

Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

December 2019

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

Church Phone: (636)228-4642
Pastor's Phone: (636)485-2048

From the Pastor...

December is a month of waiting. Children wait for December 25th to come when they can open the presents beneath the tree. For that to take place, parents had to wait in shopping lines in order to purchase those presents. Even if shopping is done online, parents wait for their packages to arrive.

December is a time of waiting also because of Advent. Advent means that we wait on God with eager expectation. Advent means more than just waiting for Christmas to come. Anyone can do this, and most do. We who belong to Jesus wait for His return with watchful anticipation. This does not mean that when we awake each morning, we remind ourself, "Today could be the day Jesus returns!" It's not bad to do this, but there is a different way in which we wait, as Jesus urges us to do when He says, "Watch, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour" (Matthew 25:13). We wait with watchful hearts by receiving Christ as He comes to us now through His Word and His Sacraments.

"Advent means that we wait on God with eager expectation...we who belong to Jesus wait for His return with watchful anticipation."

The Apostle Paul informs us that when we come to Holy Communion, we "proclaim the Lord's death *until He comes.*" As we receive the Lord's body and blood, we are reminded in the words of the Sanctus that "all the company of heaven" celebrates with us. Though we come up to the Communion Table with both feet, we really have one foot in heaven when we commune. We receive the Christ who comes to us now in bread and wine, but we look forward with joyful anticipation to the day when we will be a part of that company of heaven and see Christ face to face. Monday through Saturday of each week, we wait for the Sacrament on Sunday. This waiting prepares us for the Final Day. Those who eagerly wait for Christ in bread and wine on Sunday are those who joyfully await His coming in the clouds of glory. It's Advent. This means we wait. But we wait with joy.

*Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.*

*For You are the Father's Son, Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole, All our ills of flesh and soul.*

LSB #332—*Savior of the Nations, Come* vss. 1, 6

Christmas Services

The Christmas Eve Service will be Tuesday evening, December 24, at 6:30 p.m. There will be a Christmas Day service at 10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Office Hours:

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

Prayer Service

Wednesday morning
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.



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



Attendance

November 3 - 50
November 10 - 48
November 17 - 47
November 24 - 49
Thanksgiving Eve - 28

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

Church Decorating

We will be decorating the sanctuary for the Christmas season on Sunday, December 1, immediately following the service.



Augusta Christmas Walk

This year the annual Augusta Christmas Walk will be held December 6 and 13 from 5:00-10:00 p.m. We have opportunities for members to help staff our booth and/or donate cookies to share with the community; please indicate on the sign-up sheets in the Education Wing if you can help with either of these outreaches. Thanks!

Christmas Caroling

Christmas Caroling will take place on Sunday, December 15. If you would like to carpool, please meet at church at 2:30 p.m. We will sing at Grandview at 3:15 p.m. and Cedarcrest at 4:00 p.m. We may also go for dinner following caroling. If you have any questions, please contact Glenda Drier at 636-459-0679.

Poinsettias

As the Christmas season approaches we once again have the opportunity to make a donation for a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one. Please see the display table in the Education Wing for details. Thanks!

Christmas Eve Service

Any children and youth who would like to participate in the Christmas Eve Service, please let Pastor know.



2020 Usher/Greeter Schedules

The 2020 First Quarter Usher and Greeter Schedules are now available in the Education Wing - please pick up a copy to take home if you serve in either of these areas. Thanks!

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thanks to everyone who made a donation of food/money to the Marthasville Food Pantry; over 50 items and \$65 were provided to help struggling families in our area this Thanksgiving. The food pantry Director extends her appreciation for our congregation's support and assistance in this vital outreach. Thanks for your generosity!



Welcome David & Judy Renner!



David & Judy recently moved to Augusta from Minnesota. They were received into membership on November 10.