Pastor's Word



Advent 2022: Great Expectations

We begin Advent with the call to "...be ready, for the Son of Humanity is coming at an unexpected hour" (Matt. 24:44). How can we expect the unexpected? In a world that has already traversed through Easter's promise, it is often easy to forget that every year we enter Advent as a season of expectation and promise. We spend the four weeks waiting and watching, with wonder building as we hear of God's expected transformation of the world.

From weapons transformed into plowshares, through rulers promised to bring justice and peace, over dry places made fertile with life, to God with Us—Immanuel, our expectations grow ever greater. When Mary brings forth her first-born son, wraps him in bands of cloth, and places him in a feeding trough, we find the fullness of God in a tiny child—everything and nothing we expected from the grace of God appearing in the world.

Still, we are called to be heralds of this promise that continues to reverberate through the generations—the light shining in the shadowed world that cannot be overcome. Through this Advent and Christmas season, we are invited into a time of great expectation. We are invited to wrestle with our own expectations of God and God's expectations for us. Where is God calling us to be willingly watchful? Where is God delighting us with unexpected peace? Where is God filling us with unexpected abundance? Where is God meeting us with the divine in our midst?



WE WORSHIP....



Sunday, November 27, 10:00 am Worship

Access Online Bulletin

Join us for Worship in the Sanctuary. Childcare available in the nursery from 9 -11:30am.

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)

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 278 217 453 Password: 971744



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/1a7BegZgymOcyHDgKM fSZBZrZs7po-iV? usp=share link

TO SERVE AS ACOLYTE:

Please visit https://bit.ly/CLCacolytes Contact Kersten Horn (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 visit https://bit.ly/CLCworship

Please reach out with questions and suggestions you have about the children and youth ministries at Christ Lutheran. Peace, Katie Gregston



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2022 Great Expectations



You are invited to join us for online and in-person services.

Wednesday, November 30

6:00 pm Light Supper

7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890808743?pwd=WkJVbldhaHpjemgwckVrTHY5TUdVQT09

Meeting ID: 878 9080 8743

Passcode: 348827

Saturday, December 3

2:00-3:30 pm, Women's Advent Tea in fellowship hall.

Sunday, December 4 Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Worship.

Wednesday, December 7

6:00 pm Light Supper

7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890808743?pwd=WkJVbldhaHpjemgwckVrTHY5TUdVQT09

Meeting ID: 878 9080 8743

Passcode: 348827

Sunday, December 11, Third Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Worship with Cantata— "The Incarnation" by K. Lee Scott

Wednesday, December 14

6:00 pm Light Supper

7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890808743?pwd=WkJVbldhaHpjemgwckVrTHY5TUdVQT09

Meeting ID: 878 9080 8743

Passcode: 348827

Sunday, December 18, Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Worship and the Children's Christmas Pageant.

Wednesday, December 21

6:00 pm Light Supper

7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890808743?pwd=WkJVbldhaHpjemgwckVrTHY5TUdVQT09

Meeting ID: 878 9080 8743

Passcode: 348827

Saturday, December 24

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion.

Saturday, December 24

9:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion.

Sunday, December 25, Merry Christmas!

10:00 am Worship.

Sunday, January 1 First Sunday of Christmas

10:00 am Worship.

As we enter into Advent, be sure to pick up your Advent bag! It includes cookies by Alena, a craft kit designed by Katie Gregston, and a reflection book written by members of many congregations, including our own Jon Heerboth and Rachel Helton.

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 <u>our donation website</u> directly or go to <u>www.christwg.org</u> 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.

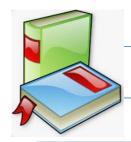
If you prefer to make your offering by check or cash, there are mailing envelopes included in your offering envelope package.



POINSETTIAS ON SALE FOR CHRISTMAS

This year we again have beautiful multi-bloom poinsettias, in six-inch pots, for sale. You can purchase one or more plants for \$7.50 each, which the church will use for decorating the altar on Christmas Eve (Friday, Dec. 24). You may take home your plant(s) on Sunday the 25th. Or, you can give your plants to our homebound members, to be distributed during Christmas week. Return this form to the office with your payment by Dec 22nd.

Your name:		Number	of poinsettias:
In Honor of			
In Memory of			
Cost \$7.50 per plant	TOTAL \$		



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.

Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible Study group meets at 10:30 in the Parish Hall. The group has recently enjoyed reading and discussing many of the minor prophets in the Hebrew Bible, and they expect to continue that in the Fall.





Adult forum will meet at 9:00 during the educational hour in the Fellowship Hall with the coffeepot nearby.

November 27 Intergenerational Experience—packing lunches for Gateway 180 shelter.

December 4 TBD

December 11 introduction to the Cantata

On November 20 Carlos Suarez from the International Institute spoke to us about the work of that agency, particularly with refugees. Working from a base on Arsenal Street and funded by government grants and contributions, the institute provides housing and mentoring on life skills needed to establish a home here. Initially the assistance is for 90 days but continues beyond that on a case by case basis.

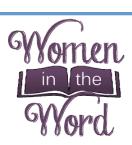
The institute puts on the festival of nations in Tower Grove Park every year and has a special ceremony for clients who become US citizens.

The International Institute needs donations and volunteers. Interested? Contact Carlos at suarezc@iistl.org.

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.





We now have new network equipment installed that provides a strong wireless signal everywhere in the church. Signs with the new password have been placed around the building. Thank you, Dave Ringkor, for all your work on this!

Holiday Office Hours

The church office will be Closed for Thanksgiving Nov 24 and 25th.

Lisette will be on vacation November 28-30. Sarah Bender will be helping with office tasks in her absence.



SO WE CAN WELCOME....



Choir Practice

Join us every Wednesday for Choir practice at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary! Contact Diane Drollinger if interested in joining the Choir.





Save the Date for the Women's Advent Tea December 3rd at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall - Doors open 2pm, Program 2:15 pm to 3:30pm Women's Advent Tea Registrations are due by 11/27 to assist with planning. The more the merrier and we hope all ladies can make this special event!

Please register this week online https://www.christwg.org/advent-tea/ or in person on Sunday. Email registrations are also an option. Please email Lisette at offiice@christwg.org

Name: Email: Cell:

Home Phone, if applicable: How many single tickets \$15:

Table of 8 \$108 :

Table mate requests?
We will try to accommodate as much as we can.

Names, if known for the table of 8 purchase.

Gluten Free, how many? Vegan, how many? Vegetarian, how many? Interest in helping? Best way to reach you? Need babysitting? Ages? Need a ride? address?

Scholarships available. Reach out to Pastor Meagan.

Ladies, please consider volunteering to help with this fun Advent tradition. Email Sarah Ringkor snringkor@gmail.com or text 314-452-7129. Thank you!



Advent Dinners 2022

We'll be observing Wednesday dinners before Advent services starting on November 30 with the final dinner being on December 21. If you'd like to prepare or contribute a meal on one those evenings, please email Dave Fey davefey@me.com

Any and all help with this is appreciated!

Advent Wednesday Services

Wednesday, November 30, 6:00 pm Light Supper, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

Wednesday, **December 7**, 6:00 pm Light Supper, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

Wednesday, December 14, 6:00 pm Light Supper, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

Wednesday, December 21, 6:00 pm Light Supper, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

Join us for worship in-person or on Zoom at 7pm:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890808743?pwd=WkJVbldhaHpjemgwckVrTHY5TUdVQT09

Meeting ID: 878 9080 8743

Passcode: 348827

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,88390515821#,,,,*685325# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



SAVE THE DATE

Want to Get Involved?

- 1) Attend, and bring a friend!
- **2)** Contribute food goods and/or make a financial offering to the Firewood for Elders program. Requested food items:

cereals
oatmeal
any kind of canned beans
tomato sauce
any soups
Mac and cheese
dry pastas and/or pasta mixes
rice mixes
peanut butter and jelly
canned chicken
canned Chef Boyardee type pastas
canned chili

3) Take a role in the evening

- A. Read
- B. Sing with the choir
- C. Greet Worshippers and hand out bulletins
- D. Bring a sweet or savory treat to share
- E. Help with cleaning up the space after the event

Contact Pastor Meagan 314-962-6012 or pastor@christwg.org with questions or to sign up to help!





AND SERVE!

Please join us this Sunday 11/27 for an intergenerational event preparing bag lunches for a local homeless shelter. Sunday School, Sunday Cool and Adult Forum will all meet together in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00am to assemble the lunches. Jesse Helton will bring his guitar for everyone to enjoy some singing when we finish preparing the lunches. Please let Sherry Mitchler know if you have any questions.



Hope to see you there!

Christian Service is sponsoring a Christmas gift card collection for Humanitri and Webster Rock Hill Ministries. Both ministries serve individuals and families who are struggling to afford basic needs. It is often difficult for them to afford the extra expenses associated with Christmas gifts and special meals. The donation of gift cards helps them offset these extra expenses. Please select a tag from the tree in fellowship hall or in the Narthex and purchase the gift card identified on the tag. Please return the purchased gift card in the offering by Sunday 12/04/22. If you have any questions, please contact either Sherry Mitchler or Sarah Mudd. Thank you for your support as we work to serve those in our community.

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: The In-Reach chairperson is 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 theservice and soliciting ideas for possible improvement. In-Reach also provides support to other committees, especially the Fellowship and Worship committees, as there is a fair amount of overlap between them. During COVID In-reach 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: The Outreach chair is 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.

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

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 Roocks), 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), 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.

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!



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 NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

11/09 Gregory & Caitlin McMullen11/15 Mike & Colleen Wagner11/30 Rev. Meagan & KarenMcLaughlin

BIRTHDAYS:

11/03 Dianne Deck 11/03 Ellen Mead 11/03 Ellen Lissant 11/07 Margot Meyer 11/05 Hank Borden 11/09 Alena Horn

11/10 Katherine Uy 11/12 Brenda Asen

11/12 Donna Munger

11/13 Alicia Lewis

11/14 Kirsten Glascock

11/16 Jack Joern

11/17 Graham Hoerchler

11/17 Brent Wood 11/18 Rich Walker

11/18 Ruthie Helton

11/20 John Joern

11/20 Robert Rivas

11/22 Gale Nunn11/24 Tess Rogers

11/25 Matthew Lindquist

11/27 Lauren Butz

11/27 Tore Stole

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



November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:30a Bible study	7:30p Choir Practice	3 4p Fitness group	4	5 1pm Thelda Bertram Memorial service
9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship	7 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	8 10:30a Bible study	9 6p Worship team meeting 7:30p Choir Practice	10 4p Fitness group	11	12
9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 9:45a & 11:15 BP Screening 10:00a Worship	14 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group 7p Justice Group meeting	15 10:30a Bible study 7p Church Council meeting in Conference room	16 7:30p Choir Practice	17 4p Fitness group	18	19 8:30-11a Choir Practice
9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship 2:00p Latvian wor- ship in Sanctuary	21 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	22 10:30a Bible study	23	24 4p Fitness group	25	26
9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship	28 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	29 10:30a Bible study	30 7:40p Choir Practice			

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 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: LISETTE KREITLER

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.