



# ONE IN CHRIST

Week of December 26, 2022-January 1, 2023

## A Note from Pastor Meagan



### Isaiah 63:7-9

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. <sup>8</sup>For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely”; and he became their savior <sup>9</sup>in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

And just like that, Christmas Day is past, and the year is about to roll over officially to 2023. It's hard to believe we are almost into a new year! It is a time when many set New Year's Resolutions, jokingly commenting that it is likely these commitments will be broken by Valentine's Day, if not before! Our readings today invite us to look at the new year differently, once again exchanging our expectations designed for failure for expectations filled with grace.

Isaiah says he will recount the grace of God, those moments when God has been present, shown mercy, shown abundance, shown love. Isaiah claims that it is the presence of God that saves and carries him, and all of us, from the beginning until this very day. What a life-giving focus to begin the new year! So, instead of making and sharing (an maybe breaking) resolutions, I hear Isaiah inviting us to take some time to open our minds and spirits to the presence of God, allowing that to fill and guide us in the new year.

### Questions for Reflection

Where have you seen God at work this year? Who has revealed God's grace, love, and peace to you in this season? Tell the stories of God's presence in our lives and communities.

Where are areas of struggles, or challenge, that you invite God into as the new year begins? Who can you share this prayer of hopeful expectation with, as Isaiah shared his hopes with the people of Israel?



# WE WORSHIP....



## Sunday, January 1, 10:00 am Worship

### Access Online Bulletin

Join us for Worship in the Sanctuary. Childcare will not be available in the nursery this week.

### **OR**

You may also attend virtually using the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us!

Masks are optional to enter the building, and will be available at entrances if needed. If you feel unwell, please care for yourself and others by staying home, and we will be happy to see you when you return. Thank you for your commitment to caring for one another!

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453?pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09>

### **One tap mobile**

+13126266799,278217453#,1#,971744# US (Chicago)

## **Worship Signup**

At Christ Lutheran, our children and youth are part of our church, and we encourage people of all ages to take on leadership roles during our worship service. If you would like the opportunity to serve in worship. For more info visit the children's goggle drive:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1a7BaqZqymOcyHDqKM\\_fSZBZrZs7po-iV?usp=share link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1a7BaqZqymOcyHDqKM_fSZBZrZs7po-iV?usp=share_link)

### TO SERVE AS ACOLYTE:

Please visit <https://bit.ly/CLCacolytes> Contact Kersten Horn ([horn.kersten@gmail.com](mailto:horn.kersten@gmail.com)) if your child needs acolyte training.

### TO SIGN UP AS A LECTOR OR ASSISTING MINSTER:

Please contact Mark Roock.

### TO LEAD A PRAYER OR OTHER PARTS OF WORSHIP:



Please contact Lynnae Ruff for potluck sign-up details. [ladygreybeads@gmail.com](mailto:ladygreybeads@gmail.com)

## Stewardship & Offerings

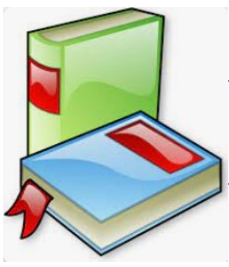
**We have just begun our fall stewardship invitation. Please see the pledge form at the back of the newsletter and contact Katie Ciorba with any questions.**

We can continue to fund our church and the important work we're doing with a few easy clicks:

1. Visit [our donation website](#) directly or go to [www.christwg.org](http://www.christwg.org) and scroll down to the 'Give Now' button.
2. You may make a one time or recurring gift. There are NO FEES to withdraw directly from your bank account. Fees do apply for debit/credit card transactions.
3. Optional: set up a profile to be able to change your recurring gifts at any time or view your giving history.

If you prefer to make your offering by check or cash, there are mailing envelopes included in your offering envelope package.





# AND LEARN....

## Justice Group Update

Kate Dopuch, Kate Hoerchler, Pr. Meagan, Sherry Mitchler, and Janet Roock met on November 14 and had a vibrant discussion around updating the RIC Welcome Statement, planning a visit from author Elle Dowd in the spring, the next selection for the Race Book Group, and imagery around the church. We are looking to hold a congregation wide meeting to delve into updating the RIC welcome statement in mid January, so be on the lookout for more information. Also, as we discussed how to add more diverse, inclusive and thought provoking imagery in the church, we noted how few of us know much about where our existing artwork came from. It could be a nice exercise for the congregation to come together and share stories about the artwork we have now especially as we look forward to renovation and new spaces.



**Adult Forum will now meet at 9 am in the Conference Room**

**December 25 and January 1 - No adult forums**

**January 8 Pastor Roger Ruff**—A look at the Gospel of Matthew

**January 15 Marc Horn**—Christianity in Africa.

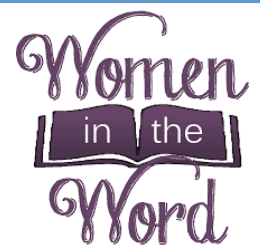
## Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible Study will not meet for the remainder of December but will resume in January.



## Women's Group

The women of Christ Lutheran are invited to join our meetings taking place the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. More details to come!  
Any questions? Reach out to Becca Jordan at [beccajedwards@gmail.com](mailto:beccajedwards@gmail.com).





# SO WE CAN WELCOME....

## Refreshment Team Volunteers

Please volunteer for refreshments in December and January using the sign up genius refreshment link below.

This is a fun and easy way to be of service to our church family. Store bought or homemade food is loved. Refreshment volunteers bring and serve snacks with water. Lemonade mix is provided by the church.

Clean up involves cleaning the kitchen countertops and any dishes used to serve.

Leaving the service early to set up or setting up before the service starts is part of the commitment.

Time commitment is 45-60 minutes depending on the Sunday. Register as a family, individual, with a friend or group.

Dec 18th is not on the list because it is sponsored by Sunday School families in celebration of the Christmas program.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d44a8a92aa31-refreshments>

## Staffing Transition for Christ Lutheran

Please welcome Corona Williams, she will be taking over basic responsibilities in the office. She will be working from home Monday and Tuesday and in the office Wednesday and Thursday 8:30-4pm. Thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding during this time of transition!

***We are hiring, and we wanted you to be the first to know!***

### Office Administrator Needed!

Christ Lutheran Church of Webster Groves is hiring a part-time Office Administrator, to be part of a welcoming, growing, energetic, intergenerational community! Seeking individual with strong organizational and communication skills capable of assisting visitors and members with various requests. ***Please share with anyone who may be interested!***

### Responsibilities

Manage daily office tasks including: updating and pulling reports from member database, managing the phone system, coordinating building service visits, filing records, creating newsletter, creating Worship bulletin, writing and distributing congregational letters and emails, and sorting mail. Internal and external candidates joyfully accepted, to start as soon as the hire process is complete. Full job description is available on request.

32 hours/week, \$17-20/hour. Insurance available.

### To Apply

E-mail Resume and Cover Letter to Pastor Meagan McLaughlin, [pastor@christwg.org](mailto:pastor@christwg.org), and contact via e-mail or phone 314-962-6012 with questions.



# AND SERVE !

## 2023 Council Openings: We Need You!

We have a few openings for the 2023 Church Council, which will begin meeting in late January. We would love for you to consider being a part of this special group! Each chair serves a two-year term and meets once a month with the rest of Council to discuss and decide important church issues. Below is a description of all the positions that are open. We hope that you will prayerfully consider joining the Council in continuing the good works at Christ Lutheran Church. **If you are interested, please send Lisette an email or call the office!**

**Inreach:** Responsible for ensuring a fulfilling experience at Christ Lutheran for current members, during and outside of the service. This involves making sure people have access to the service and soliciting ideas for possible improvement. Inreach also provides support to other committees, especially the Fellowship and Worship committees, as there is a fair amount of overlap between them. During COVID, Inreach has helped coordinate all the technology for the Zoom church services. Other jobs include planning the 4th of July festivities, welcome and birthday parties.

**Outreach:** Responsible for helping promote Christ Lutheran Church in the local community, raising awareness and piquing the interest of potential new members/the community in CLC services, events, etc. While each outreach chair is empowered to work with their committee to determine a plan and initiatives for their work, a few common, primary responsibilities include planning and promoting holiday services and other events open to the community.

**Worship** (co-chair with John Hoffman): Work with Worship committee and musicians to help to plan worship, including scheduling worship volunteers who assist with services on Sunday mornings.

**Properties:** Coordinate all property-related projects. Schedule repair services as needed.

## Vigil For Black Lives

**Every Friday from 6:00-6:30, congregations on Lockwood join together to stand for black lives**, in our community and beyond. We take a short half an hour each week to be visible on Lockwood with signs of solidarity with our black siblings. It is a small way for us to make it known that we stand against racism in all the ways it impacts all of us. Please join us!





## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include the following people in your prayer life during this week.

**ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS:** Those who are suffering from chronic pain & diseases, Shelly Madden, Linda Armstrong, Gege Brightman, Christine Austin, Kate and Brian Bates (John Hoffmann's sister and brother-in-law), Evan Deck, Helga Hayes, Joan (friend of the Rooks), John Hoffmann, Bev & Al Marcus (friend of John Hoffmann), Michael McMullen (Greg McMullen's brother), Anna McIntyre, Donna Munger, Betsy Nielson (Nancy Lissant's sister), Doris & Harry Rahlfs (Karen Wood's parents), Jeff Schmid (Judy Koepke's husband), Joyce Traxler (Friend of Susan DeBusk), Shirley Wolf, and Wayne Wellman (Susanne Reimer-Fey's brother).



**IN BLESSED MEMORY:** For all of those who have died and all of those who grieve, that they may know the presence of God who grieves with us.

**IN MILITARY SERVICE:** Josh Duncan, Chris Hudson, Jesse Proctor, Scott Warr.



## CLC Suggestion Box

Have an idea for how Christ Lutheran Church can make your experience better? Submit an anonymous note at <http://freesuggestionbox.com/pub/stwuunh> and we will do our best to help!



# ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

## LET'S CELEBRATE DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

Congratulations and Best Wishes! Christ  
Lutheran family wants to celebrate you!

### ANNIVERSARIES:

12/26 Robert & Joan O'Brien

### BIRTHDAYS:

12/02 Luther Giorba  
12/05 Martin Allen  
12/07 Michael Bude  
12/07 Liz Drollinger  
12/10 Catherine Gunther  
12/11 Jameson Wagner  
12/13 Paige Meadows  
12/17 James Gilliland  
12/17 Rachel Helton  
12/18 Linda Elkin  
12/19 Brett Bussler  
12/20 Jeffrey Kuziel  
12/22 Christopher Lindquist  
12/24 Lynnae Tanner Ruff  
12/24 Loralie Blaser  
12/24 Jodi McCarty  
12/25 Jesse Wood  
12/28 Caroline Ruchalski  
12/30 Pastor Stephanie Doeschot  
12/31 Joe Bartek

Our apologies if we missed anybody! Please  
let us know if we did.







# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 4p Fitness group	2	3 2pm Women's Advent Tea , fellowship hall
4 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship	5 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	6	7 6p Worship team meeting 7:40p Choir Practice	8 4p Fitness group	9	10 8:30a Choir Practice
11 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 9:45a & 11:15 BP Screening 10:00a Worship with Cantata	12 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	13 12p Stephen Minis- ter Christmas party at Laclede Groves 7p Church Council meeting in Confer- ence room	14	15 4p Fitness group	16	17
18 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship and children's program	19 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	20	21	22 4p Fitness group	23	24 5:00p & 9:00p Worship
25 10:00a Worship, no adult forum	26 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves	27	28	29 4p Fitness group	30	31

## 2023 Pledge Card: Stewarding Our Gifts

Thankful for God's abundance and continuing to worship and serve with fellow members of Christ Lutheran Church, we pledge to use our spiritual gifts to be stewards of God's love.

Print name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I/We celebrate our spiritual gifts of

Skills/Knowledge:

Passion:

And, therefore, pledge to be stewards in the following ways :

Including, joyfully planning to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in calendar year 2023

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact info: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you'd like to continue receiving paper offering envelopes.

**Please return your pledge card by 12/18/2022.**

You may mail this pledge card to the church office, put it in the offering basket or email your pledge form to [office@christwg.org](mailto:office@christwg.org)



***Keep this portion for your records as reminder of your planned giving.***

### 2022 Pledge for Christ Lutheran Church

I/we plan to give a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ by December 31, 2023, to support our Lord's mission and ministry through Christ Lutheran Church, Webster Groves, Missouri and to be stewards in the following ways:



## Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

E-MAIL:  
OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG

WEBSITE:  
WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:  
SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M.

RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN  
MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE  
HOURS: MON-WED, FRI 8:30-  
4:30  
APPTS BY  
ARRANGEMENT

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:  
JESSICA GUNTHER

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR  
ADULT MINISTRIES AND  
FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE:  
CAROLYN CROWE

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS:  
DIANE DROLLINGER

ORGANIST:  
MARK RUFF

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:  
CORONA WILLIAMS

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:  
TAMMY PRYOR

WEBMASTER:  
MIKE WAGNER/STEPHANIE  
LENHART

### Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Deepening people's connection to Christ,  
Bringing meaning to daily life, and  
Making a difference in our community.