

CLC Weekly Update - In-Person Worship
April 9th at 9:30AM

WORSHIP WITH US Easter Sunday

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

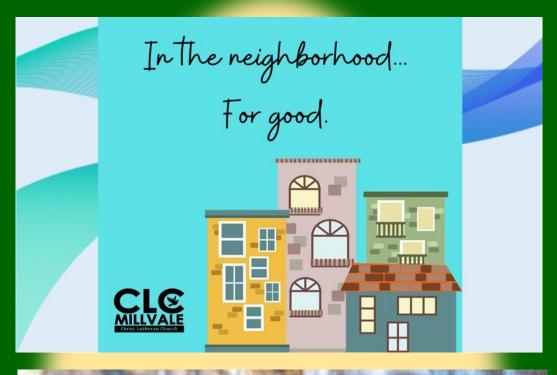
Pastor Erin Evans preaching

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 Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale Email to: ChristLutheran917@gmail.com

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com





This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love. ~



New Bible Study

Want to study the Bible? Feel like you should be reading more of it but don't know where to start?

Join Pastor Erin for a 4 week course on getting into scripture and getting something out of it. Zero experience necessary.

Free bibles will be provided if you don't have your own study bible. Wednesday evenings at 7pm, April 19th, 26th, May 3rd and May 10th.

Update from the Call Committee

The elected committee has begun their work of writing our Ministry Site Profile, the first step of the call process! This profile describes our congregation and our community, and is the document that will be shared with synods and potential candidates. The committee is currently meeting twice a month to complete this task, and Pat Bauer has been elected to chair the committee.



Community News!

Did you know that our church is currently hosting a whole variety of great stuff for our community! We host multiple NA and AA groups, scouting, counseling services, a mobile healthcare RV, weight loss support group, chronic pain support group, yoga, and tai chi classes! Most recently we are now home to a 412 Food Rescue program which feeds even more families around Millvale! Check out our calendar to see just how busy this building is during the week!





SYNOD ASSEMBLY JUNE 16 & 17, 2023

FRIDAY, JUNE 16 6-9PM

Online via ZOOM

SATURDAY, JUNE 17 9AM - 5PM In Person at PENNWEST

(Formerly Cal-U)
250 University Avenue, California, PA 15419

CALIFORNIA



Registration Will be Open through Monday, June 5



CHURCHWIDE REPRESENTATIVE JUDITH ROBERTS,

Sr. Director for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Sr. Director for DEI is responsible for articulating and championing a comprehensive approach and vision for diversity, equity, inclusion for the ELCA churchwide office.



CHAPLAINS P.L.U.M. PASTORS,

P.L.U.M. PASTORS,
Serving together in the
role of chaplain - and
embodying our theme of
Better Together - are
the pastors of Pittsburgh
Lutheran United Ministries: Pastors Sue
Devine, Brenda Henry,
Alexander Sumo, and
John Gropp (left to
right).





Please see Pastor to Register

Voting members from your congregation have an important responsibility on behalf of all the members of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

This assembly is the highest legislative authority of our synod; they will be making decisions that impact 151 congregations covering 10 counties in southwest PA.

This year's assembly will begin with an evening of business conducted online via Zoom, followed by a day of gathering together in person to worship, work, and remember that we are always better together.

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor. I either of them falls down, one can help the other up." - Ecclesiastes 4-9

- Cost to register is \$75 per voting member.
- Voting members are required to have a smartphone or tablet to download the Vevox app as your voting device.
- Who can register? See the <u>Lay Voter Formula &</u> <u>Letter from the Secretary</u>
 to determine how many voting members your congregation may send.
- Login links and passwords for both the online portion of assembly and caucus meetings will be in the registration confirmation email.
- For help with registration, contact the Registrar: Pastor Ellen Lundie, 412 440-7672, registration@swpasynod. org
- Non-voting members and the public may view the assembly live on the synod's facebook page.

Technical Requirements
ATTENDANCE DEVICE: a
computer or tablet with
both a camera and
microphone.
VOTING DEVICE: a separate smartphone or tablet to download the
Vevox app.
If accommodations cannot be made alert your
Pastor.



CLE FOOD PANTRY NEWS!

We were blessed to receive 70 donated Easter hams to distribute! We also have received donations in abundance from the Boy Scouts, Marzolf Primary School, and neighborhood collections! So many people in our community have donated and participated, and for that we give thanks to God. In other exciting news, we've received a \$10,000 grant from the Ethel Verney Fund of the Southwestern PA synod to run the food pantry! This will supplement our utilities and church resources that make this pantry possible. But the number one thing that helps us feed and care for our neighbors is YOU! Our volunteers are the best and you can volunteer for this life-changing ministry today! Speak to Diane Curry or Pastor Erin to find out how you can help!

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

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: canned vegetables and canned soup! Thanks for your regular support!



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!**

You asked, I'll answer!

Question: "I've never read the Bible. It seems too overwhelming. Where do I start?"

Answer:

What an honest question, thanks! You're not alone, the Bible is a BIG book. However, it's easier to think of it as a library of books. 66 books, compiled and written over thousands of years. They are separated into two volumes for easy reference, the first volume being the Old Testament, or Hebrew Bible. This is the story of Creation and God's people. The second volume is the New Testament, starting with Jesus and moving through the first century or two of "church."

In your community library there are many different genres of books, and it's the same in the Bible. There's history books, poetry and song, letters, prophecy, and more. We read each differently, as we'd read a book of historical fiction differently from a book of poetry or a recipe or a lawn mower manual. Each book has an author and a particular audience, and because of the great span of time and cultural differences across the ages it can be a challenge to not only interpret, but to just keep track of who's doing what and why. Learning the stories, like we do in Sunday School, and hear in church, help to give us a frame of reference to start to understand how the pieces fit together.

I'd recommend starting with a Gospel (Matthew, Mark or Luke or John) I think Luke is the easiest for a couple reasons. These are narratives of Jesus' life and ministry, from the perspective of one of his disciples, birth to death. This includes what Jesus did, where he went, what he said, what the reactions of the people were, and why, based on that disciples perspective. The word Gospel means Good News, and these were written to share the Good News of Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection far and wide.

continued

"Ask The Pastor"

Answer continued:

Then try a short letter. The book called Phillippians was written to the church in Philippi by the Apostle Paul, and has lots of encouragement, challenges, personal faith statements, and greetings to the local community. It would have been read aloud to the gathered church.

You'll need a good study bible, which the church has plenty of, so come see me! The study bible has a brief overview of each book, so you can go into your reading knowing some of the "who, what, where, and why" of the book. I also have some short books on the subject of "how" to read the Bible and what's in the Bible.

After you dip your toe into the New Testament, try some stories from Genesis or a song from the Psalms. Some of the middle of the Hebrew Bible does get bogged down in details of kingdom management, temple building, laws about sacrifices, and so forth. Don't get discouraged! Come talk to me or another church friend, and we can figure out together what to read next! Reading together is a lot easier than on your own.

Some Christians seem to think that knowing how to quote scripture word for word gives them some sort of street cred. Some people really do have good memories when it comes to that, and have favorite passages they can repeat as a prayer. But knowing what the words are on the page is different than knowing the story of God's love for the world. Read to find out the story, not the chapter and verse. Blessings on your reading!

p.s. www.bookoffaith.org is a great website with resources and suggestions.

Thanks for your question!



Link: https://www.bookoffaith.org/ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Hymnals for Worship

The green hymnals(LBW) in the pews are the Lutheran hymnals from 1978, while a new "cranberry" colored hymnal (ELW) was introduced in 2006. While the entirety of our wor-

ship service is viewed on the screens, some have mentioned wanting to read music for our hymns. *Please grab a hymnal from the narthex if you'd like to have one for worship today!*



With abiding hope in the resurrection to eternal life, we announce the death of Helen Eleanor Koehler Vannosdel on March 10th at her residence in Falling Waters, West Virginia.

Helen worked as an LPN and was a member of Christ Lutheran Church. She is survived by her two sons, 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Service and interment will be private with a Celebration of Life to follow.

Please keep the family in your prayers.

https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/27493289/helen-eleanor-koehler-vannosdel/martinsburg/west-virginia/brown-funeral-home

Online Giving Update:

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 Lent, and commit to a consistent amount.

With our online giving platform, Vanco, it's super easy! Go to:

https://www.clcmillvale.com/donate/

See the **Online Giving Code** here, and **Thank You!**





LENTEN OFFERING: This year's special offering will go towards the campus ministry (PSALM) at the Lutheran University Center in Pittsburgh. Pastor Brian Bennett visited us several weeks ago as our guest preacher. If you are able, please use the special purple envelopes in your envelope box to support this vital ministry to young adults in Pittsburgh. Visit www.psalm.online.



Upcoming Commemorations



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945 Sunday, April 9, 2023

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he

became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.

Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557 Monday, April 10, 2023

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.





Let's Go To Camp!

Registration for Camp Lutherlyn is open! CLC has a long history of supporting Camp Lutherlyn in Prospect PA, and outdoor ministry has touched the lives of generations. We have a scholarship fund to make sure YOUR child or grand-child can experience this life-changing adventure in faith! Check out their website to find registration details, and speak to Pastor Erin or Treasurer Ray Lardin about this exciting opportunity! Go to: https://www.lutherlyn.com/summercamp/summer_overview.html

Camp Lutherlyn also has summer employment opportunities for young adults 17 and over! Check out the information below to have the summer of your life! Go to: https://www.lutherlyn.com/summercamp/summer_employment.html

Everyone can join Pastor Erin for CAMP BLAST on May 13th! This is a completely free day and open house full of fun at Camp Lutherlyn. You can get to know the place and experience it for yourself. Mark your calendars now for a day at camp!





https://www.lutherlyn.com/summercamp/summer_employment.html

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

NEW SUMMER STAFF - Follow These Steps to APPLY:

- 1.) Read the Information Below to Learn More About the Ministry of Lutherlyn and Employment Details
- 2.) Fill Out the Application (must create a "campbrain" account)
- 3.) Have Three (3) References Complete the Online Reference Form
- 4.) Once Your Application and ALL Three References Are Received, You Will Be Contacted to Schedule an Interview

RETURNING SUMMER STAFF - If you have already served on summer staff in the past 3 years, please complete the Returning Staff Application. Returning staff DO NOT need to submit references again.

· Returning Staff Application (must create a "campbrain" account)



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, APRIL 20TH

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, MAY 4TH

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, MAY 18TH

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, JUNE 29TH

Christ Lutheran Church Millvale 917 Evergreen Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15209 **Mobile Unit Will Be Parked on North Ave**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com



On the First Day of the Week

Joseph Imhoff

The first day of the week was a workday, the city of Jerusalem was waking up after the Sabbath, a day of rest as commanded by God in the Law handed down to Moses, God had rested on the seventh day after Creation. For some this may have been the beginning of an ordinary weekday, for others it was a time of uncertainty considering the traumatic events which had occurred on the sixth day. a trial, a crucifixion!

"After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb." (Matt 28: 1) This morning's Gospel. Each Gospel is in agreement that this was the first day of the week, Luke adding, "On the sabbath day they rested according to the commandment." (23: 56)

Though our calendar shows Sunday as being the first day of the week Christians have shifted the emphasis of the day of rest to it but just think:

The Crucifixion took place on Shishi, the sixth day, our Friday, counted as day one. The next day beginning at sundown, was Shabbat, a day of rest, our Saturday, counted as day two. The third day, beginning at sundown of our Saturday, was the first day of the week, Rishon, a work day. God went to work on the first day of the week by raising Christ from the dead, Easter.

What does this mean for Christians. Sunday is our workday, and not just for pastors, but for all, not only that church thing in the morning for an hour or so but the entire day.

God may have rested after his labors but it is now our responsibility to make certain things remain 'Good' as He intended! Christ Lutheran Church has formidable task ahead of it, internally and out in the community. CLC intends to remain In the Neighborhood for Good, if we work together it WILL!



The Stone-Moving Power of God

Special effort had been taken to seal up Jesus' tomb. Pilate and the religious authorities had taken great care to make absolutely certain there was no way Jesus' followers could move that stone themselves. They posted armed guards all around.

If they had had the technology back then, we could well imagine that floodlights, security cameras, and an alarm system would have been added to the tomb. But none of that would have mattered. For nothing in heaven or on earth could have stopped the stone-moving power of our God. An angel messenger comes in a brilliant flash to roll that stone away, and then he sits on it to share the good news that Jesus is alive. What had been intended by those who persecuted Jesus as a period—a full stop for the Jesus movement—becomes a pulpit for proclamation: "Do not be afraid!" (Matthew 28:5). Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

As we remember the story of Jesus' resurrection, we tune our hearts and minds to trust that this God who brings life out of death is still at work. What stones might God be moving today? Might we sense the Spirit at work in our lives here and now, rumbling the ground of our hearts and rolling away the messages of shame, fear, or rejection that have weighed us down?

Might God be at work, rolling away stones of oppression and injustice in our world? Might we be sent, like these women, to not let fear rule our hearts, but to go, tell, and witness to a God who continues to open up a new future for us? Yes! The risen Christ appears to us today—present in word, and bread and wine, and water—ready to bless, nourish, call, and send. Nothing can stop this God. Jesus Christ is risen, indeed—Alleluia!

This Week at CLC:

Easter Sunday

April 9 - Sunday STEAM 8:30am

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

Monday

April 10 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

1:30pm 412 Food Rescue dropoff

5-6pm TOPS CLUB

6:15pm Yoga

7pm Council Meeting

Tuesday

April 11 - 9am to 1pm 412 Food Rescue

Wednesday

April 12 - 4-8pm Anchorpoint Millvale Community Counseling

5-7pm FOOD PANTRY

5:30pm Reserve Dem. Committee

Thursday

April 13 - 3pm Sewing

5:30-7pm Boy Scouts

7pm Choir Practice

Friday

April 14 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

6-8pm Girl Scouts

7pm NA, Library

Saturday

April 15 - 9am AA meets in the Library

10am Call Committee

7pm NA meets in the Library

Sunday

April 16 - Sunday STEAM 8:30am

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am





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!

- Our thanks to SundaysAndSeasons.com © 2023 Augsburg Fortress Worship writings and art.
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Art Attributions:

Heading Logo: Cross_Tomb_Easter_Resurrection_132404874_ Marcin Moderski_dreamstime.com_Tomb Resurrection 3_178351959_Bright Light Coming from the Empty Tomb of the Resurrected Jesus Christ

; In the Neighborhood Pastor Erin Evans

Pastor Erin Evans: displays for CLC Weekly Updates, Heading Logo-In the Neighborhood (In the Neighborhood LOGO Blue Variations_background SeekPng.com_vector-shapes-png_524200), Food Pantry Updates, Sunday Steam, ASK Lenten Series:

Worship with Us Easter Sunday: Jesus Resurrected_dreamstime_m_9207597_Giedrius Blagnys_dreamstime

From the Pastor's Desk: clipart446827

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!_Daffodils by a church, Tyneham, Dorset, England. Copyright iStock-

Thomas Faull. Used by permission.

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Hymnals for Worship: httpclipart-library.comimagesXrijgAbcR.jpg Helen Vannosdel: NicePng_rose-flowers-png-images_9327911 Synod Assembly 2023: Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of ELCA

Lenten Offering: www.psalm.online

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Deitrich Bonhoeffer: at Living Lutheran

Mikael Agricola: Wikipedia

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