

# JULY 2015

## CHURCH NEWS



### FREEDOM!

Every year about this time, our thoughts and attention are focused on what? Yep, you guessed it... FREEDOM! On the Holiday colloquially known as "The 4th Of July" we celebrate all kinds of freedoms. For example, we are free to:

1. Save money on a new car
2. Save money on clothing and accessories
3. Save money on a new hot tub, BBQ grill, home pool and any other needs for around the home.
4. Save money on the best fireworks in the area.

In case you haven't noticed, I am pointing out the commercial side of the holiday. We don't even call it by its actual name. On July 4th, we celebrate INDEPENDENCE DAY. A day where Americans declared freedom from British Imperial Tyranny. A common battle cry of the day was NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION. You see the British were taxing the colonists 3% of our earnings and we thought that was too much. (Take a moment to let that sink in).

Another freedom we enjoy is freedom of religion. We are now free to practice our faith without being told what to do by the state.

Interestingly, this freedom has a Lutheran connection. You see, in 1529, Martin Luther had done a remarkable job of getting the Gospel message out. People were looking away from their works for salvation and were being pointed towards Christ. Of course, this did not solve the problem of spiritual struggle as Luther states in his introduction to the Small Catechism:

**"The deplorable, miserable conditions which I recently observed when visiting the parishes have constrained and pressed me to put this catechism of Christian doctrine into this brief, plain, and simple form. How pitiable, so help me God, were the things I saw: the common man, especially in the villages, knows practically nothing of Christian doctrine, and many of the pastors are almost entirely incompetent and unable to teach. Yet all the people are supposed to be Christians, have been baptized, and receive the Holy Sacrament even though they do not know the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, or the Ten Commandments and live like poor animals of the barnyard and pigpen. What these people have mastered, however, is the fine art of tearing all Christian liberty to shreds."**

In other words, as people were looking away from their works for salvation, they were also forgetting the rich and wonderful freedom we have in God's Word. They stopped learning the good things... they stopped coming to Church. The Small Catechism was written to help refocus them on this mercy of Jesus.

This year as you celebrate the freedom of being an American, please don't forget the freedom you have as a Christian to be here, in God's House. Freedom to be set free from sins. Freedom to hear the Word of God. Freedom to enjoy His Sacraments. You see, without this freedom, Christians wouldn't really care too much about the other freedoms. Happy Independence Day and See You In Church!

In His service and in yours,

*Pastor Hoffmann*





LWML-----Ladies Luncheon...Thursday, July 16, 12 noon at Lakeshore Lodge in Lakeside. Ladies from Resurrection, Florence; Beautiful Savior, Reedsport; and Christ, Coos Bay are invited to gather for lunch, fellowship and devotions. Hope you'll save the date!

**COMING! COMING!**  
**Vacation Bible School-----August 10-14!**



**Te Deum**  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*"Because we believe  
that children grow into church,  
not out of it!"*

The Higher Things "Te Deum" 2015 VBS focuses on the true worship of God in receiving His gifts and in coming to Him in prayer. The "Te Deum" is the ancient hymn of the Christian church, "We praise You, O God!" The Higher Things VBS strengthens our little ones in the faith of Christ that we confess in the Te Deum and teaches them to call upon that True God for all our needs of body and soul.

**Helpers Needed for VBS:**

- Music Helpers
- Crafts Coordinator and Helper
- Games Leader
- Snacks Coordinator
- 8 Small Group Guides

**Items Needed for VBS:**

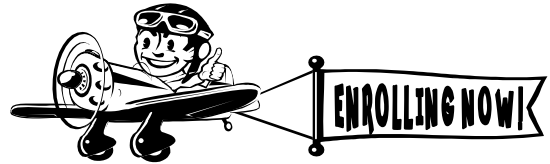
- Tea-light candles
- Yellow, red, orange, and green tissue paper
- Clear glass jars or small vase
- Modge Podge
- Black or dark brown acrylic paint
- Wood Frames
- Twigs. Many twigs.
- One glass plate per child
- Brown paper bags
- Foam sticker crosses

Please consider getting involved in VBS, if you can help full or part time, we have many ways to be involved to suit your schedule and interests. Call Sarah Socia at 541-267-3851, or e-mail chlucs07@yahoo.com, for more information.

All children ages 3 yrs. - 6th grade are welcome to attend. Register anytime, forms are available in the office. You can also register online on our new website, [www.coosbaylutheran.org](http://www.coosbaylutheran.org).

**CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS**

The 2015-16 school year is right around the corner!



We are currently accepting enrollment applications for the 2015-16 school year. Some of our classes do fill up quickly, so don't wait to turn in your forms and registration fees.

Remember, if you are planning on applying for any financial aid for the 2015-16 school year, you need to fill out a new request every year.

**RECRUITMENT BONUS**



A Recruitment Bonus of \$100 off the first month's tuition during the 2015-16 school year to any school families that persuade a new student to enroll and attend Christ Lutheran School during the 2015-16 school term!!

# JULY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			10am Ladies Bible Class <b>1</b> 11:30am Bible Class at NB Senior Center	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
10:30am Divine Service <b>5</b> 12pm Sunday School	5pm Elders <b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	10am Ladies Bible Class <b>8</b> 11:30am Bible Class at NB Senior Center 5pm Trustees	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
10:30am Matins <b>12</b> 12pm Sunday School	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	10am Ladies Bible Class <b>15</b> 11:30am Bible Class at NB Senior Center	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
10:30am Divine Service <b>19</b> 12pm Sunday School	5pm Council <b>20</b>	1pm Bd of Ed <b>21</b>	10am Ladies Bible Class <b>22</b> 11:30am Bible Class at NB Senior Center	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	9am <b>25</b> Men's Club at Lakeshore Lodge
10:30am Matins <b>26</b> 12pm Sunday School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	10am Ladies Bible Class <b>29</b> 11:30am Bible Class at NB Senior Center	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

## July Anniversaries

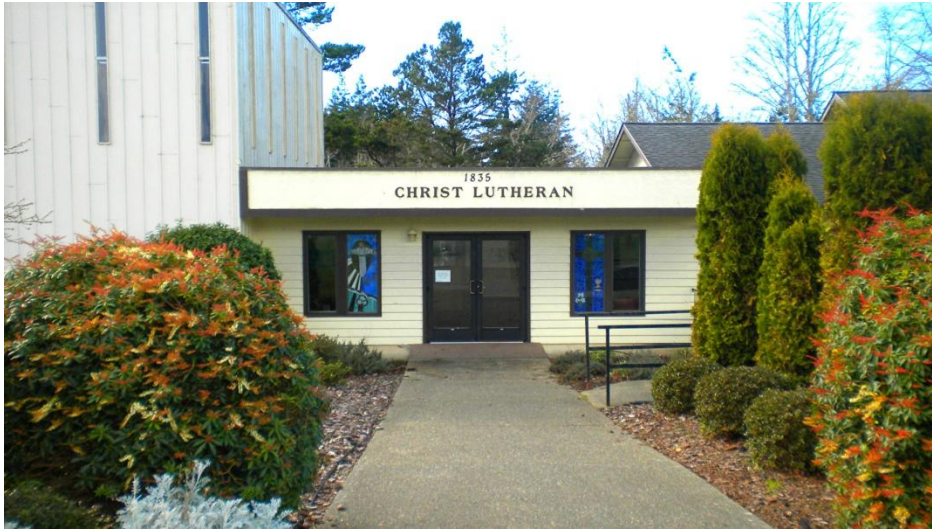
Dennis & Nancy Wuethrich 11  
Traci & Louis Howerton 27  
Charles & Joan Mahaffy 27  
Doug & Sarah Socia 27

## July Birthdays

Robert Andrews 4  
Mark Steenbock 4  
Moriah Miller 5  
Kelly Mahaffy 7  
Bailey Kokel 18  
Gerald Windsor 19  
Lugene Neal 20  
Ray Lenczewski 24  
Shawn Menzenberg 24  
Cooper Socia 25  
Kirstin Meyer 29

## July, 2015 Newsletter

### Christ Lutheran Church and School



Christ Lutheran Church and School  
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