

REFORMATION DAY

CLC Weekly Update - In-Person Worship
October 29th at 9:30AM

WORSHIP WITH US Reformation Sunday

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalm 1

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46

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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Email to: ChristLutheran917@gmail.com

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

In the neighborhood...
For good.



The truth
will make you
free

JOHN 8:32

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission. ~

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Middle East Crisis

Due to escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding in the Holy Land. The ELCA has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Augusta Victoria Hospital.

Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of providing support for our partners and will be prepared to answer calls for assistance when the time comes.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has issued a letter of solidarity to Bishop Dr. Sani-Ibrahim Azar of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. In it, she writes,

“I pledge our accompaniment and support to you as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and its ministries provide ‘critical and timely assistance (psychological and otherwise) to those affected by this war.’”

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to this and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts designated for “Middle East Crisis” will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by disasters in the region.

To give online go to:

<https://community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis>

OR give through CLC and write a check out to:

Christ Lutheran Church

Memo Line: LDR Middle East Crisis

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ALL HALLOWS EVE NEIGHBORHOOD BONFIRE



October 31st
Christ Lutheran Church
917 Evergreen Street Millvale
6:00pm-9:00pm

FUN FOR
KIDS AND
ADULTS!



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!

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com



CAUTION - SCAM!

Several members and friends of the church have notified the office that they have received strange texts from a number claiming to be Pastor Erin. These texts do NOT come from Pastor Erin's actual cell # OR the church #. These texts ask for money and favors and are a bit vague. Please do not engage and be assured that Pastor Erin will not randomly text you asking for money, gift cards, or discrete favors. Call the Church Office if you receive anything suspicious.



Lunches with Lindsie

One of the responsibilities of our congregation this year is caring for our Field Education Student through one-on-one conversations.

Please sign up in the narthex if you'd like to take Lindsie out to lunch after worship on a Sunday to tell her more about CLC and answer some of her questions about our church.



Pastor Erin serves as her supervisor while Lindsie observes, learns, and practices her leadership skills and vocation at CLC. Lindsie will be with us each Sunday through the 2023-2024 school year, and at other times as well, about 6-8 hours a week. Please pray for Lindsie in her vocational formation and education.

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Ordination of Stephen Slepecki



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the beauty of the day! We had a large crowd in attendance with folks from CLC, Oak Grove Lutheran Church (Zelienople), Trinity Lutheran Church (Butler), St. John's Lutheran Church (Carnegie) and St. John's Lutheran Church (Perrysville), as well as many local clergy. So many were grateful for our hospitality and delicious meal! The music and liturgy was uplifting and faithful! Please continue to keep Steve and Julie in your prayers as they move to the parsonage in Zelienople and get to know the people of Oak Grove.

Neighborhood Bonfire



We are hosting an event on Halloween for our neighbors, during and after trick or treating on October 31. This will be a good chance to get to know folks and share hospitality. We'll have a fun craft for both kids and adults, free snacks, and

quality time together! **Please let Pastor Erin know if you can help out that evening!**

Church Council



Our Church Council met on Monday, October 16th. The Council began to review the budget for 2024, and will have information coming out soon about our financial situation and our stewardship at CLC. Then, as we do yearly, we'll plan an annual meeting to approve the budget for next year, ***Stay tuned!***

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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

In case of emergency....



Did you know we have an emergency defibrillator? It's on the wall, near the office and food pantry check-in table.

Did you know we have Narcan available? With the first aid kits in the narthex and in the office too!

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REFORMATION SUNDAY

The Truth That Is Freeing

Two key words are in today's gospel reading. These words are simple but profound, and not always easy to understand: "truth" and "free."

Truth is a word that has become questioned, disputed, and suspect. Many news sources and social media memes promote a distorted truth to try to confuse or mislead others. How do you know which sources to believe? What counts as truth now?

Jesus said that the truth will make you free. Even if we figure out what counts as truth, do we understand what it means to be free? We commonly think of freedom as being free from some obligation or limit others impose on us. We value individual autonomy and don't want anyone else to tell us what to do. While this kind of freedom is important in the civil realm, it is far from the freedom of Jesus.

So how do we put these two seemingly simple but complex words together and understand what Jesus means? In John's gospel, the word "truth" is not abstract; it is the reality of God revealed in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Truth is knowing God through Jesus, and therefore knowing God as sacrificial love. This is the truth that sets us free. If we know God as revealed in Christ, then we know what true freedom is: freedom to love as God loves.

Martin Luther famously captured this truth when he said, in "The Freedom of a Christian" (1520), that Christians are truly free, subject to no one. And at the same time, Christians are servants of others called to love and care for them. This is the freedom we need and long for: freedom within a community of love. Jesus makes it possible for us by setting us free from having to become good enough for God to love us. God's love is the truth of the cross: extravagant, self-giving, and sure. We are truly free to love when we live in the love of God offered by Jesus. ~

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This Week at CLC:



Sunday

October 29 -

REFORMATION SUNDAY

8:30am Sunday School

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

Monday

October 30 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

3:15-6pm Violin

5-6pm TOPS CLUB

6:30-8pm ESL

Tuesday

October 31 - All Hallows Eve

9am to 3pm 412 Food Rescue

5:30-8pm Violin

6-9pm Neighborhood Bonfire

Wednesday

November 1 - 4-8pm Anchorpoint Millvale

Community Counseling

5-7pm FOOD PANTRY

7pm Choir Practice

6:30-8pm ESL

Thursday

November 2 - 6:30-7:30pm Boy Scouts Pack 162

Friday

November 3 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

7pm NA meets in the Library

Saturday

November 5 - 9am AA meets in the Library

7pm NA meets in the Library

Sunday

November 6 - 8:30am Sunday School

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am



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Upcoming Commemorations

Reformation Day

Tuesday, October 31, 2023



By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news

that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

All Saints Day

Wednesday, November 1, 2023



The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the

faithful who have died during the past year.

Martín de Porres, renewer of society, died 1639

Friday, November 3, 2023



Martín was the son of a Spanish knight and a freed Black woman from Panama. As a lay brother in the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), he engaged in many charitable works in Lima, Peru. He founded an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for cats and dogs.



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**The Lord bless you
and keep you.
The Lord make his
face shine on you
and be gracious to
you.
The Lord look upon
you with favor and
give you peace. ✝**



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The Truth will make you free: Statue of Martin Luther. Photo copyright Sabine Heindorf iStock Getty Images Plus via Getty Images. Used by permission. SundaysandSeasons

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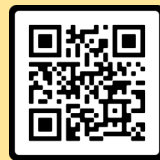
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**ONLINE
GIVING**



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