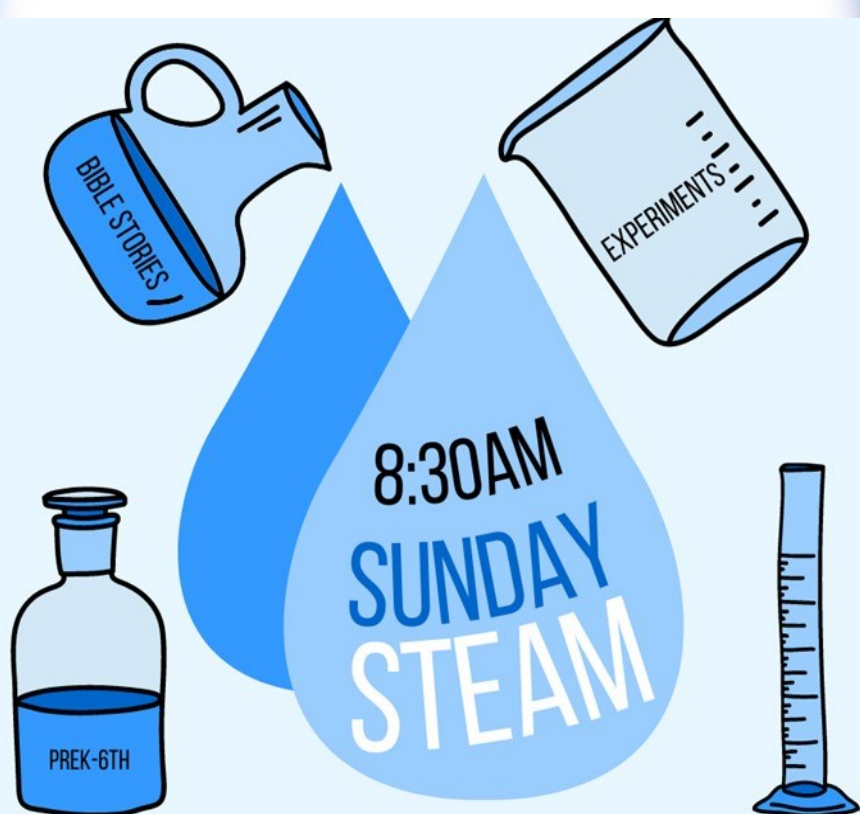
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NEW FEATURE!

“Ask The Pastor”

Submit an anonymous question in the offering plate, and you might get your question answered in the Weekly Update! Have a Bible question? A Church question? A burning query about what the number of candles means and why?

Ask away!



PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 6

SUNDAYS AT 8:30AM

Sunday STEAM is our "one room school house" model teaching kids PreK - 6th grade bible stories and incorporating STEAM lessons to go with the theme for the day. Main teachers cover basics and provide consistency, along with special guest teachers covering things in their field or area of interest. We do science experiments, hands-on projects, and cover all things "STEAM" (Science, Truth, Engineering, Art, and Music). **Come have hands-on fun every Sunday at 8:30am.**

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LENT 2023 Theme:



At some point in every Christian's life, they discover a question.

You know the kind.

Not How are you? or What kind of toothpaste should I buy?

But What really happens when we die?

Or Why does this terrible stuff happen to people who do their best to follow God?

Or How could God forgive me after what I've done?

Or How do I know what God wants me to do next?

You know. **That** kind of question.

In my experience, people often feel isolated when they discover that type of question, as if they are the only ones asking it. For whatever reason, questions like this often feel like obstacles to our faith. They may feel forbidden, out-of-bounds. In the Bible, we read about characters like Job and Nicodemus asking questions that sound like ours, only to hear what sounds like a very touchy response from God.

But what if faith requires us to ask questions?

What if questions are an essential part of our personal faith?

What if we need questions to survive and grow as a community of faith?

You want to go there, don't you? You want to believe that dialogue with God, relationship with God, requires questions. Well, guess what? You're in good company.

When we read scripture carefully, we discover questions everywhere. Hundreds of questions. Questions are created in the Garden of Eden. In the Gospel of John, the first thing Jesus says to someone after his resurrection is a question.

Like people, these questions come in every type. Some are pesky. Some prefer to hide in the shadows and never be noticed. Some shout loudly, repeatedly, and beg attention. Some walk with us to the grave. Similarly, like people, once you start engaging questions, you quickly discover how hard they are to understand. Questions are hard to pigeonhole. They defy stereotyping. And no matter how hard we like to think they can stand alone, they almost always require some kind of relationship.

Once you start noticing questions, once you start looking for them in the lectionary, you see them everywhere. Everyone has one, even if they keep it in their back pocket or tightly trapped behind their teeth. **Biblical people have plenty of questions, too... Join us at CLC this Lent for worship, devotion, activities, prayer, and of course, questions. ~**



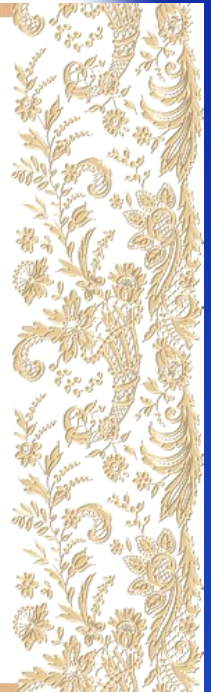
Thank you to all for the lovely cards, delicious snacks, and thoughtful gifts this Christmas season.

Thank you for caring for me and my family!
It is so appreciated!

Pastor Erin

OFFERING ENVELOPES and End of Year Gifts to the Church

Please have your gifts, offering, and tithe for 2022 into the church by the end of the calendar year. New Offering Envelopes are being sent to members, please do not use your NEW ones until 2023 to avoid confusion. Your generosity makes a difference; thank you for your continued financial support of the congregation. If you do not receive envelopes in the mail please speak to Pastor Erin or Treasurer Ray Lardin.



Our Council Members for 2023

Erica Strafalace	Tim Komoroski
Kurt Schreiber	Jean Thens
Lennie Jansen	Bud Worst
Becky Nyren	Ray Lardin
Diane Curry	Joe Imhoff

Council Meetings are normally the 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm. Thanks to those who have served and all who share their time to lead our congregation!

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**FOOD PANTRY
DONATIONS
NEEDED:
CANNED FRUIT**



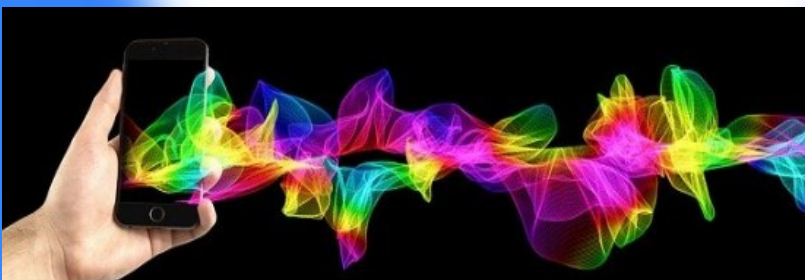
The Food Pantry is Open Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:30am, and on Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

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



Thank you to all who contributed, bought presents, wrapped presents, and gave generously!

We were able to provide Christmas presents for 32 families this year!



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Squirrel Hill Health Center Mobile Medical Unit at CLC

Do you need a local Dr. you can walk to? Need a quick check up or conversation and not sure where to go? The Mobile Medical Unit RV will be parked here on **NORTH AVENUE, TWICE A MONTH**, for all your primary care needs! See the Flier below for more information and dates.

SQUIRREL HILL

HEALTH CENTER



SHHC'S MOBILE MEDICAL UNIT IS COMING TO MILLVALE

Squirrel Hill Health Center's mobile medical unit provides primary healthcare services to Pittsburgh communities, regardless of patients' income level or insurance status. We treat patients of every age.

PAYMENTS AND INSURANCE: SHHC ACCEPTS ALL INSURANCES AND OFFERS A SLIDING FEE SCALE FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNINSURED.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SHHC, PLEASE CALL
(412) 904-5284**

CLINIC DATES:



1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, MARCH 9TH

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD



Christ Lutheran Church Millvale

917 Evergreen Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15209

****Mobile Unit Will Be Parked on North Ave****

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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Thoughts on Benedict XVI

Joseph Imhoff

This past week the Christian Church mourned the passing and the celebration of the funeral mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. I happened to catch a rebroadcast of the service note how similar it was to our own service is except in a different language, Church Latin! Though there was a running commentary throughout the service which was in Latin except for the lessons, one in Spanish and the other in English, I was surprised that one wasn't in German since Joseph Ratzinger was the first German Pope in a thousand years, the last being Stephen IX (1057-1058), during the time of the Holy Roman Empire.

The format of the service was easy to follow as it closely follows the one our pastors use for church funerals. It was during the Communion that the commentary about Pope Benedict XVI was most interesting. It took more than a few minutes to commune the tens of thousands gathered before St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Both before and after his term as Supreme Pontiff of the Catholic Church he was a respected scholar and theologian and the author of many books but he is know for his high regard and writings concerning the Eucharist, the Communion.

It was on February 22, 2007 the Pope Benedict XVI issued his Apostolic Exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis*, Sacrament of Charity. Distilling its 65 pages would be impossible and boring for all of us but I have tried to some of important thoughts:

The Holy Eucharist is the gift that Jesus Christ makes of himself, thus revealing to us God's infinite love for every man and woman.

In the sacrament of the altar, the Lord meets us... and becomes our companion along the way.

The Eucharist is a "mystery of faith" par excellence: "the sum and summary of our faith.

He divided this exhortation into three distinct parts which can make used for further thought.

The Eucharist, a mystery to be believed.

The Eucharist, a mystery to be celebrated.

The Eucharist, a mystery to be lived. This last subdivided into the form of the Christian life, a mystery to be proclaimed, and a mystery to be offered to the world. I might look into some of these in the future. ~

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See for Yourself

Sometimes you just have to experience something for yourself in order to understand its true impact. It's just not the same to listen to someone else describe the rich flavors of an extravagant meal or list reasons a choral piece was so moving to its listeners. Few words are adequate to describe a magnificent sunset. A sticky summer's day, the bitter chill of winter, the palpable excitement that builds inside a sports stadium—sometimes you just have to be there to really understand what it's like.

Perhaps to some extent this is true of our faith too. "Come and see," Jesus tells two of John's disciples (John 1:39). Come and see for yourself where Jesus resides. Take a risk. Jump in. These words echo across time and space, offering us an invitation as well.

Every week we are invited to come and see where God dwells. Not only that, but we are invited to taste, to hear, to touch. We are invited to feast on the bread of communion, to hear ancient words of promise, to splash in the waters of baptism. We are invited to raise our hands, hearts, and voices in praise. Perhaps we are invited to bear witness to the power of digital community that unites us across time and space. We are invited to follow Christ's call into worship with our bodies as well as our souls. We are invited to let ourselves be surprised by whom and what we encounter. Finally, we are invited to listen for Christ's voice as we leave the worship space and search out God's presence in the world.

Where is God inviting you to come and see? Where might Christ already be dwelling among you? ~

This Week at CLC:

Sunday

January 15 - Sunday STEAM 8:30am
CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

Monday

January 16 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY
5pm TOPS CLUB

Wednesday

January 18 - 4-8pm Anchorpoint MCC
5-7pm FOOD PANTRY
5pm Reserve Democratic Committee
5:30pm Sewing

Thursday

January 19 - 5:30-7pm Boy Scouts
7pm Choir Practice

Friday

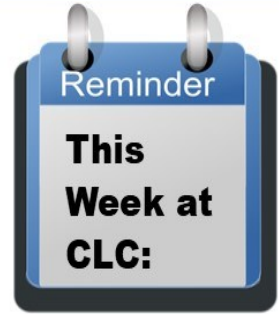
January 20 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY
6-8pm Girl Scouts
7pm NA, Library

Saturday

January 21 - 9am AA, Library
7pm NA, Library

Sunday

January 22 - Sunday STEAM 8:30am
CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am



January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	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				

Upcoming Commemorations

Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968 Sunday, January 15, 2023

An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356 Tuesday, January 17, 2023

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346 Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

Confession of Peter

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156 Thursday, January 19, 2023

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304 Saturday, January 21, 2023

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

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