

Pastor Matthew S. Lash

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**COMMUNITY OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Making Jesus Known



November 2020

from the Pastor



"Just Not 'Feelin' It....."

The holidays often bring a r u s h of emotions in us! Some sad, but often, happy, joyful, expectant—a whole lot of positive vibes!

Well, maybe my vibe machine is broke.

What I should be feeling (at least that's what I tell myself) I am not feeling. Thanksgiving leaves two huge chairs—E M P T Y at our table. And this year, thanks to a viral pandemic---a whole lot of chairs will be V A C A N T. The mask might save me from the virus, but it does nothing for a broken heart that longs for the way it was.

Maybe your vibe machine is broken too.

A dear friend is on a ventilator. Your loved one passed on this year--- Covid. Cancer. Alzheimer's. Heart disease. Family won't be travelling this year. Black Friday traditions are set aside. I'll just stop there.....

Well, my friends, let me share with you the message I received while I was hosting my personal pity party--- -God prompted a thought, "If thanksgiving were based on your F E E L I N G S Matt, you would never give me thanks! This year---Let's look at the F A C T S! ".

You and I may not be 'Feelin It'---but here's the facts.....

- ❖ You were created by a God who has only GOOD planned for you!
- ❖ You were forgiven by Jesus—and He is anxious to forgive you again tomorrow!
- ❖ Your mansion in heaven is under-construction---and your name is on the front door.
- ❖ Your separation from family in heaven is only temporary.
- ❖ Your children cherish you with all their heart.
- ❖ Your grand children's smiles are all because of you!
- ❖ You can worship whether you're inside or outside any building.
- ❖ Your church has been thriving and doing God's Work since Lent!
- ❖ Children, Moms and Dads have gathered for baptism!
- ❖ Teenagers are learning about Jesus—and having fun!
- ❖ Neighbors, friends, teachers, strangers care about me.

I bet you could add to my facts. We probably have the very same 'feelings' and I'm praying for yours'---please pray for mine. But let's stick to the facts---you might find yourself.....

GIVING THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART!

Peace

Pastor Matt

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Join us on Facebook
Live!**

Worship & Sacrament
Sunday 9am

Worship Services

Available on the net
www.commofchrist.org

Church Office Hours

8:30-12 noon
Monday – Friday

Call Pastor Matt

For personal communion,
counsel or an appointment
419-877-0607

Love your Neighbor

Social Distance
Wear your Mask
Be Safe & Sensitive



WORSHIP



OUR PROCESS TOWARDS THE CALL OF A PASTOR

Our Council meets with Rev. Marcus Lohrmann

Our church council gathered with Pastor Lohrmann on Tuesday, October 27th to focus on the time of transition between Pastor Matt's retirement and the time of interim while we prepare for a new Senior Pastor. Pastor Lohrmann has been approved to serve as the interim pastor for the congregation in mid-January. He will receive a vote of confidence from our current church council.

WORSHIP LIFE in NOVEMBER

Friends, these worship plans are current as of Sunday, November 1st. They are tentative. Should there be a schedule change, you will be informed as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sunday, November 1

All Saint's Sunday!

Message "I Looked---There Before Me!"

Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 8

23rd Sunday of Pentecost

Message "Missing the Groom—and the PARTY!"

Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 15

24th Sunday of Pentecost

Message "A Parable for Pandemic Times"

Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 22

Christ the King Sunday!

Message "King-Chat!"

Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday of Advent

Message "Ready for the Good?"

Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 a.m.

WORSHIP

What does VIRTUAL WORSHIP OFFER??

Please continue to join us on Sunday morning via Facebook or check out our web site www.commofchrist.org. Worship is **the most important** meal we can receive for a healthy faith! Your Church offers *God's Word, hymns you can sing, Liturgy you can sing, creeds you can speak, prayers you can share, children's time in your own home, a relevant inspired message for today's concerns, the freedom to safely receive Holy Communion with bread and drink*. You can chat with each other on-line or just friendly, 'Good morning' or blessing for a fellow church member or your Pastor! Is it the same as 'being in church'---No, However, the scriptures encourage us to not grow weary--- remain vigilant in staying connected with God's Word! Blessings!

Praise and Thanksgiving! Thanks! Thanks!

The joy of thanksgiving will be the theme of worship on Sunday morning, November 22nd! We will enjoy special music, uplifting Thanksgiving hymns and an uplifting message! Invite a friend to enjoy breakfast with you! Encourage them to tune in for lots of positive THANKS-GIVING on Sunday, November 22nd, Facebook Live, 9:00 a.m.

Do you miss "In person" Communion??

I would be happy to set a time to gather with individuals or families for a private blessing of the Lord's body and blood. You will receive bread and wine and share a prayer with Pastor Matt. If you miss being in the sanctuary, here is a perfect opportunity to safely return! Call Michelle at the church office to set an appointment. All are welcome. Peace—Pastor Matt.



All Saints Day, Nov 1st

Join us for a holy remembrance of family and friends who rest in the Kingdom of heaven. Pastor Matt will share the names of those you have provided for us. White roses and photographs of members who have passed in the last twelve months will be respectfully displayed on the altar. We will toll the bell in remembrance as we celebrate the Saints of faith! We will respectfully include each name in the prayer of the church.

Lila Aubell
Glenn Campbell
Eleanor Gleason
Glenn Johnson
Paul Oden
Norma Ruehle
John Sheets II
Cindy Wixey



ACTIVITIES

Youth Ministries

Children's Craft & Activity!



Children's CRAFTS AND LESSONS OF JESUS!

Fun Resources will continue to be available outside the church doors on Sunday and Monday. Please pick up a resource for your elementary age child and enjoy some family time during the upcoming Thanksgiving season! Blessings in these difficult times!



Community of Christ Book Club will meet on Tuesday, November 17th, at 1 PM in the WHITEHOUSE LIBRARY meeting room to discuss **Little Fires Everywhere** by Celeste Ng. Waterville Library is holding copies behind the main desk for our group.



We appreciate the music Eric provides on Wednesday and Sunday.

If you would like to participate and assist our morning or evening worship with an instrument, solo or offering of music, please contact the church office!

We would love to welcome you!



PARISH EDUCATION

Growing in God's Holy Word



Pastor's Weekly ZOOM Bible Study---NEVER ALONE!

Come and be renewed in God's Word, and the latest release by author and Pastor, text Max Lucado. Pastor Matt leads us in scripture, while we also enjoy a segment of teaching from Pastor Lucado Join us on Thursday afternoon, 1:00-2:00 p.m. Our study concludes on Thursday, November 19.

Confirmation –TEENS GROWING IN FAITH!

We are enjoying an awesome study! **Our teens are celebrating the GREATEST ACTIVITY of God in the Old & New Testament.** Our confirmation instruction currently meets TWICE weekly; Sunday morning, 10:30 a.m. & Thursday evening, 7:30 p.m. We meet 'virtually' over ZOOM. Our last class is Thursday, November 19. After completing 22 weeks of instruction, our students will be prepared for confirmation on Sunday, December 13th.



Holy Communion Preparation?

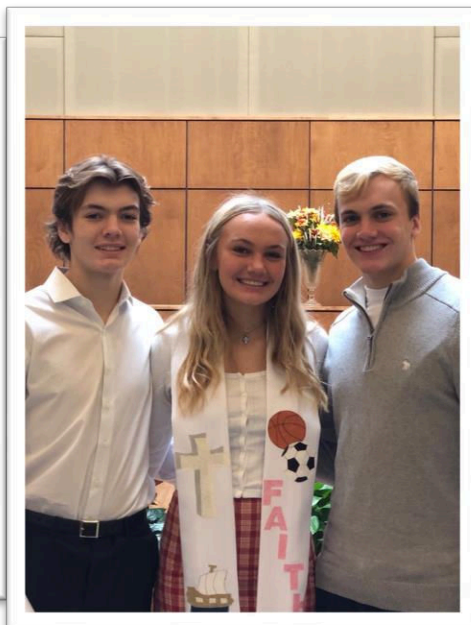
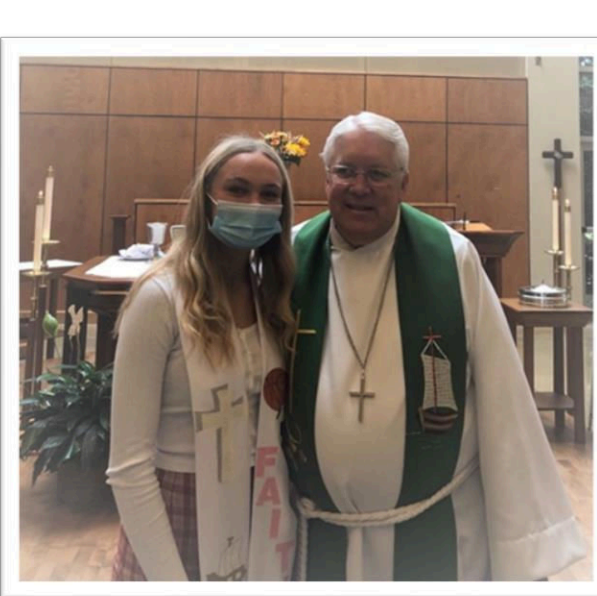
Do you have a youngster who is ready to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion? Pastor Matt will meet with a small group (Less than 10) to teach the basics of God's sacrament of forgiveness and grace.

Please call the church office and Pastor Matt will schedule two sessions for instruction. (419) 877-0607. Thank you!



YOUTH EDUCATION

Congratulations Josh and Anna!



2020 December Confirmation Students

Emma Abraham

Will Baden

Maci Bartley

Avya Bartley

Mariah Britsch

Tyler Britsch

Avery Jones

Cate Malohn

Will Malohn

Emili Pollock

Lucas Ray

Lydia Smucker

Anna Swartz



OUTREACH



Community of Christ ANGEL TREE!

This year, as in past years, Community of Christ will have the opportunity to reach out and bless the children at our sister church, Salem Lutheran Church in north Toledo. Salem Lutheran will be providing us with a list of names of their children and their gift requests. We will incorporate these requests into an envelope and have them displayed on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place. Here are some important dates for the project:

- **Sunday, November 22, 2020.** Bulletin board in Gathering Place will be decorated with Salem Angel requests.
- Enter your name on pink or blue Angel slip on board and take envelope. **Do not remove** pink or blue slips or relocate them on the board as this is our inventory method.
- Shop for your Angel and leave your gift in the Gathering Space. Church hours are: 8:30 am – 12:00pm
- **Sunday, December 13, 2020:** Have your gifts to the church by this date. **No later than 1:00pm.**

Thank you for helping to bless these children!

Shelly & Ken Hayes



Genacross—'ADOPT A GRANDPARENT'

We will continue to provide the NAMES of those who do not have family and reside in our care facilities throughout Toledo. This outreach will begin in November. Please watch for an opportunity to care!



STEWARDSHIP

2020 BUILDING & GENERAL FUND ANALYSIS

2020 Building Loan Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
Oct	\$8,905	\$12,563	(\$3,658)
YTD	\$105,830	\$115,204	(\$9,374)
2020 General Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
Oct	\$23,733	\$36,718	(\$12,985)
YTD	\$315,292	\$311,693	\$3,600

We are grateful for those offerings that are received. Your gifts to the mission of the church keep us strong and able to meet the costs of our ministries. Thank you for sharing your faithful offering with your congregation!



2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Our weekly offering envelopes include weekend offerings, Lenten Wednesdays, Holy week, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent services and more!

If you have questions as to how to complete your weekly offering, please contact the church office.

PLEASE REMEMBER ---we offer an **electronic offering, (Simply Giving)** that will withdraw your support automatically from your account.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORDS WORK AT COMMUNITY OF CHRIST AND THE ENTIRE CHURCH!



SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM
a regular electronic withdrawal that supports your congregation when you are out of town.

Let us be cheerful givers to the Lord!

COUNCIL NEWS



Our next meetings:
Tuesday, November 10

Our Church Council gathers by ZOOM on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

You are always welcome to be part of the conversation. You may attend as an observer, OR you are welcome to address the council on any topic related to church life.

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE SO WE MAY SEND YOU A LINK TO OUR NEXT GATHERING.

Please pray for our church leaders.

Council Minutes are E-MAILED TO ALL MEMBERS once they are approved by council action. If we do not have your email, please contact the church office, and provide us with your current email. We invite you to stay connected with all the important decisions that are being made at church council each month.

Council Nominees!

We have received nominees for the council in 2021, Kevin Swagler, Sarah Rockwell, Lainie Davis and Zach Weber. These positions of leadership are important as we move into a process of call and deliberation for a new pastor. Thank you.

Jill Kohntopp and Kristen Schuchmann had been appointed to serve the limited turns replacing Norm Brettel and Sunday Goodwin.

Northwest Ohio Annual Assembly Synod

The scheduled assembly scheduled for 2020 has been cancelled. Plans are tentatively being made to gather in 2021.

Transition Team

The Transition Team will assist the congregation to determine where the Holy Spirit is leading us as a church and help to ready ourselves for changes that will accompany a new pastoral leader. The team will be active for several months until a call committee is formed. The team will be discussing the details of their involvement with our Synod representatives as soon as meetings can be arranged.

The members are: Tom Davis, Matt Dewitz, Kim Jones, Max Kohr, Susan Nofzinger, Haley Reid, Karole Sigg

BLESSINGS & PRAYERS



Praying for God's People

Please remember the following members who are ill, shut in, or recently hospitalized:

Dayle Reed – Care for cancer

Karen Schroeder

Dennis Rober

Sue Kegg – Care for Cancer

*Please remember them in your daily prayers.
Thank you.*



Although at this time we are virtual, we would like to offer the opportunity for you and your family to dedicate a poinsettia to a loved one! You can stop by the church office M-F 8:30am-12:00pm to fill out an envelope and drop off a check or fill out the below order and mail a check to 6517 Finzel Rd Whitehouse, Oh 43571 **no later than Friday, November 13th**. Flowers will be available the week after Christmas for pick up. Thank you.

Absolute last day to turn orders in is Nov. 13th!

****Please note if paying in cash, please bring exact amount as I do not have change.....thank you!

Poinsettia Order

\$9.00 per plant

Pink _____ Red _____

White _____ Total \$ _____

Flowers may be dedicated to the "memory of" (deceased) OR in "honor of" (living) a loved one. Your dedication

Name & Phone number of member placing this order.

Baptism

We Rejoice in Water & Word!

We rejoice with those who are planning baptisms in October.

Sunday, October 4th **The Baptism of Harper Korb**

Wednesday, October 7th **The Baptism of Lucas Rardin**

Sunday, October 25th **The Baptism of Asher Ortnor**

Sunday, October 25th **The Baptism of Charlotte An Beebe**

Memorial Funds & Gifts

Community of Christ is grateful to receive funds in memory or in honor of loved ones. You may select from the following funds:

Building Reduction Fund

Music Fund

Stained Glass Fund

Landscape & Ground Fund

Youth Ministry Fund





November Birthdays!

11/01	Jerald Nemire	11/08	Austin Nofzinger	11/17	Don Archambeau
11/01	Lisa Boltz	11/08	Matthew Britsch	11/22	Gracey Pitchford
11/02	Kevin Gebhart	11/10	Dave Rockwell	11/22	Sally McEwen
11/04	Anna Rasmusson	11/10	Erin Esterhuizen	11/23	Al Lipinski
11/04	Erika Brenneman	11/10	Liz Uhlik	11/23	Michelle Graceffo
11/04	Stephen Eberly	11/11	Kenneth Terveen	11/24	Bob Longnecker
11/05	Vickie Geha	11/12	Haylee Verhoff	11/24	Mallori Pollock
11/06	Dennis Dohse	11/12	Scott Boltz	11/26	Avery Rozick
11/06	Shelby Phillips	11/13	Kari Hagemeyer	11/26	Josie Heilmann
11/06	Tammy Myers	11/14	Brooklynn Stout	11/26	Rebecca Myers
11/06	Terrie Knight	11/14	Rita Wagoner	11/26	Shelley Bertsch
11/07	Brittany Holliker	11/14	Zach Weber	11/27	Pamela Davis
11/07	Charlie Johnson	11/16	Ken Outly	11/27	Rick Korb
11/07	Mark Pitchford	11/16	Marie Archer	11/29	Brian Mruzek
11/07	Parker Ray	11/16	Michael Karg	11/30	Ashley Peters
11/08	Anne Greenhagen				



NOTES & REMINDERS

C of C College Students



Autumn Gebhart
Sophomore BGSU –
Intervention Specialist
706 Napoleon Rd
Bowling Green, OH
43402 #1024-B



Anna Ollerenshaw
OSU
235 West Norwich Ave. Apt. A
Columbus, OH 43201



Greg Johnson
Sophomore NWM College –
Audio Technology
N. Hall Room 329C
Traverse City, MI 49686



Joel Schuchmann
3rd year Chemical
Engineering at
University of Toledo
1826 N. Westwood Ave.,
Apt. 1758 I
Toledo, OH 43607

Our Church Office Hours:

8:30 am - Noon (Monday through Friday).

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