

CHRIST'S COMMUNIQUE

Issue: 661 May 2026

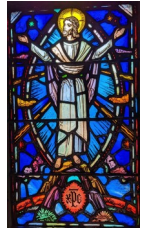


9am Drive In Worship



*Drive-In Worship is BACK!
Bring your own chair, device for
bulletin if able. Bulletins and padded
folding chairs are available. **FM88.1** Live
Streaming on FB & later on our website.*

11am Traditional
*Traditional Worship in the
Sanctuary*



PASTOR CINDY'S NOTE

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ... If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.
(Romans 12:12, 26)

From January through March of this year, I had the opportunity to meet with many of you in small groups for "Cookies and Conversation." One of the main topics we discussed was connection. What helps you stay connected to our congregation? How can we better help others feel that same sense of connection? Over and over again, Christ Lutheran members talked about the welcoming atmosphere, a sense of belonging, and the supportive relationships they have with others in the congregation. That's exactly what a Christian congregation should be!

In Romans 12, the Apostle Paul paints a picture of what it means to live as the body of Christ: many members, each with different gifts, yet deeply connected to one another in love. We are reminded that faith is not something we practice alone. We belong to each other. When we gather—whether in worship, service, learning and fellowship—we are strengthened, encouraged, and shaped by God's grace working through one another. When we show up for each other, share our gifts, and bear one another's burdens, we reflect Christ's love in real and tangible ways.

Of course, Paul's vision for the Romans (and my hope for Christ Lutheran) as a connected, caring community is about more than how we relate to one another within the congregation. Our relationships with one another shape how we live in the world. When we practice love, humility, and mutual care within the body of Christ, we are being formed for something larger. We learn to listen, to honor the dignity of others, and to act with compassion. Such skills are essential as we continue to live out our baptismal call in our community and in the world - to proclaim the Good News, serve God's people, and work for justice and peace.

As the body of Christ, we are called not only to gather, but to be sent. Our life together equips us to step into a divided world as people of hope - advocating for justice, working for peace, and trusting that God's love is strong enough to transform both our communities and the world. This "Communique" is filled with opportunities: to strengthen your relationships with others and to make new friends; to serve people in need through ministries like Care Portal, RAM House, Family Promise, Social Club, St. Francis House and more; to learn about and participate in justice ministry; to worship God and to study scripture; to grow in faith together; and more... Maybe the month of May is just the time to connect with a new ministry or to re-connect in worship and service!

In Peace and Hope,
Pastor Cindy

LEARNING + SERVING



TOGETHER@10

MAY 3

Intergenerational Gathering

All Together fun, learning & fellowship for all ages

MAY 17

Sunday School for all ages

Ages: 3yrs—5th graders gather in the Community Room, Youth—MS/HS meeting in the upstairs youth lounge, Adults meeting in the chapel.



SUNDAYS IN MAY

MAY 3 TOGETHER@10

- ♦ All Together fun, learning & fellowship for all ages

MAY 10

- ♦ 10am Adult Class meeting in the chapel

MAY 17

- ♦ TOGETHER@10 Ages: 3yrs—5th graders gather in the Community Room, Youth—MS/HS meeting in the upstairs youth lounge, Adults meeting in the chapel
- ♦ Affirmation of Baptism at 11am
- ♦ Unsought— Grief support group 12 noon in the chapel
- ♦ 4pm Youth Group— Lion's Share Service Event, St. Mark's

MAY 24— Day of Pentecost!

- ♦ 10am Adult Class meeting in the chapel
- ♦ 10am Alter Care Training

MAY 31— The Holy Trinity

- ♦ High School Recognition
- ♦ 10am Adult Class meeting in the chapel

CINCO DE MAYO

It's Cinco de Mayo time again!

Join your Christ Lutheran Church family and friends for our annual adult celebration of Cinco de Mayo.

We will gather in the back room at El Rodeo on Electric Road at 6pm on **Sunday, May 3.**

Let Fiona in the church office or Shelley know you are coming.



Family Promise in May!

Mark your calendars for **May 3rd and 4th.**

We will be hosting unhoused families again for those two days. We will need overnight hosts, meal preparers, food providers, and evening servers.

If you have any questions or want to get your name in early, contact Tom.

And thank you for your care for these folks in need.

ROANOKE JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, May 7 @ 6:00pm** at Our Lady of Nazareth Catholic Church! You are invited to the RJM “Rethinking Justice Workshop.” At this ecumenical meeting you will learn about the biblical foundations of justice ministry, faith-based community organizing, and how WE can make a difference in the lives of Roanokers!

Roanoke Justice Ministries is just getting started, but our sister organization in Richmond (RISC) has been doing faithful work since 2002. In recent years their work has led to “935 units of affordable housing developed or preserved between 2015 and 2021... almost 3000 families able to stay in their homes through the city’s emergency rental assistance program... approximately 500 low-income job seekers have completed the VCU Pathways Program to prepare for healthcare careers...” Find out more at riscrichmond.org and imagine what we can do in Roanoke in the coming years!

THANK YOU

Social Ministry News

Through your generous actions we supplied two grocery carts of food to the Local Office of the Aging’s annual program “**Soup for Seniors.**”

The food pantry at **Lucy Addison MS** was given over a dozen grocery bags of food items plus a check for \$435.00.

The collection from our Lenten Soup Suppers has netted over \$1200 which will be given to **The Least of These.**

Our budgeted donations have been sent to: *Ram House, Family Promise, Children’s Health Investment Partnership, Habitat for Humanity, The Rescue Mission, St. Francis House, Carolina Furnace, The West End Center, Virginia Interfaith, and Care Portal.*

JIGSAW PUZZLES

I’ve become aware that many of us enjoy working jigsaw puzzles.

Wondering if there is an interest in getting together to puzzle over the pieces together while getting to know each other better.

We could meet at the church (preferably daytime) and two or three share a puzzle project together.

If we don’t finish, we could store it until we met again.

Weekly or Monthly?

Let me know what you want to do .

I have 500 and 1000 pieces to get us started or bring your own challenges.

Let me know if you’re interested and we’ll meet to iron out the details.

Linda



NOAH’S LANDING PRESCHOOL

- ◆ Muffins with Mom on May 7th, is a fun time for adult figure to come and enjoy time in the classroom.
- ◆ Teacher Appreciation Week is May 11-14, contact Sara if you’re available to volunteer, and or donations are being accepted.
- ◆ It’s Graduation time for our 4th year olds at Noah’s Landing Preschool, May 21, ceremony and reception.
- ◆ We hope our preschool kids, teachers, staff, and families enjoy their Summer Break and we look forward to seeing all your smiling faces and new ones in the new school year in September.

Stephanie Zewatsky,
Directory of Noah’s Landing
Preschool
540-982-2254
noahslandingpreschool.org



ALTAR CARE TRAINING

Who sets the altar communion?

Have you ever wondered who sets up communion for worship each week and what is involved? It could be you and you can learn all about it this month!

On **Sunday, May 24 at 10:00am**, join Pastor Cindy for *Altar Care Training*.

Participants will learn how to set up for Holy Communion at the 11am worship and clean up after the service.

Please let Pastor Cindy know if you will be there and/or if you are interested in being a part of the *11am Altar Care Team* to set up/clean up on a regular basis.



PLASTIC RECYCLING & MORE. . . .

Joseph Brozovsky ~ Will be at Christ Lutheran in the parking lot. Big White Truck! Bring all plastics; plastics numbered 1-7, styrofoam, stretchy film, take out cups and containers, old electronics; phones, laptops, computers.

Really, ANY and ALL plastics. urbanreblokd.com

May 13, 5-7:30pm, 2nd Wednesday of the month

URBAN REBLOK'D

in the church parking lot.



Christ Lutheran
2nd Wednesday of the
Month
BIG White Truck
5:30-7pm
Really, ANY and ALL
Plastics, Styrofoam &
Electronics
urbanreblokd.com

Choosing to See Our Vulnerable Neighbors

TUESDAY, MAY 19 AT 7 P.M.

Hosted by

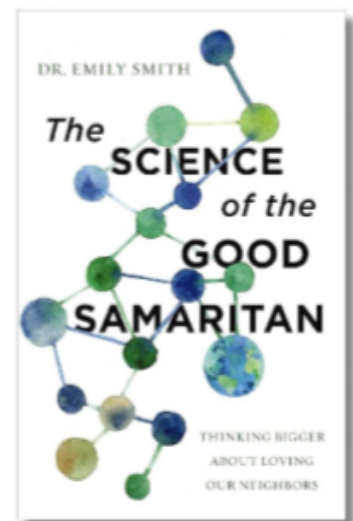
Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church

1837 Grandin Rd SW · Roanoke, VA 24015

"How can we be neighbors in a world set up to do quite the opposite?" ... The key, she said, is looking to Jesus and seeing who Jesus placed in the center of his attention. ... He flipped who should be in the middle of our attention on its head."

"I hope this book helps people understand how to do just that by understanding historical inequities, systemic racism and structural violence through storytelling and data. I also hope it can help places of worship have these conversations in nonthreatening but challenging ways in their own congregations."

- From an Interview with Baptist News Global



Registration

Strongly Encouraged
(But Not Required)



ON GOING MINISTRIES AT CLC



MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Mondays at **10:30am** meet in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to join this group as we study the next Sunday's bible passages.



CHOIR REHEARSAL: Choir rehearsals Wednesdays at **7:30pm** in the choir room. New singers are welcome to join, contact Nancy, last rehearsal is May 20, will resume in September.



HANDY FOLK GROUP: Join the women & men that make up this wonderful group of people who take care of our church building. On **Friday May 8 (new date!)**, at 8am they will meet at Famous Anthony's at Oak Grove Mall for breakfast then do some maintenance work on the church property. Contact George if you have questions.



SOCIAL CLUB: This group has been a part of Christ Lutheran Church for more than 30 years. Twice a month (September-June), adults with emotional and mental challenges are picked up in the church van from area homes for adults, brought to the church or another designated place, and served a meal.

Volunteers also assist the participants with an activity, Bingo is always an enjoyable game after dinner. Social Club meets on **Thursday night only May 14, 5pm at American Legions for a picnic**. If you would like to help serve meals or drive the bus to pick up our members, please let Jeannine & Al know if you are able to volunteer.



SOCIAL MINISTRY TEAM: This group meets on **Thursday May 7**, in the parlor at 1pm. Anyone is welcome to join this group to hear more about social ministry and get involved.

GREEN TEAM: Meets **Wednesday May 13**, in the parlor at 1pm. Our mission: *"As good stewards of the earth, it is our mission to educate, act and advocate for a future where our children and grandchildren can live and thrive."* A thought from the Green Team: **SAVE THE BEES**— Plant bee friendly flowers. Bees are attracted to brightly colored flowers, such as purple and blue. This Could help save these important insects. If you have any questions about the **"Green Team,"** contact Gudrun.



CHURCH COUNCIL: Meets **Tuesday May 12**, at 7pm. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the fellowship hall. Please let Richard know if you are unable to attend this meeting.



UNSOUGHT: Grief support group, **Sunday May 17**, @ noon in the chapel. Questions contact Gudrun.

RAM LUNCHES: this faithful group continues to make lunches for RAM House. **This month Friday May 29, 8:30am.**

We are using **Sign-up Genius** for all our volunteer needs, from bread loaves to delivering lunches to RAM House. If you would like to be part of this ministry use this **QR Code, or link:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4BA9A92FA4FDO-59091922-ram> You are welcome to pick one item or more on the app. Contact Pastor Cindy or Fiona if you have any questions or need help, 540-982-8334. May coordinators are **Julie & Bruce.**



YARN N PRAYER: This group of Knitters and Crocheters will meet **11-1pm Friday May 22**, at Co-Op Grandin Village. Contact Rita or Sheila if you have questions. Current projects are baptismal shawls, blankets to cover laps & shawls.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2026



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Lily- School graduating from: Hidden Valley High School.
Plans for the fall: attend Elon University, awarded the Presidential Scholarship & selected as an Elizabeth Cannon Leadership Fellow.

Clair- School graduating from: Cave Spring High School.
Plans for the fall: attending Virginia Western Community College.

We will recognize these High School students on Sunday May 31, at the 9am Drive In worship.

Congratulations on all your successes, our prayers are with you in the next chapter.



COLLEGE GRADUATES

Anya- Graduating from: Elon University, with a Bachelor of Arts in International and Global Studies. Plans after graduating: She's won the Fulbright Program in the Philippines.

Lyr- Graduating from: Hollins University, with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science. Plans after graduating: They are seeking employment after graduation.

Caitlin- Graduating from: Old Dominion University, with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology, and Master Dive Certification. Plans after graduating: Take time off from academia to focus on gaining experience in the field from various opportunities that will help secure the right professor to advise and guide as I peruse a research masters in Graduate School.



AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Please pray for *Denman and Ben* as they affirm their baptisms in the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday May 17 at 11:00 am worship.
After the service, all are invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

PRAYERS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



PRAYERS FOR:

April 26– Jodi, Eli (soccer injury), Ben (8yo cancer), College Graduations, Katherine, Evron (stress test), Matthew (Navy-shipped in Middle East)

April 19- Chris (ICU- bike accident, the late Chip Gunsten's wife).

April 12- Phil, Clair (surgery recovery), Neil, Sue.

April 5- Kim + family, George + family, Thanksgiving for birth of Teddy Fran (senior with Flu A), Sharon (senior with multiple health problems).

March 29- Ken (surgery recovery), Dora, Sharon, Marilyn (Cheri's mom)

March 22- Dave, Andrea, Jean (surgery), George, Charles & Susan, Mark (cancer).

Families of: 3/22- Petur, 4/12- Kevin, 4/26- Margaret, Wayne.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

MAY READINGS



May 3– 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60, Ps 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

May 10– 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31, Ps 66:18-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

May 17– 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14, Ps 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11

May 24– Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21, Ps 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Cor 12:3b-13, John 20:19-23

May 31– The Holy Trinity

Gen 1:1–2:4a, Ps 8, 2 Cor 13:11-13, Matt 28:16-20

MAY BIRTHDAYS!

1st– Hildegard, Mark

2nd– Danl, Jessica, Caroline

3rd– Sheila

5th– Margaret, Elise

7th– Sue

8th– Cat, Michele

10th– Ronan

12th– Katherine, Susie

14th– Patty, **19th**– Parker

20th– Diane, **21st**– Rosa

23rd– Matt, Lynne, John

24th– Catherine, **25th**– Todd

27th– Raymond Jr., Alice

28th– Martin

30th– Jason, Joan

31st– Mary



**CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY MAY 26
IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY**



NEWSLETTER

Thursday, May 28 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall, we will collate the newsletter.

Any articles for the JUNE newsletter need to be received by MAY 15. Many Thanks.



CARE PORTAL TEAM

In the midst of the complex Foster Care system, Care Portal's role is to help connect vulnerable children and families with caring neighbors in their own community who provide needed financial support, in-kind gifts, and caring connection.

This is the QR Code for Christ Lutheran's Care Portal webpage. You may donate money to fund a request or just browse the requests. Thanks for supporting this ministry!

During the month of March

Christ Lutheran responded to three Care Portal requests. Five children were served with an economic impact of \$1248.

Three requests we responded to were:

- For a family that has been living in a shelter for over a year and just got an apartment, we delivered new pots and pans, dishtowels, hot pads, utensils. Arranged visit to St Joseph furniture closet, delivered 2 trucks of furniture.
- For a victim of domestic abuse, we delivered a used toddler bed (donated by community member), bedding, pillow, and mattress.
- For a family whose income was halved due to hospitalization we delivered new clothing (6 outfits, 2 pair pajamas, donated by community member) and \$40 worth of groceries.

Giving to the Christ Lutheran Care Portal fund is easy as 1-2-3

Click on the link <https://system.careportal.org/church/106625>

Click on the green Give to Our Care Portal Fund

Enter amount and click on Submit Donation

For more information or questions contact Jeannine.

From the Social Ministry Team

St Francis House in the month of May



TAB TOPS

Together, Christ Lutheran Church & Noah's Landing Preschool collected **16.8 lbs.** of Tab Tops for the Ronald McDonald House providing love, hope, and support to our community and families of seriously ill children.

Thank you so much for your support of this ongoing, much needed service project.

Sara.



MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Below are the financial figures for March. The generosity of members and good financial stewardship have kept the income, and expenses close to the budget. The portion of the income received that comes from regular offerings has met 96% of the YTD budgeted amount. Outside groups that make donations for use of the building have given 110% of what we had budgeted for the YTD. We have spent 95% of what we've budgeted on expenses. The church has had some significant expenses related to the physical plant this year, including HVAC and roof repairs. We have needed to spend 161% of our building-related budget YTD, so it is indeed fortunate that overall, we have spent less than budgeted so far.

Month	Monthly Income	Monthly Expenses	YTD Budgeted	YTD Received	YTD Spent
January	\$29,635	\$41,180	\$58,308	\$29,635	\$58,308
February	\$46,712	\$37,966	\$99,503	\$76,347	\$79,195
March	\$54,584	\$53,980	\$141,223	\$130,931	\$133,666

The investment account has \$2,093,584 as of April 14th. Given the volatility of financial markets at present, we are pleased our balance has increased since reported last month.

Once again, we thank all for your continued support of the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church.

*Jim,
Finance Committee Chair*

KAIROS @ Roanoke College in Salem



June 21-26

Kairos is an event where youth and adults gather together for lots of singing and skits and fun and friend-making and prayers, then participants gather in small groups that meet throughout the week. There are so many beloved features of Kairos: event theme t-shirts, Open Talent Mic Show, faith testimonies, comic relief, reflection time, prayer stations, speed friending, t-shirt fashion show, and more!



REST & RELAXATION FOR PASTOR CINDY

After a busy and full Holy Week Pastor Cindy is taking a much deserved break. She will be out of town from May 25 until June 2.

Pastor Phyllis Diamond will be on call for pastoral emergencies only (540-589-6988).

Pastor James Davis will preach and preside at both worship services on Sunday, May 31.

Pastor Davis recently retired from St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Vinton. He and his wife, Olivia, will be joining Christ Lutheran next month.

Looking Ahead to June

Rescheduled Blood Drive:

Wednesday June 24, 1-6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Blood Drive Link: redcrossblood.org for appointments.

2nd Sundays in Summers:

Are back this year! Join us at 10am in the Fellowship Hall for Fun, Fellowship & Food! Sunday June 14, July 12, and August 9.

EACH WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

- 9am Sunday Drive In Worship & Facebook live streaming
 - 11am Sunday Traditional Worship
- Adult Bible study Mondays at 10:30am

FOLLOW US



CHRISTLUTHERANROANOKE

www.christlutheranroanoke.org

Newsletter can be found on our website.

STAFF OF CHRIST LUTHERAN

Pastor: Rev. Cynthia Keyser
(O) 540-982-8334, ext#2 (C) 540-524-8430.
pastorcindy@christlutheranroanoke.org

Church Office Administrator: Fiona Schulz
(O) 540-982-8334, ext#1
secretary@christlutheranroanoke.org

Organist/Director of Music: Nancy Delaney
(H) 540-597-3189.

New Song Music: Kim Mucha
(C) 540-529-5456

Director of Noah’s Landing Preschool:
Stephanie Zewatsky
(O) 540-982-2254, noahslandingpreschool.org

Treasurer: Linda Worman
(O) 540-982-8334 , ext#3
treasurer@christlutheranroanoke.org

Financial Secretary: Diana Pilat
(O) 540-982-8334, ext#3
financialsecretary@christlutheranroanoke.org

Good news especially for:

Christ Communique
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
2011 Brandon Avenue, SW
Roanoke, Virginia 24015

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S.
Postage
PAID
Roanoke,
Virginia
Permit #444