



Our Mission:

"To know Christ and to make Him known"

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 2016

Pastor's Mail Pouch	1
Serving Schedules	2
Prayer Requests	3
Youth & Daycare News	4
Church Happenings	5
Mission of the Month	6

Christ's Messenger



FROM THE PASTOR'S MAILPOUCH

"He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

John 1:11-13



"The unspiritual man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned."

1 Corinthians 2:11-14

It is not surprising that, as we reflect upon this most recent Christmas season, the signs and symptoms are clear that the reason for the season has remained

hidden in the shadows for an ever-increasing number of people many of whom grew up in the church, hearing the Christmas story.

The truth of the matter is: It is not a matter of diligence in carrying on a cultural tradition, or even our strict adherence to maintaining a proper religious tradition that makes Christmas a holy season. God's Word reveals that it must be a 'spiritual matter' ... a matter of the heart ... a heart that is born of God. The above passages tell us that the bodily human appearance of the Son of God among the people of His home town and his own family did not guarantee the development of a genuine trusting relationship in Christ Jesus.

Faith in God the Father and in His only-begotten Son is a spiritual matter, not an intellectual one. Consider the word "receive." To receive something or someone means not only that we would be given a gift; it also implies that it is willingly accepted. In fact, the ESV uses the word 'accept' to translate 1 Corinthians 2:14 into the English language. ***"The unspiritual man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him...."***

It is not as though God has not given Christ Jesus His Son to the whole world. Clearly the Bible tells us that God so loved the world that He gave His only Son [John 3:16]. Also, God desires all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth [1 Tim. 2:4]. And, since there is salvation in no one else (than Jesus) [Acts 4:12], the gift of the Savior is meant to be for all. Yet not all will be saved, because not all people receive/accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord. And sad to say, that includes members of our own families and people on the rolls of our congregational membership.

What does it mean to receive Him as Savior and Lord?

a. It is to confess that I am a sinner, who in my self-oriented thoughts, attitudes, and actions fail to honor the LORD as God.

I am under the power of sin and its deceptive ways: My lack of trust in Him causes me to believe that I am 'basically a good person' [a lie of Satan], and that God will accept me into His kingdom because I do good things [another lie], and because I believe in His existence [even the devil does], and am a member of His church [another lie]. The reality of your life and mine is that we are 'by nature' sinful and under sin's dominion, even though we may be unaware of it. In this condition, we are also under God's condemnation. I am helpless to change or to save myself. Consequently, I need a Savior who will come to me and deliver me.

b. It is to hear the good news of the Christian Gospel that in spite of my sinfulness, God loved me enough to send His holy and perfect Son from heaven to earth to become a human being, live a perfect life, offer it up on the wood of the cross to endure the penalty for my sin (death), and to offer me the opportunity to be saved: by trusting in His sacrifice for my sake to set me free from God's condemnation for my sin, declaring me righteous and acceptable to Him through the grace (favor of God) which He offers through the forgiveness of my sin for Jesus' sake.

c. It is to permit Christ Jesus, who not only died on the cross to provide forgiveness for my sin but also rose from the dead to rule in the lives of those whose trust is in Him, to live in me and rule over me as a new creature, a child of God in whom His Spirit dwells to empower me to live in a new manner of life.... no longer controlled by my selfish orientation, but by Christ my Savior and Lord.

All of this is the work of God the Holy Spirit through the truth of God's Word....for which we take no credit!

God offered and gave all of this to you at your Baptism. For when you were baptized, you were baptized into Christ ...into His death (so that you are now dead to sin); and into his resurrection (so that you are now alive forevermore to live in a new manner of life). So live as the person that God desires you to be. **Receive Him again**, though you may have permitted him to be tucked away in the shadows for a period of time. Make this NEW YEAR truly new ... eternally new!

Pastor Myke

Pastor: Rev. Michael Main
mmain1952@yahoo.com
390-9987

Church Office: Juliana Morgan
christlutheranduluth@yahoo.com
218-722-7537

Council President: Jim Carlson
president@clcduluth.org

Treasurer: Laurie Wiita
treasurer@clcduluth.org

Youth coordinator: Chris Stumpf
clcyouth_duluth@yahoo.com

Church Website: www.clcduluth.org

Sunday Worship

Praise Time—9:15am
Worship—9:30am
Sunday School—11:00am
Adult Bible Study—11:15 am

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

Mary Circle 1st Thur. 9:30 AM
Esther Circle 1st Thur. 6:30 PM
Hannah Circle 2nd Sat. 1:00 PM
Dorcas Circle 2nd Mon. 1:30 PM
Quilters 3rd Mon. 9:00 AM
Women's Bible Study
3rd Thursday 10 AM
Lutherans for Life
2nd Sunday 6:30PM
Council Meeting-
2nd Thursday of the month

Deadline for submitting news for the
Feb. Messenger is Wed., Jan. 27.

Change of Address Reminder...

If you have moved, are
planning on moving, or are
switching addresses for the
season, please call the
church office to notify us of
the change. It takes only a
minute and saves us both
time and money.
Thank you!

January 2016 Serving Schedule

January 3

Ushers: Jim & Gayle Maruska; Mike & Wendy Pickar

Greeters: Jan Main

January 10

Ushers: Keith & Trudy Youngren; Mike & Pam Wendling

Greeters: Norma Johnson

January 17

Ushers: Bob & Pam Halvorson; John Holt; Paul Holt

Greeters: John & Bonnie Kubiak

January 24

Ushers: Gary & Carolyn Lofald; Jim & Gayle Maruska

Greeters: Jan Main

January 31

Ushers: Mike & Wendy Pickar; Keith & Trudy

Greeters: Grace Wells

February 7

Ushers: Les Johnson & Kim Matuseski; Spring Billiar; David Wood

Greeters: Norma Johnson



Trustees:

Jan. 3: Gwen Nelson & Sandy Carlson

Jan. 10: Ouitdee Carson & Wendy Pickar

Jan. 17: Bob Dahl & Stacy Homstad

Jan. 24: Grace Wells & Kim Mitchell

Jan. 31: Gwen Nelson & Sandy Carlson

Feb. 7: Ouitdee Carson & Wendy Pickar

Coffee Servers:

Jan. 3: Hannah Circle

Jan. 10: Dorcas Circle

Jan. 17: ROC

Jan. 24: Council Group 1

Jan. 31: Library

Feb. 7: Hannah Circle

January Acolytes:

Jan. 3: Jacob Borham & Zachary Carson

Jan. 10: Jessica Stumpf & Allyson Jurek

Jan. 17: Jacob Borham & Zachary Carson

Jan. 24: Jessica Stumpf & Allyson Jurek

Jan. 31: Jacob Borham & Zachary Carson

*We are in need of additional Sunday Morning Greeters and Ushers.
If you would like to be part of this ministry please contact
Kim Matuseski at 727-2097. Thank you.*



Jean Clark
January 4

Barb Johnson
January 7

Mike Pickar
January 15

Wendy Pickar
January 17

Tom Ochocki
January 19

Courtney Carson
January 19

Gabe Wiita
January 22

Shirley Kern
January 29

*All the days ordained for me
were written in your book before
one of them came to be.*

*How precious to me are your
thoughts, O God! How vast is
the sum of them!*
Psalm 139:16,17

Please Pray for...

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

Philippians 4:6

The leadership of the church:

Pastor Main
President—Jim Carlson
Vice President—Mike Pickar
Treasurer—Laurie Wiita
Deacons
Trustees
Rev. Curtis Leins,
presiding pastor, AALC
Rev. Richard Shileds,
ALTS President

Youth group kids & leaders

Open Arms Day Care

Our Mission of the Month:

American Lutheran Theological
Seminary

Pray for each other

Pray for our Country

Pray for our troops—remember
those from our church:

Tyler Johnson
Derek Miletich

Persecuted Christians throughout the world

Those with Health needs:

Roy Hammerstadt
Chelsea Holt**
Joan Hansen**
Larry Kubiak**
Jean Sundstrom**
Dorothy Jean Vigliaturo***
Aletha Bartels*
Vi Boder
Brian MacDonald
Katie Lund**
Elna Linder**
Mark Malander
Marvin Lofald***
John Schneeberger
Dale Lund
Eli Miletich
Barbara Johnson
Olivia Schadel*
Shirley Erickson
Lee Koivisto (Spring's son)
Russ Schramm
Wayne Sundstrom
Richard Seseman
Dick Kern
Mayme Olson*
Priscilla Olson*
Carol Schneeberger*

*in the hospital or recently re-
leased

or anticipating surgery

**receiving therapy or ongoing
medical care

***in hospice care

If there are any people who have been accidentally overlooked,
please contact the church office or Pastor Main.
We apologize for any oversights.

Don't Forget!

The first Sunday of each month is FOOD SHELF SUNDAY!
Please bring an item or two to help those in need.
**Cash donations are also appreciated. We are alternating donations
between Genesis House and Union Gospel Mission.**

YOUTH NEWS

The youth will be meeting at World of Wheels again this month for Christian music skate night. Bring a friend! The event is January 4th from 5-8. It is held the first Monday of every month. Please let us know if you are coming.

The youth have a few more 2016 wall calendars available. The cost is \$10.00. Please see Pam Virkus or any youth. We also have greeting cards for all occasions and notepads for sale, too. Thank you for your support!

Parents, look for emails coming about upcoming events! Lent is coming up and we will be busy!

Chris Stumpf
clcyouth_duluth@yahoo.com



The next
Hannah Circle
Food Share will be on
Jan. 10

The Husband/Wife Valentine Ball will be on February 12 from 6:30-11:00 pm in the Harbor Side Ballroom of the DECC.

Tickets are \$85.00 per couple.

Dinner selections are: Walleye, Roast Sirloin, or Cheese Tortellini.

Please call the church office at 722-7537 to make your reservations.



The last day to buy tickets for the 2016 Father/ Daughter Ball is Sunday, Jan. 31.

Dates for the Ball are Feb. 6 & 13

As always, many volunteers are needed to make this event a success, watch for sign up sheets coming soon!

Happy New Year!

We are blessed with another new year of fun friends and faith filled activities.

I hope you all had an amazing Christmas.

We had a wonderful time learning about Jesus' birth.

We were so happy to have Priscilla Olson give us the Fisher Price nativity set. She joined us two times to share the story with the children. Thank you Priscilla for blessing us.

We would also like to thank Gwen for our weekly story times and delicious treats. Thank you Grace and Bruce Wells for your very generous toy donations.

Thank you Stacy Homstad and family for our Veggie Tales DVD. Thank you Glen and Marilyn for our yummy cookies.

Thank you Judi our super duper secretary and friend. Judi made cute bags for the kids and they absolutely love them. You are so thoughtful and we appreciate all you do for us. Thank you everyone for making our days more fun and exciting!

Special thanks also to Carolyn, Laurie, Grace, and Jim for all your help with Open Arms. You're Great!

Some sweet things from the children...

Jesus' bed in the manger..."Jesus' nest"

Jesus' earthly father "Jofez"

"Jesus loves us even if we are angry, discouraged, or sad."

"Jesus is my friend"

"In heaven the streets are golden"

"Jesus keeps us safe"

"In heaven you can ride a cheetah and not get hurt."

"We like to sing about Jesus"

"We love Jesus so much"

In January the new baby will be here. The children will be learning about how they have grown.

We will also be pretend traveling and jumping for joy in our bouncy house.

Our songs will be "God's Love is Like a Boomerang", "Joyful, Joyful", and "We Are Your Children".

If you would like to come and sing with us just let us know.

Happy day!

Mary Jo



***Thriving in the Family of God
A FREE Fellowship Feast,
followed by a Study in God's Word on
"Prayer"***

Hosted by Pastor Myke and Jan

Please join us as we enjoy time around the table to eat and talk, as we experience fellowship with each other and with the Lord.

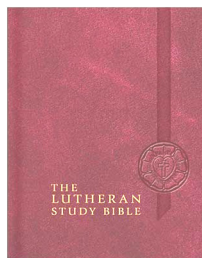
***Place: Christ Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall***

Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2016

Time: 12:00 Noon



Menu: Lasagna, Salad,
Dessert



Door Prize: (1) Concordia
Study Bible (value \$ 40.00)

We will have a one hour study following the meal to learn about Prayer and its intended use and significance in the lives of God's people of Bible times and in our lives today.

You will not be "put on the spot."
All of us will be encouraged to grow in this
life-long discipline.

Make it a point to be here for our first monthly
Thriving in the Family of God Bible study.

All Adults are invited!

RESERVATIONS REQUESTED
by Sunday, January 17th

See you there!!

Thrivent Financial Services provides funds for this
monthly event.

***PLEASE!!
NOTE***

*Members of Dorcas Circle who have
volunteered to write thank you notes
for Union Gospel Mission, please meet
at church on Jan. 11 at 12:45 PM to write the
thank yous.*

THANK YOU

Many thanks to Laurie Wiita for all her hard work in putting together the Children's Christmas Program. We appreciate everything you do in teaching and guiding the children and sharing the good news of the Christmas story.

From the parents and members of Christ Lutheran Church

Dear Pastor and friends at Christ Lutheran,

Thank you for all your prayers and support of our faith based programming! Your gifts and prayers on behalf of the guys going through our program at MN Adult & Teen Challenge are appreciated and they are making an eternal impact. Individuals are making decisions for Christ and growing in their faith. In addition to overcoming their addictions they are having their lives and families restored!

Thanks you again for your prayers and support,

Blessings,
John

Members of CLC North,

Thank you for your warm welcome and the lovely gift basket. We enjoyed worshipping with you. We pray for CLC to be blessed and that the gospel will be shared with those that have not heard the good news!

Pastor Mark Homp & Machelie

Dear Friends at Christ Lutheran,

Thank you for the gifts and all you do for me.
The plant is beautiful.

Love,
Elna Linder

I would like to thank all who signed up as Salvation Army bell ringers this season, your willingness to give up your own time to help others in need is a true blessing. The Salvation Army helps so many people in so many ways throughout the entire year. I thank you and the Salvation Army thanks you. Also, a big thank you to the Sunshine Group for the \$500.00 contribution to the Salvation Army. May God Bless us all this Holiday season.

John Kubiak

January Mission of the Month:

American Lutheran Theological Seminary

The American Association of Lutheran Churches has a great need. Within the next 5-10 years many, if not most of our current pastors will retire. Many congregations will be in need of pastors. The American Lutheran Theological Seminary exists to meet this need by training pastors to serve in our congregations. The American Lutheran Theological Seminary is committed to the inerrancy, relevance, and intensive study of God's Word. Study of the scriptures dominates the curriculum. Students at ALTS study and apply the content of a Biblical and confessional Lutheran curriculum to the contemporary American and global context. The ALTS curriculum and program is designed for a two-fold purpose.

1. To train men for the office of Holy ministry by teaching them to be:
 - a. Preacher-teacher-evangelists
 - b. Prayer and worship leaders
 - c. Public apologists
 - d. Pastoral caregivers and counselors
 - e. Practical equippers of the Saints
2. To train lay people for leadership roles in Christ's church.

The ALTS relies on the generous financial gifts of others to continue to serve the church by training pastors for the ministry of the Word and Sacraments. They welcome all who would join them in supporting and sustaining the structures and programs through which their students are prepared to serve His church through the ministry of the gospel.

You may make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Thank you for your continued support in our mission "To know Christ and to make Him known."



Many thanks to the outgoing members of the Christ Lutheran Church Council who have served so faithfully over the last few years. We truly appreciate the time and effort everyone has put into their area of serving, whether as Church President, Deacon, or Trustee.

We would also like to welcome those new members who will be joining us. We look forward to serving the Lord together as we "know Christ and make Him known."

Thank You



THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU IN THE
NEW YEAR AHEAD!

Both in this joyous Christmas season and always, we are grateful for our friendship and fellowship with you, the loving members of Christ Lutheran Church. Jan and I would like to thank you for your outpouring of generosity and love in the Christmas greetings and gifts we have received in this season. May we all continue to rejoice in the gift of God's Son "to us" as our Savior, Lord and King.

Love in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Myke and & Jan

SEVERE WEATHER REMINDER

In the event of inclement weather that might effect an event, we will try to make a decision by 7 a.m. on the morning of, or at least two hours before the event.

Always check the following for weather related decisions:

•**PHONE:** Call the church office: 722-7537; a message will be posted

•**WEBPAGE:** Look on our website home page at www.clcduluth.org

•**RADIO:** Listen to KDAL-AM 610; WDSM-AM 710; or NU-92-FM for announcements

•**TELEVISION:** Listen to KBJR and WDIO

•**If you** desire a phone call, please contact the office.

We will make every effort to maintain the usual Sunday worship service.

Church staff and congregational members must use their own judgment in determining if traveling to church is reasonably possible. Please use your discretion to decide if it is safe for you to leave your home and travel to church.

FINANCIAL UPDATE: 2016 Annual Budget: \$245,733; Weekly \$4,726

	Offering	Other	Daycare	Total	Budget	Over (Under)
12/13/2015	\$ 3,416	440	225	4,081	4,717	(636)
YTD	\$ 150,171	9,676	40,944	211,271	231,133	(19,862)

Full Financial reports are posted in the narthex after each council meeting.