

# Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

January 2016

Bible Study/Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Church Phone: (636)228-4642  
Pastor's Phone: (636)228-4773

## From the Pastor...

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." II Corinthians 5:17-18*

The old year of 2015 was carried away by floodwaters, and the new year arrived as those waters receded. This historic flood was troubling for most people in our area and tragic for some. Is there anything good at all that we can take from it? If nothing else, there is a lesson to be learned; a lesson which gives us comfort and hope in Christ Jesus. Consider your Baptism into Him. The old is washed away - including every sinful stain of this past year - and the new life in Christ has come.

The floodwaters around the St. Louis area were toxic. A number of water treatment plants failed, and so raw sewage was mixing in with the flooded river waters. This is a pretty accurate picture of the flood of water in our Baptism. This holy water is made toxic by the sewage of our lives. As the water of Baptism is poured over us, our raw sinfulness is washed away from us. We become perfectly clean, but the water of our Baptism is made filthy with our sin.

*"As the water of Baptism is poured over us, our raw sinfulness is washed away from us. We become perfectly clean, but the water of our Baptism is made filthy with our sin."*

Yet, this is how God wants it. Jesus is the One who stands in the floodwater of Holy Baptism. He stands there in the raw sewage of our sin. He accepts our sins. He goes to the cross covered with our filthiness, and you and I are declared clean, holy, forgiven.

This is how you enter the new year of 2016. The old has passed away in Christ; the new has come. You are not covered with sin. Jesus took it from you. He forgives you. Therefore, you do not need to live in sin anymore. Would a person who has bathed go stand in the filthy floodwaters? Of course not! Nor do we, who have been bathed with Christ in our Baptism, want to return to the filthiness of our past sinful life. The new has come. As God's people in Christ, we ask Him daily to aid us and strengthen us to live this year as the holy, forgiven people He has made us.

All who believe and are baptized Shall see the Lord's salvation;  
Baptized into the death of Christ, They are a new creation.  
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand Among the glorious  
Heavenly band Of ev'ry tribe and nation.

*"All Who Believe and Are Baptized"* LSB #601 vs. 1

## Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

## Prayer Service

Followed by Bible study  
each Wednesday morning  
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.



## Inside this Issue:

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- † Christmas Walk
- † Lenten Fish Fries
- † From the Trustees
- † January Calendar

*"Thy Word is a lamp unto  
my feet and a light unto  
my path." Psalm 119:105*



## Attendance

December 6 - 47  
December 13 - 51  
December 20 - 67  
Christmas Eve - 99  
Christmas Day - 50  
December 27 - 22

*"I was glad when they said to me, let us go to the house of the Lord!" Psalm 122:1*

## Lenten Services

*Please note:*

All Lenten services will start at **7:00 p.m.** this year.



## Usher & Greeter Schedules

The Usher and Greeter Schedules for the first quarter of 2016 are now available in the Education Wing. Please pick up a copy if you have not already done so - thanks!

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## Christmas Decorations Removal

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations immediately following the worship service on January 3rd. Any members who are available to stay and help would be greatly appreciated - thanks!

## Church Directory

We are currently updating information for the 2016 church directory. If you haven't already done so, please stop by the Adult Sunday School room to review your contact information from last year - if current, just initial by your name; if not current, please correct the information under your name and then initial. Thanks for your help with this project!

## Augusta Christmas Walk

Thanks so much to all who participated in making the 2015 Christmas Walk such a resounding success! We had over 1,200 people come through the Visitor's Center and we sold over \$180 worth of quilts, cookbooks, apple butter, Amish beans and seasoning packets. Numerous people entered the gift basket drawing and the feedback from the community was especially encouraging. A special thank you to Glenda Drier, Jill Landes, and Julie Kurtz, without whom this endeavor would not have been possible. If you have any ideas or suggestions for the 2016 Christmas Walk please contact Glenda Drier or Marcy Menke. Thanks so much!



## Lenten Fish Fries

Christ Lutheran Church will be having two Fish Fries again this year during Lent, held on February 26 and March 11. Larry and Diane Pieper will be chairing the committee. We already have some volunteers for the committee, but we would like to have another two or three people. If you would like to serve on the committee, contact Diane or Larry. There will be a committee planning meeting on January 24 after church.

Also, anyone who would like to donate *start up* money for the fish fries may do so by putting it in a plain envelope with your number on it, so it's reflected on your church statement, and give it to Larry or Diane. Thank you.

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## News from the Trustees

Chairman – Bill Warnecke – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, Kelly Latham – 1<sup>st</sup> year, Gordon Coates – 3<sup>rd</sup> year

Looking to the future, the Trustees hope to make more progress on the goals remaining from last year while adding more to the list. Due to funding, timing, and volunteer availability we are not promising to complete all these projects but we are communicating the needs. In no particular order, the goals are:

1. Install a new playground dusk to dawn pole and light. (Estimated cost \$750.)
2. Pour concrete in front of the parsonage garage. (This is Phase III of the parking lot. Estimated cost \$2500.)
3. Replace the parsonage cellar door. (Estimated cost \$600.)
4. Replace and stain boards on West entry deck. (Estimated cost \$1,000.)
5. Painting (kitchen and basement bathroom floors, touch up at various locations, metal doors, back entrance walkway and stairs, and a few others.)

To inform the congregation of items that will require much more investment, here is the 2-5 year out Long Term Project List:

1. HVAC – Replacement starting with the units in the church basement. (Estimated cost \$15,000 for 2 units.)
2. Steeple Painting – Have a bid to repaint for approx. \$10,000.
3. Parking Lot Sealing and Restriping – Estimated cost is \$6,000.

There will always be little projects that come up throughout the year that must be dealt with. As these projects on the list or other projects come along, we may ask for extra hands to help out. Again, we do want to thank all of those who have given of their time, skill, or donations to make these improvements possible and we hope for continued support in the future.

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## November Financial Report

### Operating Cash Flow:

Operating Income (loose plate, current white envelope)	\$7,025.50
Operating Expenses (everyday expenses, salary)	<u>\$8,959.96</u>
<b>October Deficit</b>	<b>(\$1,934.46)</b>

### Debt:

Line of Credit at Bank	\$11,700.00
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### Large Bills Due in Dec. & Jan.:

Property & Liability Insurance (quarterly payment)	\$1,626.25
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## Casual Class

Casual Class will be starting up again soon. In our last class, we discussed Daniel and the Lions' Den.

The class is looking for additional Bible stories and/or topics to delve into that you would be interested in studying. Let Pastor Bell know of any topics or books of the Bible you would like to study.





## The Augusta Christmas Walk and Christmas Caroling





## Christmas Eve



**A special thank you to all who shared their musical talents on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:**

***Instrumentalists:***

Flute: Jocelyn Coates

Oboe: Ann-Renee Gargrave

Saxophone: Eric Gargrave

Trumpet: Sarah Bell

***Choir:***

Pastor Bell

Ruth-Ann Brown

Vic Brown

Julie Figura

Lillie Figura

Natalia Figura

Christy Hamersen

Jill Landes

Marcy Menke

Anna Sullivan



## Christmas Photos



*A special thank you to Julie Kurtz for making the beautiful **Joy** banner adorning the church during the Christmas season!*



# January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Office Hours:</b> Monday and Wednesday mornings 9-12	<b>Prayer Service:</b> Wednesday mornings 11-11:30				1	2
3 Wesley Wissmann <b>Officer Installation</b> <b>Remove</b> <b>Decorations</b>	4	5	6 Al Landes	7	8	9
10 Bobbie Baravik	11 Al Jacob  <b>6:00 Elders</b> <b>7:00 Council</b>	12 Anthony Pineda	13	14	15	16
17 <b>Voters Meeting</b>	18	19	20	21	22 Tom & Cathy Kluesner	23
24 Mackenzie Bean Rodrigo Pineda	25 Laverne Beumer	26 Ronald Beumer Tanner Molitor	27	28 Shirley Toedebusch	29 Darrel Nadler Kevin Nadler	30
31						