

# THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2026



9212 Taylorsville Road  
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



*“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.” (Psalm 51:10-12)*

Lent greetings to you my sisters and brothers in Christ,

We are now entering the forty days of Lent journey.

Etymologically the word ‘Lent’ comes from the word "*lencten*," which comes from the Old English term meaning "spring," when the sunlight lengthens. It is very obvious for us who live in the northern hemisphere to notice that Lent is the beginning of springtime. It also symbolizes renewal and growth when we see the signs of new life begin to emerge.

As for us, Lent is a commemoration of Jesus’ the forty days and forty nights of fasting in the wilderness before he was tempted by the devil (Matthew 4:1-11) and with the forty years of the children of Israel spent in the wilderness (Numbers 14:34). At the same time, Lent for us has become a period of preparation for Holy Week and Easter. It was originally observed as a period of preparation first prescribed for baptismal candidates. During this period, the candidates were examined in preparation for baptism at Easter (or Paschal) Vigil.

*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

Administrative Assistant - Jeremy Rhodes

Church Office: 502-267-5082

During this time we focus on self-examination, penitence and repentance, following the three disciplines of Lent; Almsgiving, Prayer and Fasting. Some of us perhaps decide to give up something during this season, hoping that we can keep not only our physical health but also our spiritual health. Rather than focusing on our own needs, we may focus on the needs of others and to spend time with God in prayer and with his Word. During this time, we may take time to contemplate and meditate upon the verses above from Psalm 51. It is a penitential Psalm of the King David's penitential prayer, for the hidden sins and transgressions that he committed before God (who knows everything) that God may restore the joy of God's salvation.

Even as a church, may this be a time to re-examine our ministry practices and focus. Early this month, Sunday February 8, we had our annual meeting. We celebrated our ministry last year and at the same time we reflected upon what we could do better and to be more focused and intentional in our ministry based upon our mission and guiding principles. During my report I also shared Carey Nieuwhof's article about the 8 reasons why the church does not grow (does not reach the 200 attendance mark; 1. The pastor is the primary caregiver. 2. The leaders lack a strategy. 3. True leaders aren't leading. 4. Volunteers are unempowered. 5. The governance team micromanages. 6. Too many meetings. 7. Too many events and programs that lead nowhere. 8. The pastor suffers from a desire to please everybody.

Perhaps there is nothing new there. We just need to be intentional in our mission and ministry. I am pleased to see more of our members stepping up and involved in our in our ministry and we can do better. With that, I would like to challenge you to make this year as the year of hospitality by welcoming our new people and help them to find their place in the life and ministry of our church. Not only for our new people, but also our old members whom we do not know well. Let's identify their gifts and encourage them to serve. Together, let's find joy in serving.

Journeying with you in Christ,

Pastor Bimen

## FINANCE

### General Fund Giving through February 2026

Expected Receipts: \$32,158.00

Actual Receipts: \$55,031.00

[Online  
Giving](#)



SCAN ME

Memorials have been received in memory of Becky Zibart. At the close of 2025 we also received memorials in memory of Todd DeNardo, Ted Potts and Thomas & Evelyn Palmer.

Thank you to our February offering counters. We appreciate their time and dedication each week.



Check out the story of Operation Shoebox and the many lives they impacted with their collection of **12,205,900** shoeboxes in 2025. As we all know, these shoeboxes reach all ends of our earth. The link below shares just one part of the world impacted by this initiative.

### [Bringing the Gospel to the Jungle](#)

For the month of **March** we will collect Shower Care products:



In 2026 we will continue our mission to help J'town Area Ministries. Each month we will collect specific items for the JAM food pantry.

- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| ✦ Body Wash | ✦ Shower Puffs |
| ✦ Soap      | ✦ Shower Caps  |
| ✦ Deodorant | ✦ Body Lotion  |

# **CARE PACKAGE EVENT**



On Sunday, Feb 1, as part of the Youth Ministry Valentine's event, a group of all ages once again gathered to assemble care packages for our homebound and young adult members who are away at college. This annual event is our way to remind the recipients that though they may be miles away, they are close in our hearts—Jesus loves them, and we do too!

We made giftbags for 11 homebound members, containing hand lotion, ChapStick, cozy socks, some puzzle books, and candy to satisfy any sweet tooth.

For our 15 college students, we collected hints from parents and grandparents so we could send some of their favorite salty and sweet snacks, along with a fun surprise or two, to brighten their day and keep them fueled for late night study sessions.

We packed the boxes and bags, signed cards of encouragement, and prayed a blessing over it all, that the contents may feed the recipients both physically and spiritually, so they will feel the love of Christ through the many hands of Christ Lutheran. Many thanks to Pam Ballinger for requesting the Thrivent grant, as well as the many donations of time and money for this special project.

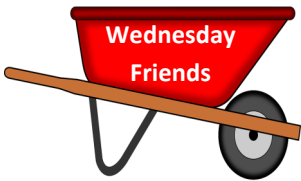
*Let all that you do be done in love.*

**1 Corinthians 16:14**



Love one another.

1 JOHN 4:7



## **WEDNESDAY FRIENDS HAVE BEEN BUSY, EVEN DURING THE SNOWY WEATHER!**

Wednesday Friends have been busy this winter; some jobs included cleaning hallway light covers, dusting the perimeter of gym and dusting the sanctuary. Dale has been busy scrubbing the gym floor after the installation of the new HVAC system. Removing the old boiler was a dirty and heavy job. And we did get the roses trimmed after the snow melted!

Sal's HVAC company did a good job getting the old boiler out of the basement and the six new units put in. They also replaced some outside coils with six new ones. These are in the brick enclosure in front of church. They also brought to our attention that having water running across the basement floor most of the time could cause the new units to rust (NOT GOOD). The basement has had a water problem for many years, so it is time to try to fix that. The property committee received 3 bids from companies that can address this problem. One is recommended for council approval.

And the basement needed a good cleaning (thanks Randy, Mark, Raymond and Marilyn), and will need another good cleaning when all is finished.





## LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES BY PASTOR BIMEN LIMBONG & KATHLEEN BREITENSTEIN

Lent has begun and so has our mid-week Lent worship services. This year Pr. Bimen Limbong & Kathleen Breitenstein have created a Lenten worship series that will look at hymns

from Lent and their stories. We hope you will join us for this unique Lenten worship experience. Lenten Supper will be served at 6pm. These services will be live streamed, so if you can't join us in person hope on Facebook or YouTube to share in the experience.

### UPCOMING WEDNESDAY SERVICES

FEBRUARY 25, 7PM

MARCH 4, 7PM

MARCH 11, 7PM

MARCH 18, 7PM

MARCH 25, 7PM

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

#### A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN SEVEN DAYS

**PALM SUNDAY** - MARCH 29

@8:30AM & 11AM

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**- APRIL 2 @ 7PM

**GOOD FRIDAY**- APRIL 3 @ 7PM

**EASTER VIGIL**- APRIL 4 @ 7PM

**EASTER SUNDAY**- APRIL 5 @ 8:30AM & 11AM



## WELCA CIRCLE MEETING TIME CHANGE



WELCA Circle will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month, however the **NEW time will be 9:30am beginning on March 10**. We will continue to have Bible study with additional projects and activities.

As always, all women of Christ Lutheran are invited to each this group. Questions? Contact Bonnie Kroening, (502)245-1020.



## RITA & STEVE SARSON INVITE YOU THEIR ANNUAL PALM SUNDAY SOCIAL

Rita & Steve Sarson will open up their ice cream shop once again this Palm Sunday, March 29 in the Solarium immediately following the 11am service and every one is invited to come and enjoy a **Palm Sundae!**

All the ice cream and yummy toppings will be provided by Rita and Steve, just bring your smile and love of ice cream. This has been a beloved Sarson family tradition for years and now it is CLC's family tradition too. What a sweet way to be in fellowship as we enter Holy Week.

There will also be fun activities and crafts for the youth of ALL ages. Stop by Room 7 and join the Easter fun.



## ACTIVATE...KEEPING OUT YOUTH ACTIVE



On Sunday, February 21, our youth met for lunch and then headed to Activate for an afternoon of fun and games. The group, organized by Tracy Richardson, had a great time together. It was great to see such a big group hanging out together.



## UPCOMING YOUTH EVENT...LOUISVILLE ZOO SAFARI EGGVENTURE

On Sunday, March 22 come and “EGG-splore the zoo with an EGG-cellent scavenger hunt game searching for hidden zoo-themed eggs, answering trivia questions and competing in some EGGs-tra special challenges.”

All youth are invited to meet at church for lunch following the 11am worship, around 12:15pm. After lunch we will head to the zoo. We will return to church by 4pm. Contact Liz Dawson (502-541-2223), Kyle Fletcher (502-309-6500), or Karen Lawyer (502-744-4534) to RSVP.

The cost for the event is \$9 for adults and \$6 for children. \* We never want the cost to be a reason for non participation. Scholarships are available, please contact Pr. Limbong or Kyle Fletcher if you need assistance.



# MARCH 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	
<b>1 8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	<b>2</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>3</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends	<b>4</b> 9:30am We Friends 6pm Lente <b>7pm Lente</b> 7:45pm Ch
<b>8 8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour 2pm Forest Hills Worship	<b>9</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>10</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends 12pm WELCA Circle 	<b>11</b> 9:30am We Friends 6pm Lente <b>7pm Lente</b> 7:45pm Ch
<b>15 8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Gospel Songs & Stories Class <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hr. 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	<b>16</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg  <b>MESSENGER</b> <b>Articles to Liz Walker</b> <b>Deadline</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends 	<b>18</b> 9:30am We Friends 6pm Lente <b>7pm Lente</b> 7:45pm Ch
<b>22 8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour 12:15pm <b>Lunch &amp; Youth</b> <b>Zoo Event</b>	<b>23</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>24</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends	<b>25</b> 9:30am We Friends 6pm Lente <b>7pm Lente</b> 7:45pm Ch
<b>29 PALM SUNDAY</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour - <b>Palm Sundae Social</b>	<b>30</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>31</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends	



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>Supper</p> <p><b>Worship</b></p> <p>Rehearsal</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	
<p>12</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>Supper</p> <p><b>Worship</b></p> <p>Rehearsal</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	
<p>19</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>Supper</p> <p><b>Worship</b></p> <p>Rehearsal</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	
<p>26</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>Supper</p> <p><b>Worship</b></p> <p>Rehearsal</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	





## Calling all volunteers: Youth grades 6-12 and adults of all ages!!

The Christian Education committee is happy to announce we will be hosting evening VBS July 27-31 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. To make this year another awesome success we need your help in the following areas:

**Meal hosts-** Will help prepare and serve the meals prior to VBS. Please note you would need to be available in the late afternoon to be able to prepare the meal to be served by 5:30 p.m. Meals will have been planned and items purchased in advance.

**Opening & Closing Hosts:** This group will work with Pastor Bimen helping host the opening *Sing & Play Tune Lagoon* and *Canopy closing* sessions. "Start the evening with high-energy music and introduce a new Bible Memory Buddy each day. Wrap up the evening with cool science experiments, skits, and music that all tie to the daily Bible Point."

If you are interested in helping, please mark your calendars for our first VBS team meeting on Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 p.m. We will discuss and plan for another fun year! Please sign up in the Narthex or contact Liz Dawson, [fabuliz10@yahoo.com](mailto:fabuliz10@yahoo.com) with your intent to commit to VBS by Friday June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE OUR  
VBS A MAGICAL SUCCESS!!!**

## Meals for the Recovering & Homebound



We would like to expand our meal outreach to more of our congregation during illness or recovery. It's a beautiful way to let our brothers and sisters know that we care and we are present. If you think that this is a ministry you'd like to participate in, contact Sherry Davis, 502-608-9534.

How will it work? Pastor will contact Sherry when he knows of a need. Sherry will reach out to the family and find out what the specific needs are. Once Sherry has all the info, she will then contact interested individuals to provide and deliver. We'd like to create a list of those who think this is a great ministry and want to help. There are already few of us doing this but **we'd love more help** so we can reach more members in need.

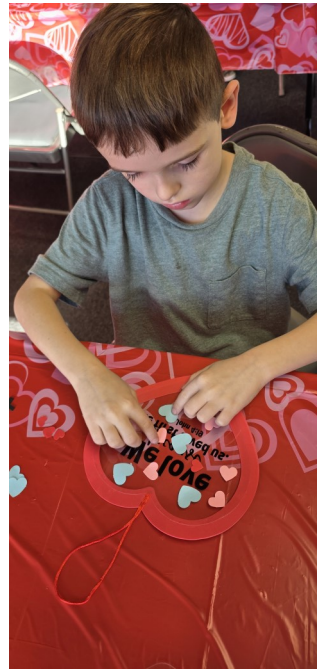
If you are already doing this for our members, THANK YOU!! It's a wonderful way to let our brothers and sisters know that we care!!

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



On February 1<sup>st</sup> 14 youth came together to share Jesus' love at a Valentine's party. In addition to packing care packages for our members away at college, in the military or homebound, they enjoyed sweet activities and treats. It was such a fun way to love Jesus and our friends near and far. A huge thank you to Liz, Karen & Kyle for their time and dedication to our youth! We are **GROWING!**





## GOSPEL SONGS & STORIES

Gospel Songs & Stories - Led by  
Kathleen Breitenstein



"Jesus Loves Me" was our focus song for the January session of Gospel Songs and Stories. Over 15 participants learned that one of the most beloved songs started as a poem in a novel of fiction. Initially included in the 1890 novel, *Say and Seal*, as words of comfort to a dying child, the words were soon set to music. After that, the song has transcended the page, time, and culture to be recognized by children and adults all around the world! This and so many other gospel songs impact our lives in ways we're exploring so we'd love to have you join us for the **next session on March 15th**. We may find that God loves you and me, "In the Garden."

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## WHIRL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This class is for our youngest students - **PreK through 5th grade**. This class will meet in Room 7 each week. This class is being led by Karen Lawyer and is sure to be a lot of fun! We hope to see all our elementary kids each Sunday for crafts, prayers, stories, treats!

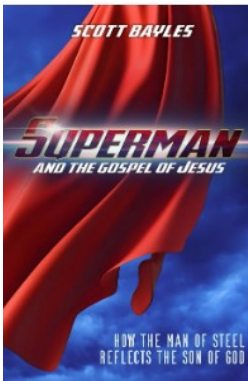
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WHIRL CLASS

## CALLING ALL MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS!!!

Join us for **SUPERMAN & THE GOSPEL OF JESUS**



Classes will meet in Room 8 except on the third Sunday of each month, where the class will join the Gospel Songs & Stories class. Come and find out all about this engaging curriculum focusing on "how the Man of Steel reflects on the Son of God". This class is led by Liz Dawson & Kyle Fletcher.

Join the **Women of the ELCA** on Tuesday, January 13 at noon. Bring your own lunch and join the Bible Study, while enjoying warm fellowship.



The group meets the second Tuesday of every month; with the exception of June, July and August; in Room 1. All women of Christ Lutheran are invited to come and participate.



Have you wanted to connect with our members but not sure how? Why not send a card or two to our home bound members or those in assisted living and nursing homes. Send a birthday card or two. These cards bring joy and smiles to so many and is such an easy ministry. Address labels and cards are available in the Solarium. Drop your cards off at the church office for mailing if you would like or mail on your own.

## **ON-GOING CLC MINISTRIES** **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...just fill out a prayer card and drop it 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 PRAYER MEETING**

Our weekly prayer meetings will continue on Mondays at noon in Rooms 1 & 2. 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=emlVSUJdLeXVPNVVXYUHJd3dDNlRkdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 7335 4124

Passcode: 900074

**MONTHLY MINISTRY ATTENDANCE**  
**Sunday / Mid-Week Worship Service**

DATE	EARLY SERVICE	LATE SERVICE	ONLINE	TOTAL
2/1/26	26	61	No Live Stream	87
2/8/26	No Service	71	No Live Stream	71
2/15/26	32	66	14	112
2/18/26	Drive Thru - 90	43	4	137
2/22/26	22	48	8	78

**Monday Weekly Prayer Gathering**

DATE	IN PERSON	ONLINE
2/2/26	6	0
2/9/26	6	0
2/16/26	8	0
2/23/26	NS	0

**Forest Hills Worship**

DATE	TOTAL
2/8/26	28

**Mid-week Lent**

DATE	TOTAL
2/25/26	37

**2026 COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Pastor Bimen Limbong**, 502-553-6025,

[pastor\\_bimen@christlutheranlouisville.com](mailto:pastor_bimen@christlutheranlouisville.com)

**Dale Breitenstein**, Pres., 502-262-6168, [dalebreit@gmail.com](mailto:dalebreit@gmail.com)

**Steve Sarson**, Vice Pres., 502-295-9418, [ssarson@gmail.com](mailto:ssarson@gmail.com)

**Tracy Richardson**, Secretary., 859-351-2590, [tjrky@yahoo.com](mailto:tjrky@yahoo.com)

**Liz Dawson**, 502-541-2223, [fabuliz10@yahoo.com](mailto:fabuliz10@yahoo.com)

**Kyle Fletcher**, 502-309-6500, [kaylafletcher38@gmail.com](mailto:kaylafletcher38@gmail.com)

**Randy Hesler**, 502-939-2172, [rlhesler@gmail.com](mailto:rlhesler@gmail.com)


**Karen Lawyer**, 502-744-4534, [karenlawyer419@gmail.com](mailto:karenlawyer419@gmail.com)

**Mike Kull**, 502-802-4485, [mjk111048@aol.com](mailto:mjk111048@aol.com)

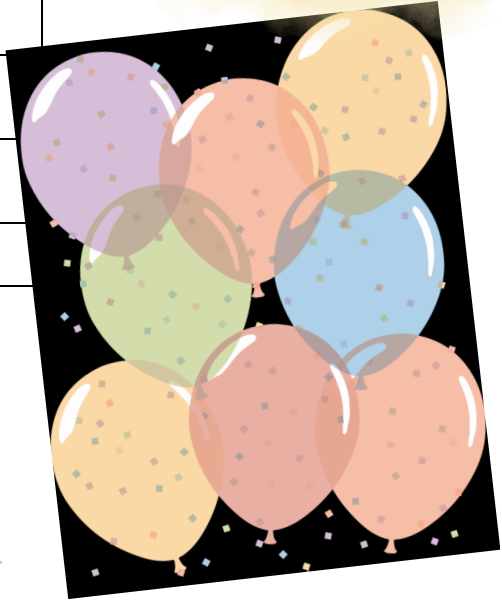
**Natalie Rawlings**, 502-314-2157, [natalierawlings83@gmail.com](mailto:natalierawlings83@gmail.com)

**Nick Zavagli**, 502-645-1485, [nicholas.zavagli@gmail.com](mailto:nicholas.zavagli@gmail.com)

# MARCH CELEBRATIONS

March Birthdays		March Anniversaries	
3/01	Avery Phillips	3/20	Germaine & Kenneth Overstreet
3/06	Steve Sarson		
3/10	Alice Alvey Sean Funk Zachary Kenitzer Brent Selch		
3/14	Timmy Jordan		
3/18	Dustin Casey Ray Peak		
3/27	Molly Turpen		
3/28	Kathy Kull Tim Straub		
3/29	Bonnie Kroening Alita White		
3/31	David Gibson		

**HAPPY**  
*Birthday*  
 FROM YOUR  
**CHURCH FAMILY**






**CHRIST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

9212 Taylorsville Road  
Louisville, KY 40299

Sunday Worship  
8:30am & 11am

Sunday School  
preK—Adult 9:45am

20 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.**