



+Christian Symbol+

VICTOR'S CROSS

Also called the conqueror's cross, the victor's cross is composed of the Greek cross, recognized by its four equal arms, adorned with Greek letters in each quadrant. The top left letters stand for Jesus and the top right letters stand for Christ (the horizontal lines above them indicate that they are abbreviations). The four letters across the bottom spell the Greek word for conqueror.

CHAPPEL NEWS

Return Service Requested

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
337 Farview Avenue
Paramus, New Jersey 07652

CHAPEL NEWS

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

**BEING NEGATIVE
ONLY MAKES A
JOURNEY MORE
DIFFICULT. YOU
MAY BE GIVEN
A CACTUS, BUT
YOU DON'T HAVE
TO SIT ON IT.**

— JOYCE MEYER

SOMEONE'S PAYING ATTENTION!

Over 20 years ago, I remember passing Hawthorne Gospel Church on my way to work. Every week they'd have a message on their sign. And I would swear that some days it was meant specifically for me. That God was talking to ME through some silly words on an outdoor bulletin board. They brought me unexpected peace and even joy. I looked forward to the next "sign."

I have to admit that when Pastor Kent was retiring and Peggy handed over to me a pair of fingerless gloves and that heavy box of letters, I wasn't thrilled. I saw doing the church sign as "one more thing I'd have to do." My attitude shifted though in Fall 2022. Looking back, the energy of our church was shifting, too...for the good.

I bought more "A"s and "E"s...even a hashtag symbol just in case we were going to start an internet movement...and gave it a go! We've gotten some great feedback but I always keep hoping that one day someone will think, "That's a pretty cool sign for a church" and maybe give our little chapel with the red doors a try.

While new members aren't exactly busting down those doors, it's signs (figuratively speaking) like these that come through our website that make my "job" worthwhile...

"I pass your Church often and always read what it says on the sign, it makes me laugh, smile, and relax so keep doing the good job. I am sure I am not the only one who notices, maybe the only one who gave you notice [emailed]. It is very, very cute and funny, I can tell you when a bad day is had, your signs make people laugh!!! Keep doing them and making us who notice smile. Maybe one day you'll write one that says 'Hey Kaz, God Loves You' Haha since you have that power. God Bless, Kaz."

We got our first request, y'all!

Carrie Ralston
Shepherd Team (aka the power)

P.S. God does love you, Kaz.



CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

337 Farview Avenue Paramus, New Jersey 07652
201-262-0138 • christinparamus@hotmail.com • christparamus.org

NOTE FROM PASTOR JONATHAN

Every year on Easter, we read the story of Jesus' resurrection and the empty tomb. Though the story differs in each account in the four Gospels, the women, and specifically Mary Magdalene, in every version were the first witnesses of the resurrection. They were the first to know the Good News that Jesus had risen. They were the first humans to share this Good News. They were the Apostles to the Apostles. At the core of being a follower of Jesus is sharing the Good News, and so reading of Mary Magdalene and the other women reminds me of this.



The story of the resurrection from the Gospel of John was the Gospel reading during my ordination service – the day I became an ordained Pastor. I was ordained on July 22, which is the calendar date where we commemorate Mary Magdalene, which is why I chose this reading. It is especially appropriate as we think of Mary Magdalene as core to the resurrection story, and the first to share that Jesus had risen. Because of this focus on Mary Magdalene on the day of my ordination, I received two gifts related to her: An icon, and a

painted egg.

Why an egg? Well, beyond Mary Magdalene being one of the first witnesses of the resurrection, there are also many stories surrounding her. There are many misconceptions of Mary Magdalene and falsities spread (which I won't focus on), but also miracles during her life outside biblical readings and more. One of those is related to an egg: "According to this legend, Mary Magdalene's story about Jesus' resurrection was challenged by the Roman emperor Tiberius. When he insisted that no one could rise from the dead any more than an egg could turn red, she picked an egg up from the table; it turned red. Today, Eastern Rite Christians honor the story by coloring Easter eggs bright red." (www.lentmadness.org/2012/03/joan-of-arc-vs-mary-magdalene)

So, as I write this article just after holy week and Easter, through Mary Magdalene, I am reminded of my ordination and my calling to be a Pastor, and also all our callings as Christians – to spread the Good News. I invite you to also think of Mary Magdalene as a great example of what it means to be a Christian. And so, I'll leave you with the Prayer of the day on her commemoration: Almighty God, your Son first entrusted the apostle Mary Magdalene with the joyful news of his resurrection. Following the example of her witness, may we proclaim Christ as our living Lord and one day see him in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessings, Pastor Jonathan



Kim Bala, Noyes "Bart" Bartholomew, Donald Bickert, Dolores Brickman, Chris Brooks, Lori Butterick, Tony Calise, Mike Chapman, John Cutler, Ken Cutler, Elizabeth Faidley, Carl Fazio, Krista Fuchs, Mary Carolyn Harrison, Fred Hesse, Terry Klotz, Dennis & Jennifer Kruk, Anna & Walter Kruk, Kaitlyn Kruk, Renee Lomelino, Jack Lowack, Marie Lupinski, the Maller Family, Kathy Mallet, Irene Maury, Vanessa Niblack-Head, Catherine Quadrozzi, Erin Raffery, Doris Robinson, Cathy & Roger Schramm, Tina Smith & Family, Dave Splieth, Marge Tomaselli, Mark Tomaselli, Lenny van Dam, the Vega Family, Janice & Dave Wedderman, Robert Wiederschall, Paul & Deb Witte, Thomas Zickler and Peter Zingaro

Those serving in the military...

Bryant Rodriguez Cyriax, Greg Flintall, Aidan Seals, Devin Vega and Rachel Zarnke

Those who can't be with us...

Carol DeMott, Al & Barbara Frielink, Evelyn Schramm and Irma Weishaupt

GETTING TO KNOW... BILL JAICHNER

How did you come to Christ Lutheran Church?

Pastor Kent on a float!

Have you been a Christian your whole life?

When young, we were Christmas&Easter Christians at best....I developed more of my own faith around 7th grade.

Have you ever questioned your faith?

Absolutely...it's been a challenge for me for a lot of my life — it wanes, but always comes back

What's the best advice you've ever received?

"Sometimes you just have to do things you don't want to do" – my father. It's always stuck with me; I think it's about acceptance and learning when to fight things, and when not.

What was your first job and your favorite job?

Had a paper route in 7th grade. :) Worked at a day camp Freshmen and Sophomore years of High School. McDonalds as a Senior! Favorite is hard to say....

What's your favorite place you've traveled to?

Florence, Italy. Such an unbelievably beautiful place.

If you could do something you've always wanted to do, had all the money and skills you needed to do it, and knew you could not fail, what would you do?

Something creative – probably write a book, record an album....

What's on your bucket list?

Want to stand at the Parthenon in Greece; go to a Super Bowl.

If you could change one thing about your past, what would it be?

Get disciplined and focused earlier.

What would be the title of your memoir if you were to write one?

If I Only Knew Then What I don't Know Now

What do you like to do for fun?

Like to eat out, music, movies, books....try and work out some.

What book, movie, or TV show changed your outlook on life?

Annie Dillard wrote a little book called "Holy the Firm" which is hard to explain, but maybe think differently about a lot of things.

How do you like to spend time with God?

When I can quiet my mind and truly focus.



FUN FACTS

Birth name...

William Horace :(Jaichner

Grew up in...

Born in Willingboro, NJ
"Grew up" in Freehold, NJ

What I wanted to be when I was a kid...

Don't really know when young. In college I thought I'd pursue something in academia.

Favorite food/dessert...

Love lobster, lasagna and cherries (not necessarily in that order)

What are you grateful for today?

Everything

My three greatest strengths...

1. Resilience
2. Resilience
3. Resilience

Rev. Stover Crouthamel and Dolly Crouthamel Vander Plaat Memorial Scholarship



If you are an active member of Christ Lutheran Church and are planning to attend college or an advanced training program this fall, you may be eligible to apply for the Rev. Stover Crouthamel and Dolly Crouthamel Vander Plaat Memorial Scholarship. Please contact the Church Office at 201-262-0138 for the application (due by May 15, 2024). Applicants will be considered based on church activity, community activity, and academic achievement.

BIBLE QUIZ

The "Christ hymn" in Philippians 2 proclaims that after Jesus humbled himself even to the point of death, God exalted him, and that eventually all will worship him. What two body parts are named as part of that worship?

- A. knee; tongue
- B. hands; feet
- C. arms; lips
- D. heart; mouth



Answer: A (See Philippians 2:10-11.)

MARCH'S BIBLE QUIZ

The answer to March's Bible Quiz was wrong; it's "B (See John 20:19, 21)." Just checking to see if anyone's paying attention. ;)

APRIL

Lay Assistant | Usher
Altar Guild | Counter
Schedule

APRIL 7	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Pam Sakala
Usher	Anne Carman
Altar Guild	Lore Braun
<hr/>	
APRIL 14	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Pat Berinato
Usher	Linda Comery
Altar Guild	Marge Tomaselli
<hr/>	
APRIL 21	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Bob Denicola
Usher	Lori Mercer
Altar Guild	Linda Polise
<hr/>	
APRIL 28	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Bill Jaichner
Usher	Linda Polise
Altar Guild	Gina Lally
<hr/>	
Counter	Chris

BIRTHDAYS

Corinne Sakala	4/3
Matthew Savage	4/15
Sam Ralston	4/18
Margarete Stefanzick	4/19
Linda Polise	4/24



Seafarers International House

The Lutheran response to the urgent needs of seafarers and immigrants since 1873

February 29, 2024

Deb Geerlof and
Rev. Jonathan M. Westerlund
Christ Lutheran Church
337 N Farview Ave
Paramus, NJ 07652-4632

*Dear members of Christ Church,
We appreciate you rejoining our family of supporters who share our
mission of welcoming the stranger, especially seafarers in our ports.
Stay warm and well, Henryk*

Dear Deb, Pastor Jonathan, and members of Christ Church,

You are providing warmth to seafarers and immigrants with your generous donation of \$1,080.00 for Christmas at Sea with check #12682. **Pastors Jonathan and Arnd will be delighted to deliver Christmas-at-Sea satchels to the crews later this year. Thank you very much.**

During the winter months, seafarers appreciate the warm clothing they received this holiday season as volunteers and donors like you helped assemble over 3,000 Christmas-at-Sea satchels that also included personal Holiday greetings. Maybe we will deliver even more satchels in 2024 because of your generosity.

Our port chaplains warm the hearts and minds of seafarers, who have been isolated for many months with their presence and counsel. Or they deliver warm pizzas or burgers mariners ordered to enjoy a taste of America, when they can't have shore leave because of lack of visas.

Both groups, seafarers and asylum seekers, appreciate our cozy and warm guestrooms as they either prepare for their next 3-6 months voyage away from loved ones or their new life away from persecution and violence they escaped from.

It truly warms one's heart to see the happiness in the faces of the diverse people Seafarers International House serves thanks to your generosity. Just watch our 4-minute video on our home page at www.sihnyc.org and you will know what I mean. You may use the QR code:

With warmest regards,

Henryk Behnke
Director of Development & Communications
henryk@sihnyc.org * (212) 677-4800 ext. 7203



Puzzle!

Follow the arrows and fill in the blanks to discover what the women found at Jesus' tomb on Easter morning.

T

BEGIN ▶

T	H	E	A
B	S	T	O
M	O	C	N
T	H	R	E

R	O	O	D	E	F	W	P	R	O
E	A	F	S	G	Y	A	S	H	L
N	A	L	I	A	A	W		E	L
N	G	E	D	T	J	B	A	D	C

▶ END

“

”

Answer: The stone was rolled away from the door.
 An angel said to them, "He is not here; he has risen!"
 (See Luke 24:1-8.)

APRIL 2024

Church (CH)
Fellowship Hall (FH)
Family Room (FR)
Office Building (OB)

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	1	2 Hackensack River Canoe & Kayak Club Meeting (FR) 6:30 – 9:00pm	3	4	5	6 Crafty Ladies (OB) 10:00am
7 Worship Service (CH) 10:00am Korean Congregation Worship (CH) 12:30pm	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Worship Service (CH) 10:00am Council Meeting (OB) 11:15am Korean Congregation Worship (CH) 12:30pm	15	16	17	18	19	20 Crafty Ladies (OB) 10:00am
21 Worship Service (CH) 10:00am Korean Congregation Worship (CH) 12:30pm	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Worship Service (CH) 10:00am Korean Congregation Worship (CH) 12:30pm	29	30				

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF AND COUNCIL

Pastor
Church Secretary
Sexton
Director of Music Ministries
President
Vice President
Council Secretary
Treasurer
Recording Financial Secretary
Financial Secretary

Rev. Jonathan Westerlund
Debbie Geerlof
Bob Sakala
Michael Wittenburg
Chris Nilsen
Bill Jaichner
Pam Sakala
Chuck Young
Pat Berinato
Marge Tomaselli

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Christian Education Pam Sakala
Shepherd Carrie Ralston
Worship Marge Tomaselli

Administrative Team

Financial Chuck Young
Property Bill Jaichner
Chris Nilsen

Outward Ministry Team

Servant Anne Carman
Rosemary Chandra
Jan Behnke