



Dear Friends in Christ,

Sometimes, I have a theme or theological message that I want to convey in my newsletter article each month. Maybe, after Easter, I'm feeling a little less prophetic, and a little more reflective. Today, I'm thinking about flowers. Here are some of my thoughts...

Costco and Fred Meyer are filled with hanging baskets and annuals this week, getting ready for Mother's Day. In our first house where I lived until I was 12, the back yard was away from direct sunlight and perfect for Fuchsia Baskets. There were always a couple of baskets hanging from the pergola and it was fun to see the hummingbirds come to feed on the nectar. If you ever want to be amazed by creation, just watch a hummingbird hover at a blossom and drink deeply.

My paternal Grandmother wasn't much of a gardener, but she did have a spectacular lilac bush. Every Mother's Day, she would bring a large bouquet of lilacs, their stems wrapped in damp newspaper. Upon her arrival at our house, the lilacs were quickly placed in a vase and became the table centerpiece. They were fragrant and their subtle shade of purple always felt like spring.

I was reminded of the lilacs when we arrived at Easter dinner at Alex and Dan's house. As decorations, there were lilacs from their garden. To elevate things a little more, Dan, who is a skilled mixologist, created cocktails and mocktails that featured "lilac syrup", made from the blossoms. Can't get much more local than that. And the smell reminded me of family no longer with us.

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May 1

Isaiah 5:11-17
Revelation 3:14-22
Psalm 30

May 2

Isaiah 6:1-4
Revelation 4:1-11
Psalm 30

May 3

Genesis 18:1-8
Luke 14:12-14
Psalm 30

May 4

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

May 5

Ezekiel 1:1-25
Acts 9:19b-31
Psalm 121

May 6

Ezekiel 1:26—2:1
Acts 26:1-18
Psalm 121

May 7

Ezekiel 11:1-25
Revelation 5:1-10
Psalm 23

May 8

Ezekiel 11:1-25
Revelation 5:1-10
Psalm 23

May 9

Ezekiel 20:39-44
Revelation 6:1—7:4
Psalm 23

May 10

Ezekiel 28:25-26
Luke 12:29-32
Psalm 23

Flower Power

Although the tradition has died away some, I remember when children would make little May Baskets out of construction paper, fill them with flowers, surreptitiously hang them on the doorknob of a neighbor's front door, ring the doorbell, and run and hide. Kind of "trick or treat" in reverse. A rite of spring!

Flowers can become a symbol for a place. In Oregon, Brookings is known for their Easter Lilies, Florence for Rhododendrons, Woodburn for Tulips, Portland for Roses, Canby for their Dahlias, and Newberg for the Camellia Festival.

This last fall, Karen and I stayed a night at the Benson Hotel. I like the hotel, but I love the lobby! It is grand and reminds you of bygone days when people went to see who was arriving in town or to make sure they were seen by others. As you enter, they continue the tradition of having a very large bouquet of flowers at the entrance to welcome you, no matter the season.

As a high school student, I worked as a delivery driver for a local florist. It was the best job that a 17-18 year old young man could imagine. I got paid (\$3.35/hour) to drive all over Seattle and the Eastside of Lake Washington, listen to the radio, and deliver arrangements. Holiday centerpieces, get well bouquets, anniversary roses, funeral sprays, and houseplants too!

The staff didn't trust me to do wedding deliveries solo, but I often helped the owner with these, laying out corsages, boutonnieres, and bouquets for the wedding party.

The thought behind each floral arrangement covered the whole spectrum of human emotion: love, sympathy, nostalgia, excitement, gratitude, hopefulness, and respect. The recipient knew that someone was thinking of them.

Even the church has used flowers in iconography for symbolic significance. The rose is often associated with the Virgin Mary.

May 11

Ezekiel 37:15-28
Revelation 15:1-4
Psalm 100

May 12

Ezekiel 37:15-28
Revelation 15:1-4
Psalm 100

May 13

Ezekiel 45:1-9
Acts 9:32-35
Psalm 100

May 14

Jeremiah 50:17-20
John 10:31-42
Psalm 100

May 15

Ezekiel 2:8—3:11
Revelation 10:1-11
Psalm 148

May 16

Daniel 7:13-14
Revelation 11:15
Psalm 148

May 17

Daniel 7:27
Revelation 11:16-19
Psalm 148

May 18

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148 (13)
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

May 19

1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42
Acts 11:19-26
Psalm 133

May 20

2 Samuel 1:4-27
Acts 11:27-30
Psalm 133

May 21

Leviticus 19:9-18
Luke 10:25-28
Psalm 133

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Flower Power

The lily represents purity, innocence, and is often linked to Christ's resurrection while the passionflower is widely regarded as a symbol of Jesus' suffering and crucifixion.

I'm not really sure where I am going with all of this, but in this verdant and floral season, when the world seems so chaotic and the news is filled with tragedy and cruelty, remember there is beauty and kindness as well.

If you haven't done so in a while, bring or send some flowers to someone you have been thinking about. When a child hands you some dandelions that they have picked at the park, receive them warmly and with a hint of astonishment. Appreciate the variety in God's floral creation and the fragrance they impart.

And, especially in this part of the Willamette Valley, don't forget your allergy meds!

Peace!

Pastor Craig

Special Thanks

On behalf of the Oregon Association of Teachers of German, I would like to thank youi fpr the generosity to use the fellowship space for our spring get-together and training. Everyone was very happy to be here. Thank you!

Lynn Ries



Service Helpers May

May 4

Reader: Dale Williamson

Ushers: Susan & Dale Williamson

Donut Host: Barb Bannister

May 11 Happy Mother's Day

Reader: Kenton Wolfe

Usher: Kenton Wolfe

Coffee Hosts: Marie Gunther &
Jeannine Brumley

May 18

Reader; Marvis Gilnett

Usher: George Will

Coffee Host: Kimberly Pearson

May 25

Reader: Lance Lyon

Usher: Lance Lyon

Coffee Host: Sonya Johnson



Joyful Servant Grants

The Endowment committee has approved 2025 Joyful Servant Grants applied for by the following CLC members:

- Ernie Pete: update the CLC outreach flyer, \$500.
- Lynn Bloomfield: diapers, wipes, formula for infants through Pregnancy Care Center, Canby, \$600.
- Sonya Johnson: books for Shoebox project for children, \$600.
- Kimberly Macklin: for either of 2 projects to help parents involved in the child welfare system, \$600.00.
- Mike Boonstra: fishing supplies for Canby youth, \$500
- Richard Kaegi: supplies for Community Transitional School in Portland for unhoused children, \$600.
- Michelle Ripple: for either of the 2 Well of Hope projects In Nairobi for widows, \$600.
- Lonnie Harms: Transitional Shelter replacement funds for household items, \$220.

In addition, we will fund a scholarship for Rebecca Wurzer, a seminary student. The scholarship comes from endowment monies set aside for educational purposes.

Deadline For Annual Reports

Once again it is time to start compiling the annual report. We are asking that each committee team or group give us 4-6 bullet points that summarize what your group is all about and what you have accomplished this past year. If you want you can include members names and any goals that you may have for the coming year.

If you have a financial report that you normally share submit that too. We will then create a power point presentation using your information that can easily be shared at the annual meeting. You will be asked to make any oral presentations but if possible it would be good if someone from your committee team or group could be at the meeting on June 22nd to answer any questions.

Please submit your information to the church office by morning June 8th.



Lucas Snell	5
Maria Snell	9
Corwin Ries	11
Charles Snell	11
Ron Berg	13
Greg Elliott	15
Matthew Brown	18
Carolyn Popma	20
Meghann Fisher	23
Dean Pinto	26
Kevin Baker	29
Arthur Shepherd	30



Dan & Lonnie
Harms
16

Lawson & Charlene
Roberts
26

Prayers for	Requested by
Abraham	Barb B.
Anna (Grider)	Jim & Doris Grider
Bankhead Family	Wyatt Akin
Barbara Whitford	Heather W
Beth Brandt	Mary W.
Betty Gerhardt	Kenton and Mary
Bob and Sally	Doris Grider
Bonnie and Bruce	PC
Brooke	Heather W
Bruce Baker	Kevin Baker
Bud Richard and	Kimberly Macklin
Burt Aus	Judi Aus
Carol Smith	Helen D
Chad Roberson	PC
Charles G.	PC
Colin Brown	Heather W
Cindy Caufield	Susan W
Dan Wechter	Heather Wecher
Dana St. Clair	Diane Schaber
Dennis Ormseth	Mary W.
Dixie Scheehear	PC
Dyrdahl Family	PC
Ellen Paulson	Lorrie Dyrdahl
Eric Wechter	PC
Evie Berg	PC
Gary Erb	Barb B.
Heather Wechter	PC
Heide Hendrick	PC
Heidi Daniel Family	PC
Hollinger Family,	Kimberly Macklin
Howard & Kathy	Mary W.
Jan G	PC
Jean Ruter	Mary W.

- Those with memory care issues and those who care for them.
- Those receiving radiation or chemotherapy.
- Those who are in hospice care.
- Our loved ones serving in the armed forces especially those serving overseas.

Prayers for	Requested by
Jerry McKenzie	Sharon G.
Jo Miller	Kimberly Macklin
JoAnn Caufield Family	Cindy C
Joanna Painter	Dixie
Judy Kretzmann	PC
Kate	PC
Kim	Lisa
Kimberly Kyser	Cindy C
Larry Marnella	Ilene Marnella
Laurie Boyce	PC
Leon Baumhover	Julie
Linda Fender	Dan and Lonnie
Lorrie D	PC
Lynn Bloomfield	Lonnie and Dan
Mark Kynsi	Wyatt Akin
Marlene McDonald	Amy Elliott
Marvis Gilnett	PC
Mary Wolfe	PC
Matthew Brown	Heather W
Matt H	PC
Micah Akin	Wyatt Akin
Mike and Dixie Harms	Dan and Lonnie
Mike McCue	Heather Wechter
Misty Mann	Lorrie Dyrdahl
Molly Fowler	Barb B.
Oscar D	Sam D
Patti Busse Family	PC
Phyllis Murray, family of	Marie G.
Piper	Heather W
Richard Dyrdahl	Lorrie Dyrdahl
Robert	Jordain
Roy Steven	Joyce
Shirley Ann Andreason	Ilene Marnella
Sylvia Peter	PC
Tammara Davidson	PC
Tom Haskins	Kim M.
Traci	Barb B.
Vi Anderson	Judi
WilloDene Wilson Family	Lance Lyon

*Our thoughts
And prayers
Are with you.*

May 22

Proverbs 2:1-5
Acts 15:36-41
Psalm 67

May 23

Proverbs 2:6-8
Acts 16:1-8
Psalm 67

May 24

Proverbs 2:9-15
Luke 19:1-10
Psalm 67

May 25

Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5
John 14:23-29

May 26

1 Chronicles 12:16-22
Revelation 21:5-14
Psalm 93

May 27

2 Chronicles 15:1-15
Revelation 21:15-22
Psalm 93

May 28

2 Chronicles 34:20-33
Luke 2:25-38
Psalm 93

May 29

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

May 30

Exodus 33:12-17
Revelation 22:6-9
Psalm 97

May 31

Exodus 33:18-23
John 1:14-18
Psalm 97

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6 – 8 pm Wellbriety Recovery Support Group	2	3
4 10 am Worship 11:15 am Council 7 pm AA	6:30-7:30 Aurora Emergency Preparedness	6 pm AA Meeting	7	8 10 am Backpack Buddies 6 – 8 pm Wellbriety Recovery Support Group	9	10 5:15-6:15 pm AA Speaker Night
11 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	12	6 pm AA Meeting	13 3 - 5:30 pm Marion/Polk Food Share, Pythian Hall	14 North Marion Pastors 1-2 p.m 6 – 8 pm Wellbriety Recovery Support Group	16	17
18 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	19	6 pm AA Meeting	20	21	23	24
25 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	26	3-4:30 North Marion Services Team 6 pm AA Meeting	27	28 Red Cross Blood Drive	30	31

Christ Lutheran Church
15029 2nd Street N.E.
Aurora, OR 97002
clcaurora.org
(503) 678-5135

COURIER



May 2025

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AURORA

