Holy Week at Christ Church

Three straight evenings of worship? Why would I want to do that? It’s a reasonable question that many people probably ask themselves each year as Holy Week comes around. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil—the Three Days, or Triduum. It is a lot of worship in a short time.

But what worship! Ours is a congregation that has identified worship as the center of our life together, and no worship is more important, or more varied, than what we experience over these three days.

Maundy Thursday
April 17, 7:00pm

The powerful experience of having the pastor’s hands pressing on your head as you are assured that your sins (your sins!) are completely forgiven.

The opportunity (totally voluntary) to have your feet washed, in a profound reminder of love and servanthood.

Holy communion, as we take our Lord’s words seriously and “do this in remembrance” of Christ’s work of salvation.

Good Friday
April 18, 7:00pm

This service at the center of the three days features a reading of John’s Gospel account of Jesus’ crucifixion, a reading that emphasizes not the pain and suffering, but the victory that Christ won on the cross. And that sets the stage for a deeply moving time of silence, and prayer, and contemplation. It is like nothing else in the entire year.

Vigil of Easter
April 19, 8:30pm

What can we say? In a congregation that loves to party, this is the great party of the whole year. Yes, it goes on for a while—good parties always do! We gather around a fire, we all carry candles in procession, we have fun hearing wonderful old stories, we get wet by the font that looks like a horse trough, we gather around the altar for the happiest meal of all. And then we have dessert: Alleluia à la mode!

Do yourself a favor: come for all of it.
Announcements

Retirees
On Wednesday 30 April at 11:00am, the retirees will hear from Harvey Leuning about the ongoing mission work he and his wife Cheryl do in Namibia. See page 4 for a longer description of Harvey’s program.

A potluck lunch will follow. Everyone is welcome. Meet in the Concordia Room. Freewill donation.

Funeral
Bernice Eisfelder died on 14 March. Her funeral was held on Thursday 27 March. Pastor Haaland officiated, Pastor Carlson assisted.

Submissions
Want to write an article for The Courier or submit photos or other content? Contact Josh Messner at jmessner001@luthersem.edu.

Our Facebook Page
Christ Church Lutheran is on Facebook. Please “like” our page and invite your friends to do so as well. We post events, special announcements, upcoming forum topics, fun photos, and other content on this page. Join us!
Finances Update

The finance committee is working to provide you with the most current information about our congregation’s finances. In addition to other communications, we will provide a quick report on the state of our operating budget in each issue of The Courier.

We are running about $7,000 behind with our member (envelope) giving, and are about $8,300 over budget with our expenses, mostly due to the high winter energy bills. (Energy bills are always much higher in the winter than in the summer, but the budget for them is divided evenly over the year.) The bottom line will look a little better once we start taking our budgeted transfers from endowment returns.

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<tr>
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<th>ACTUAL</th>
<th>BUDGET (2 mos.)</th>
<th>DIFFERENCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Member Giving/ Envelopes</td>
<td>$38,756.07</td>
<td>$45,909.50</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td>Total Income</td>
<td>$48,602.17</td>
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<td>Total Expenses</td>
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<td>Total Surplus (or Deficit)</td>
<td>$(18,193.61)</td>
<td>$0.14</td>
<td>$(18,193.75)</td>
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Helping Hands
March/April

John & Virginia Buegel
Ted Buegel & Amanda Jenkins-Buegel
Robert Farlee
Donna & Pete Gawreluk
Roger & Liz Gomoll
Paul Hanson
Lynn & Kevin Larson
Kay & Greg Madson
Cynthia Neubecker
Robyn & Marcus Nooney
Marni Schmidt
Rita & Ken Schoenike
Cathy Sieving

If you are named in the April helping hands chart, please help with Sunday morning coffee fellowship in the form of set up, clean up, or treats. Contact Michael Jefferis for details. michael.jefferis@gmail.com

Motet Sunday in April

On Sunday 6 April—the fifth Sunday in Lent—the Elm Ensemble and the Christ Church Lutheran choir will sing Bach’s epic motet Jesu, meine Freude during morning worship. This stunning composition by the German master weaves verses of Romans 8 together with chorale verses by Johann Franck. Sally Messner offered an educational forum on 30 March on some textual and musical aspects of the piece and will provide program notes for worship on 6 April.

Retirees April Program

On Wednesday 30 April at 11:00am, the retirees will hear from Rev. Harvey Leuning about the ongoing mission work he and his wife Cheryl do in Namibia. Rev. Leuning first visited Namibia, a country in southern Africa, in 1990. At that time his wife, Dr. Cheryl Leuning, was there conducting research for her doctoral dissertation. Since then Harvey and Cheryl have made frequent trips to Namibia and now have a townhome in the capital city of Windhoek. When in Namibia, Harvey volunteers with an after-school program helping elementary-age children improve their math and English skills. He also spends time with friends and travels around the country to see the magnificent landscape and the abundant wildlife. At the retiree’s luncheon, he will share some of what he has learned about the amazing country of Namibia.

Hot Cross Buns

Ever wonder how hot cross buns are made? Join the baking group on Saturday 12 April at 1:00pm in the main kitchen to bake some of these traditional treats to be served the following Sunday (Easter) during coffee fellowship. Contact MariLu Peters or Rita Schoenike.

From the 25 March Council Meeting

In lieu of reproducing the minutes of each council meeting, we are offering highlights. Complete minutes are always available for review from the church office.

The council approved the final proposal that the pastoral support committee will make to the Lilly Foundation for funds for a sabbatical for Pastor Carlson in 2015.

The council approved a proposal from the mission committee for $1000 from the visioning funds to be used to sponsor a “Day at the Market” at the Midtown Farmers Market, host an Ecumenical Palm Sunday Procession along with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church through our neighborhood, host National Night Out, and host a meeting of the Longfellow Faith Forum.

Approved a vision-fund request for $250 to pay for childcare during young adult events at church.

Approved the plan put forward by the communications committee for rolling out the new welcome statement.

Heard an update from the newly formed arts coordinating committee.

Approved a request from the communications committee for $400–800 in visioning funds for the second phase of the website redesign, which will allow persons without advanced computer training to enter information into the website.

Approved up to $3000 from visioning funds to pay for the administration of the new website through the end of 2014.

Approved the formation of a task force to begin planning for a capital campaign drive to meet expenses associated with a new organ and major building projects.

Approved plans from the preservation committee to begin the process of restoring the baptismal font.

Heard various reports from our pastors and from committees of our church.
Christ Church Lutheran
2014 Summer Program for Kids

Christ Church Lutheran is pleased to offer another great summer program of educational fun for your children. Preschool classes are for children age 3—and toilet trained—through pre-k.

New this year—elementary classes for children in kindergarten through second grade!

June 9–13
Preschool Science and Elementary Music

June 16–20
Preschool Music and Elementary French

June 23–27
Preschool Art and Elementary Drama

9:00am to 12:00pm
$10/day per child

Contact Sally Messner, Program Director, with questions.
sally.messner@gmail.com

Download the registration form at www.christchurchluth.org/education.html and submit with payment to the church office before 31 May or until classes are filled.
Lectionary Readings
April 2014

Sunday 6 April
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

Sunday 13 April
Sunday of the Passion
Processional Gospel ~ Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14—27:66

Thursday 17 April
Maundy Thursday
Exodus 12:1-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Friday 18 April
Good Friday
Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1—19:42

Sunday 19 April
Resurrection of Our Lord— Vigil of Easter
Romans 6:3-11
John 20:1-18

Sunday 20 April
Resurrection of Our Lord— Easter Day
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

April Birthdays
4/1 Dick Bruesehoff
    Nancy Hokkanen
4/2 Hans Adams
    Len Johnson
4/7 Sebastien Lewis
4/9 Kayla Parkos
4/10 Simo Sarkanen
4/12 Elizabeth Bryan
4/14 Terry Rong
    Elaine Pilon
4/18 Luther Johnson
4/19 Liz Gomoll
    Max Wipperman
4/20 Kristine Carlson
    David Seltz
    Matt Wieland
4/22 Lynn Larson
4/23 Donna Peterson
4/25 Emily Schuett
4/26 Jeanne Anderson
    Rebecca Dodd
    Dan Mueller
4/27 Kylie Larson
4/29 Phyllis Dunstone
    Brittany Sampson
    Gerry Tyrrell

Upcoming Forums
Sundays 11:15am

April 6
The Book of Romans
Pastor Haaland
During the season of Lent, our Wednesday preaching will focus on readings from Paul’s letter to the Romans. Our daily Lenten devotions, from the little book Too Deep for Words, will also keep us rooted in this profound work of Christian theology. Explore, learn, and continue to be transformed by this ancient letter to an unknown group of Christians in first-century Rome.

April 13
Palm/Passion Sunday
Neighborhood Procession with Palms
1:00pm, preceded by a noon lunch
No forum on this day. On the afternoon of Palm Sunday, we join neighboring churches for an outdoor procession through our neighborhood. We’ll stop at places symbolic of both hope and pain, offering prayers of thanksgiving, lament, and hope. All are welcome.

April 20
Easter Sunday—No forum on this day.

April 27
Who Put the “Stew” in Stewardship? Christ Church’s Very Own Stewardship Committee
The word “stewardship” signifies the ways we recognize, care for, and employ the many gifts that we have been given—both as individuals and as a community. At Christ Church we are blessed with a remarkable and abundant mix of gifts—a great “stew,” if you will. Discover, explore, and give thanks for these many gifts of God in our midst and be inspired for generous giving.

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<td>Motet Sunday</td>
<td>9:30 AM Eucharist</td>
<td>11:15 AM Education</td>
<td>11:30 AM Morning Prayer Noon - Lunch 6:00 PM Supper 7:00 PM Night Prayer</td>
<td>SafeHouse Meal 7:00 PM Choir</td>
<td>10:00 AM • KidArt • Finnish School</td>
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<td>Passion Sunday</td>
<td>9:30 AM Eucharist</td>
<td>11:00 AM Bldg. Tour 12:00 PM Neighborhood Procession</td>
<td>1:00 PM Tai Chi Chih</td>
<td>Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM Worship</td>
<td>Good Friday 7:00 PM Service of the Cross</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
<td>9:30 AM Eucharist</td>
<td>11:00 AM Brunch</td>
<td>Building Closed 7:00 PM Exec. Board 7:30 PM Council</td>
<td>7:00 PM Choir</td>
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<td>9:30 AM Eucharist</td>
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<td>1:00 PM Tai Chi Chih 7:30 PM Accordo Concert</td>
<td>11:00 AM Retirees</td>
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<td>2:00 PM Genealogy 7:00 PM FCCL Board</td>
<td>11:00 AM Retirees</td>
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* April 13—Palm/Passion Sunday Neighborhood Procession with Palms

On the afternoon of Palm Sunday, we join neighboring churches for an outdoor procession through our neighborhood. We’ll stop at places symbolic of both hope and pain, offering prayers of thanksgiving, lament, and hope. All are welcome. We gather at Christ Church at noon for lunch. Procession begins at 1:00 pm.
### Volunteer Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assisting Ministers</th>
<th>Acolytes</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Head Ushers</th>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Prayer Writers</th>
<th>Nursery Workers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>Ben Cherland</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Mary Lou Doll</td>
<td>Jeanne Anderson</td>
<td>Howard Polsfuss</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Luann Skrivseth</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lucille Buelow</td>
<td>Donna Gawreluk</td>
<td>Bob Davis</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
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<td>April 13</td>
<td>Jason Bergquist</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Simo Sarkanen</td>
<td>Dave Kutzbach</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Ute Swenson</td>
<td>Sally Messner</td>
<td>Ute Swenson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jan Radloff</td>
<td>Donna Gawreluk</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
<td>Samantha &amp; Chloe Rice</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Donna Gawreluk</td>
<td>Marni Schmidt</td>
<td>Michael Jefferis</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Jan Radloff</td>
<td>Chuck Merrell</td>
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<td>Donna Gawreluk</td>
<td>Daniel Holmgren</td>
<td>Greg Madson</td>
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<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>Jan Radloff</td>
<td>Chuck Merrell</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
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<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>Pr. Haaland</td>
<td>Chuck Merrell</td>
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<td>Bob Davis</td>
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### Sunday Worship Services—9:30am

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<th>Acolytes</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Head Ushers</th>
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### Sunday of the Passion—Palm Sunday

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### The Three Days

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