



CEL Weekly Gospel in Action Moments

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church



**For the week of
Sunday, October 29, 2023
Pastor Appreciation Month**

Welcome to Worship

✚ **We are happy to have you with us** and wish you a warm welcome. If you would like more information about our church and its ministries, please contact our church office, 440-933-6263.

✚ **Attention families:** We encourage you to have your children participate in worship. They learn about worship and faith by being involved. If you or your children need a break, we have Wiggle Beach off to the left of the sanctuary. If you need assistance, an usher will happily direct you.

✚ **We honor our military among us.** Please lift in prayer all who serve in the military, past and present, along with their loved ones. Currently serving: Marty Koch, Coast Guard.

Prayers

✚ **For prayer requests** please fill out a prayer request form found in the gathering area and place it in the offering plate during the service, contact Sharon Davidson at 440-933-3923, skid440@yahoo.com or contact the church office.

Congregation News

✚ **Bread bakers needed!** If you would like to join the team that bakes communion bread, please see Pastor Laura. Copies of the recipe can be found on the bulletin board. Pastor Laura would like to start serving communion bread next Sunday, November 5, All Saints Sunday.

✚ **"The Post Quarantine Church" Book Discussion has started and meets after worship.** The class will meet on Sunday's after church from Oct 22-Nov 19th. We look forward to learning together!

✚ **Veteran's Day 2023:** It is that time of year again, for CELC to honor our veterans, past and present. If

you would like your family member to be included in a photo collage, please include a photo of the veteran, along with the name of veteran and their branch of service. Because Veteran's Day 2023 is on a Saturday, the display will be available on Sunday 11/12. Please submit photo and name/branch information to Ryan Smarsh by Wednesday 11/1. Submissions can be made in person at church or via email: rfsmarsh86@gmail.com. **THANK YOU TO OUR VETERANS!**

✚ **Annual holiday food pack:** Once again, CELC will take part of a holiday and service tradition: packing food bags at Cleveland's Redeemer Crisis Center. Because of COVID, the way we pack food bags have changed and CELC has been given the Friday night before the holiday to finish packing bags that were started by other area Lutheran churches the Wednesday and Thursday before. We are packing for Thanksgiving on Friday, November 17 and for Christmas on Friday, December 15. Both food packs will begin at 7PM and should end around 9PM. We need 16 volunteers for our group. Please RSVP your interest to Ryan Smarsh as soon as possible. We will not have a meal before. Please meet at CELC to caravan or meet us at the Center, 2970 W 30 Cleveland, Ohio. Please see Ryan Smarsh with any questions.

✚ **Fall Congregation meeting** will be held on Sunday, November 19, 2023, following the worship service.

✚ **October is Pastor Appreciation month.** We encourage you to take a moment and thank Pastor Laura and her continued leadership of our congregation.

✚ **Photos please!** As we begin to prepare for our next pastor, it would be helpful to have updated photos of our members. We are encouraging members to take a photo of their families, along with each person individually, saved in .jpg format. Those photos will be uploaded into our membership records to create a pictorial directory for reference

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

moving forward. ****Please note while taking your photos, ensure good lighting and good focus.****
Please send all photos to celc.mainoffice@gmail.com Thank you.

ASP Fundraiser

✚ Anita Hlava has graciously offered to hold a Candle Sale with all proceeds going to the ASP Youth Mission Trip. The sale will be held in the Gathering Area following the service on Sunday, November 12. Candles are gift wrapped and ready for presentation at the cost of your “love offering” donation. For more information, please contact Antia Hlava. (The candles have come from Jonelle’s reserve.)

CELC Preschool News

✚ Thank you for supporting our annual Stoller Fundraising Sale! We made over \$3,000!! Thanks to the generosity of church members and the families of our 100 students we were able to raise a lot of money to help support the preschool.

STOLLER PASTRY pick up is Tuesday, November 7 from 10:30-1:00. The orders may be picked up outside the sanctuary on the sidewalk. All orders are frozen and must be picked up during the designated time. We do not have available freezer space to store items. Please contact Teri at 440-933-6714 with any questions.

The Preschool will once again be collecting your unwanted and unused Halloween candy and giving it to the Homeless Shelter in Lorain. Please drop off your candy in the church office by November 5. Thank you!

Check out the bulletin board in the north hall to see the class pictures from our school picture day. We have 100 children between the ages of 2 ½ and 5 who come in each week to learn, play and discover the love that God has for all of us.

Teri Pienoski, Administrator
Christ Lutheran Preschool

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

✚ Nov 5 Kristen Luciano & Julie Pressnell
Nov 12 Elizabeth Misson & Barb McCain
Nov 19 Marilyn Culler & Mindy Tinney
Nov 26 Sue Frantz & Julie Pressnell

Dec. 3 Melissa Ingraham & Katie Koch
Dec. 10 Barb McCain & Elizabeth Misson
Dec 17 Marilyn Culler & Katie Koch
Dec 24 & Dec 31 No Sunday School

Congregation Calendar

Sunday, October 29

10:00 a.m. Holy Worship

10:00 a.m. Prek-6 Grade Sunday School

Wednesday, November 1

6:15 p.m. Bell Choir

Friday, November 3

Pastor’s day off

Sunday, November 5

All Saints Day

10:00 a.m. Holy Worship

10:00 a.m. Prek-6 Grade Sunday School

Christ Lutheran Preschool

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Good Kids Childcare Calendar

Monday-Friday 7a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Worship Assistants and Volunteers

October 29

Usher: Ryan Smarsh

Lector: Frank Lee

Cantor: Angela Pedersen

Live Stream: Bill Higgins

Counter: Brenda Crout

Altar Care: Carol Meiners

Bulletin Folding: Katie Koch

Grass: Marty Koch

SS Teachers: Sue and Katie

Worship Assistants needed in November and December. Please see the back page for open spots. Thank you.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh **Custodians:** Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick

Call Committee Update – October 24, 2023

We are waiting in time for the eternal God to speak to us, to direct us, to lead us out in service to the world. When the Church Stops Working, c. 2023, Root and Bertrand

Waiting for God’s timing is not easy. We do not like to wait. Waiting makes us anxious. Our culture has taught us that we need to be busy. We need to make things happen. This is *our* way. Not so with our eternal God. In the Bible, we read that Jesus tells his disciples to wait a number of times. We, too, are in a period of waiting. We do our part responsibly, pray for Holy Indifference, then wait until God gives us direction. A brief review of our past months may relieve some anxiety and answer frequently asked questions.

February: Council announced formation of Call Committee (CC) and began seeking volunteers.

April: CC formed, met for orientation with Pastor Mitch Phillips; began working on Ministry Site Profile (MSP) and online surveys for the congregation.

May 21-June 14: Congregation completed 62 surveys.

June: CC tallied surveys; completed MSP first draft and submitted it June 28 for NEOS synod review and revision suggestions.

July: MSP returned July 12 for corrections and revising; CC and Church Council worked together on revision; CC submitted new draft on July 25.

August 23: MSP draft reviewed by Pastor Mitch, accepted and “went live” (meaning it was posted across the United States on the ELCA site for all rostered ministers who are considering a new call to read and consider) If pastors feel they have the gifts and talents we need, they will contact Pastor Mitch to assist in arranging interviews with us.

September 6: CC met with Pastor Mitch for interview training; began preparing a mock interview plan.

September 27: CC completed a mock interview with Pastor Tina Crog (extremely helpful).

October 4: CC revised and improved first interview plan; Pastor Mitch was advised that CC is ready for first interviews; continue to pray and wait for interested candidates who are a good match, whose gifts and talents align with our needs as stated on our surveys and in our MSP.

November-: First interviews with potential candidates will be approximately 1.5 hours long via Zoom. This is to reduce the costs in terms of time and confidences, protecting both the pastor and their congregation from any negative effects on their ministry together, as well as limiting the financial costs to the congregation who is in the call process. Obviously, it is less costly to interview online than in-person when travel and food expenses are eliminated. Prayerfully, through the Zoom interview, both the Call Committee and the rostered minister gain a sense of whether or not a relationship together is worth pursuing in-person.We continue to pray.

Worship Assistants and Volunteers

November 5

Usher: Chip Crout
Lector: Marilyn Culler
Cantor: Julie Pressnell
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson
Grass: Chuck Heindricks and Andy Young

November 12

Usher: Betsy Floyd
Lector: Betsy Floyd
Cantor:
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Counter: Eric Klentz
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson

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November 19

Usher: Brian Knip
Lector: Laura Knight
Cantor: Michelle Young
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson

November 26

Usher: Eric Mohney
Lector: Tim Gottshall
Cantor: Anita Hlava
Live Stream:
Counter: Eric Mohney
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson

December 3

Usher: Ryan Smarsh
Lector:
Cantor:
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

December 10

Usher: Brian Knip
Lector: Sharon Davidson
Cantor:
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Counter: Julie Skaggs
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

December 17

Usher: Ryan Smarsh
Lector: Frank Lee
Cantor: Michelle Young
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

December 24

Usher: Betsy Floyd
Lector: Betsy Floyd
Cantor:
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

December 24 Christmas Eve Service

Usher: Eric Mohney and Brian Knip
Greeters:
Lector: Aubrey Luciano
Cantor:
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

December 25 Christmas Morning Service

Usher: Bill Higgins
Lector:
Cantor:
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

December 31

Usher: Chip Crout
Lector:
Cantor:
Live Stream: Bill Higgins
Counter: Brenda Crout
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler
Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

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