



# CHRIST TODAY

A monthly newsletter for friends and members of Christ Lutheran Church, Warren NALC/ LCMC

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Christ Lutheran families,

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

We have had a wonderful Easter celebration, and it was uplifting to see our church packed with a lot of people. I would love to see all those faces every week. Let me share with you what is in my heart.

Today, I would like to discuss with you about **Pentecost** and its meaning. Why do we need to address something which happened over 2000 years ago? Is it relevant to us? I will try to address these points in this article.

### Pentecost

The word **Pentecost** means "fiftieth" (from the Greek term *pentekoste*). It is a major Christian festival celebrated 50 days after Easter (the seventh Sunday) that commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus in Jerusalem.

The point of **Pentecost** is mission, and the goal of mission is that "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Hab.2:14). If we properly understand this great historic event, our hearts will be enflamed with cause of seeing some from every tribe and tongue and nation bowing before the exalted Lord Jesus Christ.

God's plan for being glorified among the nations was to form the church. As we know, the church was born on **Pentecost** day. To understand this even more, we must understand the Jewish Feast of **Pentecost**. It was not by coincidence that God poured out His Spirit on the disciples on that day. There were three great Jewish feasts each year: Passover (in the Spring), celebrating Israel's deliverance from Egypt, followed immediately by the Feast of **Unleavened Bread**; **Pentecost**, also called the Feast of Weeks, which occurred 50 days (seven weeks) after Passover; and Tabernacles (in the fall). **Pentecost** was an initial harvest feast, where the Jews were to offer to the Lord the first fruits of the new grain. Among other rituals, they were to wave before the Lord two loaves of wheat bread, made with leaven (Lev 23:15).

This picture came to fulfillment in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of **Pentecost**. Until this time, the Lord's people consisted of Israel, along with a few Gentile proselytes. Not all in Israel were believers, but it was through that nation exclusively that God worked through his covenant promises to form a people for Himself. But now the Lord formed the body of Christ, the church, made up of Jews and Gentiles on equal footing. Paul called this inclusion of the Gentiles in the church a mystery, meaning that it had not been formerly revealed (Eph 3:4-7), although it was typified in this Jewish feast with two loaves. That these two loaves were made up of leavened bread pictures the fact that although we are redeemed in Christ, we are still sinners who must learn to get along with those who, in the flesh, are very different than we are.

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## SPECIAL DATES

- Confirmation Sunday - 5/3
- Bible Study - 5/6, 5/20, 6/3
- Recognition Sunday - 6/7
- Youth Grp - 5/8, 5/22, 6/12, 6/26
- Stamp Out Hunger - 5/9
- Mother's Day 5/10
- VBS - 6/15 - 6/18,
- Teleconference - 5/13, 6/10
- Grief Share - 5/14, 6/11
- Euchre - 5/16, 6/13
- Pairs & Spares - 5/16
- Ascension Sunday - 5/17
- Mexican Luncheon - 5/17
- Pantry Distribution - 5/19
- Father's Day Breakfast - 6/21
- Home Plate Outing - 5/22
- Pentecost Sunday - 5/24
- Trinity Sunday - 5/31
- Prayer Night - 6/25
- "Young at Heart" - 6/28

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## Memorials and Honorariums

### In Memory of Karin Stevenson-Twiss

Designated for Fellowship  
Given by: Phyllis Skora

### In Memory of Betty Stutzky

Designated for Fellowship  
Given by: Phyllis Skora

Designated for Food Pantry  
Given by: Roy & Rose Castle,  
Bill & Barb Harry

*The Lord is close to the brokenhearted  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.  
Psalm 34:18*

## Thank you from the Evangelism Committee

Thank you to all who donated [Disaster Health Kits](#), and to those who assembled, packed, and labeled Thrivent Health Kits. Your generosity, time and talents are very much appreciated. Also, a special thanks to [Kathi Frezza](#) and [Shannon Huizdos](#) for transporting 48 kits to our [Owosso Disaster Warehouse](#)

### Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

Thank you to [Barb and Allan Mullins](#) for constructing a processional cross and creating the illusion of waves for the Easter Program song "Wade in the Water". They also decorated the sanctuary for Easter.

**"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." ( Matthew 25:40)**

## The Daily Bread Food Pantry

What joy it is to be blessed with the Spring season! God's beautiful creation features the colorful outdoors, bird songs, increased daylight, and other warm transitions. The light from darkness is present at all times, while believers & non-believers who question, deny, and doubt are surprised during `the unexpected times.` These words of encouragement are shared with pantry visitors seeking ways to make ends meet.

The pantry ministry has served two distributions this year, thanks to the diligent volunteers, food & monetary donations. There have been 32 households/78 individuals served.

At the chilly March outdoor distribution, Pastor Hunde shared words of encouragement & prayer for visitors as requested. He also invited anyone without a church to come worship with us during Lent and on Easter. This evangelizing lifted the spirits of many, giving them hope.

As we look into May 2026, it is a very busy month! First, there is a need for helpers with the upcoming **"2026 Stamp Out Hunger"** non-perishable food donations. These are collected by Warren's letter carriers and delivered to this pantry and other Warren church pantries.

**(to be continued on page 5)**



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH						May 2026	
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
<b>10:00 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP</b>							
<b>Services are in-person &amp; Live Streamed</b>							
<b>1</b>							
<b>2</b>							
<b>3 Confirmation Sunday</b> Worship Service at 10 am with Holy Communion  10:00 -Sunday School 11:15 - Coffee Hour 11:30 – Blood Pressure Ck 11:30 – Worship Meeting Quest minister giving the message	<b>4</b> 9:30 a.m. Prayer group  7:15 Bells	<b>5</b> 5:00 Genesis	<b>6</b> Bible Study 11 am & 7 pm	<b>7</b> National Day of Prayer	<b>8</b> Youth Group 6-8 pm	<b>9</b> Stamp Out Hunger 12:30-6 pm	
<b>10 Mothers Day</b> Worship Service at 10 am without Holy Communion  Women of the Bible - feature  10:00 – Sunday School 11:30 Enhanced Coffee Hour	<b>11</b> 9:30 a.m. Prayer group  6:30 Parish Ed Meeting  SOH set-up	<b>12</b> 10-12 Pins & Needles 10 Staff Mtg 12:30 Staff Mtg  5:30 Praise Band  6:30 Exec Meeting SOH set-up	<b>13</b> 7pm Teleconference Dial: 712-832-8700 ID: 919200 #	<b>14</b> Noon – Grief Share  Stamp Out Hunger – set up	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Pairs & Spares 11am lunch in Frankenmuth Euchre – 2-5 pm in the nursery  Armed Forces Day	
<b>17 Ascension Sunday</b> Worship Service at 10:00 am with Holy Communion  10:00 – Sunday School 11:15 No Coffee Hour  Mexican Luncheon after the service	<b>18</b> 9:30am Prayer grp.  7:15 Bells	<b>19</b> 12-1 Pantry Distribution  10 am Staff Meeting 5:00 Genesis 6:30 Council Meeting	<b>20</b> Bible Study 11 am & 7 pm	<b>21</b> 7 pm Prayer Night	<b>22</b> 6-8 pm Youth Group  HomePlate deadline	<b>23</b>	
<b>24 Pentecost</b> Worship Service at 10 am With Holy Communion  (Wear red)	<b>25</b> Church Office closed	<b>26</b> 10 am Staff Meeting  5:30 Praise Band	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Prayer calendar sent out	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>31 Trinity Sunday</b> Youth-led service with Holy Communion							



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

June 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
10:00 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP						
Services are in-person & Live Streamed	<b>1</b> 9:30 Prayer Group 7:15 Bells	<b>2</b> 5:00 Genesis	<b>3</b> Bible Study 11 am & 7 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Home Plate Tiger Game
<b>7</b> Name Tag Sunday Recognition Sunday Worship Service at 10 am 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - No Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour 11:30 - Blood Pressure Ck 11:30 - Worship Meeting	<b>8</b> 9:30 a.m. Prayer group  6:30 Parish Ed. Meeting	<b>9</b> 10-12 Pins & Needles 10:00 Staff Mtg 5:30 Praise Band  6:30 Exec Meeting	<b>10</b>  7 pm Teleconference  Dial 712-832-8700 ID: 919200 #	<b>11</b>  12:00 Grief Share	<b>12</b>  Youth Group  6-8 pm	<b>13</b>  Euchre 2-5pm in the nursery
<b>14</b> Worship Service at 10 am with Holy communion  11:15 No Coffee Hour 11:30 Evangelism Mtg	<b>15</b> VBS-9-11:30  9:30 a.m. Prayer group	<b>16</b> VBS-9-11:30  5:00 Genesis  6:30 Council Meeting	<b>17</b> VBS-9-11:30  NO Bible Study	<b>18</b> VBS-9-11:30	<b>19</b>  Juneteenth	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Father's Day Breakfast  Worship Service at 10:00 am  11:15 No Coffee Hour	<b>22</b>  9:30am Prayer grp.	<b>23</b>  10 am Staff Meeting  5:30 Praise Band	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  7 pm Prayer Night	<b>26</b>  6-8 pm Youth Group	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Worship Service at 10 am with Holy Communion	<b>29</b> 9:30 Prayer Group	<b>30</b>				

# YOUNG AT HEART Age 50 PLUS

## MAY Birthdays & Anniversaries

The Lord bless and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace. (Num.6:24-2)

Debby Roye	5/2
Michele Neubauer	5/3
Kirk Rehn	5/3
Debbie Brown	5/4
Joan Prebee	5/5
Barb Anderson	5/6
Don Burton	5/7
Roger Frezza	5/8
Sharon Brown	5/11
Michael Schleis	5/11
Philipp Rometsch	5/14
Marv Oehmke	5/16
Rob Koschke	5/19
Roy Castle	5/24
Pastor Hunde	5/27

### Happy Anniversary

Dennis & Judy Krueger	5/12	53 years
Dave & JoAnn Parobek	5/28	55 years

## Special Meetings in MAY & JUNE

Worship Meetings – 5/3, 6/7

Parish Ed Meetings – 5/11, 6/8

Evangelism Mtgs. - 5/12, 6/14

Executive Meetings – 5/12, 6/9

Council Meetings 5/19, 6/16

## JUNE Birthdays & Anniversaries

Send a card & share a wish with our young at heart 50+ Seniors of CLC.

Keith VanDeKerkhove	6/1
Linda Smith/ De Andy	6/2
Larry Modrich	6/11
Dennis Krueger	6/25
William Gothro	6/30

### Happy Anniversary

Russ & Sharon Brown	6/22	48 years
Dale & Diane Goodwin	6/29	52 years

## Daily Bread Food Pantry

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Letter carrier **Ms. Laureen Constance**, who has been a member of CLC, successfully led this campaign last year. The church pantry ministry exists because of the non-perishable foods collected by Warren's letter carriers!

General information includes:

**Saturday, May 9, from 12:30 pm – 6:00 pm**  
(The extra busy time, when the demand for help increases, is from 3:45 pm – 6:00 pm)

**Tasks include:** unloading letter carrier vehicles, writing expired dates on non-perishable foods, sorting food on to tables, and placing it into labeled boxes.

We are grateful that the Property Committee sets up tables and chairs in the Fellowship Hall (former Kinderkorn). Markers will be available. We have boxes, but we can always use more.

The next Pantry distribution will take place on **Tuesday, May 19, from noon until 1:00 pm.**

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH NALC/LCMC

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### CHURCH STAFF

**The Rev. Tsegayseus Hurisa Hunde**

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**Kathi Frezza, Business Director**

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**Shannon Huizdos, Office Administrator**

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**Justin Bowse, Music Director**

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### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**Cheryl Gothro, President**

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**Suzanne Sopfe, Secretary**

[Suzanne.sopfe@clcwarren.org](mailto:Suzanne.sopfe@clcwarren.org)

### Church Office Hours

**Mon. – Thurs: 9 am – 2 pm**

**Friday – 9:00 am – noon**

## Letter from the Council President

### HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED !!!

**We are an Easter People!** This is my favorite season of the liturgical calendar. It is the reason and explanation for our beliefs as Christians. I hope you were able to join us through the Lenten season with Wednesday services and fellowship meals offered by your Council members and volunteers. We moved through Holy Week with services reminding us of Jesus' trials, suffering, crucifixion, and finally the Easter service celebrating our risen Lord. It is the culmination of the stories of the Old Testament and the revealing of the New Covenant of God's promise for life everlasting. It was wonderful to see members that have been away and visitors attending the Easter service! How can we not celebrate and share in this glorious time.

**Welcome Spring!** With the weather warming up, it is easier for us to get out and join our services in person, which also allows us a greater opportunity to socialize and get to know our church family better. Spring really is here and reminds us that each year there is continuous renewal of life. We should use this as a reminder to renew our faith in Christ as He is with us through all life's changes and challenges.

Our **upcoming events and activities** include the **Confirmation of Faith** for three youth from our confirmation class during the May 3<sup>rd</sup> service. Please come and show your support as they publicly Proclaim their faith. On May 10<sup>th</sup>, **Mother's Day**, we will honor the mothers and mother figures of CLC with the skit "A Cloud of Witnesses" performed by women. On June 14<sup>th</sup> we will acknowledge all the **Volunteers** of CLC. These volunteers help with the needs and activities of our church home. Please come, be recognized, and help thank them. Also, on June 21<sup>st</sup>, **Fathers' Day**, we will acknowledge the fathers and father figures of our church family.

We are continuing with our **Youth Group** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays from 6-8 pm. Please bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or neighbors for some fun, a meal and Bible story. During this time, our **Young Adults** (16-35yrs) also gather, have a meal, entertainment, pray and share experiences. There is a **Grief Share** program that meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at noon, and a **Telephone Prayer** session on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7pm of each month. **Bible Study** returns to 11am and 7pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month. **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** is scheduled for **June 15 - 18**.

Invite your children, grandchildren, and neighbor's children so that they may join in the fun and stories from the Bible. This year's theme is "Mary, Martha, and the many Faithful Women of the Bible". Please continue to check the calendar in the newsletter or the CLC website for the schedule of events.

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## From the Pastor's Desk

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Down through church history, the sovereign Spirit has moved unseen as the wind, where He wills, to bring revival. It was through His move that the reformation of the church happened. The Reformer Martin Luther was moved by this Spirit and became unstoppable throughout his ministry. The Holy Spirit always starts with His church, purifying God's people, by keeping the fire burning to heat up cold hearts with a renewed passion for knowing God and burning off the poison of the world that had contaminated them. Through them it spreads as the gospel is proclaimed and the Spirit imparts new life in Christ to dead sinners. Through His mighty Holy Spirit, God does mighty things which humans cannot do by themselves. He brings lasting change by regenerating and purifying dead sinners so that He is glorified as people recognize His mighty deeds. Such revival is clearly a sovereign act of God, not the result of any human effort or planning. We should be praying that God would graciously send such a revival on our land. It is my desire to see revival in our church, and I know He is faithful to do it. Let us keep on praying!

God's purpose at **Pentecost** was to equip His church with the mighty power of the Holy Spirit so that we would be His witnesses to all the nations, resulting in His eternal glory. I want you to ask yourself these questions as you think about this purpose.

- A) Is my focus on God's glory in all things?
- B) Is my passion that the nations would glorify God through the gospel?
- C) Is my daily life consciously dependent on the Holy Spirit?
- D) Is my daily desire to bear witness of Christ to those who are lost and perishing?

Let us celebrate **Pentecost** with unity having the above truth in our heart!  
May God bless you richly. Pastor Tsegayesus H. Hunde

## *Letter from the Council President*

(continued from page 6)

Prayers continue for those in need of healing of mind, body, and spirit, as well as those suffering the loss of loved ones. Please call the office if you are in need of prayers, pastoral counseling, a visit, assistance with planning necessary related events, or to place your prayer requests on the blue sheets. Also please contact the church office if you are in need of a ride to church services; we will try to accommodate you. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to contact the church office or Pastor Hunde if considering becoming a member of Christ Lutheran Church. If you know anyone searching for a church home please encourage them to visit and let us know they are joining us so that we might make them feel welcome. We look forward to seeing you in church.

Yours in Christ,  
Cheryl Gothro, Council President

## Evangelism Committee is Seeking Assistance

**Creative Cards:** Betty Stutzky and Judy Krueger were in charge of Creative Cards for many years, using their talents, working together to make homemade cards and mailing them to our homebound members and also to those from our congregation who were ill. We are very thankful to Judy because she is willing to continue making and sending cards in memory of Betty, but she needs to reduce her workload at this time. So the Evangelism Committee is looking for someone who is willing to fill in the gap, by sending cards to those who are ill or who have lost a loved one. If you are looking for what God would like you to do quietly at home beyond the commotion of this crazy world, this just might be it! Take it to the Lord in Prayer if God has given you the heart and time for it. Please contact the office or let someone (Me) know that you are willing. Cards and stamps will be provided through the Evangelism Committee budget. Updated addresses for The Directory may be provided by the office when necessary. Blessings, Lynn Lusk

**A New Ministry is coming:** A box located next to the Sunday sign-in computer/Kiosk will contain cards which can be used for a New Ministry brought to you by the Evangelism Committee. We will be asking CLC members to send "Thinking of You" cards to the homebound; for the cost of a stamp, you can cheer up those who cannot be in the Lord's House with us each Sunday. These cards also may be used for friends listed on the birthday and anniversary pages of the bi-monthly newsletter. CLC members also can HELP by bringing EXTRA cards of this type to the church office OR by donating those FREE cards people receive in the mail from organizations seeking donations.

**Pins & Needles:** Current members produced over 325 lap robes this past year, but need volunteers to purchase and cut material, to tie knots, to organize and store supplies, and to help deliver completed blankets. Thank you to those who designated Pins & Needles for their memorial donations as well. Please contact Carol Bokano if you have any questions or wish to volunteer.

**Prayer Calendars:** Last month, CLC members were informed that LCMC is expanding its Three Days of Prayer event into a monthly year-round call to prayer. From now on, prayer calendars will be emailed at the beginning of each month to all CLC members who have email addresses. The church office will use the US Postal Service to send hard copies to those without email addresses. In August, the Evangelism Committee plans to contact CLC members to see what/how they are using this information.

## Nursery Volunteers are requested by Parish Ed Committee

The Parish Ed Committee is trying to bring back the use of the nursery for families with children ages 3 and under. The purpose is to provide a more inviting experience for members and visitors alike.

We are looking for volunteers willing to staff the nursery during Sunday services. Regulations require 2 unrelated volunteers are needed weekly. Volunteers would be expected to arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of service, to provide supervision and social interaction for the children, to release the children to their parents or identified responsible adult and to clean up the nursery afterwards.

Training will be provided. If you are interested, please reach out to a member of the Parish Ed Committee: Brittani Baloga, Denise Baloga, Gail Dietz, Melissa Bruesehoff, Evelyn Hudson-Wright or Michele Neubauer.

## Three CLC Confirmands Affirm Their Faith



*Our 2026 confirmands include Reuben Hurisa, Amelia Koschke, and Reuel Hurisa.*

Come, Worship, and Rejoice! On Sunday, May 3, three confirmands will affirm their faith in front of the congregation.

They have been studying Luther's Small Catechism booklet for the past four years under the guidance of Melissa Bruesehoff, their instructor. The booklet includes profound understanding of the Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed (and other creeds), the Lord's Prayer, Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, plus the Confession and Office of the Keys. They also heavily focused on Bible stories and the life of Jesus, encouraging them to comprehend how important He is in everyday life. In addition, Pastor Hunde recently conducted two interviews with them.

They also participated in a variety of outreach activities, such as filling boxes for the Food Pantry distribution, marking dates on non-perishable items from Stamp Out Hunger, and assembling bags for national disaster relief.

Additional commitments included the Stripping of the Altar on Maundy Thursday. The students also had key roles in fifth Sunday services, as well as biblical skits and scripture readings. Some have played hand bells, while others have joined church bands and assisted with the screen team. The Youth Group has offered fellowship activities and faith-sharing opportunities on Friday evenings too.

May they grow in faith as they are invited to carry God's love and grace on their lifetime journey. Let us all join in, congratulating the newly-confirmed members and supporting them as they continue to grow and share faith in the church and surrounding communities.

