

CHRIST - OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN PARISH



ASH WEDNESDAY—FEBRUARY 14, 2018

“Jesus full of the Holy Spirit returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for 40 days he was tempted by the devil.” Luke 4:1-2a

Ash Wednesday begins the observance of **Lent** and is an invitation to embark on a profound spiritual journey. This Spirit filled journey leads us from death to new life lived through faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The day is named for the imposition of ashes. Using ashes as a sign of repentance is an ancient practice found in the Old Testament. Early Christians adopted the use of ashes from the covenant people, as an external mark of penitence.

Ashes are a reminder of God’s condemnation of sin. As ashes are smeared on our forehead we hear the same words spoken to Adam and Eve, *“Dust you are and to dust you shall return.”* Ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. Used in the absence of soap, they are a penitential substitute for water as a remembrance of baptism. Ashes are a reminder of the shortness of human life, and symbolic of the ongoing need to repent, confess sins, and return to God who is Holy in merciful love.

LENT—A JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

Lent is the opportunity to return to the foundation of faith, baptism. In Holy Baptism, sinners are freed from death in sin and reborn anew united with Jesus Christ. Music tones for worship facilitate reflection. Reflection and devotion upon the mystery of faith rooted in the cross where Christ’s perfect sacrifice redeems mortals for new life; new life with purpose-to proclaim the good news of endless life reconciled through merciful love. The church’s faithful practice of Lent is a testament to the Gospel. The discipline of Lent may not be easy or feel good however this is a precious gift of faith active in growing love for God.

**PARISH 2018
Season of Lent**

ASH WEDNESDAY

**Ash Wednesday
Worship At Christ, Baden**

February 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Soup Supper preceding at 6:00 p.m.

Remember worship and meal will be held at:

**Christ Evangelical
Lutheran Church
399 State Street
Baden PA 15005**

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Lenten meal with Evening Prayer/Vespers
Wednesday

February 21, 28 March 7, 14, 21

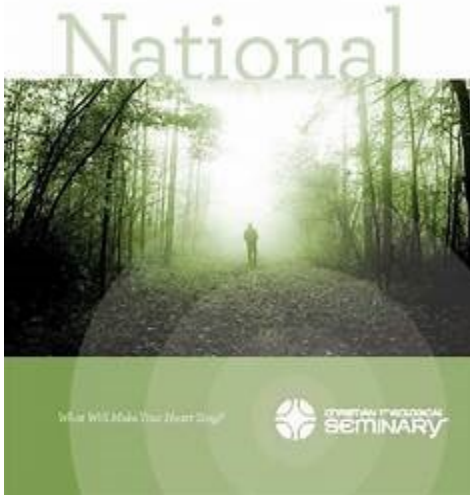
at Christ, Baden

6:00 p.m. soup and bread meal

7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer/Vespers

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LILLY ENDOWMENT - CLERGY RENEWAL PROGRAM GRANT

The vision of this parish is to faithfully grow ministries in each congregation for the sake of the Gospel. The Holy Spirit in a pastor and congregational leaders dedicated to mission together is crucial to our vision. The call to serve two congregations and the surrounding community is demanding. Pastor Jill has served for ten years and has requested extended time for rest, reflection and study. This actually is helpful to both congregations as well giving time to vision ministry with added resources. The Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal grant

monies will pay entire cost for a three month leave including supply reimbursement and resources for congregational study. Grants approved by this foundation must clearly communicate that a process is mutually supported by both the clergy and congregations. All leaders of council agreed to form team to pursue grant funding for renewal. Team members are Jerry Droz, Paul Kamzelski, Mike Holcomb and Laura Strobel. This group has begun to pray together with Pastor. Additionally they will provide leadership in the process of grant writing, and communications with congregations. The deadline to submit a grant is April

And He said, "My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest. ~Exodus 33:14

Thank you to...

Anxiety & Panic Attack Support Group – Christmas Craft Sale donation of \$670

Those saving can tabs for Good Samaritan Fund \$13 donated.

All who helped take down Christmas decorations

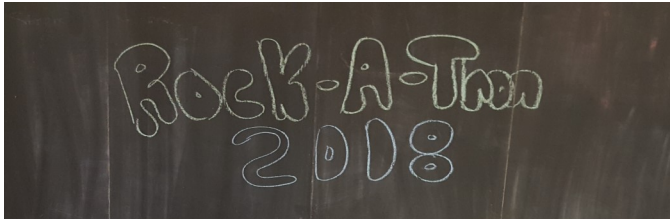
Volunteers chaperones helping Teens for Christ Rockathon.

SERVING JESUS CHRIST—GROWING NEW LIFE

Pray over these opportunities to live our baptismal calling...

- Neighbors in need (families or persons) - For assistance call Pastor Jill 724-480-5040
- Ministry Opportunities for church to serve community needs - contact Church Office/Council President
- Serving ministries in support of church home and members – contact Church Office
- Bible Study Ministers {Start a bible study or simply explore ways to improve personal devotions}
 - * Outreach Ministers
 - * Visitation
 - * Card/prayer ministries
- Worship ministry: Lectors, Assisting Ministers, Ushers / {Ongoing needs, even as a substitute}
- Worship ministry support: Altar Guild, Acolytes, counting offering & preparing deposit.
- Facility care
 - Cleaning – vacuuming, wiping down window sills.
 - Maintenance – general maintenance and repair.
 - Organizing/sorting ministry supplies
- An hour or two per week or month sharing your passion and talents grows the Gospel.

Thank you to the many volunteers that are dedicated to ministry support!



FROM THE PASTOR

Beloved of God,

The Holy Spirit never stops moving in the living body of Christ. Since 2008, steady progress has been made in reforming churches focused upon survival into churches poised for new growth.

2018 marks a new phase in transforming our life together. The Gospel reveals in the ministry of Jesus is rooted relationships that transform life. Relationships sharing faith formed into a community, where all generations engaged in ministry together – each according to one’s ability. This ministry is initiated and sustained by the Holy Spirit. As baptized children, called out of darkness to serve the Word, our purpose is to engage in relationships that builds worship, strengthens existing ministry and inspires new ministry that transforms life into new life. We have a solid start in building relationships with each other yet there is more to do. This will take time. New relationships are forged over time. There will be a consistent focused effort – yet not a perfect effort. We are not the sinless Lord Jesus, but we are His children of light gifted with faith by grace to glorify His Holy Name through the way of the Cross.

The new format of the Parish Epistle illuminates this focus upon relationships. Updated software tools obtained with a computer purchased in 2017, can capably serve a variety of communication needs with greater flexibility and efficiency. Some newsletter items remain the same or are simply reformatted. Other items have been omitted. If something is omitted, it does not mean that it is no longer accessible. Anything from the previous newsletter that supports your ministry to our family of faith can be requested from our office. Please inform the office what is needed to support growing relationships that transform into new life together. What an awesome opportunity we share growing the Gospel because we are called and sent to serve. May God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit continue to grow through our ministry gifts shared generously. – Pastor Jill

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish children/adults singing
Villa St. Joseph
Saturday-February 17, 2018
Time : TBD

Acolyte Training Session
Christ, Baden
Saturday-February 17, 2018
Time: TBD (after singing)

Annual Congregation Meeting
Our Savior’s
Sunday February 11, 2018
12:00 noon Potluck lunch
1:00p.m. Meeting

Young Faith Women’s Bible
Study
Parsonage, Baden
Monday February 19, 2018
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Our Savior’s Council Meeting
Thursday, February 1, 2018
7:00 PM

Christ Baden Council Meeting
Thursday, February 8, 2018
7:00 PM

Parish VBS



July 30-August 3, 2018
6:00-8:30pm

CHRIST - OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN PARISH LEADERS & STAFF

Council Presidents:

Jerry Droz—Our Savior's
Bill Shrader—Christ, Baden
Pastor Jill—Parish

Staff:

Office Secretary
Amy Fodor
(Monday & Thursday mornings)
Organist: Andrija Andelic
OS Sexton—Cathy Redmond
CB Sexton—volunteers

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN PARISH

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, established 1858

399 State St. Baden, PA 15005

Phone—724-869-7635

christbaden@gmail.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, established 1938

2147 Ridge Rd. Ext. Ambridge, PA 15003 [Economy Boro]

Phone— 724-266-1169

oursaviors15003@gmail.com

Weekly Sunday Worship Schedule

Our Savior's 9:30 a.m.

Coffee hour and adult bible study 10:30 a.m.

Christ, Baden 11 a.m.

Children/Youth Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

CHRIST - OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN PARISH

www.christsaviors.org

Facebook: Christ Lutheran Church - Baden

FEB
2018



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE