

Lent

2024



February 25 at 9:30AM In-Person Worship

WORSHIP WITH US

Second Sunday in Lent First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31 Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25 Gospel: Mark 8:31-38 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

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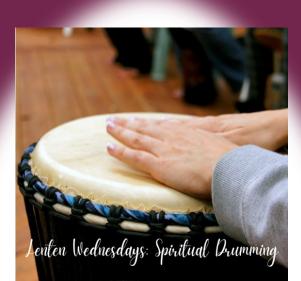
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The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ. ~

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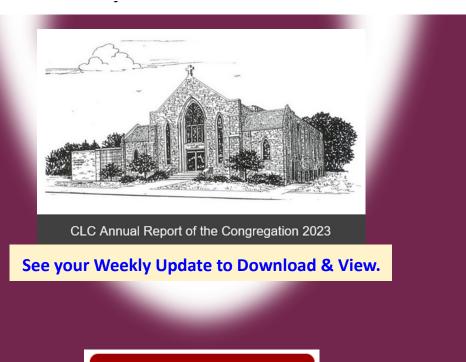
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SPIRITUAL DRUMMING

After the popularity of our Lenten Wednesday Evenings last year, we've decided to do it again! Pastor Erin and Pat Bauer will again lead Spiritual Drumming on Wednesdays in Lent at 7pm. This 45 minute experience will combine open-ended questions and prayers, with short readings and blessings, as we drum together.

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 Share in the prayers and rhythmic energy of the drum as we lift our prayers up to God. No previous music experience is necessary, and drums will be provided.





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SPRING SOCIAL EVENT

Sip And Snip!

Learn the art of flower arranging and take home a beautiful bouquet! \$20 covers all flowers, supplies, beverages, light appetizers, and a donation to CLC.

SATURDAY APRIL 6 4:00PM-6:00PM

Please register by March 17th - call the church office at 412.821.4300 or sign up the in narthex



DUFF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

Are you a protestant student who has attended high school or been home schooled at least two academic years in Allegheny County, PA? Are you a high

school senior or high school graduate planning to enroll (or already enrolled) in a full-time undergraduate course of study leading to a bachelor's degree at an accredited fouryear education institution?

Do you have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.8 on a 4.0 scale? You may be eligible for aid from the Lola G. Duff and William H. Duff, II Scholarship Program. Information is available at:

https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/duffscholarship/. The application deadline is March 4, 2024.





WILLIAM J. WOLF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

was created by a bequest from William J. Wolf, founder and presi dent of General Cleaning Company. Although Mr. Wolf completed high school, he did not have the means



to attend college, which he regretted. Through the establishment of this fund, he is able to give back in perpetuity to the Pittsburgh community that he and his wife, Elizabeth, loved, and to the Lutheran faith which they supported during their lifetimes. This scholarship is to assist with the college or graduate level education of students of Lutheran denominations who have a residence in Allegheny County and maintain good grades. To apply for the Scholarship go to <u>https://pittsburghfoundation.org/scholarship/1631</u>. Completed applications are due April 1, 2024.



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



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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Giving It Up

Joseph Imhoff

Last week the Pittsburgh Post Gazette ran an article starting on the front page of the February 14 edition, St. Valentine's Day, 'Chocolate? Social Media? Carbs? Local Catholics decide what to forgo for Lent'. It was also Ash Wednesday, the first day of lent, the beginning of forty days of fasting for Christians and an obligation for Catholics though most Christian denominations follow some sort of Lenten observance.

The article was a series of short interviews with various local people on sacrifices they would be making during the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter. There were a variety of food items and some behavioral things offered.

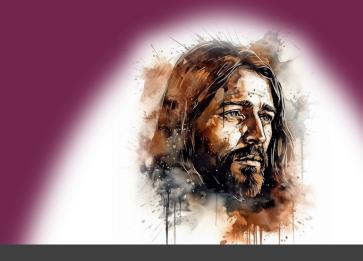
Even Bishop David Zubic was quoted he would not be giving any dispensations for Valentine's Day, celebrate early! He stated that St. Valentine (c 226-c 269, martyr) would agree that Ash Wednesday was more important.

The fasting we think of today is a far cry from origins in the early and Medieval Church. We live in times of abundance because of preservation and transportation. After the fall of the Roman Empire families gathered food in the fall to last until spring and had to make things stretch until the first fruits appeared.

The Church codified what was already being done of necessity into the forty days before Easter, the rules being changed from time to time, such as fish was a no-no until the Ninth Century when it was no longer considered meat but a symbol of the faith.

But we are warned not to fast in order to be seen by others but to God who sees in secret. Perhaps as we approach the discipline of Lent we should include fasting (self denial envelope is one way), penance and prayer. **Give up pride and don humility, discover our faith and pray.** ~

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Hope Against Hope

Paul tells us that Abraham hoped "against hope" (Romans 4:18). Many of us know this feeling. The injustices in our world, the damage we see in the environment, and the wounds we bear in our own souls can all seem like too much. The promises of redemption poured out in baptism sometimes seem so far away. Amid this reality, we hear Jesus teach that he "must" suffer, die, and rise again. To Peter this sounded like foolishness. If the Messiah were rejected, how could the salvation they longed for ever come? But Jesus insists that to deny this is to reject "the things of God." Why must it be so?

Because of God's great love. Jesus must suffer because he will do everything that needs to be done to rescue God's world from sin and death. He will endure rejection, torture, and even death. He "must" do this because the world's brokenness is that deep. We don't need better teaching or stronger motivation. We need rescue from powers greater than ourselves. He will bear the burden of sin and death in his body to release us from their grasp. Love drives him to this full extent of mercy.

And in the mystery of God's grace, Jesus will die. But he will be raised again. And his death and resurrection set us free from sin and death's power. We can hope, even in the most hopeless of circumstances, because Jesus has passed through all the evils that threaten us and emerged triumphant. In Jesus, our sins are forgiven, the world's injustices will not last forever, and everything broken will be made gloriously new. Until then, he gathers us around the life-giving word and gives himself to us in a holy meal. He leads us on our cross-shaped journeys of dying to sin to discover true life. And he sends us forth to share the good news of God's mercy with a world longing for hope. ~

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This Week at CLC:

Sunday

February 25 - 8:30am Sunday School



CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am Monday

February 26 - 9:30-11:30am Food Pantry 4:30-7:30 Violin, 5-6 TOPS Club, 6-7 Yoga, 6:30-8pm Violin

Tuesday

February 27 - 9am to 3pm 412 Food Rescue,
6-8pm Violin
Wednesday
February 28 - 4-8pm Anchorpoint Communi-

ty Counseling, 5-7pm FOOD PANTRY

6:30-8pm ESL Tutoring,

6-7pm Choir Practice

7-8pm Spiritual Drumming

Thursday

February 28 - 6pm ESL Tutoring, 6:30-7:30pm Boy Scouts Pack 162

Friday

March 1 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY 7pm NA meets-Library

Saturday

March 2 - 9am AA meets in the Library 7pm NA meets in the Library

Sunday

March 3 - 8:30am Sunday School CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

February						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 12	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

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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!



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Hope Against Hope: Modern Ink Style of Jesus Christ Painting_2Moons

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Upcoming Commemorations

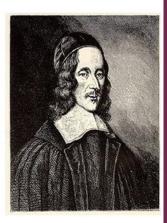


Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921 Sunday, February 25, 2024

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.

George Herbert, hymnwriter, died 1633 Friday, March 1, 2024

An excellent scholar, Herbert served briefly in the English parliament, then became a parish priest. He was known for devoted care of his parishioners, as well as for writing poetry and hymns, including "Come, my way, my truth, my life." He died at age 40.



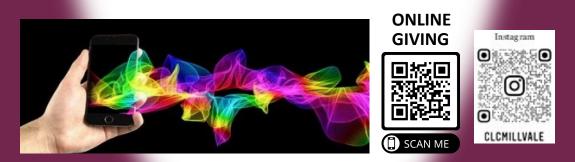


John Wesley, died 1791; Charles Wesley, died 1788;

renewers of the church Saturday, March 2, 2024

These brothers led a revival originally intended to remain within the Church of England, one that involved frequent communion and advocacy for the poor. Except for a brief time in America, they worked in England. Charles was also a prolific hymn writer. After their deaths,

their work led to the formation of the Methodist Church.



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