



Enigma Variation #9 and Enigma Prayer
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Oh LORD, my GOD~
Do you see my life?
Are you sure this is how
it's supposed to be?
It seems like a tangled mess.
How will all these hours,
days, weeks, years
work together for good?
Guide me to where you
want me to be.
How can my feeble efforts
bring glory to you?
Bless me LORD
in the weaving of my life,
be in the knots that I tie and
the complicated patterns of
connections around me.
I'm stitched into relationships.
Do they all make sense to you?
Use me to bless
the lives of others
though I may know nothing
of how that may come about.
Tie me into your love.
I trust in you and
your vision for my life,
Even though I can't see you
or understand the way
you are leading me.
I trust that you are
leading me.
Thank you, LORD.
AMEN

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CHI RHO

February 2022

Christ Lutheran Church

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What's Happening at CLC?

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 - Lynne Woods
4 - Jo Anne Ball,
Linus Juedes
6 - Rod Sauer
9 - Lance Broy
11 - Melody Christiansen
17 - Donnalee Yoder
19 - Patricia Cambridge
20 - Beth McKinley
23 - Lynn Miller,
Peter Schmidt

IMPORTANT EVENTS

**Did we miss your
birthday?
Let us know so we can
celebrate with you!**



Theology on Tap • Thursday, Feb. 11, 6 p.m.

Takes place on Zoom: the link will be sent in Monday What's Happening but you may also request it through the office. Discussion will center around articles found in Living Lutheran magazine. Contact Mike Cleland for the article names: mikercleland@gmail.com. They are freely available online.

Coffee Hour • Taking a Pause in February

Thank you to Beth Longenecker for her presentation last month on the Social Determinants of Health at the Equity and Justice coffee hour. There will be a follow-up session later in the spring that will look more closely at specific impacts of social and economic disparities on the health of people of color.

Lent Updates • Stay Tuned

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday which falls on Wednesday March 6th this year. Please stay tuned for our Ash Wednesday and Lent offerings. We are awaiting Council decisions on what worship will look like to finalize planning.

Call for Worship Assistants

We would be happy to add folks to our worship assistant rotation. We have about a two month cycle of folks at present, but we can always add more! Feel free to let the office know if you are interested, and to designate if you are only comfortable participating when we are online only (no congregation present) or in-person (congregation present). We try our best to accommodate.

Jan. 11th Council Summary

- Motion passed to reimburse any expenses for training required by the Synod and/or our Child and Youth Abuse Prevention Program, a continuing resolution of Council, for staff and volunteers who work with youth.
- Motions passed to reimburse any expenses for background checks by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) and/or the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as stipulated by Council or in our Personnel Policy Handbook or Child and Youth Abuse Prevention Program.
- Approved the updated Christ Lutheran Church Personnel Policy Handbook as presented by the Personnel Committee.
- In light of the recent up-tick in Covid-19 cases and drain on our local healthcare system, a motion passed to close the church buildings to all in-person worship and use by outside groups until such time as Council feels that it is safe to reopen.
- Next meeting is at 7p.m., February 8th on Zoom.



**Committee Budget Changes
(if any) for the '22-'23
Aspirational Budget are due to
Lucy ASAP ljuedes@frontier.com**

Youth and Family

The Youth and Family committee welcomes Katie Beth as our interim Youth Director! We are eagerly looking forward to having her work with the youth of the church starting this month.

We are working to better define what we want our children to know and experience as part of our faith family by the time they from graduate high school. **If you've not yet responded to the committee about this, feel free to contact Katie Beth at katiebeth@clcathens.org.**

The Bridge

Dinner at the Kuhre's • Wednesday, Feb. 23rd, 5:30 -7 p.m.

The Kuhre family is welcoming students to their home for a meal and a creation care centered discussion. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to fellowship with church members in their homes!

Winter Retreat

Unfortunately, the retreat has been canceled due to a combination of costs and precautions needed to protect against spread of Covid-19. We hope to reschedule sometime later in the spring for either the typical overnight retreat or perhaps a one day event.

Save the Date • Sunday Apr. 24th • Godspeed Sunday

The last full weekend students are here, and the Sunday directly following Easter will be our Godspeed Sunday. Be sure to come to wish our large graduating class well!



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH

- Jacky Brown
- Lou Childress
- Karen Chikosky
- Jo King
- Joan Fucci
- Dave Armstrong
- *Carl Savage
- *Dick Brackin
- *Jo Ann Pulfer
- *Sammy Huwe
- *Mary Andrews
- *Fran Dalzell
- *Art Woolley

*Homebound members

Our homebound members would love to receive Valentine's Cards. Contact the office if you need an address.



Scenes from a Winter Break

Above from left: Rinnah's mom, Henri the dog, and Rinnah at home; Hannah and Jason's tacky Christmas sweater party; Kiwi's family and their impressive nut-cracker collection

Social Ministry - Faith In Action

As part of the ELCA, we believe God's grace grants us the freedom to love and serve our neighbors, boldly responding to the needs of the world.

LSS Mobile Food Pantry

Thursday, Feb. 10th, 10:15-noon

The LSS Mobile Food Pantry for this month is Thursday, February 10th at The Plains United Methodist Church. Volunteers are needed at 10:15. The pantry will begin at 11:00 or when we get everything ready. Volunteers are now required to be vaccinated and wear N95, KN 95 or surgical masks.

Due to an ministerial event at the church, we will be operating the February pantry in the north parking lot. Volunteers can park in the south parking lot near the intersection. Contact Adele Hanson for more information: adelehanson@gmail.com.



Good Works

Notes from Keith, the Exec. Director

Christ Lutheran has supported Good Works for many years. Like all of us, Good Works continues to be challenged by the COVID-19 Pandemic, but they are still serving people who are poor and homeless. Some Good Works programs have been scaled back for the pandemic, but Timothy House is still housing people who homeless, Friday Night Life still offers a weekly meal, and the Transformation Station still offers cars and appliances for those who put in service time.

Building Sign of HOPE was slowed by the pandemic restricting work groups and increased materials costs, but the building is weather tight and will likely be completed by the end of this year. This building will serve folks who cannot stay at Timothy House. It will offer individual rooms with bathrooms and a common living and kitchen space. This project was partially funded by our church's Impact Giving Grant.

Good Works is grateful for the support and resources offered by Christ Lutheran and welcomes volunteers who could serve in a variety of ways. To learn more, go to www.Good-Works.net. To volunteer, call 740-594-3339 or send an email to email@good-works.net.

Good Works

Friday Night Life Dinner

Christ Lutheran is once again sponsoring a Friday Night Life meal. This year we have Friday, February 25th. We will continue with the tradition of Black Bean Chicken Casseroles with some fresh sides. At present, Good Works is holding the meals as sit down with the option to do carry out. We are to prepare for 50 people. We will need nine casseroles, eight chicken and one vegetarian, as well as two volunteers to clean and cut up vegetables and put them in individual bags (bags provided). At this time, we do not need additional volunteers to stay and help with the meal, but if we have spots open up, we will send out a request. The sign up for casseroles and veggies can be found by [clicking here](#). **Please sign up for only one option so as to allow others to participate.** Katie Beth will also be sending it out in the weekly email. If the form no longer works, it means we have enough volunteers. For more information, email Barb Cline at tricolorcollies@aol.com.

Social Ministry Cont'd

Equity & Justice -“Happenings”

Coffee Hour • On Sabbatical during February

We extend a big “Thank You” to Beth Longenecker for her presentation last month on the Social Determinants of Health at the Equity and Justice coffee hour. There will be a follow-up session later this spring looking more closely at specific impacts of social and economic disparities on people of color.

Ohio Redistricting Commission & State Legislature • Election Map Drawing

We are watching the results of the Ohio Redistricting Commission and Ohio Legislature election map drawing process. The Ohio Supreme Court struck down all three maps that were drawn, but the new maps again violate the principle of fairness set by the Ohio Constitution. Denial of representation to underrepresented communities makes it harder to achieve equity for communities of color. Learn more at <https://www.fairdistrictsohio.org/>.



Habitat for Humanity

- Save these dates for the spring fund raisers for the Faith Build Coalition of HFH of SEOH- Rummage Sale- Saturday, April 23, 2022. Donations accepted Thursday and Friday before the sale, and the Scrap Metal Drive- Saturday, May 14, 2022.
- The next home sponsored by the Faith Build Coalition will be built in Trimble or Glouster. You can always volunteer for building or other projects by contacting Hallie at volunteer@habitatseo.org.

Earth Justice

Athens Spring Sustainability Series • Back in the theater for this year!

Athena Cinema, University Libraries and Environmental Studies Program present the 9th annual Sustainability Film Series. In keeping with all previous series, each film will be followed by a panel discussion featuring faculty members, students and community members. The series is made possible thanks to the support of: Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, OHIO Honors Program, Honors Tutorial College, Cutler Scholars, Office of Sustainability, Center for Campus & Community Engagement, University College, and beloved nonprofits and businesses. Come check out the following shows or click on <http://athenacinema.com/sustainabilityseries/> for more information.

- February 16 *2040*
- March 16 *Kiss the Ground*
- April 13 *My Octopus Teacher*
- April 23 *Wings of Life*

Tree Sale

Athens Soil & Water Conservation District (Athens SWCD) is having their annual tree and wildlife packet sale. Orders can be made at athensswcd.org.



Workshop on Regeneration • Coming soon!

The Earth Justice Committee is planning a series of workshops for members of the congregation and guests from the community guided by materials and models from Paul Hawken’s book *Regeneration: Ending the climate crisis in one generation*. This book was reviewed in the January *Chi Rho*. The focus will be learning about effective ways of caring for the earth and then acting on them. First we will review tools from the Active Hope Retreat sessions back in 2020, for example, how to reframe the despair one can feel when confronted with the enormity of the climate crisis. Then we will discuss the actions which some of us have initiated since then as well as consider emerging insights in the field to build upon and expand on our previous work. We welcome new participants and will offer innovative sources of knowledge and models for inspiration. You can find a copy of the book, *Regeneration*, on the Earth Justice bookshelf in the narthex. We will be doing a bulk order for the book (will save you \$5 plus tax) once we have established set dates for the series.

February Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 OA, 6p.m., Zoom Equity & Justice, 7p.m., Zoom	2 The Bridge, 5:30p.m., TBD Wednesday Night Prayer, 7p.m., Zoom	3 Social Ministry, 7p.m., Zoom	4	5 OA, 10a.m., Zoom
6 Worship, 10a.m., Online	7	8 OA, 6p.m., Zoom Council, 7p.m., Zoom	9 The Bridge, 5:30p.m., TBD Wednesday Night Prayer, 7p.m., Zoom	10 LSS Mobile Food Pantry, 10:15a.m., The Plains UMC Theology on Tap, 6p.m., Zoom	11 ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza, Daily, Online	12 ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza, Daily, Online OA, 10a.m., Zoom
13 Worship, 10a.m., Online *No Coffee Hour ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza Daily,	14	15 OA, 6p.m., Zoom	16 The Bridge, 5:30p.m., TBD Wednesday Night Prayer, 7p.m., Zoom	17 Youth and Family, 7p.m., Zoom	18	19 OA, 10a.m., Zoom
20 Worship, 10a.m., Online	21	22 Earth Justice, 5:30p.m., Zoom OA, 6p.m., Zoom	23 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE The Bridge, 5:30p.m., TBD Wednesday Night Prayer, 7p.m., Zoom	24	25	26 OA, 10a.m., Zoom
27 Worship, 10a.m., Online	28	<h2><u>Thank You!</u></h2> <p>We would like to give you the finalized total for the donation drives we had over the winter holidays. With your support, we were able to raise the following:</p>				

Athens County Children Services
(for Hats, Scarves, & Mittens)

\$397.00

Lutheran Disaster Relief (the Christmas Eve Donation)

\$1,023.79*

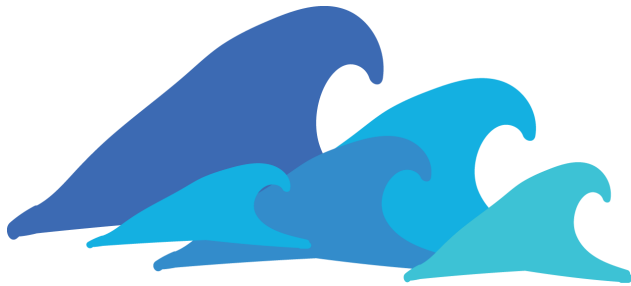
(*451.43 of this amount was specifically designated for tornado relief, as requested)

Worship Assistants

If you are unable to assist, please try and swap with someone else on the schedule. In the event that isn't possible, please email info@clcathens.org well in advance. *Thank you!*

	Feb 6	Feb. 13	Feb. 20	Feb. 27	Mar. 6
Asst. / Lector	Susan Urano	John Molinaro	Beth Longenecker	Mike Cleland	Steve Chikosky
Time with Children	Kay Cleland	Cheryl Huebner	Puppets	Jana Hovland	Kay Cleland
Videographer	Sam Hanson	Marilyn Shealy	Doug Debrick	Kay Cleland	Sam Hanson

Social Ministry Cont'd



Wave of Prayer

This month's wave of prayer can be found under "Downloads" at the bottom of the "What's Happening the Week of January 24th" News post on our website. [Click here](#) to go to that post.

Montaña de Luz News

Montaña de Luz continues keeping pace with developments in Honduras. Children who lived at the orphanage before are now living on their own or in foster homes, and MdL is expanding into services for families affected by HIV/AIDS. They offer these additional services through the Healthy Families Honduras program: HIV testing and follow-up services, family and individual counseling, private and group tutoring with university prep, childcare, and emergency housing. The facilities on the mountain are being re-purposed to be a resource for the surrounding community, including HIV testing and offering week-long family trainings once a month on top-



ics such as computer literacy and employment support, budgeting, entrepreneurship, small business loans, and prenatal/childcare. The mountain is also hosting support groups for women.

If COVID-19 subsides and it is safe, service trips to MdL will again be offered later this year, with more information to come. Also, the annual Fiesta fundraising dinner and auction is scheduled for Friday, April 8th this year.