

# Christ Connection

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 23, 2020—Transfiguration Sunday

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Transfiguration Sunday provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the ways things transform in the world and in our lives. It also provides the opportunity for us to consider what yet needs to transform.

This is the last Sunday before Lent begins, marking the end of a season of revelation - the revelation of who Jesus was and is.

[This Sunday](#), we reflect on Jesus' transfiguration. He was transformed so that we would fully recognize God through Jesus. In what ways might we be transformed so that others might fully recognize God through us? The answer to this question might inform what Lenten practices we choose this year.

For some of us, the transformation that might reveal God more fully requires spiritual work. Perhaps we can't say why we are Christians and attend church. Perhaps we have discovered that we don't really believe in the power of prayer or the presence of God in the world. Perhaps we are fed up with church, and we don't know why or how God would show up there.

For some of us, the transformation that might reveal God more fully requires emotional work. Perhaps we get angry and hurt people instead of showing love and mercy. Perhaps we are mired in self doubt and cannot notice God's presence within us. Perhaps we feel overwhelmed by the pain in the world and become paralyzed or apathetic, unable to work for transformation.

For some of us, the transformation that might reveal God more fully requires physical work. Perhaps we have forgotten that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps we neglect healthful choices or choose harmful ones. Perhaps we forget to enjoy the sustenance and nutrition that God provides for us. Perhaps we have learned to hate the bodies God has given us, instead of learning to celebrate that even our bodies were called good by God.

For some of us, the transformation that might reveal God more fully requires us to engage with the wider community. Perhaps we have neglected our siblings in Christ. Perhaps we need to confront the prejudices that live within each of us - racism, sexism, transphobia, xenophobia, fat phobia - and on and on. Rather than experiencing shame at recognizing these prejudices, we might notice how God can heal us and through us heal our siblings that are hurt by these prejudices. Perhaps we can commit to feeding hungry people, or providing support for a single parent.

Today, I invite you to pray and listen deeply and carefully to what in you might need to be transformed so that God might be more fully realized through you. I invite you to commit to a Lenten practice that invites God into these deeply vulnerable places. This is difficult work. But it is also good work. It is the work of following Jesus - being transformed and allowing God to be revealed through us. May we invite God to be revealed to us and in us each day.

## Sunday Worship

8:30 Contemporary

10:15 Traditional

## Sunday Faith Formation

### Bible Study

7:30AM—Fireside Room

## Christ Lutheran Staff

Rev. Erin Clausen, Pastor

Rachel Krohn, Pastoral Assistant

Jon Ball, Dir. Contemporary Worship

Bonnie Bucholz, Traditional Music Director

Jo Chiko, Handbell Choir Director

Rev. Craig Felde, Local Missionary

Kristina Dickens  
Children & Family Ministries Director

Nancy Woodruff,  
Dir. of Communications

Mara Leonard—Organist

## Contact Information

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Christ Lutheran Church of  
Clarendon Hills



@ChristClarendon



**New Worship time starts next Sunday. We will have one weekly worship service at 9:00 a.m.**

## CALLING ALL BAKERS ...



Since 2016 Lori Ball has been coordinating the FAST (Fellowship After Service Treats) ministry; this is the wonderful people who provide our snacks for Fellowship. Lori has told us that it's time for her to pass this ministry on to someone else. We thank her for her faithful service to all of us. Lori has the treats planned through the end of March. We will be providing sign-up sheets for those who would like to either continue providing treats or join this ministry. *Remember, that with one service this will be less of a commitment if you are on a rotation.* At the same time we will be looking for a new leader. Please use your Connection Card to indicate your interest in either coordinating or baking.

**Thank you again Lori and to all our bakers for your faithfulness to this ministry.** It has been a sweet blessing to us all that we hope to continue!

## 2020 Council

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Maggie Swiess  
**Vice President:** Katherine Burson  
**Vice President:** Al Kondraschow  
**Treasurer:** Matt Ramirez  
**Secretary:** Glen Orton

### CHURCH COUNCIL

**Administration:** Bill Lyon  
Jeannette Tamayo  
**Spiritual Growth:** Debra Joslin  
Rob Sorensen  
Joe Svoboda  
**Facilities:** Jane McDonald  
*Al Kondraschow\**  
**Mission/Outreach:** Pastor Glenn Bergmark  
*Al Kondraschow\**  
*Katherine Burson\**

\*Italicized names are EC members who have agreed to serve as liaisons on quadrants.



**Sunday, February 23**

Bible Study 7:30AM—Fireside Room  
**Contemporary Worship 8:30AM**  
Sunday School 8:45AM—Growing Grove  
Middle School Ministries 9:30AM—Youth Room  
**Traditional Worship 10:15AM**  
Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser 11:30AM—Fellowship  
Pub Church 12:30PM—Fremont Bar & Grill

**Monday, February 24**

PADS 5PM—First Congregational DG

**Tuesday, February 25**

Dartball 7:00PM—Burbank  
Handbell Practice 7:30PM—Choir Loft

**Wednesday, February 26**

Ash Wednesday Service 12:00PM—Fireside Room  
*Scout Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall*  
Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM—Sanctuary  
Choir Practice 8:30PM—Sanctuary

**Thursday, February 27**

*Scout Pack Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall*  
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

**Friday, February 28**

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall

**Saturday, February 29**

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room

**Sunday, March 1**

Bible Study 8:00AM—Fireside Room  
**Traditional Worship 9:00AM—Sanctuary**  
Sunday School 9:00—Growing Grove  
Middle School Ministries 10:00AM—Youth Room  
Rummage Sale Planning Meeting 10:30AM—TBA  
Bowling 5:00PM—Suburbanite

**Monday, March 2**

ROMEOS 8:00AM—Blueberry Hill  
Worship Team Meeting 7PM—Fireside Room

**Tuesday, March 3**

Dartball 7:00PM—Home  
Handbell Practice 7:30PM—Choir Loft

**Wednesday, March 4**

Worship Band Practice 6:00PM—Sanctuary  
*Scout Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall*

**Thursday, March 5**

*Scout Pack Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall*  
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

**Friday, March 6**

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall  
Knitting Ministry 10:00AM—Study Lounge

**Saturday, March 7**

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room

The nursery is open and staffed with volunteers during the Contemporary Worship Service, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. The nursery is always open for parents whose little ones may need a break. All children must be supervised by an adult for safety reasons if they need to take a break in the nursery. ***Beginning Sunday, March 1st, the Nursery will be open and staffed with volunteers from 9-10am.***

**Nursery Volunteers are needed!** Please consider volunteering in the Nursery. Whether you can volunteer once a month, once a quarter or in the summer, please sign up on your Connection Card. If you have questions about volunteering in the Nursery, please ask Ms. Kristina. Beginning Sunday, March 1st Sunday School has a new time slot. Please drop your children off in the Growing Grove before service begins.



Sunday School will run from 9-10:20am. All children will be brought to the Sanctuary for Communion (or a blessing) as a whole group. They will return to Sunday School after communion as a group. On the 2nd Sunday of the month, the children will stay a bit longer in worship to sing, and then will return to Sunday School.



All are welcome this Sunday for the Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser hosted by our youth. Lunch will be served from 11:30am-12:30pm and the cost is only \$5.00 for a lunch of spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, dessert and a drink. If you haven't purchased your ticket, you may pay at the door.



There will be a Church Rummage Sale Planning Meeting next Sunday, March 1st at 10:30am. If you are unable to attend and interested, please email Steven Dickens at [sdickens2015@gmail.com](mailto:sdickens2015@gmail.com). The rummage sale is set for Saturday, April 4th, 2020.

## NEW COUNCIL MEMBER BIOS



I'm **Maggie Swiss**. My husband John and I reside in Indian Head Park. We have two grown children, Neil, a police officer in East Point Georgia and Sarah, a graphic designer/artist. Our two French Bulldogs, Frankie and Peaches keep us well grounded to the simple joys in life. As a member of CLC, I've served our congregation in a variety of ministries and positions. John and I were instrumental in obtaining the financing through the Mission Investment Fund for our roof and parking lot project. I am an avid Christian music lover and am a part of our Contemporary Worship band. It has been my privilege to serve as your treasurer from 2013 to 2017. I have served as a member of the transition team, the call committee, the stewardship team, endowment team, finance team and most recently held the office of Vice-President

and Co-President. As a participant in our Food for Thought ministry, I found a venue that offered deep and lasting relationships with many of the women of CLC as we explore our faith and roles as Christian women. As a Council member and Officer, it is my vision for our church to create a culture of respect and relevance, where we can all commit to be the hands and feet of Christ to each other and the community. I desire to create a place where we honor each other and leave our differences behind. It is now time for us all to move forward with Pastor Erin and shape the future of CLC.



Did you know where the ashes for Ash Wednesday come from? They are the ashes from the previous Palm Sunday. Last year we saved our palms so that we can burn them to ash to use for our own Ash Wednesday service to remind us that we are dust and to dust we shall return. **Gather in the Fireside Room this Sunday at 9:45 to take part in this sacred ritual.**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday which will be February 26th. We will offer services with the imposition of ashes at 12:00 noon in the Fireside Room and at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. During the season of Lent, we will not be doing Wednesday services. Instead we will gather on Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m. to participate in a five-week study led by Pastor Erin entitled "Be Not Afraid: People on the Move." This bible study begins with discussion on immigration and refugee issues, and will conclude with conversations about the ELCA's social message on immigration and the ELCA's 2019 adoption of a resolution about sanctuary. Although structured, this is a "come when you can, leave when you must" group. Please use your Connection Card to indicate your interest .

