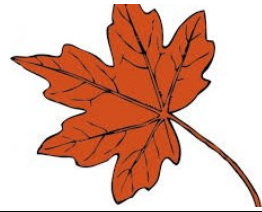


NOVEMBER 2014

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Dear Friends in Christ,

There are some days when you have to wonder what is happening to the world. Turn on the news, read the paper, or surf the news on the Internet and it is easy to simply shake our heads in disgust. Conflicts in the Middle East, the terror threats of ISIS, shootings and knifings, kidnapping and rape, the homeless and the hungry, a Congress that refuses to work together, millions of people having their credit card information hacked on a daily basis, the cloud being hacked and private pictures being posted on the Internet, the ebola scare, and I've only scratched the surface. It can cause people to become depressed and worse yet to live in fear.

There are times we wonder is there any hope. It is easy to withdraw and feel as if we are simply being pulled along by the current of life and there is nothing we can do about it. Now, you can call me foolish, but I believe we can do something about it. I believe there are millions of good things happening each day that are changing the world, but they get lost and pushed aside. I believe we do make a difference and there is hope for the world.

Let me share a story I ran across in the [Christian Science Monitor](#):

"The easiest 50 bucks I ever spent." That's what the Michigan police officer said after purchasing a booster seat for a 5-year-old girl who was riding without a car seat. This instance of gift-giving began as an ordinary traffic stop. Last Friday, Emmett Township Department of Public Safety Officer Ben Hall stopped a vehicle in the southwest Michigan community after someone reported there was a young child riding without a car seat. Alexis DeLorenzo and her daughter were driving in the car of a friend who was at the wheel.

When they were stopped, Ms. DeLorenzo grew worried. She thought they were going to get a ticket. She told the officer she had recently fallen on hard times and could not afford a seat for her daughter. Her car had been repossessed with her daughter's booster seat still inside, Fox 17 News reports. "We're living paycheck to paycheck, hand to mouth, borrowing money from friends," she said.

Instead of writing the woman a ticket, Officer Hall told her to meet him at a Walmart in 15 minutes. There, he bought a booster seat for her daughter. The act "changed my life," DeLorenzo said. "I'm never going to forget him. And neither will my daughter." "A ticket doesn't solve the situation," Hall told Fox 17 News. "What solves it is the child being in the booster seat like she should be."

We don't have to change the whole world, but each day every one of us can do some small thing that will help to mend the rips and tears in the fabric of life. If you think I'm unrealistic that's all right. I don't believe so. Jesus tells us, "Don't be afraid" and with him at our side we cannot fail.

Yours in Christ

Pastor Randy

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ANNUAL LUTEFISK DINNER



Saturday, November 8th

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Invite your friends and come enjoy a great evening of lutfisk, Swedish meatball, lefse, coleslaw, potatoes, corn, and dessert.

The Annual Lutfisk Dinner will take place Saturday, November 8th from 5:00-7:00 PM.

Sign up sheets and recipes for meatballs and coleslaw are on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Larson at 283-9293.

THE ADVENT CONSPIRACY



Perhaps some of you have begun your Christmas shopping or are considering starting soon. As you begin making your plans, please consider the Advent Conspiracy. The story of Christ's birth is a story of promise, hope, and revolutionary love. So what happened? What was once a time to celebrate the birth of a Savior has somehow turned into a season of stress, traffic jams, and shopping lists. And when it is all over,

many of us are left with presents to return, looming debt that will take months to pay off, and this empty feeling of missed purpose. What if Christmas were to become a life changing event?

Welcome to the Advent Conspiracy. This year, as in the previous 2 years, we don't want to change the whole world, but we do want to change one village. More than a billion people worldwide lack access to clean water. A woman or child in sub-Saharan Africa will walk an average of 3.7 miles every day to get water, not all of it clean. Helping a community construct and maintain a well opens a world of opportunity. This year we would like to collect enough money to furnish one village with a well and change their world. The cost is \$2,500. If you want to see what difference a well can make in the life of a village and what some of the conditions are in sub-Saharan Africa read *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park. There are a few copies in the entryway of the church. You are welcome to borrow one and read it. It is a quick read, but certainly one that will touch your heart. There are also copies of *The Advent Conspiracy* in the entryway. Take one, read it, share it, and try out a few of the ideas to make your Advent and Christmas more meaningful.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING



The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, November 9th immediately following the 11:00 AM worship service. Lunch and child care will be provided. On Sunday, October 26 and November 2 members of the Church Council and the Finance Committee will be available following the 11:00 Worship Service to answer any questions you might have or to listen to any concerns you might like to discuss with them prior to the meeting. If you feel God is calling you to serve on the church council contact Keith Pieh, Ted Johnson, Denise Harro, John Clonan, Cheryl Romatz, Mark Larson, Jon Lillevik, or Pastor Randy.

COMMUNION DATES

11:00 AM Service, 1st and 3rd Sunday, November 2nd and 16th
6:00 PM Service, 2nd and 4th Sunday, October 9th and 23rd

ANNUAL HARVEST POTLUCK



Annual Thanksgiving Celebration

Sunday, November 23rd

We will give God thanks for all of his blessings in our lives at both worship services. There will be a Thanksgiving Soup Lunch following the 11:00 AM Service. We will provide chicken soup, chili, and beverages. Please bring bread, crackers, veggies, cheese or a pumpkin dessert to round out the meal.

There will be a free will offering to help cover the cost of the dinner.

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.

BROTHER FRANCIS SHELTER



Winter is just around the corner. When you are homeless, life on the street can be harsh, and the colder it gets the more harsh it can become. New, clean and lightly used winter gear and clothing including shoes, boots, hats, scarves, socks, etc. continue to be collected. Handmade items are appreciated. Drop off items at the church and they will be delivered to one of the homeless outreach agencies. Contact Sandy 262-7460 or sandyalaska@gmail.com for more information. Thanks!

LUNCH BUNCH - CALLING ALL LADIES!!!!



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

CHOIR



The Church Choir practices on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Anna Veach at (334) 349-0346.

Remember in Prayers:

Healing for: Barb Soderstrom recovering from surgery; Marlene Pearson's son's broken arm; two SoHi football players injured during the football game; Etta Mae's friend Rosy with a broken pelvis in two places; Bev Wahl's son-in-law recovering from colon surgery; Lyn Hodel recovering from a broken leg; Marsy's dad with back pain and other problems; Sandee Simon's friend with genetic problems; Joan Corr; Katie MacLeod's lung problems; Dennis Bible's cousin's granddaughter, Emily, recovering from an automobile accident; Stephanie Bouchard who is dealing with lupus; Darnell Schneider - dealing with health problems-wisdom for her doctors; Ruth and John Clare's daughter, Hannah, 30 years old had a stroke; Katie MacLeod's niece's husband, John, needs liver transplant.

Continued prayer for those with cancer: Ted Kreger with a rare form of cancer, Kathy Gensel's friend with breast cancer; Randy's Aunt Gayle and Uncle Carl; Norma Forbs and her husband both battling cancer; Twyla Mundy's neighbors, Chris and Shelley; Katie MacLeod's niece Paul's husband Rick with adverse reaction to chemo; Marlene Pearson's friend in Anchorage undergoing treatment; Sue Bigg's friend, Jerry; Jon and JoAnn Hagen-Lillevik's friend undergoing treatment in Minnesota; Alex Nisler's uncle; Lana Syverson's brother-in-law; Sandy Knutson; Deanne Pearson's friend in Seattle and her sister with breast cancer; Hannah Thompson's friend; Scott Cunningham's mother, Dee Richard's brother, Bob; Leslie Virelli; Barb Norbeck's friend; Polly Crawford undergoing treatment for cancer of the spine; Katie MacLeod's nephew, Joe Auld; Michael Hollinger's mom; John Brewer's brother, Glenn; Dee Richards five year old grand niece undergoing leukemia treatments; Rochelle Schneider's son-in-law, Tom; Dick Evenson undergoing chemotherapy.

Strength for: Renee Henderson's and JoAnn Hagen's friend undergoing radiation treatment; Betty Wittenberg's father dealing with Parkinson's; Robin Castleman's brother suffering from depression; Jeanna Carver's niece dealing with anorexia; strength for Denise Harro's sister, Roxie, dealing with physical issues and depression; Marlene Pearson's son, Mark, who has ALS; strength for Rich Shook's brother diagnosed with Alzheimer's; Jan Brewer's cousin and her husband; Dennis Alder's father who is doing poorly; Dennis Alder's son's mother-in-law who is having brain problems.

Prayers for: Shult's family baby arrived early; prisoners in the middle east; forgiveness and peace; families who have lost loved ones; guidance for Mark Harro whose job ended and is now looking for work in the Bend area; peace in Somalia, Israel, Palestine; Nigeria, Middle East, Syria and Ukraine; safety for those in the military; protection for Jamie Willard's husband in Afghanistan; Synod Prayer Partner – Fairbanks Lutheran Church, Anchorage; people with depression; people having a difficult time with grief; wisdom for the leaders of our country and world.

Thanksgiving for: the doctors and caregivers of the elderly; continued improvement for Dan Houglum; Katie MacLeod's son-in-law Bill Cannell is doing better.

Comfort for: the children around the world who are in orphanages.



CANNED FOOD DRIVE



The 6th-9th Grade
Faith Formation Class
is sponsoring our
Annual Canned Food Drive.
They will be collecting food
through November 30th.



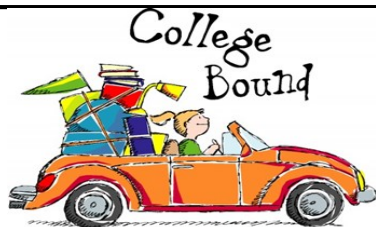
You can drop off donations on Sunday or during the week and place them on the table in the entryway. If you don't have time to shop, there is a donation container by the table. Simply put your gift in the container and the youth will do the shopping for you. All food collected will go to the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank and the Soldotna Food Pantry.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



The Women's Bible study meets Fridays at 9:30 AM.
They are using "The Story:
The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and His People."
If you have any questions please contact
Mandy Pieh at 260-9559 or Twyla Mundy at 252-1510.

COLLEGE ADDRESSES



If you have children in college or the military please email or phone the church office with their address. This information allows us to send them the Nugget and our Annual Christmas Care Package. Even if the address is the same as last year, please provide us with this information.

FOOD PANTRY

"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat."

Matthew 25:35

The Pantry is a joint project of Soldotna United Methodist Church and Christ Lutheran Church. Additional support comes from generous individuals, organizations, local businesses, as well as help from the Peninsula Food Bank.

The Pantry is open Wednesdays from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Volunteers are always needed.

Bagging starts at 10:00 AM and you are welcome to come for an hour or for the afternoon. Peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit, canned entrees like chili, 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 can on the table for your gifts. Check out the Food Pantry in the Entryway. If you wish to help or have questions please call Cosette at 262-7610.





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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.