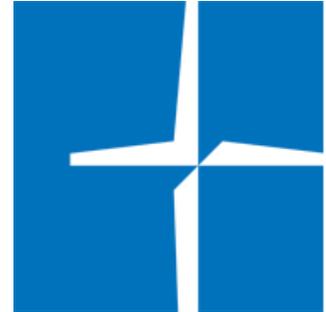


CLARION



A Week that Changed History

When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem on what is now known as Palm Sunday, no one shouting “Hosanna” envisioned how the next week would change the course of human history. Plan now to relive that week through meaningful worship experiences at Christ Memorial.

Palm Sunday celebrations on April 9 will include special music provided by the combined Praise Kids and Adult Choirs at 8 and 9:20 am, and energetic praise led by our worship team at 1045 am.

Jesus showed us the way of love and service to others through the stunning act of washing the feet of his disciples, and turning their world upside down by transforming the Passover meal into Holy Communion. **Maundy Thursday** worship is offered at 7 pm on April 13. Music will be led by members of our Reliant Campus music team, and Holy Communion will be served at a slower more reflective pace.

On **Good Friday** (April 14) we focus our hearts on the suffering and death of Jesus and His agonizing separation from the Father. Good Friday worship at 12 noon and 7 pm will be identical this year, including special choral music, drama, and an expanded “Tenebrae” (Service of Darkness) remembering the final Seven Word of Jesus. Our 5:15 pm Good Friday worship is specially designed for families with younger children, and will include music from our youth praise team and the Praise Kids Choir in a mix of contemporary and traditional music.

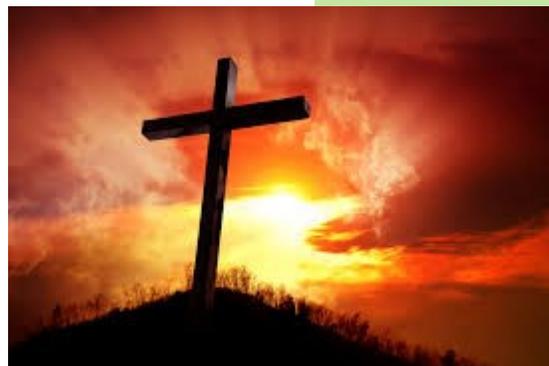
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Mark your calendars

- 4/6 Women’s Guild
- 4/8,9 Go! St. Louis
- 4/8 Hymn Sing at Lemay Care Center
- 4/9 Palm Sunday Worship
- 4/13 Maundy Thursday
- 4/14 Good Friday
- 4/15 and 16 Easter
- 4/21 CMP Trivia Night
- 4/24 Sunday morning Forum
- 4/26-28 Attic Treasures
- 6/24 CMP Auditions

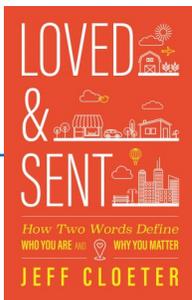


loved & sent

Through special book signing events, Pastor Jeff's book *Loved & Sent* has raised \$5,000 for ministries, including CFNA, Compass After School Programs, and young adult mission trip scholarships.

You can purchase copies through our church office from 8:00-4:00, Monday through Friday. Sales from these copies go to ministry.

You can also purchase on Amazon and all other e-reader formats.



clarion

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The Clarion is published ten times a year for members, family, and friends of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church.

All copy (in Microsoft Word) is due the second Tuesday of each month. Please attach to an email or deliver an electronic copy to the church office.

Email to:

clarion@cmstl.org

Next deadline: April 11

Susan Senechal, Editor

»forum on Sunday morning updates

For the past month, our congregation has been in dialogue about our Sunday morning schedule and how we can best grow as a people loved and sent by God. The engagement from our congregation was strong, with nearly 200 people responding through comment forms. Thanks to all who participated.

A congregational forum will be held on **April 24th at 7:00PM** to share a summary of the congregational responses and a new proposal based on the feedback. We're currently working with a model that maintains our three Sunday morning services while engaging children, families, and adults in new ways. We will address these two guiding values:

1. To engage everyone in worship, including children and youth.
2. Foster multigenerational relationships for faith mentorship and growth.

As we continue to explore the best ways to live out "loved and sent", our elders, pastors, and staff are deeply appreciative of



the willingness of all to prayerfully consider change. As the family of Christ, we continue to walk together, faithfully living out who he has called us to be. Hope you can participate on April 24th.

»attend cmp's *trivia in the lou*

Join us for a fun way to support CMP's ministry by attending the annual CMP Trivia night on Friday April 21. *Trivia in The Lou* is the theme for the evening. Trivia starts at 7:00 pm and doors will open at 6:30 pm.

Fill your table of 8 at a cost of \$20 per adult and \$10 per student. Beverages and snacks will be provided. There will be a prize for the Best St. Louis Themed Table and Cash prizes.

To reserve your table or to become a round sponsor, please contact:

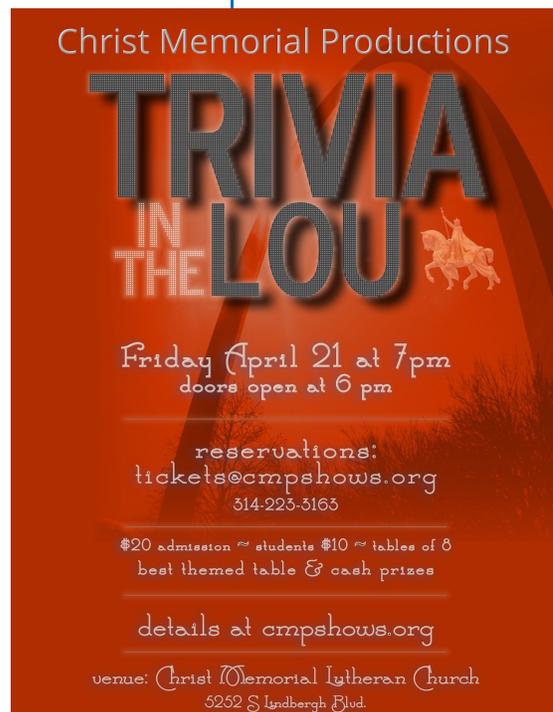
Tickets@CMPShows.org or call 314-223-3163. Complete trivia night information can be found online at CMPShows.org.

»an evening of food, fellowship and song

On March 10, over 600 people attended CMP's free concert featuring Erin Bode. Keith Poppitz and Mark Strege opened the evening with selections such as *At the Cross* and *Come to Jesus*. The GEN52 band, with vocals by Dianne Mueller and John Jauss, and accompanied by Gregg Mueller, Tom Applebaum. Matt Schorr and Mark Glaenzer, played a selection of contemporary Christian music including *Thy Will Be Done* and *First*.

Finally, Erin Bode and her band, including Sarah Lancaster, Mary Kate Walton, Syd Rodway, Tara Santiago, and Mark Colenburg, performed for over 90 minutes. Erin included several original compositions including *The Mountain* and a selection of other songs including traditional hymns, beautifully accompanied and harmonized.

In addition to the beautiful and inspiring music, guests enjoyed elegant refreshments, an inviting atmosphere with plenty of space to relax, listen and chat. The evening provided many opportunities for conversations and fellowship. The entire event illustrated Christ's love, a free gift, and provided an opportunity to share the Gospel message, and to develop relationships. Thank you to our numerous volunteers and to all who attended.



attendance report

february 2017

Week One 777

Week Two 672

Week Three 718

Week Four 673

Average per Week 710

February 2016

Week One 796

Week Two 466

Week Three 721

Week Four 796

Average per Week 695

»pastor jeff takes loved & sent to ministry conference

On Thursday, February 25, Pastor Jeff Cloeter was honored to give the opening keynote address at the 3-day *Best Practices for Ministry* conference in Phoenix. *Best Practices* is an uplifting gathering of 2,300 leaders from across our church body.

Pastor Jeff's presentation on his book, *Loved & Sent* showcased the two word mission statement that gives direction to everything Christ Memorial does. With the generous support of some friends, he was able to give the book away to all the conference attendees. It was his "Oprah moment."

It's exciting to see the message of loved and sent go viral. New friends who are now taking the message into their context:

- A young Chinese-American woman working at a church in L.A.
- A young pastor in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- A teacher from Concordia Lutheran School in Shanghai.
- A principal and her staff using it in their school in Arizona.
- 30 churches from across the country are using the book for small group development.

Pastor Jeff was introduced by Dr. Dale Meyer, president of Concordia Seminary. A dozen leaders from our congregation attended the annual conference with Pastor Jeff.

About *Loved & Sent* Pastor Jeff said, "This is bigger than just our church. We're part of a larger movement."



Dr. Dale Meyer prays over Pastor Jeff



Pastor Jeff delivers Keynote at Best Practices

»youth attend ignite leadership conference

On March 10-11, Daniel, Donna Wilkinson and seven youth traveled to Des Moines, Iowa to attend a Leadership Conference.

Students, volunteers and youth leaders attended main sessions and breakout sessions, learning a lot about their roles as leaders. The youth that attended help lead our Wednesday evening Senior High Youth Group.



»life team news

The Life Team went to the Midwest March for Life in Jefferson City on February 4th. It was the biggest turn out to date. We were all pleased with the speakers and the State Representatives who attended along with hundreds of marchers.

The Life Team is going to visit the residents at Lemay Care Center once again. The residents have enjoyed our past visits and love to sing hymns. This time the team will be handing out gifts for Easter. We would like to invite anyone who wants to join us to meet at the church parking lot at 12:30 on April 8th to carpool over to the Care Center.

Also, consider attending Monarch Jewelry's Spring Boutique Show, from 6:30-8:30 pm on Thursday, April 20, at Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksview Rd, St. Louis, MO, 63125. This event is free and open to the public, so, grab a friend or two and update your look while you hear an update on sex trafficking from the staff at Crisis Aid International. The presentation begins at 7 pm. All profits go to Crisis Aid International's St. Louis Refuge Home for sex trafficked girls. There will be lots of unique jewelry and gift items - many one-of-a-kind pieces!

The Life Team has many projects, activities and events we are planning. Our team hopes you will consider joining us in these upcoming life-affirming events.

Life Team Mission Statement

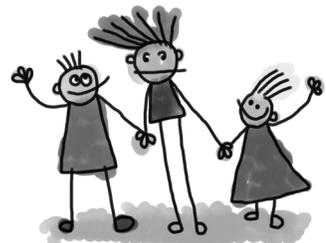
The Christ Memorial Life Team Serves the Pastors and Leaders in Educating the Congregation and Community on the Value of Life from Conception to Natural Death. Providing opportunities to participate in life affirming projects, events and activities.

register now for child care center

There is still time to register your child for Preschool! You choose the days that fit your schedule. Call the office at 314-631-0992 or visit www.cmchildcare.org for more info.

Summer Camp Registration is now open! CMCCC camp will have special activities including field trips, a soccer session, themed days and VBS at Christ Memorial.

Christ Memorial Child Care Center mission statement- Christ Memorial Child Care Center partners with families in providing a nurturing educational environment where children know they are loved by God, growing into independent Christians sent to serve their community.



Devotion, discussion, dessert

April 20 at 6:30

Discuss ***The Time Keeper***

by Mitch Albom and

munch on sugar free

Strawberry Cheesecake.

The Time Keeper is

Father Time's story. After

being punished for trying

to measure God's great-

est gift, he returns to

Earth along with a magi-

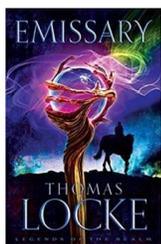
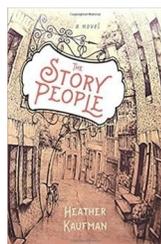
cal hourglass and a mis-

sion: a chance to redeem

himself by teaching two

earthly people the true

meaning of time.



»recent additions to cm library

The Story People by *Heather Kaufman*- When Ben Palermo inherits his uncle's bookstore, he has a secure career and a built-in home, but he doesn't have contentment. As Ben looks ahead to the next chapter of his life, some well-meaning customers scheme to keep him in town by finding him a proper wife—on their terms.

Emissary by *Thomas Locke (Legends of the Realm; Volume 1)*- As Hyam's mother slips toward death, she implores him to return to Long Hall before he settles down to farm his land. This journey born from duty becomes an impassioned quest for the truth. War is coming swiftly, and Hyam must rely upon his newfound powers and the friends he meets along the way in order to unravel the puzzling past and ensure that he--and the realm--will have a future.

Grace Alone by *Ruth E. Meyer*- Grace Williams isn't looking for complications because, really, isn't life complicated enough? She's a single mom with four children. She has unresolved issues with her ex-husband. Her sister nags at her about going to church. Her kids are not perfect. And neither is Grace—she has hang-ups about organized religion, she is overwhelmed by suppressed guilt and grief, she is judgmental, and she can't control her hair.

Children's

The Fear of the Spear by *Marianne Hering (The Imagination Station; 17)*- Patrick and Beth have escaped from volcano lava only to be separated again, and no one knows exactly where Beth has gone. Eugene and Patrick frantically try to fix the Imagination Station so they can find Beth, who unbeknownst to them has landed in the Amazon jungle. Also new: **Trouble on the Orphan Train** by *Marianne Hering (The Imagination Station; 18)*

Children's DVDs

VeggieTales: Noah's Ark-Noah and his family along with a zoo full of animals take an adventure aboard an orange slice ark.

VeggieTales: Puppies and Guppies- Join Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber and all their veggie friends and learn what it means to be responsible and kind to others

»book review by ellen parker

The Wish by *Beverly Lewis*

A gentle but powerful Amish story.

Leona Speicher believes she has found a friend as close as a sister when a new family moves to the neighboring farm. She and Gloria Gingerich are constant companions for five years - until Gloria's father is shunned and moves the family away.

Leona is puzzled why her friend does not write to her. But life continues and a nice young man courts her. Then three years after the family moved away, a letter from Gloria arrives.

Ms. Lewis presents the interface between Amish and "English" lifestyles in a balanced way. The little differences as the girls visit each other illustrate the result of small choices made. Did they choose the best for them? The life lessons presented as the girls find the right path are applicable to all readers.

This and several other novels by Beverly Lewis are available in the Christ Memorial library.

»attic treasure sale accepting donations

It's time to clean out, pack up and deliver your gently used, or new, items for the **Women's Guild Attic Treasure Sale**, April 26- 28. If you know someone downsizing or moving, spread the word that we may benefit from what they are parting with. Sorry we cannot accept TVs, computers or printers. We can accept small furniture, i.e. smaller dressers, chests of drawers, chairs, small tables etc. Tax donation letters are available.

Drop off: On Monday and Thursday mornings someone will help you bring in your donations at the back of the church. Larger furniture may be brought to the front of church Apr. 23rd, 24th & 25th.

We need your help setting up the Attic Treasure Sale; Sunday April 23rd from 3-7 pm, Monday April 24 from 8am-3pm, and Tuesday April 27 from 8 am-3 pm as well as clean up on Friday April 28. from 11:30 to completion. Please save these dates!! Give us any hours that you can.... We need your help!! A light lunch will be provided. Thank you.

Questions? Give Joyce Renna a call (314-843-8854 or 314-952-8854). Thank you!

Monies raised from the Attic Treasure Sales have been used for mission endeavors and church needs. Unsold items are donated to various organizations (e.g., Water Projects, Nurses for Newborns, Salvation Army etc.)

Thanks for helping to make this sale another success!!!

»women's guild happenings

Women's Guild will meet for their monthly business meeting on Thursday April 6th at 12:00 noon. Bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert and coffee will be served. Let's all come and help with the final plans for the Attic Treasure Sale on April 23, 24, and 25.

In April, Gethsemene Lutheran Church at 765 Lemay Ferry Rd. will hold an LWML Rally. All members of the Women's Guild are welcome and urged to attend.

stewardship update

Current Fiscal Year
July 1, 2016 through
February 28, 2017

spending YTD
Actual Spending
\$928,660

Actual Giving
\$932,180

Budget Giving
\$1,034,243

giving YTD
2015-2016 \$943,682
2016-2017 \$932,180

Holy Week schedule at a glance

Palm Sunday—

April 8 & 9

5:00 pm, 8:00, 9:20,
10:45 am

Maundy Thursday—

April 13

7 pm

Service with Holy
Communion

Good Friday—

April 14

Tenebrae
(Service of Darkness)

12 pm, 7 pm

With choral music and
drama, no Holy
Communion

For Families with
Young Children

5:15 pm

With Praise Kids and
Children's Message

Easter Celebration—

April 15 and 16

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 8 and 9:20 am
With orchestra and
choir

Sunday 10:45
Contemporary
Worship Celebration
With worship choir
and brass

»the week that changed the world

(continued from page 1)

The 5:15 pm service will also include dramatic readings from our Praise Kids Players, completion of Lego Crosses and a Good Friday Children's message.

In order to allow greater time within all Good Friday services to reflect upon the suffering and death of Jesus, Holy Communion will not be offered. All are invited to receive Holy Communion during our Maundy Thursday (7 pm) worship, Easter Vigil on Saturday evening or in any service on Easter morning.

Join us **Easter** weekend, April 15/16 for a celebration of life eternal! Orchestra and Choir will lead our praise to the risen Savior at the 5pm Easter Vigil service Saturday as well as 8 and 9:20 am on Sunday. A worship choir and brass players will join our 10:45 worship team for an enthusiastic contemporary worship celebration. Plan now to invite someone on your bookmark, or a neighbor or friend who needs to know Jesus' love to join you for Easter worship. Your invitation could be used by God to change their lives for eternity!

»lenten lego crosses

This Lent during our Wednesday 5:15 pm Family Worship Services, we are using Legos to talk about our faith. Using different color Lego bricks, children are taught about the death and resurrection of Jesus our savior. The first brick was given out on Ash Wednesday and the last one will be on Easter Sunday. Children will be able to pick up bricks for weeks missed. We are thankful to Thrivent and Choice Dollars for the purchase of the Legos.

