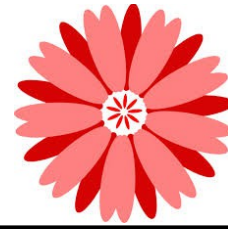


May 2016

Christ Lutheran church hurch



Dear Friends in Christ,

This is my last Nugget letter. I was trying to think of something profound to say, but I couldn't come up with anything. I shared this little excerpt by Mike Yaconelli in his book Getting Fired for the Glory of God before. I think it's a good way to end.

When I was 20, I knew everything about Jesus. I swaggered into high schools afraid of no one's arguments. The Bible was true, Jesus was God, and we all needed him. I still believe those things, but the swagger is more like a limp now. I know Jesus, but I don't know much about him. I love the Bible – it's even more true to me today than it was 40 years ago – but the truth I see now is much more complicated and mysterious. Jesus is very real to me, but he is also elusive. Sometimes I wonder if I am following him, or he's following me. Life has left its scars on me. My soul is thick and leathery, faded and torn, knocked around a lot. I'm not as sure of things as I used to be. Yet here's the amazing part, the one absolute I cannot shake: Jesus. As many times as I have disappointed him, as often as I have run from him, he hasn't given up on me. Every time I turn around, he's there. Every time I run from him, he's there. I don't know as much about Jesus as I used to, but I do know one thing for sure: He's closer.

As I have grown older, I find my faith has grown simpler, I have fewer answers and more questions, and I appreciate the mystery of God and faith more than ever. But the most important thing I have learned is that it's all right because searching and struggling are better than thinking you have all the answers.

Four final things:

In confirmation we continually remind the youth that we operate on the KISS Principle (Keep It Simple Stupid). Remember Christianity is simple. Don't make it complicated. It might be hard to live out but it is simple.

Christianity is about relationships: our relationship to God, our relationship to one another (the people of God) and our relationship to a hurting world. Remember to find a balance among all three.

Remember to take time to have coffee with Jesus each day. Occasionally treat yourself to a doughnut. Remember to buy one for Jesus as well. If he doesn't eat his, it's all right for you to finish it for him.

Thank you for sharing your lives with me and with my family. Words cannot express my feelings for you and our life together these past twenty-four years. Thank You

Yours in Christ

Pastor Randy

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COUNCIL MINUTES - April

Phone Conference with Bishop Wickstrom

The Bishop reviewed the process of finding an interim pastor and scheduling services for the summer months. She has identified a possible interim candidate: Dan Bollard. Denise will schedule a time for the council to meet with Dan Bollard.

OLD BUSINESS

Blue Tooth Speaker System: Third headset for the speaker system has arrived.

Bathroom/Storage Unit Updates: Tom Seggerman gave an estimate of the changes and improvements. Denise reviewed and explained the items and estimates listed. The process of getting this done would entail : Meet with Tom and establish what some of the "jobs" are that can be done by CLC members. Send a letter with a drawing out to the membership. Have a question and answer time with a drawing posted in the entryway on April 24th. Have the membership vote on May 1st.

Worship/Music: Plans are made for worship services till interim pastor arrives.

Bank items: Deb Delker is working on obtaining credit card. Signature cards need to be changed in May.

Randy's Retirement Celebration: Sue Stein and Jeanna Carver are planning the after worship service celebration. Council members may be contacted for their help.

Food Hub: Handout shared by Denise. Denise met with Heidi and Steve and they plan on starting up in May. Building use fee will be paid to the Food Pantry and per their policy all food left over will be donated to the Food Pantry. Kathy Carson's phone number given to them for contact.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit: We need to have an audit done after the first of May. John Clonan volunteered to work with Kathy Gensel to complete the audit.

Exit Interview: Denise shared that there will be an exit interview in May with Bishop Wickstrom. Denise, Randy, and one other will need to be in attendance.

MOTHER'S DAY



Sunday, May 8th we will celebrate Mother's Day.

As part of our celebration we will have our Annual Mother's Day Breakfast from 9:30-10:45 AM. If you would like to help or if you have any questions, please contact Ken Harper at 283-3929.

GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 1st we will have our Annual Blessing of our high school graduates.

This year's graduates are:

Conner Johnson and Delany Crosby-Schneid

We hope you will come and celebrate this special time in their families.



COMMUNION DATES

11:00 AM Service, 1st & 3rd Sunday, May 1st and 15th
6:00 PM Service, 2nd and 4th Sunday, May 8th and 22th

CROCHETING THEIR WAY MINISTRY



We are collecting yarn for women at Wildwood Prison who are crocheting articles for people in the community. There is a box outside of Randy's office for your donations.

Pastor Randy's retirement



Sunday, May 22nd, Pastor Randy and Sharry are retiring and Christ Lutheran is making plans to celebrate. Worship service at 11:00 AM, Lunch at 12:30 PM, and music, skits, and announcements, etc. at 1:15 PM. If you would like to help or have any questions about the celebration, contact Sue Stein (262-2841) and she will get you involved.

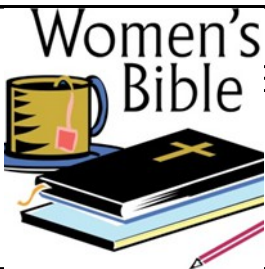
CONFIRMATION

On Sunday, May 15th we will celebrate with a number of our young people and their families as they affirm their baptisms at the 11:00 AM Worship Service.

This year's confirmands are: **Brooke Belluomini, Levi Benner, Hannah Delker, Alex Nisler, and Damien Redder.**



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



The Women's Bible Study meets Friday at 11:30 AM. Each lesson stands on its own, so if you miss one week you can come to the next one and not be behind. If you have questions call Barb Norbeck 335-1040. May 20th will be the last class until September.

BROTHER FRANCIS SHELTER



For those who have a homeless life on the street can be harsh. Used winter gear and clothing including shoes, boots, hats, scarves, socks, etc. can be collected. Handmade items are appreciated. Items can be dropped off at the church and they will be delivered to one of the homeless shelters. Contact Sandy 262-7460 or sandyalaska@gmail.com for more information.

LUNCH BUNCH - CALLING ALL LADIES!!!!

Ladies: The Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, May 10th at 11:30 AM at Gingers in the Peninsula Center Mall.



Remember in Prayers:

Healing for: Dan Johnson's student who fell, had a concussion and has not returned to school; Marlene's daughter-in-law living in Portland, Levi Benner's shoulder; Rhonda Dolifka; Roxie's aunt's friend who has masses in body; Dennis Alder's mom who is ill and wisdom for her doctors; Natasha's friend in Philadelphia; Lynne Sandahl who is dealing with an auto-immune disease; Jim Andrews having heart problems; Jim Delker's niece dealing with kidney issues; Marsy's dad with back pain and other problems. Sandee Simon's friend with genetic problems; Katie MacLeod's lung problems; Dennis Bible's cousin's granddaughter, Emily recovering from an automobile accident; Stephanie Bouchard dealing with lupus; Darnell Schneider dealing with health problems-wisdom for her doctors; Belle Warren dealing with complications from back surgery.

Continued Prayer for those with cancer: Twyla Mundy's friend undergoing chemotherapy; Gwen's friend Sherry undergoing treatment for cancer; Pearson's friend, Scott; Matt Altobelli's brother-in-law's mom; Lori Weimer's father; Scott Cunninham's sister; Joann's friend, Marilyn; Ted Kreger with a rare form of cancer; Kathy Gensel's friend with breast cancer; Norma Forbs and her husband both battling cancer; Marlene Pearson's friend; Sue Bigg's friend, Jerry; Deanne Pearson's friend in Seattle and her sister with breast cancer; Lana Syverson's brother-in-law; Sandy Knutson; Dee Richard's brother, Bob; Leslie Virelli; Michael Hollinger's mom; Polly Crawford; Katie MacLeod's nephew, Joe Auld; John Brewer's brother, Glenn; Dee Richard's five year old grand niece; Rochelle Schneider's son-in-law, Tom; Dick Evenson; Chris Stiuve's family friend diagnosed with brain cancer; Renee Henderson's and JoAnn Hagen's friend.

Strength for: Sue Seggerman's daughter's friend recovering from organ transplants and having a difficult time; Renee's friend dealing with alcoholism; Barb Roper recovering from surgery; Twyla's friend dealing with Alzheimer's; Roxie's brother so he can be more independent; Betty Wittenberg's father dealing with Parkinson's; Robin Castleman's brother suffering from depression; Marlene Pearson's son, Mark, who has ALS; Marcy's Dad recovering from surgery.

Prayers for: Safe travel for Mark's mother coming back to Alaska; Sue Stein's younger brother being tested for ALS; Carly Miller recovering from brain surgery; Safety for Sandee Simon's cousin and her family on mission trip; safe travel for Marlene Pearson's son Mark and his wife as they travel to Japan; Bill Thompson's mother's health problems; Kelly Harro looking for work; peace in the world; those suffering from depression; an end to racial prejudice; peace in Somalia, Robin Castleman's niece's twins, Patrick and Andrew; Palestine; Israel, Nigeria, Middle East, Syria and Ukraine; safety for those in the military; protection for Jamie Willard's husband in Afghanistan; wisdom for the leaders of our country and world; the unemployed; guidance for a friend who is having suicidal thoughts; Synod prayer partner - Shishmaref Lutheran.

Thanksgiving for: Robin and George 40th anniversary; Levi Benner's shoulder therapy going well; Martha Nelson is back home; Marcy's dad's surgery went well.

Comfort for: John Christianson whose sister passed away; Jim Delker's friend's mother passed away Jenny Fallon's family on the death of her father; children around the world who are in orphanage; Sue Seggerman's sister who lost her son last March.



Vacation bible school - july 25th 9:00 am



CHURCH CHOIR PRACTICES



For all of those who like to make a joyful noise to the Lord, the church choir practices on Sunday mornings from 10:00-10:45 in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any question contact Anna Veach (334)349-3046.

COMING THIS SUMMER.....
~~ADOPT A FLOWER BASKET..... CARE SHARE LAWN CARE..... VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL~~



FIRST THURSDAY BLUE GRASS JAM



We invite you to join us at the "1st Thursday Blue Grass Jam" to be held at Christ Lutheran Church on Thursday, May 5th @ 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM.

This evening is for those wanting to "jam" or for those wanting to listen to others jam. Please join us, you will love it!

FOOD PANTRY



We are collecting items for the Soldotna Community Food Pantry. In March a truckload of boxes were distributed serving 270 adult and 134 children. The pantry is seeking volunteers. Bagging begins Wednesdays at 10:00 AM and you are welcome to come anytime during the day or for the afternoon. Peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit, canned entrees, ravioli, pork and beans, etc. are always needed. If you are shopping and wish to buy extra food for the pantry, please drop it by the church and we will get it to the pantry. Small bottles of shampoo, bars of soap, tooth paste, etc. are also needed. Of course, money is always appreciated. There is a donation container on the table for your gifts. If you wish to help with the staffing any Wednesday (10:00 AM to 2:00 PM), please call Cosette at 262-7610.

Food Pantry Donations Needed



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Soldotna AK 99669

PO Box 508
Soldotna AK 99669
Return Service Requested.

Christ Lutheran Mission Statement:

Knowing Christ

Empowering His Followers

Making Him Known To Others

Please Call Us ... 262-4757

We want to include you in our prayers, arrange for pastoral visits, and announce information to the congregation, when appropriate. Please notify the church office as soon as possible when:

A member of your family or someone you know dies.

You or someone you know is ill or grieving.

You or someone you know is in the hospital.

You or someone you know wants to plan a baptism, wedding or celebration.

You move or change telephone numbers.