



Christ's Messenger

December 2018

"To know Christ and to make Him known"



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The American Association of Lutheran Churches
A fortress of safety in a post-Christian frontier.

Greetings,

We enter into a new church year with Advent now upon us. A season of rebirth. A time to remember our Savior coming down to earth in the form of a baby to live among us and to give us as a gift - all the many Promises He is willing to give to all who believe in Him. Emmanuel – God with us. A Perfect Gift. Close your eyes and imagine if you will, a cool night with clear dark blue skies and more stars than you can count shining down, and that one Christmas star, the one the shepherds saw in the East marking the birth of our Savior – it just gives you a sense of awe and wonder. What a blessing that would have been to see. What a sense of perfect peace and excitement they must have felt. All the prophecies of the Old Testament beginning to be fulfilled.

Fast forward to 2018. We start preparing for this time of year with shopping, gifts for the children and grandchildren, purchasing our greetings cards, writing letters to friends and family and buying extra stamps. Trimming the tree and decorating the house; planning our calendars and doing some cleaning for family get-togethers, baking Christmas cookies, parties, menu's, etc. Whew, that's enough to make your head spin and see stars! Did Jesus really come down to earth to make our heads spin or has the secular world taken over the real meaning of Christmas. Not that there is anything wrong with giving a gift to your children or decorating the tree, the season has just been taken over with busyness and the stress that goes along with it no matter how hard we try to pace ourselves. As we turn to the Bible, there are many places Jesus offers us His Peace...His perfect Peace...The Old Testament offered us the word Selah – a time to pause and ponder and reflect on who is in charge of it all; the one we go to receive this Peace is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As we talk about a new season – a time of all things new we give you an update on where we are with our restoration plans. The ceiling in the sanctuary is now stained. The cupola has been repaired and painted and the lights are being installed. The other lighting in the sanctuary will be inspected this week. Carpet has been installed in all the offices and the library, the rest is scheduled to be installed next week if all goes according to plan. The outside of the cupola is sided and roofed and we are waiting for the tempered glass to be installed so we will have light coming in. The stained glass, when finished, can then be installed. We will be cleaning everything again to remove the dust and then we will get our team of helpers to get the sanctuary back together. We have ordered new kneeling cushions and will be getting the pew cushions back from the laundry storage when we are ready. We will then call and have our organ and piano returned from storage and test all those components. We are also looking forward to getting our Fellowship Hall back in order and getting our new coffee bar set up to use in the Fellowship Hall. We are still reorganizing some areas, but are moving forward. The attic space has now been cleared out and we have found new homes for all those items as that was a request from the Fire Marshall. Now we can have our final inspection.

Looking forward, we hope to be worshipping our Lord in our sanctuary again in the New Year. We appreciate the patience and the encouragement we have been given by many as we worshiped in our Fellowship Hall. We have been blessed beyond measure. We continue to go through our call process and have interviewed two new candidates in the last week. We will keep you informed as to the progress. Please, continue to pray that our Lord will provide a new Shepherd for our flock.

We have many gifts to be thankful for this season – the most important Gift of all, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May you be richly blessed this Christmas and surrounded by Christ's perfect peace and love.

Merry Christmas!

Carolyn Lofald and our Church Council

Christ Lutheran Church

2415 Ensign St.

Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-722-7537

website: clcduluth.org

email: church@clcduluth.org

facebook: Christ Lutheran Church Duluth



Seeking a passionate, energetic Youth Leader that loves the Lord and believes in the inerrancy of the Bible.

Would involve about 10 hours per week and would include planning activities, devotions, and mentoring kids ages 10-18.

Please contact us at: church@clcduluth.org • 218-722-7537

Christ Lutheran Church, AALC
2415 Ensign St. Duluth, MN 55811

Church Office: Juliana Morgan
church@clcduluth.org
218-722-7537

Vice-President: Carolyn Lofald

Treasurer: Laurie Wiita
treasurer@clcduluth.org

Church Website: www.clcduluth.org

Sunday Worship

Praise Time—9:15AM

Worship—9:30AM

Sunday School - 11AM (Sept.-May)

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

Mary Circle 1st Thur. 9:30 AM

Esther Circle 1st Thur. 6:30 PM

Dorcas Circle 2nd Mon. 1:00 PM

Lutherans for Life -

2nd Sunday 6:30PM

Council Meeting-2nd Thursday

PACT Televised Services

Duluth:

Charter Ch. 180

Sat. @ 9AM & 9PM;

Sun. @ 7AM

Superior:

SCMC 180

Wed. @ 6:00pm

Sun. @ 10:00am

Hermantown:

Sun. @ 8 AM

Thur. @ 2 PM

Sat. 8 @ AM

**The Deadline for
submitting news for the
December Messenger is
Monday, December 26.**

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- Dorcas Circle will meet on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11. Members are to meet at 12:00 at the Olive Garden.
- Offering envelopes for 2019 are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please see Carol Ziemer or the contact the church office if your name is not there.
- Father Daughter Ball and Husband & Wife Valentine Ball tickets are now on sale on the Father Daughter Ball Duluth website.



Christmas Eve Service

6:30 PM Candlelight Service with Pastor Keven Richter

Youth News

The Youth are still selling poinsettia certificates for \$16. Calendars are all sold out! Thanks for your support! We still have cookbooks for sale \$5/book or 3/\$10. We have greeting cards and notepads also for sale. Proceeds go towards the Colorado AALC youth conference.

We are ringing Salvation Army bell at Shopko Wednesday 12/12 from 6-8pm. There will be church family caroling to Viewcrest and around the neighborhood Wednesday 12/19 - potluck at 5:00 with caroling around 6:00. Hope you all can join us!

Kim Mitchell, Youth Parent

Dear friends at Christ Lutheran Church,

I want to thank all of you for keeping me in prayer during my recent surgery. The cards were very uplifting. I am blessed to have all of you as friends.

*In Christ,
Grace*



Dear Congregants,

We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your hospitality. We enjoyed singing hymns and celebrating a birthday. Thank you for your love and acceptance of us and your support of our program. Teen challenge cannot operate without supporters like you. May God bless you as you remodel and continue to serve Him.

In Christ's love,

Becky and the men of MN Adult & Teen Challenge

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

<i>Sharon Super</i>	<i>December 5</i>
<i>Bob Dahl</i>	<i>December 7</i>
<i>Carol Johnson</i>	<i>December 24</i>
<i>Carol Miletich</i>	<i>December 28</i>
<i>Dick Kern</i>	<i>December 29</i>

So teach us to number our days that we get a heart of wisdom.

Psalms 90:12

Please Pray for....

The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. James 5:16

- The Leadership of the Church
- The Call Committee
- Youth Group Kids & Leaders
- Open Arms Daycare
- Mission of the Month: Faith Comes By Hearing
- Pray for each other -that we would stay firm in our Christian faith and live in unity under the Lordship of Christ.
- Our Country, Military & Police
- The teachers and students at public, private, & Christian Schools
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world

Those with Health Needs:

Gerald & Aletha Bartels	Katie Lund**
Shirley Randa	Vi Boder
Bryan Goepfinger	Russ & Carol Schramm
Brian MacDonald	Ruth Dahl
David MacDonald	Florence Kubiak
Shirley Kern	Leo Plewa
Dennis Peterson**	Mary Jenny
Dick Seseman***	Marlene Stauber
Bill & Jane McLean**	Pastor Tom Stover
Jean Sundstrom	Mark Malander

(*in the hospital, recently released, or anticipating surgery; **receiving therapy or ongoing medical care; ***in hospice care)

*If there are any people who have been accidently overlooked,
please contact the church office. We apologize for any oversights*

Blessings to everyone at this most wonderful time of the year. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior we have so much to be thankful for. The children have been singing *Silent Night, Oh Holy Night, Away In a Manger, Come on Ring Those Bells, and Jingle Bells*. It's like a joyful concert of praise everyday!

Lunch time prayers include two more of our tiniest children. Little Addy and Maggie have been watching the bigger kids say grace and even though their words are few their actions are so precious. We prayed for little Samuel who wasn't feeling well. We were very thankful he felt better that same day. He is our smiley little red haired baby. Joshua his big brother prays for his family and friends. He has learned several memory verses and shares them at playtime.

The children were arriving at daycare when the cross was being installed on the church roof. The kids were very interested watching and chatting about it. We are so thankful that the church is getting all fixed up. We were able to spend time at the library this week for the first time since the fire. Everyone was very excited.

We always love seeing you Gwen! You have blessed us in so many ways! We all look forward to seeing your sweet face on "Gwen Day." Thank you so much for sharing your love and time with us. Thank you Judi, Jim, Grace, Carolyn, and Laurie for all you do for all of us at the daycare. We love and appreciate you so much.

We celebrated Giving Day by surprising neighbors and friends with cookies and treats. The children made special cards sharing the message of God's great love.

I hope you are all blessed with wonderful times with family and friends this joyful Christmas season. Remember Jesus loves you so very much. Merry Christmas!

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but will have eternal life.

John 3:16

Mary Jo



December Mission of the Month:

Faith Comes By Hearing

More than half of the world cannot read. The majority of the illiterate population lives in poverty with few resources. Reaching poor and illiterate people from oral cultures with God's word requires unique strategies. Faith Comes By Hearing is based on the belief and evidence that oral cultures can more fully understand and live the Gospel when they hear the Word in their own language. Through Faith Comes By Hearing listening programs, believers are discipled, churches strengthened, new churches planted, and new converts come to Christ. Currently, Faith Comes By Hearing offers 853 languages reaching over 5.7 billion people in 190 countries.

Offering every person on our planet equal access to the Bible requires meeting the unique needs of generations, technical societies, and fast-paced lifestyles. It also means meeting the cultural and literacy challenges presented when working in underdeveloped countries. Faith Comes By Hearing's goal is to record and provide Audio New Testaments in every translated language, making the fulfillment of the Great Commission a reality in our lifetime!

Through Faith Comes By Hearing's Military BibleStick project, our nation's troops are hearing the Word of God while on (or preparing for) deployment. The Military BibleStick is a digital audio player that is pre-loaded with a dramatized recording of the entire New Testament and over 65 minutes of selected Psalms.

Chaplains from every branch of the military are flooding Faith Comes By Hearing with requests. More than 485,000 of these Audio Bibles are now in the field. Over 1500 chaplains use Military Bible Sticks in pre-deployment briefings, counseling sessions, Bible studies, weekly chapels, and other spiritual services.

Please prayerfully consider a donation to this month's chosen mission. 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."

December 2018 Serving Schedule

December 9

Ushers: Mike & Pam Wendling; Mike & Wendy Pickar
Greeter: Norma Johnson

December 16

Ushers: Bill & Jan Arezzo; Don & Priscilla Olson
Greeter: Volunteer

December 23

Ushers: Gary & Carolyn Lofald; Jim & Gayle Maruska
Greeter: Volunteer

December 24 - Christmas Eve Service

Ushers: Gary & Carolyn Lofald; Jim & Gayle Maruska

December 30

Ushers: Volunteers
Greeter: Volunteers

Trustees:

December 2: Wendy & Ouitdee

December 9: Stacy & Bill

December 16: Grace & Kim

December 23: Sandy & Sue

December 24: Wendy & Ouitdee

December 30: Wendy & Ouitdee

January 6: Wendy Pickar & Jim Carlson

Coffee Servers:

December 2: Volunteers

December 9: Luther League

December 16: Council Group 2

December 23: Esther Circle

December 30: Library

January 6: Volunteers

Financial Update: 2018 annual budget: \$241,059 weekly need: \$4,636; YTD need: \$208,620

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Daycare</u>	<u>Total</u>
11/11/2018	\$2,233	\$500	\$1,757	\$4,490
Year to Date	\$118,515	\$8,584	\$52,770	\$179,868

Collection for October Mission of the Month: MN Adult & Teen Challenge - \$705.00

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21