

"So we are ambassadors
for Christ..." -

2 Corinthians 5:20

June 2018



Ladies' Night Out
June 14—5:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship
9:00 a.m.

Saturday Worship
5:30 p.m.

Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Highway B
Stoughton, WI

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Christ Lutheran Ambassador

Stoughton's 2018 Ladies' Night Out

Thursday, June 14, 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. at the Chorus Public House,
Viking Brew Pub, or Nauti Norske
Tickets are \$25 each



Buy your tickets at McGlynn's Pharmacy, Nordic Nook, or Christ Lutheran (873-9353) before June 14 or at Viking Brew Pub, Nauti Norske, or the Chorus Public House the day of the event.

The first 50 tickets are 2 for the price of 1.

- ◆ 19 downtown participating businesses, each with a promotion.
- ◆ Over 50 raffle prizes from Stoughton businesses worth \$3,500. Grand prize is a one-night stay with breakfast from Sundara Inn and Spa.
- ◆ Earn up to 3 raffle tickets when you visit all 19 stops.
- ◆ A goody bag with coupons.
- ◆ Dinner specials at Main Street Kitchen, Viking Brew Pub, Lon's Tailgaters, and Nauti Norske.
- ◆ Eat at Culver's on Sunday, June 17, between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and help us raise even more for Stoughton charities.

Proceeds from Ladies' Night Out will be donated to Seniors in Need, Stoughton Youth Center, START, and World of Change Leaders.

A Good Time for a Great Cause!



The first weekend in June, CLC will begin its summer worship schedule with worship at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday evening and 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Summer is short. We have only twelve weeks to fit in all the summer fun possible before fall and winter follow, but still, we hope to see you! We have a few special services planned in August. You could put them on your calendar and plan to attend. Sunday, August 5, is Baseball Sunday, and Sunday, August 26, is the Blessing of the Animals.

New Members—June 17

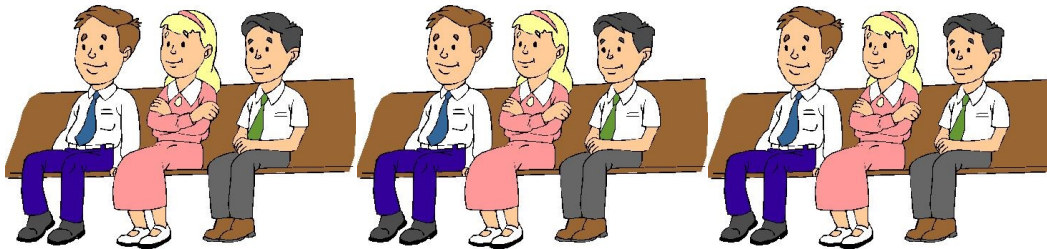


On June 17, Christ Lutheran will receive new members. If you know anyone who is interested in joining, please let the church office know. There will be a New Member Orientation following worship on June 10.

Congregational Meeting—June 24



The next congregational meeting is set for Sunday, June 24, following the 9:00 a.m. service. The primary agenda item is elections for treasurer and two other council positions.



Who's Who in the Pew—Sonja Horner

by Diane Matson



Not only is she a Stoughton native having been born and raised in this community, Sonja Horner is Norwegian, can speak Norwegian, has traveled to Norway, and has been a member of this congregation for over thirty-five years. You don't get much more Lutheran than that! She and husband Dean have been married for forty-two years and have a blended family of six children. They are proud grandparents of eleven, and Sonja counts "at least" seven great-grandchildren, although at times it's hard to keep track.

Since retiring as a nurse, working at both Stoughton Hospital and Skaalen, Sonja is now able to find time for her favorite hobby of reading. She's happiest surrounded by newspapers, and admits to having saved "at least" five of the last CLC congregational directories.

Vacation spots in California and Mesa, Arizona, are favorites, but she and Dean enjoy "running around" Wisconsin, too. Not a big fan of the East Coast, Sonja prefers car travel to planes and other forms of transportation. When asked about her favorite things about Christ Lutheran, without hesitation she mentions Pastors Paula and Scott. Sonja loves choir music, and her favorite worship services include choir anthems.

Proud of her Norwegian heritage and the Norwegian flavor of her hometown, Sonja enjoys the friendliness and peacefulness of this community and her church family. Thank you, Sonja, for your contribution to Stoughton and to Christ Lutheran.

Go and Tell

by Roger Slack

Each Sunday, as part of our church service, we confess the Apostles' Creed. The third portion of this creed starts, "I believe in the Holy Spirit...." For me, that always seemed to end rather abruptly as to what the Holy Spirit does and has already done. The things that the Holy Spirit has done are told throughout the Bible in many ways and involving many people. Some knew what the Holy Spirit was doing for and through them, but others did not know until afterwards. God was honored and praised as a result in either situation. I love the account of Simeon in the temple when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus in at eight days of age to offer the temple offering of two turtledoves for the life of a son born first into a family. Luke's account, 2:26, says that it had been revealed by the Holy Spirit to Simeon that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. It doesn't say how he knew. He just had a reassurance that he would live long enough to see God keep His promise and send His Christ to save his people. We don't know what Simeon was expecting to see either. I know if it were me, I would have been expecting someone like King David of old or Alexander the Great to come on the scene, already made. Instead, Simeon feels the need to go into the temple that day. Once he sees Mary and Joseph



present their offering to God, he knows absolutely that this baby is God's Christ. This was the beginning of something great and wonderful, and how appropriate that it be a baby, pure and unstained. I know many of us, if we think about it, have seen God lead us and direct us to a place in our lives where we thought we were there for one reason, only to find God had other plans. I met my wife in a dentist chair. Not at all what I was expecting, but sure glad God did.

That third portion of the Apostles' Creed goes on: "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." As I begin to realize, the remainder of the confession is the result of what the Holy Spirit is doing in us in the past, today, and in our lives yet to come.

Survey Results

by Ted Sehmer

Thank you to everyone who completed the two surveys! 88 #1—Congregational Current and Future Direction surveys, and 86 #2—Pastoral Characteristics surveys were returned and tabulated.

Printed copies of all of the results are available on the information counter. Responses to questions where you answered Strongly Agree, Agree, No Opinion, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree are posted on the church's web site www.clcstoughton.org. Printed copies of those results are also available on the informational desk. Your written comments are available only on the website.

Results will be analyzed. A comprehensive report will be available this summer.





CLC Hosts Syttende Mai Brunch

by Luke Geister-Jones

It all started with a promise of dinner at the Koffee Kup. "Do you want to go get turkey?" my mother asked. I responded with "of course." I was so excited to go drown myself in comfort food before returning to my state of hibernation. Little did I know, this was not my mother's plan. After unloading the groceries, I was promptly ordered to take the recipe and figure out what would be needed to do a 17-times batch. I had to pile in all the meat, and then

add herbs, spices, and the casual 17 eggs. Sprinkle in a whole bunch of bread crumbs, and a healthy amount of salt and pepper. I only spilled...like a lot of egg out of the mixer. In my second go around, I made sure to place the eggs at the bottom. All that was left to do now was to roll them up. Although my mom said I could leave after an hour, we all know that was just to create a sense of urgency so I'd work faster. Therefore, I rolled a lot of meatballs with help from my sous-chef, Collin. That is how Pastor Paula does mass quantities in 90 minutes or less. Just so you don't get the wrong impression, there were more people in the kitchen making meatballs than just Collin and I. Lori and Thad Everson, Dawn and Bradley Garcia, Carmen and Emma Sperle, Rita Holzhuter, Ashley Nelson, and Pastor Paula were part of the meatball crew, too.



CLC Scholarships



The CLC Scholarship Committee would like to thank the CLC congregation for once again being so generous to our young adults and supporting their continuing education. The following groups donated money to the scholarship fund for 2018-19: Women With A Mission, Lutfisk Committee, Bethel Circle, and a generous gift from an anonymous individual. Truly our church is blessed to have so many different groups willing to step up and help financially support our young

adults as they take their next steps in furthering their education. Due to this generous support, we were able to award over \$11,000 to twenty-eight individuals.

Thank you so much,
The CLC Scholarship Committee

Summer Pickleball—It's Time to Play Outdoors!



Pickleball: a game that combines elements from table tennis, badminton, and tennis.

We will be outside at Veterans Park the first Sunday in June. Starting the third Sunday in June, we will play at Mandt Park on six new pickleball courts! Time remains the same—6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Paddles will be available. Bring your own chair and water bottle. Sunglasses and a visor/hat may be needed to protect yourself from the sun. **Please note**—Veterans Park doesn't have any restrooms. Mosquitos have arrived so be prepared! This is a wonderful way to develop fellowship between Christ and Covenant Lutheran churches! If you are a beginner and want to learn the game, just show up and we'll introduce you to this fun game! This sport is so much fun, if you haven't tried it come on out and give it a try or just watch.



Calling All CLC Bikers *by Bob Kluge*



Mark your calendars for the following biking opportunities.

Saturday, June 9, **Steeple to Steeple—Ride for Hunger 2018** benefiting ELCA World Hunger.

- 7:00 a.m.—100 km/62-mile Metric Century
- 8:00 a.m.—30-mile ride
- 9:00 a.m.—Family Ride, 12 bike path miles

Starts and ends at All Saints Lutheran Church, 2951 Chapel Valley Rd., Fitchburg, WI 53711. Registration is \$30 for adults and \$10 for children 16 and younger. To see routes and register, go to www.steepleride.com. CLC is a host church for the “Steeple Ride,” which stops at Christ Lutheran for refreshments. Pastor Scott intends to host the bikers as he has in the past. If you are available to be at CLC to keep the doors (restrooms) open from about 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., tell Pastor Scott you can back him up as needed. If you’d like to bring a homemade treat for the 62-milers that stop at CLC, also let Pastor Scott know. CLC is near the end of the longest ride. At that stage, the bikers are desiring water, Gatorade, fruit juice, fresh cut-up oranges, bananas, cookies, or power bars, and they will reload their water bottles for the ride back to Fitchburg. Extending credit for biking that far and encouragement to finish would be a bonus.

Sunday, July 15, 1:00 p.m., CLC bike ride on the Badger State Trail, starting in Belleville, WI, and going south toward the tunnel. This ride is off-road and family-safe for all ages. Depending on your skill or ambition, you can travel to the tunnel, to Monticello, or further—state trails require a trail pass for people 16 or older (youth are free). Resident pass fees are \$20(annual) or \$4(daily). There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Mission Trip June 19-26



On June 17, the participants of this year’s mission trip to Baton Rouge will be in worship to be sent off to serve with our prayers to support them. Participants in

this year’s mission trip are Nina Milbauer, Parker Milbauer, Kadin Milbauer, Jonah O’Patrick, Karlee Proctor, Emma Sperle, Roger Strandlie, Luke Vienneau, Collin Williamson, Lori Everson, Alexis Abing, Jane Abing, Ben Bartelt, Taylor Dyreson, Brooks Empey, Alani Eservig, Brady Estervig, Darla Estervig, Bradley Garcia, Luke Geister-Jones, Matt Geister-Jones, Hannah Iverson, Katie Iverson, Konner Knauf, Joey LePine, Casey Milbauer, Ashley Nelson, and Pastor Paula. We depart for New Orleans on Tuesday, June 19, at about 7:00 in the morning and return June 29 at about noon. We are looking forward to the mission and coming home to share our stories.

Trip Planned for Little Americka

For our younger members and their families, the Youth Ministry Team has planned a trip to Little Americka on Sunday, June 24. We will meet in the church parking lot at 11:00 a.m. and leave by 11:15 a.m. All interested families are invited. Wristband prices vary from \$8.95 to \$19.95 per age/ride. We are getting a discounted group rate! CLC has also reserved a tent. Feel free to pack a picnic lunch. The sign-up sheet is on the information desk in the narthex, or call the church office at 873-9353.



Joyeuses Pâques!

This late April blog post comes from YAGM Lily (or Salane Ndour, her Senegalese name). Lily is living this year in Foundiougne, a river town and transport hub in central Senegal. In Foundiougne, Lily serves with the Department of Community Development of the Lutheran Church of Senegal, and as you will read in her blog post about Senegalese Holy Week traditions, lives with a Roman Catholic host family.

Happy Easter! Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Holy Week and Easter in Senegal brought about a busy schedule of church services and festive preparations. The greatest privilege was to witness and participate in the different ways my family and friends celebrate the Easter season in Senegal.

While the Maundy Thursday service included the traditional foot washing, Good Friday brought a myriad of new experiences.

I woke up to my host family and some neighbors already busy in the ngalax (en-gahl-ah) making process. Ngalax is a drink comprised of the powdered fruit from the baobab tree, a thin paste made from peanuts, millet flour soaked and mixed with water, sugar, and my family elected to add raisins, banana flavoring, and shaved coconut. It's delicious. If I had to compare the taste to something familiar in a U.S. context, I would say it tastes like a peanut butter and jelly sandwich smoothie. As my host mom and her friends put the drink into any sort of container we could find, my siblings and I went out to distribute ngalax to our neighbors. Muslim and Christians alike receive ngalax for the holiday. Food is a medium used in all religious holidays to bring people together. Whether it's couscous for Tamkharit or ngalax for Easter, no one is left out of a religious celebration.

In the middle of the afternoon, we made the long, very hot trek to the church where we witnessed the youth of the parish in a reenactment of the Passion. My host brother, Ibou, and our resident priest in training, Moise, were involved, as well as Ndew and Madou, my younger sisters. After the performance, we processed into the church. Instead of communion that night, the line processed forward to take turns kissing a large crucifix.

Saturday was a day of preparing a large meal of pork for the evening. The same meal was prepared in smaller bowls with chicken to distribute to our Muslim neighbors. All of us spent the day taking turns snacking on the ngalax that had been brought to us the day before. We ate a delicious meal of grilled pork kebabs served on a fresh salad before we headed off to the Easter vigil service. This service was the pinnacle of the Easter weekend. Everyone dressed in their best. The service began just outside the front doors of the church. A bonfire had been made from which the new Paschal candle was lit. From the Paschal candle everyone lit individual candles, and we processed into the sanctuary. The beginning of the service had the mournful, solemn tone one would expect. But as we drew closer to midnight, a shift in tone came to the service. Soon the bells of the church were ringing and the choir was singing loudly "Jésus est ressuscité" (Jesus is risen!). After the service, everyone greeted each other with kisses on the cheek and proclamations of "Alleluia!"

Easter Sunday found our church going crew in their matching fabric on our way to Mass. A day of relaxation, ngalax, and cold, freshly made juices followed.

Senegal is a deeply religious country. Whether Muslim or Christian, religion interacts with almost all aspects of everyday life. To experience a different culture is to already be given a great honor and privilege. I feel so honored to have been able to share in these religious festivities so important to my host family and community. The true gift of a cross-cultural experience lies in the learned ability to see your own culture through a different lens. Traditions surround festivities in every culture, but these traditions look different. Each culture holds tightly to these traditions as identifiers, as the way in which we relate to the world around us. To experience Easter in this new way was a beautiful reminder of the boundless promise of Jesus' resurrection. This promise is not bound to those who celebrate with ngalax or those who eat chemically colored eggs. As Christians around the world celebrate the Easter season in their own traditions, we celebrate the diversity of God's people and the promise of resurrection extended to them all.

Memorials:

In Memory of:

Joe Lynch
Joe Lynce
Rodney Breedlove
Rodney Breedlove

From:

Mark and Ruth Hillbo
Family and Friends
Roger and Joyce Utermark
Phil Oren

Endowment Foundation:

In Memory of:

Helmer Holte
Robert Hanson
Robert Hanson
Robert Hanson

From:

Norval and Barbara Morgan
Norval and Barbara Morgan
Dan and Diane Matson
Al and Barb Stock



Global Health Ministry Kits

Once again our congregation did an outstanding job! The goal was to assemble at least 100 kits. This year CLC was able to assemble 39 hospice kits and 67 newborn kits! Four walkers, more than a half dozen crutches, and various braces were also donated!

Hopefully by the time this newsletter is read all items will have been delivered to Global Health Ministries up in the twin cities.



START Thank-You

Thank you for your support of the Stoughton Area Resource Team through your recent donation of \$900.00. Your generous gift will help Stoughton area residents experiencing hardship or crisis. It will allow us to link families with community resources and provide support in housing, health, employment, and financial assistance. Please know that your contribution truly makes a difference.

With gratitude,
Cindy Thompson, START Program Director

Thank You from the Fireside

Thank you so much for planning a group visit to the Fireside. Each guest that comes through our doors is special to us and adds to the excitement of the day's events. Sharing the Fireside with others can be very rewarding, and we appreciate all you've done to bring them here.

We know that organizing a trip can take a lot of time and effort, and we wanted to say "Thank You" from the bottom of our heart.

The Klopck Family and the Fireside Staff

Thank You!

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**Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Road B
Stoughton, WI 53589**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

"So we are ambassadors for Christ..." -

2 Corinthians 5:20

Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

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Gloria Hayne, Church Secretary

Eileen Klinzing, Financial Secretary

