

# Christ Connection

LINKS to ZOOM Worship

Empowered by God's love and following in the ways of Jesus Christ, we Live, Grow and Share as disciples of Christ.

For the Week Beginning February 14, 2021 Transfiguration Sunday

## THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Lent begins this week. This season of the church year invites us into a repentance that leads to new life, mirroring the journey toward the cross and Easter. This journey begins with ashes in the sign of the cross on our foreheads. The ashes remind us of mortality and death, while the symbol of the cross on our forehead re-

minds us of that same symbol sealing us with the Holy Spirit in baptism. For Christians, death is always tied to new life, and new life is always tied to death. The promise of the resurrection is sure. Yet resurrection always requires death first. In baptism, we die to our old self and then are raised to new life in Christ.

As a community, we join this journey of new life at many different places. This year at CLC, our Lenten theme is *Give, Pray, Fast: A Lenten journey of renewing our baptismal commitment to follow in the way of the cross.*

My invitation to you is to participate in the journey in the way that is most meaningful to you. You may want to follow the "Give, Pray, Fast" journey board that has one simple action for each day of Lent. You may wish to read the daily devotion (or go online and listen to it!) You may wish to participate in Weekly Worship At Home. You may wish to engage in the 40 Days of Giving. I encourage you to try something you know that you'll like, and also to try something new or different.

**All of these activities are available in print in the Lent-in-a-bag kits. If you're interested in one, there's still time to sign up and get one - just contact the church office, or navigate to the website to let us know you're interested!** All of these will also be sent electronically. If you don't want the whole kit, but just want one or more of these resources, we can also mail or drop them off to you. Again, please just let us know.

The invitation to Lent spoken on Ash Wednesday reminds us that "we are created for communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation." Through these opportunities, our community connection will become deeper and stronger, even while we long to gather in person. As we journey into this next year as church together, we grieve that we cannot gather in person. We learn to let go of the way things used to be. And then we look forward to where God is inviting us next. We don't go too quickly. First, we sit with the ashes. First, we sit with the grief. Then we move, together, shedding the ashes with our old ways, as we are raised again into new life through Christ. We may not all be in the same place on the road. The road may have switchbacks and narrow places. That's all OK. Still, in this season, let's be on the journey together.

*Pastor Erin*

### Sunday Worship

9:00 am and noon on ZOOM  
[www.yourchrist.org](http://www.yourchrist.org)

### Ash Wednesday Feb. 17

#### Drive-Through Ashes

1-2pm

6-7pm

CLC Parking Lot

### Christ Lutheran Staff

Rev. Erin Clausen, Pastor

Rachel Krohn, Pastoral Assistant

Jon Ball, Dir. Contemporary Music

Bonnie Bucholz, Dir. Traditional Music

Jo Chiko, Handbell Choir Director

Dan Cramer, Director of Social Media Marketing

Kristina Dickens  
Children & Family Ministries Director

### Contact Information

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 Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills

 @CLCClarndnHills

 [clc.clarendon.hills](https://www.instagram.com/clc.clarendon.hills)

Follow us on Social Media!



### Youth & Family Ministry Lent Bags

Deliveries for the Children's Lent Bags and the Family Lent Bags will be delivered early this week on Monday to all Youth & Family Ministry families. The leaflets for the next Spring quarter for Sunday School will also be in the Children's Lent Bags. Please watch your emails for more details on the Lent Bags.



### Deadline Extended!

Youth & Family Ministry is implementing a Pen Pal Program for those young at heart. The Youth & Family Ministry is beginning an interactive intergenerational program involving virtual conversations and shared experiences between seniors and youth, in the form of a "pen-pal" exchange. Especially now, our seniors and youth need more care and attention due to the extent of COVID-driven isolation. These pen pal connections are made across generations, to share unique experiences and combat loneliness. The bigger goal for this program is to unite a congregation member with a youth ministry member to live, grow, and share in our ministry of God. Please register by Monday, February 15th, 2021 by replying to the email from Ms. Kristina.



The Christ Craft Corner will be on Wednesday, February 24th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Please watch your emails for more details on zoom information.



# **ASH WEDNESDAY** BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17th**

The Season of Lent, our forty day journey to the cross alongside Jesus, is practically here. Although it will look and feel a little different this year, Pastor Erin and the Worship Team have been working to come up with ways we can still experience it.

**Ash Wednesday Worship on Zoom at 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.**

**Contact free drive-through Ashes from 1-2 p.m. (Pastor Erin)  
and 6-7 p.m. (Deacon Steven) in the CLC parking lot**



**Sign Up for  
Lent in a Bag**

Although we will not be doing mid-week worship services this year, we are preparing “Lent in a Bag” for anyone who would like to participate. Each Lent Bag contains a printed worship aid and all the items for families or individuals to set aside a special time each week to worship at home. Additionally, we have provided a printed Lenten Devotional as well as a “Chutes and Ladders” style reminder to hang somewhere at home that will keep the season of Lent on your mind.

So that we know how many to prepare, we are asking you to sign up on the church website at [www.yourchrist.org](http://www.yourchrist.org) or call or e-mail the church office to let us know to make one for you. The printed items will also be emailed so that you can take advantage of the links to the music files.

**Pick-Up Times:**

Saturday, February 13th from noon to 1 p.m.

Monday, February 15th from 9-10 a.m.

Or, during drive-through ashes.

**Arrangements can be made for bags to be dropped off to those who cannot make pick-up.**



Thank you to all of the brave souls who stood outside the Clarendon Hills Jewel this past Saturday and collected non-perishables for HCS Family Services' Food Pantry.

Despite the store's rules around COVID that cut our day short, we still collected a whopping

**1,495 pounds of food and  
\$1,871.77 in donations!!!**

*Since the pantry has partnered with a food broker in Minnesota, each dollar donated gets multiplied by 8, so that is*

**\$14,974.16 in purchasing  
power for HCS!!**

Click on the link below where you can view a video taken last Saturday; love in action!

[https://www.yourchrist.org/uploads/b/108518201-707804293121011283/trim.5029e8d8-1e3d-4231-a52b-a8173a30fb63\\_724.mp4](https://www.yourchrist.org/uploads/b/108518201-707804293121011283/trim.5029e8d8-1e3d-4231-a52b-a8173a30fb63_724.mp4)

**CHRISTIAN  
impact**

**LENT: 40 Days of Giving**

As we head into the Season of Lent next Wednesday, the Christian IMPACT Team would like to introduce this year's Lenten project for families to do at home which will benefit the **People's Resource Center in Westmont**. All of PRC's services which include a food pantry, clothing closet, job coaching and training and emergency financial assistance, are available for free to DuPage County residents.

This year, during the 40 days of Lent, we are asking each family to set aside an item each day that can be donated to PRC. We will focus primarily on items that people who are receiving assistance through the SNAP program cannot access such as **pet foods, soaps, paper products, medicines and vitamins, household supplies, grooming items, and cosmetics**.

This product drive will go from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday, when we will make arrangements for you to drop your boxes or bags of items at the church where they will be blessed before being dropped off at People's Resource Center. Financial donations are also welcome, and the website is equipped to handle your online donations.

Due to the pandemic, our food pantries are seeing a greater need than ever before and this is one simple way we can leave a Christ-Like footprint in the world.



# THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

*Connecting faith & finances for good.™*

Attention Thrivent Members: The deadline to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars to a non-profit is March 31st. For those who would like to direct them to Christ Lutheran Church, please let us know if you would like them to support a specific ministry or should simply be given to the General Fund. This can be easily accomplished with a simple email or call to the church office.



## CAST YOUR VOTE

Sunday, February 14th at noon is the deadline for all ballots to be cast from last Sunday's Congregational Meeting. Ballots may not be cast prior to the annual meeting, so if you voted ahead of time, those ballots will not count. If you need a new ballot, please contact the church office at 630-325-2220 and you may pick up a new ballot. Only members who attended the annual meeting are able to cast a vote.

The results of the vote will be shared in next week's Christ Connection.



One of the things we miss by not being able to be in the church building is the ability to view the approved minutes from our monthly church council meetings which are usually posted outside of the office.

Anyone in the congregation is welcome to ask for a copy to be emailed to them by simply contacting the church office. Minutes can only be sent out after they are approved by the Council, so this would mean that at the February, 2021 meeting, the January minutes will be approved and available to be circulated to those who are interested.



*The following letter was received via e-mail from Ms. Ayesha Truman, Student Support Coordinator at Hinsdale South High school this past week:*

Today is a day that I am truly grateful for you and your church. I had a few gift cards left over and I was able to share them with a family that just lost everything. I can't go into specifics, but it truly felt good to help a family of 4, (single mom with 3 kids) get their basic needs. Today is a day that I feel extremely grateful for the good, bad, and the ugly because it could be worse.

Warm regards,

*Ayesha Truman, M.A.,Ed.*

Student Support Coordinator