

Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

January 2020

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

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

From the Pastor...

"Happy New Year!" We all give this greeting, but what does it really mean? Is it along the same line as, "Have a nice day!" only longer? "Have a nice year!" Or is there more to it than that? It may be helpful to note where we put the emphasis. It's never on the first or the last words in the phrase... "Happy New Year!" or "Happy New Year!" But it's always on the second word, "Happy New Year!" Like a snake shedding its old skin, when the new year arrives, a new slate is before us. It's a chance to start over. But just saying, "Happy New Year!" does not make it so. A new year, in fact, can be a cruel thing when people put their faith in it and set their hopes that their lives will take a turn for the better.

The year before you; however, will be a good year if God has anything to do with it...and He does. Our words and phrases, our new year's greetings, even our resolutions will not change things for the better, for the future is not in our hands. But it is in

"And His words to you, therefore, make this new year not something to fear, not something to fret over, but a year in which, no matter how happy or sad it is, you will be truly blessed by a loving God."

the hands of our God. And His words to you, therefore, make this new year not something to fear, not something to fret over, but a year in which, no matter how happy or sad it is, you will be truly blessed by a loving God. All His words to you are alive with power. What they say, they convey. "I forgive you," He says, and you are forgiven. "Depart in peace," He says as you leave the altar, and you do, for you leave in the peace of Christ. "The Lord bless you and keep you...make His face to shine upon you, be gracious to you...and look upon you with favor." This is why you will have a happy new year, because all these words are given to you Sunday after Sunday throughout the year. This is no pious wish. God is not hoping your year goes well. He promises that it will. His gracious words to you make it so.

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Let us all with gladsome voice, Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.

Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year, Amen, Jesus, hear us.

LSB #390 - "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice" vss. 1, 4

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:

- † Church Directory
- † Trustees Update
- † This and That
- † January Calendar

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



Attendance

December 1 - 52
December 8 - 68
December 15 - 39
December 22 - 48
Christmas Eve - 76
Christmas Day - 41
December 29 - 57

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

2020 Church Directory

Current member contact information will be available for updating for the 2020 Church Directory starting Sunday, January 12th, in the Education Wing. Please check your information - if incorrect please update directly on the form and initial when done. If your information is correct just initial next to your name. Thanks for your cooperation!

This & That

- **January 5, 2020:** Officer Installation during the service, and church "undecorating" following the service.
- **Lutheran Witness:** If you would like to start receiving the Lutheran Witness or would like your name removed from the list, please let Pastor know by the end of January.
- **2019 Financial Statements** are available in the lobby.

News from the Trustees:

2020 Officers: Chairman – Dennis Pieper – 2nd year, George Baravik – 1st year, Gordon Coates – 3rd year

Over the past year, the Trustees made some progress on a few projects, most notably:

Parking Lot Seal and Stripe – This project was on the list for some time and wow did it turn out nice. Three bids were secured and the cost of the project was \$5,541.30. Donations were asked for to cover the cost, and we were blessed to have received approximately \$5,650.00 in donations to cover the project cost.

New Roof for Church and Education Building – This project was initiated because some shingles came off the roof. A local contractor looked into the issue and discussed the shingle sealing issue with the manufacturer. We were blessed that the manufacturer stood by their product. A new roof was installed in April with materials and labor paid for by the manufacturer.

Parsonage Equipment – A new whole house dehumidifier was installed in the Spring and a new water softener was installed in the Fall.

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:

- ◆ Install a new playground dusk to dawn pole and light. (The light and pole are purchased).
- ◆ Install an emergency AED defibrillator.
- ◆ Removal of the old cooler next to the fry shed. (This will most likely be handled by a sealed bid process. More information in the future.)

To inform the congregation of items that will require much more investment, here is the 2-5 year item.

HVAC – Replace the air conditioning units in the church basement that are attached to the new furnaces. (Estimated cost is \$6,000 - \$9,000 for 2 units depending on the efficiency and style.)

Grass Cutting – We need someone that wants to cut the grass on the church grounds. The pay is \$1,600. We cannot afford to contract this out because bids from several years ago were over \$5,000. If you are interested or know of someone, have them contact one of the trustees.

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