

The Sundays of

Epiphany



CLC Weekly Update - January 22, 2023

In-Person Worship

on January 22nd at 9:30AM

WORSHIP WITH US
Third Sunday of Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

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/>

Youtube: clcmillvale Twitter: ChristMillvale

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Visit Us at [CLCMillvale.com](https://www.clcmillvale.com)

In the neighborhood...
For good.

CLC
MILLVALE
Christ Lutheran Church



I will make you
fish for people

MATTHEW 4:19



Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy. ~

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Lenten Wednesdays: Spiritual Drumming

LENTEN WEDNESDAYS: SPIRITUAL DRUMMING

One way to improve conscious contact with God through prayer and meditation is with music. Drumming has been used in nearly every faith for the purpose of experiencing the sacredness of God. The earliest music one experiences is the heartbeat of their mother. The simple heartbeat is the sound of the universe – the sound of life. Drumming is a time-honored method of uniting people, and the power of drumming multiplies on many levels in a group of drummers.

We invite you to join us for Spiritual Drumming on Wednesdays during Lent on March 1st, 8th, 15th , 22nd, and 29th , from 7:00 – 8:00pm. Share in the prayers and rhythmic energy of the drum as we lift our prayers up to God. We'll explore our Lenten theme, "Ask", and engage in conversations and questions. No previous music experience is necessary, and drums will be provided. See Pat Bauer if you have more questions about drumming, and please sign-up in the narthex.

Christ Lutheran Church

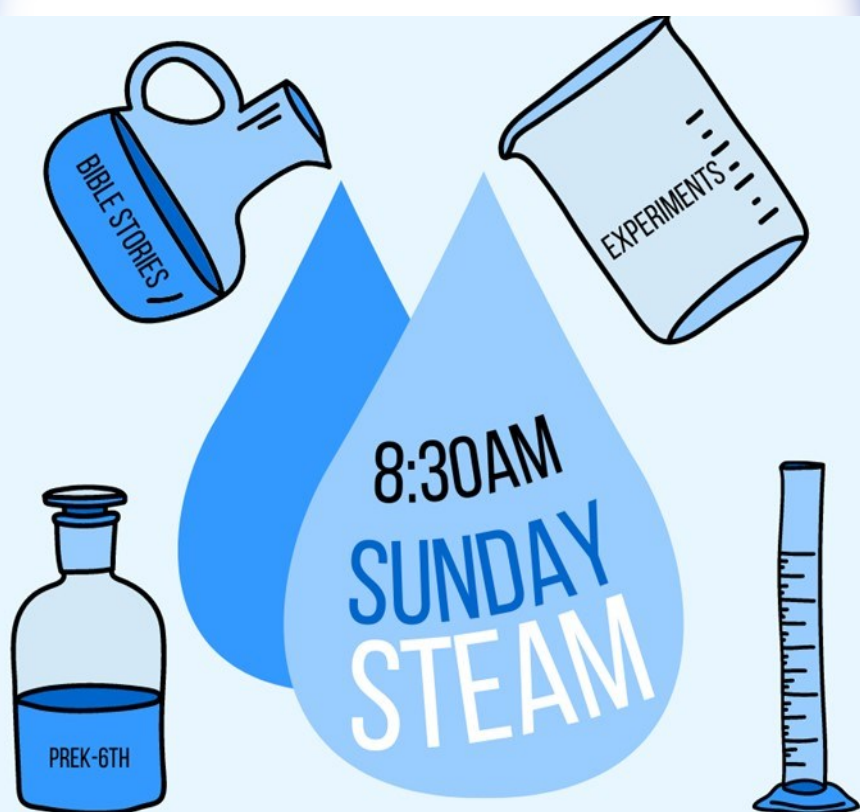
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NEW FEATURE!

“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. ~**

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!

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.

**FOOD PANTRY
DONATIONS
NEEDED:
CANNED FRUIT**

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

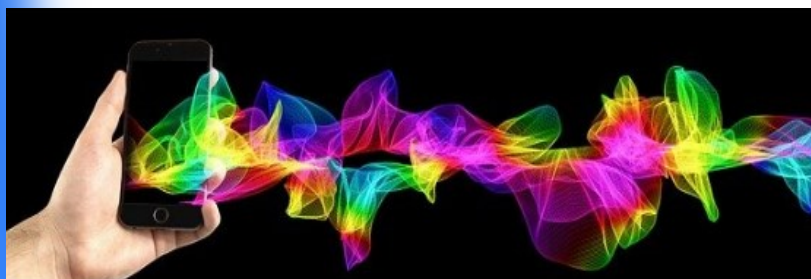
We were able to provide Christmas presents for 32 families this year!



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



PRAYER of the DAY

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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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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Right There in Plain Sight

Joseph Imhoff

The time between the Christmas Season in the Church and Lent is known as the Epiphany Season, from the Greek epiphaneia meaning the appearance of or manifestation, making known! If you follow the Twelve Days of Christmas Epiphany falls on January 6, the day the Magi arrive and present their gifts to the Christ child, traditionally the time the Three Wise Men may be added to a manger scene. This is the first acknowledgement from outside the Holy Family and the shepherds who Jesus really is.

The season is a “Getting to know you, getting to know all about you,” time if I might quote the song Anna Leonowens sings in *The King and I*! Although Simeon and Anna expressed their individual revelations about the baby in the Temple and later when he was twelve in conversation with the teachers in the Temple. Then none of the Gospel writers tell us nothing for around eighteen years, even St. Luke who was so meticulous with the facts surrounding the Holy Birth is quiet. The first time he appears as an adult is when he is baptized by John and the Spirit descends announcing him as God’s beloved Son.

Scattered throughout the Gospels we learn of his preparation for ministry, the calling of the first disciples, visiting the wedding in Cana where he turns the water into wine. There is a visit to the town of Nazareth where he grew up and going to the synagogue on the Sabbath where he riled up the leaders of the congregation who ended up driving him out of town.

His time had not yet come, he was a rabbi of local note as long as John the Baptist was but soon Herod will arrest John and order his execution and Jesus will become the center of attention as the season closes with the Transfiguration and the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. ~

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Worth the Risk

Perhaps Peter, Andrew, James, and John had heard rumors of this wandering preacher Jesus. Maybe they had been growing restless for some time in their lives as fishermen. It's possible they sensed that something was shifting in the world around them. They could have been fed up with the brutality of the Roman Empire and were looking for a leader to bring about change. Maybe they longed for something more, for a better way of living and loving and being. Maybe they were just so taken aback by this invitation to drop everything and follow that they couldn't help but say yes. We don't know their reasons for joining the Jesus movement that day, but there was clearly something so compelling about this kingdom of heaven (Matthew 4:17) that they were willing to drop their nets, risk everything, and not look back.

Perhaps we too hear in the gospel today a renewed invitation to get swept up in this kingdom, a call to drop old ways of being and embrace a life of following Jesus. Maybe this vision of the kingdom catches us when we witness ancient scripture finding new life in our hurting world. Perhaps we glimpse the possibilities of the heavenly kingdom when communities of unlikely people gather to share bread and wine at the same table, and when we see the hungry being fed, the suffering being cared for, the lonely finding welcome, the oppressed finding freedom. Suddenly, we know that this is God at work.

As Jesus reminds us, the kingdom of heaven is not a far-off kingdom. It draws near to us, breaking in around us perhaps in the moments when we least expect it. And when we catch sight of it, we just might never be the same. A world where the sick are healed, the hungry are fed, the outcasts find belonging, and ordinary days are filled with holy purpose? That's a kingdom worth risking everything for. ~

This Week at CLC:

Sunday

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

Monday

January 23 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY
5pm TOPS CLUB,
6:15pm Yoga
7pm Council meeting
7-9pm Pain Clinic

Wednesday

January 25 - 5-7pm FOOD PANTRY
5:30pm Sewing

Thursday

January 26 - 1-4:30p, Mobile Medical Unit
5:30-7pm Boy Scouts
7pm Choir Practice

Friday

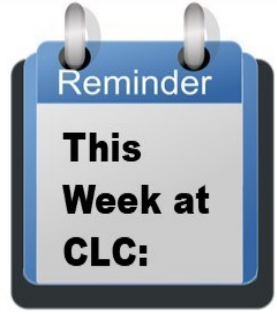
January 27 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY
7pm NA, Library

Saturday

January 218 - 9am AA, Library
7pm NA, Library

Sunday

January 29 - 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

Conversion of Paul

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.

Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries

Thursday, January 26, 2023

These three early Christian men were missionary companions of the apostle Paul. Timothy became bishop of Ephesus, Titus bishop of Crete, and Silas was imprisoned with Paul at Philippi until they were delivered by an earthquake.

Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith

Friday, January 27, 2023

Women as well as men were important Christian leaders from the beginning, as demonstrated by these coworkers of the apostle Paul. Lydia, a seller of purple goods, lent her home for a church; Dorcas was known for charitable works; and Phoebe was a deacon in the church at Cenchrae.

Thomas Aquinas, teacher, died 1274

Saturday, January 28, 2023

One of the most brilliant and creative theologians in the church's history, Aquinas worked to bring together scripture and the philosophy of Aristotle. A member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), Aquinas was also a hymnwriter.

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From the Pastor's Desk: clipart446827

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