

# THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2025



9212 Taylorsville Road  
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



*“Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup> rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.” (Joel 2:12-13)*

Grace and peace to you my brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are now descending from the ‘Mount of Transfiguration’ of our Transfiguration Sunday and entering into the season of Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday. On Ash Wednesday, we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge our mortality that indeed we are dust and to dust we shall return.

Since the eleventh century, the ashes, made by burning last year’s palms, cycle around from the triumphant celebration of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem to the humiliation of sinners covering their heads with the burnt greens. Many churches are still doing it, including our church. As a matter of fact, last Sunday we had a group of people who burned our last year palms and will use the ashes for our Ash Wednesday.

*continued on pg. 2*

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

[www.christlutheranlouisville.com](http://www.christlutheranlouisville.com)

Lead Pastor - Rev. Bimen Limbong

Director of Music - Ann Colbert Wade

The ash cross marks one's forehead as if it is the brand of one's owner. . In the Roman world, some slave owners put their names or symbols on the slaves' foreheads. These markings sometimes were used to hide the slaves' true origin and replace them with the name or symbol of the new owner. Therefore sign of the cross on our forehead reminds us that we belong to Christ who died on the cross for our sin.

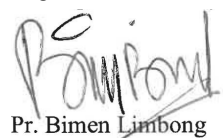
Also during our baptism, an indelible cross was drawn on our forehead followed by these words, "*Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked by the cross of Christ forever.*"

The word Lent also related to the Latin word 'quadragesima' which means 'forty' referring to the forty days of time Jesus spent in the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (Luke 6:1-13) and forty years of the children of Israel spent in the wilderness (Numbers 14:34). In our church tradition, we spend forty days of Lent focusing on repentance, fasting and almsgiving. Sometimes people refrain from eating or drinking certain foods, so that they can devote their time more in in prayer and meditating on the Word of God.

For our church this year, we chose the theme 'STICS' (Stepping Together In Christian Service). The idea came from our new Mission Statement, "Walking With Christ, We Love and Serve Our Church and Neighbor." Led by Barbara Hester, six of us; Barbara Hester, Pam Ballinger, Sarah Pryor, Mike and Jean Barney and myself have been meeting for the last several months and making our own stick and decorating them with our own stories of faith. Each of us will present our stick and faith story on each Midweek Lent service throughout Lent in place of the homily.

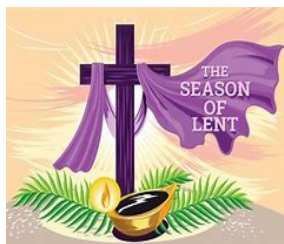
So, sisters and brothers, I invite you all to join me in this Lent journey to focus on our spiritual renewal through prayer, mediation, repentance and service. I invite you also to our midweek service to hear the faith journeys of our sisters and brothers through the STICS.

Serving Christ with You,



Pr. Bimen Limbong

# UPCOMING *Events*



**Ash Wednesday** is March 5. Imposition of Ashes can be received 2 ways - Drive thru at noon or worship at 7 pm. Weekly Wednesday **Lent worship** services will be at 7 pm preceded at 6pm with a light supper in room 1. Invite your friends as we journey through **Lent** with the sharing from STICS.



This new group for men will meet the first Friday of each month. The next meeting is Friday, March 7th at 7pm.



**March 9<sup>th</sup>** join us for our **GIFT Youth Event at Activate** at noon. RSVP required.



**Everyone** is invited to our Rock Painting Event on **March 9<sup>th</sup>** in room 7. 2 pm - 4pm. Please RSVP



March's Thirsty Third Thursday will be at **Molly Malone's** on **March 20<sup>th</sup>** 933 Baxter Avenue at 6 pm.



# 2025: A YEAR OF INVITING

**JANUARY**

Chili Cook Off

**FEBRUARY**

Italian Night  
MELCA - First Friday in February

**MARCH**

Youth @ Activate  
Rock Painting

**APRIL**

Community Easter

**MAY**

Game Night

**JUNE**

VBS  
Pedal in the Parklands - Bike Ride

✉ CHURCH.OFFICE@CHRISTLUTHERANLOUISVILLE.COM

☎ 502-267-5082

🌐 CHRISTLUTHERANLOUISVILLE.COM

If you have ideas or suggestions of activities for our youth and/or adults, please be sure to notify the office. We are looking for more ways to mingle, invite our friends and have fun!

## FINANCE

### General Fund Giving through January 2025

Expected Receipts: \$31,169.00

Actual Receipts: \$33,886.00



Online  
Giving

**SCAN ME**

We are grateful for the gifts the church received during this month that began with such bad weather.

Thanks to our counters for the month of January, Marilyn & Ray Peak and Pat Friedman. Thanks to our February counters, Jean & Mike Barney.

We received a memorial in memory of Norman Sengel.

# I'm a Lutheran

## Hannah Limbong

Christ Lutheran Church, Jeffersontown, Ky.

Junior, University of Louisville (Ky.); public health major; honors student

*I've been involved at Christ Lutheran* in a variety of capacities. Today I play violin with the church band and co-lead an intergenerational Sunday school class called LIFT (Living in Faith Together). It's important to me to be part of a faith community where we can be encouraged and supported throughout different seasons of life. I enjoy putting my faith into action in an intentional way.

*I am incredibly blessed to be part* of the Brown Fellows Program at the University of Louisville. [This] is a full-ride scholarship and mentorship program that also gives recipients an opportunity to design two enrichment programs. My first project explored the differences in how the U.S. and U.K. approach health care and public health. I conducted interviews with U.S. public health and health adjacent leaders, traveled to England for an immersive health history course, and interviewed health care professionals and nonprofits to uncover lessons from both systems.

*I was certain my path* would be in medicine, working directly to improve people's health. But after nearly two years of diving into coursework and [career] shadowing, I realized medicine didn't have my heart—at least not right now. While my commitment to improving community health remains, I'm more drawn to tackling social determinants of health through policy. ... My ultimate goal is to identify where my gifts align with the greatest needs. I'm particularly passionate about improving access to health care and health education through advocacy, policymaking and policy analysis.

*Participating in* the ELCA Young Adult Climate Advocacy program has been inspiring and empowering. It's been a privilege to connect with so many incredible leaders who are making a real difference in their communities.

*In 2018, I attended* the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston. A youth leader there shared about her experience at the ELCA Youth Leadership Summit, and her story moved me deeply. When I learned they were looking for a youth leader from Kentucky, I immediately expressed my interest. Later that year, I attended the summit in Nebraska. I met incredible people, made new friends and learned about ELCA advocacy groups. For the first time, I saw the impact of the church's work in the world.

*After the event,* I applied to the Youth Core Leadership Team that plans the summit. I was one of the 12 selected, and I served for two years. I've grown so much as a servant leader and have come to faith on my own outside of being a pastor's kid.

*Being a member of* the Mass Gathering Team for the 2024 Youth Gathering felt surreal—a dream come true. The 2018 Gathering was a pivotal stepping stone in my walk with Jesus. To now experience it from behind the scenes was a full-circle moment and one of the coolest experiences of my life.

*Serving as a young adult representative,* voting member and Reference and Counsel Committee member for the Indiana-Kentucky Synod at the 2022 Churchwide Assembly gave me incredible insights and a glimpse of how God works in and through the church.

*I pray for* those who are wrestling with their faith and or feel far from the Lord—whether they're just beginning their journey or have grown up in the faith. Even in moments of feeling distant, I pray that they are reminded that God is near, even when we don't feel it.

*I'm a Lutheran* because I couldn't imagine doing life without God at the center of my life. †

## CLC FAITHFUL SERVANT

### **Jamie Richardson**



Jamie Richardson has a lot going on. As he finishes 8<sup>th</sup> grade and prepares to start next year at South Oldham High School, Jamie keeps busy with challenging classes (including 10<sup>th</sup> grade Geometry), playing tennis (he was just selected to play for the high school team) and participating in competitive engineering and robotics clubs.

Jamie also stays busy on Sundays at Christ Lutheran, working behind the scenes helping with the live streaming.

“We have three monitors,” Jamie explains. “The first one is the slide show that puts the text on screen for people at home. Then we can see all the camera views on the second monitor. And the third one lets us see the chats that come in.” He also monitors the sound with a dashboard on an iPad Mini.

A lifelong member of CLC, Jamie has also served as an acolyte, attends LIFT Sunday School classes, and has visited the homebound, among many other activities over the years. This spring, he’s looking forward to competing with his robotics team in Alabama and Cincinnati.

As Jamie starts to think about his future, he is exploring nuclear or chemical engineering as a possible field of study. Jamie recently completed a report on these professions and likes the idea of studying topics such as engineering, physics, advanced math, design, and chemistry. He is looking forward to participating in the Engineering Academy next fall as part of the curriculum offered through the partnership with the Arvin Center in Oldham County. Jamie likes to solve problems and help others and hopes to be able to do this as an engineer in the future.

Despite his jam-packed schedule, Jamie makes time almost every Sunday to help bring God’s word to the world. Pretty impressive for a 14-year-old Faithful Servant.





## CLC FAITHFUL SERVANT

### James Pryor

You may have noticed James Pryor's sense of style. Talking to James about his passion — cars — you soon learn he appreciates the balance between form and function.



A senior at Oldham County High School, James plans to study mechanical engineering after he graduates. He wants to design and build cars and understand how they work, viewing them as private art projects. "In some places, like Japan, you can really see how the cars reflect the culture and the driver."

As a Faithful Servant, James contributes to both the form and function at the church. Many Sundays, James helps manage the streaming technology that brings our worship services to those who can't attend in person. Sitting behind the controls is a comfortable place for James, who's an avid gamer.

James also steps in as crucifer when needed and participates in many service projects, like feeding the homeless. He's been coming to CLC for as long as he remembers, going on several youth mission trips over the years.

With graduation in the near future, James has his eye on the road ahead, literally. "My friends and I are looking at going on a road trip, but we haven't decided where yet. I like to relax at the beach, but I like the scenic variety of the mountains." In other words, form and function.

Wherever his journey takes him, one thing is certain: James will be in the driver's seat.



# MARCH 2024

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| MARCH 30<br><br><b>8:30am Worship</b><br>9:45am Sunday School<br><b>11am Worship</b><br>12:15pm Fellowship Hour  | MARCH 31<br><br>12pm Bible Study & Prayer Mtg  |  |   |
| 2<br><b>8:30am Worship</b><br>9:45am Sunday School<br>Burn Palm Branches<br><b>11am Worship</b><br>12:15pm Fellowship Hour   | 3<br><br>12pm Bible Study & Prayer Mtg   | 4<br><br>9:30am Tuesday Friends<br><br>7 pm Property Committee                           | 5<br><b>ASH</b><br>9:30am<br><br>12pm As<br>7pm Ash<br>7:45pm |
| 9<br><b>8:30am Worship</b><br>9:45am Sunday School<br><b>11am Worship</b><br>12:15pm Fellowship Hour<br>12:00pm Activate Event<br>2pm Rock Painting Event<br>2pm Worship at Forest Hills Commons | 10<br><br>12pm Bible Study & Prayer Mtg  | 11<br><br>9:30am Tuesday Friends<br><br>12pm WELCA Circle & Bible Study-Bring your lunch | 12<br><br>9:30am<br>6pm Lig<br>7pm Ler<br>Wo<br>7:45pm        |
| 16<br><b>8:30am Worship</b><br>9:45am Sunday School<br>9:45am LIFT Class<br><b>11am Worship</b><br>12:15pm Fellowship Hour   | 17<br><br>12pm Bible Study & Prayer Mtg<br><br> | 18<br><br>9:30am Tuesday Friends<br><br>7 pm Council Meeting                             | 19<br><br>9:30am<br>6 pm Lig<br>7pm Ler<br>Wo<br>7:45pm       |
| 23<br><b>8:30am Worship</b><br>9:45am Sunday School<br><b>11am Worship</b><br>12:15pm Fellowship Hour  | 24<br><br>12pm Bible Study & Prayer Mtg  | 25<br><br>9:30am Tuesday Friends<br>7 pm Worship Committee                               | 26<br><br>9:30am<br>6pm Lig<br><br>7pm Ler<br>Wo<br>7:45pm    |



# Lent



| Wed   | Thu  | Fri                  | Sat  |
|---|--|----------------------|--|
|   |  |                      | 1  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>Wed. Friends<br>shes to Go!<br>n Wed Worship<br>Choir Rehearsal | 6  | 7<br>7pm MELCA Group | 8  |
| Wed. Friends<br>ht Dinner<br>t Mid-Week<br>rship<br>Choir Rehearsal                 | 13   | 14                   | 15<br><br><b>MESSENGER</b><br><b>Articles to Liz Walker</b><br><b>Deadline</b> |
| Wed. Friends<br>ht Dinner<br>t Mid-Week<br>rship<br>Choir Rehearsal                 | 20<br>6pm Thirsty Third<br>Thursday@ Molly<br>Malone's | 21                   | 22   |
| Wed. Friends<br>ht Dinner<br>t Mid-Week<br>rship<br>Choir Rehearsal                 | 27   | 28                   | 29   |

WELCA will meet on Tuesday, March 11 at noon in Room 1. Please bring your own lunch. Bible study will follow lunch. All women at Christ Lutheran are invited to attend.

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*Italian Night Dinner* was a wonderful gathering of friends and invited guests! The food was delicious! Many thanks to Bonnie Kroening & Janet Kull for their preparation and Berliana Limbong helping to clean up!



## Burning Palms for Ashes

A few brave folks watched as Steven Sarson and Randy Hesler created quite the smoke cloud burning last year's palm branches to ashes for imposition on Ash Wednesday. Afterward, Steven and Randy sifted and ground the remaining pieces into a powder which Pastor Limbong will mix with oil to mark our foreheads with a cross with these words: **"Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return."**



## **New Administrative Assistant for the Church Office!**

We are please to announce Karen Wilson has accepted the job as our new church office Administrative Assistant. The office hours will be 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Please extend a warm welcome to Karen and introduce yourself .

Becky Miller will be here for a short period of time to show Karen the various tasks of the office.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please let us know how we can pray for you. Just call the church office, 267-5082, or email us at

[church\\_office@christlutheranlouisville.com](mailto:church_office@christlutheranlouisville.com) and we will send out a prayer request. **We also have a Prayer Box in the Narthex. Place your request in the box.** Christ Lutheran has some fierce prayer warriors always ready and willing to lift you up in prayer every Monday at our Weekly Prayer Meeting.

## **WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER MEETING**

Our weekly Bible Study and prayer meetings are on Mondays at noon in Room 1. Individuals are invited to attend in person or online. Pastor Bimen leads this weekly worship opportunity. All are welcome.

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88673354124?pwd=emlVSUdLeXVPNVVXYUhJd3dDNIRkdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 7335 4124 Passcode: 900074

## **ONGOING SOCIAL MINISTRY WORK**

Please remember to place your gently used shoes in the WaterStep bin in the hallway adjacent to the Solarium. This is an ongoing project to help Third World countries obtain water filtering equipment. Thank you for your donations that make this happen.



## **JEFFERSONTOWN AREA MINISTRIES**



Please remember our neighbors in need by placing your donations to JAM in the cart in the hallway.

JAM is always in need of non-perishable food, school supplies and personal products. For March, we are asking for donations of soap, body wash, deodorant, baby wipes, feminine hygiene products, depends (male or female), razors and shaving cream. Diapers are always in need, as is toilet paper. Thank you for remembering those in need!





## MARCH CELEBRATIONS

| March Birthdays |   | March Anniversaries  |                               |
|-----------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| 03/01           | Avery Phillips  | 03/20  | Germaine & Kenneth Overstreet |
| 03/06           | Steve Sarson  | <br> |                               |
| 03/08           | Shelley Straub  |  |                               |
| 03/10           | Alica Alvey<br>Sean Funk<br>Zachary Kenitzer<br>Brent Selch |  |                               |
| 03/14           | Timmy Jordan  |  |                               |
| 03/18           | Dustin Casey<br>Raymond Peak                                |  |                               |
| 03/27           | Molly Turpen  |  |                               |
| 03/28           | Kathy Kull<br>Tim Straub                                    |  |                               |
| 03/29           | Bonnie Kroening<br>Alita White                              |  |                               |
| 03/31           | David Gibson  |  |                               |

**Don't forget to share your special dates with us!**  
**We would love to celebrate you!**



### NEWLY ADDED WORSHIP ASSISTANT POSITION

Have you noticed a new lay position during our worship services? With Pastor Mercer's retirement, we have begun using lay people in the role of Liturgist, to assist Pastor Bimen during our two Sunday worship services. We could always use a few more folks who might be willing to serve in this capacity. If you feel called to help, let Pastor Bimen know.

## MONTHLY MINISTRY ATTENDANCE

### Sunday Worship Service

| DATE     | 8:30 am<br>SERVICE | 11 am<br>SERVICE | ONLINE | TOTAL |
|----------|--------------------|------------------|--------|-------|
| 02/02/25 | 36                 | 63               |        | 99    |
| 02/09/25 | 25                 | 67               |        | 92    |
| 02/16/25 | 12                 | 19               | 27     | 58    |
| 02/23/25 | 29                 | 59               |        | 88    |

### Monday Weekly Prayer Gathering

### Forest Hills Worship

| 02/03/25 | IN PERSON | ONLINE |
|----------|-----------|--------|
| 01/06/25 | 10        | 0      |
| 02/10/25 | 3         | 0      |
| 02/17/25 | 7         | 0      |
| 02/24/25 | 9         | 0      |

| DATE     | TOTAL |
|----------|-------|
| 02/09/25 | 20    |

### PLEASE REMEMBER...

We ask that you fill out the attendance cards that are handed out at each worship service. These cards capture important information that helps us keep our records up to date in our congregation and for the Synod records. Attendance is recorded every Sunday and this data is included in our Annual Report and for parochial reports to the Synod. Please place all family member's names and print legibly on the cards. Thank you!



ATTENDANCE

Walking with Christ, we love and serve  
our church & neighbors

## 2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Pastor Bimen Limbong**, 502-553-6025, [pastor\\_bimen@christlutheranlouisville.com](mailto:pastor_bimen@christlutheranlouisville.com)  
**Roger Miller**, President, 502-415-4243, [rrmlcm@yahoo.com](mailto:rrmlcm@yahoo.com)  
**Steve Sarson**, Vice Pres., 502-295-9418, [ssarson@gmail.com](mailto:ssarson@gmail.com)  
**Tracy Richardson**, Secretary, 859-351-2590, [tirky@yahoo.com](mailto:tirky@yahoo.com)  
**Dale Breitenstein**, 502-262-6168, [dbreitenstein@allstate.com](mailto:dbreitenstein@allstate.com)  
**Randy Hesler**, 502-939-2172, [rlhesler@gmail.com](mailto:rlhesler@gmail.com)  
**Mike Kull**, 502-802-4485, [mjk111048@aol.com](mailto:mjk111048@aol.com)  
**Sarah Pryor**, 502-758-5108, [spryor@bellsouth.net](mailto:spryor@bellsouth.net)  
**Natalie Rawlings**, 502-314-2157, [natalierawlings83@gmail.com](mailto:natalierawlings83@gmail.com)  
**Nick Zavagli**, 502-645-1485, [nicholas.zavagli@gmail.com](mailto:nicholas.zavagli@gmail.com)

## CLC JOB OPENING

**Job Title:** Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry  
**Supervisor:** Lead Pastor  
**FLSA Status:** non-exempt, part-time, 30 hours per week

Christ Lutheran Church is seeking an enthusiastic servant leader to join our staff as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. This part-time position will play a pivotal role, both as a leader and an example, in nurturing the faith development and spiritual growth of our youth and young adults, fostering a strong sense of community, and working collaboratively with other church leaders to support the overall mission and vision of the church.

Click here to view the detailed job description on church website.

**To Apply:** Interested candidates should submit a resume to [church\\_office@christlutheranlouisville.com](mailto:church_office@christlutheranlouisville.com).





9212 Taylorsville Road  
Louisville, KY 40299

Sunday Worship  
8:30am & 11am

Sunday School  
preK—Adult 9:45am

Find us on  @

Christ Lutheran  
Church  
@CLCLouisville

**Worship Times:** Sundays at 8:30am & 11:00am.

**Sunday School:** Age 3—adults at 9:45am every Sunday.

**Nursery :** Infant to 6 years old in Room 3 during 8:30am & 11am services.