

# STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

MARCH & APRIL 2024

## Reflections on Mission Jamaica...



Debra Samuelson

I left Jamaica with love in my heart for the children and I will never forget their precious faces. I am forever changed and deeply grateful for the joyful experiences that we shared.



Linda Tibbetts

Witnessing the resilience of the children in the face of adversity inspired me to be more grateful and compassionate.

Dave Massopust

Swimming at the beach—pure joy!



Lesa Hoseck

Though I wished we could have done more, no small seed of blessing ever goes missing!



Laura Langreck

Making improvements to their home, big or small, truly makes a difference in the children's/staff's day-to-day lives.



Rich Grossen

Wonderful, tropical island fun, filled with loving warmth and beauty from those we had the pleasure to serve and work with!



Scott Samuelson

Seeing the children waiting for us on the front lawn of Garland Hall, all dressed, full of excitement and joy, ready to go to the beach.



Teri Fick

The Jamaica mission trip is a life changing experience that is difficult to describe in words. It is felt with the heart and soul.



Patty Grossen

The women at Garland hall, who care for the children every day in so many ways, expressed their gratitude to us through a beautiful song.



Tim Shade

The importance of sowing seeds and witnessing the fruits of your labor.



Dan Froiland

Every trip is one of the best I've ever had!



## Christ Lutheran Church

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### Pastors & Staff

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**Kris Simonson, Pianist/Organist**  
**Nancy Viebrock, Pianist/Organist**  
**Melinda Hoke, Pianist**

### Church Council

**Leigh Delisi** - President  
**Terry Gorham** - Vice President  
**Christine Dettmann** - Secretary  
**Teri Fick**  
**Emily Schaefer**  
**Andrew Schmidt**  
**Ann Skoglund**  
**Matt Smith**  
**Chuck Nelson**  
**Dawn McGinley**  
**Chris Thompson**

### Red Bridge Preschool

**Elizabeth Weisberg**  
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## WORDS FROM PASTOR JOEL

*So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.*

Mark 16: 8

For those of you who don't know, this verse is believed to have been the original ending of the Gospel of Mark. In Mark, what we often call the Easter story begins with the women coming to Jesus' tomb to anoint his dead body with spices and ointments. When they get there the tomb is open. They walk in, they see a man in white who tells them that Jesus has risen. More than that, the angel tells them that Jesus has gone ahead of them and they should go to Galilee (they should go home) and they will see Jesus there. The story then finishes with this verse, "So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." Many years later, someone thought maybe it was too harsh of an ending so they added a few more verses to Mark to soften it up a bit. But I actually like the fact that this might have been the original ending. I think it is more realistic.

And the realistic part isn't so much that they were filled with terror, fear and amazement because Jesus had risen. I think the realistic part is that they were filled with terror, fear and amazement because Jesus was going to be there at home. What? What do you mean Jesus is going to meet us in Galilee, in our home? I much rather prefer Jesus to meet me at church. I'd much rather keep Jesus in a box that I can control. I don't know if I really want Jesus to meet me at home, or certainly not at work, or at the Brookside, or at Cub or in the hallway at school, or at the ballgame, or in my dorm room, or in the parking lot. You get the point. And if you do, you might begin to realize why maybe they were not only amazed but also filled with a little terror.

And then the Gospel of Mark ends, as if to say, what's next is up to you. The story of becoming alive is playing out in your life right now. Your life, the one filled with moments of fear and unanswered questions. Your life, the life which carries the scars and wounds of living and loving. In the face of all the things that happen to you and me in our lives, we proclaim a living Christ who is relentlessly meeting us where we are with a word of healing and hope, forgiveness and grace.

In a few weeks it will be Easter Sunday and my guess is many of you will find your way to church. And if you do, I invite you to pause as you are leaving. I invite you to stand in the doorway of the church and simply know that the Living Christ is ahead of you, and he's waiting to meet you at home, inviting you to live your life as God's Easter people.

*Pastor Joel*

# “What Do You Want to Be When You Grow Up?”

## The Path of Purposeful Aging

A Luncheon and Conversation with Richard Leider

Tuesday, April 9 – 11:00 a.m.—2 p.m.



“Everyone is getting old; not everyone is growing old. But the path of purposeful aging is accessible to all.” You’re invited to take part in a conversation with Richard Leider on growing old with purpose. He has written 11 books, including 3 New York Times bestsellers, on Tuesday, April 9, Richard will come to Christ Lutheran to lead a conversation on his latest book: **Who Do You Want to Be When You Grow Old? The Path of Purposeful Aging.**

Join us for a luncheon and talk celebrating the experience of aging with stories, real-world practices, and facilitating table conversations with provocative questions. Who do you want to be when you grow old? Why do you get up in the morning? How do I find purpose/what is my purpose now that I am \_\_\_ years old? Purpose is not a luxury for the few. It is, in fact, FUNDAMENTAL to health, healing, happiness, and even longevity - possibly adding 7.5 years to your life!

The next best thing to reading a book that impacts your life is getting a chance to talk with the author about the areas you highlighted, the notes you made in the margins, or the questions in your mind and heart. Join us as Richard shares how his ideas on purpose have evolved over the years and then invite your questions about how the simple practices in the book might play out in your own life.

Join us for the luncheon and conversation on Tuesday, April 9, and invite someone to come with you.

Suggested donation is \$10 for the lunch. Watch for the signup sheet in the Nyman Center soon.

**About Richard:** Richard Leider, founder of Inventure – The Purpose Company, is one of America’s preeminent executive life coaches. He is ranked by Forbes among the Top 5 most respected coaches, and by the Conference Board as a “legend in coaching.” He is also one of a select few thought leaders invited to work with over 100,000 leaders from over 100 organizations, such as AARP, Ameriprise, Ericsson, General Mills, Habitat for Humanity, Mayo Clinic, MetLife, National Football League, United Health Group, and the U.S. Dept of State. He lives in Scandia.

*Holy Week & Easter*  
**SCHEDULE**

March 28 (Maundy Thursday)	6:00 WORSHIP
March 29 (Good Friday)	6:00 WORSHIP
March 31 (Easter Sunday)	8:00 & 9:30 A.M. WORSHIP

*Coffee and sweet treats will be available  
Easter morning. Egg Hunt after 9:30 worship.*

**We invite you to join us for  
Holy Week & Easter at Christ Lutheran!**

### Sunday & Wednesday

### Volunteers Needed

There are various hospitality and worship needs on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. Visit [clcmarine.org](http://clcmarine.org) and look for the button to sign up!

Or scan the code to the left.

Every little bit helps. We’re in this together!



# YOUTH MINISTRY



## Save the Dates: CLC Day Camp 2024

Our children and youth had the BEST time at our 2023 Day Camp, led by camp counselors from Luther Crest Bible Camp. Save the dates for this summer's camp:

Monday June 24 -  
Thursday, June 27

For K—6th graders: Monday – Wednesday,  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m. – noon

For 3 year old – Pre-K Students:

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. - noon

Cost: \$40 (Because of gifts from the church and its youth fundraisers, we are able to offer this at a significant discount.)

## Donations Needed for Silent Auction

Help send kids to camp and participate in 2024 summer ministries, including Camp Wapo, day camp, Summer Stretch, and more! A silent auction will be held Wednesday, April 10th – Sunday, April 21st. Donated goods, experiences, baskets in any price range are welcome, and should be brought to church by Sunday, April 7. Please fill out a donation form at drop-off. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Mondor or Megan Lapos. All donations are tax deductible.

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH'S LARGE ALTAR PAINTING IS ABOUT TO GET A FACELIFT!

Over time, issues have occurred in the lower portions with dings, wax sprays, paint splatters, finger and handprints and other unknown injuries. Overall, it is assumed it has never been professionally cleaned in its 125 year history. Twin Cities Art Care, a fine art conservation company, has been contracted to perform the restoration this April. They anticipate it will take one week of cleaning and repair after it has been removed from the wall. The conservators have indicated that it will look freshly painted when completed. The piece was painted by J. Zabinsky in the 1890s. It has some provenance (artistic merit) which makes it an asset worth maintaining by the church. The cost of restoration will be covered by WELCA and legacy funds.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HUGO FAMILY SHELTER

### WEEK OF APRIL 28—MAY 4

**Dinner Shift, 5:00-8:00 p.m.:** Prepare a meal in the shelter's kitchen; serve dinner; clean-up. Children are welcome to volunteer with a parent.

**Overnight Shift, 8pm-9 a.m.:** Sleep in the volunteer room; provide assistance to residents if needed; prepare and serve breakfast.

Sign up at [www.clcmarine.org/hugoshelter](http://www.clcmarine.org/hugoshelter)

Contact Anne Gardner at [mattanne06@gmail.com](mailto:mattanne06@gmail.com) if you have questions.



## SPECIAL MUSIC COMING UP

### Celtic Musician Laura MacKenzie: March 3

We are looking forward to our annual tradition of welcoming Celtic musician, Laura MacKenzie, on Sunday, March 3. Laura brings many gifts (and usually a few instruments along). Come and enjoy. Sláinte!

### Welcoming back Bob Waedekin!

Bob Waedekin, longtime organist of our church, will be back in Marine on St. Croix for one special worship on Sunday, April 7th. Please come greet Bob and share in an uplifting time of special music.

### Feed My Starving Children – April 11th, 6-8 p.m., Hosanna Lutheran in Forest Lake

Join CLC folks and other people in the valley as we help feed hungry kids. We are teaming up with Hosanna Lutheran's Feed My Starving Children Mobile pack. We have twelve spots for the shift on Thursday, April 11th from 6-8. Sign up coming soon!

The quilting group of Christ Lutheran Church acknowledges, with sorrow, the loss of our former quiet leader, Lois Elsenpeter. For many years, she led and taught our group how to make beautiful quilts. We miss her kindness, sense of humor and genuine quilting skills. She has been, and will be, missed by our members. We wish her family peace and love.



Connections is our new is our new monthly ministry for older adults looking for social opportunities. We are having such fun gathering with folks for conversation and games. Our next gathering is Tuesday, March 26 from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.



Because our sanctuary space will be taken over by the altar painting restoration the week of April 22nd, we will be back at Rustic Roots on Wednesday, April 24th for another round of Sips & Songs!

A social hour will take place from 5-6, and you are welcome to purchase drinks and food. \*Your first glass of Rustic Root's Root Beer is on us!

Music starts around 6:15 p.m. Kyle, Justin, and Briana will be leading sing-alongs of popular songs. Everything will wrap up by 7 p.m.



Join us on Wednesdays for our free community meal from 5:30-6:15 p.m. Throughout Lent, the free community meal will be soup and sandwiches or soup and salad, perfect for these late winter (more like spring?) days. Our worship service from 6:30-7:00 p.m. will include alternative, contemporary music and relevant messages. As always, Into the Deep will continue to be shared online. *There is no Into the Deep meal or worship on March 27.*

Like, share, and comment if you are an online viewer, and help us spread the word.

## CPR Class

We're offering a CPR class at CLC for anyone wishing to learn this life-saving skill. It will be on Sunday, March 24 from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Bring a sack lunch. The minimum age to take the class is 13. Cost is \$20. The fee will be gifted for any youth aged 13-21 who would like to take the class. Sign-up in the Nyman Center and please pay prior to the day of.

## Pizza Party for a Cause

Wow, CLC! You turned out for our pizza party for a cause on Wednesday, February 21st. Well more than 200 people were a part of the meal and worship. \$1,200 was raised for Red Bridge Preschool Scholarship Fund. Thank you for your generosity!

## Assistive Listening Devices

We now have headsets to amplify audio during worship. In addition, there is a Bluetooth option to have the audio directly broadcast to your hearing aids through an app. If you are interested in either option, please visit with Gene Di Lorenzo or Steve Delisi before worship.

Don't forget to move your clocks **AHEAD** one hour before you go to bed Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.



## EASTER GARDEN

Order forms for our annual Easter garden are available in the Nyman Center. You may choose to order plants in memory of/in honor of loved ones. These plants will be used to decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning. You can take them home after worship. If you have questions, please call Laura in the office.

**Orders are due back by Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

## “Becoming” Mural

Have you had a chance to see the beautiful butterfly mural being created in the main hallway? It is in partnership with neighbor and local artist Carrie Katzenmeyer. She is progressively creating it throughout the season of Lent as we faithfully explore “Becoming,” and what God is creating in us and through us. The mural will be completed by Easter morning, and we look forward to taking pictures with you in front of it in celebration. Learn more about Carrie and her artwork at [carriekat.com](http://carriekat.com)



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## “Belonging: Learning Together” Events



Our annual meeting in early February led back to the mission of our church to create a space that uplifts the message “You belong here.” Our worship and ministries reflect this desire. But we have work to do as we seek to be a safe place of welcome and worship for all of God’s children. Over the next year, we will be offering learning opportunities to help us live out belonging and understanding— for ourselves, for our loved ones, and yes, even those we might be struggling to love.

Our first “Belonging: Learning Together” event will take place Sunday, April 14 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. as we share time with Madi Brauer (a young adult educator through Authentically Me, LLC and friend of Pastor Hannah’s). Snacks will be provided.

Madi’s important work involves guiding communities to show up authentically and help people learn about pronouns, gender, and other LGBTQ+ topics in a safe and welcoming environment.

One of Madi’s sayings is “Let’s be brave together.” So, CLC, let’s be brave together through conversation about what pronouns are and what gender is, too. We have diverse people in our community that we can better care for by coming together in learning.

Please know this is not a conversation of if LGBTQ+ people are welcome in our community. They are, and we are better because of who they are.

This conversation (like all of our “Belonging: Learning Together” events) is to help all of us grow in our understanding.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
150 Fifth Street  
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## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

### **Into the Deep**

A 30 minute, midweek worship experience on Wednesdays in person at 6:30 p.m. and shared online after. (Free meal served at 5:30 p.m.)

### **Sunday Worship**

Join us for worship on Sunday morning  
at 9:30 a.m.

(Livestreamed and available 24/7 after)

### **Sunday Worship on TV**

Valley Access Channel 14 offers our Sunday service on Thursdays at 9 p.m. and Fridays at 4 a.m., 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

*All current and previous worship services are available on Vimeo:*

**[vimeo.com/christlutheranchurch](https://vimeo.com/christlutheranchurch)**



## *Think Spring!*

The annual plant sale benefiting youth ministries will happen again this year. Leben's Floral in Hugo offers us great prices that we pass along to you! We always hear that our plants are top-notch at low prices. Order forms are available in the church office and due back to Pastor Hannah Sunday, March 24th. Plants will be available for pick up Wednesday, May 8th (in time for Mother's Day).