



CHIMES NEWSLETTER



January 2019

PASTOR'S PIECE

From your table to the communion table, God is There!

Well, it's official, this document is the first thing I have labeled with a "2019". It's hard to believe that another year has come and gone. And it's hard to believe that by the time you get this news letter and read it, Christmas, and all the celebrations that come with it, will be over too.

I hope you all had a blessed Christmas and New Year's season full of hospitality, inclusivity, generosity, and above all, grace. Outside of the love of God in Jesus Christ for you, I hope the greatest gift(s) that you received were the stories, smiles, laughter and time you were able to spend with those who mean the most to you, especially around the dinner table! I'll say more on this in a bit.

But as the various Christmas parties, and family get togethers, and all the food around the table starts winding down or come(s) to an end, there is still one constant no matter how much you over ate this holiday season: ***you still have to eat!***

All though the planned dinner parties are over for a time, we all still gather around our tables in the coming days and eat. Eating around our dinner table isn't always the most exciting activity we do either. Sometimes our meal times together are so routine, that we don't even think about it; not the food we are eating, or the people we are eating with. We just sit down, eat, maybe do the dishes, and then go about our business. Imagine if the Christmas season were to go this way. Would Christmas be special without all the conversation? Would dinner be so special without all the discussion and dialogue amongst friends and family you haven't seen in a while, or have never met!

I imagine as you think about it, what makes the Christmas season so special, outside of Jesus birth, are the people and our relating to them. Can you imagine your grandmother's or mother's famous ham recipe without your mother or grandmother? Was it the special blend of honey and spices that made the ham taste so good, or was it because every time she served you a slice, she reminded you that, "I made it just for you with love"? Yes, the dinner table during Christmas, or anytime of the year, is special because of the love and hospitality of God we experience through the people around it, not just the food!

Well did you know that the table has been the primary symbol of the Christian gathering for nearly 2000 years! It's not just Lutheran's that like to eat! In his book, "Surprise the World!" Pastor and Professor Michael Frost writes that the reason for the table being a primary symbol of the Christian gathering is because it is a "theological practice"--that is we reflect God's very own nature when we share our homes, tables, and hospitality with others. Frost quotes Janice Price of the Church of England World Mission Panel saying this about the Christian table and hospitality: "Hospitality...is about a generous acknowledgement and meeting of common humanity as well as meeting the needs of humanity, emotional, spiritual and physical, with generosity. As such it mirrors the activity of God towards creation."

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Following Christ

We know that God is generous towards us and revealed to us at the communion table, but did you know that in and through you, by the Spirit, God is generous and reveals God's self to the world at your table? Yes, it is possible for people to get to know God through your goulash and generosity. So might it be that as we start this new year with the hope of building up the faithful at CLC, one of the first places to get people interested in being a part of the Church again is first and foremost at your table?

Maybe God is calling you and I to get people to come to our table at our homes first, and then from our table to God's. So here's my challenge to you this new year: each month try and invite 3 people to your table, with at least one of them being someone you don't really know very well and who is not a part of the Church. And then watch and see how God will surprise you with His generosity and grace, from your table to His.

Praying you have a happy and blessed New Year!

Pastor Ryan

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Christ Lutheran,

Thanks so much for your recent \$100.00 donation to LOVE INC and your loyal support all year! We pray that we have other dedicated churches like yours join us in 2019.

Is there a member of your church who would represent you on our Board? We meet the 3rd Tuesday, 4-5:15 at the 1st Presbyterian Church.

God Bless,
LOVE, INC

We wish to thank Heidi, George and Kaitlin McKenzie for their gift of seven poinsettia plants to help beautify areas of our church building during the holiday season. Thank you for being so thoughtful!

Members and friends of CLC

Dear Members of Christ Lutheran,

I wish to express my sincere gratitude for including me in your prayers recently, and I would appreciate it very much if you would continue to pray for me as I have several serious health issues that I am dealing with (recovering from a heart attack, blood clots, and two broken feet), and am presently bed ridden. Consequently, Jim and I were not able to go to Foley, Alabama for the winter and are having to remain here in our home in Cadillac.

Again thank you so much for your prayers - they are greatly appreciated. Bless you all!

Carolyn Poole
4171 Benson Road
Cadillac, Michigan 49601

COUNCIL

MINI-MINUTES: November 25, 2018

- Pastor's report (council reviewed due to Pastor vacation from Nov 19th-25th, 2018)
- Progress on CLC conversations target date of Dec 9th, 2018 for Initial discussion / analysis of "conversations".
- "Teen Center" at CLC Teen attendance trickling. Changing days from Saturdays to Thursdays. Thursday Dec 6th 6:30-8:30 pm
- "Blessing envelopes" are receptive to congregation-Feedback from "givers" and "receivers" in Narthex. Approximately 25 envelopes distributed in Nov 25th, 2018 church session.
- Christmas baskets – need a list of recipients
- Treasurer's report
- October spent \$3K more than monthly budget. Money from savings to pay bills \$162K for 2019 budget "High level" 2019 budget approved from October 2018 meeting. January 2019 congregational meeting – review before congregation.
- Church sign "Christ Lutheran Church" spacing of lettering under peak.
- New chair racks purchased and installed.
- Continue to investigate cigarette butt holder
- Doug Prather has accepted church council secretary position.
- Alter Guild schedule Months are open
- Deadline to have the conversations completed Sunday Dec 9th 2018
- Care Team established by Judy Miller
- Gary Soltis established an Excel based sheet for "Habitat for Humanity" voucher program.
- CLC requested funding for \$2,000, Synod approved \$1,000.

OUR COUNCIL:

Ryan Prondzinski
Pastor

Gary Soltis
President

Phil Elliott
Vice President

John Kolewski
Treasurer

Secretary

Anne Lee
Sharing the Journey

Mary Wilkie
Following Christ

Judy Miller
Serving In Love

Terry Wineland
Support

Judy Lovejoy
Financial Secretary

Mike Crouch
Youth Coordinator

STAFF:

Ruth Guynn
Church Secretary
ruthguynn@clcmc.org

Tracey Pierce
Church Secretary
traceypierce@clcmc.org

Shirley Ottmer
Bookkeeper
shirleyottmer@clcmc.org

"RAINBOWS FROM GOD"

A little over a year ago, Pastor Ryan made a comment on how nice it would be to have a book for all the God stories that we share.

Within a month, 11 volunteers came together to collect, type, proof, help others with their special moments with God, design and work with a local printer on making it possible. A promise was made to have them ready for Christmas 2018.

Your stories streamed in over the whole year, and by the power and blessing from God...our books are here! With a donation of \$250 from Thrivent and \$75 from a church fund, we are able to give Them out as a Christmas gift to each CLC family.

Deepest of gratitude to all who participated in any way, and may each story of faith fill you with the same joy that you feel when Witnessing God's "rainbows" in the sky.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP WANTED!!!!

ALTAR GUILD

Volunteers are needed to serve for the month of SEPTEMBER. If you are interested in serving please contact the church office.

Christmas with Friends at the Food Pantry

We took over 700 hats, scarves, gloves, socks and stuffed toys to some very excited and grateful food recipients this year. One woman even brought a bag of stuffed animals to give to others.

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed in any way. We went to bless them, but we brought back even more blessings than we took with us. Amazing!

CLC TEEN CENTER

Plans are underway for a "New Years Teen Party" on Thursday, January 10th from 6:30 to 8:30.

Flyers will be coming out soon. Please tell others who may have anyone in grades 6 - 12. Thanks to all!

FOOD PANTRY INFO

Christ Lutheran is responsible to supply at least 15 volunteers for the third Saturday of each month at Immanuel Lutheran's Food Pantry.

Thanks to everyone who has taken time out of their day to help others who are in need. Look to the bulletin board for each month's sign up.



January 19th



is our next day to man the pantry!
Hope you are able to help.

SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Our regularly scheduled semi-annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 27th. This semi-annual meeting is the one where we receive annual reports for 2018, adopt the new budget for 2019, elect representatives to the Synod Assembly in May, and take care of other congregational business.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

- 9:45 a.m. - Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. - Semi-Annual Meeting
- 11:30 a.m. - Potluck Dinner

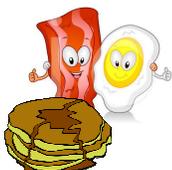
Serving in Love

JANUARY 2019

	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27 Semi-Annual Mtg.	February 3
Greeter 9:45	Barb & Dean Merkel	Terry & Linda Wineland	Dawn Davis	Gary & Cathy Filter	Richard Mikkelsen
Acolyte 9:45	Jordan Wineland	Jaymason Filter	Jordan Wineland	Jaymason Filter	Jordan Wineland
Assisting Ministers	Bonnie Hanson Rodney Simons 5	Audrey Varland Mimi Elliott 4	Terry Wineland Mary Wilkie 6	Barb Merkel Kerry Pickett 1	Rodney Simons Diana Day 2
Kids For Christ Leaders	Jane Schultz Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Jane Schultz Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Jane Schultz Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Jane Schultz Linda Wineland Katie Merkel	Jane Schultz Linda Wineland Katie Merkel
Ushers	Jim Woody Carol Woody Chris McDermott Dawn Davis Team #7	David Dirlam Coralie Dirlam Rick Wyllis Team #8	Frank Lovejoy Judy Lovejoy Mike Crouch Jennifer Crouch Team #1	Dean Merkel Katie Merkel Jim Austin Jack Hunter Team #2	Terry Wineland Mark Lee Beth McCune John McCune Team #3
Counting Teams	Bob Schlundt Soren Anderson	Frank Lovejoy Judy Lovejoy Phil Elliott	Doug Prather Chris McDermott	Don Day Terry Wineland	Dan Burmeister Dawn Burmeister Joe Mount
Altar Guild	Jenny Soltis Tracey Pierce January	Jenny Soltis Tracey Pierce January	Jenny Soltis Tracey Pierce January	Jenny Soltis Tracey Pierce January	Nancy Spink Judy Wollet February

YOUTH BRUNCH

Are you hungry? Well how about staying after service on the 1st Sunday of each month to enjoy a free will offering breakfast. **The proceeds will go to helping the youth** with future events like "The Gathering". Money well spent for enriching the minds of our very own youth here at CLC. So stay after church enjoy something to eat, and share in some fellowship all while donating to a great cause.



This months Brunch is being sponsored by Nancy Spink

JANUARY 2019

Christ Lutheran Church

Phone: 517-764-3101

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Email: clcmc@clcmc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C.C. = Community Center • W.W. = Weight Watchers • L.D.A.F. = Little Dresses for Africa • W.B.S. = Women's Bible Study • C. Dinner = Community Dinner • C.H.V. = Care Home Visit 		1 Happy New Years Church Office Closed	2	3	4 10:00a W.W.	5 C.C.in use (Wright)
6 Epiphany 9:45a Worship 11:00a Brunch	7	8 5:00p C. Dinner	9 6:00p L.D.A.F.	10 6:30p Teen Ctr.	11 10:00a W.W.	12 C.C. in use (Warring)
13 9:45a Worship 11:15a Council mtg. 3:30p Conf. @ Imm.	14 1:00p W.B.S.	15	16 12:45p C.H.V.	17 6:30p Teen Ctr.	18 10:00a W.W.	19 8:45a CLC @ Immanuel's Pantry
20 Chimes Deadline 9:45a Worship	21 M.L.K. Day Church Office Closed 1:00p W.B.S.	22	23	24 6:30p Teen Ctr.	25 10:00a W.W.	26
27 Noisy Offering Semi-Annual Meeting 9:45a Worship 3:30p Confirmation	28 1:00p W.B.S.	29	30 6:00p L.D.A.F.	31 6:30p Teen Ctr.	Notes:	

CELEBRATIONS



Happy Birthday to:



- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Joan Budd | 15 Shirley Ottmer |
| Dawn Richey | 18 Dawn Davis |
| 5 Sandy Pierce | Barb Merkel |
| Sonja Wright | Orrin Wright |
| 8 David Dirlam | 24 Linda Wineland |
| 10 Melanie Humphrey | Keitha Russell |
| 12 Bob Schlundt | 26 Katie Merkel |
| Steve Oerther | 28 Pierson Gable |
| 13 Ruth Gynn | 29 Joene Chenery |
| Gary Filter | Stephanie Warblow |
| 14 Daniel Wright | Samantha York |

Happy Anniversary



This January



- | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|--------|
| 9 th | Don & Diana Day | 54 yrs |
| 16 th | Larry & Joanne Terrill | 65 yrs |
| 20 th | Mark & Anne Lee | 51 yrs |

Semi-Annual Meeting
January 27th
Potluck to follow

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

Dear Members and Friends at CLC,
 I am so thankful to be blessed from
 God to receive a job from Martin
 Technologies as an electrical engineer.
 (I started work the day I was hired!)

God is good everyday!

Rene Digue

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2019



The new calendar is now posted and you
 can sign up to honor that special
 occasion, or person, and help to
 give our altar some much
 needed color.



The cost will remain the same cost at \$35.00

Dear Santa,
 I wish to sincerely thank you
 "Santa" (whoever you may be) for the
 beautiful poinsettia left on my desk.
 Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated!
 May you and your loved ones
 have a joyous and blessed
 holiday season.



Ruth

BAPTISMS

The following became children of
 God through the Rite of Holy
 Baptism on December 16:

Paul David Neely, son of
 Kelsey Grzesikowski and Paul Neely

Elijah Kenneth-Lee Neely, son of
 Kristy Mullins and Paul Neely

Their sponsors are James and Rosemary Karnaz





Christ Lutheran Church
4250 Page Ave.
Michigan Center, Michigan 49254

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



CHIMES Newsletter



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:45 am—Sunday Worship Service

9:45 am—Kids for Christ (Sunday School)

Holy Communion Celebrated each Sunday

Pastor Ryan Prondzinski

An Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
(ELCA) Congregation

web site: www.clcmc.org
Email: clcmc@clcmc.org