

COMMUNITY FOCUS

GORDON/ Maurice Hubler, 875-0192

CULC congregation preparing for Easter

Christ United Lutheran Church, Old Airport Road, R.D. 1, Ashland has a busy schedule of services for Holy week.

Maundy Thursday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. the sacrament of holy communion will be served with six young people receiving the sacrament for the first time.

Good Friday, April 9, at 12 noon Ashland Area Ministerium service will be held at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church, Walnut Street, Ashland.

The CULC tenebrae service will be held at 7:30 p.m.

Easter eucharistic service at CULC will be held April 11, at 6:30 a.m. Easter breakfast follows the 6:30 a.m. service in the Fellowship hall.

Easter eucharistic service April 11, at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:45 a.m. An Easter egg hunt for

children age 12 and under will be held Saturday, April 11, at 1 p.m.

An Outreach Social Ministry Committee will be held Thursday, April 15, at 6 p.m. Followed by WELCA meeting at 7 p.m.

The monthly calendar shows dates and times for regular committee and service events.

Bible study is every Monday at 10:30 a.m. Senior choir practice every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Junior choir practice every first and third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Monthly events for April include: Lutheran Church Men's meeting Sunday, April 18, at 5 p.m. and Stewardship Committee April 21, 7:30 p.m.

Christ United Lutheran Church is located a short distance west of Gordon and was designed by the congregation. It has many modern features, niceties, spacious rooms, and special furnishings.

Highlights include the sanctuary with padded pews, stained glass windows and special sections for wheelchairs.

The fellowship hall has a capacity for approximately 250 guests. This is ideal for receptions, group meetings, and weddings. The spacious kitchen has two stoves, commercial dish washer, microwave and center work island, plus plenty of cupboards.

The nursery has appropriate furnishings with small chairs and tables, a playpen and stacking cribs, changing counter and sink.

There is an elaborate sound system, that allows the service to be piped into other rooms. Also, the church is equipped with air conditioners, wall to wall carpet, a parlor reception room, numerous Sunday school rooms, a large office and also many washrooms.

The narthex is large enough to accommodate 50 people; it also is used for viewing.

You must see the building to appreciate its elegance and usefulness. The public is invited to visit.

Rev "Jay" Serafin is the pastor, Mrs. Judy Stepulitis is office secretary; Suzanne Peel is congregational treasurer and Chris Brennen is CULC financial secretary. Council members include Carla Mae Carl, Wendy Chuplis, John Denchak, vice president; Jack Houser, secretary; Elmer Miller, Ted Shadle, Becky Spenser, Donna Wallace, Connie Welker. James Reiner Sr. is inside custodian and Ralph Johnson is outside maintenance person. Alma Walter serves as organist.

Volunteers, both members and non-members, are on the premises almost daily, changing, cleaning, fixing, decorating, adding what needs to be added. The time, talents and treasurers these people continue to provide seems to be unequalled. All sizes and ages of volunteers can be seen using hammers, or pushing

stones on the unfinished parking lot. Working together in this manner has surely united this congregation into one Christian family.

The attendance at all services is very good. The 20-member choir under the direction of Bruce McCormick is a tremendous asset to the worship service. New members continue to join. And at the Feb. 21, service five new members joined the CULC Christian family. They were Lori Miller, Jeri Schaffer, Kevin Sweinhart, Mary Sweinhart and Steve Wilson.

Members sponsor altar flowers, bulletins, sanctuary candles, newsletters, etc.

Donations are made for many items such as choir gowns, furnishings and nursery items.

Updates of CULC's financial status appears in each weeks Sunday bulletin.

CULC is doing very well financially during their first year. The financial status of the church is always made available to it's members aside from current offerings and expenses.

Pledges received as of March 28, now total over \$132,600 dollars. Special gifts and memorials total amount given toward furnishing the new church building as of March 25, 1993, was over \$112,500 dollars. Spiritual growth and financial funds growth positive signs of success.