WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

Begin the journey of Lent here at Christ Church as we hear that now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and vulnerability. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the Easter feast to come.

All are welcome!
Childcare will be available at the evening service.
* We will not have dinner on Ash Wednesday *

MARCH 4
5:45 ~ Dinner
6:15 pm – 7:00 pm ~ Bible Study
7:15 pm ~ Worship

MARCH 11
6:00 pm
BOS Culinary Arts Dinner (Cost $6)
7:15 ~ Worship

MARCH 18
5:45 ~ Dinner
6:15 pm – 7:00 pm ~ Bible Study
7:15 pm ~ Worship

MARCH 25
5:45 ~ Dinner
6:15 pm – 7:00 pm ~ Bible Study
7:15 pm ~ Worship

APRIL 1
5:45 ~ Dinner
6:15 pm – 7:00 pm ~ Bible Study
7:15 pm ~ Worship
Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
410-752-7179

In case of pastoral emergency, the pastors can be reached by their personal numbers.

Interim Senior Pastor Jim Cobb 443-632-4420
Interim Associate Pastor Judy Cobb 443-632-4496
Associate Pastor Patrick Ballard 919-215-0419

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www.facebook.com/CLCBaltimore

Follow us on Instagram
@christinnerharbor

Christ Lutheran Church is and has been a Reconciling in Christ congregation since February 2001.
To learn more, visit: www.reconcilingworks.org
Why do we modern people continue ancient traditions like LENT?

First, there are historical reasons. And Lutherans like history. Lent derives from the preparation of candidates for baptism. By the middle of the 4th century in Jerusalem, candidates for baptism fasted for 40 days and during these 40 days, Bishop Cyril of Jerusalem lectured on the main themes of the faith. The length of time involved before Easter baptisms was part of why Jesus fasted 40 days in the wilderness enduring temptations; Moses’ time on Mt. Sinai; the Israelites 40 year journey toward the promised land and Elijah’s fast on the Mountain of God.

Second, the season is loaded with symbols. First comes the ashen cross on our foreheads. Ashes connect with death and the funeral liturgy pronounces “earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.” It is symbolic of our mortality. It was an early church sign of repentance. Also, ashes were the ancient equivalent to “Comet or Ajax” used as we would a soap abrasive for cleansing and renewal. Second, the symbol of ashes are made from burning last year’s palm branches thus connecting last year’s Holy Week with the beginning of Lent. Third, Bishop Ambrose removed “alleluias” from Lenten worship. He taught, “enclose and seal up the word alleluia. Let it remain in the secret of your heart, until the appointed time (Easter) when it bursts forth when all say it with great joy when that day comes. Alleluia.” When possible, the church kneels during portions of the liturgy. Kneeling is a sign of humility and repentance while standing is a posture of joy and celebration. The paraments during Lent are purple recalling the mockery of the soldiers who clothed Jesus in that color ridiculing the color of “kingship.”

At the beginning of Lent, the church is admonished for the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Our churches generally have added additional worship opportunities emphasizing prayer (and worship) as a deepening of our relationship with God; fasting (now discovered anew as a healthy-in-moderation practice) also allows one to give equivalent contributions (alms) to the church for worthy causes through the church. These practices of self-sacrifice allow one to identify more fully with the journey of Jesus in his self-giving, suffering and death. Roman Catholics, especially in this season, speak of “giving up” something for Lent. Lutherans by contrast will speak of “taking up” something for Lent….take up a benevolent project of advocacy or take up a good cause about which you are passionate (“take up a cross and follow Jesus!”).

And finally, we will arrive at Holy Week and each day could have history and symbols; but briefly:

Palm Sunday (or “Passion Sunday”); HOSANNA, blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. (Palm waving)

Maundy Thursday: the day of the New Commandment: REMEMBER is the word shown in the words and actions of Jesus…. “Love one another” as seen in the servant role of foot washing and then the table liturgy….where bread and wine say, “in remembrance of me, do this…. (a mandate/command of Jesus.) (table meal instituted)

Good Friday: the cross of Jesus with the word shouted: CRUCIFY. The darkening shadows of Tenebrae worship and the 7 last words of Jesus. Sadness, grief and mourning in the reality of death.

AND JOYOUS RESURRECTION DAY with the festival shout: “Christ is Risen; He is Risen Indeed….ALLELUIA! is the WORD from the grave.

Pastor Jim Cobb

S00000…Wednesdays in LENT at Christ Lutheran. (March 4, 18, 25, April 1 NOTE: March 11 will be the Culinary Graduation Dinner in lieu of a program. Worship will still begin at 7:15 pm)

5:45 pm - 6:15 pm Dinner is served. Come from work, come from play. JUST Come.

6:15 pm-7 pm. Pr. John Sabatelli will lead a study on Philippians for the adults.

6:15pm-7 pm Activities for children will be provided by Pr. Judy and LaSonya King.

7:15pm- A worship service for all ages using Holden Prayer and texts from Philippians.

The theme will be “at the name of Jesus”. Each night a child/child will have a part in worship leadership.

May all the family come and worship Jesus. @christinnerharbor.org.

Pastor Judy Cobb
Pastor Patrick Ballard

“And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you determine what is best” - Philippians 1:9-10

The season of Lent is one of the penitential times for the Church, and it’s one that often leads to personal and individual reflection and contemplation. Some of us will take on disciplines of fasting or frequent personal prayer. Others will give something up or take on a new project that reflects the servanthood we are called to as disciples of Jesus. Personally, I like to walk the labyrinth each day for centering and for prayer.

But one of the great things about being a Christian is that we have been given the gift of community to aid in our prayer and discernment of God’s will. We aren’t expected to, or even encouraged to, try and figure out God’s will on our own. Instead we have been blessed with communities: families, groups of friends, and congregations, that wrestle and struggle together.

The season of Lent is a great time for us to do this work of prayer and discernment as a congregation. In our Sunday worship services, there will be a time of corporate confession and forgiveness. Together, we announce the ways we have fallen short of God’s intentions for us and receive the Good News of another opportunity to do better tomorrow. On Wednesday nights we will gather for a simple meal, greet folks from the shelter, and wonder aloud how we can further the connections we have with our guests downstairs. And critically, as this year our congregation is in the midst of a pastoral transition, we will be discerning how this community will proceed into the future.

I know that this is a place that “gets things done.” When there are forms to fill out, committees to fill, interviews to conduct, and travel arrangements to book, I know that the logistics will move relatively smoothly. But before that, there is this holy time. It’s a time of discernment for each and every one of us. Who are we, the people known as Christ Lutheran Church? And in what direction is God calling us next?

The season of Lent is a perfect time to do this type of intentional and reflective discernment. Soon enough, there will be formal processes to follow and critical steps to take. But for now, I invite you to reflect on these simple questions and hold them in your heart wherever you go. Talk with your family about our congregation over the dinner table. Ask your co-workers what or if they know about us. Look for needs in the community that the people of God could meet. And most of all pray. Continue to ask for God’s guidance and it will be granted.

This congregation has been planted, nurtured, and grown by the grace of God. There have been many helpers along the way, dedicated congregants and clergy who served with them, but at the center has always been the work of God. Together, let us listen for God’s voice as we discern what’s next!

Peace,
Pastor Patrick

Praying During Lent
by Pastor Judy

I am thinking about Ash Wednesday (February 26) and the 45 days that follow until Easter (April 12) and I am hoping that everyone in the congregation will add intentional prayer to each day during Lent. I want to have packets available on the first Sunday of Lent (March 1). They will contain a prayer square (thanks to Lydia Brown and her volunteers) and a list of prayer petitions.

This is where you are integral. I am asking you to write one prayer petition and send it to me. It can be a paragraph, or a sentence. It can be a request, a thank you, a prayer for someone else, a prayer for our nation, or a penitential prayer. For example:

“Dear God, I am hoping that all of us will be intentional about our prayer life and that in doing so we open our hearts and thoughts to the needs of others. Amen.”

This is what I am asking:

1. Write a petition by February 21.
2. Send it to pr.judycobb@christinnerharbor.org, or give it to me, or text (443-632-4496) or put in in my box.
3. You may include your name, or you may leave it anonymous. I will include your name if you wish and refrain if you do not wish me to include it.

Thank you. JOY. Pr. Judy

Prayer Squares

Look for a “prayer package” on March 1.

Members of the congregation led by Lydia Brown (thanks to all) have been knitting and crocheting squares that have a cross in the center. Meanwhile Pastor Judy has been compiling prayer petitions from Christ Church’s “sisters and brothers”.

God calls us to take time each day to settle and talk to God. “What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer” (What a Friend we have in Jesus). On Sunday, March 1, please pick up a prayer package that will include a prayer square and prayers. Take a few minutes each day to talk to Jesus.
Come rain or shine, or even snow, the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen opens each Tuesday without fail, serving up nutritious fare - with an extra helping of love - from the basement of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

"Nothing stops us," said lead volunteer Sandra Aleman-Nijjar. "I think only health will stop us, but God has been good. So as long as I have health and my team, then we're here."

Sandra and her team of volunteers offer weekly breakfast, lunch and dinner to more than a hundred guests, many of whom face the challenges of poverty and addiction. Guests can pick up hygiene kits or a set of clean clothes and can access social services. What makes this program special, however, is its attention to matters of the heart.

"This space is where we all come together and treat each other with love, with that respect and dignity that we all like to receive," Sandra said. "We give that to everyone that walks through those doors."

Eddie has been coming through the doors of Our Saviour's since the soup kitchen started in September 2016. The program, which receives funding from ELCA World Hunger, has been a game changer. From age 18, Eddie has lived on the street. "I had nowhere to go and [now] this is my home," he said.

At the soup kitchen, Eddie feels respected as a whole person. And though he's grateful for the food and resources he receives, he's most appreciative of the people, connecting with fellow guests during circle time and valuing the support Sandra has given him. Since Eddie started coming to the soup kitchen, she and others have noticed a change in him.

"He feels loved, that someone cares," she said of Eddie. "You can see it in [each of] them, that sense of belonging, that sense of acceptance. That someone cares about them, that someone is watching and looking out for their well-being."

With your support, the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen and programs like it around the country can continue to welcome their neighbors.

The ELCA World Hunger Appeal supports efforts around the world, including the United States, to abate hunger, poverty, and food deprivation. The East Boston Community Soup Kitchen is just one example of the Hunger Appeal’s support to initiatives that are aimed toward immediate needs but also toward sustained work that addresses long-term ways of improving the lives of fellow humans who are in need. You may use the envelopes found in the kiosk in the Narthex or by forwarding your appropriately marked gifts to the church office. Thank you.”

Generosity Feeds
Saturday, April 4
10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Christ Church Fellowship Hall

Come join us as Christ Church hosts a community event to package 10,000 meals to be distributed to area school children whose meals at school are often the only ones they get all week. Additional meal packages are put into their school backpacks on Fridays to give children food for the weekend.

This will be a friends and family event, the perfect opportunity to invite friends and acquaint them with some of the serving opportunities we have at Christ Lutheran.

We will need at least 100-125 volunteers to get all the meals packed that we hope to, so bring the whole family. There will be tasks for all ages.

There is no required cost for individual volunteers, but donations towards the cost of ingredients (which are about $1.00 per meal) are appreciated.

Contact: Rich Walther, rwalther@comcast.net
I was quite taken by an episode in the third season of The Crown. [Spoiler alert.] A disastrous mining accident has occurred and the lives of 144 people were lost, of which 116 were children. In their storytelling, the writers have Queen Elizabeth concerned about the fact that she hasn’t shed a tear over this tragedy. It is at the end of the episode, while listening to a hymn that the surviving families had sung, “Jesus, Lover of My Soul,” that she has an emotional release and cries. It says something about the power of music to help us emote and also speaks to the cultural pressures that displays of emotion show weakness and should especially not be shown by leaders.

On the Fifth Sunday of Lent our Gospel reading is about Jesus hearing of the death of his friend Lazarus, whom he goes on to raise from the dead. During this reading we hear the famous verse, “Jesus wept.” (John 11:35) He weeps not only for his own loss but out of compassion for Mary and Martha and all those affected. “When Jesus saw [Mary] weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.” (John 11:33) As was and still is the culture in that region, mourning is a very public and intense affair. Jesus rightfully takes part in the mourning and it is important to the gospel writer that this be included. We know that Jesus has shown great compassion on those around him and that his spirit is of love. But it means something to know that Jesus, the great miracle worker and fulfiller of the prophecy, can have his heart broken and that he can be moved to tears. After all, he did come to take on human nature and walk in our likeness.

We sometimes forget that Jesus journeys alongside us and instead think of him as being removed from our experience. But Christ knows the range of human emotions and trials. There are times when we appreciate the support and listening ear of friends but long for someone who really knows and has experienced our situation. Christ is that person who knows your every need, every weakness, shares your pain, and cries with you. This is why, in a former parish that I served, a parishioner suffering from terminal cancer always sat in the pew next to the eleventh Station of the Cross where Jesus is nailed to the cross. It meant a great deal to the parishioner to know that Christ was with him in his journey, not only walking beside him but also having shared in his suffering and knowing the human condition.

In a lecture I attended by the theologian Marva Dawn, she focused on the creeds of the church. During the portion on the Apostles’ Creed, she mentioned that it would be more accurate to not say “he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried” but to move the commas to read “he suffered[,] under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died and buried.” This was perhaps a rendering used in the early church. It makes it clear that Christ suffered not just under Pontius Pilate but throughout his ministry and time on earth, with his crucifixion, death and burial happening under Pontius Pilate. For we know that Christ was tempted in the wilderness, knew starvation from fasting, experienced the loss of friends, knew betrayal, endured torture, and suffered death. Christ is not removed from knowing pain, sorrow, depression, weakness, loneliness and loss.

As we journey through this intimate and beautiful season of Lent, our readings will open us up to Christ’s experience with the human condition. We need to embrace that, find comfort in it, and truly feel what Christ’s compassion and saving grace means to us. As Lutherans, we have perhaps tended to go too far in the direction of intellect and stoicism, leaving behind piety, emotion, and vulnerability. Perhaps we need more of the simple truth found in What a Friend We Have in Jesus: “Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness—take it to the Lord in prayer.” Perhaps we need to let a hymn or piece of music move us to flowing tears during worship, embracing our sorrow and letting those around us know that we are suffering and need prayer. Perhaps we need to give up on our own self-reliance and weep in the arms of Christ, knowing that he understands all and welcomes the opportunity to subside our fears, anger and pain.

As we journey through the actions and events of Lent and Holy Week, I hope that Christ is not distant but that we realize this was very human pain which was lovingly endured for each of us. Just as Jesus was greatly moved by Mary’s weeping, he is ready to offer us comfort if we offer our needs to him. I pray that this season will be one in which we open ourselves up to be moved by the message of the music and spoken word, and that we embrace our weakness and find our strength in the cross. In words from Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery, “God of all our fear and sorrow, God who lives beyond our death, hold us close through each tomorrow, love as near as every breath.”

Soli Deo Gloria!
Daniel Aune
Stetson University Concert Choir
Sunday, March 1 - 2:30 pm

Under the direction of Dr. Timothy Peter, the Stetson University Concert Choir is the university’s principal vocal touring ensemble made up of 55 auditioned vocalists that performs concerts throughout the United States and Europe. The choir has also been selected to perform for several prestigious national, regional and state professional music conferences. Their program will include works by Bach, Tchesnokov, Nystedt, and recent 21st century American composers in a variety of beautiful sacred music, beloved hymns and world folk melodies. You can’t miss this concert!

Talented faculty from the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College make up this wonderful ensemble performing music focused on women and the woodwind quintet. The program includes works by African-American composer Valerie Coleman, British composer Cecilia McDowall, American composer Amanda Harberg, an arrangement of Ravel’s Le Tombeau du Couperin, and African-American spirituals. Come and enjoy an exciting program of music for flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn and bassoon.

About Hafenmusik....
The title of the concert series comes from a desire to find something unique, to recognize our church’s German heritage, and to connect ourselves with a strong geographic landmark. This series includes a wide range of music, from brass ensemble and vocal solo to chamber orchestra and collegiate choir.

New Bulletin Format
Beginning in Lent, which starts with Ash Wednesday on February 26, our Sunday bulletin will have a new look. These changes will update and enhance our bulletin, while also reducing budget costs by using less paper and ending the purchase of bulletin covers. The new bulletin will not only be an order of worship but also a teaching tool for the liturgy, with a margin that details the history of our liturgy sections. Service music will continue to be included but we will now use our hymnals for all hymns in the service. The first and second readings will not be printed in the bulletin but can instead be found in the Bibles located in the pews. These changes help us to be better stewards of our resources while also illuminating the beautiful ritual of our liturgies.
A summary of the minutes from the Congregation Council meeting December 17, 2019:

The financial report for November showed a deficit of $21,953 ($20,230 more than budgeted) for the month and a loss of $61,639 for the year to date ($10,047 more than budgeted). Total income was $8,676 (7%) less than budgeted for the month and $38,887 (3%) less than budgeted for the year to date. Total expenses were $11,554 (10%) more than budgeted for the month and $28,841 (2%) less than budgeted for the year to date. We have an outstanding balance of $1,823,500 in the U.S. Bank Line of Credit. The nursery school had a surplus of $3,349 for the month and a surplus of $8,060 for the year to date. Interest expense on the loan to finance the exterior building renovations and the 2017, 2018 and 2019 net operating losses was $4,569 for the month and $59,872 for the year to date.

The Council reviewed and approved the auditor’s report for 2018.

The Council received reports from the pastors and staff.

Linda Citroni, Joe Brown, Louis Straker, Joan Wright, Ron Thomas and Grace Planalp were appointed members of a new Mutual Ministry Committee.

Cathy Wood-Rupert (Chair), Rich Walther, Donna Folkemer and Sally Stanfield were appointed members of a new Personnel Committee.

Stephanie Miller and Joan Wright were appointed members of a new Audit Committee.

The Congregation will sponsor a Generosity Feeds event at the Church on April 4.

Judy Merritt will transition to Interim Teacher/Director of the Nursery School.

The Council approved the Nursery School remaining open for the 2020-2021 school year.

After revising expected income from Charles Light Parking and recalculating certain staff hours and benefits costs, the proposed 2020 budget has a $20,406 deficit. The Council approved reducing the Unallocated Expense budget line by this amount to balance the budget.

Members and friends of the congregation of all ages are invited to Adult Fellowship events. Sign-up is usually two weeks before each event outside the coffee hour room or by contacting the coordinating persons. Look for further details on these and future events in the weekly Christ Church e-letter and in the Sunday worship bulletin.

Join us for our monthly Adult Fellowship Events. Please note that dates/times are subject to change. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the chair person of the scheduled event.

LUNCH & A MOVIE
SUNDAY, MARCH 22
12:30 pm in #216

Join us for a potluck, film screening and discussion.

We will gather at Christ Lutheran Church on Sunday afternoon at 12:30 pm in room #216 to share a potluck meal and view the Academy Award nominated film about the extraordinary tale of Harriet Tubman’s escape from slavery and transformation into one of America’s greatest heroes, whose courage, ingenuity, and tenacity freed hundreds of slaves and changed the course of history. All are welcome – families, couples and individuals! Please sign up in the coffee hour room. Contact Linda Hartke at linda.hartke@gmail.com

TOUR OF THE NSA CRYPTOLOGIC MUSEUM
SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Take the short drive down the B-W Parkway to the edge of Fort Meade, where a former motel has been turned into one of the most unique and fascinating (but little known) museums in the area! The docent for this free tour will be Christ Lutheran Church’s Bill Stevenson who will make this unique and largely hidden history come alive. Afterward we will go down one more exit (5 minute drive) on the Parkway, to enjoy lunch at Bob Evans (off the menu, at your expense).

Questions? Contact Jim or Colette Steinmeier or call the church office at 410-752-7179.

**Christ Lutheran Church**

**Income/Expense Statement for the year ending December 31, 2019**

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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td>(53,791)</td>
<td>1,645,042</td>
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| **Expenses**                         |               |               |                                     |                        |
| 10 - Salaries/Wages                  | 556,492       | 538,500       | 17,992                              | 460,453                |
| 11 - Benefits                        | 197,820       | 215,500       | (17,680)                            | 178,320                |
| 12 - Benevolence                     | 334,532       | 344,492       | (9,960)                             | 285,992                |
| 14 - Faith Formation                 | 22,204        | 27,900        | (5,696)                             | 22,400                 |
| 16 - Social & Caring Ministry        | 4,167         | 5,000         | (833)                               | 2,500                  |
| 17 - Evangelism & Fellowship         | 15,160        | 26,700        | (11,540)                            | 21,402                 |
| 18 - Worship & Music                 | 82,419        | 102,770       | (20,351)                            | 96,681                 |
| 20 - Administrative                  | 126,383       | 139,000       | (12,617)                            | 133,500                |
| 22 - Program Development            | 5,746         | 10,000        | (4,254)                             | 6,700                  |
| 23 - Insurance                       | 43,525        | 38,700        | 4,825                               | 40,000                 |
| 24 - Utilities                       | 108,821       | 120,000       | (11,179)                            | 120,000                |
| 25 - Maintenance                     | 189,938       | 113,000       | 70,938                              | 95,000                 |
| 26 - Capital Reserve                 | -             | -             | -                                   | 90,000                 |
| 26 - Interest                        | 64,669        | 66,180        | (1,511)                             | 60,000                 |
| 27 - Cell Expenses                   | -             | -             | -                                   | 7,500                  |
| 28 - Unallocated                     | -             | -             | -                                   | 24,594                 |
| **Total Expenses**                   | 1,745,876     | 1,747,742     | (1,866)                             | 1,645,042              |

| Net Operating Income                | (51,925)      | 0             | (51,925)                           | 0                      |
| Nursery School                      | 2,837         | 0             | 2,837                              | 0                      |
| **Net Income**                      | $(49,088)     | 0             | $(49,088)                          | 0                      |

Due to US Bank on Line of Credit $1,777,633

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**CHRIST CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL**

**OPEN HOUSE DATES**

10 am until Noon
Tuesday, March 10
Tuesday, March 24
Tuesday, April 7

Please come and observe our awesome Nursery School for 2 and 3 year olds.

We have a STREAM Program and Immersion Spanish Program for our children.

If these dates do not accommodate your schedule, individual tours can be arranged, call 410-752-7179.
Adult Education hour
Sunday mornings at 9:45 am

Calling a New Pastor
March 1
Facilitator: Bishop Bill Gohl

Bishop Gohl will discuss the call process and next steps for Christ Church to call a new pastor.

Aging: The Fulfillment of Life
March 8, 15, and 22
Teacher: Rufus Lusk #216

We are all aging. We are each a spoke on this great wheel of life, part of the ongoing cycle of growth. In aging Father Henri J.M Mouwen shares some moving and inspirational thoughts on what aging means (and can mean) to all of us, whether we’re in our youth, middle age, or later years.

Join Us in Sending Love to Immigrant Mothers

During the month of March, we will once again be signing Mother’s Day cards for detained immigrant women and women who are fleeing for their lives and the lives of their children.

After worship services on Sundays and Wednesdays, stop by the Coffee Hour room and sign some of the 500 cards we plan to prepare!

This project is supported by Christ Lutheran Social Ministry and as an Action Team supported by Thrivent Financial.

What’s happening with Sunday Morning Education for children?

We will meet February through May 17 in the gathering area on the second floor at 9:45 am - same as always

We will tell stories, sing songs, and get to know each other - same as always

We will learn about the Good Shepherd, the parables of the New Testament - same as always

We will act out stories, draw pictures, pray - same as always

We will learn about the Love of Jesus - same as always

The teachers will be Pr. Judy and Jonathan Foote - NEW!

Dear Parents,
We look forward to being with your children. Please make 2020 the year that your children gather regularly to learn about Jesus. Thanks!

We need Your Help!

This year we would like to help parents of our younger children, ages 3-11 years of age by having breakfast foods for each child at the beginning of Sunday School. We need your help to supply these foods for our children. We need: Go-Gurts, Squeeze and Go Applesauce, Granola Bars, Cereal Bars. Please leave your donations in the container marked “Food for our Future”.

Add joy to your experience of worship!

It can be a powerful experience to volunteer in support of one of our worship services – once a year or once a month! You can take part as an individual or together with your family – as communion presenters, readers, acolytes, ushers, running the sound system, or preparing the altar! Join us!

If you are interested in knowing more, speak with one of the pastors or e-mail office@christinnerharbor.org.
Caring Ministries

**Card Ministry** sends card to shut-ins and others to celebrate joys and acknowledge concerns as identified by the pastoral staff. This year so far over 221 cards have been sent. Thanks to all of those who volunteered. We welcome additional volunteers. If you have extra cards for any occasion, consider donating them to this ministry. Darlene Cole-Hope coordinates this ministry. Her email address is Coledarlene09@gmail.com or see her on Sunday morning.

**CLAIM** is part of the Delaware Maryland Synod. The annual CLAIM meeting to discuss upcoming educational, fellowship and volunteer activities will be held on **Monday, March 9** at Christ Lutheran Church in the evening. If you wish to attend to learn more about CLAIM send an e-mail to BarbaraKimbrel@verizon.net.

**Door Knocker Ministry** has been operating since October 2018. The many people who have sought assistance at the church door have received a bag with a nutritional snack, a bottle of water and a pamphlet highlighting where services are available to them in Baltimore City.

**Eucharistic Ministers** parishioners who are unable to attend church have someone visit them monthly to share the sacraments through this ministry. Speak with Pastor Judy if you would like to be part of this ministry or know a member who is in need.

**Meals for People** with special needs are prepared by Hope and Bill Collins based on requests from the pastors. Adrienne Grant and Bill Kinsley have volunteered to assist when needed.

**Prayer Chain** includes several people from our congregation who pray for others daily. Vicki Baublitz organizes and communicates any prayer requests with those who are willing to include others in their prayer. Please contact Vicki at baublitz@christinnerharbor.org or call the church office to have someone added to the prayers or to volunteer to be on the prayer chain.

**Prayer Shawl Committee** is coordinated by Lydia Brown who can be contacted lrbrown797@gmail.com. The ministry currently has a supply of various sizes of shawls, scarves and blankets and newborn hats. There is a need for "prayer squares" which are crocheted handheld reminders that someone has prayed for that person while making the square. These have become very popular among recipients as they are easily handled, are lightweight and very transportable. If you have a talent for crocheting or would like to learn please contact Lydia. There is a pattern available and they are easy to make. This is an important ministry and is something that can be done at home in your spare time.

**Stephen Ministry** brings God’s love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis.

The Caring Ministry has many useful assistive devices available to borrow. If you know someone who would like to donate a four wheeled or three wheeled rollator, ask them to consider donating to our medical equipment loan program. Contact Vicki at the church office to borrow or donate equipment.
CLC Property Committee at Work


Project status

- The committee has been busy, here’s some of the issues and projects we are tackling:

  Rose Window in back balcony: It has been pointed out that lights on the interior, designed to light the rose window from inside so that it is visible at night from the courtyard have not been working for about ten years. The committee deferred a decision to re-lamp the rose window from the interior ($1,800) until later in the year to see how expenses are going.

  Stained Glass Window over the altar has exterior lights that were designed to light that window during night services. When the roofing was replaced, the lights that were reinstalled were placed too low, and do not illuminate the window properly. A decision to raise the exterior lights to illuminate the window properly ($1,600) was also deferred until a later date.

  We will explore changing light bulbs in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall with volunteers rather than spending $4,000 to hire electricians.

  Cleaning up the stadium seating area on 3rd floor will be done with volunteers, date to be determined.

  The committee approved ordering a replacement for one of the compressors in the air conditioning system ($11,625). This must be finished before this year’s cooling season.

  Decision to evaluate our replacing the fan in the Nursery’s Boys room ourselves, rather than hiring Fidelity ($1,100), or at least getting a second proposal.

  The committee also approved replacing the hot water pump that serves the Coffee Hour room and the Pastor’s Sacristy. ($1,162)

  One of the wireless microphones used in the main Sanctuary is broken and committee approved replacing it. ($1,000).

- Some of the high priority projects that are on the committee’s list (dependent on adequate funding) include:

  Installation of fire safety (notification) equipment to cover areas in the building that at present do not have fire sensors ($54,000)

  Refinishing of the wood parquet floors on the second floor Fellowship Hall and Overflow ($12,000) to protect from further damage.

  Improve exterior lighting on the north side of the building, facing Banner Hill and the courtyard (est. $5,000) to improve building visibility and safety.

  Redecorating and/or refurbishing the public sitting area outside the Children’s Chapel.

  Improving the exterior and interior signage to help visitors figure out which doors to use to come in, and find their way once they are inside.

  Redesigning the parking lot fence along Charles Street to reduce the risk of exiting cars hitting pedestrians and also increasing the visibility of the church entrance from Charles Street. This would make the church appear more welcoming.

  The committee is in the process of developing a roster of individuals who might be willing, on a one time basis, to help with minor projects and repairs. We are also planning to participate in a possible upcoming “church work day” in the Spring.

Notes provided by Rich Walther, new Chair

Please note:

This was the last Property meeting John Geist served as Chair, having performed this role since the formation of the Property Committee several years ago. We extend our appreciation for John’s strong leadership in this area and we welcome Rich Walther as the new Property Chair!
JOIN US FOR THE NEW BEGINNINGS GALA AND HELP HOMELESS FAMILIES

Save the Date! Our New Beginnings Gala will occur on April 18, 2020. The Gala will be held in a new venue this year - The Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards - 110 S. Eutaw Street with parking on site.

It'll be a terrific time with great food and friends, an open bar with signature BOS drinks, live music from Mambo Combo Trio, exciting raffles and auctions all to benefit a very worthy cause. Trips to Paris and Tuscany and our famous liquor wagon are among our live auction offerings. Tickets are $175 and may be purchased by calling Yvonne Terry at 410.752.7179 ext. 215 or return your invitation. It is a wonderful evening to help homeless families – please come.

CONSIDER BEING A GALA SPONSOR OR HELPING US WITH SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

Please consider being a personal sponsor or business sponsor to help homeless women and children. We have sponsor opportunities available from $1,000 – $5,000. The Gala raises almost ten percent of our budget for the year, so it is very essential funding.

We can still use your help obtaining items for our silent auction. Restaurant gift certificates, trips, liquor and sporting events are our top selling items. If you frequent a restaurant or a business, please ask the owner for a gift certificate. If you have a time share or hotel that you use regularly, please ask for a gift certificate. If you have a vacation home, consider offering a week or long weekend for our auction. We are a non-profit corporation, so all gifts are tax deductible. Donations will be acknowledged in our Gala publication as well as our newsletter. We have brochures about our organization that you can give to businesses as well as a silent auction request letter. All silent auction donations are due by March 30th so we can make our publication deadlines.

A MOM HAS A NEW JOB AND A NEW HOME FOR HER FAMILY

Last week Erica and her six year old son moved to one of our homes, completely furnished that she will rent for $500 a month for the next two years. When Erica saw the house, she said, “I can’t wait to go and get my son so he will see his new home. I can’t wait to start unpacking our things and get settled into a real home.” Erica started working full time in September at Johns Hopkins University as a dispatcher and driver for the students.

Karen Adkins
Karen Adkins, Ph.D.
GIFTS GIVEN TO
BALTIMORE OUTREACH SERVICES
In memory of: Ginny Stone
By: Cathy Martin & Sue Borsuk

GIFTS GIVEN TO ENDOowment FUND
In memory of: Kathryn Callahan
By: Edward Callahan
Elizabeth Carlstrom
By: John & Laura Holland
Harry Webster Hurst, Jr.
By: John & Laura Holland

GIFTS GIVEN TO GENERAL FUND
In memory of: Elizabeth Carlstrom
By: Gail Dettwiler
Elizabeth Carlstrom
By: Marilyn Hage
Elizabeth Carlstrom
By: Ron Thomas & Lynn Mathieu
Helen & Bill Hauser
By: Elaine & Clarence Gehris
Harry Webster Hurst, Jr.
By: The Espoma Company
Harry Webster Hurst, Jr.
By: Dean Howes
Harry Webster Hurst, Jr.
By: Thelma Hurst & Family
Harry Webster Hurst, Jr.
By: Merrifield Garden Center
Harry Webster Hurst, Jr.
By: Earl & Margaret Nutting
Michael & Matthew Lee
By: Spencer & Vada Buzzard
Elsa Myers
By: Nancy Edwards
Elsa Myers
By: Helen Tennant
Elsa Myers

GIFTS GIVEN TO MAINTENANCE
In memory of: Harry Webster Hurst
By: Al Miller

GIFTS GIVEN TO MUSIC MINISTRY
In memory of: Peter & Suzanne Verkouw
By: Linda Citroni
Harry Webster Hurst
By: Al Miller

GIFTS GIVEN TO WORLD HUNGER
In honor of: LaSonja King
By: Bill & Betty Ann Stevenson
In memory of: Elizabeth Carlstrom
By: Pat Runyon

GIFTS GIVEN TO YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND
In memory of: Elizabeth Carlstrom
By: Daniel Brandt

Pastoral Acts
“You are a child of God, sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.”

Camellia Madeline Annor
December 6, 2019

Grace Noelle McKelvey
January 1, 2020

Amelia Lynn Wenck
January 12, 2020

Audrey Marie Shepard
February 16, 2020

Elizabeth Carlstrom
January 9, 2020

Suzanne Reichter Verkouw
January 11, 2020

Peter Verkouw
February 3, 2020

Tirza Chavez and Vernon George
Celebrating 25 years on March 30

Deborah & Chris Turner
Celebrating 15 years on March 19

Recorded as of: February 17, 2020
DEVOCTIONS FOR MARCH

March 1        Matthew 4:1-11
March 2        Psalm 32
March 3        Hebrews 4:14-5:10
March 4        Matthew 18:10-14
March 5        Psalm 121
March 6        Micah 7:18-20
March 7        Isaiah 51:4-8
March 8        John 3:1-17
March 9        Psalm 128
March 10       Isaiah 65:17-25
March 11       John 7:53-8:11
March 12       Psalm 95
March 13       Ephesians 2:11-22
March 14       Exodus 16:27-35
March 15       John 4:5-42
March 16       Psalm 81
March 17       1 Corinthians 10:1-4
March 18       John 7:14-31, 37-39
March 19       Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a
March 20       Ephesians 5:1-9
March 21       1 Samuel 15:32-34
March 22       John 9:1-41
March 23       Psalm 146
March 24       Isaiah 42:14-21
March 25       Luke 1:26-38
March 26       Psalm 130
March 27       Revelation 11:15-19
March 28       Ezekiel 37:1-14
March 29       John 11:1-45
March 30       Psalm 143
March 31       2 Kings 4:18-37

Christ Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your gift of $4,000 to ELCA World Hunger.

In this season of Advent, we look toward the day God comes to walk among us in human form. We feel the nearness of God’s love. Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, you are embodying that love and sharing it with your neighbors around the world. Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education.

You are joining with the whole church as we work towards a just world where all are fed. God is with us, and God is working through you. Thank you dear people of Christ Lutheran for your commitment to end hunger and poverty for good! Thank you for spreading light and love to so many in this season of hope.

In Christ,
The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations
ELCA

Dear Friends at Christ Lutheran,
Thank you so very much for your generous donation to the Community of St. Dysmas. Your gift enables us to continue to bring the Good News of God’s love and forgiveness to your siblings “inside the walls”. That Good News is transforming lives and you are a part of that transformation!

In appreciation and in Christ’s service together,
Pastor Susan Beck
Community of St. Dysmas
**SERVING CHRIST CHURCH IN OUR BUILDING:**

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call the staff at the church office at 410-752-7179 (see extensions below) or email them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>John R. Sabatelli, Pastor Emeritus</td>
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<td>Robert Brown, Sexton</td>
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<td>Andrew Miller, Jr., Sexton</td>
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**Congregation Council**

- Bernie Annor
- Pr. Patrick Ballard
- Sarah Berger
- Lydia Brown
- Pr. James Cobb, President
- Pr. Judith Cobb
- Jennifer Doonan
- Alice Eissele
- Adrienne Grant
- Gary Hacker, Treasurer
- Ben Lentz
- Lynne Mason
- Al Miller
- Paula Montgomery, Vice President
- Patrick Moulds
- Jeannette Nazarian
- Ernie Reitz
- Natalie Swanson
- Simbo Tadesse, Youth
- Cathy Wood-Rupert

**Parking for Sunday and Wednesday services and other festivals in the Arrow Parking Garage at 11 E. Lee Street**

You will need to bring your ticket into church and have it stamped on the “Lock Your Car” side.