

Christ CONNECTIONS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY 2017

SUMMER SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP CHRIST LUTHERAN

9:00 a.m. **Traditional**

10:45 a.m. **Contemporary**
in the Sanctuary

no Sunday School during the summer

CHRIST SOUTH

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

9:00 a.m. **Sunday School**

*Located at Polo Ridge Elementary School
11830 Tom Short Road • Charlotte*

Pastor's Blog
christelca.org/about-us/the-pastors-blog



Christ Lutheran Facebook
[Christ Lutheran Church-Charlotte](#)



Christ South Facebook
[Christ South](#)



Twitter
[@ChristLuther](#)



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on your smartphone or tablet's app store*



CHRIST LUTHERAN'S DAY OF SERVICE

SUNDAY • JULY 9, 2017

details on page 7

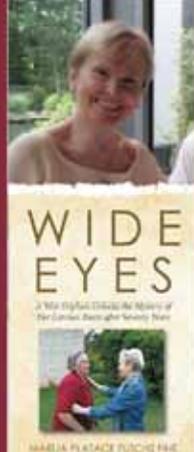


Sunday, July 16

12 p.m.

PURPOSE:
TO DISCUSS THE VISION TO EXPAND
TO A THIRD CAMPUS

SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS



Dessert and Book Signing

WITH MARIJA PLATACE FUTCHS FINE

July 16 • 6:30 p.m.

in Fellowship Hall

read more on page 3



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE



Pastor Scott Suskovic

A THIRD CAMPUS: CHRIST CONCORD

On Monday, July 19, the Council of Christ Lutheran approved a vision to merge Family of Faith Lutheran Church in Concord into the ministries of Christ Lutheran and to rename this location Christ Concord. This would expand our campuses to three: Christ Providence, Christ South and now Christ Concord.

This merger needs congregational approval. We anticipate that vote to happen in August. However, prior to that vote the Council is calling a **Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, July 16 at 12 p.m.** immediately following the last worship service. The purpose of this Town Hall Meeting will be to present the vision statement prepared by the transition teams and answer questions so that the congregational vote in August will be well informed.

The first question in most minds is, WHY?

Christ Lutheran has been blessed in so many ways in terms of membership, growth, resources, finances, etc. Many other smaller congregations have struggled in isolation with few options and less resources. The goal here is not just for Christ Lutheran. The goal is to work with Christ Concord in order to develop a blueprint that can be replicated throughout the synod and country for medium and large congregations to do the same with other nearby struggling churches. By partnering with Christ Concord, infusing it with our energy and resources, we can mentor it into a vibrant congregation that can proclaim the gospel and reach new people.

This is a unique relationship of having one vision, one church, one council, one staff, one budget but allowing for individual campuses to have their own unique identity and expression. For example, Christ South looks very different from our traditional service and yet we are the same church. In the same way, we want to work with Christ Concord to develop programming, provide worship and create a mission that is consistent with the values of Christ Lutheran but unique to their setting.

This is a huge, bold, God-sized vision that is bigger than Christ Lutheran. The transition teams have put together a vision statement that we think addresses the dozen issues that need attention in order to make this successful. But we need your input in helping us clarify the vision, identify the obstacles and approving this direction.

I know this is summer and in many circles things slack off for a couple of months. But not at Christ Lutheran. We are busy at work here for the sake of the Gospel. I urge you to join us on Sunday, July 16 to complete the next step towards this vision.

Peace,
Pastor Scott

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor Scott", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

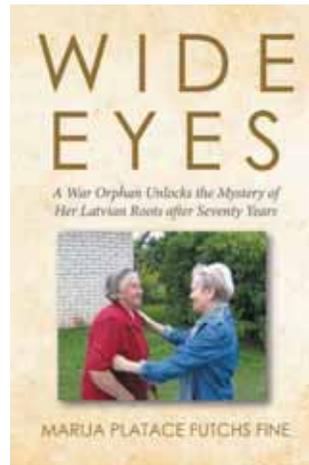
PRIME *Picnic & Games*
timers *at Lake Norman*
55s-70s (ish)

Saturday, August 19 • 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.
 Invitation to Follow

More Information
 Melinda Dale (704) 277-0868

Dessert and Book Signing

WITH **MARIJA FINE**



July 16 • 6:30 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Author Marija Fine will be coming to Christ Lutheran to show her short documentary, speak and sign copies of her new book, *Wide Eyes*, which you can purchase that evening. All proceeds from book sales will benefit McClintock Partners In Education.

About the Book

WASHINGTON – As a Latvian orphan who became a naturalized American citizen in 1949, Marija Platace Futchs Fine was unaware of her family's history until 2014. The discovery of her Latvian roots after seven decades led her to a reunion with one living relative when she returned to her homeland. She chronicles her story in "Wide Eyes" (published by Xlibris).

Fine was 71 when she learned the truth about her birth parents. She terms the discovery as the most existentially important fact of her life. During World War II, her family was arrested by the Nazis as political prisoners. She was kidnapped and placed in the Nazis' orphanage. After the war, the British flew her and the other orphans to the US where they were adopted by American couples. In this book, Fine details the personal histories of her birth parents. She also focuses on the different ways people succumb to or survive the moral ambiguity and madness of war.

"I would like to spark an interest in the reader to search for their own roots even if they think they know who their forbears were," the author says. She considers her discovery process as surprising, saddening, exhilarating and in the end, personally rewarding.

About the Author



Marija Platace Futchs Fine is a naturalized American citizen who was adopted by John and Selma Futchs. She grew up in Colorado and Texas. Fine graduated from Midland University in Fremont, Nebraska with a BA in history in 1965. She received an MA from the School of International Studies at American University in Washington. She taught English as a second language as an educational missionary for the Lutheran Church in Malaysia from 1965-

1968. She instructed freshman students in English at Taiwan Normal University in Taipei from 1973-1974. In Washington, she was a school administrator at Bell Multicultural High School, consultant to the US Department of Education, an information specialist at the National Education Association and both a computer professional and life skills trainer at WAVE, Inc. Through the years she has published articles on computer technology and educational topics in professional journals. Her husband, Irwin Fine, whom she married in 1978, died of Alzheimer's disease in 2011.

COOKS FOR CHRIST

COOKS NEEDED
 We cook only twice a year as a team so no one has to make the entire meal.

WANT TO HELP?
 Contact Donna Hanna at (704)578-6009

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SALT SINGLE ADULTS LINKING TOGETHER

UPCOMING EVENTS
social gathering
 Saturday, July 8 • 6:30 p.m.
California Pizza Kitchen
(Southpark)

service opportunity
 Sunday, July 16 • 8:45 a.m.
Help at Soup Kitchen

RSVP & INFO
SALT@christelca.org

CenterStage campers present
SHREK, JR.
 Friday, July 28 • 6 p.m.
 Saturday, July 29 • 6 p.m.
in the PIT

MADD campers present
A NOT SO TERRIBLE PARABLE
 Friday, August 4 • 6 p.m.
in the PIT

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Representatives from Christ Lutheran recently attended the NC Synod Assembly in Greensboro. Those included were Pastor Tenny, Pastor Drew, Pastor Matt, Pastor Melody, Carl and Miriam Fisher and Dee and Ken Sumlin.



SPECIAL THANKS

Pastor Carl and Miriam Fisher want to express great thanks and appreciation to fellow members of Christ Lutheran who helped them so greatly in their recent move to Plantation Estates. The kindness of the following members of Christ Lutheran will never be forgotten: Walter Roth, Chris Lord, Eileen Their, Rick Moss, Kathy Graham, Jon Sensrud, Susan McWhorter, Sandy Herberg, Drew Roth, Jason Roth, Wanda Grassmeyer, Anna Moore, "Bud" Moore, Ellen Burton, Roger Szmczk, Rich Kempster, Ben Jones, Ron Melvin, David Deeds, Our family of Janthi, Jonathan, Jon, Hannah and Miriam Webster. We also want to salute Debra Kempster who has served as our most efficient Real Estate Agent. And thanks for the prayers and support of all! We couldn't have done it without you. What a serving and loving community we have at Christ Lutheran. --Carl and Miriam Fisher

Thank you to Ben and Shannon Jones for building a bookcase that could survive a tornado! Our youth now have a place to store games and sports equipment in The Pit. Thanks also to John Clark, Ryan Carter and his team of strong teenagers who helped move it to it's new home (Jonathan Webster, Lars Rumpf, Will Taylor, and Tyler Weller). Stop by The Pit and check it out.



6th Grade Retreat

Saturday, August 26 • 10 - 4 p.m.
at the YMCA Hemby Center

Youth will enjoy fellowship and advice from current Middle Schoolers. Parents will join at the end to learn about CLC's Middle School and Confirmation programs.



\$20 • Register on ChristLink at christelca.org

9TH GRADE RETREAT

CAMP AWANITA • AUGUST 18-20, 2017

Upcoming freshmen will head to Marietta, SC for a weekend of Hummer rides, ziplines, giant lake slides, a MUD PIT and more!

Cost: \$225 (includes everything)

Register by July 1 on ChristLink at christelca.org

save the date



RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Sunday, August 27
at Traditional and Contemporary services

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS: Need Service Hours?

Help monitor the collection box for the McPIE School Supply Drive on Sunday mornings.

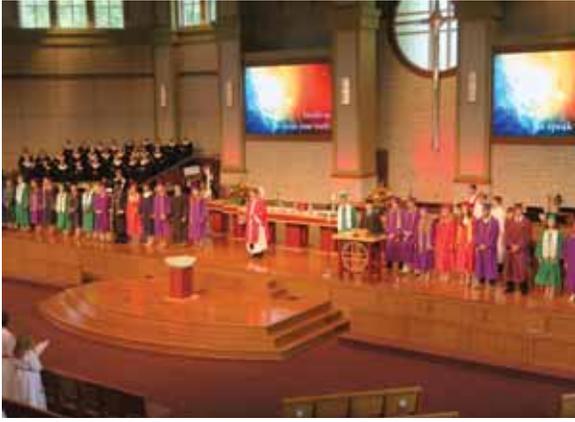
To Sign Up:

Go to Signupgenius.com and search by email: ellenclapp@gmail.com

Questions? Contact Ellen Clapp at email above



Quillow 2017 • Congratulations to our High School Graduates!



VBS 2017 • Over 200 kids! Thank you to all of our tremendous volunteers that helped make this happen!



The Experience Tour 2017



OUTREACH NEWS

WE DID IT!!

FREEDOM SCHOOL FULLY FUNDED

Thanks to the enormous generosity of Christ Lutheran, 100 Scholars will spend their summer learning while having fun in a safe space. This class of Scholars will have the opportunity to build *Something Inside So Strong* in hopes of breaking the cycle of poverty. Through the tools they receive while in Freedom School, Scholars will foster a love of reading and learn that they can make a difference in themselves, their family and the world.

Please continue to pray for our Scholars, their families, Freedom School team leaders and volunteers. We hope that the Holy Spirit touches them daily and blesses and empowers them to make a difference this summer!

If you are still interested in making a donation, the McPIE general fund accepts donations year-round to support Family Night and other initiatives. We are also continuing to collect books to fill Freedom School bookshelves!

SCIENCE CAMP NEEDS APPLIANCES

Help Science Campers get their creative juices flowing by donating small, broken appliances. Students disassemble these appliances and will engineer new inventions!

- DVD players
- stereos and radios
- VCRs
- tape decks/recorders
- digital clocks
- CD players
- desktop phones
- analog clocks

SPEND AN HOUR BEING WOWED!

Want to see what McPIE's Summer Science Experience Camp is all about? **Join Science Campers at McClintock Middle School on Thursday, July 20th and Thursday, August 3rd at 1:30 p.m.** as they showcase what all they have learned, engineered and invented over their 2-week session. Many of the 100 students in each of these camp sessions have parents that are unable to leave their jobs during the day to attend. Let's fill the audience for them and show our support for all that they are learning. You are sure to be WOWed as they exhibit what they've been inventing. You'll see 3D printed hands, small-scale NASCAR racecars, Rube Goldberg machines, water rockets and MORE!

FAMILY NIGHT

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Want to join a team that is making moves and making a DIFFERENCE?!? Family Night will start up again this September and McPIE is looking for volunteers.

Calling all ENGINEERS, CRAFTY folks, GIRL SCOUTS/LEADERS, PROGRAMMERS/CODERS, MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, and anyone else who has a PASSION that they would like to share. Sign-up to lead a club for the semester or the entire year.

Leading or helping with a club not what you're looking for? Join our MEALS or TRANSPORTATION Team!! Each Tuesday, we provide transportation and a warm meal - at no cost to the McClintock families that participate. By providing these two essential services, families overcome two of the major barriers that prevent them from "leveling the playing field" and receiving equal opportunities.

Can't commit each week but want to get involved? Sign-up to be a FLOATER. Each week, there are always opportunities to get involved. Someone is sick, out of town, etc, and we need floaters to fill the gap!

Contact Angela Davis at adavis@christelca.org to get involved! Family Night is a great way to give back to the community that surrounds Christ Lutheran and make a difference in a child's life!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR dREAM TEAM AND INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

McPIE is currently looking for a volunteer to help with our dREAM Team and Ink Cartridge programs. Both are valuable ways to give back to students and teachers.

The dREAM Team finds deals on reams of copy paper for McPIE to purchase and supply the teachers at McClintock with each year. We return/recycle old ink cartridges for a small refund, which then gets used to either purchase reams of paper or school supplies for the Student Store provided during Family Night.

If you would like more information, please contact Amy Daniels at adaniels@christelca.org.



SCIENCE CAMP MATERIALS NEEDED

100 incoming 6th graders will spend two weeks this summer exploring hands-on science thanks to McPIE and a generous grant from Burroughs Wellcome Fund. Students become inventors and need materials listed below. The items we are looking for include:

- egg cartons
 - plastic containers (chinese food, condiment containers, etc.)
 - shoe boxes (we need lots)
 - empty toilet paper rolls
 - empty paper towel rolls
 - sturdy boxes (any size)
 - clear plastic 2 liter bottles
 - other plastic bottles (soda, water, juice, etc.)
- Please no glass, aluminum or sharp objects.**

Items can be dropped off at the Outreach Ministry Office



Volunteers Needed for **FREEDOM SCHOOL**

June 19 - July 28, 2017

Volunteer opportunities are still available during Freedom School for Harambee readers, help with afternoon activities, chaperone field trips, and more!

If interested, contact DeeDee Petronis:
dpetronis@carolina.rr.com

HARAMBEE!

Get your day started with song, dance and a good book! Join Freedom School Scholars as they showcase just how exciting learning can be!

Thurs., June 29 or Wed., July 12

Light Continental Breakfast

8 a.m. in Lower Commons

Harambee • 8:30 - 9 a.m. in the Pit

FREEDOM SCHOOL

finale Thursday, July 27 • 1 p.m.
in the Sanctuary

Each class will give a presentation through song, dance, video, poetry, etc.

Come watch the culmination of these Scholars' hardwork! It's a celebration filled with energy and emotion!

don't miss it!

McPIE It's time for our annual McClintock **SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE** PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

As you start to do your back-to-school shopping, please pick up some extra items to donate at church on Sundays.

Pencils • pens • 2" binders • colored pencils markers • and other items you come across

Check out E-news for Hot Deals of the Week!

Thank you for supporting this ministry.



CHRIST LUTHERAN'S DAY OF **SERVICE**

SUNDAY • JULY 9, 2017

Volunteer for one or more hours,
before or after you worship.

Times vary depending upon which project you choose.

PARTIAL LIST OF AGENCIES AND PROJECTS:

- **American Red Cross** - donate blood
- **Rise Against Hunger** - help package 20,000 meals for those hungry throughout world because of poverty or disaster
- **Crisis Assistance Ministries** – work at Free Store organizing clothing, make muffins for clients, clean closets and donate clothes
- **Charlotte Rescue Mission** – shop for and organize drive for items we are collecting all through July
- **A Child's Place** – shop for and deliver toiletry items, help make snack bags for students
- **McPIE** – help make teacher appreciation treats, help make WOW! Bags for students caught doing great things, help shop best deals for school supplies and backpacks
- **Urban Ministry Center** – serve at the Soup Kitchen, shop for and deliver items needed
- **Lutheran Services Carolinas** – work on project at group home in Gaston County



SIGN UP TODAY!

Go to SignUpGenius.com

and search email: ckramer@christelca.org



4519 Providence Road • Charlotte, NC 28226

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Charlotte, NC

Permit No. 1741

return service requested



Christ CONNECTIONS

JULY 2017

- Scott Suskovic • Senior Pastor
- Tennyson Shifley • Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care
- Drew Goodson • Associate Pastor of Evangelism & Adult Ministries
- Melody Simpkins • Associate Pastor of Family Ministries
- Matt Simpkins • Associate Pastor of Christ South
- Amy Daniels • Director of Outreach
- Mark Glaeser • Minister of Music
- Gregg Huether • Director of Property and Finance

DOWNLOAD OUR CHURCH APP



search "Christ Lutheran Charlotte"
on your smartphone or tablet's app store

CHRIST LUTHERAN STRIVES TO BE A
NUT FREE CAMPUS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

Christ Lutheran Church
4519 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28226

christelca.org
phone 704|366|1595

21+ *some things*

fun events for young adults in their 20s

Day of Service Volunteering
at Christ Lutheran
Sunday, July 9 • 2017
The 21+ group will be supporting the Rise Against Hunger effort during this congregational day of service.

Charlotte ONE Volunteering
Saturday, September 9 • 2017
Join us for a morning/day with Beds for Kids as we team up with Charlotte ONE.
- more info to come -

For more information, contact:
Whitney Westbrook
whitneywestbrook@gmail.com