

THE HUB

CHRIST LUTHERAN'S WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

A HOLY CONNECTION

PASTOR LOU

Introducing Family Night!

A new Camp at Home option from Caroline Furnace Camp & Retreat Center

Among my childhood camp experiences, I fondly remember arts and crafts (my favorite being a papier-mâché volcano that really exploded), swimming in a pond (with loads of fish), hikes through a coastal swamp (to include pirate stories), playing games in the woods (and unwittingly learning things about nature at the same time), and much more.

These memories have lasted me a lifetime and helped nurture who I would become. From "Generation to Generation" few things endure like the value of outdoor camp in a child's life.



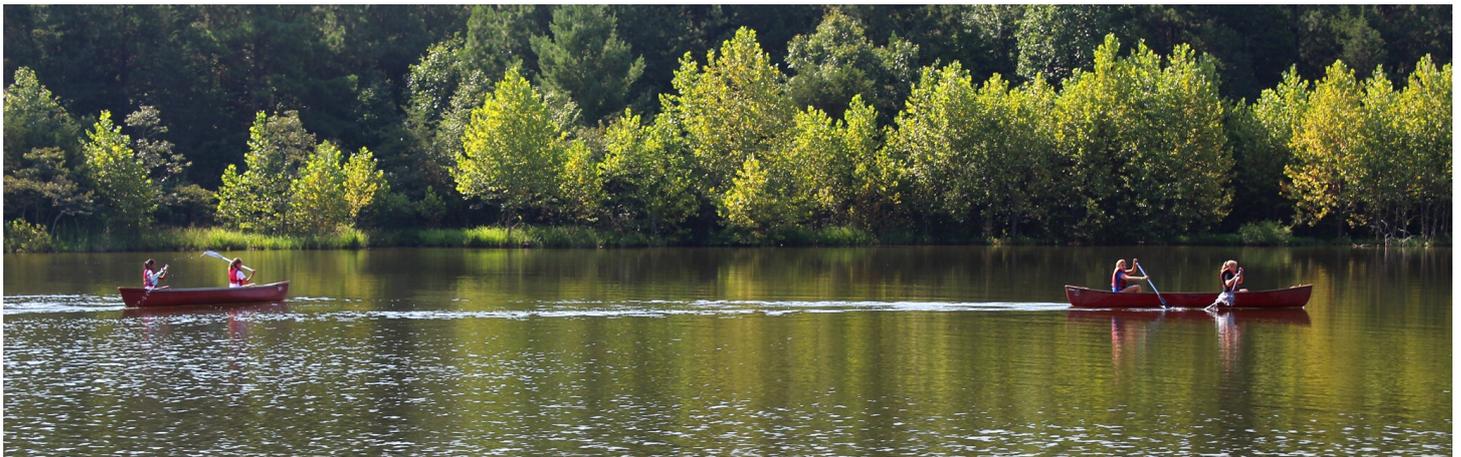
Unfortunately this year, the Commonwealth of Virginia will not allow camps to open due to COVID-19, but you still can experience a bit of camp together as a family. Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp & Retreat Center is coming to you virtually. Not only that, it is free! The theme for this year is indeed "Generation to Generation," inspired by Psalm 100:5, *"Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love endures forever. God's faithfulness continues for all generations."*

Although the regular Camp at Home registration closed on Monday, there remains an exciting new program for future campers younger than 1st grade and their families – Family Night! Family Night was developed by Caroline Furnace staff members for the Virginia Synod (with some help from Christ Lutheran's Christian Education Team). For three Wednesday evenings in July (7/15, 22, & 29), about one hour each gathering, you will get to spend time via Zoom with your "cabin group."

Led by Caroline Furnaces' camp counselors, there will be simple activities and songs, live interaction with faith related stories and lessons, chances to make simple crafts with items commonly found at home, and new friends and memories to be made. Your child will also get access to all the fun Camp at Home pre-recorded online content as well. On these nights, perhaps you will enjoy sharing your own campfire food including smores or other treats as a family, and then, share your own memories of fun family times of the past or discuss in more detail what you just experienced? It will prove a great way to plant the seeds for future camp outings for your child but also seeds of faith.

Family Nights are open to anyone, Lutheran or not, in Virginia or not, so please share this exciting news with all your family, friends and neighbors. Although Family Night is free, registration is required for your family to gain access. Learn more at carolinefurnace.org/summer-schedule.

You can sign up for Family Nights through their Camp at Home offerings. Family Night registration will remain open until July 29, the last live Zoom session, but Pastor Anne and I encourage you to sign up today. You and your child won't want to miss a thing. If any further questions, please contact Julie Kroll at julie@carolinefurnace.org.



All are welcome here. You are welcome here.

Serving our communities since 1957, Caroline Furnace Camp & Retreat Center is a year-round retreat center with eight weeks of summer camp. Our main property is in beautiful Fort Valley, VA and we operate an adult retreat center in Strasburg, VA. We invite you to be part of our Christ-like community!

To Learn more or donate - CarolineFurnace.org.

An Update from the CLC Reopening Committee

Christ Lutheran's building remains closed and all in-person ministries and activities are suspended until further notice.

The Building Reopening Committee recommended to Council on June 9th that Christ Lutheran's building remain closed for the duration of Phase 1 and 2 of Governor Northam's plan. During Phase 1 and 2, worship will be held online; Christian education, youth group, and committee meetings will be held via Zoom; pastoral care will be done remotely over the phone and via Zoom; and ministry with Micah and Thurman Brisben will be done in alternative ways that do not require the use of the building, reduce the risk to guests and volunteers, and supports local businesses. Council approved this recommendation.

The reopening team is currently meeting with committee chairs to develop a phased reopening plan for particular ministry areas.

Weekly Worship Theme Captured by Your Photos



Want to be part of worship leadership? You can by submitting photos each week for use during our digital worship. **Our worship theme for Sunday will be "plant life." If you have images that you think capture that theme, please consider submitting them for our online use. This week, please email your images to Pastor Anne.** Images are needed by Wednesday at noon. Images that do not reveal personal identity are preferred. Please refrain from sending pictures that contain individuals under 18. It is the church's practice not to share images of youth under 18 on our public Facebook page and church website. If submitted images are not used this week, we hope to use them in the near future.

COVID-19 UPDATES & RESOURCES

Praying for you

During this time of social distancing, Christ Lutheran's prayer ministry has been and is praying for you, our entire congregation, its ministries and ministry partners. They are committing to a special prayer cycle. They will pray daily for five congregational households by name throughout each week. We hope this blesses all of us and serves as a reminder that despite any separation we remain one.

Helpful Counseling Resources

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 is free.

Lutheran Family Services has immediate openings for new patients using their telehealth services. They have expertise helping people of all ages to include family issues. They accept several major insurances, Medicaid, and self-pay. They also offer sliding-scale fee arrangements. Schedule by calling 888-841-4835 or emailing MentalHealthReferral@lfsva.org or click here for more information: <https://bit.ly/34Gv12P>

Emergency services remain available through the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board at 540-373-6876.

Additional helpful links...

Virginia Department of Health:

<https://www.facebook.com/VDHgov/>

Virginia Department of Emergency Management:

<https://www.facebook.com/VAemergency/>

Fredericksburg Government:

<https://www.facebook.com/FXBGgov/>

Fredericksburg Civic Alerts:

<https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=938>

If you live in other jurisdictions, please like/follow your local government resources on Facebook or the web. Christ Lutheran will attempt to share practical and spiritual resources from the Lutheran World Federation, ELCA, Virginia Synod, local health systems and other resources on our [public Facebook Page](#) and [private Facebook group](#).