

The Connection

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Christ Lutheran Church, Bethesda

February
2007

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ and to transform all people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to

Welcome people to faith;

Equip people with a faith that works in real life;

Send people into *service* into a hostile and hurting world in Jesus' name.

GREAT COMMANDMENT

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.... Love your neighbor as yourself" (*Matthew 22:37-39*)

GREAT COMMISSION

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (*Matthew 28:19*)

GROW IN CHRIST

Money Matters—In God We Trust

Stewardship 2007

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

1 And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. 2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. 5 And they went beyond our expectations; having given themselves first of all to the Lord, they gave themselves by the will of God also to us.

Faithfulness is more than belief in Jesus. It is a response to the grace that God has given us. Faithfulness is placing **trust** in what God has done for us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Everything we need is found in the person of Jesus Christ. Our problem is that we have a tendency to place more importance on a possession than on a

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IN AND AROUND CELC

WELCOME TO CELC!

New to Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church? Want to know more about our faith community? Please email the church at clc@heartmindsoul.com to begin receiving our weekly e-newsletter.



SUNDAY MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELC shares Sunday morning announcements on the projector screen before worship. Please email normal ministry announcements in PowerPoint to Pastor Marv at marv@heartmindsoul.com by 5 pm on the Wednesday before the “announcement” should be made. Two slides maximum. We will publish them “as is” so please proof-read before you send. (If you don’t know how to use PowerPoint, contact one of the staff and we will teach you.)



We encourage the congregation to share public witnesses (stories) of how God is at work in our lives. This encourages and lifts up other Christians and helps plant seeds for non-Christians. To share a story, please speak to Pastor Marv.

Other opportunities to publicize ministries/events include the weekly e-newsletter (email Pastor Marv at marv@heartmindsoul.com) and the Sunday bulletin (email Laura North at laura@heartmindsoul.com). We also encourage you to come to worship early to greet and talk with people about your ministry/event.

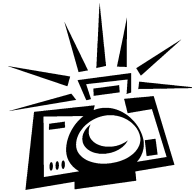
HOLY COMMUNION INFORMATION

The sacrament of Holy Communion is offered at both worship services, every Sunday morning. We offer traditional wine and grape juice. This is to honor our children and those adults who would like a grape juice alternative. Two crystal chalices are used; the grape juice will appear dark red and the communion wine will appear white. If you would like more information about communion, please contact Pastor Marv.



PERMISSION FORMS AND PHOTO RELEASES

All children and teens who participate in family ministry activities at CELC are required to have up-to-date health and permission forms on file at the church. As well, CELC requests that all adults sign the photo release form so that we know whether we have your permission to use photos of you and your family in CELC publications, including the web site. This will help us make sure our publications accurately reflect our community and the ministries of CELC. We thank you in advance for your help. For copies of these forms, please contact Laura North (301-652-5160 or laura@heartmindsoul.com).



GREET AND TREAT MINISTRY

Thank you to all who serve in our greet and treat ministry, which provides goodies and smiling faces to greet worshippers each Sunday morning! To sign up, speak to Lisa Bente or email her at carpedm28@juno.com.



30-Hour Famine



Every day, over 29,000 children die from preventable diseases (such as malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea, and acute respiratory infections), totaling 10.6 million children per year. (*UNICEF State of the World's Children 2005*)

300 million children around the world suffer from hunger. (*UNICEF 2005*)

In developing countries, one child in 10 dies before his or her fifth birthday. By comparison, in the U.S. one child in 165 will die before turning five years old. (*Bread for the World Hunger Basics 2004*)

Children who are moderately underweight are more than four times more likely to die from infectious diseases than are well-nourished children. (*UNDP Human Development Report 2005*)

More than 852 million people in the world are malnourished – 815 million of them are in developing countries. (*FAO State of Food Insecurity in the World 2004*)

How can we help?



Youth from CELC and their friends will be participating in World Vision's 30-Hour Famine on March 17-18. The 30-Hour Famine raises awareness and money to fight hunger overseas and in the United States.

During the 30 hours the youth go without food (consuming only liquids) and learn about world hunger and poverty. They will also participate in our monthly ministry at Martha's Table, serving food to the homeless in Washington, DC. As part of this ministry, they will be making 200 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches while fasting to take down to Martha's Table that night.

Here's how you can help!!

1. Pray. Pray for the youth participating in the famine and their leaders, that their hearts and minds are touched by the weekend's experience. Pray for the children around the world who go hungry every day, not just for 30 hours.
2. Help with the sandwich ministry. Donate peanut butter, jelly, or whole wheat and white bread. Come to CELC Saturday morning at 10:00 am to help make the sandwiches.
3. Contribute to the 30-Hour Famine by sponsoring our youth.
4. Worship on Sunday, March 18 and hear about the experiences of our youth!
5. Pray.

Look for more information in the Sunday worship bulletins and on our website (www.heartmindsoul.com)

Jill North is the coordinator. Please contact her at jillpop123@yahoo.com for more information.

Just Walk Across the Room



“Just Walk Across the Room” with
“your neighbor”
to view a meaningful ministry
of “loving your neighbor”

Sunday, February 11
10:45-11:15 am
in the Sanctuary

Some comments from those who
have watched the “Just Walk Across
the Room” series:

*“You can never be sure who just
might be receptive to opening up and
you should not assume that the door
is firmly closed. Matthew Sleeth
opened the door to many of us at
CELC by listening and then reaching
us with a common message of con-
cern, love and hope for God’s crea-
tion. That has personally led me to
open up and then reach out to others,
when in the past that would not have
been in my comfort zone.”—Barry
Lemley*

“I wish I could have heard about
evangelism like “**Just Walk Across
the Room**” years ago. This puts
“loving your neighbor” into every
day, real living.” —Sanna Solem

Fair Trade Coffee

Our new coffee ministry has begun! The Fair
Trade coffee is here!

Fair Trade provides the means for small farmers
to make enough money to support themselves
while using the premiums to improve their stan-
dard of living.

The first shipment includes

- pillow packets (pre-ground) of Regular
(Mind Body Soul) and Decaf (Columbian).
Each pillow packet makes one pot (about 64
oz) of coffee. They are available for \$2 each.
- whole bean Regular Mind Body Soul and
Regular Breakfast Blend (\$7 for 12-oz pkg).



This ministry will grow as the response from the congregation grows! To
learn more about this coffee, visit www.equalexchange.com Any pro-
ceeds from the coffee will be given to support the ministry of Mi Refugio,
the Christian school for impoverished children in Guatemala.

Please contact Lisa Bente (carpedm28@juno.com) to purchase your cof-
fee. Thanks, Lisa, for organizing this new ministry!

GIFTS OF HOPE

Thank you to the Christ Lutheran congregation for adopting “Gifts of
Hope” as part of your Christmas giving. The Spirit of Christ shines
through these gifts that you gave to family and friends.

Thank you again. Mary Jane Saylor

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, March 11, 2007
10:30 am
(between worship services)

Town Hall Information Sessions

Sunday, February 25, 12:30 pm
Saturday, March 3, 10:30 am

Creation Care Series Launched

Psalm 24:1—The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.

In December, CELC Council took action on some of blessings from the November Mar-Lu-Ridge retreat with Dr. Matthew Sleeth and approved a motion to commit us to sustainable environmental principles summarized as follows:

“The leaders and members of CELC are personally committed to protecting God's creation...CELC recognizes the spiritual and moral responsibility and importance to be a good steward of His land and blessings....”



To put those principles into action a Creation Care Steering Committee (CCSC) was formed to reach out to the congregation and the community to share concerns about the protection of His creation. Included in that outreach was an initial December energy saving light bulb campaign in cooperation with Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light (GWIPL) and Thrivent that highlighted the theme “you can make a difference—one light bulb at a time.”

Further discussion within CCSC developed the concept for a monthly open-to-the-public forum co-hosted by CELC and GWIPL to discuss environmental issues and solutions. The kick-off forum was held on January 18 and featured a discussion by four environmentalists from different religious backgrounds on *Why Do People of Faith Care About the Environment?* The audience included members of the congregation, their friends and families as well as other congregation leaders, press plus citizen, government and industry environmental representatives.

The panel discussion and audience participation was taped and is expected to appear on at least two PBS documentaries.

As long-time CELC members Ray and Ruth Albright said, “It was impressive to see a small church helping to broadcast the critical stewardship message to help the environment as well as spiritual welfare of the community.”

Monthly forum dates are set for the fourth Thursday of each month at CELC at 7:00 pm. The topic for the February 22 forum will be *The ABCs of Global Warming: What It Is, Why It Is, What Changes Can We Expect in the Coming Decades*. In addition, a special showing and discussion of Al Gore's film “An Inconvenient Truth” will be shown at CELC on Sunday, February 18 at 1:00 pm.

For more information on how you can get involved, please contact Creation Care Steering Committee members Larry Goolsby, Lalanath De Silva, Florence Heacock, Pam Vodicka, Sanna Solem or Barry Lemley or www.heartmindsoul.com/creation or (301) 652-5160 ext 8.



...“the good person leaves an inheritance to one's children's children.” —Proverbs 13:22

Children and Family Ministry



Proverbs 22:6

*Direct your children onto the right path,
and when they are older,
they will not leave it.*

Happy February!

As I was browsing through the new issue of Children's Ministry Magazine, I came across the article entitled "Communicate Love." I would also like to share two other ways. My daughters' first grade teacher (at a Lutheran elementary school) greeted the children each day as they walked into her classroom as she looked into each child's eyes and said, "God's blessings on your day!" This made such an impact on us that I still say that each day to my high school daughter as we hug good-bye, and I email it every night to my college-aged daughter so that she sees it first thing every morning.

Also, please read "I Love You, Jesus Loves You" (the insert), testimony that Florence Heacock, our small groups minister, shared one Sunday in worship. It's yet another way to remind our families of our love for them!

Blessings, Laura North

Pathfinders

Pathfinders is our Sunday morning adventure for children, ages 3-11. We meet upstairs in the education wing every Sunday, 11:00 am –Noon. Laurie Heinecke is the teacher, and she is assisted by Jill North. The children learn Bible verses, relate them to a Bible story, play games, and relate the scripture and story to their lives. The children receive pages to take home every week so that they can share what they learn with their families. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie (lbheinecke@aol.com) or Laura North, minister of children and families (laura@heartmindsoul.com).

Communicate Love

Parenthood can become so busy that it's easy to neglect communicating to your children how much they're loved. So use these quick tips to express your love to your children daily.

Words say it. Before they board the school bus, while they're playing a video game, or during homework time, say those three powerful little words: "I love you."

Show them with affection. A gentle touch or a big hug can silently express love to your child. Let your child sit on your lap, gently rub his or her back while watching TV, or grab your child's hand in the car.

See them. Watch your children often—as they play, work, or go to sleep. Your admiring eyes express love.

Give them limits. Sometimes love is best expressed by giving your children guidelines and limits. Boundaries tell your children you care, even if they argue against the rules.

Cheer them on. Notice the great things your children do and accomplish. Show interest in their activities and support them as they pursue their talents.

(From Children's Ministry Magazine, January/February 2007)

Martha's Table

provides a great opportunity for families to serve together.

Help others who would otherwise go hungry.

See page 13 for more information.

I Love You, Jesus Loves You

I love you, Jesus loves you, too!

by Florence D. Heacock

Luke 18:15-16 (NLT) Jesus Blesses the Children—*One day some parents brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them, but the disciples told them not to bother him. Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children.”*

When my daughter was born in 1970 and when each of my four grandchildren were born, beginning in 1990, I knew and wanted them to know that the Kingdom of God belongs to them and all children — little people and big people. I wanted them to always know how much I love them and how much Jesus loves them.

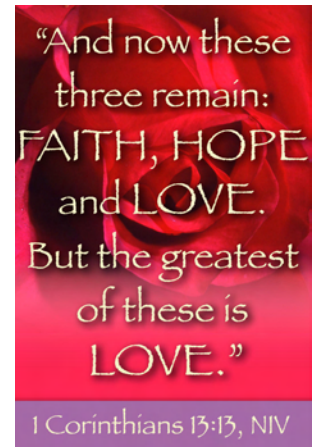


Even before the grandchildren were old enough to talk, my last words to each grandchild were always, "I love you, Jesus loves you." If their mother or father had put the telephone on their ear to hear me, I knew they heard the words. If I was with them, I would say "I love you, Jesus loves you," and we had big hugs and kisses!

As soon as the grandchildren could talk (they're now 16, 15, 10 and 8), our telephone conversations and our visits have ended (whether they are going out the door to school, to their friends, or when I leave to return to Washington) with my saying, "I love you, Jesus loves you." And always, their response is "I love you, Jesus loves you, too" or "I love you, Jesus loves you."

In the community my grandchildren live, through the years, and today, when I call their local florist or store to have something delivered to my daughter, son-in-law, or grandchildren, on the card I have the florist, or merchant, to write my brief message and sign the card with "Jesus Loves You, love and hugs, Grandma Flo".

I believe it is so important for every person in my family to know that Jesus loves him or her at any time, any circumstance in life, that He is their friend, and He is with them always. I want my grandchildren, daughter, and son-in-law to know I



love them with all my heart, mind, and soul, but that God and Jesus loves them totally, and He will be with them each and every day — forever.

Through God, this is one small token of Jesus' love I can give to my loved ones, and especially my grandchildren. Jesus Loves you and I, big or little people, we are all His children. We tell our loved ones how much we love them, but how often do you tell your loved ones, gently and humbly, "Jesus Loves You". When I am no longer physically with my loved ones, His people, I want them to know that "JESUS LOVES YOU" —this is an inheritance of love.

I would "plant the seed" for anyone to read I Corinthians 13, which talks about "LOVE being the greatest". Verse 13:13 reads: "*There are three things that will endure—faith, hope, and LOVE—and the greatest of these is LOVE.*"

GGT Update

The December Connection reported on series of actions with which the Council and the GGT Steering Committee have been engaged in the 4Q06.

While all dates are subject to change based on outside decisions including county zoning, all CELC planning is geared and on schedule for the start of construction in the next 12-16 months. The Connection and other vehicles will be used to keep all CELC members current on this exciting and challenging project.

As always Congregation questions, comments and involvement are most appreciated. A full GGT update and discussion will be presented at the meetings leading up to the March 11 Annual Congregational Meeting.

Major GGT Actions Taken—December and January

A Local Map Amendment (LMA) was filed on 11/21/06 with Montgomery County Park and Planning (MCP) for zoning approval of our specific plans for our site within Woodmont area rezoning already approved by the County. MCP response is expected at the hearing scheduled for 6/1/07.

Escalated action with MTF, Bozzuto and others about **transition relocation plans** for worship and other church operations during planned construction schedule (approximately 18-24 months).

Designed a tactical **move plan** to manage the move, storage, sale, donation or destruction of CELC furniture, equipment and material.

Closed out 2006 GGT budget and all major **GGT expenses are now fully separated** from CELC and MEF operations.

On December 12, 2006 Council approved the following “green” motion:

The leaders and members of CELC are personally committed to protecting God’s creation and therefore are sharing the following motion;

Whereas, CELC recognizes the spiritual and moral responsibility and importance to be a good steward of His land and blessings;

Therefore we are committed to design our redevelopment project in a way that will support the implementation of practical environmental principles and exhibit those reasonable behaviors that support the thoughtful use of energy and recycled material, as our moral commitment and fiscal practicalities dictate.

GGT SC developed a two-page **Statement of Mission and Architectural Vision** to share with planning and zoning officials, local neighborhood groups and “green” planning associates and others interested in the CELC development program. Available in narthex.

Met with related professionals to plan **fiscally responsible environmentally friendly green space** in the new development.

Meetings were held with **related stakeholders** and community on the overall project.

GGT Steering Committee (SC) has kept **Council informed** of all progress and upcoming decisions with the development program.

Additional detail information on the GGT development project is available from Council and GGT SC members. Please submit any questions on the project to CELC’s Owner’s Rep (OR) Barry Lemley at barry_celcor@msn.com or through the church office, and we will add update the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and make those available to all.

Submitted by the GGT SC Team: Ray Albright, Jeff Leach, Pastor Marv, Don Cumming, Andy Masetti, Mark Miller, Steve Peth, Alan Motameni, Barry Lemley

Small Group Ministries

“They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers ... And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common” (Acts 2:42, 44)

You are warmly invited to participate in these spiritual, faith-based opportunities. It’s clear that God blesses us when we meet together, fellowship together, study together—share life together. Unless another contact is listed, please contact Florence Heacock, small group minister (301-452-2491; flohea@heartmindsoul.com), or Sanna Solem of the small groups administrative team (301-571-0050) for more information. Also, if you are interested in leading a small group or are interested in a small group not listed, please contact Florence Heacock or Sanna Solem.

Small Group Leaders Forum—Evangelism—*Just Walk Across the Room*: Saturdays, 8:00-9:30 am, The Upper Room: *January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 19, and June 9*



Challenging Lifestyles—*Just Walk Across the Room*—First session begins at 10:15 am and second session begins at 11 am on Sundays in the Upper Room. Contact Larry Goolsby (301-946-6479 or lgoolsby@aphsa.org).

Questions of Life is a course on Christianity for new, returning, and mature believers, with prayer, a DVD/book presentation, discussion, fellowship and a meal. It meets at 10:45 in the Hospitality room. Contact Steve Peth (301-564-1232 or sptopeka@earthlink.net).

Celebrate Recovery for Women is a 12-step, Christian recovery ministry based on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5) that uses eight principles as well as fellowship and God’s healing powers to help heal hurts and overcome personal defects and replace them with life’s abundance. *Sundays, 7:00-8:30 pm, Prayer Room II*. Contact Florence Heacock (301-452-2491 or flohea@heartmindsoul.com).

Couples Home Group meets for in-depth Bible study, spiritual growth, fellowship, love, support, and prayer. *Place and time TBA*. Contact Laura North (laura@heartmindsoul or 301-652-5160).

Coed Home Group offers Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. *Place and time TBA*. Contact Florence Heacock (flohea@heartmindsoul.com or 301-452-2491) or Sanna Solem (301-571-0050).

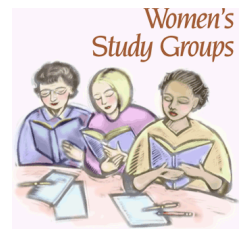
Men’s Master Builders meets for in-depth Bible study with a focus on men’s issues at 9:00 am on the first and third Saturdays in the Hospitality Room. Contact Steve Peth (sptopeka@earthlink.net or 301-564-1232) or Tim Bradley (301-977-0906 or tbradley4001@yahoo.com).

The Reader’s Circle meets for faith-based book study and reflection. *Place and time TBA*. Contact Pam Vodicka (301-215-9141 or

Martha Circle, a Bible study based on material provided by the Women of the ELCA, meets at 10 am on the third Tuesday of each month. Contact Mary Merrick at 301-571-7212.

Rachel Circle, a Bible study based on material provided by the Women of the ELCA, meets at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Contact Alice Daniel at 301-949-4688.

THRIVE, for women seeking in-depth Bible study, meets September-May, 9:00-10:30 am on the first and third Saturdays each month. Contact Sanna Solem at 301-571-0050.



Young Women’s Small Group, for women in their 20s and early 30s. *Place and time TBA*. Contact Sanna Solem (301-517-0050) or Florence Heacock (301-452-2491).

A Life Worth Living, based on the book of Philippians. Contact Florence Heacock (301-452-2491) or Sanna Solem (301-571-0050).

CELCS’s *Prayer Room I* is open for prayer Sundays, 8:15 am– noon. *Prayer Room II* is open for prayer throughout the week. **Prayer Ministry** contacts are Paula Mathis (mathispaula@cs.com) or Laura North (laura@heartmindsoul.com or 301-652-5160).

Prayer Corner



Family of Nelson Goolsby, Kristina Gentner, Daniel Smith, Rhea McVicker's mother; Betty Sutermeister; Grace Bowden; Ann Ricahrdson; Gail Gerhart; Jeff; Hazel and her family; Diana; Dr. Matthew and Nancy Sleeth; Grace Lloyd-Davies; Jackie Meyer; Niina Tang; Ruby Yoshioka; Stephanie Coleman; Guy Bradley; Lynn and Scott Echels; Robert Corbey; the Barnes family; Danny Strunk; Holly Almont; Robert Corbey; David Sprague; Dawn Marie Ehlert; Edith Moskaluk; Jean Hammet; John Richey; Margaret Day; Nancy Lewis; the young men of Nick's Place; Robert Condon; Terry and Jane Seaks; Willem Scheltema; Robert and Noah Harris; Nancy Harris; the ministry of the MiRefugio school in Guatemala

Womens' Retreat

Dr. Wanda McNeill has again agreed to address a Retreat sponsored by the Women of Christ Lutheran Church, to be held on Saturday, March 31 from 9:30 am until 3:00 pm in the Hospitality Room at CELC. The cost will be \$15.00. Those of you who have attended these gatherings in the past know that Dr. McNeill is a thoughtful and practical speaker who brings a message relevant to our lives and times. Her topic will be "ARE YOU READY—NO WAY OUT!" Registration forms will be available in the Narthex and, if you have any questions, please call one of the Coordinators—Wilma Christ at 301-530-5023 or Dottie Davis Hofstad at 301-598-9657. Come, and bring your friends, for a day of inspiration, fellowship and sharing.

Martha's Table

We have the wonderful opportunity to serve dinner to the homeless through Martha's Table in Washington, DC.

On the third Saturday of every month, a group of volunteers serves soup, sandwiches, dessert, and drinks to dozens of men, women, and children out of a mobile soup kitchen van provided by Martha's Table.

We carpool from Christ Lutheran, leaving the church no later than 4:00 pm and returning sometime around 7:00 pm. We meet in the small parking lot off of Glenbrook Road, on the side of the church building. Jeff Leach, Steve North, and Richard Czypinski are trained drivers; we need you to ride along and help serve the food.



Please sign up on the Service Opportunities bulletin board in the narthex or speak with Jill or Steve North.

The list of participants in this ministry is growing each month. Thanks to all who serve the needs of the community in this way:

Andy Adams, June Bradley, Tim Bradley, Martin Brockman, Richard Czypinski, Ingrid Dallaire, Kara Estelle, Jeff Leach, Taylor Leach, Andy Marth, Andy Masetti, Paula Mathis, Barry McVicker, Jill North, Laura North, and Steve North



Small Group Leaders' Forum
Saturday, February 10
8-9:30 am
In The Upper Room

Prayer, study and discussion of the Second Commandment, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself".
(Breakfast and Fair Trade coffee will be served)

Money Matters—In God We Trust

(continued from page 1)

person. We get confused on what are needs and what are wants. Comedian Ken Davis said, "I saw my daughter with a string tied around her tooth and the other end tied to a doorknob. So I said, 'Let me examine that tooth. Why it's not even loose!'" His daughter said, "Leave me alone Dad, I need the money!"

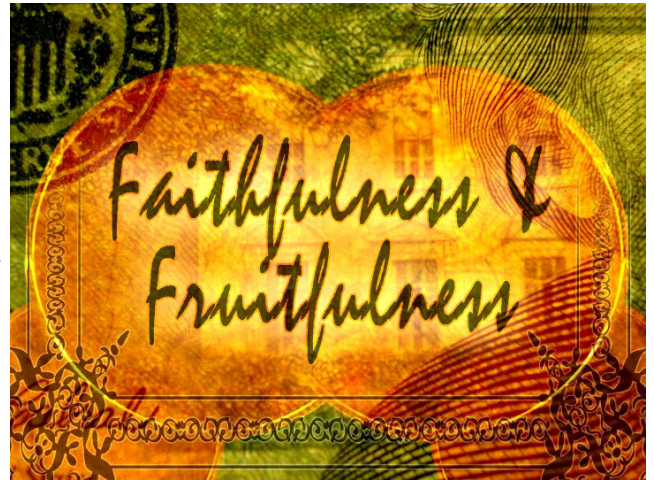
There's a big difference between a need and a want. If we are seeking only after things (wants) I can assure you things will not satisfy. We thirst for God and his refreshing grace in our lives. Only God and His abundance can bring freedom and increase to our lives. God restores our lives through the redeeming love of Jesus.

When you give yourself to Jesus, something in you must die. God invites you to become like Jesus in your **money matters**. The apostle Paul said, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9) If we give our life to Jesus, he promises

to enter our being and we experience freedom.

Fruitfulness is the result of faithfulness. How many times have you heard someone say, "Where is God and why doesn't He show up in the midst of so much pain and suffering in the world?" How does God respond to those who suffer? It is through his church, through His disciples! You and Me!!! If we have the mind of Christ within then we become his fruitful servants. *1 Corinthians 2:12—And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. 16 For, "Who can know the LORD's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him?" But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.*

Fruitfulness is the tangible response to God's **faithfulness** in our lives. I have seen so many acts of fruitful response in our community during this past year. I think of the fruitfulness of the many servants among us who joined the mission team to Mi Refugio and those who made financial contributions to Mi Refugio in a year of crisis, those who reach out to the homeless through Martha's Table and the backpack min-



istry, those who responded through Gifts of Hope, and those who sponsored children in need through World Vision. And there are many other fruitful acts being accomplished through our GGT redevelopment efforts, and the countless people among us who teach and lead. These are faithful responses to the power of Christ working in people who have given their lives in fruitful service. *John 14:12—"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father."*

I am asking for your **faithful and fruitful** response to another year of mission work at CELC. In just a few days you will be receiving your 2007 pledge cards so that you can indicate your fruitful response in support of church's mission. I ask you to enter this process prayerfully and faithfully. May God shower you with His riches.

In Christ, Pastor Marv



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<h1 style="color: purple;">February 2007</h1> <p><i>Sunday morning opportunities:</i> Adult Bible study: Part 1: 10:15; Part 2: 11:00 am Alpha: 10:45 am Pathfinders for children: 11:00 am</p>				1	2	3 Women—Thrive 9:00-10:30 Men’s Master Builders 9:00-10:30
4 Worship: 9:45 Contemporary 11:15 Traditional	5	6	7	8 Praise Band 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	9	10 Small Group Leaders 8:00-9:30 am
11 9:45 & 11:15 Worship	12	13 Rachel Circle 7:30 pm <i>Council Meeting</i> 7:00 pm	14	15 Praise Band 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	16	17 Women 9:00-10:30 Men 9:00-10:30 <i>Martha’s Table</i>
18 9:45 & 11:15 Worship <i>“An Inconvenient Truth”</i> 1:00 pm	19	20 Martha Circle 10:00 am	21 Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm	22 Praise Band 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm <i>Creation Care</i> 7:00-9:00 pm	23	24
25 9:45 & 11:15 Worship <i>Town Hall Meeting</i> 12:30 pm	26	27	28	<p style="color: purple;"><i>Please see page 8 of this newsletter or the Sunday morning bulletin for small group ministry opportunities available throughout the week!</i></p>		

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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clc@heartmindsoul.com

The Rev. Marvin Tollefson
Pastor

Andy Adams
*Minister of Youth, Young Adults
& Community Care*

Laura North
Minister of Children & Families

Richard Czypinski
Minister of Music

Kate Scott
Organist & Pianist

Florence Heacock
Small Groups Minister

Laura North
Office Administrator

Church Council

Steve North, president
George Wenchel, vice president
Moges Gebremedhin, treasurer
Larry Goolsby, secretary
Greg Beyer, June Bradley, Ingrid Dal-
laire, Catherine Johnson, Jeff Leach,
Rhea McVicker, and Maura Miller

Sunday Schedule

- 9:45 am** Contemporary Worship
with Communion in the Sanctuary
- 10:15 am** “Challenging Lifestyles” (part 1)
in the Upper Room
- 10:45 am** “Questions of Life” Alpha course
in the Hospitality Room
- 11:00 am** “Challenging Lifestyles” (part 2)
in the Upper Room
- 11:00 am** Pathfinders for children
in the second-floor education wing
- 11:15 am** Traditional Worship with Communion
in the Sanctuary

Mission of The Connection

*To communicate about disciple-making
events and opportunities, all for the
glory of God and to grow His Kingdom.*

Please contribute to The Connection! Let's share all the exciting ways God is at work here at Christ Lutheran! Questions? Please call Laura North at 301-652-5160 or email laura@heartmindsoul.com.

March Connection Deadline

Submissions for the March issue of The Connection are due by 5:00 pm on **Tuesday, February 20**. Please drop them off in the box on Laura's office door or e-mail them to laura@heartmindsoul.com.

New to CELC?

Want to know more about our faith community?

Please email clc@heartmindsoul.com

to begin receiving The Connection and also our weekly e-newsletter.