



The Heavenly Herald

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.” Joel 2:12–13 (ESV)

For many Christians, the season of Lent this year started in an unusual way – with an “Ash-less” Wednesday. The traditional imposition of ashes on the penitent was just one of the latest victims of the Covid-19 pandemic, as Churches took a variety of approaches to the traditional practice. Many omitted it all together, some gave out containers of ashes to people so they could apply them at home, others opted to sprinkle the ashes on the top of peoples’ heads, and still others used some sort of disposable, single use applicator to give out the ashes. (At CLC, people who attended the Ash Wednesday service had the option of receiving the ashes on their forehead or the back of their hand, applied in the shape of a cross and using individual disposable make-up sponges.)

Regardless of which approach a Church took, the various decisions were all made with the same goal in mind, keeping people safe. Still, that didn’t make it any easier for people who wanted to receive ashes but weren’t able to get them. Ash Wednesday without ashes just didn’t feel right to them, something was missing, and there were folks who resorted to calling around to try and find a Church that was giving out ashes. The practice itself has its roots in the Old Testament, where people who were lamenting of their sins also engaged in outward acts as signs of their inner repentance. These included tearing one’s garments, putting on clothing made of sack cloth (burlap), and sitting in dust and ashes.

Using ashes on Ash Wednesday was a practice

that continued through the Middle Ages in the monasteries and convents, where the members of those communities would have ashes sprinkled onto the tops of their heads. Around the year one thousand, it became common for the laity to have ashes sprinkled upon their heads as well. Having the ashes applied in Church to your forehead in the shape of a cross is a much more recent practice, becoming a common feature of Ash Wednesday services at some point during the last century. Regardless of the way that the ashes were applied, the purpose behind them has always been the same – they are an outward expression of the heartfelt repentance of the believer. They’re not some sort of magic talisman or mark that provides protection from evil, they’re not intended to be primarily a public profession of one’s faith in Christ, and they are certainly not solely for the purpose of drawing attention to yourself.

In fact, when all is said and done, the ashes are not important; what really matters is the repentance that is supposed to be taking place in our hearts on Ash Wednesday and throughout the season of Lent. The whole purpose of these forty days in which we find ourselves is to abandon our selfish, sinful ways and to turn to God. The very word “repent” means “to turn”, specifically to turn from sin toward God. He doesn’t care if you got ashes on Ash Wednesday, or if you give up chocolate or alcohol during Lent, or if you eat meat on Fridays. What God cares about, what He truly desires, is that you return to Him; the God who created you and who redeemed you wants you and me to be sorry for our sins and to go to Him for forgiveness.

The Bible is full of passages that tell us God is more concerned with what is in your heart than what is on the outside. Whether it’s the

(Continued on page 3)



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)



We are extremely blessed to have such a strong congregation and look forward to continued and increased engagement by members as the year progresses and things begin to safely open.

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Greetings All,

The first Council meeting of 2021 was conducted virtually via Zoom on Monday, February 8th and was well attended. Each Council member provided productive updates and we got off to a great start for the year. A few key highlights were as follows:

- ✦ We had a new cleaning company start and so far, we are very pleased with their services. Expect House and Grounds Deacon Andy Clark to provide more details on this topic.
- ✦ We discussed the revenue Amazon Smiles brings the church and how much more we could benefit with increased engagement by the congregation. Look for more details on this from Stewardship Deacon Rob DeLaubell.
- ✦ We heard from Evangelism Deacon Marilyn Miller on the committee she pulled together who met and identified several opportunities, such as the potential for supporting high school seniors with a scholarship. Look for more details to come from Marilyn.
- ✦ Regarding Fellowship, Pam Clark is looking into the potential for Easter Sunday breakfast options and facilitating virtual coffee hour sessions via Zoom between services.
- ✦ We will be looking at the Voters list for 2021 and contacting individuals who did not meet the minimum requirements in 2020 to determine their interest to continue in 2021. Voter participation is open to any member of CLC that would like to get more involved in the governance of the church. Meetings are generally conducted four times per year and last about an hour depending on the number of agenda items. Membership is granted by Voter's upon attendance at your second meeting.
- ✦ Mission Plan wise we are at 133%, although keep in mind this is driven early in the year by some members who have made their full annual pledges.

We are extremely blessed to have such a strong congregation and look forward to continued and increased engagement by members as the year progresses and things begin to safely open.

The meeting schedule for the near term is as follows:

Council	Monday, March 8 th at 7:00pm
Voters	Sunday, May 2 nd at 1:00pm

I look forward to getting to know many of you better, and if we have not formally met, please take a moment to introduce yourself. If you have ideas or concerns, regardless of how small, please reach out to me or any council member. I can best be reached at president@cheshirelutheran.org.

Yours in Christ!

Steve Feero
Parish President, CLC

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

Church Staff

*Rev. Dr. David P. Rowold, PhD
-Pastor*

Carol Santoro-Office Manager

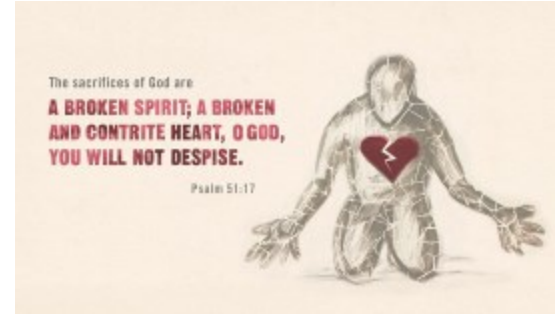
*Martha Medford-Organist &
Choir Director*

Steve Feero-Parish President

Beth Soulier-Editor

(Continued from page 1)

passage from Joel at the beginning of this article or Psalm 51, verse 17 that says “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.”, or Matthew 6:17-18 where Jesus tells His followers that their fasting (an act of religious devotion that was part of the ritual of contrition and repentance in those days) should be done in secret, the message is the same. God wants you and me to be sorry for our sins, and to return to Him with contrite hearts; whether or not you got ashes on Ash Wednesday, are giving something up throughout Lent or just on Fridays or have added special devotions is not the important thing.



If you weren't able to get ashes on Ash Wednesday this year and it is bothering you, I am sorry. Hopefully Covid will be a bad memory by next year and we can return to our normal practices, and I, for one, will do my best to remember next year that we may need more options than just our traditional evening service. If you are giving something up for Lent or adding something to your routine, God bless you and strengthen you in your Lenten discipline. Through it all, remember the words the Lord speaks to you in Joel, chapter 2 “Return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” and turn to Him in repentance.

God bless you this Lententide, and I look forward to seeing you in Church when you are able.

In Christ,
Pastor R

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

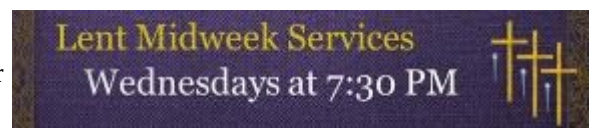
The following has been recently added to our Website:

- ✚ Wonderful aerial drone video put to music of our beautiful church grounds
- ✚ Live streaming and video recordings of Sunday Services during COVID-19 restrictions
- ✚ Service video with enhanced music recordings—YouTube sometimes does not broadcast the best sounding audio.
- ✚ Audio recordings of Anthems sung by Soloists and Special Ensembles this Summer
- ✚ Current and Past Heavenly Heralds
- ✚ Video recordings from many past events
- ✚ Audio and Video recordings of Pastors Sermons and other events
- ✚ Pictures, pictures, pictures and more pictures from all our past events other miscellaneous photos taken in and around the Church by Tim Weiland
- ✚ Much, much more...



LENT MIDWEEK SERVICES AND DEVOTIONS...

Our Lent Midweek services continue at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings during Lent and are available both in person and via the YouTube live stream. If you'd like to attend in person, please contact the Church office for more information about signing up. Holy Week services will be held in the evening on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday at 7:30 p.m. Because of Covid restrictions, we are not having our traditional Lent Midweek Soup & Salad Suppers or the accompanying Bible study because of the pandemic.



Lent devotions for adults and for kids are still available if you haven't picked one up already. They are on the counter outside the Church office. A copy of the sticker devotions for kids is also included in each Sunday School student bag on the table outside the Fellowship Hall; these bags have also have lesson materials for the Spring quarter, so parents who have not picked up their child's bag yet should contact the Church office to make arrangements to get them.

CLC CHOIR NEWS...



All Choirs continue to rehearse. While it still isn't "business as usual" we do practice & perform exercising the utmost caution, while still offering beautiful music during Sunday Services. Below are the safety measures and plan for rehearsals and Sunday performances:

Bell Choir:

- ♪ Only 6-7 Bell Choir members will rehearse and perform at a time. This will allow for proper social distancing during rehearsals and Sunday Performances.
- ♪ Masks are worn at all times.
- ♪ Opportunities for rotation of Bell Choir members are available. Call Martha Medford to volunteer for Bell Choir rehearsals and Performances.

Parish Choir:

- ♪ All Parish Choir members will rehearse on Wednesdays, but only 6-7 perform on Sundays.
- ♪ Only 6—7 in Choir Loft at one time.
- ♪ Masks are worn at all times.
- ♪ Opportunities for rotation of Parish Choir members are available. Call Martha Medford to volunteer for Parish Choir Performances.

Martha Medford

CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

Date	Time	Event	Choir
March 3 - Wednesday 2nd Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:10 PM	Rehearsal	Soloist
	7:30 PM	Performance	Soloist
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 7 - Sunday 3rd Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
March 10 - Wednesday 4th Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:10 PM	Rehearsal	Soloist
	7:30 PM	Performance	Soloist
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 14 - Sunday 4th Sunday in Lent	7:20 AM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 AM	Performance	Bell Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Bell Choir
March 17 - Wednesday 4th Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:10 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:30 PM	Performance	Bell Choir
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 21 - Sunday 5th Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
March 24 - Wednesday 5th Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	6:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:10 PM	Rehearsal	Soloist
	7:30 PM	Performance	Soloist
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
March 28 - Sunday Palm Sunday	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir

CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE CONT...

<i>Holy Week</i>			
March 31 - Wednesday	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
April 1 - Thursday Maundy Thursday	7:30 PM	Service	No Choirs
April 2 - Friday Good Friday	6:50 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	7:30 PM	Performance	Parish Choir

COVID -19 PRECAUTIONS REMINDER...

COVID-19 restrictions, as mandated by Governor Lamont's Executive Orders, remain in place at CLC. When you visit the Church for services or Bible study, please remember to maintain social distancing and to wear your mask from the time that you get out of your car until you get back into it. Hand sanitizer is located at various places in the building thanks to Don Drust and Andy Clark, so please be sure to use it as appropriate when you are in the building.



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!



CANS AND BOTTLES—BOTTLES AND CANS...

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



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.

Thanks to all who continue to support this ongoing program. As a result of your purchases, \$100 was given to the CLCW in December.

We appreciate your thoughtful participation in making this benevolence so successful.

Contact Person: Paula Ongley

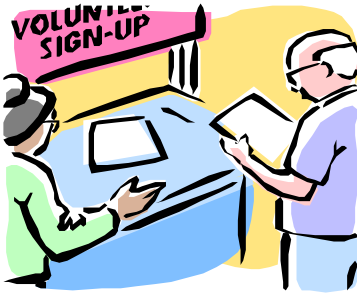


ON THE BULLETIN BOARD:

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:

- ✦ **Cheshire Housing Authority information** regarding Section 8 Elderly Housing
- ✦ **Volunteers Needed for Hospice** information
- ✦ **On With Life (OWL)** bereavement group information
- ✦ **Hope Pregnancy Center 2021** volunteer sign-ups
- ✦ **Cheshire Food Drive** Volunteer info. and sign-ups
- ✦ **2021 Flower Chart** Sign-up
- ✦ **Memory Café** in Cheshire information
- ✦ Monthly CLC Members **Birthday** and **Anniversaries**



Others looking for help!

- ✦ **Fellowship Deacon** needs **volunteers** to help make the events happen. Contact Pam Clark if you can help in any capacity. **Sunday School Teachers Needed**—Prayerfully consider serving our congregations children by volunteering to teach them a few Sunday mornings during the year. See Pastor Rowold, Tricia Rowold or Craig Wilson.
- ✦ **Ushers** are needed to work both services. Contact Tim Weiland.



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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...



Sunday School lessons are continuing virtually by Zoom. Sunday School lesson kits are ready for pick up at Church during open office hours or on Sunday morning. This is the last lesson kit to be picked up for this Sunday School this year. If you are unable to pick up the remote bag(s) for your child(ren), please reach out to Tricia or the Church office and let us know if you need a different pick-up time or if you need it delivered to you. This month, students will learn about The Lord's Prayer on March 14, and The Resurrection of our Lord on March 28th.

We are currently in need of few more Sunday School teachers to help teach our Sunday School students.

The Pre-K-8 Sunday school schedule is as follows: March 14, March 28, April 11, April 28, May 9, and May 23 will be as grade level classes by zoom. June 13, 2021 will be our last day of Sunday School for this school year. We are hoping to have an in person outdoor gathering to wrap up the year if weather and other conditions allow. I hope to share a schedule for our high school students next month as the interest meeting is being held Sunday, February 21.



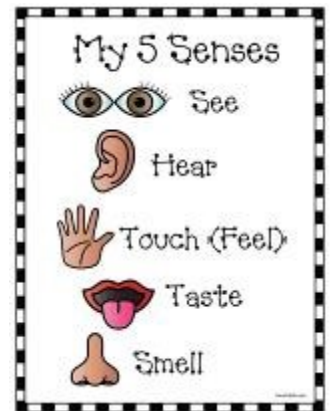
Tricia Rowold—Sunday School Superintendent

NEWS FROM OUR LITTLE CHERUBS...

Hello to all,

We started our February with two snow days. The month of February is busy with our FIVE SENSES:

- ✦ SIGHT – The first sense we went over was “SIGHT”. For sight, the children learned about Louis Braille. They did a project gluing split peas to a braille alphabet - they did their initials. When it dried, they could close their eyes and feels the bumps which represented letters. They also did eye dropper art, Fireworks Printing, and Rainbows and Prisms. We read “Brown Bear, Brown Bear what do you See?”, “Glasses for DW”, and “Bear Sees Colors”.
- ✦ HEARING - We played Sound Bingo, Instruments, Secret Message Valentines and Sound Shakers.
- ✦ TOUCH - They made touch pictures, Texture Paintings, and Miss Martha’s favorite art Project the UMBERTO BIRD.
- ✦ TASTE AND SMELL - For Art the children created a Giant Tooth, Jello Painting, Smelly Painting, Stampers and a project for our Bible Story “Zachaeus”. The stories that went along with our theme was “Pancakes” and we had pancake day in which we made pancakes for the Children to taste. “Two Eyes, A Nose and A Mouth”, “Blueberries for Sal” and “Thank You God for my 5 Senses”.



The letters they went over were S, T, U, V, W. Their Bible Lessons were on “John the Baptist”, “Jesus Heals the Little Girl”, “Jesus Feeds the 5000”, “Zachaeus” and “Jesus Calms the Storm”.

During the second week of February, we celebrated Valentine’s Day all week long. We had Hanging Valentines, Contact Valentine’s, Valentine Bags, Paper Plate Woven hearts and Crayon Shaving Valentines. We read “The Frilly Valentine”, “Happy Valentine’s Day Mouse”, “Elmo Loves You!”, “Skidamarinke a Dink”, and “Franklins Valentine”. On Valentine’s Friday, the children exchanged Valentine’s Day Cards and we had a little party. All the food had to be individually wrapped.



We also taught them about the 16th President, President Lincoln, for his Birthday.

The 3rd week of February we were off Monday and Tuesday for February Break. The second theme was WEATHER.

On Wednesday, February 17th, we made George Washington Hats for Miss Martha in Heaven. She loved making hats. We read the stories “How are you Feeling?”, “My Five Senses”, and the story “UMBERTO”.

As always, the children love meeting with Pastor to not only go over their Bible Stories but to learn songs, hear him speak in one of the many languages he speaks, and to learn the alphabet in sign language. It is the highlight of our Wednesdays. It is amazing how much the children remember and express to Pastor.

We are all so THANKFUL for MISS CINDY. She is amazing in class. And I must say we are so blessed to have Miss Beth and Miss Jen. But Miss Martha lives on in this classroom with her favorite things, her mounds of Educational Products she has within this classroom. Sometimes it is difficult to teach using her lessons, but in another respect, it makes us all happy.

God Bless to all,

Miss JoAnn





Lisa and her beautiful Family.
Husband Julian, Max, Alex
and Grace

NEWS FROM OUR YOUTH DEACON...

PIZZA!!!! Now that I have your attention, all youth in grades 6 through 8 are invited to lunch and hang out on Saturday, March 20th, from Noon - 1:30 p.m.. All High School teens are invited to lunch and hang out on Saturday, March 27th, from Noon - 1:30 p.m.. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall and will be following all safety protocols including wearing masks and social distancing. For those who would like to participate from home, please let me know and I'll send you a link to Zoom in.

RSVP is required so that we order enough food, and the sooner the better, but no later than the day before the event. .

Parents, look for a survey about yYuth activities in your email in early March. I'd like to send a huge thank you to all the parents who have participated in parents' meetings in February!

If you have any questions, suggestions or just want to talk feel free to reach out to me.

Lisa Muller
Youth Deacon



HOW TO REACH PASTOR IN AN EMERGENCY...

If there is no answer in the Church Office, Pastor Rowold may be reached on his cell phone listed in our church directory.



PLEDGE PACKETS FOR 2021...

Pledge Sunday for 2021 is 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!

NEWS FROM THE WORSHIP DEACON...



You are cordially invited to be a:

- † **Reader**
- † **Usher**
- † **Greeter**
- † **Singer or Ringer**
- † **Altar Guild**

Our weekly services don't just happen.

*******Additional ushers are needed at this time! Please contact Tim*******

For a typical four Sunday month, there can be at least 70 "periods of service" when members usher, acolyte, read lessons, greet other members before service, and prepare the altar. (And this does not count the choir's musical offerings that make our worship special).

Thank you in advance!
R Tim Weiland, your CLC Worship Deacon

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A SUCCESS!!

(April 2021 Articles are Due!)

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier by ***Fri-day, March 26th*** 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 table. Thank You!



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.



Our Sincere Appreciation

- † Many thanks to the many unsung and dedicated heroes that donate their time and talents to "make things happen" here at CLC. Your love for us is felt and your hard work is appreciated.
- † Sincere Thanks to all those that continue to make our Services and Church activities happen. Carol, for keeping us organized with all the information and materials each week, Martha, for tirelessly working to give us music each week, Steve Feero and Bill Juul for your technical expertise and continued vigor searching to improve congregants live stream experience. Know that your hard work and dedication is heartfully appreciated by all.



MEMORIAL GARDEN & COLUMBARIUM NEWS...

Upkeep of the area by committee members is ongoing.

The Memorial Garden & Columbarium Committee has simplified the forms used to purchase a Subscription for an Inurement and other form and are working on updating the Informational Pamphlet.

For more information, grab a pamphlet and/or contact any member of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee.

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



NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY...

Reminders from Your Friendly Neighborhood Financial Secretary:

- ✚ If you have Pledge envelopes PLEASE use them, having to lookup members envelope numbers can lead to human error.
- ✚ Please remember to mark on the outside of your offering envelopes with the exact amount of money enclosed. This is a very important check and balance for us.
- ✚ If you've been absent for some time and want to bring your offerings up to date, kindly use ONE rather than MANY envelopes - since the fewer envelopes our financial assistants must handle, the lighter their workload.
- ✚ PLEASE do not post-date checks.
- ✚ PLEASE use black or blue ink for your checks. Our friendly bank tellers thank you.



The Financial Secretary is always in need of volunteers to aid in counting church offerings after Sunday services or Monday night, based on volunteer preference (and appropriate to current COVID-19 physical distancing requirements) If you are available 1 or 2 months per year for approximately one hour a week, please contact Guy Mason, our Financial Secretary.

The Financial Secretary has a new church e-mail address if you wish to volunteer or have a question email me.

Guy Mason—Financial Secretary

WE SUPPORT HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER...



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

We 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.



THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

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

March

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

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS...

The Evangelism Committee is excited to kick off the first edition of our new Heavenly Herald feature, *Getting to Know Our Members*, with Pastor Louis Nuechterlein and his wife, Gloria. Pastor was born in 1928 in St. Joseph, Michigan and Gloria was born in 1936 in St. Louis, Missouri. Pastor and Gloria have always shared a passion for sacred choral and organ music; it was this love for music that brought them together.

While studying at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri in 1951, Pastor was given the job of organist and choir master at St. Trinity Lutheran Church. Gloria and her family were members of this Church, where she and her parents all sang in the choir. Gloria, then a sophomore in high school, was taking piano lessons, but soon decided she wanted to learn to play the organ. Pastor rode the bus regularly from the Seminary for the weekly choir rehearsals, but also to happily teach Gloria to play. Pastor's last year as a seminary student also happened to be Gloria's senior year in high school, the perfect time for him to ask her to marry him.

Upon their graduations in 1953, Pastor was called to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana, as the Assistant Pastor and Director of Music and Christian Education. Gloria remained home with her parents until the following April, working at Darcy Advertising Agency. During this time, they communicated only through letters. (Long distance phone calls, email, and cell phones were unheard of then.) On April 24, 1954, they were married in Gloria's home church in St. Louis, and then left to settle down in Fort Wayne for the next seven years. Here Gloria, served as the assistant organist for the choir that Pastor directed and did secretarial work for her brother-in-law, who was a lawyer.



During this time in Fort Wayne, three of their four children were born. Then, in 1960, Pastor was called here to our church. Although never having heard of Cheshire, CT, off they went. They began their life here at CLC with their three children: John aged 5, Mary aged 3, and Paul only 1. Daughter Anne joined the family as their only child to be born in CT, and she still lives here in our state today. Pastor and Gloria's children are now located all over the country, John in Minnesota, Mary in Wisconsin, Paul in Arizona, and Anne right around the corner in West Hartford. They are also proud to have expanded their family to include four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Although Pastor and Gloria have traveled several times to Europe to visit beautiful cathedrals and hear the pipe organs throughout England, Germany, and France, their most memorable trip was one where they traveled with their favorite church musician and organist, Paul Manz. Dr. Manz happened to be taking a busload of his organ students from Concordia (St. Paul, MN) on a month-long journey to Germany to hear him play the amazing pipe organs there. He had several extra seats remaining on the bus, so Pastor and Gloria were able to join them, after having received a bequest from one of our members who had recently passed away. They quickly rounded up homecare for their four children so that they could take advantage of this once in a lifetime opportunity. Fortunately for their daughter Mary, who loved working in the fields of the Krampitz family farms on Peck Lane, she was able to spend the month working with them. (For those of you who may remember this blast from the past, the four Krampitz siblings were founding members of CLC.)

As for sports and hobbies, Pastor is a lifelong Chicago Cubs fan and was thrilled to see his team win the world series in 2016! Gloria favors the St. Louis Cardinals. They are both UConn Husky women's basketball fans. And, of course, the Nuechterleins love music. They both cite Johann Sebastian Bach as the top of their list for favorite composer/musician; and local Richard Coffee, who currently conducts the Hartford Chorale, as their favorite choral conductor. During their years here in Cheshire, in addition to teaching piano, Gloria has wonderful memories of working as part of a dynamic trio at CLC directing the children's choir, while Pastor directed the adult choir, and Jean (Kovach) O'Hara served as the accompanist for both choirs. Pastor and Gloria have enjoyed reading the works of C.S. Lewis, which Pastor found to be extremely helpful in his younger years as a pastor. Their favorite C.S. Lewis book is *Mere Christianity*.

Pastor feels most grateful to have been able to serve as pastor to this congregation, which he helped get started 60 years ago, and which continues to still be alive and thriving. Says he, "the congregants may do the work, but God makes it happen." Pastor also feels blessed to have been succeeded by two wonderful leaders whom God sent to help keep our congregation going, namely Pastor Charles Gustafson, followed by our current Pastor David Rowold.

Pastor wants us all here to know that he and Gloria feel that "particularly at our advanced age, 'we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come'. This is crucial to who we are."

Written & Submitted by Diane Taylor—Member of the Evangelism Committee
Photo Submitted by Tim Weiland

NEWS FROM OUR HOUSE & GROUNDS DEACON...



Hi everyone, I'd like to let you know what has been going on at the Church for the past few months and what we have to look forward to this spring.

In December, we decked the halls and put up our Christmas tree to celebrate our Lord's birth. Thank you to everyone who helped with the tree and decorations this year, it was more challenging this year with social distancing and masks. We also added an outdoor electric socket for pastor at the parsonage so now he too can deck his halls with lights.

We started the new year with a new roof. On January 4th, Brown Roofing came and replaced our tired and worn 30-year old roof with a new cedar roof that looks great! You can get a look at it from our parking lot if you want to check it out. January also saw us change our cleaners that we've used for over 20 years. Hector and Jeanette Cardona retired at the end of 2020 and we've begun using Pro-Touch Cleaners in the Church and Little Cherubs.

Last Spring during one of the wind and rain events we had, we noticed some water getting in by the front doors to the sanctuary. I'm happy to report that, after an exhaustive search for parts, Bill Juul and Ed Schweizer were able to replace the weather stripping on the doors and fix the gap where the water came in. Thanks Bill and Ed!



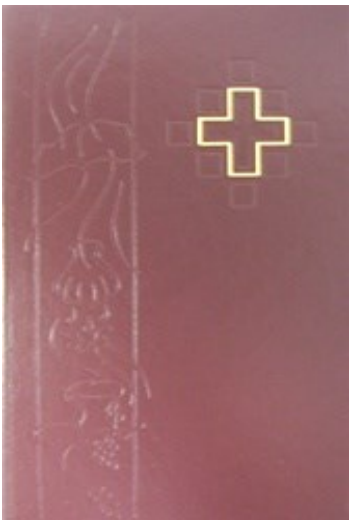
In February, Bill Juul again came through and replaced some of the light fixtures in the hallway next to the office that lit up the counter. Thanks again Bill. Finally, Ed and Tim Weiland plan to paint the hallway, keeping it looking like new.

Upcoming events for the Spring will be indoor and outdoor cleanup, keep your eye out for an email and notice in the bulletin. I am also looking to plan a cleanup at the parsonage once the weather gets better because Pastor has some trees that came down in the Fall and he would like to reclaim some of his back yard.

I am extremely fortunate to have so many people that I can call on, thank you all.

Andy Clark
House & Grounds Deacon

THE HYMNALS HAVE RETURNED FOR SUNDAY SERVICES...



On the last Sunday in December, we resumed the routine use of our hymnals during our worship services. For those who choose to use them, the hymnals are available from a media cart in the Narthex. You'll pick one up from the top shelf on the way into the service (being careful to touch only the hymnal you will be using) and then return it to the bottom shelf of the cart at the end of the service. There are separate carts for the 8 and 10:30 services and the hymnals sit untouched until the following Sunday. (By letting our hymnals sit for a week, that should provide more than sufficient time for any germs or virus that could possibly be on them to die and to remove the risk of touch-transmission.)

Printed copies of the service are still available for people to pick up during open office hours on Thursdays and they will continue to be an option on Sunday mornings for those who decide not to use the hymnals for any reason. If you are worshipping from home for the foreseeable future and would like to borrow a copy of the hymnal from the Church or would like information on how to obtain your own personal copy, please contact Pastor Rowold at the Church office.





NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP DEACON...

With Easter just around the corner, in lieu of our Easter Brunch, I am hoping to gather for a socially distanced cup of coffee and perhaps a treat to eat. This may be an outdoor event. Plans will be dependent on the Covid-19 situation and remain fluid. Please keep an eye open for additional updates in the Sunday bulletins as we get closer to that glorious day!

Pam Clark
Fellowship Deacon



Event	Date	Notes
2nd Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday, March 3, 2021	Join us for Service at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary and Live Streamed via YouTube
3th Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday, March 10, 2021	Join us for Service at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary and Live Streamed via YouTube
4th Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday, March 17, 2021	Join us for Service at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary and Live Streamed via YouTube
5th Wednesday In Lent	Wednesday, March 24, 2021	Join us for Service at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary and Live Streamed via YouTube
Palm Sunday	Sunday, March 28, 2021	Join us for Services at 8:00 & 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary and 8:00 AM Live Streamed via YouTube



CLC CALENDARS FOR 2021...

2021 Calendars are here. The calendars are a gift to our congregation compliments of the Alderson/Slater Funeral Home. You are welcome to pick up a copy from our hallway counter or narthex table.

CHESHIRE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS HELP...

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry needs our help more than ever. Covid-19 has decreased contributions, children are home and people out of work. There are no Sunday donations to the Pantry. We can directly drop off items at the Pantry or send a cash for them to purchase what they need most. **THEY NEED OUR HELP!**

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry is located at:

175 Sandbank Rd
Cheshire Ct 06410

Send Checks to:

Cheshire Community Food Pantry PO BOX 457

or

you can donate \$\$ to them online at <https://www.cheshirefoodpantry.org/>

Call for drop off times: 203-699-9226

"Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' " John 21:15b

Many thanks to all of who contributed soup and cash donations to the.....

2021 Souper Bowl of Caring.



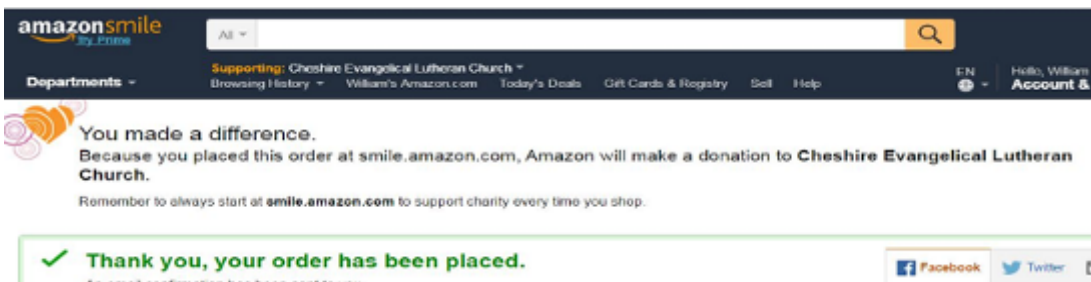
The Cheshire Community Food Pantry was very grateful for the 181 pounds of food collected at CLC in February which included 94 cans of soup and other food staples. In addition to the 181 pounds of food, we had cash donations of \$190.

Thank you for your continued support – Vicki DePaolo, Social Welfare Deacon

YOU SHOP. AMAZON GIVES...

If you happen to be an Amazon™ on-line shopper, Cheshire Lutheran Church is now a registered non-profit organization under the "Amazon Smile"™ program. So, whenever you shop on Amazon, instead go to www.smile.amazon.com, then log in, using your same username and password as you normally would on the traditional Amazon site. You will be asked to select a charity by browsing the list of registered organizations and selecting Cheshire Lutheran Church. Amazon Smile will donate .5% (that is .005) of the amount you purchase to CLC.

Here is a sample of the screen that you will see after completing a purchase:



You Shop. Amazon Gives



WE NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: “YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED!” ...

Years ago, before I had my own children (late twenties), I was asked by the Education Deacon if I'd be willing and interested to teach Sunday School at CLC. I politely responded that I would consider the request carefully. However, I thought to myself, “I've never taught before, let alone children. I have no experience. What if I mess this up? I probably won't be good at it.”

A few days later, I was traveling with a colleague on a week-long business trip across the country. We had become friends over time as a result of working together. Being spiritual himself, we got onto the topic of faith and religion. I shared with him the request I received from the Education Deacon, and his response was like having water thrown at my face. He said, “For all the things God has given you, this doesn't seem like an unreasonable request. You have been called!” Upon reflection, I knew he was right.

I taught Sunday School for six years—5th and 6th grades. It was rewarding, uplifting and an educational experience for me, not just the children. And, when a child shares his/her innermost feelings with their classmates and their teacher, you see firsthand how scriptures can connect them to their world. It's unforgettable.

And now, I'm the Education Deacon reaching out to you. Please help keep this evangelical mission moving ahead and energized. Tricia Rowold now leads the Sunday School ministry. She is and will do a wonderful job along with the teachers we have. But they can't do this alone. Please help us. We need you. You have been called!

Sincerely and Yours in Christ

Craig Wilson
CLC Education Deacon



CLC HELPING HANDS...

“Helping Hands” of CLC is designed to match members' talents and time availability with those in need within our church family. In the past, this has formally included meal preparation and transportation needs and occasional visitation. Informally, there is a lot of helping “behind the scenes” from women and men in the congregation who see a need and respond to it. It is likely there are others who have needs and those who would be inclined to help, but are unaware of the needs. Helping Hands is organized to meet the needs of both groups, men and women, singles and families.

Assistance During COVID-19:

Please consider requesting assistance such as meals, transportation, occasional errands, minor household repairs, and visitors. Please know that Helping Hands may be able to help during this **Coronavirus** quarantine chapter in our lives. If you are in need of groceries or other essential items, or just want a daily or occasional phone call, please contact Sally at the number below.

Those able to offer occasional time and your talents, please sign up on the bulletin board, indicating your “offering”.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration. Please contact the church office (203-272-5106) or me to request assistance or for any concerns or questions. Please note that all information will be confidential.

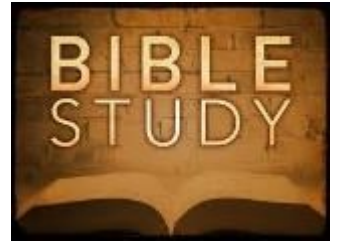
Sally Schrumm, Chairman



Bible Studies at CLC

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES...

Sunday morning Bible study meets on the Second and Fourth Sundays of the month at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall for everyone comfortable meeting in person (standard Covid precautions of 6 feet of distance and wearing masks apply) and is available via Zoom for anyone not attending in person. The Zoom link is sent out via a mass email each week. We are currently working our way through a multi-part study that looks at the religion of Islam. Join us on the Second and Fourth Sundays at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall or on Zoom.



Our Wednesday afternoon study of the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke will continue to meet during Lent at 1:30 PM. We are in the Fellowship Hall for those interested in meeting in person (the usual Covid precautions will apply) and also by Zoom for those who desire; signing up in advance is not required. The Zoom link for this is also sent out via a mass email each week. Join us Wednesdays at 1:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall or on Zoom.



HOLY WEEK

Event	Date	Notes
Passion (Palm) Sunday	Sunday, March 28, 2021	Services at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM 8:00 AM Live Streamed via YouTube
Holy/Maundy Thursday Eucharist	Thursday, April 1, 2021	Service at 7:30 PM & Live Streamed via YouTube
Good Friday Tenebrae	Friday, April 2, 2021	Service at 7:30 PM & Live Streamed via YouTube
Easter Sunday—The Resurrection of Our Lord Eucharist	Sunday, April 4, 2021	Services at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM. Both Services will be Live Streamed via YouTube

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 2021

19 th	Paul & Trish Greenhalgh	38 Years
20 th	Joe & Joann Holstein	27 Years
21 st	Philip & Leigh Giampietro	40 Years
22 nd	William & Barbara Hillis	47 Years



COUNCIL MEETING REMINDER:

Mark your calendars, Council will meet on
Monday March 8 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

VOTERS MEETING REMINDER:

Mark your calendars, next Voters Assembly will
meet on ***Sunday, May 2***, at after the late worship
service via Zoom.



- 3rd David Schrumm
4th Priscilla Troemel
8th Kinsley Clark
9th Melissa Veleber
Ray Verner
10th Eva Schrumm
Hannah Kjeldsen
Conner DeLaubell
12th Noah Wilde
13th Martha Medford
14th John McBain
16th Ethel Daly
Phil Giampietro
17th John Taylor
18th Robert Davis
19th Laura Gustafson
22nd Walter Gancarz
23rd Robert Lamb
24th Sandra Gayda
26th Guy Mason
Mary Lou Aston
Emily Shick
30th Rita Stark



CHURCH SERVICES

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



Cheshire Lutheran Church
660 West Main St
Cheshire CT 06410

