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A New Reformation

The last Sunday of October is the day in most Lutheran churches when we remember the Reformation, a time of great change in the church and society. The Reformation did more than form the Protestant church. Luther translated the entire Bible into German, which not only gave common people the chance to read and interpret the scriptures for themselves, but also helped to form the German language that we know today. The Reformation helped increase literacy amongst the population.



While the first Reformation happened over 500 years ago, we are a continually reforming church. Churches have changed over things such as which language to worship in or the role of women in the church (both in leadership positions and ordained ministry). Churches have reformed

around the nature of Holy Communion, whether infants can be baptized or not, and worship styles.

We find ourselves in a time of re-forming once again in the ELCA. A solitary rostered of Word and Service Ministers (Deacon) replaced three former roles in 2016. Deacons were first ordained in 2020, rather than commissioned for service.

Christ Lutheran may feel like it is going through its own mini-Reformation as we travel along the path of transition. Reformation can be an exciting time for some, yet scary and challenging for others. Although some things may be changing in our community of faith, our deep roots of worship, love for neighbor, and identity as children of God made in the image of God remains the same. May we all find peace in God's continual presence amongst us.

Deacon Laura

Transition Team

Congregation Learning Event Your CLC Transition Team looks forward to hosting our first congregational learning event on **Sunday, November 5. We invite you to join us for one worship service at 9:30 am, followed by an interactive, fun activity at 10:30 am and a congregational potluck at noon.**

We will take an informative dive into our congregational history, beginning with a brief dip into what life was like for the People of God of Living Christ, which, after 28 years of ministry, stepped aside to make way for the birth of Christ Lutheran. Next, we'll explore 28 subsequent years of CLC's history, looking for significant meanings and themes to help us see ourselves more clearly: who we are, whose we are, and why we're here (this has to do with our mission).

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One Service NOVEMBER 5

Note: there will be one service only on Sunday, November 5 at 9:30 am. This is also the end of daylight saving time, so set your clocks back one hour on the 4th. Please mark your calendars!

PATHWAYS Offerings

Our busy fall schedule continues with upcoming offerings that are socially relevant and intentional in spurring conversation and spiritual growth. Make your plans to attend.

healing through
INK Saturday 9-11 am
November 4
\$15 fee

Licensed therapist Sarah Blackburn leads a culturally relevant conversation on the healing effects of tattoos. Register at seekthepath.org.



Saturday, November 4 *Healing Through Ink*

Licensed therapist and certified mental health evaluator Sarah Blackburn leads a culturally relevant conversation on the healing effects of tattoos. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how modern society utilizes tattoos as a means of healing and explore historical biblical references for tattooing. Sarah will also share insights and successes from her tattoo therapy endeavors. Event held from 9-11 am; \$15 registration fee. seekthepath.org

Saturday, December 2 *Chanting Workshop and Vespers Service*

Gather with us to learn the history and instruction of chants, and then immerse yourself in liturgy expressed through the melodic strains of chant in a Vespers service. Deacon Marti Bein leads our time together beginning at 4 pm. Join us for this educational and spiritual offering.

(continued from pg. 1) Transition

Last month's update emphasized the need for your engagement on Sunday, November 5:

"...revisiting and remembering our histories will help us name and celebrate our values, strengths and growth areas, and lift up our various mission commitments. Your participation in this wider look at our history will help us identify what we may need in CLC's next called pastor and create an amazing Ministry Site Profile."

Besides, who doesn't like a CLC potluck? The Transition Team is bringing back a special recipe from Living Christ as the main dish: AAL Barbeque Sandwiches! Please bring your favorite salad, side dish or dessert to complete our meal.

Please mark your calendars for November 5—
9:30 am worship, 10:30 activity, noon potluck. See you then!

Stewardship Update

What a lovely Stewardship Celebration and Brunch on Sunday, October 22 at the Illinois Bank & Trust Pavilion! This new venue was a beautiful space to worship together, with fall colors and blue skies in full view as we were fed by Word and Sacrament. If you were not able to join us for the morning and missed our video presentation of 2023 Ministry Highlights, [here's the video link](#). Also, if you were not able to attend worship at any of the first three October Sundays, you may view on our website the recorded Stewardship conversations (aka Temple Talks) that were presented in worship those days.

It's not too late to submit your 2024 financial commitment (or pledge) in support of CLC ministry and mission initiatives, staff salaries, other monthly expenses, etc., or toward our monthly mortgage payment. You may do so [online](#), at the pledging station in the gathering space, or by mailing a form to the office.

Pledges assist us in developing the coming year's mission support plan (budget) and will be dedicated in worship on November 19.

I give thanks for your continuing support and generosity!

Pastor Carol on behalf of the Stewardship Team



November 5

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

November 12

Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 26

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Service & Outreach

Help provide hope to those in our midst through a few of our ministry partners. Please consider a monetary donation to the following giving opportunities:

Thanksgiving pies

for Rockford Rescue Mission's Thanksgiving banquet

Meal-in-a-Bag

for Empower Boone (Boone County Food Pantry)

Also, consider helping to provide some cheer for others this holiday season by grabbing a gift tag from our **Adopt-an-Angel tree** (LSSI), which goes to kids in foster care, or from our **Adopt-a-Home Mosaic House**, which goes towards Mosaic clients in the area. Both of these opportunities can be found in the gathering space.



Deadlines:

November 12 – Thanksgiving pies & Meal-in-a-Bag

December 3 – Adopt-an-Angel and Adopt-a-Home

Youth Game Night

All youth from 6th-12th grade are invited to **Second Sunday Gathering** on November 12 from 6:30 - 8 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 3301 Corbridge Ln. (Door C). This is a gathering of all youth across our community. Let the games begin!

For 6th-12th Grade Youth

INVITE A FRIEND

Education

Godly Play: We'll gather November 12 and November 19 to explore stories from the Bible.

Adult Forum: Join us November 12 to hear about the work Mosaic is doing in our community. Come back on November 19 to hear about the work of Habitat for Humanity.

Christ in Literature

Join us on November 6 (3 pm) as we talk about David Grann's *Killers of the Flower Moon*. Come discuss the book before seeing the movie in theaters! This true story will keep you on the edge of your seat.

Book of the Month

(staff pick)

The Dutch House by Ann Patchett is an intriguing novel that examines the relationship between siblings, parents, caregivers, step-family, and the house that bound the together. Although the actions of our family members are out of our realm of control, their rippling effect on us is evident, even when we are unable to acknowledge this. If we dare to confront our past and give room for the future, we can experience life with understanding and gratitude. I enjoyed the novel and the departure from my "typical" intense psychological thriller. I hope you enjoy the book and find the examination of family relationships as insightful as I did.

submitted by Michelle Nelson

MEF Thank You Notes

Please take a moment to read the thank you notes and letters from the students and agencies that received 2023 MEF scholarship/grant awards. They are posted on the double-sided bulletin board as you enter the gathering space.




Christ Lutheran

425 Riverside Road / Belvidere, IL 61008

Phone: 815-885-2522

makingChristknown.org

 facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere

Also on Facebook, search:

Pathways: A Center for Spiritual Renewal

† **Worship:** Sundays 8:00 & 10:30 am
except for Sunday, Nov. 5 @ 9:30 am only

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Our Council

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Al Francik | President |
| Lee Blackburn | Vice President |
| Sue Hunter | Secretary |
| Jeff Bieck | Treasurer |
| Jenny Campbell | Council Member |
| Tari Flack | Council Member |
| John Herring | Council Member |
| Peter Hightower | Council Member |
| Lori Murphy | Council Member |
| Syd Nolan | Council Member |
| Denise Rindels | Council Member |
| Dave Swanson | Council Member |

Our Staff

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Rev. Carol Baumgartner | Transition Minister |
| Deacon Laura Gorton | Associate 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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PIE FEST follows our 7 pm Thanksgiving service. Dust off your favorite pie recipe and share with your church family. Sign up in the gathering space.

