



Community of Christ Lutheran Church

*Transfiguration of Our Lord, Sunday
February 15, 2026, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Pastor Stephen C. Bond*



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Stephen Bond

Musical Prelude

Pam Stover

EPIPHANY CONFESsION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, One God, the source of all life, who comes to us as a beacon to guide our lives. **Amen.**

Together with one voice, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

O God in whom we hope,
Have mercy on us. We have turned from your ways and wandered into the wilderness spaces of life. We have not loved you or our neighbor with an open heart, just as you called us to live. We hurt with our words and actions. We ignore the needs around us. We lack the call to be good stewards in the gifts you have given to us. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, and by the power of your Spirit, bring us back to life. **Amen.**

Beloved of God, hear these words of assurance. God does not give up on you. God's steadfast love endures forever. In the name of Jesus Christ (+), your sins are forgiven. Remember: you are children of God, forgiven and set free. **Amen.**

Hymn

“Shine, Jesus Shine”

ELW 671

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **C And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

“Drawn to the Light”

1 Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the
2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one
3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the

heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be
dwells in the dark of night? Morn-ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -
one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -

lost, we were drawn to the light of God.
pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.
gun when we're drawn to the light of God.

Refrain

Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the
light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a
sight to be drawn to the light of God.

Prayer of the Day

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Childrens Sermon

Baptismal Song

“Remember This Moment”

(see the last page of the bulletin)

THE READINGS

The First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

¹² The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴ To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

¹⁶ The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶ We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.

¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

P The Holy Gospel according to....C Glory to you, O Lord!

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

P The Gospel of the Lord! C Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

“It is Good to Be Here”

Vicar Natalie Downs

Hymn

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ELW 834

8:00 a.m.

Holy Baptism of Ella Rose Walters

(Please refer to your hymnal, page 227)

The Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

P As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

AM Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend those who are in danger. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to those who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve, especially; **Tom Jennings, Larry Battles, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O'Konski, Luke Holtz, Ron Hetherwick, Jake Cope, Virginia Dillon, Staci, Laura Reimer, Greg Urbanski, Matt Jurrus, Sally, Tom Druschel, Cindy Hartbarger, Phyllis Sturgeon, Jeff Bucher, Albert Preston, David Reimer, Pastor Ray Gottschling, Jim Gebhart, Jim Dorton, Don Schroeder, Bryan Lauer, Wyatt Dunn, Amy Meagher, Ann Reisner, Kathryn Whitacre, Ricky Webb & family, Morgan Fodor & unborn baby, Greg Ganalli, Carol Tomlin, Mya Chapp, Richard Schroeder, Kim Mack, Connie Baker, Deb**

Mullens... and all others whom we remember in silence. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

AM Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, especially Shirley Cofer, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it.

Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C And also with you!**

Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

Our Tithes and Offering *Bring your gifts to the Altar, or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

Offering Prayer

AM God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.

Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

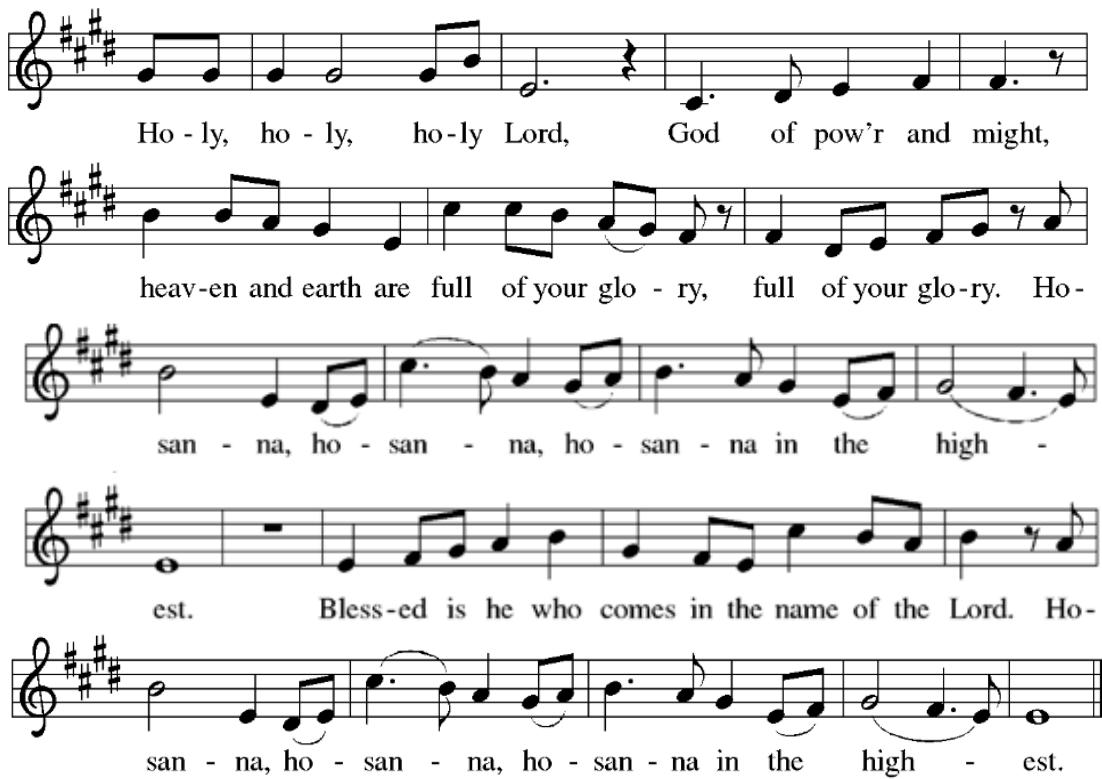
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**Eucharistic Prayer Continues



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - - est.

The Words of Institution

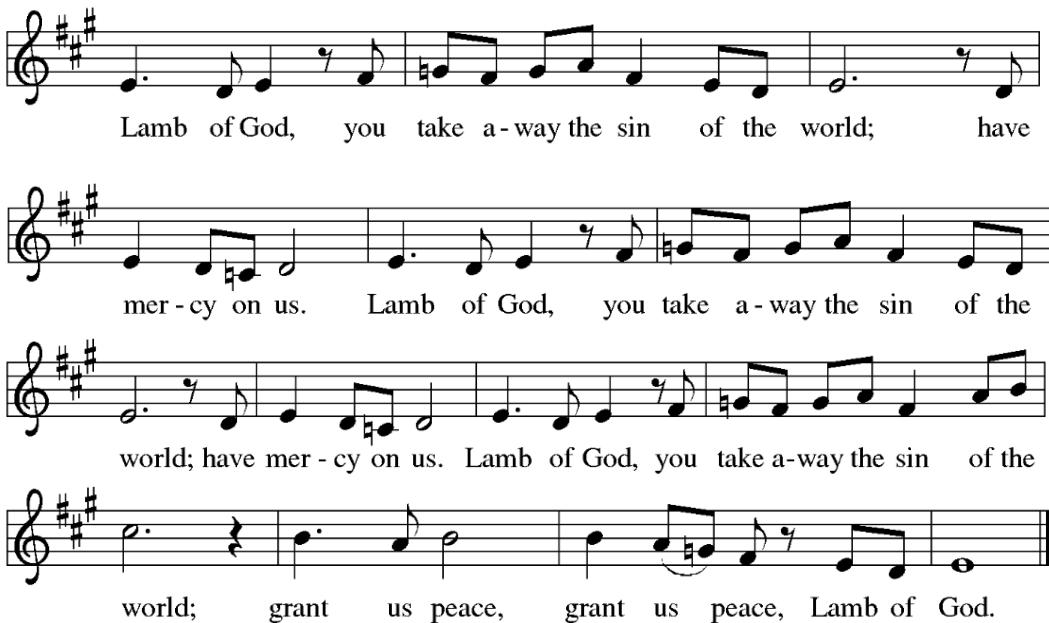
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymns

“Lamb of God”



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Hymn

“I Love to Tell the Story” “Beautiful Savior”

ELW 661

ELW 838

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise **✚** bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

AM And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

Postlude

As we prepare to have the lock-in this weekend

We invite your prayers for the adults who are giving their time and care, and for the youth who will be attending the Glo-over, beginning at noon today and continuing through the early morning hours tomorrow.

God of Light and Love,

You were there in the beginning, and with your Word, you spoke all of creation into being. You took on flesh and bone to show your love and light to the world. Thank you for creating us, sustaining us, and loving us even when we forget who we are.

Your children are gathering for this lock-in to learn more about your light within them and what you are calling them to do with it. So first, we surrender this night to you. Not our plans, but your will be done. Not our comfort, but your transforming presence.

We lift up each young person who will walk through the doors.

Let them feel seen. Let them feel safe. Let them feel your delight in who they are.

We pray for the leaders and volunteers who will be present.

Give them wisdom to guide, patience to listen, courage to love well, and humility to follow your Spirit's lead.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on everyone there, that your presence would be known, your voice would be heard, and your light would be reflected through every conversation, every laugh, every quiet moment.

Shape them through this night. Grow their roots deeper in Jesus. And send them back into the world ready to live as bearers of your light. Amen.

Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! We welcome YOU to worship with us at one of our TWO worship services. Join us at **8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m.** in person or on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing you, and as always, BRING A FRIEND!!!!

Worship Whys—Sunday Adult Forum. In our weekly Sunday Adult Forum, we will explore our patterns of worship as Lutheran Christians and with our own traditions here at Community of Christ. Have you ever wondered why we do certain things in worship, or wondered where they come from? How about the differences in traditions across Christian denominations, or the ways our practices here differ from those of other Lutheran congregations elsewhere? And how have Christian worship patterns changed over time? All of these questions are a part of our new series, “Worship Whys,” which starts today, between the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services in the Bible study/Council room. Everyone is welcome, and we invite you to bring your thoughts, questions, and curiosity!

Thursday Bible Study Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m., we host a Bible study (in the Council/Bible study room) that is open to all! We will continue to explore the Scriptures on **Feb. 19 and 26** -*Encountering the Book of Acts*. We'll be doing a longer deep dive into the New Testament book of Acts to learn the story of the early church and how the band of rag-tag fishermen and tax collectors from Galilee grew into a movement that reached outward to the very heart of the Roman Empire and became a “found family” of Jewish and Gentile people, rich and poor, enslaved and free, women and men, and lived through the growing pains of that outreach to change the world. Remember, too, that we'll continue to share video catch-up sessions on our social media each week, so that you can know what we'll be looking at each week in case you miss a week or want to join in!

Join us for Ash Wednesday Services – We will hold two services on Ash Wednesday: one at **12:00 p.m.** and another at **7:00 p.m.** All are welcome to begin the Lenten season with us in reflection and prayer.

*****Calling all men of the church!** The Women's Retreat Team needs your help. If you're able to sign up for one, two, or even all of the time slots, we would be truly grateful. Please sign up at the kiosk to lend a hand. Thank you for your support!

The Period Project - Feminine Hygiene Product collection Feb 1-22



Did you know...

- **1 in 3 low-income women report missing work & school due to a lack of period supplies**
- **One out of four students has missed school due to a lack of period products.**

Community of Christ Lutheran Church is participating in the Period Project to help raise awareness about period poverty and collect feminine hygiene products for Norf-End Neighbors in Toledo, OH. All new, **sealed** products of pads and tampons of varying sizes are being accepted for donation from February 1st to 22nd. Donations will also be accepted during the “Peace Be Still” women’s retreat.” All donations can be dropped off in the box labeled “Period Project” in the Gathering Space. For those who wish to provide a monetary donation, all checks can be made out to Community of Christ Lutheran Church. Please indicate in the subject line “Period Project.”

Join Us on Feb. 22 for Vicar Natalie’s Farewell ❤️†

It’s hard to believe that Vicar Natalie’s time with us is coming soon to its end—the past year and a half has gone by so quickly! As we announced at the annual meeting at the beginning of December, we are planning a special celebration and farewell event for Vicar Natalie on her last Sunday with us, which will be Feb. 22, 2026. Here are a few things to know and mark on your calendar now: First of all, we’ll have a single service that Sunday, at 9:00 a.m. We’re doing that for a couple of reasons: first of all, Vicar Natalie herself has written some special music she is dedicating to the congregation to be premiered that morning. The choir is working on learning it and sharing it with us in worship, and we want the whole congregation to be together to share those moments. We will host a breakfast after the service (egg casseroles, sausage, French toast fingers, fruit, cake) when the stress and focus of conducting the choir’s special music can be over, we can just celebrate Vicar Natalie’s time with us and her gifts for ministry as we wish her Godspeed and share our farewell messages and good wishes with her for that last weekend in February. **We have 3 sign-up sheets for this event - one for a headcount, needed TODAY, Feb 15 (adults and children), to know how much food we need, one for help on Friday, Feb 20, 9:00 a.m. to prepare some of the food, and one for help cleaning up after breakfast.** We will collect a freewill offering to help offset the cost of the food. Save the date and sign up now to help us mark this important milestone!

Women's Bible Study: The Way of Wisdom: A Study of the Book of Proverbs

When: 8 Weeks, March 3-April 21, 2026 - 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Where: Community of Christ Adult Sunday School/Church Council Room

Six women Bible Study Leaders will be helping us understand the true meaning of Wisdom as illustrated in Proverbs. The format is to read a chapter in the workbook, do any homework and then come to Bible Study to discuss and ask questions. We will then watch the teaching on the DVD and, if there is time, discuss it! A full morning of learning! The leaders on the DVD are Jen Wilken, Ruth Chou Simons, Kelly Mintor, Adrienne Camp, Elizabeth Woodson, and Courtney Doctor.

Please sign up at the kiosk, or text me, Kathryn Whitacre, with your contact information at 567-393-9444. Please purchase the workbook *The Way of Wisdom*, Lifeway Press. You can get it directly from Lifeway or (usually cheaper if you have PRIME) from Amazon. Invite a friend to attend; you don't have to be a member of Community of Christ to take part in this learning opportunity.

February Book Club: *The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man* by Paul Newman

- ❖ **When:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Where:** Community of Christ Adult Sunday School/Church Council Room
- ❖ **Book:** *The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man* by Paul Newman (edited by David Rosenthal)

What is your favorite Paul Newman movie? Take time to visit Paul on screen, then read this raw, honest memoir. Based on interviews collected by Paul Newman and his friends, screenwriter Stewart Stein, this honest look into the life of actor, race car driver, and philanthropist Paul Newman reviews a man who was anything but ordinary.

CoC Welcomes Tapestry Harp-and-Guitar Duo in Concert, March 15 at 3:00

p.m. After having a great time in January with our Storytellers Coffeehouse event (and enjoying the tales of seven storytellers along with live music from Eric Dickey and Sarah Magoun), our Concert Committee is excited to welcome *Tapestry* to Community of Christ on the afternoon of Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 p.m. Tapestry is comprised of harpist, Denise Grupp-Verbon and acoustic guitarist/multi-instrumentalist, Michael Grupp-Verbon and is based in Toledo Ohio. Performing and recording together for more than 11 years, Denise and Michael have created a truly distinctive sound, with their unique arranging and composing, and by the intertwining of different instruments. Playing many different styles of music from Celtic & Folk to Pop, Classical, and more, Tapestry is sure to have something for everyone. We'll be blessed to have Denise Grupp-Verbon playing her harp on that Sunday morning in

worship to give us a preview of the music later that afternoon, so plan to join us on both Sunday morning and afternoon that day! As always, we'll invite your free will offerings to help support future concerts and the ministry and mission of both Community of Christ and mission partners beyond our doors.

Conversations and More!! Are you getting tired of being inside? Are you ready to get out for a couple of hours? Have some fun? Visit with friends, new and old? Play some euchre or Sequence? Share some snacks? The "Conversation and More" session on **Tuesday, February 24th** is the perfect answer! Come from **1:00-3:00 p.m.** and be ready for a good time! (An additional Conversations and More AND follow-up drawing session will be held on **Friday, February 27th** for all who can make it.) **Special Note:** Going forward, if AW Schools are closed, *Conversations and More* will also be cancelled.

Worship Volunteer Orientation and Update - Sat, Feb 28, 10-11 am

Whether you are new to worship volunteering or have been helping out, you are cordially invited to attend the Worship Volunteer Orientation and Update Workshop on Sat, Feb 28. Pastor Steve will be describing all roles and the hows and whys of what each role does. Did you ever wonder what order we process in and why? Or if you should say "Good Morning" before offering the readings, or why we carry the light to the back of the church at the end of service? Answers to all of your questions will be provided, along with answers to any of your other burning questions about worship roles. We look forward to seeing many faces at the Workshop!



**Altar Flowers given by Wayne & Becky King, in
celebration of family February Birthdays** ❤️ +



Break out the Turtle-Wax and your craft supplies; the Outreach Committee is organizing the inaugural Community of Christ Car & Craft Fest on Saturday, August 15th, from 12-4 p.m. Do you have a sweet ride you love showing off? We'd LOVE for you to show it off to the community here in our parking lot. Crafters – we're looking for YOU as well! Do you knit or crochet beautiful blankets

or articles of clothing? Create floral arrangements displaying God's beauty? Maybe you paint, do woodworking, make jewelry, or decorate tumblers? We'd love for you to set up shop at our craft fair in Fellowship Hall that afternoon. You may be asking yourself, "How can I get involved in this fun experience?" The answer is simple – reach out to a member of the Outreach Committee so we can get you on our participation list to ensure we have enough space allocated both inside & out. Additional details on all of the events of that day will follow in the coming months. Thank you – The Outreach Committee – Cammie Abraham, Rose Ackerman, Robin Fritz, Shelly Hays, Tammy & Greg Myers, Cindy Smigelski, Kari Swagler, and Pastor Steve.



<i>Event</i>	<i>Day and Time</i>
YOUTH - Glo-over Lock-in @ Providence	Today, Sunday, February 15, 12:00 p.m.
Quilt Ministry	Tuesday, February 17, 10:00 a.m.
Book Club	Tuesday, February 17, 1:00 p.m.
Ash Wednesday Services	Wednesday, February 18, Noon & 7:00 p.m.
Soup Supper	Wednesday, February 18, 6:00 p.m.
Choir Practice	Wednesday, February 18, 7:45 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study	Thursday, February 19, 1:00 p.m.
Bell Choir	Thursday, February 19, 7:00 p.m.



† Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday, February 18, Noon & 7:00 p.m.

† Lenten Services 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 25 - Wednesday, March 25

 **Soup Suppers 6:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, February 18 – Wednesday, March 25



The joint Community of Christ and Providence youth group continues to thrive!

All youth in grades 6–12 are invited to join us Sunday nights from 7:00–8:30 p.m. for a time of faith, fun, and friendship. We gather weekly for games, discussion, service, and reflection as we grow together in Christ and build meaningful relationships with one another. For updates and reminders via text, please text “PARENT” or “YOUTH” to (567) 522-0525.

Remember This Moment (A Song for Ella)

(February 15, 2026—Drawn from Matthew 17:1-9)

Remember this moment
The radiant light
The glory of God was
Revealed to our sight.
Our hearts, they were churning
With wonder and fear
The voice from the cloud spoke
And then it was clear.

(Refrain)

Now with clarity
You make us brave
We will follow you
And trust you to save
I don't know the destination
But in spite of all my reservations
I'll take the next step where you lead.

Remember the faces
of saints gathered round
Elijah and Moses
On this holy ground.
The sign we all longed for
At last had begun:
The message was given:
“Yes, this is my Son.”

(Refrain)

Remember how we wished
We just could have stayed
Until your words freed us:
“Do not be afraid.”
So much on the mountain
We could not understand
So patiently Jesus
Took us by the hand.

(Refrain)

Remember this moment
How God speaks anew
In Word and in water
“You are my child, too.”
No matter where we go
When we leave this place
We're marked with your cross now
We're held in your grace.

(Refrain)