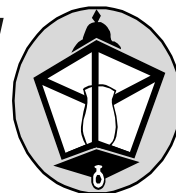


The *LIGHTSHINE*



The Official Newsletter of Christ Church, United Church of Christ, Des Plaines, Illinois



MARCH 2019 ISSUE

Important Dates in March

- Mar. 3 **Worship Service**
Church Council Installation
Education Committee Mtg.
Confirmation Class
- Mar. 4 Meals-on-Wheels begins
- Mar. 6 Book Club
Ash Wednesday Soup Dinner
Ash Wednesday Service
- Mar. 9 Bible Study
Building Committee Mtg.
Scouts Pinewood Derby
- Mar. 10 **First Sunday of Lent /**
Healing Service
Usher's No Bake-Bake Sale
Daylight Savings begins
- Mar. 11 Lunch Bunch
Finance Committee Mtg.
- Mar. 13 Pot Luck "Stew and..."
Church Council Meeting
- Mar. 15 Musical-Lincolnshire Marriott
"Million Dollar Quartet"
- Mar. 16 Bible Study
- Mar. 17 **Second Sunday of Lent**
Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- Mar. 20 Get It Together Group Mtg.
- Mar. 23 Bible Study
- Mar. 24 **Third Sunday of Lent /**
Mission Moments
- Mar. 25 Women's Breakfast
- Mar. 29 Meals-on-Wheels ends
- Mar. 31 **Fourth Sunday of Lent**
One Great Hour of Sharing
Confirmation Class



**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE WITH
COMMUNION** at 7 p.m. on
Wednesday Evening March 6th.
Join us before service at our
ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP DINNER
at 6 p.m.



HEALING SERVICE SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019

On **Sunday, March 10th** during our 9:30 a.m. morning Worship we will have a **Service of Healing**. If you know of someone who would benefit from this service, please invite them to come too. If you have any questions, feel free to call Pastor Ericson at 847.297.4230.

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MISSION COMMITTEE

One Great Hour of Sharing

On **March 31st** we will join other UCC Churches, and eight other denominations, that support **One Great Hour of Sharing** in cooperation with Church World Service.

When you make a gift to **OGHS**, you actively participate in tending God's flock everywhere. Your offering brings shelter, food, water and medical supplies to disaster survivors, and much more. You help provide medical care and education that strengthen bodies and minds and create brighter futures.

OGHS offers an opportunity for each of us to share with people in need—giving them much more than a handout. *Please see envelope enclosed with this newsletter.*

Thank you for all that you do!

The Mission Committee

Growing In The Word of God

For all those who are following the Scripture lessons used during the Sunday Worship Services, here are the March 2019 Common Lectionary readings:

March 3 Transfiguration	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalms 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36
March 6 Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Psalms 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
March 10	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
March 17	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalms 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35
March 24	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalms 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
March 31	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalms 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS — JANUARY 9, 2019

The January 9, 2019 Church Council meeting was called to order by President Holly Schmidt at 7:02 pm. All council members were present including Pastor Virginia Ericson and Kyle Speer.

Reading and Prayer: Pastor Virginia Ericson

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes of the December 12, 2018 Council Meeting were reviewed.

Motion to approve the December minutes after corrections: Copeland. Seconded: L. Hallberg Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Kyle Speer

- The Financial Report was reviewed with Speer and questions answered.
- Contributions for the month of December to the general fund were \$28,046. Total expenses: \$17,525. Differences of \$10,521. Deficit YTD: (\$40,063).
- Motion to approve the Financial Report and pay the bills: Smith Second: L. Hallberg Motion Carried.

MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT: Holly Schmidt

No report.

Committee Reports:

BUILDING: Schmidt

- Building committee meeting on Sunday January 13

EDUCATION: Podgor

- Sunday School continues with women of the bible, next is Esther. Next possible theme is parables of the Bible and then Easter.
- Bowling will be January 20th at 3:00. There is a possible date change due to possible family conflict. Next month bowling date to be determined.
- Care packages will be sent out in March to our young adults away from home. Bins will be out in February.
- Gift orders are due February 3rd with delivery on February 10th.
- February 13th Potluck theme is "Food We Love."
- Youth group plans to attend Wolves games February 23rd for Faith and Fellowship. Open to everyone. Contact Donna.
- Bible Study "Simon Peter, Flawed but Faithful Disciple." begins on Saturday March 9th, and lasts for four Saturdays, ending March 30th. Sign-up sheet in office.
- Confirmation continues every other week for Dorian and Murphy. All classes will now be held on Sunday.

YOUTH GARDEN:

No report.

FINANCE: I. Hallberg

- Meeting Sunday, January 13

(continued on page 10)

CHRIST CHURCH NEWS — MARCH 2019

Financial Update 2019 (Includes only donations to the General Funds)
(No Special Fund, Gifts, Benevolence or 125 Anniversary donations are included) (Subject to Audit)

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
January	\$6,339.00	\$17,283.00	(\$10,944.00)	\$10,994.00
Year-to-Date	\$6,339.00	\$17,283.00	(\$10,944.00)	\$10,994.00

Thank you for your continued support!

EDUCATION

- **Gift Cards** — Orders are due Sunday, **March 3rd** with delivery on **Sunday, March 10th**. Orders can be dropped off in the Education mailbox in the office.

Have you ever thought about ordering gift cards? It is an easy way to get the perfect gift for any special occasion (St. Patrick's Day, anniversary, birthday, Easter) or everyday events (grocery shopping, gasoline, a dinner out, etc.) When ordering you are helping the Education Committee sponsor our Summer Program, purchase supplies for our classroom, pay bills off the Billboard of Bills, and donate to various church events. The great thing is when you purchase a gift card you aren't paying extra, you get a gift card for the amount that you paid and Education gets a percent from the card purchased.

*Imagine what could be raised
if more members took part!!!*

- **Monthly Pot Luck** is **Wednesday, March 13th** and the Theme is: **"Stew and..."**
- **College Care Packages** donations are being accepted thru **Sunday, March 17th**.



WOMEN'S CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, April 11th at noon**.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

As part of our Lenten journey, Women's Circle of Friends is sponsoring a trip for all church members to "Feed my Starving Children" in Schaumburg on **Saturday, April 13th**, from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.. We will be packing foodstuffs for starving children around the world. We will carpool from the church parking lot at approximately 8:15 A.M. and plan to stop and have lunch afterwards. Please sign-up as soon as possible as space is limited.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

For the Women's Circle of Friends

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, **May 3rd** from 2 to 6 p.m. and

Saturday, **May 4th** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Donations will be accepted beginning April 28th.

USHER'S NO BAKE-BAKE SALE—SUNDAY, MARCH 10th

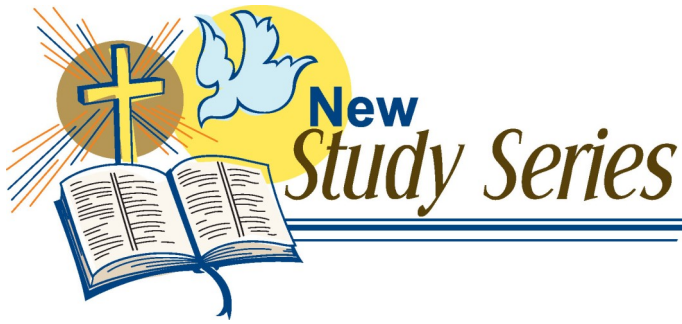
A Bake-Less Bake Sale is on the way; A project we want to announce today. On busy days who has time to bake pies, cookies or even a cake? You'd be very surprised if you counted the cost for ingredients, heat and time you've lost. So we had an idea we think is just grand, and hope and pray you will understand. In an envelope, please place the price of a pie, or a cake, (or even just one slice). Without much "to do", you will have done your part, by donating a gift with a cheerful heart. You may drop a check off at church or put one in the mail, we thank you for helping us have a successful NO BAKE—BAKE SALE!

Gratefully, **The Christ Church Usher's Club**

Sunday Church Ministries for March 2019

	<u>3/3/19</u>	<u>3/6/19</u> (Ash Wednesday)	<u>3/10/19</u>	<u>3/17/19</u>	<u>3/24/19</u>	<u>3/31/19</u>
Acolytes	Dorian Schrader	Ushers	Murphy Putz	Ushers	Murphy Putz	Dorian Schrader
Greeters	Barbara Wraas	Ushers	Nancy & Phil Seils	Barbara Dopp Steve Klaus	Marion & Don Meseth	Julie & Frank Staggs
Ushers	Rita Barth	Steve Klaus*	Al & Elaine Angsten	Barbara Wraas	Rita Barth	Steve Klaus*
* Team	Donna Boyko	Barbara Dopp	Bob Neil*	Holly Schmidt	Donna Boyko	Barbara Dopp
Captain	Charlene Dohse	Mike Hozian	Lori Fabian	Frank & Julie	Charlene Dohse	Mike Hozian
	David Podgor	Patricia Morris	Gary Smith	Staggs	David Podgor	Patricia Morris
	Gary Smith	Terri Wester		Alice Barnhart*	Gary Smith	Terri Wester
	John Hangey	Jack Branding			John Hangey	Jack Branding
	Peggy Wajda*				Peggy Wajda*	
Liturgist	Gail Fisher	Pastor Ericson	Sally Sove	Don Meseth	Alice Barnhart	Gail Fisher
Lector	Pastor Ericson	Pastor Ericson	Sally Sove	Don Meseth	Barbara Wraas	Pastor Ericson
Council Greeters	Donna Boyko	(Ash Wednesday)	Mary Jean Copeland	Irv Hallberg	Laura Hallberg	Steve Klaus
Flowers	Kyle Speer	(Ash Wednesday)	Megan Shipp	OPEN	Laura Hallberg	The Staggs Family
Sunday Secretary	Marilyn Hoover	(Ash Wednesday)	Nancy Seils	Ted Mashek	Barbara Blume	Alice Barnhart
Altar Guild	Wendy Ortiz & Arlene Schultz					
Coffee Hour	Sunday School					
Children's Ministries	Sunday School	(Ash Wednesday)	Sunday School	Sunday School	Sunday School	Sunday School

We are a caring congregation. Our building is handicap accessible. Large print bulletins and hearing assist devices are available. May we celebrate the multitude of ministries that God has provided for us at Christ Church!



NEW BIBLE STUDY

In preparation for our next 4 week Saturday Bible Study, we will focus on the book **"Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple"** by Adam Hamilton. Classes will meet at 10 a.m. on the following **Saturdays**:

- March 9
- March 16
- March 23
- April 6 (please note date change)

As in the past, please enter the church by way of the ramp to Wobbe Hall. We will be meeting in the **Lounge** of the Church.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

<u>January 2019</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
January 6 Epiphany Sunday	61
January 13	52
January 20	40
January 27	35

Come, Bring a Friend and Celebrate

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

at Trinity Lutheran Church

675 Algonquin Road, Des Plaines

Friday, March 1, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

Registration and Business Meeting —

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Concluding with a Potluck Lunch

Please bring a non perishable item for the Food Pantry

CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

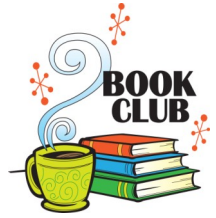
The Christ Church Book Club will next meet on **Wednesday, March 6,** at 1 P.M. in the Church Lounge.

Our leader for the meeting will be

Kathie Groll and the book to be

discussed is **"Karolina's Twins"** by Ronald Balson. Please bring the book with you - it may be obtained from the library or purchased at your book store. If you like to

read and enjoy a good discussion, please plan to join us. *If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Wraas.*



A NOTE FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER

Are you in the habit of writing out a check to the church on a regular basis? Interested in making things easier on yourself?

If so, you may want to consider setting up a recurring payment from your bank checking account. Doing so is "unbelievably easy" and can be done either online or at your bank. The bank will mail Christ Church a check in the amount and with the frequency determined by you.

We already have a number of members using such a system.

Note that this is not the same system people use when they pay their bills each month, bills with varying amounts: it is used when the \$ amount is constant from week-to-week (or month-to-month.)

Let me know if you have questions.

Kyle H. Speer - kylespeer@comcast.net

773-972-6852

HAPPY BIRTHDAY — MARCH 2019

3 Don Meseth	8 Laura Hallberg	14 Barbara Nix	27 Frank Staggs
4 Jesse Scala	9 Phil Seils	14 Amy Podgor	
5 Cathy Chappell	9 Kyle Speer	21 Betty Norton	
7 Tyler Ladendorf	11 Amy Marconi	24 David Wajda	
8 Maria Perez	14 Sean Bay	26 John Kosnik	



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR MARCH COUPLES

- 1 Roy & Sally Sove, married 67 years.
- 22 Dorothy & Lawrence Zemke, married 50 years.



Prayer makes a difference for those who pray and those who are prayed for. Please keep the Church office informed when you hear of someone in need of prayers. DURING THE MONTH OF [JANUARY](#) OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS WERE WITH:



Alice Barnhart	Lori Fabian	Robert Jenkins	Nancy Nevin
Mike Berg	Denise Gibbons	Rochelle Jesse	John Nix
Joy Bertone	Bob Golterman	Jill Johnson	John Sieben
Matty Beuke	Ken Groff	Tom Knoll	Kathy Stonequist
Darlene Boeckenhauer	Phyllis Groff	Mike Koponka	Jack Storm
Kevin Boeckenhauer	Pat Haas	Kathy Krivanek	LaVerne Thackaberry
Steve Boeckenhauer	Rich Hagedorn	Dawn & Ted Mashek	Curtis Tice
Paul Brodack	Lynne Hansen-Salak	Rita Maves	Bruce & Hope Tschappat
Jill Brennan	Helen Harney	Marilyn McCown	Mary Vanden Branden
Peggy Comstock	Donna Hedstrom	Don & Marion Meseth	Dorothy & Larry Zemke
Jean Cutrara	Donna Helma	Stacey Neibhur	
Dorothy Dindinger	Fred Hillger	Melissa Neil	
Barbara Dopp	Emily Hozian		

Special Prayers go to: Our Pastor, Our Church, Our Servicemen, Our Service-Women, Our Veterans, Our Country and its Leaders.

Our Homebound: Elaine & Rev. Merritt Berg, Marilyn Comstock, Rochelle Jesse, Luella Senne, Curtis Tice, Phyllis Volberding, Rosine Warnke.

INSTALLATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, March 3rd our new Church Council Members will be installed during our 9:30 a.m. Worship Service.



Set Your Clocks Forward 1 hour
on Sunday, March 10, 2019
at 2:00 a.m.

MEMORIALS — JANUARY 2019

To Honor / Remember

General Fund:

In memory of Louis Volberding - Karen Springman
- Alon & Masha Botvinik
- Dave & Marilyn Cali
- Bruce DeFranceschi
- Joe & Linda Guzzo
- Wayne & Hope Moore
- Scott & Linda Zaleski
- John & Jean Frana



Get well wishes to Grace Hansen - Women's Circle of Friends

George Goebel Fund:

In thankfulness for our family being at home for Christmas - Mr. & Mrs. Allen Podgor

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Our faithful Christ Church Volunteers will once again be delivering **Meals-on-Wheels** from **Monday, March 4th** through **Friday, March 29th**. See Jennifer Hozian in Wobbe Hall after church starting March 4th to sign-up. Many thanks to our dedicated volunteers. This worthwhile ministry could not continue without you and don't forget we always love to see new faces.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee for the 2019 Church Council are:

- Gary Smith
- Gail Fisher
- Holly Schmidt



PROGRAM — THEATER EVENT

We will be attending the musical *"Million Dollar Quartet"* at the Lincolnshire Marriott on **Friday, March 15th** at 8 p.m.

See Holly Schmidt for details.

MISSIONS

We will be going to **Feed My Starving Children** (sponsored by Women's Circle of Friends) on **Saturday, April 13, 2019** in Schaumburg at 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. We will be car pooling from Christ Church. A sign-up sheet is in the Church Office. Three spaces are still available. Deadline to sign-up is March 31st.

For those who would like to contribute to the **EASTER LILY FUND** in memory or in honor of a loved one, envelopes will be available in the church office beginning **Sunday, March 3rd**. Please place the Easter Lily contribution envelope in the box provided on the counter in the Church office. Suggested contribution is \$10 and the **deadline will be Sunday, April 7th**. Names of contributors and their loved ones will be published in the Easter bulletins. *As is our tradition, the plants will be delivered to those on our current Christ Church homebound list after the 9:30 a.m. Easter Service*



CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATIONS
OF 25, 50 & 75 YEARS & OUR 2019 CONFIRMANDS
Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019 — 9:30 a.m.
Watch for more information to come.



Christ Church 2019 Confirmands on Palm Sunday

MURPHY REED PUTZ

Murphy is currently a student at A.N. Pritzker Grammar School and plans to start at Lane Tech High School after graduation.

Andrea Holthouse Putz and Ed Cheng are Murphy's parents.

DORIAN MICHAEL SCHRADER

Dorian is currently a student at Iroquois Grammar School and plans to attend Maine West High School after graduation.

Wendy Ortiz and Ken Schrader are Dorian's parents.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...



For Saturday, April 27th
SCOUTS
FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST



Watch for more information to come!

RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD



After all the snow, ice and mighty winds, the hope for an early Spring brings us to the month of March. March is a special month because it brings us to the liturgical season of Lent. Lent officially begins on **Ash Wednesday which is March 6th** this year. We will have our traditional **Ash Wednesday soup dinner at 6 p.m.** Why a soup dinner? From what I have been given to understand is that it was because of the simplicity of the meal for which we would begin our Lenten season.

At 7 p.m. we will have our worship service with Communion. The message for the day centers on the real meaning behind Lent. One of the scripture readings for Ash Wednesday is from the second chapter of Joel verse 13b where we are reminded to "Return to the Lord your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, very patient, full of faithful love and ready to forgive."

So how do we return to the Lord with all our hearts? One way is to get back to the basics – that being by taking time to read and study the Bible.

This year we will begin our fifth year of **Bible study on March 9th**. Our class will be using the book **"Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple"** by *Adam Hamilton*. Our Bible study classes have given us the opportunity to read and seek understanding from scripture. In addition, some studies have used DVD sessions that have given us examples of other class participations on the topic, or actual scenes through the Holy Land to give us a better idea of where all the transpires.

Our 8th grade Confirmation class has done their own Bible study as they were required to read the whole Gospel of Mark. We have taken time to go through each chapter and discuss what we understand the readings to mean.

One of our Confirmands, **Dorian Schrader** is working on his 3rd religious award in Boy Scouts which centers on "God and Church." One of Dorian's requirements was to take 30 days to read scripture, and Dorian chose to go through the book of Genesis.

There are also a few of our members who have taken it upon themselves to read the whole Bible within a year.

So if you chose to start with Genesis, the Gospel of Mark, or pledge to read the whole Bible within a year – let us all Return to the Lord our God by getting back to reading the Bible.

May God continue to bless you!

Pastor Virginia



To My Friends at Christ Church,

I want to thank everybody who donated to the church to help me during the last 7 months.

I appreciate it so much. It means the world to me to know how generous the Congregation has been. I also want to thank you for all the prayers and cards.

Hugs & Kisses

Love,

Peggy Comstock

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS — JANUARY 9, 2019 (continued from page 2)

MEMORIAL GARDEN: Wajda

No report.

MEMBERSHIP: Schmidt

- Louis Volberding passed away December 19, 2018.
- Three people may be interested in becoming members.

MISSIONS: L. Hallberg

- Gifts picked up by San Lucas.
- Holly, Gail and Rita attended Three Kings Day at San Lucas.

PERSONNEL: Smith

- Meeting with Hanna and Leslie. Schedule made through June for Sundays and holiday.
- Wedding in April.
Music will be piano-by Leslie.

PASTORAL SUPPORT: Schmidt / Smith

- January 21st through January 27th Pastor on study leave.

PROGRAM: Copeland

No report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/ PUBLICITY: Boyko

No report.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Klaus

No report.

WORSHIP & ARTS: Hozian

- January 13th Renewal of Baptism vows.
- February 10th Boy Scout Sunday

CORRESPONDENCE:

Wednesday, January 16th at 7 PM Conference Call with Greg Carlson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Thank you notes have been received from ALL missions we sponsor they are posted on bulletin board in Wobbe Hall.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion of our changing council to 9 members.
- Deborah and Holly have been speaking with Stacey from Net Ministry Technology Corporation for website design.
Motion by L. Hallberg seconded by Podgor to approve deposit of \$614.

STAFF:

No report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn: Smith Second: Copeland Motion Carried.

MEETING END TIME: 8:18 PM**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019**Reading and prayer:** Irving Hallberg

Peggy Wajda

Church Council Secretary Temp.

See Calendar of Events on this site!

CHRIST CHURCH,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Change Service Requested



The Official Newsletter of
Christ Church,
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September through July*



As we begin our Lenten Season,
PLEASE JOIN US ON MARCH 6, 2019 AT
7:00 P.M. FOR OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE