



Our Mission Statement

Gospel in Action:
“Caring for all God’s
children, we shall serve
God through worship,
learning, and sharing.”

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A Word From Our Pastor

Rev. Jeff Steeber

Last month I read this parable, whose author remains anonymous, as part of a sermon which I preached. I realize that not everyone who is a member of our congregation was able to be in worship to hear the parable. I also realize that not everyone who heard the parable has probably remembered its unbelievably pointed and significant message. Therefore, I’m including the parable in my article for this month, to give everyone the chance to have a copy of this great story.



The Life-Saving Station

On a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks often occur there was a once a crude little life-saving station. The building was just a hut, and there was only one boat, but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea, and with no thought for themselves, they went out day or night tirelessly searching for the lost.

Many lives were saved by this wonderful little station and it became famous. Some of those who were saved, and various others in the surrounding areas, wanted to become associated with the station and give of their time and money and effort for the support of its work. New boats were bought and new crews were trained. The little life-saving station grew.

Some of the new members of the life-saving station were unhappy that the building was so crude and so poorly equipped. They felt that a more comfortable place should be provided as the first refuge of those saved from the sea.

Continued on page 2

They replaced the emergency cots with beds and put better furniture in an enlarged building. Now the life-saving station became a popular gathering place for its members, and they re-decorated it beautifully and furnished it as a sort of club. Fewer of the members were now interested in going to sea on life-saving missions, so they hired life boat crews to do this work.

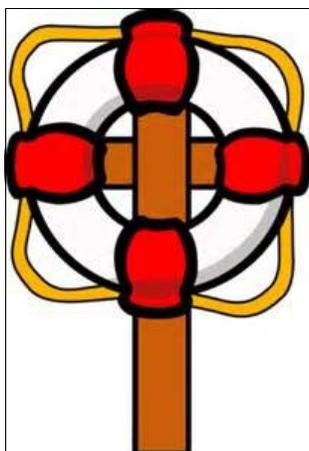
The mission of life-saving was still given lip-service but most were too busy or lacked the necessary commitment to take part in the life-saving activities personally.

About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast, and the hired crews brought in boat loads of cold, wet, and half-drowned people. They were dirty and sick, and some of them spoke a strange language, and the beautiful new club was considerably messed up. The property committee immediately had a shower house built outside the club where victims of shipwrecks could be cleaned before coming inside.

At the next meeting, there was a split in the membership. Most of the members wanted to stop the club's life-saving activities as being unpleasant and a hindrance to the normal life pattern of the club. But some members insisted that life-saving was their primary purpose and pointed out that they were still called a life-saving station. But they were finally voted down and told that if they wanted to save the lives of all the various kinds of people who were shipwrecked in those waters, they could begin their own life-saving station down the coast. They did.

Unfortunately, as the years went by, the new station experienced similar changes that had occurred in the old. They evolved into a club and yet another life-saving station was founded. If you visit the seacoast today you will find a number of exclusive clubs along that shore. Shipwrecks are still frequent in those waters, only now most of the people drown.

It is my prayer that all at CELC will remain in their baptism, drenched in the only water that saves. We are called to risk everything in order to help save others. We have the resources to save others. We have the building to save others. We have the people to save others. We have our mission...to save others...because someone once saved us.



Peace and All Good Things,
Pastor Jeff Steeber +

Properties update

I had the opportunity to attend a recent seminar on property-related issues in Toledo. They asked questions like, “What do we do to invite our community to be part of what God is doing?” “Where are we making an effort to respond to the next generation?” “How do we use our physical assets, our buildings, our properties to further God’s work?” In what turned out to be a surprisingly insightful, encouraging, and uplifting event - I found myself challenged in many of the views I’ve held over the years. Their approach was simple – look to the Bible, look to Jesus, and look to the early church for answers, examples, and models to emulate. I look forward to sharing some of the ideas that were presented over the next several months.

Rob Nordman



Fall Clean Up

Similar to previous years we will be planning a fall cleanup day on a Saturday in November. The focus will be on getting the leaves up - especially over by the east side of our property and fence line. We try to wait until most of the leaves are down. Keep your eyes open for the date to be posted in the Weekly Announcements.



Spotlight on Anna Circle

Have you ever wondered how the altar gets prepared each Sunday and all the linens switched during each season? Or maybe who gathers all of the orders for our Poinsettia and Easter Lily orders?

Those are just two of the many things that Anna circle does within the church. They take care of purchasing altar needs and ending cards to seniors,. During the Lenten season they serve one of the soup and sandwich meals. They also serve as our church service wedding coordinator.

These ladies are busy supporting our church. If you would like to get involved with them please contact one of the following people: Jan Wunderle, Marilyn Culler, Brenda Crout, Doris Gaertner, or Vera Barnick. Any of these women would love to talk to you about all the things that Anna circle gets involved in.

Gospel in Action opportunity

Gather with us on Friday, November 18 and again Friday, December 16 at 6 p.m. to go to Redeemer Crisis Center Food Pantry. We will meet at CELC at 5:15 p.m. and caravan (unless you would like to meet us there).

Pizza dinner is served at 6 p.m. and the actual packing starts at 7 p.m. We are usually done around 8:30 p.m.

Please contact Ryan Smarsh if you are interested in attending.

For confirmands and mentors

This would be a great service project to participate in together.

Please contact

Ryan Smarsh for more information.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2016

Attendance: Pastor Steeber, Paul Culler, Mark Principe, Rob Nordman, Brenda Crout, Eric Klenz, Nadine Carlson

Guests: Karen Lecorchick, Doris Klement, Sharon Davidson

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Culler at 6:35 PM and Pastor Steeber opened with prayer.

In regard to the September minutes, several corrections were made:

Rob Nordman's name was corrected from "Ron" in several places.

Under "Guest's Questions," "who is delegated to write checks," was corrected to read "who authorizes or ok's purchases".

Under "Property Report," "suggestions for the Interior Design Studio," was corrected to read "suggestions from Interior Design Studio."

Also, from now on the minutes will be signed by the secretary.

Mark Principe made the motion and Eric Klenz seconded to accept the September minutes with the corrections.

Discussion regarding the 2017 Budget was delayed in order to allow time to address members' questions and concerns.

Guests' Questions

Sharon Davidson presented the concerns of several members in regard to the removal of several pews to accommodate wheelchair access for the handicapped.

Here are some of the concerns she pointed out:

Lack of the congregation's participation in the decision

Two different styles of pews: one for the sanctuary and one for the choir lofts

Strongly recommended the pews be returned as they were, before the end of the month

The pews are not properly anchored

Sharon also shared some history as to the original construction of the sanctuary.

She advised that accommodations for 30 wheelchairs were worked into the current seating arrangement by Pastor Stein and the Church Council then serving.

Karen Lecorchick and Doris Klement commented on the delay of Council minutes being printed in the monthly newsletter (usually 2 months late). It was decided that the minutes would be approved electronically (via email) by council members prior to that month's newsletter publication.

Doris Klement agreed to write an article for the next newsletter regarding support for our Preschool.

Karen also had questions regarding Mark Principe's personnel computer program, which will be covered under the Vice President's Report.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Steeber once again began a discussion in regard to the financial needs of our preschool. Doris Klement was very supportive of the school and was willing to write an article for the next newsletter.

Vice President's Report

Karen Lecorchick asked Mark to explain the new personnel program. The new personnel computer program will list all of the employees/staff (whether paid or volunteer) involved with the running of the church. This will be a good reference source for the congregation because it will list names, positions, and their responsibilities. The program is not quite finished yet, but when it is, Mark will submit an article for the newsletter explaining its function.

Mark Principe made the motion to bolt the pews securely to eliminate any safety issues and to discuss these concerns at the congregational meeting on November 13th. The church members will be able to voice their opinions then. Mark also motioned that if the discussion runs late, it will be continued after Sunday's service. Pastor Steeber seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

President's Report

Paul Culler led a discussion as to the date of the November congregational meeting. After some input by Bell Choir members, it was decided the congregational meeting will be held on November 13th at 9:00 AM in the sanctuary. If the meeting goes long, it can be continued immediately after service that morning.

Treasurer's Report

The 2017 Budget was passed out and discussed with few changes. It will be presented to the congregation on November 13th.

Abbreviated summary of September's Income:

Contributions	\$16,546.00
Total Income for the month	\$20,384.00
Expenditures	\$22,697.00
Year to date Income (10-5-16)	\$197,969.00
Year to date expenditures	\$196,487.00

Property Report

In regard to the extensive discussion on the moving of pews, Rob Nordman assured council that he would personally see to the securing of the back pews in the sanctuary. Rob is also going to organize informational meetings to allow church members to voice their concerns. The schedule for these meetings is as follows:

Sunday, October 16th after Sunday worship
Saturday, October 22nd after Saturday worship
Saturday, October 29th after Saturday worship
Sunday, October 30th after Sunday worship

Secretary's Report

n/a

President Paul Culler adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine Carlson
Secretary

CELC Preschool News



Thank you from the Preschool

Thank you to everyone who ordered from our Stoller Pastry Fundraiser. We sold a total of 421 items and made \$2627.

This was our biggest sale ever! Thank you again to everyone who helped us earn money to benefit our preschoolers.

-Terri Pienoski

Check out this special preschool door created by Mrs. Knip and Mrs. Manternach for their classroom. The sentiment that we are “Hand picked by God” is true for us all.

Terri Pienoski– Preschool Director

Endowment Fund Committee

The Endowment Fund Board at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church has a number of duties and responsibilities to the congregation as specified in our written Trust Agreement. One of those responsibilities is to raise additional funds for the Endowment Fund. Very briefly, our current Endowment Fund is worth a little over \$90,000 and is invested with the ELCA Pooled Trust. Each year we are authorized to take 5% of that valuation and use it for Christian Education and general activities within the church.

It is estimated that since its inception, the fund has contributed over \$80,000 in designated funds to support Christian Education programs and activities. Additionally, contributions to the fund for undesignated purposes have amounted to over \$7,000 for general needs of the church. These general funds have been used for supply cabinets, small tables and chairs and bulletin boards.

Save the date for cookie decorating

The annual Advent cookie decorating and potluck adventure has been scheduled. The event has been planned for after the church service on Sunday, December 4. Watch for further details and sign ups in the newsletter, bulletin, and in the Gathering Area.





CELCYG News (Youth Group)

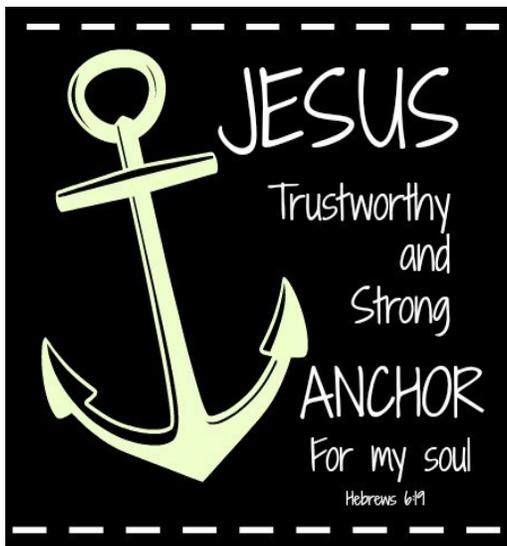


We are going to be bowling on November 13th from 12:30-2:30 here in Avon Lake. It will cost \$15.00 per person. Please contact Heather Nordman with questions and to RSVP.

Youth Mission Trip News

We had a general informational meeting on October 9th. Fundraising will be starting up with our first large initiative being the OSU / Michigan football game sub sale. Keep your eyes open for sub order forms as we get closer to the big game. The mission trip is scheduled for June 11 - June 17, 2017.

**\$50 deposit is due October 30.



THE ANCHOR, Christ Evangelical Lutheran's high school youth group, meets on Sunday mornings (2nd and 4th Sunday of each month) at CELC. For more information, please contact

Heather Nordman at celc@centurytel.net or 440.933.6263

****Sign up for Remind 101 by texting @celcyg to the number 81010**

Check out our Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/CELCYG/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf



The Welcoming Team is looking for more helpers. We need volunteers to join our group to help during Saturday and Sunday services and welcome new faces. We all share the desire to feel welcome and included when we enter our doors. As the Body of Christ, we can extend that welcome to everyone who comes to visit.

It's simple to make those visiting feel welcome. It starts with a smile; it starts with making a connection. We want to acknowledge that they are here and let them know they are welcome. All of us can do this.

Whether you join the team formally or not, we are asking that when you see a face you don't recognize smile and say hello. Introduce yourself. If they would like to share their info take it down and give it to the office. You can offer them a jar of cookies and a welcome packet found on the counter of the welcome center under the TV.

The next time you see them, share your smile and acknowledge that they are here. Ask if there is anything they need or you can help with. Please feel free to contact the church office with any questions.

Website 2.0

Exciting news! We are looking forward to taking the next step with our website. With the need to update ministry information, dates, events, etc. - we're taking the opportunity to modify various design and style elements as well. Look for enhancements coming soon.



Every couple of years, men from all over the country gather together for a weekend huddle that is called the BOLD GATHERING!

In 2017, join Lutheran Men in Mission in Minneapolis to be encouraged, to worship, and to connect and serve!

Hundreds will be gathering in the [Minneapolis Marriott City Center](#) to celebrate being bold daring followers of Jesus Christ!



Reflect, pray and prepare for the day

Need an on-the-go companion for your faith journey? *Daily Grace* offers brief reflections every day in which you'll encounter God's extravagant, boundless and often surprising grace. Be comforted, challenged, inspired, consoled and confronted. Sign up for Daily Grace at

<http://www.womenoftheelca.org/>



CELC wishes all our November babies a very blessed birthday!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Megan M	1
Casey T	1
Karen W	1
Kathy R	2
Anna L	4
Alyson M	4
McKinnon S	5
Allison B	6
Erik Y	6
Genny H	7
Carrie Y	7
Benjamin B	8
Seamus K	8
Ben S	8

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Gina R	10
Kelly O	11
Julie S	11
Lizzy M	15
Shirley B	16
Alexa R	16
Grace S	16
Paul E	17
Linnea S	18
Brian K	20
Vince M	20
Quella C	25
Doris G	25
Courtney B	28

* If we have missed your birthday or the date is incorrect, please contact the church office so we may update our records. Thank you.

★ HAPPY ★
BIRTHDAY!

CELC Staff

Pastor: Jeff Steeber
 Office Admin: Heather Nordman
 Organist: Randi Smarsh
 Custodian: Bill Higgins

Congregation Council

President: Paul Culler
 Vice President: Mark Principe
 Secretary: Nadine Carlson
 Treasurer: Brenda Crout
 Property: Rob Nordman
 Finance: Eric Klenz

Ministry Team Leaders

Education & Youth:
 Melissa Steele– Steeber
 Christina Mars

Sunday School

Each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

K– 2nd

Nadine Carlson

3rd-4th

Amy Klenz and Chris Owens

5th-6th

Kelly Kacenjjar and Heather Nordman

First Communion

Pastor Jeff

Confirmation Class

Brad Pearce
 Daniel Ingraham
 Pastor Jeff

Vacation Bible School

Stacy Jantz
 Brenda Crout

Senior High Youth Group**CELCYG**

Heather Nordman

Worship & Music

Joe Guthman

Music Ministry

Bell Choir: Joe Guthman
 Sanctuary Choir: Bethany Pearce

Circles

Anna Circle: Jan Wunderle
 Deborah Circle:
 Quella Columbaro
 Lydia/Naomi Circle:
 Sharon Davidson
 Martha Circle: Anita Hlava

Men's Bible Study

Meets at Saturday at 6:30 a.m. at
 Athena's Restaurant

Prayer Chain

Arline Walters - Chair

Endowment Committee

Chuck Heindrichs - Chair

Family Promise

Chuck Heindrichs
 Eric Mohney

OWLS

(Older ,Wiser, Lutheran, Seniors)
 Harold and Karen Wagner

Bread Baker

Deac. Anne Paine – Chair

Welcoming Team

Barb McCain – Chair

Outreach

Kelly Kacenjjar

Youth Mission Trip

Rob Nordman
 Pastor Jeff

Saturday Service

Joe Guthman - 1st Saturday
 Praise Band - 2nd Saturday
 Frank Lee - 3rd Saturday
 Chuck Heindrichs – 4th & 5th
 Saturday

CELC Preschool**Administrator**

Teri Pienoski

Good Kids Childcare**Director**

Julie Skaggs



If your name, church group
 or committee is missing from
 this list, please contact
 Heather in the church office.
 at 440-933-6263 or email

celc@centurytel.net

Thank you!

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
32747 Lake Road
Avon Lake, Ohio 44012
440-933-6263

celc@centurytel.net

www.christlutheranavonlake.org

Worship Opportunities

Sunday school at 9:30am

Worship at 10:30am

Saturday Worship at 5:00pm

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Thanksgiving Prayer

On this day of glad Thanksgiving as we turn to God in prayer
May your heart be filled with blessings and abundant joys to share
May the year ahead be golden with the promise of good things
And memoires of the happiness this festive season brings



Being good stewards of our gifts

To manage resources more effectively, we are moving to an all-electronic version of the newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving the newsletter in paper format, please notify the office.