

CHRIST LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

May 2011

Bible Study/Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Church Phone: (636)228-4642

Pastor's Phone: (636)228-4773

Website: <http://clcaugustamo.org>

From the Pastor's Desk.....

Have you heard or read the varying opinions about the royal wedding on Friday? Many people, including some of you, set their alarm clock to be able to watch all the festivities on television. Others, also including some of you, wouldn't have watched the wedding even if it was the only thing on TV. Some responses to the *On The Street* reporter who asked, "Are you planning on watching the royal wedding?" were, "No, I'd rather be sleeping than watching that cr_p," (a female age 24), and "No, because I have a life," (also a 24-year-old female), and "No, because I'm busy," (a 31-year-old female). Others did say that they were definitely planning on watching the wedding.

There are a couple of spiritual parallels for us in this. The wedding between Prince William and Kate Middleton took place early in the morning for us here in Missouri. So did our Easter Sunrise Service. I wonder, if that *On The Street* reporter were to have asked sometime during Holy Week, "Are you planning on going to your church's Easter Service?" if the responses would have been much different from the wedding responses? Some, perhaps even among our membership, would have said, "No, I'm too busy," or "No, because I have a life." Some might have said, "No, because I have family coming over today and I have to prepare the meal, etc." Hopefully no one would have responded, "No, I'd rather be sleeping than be a part of that cr_p."

But others, here and elsewhere, would have responded, "Yes, I am definitely planning on going to church on Easter!" "Yes, How could I miss the most important Sunday of the year for Christians!" "Yes, because attending church on Easter, and on every Sunday, is important to me." "Yes, because since the Risen Lord is going to be there in church for me, why would I not want to go?"

Now consider this about that royal wedding...it was big news that Prince William married a commoner. People in England were upset about this. Kate's parents were middle-class. No royal blood was in her veins. Yet, the Prince was not put off by all the negativity. He made her his bride even though she was called "Commoner Kate."

And so with us. We were nothing. Worse, we were wretched, blind, and dead in our sins. Yet, God's Prince, Jesus, took us for His bride. He married a commoner when He married us in our baptism. He died for commoners when He went to the cross. There was nothing about us which attracted Him. It was His Divine love and mercy alone which caused Him to die for you. It is by His grace alone that He now comes to you in His Word and Sacraments to forgive you, strengthen you, and keep you as His bride--the church.

In Christ's service, Pastor Bell

MEMORIAL DONATIONS:

In memory of Josephine Stevener: Two oak coat racks, two Lifetime 8 foot white folding tables, one electric coffee urn, one electric mixer, and teaspoon supply replenished.

In memory of George Beumer: Red Maple Tree (Planted on the bank in front of church.)

RECORD OF OFFICIAL ACTS - *One Hundred and Fifty Years Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church*

There are only 7 copies of this document from the 150th Anniversary remaining for sale. The cost is \$15.00 per book of which all money is profit to the treasury of Christ Lutheran Church. To procure one of these remaining books, please contact Randy or Judy Paul. At this time no plans are made to reproduce additional copies. If additional copies are ordered at a later date, the cost will increase as the printing fee is determined by the number of copies ordered. Don't miss out on this quick reference of our church history.

FROM THE ELDERS – Celebrations at CLC

The year 2011 brings some milestone anniversaries for Pastor Bell. Primarily noted are the occasion of his 25th year of his ordination into the ministry on July 13, 1986 and his 10th year as being installed as Pastor of CLC on September 17, 2001. In an attempt to have both of his children, Sarah and Brian, present for the anniversary occasion(s), we are planning a combined celebration on Sunday August 14th. Preliminary plans include the 10:00 AM worship service officiated by a guest Pastor and immediately followed by a catered dinner in the basement fellowship area. A committee for this event has been formed consisting of the Elder's and their spouses, Jillynn O'Black, and Bill and Linda Warnecke. So mark your calendars early to reserve this date for this celebration. Additional information may follow as more details become available.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

Sundays:

April 3 - **82**

April 10 - **58**

April 17 - **71** (Confirmation)

April 24 - **108** (Easter Sunday)

Special Services:

April 6 - **42**

April 13 - **42**

Maundy Thursday - **46**

Good Friday - **29**



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:



One day my mother was out, and my dad was in charge of me. I was maybe 2 1/2 years old. Someone had given me a little 'tea set' as a gift, and it was one of my favorite toys.

Daddy was in the living room engrossed in the evening news when I brought him a little cup of 'tea', which was just water. After several cups of tea and lots of praise for such yummy tea, my mom came home. My dad made her wait in the living room to watch me bring him a cup of tea, because it was 'just the cutest thing!' Mom waited, and sure enough, here I came down the hall with a cup of tea for Daddy; and she watched him drink it up. Then she said, (as only a mother would know), "'Did it ever occur to you that the only place she can reach to get water, is the toilet?'"