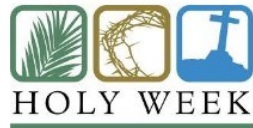


CHRIST LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

Worship During Holy Week Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

This year I encourage you to attend worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Easter is so much more meaningful if you hear the story of Jesus' last meal with his disciples before his arrest. You will hear once again the story of Jesus' arrest, his questioning before the Sanhedrin and Pilate and his crucifixion. It is not a "fun" story or an "entertaining" story. It is a story that speaks of our world and our experiences and hearing those stories makes Easter something to truly celebrate.



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13: Worship with Holy Communion at 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. We will have the Sunday school parade decorated wagons, 3-year-olds will be getting their "A Child's First Bible" and 2nd Graders will share what they learned about the Lenten Cross during the 9:15 a.m. service.

Wednesday, April 16: Bread Baking
4th Graders gather in the church kitchen from 3:30 -5:00 p.m. to bake bread for Maundy Thursday and Easter Worship.

Thursday, April 17: Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion at 6:30p.m.
4th Graders celebrate their First Communion and participate in worship by stripping the altar. Special music by the Men's Choir.

Friday, April 18: Good Friday Worship at Noon and 6:30 p.m.
Special music from the Chancel Choir at 6:30 p.m. We will once again use the Tenebrae Service. It's a moving service with absolutely beautiful music.

Easter Sunday, April 20: Worship with Holy Communion at 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.
Special music from First Class Ringers, Chancel Choir & Andrew Quam, flutist.

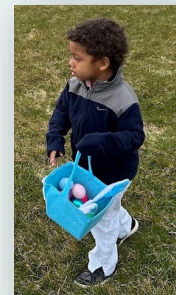


INSIDE THIS ISSUE

April Worship News	2
Lenten Suppers	2
Lent Services	3
Wednesday Night Meals	3
Easter Breakfast	4
Easter Egg Hunt	5
Children's Church	5
God and Games	5
Children's Ministry News	6
Milestone Ministry News	6
Youth Ministry News	7
CLC Scholarships	7
Go And Tell	8
Social Concerns	8
Sock Hop	9
Ladies Night Out	9
God's Global Barnyard	10
Book Study	10
"Jesus of Nazareth"	
Movie Study	10
Senior Excursions	11
Gifts and Memorial	11
New Members	11
Music in Ministry	BC

Sunday Worship is also
Livestreamed on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
ChristLutheranChurchStoughton](https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchStoughton)



APRIL WORSHIP NEWS

April Worship Schedule 2025

We worship at 8:00 and 9:15 a.m.

**8:00 a.m. is our Traditional Service and 9:15 a.m. our Worship Lite.
Times for worship on Easter Sunday are the same, 8:00 and 9:15 am.**

Sunday, April 6: Worship with Holy Communion

In today's gospel lesson Mary anoints Jesus' feet with an expensive bottle of oil. Judas thinks it is a waste, but Jesus appreciates her lavish gift as an expression of her love and anticipation of his burial.

Preacher: Pastor Paula

Sunday, April 13: Palm Sunday – Worship with Holy Communion

Today you get the WHOLE STORY of Easter Week. The WHOLE STORY is what makes Easter Sunday truly a celebration of God's love. It will be told through various means – scripture – costumed characters - pictures – special music – and even a parade at the 9:15 a.m. service.

Preacher: Pastor Paula

Sunday, April 20: Easter Sunday - Worship with Holy Communion

This year we hear the good news of Jesus' resurrection as recorded in the gospel of Luke. In Luke's gospel, Mary and Elizabeth are the first to believe that God is doing something new. God is sending God's Son into this world. After his crucifixion, it is Mary Magdalene who is the first to encounter the resurrected Jesus and to tell the disciples that Jesus lives.

Preacher: Pastor Paula **Special Music:** First Class Ringers and Chancel Choir

Sunday, April 27: Worship

Today John's gospel tells us of Jesus' first appearance to his disciples. Thomas is not present and will not believe until he sees the resurrected Jesus for himself. A week later Jesus gives him that opportunity.

Preacher: Sandy Grant



**Lenten Supper Menus for April
Supper is served from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
A donation of \$8 per person is requested.
Come and enjoy some wonderful fellowship.**

Wednesday, April 2

Meatloaf or Ham
Cheesy or baked potatoes
green beans and salad
Swedish Rye bread,
Rice Krispies and cookies
Coffee, Milk, and Apple Juice.

Wednesday, April 9

Homemade Mac and Cheese and beef stew
Lettuce Salad
Swedish Rye Bread
Brownies, Raspberry Sauce and Ice Cream
Coffee, Milk, and Apple Juice.



Lent Worship
Wednesdays, at 6:30 p.m.

This year, following Ash Wednesday, our Order of Worship will be Holden Village Evening Prayer. Its music is beautiful and calming. For our Lenten Series, we will take a closer look at the story of Moses and the Exodus. An entire book of the Bible is dedicated to the telling of this story – Exodus. For the Jews this story is THE STORY of the Old Testament. God’s people were forbidden to make any graven images of God and there is a reason for that. If they wanted to know who their God was or what their God was all about, they looked to what God had done for them. The Exodus tells them beyond a doubt that their God is all about FREEDOM. God freed them from slavery in Egypt, and then to keep them free, God gave them the Ten Commandments. I invite you to join us and read the selected sections of Exodus before worship. Copies of the scripture readings with thought provoking questions may be found on the Information desk. We will put out the readings one week at a time for you to take home. .



Wednesday, April 2: “The Gift of the Ten Commandments”

God gives God’s people the gift of the Ten Commandments. We often see it as a set of rules that God demands we obey, but God’s intent was to give God’s people a guideline on how to live and be free.

I invite you to read the following scripture before worship... Exodus 20: 1-12



Wednesday, April 9: “At the Border of the Promised Land”

After wondering in the wilderness for 40 years God’s people are about to enter the Promised Land. They have dreamed of this day for forty years, but Moses tells them that they will face new challenges in this land. They will be tempted to forget God and God’s commandments. The consequence of such a choice leads to death. But if you love God, walk in God’s ways and keep God’s commandments you will live, really live, live exuberantly, blessed by God.

I invite you to read the following scripture before worship... Deuteronomy 30 – 31:8

Wednesday Evening/ Confirmation Dinners Return April 20

Dinner is served from **5:30– 6:30 p.m.** A minimum donation of **\$7.00** or **\$8.00** is suggested to help cover the cost of food. Confirmation students and their families, God and Game participants and their families, our Seniors and really anyone is invited. Enjoy an hour of good food and good fellowship.



April 23

- Baked Chicken
- Cheesy or Baked Potatoes
- Green Salad
- Swedish Rye Bread
- Brownies and Ice Cream
- White or Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice or Coffee

April 30

- Homemade Chicken Spaetzle or Chile
- Grilled Cheese or Egg Salad Sandwiches
- Apple Crisp with Ice Cream.
- White or Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice or Coffee



Join us for Easter Breakfast...

Sunday, April 20, 2025

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Menu...

Scrambled Eggs with Ham

Breakfast Casserole

Cheddar Cheese and Bacon Egg Bake

Pancakes with Homemade Apple Sauce

**French Toast with Strawberries
and Whipped Cream**

Fresh Fruit

A Variety of Breads

Coffee, Juice and Milk

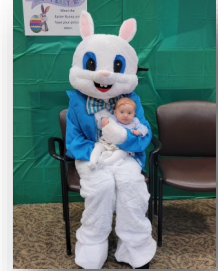
FREE WILL DONATION

**To help cover our costs please consider a minimum
donation of \$8 per person.**



Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 20
Easter Sunday



MEET IN THE NARTHEX AT 9:00 A.M.

Weather and mud will determine whether the Easter Egg Hunt is indoors or outside.

Please be on time.

This event takes all of ten minutes.

Older and Younger youth are split up and look for eggs in different places. The Easter Bunny will be on hand to give out the bags of candy and treats.

All it takes is one egg to win a bag of candy.



Wednesday nights during Lent we will have **Children's Church** in the gym from **6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** We will be learning about the life of Moses through a short video and discussion, along with crafts, games and snacks that reinforce that week's Lesson. We will be following along with the same topics as discussed in the Lenten services at a level **for kids in 3K through 6th grade.** Moses is not something we cover at length in our normal lessons in Sunday school and this prophet is so important to our faith. We hope you will join us!

April 2nd: Moses and the Gift of the 10 Commandments

April 9th: Moses finds the Promised Land



God and Games Returns April 23rd
Wednesday evenings
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Grades 3rd – 6th

It doesn't matter if you are a regular or not, you are always welcome. Alani Estervig and Libby Conant would both love to meet you. The evening starts out with a short devotional and continues with fun and games.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS FOR APRIL

- We continue to have Children's Church in the Gym from **6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** for **all kids from Pre-K through 6th Grade** through the season of lent. Our 7th through 8th graders should be attending the worship services on Wednesday Nights at 6:30 and they should plan to take sermon notes for each week. We also have a Wednesday Night Meal during lent which is a nice way to start your Lenten observation. **Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.** with a suggested donation of \$8 per person and is served before both the Lenten service and Children's church. We hope you all can join us.



- On **Sunday, April 13th—Palm Sunday** we will have a lot going on so we hope to have you all here for Worship. All kids that are **3-year-olds** will receive their Bibles at the 9:15 a.m. service. They do not need to attend Sunday school to receive a Bible.

- We also are doing a **Sunday School Wagon Parade during the 9:15 a.m. service.** If you have a wagon, we will be decorating them on **Sunday, March 30th** so please bring it to church and plan to leave it here for the week .

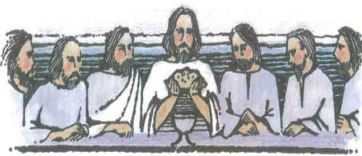


We have selected our VBS program for 2025 and it is called "What a Mess VBS". Mark your Calendars for **four consecutive Wednesday Evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. starting on July 30th and continuing August 6th, 13th and 20th.** Kids will get together to learn about how God loves messy people. Kids will share a meal with their family and friends in the café then move to the sanctuary for our large group opening. Each week we will have a short skit to examine how; even when things get messy' God's love is always there for us. Kids will make messy snacks, and messy crafts and they will play messy games. Plus each week has a dress up theme and competition. Kids can join for all or some of these weeks.



MILESTONE MINISTRIES NEWS FOR APRIL

4th Grade First Communion Instruction



On **Sunday, March 2nd and 9th and April 6th & 13th** 4th Graders and their parents' will meet in the Conference immediately following Sunday School from 10:50 – 11:20 a.m. for First Communion Instruction. Pastor Paula will be teaching.

On **Sunday, April 6th 2nd Graders** will be meeting with Pastor Paula to make Lenten Crosses during the School. All second graders including kids not registered in Sunday school are welcome. You will meet with Pastor Paula in the large youth room **from 10:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.** You will then talk about what you learned **at the 9:15 a.m. service on Sunday April 13th.**

On **Sunday, April 13th 3-year-olds** will receive their "A Child's First Bible " during the 9:15 a.m. Palm Sunday service. Pastor Paula will then meet with Parents and Children to talk about this Bible during Sunday School from 10:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. Your 3 year-old does not need to be enrolled in Sunday School to attend.

On **Wednesday, April 16th** we meet in the church kitchen right after school until 5:00 p.m. to bake bread. If you need a ride from school, please let the church know. On **Thursday, April 17th** we gather for **Maundy Thursday Worship at 6:30 p.m.** where we will hear the story once again of the first time Jesus shared the bread and wine of Holy Communion with his disciples. Our young people will be recognized and will receive a gift before the worship begins.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS FOR APRIL



Boundary Waters Canoe Trip 2025

Monday, July 14 – Sunday, July 20

Youth in Grades 7-12 and

ALL INTERESTED ADULTS

Cost: \$450 \$400 after \$50 campership

As always, to keep our costs down, we pack our own food and tents and provide as many of our own Duluth packs as possible. We have 15. The Outfitter provides the canoes, paddles, life jackets, a few Duluth packs, bunkhouse accommodations for Monday, July 14, breakfast the following morning and a shower when we come off trails. We come off trails the morning of Sunday, July 20, shower and head home. We usually arrive home about 10:00 p.m. For youth who can drive, parents may want to leave a car in the church parking lot. We have permits for Seagull Lake and one for Sag Lake. One group at least will focus on fishing.

We leave early Monday, July 14. By early I mean at 6:00 a.m. That means you need to be at the church by 5:30 a.m. to pack. Why so early? We have 500 miles to travel. Bring food to snack on in the vehicles. We stop at Duluth harbor for lunch. Bring a packed lunch if you like, but food can be purchased there. We will hang out in Grand Marais once we reach it. Sven and Ole's Pizza is once again open on Mondays, so we will stop for a few hours for supper and to look around once we get there. After eating, we finish the trip up the Gunflint to Voyageur Outfitters. The cost of that meal is part of the trip.

What do you do in the Boundary Waters? You paddle, portage, cook your meals over an open fire, swim, fish, enjoy the wilderness and the people you are with. Bring a book to read and some small portable games. We come off the water between 7 - 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, shower, pack up and leave for home. The cost of the trip covers breakfast/lunch at the Mid Trail Cafe about 30 miles south of the Outfitters on the way home as well.

The people who sign up will help determine what the trip looks like, whether we focus on fishing or moving or just sitting around the campsite and enjoying the peace.



CLC Scholarships

This year we are pleased to once again be able to offer scholarships to help defray the cost of continuing education for the 2025-26 academic year. High school seniors and college students who are current members of CLC are encouraged to apply for scholarships.

Applications can be found at the Christ Lutheran Church office, online - <https://clcstoughton.org/christian-edyouth/> (scroll to the bottom), or from Kris Adams & Allen Adams. All CLC scholarship applications are due to the church office by **May 1st, 2025**. Additional information about CLC scholarships can also be found online. Scholarship awards will be announced as part of the baccalaureate service on **Sunday, May 25th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.**

GO AND TELL BY ROGER SLACK

Once again I bring before you one of Paul's letters in the New Testament written to the church in Phillipi in Northern Greece. It is a wonderful look into the past and early goings on of one of the churches established by the Apostle Paul and his associates during his travels. This is the town where in Acts 16, Paul and Timothy first meet Lydia down by the river, then cast out the slave girls ability to tell peoples fortunes which caused them to be beaten publicly and thrown in irons into jail. It was unlawful to beat a Roman citizen which the city officials later found out, Paul was one. The city officials publicly apologized and asked Paul to leave town. The seeds for a new church were already sown.

The letter Paul writes indicates he was once again in prison, where I don't know but possibly in Rome at this time. Timothy is with him and Epaphroditus has arrived with the care package the Philippians had sent (maybe food, clothes and money for whatever needs Paul and those with him needed). If you ended up in prison, your friends and family took care of your needs, not the city or jailers. The letter Paul dictates is a very personal love letter to the Philippians that I enjoy reading.

- 1.) The joy he gets just thinking about them and the prayers he prays for them as a result.
- 2) He encourages them to live like Jesus, loving deeply and selflessly, dying to give us life.
- 3) He wants to send Epaphroditus back to them as he knew they were worried about him being deathly sick, but now healthy again.
- 4) Paul warns them to stay clear of the "knife happy circumcizers" that would travel after him trying to make them into "Jewish Christians". Paul restated that all his past efforts in keeping the Old Testament laws were trash in comparison to getting to know Jesus, His life, death and resurrection and new life.

For me the letter is so very uplifting. It only took me 22 ½ minutes to read the whole letter. I'm sure it was read to the people meeting together many times over the years and probably shared with other churches as well.

HELLO FROM THE SOCIAL CONCERNS—BY BRENDA ZARTH

There are a lot of Social Concerns currently from members of our congregation, our families and neighbors. I've been listening to stories of fear and anxiety for our Ukrainian friends, worries about enough food in food pantries, worries about workers at the Veterans Administration Hospital facing possible job losses, and loved ones who work for the National Park service losing their jobs.

The UW Hospital and Clinics developed a plan in case officials came to any of our facilities to remove immigrants, to help staff handle this potential situation.

We discussed this topic at our last Social Concerns Committee meeting and to help support our congregation and community, we found a website called 5Calls.org that provides information on current issues that might be stressful and provides background information for the topic and lists the names and contact phone numbers for your politician so you can call and express your opinion. The 5 Calls website states:

"Calling your Congressperson is one of the most effective ways to influence policy. Once your congressperson forms a public stance on an issue, it's hard for them to walk it back. The earlier they hear your opinion, the more likely it is you'll make an impact. Calling is the fastest and most effective way to be heard before they take a public stance."

You can also download the 5 Calls App for your phone to stay in touch with current legislation.

If you have fears or worries about social concerns or current politics, this might be a safe way to investigate your concerns and respond appropriately.

If you have any thoughts or concerns you would like to discuss with the Social Concerns Committee, feel free to contact me at Brendazarth@gmail.com. Thank you, Brenda Zarth

SAVE DATES



Everyone is invited to a Sock Hop!

Sunday, May 4th from 10:00 a.m. to noon

50's and 60's Music, Costume Contests, Limbo Contests and fun fifties food.



To End our Sunday School Year we are planning a good old fashioned Sock Hop for our entire congregation! . Plan to come dressed in your best 50's and 60's outfits (We will have a best dressed contest with all age categories) This is a time to celebrate another great school year here at CLC. So break out a poodle skirt or your favorite pair of blue jeans and leather jacket. We will have dancing, an old fashioned limbo contest and some wonderful 50's themed treats for all to enjoy. This event will take place from **10:00 a.m. to Noon on Sunday, May 4th**. Mark your calendars we hope to see everyone there!



Christ Lutheran is hosting

Stoughton's 2025

Ladies Night Out

Thursday, June 26th

From: 3:00 – 9:00 p.m.

"A Good Time for a Great Cause"

Come early and give yourself time to eat, drink, visit with friends and enjoy all the stops. There will be special promotions at every stop and you take home a goodie bag with coupons from area businesses.

Registration is from:

3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at The Chorus Public House

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. at the Viking Brew Pub or Water Street Tavern

• Over 30 Business Stops

• 70 Raffle Prizes

• Funds raised are for START, Seniors in Need and Stoughton Resettlement.

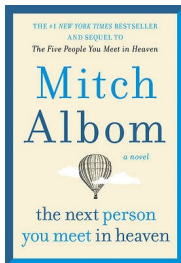


God's Global Barnyard

As I have said before, it is not a Lutheran tradition to give up anything or “fast” during Lent. The Ash Wednesday liturgy encourages us to focus instead on “acts of love.” During the Season of Epiphany, we focused our attention on collecting food for the Stoughton Food Pantry. The food and funds collected have helped our brothers or sisters close by. During the Season of Lent, we will focus our attention on collecting donations for God’s Global Barnyard. These gifts will help our brothers and sisters half-way around the world. In God’s Global Barnyard, a gift of an animal can help families in need by providing food, fertilizer, and income. These gifts can help families break the cycle of hunger and poverty. In the “God’s Global Barnyard” program, a typical cost for animals looks like this:

- **Chickens:** Around \$10 per chick, or a small flock for \$50.
- **Goat:** Approximately \$50 - \$100 depending on the organization.
- **Piglet:** Around \$30 - \$50.
- **Cow:** \$500 or more.

ADULT EDUCATION FOR APRIL



Book Study is Thursday Mornings, April 3 & 10 Sunrise Restaurant

9:30 a.m.

This month we are reading Mitch Albom’s book, “The Next Person You Meet in Heaven.” We are meeting the first two Thursday only. The 17th is Holy Week and the following week Pastor Paula will be in Arizona.

JESUS OF NAZARETH



“Jesus of Nazareth” directed by Franco Zeffirelli

Thursday evenings –

March 20

and April 10.

6:00 p.m.

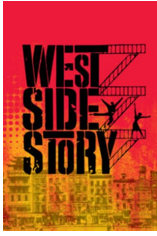
Soup and Sandwich

The mini-series was released in 1977, but I still think it is one of the best. The director set out to film the life of Christ with a \$12 million budget for an on-location production in Morocco and Tunisia. He took over two years to prepare before filming began in September of 1975. A panel of distinguished theologians and Biblical scholars served as his advisors and helped Zeffirelli not only aim for, but achieve, a high degree of historical accuracy—not only in the period of sets and costumes, but in the many details that distinguish this version of Jesus life on film from any other ever made.

We invite anyone who would like to join us, to come to church on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m., view a portion of the film and discuss it. Soup and Sandwiches will be served. A free will donation will be received to cover the cost of food. If you would like, bring a side dish or dessert to share.

April 10: The Crucifixion and Resurrection

SENIOR EXCURSION



Fireside Theater and West Side Story

April 11—19 people will make their way to Fireside Theater to enjoy lunch and a performance of West Side Story. We meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. to pool rides. Expect to return home around 4:30 p.m.

No Senior Luncheon in April

Pastor Paula will be in Arizona from April 20th (Following Easter Worship) through Tuesday, April 29th. Senior Luncheon and Senior Outings will resume in May.



Endowment Foundation

From:
Gloria Hayne

In Memory of:
Dave Selbo



On Sunday, March 16th Christ Lutheran Church welcomed 18 new members to our church: Austin and Bridget Gallagher, child Alice; Connie Schultz; Randy and Kimberly Maerz, Ben and Rosie Gerber, children Archie and Charlie; Jack Maerz and Megan Lynch, children Lane and Lauren; Heidi Smedal; Trevar and Stephanie Smedal and their child William. If you see these people at church on Sunday mornings please introduce yourself and help us to make them feel welcome.



Trevar and Stephanie Smedal and their child William



Heidi Smedal



Randy and Kim Maerz

**“So we are
ambassadors for
Christ...” -**

2 Corinthians 5:20

HYMN NERDS FOR APRIL



Christ the Lord Is Risen Today or Jesus Christ is Risen Today is a text written by Charles Wesley that was composed in 1739 as a "Hymn for Easter Day" and it included eleven stanzas (or verses). The Alleluias were added later.

The text is set to a 7.7.7.7 meter and so can be sung to any tune using this meter which explains why we know it and sing it with different tunes. There are three very common tunes currently used that support this text. In 1747 it was paired with a tune written by GF Handel that we now sing with a different Easter text, "Thine Be The Glory".

Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Highway B
Stoughton, WI 53589

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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STOUGHTON, WI

“Christ in Our Home” daily devotional booklets for April, May and June in small and large print are available for pick up.

