

Worship

Sunday Morning
Holy Communion
at 9:30 a.m.
Light Breakfast and
Fellowship begins
at 9:00 a.m.

Education

On Summer Break
through Labor Day,
September 2

Nursery

Nursery is available for
children who are infants
through 4 years of age
during Sunday morning
worship.

Office

Monday - Thursday from
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday from
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
210-822-3394
office@clcah.org



Through God's Grace
All are welcome as we joyfully,
Receive...to Give
Learn...to Serve
and Worship...to Grow.

August 2018

From the Pastor: "I'm a lifer."

People often ask about my experience of a call to ministry in my life, and if there was ever a moment when the Lord spoke to me or revealed that I should be a minister. Over the years I have replied with levity to such inquiries: "I've never had a religious experience; I'm a Lutheran!"

That reply offends some and amuses others. Never do I intend to offend, but I consider myself a rather ordinary Midwestern boy from Minnesota, whose parents always brought him to church and made sure faith was part of our life together. There has never been a time when I was "away from the church," and I have wanted to be a pastor all my life. I regard each day of health and strength something of a miracle and encourage all with eyes of faith to see the same.

My religious experiences have been miracles of the ordinary – growing up in a Lutheran family, attending college and seminary in my hometown, raising and loving my own family, and serving congregations in Texas and Wisconsin. For more than 30 years I served as an Air Force chaplain and loved every day of that specialized ministry. Following a brief stint teaching in one of our Lutheran seminaries, I landed in San Antonio and am blessed to be a part of the ministry at Christ Lutheran Church.

My responsibilities are now primarily in areas of preaching and pastoral care. Under Senior Pastor Leslie Price, it is my privilege to care for those in hospitals and other care facilities, support the lay eucharistic and care ministries of the congregation, and explore future teaching opportunities in our community of faith. Ministry has never felt like work to me, but a lifelong celebration of God's grace.

"I'm a lifer" in the Lutheran church.

-Pastor Howard "H" Stendahl

Groups

Angelicus Choir

On Summer Break

Book Club

First Tuesday

6:45 p.m. - Location TBA

Dominos Group

First Thursday

9:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

First Thursday Lunch

First Thursday

12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Gloria Choir

On Summer Break

Healing Prayer

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.

Rode Prayer Chapel

Joseph's Sons

First Monday

6:30 p.m. - Location TBA

Lydia Circle

On Summer Break

Men's Breakfast

Second Tuesday

7:00 a.m. - Bill Miller BBQ

Mulligans

On Summer Break

Quilters

Every Tuesday

9:00 a.m. - Primrose House

Sanctuary Choir

On Summer Break

Fall Practices begin August 22

Soul Sisters

On Summer Break

Other groups meet during the year. For information, please contact our church office or visit our website www.clcah.org.

Project GROW: "Giving and Receiving Our Welcome"

When was the last time you read the vision statement of our church? It says, "Through God's grace, all are welcome as we joyfully receive...to give, learn...to serve, and worship...to grow." There's no doubt that welcoming everyone is a core part of our mission. But does "all" really always mean *all*? Might we still have room to grow in embodying that welcome to our community and each other?

Project GROW started at CLC because we believe that we are called to grow our welcome until everyone feels named and claimed as a child of God. Our team's goal is to explore how we might do a better job of reaching out to people who have felt marginalized, excluded, or unsafe in churches in the past.

We began by hosting the Building an Inclusive Church workshop in May. More than 20 members of our congregation participated. Now, we are planning to hold one-on-one conversations with as many members as we can. We want to hear about your experiences with welcome at CLC - what we're doing well and what you think we might do better. You may soon get a phone call, an email, or a tap on the shoulder from someone on our team inviting you for a cup of coffee. Please take that person up on this offer. It's a great way to get to know a fellow member and to share your hopes and dreams for our congregation.

The GROW team will gather what we learn from these conversations with the goal of drafting a welcome statement to further support our vision message in its ideal of welcoming all. Depending on our community's priorities, we might choose to say that we welcome people regardless of their economic circumstances, race, family situation, gender expression, or sexual orientation, for example. If we are willing to make a statement similar to this, then CLC will become a part of the "Reconciling in Christ" network of ELCA churches, which has more than 800 member communities nationwide. Every member of our church will be invited to participate in the crafting of the statement, and it will be reviewed by the full congregation and voted on at a congregational meeting before taking effect.

Expect to be contacted soon for a one-on-one conversation. Or reach out directly to one of our team members to set up a conversation yourself! We look forward to talking with you!

GROW Team Members: Tessa Baden, Cayenne Claassen-Luttner, Lisa Diana (co-chair), Carolyn Dufelmeier, Peggy Enax, Darwin Huartson, Carl Hughes (co-chair), Bob Logan, Mary Lynn Logan, Ryan Loyd, Sarah Loyd (co-chair), Bob Lynch, Blossom Stobb, Linda Sulser, Ken Thompson, and Fred Valenzuela.

Interfaith Welcome Coalition Backpack Collection and Prayer Flags Stewardship Service Project

During the months of July and August we will be collecting items for backpacks to be given to women and children who are seeking asylum in the US. The backpack ministry is coordinated through Interfaith Welcome Coalition, whose mission is “to welcome our community refugees, asylum seekers and at-risk immigrants, particularly women and children, and walk alongside them in their journey.” These backpacks will accompany them on their journey from the detention center to their families and sponsors within the U.S. It is a small way that we as a church can support and welcome these neighbors. After worship on August 12, we will assemble the backpacks and create prayer flags in support of those seeking asylum. We will hang the flags in the sanctuary for a blessing on the following Sunday. Please consider making a donation for the backpacks and/or helping us to assemble the backpacks and create flag garlands on August 12.

- Lisa Diana

Liturgical Planning Team

Do you ever wonder what goes into planning a worship service? Do you wish that you could help select the hymns? Do you ever find yourself imagining a creative way to engage the congregation in faith exploration? Then Liturgical Planning Team might be for you! This team meets two to four times throughout the year to plan the major church seasons, including Advent/Christmas and Lent/Holy Week. Together we develop concepts, themes, and ideas for implementation that bring the theology of these seasons to life. If you're interested in serving on this team, we will be meeting on Monday, August 6, at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to plan for the fall through Advent/Christmas. A light dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Leslie or the office to let us know you will be there!

Member News

Baptisms

- Wesley Morgan Fidaó, son of Chris Fidaó & Natalie Morgan on June 24.
- Julia Claire Melius, daughter of Adam & Summer Melius on July 1.

Sympathy to:

- Rhonda Barsalou on the death of her mother, Billie Ann Leigh, on May 26.
- The family & friends of Adrienne Buel who died on July 16.

August Lecture Series

When you sit down in a pew on a Sunday morning, do you ever look at the folks around you and wonder about their daily lives, specifically their work life? What is their career? What level of expertise have they attained over the years? What skills might they have mastered? Sometimes we may run across people who have a similar background to ours, but sometimes our backgrounds can be quite different.

This August at CLC, we are honored to be hosting a lecture series featuring engaging speakers who also happen to be members of our congregation. One is even our pastor! We hope you will join us for each of the following lectures. They will be held on Wednesday evenings throughout August at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

August 7 – Rev. Howard Stendahl – What does it mean to be a Lutheran?

Our presenter: Rev. Stendahl is a graduate of Hamline University, St Paul, MN (B.A.), Luther Theological Seminary, St Paul, MN (M.Div.), The Graduate Theological Foundation, South Bend, IN (D.Min.) and holds a Doctor of Divinity degree (D.D.) from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (LTSS), Columbia, SC. He studied Clinical Pastoral Education, served congregations in Texas and Wisconsin, and retired from active duty as Chief of Chaplains of the U.S. Air Force in 2015, in the grade of Major General. He currently serves as one of the pastors at Christ Lutheran, with areas of focus in preaching and pastoral care.

Our topic: What makes Lutheranism what it is? Many of us know the phrase “saved by grace,” but how did that phrase come to define Lutheranism? What’s the history of the birth of our Lutheran understanding of the gospel and the man for whom our denomination is named? Come and learn about the history of Lutheranism and what defines us theologically.

August 22 – Gen. Jeff Buchanan – What are heroes?

Our presenter: Jeffrey S. Buchanan is a Lieutenant General in the U.S. Army. He is currently the commander of the U.S. Army North (Fifth Army). He also serves as the senior commander of Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis. He holds a bachelor of science in wildlife ecology from the University of Arizona and a Master of Arts in leadership development from the U.S. Military Academy. He was commissioned a lieutenant in the infantry in May 1982 after graduating from the University of Arizona. He has served four tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan.

Our topic: Heroism is defined as a courageous action taken with a noble purpose. But by our current cultural standards, those who get lauded as heroes today often seem far afield from this standard. Ultimately, becoming a hero is about the choices you make, and each and every person, no matter how simple a life they lead, can become a hero if they choose. Come and learn just how heroic your life can be.

August 29 – Dr. Ulf Balldin – Flying High & Fast!

Our presenter: Ulf Balldin was born in Sweden and received BSci, MD, and PhD degrees at the University of Lund. He has held academic professorships in Physiology and Aerospace Medicine and served a medical residency in general and thoracic surgery and anesthesiology. He was a Naval Diving Medical Officer and trained as a Salvage Diver in the Royal Swedish Navy. He was a Senior Research Flight Surgeon for the

(Continued on the top of page 5)

Series (Continued from page 4)

Swedish Air Force and Defense. He was a Liaison Scientist for the Swedish Defense working with the USAF at Brooks AFB; a Clinical Associate Professor at UTMB in Galveston; and served on the faculty of USAF School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks AFB.

Our topic: Fascinating finds in aerospace medical research, including methods to decrease the risk of severe and possibly fatal hypoxia when pilots are exposed to a rapid loss of cabin pressure. Studies have found methods to diminish the risk of impaired performance or short, but sometimes fatal loss of consciousness during maneuvering a high-performance fighter aircraft. Ulf will discuss cases of “near death experience” during some of these short time losses of consciousness.

Let's Help Brenda's Kids with Back-to-School Supplies!

Our friend Brenda and her four children are very excited about the new school year! All four children will be attending West Avenue Elementary. We would like to help them have a good start to the fall semester with new shoes and a big bag of school supplies. Please select one of the children's names from the “tree” in the CrossWay. You may purchase shoes only or shoes and school supplies. If you'd like to get a new backpack for the school supplies, that would be fantastic!

We'll need all gifts returned to the CrossWay no later than Wednesday, August 22. Please mark your gifts with the appropriate child's name. Brenda is thrilled that we continue to offer love, support, and prayers to her and Bobby and their children. Bless you for your generosity!

- Jan Norris

Confirmation Class (6th through 8th grade)

Through our confirmation program, we seek to encourage, inspire and nurture students as they experience God's baptismal promises, grow in their faith and understanding, and discover what it means to be God's people in the world today. We tackle the stuff that defines our Lutheran religion, such as the Bible, theology, and the Small Catechism. Most importantly, we learn about the grace and love of God.

On four select Wednesday evenings (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) throughout the year, we will spend time in a large group, hearing interactive presentations by Pastor Leslie and Pastor H that cover the upcoming topics for the next several weeks in Sunday school. On Sunday mornings (9:15 to 10:15 a.m.), students will gather with their Sunday school teachers to talk in-depth about the topics covered in large group and how they might apply this learning to their lives.

Our first Wednesday large group of the year will take place in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, September 5. We invite all parents and students (6th - 8th grades) to come at 5:30 p.m. to Fellowship Hall for an orientation. Following the orientation, our large group class will take place, and we will end at 8:00 p.m. Pizza will be provided for all at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, September 9 (Rally Day) upstairs in the Youth Fellowship Room. We are looking forward to an exciting year!

Sunday School Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to help support our Sunday School programming. The goal is to have enough people to help so the commitment is achievable with busy schedules! If a commitment of teaching Sunday school a few times in the fall and/or a few times in the spring sounds doable, call the church office.

Sunday School will resume September 9!

Rally Day

On Sunday, September 9, we return to our regular school-year schedule with two worship services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and education hour at 9:15 a.m. As we kick off our year, we have a tradition of celebrating Rally Day! Join us for a “picnic” lunch and fellowship following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, September 9. There will be fun for all ages to enjoy.

Stockholders' Banquet

All who invested in our youth through purchases of Mission Trip Stock are invited to our Stockholders' Banquet, which will be held Sunday, August 26, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Please mark your calendars now for this special time for our youth to serve you and to thank you for your prayers and investment in each of them. The youth will serve you a delicious meal, share their story, and answer questions from the stockholders.

CLC Book Club

What a great meeting we had in July. Natalie did a wonderful job leading the discussion of the book which led to an even more interesting discussion concerning LGBTQ topics. Everyone was grateful to have been a part of this conversation.

August is Hillbilly Elegy which Peggy will lead.

For September, Mary Lynn suggested Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark T. Sullivan. October will be Ruby Fruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown.

Join us on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting is August 7 at 6:45 p.m. in Primrose House.

Habitat for Humanity

Christ Lutheran Church continues to work with Habitat for Humanity in building affordable homes in our community. Every year since 1999, Christ Lutheran has helped sponsor and build a home as a member of the South Texas Lutheran Cluster. This fall the Lutheran Cluster will sponsor a house at 227 South Acme Road in the Lenwood Heights neighborhood. Christ Lutheran volunteers will partner with MacArthur Park volunteers on Friday, September 14, and Saturday, September 15. Christ Lutheran is looking for 10-12 volunteers for both days. Sign-In begins at 7:45 a.m. and the safety briefing begins at 8:00 a.m. Because of the type of work being performed, the age requirement for workers is 16 years and up. No building experience is needed, and all tools will be provided on site. Each house is assigned a building supervisor, and that person will provide all the necessary guidance. Christ Lutheran is also looking for volunteers to provide lunch for 30 volunteers on Friday, September 14. Lunch is served at 11:00 a.m. on site, however, they ask that you arrive 15 minutes prior to set up. MacArthur Park will provide lunch on Saturday, September 15.

The San Antonio Habitat for Humanity office was the first affiliate in the nation to be formed, and since 1976 it has helped organize and build well over 900 homes in the San Antonio area.

The membership of Christ Lutheran Church has always been very supportive of the Habitat for Humanity program financially and through volunteerism. Year after year CLC volunteers contribute their time, labor, and prayers to assist a selected family build a structure they will call home. This is another opportunity for CLC members to become involved in improving the quality of life for a family in our community.

A sign-up roster will be posted in the area where breakfast is served between services. There will also be a map providing the directions to Lenwood Heights.

Ice Cream and Cake Social to Thank Carrie Jowers

Sunday, August 12

4:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Build your own sundae, and thank
Carrie for her service to our youth,
children, and families!



Praises to:

- All our high school graduates for their perseverance, effort and achievements and blessings to them as they embark on the next chapter - Kylie Hill, Cade Chegin, Daisha Tenorio, Gage Addis, and Finnegan Barsalou.
- All who participated in the service project to assemble Snack-Paks.
- Jayme Brown and his crew for preparing another fabulous interfaith dinner to celebrate Ramadan with our friends from the Raindrop Turkish House.
- All our small group leaders for another productive year of small group ministry.
- Lori Harris as she assumes the role of Vice President of Congregation Council.
- Carolyn Dufelmeier, Sharon Wiedemann, and Robb Decker as they continue as Member-at -Large, Treasurer, and President, respectively.
- Joe Diana for his service as Congregation Council Vice President.
- Tessa Baden, Elizabeth Diggs, and all the volunteers for a wonderfully organized and meaningful VBS!
- All of our Altar Guild members for their devotion to preparing the Eucharist each Sunday.
- Courtney Myers for her dedication to the Day School Board for seven years.

Staff

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor

Dana Ferrero
Director of Day School

Becky Richard
Office Manager/Accountant

Linda Sulser
Administrative Assistant

Dr. Dan Long
Director of Music Ministry

Matthew Goodson
Organist

Ariana Acosta
Youth Choir Director

Sharon Wiedemann
Youth Choir Accompanist

Lisa Diana
*Minister of Mission
& Outreach*

Brandon Albrecht
*Asst. to the Director of
Faith Formation*

Clara Tenorio
*Church "Keeper" &
Nursery Attendant*

Sam Tenorio
Custodian

Jesus Garcia
Sound Tech

Congregation Council

Robb Decker, *President*

Lori Harris, *Vice Pres.*

Sharon Wiedemann,
Treasurer

Blossom Stobb, *Secretary*

Sarah Loyd, *Trustee*

Chris Fidao, *Trustee*

Carolyn Dufelmeier,
Trustee

Pastor Leslie Price
Pastor Howard Stendahl

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August Lecture Series

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