



ONE IN CHRIST

Week of November 23 - November 29, 2020

PASTOR'S WORD



When I was a kid, Christmas Eve always meant about 25-30 people gathered at my house. My cousin Michelle and I always came up with creative ways to have fun, and one year when I was about 5 or 6, we decided to climb onto a large shelf in the linen closet in the bathroom, leave the door cracked just a bit, and stay waiting gleefully for the next person to enter. Once someone came in, we got started. We would sing Christmas carols, interspersed with brief “commercials” or announcements, in hopes that people would think we were a radio playing. My grandma, great aunt, one of our other cousins, were among our captive audience that night. I can still feel the giddiness we felt as we waited for the next person to enter the bathroom. I am surprised that no one caught us, because we kept expecting someone to throw open the door and ask us what on earth we were doing!

What is one of your favorite Christmas memories? Send them to Pastor Meagan, so we can share them with the congregation!

This year, we are celebrating Advent and Christmas with some favorite traditions, and also finding some new ways to wait for Christmas in the midst of this world that feels so challenging and chaotic. No matter what happens—whether earthquakes, or political tensions, or Covid shutdowns, or darkening sun (as our Sunday readings mention), Christ is coming. The kin-dom of God is here, among us. God’s promise will not fail, and we await it’s coming with hope and joy!



Christmas Stories

I remember as a child standing at the window in my bedroom, looking out at the trees and lights in our neighborhood. My Great Aunt Margaret would always stay with us on Christmas Eve, and one year she came and joined me at the window, and suddenly pointed out a small red light in the distance, and said, "Look!! It's Rudolph! Santa is coming!" My breath caught, and I strained to see if I could notice the light moving closer as the sleigh came our way. Part of me knew it was the light on the top of the water tower in the nearby parking lot, but that didn't take away the awe I felt. It was a magical Christmas moment that still makes me feel anticipation and joy.

We all have those stories, stories of family gathering, late night Christmas Eve services, adding Jesus to the Nativity on Christmas Eve, so many other things. This year, we want to gather those stories together so we can share them with one another.

Please share your story! Please write a memory down from Christmases years ago, or just last year, and send them to me. Or, you can call me and tell the story if you prefer. With your permission, we will compile the stories and share them with the congregation.

Peace to you,
Pastor Meagan



Advent Gift Bag Surprises are Coming

Advent Gift bags are being delivered to every home this week! Please let us know if you have any questions, and thank you so much to everyone who worked so hard to put them together!

Thanksgiving Service, November 26

Joint Thanksgiving Day Zoom Worship Service, 9:30 am will be held online at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 9 S. Bompert Ave, Webster Groves. An email with the zoom link will be sent to CLC members.

An offering of non-perishable food items will be collected to supply the needs of our hungry neighbors.

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever." Psalm 118:29



Stephen Ministers Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Zoom, December 3, 2020 at 10am.



Stewardship & Offerings

We continue to worship and reach out to people in different ways than we're traditionally accustomed. Staff and members are reaching out proactively to make sure everyone in our congregation is cared for, and connected, as much as possible. We are re-imagining ministry! Now more than ever, it takes all of us to make that happen.



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 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.
4. Want to walk through the steps with someone? Contact Kate Hoerchler, 314-805-1751, katehoerchler@gmail.com

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

Joan O'Brien and Lynnae Ruff, Stewardship Chairs

Volunteer needed to help with remote worship services

We need someone to join the rotation, every 3 weeks, to help with Sunday zoom services. Some proficiency with Zoom required. Please reach out to Pastor Meagan, Becca Jordan or Mike Wagner if interested.

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! You



Fellowship at CLC

Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday November 24th, 10:00 am

"David was a man after God's own heart."

What does it mean to be someone "after God's own heart"? David, Old Testament shepherd, king and psalmist, offers an answer in the shape of his own life.

The Tuesday morning Bible study group is using a study guide by Charles R. Swindoll, "David: A Man of Passion & Destiny." We meet at 10 am via Zoom each Tuesday. The long-time participants in this group have each received a copy of the book, and if others would like to join us for this discussion, please let us know so that additional books can be ordered. All are welcome to join us!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82643945421?pwd=V3dxdWY0YkZsRFptWkE2dDBCM3VLUT09>

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82643945421#,,1#,127284# US (Chicago)

Call in From Any Phone: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 826 4394 5421

Password: 127284



POINSETTIAS DONATION FOR CHRISTMAS

This year Christ Lutheran is wanting to purchase 24 poinsettias for the altar which will be delivered to our older members and those who are homebound. We invite members to contribute \$7 per plant to help cover the costs.

You can purchase one or more plants for \$7.00 each, which the church will use for decorating the altar on Christmas Eve. The plants will be distributed to our homebound members during Christmas week. Return this form and send your payment to the office by Dec 20th.

Your name: _____

I will be donating _____ plants for the homebound.
Cost \$7.00 per plant TOTAL \$ _____



WORSHIP

Sunday, November 29, 9:30 am — Zoom Worship

Access Online Bulletin

Follow the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us!

OR

Join Zoom Meeting

One tap mobile

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

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 278 217 453

Password: 971744



Women's Advent Brunch

Saturday, December 5 at 10:00 am

We are going virtual! There won't be any delicious food to eat or dishes to wash, but we will still have readings, prayers, songs, and a guest speaker to be enjoyed in the comfort of your own home.

There will be no cost but donations will be collected for Saint Louis Crisis Nursery via CLC PayPal, check, and in-person collection. Donations can include any of the following: snacks (individually wrapped packaged crackers, cookies, etc.), canned fruit or individually packaged applesauce, LEGOs, Gel dishwasher detergent, large black trash bags, toilet paper, tissue, paper towels and Clorox wipes.

More details to come!



ADULT FORUM

Pastor Meagan discussed the Gospel of Mark last week, details from the forum are attached to the weekly email. More information on the next forum will be sent next week. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.





Everyone is invited to visit the outdoor nativity in the church yard, if you wish, throughout Advent. Prayers and readings will be available and you can follow Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

You are invited to join us for online Zoom services. Please be sure Lisette, our Administrator (at office@christwg.org) has your correct e-mail address to receive our Zoom invitations, and if you have technical questions please contact Mike Wagner at 937-416-2429 or clc.inreach@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 29, First Sunday of Advent - 9:30 am Worship.

Wednesday, December 2, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. **Join Zoom Meeting**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86821816784?pwd=NEdXdnRISld2QmVLSEFxcVptelhzdz09>
Meeting ID: 868 2181 6784 **Passcode:** 701073

Saturday, December 5, 10:00 am Women's Zoom Advent Brunch. **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89544213306?pwd=akVPSDRjOUQydEJPWnZsTFZJWjhOQT09>
Meeting ID: 895 4421 3306 **Passcode:** 280499

Sunday, December 6, Second Sunday of Advent - 9:30 am Worship.

Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86821816784?pwd=NEdXdnRISld2QmVLSEFxcVptelhzdz09>
Meeting ID: 868 2181 6784 **Passcode:** 701073

Sunday, December 13, Third Sunday of Advent- 9:30 am Worship, and the Children's Christmas Pageant.

Wednesday, December 16, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86821816784?pwd=NEdXdnRISld2QmVLSEFxcVptelhzdz09>
Meeting ID: 868 2181 6784 **Passcode:** 701073

Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent - 9:30 am Worship.

Wednesday, December 23, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86821816784?pwd=NEdXdnRISld2QmVLSEFxcVptelhzdz09>
Meeting ID: 868 2181 6784 **Passcode:** 701073

Thursday, December 24, 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Service, stay tuned for details!

Friday, December 25, Merry Christmas! No Services.

Sunday, December 27, First Sunday of Christmas- Worship at 9:30 am.

Hello CLC Congregation!

We are kicking off the holiday giving season with two opportunities to share our Christmas spirit and help out both the local community and greater St. Louis community. If you are able to contribute in any way during this time, that would be amazing! Please see below for specific details.



Giving Opportunity #1

We are excited to share that for the holiday season we are adopting a family through Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. The details are provided in the sign-up link below. If you would like to buy gift cards for the individual family members, and/or help contribute money toward their Christmas dinner **all gift cards need to be sent or delivered to the Church office no later than Tuesday, December 1st. In addition each gift card needs to be enclosed in a Christmas card labeled with the recipient's name on the envelope.** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B45AAAB2EA4FC1-wrhm>

Thank you so much for your help! If you have any questions please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net

Giving Opportunity #2

Last year CLC bought lanyard wallets for the ladies of Mary Ryder House, which is a residential care facility for women in the St. Louis area. They loved and used our gifts so much that they did not last as long as we hoped! We would be so happy to give the 57 ladies a brand new wallet to open on Christmas day. Because of COVID, the easiest way to do this is to attach links to Amazon where the lanyard wallets can be found and purchased (wallets are about \$10-15 apiece, so if you are able to buy a couple, that would be great!). Please wrap your wallets (if doing option "b"). **Deadline is Friday, December 4th.** Thank you and the Amazon links and steps are below!

1. GOX Cell Phone Bag, Travel Neck Wallet With RFID Blocking, Travel Document Holder (multiple colors)

https://www.amazon.com/gp/sredirect/picassoRedirect.html/ref=pa_sp_btf_fashion_sr_pg1_1?ie=UTF8&adId=A08343332MAX8P7ARTRLO&url=%2FGOX-Blocking-Passport-Organizer-Turquoise%2Fdp%2FB071GNKLQQ%2Fref%3Dsr_1_55_sspa%3Fdchild%3D1%26keywords%3DTravel%2Bneck%2BWallets%2Bfor%2Bwomen%26qid%3D1604686128%26refinements%3Dp_36%253A2661612011%26rnid%3D2661611011%26s%3Dapparel%26sr%3D1-55-spons%26psc%3D1&qualifier=1604686139&id=6481253769793182&widgetName=sp_btf

2. Horscrite Phone Bag Purse Wallet Crossbody Bag Lightweight Roomy Pockets Smartphone Sports Armband for Men and Women

https://www.amazon.com/Houdor-Crossbody-Lightweight-Pockets-Smartphone/dp/B07P6GL79S/ref=sr_1_18

From here you can either:

- a) Buy the wallet through Amazon and ship it directly to Erin Eftink. Her Address is: 1405 Oakhall Manor Ct. Ballwin, MO 63021
- b) Buy the wallet through Amazon and ship it to you. Then please wrap it and deliver the wallet to the Mitchler's home at 320 Elm Valley Dr. Webster Groves, MO 63119 (there will be a collection bin on the porch).
- c) If it is easier, you can send a monetary contribution to the CLC office, which will then be used to buy the wallets. Please put Mary Ryder House-Erin Eftink in the Memo and on the envelope please write Attn: Tammy Pryor, Christ Lutheran Church, 1 Selma Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119

Sorry for the complex directions! If you have any questions please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net



Praising God with Flowers

Since Pr. Meagan is presiding over Sunday services from the sanctuary now, we will resume decorating the altar. The following chart is a schedule of the remaining Sunday services for 2020, and we would like to encourage members to donate flowers and sign up for a Sunday. Please select an available date listed below and return the provided form to the office or email Lisette with your selection and date. You can specify a reason for the contribution if you wish.

<u>Date</u>	Name	Small (\$25)/Large (\$40) Arrangement
November 1, 2020	Nancy Lissant	Large Arrgmnt
November 8, 2020	Ann Steinbrueck	Small
November 15, 2020		
November 22, 2020	C. Lange	
November 29, 2020	Carolyn Crowe	
December 6, 2020	Mark and Janet Roock	
December 13, 2020		
December 20, 2020		
December 27, 2020	Nancy Lissant	2 arrangements

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP FORM

Name _____

Date donating flowers: _____

Reason (How it will appear in bulletin):

Please attach a check for \$25 for a small arrangement or \$40 for a large arrangement, made payable to Christ Lutheran Church with "Flower Fund" in the memo. Payments should be mailed to the church office.

Crop Walk

Although CLC did not participate as a congregational group this year, if you are interested in joining individually or donating to the 2020 CROP Hunger Walk, please see the information below as the deadline has been extended to December 2nd.



Dear Friends of CROP Walk/Church World Service:

I am writing you one final time to thank those of you who participated in any way in the 2020 CROP Hunger Walk and Concert -- thank you! Church World Service had set a goal of \$16,000.00 for the St. Louis Walk, and our current total of funds raised is \$20,535.00, so we have exceeded the goal by over 25%. Given the ongoing need created by the economic fallout of the Coronavirus pandemic, we are especially grateful for this response.

Given the ongoing need, **Church World Service has also extended the fall CROP Walk season through December 2 -- what it calls "Go the Second Mile."** This means that it is still possible to walk virtually and/or donate to the 2020 CROP Hunger Walk. If you would like to walk and/or donate, you can do so at the following:

<http://www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo>

Finding A Faithful Response to Racism in Our World

Christ Lutheran's small group finished reading & discussing the book, Stand Your Ground by Kelly Brown Douglas. Our zoom gatherings fostered personal & meaningful discussions of the intersection of faith & race.

The group decided to take a different approach during the next several weeks. Each participant will watch the movie, BlackkkKlansman* and meet via Zoom on Dec. 10 at 8:00 pm. Anyone who wants to join the discussion is welcome to participate. More info will follow and questions can be directed to Pastor Meagan.

* a Spike Lee film set in Colorado Springs in 1970s & based on actual undercover events to infiltrate the white supremacist group (rated R).

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

CELEBRATING NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

ANNIVERSARIES:

11/09 Gregory & Caitlin McMullen
11/15 Mike & Colleen Wagner
11/16 Robert & Sherri Swanson
11/30 Rev. Meagan & Karen McLaughlin

BIRTHDAYS:

11/03 Dianne Deck
11/03 Ellen Mead
11/05 Thelda Bertram
11/05 Josh Bruns
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
11/19 Helen Hedderig
11/20 Karen Bruns
11/20 John Joern
11/20 Robert Rivas
11/22 Gale Nunn
11/24 Tess Rogers
11/25 Matthew Lindquist
11/25 Melba Thomsen
11/25 Perry Yee
11/27 Tore Stole



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

Fall and Winter In Community

As the weather turns and opportunities for outdoor gatherings are reduced, we want to invite us all to be creative about how we can stay connected and continue to be in community through the winter months. If you would like to be matched with another household or two to be in intentional connection, if you have ideas for online activities, if you have ideas for outdoor winter activities, or any other thoughts about how we can stay connected, let Pastor Meagan or Council know!



**Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA
1 Selma Avenue at Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119-3199**

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

**E-MAIL:
OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG**

**WEBSITE:
WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG**

**ZOOM WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
SUNDAY AT 9:30 A.M.**

**RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN
MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE
HOURS: MON-THUR 8:30-4:30
APPTS BY
ARRANGEMENT**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT:
KEVIN DROLLINGER**

**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**

**CUSTODIAN:
KELLY LAKIES**

**WEBMASTER:
PERRY YEE**

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

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