

Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

January 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...

"Happy New Year!" Is this a declaration or a wish? Well, since we say these words upon our entrance into the new year, they are a wish, what we hope to be true. When God's people were standing by the shore of the Red Sea, they were about to embark on a new venture. The old year, their time in Egypt, was about to end, and the new year lay before them. Yet they weren't raising their glasses in a toast, or giving shouts of celebration. They were fearful. Their enemy was behind them and the foreboding waters of the Red Sea were before them. Not "Happy New Year!" but "we are about to die!" was their cry. But God did not lead them this far only to forsake them. Tell the people to "go forward!" were His words to Moses. He would take care of them. And He did. He parted the waters of the sea, and He destroyed their enemy.

"With God you have a covenant of peace for the Prince of Peace is your Savior."

What we wish for in this coming year is just that: a wish. But God doesn't make wishes. He states what is true. He declares what is and will be. "Go forward!" He says also to us. 2019 holds great uncertainty for us. 2018 may be following us like an enemy, burdening us with guilt over what we have done and failed to do. How can we go forward? By taking God's words to heart. He sees us standing on the shore of the Red Sea, and what He said to His people once, is also for us. "Fear not...go forward." His blessing rests upon this coming year. Every Sunday we hear His words to us: "The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace." These words are no wish. They are His declaration to you. Not a day in 2019 will slip by without His blessing. His face will shine upon you continually in the coming year. His favor rests upon you. Consider that you are baptized into Christ. With God you have a covenant of peace for the Prince of Peace is your Savior. Your enemies? The Lord takes care of them as He did for His people of old. Your sins He forgives. Satan is lying crushed under Jesus' feet. Death has lost its sting because of Jesus' death and resurrection. "Happy New Year?" Yes! But say it with confidence, for God goes forward with you.

*Now greet the swiftly changing year with joy and penitence sincere.
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace another year of grace.*

*With Him as Lord to lead our way in want and in prosperity,
What need we fear in earth or space in this new year of grace!*

LSB #896 - "Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year"

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.



Inside this Issue:

- † New Members
- † Special Voters Mtg.
- † Church Directory
- † Financial Update
- † January Calendar

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



Attendance

December 2 - 59
December 9 - 67
December 16 - 62
December 23 - 59
Christmas Eve - 70
Christmas Day - 37

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

Christmas Un-decorating

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary and Education Wing after the service on Sunday, January 6. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet if you are able to help - thanks!

Welcome to our New Members!



On Sunday, December 23, Rick, Meha, and Thomas Gibbs; Debbie Byers; and Angela Stephens were received as new members.

Welcome to our church family!

Special Voters Meeting

A Special Voters Meeting was held December 2 to inform and discuss our situation regarding how to deal with our deteriorating pipe organ. Good information was provided resulting in lively discussion. It was decided to table the vote for two weeks allowing all to digest the information.

On December 16, we gathered, provided additional requested information, and voted to accept the generous gift offered by Glennon Stelzer to fund the purchase of a new organ as recommended by the Church Council in the December 2 Voters Meeting.

Additionally, we elected by acclamation Dennis Pieper to the Board of Trustees. We are still looking for an Elder and a Chairman to complete our list of officers.

Upon adjournment, a Standing Vote of Thanks was tendered to Ms. Marilyn Oonk for her gift of \$5,000 worth of stock in the EMKC Technologies Company. We received the gift of stock in September and sold the stock this month.

2019 Church Directory

Beginning Sunday, January 13, members will have the opportunity to update their contact information for the 2019 Directory. Directory listings for 2018 will be available in the Education Wing - if there are no changes to your information just initial next to your name; if there are changes make the changes to the information listed and then initial. Thanks for your help with this project!

Augusta Elementary Hat and Mitten Drive



Many thanks to each and every one who donated to help keep local school children warm this winter; the hats and mittens/gloves will be delivered in time for the children to have them upon return from their Christmas break. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



De-clutter Project

One of the next items we would like to remove is the pool table in the basement. Anyone that would like to remove it, please let us know. Due to the donation of light plastic folding tables, we would like to remove the older heavy wooden tables. Let us know if you would be interested in getting any of these heavy tables.

Financial Review—November 2018

	<u>Actual Profit/Loss</u>	<u>Against Budget</u>
November Regular Income	\$10,051.00	\$10,051.00
November Actual Expenses	\$10,849.68	
November Budgeted Expenses	_____	<u>\$10,117.32</u>
November Net Income	(\$798.68)	(\$66.32)

*We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust O Lord from Thee.*

LSB #781—"We Give Thee But Thine Own" vs. 1

Golf Tournament Record

A record profit of \$31,000 was made on the Paul Ballmann Golf Tournament this summer. Consequently, \$10,300 was given to each of the three beneficiaries. Thank you to all that participated and especially to Linda Warnecke for organizing the collection of cookies our congregation provided.

This and That

- ♦ **Phone Number Change** - If you need to reach Pastor Bell, please call either the church phone, 636-228-4642, which will also ring in the parsonage, or call his cell phone, 636-485-2048. The home phone number, 636-228-4773, has been disconnected.
- ♦ **Lutheran Witness subscriptions.** Please let Pastor know if you are interested in subscribing to Lutheran Witness or if you would like to cancel your subscription. Otherwise, all current subscriptions will be renewed. Thank you!
- ♦ **Officer Installation** will take place during the service on January 6.

Meditation

"He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Hebrews 9:26

It was called the war to end all wars. And for good reason. The loss of life during this world war (1914-1918) was so great that a British woman, age 16 to 32, had only a one in ten chance of marrying after it was over. But then came Hitler and World War II. And now the war to end all wars is simply known as World War I.

Yet there is, in fact, a war to end all wars. The Hebrews passage refers to it. Jesus' blood was shed in this war. He was the only soldier to die. He died hanging suspended between heaven and earth. He sacrificed Himself for you and me. God the Father went to war against His beloved Son. The agony Jesus endured was far worse than all the agony of those who suffered in the first world war. And then He cried, "It is finished!" The war was over. The redemption price had been paid. This was the war to end all wars because now God is at peace with you. He will never war against you on account of your sinfulness. He declares you justified for Jesus' sake. He forgives you. Wars will continue here on earth, but not within the heart of your God where it counts the most.

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for creating peace between God and me. Amen.

Augusta Christmas Walk

Thanks to everyone who worked or donated cookies to this year's Christmas Walk! We were able to share cookies and wassail with hundreds of locals and visitors, as well as sell items for fundraising. Special thanks to Pastor, Tom Kluesner, Bob and Glenda Drier, Rick and Meha Gibbs, Peter Menke and Truman, the Labrador, for helping to make this event such a success!

Please note—there will not be a February newsletter (a February calendar will still be provided). The newsletter will resume in March.

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 Wesley Wissmann	4	5
6 Al Landes Officer Installation Un-decorate church <i>Epiphany Sunday</i>	7 9-12 Office Hours	8	9 7:30 Men's Bible Breakfast 9-12 Office Hours 11:00 Prayer Service	10 Bobbie Baravik	11 Al Jacob	12
13	14 7:00 Council	15	16	17	18	19
20 Voters Meeting	21 Meha Gibbs	22 Tom & Cathy Kluesner	23	24 Mackenzie Bean	25 Laverne Beumer	26 Ronald Beumer Tanner Molitor
27	28 Shirley Toedebusch 9-12 Office Hours	29 Darrell Nadler Kevin Nadler	30 7:30 Men's Bible Breakfast 9-12 Office Hours 11:00 Prayer Service	31		Quilting & Needlework: Tuesdays 9-3