

**CHRIST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
SAMUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

500 Village Drive
Marshall, MN 56258

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From the **PASTOR**—

More Than Mere Roses

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” John 3:16.

“What can I give to prove my love?”

With Valentine’s Day approaching you may want to consider this question. Maybe you will give a card. Maybe you will give flowers—red roses seem to be the flower of choice but I prefer carnation because they last a lot longer. If you’re a romantic, you might plan something special—maybe a candle-lit dinner without the kids or a surprise get-away.

In the Bible, we hear about what God gave to prove his love for us. In the book of John it says, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

God didn’t just pick out a cute card or buy some roses for us. To prove his love, he gave his Son for us. And the greatness of God’s love is seen in what he gave his Son to do. When Jesus came to earth, he was given to a world that hated him; he was given to humiliation and torture, and ultimately, to death on a cross. As a parent, to give my child to suffer all of this is unimaginable. It would be nearly impossible to give so much for someone else. Can you relate? Yet God willingly gave his one and only, dearly loved Son for us.

So why did God do it? Because in the suffering of God’s Son we see the penalty for our sins. God chose to punish his Son instead of us.

God did this to prove his love for you. He loves you so much that he gave his Son to die your death. He loves you so much that he will give eternal life to you and all who believe.

This Valentine's Day please reflect on the One who proved his love by giving more than mere roses; he gave his Son.

COUNCIL CORNER

Dear Members of Christ Lutheran Church -

All too often we take for granted the many blessings showered upon us each and every day. However instead of looking within and considering where we could perhaps be more appreciative, we tend to only really notice when we feel others take for granted what we have to offer. Well in trying to determine what aspect of our Church to write about for this Council Corner segment, I paused to reflect on all our Church (and School) has to offer. It did not take me long to realize I take way too much for granted!! I mean after all, shouldn't our church, the place we go to worship our Lord and Savior, the entity that is constantly focusing on ways to spread the Gospel to others, shouldn't this be the greatest blessing we have?

Between the Church and School, there are so many examples where God's Word is being proclaimed. We have an incredibly dedicated Pastor that leads us in worship dozens of services each year, not to mention puts in countless hours attending to shut-in's, visiting those that are ill, etc. We have talented organists, pianists, choir and other musicians that help beautify our services. Bible studies for confirmed members and Sunday school for youth are held on most Sundays. Throughout the school year, our talented and dedicated school faculty members educate our children in their knowledge of God's Word, while simultaneously providing an excellent academic experience. On almost any given day throughout the week, you can be sure to find some member or committee attending to the business of the church and/or school. These are just a few highlights but think about how rich these blessings really are.

So I guess as we enter into yet another New Year, I encourage all of us to take pause from the hectic day to day activities, and consider all that our church and school have to offer. Maybe ask yourself the question, "Can I be more involved". Or perhaps take some time to Thank any of our dedicated called workers and fellow members for all they do. Most importantly, if you do nothing else, go in prayer to Thank him who provides all of this, our Lord and Savior, and pray for continued blessings.

God's Blessings to all of you,

Craig Heil – President, Christ Lutheran Church

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES ON ASH WEDNESDAY

Part of our preparation for the season of Lent includes our celebration of the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. For those who are new to our congregation I am reprinting the reasons behind and also our procedure for this ancient custom.

Custom:

Ash Wednesday derives its name from a custom of the imposition of ashes that reflects the theme of Lent - repentance. Lent is not Holy Week but a preparation for Holy Week. We prepare first with a sober evaluation of ourselves in the light of God's Law. This attitude of repentance and the sense of mortality produced by the Law (we are sinners who will die!) was invariably connected with ashes, as in the Messianic 102nd Psalm, "For I eat ashes as my food and mingle my drink with tears." Jesus referred to this practice of wearing ashes as an indication of what was in the heart, "Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes" (Matthew 11:21). Ashes are also a symbol of our mortality, more than a symbol - a future reality for all of us, "Dust you are and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:19). Abraham, the man of faith, understood this. "I am nothing but dust and ashes," he proclaimed to God (Genesis 18:27). The custom of sprinkling earth or dust or ashes over a casket before burial reflects this truth. The first of Dr. Martin Luther's 95 Theses reads, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent!' (Matthew 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance." A penitent heart is a humble heart, a penitent heart is one aware of its own mortality. Prepared with a penitent and humble heart we are ready to hear the glorious good news that "with Christ there is forgiveness of sins, and where there is forgiveness of sins there is also life and salvation" (Small Catechism). The austere Ash Wednesday Service reflects the character of the penitent heart! The ancient and Lutheran practice of the imposition of ashes contributed to this reflection. Unfortunately, it has fallen into disuse in many of our "Lutheran" churches. But through this day and season of repentance, we are once again directed to Christ, in whom alone there is life, and of whom Job sang, "I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes - I and not another. How my heart yearns within me" (Job 19:25-27).



Procedure:

We offer this ancient and traditional rite for those who wish to participate. **Please keep in mind that you are not required to take part in this aspect of the service if you do not wish to! It is only for those who, at present, feel comfortable with the practice.** Early on in the service the ushers will direct those who desire to receive ashes to come forward and stand before the Altar, where the minister will apply ashes to the forehead of each person with the words: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return! Members will approach the Altar and return like we do for Holy Communion. Unlike the Lord's Supper children are also invited to come forward, at their parent's discretion, and participate. As with anything we do in worship we do it to the glory of God and to edify God's people. We pray that that is what will happen. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Pastor and he will be happy to speak to you about this matter.

“THE SON OF GOD GOES FORTH TO WAR”

Many picture Jesus in robes, holding a shepherd's staff and guiding his sheep. Others see him crowned and bright, sitting on a throne in heaven. Less commonly today, we recognize him as the brave and often-opposed soldier the Word tells us he is. This Lenten season, we will see *The Son of God Goes Forth to War*. During our time together we will take a thoughtful look at Christ's role as a warrior by reflecting on Scripture's telling of the battle against sin and death that Jesus fought and won for us. Most important, these Wednesday evening services will help you focus on the tremendous courage, humility, and power of our Savior--and his ultimate victory! This year we will be in a pulpit rotation with three other clergy taking part. They are Pastor Adam Manian who serves in Vesta and Echo; Pastor Eugene Andrus of Balaton and Tyler and Pastor Michael Muehlenhardt from the ELS church in Cottonwood.

LENTEN MEALS

Many members really enjoy our Lenten meals. They are served prior to worship each Wednesday during Lent from 5:30-6:30 PM. We hope you will join us for this wonderful fellowship opportunity. Our youth groups help with these meals and proceeds are divided up between the groups.

Desserts: We are again asking the members to provide desserts. You can choose what day you would like to provide treats by signing up on the sheets on the table by the bulletin board. Thanks.

PUBLIC SCHOOL CONFIRMATION CLASS

Don't forget that during Lent we will meet at the church from 5-6:15 on Wednesday evenings. You can then join your parents in the basement for supper before our Lenten Vespers service.

PIONEERS

The pioneers met on January 13 for a class on manners and proper etiquette. Now, if they only remember a few things! We will meet in February on the 9th. Hope to see you there.

CLYF

One of the topics for our meeting, the main topic, was talking about the WELS international youth rally this summer. We are encouraging our high school youth to join us on Sunday, February 16 at 2:00 PM for a service project, stuffing bags for Food 4 Kids. In March we will be heading to Tracy to do a few lines of bowling.

HOUSE AND PROPERTY SALE

It was voted on by a majority of the voters present at the meeting to sell the house and property at 410 Village Dr. Since that time, it was found out that the state of Minnesota has more "rules" for non-profits that need to be followed. Below you will see the notice that needs to appear in the bulletin for four weeks before the meeting can take place. At the meeting the vote has to pass by a 2/3 majority. Please read the notice below and take note that the meeting to vote to sell or not sell the house and property will take place on Sunday, February 16 after the late service about 11:30.

Notice of Special Meeting: A meeting of the congregation of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church a/k/a The Christus German Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession of Marshall, Minnesota, will be held on February 16, 2020 at 11:30 AM at 208 West Marshall Street, Marshall, MN 56258, for the purpose of approving the sale of the following described real estate to L2G, LLC and/or assigns for the sum of \$235,000.00:

The Northerly 160 feet of the Southerly 564.27 feet of Outlot D of the Villages as measured along the East line thereof, in the City of Marshall, according to the recorded plat thereof.

BELIEVE IN OUR FUTURE

You should have received a mailing from the Long Range Planning Committee that talked about findings from work that they have been doing over the past few years. They have set up a couple of congregational meetings that you can attend to find out more of what they found as well as hear their proposed action. The meetings, that they hope ALL members will attend, are going to be held on Sunday, February 9 between services starting at about 9:20 or after the late service about 11:30. The other meeting date and time will be on Sunday, February 16, between services starting at about 9:20. All of these meetings will be the same; they just want to offer different days and times to hopefully meet the needs of everyone.

FOOD 4 KIDS

On Sunday, February 16th from 2 - 4 pm Christ will be packing snack bags for the non-profit Food 4 Kids. All supplies are provided, we just need to do the assembly line packing, put the correct number of bags in totes and clean-up the area when we are done. We are hoping to have enough people helping so that we can have 2 sets of tables packing - which would pack enough bags for 2 weeks. This means a minimum of 20 people - young, old, or in between. If we have enough people we can do 3 weeks!! Please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex so we have an idea of how many people plan to help. This activity takes place in the basement of Agape church (corner of N 3rd and N High streets).



RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

HyVee and Lyon County have joined forces to challenge area schools to Recycle Beyond the Bag. This program challenges area schools to recycle plastic shopping bags and plastic film not only from their school environment but also from school children's home. This challenge will help families understand that beyond the recycling curbside cart and the community recycling drop sites, there is more that we can do to recycle unwanted items. Samuel has signed up to participate in this challenge. You can help us in this challenge by bringing in the following items to the recycling bins located in each entry way at school: produce bags, store bags, ice bags, Ziploc and other reclosable bags, cereal box liners, case overwrap, bread bags, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap, and plastic e-commerce mailers.

ROUNDUPS

Kindergarten Round-Up at Samuel Lutheran School will be **Monday, February 10th**. The evening will begin downstairs in the Kindergarten room at 6:00 PM with cookies and refreshments. There will be activities for the children to do while parents get to know the teacher and learn all about the day of a kindergartener! We will begin with a read aloud around 6:15 and then will dive into the daily schedule. If you are planning on attending, please call the school office at 532-2162 . Preschool Round-up will also be held on **Monday, February 10th** from 6:30-7:00 PM in the preschool classroom. Please contact the office if you will be attending. Hope to see everyone there!



SLS NEWS AND NOTES

At the end of January, we celebrated "Lutheran Schools Week" where we invited Dads to come in and have a doughnut with their child(ren) before school started on Tuesday and Moms to come in and have a muffin with their child(ren) before school started on Thursday. We also did a service learning project where school families and others donated items that the children then packed into "care bags" that were handed out to people with disabilities living in Marshall. A big thank you to all that donated items to this cause. We pray that the children learned an important lesson of being able to help those that are in need even within our own neighborhoods. Our school spelling bee for grades 5-8 was held on Tuesday, January 14. Congratulations to all that spelled and specifically to Austin Rubendall who was our school champion and heads to the regional spelling bee in Redwood Falls on Tuesday, February 4. Our second semester began on January 21 and our chapel offerings this semester will be going to MLC's Equipping Christian Witnesses. This is a two-year capital campaign which will celebrate the 2020 silver anniversary of MLC. The title, "Equipping Christian Witnesses," reflects not only the mission of MLC—to train a corps of Christian witnesses to meet WELS ministry needs—but also the pillars of this campaign: student recruitment, student financial aid, and student facilities. To learn more about this campaign please visit <https://mlc-wels.edu/mlc-campaign/> Basketball is in full swing right now and you can find our schedule of games on our church/school website or by going to this address bit.ly/SLSbasketball Please continue to keep Samuel's teachers, staff, students, and families in your prayers that God continues to bless our school throughout the year 2020.

LADIES AID & MISSION SOCIETY

The Ladies Aid and Mission Society did not meet in January.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Submitted by Ryan Palmer—December 9, 2019

Members Present: Pastor Schreiner, Arlen Meyer, Ryan Obry, Kevin Lee, Wes Hoflock, Lennis Kennedy, Lucas Tietz, Tom Werner, James Hartke, Mark Patzer, Rick Kobylinski, Ryan Palmer. **Guests:** Craig Heil, Adam Henning

Pastor opened with devotion and prayer. Minutes from the board meeting were read modified and accepted by motion from Mark Patzer, second by Arlen Meyer, passed.

Pastor's Report: Pioneers and CLYF in recess for the month of December. KMHL radio broadcasting issues have hopefully been resolved with hardwiring the system in the church. Christmas candy bags will be filled December 21st during children's program practice. Long Range Planning Committee proposed a congregational meeting on potential staffing. Next meeting December 10th. Council had discussion on organ at church. The organ is 30 years old and has begun to have some issues. Council agreed that a form of campaign will be organized to raise funds for a new organ. Scholarship recipients: Andrew Heil, Paxton Schultz, Brayden Schultz, and Sarah Werner. All are attending GPLHS and will have \$1,606 split evenly. Jesus Cares Ministry Christmas Concert December 19 at 6:30 at church. Middle School Fun Night Monday, December 30th 6:30-9 at the school. No objections from the Council to post Christmas ad in newspaper, radio, Facebook, etc. Will use funds from Evangelism fund. Light Up the Night parade went well. CELC sponsored the Night of Saturday, December 7. Installation of new Board member will be December 15. Annual Meeting January 19, 2020. New office computers ordered for Secretary and Pastor.

Board of Elders: Motion by Board of Elders and second by Wes Hoflock to transfer Rebekah Zander from CELC to St. Paul's Jordan ,MN, passed.

Financial Secretary: Reviewed Balance Sheet

Treasurer: Reviewed Statements

Stewardship/Endowment: No Report

Evangelism: Lennis Kennedy touched on the various Light Up the Night events that CELC took part in.

Education: One-to-one education coming soon. Computers for that program are on their way as well. Looking into a new tray

and dish washer in school kitchen. Touched on upcoming class sizes. PTF advent sponsored meal proceeds going to new swing set for pre-school area. Tuition increase for the next school year.

Maintenance: Fixed leak in school kitchen. Need to replace fire exit door in Pre-school room. Will get estimate to replace some windows in some of the other classrooms.

Worship: Advent services approaching. Christmas services coming

OLD BUSINESS: No Council Corner writer for January
Councilmen on Duty 8am Mark Patzer 10:30 Lennis Kennedy
Adam Henning discussed about what we will be doing with the video recordings of our services moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS: GPLHS Association Membership tabled by Pastor. Questions were raised about a camper in the parking lot. December 15 call meeting and special meeting to vote on 410 property sale. Council Positions for 2020: President- Craig Heil, Secretary-Ryan Palmer, Treasurer-Kevin Lee, Elder-Arlen Meyer Finance- Tom Werner and Mark Patzer, Maintenance- Wes Hoflock and James Hartke, Evangelism- Lennis Kennedy, Stewardship- Adam Henning, Education-Rick Kobylinski, Activities- Doug Goodrich

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Submitted by Rick Kobylinski—December 3, 2019

Attendees: Mr. Ryan Obry, Pastor Schreiner, Mike Prah, Darik Lyons, Justin Schultz, Rick Kobylinski, Aaron Krenz, and Adam Baumann

Mr. Obry opened the meeting with devotion, prayer, and read the chief objectives of Samuel Lutheran School.

Preschool Report: Survey: 12 responses but are waiting on 8 yet (for next year) 6 yes for Pre-K, 1 no for Pre-K, 5 yes for K (3 that are members, 2 non-members)

Closed in December: Pre-K will be open – 6 currently signed up over Christmas break. Mr. Obry will look more into numbers for K -8 to see if it is feasible to have that open during Christmas break as well. Summer Care: Discussion about Summer Care and numbers of children in the program. Mr. Obry will have Sarah work on getting more accurate numbers of children for summer care. **Motion** by Mike to take a vote to council to delay the call process. **Motion failed** due to a lack of a second. The call process will continue. Playground: Playground was destroyed during a windstorm. Mr. Obry stated the hope is to have it

replaced this spring using Thrivent and other funds to pay for the replacement. Wheeled Cart for games: Teachers requested a cart to hold/haul games so they can be moved more easily around the school. A Thrivent card has been acquired to either pay for building a cart or purchasing a cart. Mr. Obyr/staff would look into either option.

Minutes: Minutes were read, amended, and approved.

Financial Report: Read and approved.

Tuition Rates: Discussion was had regarding tuition rates.

Motion by Darik to increase tuition for members by \$50/child and an increase of \$100/child for everyone else. **Seconded** by Justin.

Motion passed.

Old Business: Yearbook: Ryan is looking into it. Student Teachers: Kristina Gonzales is with Mrs. Manian. Emma Schibbelhut is with Mrs. MacArthur.

Technology Fund:

1) More Yogas? Tabled

2) Update Teacher Laptop(s) – Ryan got an estimate

3) Projector for preschool room – Ryan is working on it

G Suite: Would just be for 3-8th Grades. Approved by consensus for them to use the G-Suite.

Sports Physicals: Nothing new

Dates/Activities: P/T Conference (11/7), No School & Faculty In Service (11/8), Forensics Meet (11/21), Sing in Church (11/24), Thanksgiving Break (11/28-11/29). All went well

New Business: Faucet/Sprayer in Dishwasher Area: Sprayer/ Faucet is barely working. Justin provided a few quotes on different sprayers. **Motion** by Justin to purchase the Fisher faucet for \$214.99. **Seconded** by Adam. **Motion passed.**

K-8 before school: Mr. Obyr stated there have been some issues with students being unsupervised after being dropped off in the mornings before school. Discussion regarding the issues. Mr. Obyr will keep looking at options to remedy the situation.

Upcoming Classes: K – 7 Students, 1st – 8 Students, 2nd – 8 Students. Mr. Obyr brought this to our attention as due to the class sizes, when they get to 3rd-5th Grades and are in one classroom, it will be a tight fit. Discussion about possible options was had. Parental Directory: Ryan will look into putting that together for the next school year. Singing at Area Churches: Ryan will look into it for next year. Snow Removal: Discussion

Families Update – Family requested info from Mr. Obyr. Mr. Obyr hasn't heard back from them since.

Faculty Handbook (Review: Leave of Absence; New: 29-33)

Next Meeting: January 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor closed with prayer.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Corner of Third and Marshall Streets
Mailing address: 500 Village Drive, Marshall, MN 56258
Phone: (507) 532-2162
E-Mail: christluth@christlutheran-marshallmn.org
Website: www.christlutheran-marshallmn.org
Pastor Keith Schreiner (507) 828-3333

Worship Services

Sundays: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

(Memorial Day-Labor Day: Sunday: 9:00 AM, Monday: 7:00 PM)

(Advent & Lent: Wednesdays - 7:00 PM)

Holy Communion: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

Service Broadcast times

KMHL Radio Station at 8:00 AM on Sundays
VAST cable channel 17 and Charter cable channel 180
at 11:30 AM Thursday and 8:30 PM Friday

Samuel Lutheran School

500 Village Drive, Marshall, MN 56258
Phone: (507) 532-2162
E-mail: samuel@christlutheran-marshallmn.org

Principal: Mr. Ryan Obry

Teachers: Mrs. Amy MacArthur Mrs. Renee Manian
Miss Tabitha Mays Mrs. Kali Westenberg

