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## A Peaceful Resting Place: Memorial Garden and Labyrinth

The move from storefront to 425 Riverside Road was a giant step in the journey to “Make Christ Known” for the members of Christ Lutheran Church. They brought with them many dreams of things that could be put in place “someday.” One of those dreams was to have a columbarium with a memory garden.

An article in the *Lutheran Standard*, “A Place for Her Ashes,” offered an intriguing alternative to the usual procedure of scattering someone’s ashes or placing them in an urn. The alternative: pouring the ashes directly into the ground with only a tree to mark the place. This groundbreaking concept at the time was exactly what CLC member Len Jedynek was seeking for his own burial. Could it be done? Was it legal? The answer was “yes” to both questions.

A year after his death, on the last Sunday of July 2006 during the (worship) closing hymn, Pastor Timothy Olson led the congregation as they processed outside to the empty area behind the church. In this barren space was only a deep hole in the ground, a mound of dirt, a shovel and a small sapling. After a brief prayer, Len’s ashes were poured into the small pit, the little tree was planted in that spot and the mound of dirt returned. A memory garden had begun. Less than a month later, the congregation mourned the death of much-loved member Barb Emanuel. Gifts in her memory were used to complete the garden, construct the columbarium, and in particular, establish the labyrinth.



A labyrinth is often thought to be just a maze. It is not. In a maze, twists and turns are intentional to cause confusion and frustration. The path often leads to a dead end. A labyrinth also has twists and turns, but the path is sure. There are no misleading detours and it unfailingly leads to the core. It is a peaceful trail, a prayerful way to center oneself because the walk requires a bowed head and downcast eyes. The mind and soul are free to receive the soft whisper of the Spirit’s voice.

The labyrinth at CLC has also been a place to gather for mid-week summer services, specific services such as the blessing of animals and the starting place for the Saturday Vigil of Easter. It is also a favorite spot for family pictures and has been the place for picnics and fellowship.

The garden and labyrinth are always open. There are no fences or locked gates. There is no admission fee; it is free. Whether alone or with a group, the garden and labyrinth are always open for meditation, prayer, or merely a peaceful place to rest. It truly is a gathering place for the blessed saints — those who made Christ known; those who continue to make Christ known; and for those who will make Christ known in the future.

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Submitted by Adele Jedynek

**“Calling on You”** As part of the Call Committee’s focus to complete the second half of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP), we will be “Calling on You” to join a congregation-wide initiative on Sunday, May 19 during the adult education time (9:30–10:15 am). Detailed instructions will be provided then, but here is a peek into the event: Each member will receive four individual questions and four index cards. Members will be asked to write a brief one or two sentence response on each card. While group conversations during this process may occur, it is encouraged that each member write down their individual thoughts on their cards and not the collective thoughts or comments from a group discussion.

This is a very important time and opportunity for each of us to provide input into the Call Process. Please join us May 19 (9:30–10:15) to support the completion of the MSP that will be submitted to the Synod.

As a reminder, the MSP not only provides the Call Committee with basic information and a description of leadership strengths and needs to guide their work, but also and more importantly, it will assist the Synod office in recommending candidates. *God’s Peace, CLC Call Committee Members*

## PATHWAYS Offerings

**Spiritual Practices:** Offered the first Thursday of the month, *Spiritual Practices* introduces us to different ancient practices. At our next offering on Thursday, May 2, we will explore Sound & Silence as part of our faith practice. Please join us at 10 am.

**Enneagram Workshop:** You may have asked yourself, “What is the Enneagram?” Simply put, it is a model of human psychology and personalities based on the theory that one’s personality shapes the way a person sees the world and oneself. Through individual analysis, the Enneagram helps us: 1) understand ourselves and others better; 2) create new potential for spiritual learning; and 3) provide a foundation for stronger relationships.

You can still take part in this valuable workshop on Saturday, May 4 from 9 am to 3 pm (with lunch). Visit [seekthepath.org](http://seekthepath.org) for details.

# ENNEAGRAM WORKSHOP

UNLOCKING WHOLENESS, BELONGING & COMMUNITY  
A TWO PART WORKSHOP

**May 4**

In person gathering  
9am-3pm



Included in this two part workshop is an Enneagram assessment, book, and lunch on May 4.

**\$50 REGISTRATION FEE**  
MORE DETAILS & REGISTRATION AT  
[SEEKTHEPATH.ORG](http://SEEKTHEPATH.ORG)



## Confirmation

Five young people will affirm their baptismal vows on May 5 during the 10:30 service. Join us in welcoming them into full adult membership at CLC.

Brayden Bullock  
Luke Gaddini  
Zack Gaddini  
Ellie Mathiesen  
Kate Matiesen



## Summer Worship

Join us for worship this summer beginning May 26 through September 1, during which time we will switch to one Sunday morning service at 9:30 am. Online worship will continue to be accessible via email and our website on Wednesday evenings.

## In the CLC Family

We celebrated the baptism of Brayden Bullock on March 30. Welcome into the body of Christ, Brayden.



**May 5**

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17

**May 12**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19

**May 19**

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Romans 8:22-27  
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

**May 26**

Isaiah 6:1-8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17

## Education

### Adult Forum

From May through August, Adult Forum will take a break. See you in the fall!

### Godly Play

Our final two sessions of Godly Play for this school year are May 5 and 19. What adventures await us? Join us to find out!



## Service & Outreach

### Peanut Butter Rally

Our annual Peanut Butter Rally is in full swing. Drop your peanut butter jars in our tub through May 26. All donations will be delivered to Empower Boone. Help us get their pantry ready for the summer months when kids are home.

### Office Closed

In observance of Memorial Day, the office will be closed Monday, May 27. We join our thanks with that of a grateful nation for the ultimate sacrifice made by our military men and women.

## Vacation Bible School

### June 17-20

Calling all heroes! Registration for our **Hero Hotline VBS** opens on May 13. Join us as we learn about real heroes from the Bible through music, storytelling, drama, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks. Heroes are called to Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together, Listen to God, and Show Grace!

Register online at [makingChristknown.org](http://makingChristknown.org) or via a paper form available soon in the gathering space. Register early as space is limited! Tell your friends! Contact Shirley Collins with any questions.

*VBS will take place June 17-20 (Monday-Thursday) from 9 am to noon.*



## Young Adults

All young adults: join us at our next gathering on Saturday, May 18. We'll meet at 3 pm at Volcano Falls and enjoy a day of mini putt, go karts, and arcade games! All CLC young adults and their friends are welcome!



## Christ in Literature

Our final meeting before our summer break will be on May 6 at 3 pm. We'll spend our time planning the 2024-2025 schedule. Bring your ideas! All are welcome!

## Graduate Sunday

Do you know someone who is graduating from high school, college or trade school? We want to celebrate them! Please provide their name, the school from which they are graduating, and future plans to Deacon Laura no later than May 26.

We will recognize graduates in worship on June 2.



# Christ Lutheran

425 Riverside Road / Belvidere, IL 61008

Phone: 815-885-2522

[makingChristknown.org](http://makingChristknown.org)

 [facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere](https://facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere)

Also on Facebook, search:

*Pathways: A Center for Spiritual Renewal*

† **Worship:** Sundays 8:00 & 10:30 am  
Sundays 9:30 am (beginning May 26)

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Our Council

Jenny Campbell	President
Howard Yakey	Vice President
Shirley Collins	Secretary
Jeff Bieck	Treasurer
Jenny Breckenridge	Council Member
Elizabeth Brinkley	Council Member
John Herring	Council Member
Peter Hightower	Council Member
Lori Murphy	Council Member
Denise Rindels	Council Member
Don Skadow	Council Member
Dave Swanson	Council Member

### Our Staff

Deacon Laura Gorton	Acting Interim Minister
Deacon Jennifer Fox	Minister for Worship & Music
Katie Belinson	Dir. of Outreach & Communications
Dagny Brandt	Church Musician
Michelle Nelson	Finance & Office Administrator
Chris Parkinson	Church Musician

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# By Grace Alone

## Spring Cantata May 5

Join the Spirit Singers and Spirit Ringers as they present *BY GRACE ALONE - The Solas in Song and Word* on Sunday, May 5 at 8 & 10:30 am. The Solas remind us of the foundational truths of faith, grace, Scripture, Christ, and God's glory. Through music, scripture, quotes from Martin Luther, and reflection, join us and be enriched as we are reminded about what we believe and what our mission continues to be. Invite a friend to this celebratory music presentation.

