

# THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2026



9212 Taylorsville Road  
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



*“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work.” (Exodus 20:8-9)*

Grace and peace to you my sisters and brothers in Christ, As the saying goes, ‘Time flies when you’re having fun’. I cannot believe that this year (April 28) is my seven year anniversary of my installation as the Lead Pastor of our church. It has been a challenging and wonderful journey altogether. We went through the pandemic and challenges along the way, but together, by God’s grace, we were able to get through them. We are excited to implement our new vision of Walking with Christ; we love our church and neighbors.

Our church offers a five week sabbatical after five years of serving. I am planning to take my sabbatical starting on May 11 to June 15. If you wonder what sabbatical is and what benefits it has for the pastor and congregation, we might start with the meaning of that word sabbatical itself. The word *sabbatical* comes from the word *Sabbath*, from the Hebrew word שבת (*Shabbat*) and from the verb שבת (*shavat*), which means “to cease, stop, or rest. The Scriptures tell us that after God created heavens and the earth and their entire multitude in six days and on the seventh day, God rested. God blessed that day and made it holy (Genesis 2:1-3). God also commanded the Israelites to observe the seventh day as the Sabbath day.

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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

The verse above is part of the Ten Commandments that He gave to Moses commanding His people to keep the Sabbath day and keep it holy. As Christians we observe Sunday as part of our Sabbath remembering the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A pastoral sabbatical is an extended period of rest and renewal set aside for a pastor or ministry leader rooted in the Scriptures which emphasizes ceasing from labor to refocus on worship, spiritual growth, and dependence on God. This sabbatical benefits pastor and congregation alike. Below are some of the benefits:

- **Personal Spiritual Renewal.** A pastor's time away from the daily pressures of ministry allows for deeper prayer, reflection, and study. Even Jesus demonstrated the need to withdraw for prayer: "Come with Me privately to a solitary place, and let us rest awhile." ([Mark 6:31](#))
- **Preventing Burnout** - Ministry can exact a heavy physical, mental, and emotional toll. Providing a season of rest can help pastors return with renewed strength and fresh vision to serve effectively (cf. [2 Timothy 2:15](#), encouraging diligence and proper nourishment in the Word).
- **Rekindling Vision** - Sabbaticals often allow pastors to study specific theological or ministry topics, engage with mentor figures, or write. These pursuits can bring clarity, creativity, and new direction, enhancing overall church life upon their return.
- **Fostering Congregational Growth** - Without extended reliance on a single leader, congregations can grow through shared leadership and deeper lay involvement. This offers an opportunity for various gifted individuals to develop their ministries ([Ephesians 4:11-13](#)).

For my sabbatical, besides taking some rest, I will do some traveling. We will be traveling to Europe, Paris and Rome with my wife and Hannah. I will also travel in and out of states and visit different churches that are growing to observe, learn and hopefully to bring some ideas that we may apply here at our church. I will be attending some meetings and gatherings as well.

Thanks again for your support. It is my hope and prayer that this sabbatical will allow me to pause from my ministry duties, deepen my spiritual roots, engage in meaningful study, return refreshed and strengthen our bond as we continue with our mission of Walking with Christ, we love our church and neighbors.

Blessings,

Pastor Bimen Limbong

## FINANCE

### General Fund Giving through February 2026

Expected Receipts: **\$103,047**

Actual Receipts: **\$148,898**

The surplus is due to advanced giving among our members.

[Online  
Giving](#)

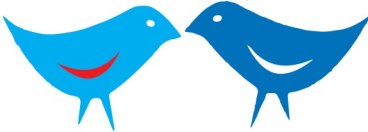


SCAN ME

Thank you to all our counters during the first 6 months of 2026: the Peaks, the Sarsons, the Barneys, the Farrars, Ed Schuette and Sarah Pryor.



DID YOU KNOW?



### **THRIVENT MEMBERS CAN HELP FUND CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

Did you know as a Thrivent member you can help fund activities? If you or a family member have products with Thrivent, you can apply for a \$250.00 grant twice a year.

For example, in the past, the grants have been used for landscaping materials, VBS dinner food, VBS decorations and materials, items for the snack packs, purchased yarn to knit scarves for the unhoused population, items for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes.

The application is on the Thrivent website and easy to complete. If you need additional information or help, a few folks have completed this process and are willing to help you: Pam Ballinger, Roger Miller, Becky Miller, Liz Dawson, Marilyn Peak. If you know of an upcoming event that could use funds, please contact the person in charge of that activity.





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

For the month of **May** we will collect Oral Health products:

- + Toothbrushes
- + Toothpaste
- + Mouthwash
- + Dental Floss
- + Dental Floss / Picks

Thank you for your continued donations. Every donation helps a neighbor in need.

## **SNACK PACKS FOR THE FOOD INSECURE OF LOUISVILLE**

The Social Ministry Committee continues to work with Street Reach, a local group who canvases areas of Louisville providing snack pack for those who are food insecure.



Our group comes together to pack the snack packs that are handed out several times a year. On April 26 a group of CLC members, led by Social Committee chair, Roger Miller, met in the gym following the 11am service to pack 200 packs.

Donations from Thrivent grants and monetary donations from our members help purchase the items in packs. Just another opportunity for Christ Lutheran to continue to walk with Christ to love and serve our church and neighbors.

## NEVER TO YOUNG TO VOLUNTEER!

To know him is to love him, **Hudson!** He makes us giggle during children's sermons, he zooms through the hall with an infectious joy, and now is a role model for all of us to volunteer! Way to go Hudson, you are definitely living CLC's mission!



## WE WELCOME GUEST PASTORS AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Beginning on May 11, Pastor Limbong will on sabbatical through June 15. During this time we will host several guest pastors. We hope you will welcome them during their time with us. Below are the dates and names of our guest pastors.

Please pray for Pastor Limbong as he takes this time to recharge, relax, reset and spend time with his family after a very bust first half of 2026.

- + **May 17** Pastor Stahr
- + **May 24** Pastor Laura Meier
- + **May 31** Pastor Laura Meier
- + **June 7** Pastor Priscilla Geerdes, Assistant to the Bishop – Ministry Transition
- + **June 14** Pastor Melissa Schroeder Assistant to the Bishop – Director of Evangelical Mission

*Walking with Christ,  
Go in peace to love and serve our  
church and neighbors*



**Youth in grades 6-12** are invited to camp out Friday, May 15-16<sup>th</sup> on Mrs. Wade's farm.

We will meet at church at 6pm to load up and head out. Stars, Smore's and smiles are part of the evening's plans.

Please make sure you bring your sleeping bag, pillow, flashlight and shoes/clothes that can get a little dirt on them!

Pick up will be at 11am back at church.



If the weather prevents us from camping, we will have a lock-in at church.

**Please sign up on the youth bulletin board or notify Kyle Fletcher or Liz Dawson.**



School's out, fun abounds, parents - do you need a night out on the town? The **Spirit Group (grades 1-5)** is invited to kick off summer fun with our first ever Summer Nights Kickoff event.

Please join us for some cool treats & fun games Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. We will also vote on a movie to watch at our next Summer Nights event in June. We can't wait to see you there!!



**Please RSVP with Karen Lawyer, 502-744-4534 or Sherry Davis, 502-608-9534**



**We hope to spot YOU at VBS this summer!!**



Mark your calendars for July 27-31, 2026 from 5-8p.m.

Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. with thrilling adventures to follow at the Tune Lagoon.

Youth ages K- 5<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys we will plunge into daily adventures to discover the nature of God. Join us as we navigate through wild games, rooted bible adventures, and the imagination station! Together we will learn what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God our creator.



Please RSVP here:

[www.myvbs.org/clc26](http://www.myvbs.org/clc26)








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

# MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	
<b>31</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour <hr style="border: 1px solid red; width: 25%; margin-top: 10px;"/>			
<b>3</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	<b>4</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg 1:15pm Social Ministry 7:00pm Dream Team	<b>5</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends 7:00pm Property Cmte.	<b>6</b> 9:30am We Friends 7pm Choir
<b>10</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hr.	<b>11</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg  <b>Pastor Limbong begin            Sabbatical</b> <hr style="border: 1px solid red; margin-top: 10px;"/>	<b>12</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends 9:30am WELCA Circle 	<b>13</b> 9:30am We Friends 7pm Choir
<b>17</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Gospel Songs & Stories Class <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour <hr style="border: 1px solid red; margin-top: 10px;"/>	<b>18</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>19</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends	<b>20</b> 9:30am We Friends 7pm Choir
<b>24</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship</b> 12:15pm Fellowship Hour <hr style="border: 1px solid red; margin-top: 10px;"/>	<b>25</b> <hr style="border: 1px solid red; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <hr style="border: 1px solid red; margin-top: 2px;"/> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>26</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends	<b>27</b> 9:30am We Friends 7pm Choir



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Kentucky Oaks</i> 	2 <i>Kentucky Derby</i> 
Wednesday Rehearsal	7	8	9
Wednesday Rehearsal	14	15 <b>MESSENGER</b> <b>Articles to Liz Walker</b> <b>Deadline</b> 	16 6PM-11AM @ Ann Wade's farm 
Wednesday Rehearsal	21	22	23
Wednesday Rehearsal	28	29 6pm Spirit Group Event 	30

Meals for the  
Recovering &  
Homebound



## **COOKING WITH CHRIST, TO LOVE & SERVE OUR CHURCH & NEIGHBORS.**

Kathleen Breitenstein, Sherry Davis, Karen Lawyer, Sarah Pryor & Rita Sarson have been cooking with Christ to provide meals to be delivered to individuals identified by Pastor Bimen who may be in need of a loving gesture through a homemade meal.

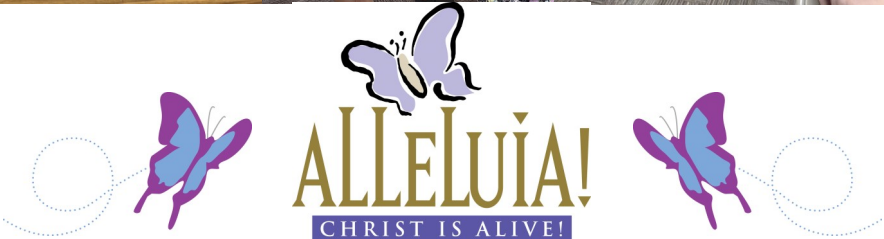
As this group continues to grow and evolve, Kathleen Breitenstein is creating a card to be included with each meal delivered and we will be voting on an official name...stay tuned. Rita Sarson will serve as the secretary for our group, keeping minutes for us, and Steve Sarson is our Council liaison.

We are planning another group cooking session in the fall in the church kitchen. Our plan is to prepare soups. Interested in joining this wonderful ministry? Call or message Sherry Davis at (502)608-9534.



# HALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN! EASTER 2026 AT CLC

Easter morning was full of joy and happiness as we celebrated the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. After each service the Fellowship Committee provided coffee and pastries bringing members together for a time of Easter fellowship! Our youngest youth members got to participate in an Easter Egg Hunt, led by Karen Lawyer! It was a lovely day to share in the joy of Easter!



## GOSPEL SONGS & STORIES

Gospel Songs & Stories - Led by  
Kathleen Breitenstein



Our next hymn to explore is *Jesus Loves the Little Children*. We hope you will join us as we learn how this special gospel song impacts our lives. Our **next class session** will be on **May 17th** at 9:45am in Room 8. This will be our last class until the fall.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER BREAK

Our Sunday School classes will be on Summer Break until September. Adults 1 will still continue to meet at 9:45am. Keep an eye out for details for the fall session of classes.

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The **Dream Team** met April 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss moving forward with projects which will affect the configuration of our building to accommodate future growth. The projects will make our facility more welcoming, informative and comfortable. After suggestions and discussions, projects have been proposed and approved by the Church Council at its last meeting April 21. As promised, we will keep you advised as to the timeline and progress of these projects.

1. Improvements to Room 5
2. Establish a main entrance to the building for guests with appropriate signage in the parking lots and building.
3. Room 6 will be remodeled to accommodate the church office.
4. Room 1 will be renovated with entrance doors from the Narthex into that room to provide more multifunctionality.
5. The solarium area will be renovated to include new furniture to become more welcoming and will become the information center for church events.

Join the **Women of the ELCA** on Tuesday, May 12 at 9:30am for Bible Study, while enjoying meaningful fellowship. This will be our last meeting until September 2026. - no meetings in June, July & August.



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=emlVSUdLeXVPNVVXYUhJd3dDNlRkdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 7335 4124

# MONTHLY MINISTRY ATTENDANCE

## Sunday Worship Services

DATE	EARLY SERVICE	LATE SERVICE	ONLINE	TOTAL
4/5/26	63	146	0	209
4/12/26	No Service	53	16	69
4/19/26	25	54	15	94
4/26/26	31	58	16	105

## Monday Weekly Prayer Gathering

DATE	IN PERSON	ONLINE
4/6/26	No Service	0
4/13/26	7	1
4/20/26	8	1
4/27/26	7	1

## Holy Week Worship Services

DATE	IN PERSON	ONLINE
4/2/26	42	6
4/3/26	28	9
4/4/26	14	8

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## 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, Sec., 859-351-2590, [tjirky@yahoo.com](mailto:tjirky@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)

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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)

## MAY CELEBRATIONS

May Birthdays		May Anniversaries	
05/01	Carol Breitenstein	05/08	Bill & Marti Gibson
05/03	Hannah Limbong	05/09	Becky & Roger Miller
05/04	Emelyn Merchant	05/11	Kathleen & Dale Breitenstein
05/05	Barbara Rowland	05/15	Deborah & William Scott
05/07	Walker Bell	05/18	Jean & Mike Barney
05/11	Indiana Dawson Pr. Bimen Limbong Linda Reiter	05/22	Wendy & Larry Glenn
05/12	Pamela Howard Lisa Huber Nick Zavagli		
05/15	Beth Allgeier		
05/16	Dale Breitenstein		
05/19	Alex Paul Emily Paul		
05/20	Sherri Hesler Liz Walker		
05/24	Ronald Coombs Hayley Glenn		
05/25	Betty Payne		
5/27	Florence Bright		

**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

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.**