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Welcome to News, Views and Tidbits. This is the first edition of the new Chain of Lakes newsletter. Communication is key to a thriving community. Chain of Lakes offers so many opportunities and resources for its disciples and the surrounding community. This newsletter will help us provide you the latest of what is happening. We invite you to share your ideas regarding events, topics and news to share. Drop us a line at info@colpres.org.

In this issue we will highlight the teams that help facilitate our purpose – a community “where strangers become friends, friends become disciples, and disciples impact the world.”

Chain of Lakes Teams

Worship Ministry Team – Our dynamic worship services, including music, sanctuary design and overall style are overseen by this group. Team Leader: Music Director Jan Boehm



Family Ministry – Nursery and Kid’s Church on Sunday morning, Youth Group, and Vacation Bible School are some of the many ways we provide quality Christian education to our children and youth. Focused programming throughout the year offers nurturing spiritual growth opportunities for our families and children. Amanda Serfling is our Youth and Family Minister.

Local Impact Ministry Team – Involved in food shelves, meals, fund raising and community education and awareness, this team partners with local organizations to serve homeless youth and adults and help end the scourge of homelessness. Team Leader: Janice Aanenson

Connection Ministry Team – Connecting with, welcoming, and following up with guests of Chain of Lakes is an important part of our ministry as we continue to grow this church community. Team Leader: Heather Butterfield

Communications & Marketing Ministry Team – Keeping you in the “know” is the focus of this team. Church events and information is creatively marketed through brochures, flyers, mail, email,

website, video, social and other media. Team Leader: Chris Krebsbach

Small Group Planning Ministry Team – Coordinating small groups, workshops and Wonderful Wednesdays for fun, fellowship, learning and spiritual growth is the focus of this team. Team Leader: Ivy Cavegn

Personnel Ministry Team – Providing guidance, support and resources for staff, as well as acting as a liaison between the congregation and staff, and the staff and Session is the very important work of this team. Team Leader: Greta Clark

Finance/Stewardship Ministry Team – Good stewardship of our finances is managed by this team which works to ensure our financial stability, managing income, expenses, and need. Team Leader: John Altrichter

Building, Grounds & Technology Ministry Team – Our physical plant is overseen by this team. They manage facility costs, contracts, security, fixtures/features, codes/regulations, upkeep and maintenance. Team Leader: Paul Edgett

Session – Six elected Elders and Pastor Paul comprise the Session. They are responsible for governing Chain of Lakes and discerning how God’s Spirit is at work in the congregation and broader community.

Deacons – Six elected individuals provide spiritual friendship, care, and encouragement to the Disciples at Chain of Lakes. They oversee the Helping Hands

Fund that provides emergency assistance, and the Chain of Lakes prayer chain.

Ministry at Chain of Lakes is big and bold. Dozens of volunteers make it the place to be when we look at discipleship and how we can impact the world around us. Your time and talent is welcome in all these areas. Just drop a note at info@colpres.org for more information.

Upcoming Events

Ash Wednesday – Please join us for Ash Wednesday services on February 14 at 6:30 pm.

Wonderful Wednesdays – Our next series, *Essentials of Faith*, will begin the week of February 18 and end the week of March 17. This will correspond with a sermon series by Pastor Paul, and will focus on the Essentials of Faith while sharing the broad history of how people have viewed the topics of God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, and church. This very interesting topic will certainly initiate some stimulating conversation.

Somebody Loves Me – A special evening for our youth, focused on loving yourself and loving others, will be Wednesday, February 21, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Empowerment Workshop – Our own Obiajulu Anizor, Master Educator, Inspirational Speaker and Empowerment Practitioner, will present a workshop entitled *Personal Effectiveness: The Art of Creating My Personal Power*. This workshop uses the empowerment model to guide movement from pain to creativity, from a still life to whole and dynamic growth, and integration of self-awareness with results. Two sessions are offered – Saturday, February 24, 10 am to noon, and Sunday, February 25 after worship. Attending both days is ideal, but not mandatory. This will definitely be an exciting workshop.

Holy Week – During Holy Week we focus in on the events that led up to the Resurrection of Jesus. Our Holy Week service provides us an opportunity to prayerfully meditate together on this extraordinary time in the life of Jesus. Holy Thursday Service will be at 6:30 pm on March 28.

Chain of Lakes Easter Carnival – The Easter Bunny, a Peep Scavenger Hunt and other fun

activities will be held Saturday, March 30 from 10 am to 1 pm. Watch the bulletin and website for more details.

Easter Sunday – Please join us for worship at 9:00 am and 10:30 am.

Come to the Cabaret!



Charlie and Greta Clark invite us to the Cabaret for a memorable evening of Broadway and standard hits. This entertainment treat will be held to help fund our Health and Healing Ministry. You won't want to miss this exciting event, so mark your calendar now. Performances on April 4 and 5 at 7:00 pm.

Tidbits

Morsels from the Kitchen - Many of you may be wondering how much we spent on our kitchen and why we are washing dishes instead of using disposables. Funding came through the Presbytery (\$9,400), and a grant from Anoka County (\$10,000). The Anoka County grant required our commitment to reducing the amount of trash, so it covered the purchase of the sinks and dishwasher as well as dishes, cups, silverware etc. Many volunteer hours went into completing this project. We are most grateful to everyone involved in providing this wonderful addition to our church.



Happy Valentine's Day



To love is to recognize yourself in another.
Eckart Tolle

Love is such a powerful force. It's there for everyone to embrace - that kind of unconditional love for all of humankind. That is the kind of love that impels people to go into the community and try to change conditions for others, to take risks for what they believe in.

Coretta Scott King

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13