

Christ Lutheran Tidings



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Rejoice Sunday School	2
Quilting Day	2
Pastor's Message	3
From the Church Office	4
From the Verona Food Pantry	4
Birthdays & Prayers	5
Christmas at Christ Lutheran	6
Catch-Up Fund	6
Musical Opportunities	7

Congregational Meeting, January 22, 2017

The second part of our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22, 2017 following the worship service.

The meeting will begin with a covered-dish meal, followed by reports and the approval of the 2017 Budget. Committees are reminded to submit their reports to the church office by January 10 to be printed in our Year Book. Now is also a good time to inform Brenda of address, email or telephone changes for our new directory.

Your presence is important at our Congregational Meetings. In case of snow or ice, our meeting will be held on February 5.

Our 2017 Church Council

Members and officers of our 2017 Church Council are:

Melanie Rhodes, President
Judy Matthews, Vice-President
Evelyn Young, Secretary
Dell Philpott
Donald Schneider
Barbara Shaner
Stacey Wolters
Robbin Youngblood

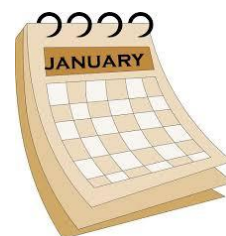
Jim Youngblood, Church Treasurer

Please support and pray for our new Church Council as committees are formed and their work for 2017 is put to task.



REJOICE CLASS

LITURGY: Work Of The People



The Rejoice Sunday school class meets with Pastor McCarty during the month of January to discuss the Lutheran Sunday morning worship liturgy. This four week class will take a look at the way worship engages the participants, giving particular attention to the role of the assisting minister. The class will show how the shape of the worship engages people with prayers, the Holy Scripture, the sacraments as well as one another.

This Rejoice Class will meet in the church lounge so that we have quick access to the sanctuary space. Class begins January 8 at 9:10 AM.

Class Topics	<u>Key Concepts</u>	<u>The People Engaged</u>
	Shape of worship	with Holy Scripture
	Two Sacraments	with Holy Communion
	Three Focal Points of Worship	in Praying & prayer preparation
	The Assisting Minister	in Singing and music

Quilting Day

A Quilting Day will be held on Tuesday, January 17 beginning at 9:30 A.M. in the downstairs Sewing Room. We invite you to join us to help assemble quilts for Lutheran World Relief.



WELCA News

There will be no WELCA meeting during the month of January. We wish you a Happy New Year and please have a safe and happy month!

Pastor's Christmas and New Year's Message

*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—
I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:
to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."*

Luke 2: 10

This is but the beginning, but boy, what a beginning it is!

God breaking into the world at night, both in stillness and with heavenly fanfare. A babe born in Bethlehem, off the beaten path, lying in a manger. A birth foretold by prophets that quietly happens, until a heavenly chorus sings God's praise to the lowly shepherds where no one else has gathered. The stealth of the story gives way to a heavenly decree, "to you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

This is but the beginning, but boy what a beginning it is!

A savior **born**, of the Line of David, a King and Lord. The anticipated anointed one of God, the Messiah born a baby. What great joy this is for us. You can hear those first words, "Do Not Be Afraid," as a cue for you to sit up and listen to what is happening. And the angelic song, "Glory to God in the highest heaven" sung out like a prelude, an introduction to open our hearts to what will follow. To hear glory of Luke's birth narrative is to wet your appetite for what will become of this boy, this heir to David, this Savior of the World, the Son of God. Read all of Luke Chapter 2. To celebrate the Christmas festival is to open your hearts to crave Christ's power, his life, his love, his mercy. To celebrate Christmas is to eagerly wonder what will become of this child as he grows in stature. What happens when this child no longer needs angels to trumpet his arrival? What happens when not just shepherds but crowds gather around his presence? What happens when this good news strikes your ears and your hearts! What happens when his power and life lives in you.

This is but the beginning, but boy what a beginning it is!

This is but the beginning of the story of a Savior who will grow up reveal God's plan for grace and mercy. Most will tell you that the miracles of the man are a lot more interesting than the story of the birth. Most will tell you that the message of the man is worth hearing again and again. He has a message of hope and mercy. A message that God has a way to overcome human frailty, weakness and sin with forgiveness, hope, life and love. The people want more than forgiveness. They want life and love and hope—those things that sin works against. They want hope and life and love to have power over sin and not the other way around. And the angel's message is the beginning, but just the beginning of that message. We have 16 Sundays between now and Easter and 7 Sundays in Easter as well. You have almost half a year to strengthen your hearts, your faith, your life.

This is but the beginning, and I promise you what follows this beginning is majestic, full of the Glory of God, full of peace and hope. God in the world for all creation, All human kind and God in the world for you.

This Sunday, next Sunday and the Sundays that follow, the beginning keeps unraveling through our worship and through the world, with a message of hope, life and love. And I will stand in the pulpit and proclaim the angel's message. "Do not be afraid, I am bringing to you good news of great joy for all people. I will bring the good news of God." This good news will enter into your lives. And as this child grows up and brings hope and love to you, you will sing the angel's song, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all people."

This is but the beginning...

Pastor McCarty

From the Church Office

Many thanks to those of you who leave empty printer cartridges on my desk for recycling purposes at Staples. During the month of December, I was able to take 20 cartridges (a few were from our Xerox machine) to Staples and we should soon expect \$40 in rewards. I usually put these points towards the purchase of paper for our worship worksheets and the newsletter, or other needed items for our church office.

Thank you again! Every little bit helps!

Brenda

Verona Community Food Pantry

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your recent donation of 60 pounds of food and dry goods to the Verona Community Food Pantry, an all volunteer 501c3 tax-exempt corporation.

Your food donation will be distributed to qualified families in our community. Be assured your donations will not be sold or traded. Your donated product will be used as soon as possible to insure freshness.

Again, thank you for supporting our effort to aid our neighbors in need.

Cordially,
Hunter Fauber
Director

[Sponsored by the Quilting Group, we received food for the food pantry this fall and will do so again in the spring of 2017.]



Always
give
yourself
fully to
the work
of the
Lord ...

1 Corinthians 15:58



4	Connie Spitler
6	Meredith Yeago
8	Kendrick McCarty
11	Margie Obenschain Barbara Shaner
12	Mindy Reynolds
13	Walt Obenschain Rick Whitmore
15	Jay Shaner Ken Young
17	Amy Kiger
18	Fred Shaner
19	Judy Matthews
21	Elizabeth McCarty
25	Rebecca Rhodes
26	Grace Adams
27	Corey Shaner Chip Shaner
28	Bill Brill

thank you!

I would like to thank my church family and friends for the cards, gifts and flowers at Christmas. I so appreciate your kindness. I am also very grateful to those of you who drive me to church and home on Sundays. I would enjoy a visit from my friends at Christ Lutheran at any time.

Betty W. VanLear

Thank you to our Pastor and church family for your cards, visits and prayers during Herb's hospitalization, surgery and rehabilitation. We are both well in our new living quarters. God bless you all and have a blessed New Year.

Herb & Lillian Walge

Remember in Your Prayers

In Memoriam:

Richard C. (Dick) Firebaugh
August 9, 1924 – December 25, 2016

Members of Christ Lutheran Church:

Amelia & Alfred Berry
Dorothy Briebl (The Legacy)
Bill Brill
Beth Craig
Patricia Doyle
Virginia Gregory (Shenandoah Nursing Home)
June Huff (21 Woodlee Rd. Apt. 325)
Sue Obenschain (Summit Square, 501 Oak Ave.
Waynesboro, VA 22980)
Jane Ruch
Lois Ruch
Bobby Schneider
Billie Ann Spitler
Betty Van Lear (Brookdale)
Herb Walge

Friends & Family of Members:

Bennie & Julie (friends of Charlie & Mindy Reynolds)
Margie W. (friend of Debbie Morris)
Makenzie (Niece of Pr. McCarty)
Doris & Clarence M. (parents of Anita Sanders)
Jaime, Brenda K. (friend of Stacey Wolters)
Jessie G. (Jim Gibson's brother)
Debbie S. (friend of Rick Whitmore)
Alex & Cindy C. (friends of Rick Whitmore)
Linda Y. (sister of Woody Sanders), Mindy (mother of Kiera Barker)
Joy C. (friend of Jim Gibson)
Lorraine J. (sister of Lillian Walge)
The Fries Family

Those Serving in the Military

Timothy, Becky, Kevin, Derick, Sean, Dusty

Extended Concerns:

Bill Brill, Patricia Garber (Envoy of Staunton)
Esther Seltzer (Augusta Rehab & Healthcare)
Winston Wine

**Friends of Congregation
with long-term concerns:**

Danielle (friend of a friend of Pastor), Sonia L.
(mother of Suzanne Lochner)
Mary L. (Kings Daughters – mother of Bonnie Brown)

Christmas at Christ Lutheran

Many thanks to all those who helped to bring our Advent and Christmas services together this year. We appreciate our Staff, our Pastor and all of our volunteers for their part in planning the worship services, the music, and decorating the church.

Many thanks to our Worship Committee and our Director of Music, Florence Jowers, our Christ Lutheran Church Choir, and musical guests for always providing beautiful sounds of the seasons for us. Our Altar Committee for November and December were busy hanging banners and preparing for the candlelight service, and we appreciate having Beth and Sam Rowe helping with flowers and poinsettias. Stacey Wolters organized decorating the sanctuary with the help of several church members, and Tom Miller provided our Christmas Tree. Lorraine Bosserman decorated our bulletin boards, the table in our narthex and coordinated our Hat and Mitten Tree. The Social Ministry Committee and Anita Sanders collected gifts for a less fortunate family in our area. Thank you to everyone who provided gifts.

We had a special touch to Advent this year with our Advent Adventure each week prepared by Dell Philpott. This included receiving a Bible passage and a suggested activity along with instructions for making Chrismons for our tree bundled together with a chocolate treat each week of Advent.

Thank you to everyone for your help! Not everyone's name is listed who lent a hand or a talent, but please know you are appreciated!

Catch-Up Fund

We would like to thank all who have stepped up to the challenge of filling the "catch-up" bottle. We currently have a total of \$4,177.04 dollars either donated or pledged.

Please continue to prayerfully consider the needs of the church and how we can all come together to reach our goals and reach out to all in need.

Celebrate the Joy of Christmas this New Year!

A benefit concert for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank Network will be presented by the combined choirs of Olivet Presbyterian Church and Staunton Church of the Brethren on Sunday, January 8 at 7:00 P.M. A prelude begins at 6:30 P.M. A free-will offering will be received and a reception will follow the concert. The event will be held at the Staunton Church of the Brethren, directly behind Christ Lutheran Church at 1615 N. Coalter Street.

Alkemie presents

Nowell sing we! A medieval celebration of music!

Monday, January 9, 2017, 7:30 P.M.

Blackfriars Playhouse

10 S. Market Street, Staunton

\$20, \$15 students



**Christ Evangelical
Lutheran Church**
2807 N. Augusta Street
Staunton, VA 24401

Phone 540.885.4843
E-mail celcsta@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

www.christlutheranstaunton.org

Church Staff:

The Rev. Robert D. McCarty, Pastor
Email: revmccarty@earthlink.net

Florence Jowers, Director of Music/Organist
Email: jowersf@gmail.com

Brenda L. Wollner, Secretary
Email: celcsta@gmail.com

Debbie McCray, Cleaning Service

2017 Church Council:

Melanie Rhodes, President
Judy Matthews, Vice-President
Evelyn Young, Secretary
Dell Philpott
Donald Schneider
Barbara Shaner
Stacey Wolters
Robbin Youngblood



Our Mission Statement:

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church:
By God's grace, the Holy Spirit leads
us to love and serve all.

Congregational Meeting, January 22, 2017

The second part of our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22, 2017 following the worship service.

The meeting will begin with a covered-dish meal, followed by reports and the approval of the 2017 Budget. Committees are reminded to submit their reports to the church office by January 10 to be printed in our Year Book.

Now is also a good time to inform Brenda of address, email or telephone changes for our new directory.

Your presence is important at our Congregational Meetings.



January 2017

S U N M O N T U E W E D T H U F R I S A T

Special Events

Sunday: January 22
12:00 Noon—
Congregational Meeting
following worship

Christ Lutheran Church

Worship With Us!

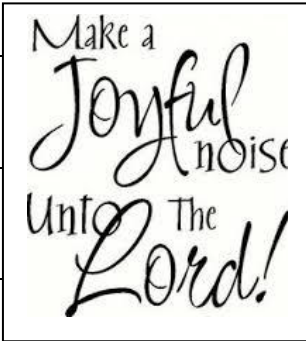
2807 North Augusta Street
Staunton, Virginia

Phone: 540-885-4843

Email: celcsta@gmail.com

1 Happy New Year! 10:30-Worship	2	3	4 7:00-Choir Rehearsal	5	6 Epiphany	7
8 9:10— Rejoice Sunday School 10:30-Worship	9	10 7:00-Church Council Mtg. Annual Reports Due	11 7:00-Choir Rehearsal	12	13	14
15 9:10-Rejoice Sunday School 10:30-Worship	16	17 Newsletter article deadline 9:30-Sew Day	18 7:00-Choir Rehearsal	19	20	21
22 9:10-Rejoice Sunday School 10:30-Worship 12:00-Congregational Mtg.	23	24	25 12:00-Pleasant Memories Luncheon 7:00-Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 9:10-Rejoice Sunday School 10:30-Worship	30	31				

January 2017 Worship Worksheet

Date	Lessons	Hymns
January 1 The First Sunday of Christmas – Name of Jesus AM: Suzanne Lochner	Isaiah 63:7-9 Psalm 148 Hebrews 2:10-18 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23	Angels from the Realms of Glory The Boy-Child of Mary Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
January 8 The Baptism of Our Lord AM: Tom Miller	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17	
January 15 The Second Sunday after Epiphany AM: Jim Youngblood	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Gospel: John 1:29-42	
January 22 The Third Sunday after Epiphany AM: Melanie Rhodes	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23	
January 29 The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany AM: Suzanne Lochner	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12	



Those Serving in January 2017 Worship Services

Date	Ushers	Acolyte	Crucifer	Reader	Greeters
01/01	Jay Shaner, Jim Gibson, Charles Shaner	* * * *	Madilynn Langston	Sam Rowe	Betty & Woodie Cason
01/08	The Langston Family	Jackson Kiger	Rhiannon Wiseman	Jamison McCarty	Shelda & Jay Shaner
01/15	Carolyn Haggerty, Wayne Huntley, Karl Protil	Kendrick McCarty	Jamison McCarty	Melanie Rhodes	Sybil McElveen
01/22	Woodie Cason, Suzanne Lochner, Amy Kiger	Rhiannon Wiseman	Jackson Kiger	Tom Miller	Geneva Wiseman
01/29	Karl Protil, Evelyn Young, Jim Gibson	* * * *	Jamison McCarty	Debbie Morris	Sandra Rollason

Ushers: Please be at the church by 10:00 A.M. for usher duty. *Indicates usher at the door. If you cannot serve as indicated, please contact our head usher, Jim Gibson (292-5354).

ALTAR COMMITTEE: Phyllis Cox & Allyson Langston

MEALS-ON-WHEELS FOR January 10: Nancy Dahl & Howard Wilhelm; Betty & Woodie Cason

