

Psalm 106:3

The Christogram

Blessed are they who observe justice,
who do righteousness at all times!

August, 2023
Volume 61 Issue 8



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O give thanks to
the Lord, for he
is good; for his
steadfast love endures
forever.



Psalm 106:1



cclakeland.org

Christ Lutheran Church
2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805
863-682-7802

CHRIST LUTHERAN STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Christopher Hazzard
(cell) 863-732-1322

Office Secretary

Terry Krum
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Council Officers

President John Freer
Vice-President Ted Nelson
Secretary Robin Fox
Treasurer Jon Lindstrom
Finance Secretary Emma Block
Christian Ed Annie Smith
Outreach & Missions Blake Albright
Stewardship Kim Kaniecki
Trustees Sandy Spanier
Youth Group
Communications Kris Welch

Board of Elders

Carlos Orellana (Head)
Lee Crapo
Steve Rosane
Fred Sterns

Committee Chairpersons

Fellowship Coordinators
Vi Zabel & Belinda Freer

Altar Guild
Barbara and Alfred Miller

Choir Director
Connie Timmons

Endowment Fund
Helen Borgwardt

Mary-Martha Guild
Belinda Freer

E-Mail Addresses

Pastor
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Christ Lutheran Guiding Statement

Christ Lutheran Church is a growing family of believers who love, accept, and welcome all, so that we may share God's love in word and deed.

Serving in August

August 6

Elder..... Carlos Orellana
Lector..... George Czanko
Greeters Joanne Shepker
Audio..... Kyle Welch
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox/Steve Klement

August 13

Elder..... Lee Crapo
Lector..... Carlos Orellana
Greeters
Audio..... Maria Hazzard
Video..... Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/Stream: Andrea Hazzard/Rita Czanko

August 20

Elder..... Carlos Orellana
Lector.....
Greeters
Audio..... Kyle Welch
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox/Charles Henning

August 27

Elder..... Steve Rosane
Lector.....
Greeters
Audio..... Maria Hazzard
Video..... Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/Stream: Andrea Hazzard/Judi Rudolph

ALTAR GUILD SERVICES

Kim Kaniecki and Dawn Peters

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP @ 5:30 PM

Elder..... Lee Crapo/Steve Rosane (8/12)
Lector..... Rick Smith
Audio..... Lee Crapo/Robin Fox



Christ Lutheran Church

2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd

Phone: 863-682-7802

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
6 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a Elders Meeting	7	8 Trustee WD	9 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Youth @ 6:30p	10	11	12 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
13 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a	14 Council Mtg @ 6:30p	15 Trustee WD Reformation Meal Task Force Mtg @ 6:30 p	16 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p	17	18	19 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
20 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a Congregational Voters Meeting	21 9 AM Deadline for Newsletter items	22 Trustee WD	23 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Youth @ 6:30p	24 Paper Pumpkin Club @ 6:30p	25	26 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
27 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a Stewardship Meeting Communication Board Mtg	28	29 Trustee WD	30 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p	31		

Bulletin announcements are due each Tuesday by 9:00 a.m.

***The Infirm
and
The Homebound***

*Remember to keep these
people in your daily
prayers.*

- Vi Bertsch
- Sen & Dale Campbell
- Ken & Joanne Ditton
- Donita Duncan
- Marilyn Gillette
- Hazel Gust
- Katherine Hamann
- Al Herman
- Judy Kargel
- Fran Klug
- Dorothy Lovelace
- Don & Nancy Matter
- Nell Morgan
- Fran Murphy
- Lois Smith
- Norma Tipton
- Amy Wilson



**AUGUST
BIRTHDAYS**

Rachel Thomas	Aug 1
Emma Block,	Aug 3
Rick Smith	Aug 6
Judith Verbeke.....	Aug 10
Nell Morgan	Aug 10
Lee Crapo	Aug 12
Audrey Crapo.....	Aug 14
Dale Campbell	Aug 16
Barbara Miller	Aug 24
Cathy Sterns	Aug 26
Dawn Kahre	Aug 27
Arleen Smith.....	Aug 28
Jane Roy.....	Aug 31



**AUGUST
ANNIVERSARIES**

Garrett and Connie Timmons	Aug 6, (35 yrs.)
Ray and Beth Keating	Aug 8, (36 yrs.)
Robert and Cheryl Langanke.....	Aug 10, (60 yrs.)
Tammy and Daniel Raimondo.....	Aug 13, (7 yrs.)
Richard and Arleen Smith	Aug 14, (47 yrs.)
John and Belinda Freer.....	Aug 29, (43 yrs.)



Thank you to Sandy Spanier and Dawn Peters who served for the month of July. Kim Kaniecki and Dawn Peters will serve for the month of August. Thank you for your service to the Lord and Christ Lutheran Church.

If you are a member or an associate member, and your information is missing or incorrect, please notify the church office.

Baptismal Birthday Blessing

(Leader reads:)

Loving God,

You created all the people of the world, and you know each of us by name. We thank you for *(Name)* who celebrates the anniversary of *his/her* baptism. Bless *him/her* with your love, that *he/she* may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and grace. May *he/she* love *his/her* family always, and be ever faithful to God. Grant this through Christ our Lord. (All:) **Amen**

(Place your hands on the person's head or shoulders.)

May God, in whose presence our ancestors walked, bless you (All:) **Amen**

May God, who has been your shepherd from birth until now, keep you. (All :) **Amen**

May God, who saves you from all harm, give you peace. (All:) **Amen and Amen**

Beth Keating.....	Aug 1
Trevor Peterson.....	Aug 1
Delaney Peterson.....	Aug 1
Emma Block,.....	Aug 3
Vi Bertsch.....	Aug 12
Allison Henning Terrell.....	Aug 18
Willie Siedenstrang.....	Aug 21
Ruth Cassens.....	Aug 26



DON'T FORGET BAGS FOR TALBOT HOUSE —

Thank you to all of you who continue to support this ministry! Talbot House does extraordinary things to help the homeless. We are blessed to share in that ministry! Their doors are open to both men and women and they provide meals, shelter, & clothing, and direct them to medical care as needed. We collect offerings of canned goods-meat, vegetables, fruit, soup, paper goods-paper towels, toilet paper, napkins; cleaning supplies; soap-dishwashing, personal soap, laundry; toothbrushes & toothpaste. We also collect gently used clothes -free from stains, and have working zippers and buttons. There are especially marked baskets in the mail room at the back of the church to place your offerings. Our pickup day is the second Tuesday of every month. We also have a box on top of the table where you may place unused medicines, empty pill bottles, and unopened bottles of over the counter medicines. Talbot House uses the empty pill bottles to measure out soap and shampoo for the residents. Please remove labels from the empty bottles. Large containers of spices, flour, and sugar are real blessings.



From the Pastor.....



¹⁸ *For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

²¹ *For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. (1 Cor. 1:18, 21-25).*

The congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will be meeting in Convention July 29th through August 3rd in Milwaukee, WI. Well-meaning Missouri Synod Lutherans with a diversity of opinions will gather to set the direction of our national church body. One pastor and one layperson from our circuit of local churches will be representing our congregation. All delegates will be united on the essentials of the faith: justification by grace through faith, the Bible as the divinely inspired and inerrant Word of God, that salvation only happens through faith in Christ. As a church body, we have the gift of the Lutheran Confessions, contained in the Book of Concord, to which every pastor subscribes. That said, God structured Christ's church to be of one body with many members, with many gifts, with many different personalities, and from many different backgrounds. So, we should not be surprised when the multitude of opinions leads to conflict regarding practices that are neither commanded nor prohibited in Scripture, such as things related to the governance of the church in a rapidly changing world. I have preferences and opinions in what I would like to see emerge from this convention. History has taught me that I will agree with some of the votes and disagree with others. At the end of the day, what is important is that the Gospel is proclaimed to those of us who need to hear time and

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again that Jesus' death removes the shame of our sin. Our congregation will continue to preach Christ crucified. We will continue to be a growing family of believers who love, accept, and welcome all, so that we may share God's love in word and deed.

While I am not sure that many of you would find it interesting or edifying, livestream coverage of the convention can be found at: <https://www.lcms.org/convention/national/livestream>. In my opinion, exploring these websites might be a more edifying use of your time: lhm.org, lhm.org/learn, lwml.org, flgadistrict.org

Pastor Chris

Reformation Meal Task Force

The Reformation Meal Task Force met on July 17 to work on the preliminary details of our meal to be served on October 29, 2023, Reformation Sunday. Christ Lutheran is hosting the Winter Haven Zone Reformation Sunday Service. Our zone includes five Churches: Christ, St Paul, Grace-Winter Haven, Hope-Plant City, Our Savior-Zephyrhills. We will serve a meal after the Worship Service. We are expecting approximately 250 guests for this meal. The task force will meet again on Tuesday, August 15. All members are invited to join us. If you are not interested in the planning, we will need a lot of help for that weekend! We will begin sign up sheets later in the month. Please pray for our hosting of this service and the meal following. If you have any questions/suggestions, etc., please call or text Charlotte at 863-409-6270 or email at clmantz@aol.com.



Reformation

Mary Martha



The Mary- Martha Guild of L.W.M.L. meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May each year. All women of Christ Lutheran are invited to attend.

While we are on hiatus for the summer, Mary-Martha will be available for Memorial services over the summer. Should you have any questions, contact the Church office and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

We have a box available for our “Undies Sundays” in August! We are looking for new Undies in sizes small, particularly a need for toddlers, but sizes 2-14. Also children's socks. Carlos can send these to his Orphanages in Central America. Also, we will collect undies for Talbot house, all sizes are appreciated.



Mary - Martha is continuing to collect recipes for our upcoming CLC cookbook. A box is in the narthex. Please put your name on the recipe!

Mary- Martha will host an “Old Fashioned” potluck lunch on Sunday, Sept 17, after our morning worship. Any and all dishes are welcomed! We will post a sign up sheet closer to the date, but you can bring anything you want- It’s potluck!

Mary- Martha will be putting up a new tree this year in the Fellowship Hall for our 2nd annual Family Ornament Christmas Tree. Last year was such fun! Perhaps you can make an ornament during this summer when your family is together! Please put your family name on the ornament! We will have a collection box available during the fall.

Looking for Christ Lutheran in social media? Check us out at our website: www.clclakeland.org
 Feel free to leave comments! We are also on Facebook at: Christ Lutheran Church Lakeland-LCMS. Please like, follow, and share on your Facebook page. You may also leave comments on our Facebook page.

LWML



The Florida / Georgia LWML District retreat will be held in St Augustine, Florida; Friday, Sept 22-Sunday, Sept, 24, at the Renaissance World Golf Village. The speaker will be Sharla Fritz and the theme is "Enough for Now." A sign up sheet is on the board in the narthex. Contact Charlotte Mantz @ 863-409-6270 for more info.

Mary Martha will be collecting baby items for the St Gerard maternity home in St Augustine, for our "Gifts from the Heart" Mission at the District retreat. A box is available in the Narthex. Charlotte will take these to the retreat on Sept 22, so please turn your items in by Sunday, Sept 17th!

Gifts from the Heart - The St. Gerard Campus, a Faith-based, pro-life, non-for-profit located in St. Augustine, Florida, focused on the empowerment of young parents, families, and our community through support, education, and healing. Established in early 1980's by founder Carol Wolf. The mission was to support pregnant mothers in need who have been shunned by family and seeking support. In 1987, SGC was opened at its current location and since then has developed a fully accredited Christian High School, licensed maternity home, onsite daycare facility, adoption assistance and a pregnancy resource center. The mission has remained a pro-life, faith-based, safe-haven for mothers ranging from ages 12-20. Services are available and free to all the women in the community.

Donations Needed:

Diapers (currently size Newborn, 4, 5, and 6)
 Baby wipes
 Baby formula,
 Burp cloths
 Diaper cream
 Pacifier
 Soft swaddling blankets

Toiletry items
 Toothbrushes
 Toothpaste
 Deodorant
 Travel size shampoo
 Facial wash cloths
 Combs



Stewardship

Who? Me??



As many of you know, the Board of Stewardship's focus is primarily on encouraging our members to use their time, talents and treasures for the glory of God and good of His people. Sadly, when it comes to serving Him actively in the church, many will hope that 'the next guy' will answer that call. "Let someone else do it", "I've done my time", or "I couldn't possibly do that" are some of the responses that we often hear.

I often wonder how God's plan would have proceeded if Moses, who stuttered, flat-out said "no" to God's command to lead His people out of Egypt, or what if Noah continued to sit and drink too much ignoring God's command to build an Ark? Where would the church be if Peter had denied Christ and walked away, never to return to his calling? How about Paul, when he was blinded. Where would Christianity be if he had not listened to the command to seek out Ananias for his healing and conversion.

Yes, certainly God's ultimate plan would have been manifested in some way, He always was and always will be in control, but *these* are the people He chose. *These* are the people he knew could and would get the job done. However much they objected, however much they insisted they were not the right people for the job, however much they thought they simply couldn't do it. God knew better. And thanks be to God that those people did indeed ultimately follow God's command to do His will.

Looking forward to this coming year, there will be many positions on our church council that will be vacant. Many important roles that must be manned by someone willing to answer "yes" to the Holy Spirit's urging. Do we all feel, at times, unequipped to take on the task? Yes. We do. But we must also realize that someone needs to do the job. Perfection is not required. Just a willingness to step out in faith to assist His church.

All of council is asking every member to listen carefully to the promptings of the Spirit to step forward into a position of service/leadership here at Christ Lutheran Church. God can certainly use any willing heart to accomplish his purpose here. As we said last month, BE BOLD! Step out in faith, don't shy away from something you feel God is urging you to do. Many mighty things have been done by those who felt they were totally unequipped for the job. Just ask Moses, Noah, Peter and Paul!

We give thanks and praise to God for those that have stepped forward in the past and those that continue to serve Him here at Christ. We also give thanks and praise in advance for those who will indeed hear His call and answer with a resounding "Yes, Lord, send me!", or even an "Ok, Lord, I'm not sure about this but I'll give it a try"! To God be the glory!

Yours in Christ,

Kim Kaniecki

Board of Stewardship



Free Greeting Cards

The Paper Pumpkin Club has free greeting cards available for the congregation to use. The cards are located in a box in the Narthex. Birthday Cards, Get Well Cards, and many others are free for your use.



2023 Florida-Georgia District President's Equip Conference



75 YEARS
 FloridaGeorgia
LIVING
as Along-Siders
 DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLE MAKERS
President's Equip Conference
 September 28–30, 2023



Workshops at the President's Equip Conference

More than 50 workshop opportunities will be available at this year's conference! These workshops aim to offer practical information, personal growth, and new insights to use in your congregation, ministry, and community.

Some selections include:

- Start With Why*
- Coming Alongside: Difficult Conversations*
- Discipleship in an Age of Connect Loneliness*
- Building the Thinking Classroom*
- Hot Topic—Ministry Safety

Visit the [President's Equip Conference webpage](#) for a complete list of the workshops, descriptions, and who is leading them.

September 28–30, 2023
Hilton Orlando Buena Vista Palace

The FLGA District is also celebrating 75 years of mission and ministry!

[Visit the event webpage to learn more!](#)

Registration Pricing

- \$149 per person through 8.15.23
- \$199 per person, starting 8.16.23
- \$250 per person, starting 9.1.23

Central America Missions August 2023

The last surgical mission, there was a lot of drama waiting for my passport to come; and also the flight arrangements. I also had to coordinate with my wife who was coming from Guatemala to meet me at the border with Honduras, which I was not able to do. I was very concerned for her safety. Thank God, at the end it all worked out. I got my passport a day before the mission started. I was able to guide Stacey's movements through Guatemala and Honduras, with the help of some friends. I am happy to report that the mission was a success.

You may remember that our last shipment was 1600 pounds. That shipment made it the week we got there. Everything was planned accordingly, but plan "A" was not working. It had to be the hand of God; every last option, it worked out fine.

Christ Lutheran Church is an intrinsic part of this mission. Thank you for your support. Keep the mission in your prayers. This work is touching hundreds and hundreds of people who would not get help. We are only instruments of God; called to do this work.

Carlos Orellana



You never know. This lady could be my relative. The same last name, recognized names of our old relatives.

See more pictures on page 16

Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting in a Nutshell
By Robin Fox, Council Secretary, July 10, 2023



Treasure: Jon Lindstrom

For the month of June our actual performance is at a positive compared to budget amounts. For YTD our actual performance is at a positive compared to the budgeted amounts. There were no noteworthy expense items this month.

Our undedicated bank funds are ----- . The Stewardship reports our total church income is about 8.9% higher this year than in 2022 at the end of June. There were no noteworthy income items this month.

Pastor Report: Pastor Christopher Hazzard

Some upcoming events are President's Equip Conference: September 28th-30th, Orlando; Ongoing: FLGA Missionary Pathway Cohort: 2nd Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. via Zoom; and Circuit Reformation Rally, October 29th, we are hosting.

News and Notes: I am grateful for the many faithful servants in our congregation. Our new Music Director vetting team consists of Fred Sterns, Donna Racer, Debbie Smith, Kent & Dawn Kahre. The Elders and I will be cleaning up our membership roster. The first step will be a letter to everyone in our system asking them to verify the information that we have.

President: John Freer

There haven't been any major issues in the month of June at our church. The Nomination Committee has been formed to find candidates to fill the five vacant positions. The Nomination Committee members are Pastor Thomas Block, Charlene Rosane, Cheryl Erwin and Lee Crapo. If any of these committee members have questions or you have suggestions for filling the vacant positions, please help them any way you can. As we all know it's hard to find members that will volunteer to fill a position on Council. We have a very good group on Council now. The vacant positions are Council President, Vice President, Treasurer, Youth and Education. If you have a recommendation for someone to fill any of these positions, please let the committee know.

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Vice President: Ted Nelson

Nothing to report.

Christian Education: Annie Smith

Larry Nimetz and Annie Smith's "How to Read Your Bible" Bible study is going well on Saturday's at 4:00 PM.

Board of Elders: Carlos Orellana

Attendance is still low during the summer months.

Stewardship: Kim Kaniecki

Nothing to report.

Board of Outreach: Blake Albright

Out of town, nothing to report.

Board of Communications: Kris Welch

The training class on June 17th went very well. We had nine people attend. Attendees should start shadowing in August. The schedule was emailed to all involved. We have moved to MABE for all services.

Trustee Report: Sandy Spanier

The lift has been repaired. We are waiting on the state inspection and licensing. Several minor maintenance tasks and repairs were performed. Both A/C units in the Fellowship Hall had to be repaired.

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Youth Board:

The Youth are continuing to meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Fox



Our Mission Remains the Same...

Living as Christ's Witnesses 
Celebrating 75 Years of Mission

The Goal

Our GOAL is to raise \$1.5 million by September 2023. These funds will enable us to provide \$150,000 in grants to start ten congregations over the next five years.

For every \$2 given, \$1 will be matched.

Help us reach this goal to connect many more people to Jesus!

flgadistrict.org/give

"New starts reach more new people for Christ."



"Living as along-siders, means going to where people are!"

Celebrating 75 Years of Mission & Growth

The Florida-Georgia District began in 1948 with 22 congregations, today we are 192 strong. Less than 45% of the US is connected to the Body of Christ and the population of our states continues growing by nearly 2% per year.

God is calling us to "Go and make disciples" and planting new congregations is essential to reaching more with God's love and the only message of hope!



Living As Christ's Witnesses So That All People Come to Faith

- 192 Congregations walking together
- 59 Schools and Early Learning Centers
- Mission driven since 1948
- Sharing God's love with all people in an ever-diverse society
- Offering the only true and unchanging hope for this life and eternity

"For such a time as this!" God has brought us together to be His hands and feet to a lost and hurting world.

The people of the Florida-Georgia District are committed to being a beacon of hope through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to all people!

Our task is urgent! We ask for your prayers and financial partnership so that many more will experience Christ's love now and in eternity!



"Every congregation is a mission planting congregation. Start something new!"



Imagine... together, we can do this!
Imagine... if each person and every congregation gave a thank offering, we would reach our goal!

Imagine... the joy over lives transformed and each new believer.
Imagine... the renewed excitement and revitalization in our congregations.

Visit the FLGA District website to learn how you can be Christ's Witness with your financial support.



Scan the QR code or visit flgadistrict.org/celebrating75years

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We also get local volunteers.



A baby waiting for consultation with the surgeon.



It always amazes me how these children wait patiently.

