



THE
COMMUNITY

Spirit

MARCH 2020

THE GOOD NEWS OF
CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - COLUMBIA, IL

spring

Training

Getting Back to the Basics
a Lenten journey

It's Spring Training time in the baseball world, and in 2020, we at Christ Community are going to walk through Lent with our own version of Spring Training as Christians. So get ready to gather together with great team spirit, tone our spiritual muscles, rediscover our need of a Savior, and practice the fundamentals that drive a faith-filled life forward with purpose. Here's the training regimen...

— **DAILY WORKOUTS...DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET**

Each day get your spiritual blood pumping with God's Word. Feel free to dive into the Bible on your own, pick up a devotion booklet at the Welcome Center, or click [here](#) to sign up for a daily e-mail devotional.

— **WEEKLY PEP TALKS...WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER & SERVICE**

We need something to fill us during the rigors of training—filling mind, heart, and stomach. Starts March 4th

- (1) 6:15 p.m.—**Lenten Supper.** Our Light Groups & Group 133 are providing the food. Don't miss out!
- (2) 7:00 p.m.—**Worship.** We'll gather in the glow of candlelight and a flickering (electronic) fire, turn our hearts and minds to God, and worship from our soul. *This year will feature some heartfelt testimonies from some of baseball's current greats who desire to put God first in their lives. (Childcare provided)*

— **GAME TIME...SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

Each Sunday will draw us closer as a team, offer words of life from our ultimate Coach, and inspire us to practice, practice, practice the fundamentals of faith!

— **A PEP RALLY BEFORE OPENING DAY...FAMILY LENT EVENT**

Families of all shapes and sizes are invited for this annual event which lifts up the power and importance of Lent for young and old alike. The action happens following worship on **Sunday, March 29th**, beginning with lunch. See the article on page 5.



Monthly Member SpotLIGHT

Each month a "SpotLIGHT" shines on one member of Christ Community as we continue to learn about the different lights of Christ who make up our community. Enjoy this month's edition.



Member: Tina Blechle

Family: Husband- Kevin, married 8.5.2000; Son- Sam, 10 years old.

Occupation: I clean houses part time. I also do most of the accounting work for Lawn Doctor, the franchise business that Kevin and I own. We do fertilization, weed control, aerating, seeding, and more. My background before Lawn Doctor and cleaning houses was marketing management.

Activities/Hobbies: My activities mainly include attending whatever sporting event Sam is playing at the time, usually baseball, soccer, or basketball. Back in the day, I really enjoyed playing co-ed softball with Kevin. Nowadays, if I get any spare time, I like to hike/explore nature, play games (ping pong, board games, and cards), make crafts, and read.

Member Since: Sept 2010

Favorite Church Ministries: I am involved with Children and Family Ministry Team, Hilltop Kids Ministries Board, Vacation Bible School, TGIF Light Group, Adult Sunday School, and SSALT.

What brought me to Christ Community: We moved from Fenton, MO to Columbia, IL in November 2008. We continued to go to our ELCA church in Webster Groves, MO until we had Sam in January 2010. We soon realized the difficulty of a 30 minute church commute with a baby. We checked out Christ Community, liked it, and kept coming back.

What keeps me here? The relationships and friendships we have built here keep me going when times are good, and even when they are not so good. It really is a place of community and comfort for me...great people to laugh, cry, and just be with. I feel like if all heck broke loose and my "world" was falling apart, there would be someone (likely multiple someones) there to give the help and love I need.

How have I seen God at work in or through Christ Community? I have seen it in so many ways honestly, but one of my favorites is through Vacation Bible School. It truly takes a full church effort to make this event happen. And while we are striving to penetrate the hearts of these kids with God's truths, we ALL get to hear and learn these truths again ourselves.

March Birthdays

3 Jackie Parker	8 Howard Schmidt	17 Sarah Blind	27 Grace Hunsucker
4 Bob Bauer	9 Zack Duncan	19 John Descher	Julie Reichert
Marvin Rodemich	11 Ruth Rodemich	20 Jon Kessler	Erica Timmons
5 Kollin Cronin	12 Vicky Schlemmer	21 Farrell Clancy	
Jason Reichert	15 Mark Haubein	23 Maddie Parker	

MARCH 21ST



& Silent Auction

to support the...

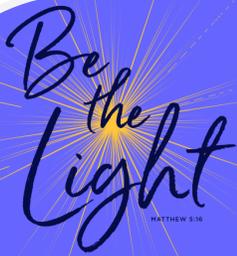
2020 Youth Summer Trips

As a part of their annual effort to defray the costs of heading out this summer for life-changing missions and adventures, the youth are hosting a fun night of congregational togetherness. This year they're trying something new...BINGO! So join in the fun at Christ Community on Saturday, March 21st, for a lively silent auction, some family-style Bingo, and a whole lot of fun!! Bring your own snacks while you battle for prizes throughout the rounds of play. Our youth will be there serving, running the Bingo rounds, and watching your younger children in KidZ Landing.

Doors open at 5:30 pm

Bingo starts promptly at 6:00 pm

The cost will be \$15 per person with \$45 max/household (children 5 & under are free). You can even purchase a table of 8 in advance for only \$100. ALL proceeds are going toward the CCLC summer youth adventures! Come and have fun with your church family while supporting our awesome youth!



JOIN A LIGHT GROUP

These groups aren't for "someone else". They are for EVERYONE to get connected and support each other in being the Light out in the world!

Join One TODAY!!! SIGN UP BELOW...

L.E.D. Heads

1st Tuesdays

Leaders: Lisa Donovan, Jason Reichert

Friday Night Lights

1st Fridays

Leader: Jaime Miers

T.G.I.F.

2nd Fridays

Leader: Penny Madlinger

Lightworkers

3rd Tuesdays

Leaders: Ryan Gilbert, Lynn Pelker

[>>> SIGN UP HERE <<<](#)

FEBRUARY'S BRIGHT LIGHT AWARD RECIPIENT...

Joyce Henson of Columbia

Joyce was nominated because of the ways she has been a selfless servant in the community for many, many years especially as a gifted pianist at both our schools and churches, including our own from time to time.

Joyce's light shown through even in receiving the reward itself...a moment which brought her to tears and humbly asking how people would think of her as a Bright Light.



Continue to be on the look out for people shining Christ's light and nominate them for next month's award!



The SSALT of Christ Community

SSALT will meet ...March 8, 2020
7:00 p.m. @ Karen Walker's home
865 Forest View Dr. Columbia

You are the salt of the earth...
Matthew 5:13



The Top of the Hill Gang's March meeting is Sunday, March 1st after church in the fellowship area. We will have lunch and fill some bags to bless those who are less fortunate.

Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact [Bob Bauer](#) with questions.

Group 133

March Meeting

Gather with other men of the church this month on Sunday the 15th at beginning at 7 p.m. Location TBA. ALL men are invited. If you've never come or haven't been in awhile, please consider joining in. 133 is truly less without you.

Spring Fish Fry

We are moving our annual fish fry to the Spring. Mark down April 19th at Frank Weber's as our 2020 Fish Fry. Look for more details as April draws closer.



❖ July 19-23 ❖ VBS 2020

Note that THESE are the correct dates (last month had the wrong ones listed). Note further that this is one week earlier than traditionally, so please mark it down and plan your summer vacation and travel around this exciting week.

❖ August 6-7 ❖

Global Leadership Summit

Set aside the dates now for this annual leadership event for leaders of all kinds. Make plans now to attend.

Some Words from the Finance Team

The mission and ministry we do week in and week out at Christ Community is completely dependent upon the generous giving of its members. With all doing their part, we are able to do and serve more for God's Kingdom than we ever could on our own. Thank you to all who give regularly for this mission...GOD's Work—OUR Hands!

Automatic Giving

SIMPLY GIVING

Simplify your life and sign up today for "Simply Giving". Under this program your offering can be deducted automatically in whatever amount & duration you choose. It's a simple program (hence the name) that helps the church you love while disciplining participants to be first fruits givers. To enroll, contact our Office Manager, [Penny Madlinger](#).

Shop & Give...with One Click!

SUPPORT CCLC WITH AMAZON
SMILE

Do you ever shop on-line? If so, how about using Amazon Smile? Just use the link below, and with no extra charge or hassle, a percentage of your shopping will actually go towards the ministry of Christ Community. Just start your shopping at this link and it will happen automatically. Such an easy way to give even a little bit more all year round!! Look for the link on your E-Spirit weekly e-mail as well for even easier access!

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/37-1271328>

**We received \$45 last
quarter from our shopping**

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Raising Young People to Know God and be Transformed by Christ

Youth Group in March

March 4th
The Rock Youth
4:30-6 p.m.

March 8th
Ignite Youth
After Worship

March 15th
Amplify Youth
After Worship

March 17th
Amplify Youth Chat & Chew
4:30-6 p.m.

March 21st
Bingo/Silent Auction
All Youth Needed

March 22nd
Ignite Youth
After Worship

March 29th
Family Lent Event
After Worship

FAMILY LENT EVENT



March 29th
11:45 a.m.—1 p.m.

Join us on March 29th for a special Children & Family Lent Adventure immediately following worship. The adventure includes a warm, kid-friendly meal and some craft and interactive stations that are family and kid-friendly. The Family Lent Event is open to families of all shapes and sizes. RSVP at the Welcome Center or [online](#). For any questions contact [Lynn](#).

Coming in April

April 12th Easter Breakfast

Amplify and Ignite are in charge of the Easter Breakfast. They will be making pancakes for a free will donation.

Saturday, April 18th, 2020
Youth/Adult 5K and 1 Mile
Fun Walk/Run/Stroller

March 21st

BINGO & SILENT AUCTION **Help NEEDED**

Be ready to help with this awesome annual event where we have a blast with our church family and raise money for our 2020 Youth Summer Adventures! We will need all Amplify and Ignite Youth there beginning at 4 p.m. for set-up and ending at 9 p.m. after clean up. All youth signed up for Oklahoma need to be present, but we really need everyone possible.



Sending kids to camp is more than a fun week for the kids (and the parents). Christian camping is an incredibly formative experience for young people and helps their faith come alive like nothing else can!! If you send your child to anything this summer, make summer camp a priority.

There are many camps to choose from, but a gem just down the road is Camp Wartburg (just south of Waterloo). Camp Wartburg has Lutheran roots, wonderful facilities, a whole host of activities including a first class high ropes course and a swimming pool as well as a great summer staff of counselors who love God and love kids. Pick up a brochure today at the church, and sign up your child for a week. It could literally change their lives. Go to www.campwartburg.com or talk to Pastor Jared—a veteran of outdoor ministry.

A SIGN to Point the WAY



COMING SOON!!!!

Due to the unanimous affirmation by the congregation at its February 23rd Annual Meeting as well as the generous support of almost 40 households, we will soon have a new sign to welcome people to our front door and make our presence known more widely to the community around us.

Over \$10,000 was pledged! Thank you to everyone who pledged and gave for this important addition to our campus. More gifts are certainly welcome as the total cost exceeds \$20,000.



“A Place for You”

Communion Basics for 3rd Graders

All young people in third grade AND their parents are invited to a very important opportunity in April. They will be meeting with Pastor Jared to learn about a vital part of the Christian faith—Holy Communion. While some may have already been communing for some time, this is an important way the church seeks to help nurture a common understanding of this powerful mystery of our faith.

This experience comes in three parts. The learning portion for both parents and students will be Saturday morning, April 4th from 9-11 a.m. Parts two & three will be on Thursday, April 9th which is Maundy Thursday. That night the 3rd graders will gather at 5:45 p.m. to bake the bread for worship that night. The worship itself, which begins at 7 p.m., will include a special time of recognition of this milestone.

This whole experience is an important step along the path of fulfilling those promises parents make when their child is baptized. Families with third graders will be receiving a letter from Pastor Jared later this month with a few more details, but if you have questions please [contact him](#) today!

Congregational Offerings

We give thanks to God for all who generously support the mission and ministry of Christ Community.

We can't do God's Work without your support!

Budgeted Year-to-date Offering Target	\$ 19,195
Actual Year-to-date Offerings	\$ 19,100

Amounts as of end of January

CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

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Council members are people just like you, who worship with you each week, love the Lord, and also have families and jobs and lives beyond CCLC. As members of council they are dedicated to giving their all to serve God's mission in this church and represent us all. If you have thoughts, questions, or concerns, they would love to hear from you directly and get to know you more. Feel free to reach out to them personally at their monthly "Fireside Chats" after worship on the first Sunday of the month.

Join Us on Sunday Morning



Sunday School—9 a.m.
Fellowship—10:00 a.m.
Worship—10:30 a.m.

Get Connected

Worshipping is at the heart of who we are as children of God, but we were also created to be in relationship with one another. At Christ Community those connections are central to who we are. Want to get connected with others? Join a Light Group today! Click [here](#) to join now or talk to [Pastor Jared](#) TODAY!

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a-Sunday School 10a-Fellowship 10:30a-Worship 11:45a-Fireside Chat 12p-Top of the Hill	2 7a-Wake Up Waterloo	3 7p-LED Heads 7p-Worship Team	4 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff 4:30p Rock Youth 4:30p Confirmation 6:15p Lent Supper <i>(LED Heads)</i> 7p Lenten Campfire	5 7a-Wake Up Columbia 10a CCC Worship 1p-Knit,Crochet,Pray 6:30p-Girl Scouts 7p-Property Team	6 7p Friday Night Lights	7  Daylight Savings Tonight
8 9a-Sunday School 10a-Fellowship 10:30a-Worship 11:45a-Ignite Youth 7p-SSALT @ Walker's	9 7a-Wake Up Waterloo 7p-Boy Scouts	10 6p-Finance Team 7p-Church Council	11 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff 6:15p Lent Supper <i>(Friday Night Lights)</i> 7p Lent Service	12 7a-Wake Up Columbia 1p-Knit,Crochet,Pray	13 7p T.G.I.F. Light Group	14
15 9a-Sunday School 10a-Fellowship 10:30a-Worship 11:45a-Amplify/Ignite 7p-Group 133	16 7a-Wake Up Waterloo 7p-Boy Scouts	17 4:30p-Chat & Chew <i>(Amplify Youth)</i> 6:30p-Light Workers	18 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff 4:30p-Confirmation 6:15p Lent Supper <i>(Light Workers)</i> 7p Lenten Campfire	19 7a-Wake Up Columbia 1p-Knit,Crochet,Pray 6:30p-Girl Scouts	20	21 Youth Silent Auction/Bingo 4p - Youth Setup 5:30p - Doors open 6:00p - Bingo begins
22 9a-Sunday School 10a-Fellowship 10:30a-Worship 11:45a Ignite Youth	23 7a-Wake Up Waterloo 7p-Boy Scouts	24	25 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff 6:15p Lent Supper <i>(Group 133)</i> 7p Lenten Campfire	26 7a-Wake Up Columbia 1p-Knit,Crochet,Pray	27 <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Be Like Jesus Lock In Faith Lutheran O'Fallon </div>	28 8a-12p Spring Work Day
29 9a-Sunday School 10a-Fellowship 10:30a-Worship 11:45a-Family Lenten Event	30 7a-Wake Up Waterloo 7p-Boy Scouts	31	April 1 9:15a-Hilltop Chapel 9:45a-Staff 4:30p Rock Youth 4:30p Confirmation 6:15p Lent Supper <i>(T.G.I.F.)</i> 7p Lenten Campfire	April 2 7a-Wake Up Columbia 10a CCC Worship 1p-Knit,Crochet,Pray 6:30p-Girl Scouts 7p-Property Team	April 3 7p-Friday Night Lights	April 4 9a-3rd Grader Communion Basics Retreat

AT CHRIST COMMUNITY WE VALUE...

CHRIST-LIKE **I**NCLUSIVITY

MOVING CLOSER TO CHRIST

A **G**ENEROUS STEWARDSHIP

EMBRACING WORSHIP

Our Mission



Growing in Faith



Becoming Disciples

**Be doers of
the word, &
not hearers
only.**

James 1:22

Living the Word

CCLC Staff Directory

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