



## Starting Lines, Finish Lines, and Everything In Between

Dear Friends in Christ,

Springtime is bursting forth all around us and I can see the pent-up energy of winter being set free. As the weather improves, there are all kinds of community events to celebrate the hopefulness of warming temperatures all around us.

GardenPaloozas at Bauman's Farm and Fir Point Farm have already happened. They attract quite a crowd. Fir Point had to hire professional traffic control on Arndt Road for this year's sale.

The spring garden event the Clackamas County Fair Grounds the first weekend in May is just around the corner. Just like Spring Training for baseball fans, "hope springs eternal" in every gardener's heart as they envision abundant produce and beautiful flowers.

Another sign of spring are the races of all kinds being held. The Gator Grinder, a mini triathlon fundraiser for the Canby Gators Swim Club, occurs annually on the Saturday before Mother's Day. The course goes right by my house. Need to drive carefully that day.

In Spokane, the Lilac City, the 12K Bloomsday Run the first weekend of May attracts thousands of runners. In April each year, the Boston Marathon (26.2 miles) attracts qualified runners from all over the world. My friend Dave Hipke, the best man at my wedding, has qualified and run Boston in his 40's, 50's, and now 60's! Go Dave!

It isn't only two legged runners stretching their legs each spring. The Kentucky Derby is the most watched and celebrated horse race in the world and will be celebrating their 152<sup>nd</sup> running of the event May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Called the fastest two minutes in sports, it is a celebration of color and spectacle.

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### May 1

Exodus 3:1-12  
Acts 7:1-16  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

### May 2

Jeremiah 26:20-24  
John 8:48-59  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

### May 3

Acts 7:55-60  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (5)  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

### May 4

Exodus 13:17-22  
Acts 7:17-40  
Psalm 102:1-17

### May 5

Proverbs 3:5-12  
Acts 7:44-56  
Psalm 102:1-17

### May 6

Proverbs 3:13-18  
John 8:31-38  
Psalm 102:1-17

### May 7

Genesis 6:5-22  
Acts 27:1-12  
Psalm 66:8-20

### May 8

Genesis 7:1-24  
Acts 27:13-38  
Psalm 66:8-20

### May 9

Genesis 8:13-19  
John 14:27-29  
Psalm 66:8-20

### May 10

Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20 (8)  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

## Starting Lines, Finish Lines, and Everything In Between

From four legs to four wheels, Indianapolis, Indiana hosts the running of the 500 every Memorial Day Weekend. As a kid, the event was tape delayed so it could be televised in primetime that evening. I remember laying down on the living room floor next to the speaker on the console stereo to listen to the live radio broadcast of the race in the morning and later watching the taped event on ABC with Jim McKay and Jackie Stewart providing the commentary. As a five-year old, my family visited Indianapolis and we went on a tour of the raceway. It made quite an impression.

I haven't run a lot of races in my lifetime. One of my life goals was to finish a half marathon. In 2010, I did finish the Portland Half Marathon in about 4 and a half hours. A good time for a full marathon. Not so fast for a half marathon, but I did finish! I tell people, that it was a half marathon, so I ran it "half-fast". Say it out loud and it has a dual meaning!

There is a picture near the kitchen in the fellowship hall of a celebration by our congregation crossing a finish line of sorts. It is dated April 22, 1956, 70 years ago this week. It was the dedication day for the completion of our current church building. There are dozens of 1950's era autos parked fender to fender in front of the new building to celebrate. A project that began with planning and fundraising in the 1940's had crossed the finish line!

This spring also marks a milestone celebration for our church that was more of a starting line. In 1926, Christ Lutheran Church was instrumental in starting Luther House Campus Ministry at Oregon State. Hedwig Pardey, a member at Christ Lutheran and a student in Corvallis, asked her pastor and his colleagues to start a Lutheran Student Ministry. And they did! This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of that ministry supporting students as OSU.

The author of Hebrews writes, *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us (Hebrews 12:1).*

### May 11

Genesis 9:8-17  
Acts 27:39-44  
Psalm 93

### May 12

Genesis 9:8-17  
Acts 27:39-44  
Psalm 93

### May 13

Deuteronomy 31:1-13  
John 16:16-24  
Psalm 93

### May 14

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

### May 15

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Ephesians 2:1-7  
Psalm 93

### May 16

2 Kings 2:13-15  
John 8:21-30  
Psalm 93

### May 17

Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

### May 18

Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24  
1 Peter 4:1-6  
Psalm 99

### May 19

Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24  
1 Peter 4:1-6  
Psalm 99

### May 20

1 Kings 8:54-65  
John 3:31-36  
Psalm 99

### May 21

Exodus 19:1-9a  
Acts 2:1-11  
Psalm 33:12-22

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## **Starting Lines, Finish Lines, and Everything In Between**

The blessing in all of this is that we don't run this race alone. There is an African American Spiritual called, Guide My Feet. These are the lyrics...

Guide my feet, while I run this race.  
Guide my feet, while I run this race.  
Guide my feet, while I run this race.  
For I don't want to run this race in vain.

In verses that follow, "Guide my feet" is substituted with "Hold my hand", "I'm your child", and "Stand by me".

Where are you in your race today? Does it feel like the starting line, green flag waving, with everything before you? Are there yellow flags marking danger on the course? Does it feel like you can see the checkered flag ahead, marking the end of the race? Sometimes all of the above?

Like Jesus joining Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24) we do not travel alone. Jesus comes alongside us to guide us, hold our hand, remind us that we are children of God, and stand with us through the most difficult times.

For we don't have to run this race in vain. Maybe we could have a new sending rite after worship?

And they're off!

Pastor Craig

### **May 22**

Exodus 19:16-25  
Romans 8:14-17  
Psalm 33:12-22

### **May 23**

Exodus 20:1-21  
Matthew 5:1-12  
Psalm 33:12-22

### **May 24**

Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

### **May 25**

Joel 2:18-29  
Romans 8:18-24  
Psalm 104:24-34,35b

### **May 26**

Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29  
Romans 8:26-27  
Psalm 104:24-34,35b

### **May 27**

Numbers 11:24-30  
John 7:37-39  
Psalm 104:24-34,35B

### **May 28**

Job 38:1-11  
2 Timothy 1:8-12a  
Psalm 8

### **May 29**

Job 38:12-21  
2 Timothy 1:12b-14  
Psalm 8

### **May 30**

Job 38:22-38  
John 14:15-17  
Psalm 8

### **May 31**

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13  
Joel 2:18-29  
Romans 8:18-24

<b>Prayers for</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Anna (Grider) Westcott	Jim & Doris Grider
Bankhead Family	Wyatt Akin
Barbara Remy	Helen David
Benjamin Bliven	George Will
Belinda Kjensrud	Kim Macklin
Beth Brandt	Mary W.
Betty Gerhardt	Kenton and Mary Wolfe
Bishop Emeritus Paul Swanson	PC
Bob Boonstra Family	PC
Brenden Blum Family	PC
Brooke	Heather W
Bruce Baker's Family	PC
Bud Richard and Family	Kimberly Macklin
Burt Aus	Judi Aus
Casey Jordaine	Lorrie Dyr Dahl
Chad Roberson Family	PC
Charles G.	PC
Colin Brown	Heather W
Cindy Caufield	Susan W
Cindy Miles	PC
Calvin Mankin	Julie
Cora	Jackie Kimbal
Dale and Sue Williamson	Doris Grider
Dana St. Clair	Diane Schaber
Dennis Ormseth	Mary W.
Diane Horton	Barb Bannister
Diane Schaber	PC
Dixie Scheebean	PC
Don Bassom Family	Dixie S.
Dyr Dahl Family	PC
Eileen Nelson	Eva Nelson
Ellen Paulson	Lorrie Dyr Dahl
Eric Wechter	PC
Ernie Peter Family	PC
Evie and Ron Berg	PC
Frank Schoenfeld	PC
Gary Erb Family	Barb B.
Gregory R	Kimberly Pearson
Harold Weideman	Heather Wilcox
Heide Hendrick	PC
Helen David	Barb Bannister
Hollinger Family, Ellie	Kimberly Macklin
Howard & Kathy Brandt	Mary W.
Jack Guthrie Family	PC
Jamie Mehus Family	PC

<b>Prayers for by</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Jan G	PC
Jean Ruter	Mary W.
Jenna Bozarth	Amy Elliott
Jo Miller	Kimberly Macklin
Joanna Painter	Dixie
John Schaber	PC
Joyce Colvin	PC
Judi Aus	PC
Keven Christiansen Family	PC
Kim	Lisa
Kimberly Kyser	Cindy C
Kristin Hosie	Tom Peter
Lance Lyon	PC
Larry Marnella	Ilene Marnella
Laurie Boyce	PC
Linda Bradley	Lonnie Harms
Linda Fender	Dan and Lonnie Harms
Linda Graham	Barb Bannister
Linda Williamson	Dale Williamson
Loida Steward Family	Betty Gerhardt
Lorie Beyers	Kim Beyers
Lorrie D	PC
Lynn Bloomfield	Lonnie and Dan Harms
Mark Kynsi	Wyatt Akin
Marsha's Family	Julie Parelli-Minetti
Marvis Gilnett	Heather W
Mary Wolfe	PC
Mason	Randy B
Matt H	PC
Melody Sledz	Mary W.
Micah Akin	Wyatt Akin
Misty Mann	Lorrie Dyr Dahl
Nancy Bayer Family	Dixie S.
Oscar D	Sam D
Phyllis Murray, family of	Marie G.
Piper	Heather W
Richard Dyr Dahl	Lorrie Dyr Dahl
Robert	Jordain
Roy Steven	Joyce
Sam Dyr Dahl	Lorrie Dyr Dahl
Shannon	Lonnie
Shirley Ann Andreason	Ilene Marnella
Steve Grider	Doris Grider
Tammara Davidson	PC
Traci	Barb B.
Vi Anderson	Judi
Virgil Pettit Family	PC
Wendy & Family	PC
William Wood	Lorrie Dyr Dahl
Yvonne, Family of	Julie Parelli-Minetti

## Joyful Servant Grants Awards for 2026!

Every year, your CLC Endowment Team awards outreach grants based on ideas that come from the congregation and community. This year, we are supporting six grants for a total of \$3,670! Here are the six...

1. Love INC Furniture Ministry. \$650.  
Located at Zoar Lutheran, they provide donated furniture to area families in need.
2. Take a Kid Fishing. \$650.  
Provides fishing equipment and a simple fishing experience to kids in Canby.
3. Bridging Cultures Food Bank. \$650.  
Provides low barrier food access to area families with special outreach in the Latino Community,
4. Pregnancy Care Center Diapers and Wipes. \$650.  
Helps with needed baby supplies for moms and their little ones.
5. Morrison Family Services Cell Phones. \$420.  
Provides communication tools for parents with kids in foster care.
6. Morrison Family Services, Job equipment. \$650.  
Helps parents working on their recovery with needed work equipment as they re-enter the job market.

This year, the Christ Lutheran Endowment will provide approximately \$8,000 in ministry grants and scholarships. Endowment team members this year are Marie Gunther, Lance Lyon, Carrie Pinto, Mike Boonstra, John Ries, and Pastor Craig. Established in 2006, The CLC Endowment Team manages about \$200,000 in assets and distributions are made based on a percentage of the endowment total.



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



## **Service Helpers May**

### **May 3**

Reader: Lynn Ries

Ushers: Lynn and John Ries

Donuts: Joy Schulz

Altar Helper: Denise

### **May 10 Happy Mother's Day**

Reader: Marvis Gilnett

Ushers: Lynn Bloomfield and  
Ilene Marnella

Coffee Host: Sonya Johnson

Altar Helper: Bonnie

### **May 17**

Reader: Mike Boonstra

Usher: Bonnie Johnson

Coffee Host: Barb Bannister

Altar Helper: Bonnie

### **May 24**

Reader: Kenton Wolfe

Usher: Kenton Wolfe

Coffee Host: Chris Fisher

Altar Helper: Eva

### **May 31**

Reader: Marie Gunther

Usher: Dennis Lewis and Matt Akin

Donuts: Marie Gunther

Altar Helper: Eva



### **Ernie Peter Remembrance June 7**

Our good friend Ernie Peter passed away back in March. Although he didn't want a formal memorial service, the family has requested that as part of a regular worship service, we include prayers of thanksgiving and remembrance with a coffee hour to follow in his honor. The Sunday set aside for this service and coffee hour will be June 7. May his memory be a blessing!

# May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6-8 pm Relationships in Recovery Group	2
3 10 am Worship 11:15 am Council 7 pm AA	4 6:30-8 pm Aurora Emergency Preparedness	5 6 pm AA	6 Pastor Craig, Continuing Ed	7 Pastor Craig, Continuing Ed	8 6-8 pm Relationships in Recovery Group	9 6 pm AA Speaker Series
10 Mother's Day 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	11	12 6 pm AA	13 3-5 pm Food Share, Riveness Park, Hubbard	14	15 6-8 pm Relationships in Recovery Group	16
17 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	18	19 6 pm AA	20	21	22 6-8 pm Relationships in Recovery Group	23
24 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	25 Memorial Day	26 3-5:00 pm North Marion Services Team Meeting, 6 pm AA	27 9 am Maplewood Grange BPB 3-5 pm Food Share, Riveness Park, Hubbard	28	29 6-8 pm Relationships in Recovery Group	30 Oregon Synod Assembly (Online)
31 10 am Worship 11:15 am Potluck 7 pm AA						

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

# COURIER



*May 2026*

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AURORA

