

CHRIST LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

Syttende Mai

**Bake Sale
Worship
Brunch**



Saturday, May 16th • 10am-2pm

NORWEGIAN BAKE SALE

Sunday, May 17 • 10:30am

NORWEGIAN WORSHIP

Sunday, May 17 • 11:30am

NORWEGIAN BRUNCH WITH ALL YOUR FAVORITES

Meatballs and Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Red Cabbage, Cucumber Salad, Herring, Lefse, Swedish Rye Bread, Krumkake, Rosettes, Rommegrot, Rice Pudding, Kringle, Coffee and more... *A minimum \$20 donation is suggested.*

Christ Lutheran • 700 County Road B, Stoughton

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Anyone who wants to support Christ Lutheran Church can make a donation using the website or Q.R. Code below.



<https://clcstoughton.org/giving/donate/>

Sunday Worship is available to Livestream on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchStoughton>

MAY WORSHIP NEWS

May Worship Schedule 2026



This month the worship schedule may be a bit confusing. On May 3rd and 10th we worship at 8:00 and 9:15 a.m. The 8:00 a.m. is our Traditional Service and 9:15 our Worship Express.

On May 17th – Syttende Mai weekend – we worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The 8:00 a.m. worship is our regular traditional worship and 10:30 a.m. is our Norwegian Worship with the Grieg Choir.

On May 24 and 31st we have one worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 3: Fifth Sunday of Easter - Worship

It's Jesus' last night with his disciples in the gospel reading for today. They do not want him to go anywhere. Jesus understands their fear and anxiety and promises to be with them forever. The promise is good for us as well.

Preacher: Sandy Grant

Liturgist: Jen Hoffman

Special Music: Chancel Choir, Sunday School and Handbells

Sunday, May 10: Sixth Sunday of Easter – Worship with Holy Communion

We are still with Jesus and his disciples in that Upper Room the last night they are together. Jesus encourages them to obey his commandments. All he wants for them is the best life possible.

Preacher: Jen Hoffman

Liturgist: Pastor Paula

Sunday, May 17: Seventh Sunday of Easter - Worship

It is still the night before Jesus' crucifixion. Jesus prays to his Father in heaven that his disciples and future followers will continue to do his work in this world.

Preacher: Pastor Paula

Special Music: Grieg Choir and more

Sunday, May 24: Day of Pentecost – Worship with Holy Communion

This is the day Jesus pours out upon his followers the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the power of the Holy Spirit in them, his disciples are empowered to continue Jesus' ministry.

Preacher: Pastor Paula

Sunday, May 31: Holy Trinity – Worship - Baccalaureate and Scholarships

This is the Sunday we talk about the Three in One, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It's not that hard to comprehend. Each one of us takes on more than one role in life. One example: child, adult and elder.

Preacher: Pastor Paula

Special Music: Chancel Choir

Graduating Seniors 2026

Our graduating seniors this year are Libby Conant, Gatlin Empey, Moses Harris, Evey Kellnhofer, Carsten Koch, Dana McCoy, Parker Sellnow and Kai Sickles.

Join us as we celebrate this Milestone in their lives and enjoy some cake afterwards.



Scholarships will also be handed out. Last year Christ Lutheran gave over \$25,000 in scholarships to our graduating senior, college and technical school students. That money this year comes from various sources: \$16,000 from the Foundation, \$4200 from Senior Luncheons, a \$2500 gift from congregational members, Bethel Circle and the CLC Scholarship Fund. **Additional contributions are always appreciated.**



Everyone is invited to a Sock Hop!

Sunday, May 3rd 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, a hula hoop 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 3rd**. Mark your calendars we hope to see everyone there!

Thursday, June 11th

Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. at The Chorus Public House

4:30 p.m. at the Viking Brew Pub or Lotus Salon — Tickets are \$25 each

Buy tickets at Nordic Nook, McGlynn's Pharmacy, The UPS Store or Christ Lutheran Church in Stoughton beginning **Wednesday, May 6th** and at Viking Brew Pub, Lotus Salon or The Chorus Public House the day of the event. Please pay for tickets with **cash or check**. Make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church with Ladies Night Out in the memo line.

The first 50 tickets are 2 for 1. They are sold exclusively by Christ Lutheran Church call (608-873-9353) or stop in at 700 County HWY B in Stoughton, beginning Tuesday, May

5th at 9:00 a.m. Limit one (two-for-one ticket) per person. No early sales.

No phone messages.



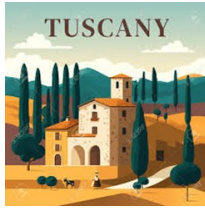
"A Good Time for a Great Cause"

- Over 25 Business Stops —each with a promotion. Earn up to 5 raffle tickets when you visit all the stops
- Over 60 raffle prizes from Stoughton Businesses. You need not be present to win. One raffle prize per person.
- A Goody Bag full of Coupons.
- Dinner Specials at several locations throughout town.
- Appetizers and beverages at The Chorus House throughout the event. Wine and Beer for purchase.
- For full details you can see updates on the Stoughton Ladies Night out and Christ Lutheran Church Facebook pages leading up to the event.



Proceeds from Ladies Night Out will be donated to Seniors in Need and START (Stoughton Area Resource Team).

This event is organized by Christ Lutheran Church to support the ministry of Stoughton's local helping organizations.



Pastor Paula is going to Tuscany... from April 25 – May 9.
I am traveling with my sister, Pam. Sandy Grant will be preaching May 3rd and Jen Hoffman May 10 – just in case I have flight delays. Call the office in case of emergencies. Various area pastors will be covering for me.

Now it is time to turn our attention to ELCA’s God’s Global Barnyard...



and feeding people around the world. Throughout the Season of Easter which goes from now until May 17th let’s work to collect donations for our global ministry. That would be fitting. During the season we celebrate Christ’s resurrection we can focus on helping people who are suffering from food insecurity. Let’s see how many cows, goats, sheep, pigs, chickens and bees we can buy. When you give a family chickens or a cow or a pig they not only eat, but have a means of producing an income that will send their children to school and give them hope for tomorrow. If you want to make a financial donation to God’s Global Barnyard there are envelopes in the Narthex for Lutheran World Relief, or you can donate electronically and make a note that it is for God’s Global Barnyard or you can put God’s Global Barnyard in the subject line of your check. We have \$710 dollars to date. Last year we raised close to \$2000.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



We love to have everyone get involved in whatever way that they are called to participate. We still have many volunteer opportunities for one time help or multiple times helping for the following: lecturing, kitchen help, bringing treats on Sundays, or ushering at the 9:15 a.m. service. We can also use help at all of our upcoming events: Sunday School Sock Hop, Syttende Mai Meal and Bake Sale and Ladies Night Out. Below are links to our Sign-Up Genius for the events listed above. You can call Jean in the office for any questions or to sign up to help as an usher or lector. Or call Jenny for any questions or to help in the kitchen for Meals and Memories, Food and Fellowship or Sunday Morning Kitchen help and/or to sign up to bring treats on Sunday morning. To contact Jean or Jenny you can call 608-873-9353. You can also access the link to the volunteer signups below on our website at :

<https://clcstoughton.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

Sunday School Sock Hop:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-58551469-copy>

Syttende Mai:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-61363393-copy>

Ladies Night Out:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-63147899-copy>

Join a Gardening Volunteer Group: Zone #1, #2 or #3:

Zone #1: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-63186261-clcgardens>

Zone #2: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-63187579-clcgardens>

Zone #3: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-63189598-clcgardens>

GO AND TELL BY ROGER SLACK

I am sure that some of you, maybe many of you, have understood how important music and songs have been throughout the life of the Church from the very beginning to today. That thought has been impressed on me lately as I have been thinking about how people learn about God and Jesus and what it is that they remember. I don't know who would know how well educated the members of the early churches were. My guess is that it varied tremendously from church to church as Paul and all the other Apostles traveled sharing the gospel message.

It would be fun to go down each pew row, one Sunday, and have each one list their favorite hymns without using the hymnal. All the "classic" hymns would be listed; Rock of Ages, Beautiful Savior, Go Tell it on the Mountains, Nearer my God to Thee, Holy, Holy, Holy (#131 in the *old Red Hymnal*). The list would go on and on and on. Why? Those songs have a beautiful message in each that touches our hearts somehow when we hear them or sing them ourselves. Some of these songs are hundreds of years old and played a role in countless lives over the years. People may not have been able to read, but could sing along after they learned the words. Each time they sang it, the message was relearned within themselves and even though they were not "literate", they could share that message with someone else. The musical tune provided an opportunity for listening that a person just speaking may not have. Paul and Silas were in chains in jail in Phillipi, having been beaten, and started singing songs of praise to God and it says the other prisoners were listening to them.

Not every song written is a classic, even back then. Some are just hard to sing because of the tune and as a result the message is lost. The thing that amazes me is there are "classics" being written today, some Gospel and some Country music, that are truly beautiful melodies and have beautiful messages that glorify God and Jesus. The objective is the same as it was 2000 years ago, to get people to look and see that the Lord is good.

Past Vacation Bible Schools in summer impressed on me that, even though the little kids can't read yet and may not remember the lessons they heard, they probably will remember the songs and will be able to sing along when they hear them through out the coming years. Please pray that the message in these songs will be written in their hearts and they understand.



From Left to Right: Cayson Kojo, Brady Swain, Levi Wendorf, Annika Hays, Emma Annen, Liam Hays and Robert Ford. **Not pictured:** Grey Salonek and Royson Yellow Bird.

Bacclaureate Service



On **Sunday May 31st, 2026 at the 9:00 a.m.** service the congregation will celebrate with all Christ Lutheran Church graduating seniors at a Bacclaureate Service. At that service, we will also be presenting CLC Scholarships to all recipients. This includes scholarships for both continuing college students and graduating



2026 High School Graduates and parents please be on the lookout for a letter that is being mailed that will ask two things from you. We will need you to provide two things back to the church via email or text message. You can send them to JennyH@clcstoughton.org or text (608-719-9680).

1. A senior photo we need these for the Slide Show that is shown on Bacclaureate Sunday and to post on our Facebook and Website. (If you do not want them on Facebook or the Website let me know when you send in the photo, but we would still like them for the slideshow shown at church.)
2. We also need your senior to answer a few questions. Where they are graduating from? What they are doing after High School? One thing that they learned this year and a favorite memory from their school days.

Please note that we need all photos and answers to the questions above by no later than **May 17th**. (Even if you cannot be present we will mention all High School Graduating seniors and share their pictures as part of our Slide show. Please help us in gathering this information. We would like to recognize and congratulate all of our High School graduates!)

Wednesday Evening/ Confirmation Dinner



Dinner is served from **5:30– 6:30 p.m.** A minimum donation of **\$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 everyone is invited. Enjoy an hour of good food and good fellowship.

Last One of the School Year

Wednesday, May 6

Tomato Soup
 Pig in a Blanket or Grilled Cheese
 Chips and Salad
 Root beer or Orange Floats
 Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk and Apple Juice

Last Confirmation Class of the School Year is

Wednesday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m.



We need everyone to show up along with some parents because for our last class we are going to clean 840 sq. ft. of storage area on the second floor of the building. It gets cleaned one way or another every year and yet at the end of the school year it is a total mess. Many hands make for light work so let's all show up and help get our storage room ready for some needed repair work.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION NEWS



Vacation Bible School Wednesday nights for 4 weeks

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

(5:30 p.m. dinner—6:00 p.m. VBS starts in the Sanctuary)

Dates: Wednesday, July 29, August 5, 12, and 19.

Theme: Lost at Sea

Cost: Free to all

(this is open to the community for kids ages 3 through 6th grade)

We have selected our VBS program for 2026 and it is called "Lost At Sea". 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, followed by small group activities. Small Groups will read a short Bible Story and discuss with their peers, they will have themed Music and games, a craft, and/or an experiment and even a themed craft. Each week has it's own story, so even though the theme runs throughout kids can join in all or some of the weeks and still be able to navigate through the lessons in their teacher led groups. There will be sheets sent home each week so you can have discussions or do activities together as a family to support that week's lesson.

Parents/ Grandparents: If you are interested in helping or if you have décor or stuffed animals at home that we could borrow for our sea/nautical theme please let Jenny know at

JennyH@clcstoughton.org or call at **608-873-9353**.

In this Series kids will join the crew of the **USS Everfind** (join Captain Brunch, Everett and Everleigh and their merry crew), with the mission to find what has been lost. Their latest mission is to determine the whereabouts of the lost cruise ship, **Seablunder**, and her passengers. Along the way, kids will learn that God has a passion for finding lost people and bringing them back to him.

Weekly Themes:

Week #1: Lost at Sea

Week #2: Finding the Wreckage

Week #3: Underwater Exploration

Week #4: Island Rescue and Finding the Treasure



Open Gym here at CLC - Coffee, Chaos and Community.

(Families with little ones, we will also have the nursery open)

What: Free Open Gym for kids and families

When: Friday May 22nd, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Who: This is open for kids from birth through Pre-K. Nursery is available

We have snacks including coffee and treats for the parents/grandparents/caregivers. We read a story, do a craft and play games in the gym. Perfect opportunity for your kids to get some exercise and playtime in a new environment with new toys and new friends. Our Theme this month is: **Spring**



Christ Lutheran Church Garden Volunteers

As spring approaches, it's time to recruit garden volunteers. So what do our garden volunteers do here at Christ Lutheran Church? How would I know if this would be a good fit for me? Our volunteers are assigned one of the three zones below.

The areas that need to be worked on are:

Zone 1: Front annual beds on both sides of entrance, mulched area around building and long parking island with church sign/flowering crab trees by mailbox.

Zone 2: Three long parking islands, triangular shape island with large tree, island with peonies and butterfly bushes, small triangular area next to driveway to back of building, area around flagpole,

Zone 3: Outside Gathering Area: Large raised perennial bed, area next to church around corner to air conditioners, by gas meter and kitchen door, also fence line on neighbor's side.

What do our gardeners do?

In your respective zone you need to, cutoff dead flowers; fertilizing per schedule, watering, look for weeds and dig them out; dispose of any garden waste, pick up any trash.

What equipment is needed and do I need to supply any of it?

Required Tools – two large buckets for garden waste, scissors, small pruner, gloves, spade, tool to poke out weeds, kneeling mat. Shovels and herbicides are stored in the shed for your use.

When will my scheduled time to help be?

Preferred timing: Friday or Saturday to look nice on Sunday (or whatever day works best for you); in either early morning or early evening when cooler and less windy. Avoid times when there is a funeral or wedding event at church. You will select at least four weeks each summer and sign-up online using the links on the bottom of the page or call the church office to schedule the weeks you are available to volunteer.

If you have any questions about volunteering you can contact Bob Kluge at: 608-977-2267 or b.kluge@sbcglobal.net.

Join a Gardening Volunteer Group: Zone #1, #2 or #3:

Zone #1: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-63186261-clcgardens>

Zone #2: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-63187579-clcgardens>

Zone #3: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094BADA72AA0FC1-63189598-clcgardens>

Christ Lutheran Church Mowers

Join the lawn mowing crew at CLC 3/20/2026

Our CLC lawn mowing group is making some changes. We will be mowing starting at 9:30 A. M. the day yet to be determined. We will have 3 teams working. Each will cover the month they are assigned

we will be working as teams which allows us to keep an eye on our mowing partners. This is a much safer environment for us to handle.

The first day of the month we will be doing trim all around the church and other areas that need it plus the lawn. We are looking for people – leaders which we have great numbers of folks who are retired and are working with as we speak.

We all need some family time so feel free anytime to give John a call and enjoy working with fine folks. We will be glad to fill you in on what is needed to enjoy what you are doing. We run with three mowers so when everything works we are done by 11:30 A.M.

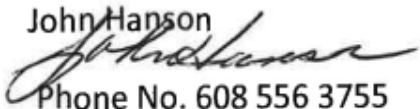
Don Franklin will need some time to recover from a back problem so I have worked with Don for some time and will handle any problems till Don feels good to return. I could use some reinforcement to help checking out our equipment keeping full of fuel as well as oil transmission fluid not a big deal.

I make sure all equipment is ready to operate when our Teams get there.

Don and I would like to thank all the people who have worked with us over the years. Many thanks to all - it was greatly appreciated.

Thanks

John Hanson



Phone No. 608 556 3755

ADULT PROGRAMMING FOR MAY



Breakfast & Books – A Book Study Sunrise Restaurant Thursday Mornings 9:30 a.m.

We are back at it on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. I'm not sure what we will be reading, but please, come join us. There is always room for one more.



Meals and Memories

May 26

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. – Cost: \$12

Program: Karen Warick will entertain us on her dulcimer.

Menu: B.B.Q. Ribs and Chicken, Baked Potato with Butter and Sour Cream
Fresh Beans, Salad, Swedish Rye and a variety of pies with ice cream

Invite your friends!



Ageless Adventures Fireside Theater Friday, June 5th

On December 4, 1956, an extraordinary twist of fate brought Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Elvis Presley together at Sun Records in Memphis for what would be one of the greatest jam sessions of all time. MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET brings that legendary December night to life with an irresistible tale of broken promises, secrets, betrayal, and celebrations that is both poignant and funny. Relive the era with the smash-hit sensation featuring an incredible score of rock 'n' roll, gospel, R&B, and country hits all performed live. Featuring such hit songs as "Blue Suede Shoes," "Fever," "Walk the Line," "Sixteen Tons," "Great Balls of Fire," "Folsom Prison Blues," "Hound Dog," and many more.

Please sign up by Tuesday, May 5th. The sign up sheet is at the Information Desk in the narthex.

The cost is \$84.50 and that does include the gratuity. You know the routine. We meet at the church on the 5th to pool rides and head out to Fort Atkinson. **We will be eating upstairs.**

Personalized Cards for Graduating Seniors or College Grads



Attention Parents and Grandparents. Would you like your Graduate to have a special Card with their name on it? If you would like a homemade card please contact Sandy Grant at tipitime@yahoo.com or Jean Johnson in the Office at [608-873-9353](tel:608-873-9353) Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. or via email at: jjohnson@clctoughton.org. The money raised is used by Bethal Circle for various benevolences.

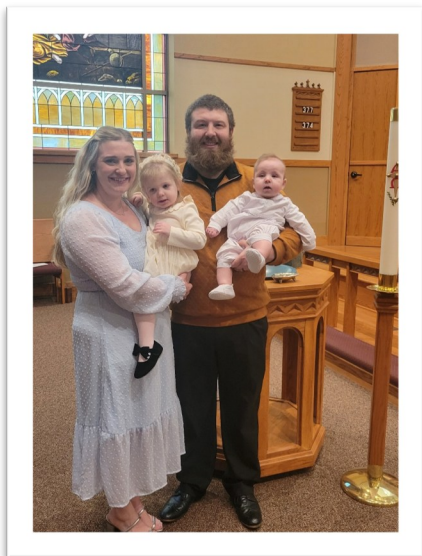
May Hymn Nerds



“Loving Spirit” (ELW 397) is by Shirley Erena Murray from New Zealand. The text of this hymn celebrates the many ways the Holy Spirit acts in our lives. Murray’s texts explore new or challenging theological concepts and imagery, and they often address social justice concerns as well. She says of her own work that “we need ‘comfort hymns’ but you can’t let that dominate. One needs to be taken out of oneself and into the world.”

“Loving Spirit” explores God’s nature, God’s immanence and intimacy. Each stanza explores a relational metaphor for God, first as mother (stanza 2), then as father (stanza 3), then as lover and friend (stanza 4).

This text has been paired with several tunes, but in our hymnal we use “Restoration,” which was first published in William Walker's collection, Southern Harmonies (1835). Walker is known for being a collector of Folk tunes from around the different parts of the Shenandoah region of the United States.

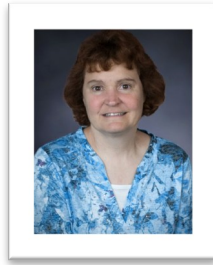


April 19 - Holden Lee Whitehead, Son of Garrett & Morgan Whitehead and his sister Hadley.



April 17 - Joeseph Iverson & Olivia Johnson.

“So we are
ambassadors for
Christ...” -
2 Corinthians 5:20



Lisa Johnson



Here at Christ Lutheran!



Lisa Johnson, Horticulture Outreach Specialist Dane County Extension, will be at Christ Lutheran Church, 700 Cty. Hwy B Stoughton on Wednesday, June 3, 2026. She will present a 1-hour program on “Native Plants and Pollinators”. The gardening community in Stoughton is welcome to attend. More information to come....

The tentative program consists of three parts:

6:30-7:00 pm: Optional outdoor tour of Christ Lutheran’s native prairie and retention pond, flower gardens and unique and various tree species.

7:00-8:00 pm: Lisa Johnson’s Presentation “Native Plants and Pollinators”

8:00-8:30 pm: Open-mic. Your gardening questions for Lisa Johnson. This half-hour portion will resemble WPR's Larry Meiller show.

Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Highway B
Stoughton, WI 53589

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor Paula Geister-Jones
Jenny Hoffman, Lay Ministry
Administrator

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CLC Website: www.clcstoughton.org

CLC Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchStoughton>

Staff:

Jean Johnson Office Administrator

Eileen Klinzing, Financial Secretary

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