



GENESIS 1:28-31; 2:1-3

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

GREETINGS!! The scripture above is one of my favorite Bible readings. Whenever I hear these words, I am reminded of both the beauty of creation and God's loving care for humanity. From the very beginning, God created a world filled with abundance, blessing, and purpose.

As I read this creation story, I always notice two important truths held together.

First, creation is a gift. God provides everything needed for life and calls it "very good." The beauty of a sunrise, the shade of a tree, a walk through a park, a garden in bloom, a lake, a field, or even the simple joy of a summer evening. All of these are reminders of God's generosity. Creation is meant to be enjoyed with gratitude and wonder.

Second, creation comes with responsibility. God entrusts the earth to our care. The words "subdue" and "have dominion" are not a license to exploit creation but a calling to steward it faithfully. With great power, comes great responsibility. We are invited to participate in God's creative work by caring for the world, using its resources wisely, and leaving it healthy for future generations. We are also called to be creative people ourselves. We are to use the gifts God has given us to build, serve, teach, encourage, create, and share God's love wherever we find ourselves.

There is one more detail in this story that speaks to me. After creating the world, God rested. The seventh day was blessed and made holy. In a world that often pushes us to stay busy, God reminds us that rest is also a gift. We are not only called to work and create; we are called to pause, enjoy God's blessings, and be renewed.

As summer unfolds, I invite you to do all three: enjoy creation, care for creation, and take time to rest in God's presence. Go for a walk, sit by a lake, work in a garden, spend time with family and friends, or simply enjoy a quiet evening outdoors. Give thanks for the gift of God's good creation and remember that you are a beloved part of it. Have a wonderful summer, y'all!

Peace and blessings!
Pastor Jeremy

Pr Jeremy handed out Flat Jesus so the kids can take pictures of summer adventures and send back pictures to CLC. We will post!




Jeremy Johnson
Senior Pastor
pastorjeremy@clcbyron.org

Inside This Edition:
Page 2-3: Education/ Youth/Church Activities/Outreach
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EDUCATION/YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Parents please consider being a team teacher for the 2026-2027 Sunday School year! If there are at least 4 teachers for each room then the time commitment will be only 1 or 2 Sunday's per month. Also, all volunteers will get their family's Sunday school fee waived for the school year! Students in 7th grade and up are needed to help out in the younger classrooms and with music. Let me know if you would like to volunteer! Fkovash@hotmail.com or 507-951-2234

Offering collected during Sunday school and to the left of the altar in the sanctuary from January through April will go to ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response to assist in the Africa Drought crisis. May through August will go to the Byron Food Shelf. September through December will go to Real Hope for the Hungry. Thank you! -Francine, Coordinator

BREW CREW BIBLE STUDY

We have a new series starting June 1 - Bible Basics. We will explore how the bible came to be, who wrote it, and how it was passed down. All are welcome to join us. Mondays, 10am.

MISSION TRIP 2026 Duluth, MN July 19-24

Final Meeting: Wed, July 8, 7pm

GOOD EARTH VILLAGE SUMMER CAMP

Registration is available for youth summer camp at www.goodearthvillage.org Good Earth Village is our congregationally supported church camp. CLC pays for 60% of camp costs (up to \$225 max per kid) for kids attending GEV.

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays May through August.

June 10, 6pm - Service project: Pack backpacks and get treats at DQ; meet at Community Ed building

June 24, 7pm - Bonfire at Essers

July 8, 7pm - Mission Trip Meeting

July 22 - not meeting, kids on mission trip

VBS - August 3-6, 2026

Get ready for an unforgettable week filled with faith, friends, games, music, crafts, snacks, and wild rainforest fun! Scan the QR code to register campers and volunteers.

BIBLE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

- Registration forms are on the kiosk or on our website. CLC pays 60%, up to \$225 of the registration fees at Good Earth Village. For other Christian Bible Camps we will pay 50%, up to \$225 or 1/2 of the camp cost, whichever is less. **Area camps to consider: Good Earth Village, Camp Victory, and Camp Omega.**

[Wwww.clcbyron.org/camp/](http://www.clcbyron.org/camp/)

6TH GRADE & CONF NEWS

Mandatory Confirmation Retreat at Eagle Bluff: Saturday, Sept 12

Incoming 6th Grade Pre-Confirmation students, we will be meeting for lessons and fun on Wed nights from 5:30-6:30pm during the school year.

Incoming 7th & 8th grade Conf students, there are a few summer opportunities for kickstarting your sermon notes and service project requirements for the next school year. Sermon Note sheets are in the kiosk. Once completed, turn them back into the kiosk to be recorded for credit.

Conf. students (& older youth!) are encouraged to help with 2 upcoming service project opportunities:

- Ice Cream Social: Sat., July 18 from 2-4pm. Contact Amalia Welle

CONFIRMATION MENTORS AND COORDINATOR NEEDED FOR NEXT YEAR

Please prayerfully consider becoming a mentor or the Confirmation Coordinator next year. Helping and guiding the youth of our church as they grow in their faith is an amazing and rewarding experience! If you have questions, Holly Alsleben is happy to fill you in on the details!

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS!
VBS 2026

RAINFOREST FALLS

Exploring the Nature of God

AUGUST 3-6
6:00 - 8:00 PM

SCAN TO REGISTER!

KIDS AGE 4 THROUGH 6TH GRADE (FALL 2026)

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH BYRON, MN

Get ready for a **WILD** adventure!

FAITH • FRIENDS • FUN • GOD'S CREATION

(awelle256@gmail.com). Amalia is looking for help from 1:30-4:30pm for setup and takedown.

- VBS: Aug. 3-6 from 6-8pm (help w/ at least 3 of the 4 evenings) Students can help with crafts, games, lesson, music, snacks or assist with guiding kids to the group stations. Contact Lisa Strike with your student's preference of how they'd like to help. (lisabarclay0713@gmail.com)

Recently confirmed 8th graders, join us for Youth Group at 7pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month throughout summer!

KWIK TRIP CAR WASHES

Buy car wash cards for \$40/5 washes on the 1st Sun of the month after worship. Proceeds support the mission trip and Bible Camp.

MISSION TRIP SHARES

Forms can be found on the kiosk. Shares are \$25 each and help cover youth and chaperone expenses on the mission trip. You can purchase as many shares as you want. There will be a presentation following the trip with treats and a video, for shareholders. **Shareholder event will be July 26 at 10am.**

CHURCH ACTIVITIES/OUTREACH

BOOK CLUB - The CLC Book Club is taking their usual summer break. We will meet again in September. Have a great Summer!

JOY CLUB - Joy Club meets Tue, June 9 at **10am** in the fellowship hall. Hostesses are Cindy Rieser and Monica Ronnenberg. The July meeting is our annual picnic at Carol Smith's home on July 14, noon.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE HOUR

Fellowship time starts at 10am. Treats (purchased or home made) are donated by members whose last name starts with L - Q for the months of June & July. Contact Sandy Erickson or Kari Prigge if you want to volunteer for hosting coffee hour.

BYRON FOOD SHELF - Location is at the DACS building, 630 1st Ave NW, Byron. Hours are: Wed 9-11am, Thur 12-2pm, and 1st Fri of month 6-8pm. CLC's food collections go to the Byron food shelf.

HONKERS GAME

Take me out to the ballgame... and join Christ Lutheran for a fun night at a Rochester Honkers game on *Sunday, June 14 at 5PM!* We'll have group seating together and will meet at the ballfield. Rumor has it Pastor Jeremy may even compete in the "Faster Pastor" race! Sign up on the kiosk in the entry. Cost is about \$7/ticket!



QUILTING/SEWING GROUP - We will not meet in June or July. We will next meet on August 6, from 9-12 noon.

MEALS ON WHEELS - Volunteers deliver meals to Byron neighbors during the month of June. We deliver Mon thru Fri, no holidays. Contact Sandy Erickson if you are interested in volunteering.

MEN'S BREAKFAST - Thu, June 11 at 9am, Otto's Bakery
We finished up our study on Martin Luther. At our June breakfast, we will visit about any other topics we might be interested in learning. Please join us! It is an informal gathering. Bring a friend. In July we will meet on the 9th at 9am, Otto's Bakery.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL - SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2-4PM

Volunteers are needed for the Ice Cream Social for setup, take down, and handing out ice cream and water. Contact Amalia Welle at awelle256@gmail.com



SUMMER BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

Summer can be a challenging time for students who rely on school meals. Our local schools offer a summer backpack program that provides weekly bags of healthy food and snacks for students. CLC volunteers will pack bags every other Wednesday at 6PM, beginning June 10, at the Community Education Building. Supplies are provided, just come and pack! It takes about 4-5 people and around an hour each week. This is a great opportunity for a small group, family, or friends to serve together. Sign up in the CLC entry.

Recently seen around CLC....



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIORS!

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Lydia Anderson</i> | <i>Jadyn Baumbach</i> | <i>Leah Bendix</i> |
| <i>Connor Cornejo</i> | <i>Joslyn Deutz</i> | <i>Conner Esser*</i> |
| <i>Rylie Fossum</i> | <i>Carly Halder</i> | <i>Avery Hall</i> |
| <i>Ellyn Jordahl</i> | <i>Deven Olson</i> | <i>Megan Rink</i> |
| <i>Gretchen Tucker</i> | <i>Brayden Wytaske</i> | <i>*Scholarship winner</i> |

STEWARDSHIP/WORSHIP

CLC COUNCIL MEETING - 5/19/2026

The Christ Lutheran Church council meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Joe Biewer.

Members Present: Joe Biewer, Luke Brown, Linda Danielski, Ashley Ebenhoh, LuRaye Eischens, Deb Fugleberg, Gayle Jaben, Carol Smith and Pastor Jeremy Johnson.

Members Absent: Tim Anderson, Cece Meek, DrewAnne Oestreich and Jason Pfeilsticker.

Joys and Concerns

Devotions: By LuRaye Eischens

Approval of Agenda: Motion made to approve the agenda by Luke Brown. Linda Danielski seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approval of April Minutes: Motion made by Linda Danielski to approve the April minutes. Carol Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Joe Biewer presented the Treasurer report in Jason Pfeilsticker's absence. April income \$23,641.90; April expenses \$27,295.62; April difference -\$3,653.72; YTD Difference \$3,798. More people are taking advantage of giving to the church thru their Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA to a qualified charity without having to count the distribution as taxable. There is a synod staff member who leads forums on this topic. Pastor Jeremy will invite them to speak with us after a future church service.

Information/Discussion Items:

Constitution Update: Pastor Jeremy reviewed the budget/expenditures section of the constitution. The

first draft of the constitution will be available soon. Pastor Judy: Pastor Judy's last day will be Sunday, May 31. There will be a special liturgy during the church service and a farewell reception for Judy will be held after church.

Synod Retreat: Gayle Jaben reported on the synod retreat that she attended. She noted that the retreat included discussions around using gender-neutral wording in the constitution. She also mentioned that some churches are going to all gluten-free communion wafers. We will continue to provide the regular wafers and a gluten-free option as well.

Assistant in Ministry: Pastor Jeremy reported that 6 people have applied for this position and the staffing committee will be interviewing three candidates. The staffing committee members are: Randy Holz, Cece Meek, Sarah Palmer, Stephanie Poulter, Carol Smith, Dani Esser, Drew Oestreich, and Pastor Jeremy.

Action Items:

None.

Motion to adjourn: Motion made by Gayle Jaben to adjourn the meeting. Deb Fugleberg seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be June 16, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by LuRaye Eischens, council secretary

SAMARITAN BETHANY GOLF CLASSIC

June 18, Willow Creek Golf Course, Rochester

Sign up: <https://webforms.eleoonline.com/FormDatas/27/a08e58a0-d803-4546-99b7-c81e229c76e5>

CONSIDER QCD DONATIONS - If you are over 70 1/2, consider a QCD. Ask the office for more info.

WORSHIP AT CLC - SUMMER SCHEDULE

- Sunday worship at 9am, alternating traditional and contemporary
- Communion offered 1st and 3rd weeks of the month at both services.
- Live Streamed services: <https://www.youtube.com/@christlutheranchurchbyronm10/streams>

DONATIONS AND THANK-YOU - Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. Donation options include 1) mailing your offering to Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Frontage Road NW, Byron, 2) online giving <http://www.clcbyron.org/giving/>, or Venmo, or 3) drop off your offering during church services or office hours.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS - You can direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars online or call 800-847-4836. When prompted, say "Choice Dollars" and continue with the prompts. Thrivent is no longer sending out emails indicating you have money to direct. We received \$194 in May in Thrivent Choice Dollars.

2026 COMMUNION REGISTRATION

Register once annually by writing your name on the communion list on the registration table.

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS



Venmo

Vanco



Christ Lutheran Church
 201 Frontage Road NW
 Byron, MN 55920 www.clcbyron.org
 Office Hours: 9am - 1pm Mon - Wed
 507-775-6646 office@clcbyron.org

Non-Profit Organization
 US Postage Paid
 Byron, MN
 Permit Number 17

June/July 2026



Worship Times

9am Worship - Alternating
 Traditional/Contemporary
 LiveStream Worship
Communion is the 1st and 3rd Sundays



CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastors can be reached by office phone 507-775-6646 or
 Pastor Jeremy 507-481-4394 or pastorjeremy@clcbyron.org
 President, Joe Biewer 701-261-5932 or jbiewer@hotmail.com

PHOTO DIRECTORY – SAVE THE DATES!

*Photo sessions are scheduled for: Aug 13–15 and
 Sep 15–16.* Link to online scheduling: <https://ucdir.com>
 Church Code: mn649 Password: 649mem
*Everyone photographed receives a complimentary 8x10 por-
 trait and directory. Pictures will be available for purchase.*

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS BY PR JEREMY-

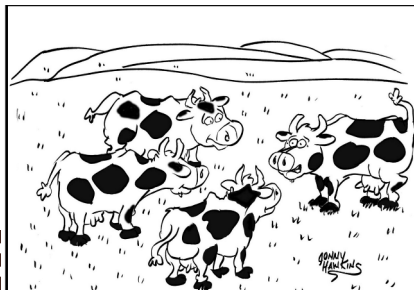
Pr Jeremy recently ordered a few new books for our church library: "What Is the Bible?" by Rob Bell, "How the Bible Actually Works" by Peter Enns, and "Misquoting Jesus" by Bart Ehrman. These books explore questions about the history of the Bible, interpretation, manuscripts, and how Christians understand Scripture today. They will also connect nicely with our upcoming Brew Crew study on Bible basics beginning in June. Keep an eye out for them to be displayed in the church library soon!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - Please pray for Dave Grande, Jerry Anderson, Jerry & Marcia Hutchinson, Allen & Debbie Kvittem, & Bev Smith.

FIRST SUNDAY PRAYER TIME - On the first Sunday of each month, a pastor will be available for individual prayer and anointing (optional) at the altar railing, following worship. Prayers could include physical or emotional healing for yourself or loved ones. Requests at the railing are kept confidential.

ATTENDANCE

Mar 2026 Avg	140
Mar 2025 Avg	134
Apr 2026 Avg	231
Apr 2025 Avg	238
5/3	180
5/10	163
5/17	149
5/24	83
5/31	no data at printing
May 2026 Avg	
May 2025 Avg	150



"Before we eat, let's say graze."

SUMMER TIME CHANGES



Sunday Worship: May 24 - Sep 6, 9am Alternating Traditional/Contemporary
Office Hours: Jun 1 - Aug 26, Mon-Wed 9 - 1