



BY *grace*
THROUGH *faith*
IN *Christ* ALONE
EPHESIANS 2:8-10

Christ Lutheran Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

December 10, 2017

WEEKLY FOCUS

**** BAPTISM** – Barrett Martin Deets, son of Kyle and Maegan Deets, is being baptized in the 8:00 service Sunday. He was born October 25, 2017. Sponsors are Kelsey Eckert, Ethan Eckert and Tyler Klingemann.

**** PRAYER FOR 2nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT:** O Advent Lord, come to us and unite Your people here on earth. May faith in You bring together people of every tribe and nation. May forgiveness turn enemies into friends. And by the power of Your presence, may we grow to love each other more and more. Coming Christ, unite us by Your love. Amen.



**** MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES** at 12:15 and 6:30 p.m. on December 13 continue our reflection on a well-known hymn by Martin Luther – “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”. It is only appropriate that in the year when we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, that we use one of Luther’s hymns to set the tone for our worship. Martin Luther wrote this hymn for his children’s Christmas Eve celebration around 1535. This week we look at stanzas seven through fourteen making application of the angels’ good news.

**** ADVENT SOUP SUPPER** will be served this Wednesday, December 13, from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. by Helping Hands Child Care. The menu includes homemade chili and chicken noodle soup, relish, cinnamon rolls and beverage. A freewill donation will be taken to help purchase furnishings and supplies for the new Child Care building.

**** EXPERIENCE THE JOY** of singing in choir. There’s still time to join us for Christmas. Our next rehearsal is Wednesday, December 13 at 7:15 p.m. (following Advent service) in the chapel as we focus on the selections for Christmas. Choir members past and present, young and old are welcome. New, easy to learn, easy to sing music will make choir an enjoyable experience and have you singing with joy regardless of your musical abilities. Choir will be singing at both the 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve services.

**** WARMTH, PEACE and PAJAMAS** - The Salvation Army, along with their usual “Toy and Food Drive” for the Christmas Season, is collecting new pajamas for their pajama project. The greatest need is children sizes 6-14 and Adults S-XL, boys and girls. Please consider purchasing a new pair of pajamas so that all of Norfolk’s children can sleep in warmth. New pajamas can be dropped in the collection box in the Narthex until December 15. This activity is sponsored by Christ Lutheran Board of Evangelism.



1 Corinthians 1:7 “...so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.” The Lord sees to it that we do not lack any gift – He has given us every spiritual blessing in Christ as well as every earthly need. He is the Provider. And we can trust Him to always provide for us in every way.

**** CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TOUR** -- Ever take a trip around Norfolk to see some of the best lit houses for Christmas? Thursday December 14, at 6:30 p.m. we need drivers and or viewers to meet at church and go with us as we give the international college students a tour around town to look at lights. We will have a charted out path recommended by the city to cruise around town. Come help the students experience Christmas! Sponsored by CAC (Christ at College).

**** ANGEL TREE GIFTS** must be returned by December 15 to be prepared for distribution on December 16.

The Mission Statement of Christ Lutheran Church

Share God’s Word – Share His Love – Do It Now!



DIGGING INTO GOD'S WORD ...



BIBLE STUDIES & SUNDAY SCHOOL JUST FOR YOU



BIBLE STUDIES

<i>Adult Bible Study</i>	Pastors Winter / Goehmann	Sun., 9:30 a.m.	Fellowship Hall
<i>9-12 High School Study</i>	Wingert	Sun., 9:30 a.m.	Chapel
<i>Grades 7-8 Bible Study</i>	Bryant/Kolterman/Wingert	Sun., 9:30 a.m.	Blue Room CLS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

	Lisa Moreno, Coordinator		
<i>Parents & 2's</i>		Sun., 9:30 a.m.	CLS Room 206
<i>Preschoolers</i>		Sun., 9:30 a.m.	CLS Rooms 103 & 105
<i>Kindergarten – Gr. 6 & special needs adults</i>		Sun., 9:30 a.m.	CLS Gym

(Please note – the school will remain locked until 9:15 a.m. to allow teachers fellowship time following the 8:00 service)

**** GRACE LUTHERAN MEN'S BREAKFAST STUDY** will meet Tuesday, December 19, at 7:00 a.m. The group meets every other Tuesday morning at First Choice Catering, 1110 South 9th Street (formerly Brass Lantern). There is a meal with a freewill offering. All men are invited to attend.

**** CHRIST AT THE MOVIES** -- Monday December 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall we will watch "The Prodigal God" film and have discussion afterwards. The film is about forty minutes. Whether you have read the book or not, this will be a great time of fellowship and conversation around God's Word. Bring a Christmas treat to share.

**** LIFELIGHT BIBLE STUDY** begins the week of January 7. Please pick up your study book for EZEKIEL in the narthex today. Books are alphabetized by first names.

LIFE QUOTE: "As we bask in the glow of God Himself choosing, from His freedom and through His immeasurable power, to sanctify every aspect and moment of human life by taking flesh and passing through every stage of human growth and development, and sanctifying each of those moments, let's do the very hard work of taking our faith seriously and, knowing God loves us and will always forgive every sin, let's winsomely and gently live in such a way we show the world a better way." *Fr. Barnabas Powell, Cumming, Georgia -- A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life •*
www.lutheransforlife.org



STEPHEN MINISTRY

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

1 Thessalonians 3:12

MISSION MEMO ... Pray for Church Workers Around the World

Sarah Kanoy is a Career missionary to serve the Lord Jesus as teacher and community health nurse to the people in Kenya, East Africa. She was a recipient of \$4,688.68 at the Big Mission Event. She writes: "I have experienced the incredible joy of providing care for and praying with countless patients. I have felt the sting of joyful tears while listening to and understanding our fellow Lutherans in church - in Swahili. These joyful tears have even fallen while witnessing a baptism. The highs and joys of missionary life are indescribable. On the other hand, I have experienced the agony of missing weddings, funerals, birthdays and holidays with my family. I have struggled to communicate in a language that is foreign to me. I have even wept over the needless death of a 16-year-old child. In the highs, lows, joys and woes of missionary life, I cling to this promise: *'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.'*" (Heb. 13:8) *Lutheran Witness, Nov. 2017*

DAILY DEVOTIONS from LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES are available on line at: www.lhm.org/dailydevotions.asp



GROWING IN CHRIST IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Lisa Moreno – Children’s Ministry Coordinator

lmoreno@clnorfolkmail.org phone: 371-3898

facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-Lutheran-Norfolk-Sunday-School/207797372579875>

Please note – School doors are locked until 9:15 a.m. to allow teachers fellowship time after the 8:00 service.

**** WINTER QUARTER MISSION OFFERING:** We begin collecting our mission offerings for Mercy Meals today. During the months of December - February, our offerings will give wings and wheels to the Mercy Meals packed locally, so they can be distributed to the children who need them, worldwide. One meal costs just \$.12! One box feeds 300 people for \$36.00, or you can feed a child for an entire year for just \$44.00. Discuss with your child what you would like to contribute. Even their pennies will help feed children. Mission offerings are collected the second and third Sundays of each month.

**** SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE:** Our service is getting closer!! It is set for Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. Children should plan to arrive by 6:10 p.m. Angel choir and grades 7-8 meet in the chapel. All other students meet in the fellowship hall. Preschoolers and Kindergartners can be picked up in the fellowship hall following the service. Other students will remain in their pews.

**** ANGEL CHOIR & ACTOR/READER PRACTICE** continue this week on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

**** SHOPPING LIST** for our Christmas offering this year will be basic hygiene items for Orphan Grain Train to give to those in need in disaster areas. Suggested items are as follows:

Preschool/Kindergarten: New toothbrushes

Gr. 1-2 Diapers (cloth or disposable)

Gr. 3-4 New bath towels

Gr. 5-6 Children’s new underwear

Gr. 7-8 Children’s new socks

Staff New washcloths

Congregation members are invited to bring any items from the list, if they wish.

**** NEXT WEEK IS OUR LARGE GROUP REHEARSAL**, held in the church sanctuary during Sunday school. Please drop off and pick up your child at church on this day. Parents and two’s will meet as usual in the school.

**** SCHEDULING NOTE:** NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on December 24 and 31 due to Christmas break.

**** STAFFING NEED:** Sunday school has some immediate staffing needs:

* Team teacher for Preschool to teach one Sunday a month and help one week a month

* Team teacher for Kindergarten to teach one Sunday a month and help one week a month

* Team teacher for Jr. High to teach one Sunday a month and help once a month

* Station leader to lead a prepared 15 minute station 1-2 Sundays a month on dates you choose.

If you can help in any of these areas, please call the church office or contact Lisa Moreno at 371-3898.

SCRIP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Are you giving gifts this year for Christmas? Are you buying groceries for your family or gas for your vehicle? If your answer to any of these questions was “yes,” consider purchasing Scrip to get your gas or groceries; also, consider using Scrip gift cards in buying those gifts. Remember—buying Scrip is a simple way to help build up credit toward tuition at Christ Lutheran School. If you don’t have children or grandchildren who go to CLS, your Scrip purchase will still benefit the church. Scrip cards also make great gifts themselves. It’s a win-win for you!

DID YOU KNOW ...

At the end of November the expenses at Christ Lutheran were over \$90,000 more than at the same time 1 year ago. Some of the expenses that are higher include Trustees of over \$16,000 more (Maintenance & Repairs is \$11,000 of this amount); Payroll & Benefits \$68,977 higher than a year ago and the Lutheran High Northeast payments are \$6,251 higher than a year ago. All of these expenses were necessary in order to support the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church. Watch next week's Focus for more information.

**** THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS** - Don't forget to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Christ Lutheran Church or Christ Lutheran School. These Choice Dollars go directly to the General Fund Support of the Church & School. As of November 30, 2017 Christ Lutheran Church & School had received over \$7,000 less than in the same time period in 2016.

COMING EVENTS

**** LADIES CIRCLE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** is Thursday, December 14 at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Smokin' Stan's will provide pulled pork sandwich, potato salad and baked beans. Ladies Circle members provide salads and side dishes. Kindergarten children from Christ Lutheran will provide entertainment. Dr. Daniel and Deanna Blomenberg will share highlights from their trip to "Luther Land Germany". Contact Judy Allvin at 371-2846 with questions.

**** CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The Christ Lutheran School Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 17 at LHNE starting at 3:00. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. The bands (Grades 5 & 6, and Junior High) will perform following the K-8 portion. Come spend an afternoon with the Word and music of Christmas.

textmessages

Want to be part of the conversation?

5th & 6th Youth Group
text 81010 | @cl56youth
Confirmation
text 81010 | @clconfirm
Jr. High
text 81010 | @cljrhigh
Sr. High
text 81010 | @clsrhigh



Matt Wingert
Director of Youth Ministry
mwingert@clnorfmail.org

eventsignups

want to sign up for events or email lists?

- go to christnorf.folk.churchcenteronline.com
- click register for events or groups
- join the group or event that you want
- if signing up for an event, be sure to fill out the required forms listed online.

JUNIOR HIGH

**** BIBLE STUDY 9:30 ON SUNDAY** – 7th & 8th Graders – join us on Sunday mornings in the Blue Room as we continue to grow in our Christian faith. Paul Kolterman, Chad and Megan Bryant, and Matt and Angela Wingert lead this Bible study. Don't forget we meet every Sunday from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

SENIOR HIGH

**** BIBLE STUDY 9:30 ON SUNDAY** – High School students – join us Sunday mornings in the **Chapel** as we continue to grow in our Christian faith by studying the Word. This Bible study is led by Matt Wingert. We just started a new series about **7 "Christian" rules every Christian ought to break**. Don't forget we meet every Sunday from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**** CHRISTMAS PARTY** - Come to the Wingert's on Friday December 22, from 7-9:00 p.m. for a Christmas Party. We will be celebrating the end of the semester, the start of Christmas Break, and the Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Bring a "White Elephant" gift for an exchange game. The Wingert's will provide Smoked Brisket for Dinner. Bring a Friend!

**** LHNE SCRIP** Please support Lutheran High and its students by purchasing SCRIP. You can buy SCRIP at the store-front location - The Abbey Christian Store during regular business hours (M-F, 9-8; Sat. 9-6) or at LHNE. Plan ahead now for holiday shopping and gift-giving. Scrip makes great gifts.

**** LHNE OPEN HOUSE** – On Sunday, December 10, we will be hosting our next Open House event at Lutheran High Northeast from 1:00-3:00 p.m. We would like to encourage all 8th grade students and their parents to come receive a student led tour, a school information packet, a chance to enter our door prize drawing, and a coupon for a discount on a new student registration for the 2018-19 school year.

**** LHNE CHRISTMAS CONCERT** hosted by the Music Department will be Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come enjoy the sounds of the season as we celebrate our Savior's birth. There is no admission fee, we will have a free will offering available.

For information on any **Lutheran High Northeast** activity or to see a complete calendar, please visit our website: www.lhne.org

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2017

Please remember the following in prayer during the coming week. You may also want to send a card or note to those on this week's prayer list to let them know they are being thought of.

- For those undergoing cancer treatments; and for their families; including: Brian Beeks, Bobbie Bell, Megan Curry, Joyce Deuel, Roger Frank, Bruce Gardels, Nanette Halverson, Bruce Hansen, Lynn (Brockman) Heinold, Kellie (Hoffman) Reyes, Elaine Holmberg, Sandy Horst, Jason Jackson, Miriam Krueger, Georgia Lambrecht, Colet Lierman, Darwin McDonald, Lisa Meyer, Robert Mock, Lisa Murray, Jackie Nelson, Amy Neuhalfen, Tammy Peisal, Sondra Reigle, Deb Robertson, Jim Roethler, Randy Schultz, Leon Schulz, Carol Thies, Karen Widhalm, April Wiley, Don Wolff, Allan Zeitz, and mother of Sarah Boelter.
- For those in care centers, nursing homes, those suffering long-term illness; those who face tests, uncertainties about their health, undergoing surgery, or facing difficult times, including: Elizabeth Ambrose, Hazel Bermel, Robert Daughton, Brendan Gnewuch, Craig Herpy, EllaMae Jensen, Steve Long, Marilyn Means, Connie Mock, Donnis Omer, Shelby Reeker, Sandy Schulz, Jim Siedschlag, James Wagner, Ed Wiedeman, Dominic Wolff, Jesse Wright, and a young girl, Taryn, and those undergoing other tests and treatments.
- For Gary Krueger, Chad Bryant and Cindy Holton as they recover from surgeries in the past week.
- For those celebrating birthday blessings of 80 years or more including: Joan Schulz (12/10), Cliff Haas (12/11), James Barritt (12/14) and Dean Timperley (12/15).
- Thanksgiving for the baptism of Barrett Martin Deets.
- For willing individuals with a love for Jesus to help teach or lead Sunday School classes.
- For peace in our land and an end to terrorism.
- That God would raise up a mighty army of believers who would guide our nation back to Christian principles.

PRAYER REQUESTS may be made in the Prayer Request book at the north entrance. Please fill out all information completely. Private prayer requests may be placed in the envelope provided for this purpose.

**** POSITION OPENING:** Elementary school secretary. Applications are available at: www.stjohnbc.net/school Must have a passion for Jesus, love for children, be proficient in Word, Excel, and publishing software, and possess organizational, writing, and proofreading skills; accounting skills a plus. Bachelor's degree preferred. Application forms are available at www.stjohnbc.net/school or St. John Lutheran School, 102 W. Martin St., Battle Creek, NE. 68715

Worship With Us

- Sat. – 5:30 p.m.; Sun. – 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
- Sunday School & Bible Classes – 9:30 a.m.

Christ Lutheran Church Services are broadcast on Cable Channel 12, Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m.

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday ... 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Fridays ... 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Pastors Winter and Goehmann are often out of the office for home, hospital and other visits. Contact the Church Office for available appointments with pastors.

Church Phones

CHURCH OFFICE 371-1210

CHURCH FAX371-1228

SCHOOL OFFICE371-5536

SCHOOL FAX371-1288

HELPING HANDS CHILD CARE379-3275

Christ Lutheran website: www.clnorfolk.org.

e-mail – use first initial & last name @clnorfolkmail.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Chip Winter Director of Ministry

Rev. David Goehmann Associate Pastor

Ministry Staff

Chad Bryant Child Care Director

Starla Landkamer Stephen Ministry Leader

Sarah Moje PreSchool Director

Lisa Moreno Children's Ministry Coordinator

Steve Stortz Principal

Matt WingertDirector of Christian Education

Administrative Staff

Judy Bohn Business Manager

Starla Landkamer Administrative Assistant

Lynn WalmsleyAdministrative Assistant

Hospitalized This Week

Known to be hospitalized this past week at FRHS; Charlotte Neitzke. Sylvia Lichtenberg is at Norfolk Rehabilitation & Care Center.

If you are admitted to the hospital, you or a family member should contact the Church office with admission information.

Media Ministry

LUTHERAN HOUR – Sun., 7:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

WJAG 780 AM or 105.9 FM; or KZEN 100.3 F.M. at

9:30 a.m. Today's program is sponsored by Norfolk

Circuit Lutheran Churches.

ON MAIN STREET – Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., Cable TV

DAILY DEVOTIONS www.lhm.org/dailydevotions.asp

* Please Note: The inclusion of items in the *Focus* from outside sources is for informational purposes only. Inclusion of these items does not constitute CLC endorsement

Focus Announcements, as well as Verbal Announcements & Prayer Requests are due in writing to the Church Office by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. Please include a contact name on all announcements in case there are questions, or further information is needed.

Our Stewardship of Time

In Worship 12/03/17 605

Communed 325

Advent Midweek 12/6

Sunday School / Staff 112/ 22

Bible Class 48

Our Stewardship of Gifts

Received 12/03/17.....\$22,133

Debt to retire \$43,327

Amount received towards 2016/17 deficit \$35,929

Growing the Future Campaign

Campaign goal (all committed) \$1,200,000

Rec'd towards committed goal as of 11/26 \$ 823,612

Amount paid out on project as of 11/26 .. \$1,145,163

Amount borrowed on project \$ 321,551

This Week's Activities

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00 a.m. WORSHIP

9:30 a.m. Sunday School / Bible Class /AIC

10:45 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION

3:00 p.m. LHNE Christmas Concert @ LHNE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

12:45 p.m. *Staff Meeting*

3:30 p.m. Finance

Angel Choir

3:45 p.m. SS Actor/Reader Rehearsal

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

3:30 p.m. Angel Choir

3:45 p.m. SS Actor/Reader Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Board of Education

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:20 a.m. Chapel

12:15 p.m. ADVENT MIDWEEK CHAPEL

5:15 p.m. Confirmation w/parents

5:15 – 6:15 Advent Supper

6:30 p.m. ADVENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP

7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

12:30 p.m. Ladies Circle Luncheon

3:30 p.m. Angel Choir

3:45 p.m. SS Actor/Reader Rehearsal

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:30 a.m. Bulletin assembly

5:30 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

Angel Tree Gift Distribution

3:00 p.m. Boche-Freudenburg wedding

5:30 p.m. HOLY COMMUNION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Group Rehearsal

Bible Class

10:45 a.m. WORSHIP

Please call the Church Office to schedule an activity. It is best to call ahead to avoid a conflict in scheduling.