

Christ Connections



CHRIST
providence



CHRIST
concord



CHRIST
online

march/april 2023

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

CHRIST PROVIDENCE

8:45 a.m. **Traditional Worship**
10:00 a.m. **The Bridge Service**
10:00 - 10:45 a.m. **Sunday School**
11:00 a.m. **Contemporary Worship**

4519 Providence Rd., Charlotte

CHRIST CONCORD

10:00 a.m. **Multi-Generational
Modern Worship**

11:00 a.m. **The Gathering
(for families of children
with special needs)**

240 Pitts School Rd. NW, Concord



For links to live-stream services,
upcoming virtual events, bulletins,
ChristKidsTV and more:
christelca.org/online

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA



*Answering
THE Call*

PAUL'S
GREATEST HITS





PASTOR SCOTT SUSKOVIC

Pastor's Perspective

Remember Your First Love?

Do you? Do you remember your first love? For me, I'm not so much thinking about Patty in 9th grade but rather St. Stephen Lutheran in Longwood, Florida. They invited me to come back and preach on February 12 as part of their 50th Anniversary. I served there as my first call out of seminary from 1987-1995. It was such a positive and fun experience. Seminary taught me how to be a good theologian, but St. Stephen taught me how to be a good pastor.

The senior pastor took me under his wing and showed by example how important it was to be in the homes, at the hospitals, and sitting around the lunch table with the people. If you want to get better in the pulpit, you need to be in the lives of your people, celebrating their joys and mourning their losses together. It was such a wonderful call that I thought every church was like this. Honestly, I don't remember any conflict. Whenever I heard other pastors complain about fights in their churches, embattled council meetings and that one person who takes delight in making your life miserable, I thought they were over-exaggerating complainers. Ministry was great!

Believe me, I have since experienced struggles in the ministry over the years, but my basic love of the parish and being involved in the lives of the people has never diminished. This is all because of my first love at St. Stephen.

But going back in February showed me that a lot has changed over the past 27 years. I didn't know nearly as many people as I thought I would. They had gone through several pastors, not all of which were good fits for the church. They had experienced divisions where many good people had left. It wasn't the same church as I had left many years ago, but that is to be expected.

A church is a living, breathing organism that continually grows. It shouldn't be the same church as it was 27 years ago. No one wants a church to remain a museum of the past glory years. But going back to St. Stephen made me realize that Christ Lutheran isn't the same church as it was when I came, either. Ministries have changed, buildings added, staff turn around, economic changes—all of which contribute to an ever evolving, growing church.

Most recently, Christ Lutheran experienced another change with the closing of Christ South. It was a good vision, a bold vision that for several reasons just didn't unfold the way that we had envisioned. Instead of mourning the loss or trying to recapture the past or blaming one factor, the question we need to be asking now is What opportunities does this change provide in moving forward? Or, put in a more churchy way, What does love require of us now?

After much reflection, I have a couple of thoughts.

PAUSE Often you hear people say, "Don't just sit there, do something!" With the closure of South, I'm going to reverse that. "Don't just do something, sit there." This is not a time for quick action but for intentional pause to let us grieve, reflect, remember and celebrate.

CARE Many people came to faith through South. Many people of all campuses invested in this start up. During this time of pause we care for one another by listening to the stories and walking alongside the questions.

DREAM And when the time is right, we open ourselves up to dream big once again. God will provide a new vision and opportunity, I'm sure of that. And love will require that when that time comes, it will be time for us to move boldly forward in faith as we have done so many times in the past.

That first love, whether it is a person, a church, a job, a house or a car, often is locked in our memory, never to change. But the reality is, life goes on. We are different people. And God's people have never gone back to some good old days but forward into a future where God will provide new opportunities that will take us all by surprise.

The challenge will be to heed that call. That's what love requires of us.

What's Next?
Pastor Scott

SUNDAY LENTEN SERMON SERIES

Answering THE Call



As we look toward the cross in the season of Lent, we will explore the many ways God calls us, and how we are called together to respond faithfully, resting in the promises of eternal life with Christ.

February 26 • You Are Called

Like Peter, God has jumped into the boat with us as Jesus calls us to cast out our nets and to follow Christ. The question is, do we continue to throw our nets on the wrong side of the boat or do we drop our nets completely and see that God has called YOU for much more than just catching fish. *1 Corinthians 12:1-11, Luke 5:1-11*

March 5 • Called to be Followers of Jesus

We look at the world and get consumed by the busyness and the chaos that is all around us and we take on the responsibility to try and fix it all. We try to become the savior, the hero, the one who fixes the problems. But that is not at all what being called as a follower of Christ is all about. We are called to first sit at the feet of Christ. It is at Jesus' feet that we realize our holiness and belovedness, which then allows us to respond to God's call faithfully. *Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 10:38-42*

March 12 • Called Away

Callings can be challenging to discern. Often, when God calls it is not clear, or it might be a call towards something different or uncomfortable. These callings force us to rely on trusting God more than most other calls in our lives because there is no clear outcome of what is to come next. Being called away is like being called to trust in the One

who gives life, creates and provides when it seems like there is only death, an end and nothing. Grief might be the only way through, but new life is always on the other side of death. *Genesis 12:1-9, Mark 1:16-20*

March 19 • Called As You Are

Quite possibly the deepest truth you can recognize about yourself is the uniqueness that God has created you to be and remembering that God created you just as you are in all God's perfect ways. Even when we might feel as though God can do nothing with us, that is precisely when God calls us as we are. Jesus finds the lowly sinners and the outcasts, and it is those who He calls to not only follow Him but to help show how the kingdom of God is at hand. *2 Corinthians 12:8-10, Matthew 9:9-13*

March 26 • How God Calls

God's call doesn't come through as a booming voice or a flash of light but instead through the people we surround ourselves with in community. It might not always be as clear as a burning bush, but God is calling you through the voices of others, through the silent and still moments of prayer, and through the hurts and pains of the world. God calls us into deep discernment communally to hear that call as followers of Christ, responding faithfully and boldly. *Exodus 3:1-6, John 1:43-51, Acts 1:15-26*

April 2 (Palm Sunday) • Called to Suffer

Following Jesus is not always easy. The reality of sin in the world means that pain and suffering remain, too. While God does not create pain and suffering, callings from God may lead us to places of suffering because of sin in the world. Despite the suffering we may endure, we live in the trust and hope of the resurrection of the dead knowing that if God has called, God remains with us. God pulls us through because God has been there, knows our suffering, and has defeated the sin that brings about the suffering. *Psalms 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 21:1-11*

WATCH THE SNEAK PEAK OF EACH
SUNDAY'S SERMON, CHECK OUT
THE PROMO VIDEO & READ MORE:
christelca.org/sermon-series

Take Me Out To The Ball Game

by PASTOR RYAN

Play ball! On Friday, May 19th at 7pm, we are heading back to the Charlotte Knights baseball stadium. This is an excellent opportunity to spend time with your family, invite a friend and root-root-root for the home team. But really this is about making some good memories.

Last year was the first time my kids ever went to a baseball game. We got to watch the Knights and have some peanuts. I couldn't tell you who won but I can tell you that the green mascot-guy was a hit. All of the kids rushed to the gate that leads to the field to meet the fluffy green dragon. As I went down to chaperone the small horde that was forming, my daughter asked if we could have a pic. And, voila, a memory for life is forged.



You are invited to come out with your church family to the ballfield. This is a perfect opportunity to meet others from our congregation and be a part of a Christ Lutheran tradition.

This is more than a night watching an all-American pastime, it is a moment that will last a lifetime. Tickets will go on sale March 1 and run through April 28th. They cost \$22, and each ticket comes preloaded with \$2 off any food or beverage.

I hope to see you there!

Christ Lutheran's New Podcast

by PASTOR RYAN

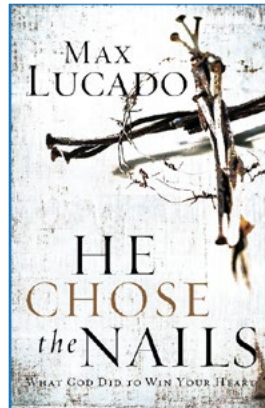
Podcasts are everywhere these days. If you don't know what I'm talking about, a little history is in order:

Over the airwaves, radios and televisions receive broadcasts. In the mid '00s Apple's iPod created a new form of sending serialized content. Not a radio broadcast, because the media for transmission wasn't through the air, but rather through the internet. This new form of content, sent to iPods, through the internet was dubbed: **Podcasts**.

These days any smartphone or computer can be used for listening to Podcasts. They are simply a means of sending audio files that we can listen to. My bet is that you know what I'm talking about and have a favorite show of your own. I was recently talking with a member who turned me onto the podcast "Prayers of Rest." It's worth checking out if you want to focus on your prayer life.

We at Christ Lutheran have a podcast. We are wading into the water and making strides to meet the needs of our members. Our podcast is a revisit of the Word brought to our congregation as we worship. You can find the link on the resource page of our website (christelca.org/resources) or, if you're reading this online, just [click here!](#)

I hope that your daily life is saturated in His Word and your faith grows ever deeper.

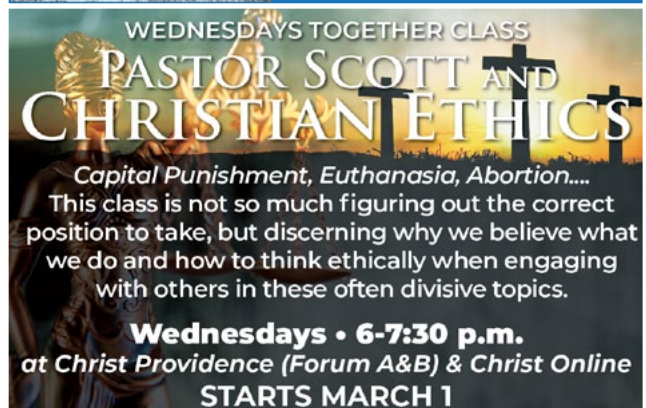


MAX LUCADO
HE CHOSE the NAILS
WHAT GOD DID TO WIN YOUR HEART

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
Faith Fellowship
Sundays • 10:00 a.m.
at Christ Providence (Forum)
-or- Christ Online (Zoom)

Please join us for a 6-week, DVD-based Lenten study by Max Lucado that examines the rich gifts Christ gave at His Crucifixion.

FOR ZOOM LINK:
christelca.org/online



WEDNESDAYS TOGETHER CLASS
PASTOR SCOTT AND CHRISTIAN ETHICS
Capital Punishment, Euthanasia, Abortion....
This class is not so much figuring out the correct position to take, but discerning why we believe what we do and how to think ethically when engaging with others in these often divisive topics.

Wednesdays • 6-7:30 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Forum A&B) & Christ Online
STARTS MARCH 1



Wednesdays Together
5:00 p.m. Dinner
\$6 each or \$25 max per family
RSVP in Realm by each Friday prior
6:00 p.m. Adult Classes & Music/Tech/Drama Activities

 **CHRIST providence**

SCAN OR CLICK FOR CLASS DESCRIPTIONS





ALL CAMPUSES & AGES WELCOME!

 **Fellowship at the ballpark**

Friday, May 19
7:00 p.m.



 **\$22 | Register in REALM by April 28**



CHRIST LUTHERAN Podcast

SPOTIFY **AMAZON MUSIC**
APPLE PODCASTS **GOOGLE PODCASTS**

FIND LINKS ON OUR WEBSITE:
christelca.org/resources

or go directly to:
christ-lutheran-church.captivate.fm/listen

Third THURSDAY

for adults of all ages



March 16

11:30am - 1:30pm
at Christ Providence (Pit)

St. Patrick's Party & Bingo!

Register in REALM by March 12



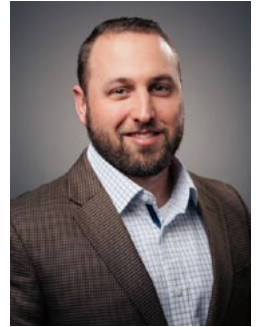
meet the 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL



Eric Runge
President



Jessica Shurley
Vice President



David Brown
Treasurer

SUNSET BEACH

Memorial Weekend Worship
Sunday, May 28 • 10:00 a.m.
at Sunset Beach (6th Street)

Join us for worship on the beach over Memorial Day weekend. Make your plans and housing reservations now! Bring your own chair.

Register in REALM or contact Tenny for info: tcshifley@carolina.rr.com



Janet Wilson
Secretary



Melissa Lanoue



Eric Trosch

not choir

meets on last Thursday of each month
11:45am • Christ Providence (coffee area)

There's choir, and then there's Not Choir. Not Choir is a monthly gathering of anyone (musician or not) who appreciates listening to and learning more about the music we sing in worship. Bring your lunch.

MORE INFO: mjohanson@christelca.org



NEW MEMBER CLASS

**Sunday, April 23
& Sunday, May 7**

12:15 - 2:30 p.m. at Christ Providence (Forum)

Lunch will be provided. Childcare available for ages 0-36 months.



Register in REALM by April 16

More info: mparker@christelca.org
or khofmann@christelca.org



Chad Mohn



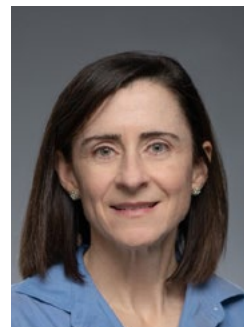
Billy Mussari



Mark Ficken



LuAnn Martinson



Cassie Thompson



Reneau Van Landingham

CHECK OUT OUR NEW Online Study Guide

This online resource is a collection of Bible studies and sermons that you will find useful for enriching your spiritual life, on your own or in a group.



christelca.org/online-study-guide



WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Introducing our New Members from this past February...



Debbie & John
Broughton



Kim & Mark Sciacero



Melissa
Stoltenberg



Stephanie Appell &
James Eschelbach



Libby & Gary
Jackson



Jeremy, Dana, Ashytn
& Brooklyn Lamb



Marty Hebrank



Christina Floyd



Caroline & Ethan Garrison



Dominic Wilcock
& Meggie Graham



Robin & Joe LaFollette



Jen Creech



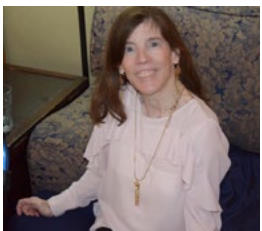
Laura Lassiter



Gail & Rick Hanson



Kara & Matt Glidewell



Kathleen Orsetti



Elizabeth Cowan



Mary Joan & Roy Gogel



Jim & Amelia Horn

NOT PICTURED:
Irma Runge

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church
WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!!!

Coffee with the Pastors

Wednesdays • 9:00 a.m.
at Christ Providence (W150) -or- Online (Zoom)

 christelca.org/online

PRIMEtimers

A SOCIAL GROUP FOR 50+

Adiaphora Night
Friday, April 14 • 7-9 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Pit)

Join us for an adult team trivia night! Ages 21 and over are welcome as alcohol will be served.
Cost: \$5. Details & registration coming soon.

More info: Don Essick (dessick@me.com)

CHARLOTTE CONCERT BAND presents

SPACETACULAR!

FEATURING MUSIC FROM
Richard Strauss, Gustav Holst, Julie Giroux
and the timeless music from John Williams' score to the original Star Wars Trilogy

SATURDAY, APRIL 22
7:00pm at Christ Providence

charlotteconcertband.org • buy tickets>>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Christ Providence is hosting a large church worker conference April 28-29 and we need volunteers to help guide our guests, answer questions and serve as ambassadors of CLC.

If interested in helping, please contact Mark (mjohanson@christelca.org)

CFX Essentials
CHARLOTTE, NC | APR 28-29, 2023

Learn more about the conference at cfxessentials.com

Psalm 8: Eco-Friendly

We will meet monthly to go over plans to clean up Providence Rd (NCDOT Adopt a Highway). Cleanup will be 4 times a year.

CLEANUP DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 4
meet at 8:45 a.m. in church parking lot

Next planning meeting: March 27

More info: Gordon Miller (gmliller9535@aol.com)



Flower Ministry at CLC

by ALICE McRORIE

Have you ever wondered where the flowers in the Sanctuary come from? If you guessed a local florist, you would be wrong! Our flowers are arranged each week by a few talented members of the church. Early on most Saturday mornings, Barbara Handschin goes to the farmers' market for fresh flowers in season. Other weeks flowers are ordered from the local wholesale florist. Additional flowers and greenery are occasionally donated.

Barbara and Alice McRorie, with frequent help from Jack Whittmore and Phillip Brown, create the arrangements for the Sanctuary, Christ Chapel, Concord and the Welcome Table in the Lower Commons. It takes about three hours every Saturday morning. They also provide flowers for weddings, memorial services and special events at the church when requested.

This group, with the help of lots of volunteers, also decorates the Worship Center areas for the Advent/Christmas season. They created the hanging pieces, wreaths, and table decoration in 2014. The Chrismon trees were added several years ago.

Thanks to some generous contributions, and additional funds from church council, a floral refrigerator was recently added to the sacristy. It is used to store extra flowers and arrangements for special occasions.

The total cost of the flowers is not a part of the regular church budget, so the group relies on people wanting to dedicate flowers in remembrance, in celebration of an event special to the donor, or just to the glory of God. These funds are not only used to do the weekly arrangements, but also to plan for Christmas and Easter celebrations. We are hoping that more people will step up to provide one or more dedications this year. Contact the church office or [signup in REALM](#) to donate flowers. Flowers can be donated for the Sanctuary, Christ Concord, or Christ Chapel. The cost is \$75 per arrangement. These dedications are a huge help in the procurement of the flowers which have increased in cost these last few years. Thank you for helping us in one of the things that makes Christ Lutheran a beautiful place to worship.

If you have experience with flower arranging and would like to help occasionally, please contact Barbara Handschin at hand9241@carolina.rr.com or (704)504-0567. If you are interested in learning to arrange flowers and/or participate in the Flower Ministry, contact Alice McRorie alicermcroe@gmail.com or (704)978-8356 for more information.

Stepping Stones

FIRST COMMUNION

PREPARATION CLASSES

Feb 26 • Meaning of the Meal (1-3 p.m.)

March 18 • Story Day (8:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

April 2 • Livin' Forgivin (1-3 p.m.)

First Communion will take place during Maundy Thursday's service at Christ Providence on April 6th (after the completion of the Seder Meal). Prep classes are for 2nd graders & their parents to attend together.

For RSVP & details: krank@christelca.org

READ

THINK

ACT

LENTEN DEVOTIONS TO-GO

FOR PRESCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
& THEIR FAMILIES

Pickup Wed. or Sun. while supplies last
-or- download online:

christelca.org/latest-news



COME PRAY WITH US AT CHRIST LUTHERAN'S EASTER

PRAYER VIGIL

STARTS Thursday, April 6 • 8pm

ENDS Friday, April 7 • 6pm

at Christ Providence (Lackey Chapel)

Signup for a 1-hr time slot by visiting
table in Lower Commons on Sundays



Submit a Prayer Online
christelca.org/prayer-request

or find prayer slips & drop boxes at
the Welcome Desk & Christ Chapel.

INFO: DAVID 704-806-5083 SANDY 704-488-1874 D'LINDA 206-310-6037

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERMON SERIES

PAUL'S GREATEST HITS

February 22 (Ash Wednesday) • Chief Sinner 1 Timothy 1:12-17

March 1 • Road to Damascus Acts 9:1-9

March 8 • Divisions in Corinth 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, 22-25

March 15 • Struggles in Galatia Galatians 1:6-10

March 22 • Suffering for the Gospel 2 Corinthians 11:21b-29

March 29 • Strength in Weakness 2 Corinthians 12:6-10

April 5 • Final Words: Rejoice Always! Philippians 4:4-7

JOIN US FOR

Wednesdays During Lent

12:00 p.m. in Christ Chapel


followed by a light lunch in the Forum • \$5

Lent, Holy Week & Easter Sunday

2023 WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Ash Wednesday February 22

- 12 pm Providence Communion & Imposition of Ashes (Christ Chapel - followed by light lunch, Forum, \$5)
7 pm Prov. Communion & Imposition of Ashes  (Sanctuary)
7 pm Concord Communion & Imposition of Ashes

Wednesdays During Lent March 1 - April 5

- 12 pm Providence Lenten Services "Paul's Greatest Hits" (Christ Chapel - followed by light lunch, Forum, \$5)


Palm Sunday April 2

- 8:45 am Providence Traditional Service (Sanctuary) 
10 am Providence Bridge Service (Christ Chapel) 
10 am Concord Worship 
11 am Concord-The Gathering^
11 am Prov. Contemporary Service (Sanctuary) 

Maundy Thursday April 6

- 12 pm Providence Midday Worship (Christ Chapel)
6 pm Seder Meal (Spirit Hall - \$10)
7 pm Providence Evening Worship (Sanctuary) 
7 pm Concord Evening Worship
8 pm Prayer Vigil Starts (Prov. - Lackey Chapel)^

Good Friday April 7

- 10 am Prov. Children & Family Service (Sanctuary)^
12 pm Prov. Seven Last Words (Christ Chapel)
6 pm Prayer Vigil Ends (Prov. - Lackey Chapel)^
7:30 pm Providence Tenebrae Service (Sanctuary) 
7:30 pm Concord Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday April 9

- 7 am Prov. SonRise Service (Fountain Plaza)^
8:45 am Prov. Traditional Service (Sanctuary) 
10 am Prov. Children & Family Service (Pit)^ 
10 am Prov. Bridge Service (Christ Chapel) 
10 am Concord Easter Worship 
10 am Concord Easter Worship-The Gathering^
11 am Prov. Contemporary Service (Sanctuary) 

^ IN PERSON ONLY

 nursery available (0-35 months)
 children's message



WORSHIP IN PERSON -or- ONLINE
christelca.org



McClintock Named a Top Magnet School of Excellence

McClintock Middle School is part of the Magnet Schools of America (MSA). Every year, MSA designates selected schools into three categories: School of Distinction, School of Excellence and Top School of Excellence. Two years ago, McClintock earned a School of Distinction award. Last year, they were designated a School of Excellence (one of two CMS schools to receive this honor).

It is amazing to announce, this year McClintock was named a Top Magnet School of Excellence! That means McClintock Middle School is rated one of the top 24 magnet schools in the nation! In April, McClintock will find out if they finish in the top 5 nationally (or even No. 1!).

McClintock continues to not only challenge and prepare students for academic success, but also provide students the opportunity to explore, engage and examine all of the elements of its STEAM Vanguard. McClintock was the only school in CMS to receive this "top" award.

"Thanks to the continued support of McPIE and Christ Lutheran, we are able to provide our students with experiences that are truly unique in the nation and to allow our students to write their own future stories."

--Principal Jerrell

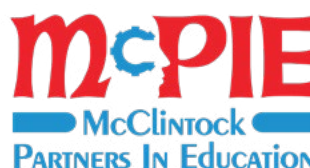
Congratulations to every McClintock teacher, administrator, and staff member for this high designation!

Family Night

McPIE Family Night has sprung for the Spring semester! While we have only met a few weeks, students are excited to try new clubs, socialize with their friends, enjoy a delicious meal, and have fun learning new things. Volunteers are eager to support students and families!

Our youngest participants have a nursery, activities for K-2nd graders, and our 3rd-5th grade students will participate in a new Art Club! Adults have 3 class options: Getting Ahead, Women's Journey and English as a Second Language (ESL).

Middle School students have many options to suit whatever their interests are. Afternoon clubs include Trailblazers (Hiking), Tennis, Get Creative, and a new club offered by a McClintock staff member- Coach Davis' Football Club. This new club will focus on mentorships, academics and football! During the evening portion, club options include Hands 2 Heart, Men About Progress, Sketch Squad, Sports Drills, Ten80 Racing, Top Scot Chef, Woodworking and a popular new club- Computer Building! Two clubs are already full with several others very close!



Volunteer opportunities are always available! If you would like to check out Family Night, please contact Angela at adavis@christelca.org.

Clothing Donations for Crisis Assistance

Bring new or gently used clothing to donate to our neighbors in need!
Drop off clothing at the Outreach Office M-F. On Sunday, the blue bins will be outside the Outreach Office doors.



ROOM IN THE INN

Christ Providence is currently hosting our neighbors in need each Thursday-Friday.



Overnight hosts, drivers and other volunteers needed



Info & Signup:
[Signupgenius.com](https://www.signupgenius.com)

DAYTIME OPPORTUNITY: McClintock Copy Crew

Volunteer an hour or two each week (or every other if enough volunteers) to help McClintock teachers with their copying needs. Training provided!

To volunteer or for info, email
Jill Tan: jillgtan@gmail.com

McClintock Partners In Education

mcPIE

Community Partner SPOTLIGHT

This year, we'd like to lift up community partners that do amazing work in and around Charlotte. If you volunteer for a local organization that you would like others to know about, let us know!

Contact Angela Davis with your ideas!
adavis@christelca.org

Daytime Opportunities

Teacher Partners Support new teachers by sending an encouraging note/email once per month.
diane.gavarkavich@gmail.com

Tutors Help with tutoring small groups of students in the classroom.
cwown92@gmail.com

Teacher Appreciation Luncheons Help with teacher luncheons on early release and teacher work days.
alicermcrobie@gmail.com

Contact email provided to help!

McClintock Partners In Education
mcPIE

Donors Choose

Donors Choose is a trusted fundraising site for teachers and school staff to raise funds for projects that will enhance learning and skills learned throughout the school day! Projects listed range from incentive prizes for great behavior, math activities and music equipment to hygiene products, digital classroom help and an EC Room revamp!

All of these projects will enhance learning and create a better learning experience throughout the school day. Please consider donating to one of McClintock's projects! To see all projects listed under McClintock Middle School and donate to a worthy cause, go to [DonorsChoose.org](https://www.donorschoose.org). Click "Find a classroom to support" and search "McClintock Middle School."

Asphalt Motorsports Competition

McClintock's Ten80 Race team, Asphalt Motorsports, will be hosting a regional competition at Charlotte Motor Speedway on February 27th. Volunteers are needed to help serve lunch from 10am-12:30pm! Come support these amazing students. If you are available or have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Becker, the Ten80 teacher. His email address is garrett1.becker@cms.k12.nc.us.



Room in the Inn OVERNIGHT HOSTS NEEDED DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH!

On Thursday, December 1st, Christ Lutheran began our 25th year of hosting Room in the Inn. RITI is a program sponsored and administered by Roof Above. Each week through March 31st, local churches host our neighbors in need during the cold, winter months. CLC does this every Thursday evening to Friday morning. On Thursday, we pick up 8-10 folks at Roof Above and bring them to our church. Guests are each given their own room around Center Six. We provide dinner, showers, basic clothing (underwear and socks), fellowship, a hot breakfast, a to-go lunch and a ride back to uptown. It is a ministry we are very proud of!

We really could use help with overnight hosts. It is a great way to share in the lives of our RITI neighbors and give back. You can arrive at 6 p.m. and share in the dinner, or just arrive by 7 p.m. You will have your own private room as do all the guests. Most guests are asleep shortly after dinner. You wake the guests at 5 a.m., set out breakfast, get them on the van at 6 a.m. and depart afterwards. Pretty simple, and it helps our program tremendously.

To sign up for available slots, please use [signupgenius.com](https://www.signupgenius.com) for Room in the Inn 2022-23. If you're reading the printed version of this newsletter, scan the qrcode in the ad to the left or search for the signup by this email: ckramer@christelca.org.



Community Spotlight: THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION OF THE WESTERN CAROLINAS

by CONNIE REED

This past January, when Pastor Scott started his new sermon series on Hineni, I was already experiencing my own Hineni moment. My dad had suffered from Alzheimer's for a few years and passed away last March. In August, my husband Frank and I were asked to be co-chair of the 2023 Charlotte Memory Gala. I hesitated, because if you know me, this is totally out of my comfort zone: being a co-chair means using your network of people to help fundraise for the Gala and the Alzheimer's Association. After thinking about it, I decided *I could do this!* There is no better way to honor my dad than to fundraise for the disease that ultimately took his life. My dad, a lifelong Lutheran, was a career Marine officer and after his retirement he was a fundraiser for many nonprofits, most notably the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Hineni...here I am Lord, ready to serve and help your people.

Did you know ...over 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's? ...1 in 3 seniors die from Alzheimer's or dementia? ...or that Alzheimer's kills more people annually than breast and prostate cancer combined? Our organization believes that Alzheimer's research and care efforts are 20 years behind where breast cancer is today. We are trying to change that.

The vision of the Alzheimer's Association is a world without Alzheimer's and all dementia. The mission of the Alzheimer's Association is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected, including caregivers; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health.

We are helping achieve this vision by working on the 2023 Charlotte Memory Gala. Currently, we are in the midst of finding corporate sponsors, corporate and individual table hosts, silent auction items and monetary donations. The Gala itself is a black-tie affair held at the Westin Charlotte on Saturday, May 20th.

Would you or someone you know like to be a corporate sponsor? Would your company or a group of friends host a table? Do you have an auction item in mind? Experiences from hot air balloon rides to behind the scenes tours to gift certificates to vacation homes to design consultation to art. And anything in between.

Would you like to donate to the cause?

You can find all the details or give at our Gala website, charlottememorygala.org. If you'd like to personally connect and discuss ways to get involved or donate, please reach out to me or Frank. We will gladly give you more information. My email is alwazebusy@aol.com and Frank's is fr1957@gmail.com. All help is greatly appreciated. We really want to earn our co-chair title.



DONATE NOW

lwr.org/quake



LINK YOUR VIC CARD

It's time to link your Harris Teeter VIC Card to support McClintock Middle School. (Remember, you need to relink each year). Here's how:

1. Click ad or go to: tie.harristeeter.com/together-in-education
2. Enter code for McClintock: 2042



Family Nights at McClintock
every Tuesday from 5:30 - 7:15 p.m.

To get involved, contact Angela:
adavis@christelca.org



**American
Red Cross**

NEXT BLOOD DRIVE:

Sunday, March 19
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
at Christ Concord

Signup at redcrossblood.org



BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, April 23

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Fellowship Hall)

TO REGISTER, GO TO:
oneblood.org/donate-now



CONFIRMATION CAMP

for 6th - 8th graders

June 18 - 24

at Lutherock

TOTAL COST: \$500
\$100 deposit due March 13

More info & register in REALM




THE KINGDOM TOUR

2023 HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION TRIP

July 15-23

in Knoxville, Tennessee

TOTAL COST: \$350
\$100 deposit due March 13

More Info & Register in REALM




peer

ministry leadership

High school students are invited to join Peer Ministry Leadership Development where they will learn skills to minister to peers and lead in ministry at CLC.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:
April 2 • April 16 • April 30 • May 7 • May 21 • May 28
at Christ Providence (Pit) • 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Register in REALM

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

LOCK-IN

Friday, April 21 (7:30 p.m.) -
Saturday, April 22 (9:30 a.m.)
at Christ Providence (Pit)

SNACKS! GAMES! WORSHIP! FUN! Bring your sleeping bags & pillows...they might be used!

Register in REALM



HIGH SCHOOL

DINNER

- & -

DEVOTIONS

Sunday, March 26
6-7:30 p.m. • at Christ Providence (Pit)

Register in REALM



If the Gala isn't the right avenue for you to help, check out some of the other opportunities:

- The Walk to End Alzheimer's (October 21st in Charlotte)
We could have a Christ Lutheran team to sign up and walk. Learn more at [Alz.org/walk](https://alz.org/walk)
- The Longest Day (June 21)
The longest day is the day with the most light – the summer solstice. On June 21st, people from across the world will fight the darkness of Alzheimer's through a fundraising activity of their choice. You pick what you want to do and get sponsors. Learn more at [Alz.org/longestday](https://alz.org/longestday)
- The Ride to End Alz
There is not one in Charlotte but you could start one or join one of the other rides around the country. Learn more at [Alz.org/ride](https://alz.org/ride).
- Explore their website for even more ways to help the Alzheimer's Association of Western Carolina.
[Alz.org/northcarolina](https://alz.org/northcarolina).

Please help us achieve a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia!

Crisis Assistance

We are always collecting clothing items for Crisis Assistance. They can be dropped off at the Outreach office through the week or in the blue bin outside the Outreach office on Saturdays & Sundays.

FAMILIES

Lutherock Confirmation Camp

by DEACON KENNY

Confirmation camp is a week-long experience for our 6th through 8th grade students to explore God in His creation, disconnect from the chaos of our world, and be in community with one another! This summer we will be heading to the mountains of Lutherock just outside of Boone, NC.

There students will have opportunities to go on a creek walk, hike, participate in low and high ropes courses, enjoy a rock slide, worship, play, sing, and do so much more. This is a week for our students to connect with each other and other young people while being invested in by our adult leaders and camp counselors demonstrating God's love to them and mentoring them in the faith. It is not a requirement of confirmation but a wonderful experience for our students to grow in their faith and deepen their sense of community here at Christ Lutheran.

All middle school students are invited to participate in this wonderful camp, June 18-24! [Register in REALM](#) or contact Deacon Kenny for more information: kchampagne@christelca.org.





THE KINGDOM TOUR

2023 HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION TRIP

High School Summer Mission Trip

by DEACON KENNY

What is a mission trip? Mission Trips are opportunities for students to come together in community and participate in building God's kingdom that is already at work.

Students serve alongside one another helping people in need and listening deeply to the ways God is calling us to love our neighbor. The week becomes a place of transformation where we live, explore and experience God's amazing work and return as deeper disciples of Christ.

Mission Trips are more than just a summer program for teenagers to go out and do good. These trips are for disciples to answer God's call to enter into God's creation and discover what God is up to in the world. God is not always easy to see, but God is actively creating and engaging God's creation every moment of every day. We must open our eyes and engage in the world differently to seek out God's action in the world. This is what these trips accomplish! When we serve our neighbors we are living into God's "YES" for us and all people. You are invited to attend the High School Summer Mission Trip to Knoxville, TN, July 15-23. More info and registration can be found in [REALM](#).

Students are also invited to attend the Mexico Mission Trip with Christ Lutheran Church July 9-15. For more information, contact Deacon Kenny at khchampagne@christelca.org

Peer Ministry Leadership Retreat

by NATALYA LEGVOLD

Peer Ministry leadership is students equipped with skills for caring, welcoming, affirming, leading and serving—lived every day, everywhere and in every relationship—loving because Christ first loved us.

Our students are on the front lines of ministry every day. Students go to their friends first when dealing with tough issues, choices and life stresses. Now more than ever our students need the tools and support to navigate these issues. Peer Ministry equips high school students with skills to effectively reach out and care for other students. They learn active listening, conflict resolution, decision making, sharing faith, dealing with real issues and leadership skills.

High school students are invited to Lake Wylie March 24-26 for a leadership retreat. We'll enjoy a day of boating, community building and training to help care for others in need. For more information, contact Natalya Legvold at (704)258-6162 or nlegvold@carolina.rr.com.

PEER MINISTRY

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

March 24-26 at Lake Wylie

High school students are invited to the lake for a day of boating, community building & training to help care for others in need.

For more info, contact Natalya:
(704)258-6162 or nlegvold@carolina.rr.com

Stepping Stones

CONFIRMATION

MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY

Sunday, March 19 • 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Forum)

7th graders & parents will look at the technology used by our youth today & learn what the Bible says about it.

Register in REALM

VBS

Save the Date

Vacation Bible School

June 12-16, 2023

- Registration will open April 1 -
More Info: krank@christelca.org

Spotlight

Summer Drama Camp

June 19-23, 2023

at Christ Providence • grades 2-5

This year's week-long musical theater camp for rising 2nd-5th graders will feature a performance of Disney's *Aladdin Kids!*

Register in REALM

SUMMER MUSIC WEEK

FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH IN RISING GRADES 3-12

August 7-11 • 9a-5p daily

open to all denominations & faith backgrounds
Info & RSVP in REALM

The Raleigh Ringers

IN CONCERT



Sunday, May 7

4:00-6:00 p.m.

at Christ Providence (Sanctuary)

The Raleigh Ringers is an internationally acclaimed, Emmy-nominated, advanced community handbell choir that dazzles concert audiences.

Under the direction of David M. Harris, The Raleigh Ringers has released seven CDs, and two DVDs of holiday concerts titled *One Winter Evening* at Meymandi and *A December Tradition*. Two one-hour concert specials were created from the first DVD and broadcast on over 250 American Public Television stations in 45 states. A new, one-hour holiday special based on the second DVD aired over 400 times in 38 states in its first year of national distribution. The group has performed in 39 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, England and France during its tours, and plays two dates each year at a major venue in Raleigh. The Raleigh Ringers also sponsors an annual festival for adult ringers, an annual festival for youth and less experienced ringers, biannual sight-reading sessions for those interested in new handbell music, a biennial performance experience for advanced ringers, and handbell techniques classes several times a year.

TICKETS: \$20

Children under age 5 are admitted free.

For groups of 10 or more, contact the church office for group rate:
(704) 366-1595

Learn more at rr.org • Buy tickets>>





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CHRIST LUTHERAN'S BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Christ Connections



march/april 2023

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Kenny Champagne • Deacon of Family Ministry
Amy Daniels • Director of Outreach
Mark Johanson • Minister of Music
Gregg Huether • Director of Property and Finance

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E-mail Connie Kramer at ckramer@christelca.org and let her know you'd like a hard copy of Christ Connections mailed to your home. You can also view the online, interactive version at christelca.org/latest-news

CONTENT DEADLINES FOR 2023 EDITIONS

Jan/Feb - December 10 Mar/April - February 15 May/June - April 15
July/Aug - June 15 Sept/Oct - August 10 Nov/Dec - October 15

*Submit stories or other news items at christelca.org/jotform

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY

Pastor's Blog

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS FROM
OUR PASTORS AND OTHER CLC STAFF

 christelca.org/blog

HOW CAN WE **PRAY** FOR YOU?

 christelca.org/prayer-request