



# The CHIMES



4250 Page Ave  
Michigan Center, MI  
49254  
**March 2017**

## PASTOR'S PIECE

### We Are Loving, But Are We Loving In The Right Way?

*34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples..." (John 13:34-35)*

We all want to see the Church continue on for generations to come, for people to know and experience the love of God we have received and known in Christ, which Christ has shown to us through his body the Church. On a whole many are worried about the future generations of the Church, especially in the ELCA and here at Christ Lutheran Church.

Paul reminds us that God's love never fails (1 Corinthians 13/Romans 8), and Jesus reminds us in the gospels that whoever is faithfully confessing Jesus as Lord and Christ will never fail because even the, "...gates of Hell..." will never overcome them. (Matt. 16:18). We have hope that our Church will continue on for generations to come, but will our congregation?

We know that God's love, and God's loving word of promise (the "good news") is what draws people in and inspires them with the gift of faith, and we know that we are trying to love all of God's people, but are we loving in the right way?

I ask this question **because** we LOVE our congregation (the people) and we LOVE our community (the people) but are we loving them the right way, the way that speaks love to them most clearly? *Are we as a congregation speaking their "love language"?*

Dr. Gary Chapman has written a famous book called "The Five Love Languages", and he has discovered, experienced, and believes that there are 5 "dialects" or ways of expressing love, and that each person has a primary "love language" that they like to receive that makes them feel MOST CLEARLY loved. If people don't receive their primary love language, they can end up feeling unloved and unlovable. The 5 "languages" or "dialects" are: words of affirmation, acts of service, receiving gifts, quality time, physical touch.

I believe that Jesus spoke all of these "languages" of love during his ministry, which is in part why it was so appealing to many. I believe we as the Church and here at Christ Lutheran need to learn to express all 5 of these love languages in our ministries as well in order for people to MOST CLEARLY receive the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Yes, Jesus spoke the 5 love languages: He spent quality time with the disciples and others walking and talking with them (Road to Emmaus, Nicodemus) He spoke words of affirmation (beatitudes, "blessed are you") He gave gifts (feeding thousands) He served ( as he washed feet) He touched people and healed them helping them feel loved (placing mud in mans eyes giving him sight).

With Jesus command from John, and the "5 love languages" in mind, I wonder, if we love as Jesus loved us, would we begin to see faith growing all around us? I wonder, if we could regularly speak the 5 different love languages to our congregation members and the members of our community as we share the love of God in Christ Jesus, will we begin to see new life in our congregation and our community?

### Inside this issue:

#### Pastor's Piece

#### Following Christ

#### Church Council

Spring Flower Orders

#### Sharing the Journey

Thank You Notes

Food Pantry

Blood Drive

#### Memorials

Ladies Tea

Life Changes

#### Serving In Love

Calendar

Bibles to Share

Birthdays /

Anniversaries

Kids Corner

Continued on next page

# Following Christ

Continued from front cover

I believe that if we can regularly speak the “5 love languages” as a congregation as we share the love of God in Christ Jesus, our community of faith will never fail. So I invite you all to work on speaking a different “dialect” of love as you “Follow Christ, Serve in Love, and Share the Journey”. When you do, you will begin to see the power of what love spoken clearly, regularly, and faithfully can do.

Please join the continued conversation on this topic at my blog: [www.pastorryanclc.wordpress.com](http://www.pastorryanclc.wordpress.com) and share ideas you have on how the Church, especially Christ Lutheran can do a better job of speaking the 5 love languages in its ministries for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the world.

God bless you this Lenten season as we reflect on the depth and constancy of love that God has for us.

Pastor Ryan

## COUNCIL

### OUR COUNCIL:

Ryan Prondzinski  
Pastor

Mark Lee  
President

Jim Woody  
Vice President

John Kolewski  
Treasurer

Cathy Filter  
Secretary

Anne Lee  
Sharing the Journey

Kerry Pickett  
Following Christ

Barb Merkel  
Serving In Love

Todd Pickett  
Support

Judy Lovejoy  
Financial Secretary

Mike Crouch  
Youth Coordinator

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### MINI-MINUTES: February 12, 2017

- **Mutual Ministry (Fellowship Committee) renamed Fellowship Ministry**
- **Music Committee**—The next bells music will be on Easter, April 16. Discussion of involving youth into special music once a month.
- **Stewardship Drive**—Mike Jaska should be coming to speak about Thrivent and “living generously”.
- **Pastor’s report**—Ash Wednesday is March 1. Lenten services coming together. Will have a light supper or bring your own at 6:00 pm and service at 6:30 pm.  
Wifi at church: if you’d like to use, stop in the office to sign paper agreement. Getting new router so that digital agreement can be emailed out.  
Photographing church events – We are in need of current photographs of all church activities. Looking for someone that is willing to take these photos.  
Men’s Group – has a new vision statement: “God’s purpose for our men’s group is to be learning, growing, striving, to be Christ like and the hope of Christ for all men as men.”  
Fellowship team – discussion of how to improve community dinners and the level of assistance needed in set up, preparing food, clean up and tear down.  
New blog – Pastor Ryan has started a new blog at [www.pastorryanclc.wordpress.com](http://www.pastorryanclc.wordpress.com). It is meant to be a space for continued conversation around topics written in Pastor’s Piece. Feel free to check it out and ‘chime in’.
- **Socials Concerns Report**—Discussion on safety concerns for Community Center. First aid, liability insurance. Jim Woody will talk with Shirley Ottmer on this and report back.
- **Treasurer’s Report**—Tabled until next month.
- **Recognition Board**—Tabled for next month’s discussion.
- **Vacation Bible School and/or Day Camp**—Discussion of the benefits to running a Day Camp vs. Vacation Bible School. A motion was made to run our usual Vacation Bible School this year while reviewing the Day Camp alternative for 2017.
- **Next church council meeting is March 12, 2017.**

### SPRING FLOWERS FOR EASTER SUNDAY

Orders are now being taken for spring flowers in honor of, in memory of, or just to enhance our chancel area. The cost is \$10.00. Please fill out the back of your response card to place your order or fill out the form below and turn it in to the office. Thank you!

I would like to order the following:



In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_ OR In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

# Sharing the journey

## THANK YOU ONE AND ALL

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THE  
CHRISTMAS GIFT,  
IT WAS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

BLESSINGS,  
PASTOR RYAN

*Dear Members of CLC,  
We want to especially thank Pastor Ryan  
for his visits, messages and comfort to  
Mike, myself and our family. Thank you to  
the church staff and for the beautiful ef-  
fort the luncheon workers and food dona-  
tors done. To all who prayed, visited, sent  
cards and food we are very grateful. God  
bless CLC.*

*With love through tears,  
Sandy Pierce & family*



### FOOD PANTRY INFO

Christ Lutheran is responsible to supply at least 15 volunteers for the third Saturday of each month at Immanuel Lutheran's Food Pantry.

Thanks to everyone who has taken time out of their day to help others who are in need. Look to the bulletin board for each months sign up.



**March 18th**



is our next day to man the pantry! Hope you are able to help. There is a white container in the Community Center for any donations you would like to make.

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Our next blood drive here at Christ Lutheran will be held on **Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** from Noon until 5:45 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help make this a successful event. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center if you are able to help in any way.

Please share the date with family and friends so they can plan on donating that day if they are able.

### A NOTE FROM THE BISHOP

Dear Friends in Christ,

How good it was to be back at Christ Michigan Center for worship. Thank you so much. I am sorry for the miscommunication on my end and that another commitment kept me from attending your council meeting.

Peace,  
The Rev. Craig A. Satterlee, Ph.D., Bishop

### A NOTE FROM THE CAPITAL CONFERENCE PASTORS

Thank you for a wonderful breakfast! Thanks to all who prepared the food and those who helped serve, set-up, and clean-up.

# MEMORIALS

We wish to thank the following who have made contributions to our church in memory of:

## Mike Pierce:



Robert Bess	Fred & Judy Miller	David & Coralie Dirlam	Terry & Linda Wineland
Don & Diana Day	Jill Pierce	Gary & Cathy Filter	Larry & Amie Schittenhelm
Carol Paquette	Linda Smith	David & Georgene Marr	Bob & Nancy Schlundt
Cynthia Ott	Greg Soltis Family	Vernon & Janet Fry	Jon & Melissa Nowinski
Ruth Guynn	Laura Hershey	Randall & Bondelynn Hull	Robert & Betty Soltis
Jane Schultz	Rick & Lynette Wyllis	Frank & Judy Lovejoy	John & Jackie Hunter
Audrey Varland	Joe & Mary Mount	Harley & Nancy Wagner	Jim & Rosemary Karnaz
Robert Hudson	Bill & Mavis Anderson	Marie & Rozann Coulombe	Dean & Barb Merkel
Coldwater High School Gift Flower Fund		Connie Kearns	Dan & Julie Przano

## Peg Julian:

Janie Crum	Fred & Judy Miller	David & Coralie Dirlam	Terry & Linda Wineland
Robert Hudson	Linda Thoman	Gary & Cathy Filter	John & Jackie Hunter
Carol Paquette	Don & Diana Day	David & Georgene Marr	Bob & Nancy Schlundt
Karen Gray	Eric & Nancy Hall	Rodney & Anita Johnson	Frank & Judy Lovejoy
Ruth Guynn	Charlene Labumbard	Rick & Lynette Wyllis	Jim & Rosemary Karnaz
Jane Schultz	Audrey Varland	Bill & Mavis Anderson	Joanne & Michael Worthing
Linda Smith	Joe & Mary Mount	Dean & Barb Merkel	



## LADIESTEAS

**SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1:00 P.M.**



Ladies - mark your calendars and plan to attend our annual Ladies Tea which will be held in Christ's Community Center. It will be an enjoyable afternoon with lunch, fellowship and entertainment by the MSU RCAHppela. Ticket price is \$15.00 and reservations must be in by April 15. You may obtain your ticket from the church office or Jen Crouch.



## A SEMINAR ON LIFE CHANGES

We are in the process of planning a Seminar to be held sometime after Easter with an emphasis on lifetime experiences and information on resources to help senior citizens to live more full, active, and independent lives. This would be held on either a Saturday or Sunday, whichever the majority would prefer. Please check next months issue of "The Chimes" and future Sunday bulletins.

# Serving in Love

## MARCH 2017

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26	April 2
<b>Greeter 9:45</b>	Rick & Lynette Wyllis	Todd & Kerry Pickett	Mike & Jennifer Crouch	Dawn Davis	
<b>Acolyte 9:45</b>	Jordan Wineland	Samantha O'Dowd	Jaymason Filter	Cameron Pickett	Ryan Olson
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	Barb Merkel Kerry Pickett	Dan Burmeister Mary Wilkie	Audrey Varland Mimi Elliott	Coralie Dirlam Judy Miller	Linda Wineland Terry Wineland Josh Wollet
<b>Kids For Christ Leaders</b>	Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Linda Wineland Katie Merkel
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Woody Carol Woody Chris McDermott Dawn Davis  Team #7	David Dirlam Coralie Dirlam Rick Wyllis  Team #8	Frank Lovejoy Judy Lovejoy Mike Crouch Jennifer Crouch  Team #1	Dean Merkel Katie Merkel Adam LaRoe Jim Austin Jack Hunter  Team #2	Terry Wineland Mark Lee Todd Pickett Kerry Pickett  Team #3
<b>Counting Teams</b>	Bob Schlundt Bill Anderson Soren Anderson	Frank Lovejoy Judy Lovejoy Phil Elliott	Doug Prather Chris McDermott	Dan Burmeister Dawn Burmeister Joe Mount	Don Day Terry Wineland
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Mary Wilkie Dawn Davis	Mary Wilkie Dawn Davis	Mary Wilkie Dawn Davis	Mary Wilkie Dawn Davis	Jane Schultz Rodney Simons



### Bibles to Share

We are blessed to have a supply of new Bibles - to give away! Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team, we purchased 72 Bibles with the intention to pass them on to others - FREE of charge. This is an excellent ministry opportunity, and we would like to enlist your help. It would be a way to reach out to those around us, by starting with our family members or friends - people we already have a comfort level with. Talk to them about your faith - and share God's word with them. Then ask if they have a Bible. If they do not, offer them one. Initially, we would like to give them out to people who do NOT have a Bible. Let's see where this leads! We would also love to hear back about your conversations with others - particularly God stories!

Bibles can be picked up on Sundays in the Welcome Center, or from the church office during business hours.





# MARCH 2017

Christ Lutheran Church

Phone: 517-764-3101

Fax: 517-764-7151

Email: clcmc@clcmc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Ash Wednesday 9:30a Card. Drum  6:00 Dinner 6:30 Service	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00a W.W.  7:00p Cub Sct. Mtg.	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:45a Worship 11:00a Brunch	<b>6</b> 1:00p W.B.S.	<b>7</b> 6:30p W.B.S.	<b>8</b> 9:30a Card. Drum  6:30 Lent Service	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:00a W.W.  7:00p Conf. Retreat @ Immanuel 7:00p Cub Sct. Mtg.	<b>11</b> Retreat Lutheran
<b>12</b> 9:45a Worship 11:15a Council Mtg.	<b>13</b> 1:00p W.B.S.	<b>14</b> 5:00p Comm. Dinner 6:00p Photoshop	<b>15</b> 9:30a Card. Drum  12:45p Greenleaf 6:30 Lent Service	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> St. Patrick's Day 10:00a W.W.  7:00p Cub Sct. Mtg.	<b>18</b> 8:45a CLC @ Immanuel's Pantry
<b>19</b> Chimes Deadline 9:45a Worship	<b>20</b> 1:00p W.B.S.  6:30p L.D.F.A.	<b>21</b> 6:30p W.B.S.	<b>22</b> 9:30a Card. Drum  6:30 Lent Service	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00a W.W.  7:00p Cub Sct. Mtg.	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Noisy Offering 9:45a Worship  3:30p Conf. @ CLC	<b>27</b> 1:00p W.B.S.	<b>28</b> 6:30p W.B.S.	<b>29</b> 9:30a Card. Drum  6:30 Lent Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 10:00a W.W.  7:00p Cub Sct. Mtg.	<b>Notes:</b>

- **W.B.S.**= Woman's Bible Study
- **W.W.**= Weight Watchers

# CELEBRATIONS



Happy Birthday to:



Happy Anniversary



MARCH



- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 3rd Collin Soltis     | 16th Conner Kozlowski |
| 4th Joshua Wineland   | 20th Ivah Williams    |
| 6th Chris Chmielewski | 22nd Nancy Schlundt   |
| 7th Reggie O'Dell     | 22nd Zeth Soltis      |
| 8th Justin McDermott  | 24th Lois Schultz     |
| 8th Todd Binschus     | 24th Thomas Calkins   |
| 9th Brian Olson       | 26th Judy Wollet      |
| 14th James Karnaz     |                       |
| 14th Josh Watson      |                       |

14<sup>th</sup> Bondy & Linda Dean 47 yrs

# KIDS CORNER

## Lent

W Q K P G N I T S A F P K V K F L  
 P O A S H W E D N E S D A Y C Z R  
 S N R E C I F I R C A S T N R K L  
 R S L R V Z K Y N B N N S N U K B  
 H C E W O F X P G N E E M O C E D  
 M R P N H S J B G L H F X I I E N  
 C X C N E F Y N P S T P G T F W J  
 V R G W B V I M A P E R N A I Y Q  
 T N O B M R I P T A P A I I X L J  
 P R H S P N T G S H M Y V L I O K  
 L E L S S Q P T R R K E I I O H W  
 B N N L Q R E F M O K R G C N V B  
 Z X N A E R G K T C F K S N H R C  
 B R N P N R F B L T C F M O C K K  
 T K A F B C J N K L K K L C P M Q  
 W R N M Y L E X C R Q C A E L V J  
 E L M E D I T A T I O N Y R Q F C

almsgiving  
 ashes  
 ash wednesday  
 cross  
 crucifixion  
 easter  
 fasting  
 forgiveness  
 holy week

lent  
 meditation  
 penance  
 prayer  
 prepare  
 reconciliation  
 sacrifice  
 sorrow  
 spring



**Christ Lutheran Church**  
4250 Page Ave. Michigan Center, Michigan 49254

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
PRE-SORTED  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MICHIGAN CENTER, MICHIGAN 49254  
PERMIT 19

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Lent Begins  
Ash Wednesday

# THE CHIMES



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**9:45 am**—Sunday Worship Service  
**9:45 am**—Kids for Christ (Sunday School)

Holy Communion Celebrated each Sunday

**Pastor Ryan Prondzinski**