



The Buzz ...



The newsletter for Christ Lutheran Church

The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to joyfully serve others.

It is only by serving others in Christ's name, that we find love, peace, and joy in our faith.
July, 2016

From the Pastor's Desk...

Inspired by **John 4:5-15**

Take a moment and recall the time in your life when you suffered most terribly from thirst. Think back to when you were hot as you have never been before. You were exhausted, utterly worn out from heat and smoke; you were parched, utterly thirsty.

Where were you? Was your area plagued suddenly by a freakishly hot streak, or were you traveling? Was the heat thick and moist, filled with unreleased water, or was it a sultry dry heat, sapping your skin, nose and mouth of their last reserves of moisture? Were you in a desert? Was it a barren place, of wind and dune and bleached rocks, or did it have spindly shrubs, flat spruces, distant hills?

The distance Jesus and his friends were walking, from Judea near Jerusalem to Galilee was about 50 miles. The well of Sychar was about half way. We read that when they arrived, Jesus was tired by the journey and he sat down. And no wonder! It was the heat of the day and stiflingly hot. They would have been walking since the cool of dawn, and it was lunchtime. They had no food. At least there was a well, where thirst could be quenched. But without a bucket, Jesus couldn't down the water. So he waited until a local came by; then, without even saying "please," he told the stranger to give him some. She was shocked, perhaps a bit put-off, and probably thirsty herself. So there they were; at the same time, but both thirsty. But Jesus' thirst was different from the woman's. Water would remove his. Then, when thirsty again, he would drink again. The thirst he saw in her, however, was not temporary. It was not caused by heat, desert, or empty winds. It was the thirst of a body of tenderness, for passion, for appreciation. It was the thirst of a quick-witted theological mind for truths that would not waiver with debate, for teaching that would not teeter by intimidation. And it was the thirst of a spirit for that refreshment, that living water that would never cease.

No, this woman's thirst was not temporary. It came from God, and only God could relieve it. The thirst was total; it was the intense longing of the whole human creature to know and be known, to love and be loved, to satisfy and be satisfied. Jesus recognized this thirst! "If you only knew what God is offering," Jesus tells us, "you would ask and God would give you living water."

In Christian love,
Pastor Keith

Council Approves Use of Facility

The Church Council at its July meeting approved entering into a fellowship with the **Village of Grace**, a Christian community in Orange. They will have use of the sanctuary from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Sundays beginning September 11, 2016. In addition, they will use a classroom from 9:15 to 10:15 Sunday mornings beginning 9/11/2016. Beginning August 3, 2016, they will use the Fireside Room for Bible Study on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30. The monthly contribution for use of the sanctuary, a classroom, and the Fireside Room as stated above will be \$1000 a month, increasing to \$1250 after 9 months, and to \$1800 after 18 months. In addition, they will provide quarterly service projects to be determined. The August payment for use of the Fireside Room only will be \$333. The cost for use of the entire facility in September (3 Sundays) will be \$750. A contract and insurance will be required. This contract will be subject to review after 6 months.

Report on Mary House

A professional inspection of Mary House took place last week. The Facilities Use Committee will review the report and make recommendations to the Church Council. Thanks to Suzanne D'Arcy, Betty's daughter, for arranging the inspection.

Picnic on the Lawn and Preschool Open House

Dixie Dohrmann is planning the menu, flyers have gone out to the community (thanks to the preschool staff), and everyone is invited to share in the food and fellowship on July 31 at noon on the lawn in front of Mary House. Puerta de Paz and the preschool staff and families have also been invited. The Preschool will offer an Open House at the same time so attendees may visit classrooms and hear about our fabulous school and day care.

SUGGESTED APPAREL: *God's Work, Our Hands*
GOLDEN-ROD T-SHIRTS! and shorts.

Pastor's Prayer

"O Lord, we offer you the thirst of our loneliness, the bitterness of our fears, the dryness of our soul's natural spring. Accept, receive, relieve, so your Spirit's living water will well up from within, satisfying us, refreshing others. Amen."

Keep in your Prayers:

Dick and Judy Pinkham, cousins of Hamilton's, (*heart attacks*); Ketelaar family, (*loss of Pam*); Colunga family, (*loss of Bob*); Ron Green, Cindy's brother, (*broken shoulder*); Bonnell family, (*loss of Jack*); Doug Griffin, friend of Cindy's; Grace McDonald, (*recovering from surgery*); Avis Gerards; West Wyatt, Al Walker's cousin; Olen Lowry and family, (*cancer*); Marie Berger, Linda Peterson's friend, (*hip surgery*); Cody Brown, (*cancer*); Ken Anderson (*Cancer*); Marianne Hamilton; Ida Savage, Lea Walker's sister (*surgery*); Jordan Walker; Nick Walker; John Wolfe. *And also: Our Preschool Staff & Families; Puerta de Paz ministry; Boy Scout Troop; Pacifica Synod and ELCA; Village of Grace Church*

Check out the Bulletin Board

News, special announcements, and other current information is posted on the bulletin board at the church entrance. A quick look and you might find something of interest to you.

The Buzz is posted monthly, and you will also find a copy of the minutes of the last council meeting.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor Keith leads a study of the Gospel of Luke on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. All are welcome.

Kim Miller leads a women's study group on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. at the home of Kristen Matsumoto, 572 North Waverly in Orange.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

July 31: Picnic on the Lawn
August 3-o14: Pastor on vacation
August 7: Good Samaritan Sunday
August 16: Council Meeting
Sept. 11: ELCA Day of Service
Oct. 22: Boy Scout Troop 531 Fall Yard Sale
Oct. 23: Installation of New Synod
Bishop

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Picnic on the Lawn July 31



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The Buzz is issued on the Sunday following the council
meeting.

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