



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

Christ Lutheran Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

December 17, 2017

WEEKLY FOCUS

** **BAPTISM** – Grayson Ward Compton son of Brian and Britney Compton, is being baptized in the 5:30 service Saturday. He was born October 15, 2017. Sponsors are Chad Roberts and Derek Duerst.

** **FUNERAL** – Sylvia A. Lichtenberg was called to her Savior’s side on December 8, 2017. Funeral service and Christian burial were held Thursday, December 14, 2017.

** **WEDDING** – Ross Freudenburg and Shelby Boche were united in marriage before our Altar on Saturday, December 16, 2017.

** **PRAYER FOR 3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT:** O Advent Lord, come to us and bring joy to the world. By Your birth, announce to us the good news that sorrow will cease, pain will disappear, and healing will come our way. May we, like the angels, sing, “Glory to God in the highest” with happiness in our hearts. O Coming Christ, may Your glad tidings fill us with joy. Amen.



** **MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE** at **12:15** on December 20 in the chapel concludes our reflection on a well-known hymn by Martin Luther – “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”. This week we look at stanzas 1, 6 & 15 - our response to the angels’ good news.

** **6:30 p.m. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 - SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE** “*God is With Us – We Sing for Joy*” is a service recalling the events leading up to the birth of our Savior. Children in Preschool through Grade 8 lift their voices in song, scripture and narration as they share the Good News. Join them in celebrating this ageless story of our salvation. *(Please note, no Advent Supper served on December 20)*

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

No worship service on Saturday, December 23 or Sunday morning December 24

December 24 Christmas Eve – 4:30 & 6:30 p.m. Service of Scripture and Song

Preservice instrumental and choral selections and carol sing begins at 4:00 and 6:10 p.m.

December 25 Christmas Day – 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion

The carols continue as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Saturday and Sunday, December 30 & 31

Regular worship times ... 5:30 Saturday; 8:00 & 10:45 Sunday all with Holy Communion

No Sunday School, however, a family Bible class will be held at 9:30 a.m.

** **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.

** **KINDERGARTEN NATIVITY PROGRAM** will be Tuesday December 19. Two services will be held in the church sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. There will be a “Happy Birthday Jesus” party following the evening service. We will be serving Birthday cake and mints. All are welcome to attend.

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.

LIFE QUOTE: "The hinge of history can be found on a Bethlehem door." *Evangelist J. John – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Rather, serve one another in love.

Galatians 5:13b

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

Your weekly offerings at Christ Lutheran helps support **Rev. Brian and Amanda Gauthier** and two-year old Ezra in Panama. The national church is moving forward with its plan to plant a new church in Sabanitas. A call has been extended to a Colombian pastor to plant this church beginning work in March. To assist in the community, the Lutheran Hour has volunteered to offer programs in the local schools and provide materials that might assist with the church plant. Lutheran Hour Ministries-Panama staff visits school, bringing to the students the Word of God and the love of Jesus through songs and dramas. The Holy Spirit is bringing new life into the children of Panama's schools.

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

**** MALAWI MISSION** – It's time to make your final decision for the Malawi Mission trip 2018. There are a number of people who are interested. If you did not come to the "interest meeting" then now is your chance to talk to Matt or Pastor Dave about the trip. The final deadline to sign up is January 8. Ask for the official sign-up sheet that secures your spot to be a part of this exciting mission team to Malawi, Africa!



1 Thessalonians 5:18 "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." Christians express their thanks to God in many ways: in prayer, in giving to the Lord, in acts of service to others, in faithful living in their daily callings. Everything we do to honor God in our lives is a means of returning thanks for the Lord's many gifts to us.



GROWING IN CHRIST IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Lisa Moreno – Children’s Ministry Coordinator

lmoreno@clnorfmail.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.

**** TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:** We have our large group rehearsal for our Christmas service. We will meet in the church sanctuary. Parents and Twos will meet as usual in the school building.

**** WINTER QUARTER MISSION OFFERING:** 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 THIS WEEK! It is set for Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 6:30 pm. Children should plan to arrive by 6:10 pm. 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.

**** 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.

**** SCHEDULING NOTE:** NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on 12/24 and 12/31 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 teachers for for grade 6, to teach twice 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!

**** 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

DID YOU KNOW ...

Total income for the General Fund is approximately \$7,300 more than last year. Income from offerings and the new Childcare contribute to the increase. But unfortunately our Thrivent income and School Tuition are considerably less than at the same time a year ago. As was published in last week's Focus the expenses thru the end of November are over \$90,000 more than at this time a year ago. All of this income and expenses are necessary to support the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church as we "Share God's Word, Share His Love and Do It Now!"

**** 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.

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

youthministry

Communication & Sign Ups

Matt Wingert
Director of Youth Ministry
mwingert@clnorfmail.org

eventsignups

want to sign up for events or email lists?

- go to christnorfchurchcenteronline.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.

**** SAVE THE DATE:** Bowling, January 28 at 2:00 p.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. We are taking a break from our book to do a short video series call Alpha. It's fun and engaging. Come check it out. 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!

**** SAVE THE DATE:** January 28 at noon. Senior high students, along with the Youth Board will host the annual Soup and Chili Cook-off before the Annual Voters' Meeting. Watch for more details coming early next month.

**** 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.

**** GIFTS THAT GO FARTHER** – LHNE has been given a great challenge to raise \$50,000 by the end of the year 2017! Your gift to LHNE will be matched dollar for dollar. In fact if you would like to make an “easier on the budget” monthly gift, LHNE will be able to match your entire gift! For example, a \$10 monthly gift is worth \$240 to LHNE. \$10 per month for 12 months (\$120) and \$120 matching gift. You can call Fred Aufdembrink at 402-379-3040 to discuss this kind of gift or simply go to the LHNE website at www.lhne.org. Find the GIVE tab at the top of the page and click on the Donation button. This will take you to a secure webpage where you can make your gift. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of LHNE.

**** THIS WEEK AT LHNE**

December 19-21	Finals week
December 19	Girls & Boys V BB – away vs. Riverside
December 22	Christmas break begins
	Girls JV & V BB home Wayne

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 17, 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 the families of Sylvia Lichtenberg and Alfred Nathan called to their Savior's side this past week.
- For the family of Valerie (Schumacher) Voigt, called to her Eternal Rest this past week.
- For those celebrating birthday blessings of 80 years or more including: Jacqueline Nelson (12/18), Mildred Ruegge (12/18), Celia Siecke (12/19), Fred Otten (12/25), Allen Schwartz (12/25), Eldon Meyer (12/26), Robert Vogel (12/26), Helen Anderson (12/30), Henry Meyer (12/30), Evelyn Kurpgeweit (12/31) and Delvin Schulz (12/31).
- Thanksgiving for the baptism of Grayson Ward Compton.
- Thanksgiving and blessings for the marriage of Ross Freudenburg and Shelby Boche (12/16).
- 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.

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.

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 12/10/17 665

Communed 160

Advent Midweek 12/13 266

Sunday School / Staff 114/ 21

Bible Class 51

Our Stewardship of Gifts

Received 12/10/17.....\$23,144

Debt to retire \$43,327

Amount received towards 2016/17 deficit \$37,926

Growing the Future Campaign

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

Rec'd towards committed goal as of 12/10 \$ 826,260

Amount paid out on project as of 12/10.. \$1,145,675

Amount borrowed on project \$ 319,415

This Week's Activities

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION

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

10:45 a.m. WORSHIP

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

12:45 p.m. *Staff Meeting*

3:30 p.m. Finance

Angel Choir

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

6:30 p.m. Prodigal God Movie Night

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

2:00 p.m. Kindergarten Nativity

3:30 p.m. Angel Choir

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

6:30 p.m. Kindergarten Nativity

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

12:15 p.m. ADVENT MIDWEEK CHAPEL

6:30 p.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:20 a.m. Chapel

7:00 p.m. Choir

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:30 a.m. Bulletin assembly

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

NO worship service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 – Christmas Eve

NO morning worship

4:00 p.m. Christmas preservice

4:30 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

6:10 p.m. Christmas preservice

6:30 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 – Christmas Day

9:30 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNION

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