



## Honoring His Sacrifice

By Bonnie Scranton

What a strange time we find ourselves in! I can recall conversations in my family when I was growing up about my mother's mother dying in the flu epidemic of 1918. It changed my mother's life as she ended up being raised by her grandmother. I never imagined that we would be facing a similar situation in our lifetime.

Martin Luther also lived through a plague in 1527, when it returned to Wittenberg, Germany. Two hundred years earlier the plague had swept across Europe killing up to 40% of the population. People were anxious, just as we are today. Many of them also wondered what a safe and faithful response might be. In answer to this, Martin Luther wrote "Whether One May Flee from a Deadly Plague." In it, he emphasized the duty to care for the neighbor, the responsibility of government to protect and provide services to its citizens, a caution about recklessness, and the importance of science, medicine and common sense.

As ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton wrote in her March 6, 2020 article, "Luther's counsel, based on Scripture, is still sound. Respect the disease. Do not take unnecessary risks. Provide for the spiritual and physical needs of the neighbor. Make use of medical aid. Care for one another, especially the most vulnerable."

But heeding Luther's and Bishop Eaton's advice about avoiding unnecessary risk (which today means sheltering-in-place) during Lent, Holy Week and Easter makes our response to the virus even more distressing. Not being able to gather together as a Christian family to remember our Lord's crucifixion, and to celebrate His resurrection, is downright hard and disappointing. But in reality, while it may be hard, this sacrifice is so small, so insignificant, in comparison to the sacrifice Christ made in order that we might have everlasting life!

How we respond to this small sacrifice says a lot about who we are as Christians. As I mentioned in my March 22<sup>nd</sup> Lenten message, during this time we can find solace and take comfort in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. God does not abandon us in hard times, but rather leads us through

the valleys of life knowing we will eventually find a table prepared for us, our heads will be anointed with oil, and our cups will overflow with God's love and mercy.

While the valley we find ourselves in right now isn't good, the Shepherd is. He knows the way. We need but follow. But how do we do that in these trying times? How do we follow Jesus when we're not even supposed to leave our homes? By sharing Christ's love. Amidst this very difficult and somewhat scary time, sharing God's love is one of the most important things we can do.

But as a person whose love languages are physical touch (I am a hugger by nature) and shared time with others, I have to think about how to love in new ways, as I suspect many of you are having to do. We can reach out to others and write letters of gratitude to people we know and to people we don't know, like those putting their lives on the line to treat the sick. We can call friends that we've lost touch with or acquaintances that we would like to get to know better. Or we can use our time and talent do to what I know a number of you in our congregation are doing – making face masks that are appropriate for health care workers and others that can be used by our friends and neighbors.

Through demonstrating love for others, however we choose to do it, we can turn this time of fear into a season of hope, working towards love in new and significant ways. Christ sacrificed his life that we might have new life. This Easter season, in honor of that sacrifice, it is only appropriate that we also find new and significant ways to share our faith and to love one another in His name.

## His Holy Word is Always a Comfort in Times of Trial

Two members have shared with me some scriptures that they are finding comfort in at this time. I wanted to share some of those with all of you. Romans 12:1; John 14:27; 1 Peter 5:7; Joshua 1:9; Psalm 46:10; Psalm 91; Isaiah 41:10; and Isaiah 41:13. Let me know if you have a comforting scripture that you would like me to share with others via the e-News.



## Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – Mar. 10, 2020

**Members Present:** Dick Tabb, Matt Futhey, Katie Rupp, Bonnie Scranton, Jeff Clauss, Connie Hornsey, Tom Jett, Diane Jones, Andrew Maas, Bill Wolters, Dave Tooke. **Members absent:** Judy Bach

At 6 p.m. Bonnie Scranton met with new members to review the format of the financial reports given during council meetings and answer any questions. At 6:28 p.m. Dick Tabb opened the meeting with prayer; Connie Hornsey led devotions. Dick called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda: “Electrical Bid” was added as item d. to Old Business.

**Approval of Minutes:** After review of the minutes, motion that the minutes be approved carried.

**President’s Report:** In his report Dick Tabb mentioned the following:

- There’s been no interest in the position of permanent pastor.
- The call committee members have made the following suggestions and/or taken the following actions. Crystal Bliven, chair of the communication team, is working on a YouTube presentation to represent CLC and possibly attract the attention of a potential pastor; testimonials from former pastors Paul Schwartzkopf and Gayle Pope are being prepared to add to the CLC Facebook page. The call committee suggested the council approve the placement of an ad in the “Living Lutheran”. After discussion, the council recommended the call committee develop an ad and at the same time seek statistical information on the “Living Lutheran” readership.
- Dick assigned door keys to the new council members.

**Parish Administrator’s Report:** Bonnie Scranton presented a written report of activities for review and discussion. She pointed out that supply pastors have been arranged through April and that the 2019 Annual Parochial report for ELCA and Synod has been completed. Also, the new grounds committee has been organized and members are addressing the issues related to grounds & playground repair, replacement, and upkeep. Motion that the Parish Administrator’s Report be approved carried.

**Treasurer’s / Financial Secretary’s Report:** Printed reports for February were distributed by Bonnie Scranton for council review and discussion. Bonnie explained that CLC received a bequest of \$13,004.28 from the sale of Anita Wall’s house. She moved that the \$13,004.28 be placed in the Endowment Fund. Motion carried. Motion to accept reports and to place the financial report on file pending audit carried.

### Ministry Team and Committee Reports:

- **Communications:** No report.
- **Fellowship:** Diane Jones reported that the fellowship team agreed to consider an evening dinner for the fall of 2020 because of the upcoming 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.
- **Learning:** Matt Futhey reported the March 6<sup>th</sup> KNO was attended by 45 children. A planning meeting for VBS will be held April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 1 p.m.
- **Mutual Ministry:** No report.
- **Building:** No report.
- **Grounds:** Bonnie Scranton reported on the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. They reviewed the F&I committee recommendations for 2020 spending. The next meeting will be March 15<sup>th</sup> during coffee hour.

- **Service:** No report.
- **Stewardship:** No report.
- **Worship:** Jeff Clauss reported that the worship team discussed preparations for Ash Wed., pulpit supply through April, Lenten Wed. evening speakers, and selected hymns for March. Diane Jones has volunteered to organize the Easter Sunday breakfast; funds raised will go to the playground project. The next meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 p.m.
- **Risk Management:** Andrew Maas reported the committee meet on March 8<sup>th</sup>, during coffee hour. The committee reported a need to improve background checks and the frequency of the checks. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m.

Motion that Ministry & Committee Reports be accepted carried.

### Old Business:

- Trish Santos raised some questions about the council discussion in February concerning KNO. Council recognizes the success of that program and her concerns were addressed by Dick Tabb and Diane Jones.
- A committee has been formed to begin planning the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. All ministry teams are to have representation on the committee. Team chairs are to notify Bonnie Scranton of the representative for their teams.
- Easter Breakfast update: the menu is planned, volunteer and attendance sign-up sheets will be made available on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Electrical Bid: Jansen Electric submitted a bid of \$3,563 to complete several projects requiring an electrician. The majority of the job is labor only as Villa Lighting is donating 59 LED fixtures plus other LED lights, which will replace current fixtures & sanctuary lights. Thank you to Jeff Clauss, an employee of Villa Lighting, who arranged the donation. Motion that the council accept this bid carried.

### New Business:

- Bonnie Scranton presented the F&I Committee recommendations to the council. Motion to accept the recommended caps as amended carried. The final recommendation of the committee was to move \$50,000 from the Town and Country checking account into Mission Investment Fund term investments allowing for a greater rate of interest paid on the investment. Motion to accept this investment recommendation carried.
- Helen Pagel and Matt Futhey will serve as voting delegates at the April 19<sup>th</sup>, Conference Assembly in Macomb. Two members are needed to serve at the Synod Assembly from June 4<sup>th</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup>, in Peoria.
- March 17<sup>th</sup> is election day. Bonnie Scranton will open the church at 5 a.m. and Katie Rupp will close the church at 7 p.m.
- Diane Jones will contact members who might be interested in organizing a group to attend a Gems baseball outing.
- A letter of transfer for Brandon Ross and Brian Tallman was sent to Salem Church, Quincy.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. carried. Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Katie Rupp, Secretary

*NOTE: These minutes are slightly condensed. Full version is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Also, with the current stay at home order, all meetings and gatherings are cancelled until further notice.*



## **President's Message Embracing Change**

*By Dick Tabb, President*

Dear Friends in Christ, I learned a long time ago that being “flexible” when it comes to daily living can be advantageous for everyone. I'm not suggesting that any one give up their core values, but changing things that actually enhance or magnify those values can be beneficial. That's where we find ourselves as a congregation right now. We have daily parameters put upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic which have affected how we can worship and gather as a congregation.

Fortunately, we have a church family that has adjusted and made plans to overcome these obstacles in our desire to worship. Not only have new resources been utilized to maintain our engagement with each other, our strong family has rallied around these new approaches and embraced them. Folks, we are bonding stronger and stronger as we work together to meet everyone's needs for spiritual direction – we have become “flexible” in finding ways to remain committed to our mission statement – Christ Cares – Share the Faith. As we weather this storm- and we will, let us remain positive and continue praying for each other. The “Hand of God” is upon us, and in confidence we must “Stay calm, and Carry on”.

## **SERVICE TEAM NEWS**



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

### **The Need for Food Donations is Even Greater Now Than It Was Previously!**

*By Sue Hobbins*

Covid-19 has had an effect on our lives that six weeks ago did not seem possible. We were planning Lenten meals, Palm Sunday and Easter worship and an Easter Breakfast. Who knew we would cancel almost everything and be worshipping at home for weeks on Sunday morning!

Well we are, and because of that, food gifts are changing also. Many pantries have closed because of the fear of spreading the virus. Lutheran Church of St. John's was still operating last week, so our March gifts were delivered on schedule to them.

April will be different in the method used for gifting and distributing the food. There will be a marked tote in front of the doors on the west side of the church. Please put your gifts in the tote. It will be checked daily and food will be distributed to the small boxes in neighborhoods where food is needed.

We want some of the same kinds of foods we usually purchase with some exceptions. Please look for single serving size containers with peel off lids or pop tops on cans. Some family meal type foods like macaroni and cheese would be okay; however, the idea is more for the children who are not in school to be able to find snacks or food. Cereals, individual juice drinks and other items you feel are good choices will work also. The boxes are not large and we wish to put as many items as possible in each box.

- Protein items (includes baked beans, chili beans)
- Canned meats (chicken, tuna)
- Canned meals or boxed meals
- Macaroni & cheese, spaghetti & spaghetti sauce
- Soups, especially chicken noodle & vegetable
- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Nuts (dry roasted almonds, peanuts, etc.)
- Fresh apples, potatoes
- Boxes of powdered milk & canned evaporated milk
- Dry cereals
- Paper products (toilet tissue, facial tissue, diapers)
- Laundry detergent, cleaning products
- Deodorant, shampoo, toilet soap
- Hotel size soaps, shampoos, lotions, etc.
- Baby care products and baby food.



### **Boxes and more boxes...**

These are actually the new LED light fixtures for the church which Jeff Clauss dropped off this week. They have been donated by his company, Villa Lighting. Council has approved a bid for the electrical work with Jansen Electric. We're hopeful that the electricians might be able to get some of this work done in April. We are looking forward to a much brighter place once this work is completed.



## March "Second Sunday" Supported ELCA World Hunger

*By Connie Hornsey, Chairman*

The Second Sunday-Second Basket for March donation of \$410.12 went toward ELCA World Hunger. Thanks again to our generous congregation for their support for this program! The community educational event, Caregiving 101, that was scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall is being postponed to a later date in May or June.

Our Second-Sunday Second Basket event for April, Camp Callahan, has been cancelled. Hopefully we can coordinate with Randy Callahan to get this back on our schedule at a later date. Our May mission moment is for LSSI. At this point in time, it too will be cancelled unless we are physically back in church by May 10<sup>th</sup> and we can work it into the service.

## Super Duper Garage Sale

*By Co-Chairmen Bonnie Cox, Debbie Hemmerle and Kathy Wolters*

Our annual Super-Duper Garage Sale, scheduled for Sat., April 25<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. until 12 p.m., is being tentatively rescheduled for late August. Please hang on to your planned donations of gently used furniture, cooking utensils household goods, exercise equipment, etc. And while you are sheltered-in-place at home and cleaning out the garage and your closets, please keep our garage sale in mind when you find gently used, saleable items that you no longer want. Money raised this year will go into the fund for stained glass windows in the sanctuary, so your donations will be needed when we do have our 2020 sale!

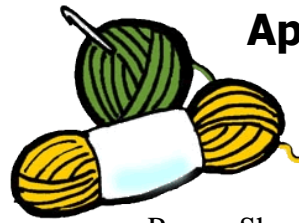
## COMING EVENTS

### April Ladies' Birthday Lunch Cancelled



As expected, the monthly "ladies birthday lunch" will be cancelled until further notice. As soon as restaurants re-open and it is safe to come together for birthday celebrations, we will do so. In the meantime, please find a way to wish our

April birthday folks a happy birthday. That list can be found later in this newsletter



## April Prayer Shawl & Create-A-Card Class Cancelled

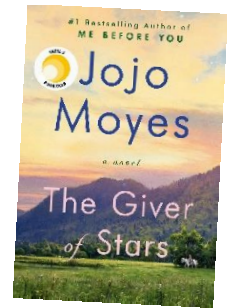
*By Bonnie Cox*

Prayer Shawl will NOT meet in April because of the coronavirus. Stay safe and pray for those who are ill, home bound and under stress and we will resume meeting when the spread of the virus is contained. Create-A-Card class also will NOT meet in April because of the coronavirus. We will resume class in May.

## Books N' Brew

*By Pat Bell*

At this time, it appears we might not be doing any mingling until after April 30<sup>th</sup>, but who knows? Being optimistic, let's set our next get together for Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at Tony's Too. Our book to discuss is "The Giver of Stars" by JoJo Motes. If things change for the better, we can move it up. Keep in touch and enjoy one of our favorite pastimes – reading!



## 60 Years and Counting!

The charter establishing Christ Lutheran Church was signed on September 25, 1960. We plan to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that event on Sunday, September 27, 2020. A committee representing various ministry teams has been formed by council to plan for that celebration. Members are: Crystal Bliven, Bonnie Conover, Connie Hornsey, Wendy Maas, Sue Reeder, Trish Santos, Char Tooke, and Bonnie Scranton. Please be sure to mark the date on your calendar and join us for the festivities!



## A Time for Extra Prayer and Meditation

Prayer and meditation are needed now more than ever. The chapel and a section of the sanctuary are available for that purpose, if you feel safe in coming out. All areas will be sanitized regularly. We simply ask that, should you choose to come, you use the hand sanitizer as you come in the building and respect the six-foot social distancing guidelines. Office hours are 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tues. – Fri. For other prayer time please call Bonnie Scranton at 217-577-9086.



## Northwest Conference Assembly to Meet via ZOOM

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the 2020 Assembly of the

Northwest Conference of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod will be held on-line via ZOOM video conferencing. The meeting will be held as previously scheduled beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Registered delegates and visitors from the 17 conference congregations will receive invitations to the meeting via email a few days ahead of time. Participants may then click on the link in the email or enter the assigned number to join the meeting by computer, iPad, smart phone or landline phone. You need to have the ZOOM app on your computer or smart phone. The app is easily installed when you click to join the meeting. The meeting will begin with opening devotions led by Pastor Youngshim Pitcher from Trinity Lutheran, Macomb. We still plan to have a report from Bishop S. John Roth and a presentation by Dan Potaznick, development officer at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, IA, who will give us an overview of how the seminary is addressing the pastor shortage in the church. Details are still being worked out regarding procedures for elections of conference officers and Synod committee representatives. Pastor Rick Hertenstein, conference dean, will preside over the assembly. All congregations should appoint official lay voting delegates to the assembly (the same number as designated for the Synod assembly). Delegates and visitors are to register through their local congregations. Helen Pagel and Matt Futhey will be our delegates. If you want to “attend” as a visitor, please let Bonnie Scranton know so that she can get you registered. The deadline to do so is April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**WANTED:** We are in need for a webmaster and a tech support person for managing the audio-visual equipment in the sanctuary and all other church technology systems and equipment. If you are interested in helping or have any suggestions on who would be interested, please give Bonnie a call at 217-577-9086 or email her at [parish\\_admin@clcq.org](mailto:parish_admin@clcq.org). Thank you!

## BRIEFLY . . .

- ❑ **The community education event, Caregiving 101, scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall, has been postponed.** We do plan to reschedule this event if possible, as it is a very informational and helpful program for everyone. There is a talented trio of women who have worked on this hour-long presentation and we do want to be able to share their knowledge with you and others in our community if possible. We will let everyone know if and when it is rescheduled
- ❑ **Pastoral Support is Available!** CLC Members, just a reminder that pastoral support is available should you need it in the event of an emergency. A number of pastors in the area have offered to help. Just contact Bonnie Scranton and she will get in touch with one of them for you. Bonnie’s cell number is 217-577-9086.

## Memorial Garden Update

*By Judy Wegehenkel*

Hello, my CLC friends. Life has been different, needless to say, but with God’s grace this too shall pass. I pray that we are doing whatever we can to help with this situation and are staying connected with each other. We will still be accepting orders for additional garden memorials (bricks, pavers, and/or boulders) *through the month of April*. Please contact Bonnie Scranton for an order form. She can e-mail or snail mail one to you. Once completed you can drop off the form and payment at church during office hours (10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tues-Fri) or simply mail it in. We are looking forward to your additions to our beautiful Memorial Garden. God bless you all!

## Endowment Committee

*By Charlie Bach, Chairman*

As we approach Easter Sunday, remember Christ promised us eternal life. The Endowment Fund is a commitment to help ensure Christ Lutheran Church has life for the future. The Endowment Fund is set up to provide for programs and special needs within the church. You can donate to the Endowment Fund in many ways. If you are interested in donating, a member of the committee would be happy to speak with you. Those individuals, in addition to myself, are Conny Bakker-Gerhardt, Roger Wegehenkel, Ron Larnar, Jim Dunn, Bill Wolters, and Bonnie Scranton.

## Words from the Worship Team

By Bonnie Scranton, Chairperson

The Worship Ministry Team (WMT) had been busy finalizing the details Holy Week and Easter, but those plans changed drastically on March 20<sup>th</sup> when Governor Pritzker issued a shelter-in-place order and a closing of all non-essential services. The council executive committee had met the evening prior and, anticipating what was coming, made the decision to postpone all traditional worship services through May 3, 2020. Amy Stollberg had offered, prior to that meeting, to take the lead in producing a virtual worship service via YouTube.

Amy & I put together a suggested format for a 30-minute virtual service that would replicate a regular worship service, excluding the offering and Holy communion. The worship team approved that plan and the first virtual worship service in our 60-year history was made available to members via YouTube on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. This format and delivery platform will continue to be used until it is safe to once again gather for worship as a church family in our sanctuary. A huge thank you to Amy Stollberg for making this possible!! And thanks to all of you who “attended” church and provided us with your feedback.

While everyone is disappointed that we will not celebrate Easter Sunday together on April 12<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Christ’s resurrection together at a date yet to be determined, *when it is safe to do so*. In the interim, in order to save lives and reduce the spread of the coronavirus, we will for the time being celebrate Easter Sunday on April 12<sup>th</sup> from the comfort of our own homes.

Our April pulpit supply will be Pr. Trutwin (4/5 & 4/12), Dan Wilson, S.A.M., (4/19), and Pr. Jeff Rasche (4/26). Supply pastors for May will be scheduled soon.

The Worship Ministry Team invites and encourages you to take advantage of the virtual worship services we are offering. During this very uncertain of times, in the middle of a quickly spreading, life-threatening virus, it is more important than ever that we be spiritually fed and stay connected to our faith in Jesus Christ. In addition to joining us in worship, we ask that you please pray daily for our church family, all of the medical and emergency personnel throughout the world, the sick, and those who have lost love ones. Take care and stay well!



## Missionary Corner Changes

By Pastor Christie

Following are excerpts from Pastor Christie’s newsletter

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. John 14:27.*

Friends, as we begin this update we'd like to ask, how are you? No really, how are you? Please know you are in our prayers and we would love to hear the answer to that question if you'd like to share it with us. We are doing fine, but our lives have also taken a shift that we would like to share with you.

**March 13<sup>th</sup>** – Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> our congregation did not meet. This was due to an incredibly large storm that began on Thursday and swept through Cairo knocking out power and water. On that day it was simply not safe for anyone to leave their homes. Water was out in Cairo for 3 days and many areas were flooded.

**March 15<sup>th</sup>** – When we got to work on Sunday, the decision was made to close St. Andrew/StARS to all but essential staff. This was in response to a government decree issued that morning closing all schools and limiting gatherings of more than 50 people. This was not an easy decision because our ministry is essential to so many refugees in the Cairo area. The staff at StARS have been heroic in their efforts to continue to supply services using whatever means are at their disposal. Where face to face meetings are not possible, phone and online meetings are happening (a challenge with the ever-unknown internet situation which is spotty at best.) Clients who need emergency medical and other services are still being served. For the church's part, I met with all pastors from our six refugee congregations to explain the situation. While difficult and stressful because worship makes up the fabric of community for so many, they understood and agreed to not meet. This arrangement is in effect until March 31<sup>st</sup> and then we will reassess. We have made sure our refugee staff are receiving their payroll and much needed support in this time. We were told to work from home which we began to do.



**March 17<sup>th</sup>** – On Tuesday morning we received the following message from the ELCA: *In light of the recent travel restrictions put in place by various*

*national governments around the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ELCA is requesting that all US-based Mission Personnel return immediately to the United States. This includes our Young Adults in Global Mission - ELCA. Please keep these personnel and their families in your prayers as they make their way back home.* First thing after receiving this message we had an online conference meeting with our supervisor Saïd. After speaking with him and Pastor Carrie Ballenger in Jerusalem, we began to digest that we would likely be heading back to the US. While this was difficult to realize, we fully trust and have confidence in the fact that the ELCA takes good care of its mission personnel--we know they would not make this request of us and our community unless it was under the most dire of circumstances.

**March 17<sup>th</sup> continued** – By 4 p.m., less than one day after hearing we should go, the incredible staff at the ELCA had us on a flight out of Egypt. Not an easy task as the borders were closing and the airport was shutting down on Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup> at noon.

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** – We arrived safely in the USA on Wednesday night and are currently staying in Pittsburgh with good friends. Our youngest daughter, who is a student at Carnegie Mellon University, is also here with us. Our oldest daughter, Winter, is in Vancouver Washington. She is doing fine and is supported by her community there. We are so grateful for the kindness of friends and their willingness to take us in at such short notice. We have no adequate words to express how much their generosity has impacted and helped us.

**Today** – We would like to say that while we understand everything around this situation and why we needed to go, leaving Cairo at this time was and continues to feel impossibly hard. We did not want to leave our church, the ministry or the people who have become our community and family there. Especially in this time of great need. Heartbreaking is the only word we have to describe it. However, the community of St. Andrews including our church council and staff at StARS have been beyond supportive and

understanding. We have been told that now they do not need to worry about us and quite frankly as one good friend shared, “Egypt does not need even one more person added to their already overtaxed healthcare system.” A stark reality but yes, this is correct. And we are all taking good courage in the fact that this is only temporary and we will return to Cairo once all this is settled whenever that is.

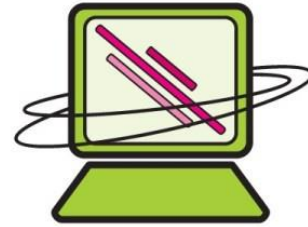
In the meantime, we continue our work and continue to support our community as we were doing in Cairo this past week, remotely. I am sending prayers to the congregations each day and am working out the details of getting some kind of online worship service to them. We are connecting with staff and congregation members over social media, WhatsApp, email and any way we can. Aside from our supervisors at the ELCA who have been a source of care and pastoral support, our church council, especially our council President Rachel Leslie has been a source of information, help and sage advice through all of this and we are incredibly grateful for her. Chris Eades the director of the StARS ministry has been tireless in his work to make sure this community continues in the best way possible. He shares daily updates about where essential staff are working and gives an “all is calm” reassurance. Due to the nature of their work, Chris continues to stay in Egypt with his family as does Rachel as well as many more.

**What now?** – So, at this time we invite you to please pray for Cairo, St. Andrews church and the whole world. We will continue to send monthly updates and share how things are going. Right now in Cairo, just like in most of our contexts, people are working from home, shops and venues are closed and individuals are adapting as more news comes out. Individuals experiencing marginalization continue to be the hardest hit and are in need of the greatest support. As my former CPE supervisor and good friend Sandy wisely said to me in a recent email: “We are all in for very difficult times medically, socially, financially, etc., but perhaps these days will knit us closely together in our common humanity.” We trust that they will. Thanks for allowing us to send you this update and for walking with us in these days as we are figuring out what to do and how to be. We are all doing our very best. If there is anything we can do for you please let us know. We are grateful for each and every one of you and we trust that God is so big and so good.

With love and care in these days,  
Christie and Steve

## AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

Month	2019	2020
January	82	77
February	91	71
March	88	80



● Stay In Touch ●

## Operating Budget Highlights through February 29, 2020

*By Bonnie Scranton, Treasurer*

Finance & Investment Committee recommendations in regard to two specific areas were presented to, and approved by, council on Mar. 10. The recommendation concerning investments was subsequently revised by the executive committee at a 3/19 meeting held to address multiple church issues related to the coronavirus. Investments on deposit with the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA will be minimized until the financial markets stabilize. In regard to capital improvements, up to

Category	Actual Through 2/29/20	Budgeted Through 2/29/20	Actual as % of Budget
Year-to-Date Budgeted Receipts			
Pledged Offerings*	\$33,837.00	\$29,581.30	114.4%
Non-Pledged Offerings	\$1,555.00	\$2,144.21	72.5%
Other Budgeted Offerings	\$244.69	\$638.36	38.3%
<b>Total YTD Budgeted Receipts</b>	<b>\$35,636.69</b>	<b>\$32,363.87</b>	<b>110.1%</b>
<b>YTD Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>\$21,976.24</b>	<b>\$32,363.87</b>	<b>67.9%</b>
<b>YTD Budgeted Income (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$13,660.45</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
<b>Total Balance of Available Funds*</b>	<b>\$212,161.23</b>		
Checking	\$91,812.76		
Savings	\$120,348.47		

*\*Endowment Funds are NOT included in the above total \$82,338.51*

\$15,000 from cash reserves has been earmarked for new indoor and outdoor LED lighting, other electrical work, and other indoor projects. Up to \$10,000 has been earmarked for additional improvements to the grounds, in addition to the east parking lot and two landscaping projects carried over from 2019. Up to \$5,000 has been earmarked for the playground, in addition to funds already raised for that purpose. No work will be done on the playground until the Risk Management Team completes its safety assessment and the Grounds Committee presents an action plan to council.

If you have any questions about the above, please don't hesitate to ask me. And please, as you have done in the past, be faithful about fulfilling your pledges if you are financially able to do so. We know some of our members are being affected by the inability to earn a living due to the closing of non-essential businesses. Consequently, sustained giving will be needed by those who are able in order to keep the church on solid financial footing and complete much needed improvements. These improvements will make a difference in our "curb appeal" to prospective pastors and new members. How good a job we do in taking care of our property, both inside and out, says a lot about how much pride we have in our church and our church family. Thank you for continuing to do what you can financially during this uncertain time!



# April 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>29</b> 10 am Virtual Worship Dan Wilson, SAM, presiding	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10 am Virtual Worship Pr. Jim Trutwin presiding	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10 am Virtual Worship Pr. Jim Trutwin presiding	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30 Church Council	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 1 pm Worship Team Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 10 am Virtual Worship Dan Wilson, SAM presiding	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10 am Online Worship Pr. Jeff Rasche presiding	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

# Christ Lutheran

Christ Cares: Share the Faith

333 South 36<sup>th</sup> Street  
Quincy, IL 62305-5833

**President:** Dick Tabb

## **Our Church Staff**

Parish Administrator: Bonnie Scranton

Secretary: Bree Wingerter

Choir Director: Amy Stollberg

Keyboardist: Cathy Flick

**Sunday Worship – 10:30a.m.  
On YouTube**

## **Office Hours**

Tuesday & Thursday 10-5

Wednesday & Friday 10:30-3:30

Office Phone: (217) 224-1624

Bonnie's Cell: (217) 577-9086

E-mail: office@clcq.org

Website: www.clcq.org



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

	<b>April 5</b>	<b>April 12</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>April 26</b>
<b>Presiding</b>	Pr. Trutwin	Pr. Trutwin	Dan Wilson, SAM	Pr. Rasche
<b>Production</b>	Amy Stollberg	Amy Stollberg	Amy Stollberg	Amy Stollberg
<b>Reader</b>	Jim Dunn	Jerri Klusmeyer	Roger Schaefer	Judy Wegehenkel
<b>Prayers</b>	Ruth Dunn	Dick Tabb	Sue Reeder	Sam Lathrop
<b>Sound</b>	Connie Hornsey	Matt Futhey	Matt Futhey	Tafi Lathrop