



THE MISSION OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH IS TO SERVE OTHERS. JOYFULLY

The BUZZ

The Newsletter of
Christ Lutheran
Church

SEPTEMBER, 2016

Pastor Miller's Message

"Beloved, I do not consider that what I have made is my own, but this one thing I do; forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14)

The Bible encourages us to think ahead. I don't mean simply that we ought to make plans, set goals or otherwise try to see what we will face tomorrow, although all of that is good and wise. What I mean is that the Bible insists that we live today in anticipation of tomorrow, with a readiness for tomorrow, and in hope of what tomorrow will bring.

In Hebrews 12:2, the writer tells us that Jesus endured the cross *"for the joy set before Him,"* it has nothing to do with the "joy" of pain and dying while crucified. It has to do with what lies ahead. The writer urges us to learn the same lesson so that we will not grow weary and lose heart.

Do you know why people give up and quit, right in the middle of their faith walk with the Lord? It's because they become too focused on **today**. The burden is too heavy and there is no prospect of it becoming lighter. The problems are too difficult, the answers too incomplete, and they become consumed with today.

Do you know why some churches fail: why they never seem to get off dead center, never grow and never accomplish anything worthwhile? It's because they can't see anything better for tomorrow. They've planted their feet firmly in the mud of right now.

There is only one thing that can move us to live today in any sort of productive fashion, and that is **the idea, the thought, the dream** of tomorrow. I can learn something today that will help me be a better person tomorrow. I can do something today and tomorrow—I can reap the rewards and positive consequences of any effort. Whatever I sow in my life today, is what I will reap tomorrow. If I want to be good and enjoyable and fun and exciting and uplifting or if I want to be comforting and satisfying and joy-filled and rewarding, then I must look away from the past, avoid getting bogged down in today and learn how to live toward tomorrow.

Paul's words to the Philippians are challenging! Forget the past. Don't make the mistake of simply living today. Understand that we're headed toward tomorrow. Let that idea shape your involvement in life and create in you a burning desire to make today count by its product tomorrow. We're reaching for something that is both beyond us, yet close at hand. Let all your todays prove their value tomorrow.

Bible Studies Continue

The Thursday morning bible study continues to look at the Gospel of Luke at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. All are welcome. For information on Women's Bible study, contact Kim Miller.

Remember in your Prayers:

Bill Graveson, (cancer) Family of Patti Reynolds, **Michaela Cecalá, (cancer); Jim Wolfe, (cancer); Joe and April Savage,** Friends of Grace, (illness), **Polly Green,** Cindy's mother, (surgery); **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); Family of 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

Compassionate God, we pray for all those who are struggling in body, mind or spirit. Grant them a sense of your peace. In Jesus name. Amen

BISHOPS INSTALLATION REQUIRES RESERVATION

If you would like to attend the Installation of Bishop Taylor on Oct. 23, please let Pastor know so we can RSVP. Oct. 14 is the deadline.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 2: Blessing of the Animals
- October 9: Bishop Gathering 3 p.m.
- October 18: Council Meeting
- October 22: Boy Scout Troop 531 Fall Yard Sale
- October 23: Installation of Pastor Andrew Taylor

Every Sunday Schedule

- 9:30 Adult Bible Study
- 10:45: Worship Service with Holy Communion
- 11:30: Fellowship after church: coffee and goodies

Pastor Keith Miller: Home: 562-219-5392, Cell: 707-391-0443. Email: kgmiller624@yahoo.com Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Please call ahead for appointment.

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

Day of Service Huge Success *Cookies galore; many willing hands.*

The Fireside Room was abuzz with activity as many hands filled boxes with about 70 dozen cookies, tied the boxes with colorful ribbon and flags, and wrote message on them. Nine members took 17 boxes of cookies to eight fire stations, the police department, and Care Ambulance Service.

A big thanks to all who participated in serving others, joyfully. Dixie graciously supplied the quiche for lunch and the boxes and decorations. We are so blessed with such willing hands.

Blessing of the Animals on October 2.

Bring the whole family to worship as we celebrate God's Creation. Worship will include **Blessing of the Animals.** Pets must be leashed, crated, or otherwise contained.

Bishop's Gathering Son & Surf Conference Sunday, October 9

2:00 to 4:30 pm (Rostered @ 2:00/All @ 3:00)
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