



Shrove Pancake Breakfast
free- will offering
 Sunday, February 11th
 Fellowship Hall
 Between Services

Ash Wednesday
 Wednesday, February 14th
 Noon
 7 p.m.

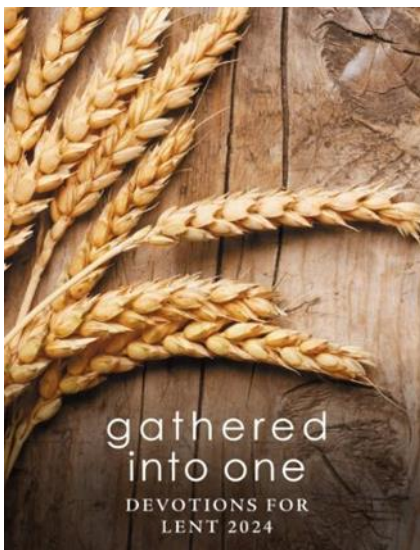
Wednesdays in Lent
 February 21 & 28
 March 6, 13, & 20
 6 p.m. Meal
free- will offering
 7 p.m. Worship

****If you would like ashes for at-home use to follow along with the 7 p.m. livestream, please contact the church office on Monday and Tuesday, February 12th and 13th, to make a request and schedule pick up.*

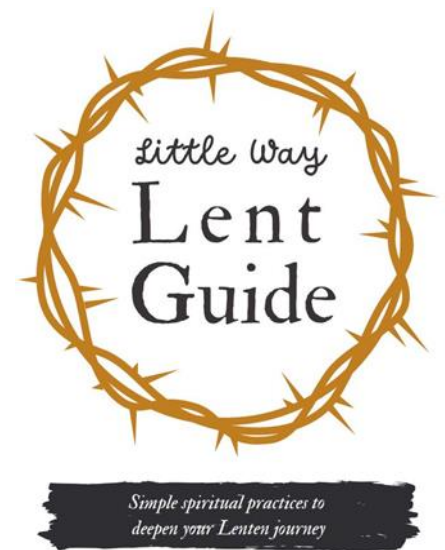
During the season of Lent, you will notice some variation in our Sunday morning worship together:

- ⇒ The paraments are the color purple, a color representing repentance and solemnity.
- ⇒ The Canticle of Praise is omitted from our liturgy. We will move directly from the Kyrie to the Prayer of the Day omitting the song of joyous glory as a way of practicing quiet contemplation.
- ⇒ The Gospel Acclamation is the setting for Lent.
- ⇒ During Holy Communion, the Great Thanksgiving and Preface will always be spoken as a sign of solemnity.
- ⇒ We refrain from saying the word Alleluia as we “fast” from this word which means, “Praise the Lord.”

On Wednesday, February 21st, a Taizé worship service will be introduced that we will use as our liturgy for the 5 Midweek Lenten services that follow Ash Wednesday. Taizé (pronounced “teh-ZAY”) worship is a meditative form of worship centering us on Christ’s presence with us which originates from a religious community in southern France founded by Brother Roger in 1940. Each week during the midweek services, we will hear from different members of the church council and congregation about how stewardship is impactful in the life of the church.



Lenten Devotionals will be available for pick up beginning Sunday, February, 4th.



From the Pastors.....



I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. Psalm 139:14

For over 100 years, Lutheran youth have been gathering in regional and national assemblies across the country. These gatherings have proven to be one of the most impactful faith-enriching experiences that young adults have. In addition to deepening and broadening their faith in Christ, the gatherings have been a powerful means of building relationships amongst the participants and further connecting participants to the work of the greater church.

Community in Christ has a history of attending National Youth Gatherings and we are excited to send another group this summer as we gather in New Orleans with tens of thousands of youth from across the country July 15th – July 20th. The theme for this gathering is *Created to Be* and is based off of Psalm 139. The theme is expanded to focus on how God has created us to be: Brave, Authentic, Free, Disruptive, and Disciples.

To prepare for this experience, our 8 youth and 3 adult leaders have begun a series of getting ready materials that will expose us to elements of the theme. In addition, the series will help prepare us for what life in New Orleans is like for the many residents who make up one of the most culturally and ethnically diverse cities in the country.

In the coming weeks and months, you'll also learn of ways you can help support the group who will be attending the NYG.

- Currently, the participants have teamed up with the card ministry to create many of the cards in the card's turnstile in the narthex. Proceeds from the sale of cards in January and February will be given to the group.
- In addition, on February 11th, the group will be leading the Shrove Sunday Pancake Breakfast between worship services. All are welcome to attend the breakfast and the free-will donation will go towards the group's travel expenses.
- The 5 Midweek Lenten Meals that begin on February 21st at 6 p.m. will be set up, served, and cleaned up by gathering participants. The free-will offering at each of those meals will help off-set the group's costs.
- Other fundraising opportunities will likely be in the future. In addition to these financial gifts, your prayers are always coveted.

May the Spirit move amongst this group and the whole Church so that we more fully embody the beautiful (and often messy) life and call that God has created us for.

God's peace be with you,
Pastor Michael & Pastor Lisa



Prayers

Through the waters of Holy Baptism, we welcomed Caleb Thomas Orlowski and Amaris Natanya Paruluhutan Tampubolon in the body of Christ and the mission we share.

Prayers for Members: Gary Salzman, Suzette Iskander, Joan Garn, Janet Shuping, Betty Classey, Pat Hamby, Gregg Bottenmiller, Lucy Price, Joyce Phelps, Shirley McNeilis, Blaire Hart, Warren Hamby, Laverne Waskielis, Janice Kaufmann, Sandy Barefoot, Anne Randolph, John Iverson, Liann Musano, Ron Major, Ron Raper, Deb Myers, Karen Frank, Aella Tampubolon, Chandra Menefee, Bill Rockwood, Brenda Tripathi, Chuck Hill, Don & Diana Elsass

Prayers for friends & relatives of members: Pastor Carl Yost (Congregation friend), Michelle Smith (Deborah Lowe's niece), Bob Blackwelder (Carol Moser's brother), Joyce Kelly (Stella Ryan's sister), Carl Morris (Carla Haley's father), Tom Fox (friend of Ed & Susan Bauer)

Prayers for all active duty military personnel and their families, healthcare workers, first responders and public servants (Community In Christ thanks you and continues to pray for you)

The Lay Pastors meet monthly to pray for all people on the list. They send also out cards letting them know they have been prayed for. Please provide addresses to send the cards. Please submit all prayer requests to the office: 704-892-020 or swheeler@communityinchrist.net.

Ways to Give of Tithes and Offerings at CIC:

1. Online/Direct Withdrawal

- A. Go to www.communityinchrist.org & click on the “donate now” button in the upper right-hand corner.
- B. Select “Create Profile”
- C. Provide your email address
- D. Create your profile and provide the various pieces of information. Once your profile is created, you can select what types of giving you would like sign-up for.

**When considering this option, please note that church incurs an additional service charge for debit and credit card fees.*

2. Mail In: We have a locked mailbox at CIC that is checked frequently. CIC’s address is 7621 Norman Island Drive, Cornelius, NC 28031

3. Offering Plate: The ushers provide an opportunity for you to place your offering in the offering plate during worship.

4. Are you a Thrivent Financial member? You may be eligible to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to enrolled non-profits that you care about – including our church! Feel free to contact your Thrivent agent to check your eligibility! We appreciate your support of CIC’s ministry through Choice Dollars! Undesignated 2023 Choice Dollars can be designated until the end of March 2024! Be sure to check your accounts!

Stock Account—Have you ever thought about giving the gift of stocks, mutual funds, or IRAs? CIC has a resource available through Thrivent Financial to transfer these funds to the church into a charitable, tax-free gift account. If you would like to learn more about this possibility or have questions please contact Gary Samuelson (704-506-3234) and/or Madalyn Wilkinson at financedirector@communityinchrist.net.

Office Communication: Please be in touch with Stephanie in the church office (swheeler@communityinchrist.net) about the following:

- If you read the newsletter online and prefer that it no longer be mailed to your physical address.
- If you have switched to giving primarily through digital means and no longer have a need for physical envelopes.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD EXPIRATION DATE IF YOU ARE SET UP FOR



Have you joined CIC's new online photo directory yet?

- The directory is through a program called Church Center, which is also an app.
 - Follow the QR code to get started.
- If you need assistance, there will be tech support in the narthex between services or call the office for help.



Office & Staff Information

We encourage calling and emailing to schedule appointments.

Pastor Lisa – pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net

Pastor Michael – pastormichael@communityinchrist.net

Stephanie Wheeler, Church Administrator – swheeler@communityinchrist.net

Finance, Madalyn Wilkinson—financedirector@communityinchrist.net

Music, Sherry Malia—musicdirector@communityinchrist.net

Bell Choir News:

The members of the bell choir who are attending the upcoming retreat at Lutheridge have been working on the six compositions our clinician has selected for us. Some of the pieces are quite challenging. But just as our path of discipleship is not about perfection so is this journey in learning the music and remembering who we are playing and living for. Our first Sunday after the retreat we will be playing one of the compositions, “Ah Holy Jesus”, at both services for our congregation. Once again, we all want to thank you so much for supporting us so we can attend the Lutheridge Bell Choir Retreat February 16-18.

Bell Choirs Rehearsal Schedule

Feb 1 & 8: Carillon at 6 p.m., Retreat Bells at 6:30 p.m. and Agape at 7:15 p.m. Rehearsals are in the Spirit Center

Feb 15: Retreat Bells from 6—8 p.m.

Feb 16-18: Bell Retreat

Feb 22: Agape Bells at 6 p.m., Retreat Bells at 7 p.m. both rehearsals in the Spirit Center

Group Ministry News.....

Tuesday Morning CIC Bible Study: Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets at 10:30 a.m. in the Narthex.

Save The Date: Bishop's Lenten Bible Study: Bishop Tim Smith will again offer an online Bible study on the book of Micah during Lent—specifically, the five Thursdays beginning February 22 and concluding on March 21—from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom. Don't miss this opportunity to study Micah with other Lutherans across the synod! Register at the following link in order to receive the Zoom link: <https://form.jotform.com/240076536877062>

Calling all athletes! The Church Softball Season will begin again soon! Start stretching now!! Watch for more information in bulletin announcements and Take Twos!

Happy Times Seniors: Will meet Wednesday, February 21st at 11:30 at the Cheesecake Factory in Birkdale Village. New Restaurant—New Adventure! RSVP Ron Major (704) 622-0517 HunterRon35@hotmail.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry: In February, the CIC Prayer Shawl Ministry will focus on making hat and scarf sets for those in need during the cold winter months. Already this season, we have given away more than 45 sets to children served by the Montagnard Tutoring Program and the homeless served by the Dwelling. We still have cold weather ahead and the need doesn't go away. We could certainly use your help!! So, if you like to knit or crochet - or would like to learn how - please join us! No experience necessary!!!! The group and its activities are open to all CIC members, friends, and visitors regardless of age or ability. Just contact Kathy Dutton (see email address below) and she will add your name to the member email list and keep you informed. We meet in person in the CIC on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30pm to 2:30 pm. Plan to join us if you can for some fellowship, idea-sharing, and fun! Of course, you can also participate in this important ministry at home by crafting items, and bringing them to CIC. If you have any questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Dutton (mamabissy@gmail.com) or Diana Elsass (dianaelsass@gmail.com).

Card Ministry News: Why not join the CIC card ministry team, where we create cards that serve as physical reminders of God's love, support and presence in our lives. All are welcome and no experience is needed! We will meet twice in February to make cards and enjoy fellowship with one another. We'll be meeting Tuesday, February 13th at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30 p.m. in the Spirit Center. Participants are asked to enter through the doors nearest the Spirit Center. Would you like more information? Contact: Kathy Shugarman at 940-300-2290 or shugs02@gmail.com. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the card ministry through your prayers, working hands and purchasing cards from the rack.

Card Ministry teams up with CIC Youth: During February all proceeds from sales of cards on card rack in the narthex will be going to the youth for their upcoming trip to the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Please check out the card rack and see some of the cards the youth have helped to make!

Quilting Ministry: The Quilt Ministry will meet Thursday, February 8 & 27 at 10:00 a.m. in Classroom #1. You are welcome to join us even if you don't sew. We welcome anyone who can iron, cut or help to tie quilts. Come check us out. Everyone is welcome! Please call Barbara Eaker @ (704) 451-5922 with any questions or suggestions.

Preschool: The CIC Preschool currently has openings for 3 students in the PK class and 2 students in the TK class (age 5). There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$85.00 per child is due at time of enrollment. Tuition for 2023/2024: \$325 for 4-year-old students. To schedule a tour contact Sharon Fuller at 704-892-0120 ext 104 or sfuller9564@gmail.com.

The 5:11s (women's group): All women of CIC are welcome to The 5:11s. Based upon 1st Thessalonians 5:11, we are a women's group that "encourages one another and builds one another up, just as you are doing." We meet on the third Sunday of the month between services to discuss ways we can continue to encourage and build each other up and support our church. Contact Jill Brooks at Jlbrooks@gmail.com with any questions.

Our next meeting will take place Feb. 25th in the Fellowship Hall between services.

- Our first social for the year is Galentine's Bunco Night Feb. 9th from 7 – 9 p.m. at Marci Langan's house (7042 Carrington Pointe Dr., Huntersville) We will be collecting money to purchase items for Busy Bags at CIC. If you can't make it but want to contribute to providing religious educational toys for children during church service please reach out to Marci. Items will be purchased that night in between games. RSVP to Marci at marcisings@gmail.com.
- Angel Aunts.....stay tuned for further discussion.
- Dates for our Women's Retreat will be announced soon. We are looking at late April/early May.
- It's never too late to be a Prayer Sister. If you would like to participate see Kaiti Mrak (kreedyl@gmail.com) for a form.
- A morning book study is in the works. Look for a date and time to start in March. We will be reading *Searching for Sunday* by Rachel Held Evans.



*Preschool Director: Sharon Fuller
704-892-0120 ext 104
sfuller9564@gmail.com*

CIC Weekday Preschool Registration

Priority registration is open for currently enrolled students, siblings, and church members. The remaining spots become open to the public on February 5, 2024.

- ****Non-refundable registration fee of \$85.00 per child is due at time of enrollment. ****
- Tuition for 2024/2025: \$295.00 for 2-year-old and 3-year-old students and \$340.00 for 4-year-old, PK and TK students. Tuition is due on the 1st of the month, with September's tuition due on May 1st, 2024.
- CIC Preschool is not equipped to teach children with special needs.
- All children must be toilet trained by the first day of class.
- Scholarships are available for eligible families. Please see director for details.
- We offer a 10% discount on tuition for families with multiple preschool children.

CIC Preschool Camps—Registration Open!

- **Session #1-June 3-6 (9:05 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.):** “Under the Sea” Our campers will dive under the sea to discover the ocean’s many wonders. We will learn about sharks, sea turtles, dolphins, and many other sea creatures. We will have jellyfish races, paint with squid ink, and have a whale of a good time! \$80 non-refundable registration fee. \$80 balance due May 21st
- **Session #2-June 24-27 (9:05 a.m.-1:00 p.m.):** “Into the Wild” Let’s go on a safari to learn all about the beautiful and sometimes strange animals in the world. We will sample animal-themed crafts, books, games and more! \$80 non-refundable registration fee. \$80 Balance due June 11th
- **Session #3-July 15-18 (9:05 a.m. -1:00 p.m.):** “Out of this World” Our campers will travel into space and explore astronauts, spaceships, the solar system, and constellations! We’ll have hands on fun with space mazes, galaxy Oobleck, homemade rockets and moon walks. \$80 non-refundable registration fee. \$80 Balance due July 2nd
- **Session #4-August 5-8 (9:05 a.m.-1:00 p.m.):** “Magical Adventures”-Bring your imagination to our magical land of knights, princesses, dragons, and unicorns. We will construct castles, make princess crowns, knight shields and more, while having fun in the enchanted kingdom! \$80 non-refundable registration fee. \$80 Balance due July 23rd

Summer fun facts:

- Each camp session is \$160 with a \$80 non-refundable registration fee that will hold your child’s spot in the camp. This fee will be applied to the total camp cost and the balance of \$80 for each camp is due 2 weeks prior to that camp.
- All students who fit in the age ranges of 2-5 years old are eligible to attend our summer camps, including children who do not currently attend CIC Preschool.
- Enrollment is first come first served, until camps are filled.
- Summer camp sessions will have an 8x1 child to teacher ratio.
- All children should wear comfortable play clothes and bring a snack, reusable water bottle and a lunch each day.
- A completed registration form and registration fee(s) payable by check ~OR~debit/credit card online at www.communityinchrist.org is required for each child.
- CIC Preschool reserves the right to cancel any camp and return registration fee due to low enrollment.

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School meets between services every Sunday in February!

February 4th, 18th, and 25th - The Sunday School hour begins with music in the sanctuary then transitions to 2nd-5th grade in Classroom 1 and PreK-1st grade in the Spirit Center.

February 11th - Families are encouraged to attend the free-will offering Shrove Pancake Breakfast between services. *Sunday School youth will play bells during worship on Feb 11th! Please arrive at 8:30am for one last rehearsal! The bells will play before the Children's Message at the 9am service and immediately following the announcements at the 11am service. Please plan on staying through the first few minutes of the 11am service if you are able. You are welcome to leave following playing!

Parents: *The younger class (prek-1st) is requesting that at least one parent hang back each week to be an extra set of eyes and hands each week. Please check in with the class each week to see if this is covered!

**If you haven't filled out a new Registration Form for the Fall, please get one from the classroom. New students may join classes at any time!

First Communion Instruction: If your 2nd grader or older would like to receive First Communion instruction this year during the season of Lent, with First Communion taking place on Maundy Thursday (March 28th), please email Pastor Lisa (pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net) by February 6th.

Confirmation

Sunday, February 4th – 6 p.m. beginning in the Fellowship Hall

The Lenten Confirmation project begins the 2nd half of the month. Please read through your project information. If you have questions, please get in touch with Pastor Michael.

Remember to sign up for worship leadership assistance. Worship notes are found at the welcome desk in the narthex.



This is the time of year families begin to plan their summer activities. Please

**SAVE THE DATE
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024
JULY 28 – AUGUST 1**

Watch for more details and registration information

Help Wanted: Station Leaders: to lead stations during VBS. **Camp Leaders:** travel with children to VBS stations. **Other opportunities** to serve will be announced later. If interested in learning more, Please contact Suzi Hinrichs or Pastor Lisa suzihinrichs@gmail.com or pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net

Summer Camps

Our North Carolina Synod Outdoor Ministries are registering for their summer camps! Check out what each camp has to offer this summer through their links:

- Summer Camp - Agape Kure Beach (<https://agapekurebeach.org/summer-camp/>)
- Lutheran Summer Camps | Lutheridge In North Carolina (<https://lutheridge.org/summer-camps/>)
- Lutheran Summer Camps | Lutherock In North Carolina (<https://lutherock.org/summer-camps/>)



Finance Team

December gifts brought in \$56.9k. YTD, we are now 3% behind the Budget, at \$247.4k. Preschool enrollment stands at 50 total, their December Revenue was \$14.6. Other Revenues were \$1.15k, between interest income, Thrivent Choice dollars, facility use, and credit card rewards. Our Total YTD Revenues are \$329.8k. On the expenses side, items of interest were: Postage: \$110 (Christmas mailings). Office Supplies: \$300 (copy paper, stationery, misc. supplies). Auto Insurance: \$693 (paid the balance of our annual premium to avoid installment fees). Mileage Reimbursement: \$300. Pastor Substitute: \$200 (Pastor Marcus). Music – Special Programs: \$155 (Christmas Pageant). Music – Guest Artists: \$175. (cello player). Youth – Milestone Ministry: \$130 (baptism supplies). Preschool Substitutes: \$480. Total Expenses for the month were \$57.9k, YTD: \$338.6k. Our YTD Deficit is \$8.8k. The recent Handbells fundraising towards their retreat brought in one large lump sum gift of \$5k, plus \$670 in small amount donations. Additionally, the Preschool's fundraiser, Jingle Jog, brought in \$2,670 that will be used towards classroom expenses and equipment replacement. ~Madalyn Wilkinson, Director of Finance.

**Year End Statements have been mailed out. Please contact Stephanie in the church office if you have any questions.

Community in Christ Lutheran Church Ministry Plan	July 23-June 24 Budget	December 23 Actual	% of Budget
<i>Revenues</i>			
Member Contributions	\$530,000	\$247,347	47%
Other Revenue <i>Facility usage, Preschool tuition and fees, Bank interest, credit card rewards</i>	204,900	82,467	40%
Total Revenues	734,900	329,814	45%
<i>Expenses</i>			
Worship <i>Altar supplies, devotionals, substitute pastors</i>	5,300	2,455	46%
Witness <i>Offering envelopes, new member activities</i>	2,260	744	33%
Synod benevolence	53,000	22,367	42%
Administration <i>Computer software, copier lease, insurance, internet, postage, office supplies, telephone, payroll service, credit card fees</i>	46,443	23,126	50%
Mortgage <i>Principal and interest on mortgage</i>	69,348	34,674	50%
Property <i>Building maintenance, janitorial services, utilities, lawn care, fire/security alarms, exterminating, floor/carpet cleaning</i>	59,227	24,165	41%
Staff <i>Salaries, payroll taxes, and benefits for four full-time and one part-time employees; staff development</i>	333,817	161,384	48%
Music Ministries <i>Guest artists, music for choirs, copyright fee, handbells, AV maintenance</i>	4,615	2,351	51%
Youth Ministries <i>Youth mission trips, retreats, activities, VBS, Sunday school, camp/confirmation</i>	8,150	561	7%
Preschool <i>Staff salaries and benefits, activities, supplies, maintenance</i>	151,499	66,761	44%
Total Expenses	733,659	338,587	46%
Surplus	\$1,241	(\$8,773)	


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 Permit #5


Community in Christ Lutheran Church
 7621 Norman Island Drive
 Cornelius, NC 28031
 1 - 77, Exit 25 2 miles west on HWY 73
 (704) 892-0120 e-mail:
 swheeler@communityinchrist.net

Church Council
 Dean Miller (Treasurer)
 Jeff Moen
 Natasha Nadeau (Pres.)
 Adam English (VP)
 Carl Yarger
 Sharon Heckman
 Tracy Lyon (Secretary)
 Todd Rixman

Staff
 Pastor Lisa Beery pastormicha@communityinchrist.net
 Pastor Michael Beery pastormichael@communityinchrist.net
 Office Administrator, Stephanie Wheeler (swheeler@communityinchrist.net)
 Preschool Director, Sharon Fuller (Sfuller9564@gmail.com)
 Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson (financedirector@communityinchrist.net)
 Music—Sherry Malia (musicdirector@communityinchrist.net)

Team Leaders
 Youth
 Adult Faith Formation (Mark Myers)
 Finance (Madalyn Wilkinson)
 Technology
 Outreach (Kathy Dutton)
 Inviting Ministries
 Property (Stephanie Wheeler)
 Stewardship
 Support Staff (Kathy Shugaman)
 Worship & Music





Moving forward in
 Outreach
 Stewardship
 Welcome & Inclusion
 Worship
 Youth & Family Ministries
As a Community
in Christ

Worship Times

9 a.m. (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)
10 a.m. Sunday School (Spirit Center)
10 a.m. Coffee Time (Narthex)
11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Livestreamed on [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#)

Please note that announcements for the bulletin, newsletter and Facebook pages are for church related items only. Anything non-related to the church will be deleted. Thank you for adhering to this policy. Submissions for the bulletin must be received in writing to the church office by Thursdays at 10 a.m. Submissions for the newsletter must be received in writing to the church office by the 20th of the month.

Are you getting our E-Mails?

Each week we send out an e-mail to the congregation sharing what's going on and what's coming up. If you have not been receiving these e-mails, please let us know. Write your e-mail down in the black book and put a note by it asking us to include you in our weekly e-mails. You can also sign up for e-mails at our website.
www.communityinchrist.org