



The Heavenly Herald

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

News From The President	2
March Calendar	3
Worship Servants for March	4
Sunday School for March	5
All Choirs Schedule	6
CLC Says Goodbye to a Cherished Friend	6
News from our Little Cherubs	7
News from Our House and Grounds Deacon	7
First Sunday Food Drive Trend	8
CLC Choir News	8
Hark The Herald—Adult Version	9
Hark The Herald—Youth Version	10
News From Our Evangelism Deacon	11
News From Our Stewardship Deacon	11
Greeting Card Fundraiser	12
Bottles and Cans for Little Cherubs	12
On the Bulletin Board	12
Meet our Missionaries	13
CLC Annual Women's Retreat	14
Lenten Calendar	14
Weather and Worship	15
Financial Secretary Needs YOU	15
Assistance for the Hearing	15
NEW on our Website	15
Our Sincere Appreciation	16
CLC 2017 Calendars	16
Support Hope Pregnancy Center	16
Discretionary Fund	16
Thrivent Congregational Advocate Update	17
This Month in Our History	17
Columbarium Memorial News	18
Pastors Retirement Luncheon—Save the Date	18
CLC Music Offering	18
Bible Studies at CLC	19
Helping Hands	19
New Members Installed	20
New Member Baptism	20
Holy Week Calendar	21
Easter Continental Breakfast	21
March Birthdays	22
March Anniversaries	22
Council and Voters Reminder	22

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

It is March! It is Lent! This year the entire month of March will be an entire month of Lent. I have mentioned somewhere before a quote from the lips of Garrison Keillor, "For Lutherans every day is Lent." But what is Lent? Is it a tone? Is it a season? Is it a way of living? Is it all of these or none of these things?

For those familiar with the season of the church year known as Lent the tone is quite somber. People start it off with a mark upon their foreheads that reminds them of the very finite nature of their lives. We are reminded that from "dust we have come and to dust we shall return". Now there is a statement to get one's morning started, the brief reminder that one day we are going to die. It is something common to all humanity and that bridges all of the divides within human community. Yes my friends, both Democrats and Republicans alike, not to mention all the others within the smaller parties as well as for those with no party allegiance, myself included, we are all going to die and during Lent we remember this fact, this truth.

It is a day spoiler, a nasty joy buster to know that Lent is about how fragile we all are. I imagine those who wanted a lift me up column may be disappointed given what I am writing about. However, I am writing about Lent because it has a purpose and that purpose is to bring us all together to consider our plight and to seek refuge from it. I think we need to call an assembly, a community of worship together to hear the news that dust is not the final word, but rather more of a warning. For Lent is going to bring us to the final word. Actually the word itself comes from an old Anglo-Saxon word for Spring, *Lencten*.

It was a time filled with new life, when all the vegetation that had been buried under the winter's snow arose like something new and alive again. It was a time not to remember the old but to grasp the reality of a new day, a birth of a new season. This is the purpose of Lent, to prepare us to look forward to life because we are too familiar with the reality of death all around us.

I was reminded again today of how death's shadow covers our world. I heard on the radio and was alerted by a text on my cell phone of an amber alert pointing out that a little girl was taken from her home and being transported in a Sonata to wherever the suspect was going to take her. At the time of writing, the little girl's mother was the victim of a vicious confrontation with the suspect's knife leaving her without life; a reminder of the reality of death around us.

Lent tells us to gather into community and there to approach God who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and who abounds in steadfast love. This sounds to me like Good News, to gather the wagons and to center them on the only one who can give us life, the one who promises life, who will indeed spend his life for us so that we might have life forever. So while death tries to silence our hopes we are to be busy hearing, and focusing in on how God wants to raise our hopes once more. The how is the story to be told during Lent. It is the story of God's love for us in the person of Jesus Christ.

(Continued on page 5)



Daylight Savings Time Begins

Daylight Saving Time (United States) begins **Sunday, March 12, 2017.**

Move your clocks **ahead** 1 hour so you are not late for Church!

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Worship Services:
8:00 am & 10:30 am
(Nursery Care Available - 10:30
am)

**Sunday School
&
Adult Bible Classes:**
9:10 am

Summer Worship Service:
9:00 am
(Fathers Day to Labor
Day)



*The Heavenly Herald
is published for members and
friends of Cheshire Lutheran
Church.*

Church Staff

Rev. Charles Gustafson-Pastor

Carol Santoro-Office Manager

*Martha Medford-Organist &
Choir Director*

Jeff Mann-Parish President

Beth Soulier-Editor

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Greetings All,



Winter is starting to wind down and the spring is right around the corner – can't believe it's already March! The season of Lent is upon us and Holy Week will be here before we know it.

Thank you to all the members of the Voters Assembly for attending the first meeting of the new year on January 5th. As follow-up to my article last month, an important highlight to this meeting was the unanimous approval of the CLC Pastoral Call Committee. This important committee will be Chaired by Pat Didomizio, Committee Members are Don Drust, Steve Feero, Carol Santoro and Beth Soulier. Alternate Committee Members will consist of Ethel Daly, Ed Schweizer and Craig Wilson.

Please keep this committee in your thoughts and prayers and support them in any way possible as they go about the important task of identifying and ultimately issuing a call to our next Pastor. Pat will provide updates as appropriate on committee meetings and progress.

The original plan was to meet with New England District President Tim Yeadon on January 31st, but Mother Nature decided to send enough snow in our direction to necessitate a change of plans. On Sunday, February 5th, President Yeadon met with the CLC Council and Committee Chairman Pat Didomizio to explain the Pastoral Call process and answer our many questions. President Yeadon pledged the full support of the NED as our Committee carries out its work.

President Yeadon made it clear that he believes CLC has a strong and capable congregation, with a lot to offer, and he believes we are well-positioned to attract the right person to provide our Spiritual Leadership as we go forward following Pastor Gustafson's retirement. No surprise there!

Thank you to Pat Didomizio for organizing our recent funeral procedure seminar presented by Dan Ford, Director of the Alderson/Ford Funeral Home.

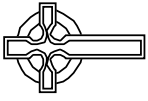
We are still seeking volunteers to fill our vacant Religious Education Deacon and Youth Deacon Council positions. Please give prayerful consideration to leading one of these important committees. You will not serve alone and will have the full support of the Council and committee members. Please see me or any other Council member if you have questions or would like to volunteer your service.

Our next Council meeting will be Monday, March 7th at 7:00pm, in the CLC library.

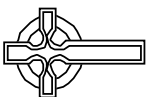
Yours in Christ,

Jeffrey A. Mann
Parish President, CLC

We are still seeking volunteers to fill our vacant Religious Education Deacon and Youth Deacon Council positions



GE Galigndar



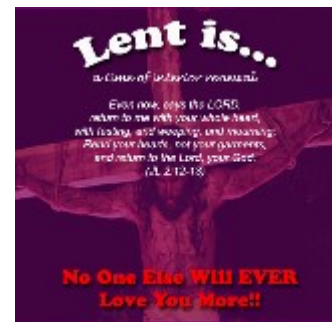
March

March Servants

We should want to hear that story. We should want to hear it over and over, again and again, because it is true and it reaffirms God's love for us as all around us we are combatted by things quite ungodly, the things of death.

Lent is a time to focus on God's mercy and love. It is the time to remember we are valued by God and that in the end of all things we will not be dust, but we shall live. We will have life. It will be beautiful and rich with God's splendor. It will be a wonder for all to behold. We are not there yet. It is coming closer but for now the call is to get closer to God. The call is to listen to him and to heed his words for life. It is Lent a time in which we are to prepare for something new to happen by the very God who makes all things new! Come and gather with all the people into a solemn assembly, the very people of God.

The peace of the Lord be with you!
Pastor G



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR MARCH 2017...

Find just how much our Lord & Savior Loves us! It is beyond anything we could ever imagine. Learn twice as much on how much Love by joining us Wednesdays & Sundays for Worship and of course at 9:10 for Sunday School.

The Challenge is give of yourself during the season of lent. Once again our Sunday School children will be asked to donate spare change to fill their Lenten Coin Boxes. Recipients of monies donated from Our Lenten offering boxes will be the Cheshire food bank. Only 3 Sunday School children handed in their filled Advent Coin Boxes this year. Please let us have 100% participation during Lent!!!

Another Challenge is to look up and read the following:

2 Corinthians 3: 17	Zephaniah 3:17
Psalms 50 :14	Psalms 73:23-26
Colossians 1:27	Matthew 11:28-29
Luke 1:37	Isaiah 12:2
Psalms 37:4	Romans 8:31
Matthew 1:23	Psalms 91: 4
John 14:27	Philippians 4: 4-6

What do these verses mean to you? To all of us?

To overwhelming for you? Then pick **one** write it down; memorize it, find out the meaning!

A Christian who sings to our Lord; prays twice!

The children will be singing March 26th & Palm Sunday April 9th at the 10:30 Service. Please join us to rehearse each Sunday at 9:10

I am looking forward to seeing all our CLC's students each Sunday for church & Sunday School!!!

Yours in Christ,
Carlene Myers



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A SUCCESS!! (April 2017 Articles are Due!)

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier (soulierbeth@sbcglobal.net) by Friday **March 24th** or earlier! Place all non-electronic articles and information you would like printed into the HH in Beth's lateral file folder on the hallway

Thank You



CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

Date	Time	Event	Choir
March 8- Wednesday 2nd Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Soloist
	7:30 PM	Performance	Soloist
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 9 - Thursday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
March 12 - Sunday 2nd Sunday in Lent	10:05 AM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Youth Choir
March 15 - Wednesday 3rd Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:45 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:30 PM	Performance	Youth Choir
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 16 - Thursday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
March 19 - Sunday 3rd Sunday in Lent	10:10 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
March 22 - Wednesday 4th Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:30PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Soloist
	7:30 PM	Performance	Soloist
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 23 - Thursday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
March 26 - Sunday 4th Sunday in Lent	10:10 AM	Rehearsal	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Performance	Sunday School
March 29 - Wednesday 5th Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:30PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	7:30 PM	Performance	Parish Choir
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 30 - Thursday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir

CLC SAYS GOODBYE TO A CHERISHED FRIEND...

Sunrise April 4, 1930 ~ Sunset February 1, 2017

Our beloved sister, Dot (Dorothea) Manke, was called home to our Lord on February 1, 2017. A celebration of Dot's life took place at 11 am on Saturday February 11 at Cheshire Lutheran Church.

Dot and Al Manke are Charter Members of our Church Family having been instrumental in forming our Congregation in the beginning. Dot served our congregation in many ways over the years, to many to mention or count. Most notably however she was a lifelong member of the Parish Choir. We thank God for Dot's ministry and service among us and for the opportunity to share in a common witness to the faith. The time has come to offer words of hope and comfort as we remember the promises of our Lord and faithful God.

May God's peace and consolation bring comfort to Manke family.

Well done, good and faithful servant.... enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Matthew 25:21



NEWS FROM OUR LITTLE CHERUBS...

The month of February is shot but we have been busy- On February 2nd we made Ground Hog Puppets and learned about shadows. February 6th we celebrated National Pancake Day, having pancakes for snack and making Pancake Puppets.

There have been some important days to remember in February – On Martin Luther King Day we read about differences in people and how to be kind to one another. We used our Handprints to make a “Circle of Friends” and included photos of things we have done together.

We read about Abe Lincoln, made a pretzel log cabin for snack, and we did a penny rub. We learned that George Washington was the 1st president, and made a thumb print cherry tree.

We continued to work on letters, numbers and other preschool concepts. Lucas came from the Library and read some great stories and we made a Thank You note for him.

Bible Studies have included fisher of men (The Disciples), Jesus loves the little children, and the lost sheep.

We will begin the story of Lent and Easter.

Have a wonderful March! I know we will.

Be Blessed,
Joann and Martha



NEWS FROM OUR HOUSE AND GROUNDS DEACON...

Hello everyone,

The snow is piled up, the sky's are grey and cars need to be warmed up in the morning... wait that was last week, today it's sunny, only a few piles of the white stuff and it's almost 70 degrees outside. It's hard to tell what season we are really in and that makes our annual spring cleanup so fun, we never know if there will be snow, rain, sleet or beautiful sunshine and I'm pretty sure this year will be no different.

As we did last year, we are going to spread the work over two weekends to make sure we can get as many helpers as possible. We will do the inside cleanup on April 1st (no fooling) starting at 9 AM and the outside cleanup on April 8th beginning at 9 AM also. For the inside clean up we will be sweeping and mopping the floors, wiping down the pews and woodwork, cleaning the counters and tables and straightening everything up. Many hands make light work so I'm encouraging kids from one to ninety-two to come out and lend a helping hand (families welcomed). For the outside cleanup we will be making our church look heavenly by raking up leaves and fallen branches, weeding the outside gardens, trimming bushes and sweeping the sidewalks and parking lot. Once again I encourage any and all members to come help us get everything done, the more the merrier. There will be sign up sheets on the bulletin board with more information (what to bring, tools, cleaners, etc.). If you can make it, please mark your calendar and I look forward to seeing you on one or both weekends.

I'd like to give a shout out to Tim Weiland, Ed Schweizer, Jim and Margie Mertz, Jeff Mann and Avery Clark for coming out on a cold and snowing Saturday afternoon to take down our crèche and store it before it was buried in a foot of snow. This was a great example of how having many hands helped take down the crèche, move it to the shed and store it away in one hour. Thank you all!

House and grounds deacon,

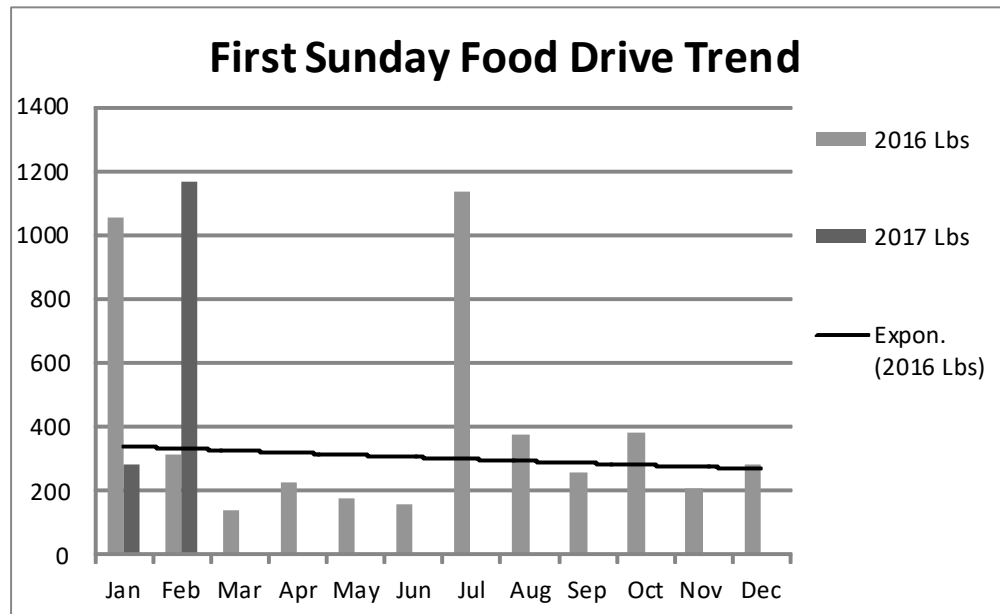
Andy Clark





DONATE YOUR FREEBIES!

If you happen to spot an item at the grocery store selling at a special price “buy one-get one free”, purchase it and donate the free item to First Sunday Food Drive



“Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’” John 21:15b

LET'S NOT FORGET THOSE LESS FORTUNATE...

Don't let our First Sunday Food Bank donations fall behind last year's totals. Please note that the Cheshire Community Food Pantry is open Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:00 am until noon and Tues. & Thurs. from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Please check expiration dates. We want to insure the food we are sending is not out of date. Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted, including non-food items such as soap, tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc.



CLC CHOIR NEWS...

All Choirs rehearse on Wednesday evenings as follows:

6:30 PM – Youth Choir
 7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir
 8:00 PM – Parish Choir

The Parish Choir sings on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays and the Youth Choir performs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. Both Choirs usually sing at the 10:30 but sometimes are asked (mostly Parish) to sing at the 8:00 service as well.

The Bell Choir will perform on special occasions 5-7 times throughout the year.

Each choir is praying for new members. Please consider joining, you will be happy you did! No experience necessary!

LET'S SEE HOW YOU DO!

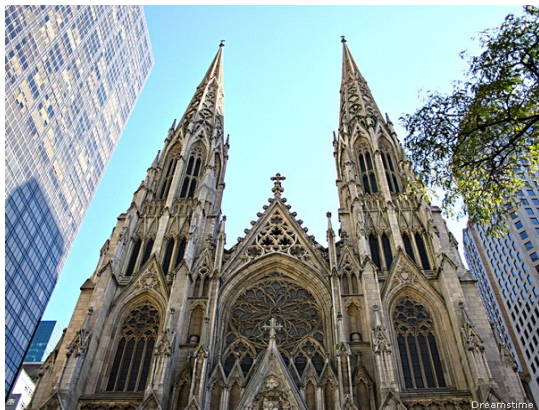
MARCH 2017

Submitted by and Special Thanks to Debbie Sherman

A. Can you identify each of the following famous American cathedrals or houses of worship?

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. The Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, NYC | B. Salt Lake Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah |
| C. St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC | D. Washington National Cathedral, Washington D.C. |

1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



B.

- Which one (above) is the **4th largest (footage*) Christian Church in the world?** _____
- Which one is also known as The Episcopal Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul and is the **2nd largest cathedral in the USA?** _____
- Which one is the largest and most spectacular of the 140 temples built by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church), the Salt Lake Temple's cornerstone was laid by Brigham Young and took 40 years to complete. It was dedicated in April 1893. _____
- The cathedral's Pieta, sculpted by William Ordway Paetridge, is three times the size of Michelangelo's famed version in Rome. _____

***Source: Wikipedia**

Answers: A. 1) C

2) A

3) D

4) B

See Answers on Page 17

Junior Version!

MARCH 2017

Submitted by and Special Thanks to Debbie Sherman

Women of the Bible Word Search:

Words to Find:

Hannah	Jezebel	Maacah
Eve	Zeresh	Haggith
Hagar	Sarah	Abital
Miriam	Rebekah	Eglah
Deborah	Rachel	Ahinoam
Ruth	Bathsheba	



Bill Brinkworth

See Answers on Page 17

NEWS FROM OUR EVANGELISM DEACON...

March 1st starts the season of Lent, which coincides with spring. It is also a time for Christians to renew their life in Christ. There are many comparisons between spring and Lent. Just as the earth dies in winter and starts new life in spring; Christ's death on Good Friday gives us renewed life in Him with His Easter Sunday resurrection. This is an excellent time to invite others to celebrate this contemplative, redemptive and joyous season. Ash Wednesday and Lenten services leading up to Holy Week afford us many opportunities to invite those in need of Christ's loving and redemptive nature. Be a light in the darkness.

Yours in Christ, John Balash, Evangelism Deacon



NEWS FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP DEACON...

Thank you again for getting the Mission Plan off to a good start this year. Normally, my articles focus on pledging and contributions. This month I want to discuss another potential source of revenue. This one is essentially free money.

I am talking about **Thrivent Choice Dollars**. Many of you have accounts with Thrivent Financial. If you do, you should be eligible for Thrivent Choice Dollars. This is a program run by Thrivent whereby Thrivent members can direct where Thrivent's charitable outreach funds go. Cheshire Lutheran Church is an eligible organization to receive these funds. But CLC needs you to make sure you contact Thrivent and direct them to dedicate your 2016 Choice Dollars to CLC.

Regardless of whether you got a reminder in the mail or not, I ask you to please contact Thrivent and direct your dollars to be contributed to CLC. This program provides a couple thousand dollars to the Church but it could mean even more because only a percentage of members actually direct their funds. A significant percentage of members of CLC who are also Thrivent members never direct the funds at all (even to other organizations). Without the direction, your Choice Dollars will expire and not be distributed to any organization.

REMEMBER: You have to make a specific direction each year. They do not assume that your past directions are your current directions.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars® have until **March 31, 2017**, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity [to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to](#) Cheshire Lutheran Church. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Notwithstanding the deadline of March 31st, please contact Thrivent by mail or phone call by March 17th in order to ensure your dedication is processed by March 31st. Please take a few minutes to contact Thrivent and direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to CLC. Thank you.

If you have any questions, you can also contact your Thrivent representative, Mark Manning, at 203-241-0858.

Sincerely,

David Veleber
Stewardship Deacon



GREETING CARD FUNDRAISER!

(A project of the Thursday Ladies Group)

A variety of greeting cards with Christian messages are for sale at \$1 each. These high quality cards are displayed in a rack on the counter outside the office. We will continuously update the selection which includes Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Thank You, seasonal and miscellaneous choices.

After making your selection, please leave your money or check in the box attached to the display.

The ladies thank the congregation for their generous support and hope to continue their record of giving to various church ministries.

We thank all for their support and especially thank those who leave large bills in the box.

Contact Persons; Rita Stark (272-3488) and Carolyn Bammann (272-7083).



CANS AND BOTTLES—BOTTLES AND CANS...

Save your returnable Bottle and Cans. Money raised will benefit Little Cherubs. A collection box is located in the storage closet towards the back of the Fellowship Hall.



ON THE BULLETIN BOARD:

Remember to check the Bulletin Boards and/or hallway table for sign-up sheets and information about various events!

This month on the Bulletin Board:

- † CLC Little Blessings Nursery Needs Volunteers
- † Give Your Old Car A Good Home **Good News Garage** information
- † Cheshire Food Drive Volunteer info. and sign-ups
- † Hope Center 2017 volunteer sign-ups
- † 2017 Usher Schedule
- † Little Cherubs enrollment information

Others looking for help!

- † **Fellowship Deacon needs volunteers** to help make the events happen. Contact Karen Weiland if you can help in any capacity. 203-250-1574 or email kweiland3@sbcglobal.net
- † **Helping Hands** - Contact the Church Office if you would like to be a member of the helping hands committee.
- † **All Choirs** rehearse on Wednesday evenings are as follows:

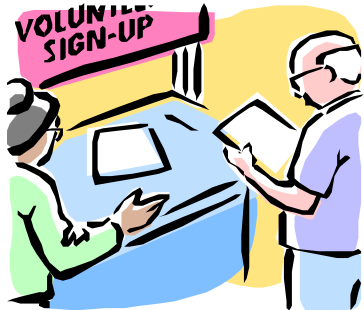
6:30 PM – Youth Choir

7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir

8:00 PM – Parish Choir

Now is the time to sign up to join the Parish Choir for Adults or the Youth Choir for Children. Previous singing in Choirs is not required, only a love of music and a desire to contribute to our worship on Sundays. Speak to Martha Medford or any current member of the choirs for Questions.

- † **Sunday School Teachers Needed**—Prayerfully consider serving our congregations children by volunteering to Teach them a few Sunday mornings during the year. See Carlene Myers or Andy.



MEET OUR MISSIONARIES...



ahead. Thi and Ly, however, are less traditional, and so they were happy to welcome us as their first guests.

After meeting up with Thi and Ly, we were invited to their ancestral house (nhà thờ họ). Wealthier families will often have this kind of building. While not a house per se, there is one member of the family (in this case a widow) who lives on the premises or nearby so as to take care of it. The building then becomes an ideal meeting place for death anniversaries of family members or other events such as Tết.

Inside the ancestral house is the family shrine, often times quite elaborate, set up to honor and worship the family's ancestors. On the ancestral altar are different offerings, from fruit to alcohol to paper money. After we arrived, we observed other family members coming in to the shrine area, lighting incense, and having a brief moment of prayer. After prayer, they were careful to exit without turning their back on the altar, a sign of disrespect.

After everyone assembled, we enjoyed a convivial and plentiful meal, including copious amounts of rice-wine and sticky rice cakes (bánh chưng). The toasting went on for hours. When finished, J.P. was pleasantly full of both food and drink. Thinking we were done for the day, we began preparing to gather our things to leave, only to be told that we would visit another house. That visit included, of course, more food and more rice-wine!

We had a delightful time! At this time of the new year, we are thankful for the newness we are given in Christ, and the ministry of reconciliation he has given us (2 Corinthians 5:17-18). Times like Tết are a great opportunity to share about that very thing with the people of Vietnam!



Our first day of Tết was spent with our dear friends Thi and Ly, and their children, Phuong and Duy. We have known them since very soon after we moved to Hanoi.

We were honored to spend the first day of Tết with them. Traditionally, the first person to enter your home on the first day of Tết sets the tone for the rest of the year. Thus, it is impolite to just pop in to visit someone unannounced on the first day of Tết. Rather, families carefully choose whom to invite so that they might secure blessings for the year.

J.P. and Aimee Cima and their children Serving the Lord in Vietnam



- Pray daily for J.P. and Aimee — and how you can support and tell others about their ministry. Visit lcms.org/cima
- Learn about LCMS international work at lcms.org/international
- Support and adopt an international worker. Call 888-930-4438.

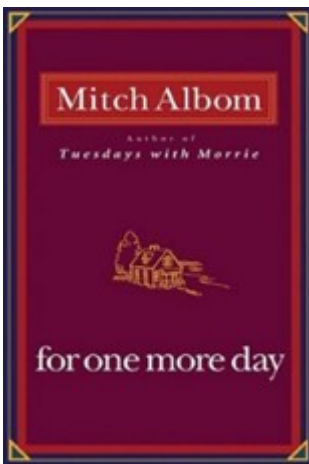
LEARN • PRAY • GIVE • TELL • SEND • GO • CELEBRATE



2017 FLOWER CHART...

If you would like to place flowers on the altar on a particular Sunday, please sign up on the Flower Chart which is hanging on the Bulletin Board.





CLC ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT 2017...

Our 10th Annual CLCW Retreat will be held on Saturday May 20th at the Guest House and Conference Center in Chester, CT. The book we will be reading this year is *For One More Day*, by Mitch Albom.

For One More Day is the story of a mother and a son, and a relationship that covers a lifetime and beyond. It explores the question: What would you do if you could spend one more day with a lost loved one?

Please plan on joining us in May for an inspiring day with the women of CLC.

The registration fee including lunch is \$40. Please call me if you have any questions. Vicki DePaolo - 203-697-0810



LENTEN CALENDAR

Event	Date	Notes
Ash Wednesday—1st Wednesday in Lent	Wednesday March 1, 2017	Service at 7:30 PM
2nd Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday March 8, 2017	Soup, Salad & Bible Study at 6:00 PM Service at 7:30 PM
3rd Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday March 15, 2017	Soup, Salad & Bible Study at 6:00 PM Service at 7:30 PM
4th Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday March 22, 2017	Soup, Salad & Bible Study at 6:00 PM Service at 7:30 PM
5th Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday March 29, 2017	Soup, Salad & Bible Study at 6:00 PM Service at 7:30 PM
6th Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday April 5, 2017	Soup, Salad & Bible Study at 6:00 PM Service at 7:30 PM



PLEDGE PACKETS FOR 2017...

Pledge Sunday for 2017 are here. Please assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations by returning your pledge card to the church as soon as possible. Thank you!

WEATHER AND WORSHIP...

Who knows what kind of winter we will have this year! To find out when worship services have been cancelled due to weather conditions, check TV channels, WTNH channel 8 or MyTV 9, WFSB channel 3 and on the radio, WTIC 1080 AM. All these stations have websites that list weather closings too! A mass e-mail will also be sent. If you would like to be included on our mass e-mail please let the church office know.

Stay warm!



FINANCIAL SECRETARY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU...

The Financial Secretary is always in need of volunteers to aid in counting church offerings after the 10:30 AM Sunday services. If you are available 4 - 6 times per year for approximately one hour, please contact Bill Soulier!



SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED ...

A hearing assistance system (Williams Sound Corporation) and four receivers have been donated to CLC. A receiver (hearing aid) may be obtained from any usher. Please feel free to ask for one and make sure you return to an usher at the end of the service so it can be returned to its proper storage place for use at another time.



NEW ON OUR WEBSITE...WWW.CHESHIRELUTHERAN.ORG

The following has been recently added to our Website:

- ✦ Audio recordings of Anthems sung by our Choirs last month
- ✦ Current and Past Heavenly Heralds



NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION?

Just slip your information or a note into one of the folders on the hallway table outside the church office. Folders have been created for each of the council members, Beth Soulier (the editor of this newsletter) and a few others and placed outside the office. We have found that this is a great way to distribute information within the congregation.



Our Sincere Appreciation



- † Many thanks to the "Thursday Afternoon Ladies" for assembling the February Heavenly Herald! HUGS!
- † Special thanks to those that contributed to our **Banner Month** contributions to the Cheshire Food Bank. Food count for February is 1,163 lbs and \$190. Of that amount, 115 cans of soup, 102 lbs of cleaning supplies (purchased with the grant received from Thrivent) and \$190 was contributed through Super Bowl of Caring.

HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER...



Volunteers to deliver baby items to Hope Pregnancy Center, located next to the Library in Cheshire, are needed. If you would like to help once or twice a year, please sign up on the bulletin board.

We have re-directed the donated baby items which are collected in the bassinet outside the church office. For years we have been donating them to "Baskets of Love" where women of the Waterbury Church of Christ used them to make baskets which are distributed to new mothers in Waterbury Hospital, Bristol Hospital and New Beginnings in Waterbury. We would like to now donate these items to the **local** organization "Hope for Life", d.b.a. Hope Pregnancy Center. They are located at 110 Main Street, Cheshire in a facility provided by Christ Community Church. They will gratefully accept infant clothing and unused nursery equipment. For further information, see the poster hung above the bassinet.

THE DISCRETIONARY FUND...HELPING OTHERS IN AND BEYOND OUR COMMUNITY!



There are many ways to assist in the ministry of Cheshire Lutheran Church. One of the ways comes through the Discretionary Fund which is used to help people in need of assistance for various reasons. Many times those in need are members of the congregation. At other times, those in need simply come off the street seeking help for their family. However, in order to help others who wish to remain anonymous funding is needed. If you would like to help you can find special envelopes for contributions in the wall rack outside the church office. All donations are welcome no matter how small or large.

On the other hand, if you are ever in need of some immediate assistance the fund is there for you. You simply need to contact Pastor so that he can determine how you can be assisted in your time of crisis.

Take time to consider your blessings and then consider the possibility of being a blessing to others through a gift to the discretionary fund.

THRIVENT CONGREGATIONAL ADVOCATE UPDATE...

This is just a quick reminder to all Thrivent members to be sure to allocate any remaining 2016 Choice Dollars available to you by March 31, 2017.

Also, please keep thinking about ways you can use your Action Team funds.

Please contact Alan Spose (203-623-1650) or Mark Manning (203-241-0858) with any questions.



Happy St. Patrick's Day

THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

A monthly glimpse of the history of your Cheshire Lutheran Church:

March 30, 1958	Congregation chartered on Palm Sunday, with 71 communicants received as charter members
March 1960	The Rev. Darrel Geitz released to accept call to Our Savior and Messiah Lutheran Church in Evansville, Indiana
March 1979	Church Fellowship Hall and Sunday School rooms construction commenced



Answers from Page 10:



Answers from Page 9:

A. 1) C

2) A

3) D

4) B

B. 1) A

2) D

3) B

4) C



COLUMBARIUM AND MEMORIAL GARDEN NEWS...

If you are interested in reserving a niche, purchasing a memorial plaque, or making a donation to beautify and maintain the Columbarium and Memorial Garden. Now is the time to speak to any member of the Columbarium Committee to confirm your interest in supporting and participating in this ministry. The Committee is now accepting applications for niches and memorial plaques. Monetary donations will be thankfully accepted toward landscaping and "hardscaping" the Memorial Garden.



Please feel free to contact any Committee member below to request more information or to obtain an application. The Committee thanks the members and leaders of Cheshire Lutheran Church for their vision and support of the Columbarium and Memorial Garden.

Don Drust, Chair	Buzz Gancarz	Priscilla Mulvaney
Vicki DePaolo	Linda Gancarz	Randy Raddatz
Judy DiDomizio	Margie Mertz	Beth Soulier
Pat DiDomizio	John Mulvaney	Tim Weiland

Procedures:



You will find a box containing blue folders on a stand in the hallway. One folder contains inurnment procedures and the other contains memorial plaque procedures. Both folders also include fee schedules and the CLC bylaws concerning the columbarium wall. Please take whichever folder interest you and review it carefully.

If you have any questions or when you feel prepared to commit to the project, please contact Pat DiDomizio.



SAVE THE DATE—PASTOR'S RETIREMENT LUNCHEON...

We will be honoring and celebrating the retirement of Pastor Gustafson on Sunday, April 30th after the second service with a buffet luncheon at The Waverly Inn. Invitations will be forthcoming.

Please call Karen Weiland (203-250-1574) with any questions.



CLC MUSICAL OFFERING...

Music performed during Sunday morning services, is sometimes recorded and then emailed to a number of people. Most computers will recognize the mp3 music file and play it back. It is especially appreciated by those who are not able to be with us on a given Sunday.

If you are interested in receiving an occasional musical offering, please send an email to: juul@cox.net with "CLC Music" in the subject line. Recipient addresses will not appear in the music email.

We would be happy to include you.

Judy & Bill Juul

Bible Studies at CLC

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:10 for our Adult Bible Study.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY...

Join us for Tuesday Bible Study at 7pm. Jim Mertz will lead the sessions each week.

If you are interested in joining this study, please inform Andy so that the appropriate amount of materials may be ordered. Call the office at 203-272-5106 or email dce@cheshirelutheran.org



CALLING ALL MEN...

Have you been searching for an opportunity to deepen your faith in God and strengthen your relationship with fellow Christians? Join us for an hour of Bible study, fellowship and prayer once a month. We meet at 9:00am on the third Saturday of every month. We look forward to seeing you.



THURSDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUP...

Our Thursday morning Adult Study Group is continuing with its series of weekly lectures on Biblical Literature – from Genesis to Revelation – with Professor Craig R Koester, of Luther Seminary, in St Paul, MN. We meet in the church library; and all of you whose morning schedule permits you to join us are cordially invited to do so.

Sincerely – in Christ, Pastor Nuechterlein



CLC HELPING HANDS...

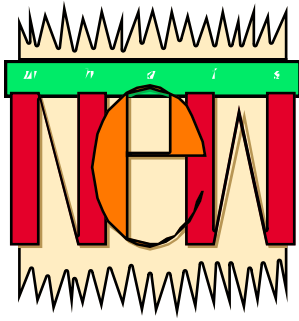
The Helping Hands committee is looking for a new Chairperson and others to help coordinate. Kindly consider this wonderful opportunity. Contact the church office if you are interested.

If you are in need of help please call on our Helping Hands committee. Please call the church office and arrangements will be made for meals to be made and delivered to you by our committee.

Whether this need is the result of a hospital stay, a new baby arrival, or a recent loss of a loved one, we want to support you during your critical time.

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. -- Galatians 6:10





PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO OUR CLC FAMILY...

On Sunday February 26, 2017 we celebrated together as the following new members joined our congregation:

Nancy Engelhardt lives at 30 Deanarose Pl, Cheshire; 203-439-0184. Nancy is a retired nurse who loves spending time with her family, which includes grandchildren. She also has an interest in health care.



James Schlupp lives at 15 Amber Court, Prospect along with his wife, Elaine and their two children, Heidi and Kevin; 203-758-3773. James is a Radiologic Technologist who loves nature, swimming, singing spending time with family and serving others in his spare time.

Nancy Schweizer is married to one of our long-term members, Ed Schweizer, 830 Westside Road, Cheshire; 203-272-9947. Nancy is retired and has been an extreme help in the church office whenever needed. Some of her interests include attending UConn sports and jazz concerts and walking the beaches of Rhode Island.

Elizabeth Stinson and **Brad Shick** along with their daughter, Emily Shick, live at 173 Osborn Road, Naugatuck; 248-918-7317 (Elizabeth) 201-753-8420 (Brad). Brad works for Ford and Elizabeth works for Regeneron. Together they enjoy camping, hiking, cooking and playing with their dog.

John and Diane Taylor live at 615 Coleman Road, Cheshire along with their daughters, Sydney and Aliza; 203-699-8298. John is a CFO working in New York City who enjoys fly fishing and golf in his spare time. Diane is employed by CT Assoc. for the Education of Young Children. Diane enjoys traveling, concerts and sporting events. They both enjoy spending time with family and friends.



PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS TO THE LORD'S FAMILY...

We celebrate together as **Fujie (Jackie) Lan** and **Haoen (James) Li** were baptized into the Lord's family on Sunday February 26, 2017.

Both are visiting exchange students from China who are living with their host family, the Schlupp's.

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.



HOLY WEEK

Event	Date	Notes
Passion (Palm) Sunday	Sunday April 9, 2017	Services at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Holy/Maundy Thursday Eucharist	Thursday April 13 2017	Service at 7:30 PM
Good Friday Tenebrae	Friday April 14, 2017	Service at 7:30 PM
Easter Sunday—The Resurrection of Our Lord Eucharist	Sunday April 16, 2017	Services at 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM
Easter Children's (Family) Service	Sunday April 16, 2017	Service at 9:45 AM

EASTER CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST IS BACK...

To all members, friends and visitors: This Easter the church will hold a Continental Breakfast between the first and last service of Easter morning. We are hoping that many people will join us for breakfast and for the opportunity of fellowship the time offers. Some of the items that will be available are: Coffee, Tea, Juices, Bagels, Toast, Fruit and Cereals. We need your help with clean up as well.

If you would like to contribute a breakfast item it would be greatly appreciated. Some of the items you could bring that morning could include baked goods, fruit, fruit salad, quiches and egg casseroles. A sign-up sheet will be placed on the Bulletin Board for attendees and food items.



Please let us know if you are coming and how many so we can plan.

Please consider contributing one or more of these items to help make this breakfast fellowship a success.

Questions? Contact Karen Weiland

- 1st Beth Carlson
Jason Schaff
- 3rd David Schrumm
- 4th Herman Asmus
Dylan Neff
Priscilla Troemel
- 5th Julianna Ball
- 7th Mark Sims
- 8th Kinsley Clark
- 9th Raymond Verner
Melissa Veleber
- 10th Eva Schrumm
Hannah Kjeldsen
Conner DeLaubell
- 11th Cailynn Harding
- 12th Luke Hays
- 13th Martha Medford
- 14th John McBain
- 16th Ethel Daly
Phil Giampietro
Julia Schaff
- 17th John Taylor
- 18th Robert Davis
William Pinto
- 19th Laura Gustafson
- 22nd Walter Gancarz
- 23rd Robert Lamb
- 24th Sandra Gayda
- 26th Guy Mason
Mary Lou Aston
Emily Shick
- 28th Alex Nizich
- 30th Rita Stark
- 31st Garrett Neff



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 2017

19 th	Paul & Trish Greenhalgh	34 Years
20 th	Joe & Joann Holstein	23 Years
21 st	Philip & Leigh Giampietro	36 Years



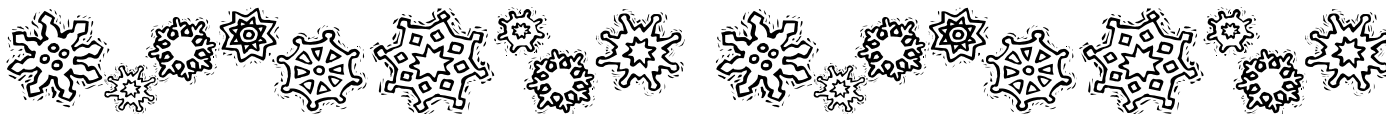
Please join us for worship on Wednesday evenings *starting* at 7:30 during Lent.

COUNCIL MEETING REMINDER

Mark your calendars, Council will meet on Tuesday March 7 at 7:00 p.m.

VOTERS MEETING REMINDER

Mark your calendars, next Voters Assembly will meet on Monday April 10 at 7:00 p.m.



Cheshire Lutheran Church
660 West Main St
Cheshire CT 06410

