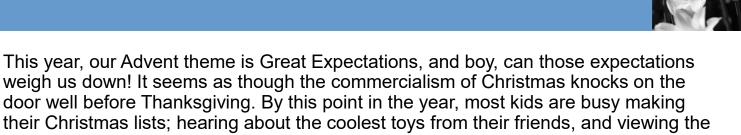
A note from our Youth Coordinator



their Christmas lists; hearing about the coolest toys from their friends, and viewing the latest trends on TikTok. We can all feel pressured to make our Christmas "Pinterest Perfect" and worthy of landing a spot on Facebook posts and Instagram stories. There are classroom parties, Secret Santa exchanges, office potlucks, neighborhood celebrations, elves on shelves, and a myriad of other tasks which inundate all of us this time of year. These are all great things, but, whew, they can be exhausting! Here are a few ideas that might help you slow down just a bit and focus on what we are really expecting in the birth of Jesus.

- 1. Choose 1-2 tasks/parties/traditions to let go
- 2. Share some simple prayers together each day
- 3. Try creating an advent calendar with some simple family time noted for each day (https://www.myadvent.net/en/)
- 4. Enjoy church services

If your child would like to participate in worship, check out these options. https://bit.ly/CLCkidsinworship

Our shared Google Drive is here.

As always, please email me with suggestions and questions for our Christ Lutheran children and youth.

Peace, Katie



WE WORSHIP....



Sunday, December 4, 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.

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.



We are in need of acolytes for our Christmas Eve and Christmas
Day services. We need an additional acolyte for the 5:00pm service
on Christmas Eve, an acolyte for the 9:00pm service on Christmas
Eve, and an additional acolyte on the Christmas Day service at
10:00am. Please sign up online at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48afa829a2fdc43-acolytes or
call the church office.

Choir Practice

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



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:

Your name:	 Number of poinsettias:
In Honor of	
I will be taking	I will be leaving for the homebound.



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.

December 4 Dr. Phillip Mudd will answer questions on the state of COVID and other respiratory infections.

December 11 introduction to the Choir's Cantata. They will be performing it in the morning service.

December 18 Christmas carols and the legends behind them.

December 25 and January 1 there will be no adult forums

Adult Forum will move to the Conference Room in January.

January 8 Pastor Roger Ruff will present a look at the Gospel of Matthew.

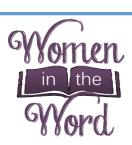
January 15 Marc Horn will discuss Christianity in Africa.

Carlos Suarez, who spoke to us November 20, sent a link to the annual report of the International Institute from last September. It provides statistics on refugee resettlement, a report of the Festival of Nations, and volunteer opportunities. At the beginning there's statement by Arrey Obenson, President and CEO. The video runs about 32 minutes.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5ib0M07qx8&list=PLxPdquc1WswmnljWBYV 3sfBWb-L0zabf&index=37

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

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

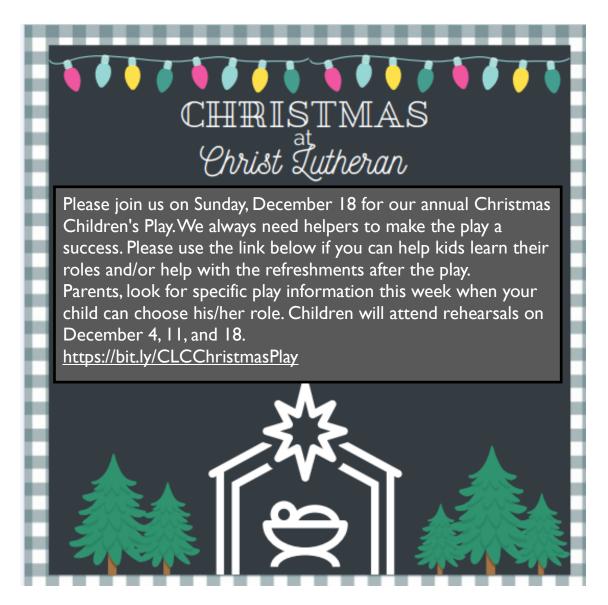
games begin!!!!!



Join us for the CLC Christmas Olympics on Sunday, December 11th from 4-6:30pm in the Church basement. We will have a chili dinner & hot dogs for the kids and we will have fun Christmas games to play. This is an intergenerational event-don't worry...no need to bring your ice skates of skis to these winter olympics—we will have games that all can participate in! Email or yell at Kate Dopuch if you are able to attend (katedopuch@hotmail.com) so we can assemble teams. Hope you can join us for some laughter and fellowship! Let the



SO WE CAN WELCOME....





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, 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)





AND SERVE!

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: 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.

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!



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING October 18, 2022 - 7 pm via Zoom

Attending: Pastor Meagan McLaughlin, Jessica Gunther, Steve Mitchler, Sherry Mitchler, Larry Hill, John Hoffmann, Kate Hoerchler, Kersten Horn, Keith Lissant, Katie Ciorba, and Rachel Helton.

Prior to the meeting, a committee report was received from Christian Service (Sherry Mitchler) and Fellowship (Dave Fey).

Opening
Pastor Meagan opened the meeting with prayer and reflection centered in Luke 18. She invited council members to consider the following questions:

When you pray, what has it done for/in you?

How has prayer allowed you to be fully yourself?

She then acknowledged that it has now been a year since CLC has returned to "normal" since the pandemic shut-down and invited everyone to share their joys and challenges of how it is going. Members noted that the education hour really seems to be taking off again – with robust adult forum and Sunday School attendance. Also, a question was posed how we might reach out to persons and families that have not reengaged with congregational life since the pandemic.

Review of September 2022 minutes - The minutes were distributed via email prior to the meeting and approved without corrections.

Financials/Treasurer's Report

Larry Hill distributed an updated electronic report/spreadsheet prior to the meeting. He noted that some funds have been moved from lowyield savings accounts to higher-yielding U.S. Treasury bills. No other significant items to note regarding this month's expenses and income.

- 1. A proposal has been received from Dave Ringkor with projected costs to update Wifi equipment at church. Larry made a motion to approve the use of up to \$1000 from the memorial fund in accordance with Dave's proposal, dated 9/26/22. Motion was seconded by Keith Lissant. Motion carried.
- 2. The Christian Endowment Fund is managed by a committee of 3 people with the expectation that the annual distribution from this fund will be up to 5% of the balance of the fund. The committee has recommended that of this year's distribution (\$1670 total), 80% be directed to Bethania Kids, and 20% to Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Sherry Mitchler made a motion to approve this proposed distribution, seconded by
- 3. Final expenses have been received from the 125th Anniversary Celebration which was September 18th. The total expenses were \$5900. Larry made a motion to pay for these expenses by closing out two small designated funds which have been inactive for some time (Functions & Events fund (\$1900) and Gift Certificates fund (\$1600)). The remaining expenses would be paid from Outreach and Fellowship fund. Motion

was seconded by Katie Ciorba. Motion carried. Clarification was requested regarding the employee compensation package for Katie Gregston, our new Youth and Family Coordinator. Her compensation was previously approved by council; no additional vote is needed at this time.

Priorities - progress and discussion

1. Renovation Progress - The renovation committee is requesting approval for the use of funds in the amount of \$4500 for a design development estimate from Everest Estimating. This document would include an itemized estimate for building costs broken down into CSI codes. This step would be expected to take 3-4 weeks and is necessary to ensure that the cost of the renovation project is roughly where we are expecting it to be before moving forward with final architectural renderings. The next step after obtaining this estimate would be to reengage with the architect. A motion was made by Keith Lissant to approve the use of up to \$4500 for a design development estimate; seconded by Larry Hill. Motion carried.

Council Listening Posts Follow-Up – Listening sessions were held during Adult Forum on September 25th and October 2nd and were wellattended. Kate Hoerchler led the second discussion and submitted a written recap of the discussion prior to today's meeting. She noted an emphasis on what it means to welcome and serve, with attention given to our current RIC Welcome statement and justice work. Other areas that were lifted up were expanding the scope of who we're talking to as we think about the future of our congregation, who we might proactively reach out to that has not been engaged in this conversation, ideas for how to best gather concerns, suggestions, praises, general feedback, and how we might improve welcome and accessibility by installing a gate in the fence on Lockwood Avenue.

Other Updates/New Business

- 1. Worship Welcome Jess Gunther has been offering a 1-2 minute welcome at the beginning of worship each week. She invited other council members to take turns doing this if there is willingness/interest. It was noted that this is not only a nice way to welcome people to church each week, but also a good way for people to learn who is on council and what their role is. A google doc sign-up will be created and
- 2. Humanitri Work Day Sherry Mitchler reminded everyone that there will be a work day at Humanitri this Saturday, October 22nd. Pastor Meagan noted that Confirmation students have been encouraged to consider helping with this for volunteer hours.

I. Publishing of Council Meeting Minutes – It has been suggested that the minutes from the council's monthly meetings be submitted for publication in the church newsletter. Everyone agreed that this would be a good practice to help the entire congregation stay aware of business being discussed. Once the minutes have been approved each month, Rachel will forward them to Lisette to include in the newsletter.

Annual Meeting and Council Retreat – The date of the annual congregational meeting is TBD, but typically occurs in January. Instead of having our own council retreat, it has been proposed that we participate in a Synod Council Retreat that is being scheduled for January 28th, 2023 from 9am-3pm and led by Pastor Dave Whetter, Bishops Associate of the Central States Synod.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Meagan reported the following:

- We will be welcoming 3 new families on 10/23/22
- Confirmation of 4 youth will happen during worship on 10/30/22
- All Saints' Day will be observed on 11/6/22

Bethany Lutheran Church in Webster Groves has formally been closed. We will continue to prayerful support them and their congregation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 15th, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Rachel Helton, Secretary

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:

12/31

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

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 10:30a Bible study	7 6p Worship team meeting 7:40p Choir Practice	8 4p Fitness group	9	10 8:30a Choir Practice
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 10:30a Bible study 7p Church Council meeting in Conference 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 10:30a Bible study	21	22 4p Fitness group	23	24
25 5:00p & 9:00p Worship	26 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	27 10:30a Bible study	28	29	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
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.