

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

2 Corinthians 5:20

May 2018

**Important Surveys
Enclosed
See page 6 for instructions**



Sunday Worship
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Family Express Worship
9:10-9:40 a.m.
with Sunday School
following
Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Highway B
Stoughton, WI

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Christ Lutheran Ambassador

May's Worship Schedule

May's worship schedule can be a bit confusing, so here are the details...

Sunday, May 6

8:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
9:10 a.m. Family Express/Communion
9:40 a.m. **Last Day of Sunday School for the Year!**
10:30 a.m. Worship/Communion

Sunday, May 13

8:00 a.m. Worship
9:10 a.m. **Last Family Express Worship until Fall!**
10:30 a.m. Worship



Sunday, May 20 Syttende Mai

8:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
10:30 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service



This year at the 10:30 a.m. worship service we have a guest preacher, Emily Lawrence Meyer. That name will sound familiar to our members who have been around for awhile. During the worship hour, enjoy a traditional Norwegian liturgy partially sung in Norwegian, and special music by the Edvard Grieg Chorus. The service ends with the singing of "Ja, Vi Elsker Dette Landet." Following worship, meatballs, herring, cucumber salad, red cabbage, Swedish rye bread, fruit salad, rommegrot, rice pudding, kringle, krumkake, lefse, coffee and still more Norwegian goodies will be served in the Fellowship Hall. A free-will donation will be received. For those visiting for the weekend, it is a great place to relax before the parade.



Sunday, May 27 Baccalaureate Worship

9:00 a.m. Worship



Christ Lutheran will honor our graduating seniors at this worship service. The Scholarship Committee will be handing out scholarships to our graduating seniors and our other college or vocational students. There will also be a graduation cake served during coffee and fellowship time.

Saturday, June 2

5:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday, June 3

9:00 a.m. Worship

CLC's Photo Directory Kickoff

Save the date! May 9-12 will be the first of two sessions for Christ Lutheran Church, as we are getting ready to create a new photo directory and we need you to help make it complete! Our directory will showcase our families, provide contact information, and become a useful resource to keep us connected. By participating, you will receive a printed and electronic version of the new directory in addition to a complimentary 8x10 photo.

The first session dates are:

- May 9, 10, and 11 from 1:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
- May 12 from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sign up today for your professional photography session:

- Follow the link on our website: www.clcstoughton.org
- Go directly to: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/yck4g0eq>
- Look for a paper sign-up in the narthex on Sundays
- Or call Kelly Harrington at 608-577-5228 for assistance with scheduling



Please take advantage of this opportunity by inviting extended family and getting multiple generations of your family together for a memorable photo. Only the members' photo will be in the directory; however, you have the option to purchase additional photos after you review the photos from the sitting.

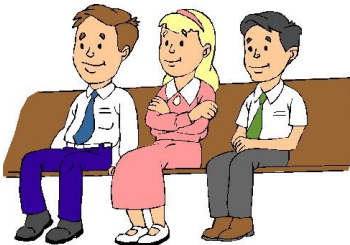
Who's Who in the Pew?

by Diane Matson

If you are like most Lutherans, you generally attend worship at the same time each Sunday. You generally sit in the same pew, or as close as you can get to where you "usually" sit. You probably know the people sitting in front of you or behind you, but who else do you know?

If you generally attend the 8:00 a.m. worship service, do you know the people who attend Family Express? If you're a Family Express attendee, do you know the worshippers at the 10:30 a.m. service? And what about those of you who worship at 10:30 a.m.? Do you feel like a stranger if you "visit" the 8:00 a.m. service or Family Express?

Beginning with the May issue of *The Ambassador*, a new column entitled "Who's Who in the Pew" is going to expand our horizons! Each month, a member of Christ Lutheran will be featured with a photo and a brief bio. We'll learn about hometowns, hobbies, kids/grandkids, jobs, travels, etc.



Here's an opportunity to put names to those familiar faces you see in the café or in the parking lot, or maybe in the pew on the other side of the sanctuary. You may discover a mutual hobby or interest, a new friend for a toddler playdate, or someone who sings in the shower but would love to join the choir. Watch for "Who's Who in the Pew" and prepare to have your horizons expanded!

START Thank-You



Thank you for your support of the Stoughton Area Resource Team through your recent donation of \$1,606.25. We are so grateful that you were able to support our efforts. 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

President's Report

by Dan Matson

We had a wonderful retirement party for Pastor Scott and a great meal to go with it. Thanks to all who attended or sent cards. Pastor Scott will still be around for awhile preaching a couple of Sundays a month. We are so lucky to have him volunteer to help us through 2018. Now what is important is for each member of the church to complete a survey helping us determine our future plans. On page four are the instructions for the survey, and you will find the surveys inserted in your *Ambassador*. You will also be able to complete this survey online at the church's website, www.clcstoughton.org. You will also find a list of Church Council members, should you want to contact anyone on the Council with questions. Thank you for your support of this important project.

Executive Board:

President: Dan Matson (205-9692)
Vice President: Roger Slack (873-4455)
Vice President: Matt Hanson (205-2045)
Treasurer: Ted Sehmer (205-2800)

Endowment Foundation:

President: Todd Tupper (873-5372)
Vice President: Rhonda Scheel (873-0388)
Secretary: Pastor Scott (873-9353)
Treasurer: Dana Yellowbird (572-0596)
Board Members: Brian Swain, Phil Gardner,
Alan Zelm

Parish Fellowship:

Jeff Zarth (877-0741)

Stewardship:

Eric Smedal (873-1845)

Christian Education:

Geri Slack (873-4455)
Sunday School: Jenny Hoffman (205-9937)
Church Library: Mary Onsager (873-3999)
Scholarships: Roger Slack (873-4455)

Church Property:

Steve Hendrickson (835-6232)

Evangelism Board:

Ilein Taipe (566-7470)

Lay Ministry Board:

Tiffany Vienneau (877-4274)

Social Concerns:

Dwight Pautz (873-3895)

Youth Board:

Nina Milbauer (332-5113)

Thank You!

The Fellowship Committee would like to thank everyone who provided desserts or salads for Pastor Scott's retirement party, as well as everyone who helped out in the kitchen. We had over fifty salads and desserts, and a big crew of helpers. We also want to thank everyone who braved the weather and managed to get to church despite the snow and the ice. It was truly a wonderful event. Thank you to everyone!



Christ Lutheran Church Surveys

Enclosed are two copies each of two surveys. Directions are on the top of each survey.

- **Survey #1—Congregational Current and Future Direction**—blue paper
- **Survey #2—Pastoral Characteristics**—green paper

The purpose of the surveys is to provide members of a call committee for a second pastor, and members who will be developing a strategic plan, with input from all members of the congregation.

All survey questions are in the form of statements. You are asked to react to most questions by marking one of five responses.

The ELCA has a 12-page form that has a number of questions that are used to match our congregation with the right candidates for our second pastor position. A number of the survey questions match the questions on that form, and their numbers are in **bold type**. All other survey questions were submitted by congregation members, and only confirmed members of Christ Lutheran Church will be asked to complete the surveys. This is important because the survey process is limited to the views of our congregation members.

The deadline for completing and returning the surveys is **Sunday, May 20**. You may submit completed surveys by:

- depositing them in the box on the information counter
- returning them to the church office by mail or in person
- submitting them online using the church's website at www.clcstoughton.org

Since many of our households have two members, one survey each for those two members is enclosed. Postal service regulations require that all items mailed bulk rate have the same content and same weight. To save postage, survey instruments were included in the May *Ambassador* that is mailed to every household.

If you are a single-member household, please complete one each of the two surveys and discard or return the others. Households with more than two confirmed members may make copies of the survey instruments, pick up additional copies at the information table, download copies from the church's website, or submit completed surveys online. Paper color of copied or downloaded surveys does not need to match the enclosed surveys.

Survey results will be available on the church website in early June. Printed copies will be available on the information counter at church.

A group of members will analyze survey results. Those results will be available to the congregation and call committee by the end of summer.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ted Sehmer at (608) 205-2800 or sehmer@charter.net.

Deaths:

James Rodney (Rod) Breedlove
Robert Richard Bunnell
Robert (Bob) Hanson
Helmer Holte

Memorials:

In Memory of:

Janet Thomas
Janet Thomas
Janet Thomas
Rodney Breedlove

From:

Louis and Darlene Halverson
Richard and Sherry Shea
Thomas Fendrick
Carolyn Slaney



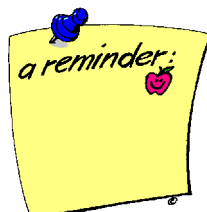
Multi-Generation Events

On April 8, the first, second, third, and fifth grade classes got together to paint rocks. The students painted the rocks to be distributed throughout the community. The rocks were painted with pictures and encouraging words. They will be placed throughout the community for others to enjoy. The students had a good time mixing colors and coming up with creative ways to decorate their rocks.



On April 15, our fifth and sixth grade students met with three adult congregation members to discuss their experiences in Sunday School and confirmation. The congregation members discussed with the students how the structure of Sunday School and confirmation classes has changed throughout the years. They discussed what they felt they took away from their Sunday School and confirmation experiences, and how they use that knowledge in their current everyday lives. It was a good way to get students thinking about what they can take from their Sunday School and confirmation classes and apply to their daily lives.

Mary Onsager shared with the students this pin she earned for eight years of perfect attendance in Sunday School from 1st-8th grade. Mary shared that she wore it with pride!



Last day of Sunday School is May 6!

Accompanying the Senegal YAGMs *by Pastor Kristen Engstrom*

During the months of February and March, I visit each of the YAGMs in their host communities for the second time during their YAGM year. This second visit is different than the first, because by now, the YAGMs are more integrated into the fabric of their communities and into their daily work life. They have also arrived at a point in the year (6-7 months in Senegal) where they have started to reflect on how their year in Senegal has changed, challenged, and formed them as young adults.

It is during this second visit that I tend to realize once again that while we in the ELCA talk about accompaniment as the way in which we engage in relationship with our partners in ministry, more often than not in the YAGM program, it is our partners who truly accompany the YAGM. It is Lily's Roman Catholic host mother, Mama Ndour, who has shown her what it looks like to cling to God's hope and joy in the midst of unexpected loss. It is Kristian's Muslim supervisor, Mariame, who has given her adult life to serve the health care needs of the most vulnerable in the community through her leadership within Senegalese Lutheran Development Services. It is Berkley's host cousin, Corrine, who has invited Berkley and her fellow YAGM, Casey, into her home on Easter Day to show them how to make Ngallax (the traditional dessert made by Christians at Easter) and then accompany them as they share it with their Muslim neighbors, family, and friends.

I give thanks every day for our faithful YAGM partners in Senegal, for they truly show us what it means to walk and work together.



Pastor Fulgence had planned to be a doctor before God called him into pastoral ministry. He and YAGMs Lily compared life stories when they learned that she too had planned to be a doctor, but now looks to enter seminary this fall.



Sister Ba helps YAGMs Grace to milk a cow during Grace's site placement with Fedande Jolof dairy farm. With the help of her colleague, Grace is gradually becoming a Senegalese dairy farmer!



Ladies' Night Out

Thursday, June 14

5:30–9:00 p.m.

Starting Locations: Nauti Norske, Viking Brew Pub,
and Chorus Public House

Come early and enjoy dinner specials at various locations.

The Social Concerns Committee is in the planning stages of the 4th Annual Ladies' Night Out. We have the date—Thursday, June 14. We have the ending location—Chorus Public House. Letters have been sent or personally delivered to downtown and local businesses. It looks like more businesses will participate than ever before.

There will be more information out soon, so watch for it in our church bulletins. Once again, the first 100 tickets will be buy one, get one free. Tickets are \$25 each, quite a value when you consider there are coupons in the goody bag worth more than that. Mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend. Ask a friend! You will have a great time and help CLC raise funds for the following benevolences: START, Seniors in Need, Stoughton Youth Center, and World of Change Leaders.

Go and Tell

by Roger Slack

Mark writes in his Gospel in chapter 2: 1-12 the account of the four men with the paralytic friend. They found out that Jesus had come back to Capernaum and immediately got their good friend and carried him to the house that Jesus was in, but were unable to get inside because of the immense crowd literally packed inside. Oftentimes I've said that I try to imagine what was going on inside the hearts and minds of the various people that come to Jesus or in this case are brought to Jesus. When the four men realized that there was no way they were going to get their friend past the people wedged in the doorway, I would probably have thought they needed to wait until Jesus came back out, as it was inevitable He had to come out eventually. Something was going on with the paralytic man that caused his friends to respond as if they were taking him to one of our ER rooms at a hospital. They didn't have time to wait. He needed Jesus' help now! We don't know much about the paralytic. Did he have a wife and maybe a family? How long had he been paralyzed? I can only speculate, but my guess is that he had lost his will to live and his health was failing fast. He probably felt God had totally rejected him.



(“Why else would this happen to me? I’m of no use to anyone anymore.”) His friends must have been some very special people to not only carry him there, but to come up with the idea and have the guts to tear off somebody else’s roof so that they could lower him down in front of Jesus. I’m sure they asked Jesus to help him if the paralytic didn’t.

I’m sure there were many lives changed in that instance when Jesus first said, “My son, your sins are forgiven,” and then to prove that what He said was true, He said, “Rise, take up your pallet and go home.” The four men on the roof probably had tears of joy in their eyes, having seen what they could never have imagined would take place. I wonder if anyone present there later asked Jesus if their sins could be forgiven too. I sure hope they were beginning to understand what Jesus was saying when He spoke to them.

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.

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. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Senior Luncheon

Wednesday, May 30

11:30 a.m.—Cost: \$10

Program: CLC Trip to Germany



Senior Luncheons are usually on Mondays, but the usual Monday is Memorial Day, and there will be a parade and program downtown. For the program, Pastor Scott and others who enjoyed ten days in Germany at the beginning of May will share slides and stories from the trip.

Menu:

Wild Rice or Ham and Bean Soup
(There will definitely be soup to take home.)
A Variety of Salads
Swedish Rye Bread
Strawberry Shortcake with Whipped Cream
or Ice Cream

No Senior Excursion in May

Pastor Paula's daughter is graduating in May, and that means a trip out to Sioux Falls and a move to Minneapolis. Sophie is doing an internship at Augsburg Fortress this summer. Pastor Paula is looking into the Dells for a fun day in June! Hopefully it will end with a delicious meal at Ishnala Supper Club.

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STOUGHTON, WI

**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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**Email: pastorpaula@clcstoughton.org
office@clcstoughton.org**

CLC Website: www.clcstoughton.org

Staff:

Gloria Hayne, Church Secretary

Eileen Klinzing, Financial Secretary

