

# The Friendly Visitor

*from*

## Christ Lutheran Church

1306 Wilcox Street

Menomonie, WI 54751

February 2022

[www.Welcome2CLC.com](http://www.Welcome2CLC.com)

Facebook: [Welcome2CLC](https://www.facebook.com/Welcome2CLC)

### February @ Christ

- **2** THE SPOT at 3:30pm; CLC FoodShelf from 5pm to 6pm; Wednesday's Table from 5pm to 6pm; Christ Time at 6pm
- **6** SCOUT SUNDAY; Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9am; Faith Formation 10:15am; Worship service at Autumn Village at 2pm
- **7** Worship Service with Holy Communion at 5:30pm [every Monday].
- **8** All-Committee Night—Committees meet from 5:30pm to 6:30pm; Full Committees and Council meet together in sanctuary from 6:30pm to 7pm; Council meets at 7pm
- **9** THE SPOT at 3:30pm; CLC FoodShelf from 5pm to 6pm; Wednesday's Table from 5pm to 6pm; Christ Time at 6pm
- **10** Red Cross Blood Drive from 12 noon to 6pm
- **11** Family Movie Night with pizza and popcorn at 5:30pm
- **13** SOUPER BOWL OF CARING; Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9am; Faith Formation at 10:15am
- **16** THE SPOT at 3:30pm; CLC FoodShelf from 5pm to 6pm; Wednesday's Table from 5pm to 6pm; Christ Time at 6pm
- **20** YOUTH SUNDAY; Worship service with Holy Communion at 9am; Faith Formation at 10:15am
- **23** THE SPOT at 3:30pm; CLC FoodShelf from 5pm to 6pm; Wednesday's Table from 5pm to 6pm; Christ Time at 6pm
- **27** Worship service with Holy Communion at 9am; Faith Formation at 10:15am

### Souper Bowl Sunday

SOUPER BOWL is February 13! Let's SCORE A TOUCHDOWN this year! Our GOAL is \$500 and 500 food items! ALL funds will be donated to our local Stepping Stones Food Pantry and all food items will be donated to our local CLC Food Shelf. There are three ways to participate:

- 1) We will again have friendly competition - kids versus grownups! Make sure to add your food items to your teams' table; kids or grownups. You can bring food anytime from January 30-February 13. We will also host a drive-through collection on February 13 from 10am-10:30am.
- 2) The second way to contribute is to bring your noisy, and not-so-noisy, pocket change on February 13 to be put in a soup pot at the end of worship.
- 3) Lastly, new this year, we will have football squares available for purchase. Each square cost \$5. You choose where on the board your square will go, choosing the final score of the Super Bowl game. There will be a \$50 Chamber Dollars gift certificate for the winner! The team names will be added when they are determined on January 30 (NFC will be "home" team, AFC will be "visiting" team.) Make sure to include your score prediction with your contribution.

FROM THE



PASTOR

Dear friends in Christ, I felt the sadness, as you said your farewells to our beloved

Pastor Randy. The tears shed at worship and at his retirement party bore witness to the love that you have for him and that he has for all of you. It was difficult to say good-bye and it will take some time to mourn his departure.

Together, as a church community, we now live in what might be called the "time between the times." The time between your farewell to Pastor Randy and in a year or so when you welcome a newly called pastor. As I serve as your Interim Pastor, you will gradually become accustomed to a new face presiding at worship and communion, providing pastoral care and educational opportunities, outreach to the community, guidance to the Church Staff, Council and Committees. I am a much-needed buffer between Pastor Randy and your next regularly called pastor.

As an Interim, I can listen as you share your hurts, your pain, your feelings of loss, anxiety, and even anger – so that the good grieving is done before the arrival of your new pastor. I have an open-door policy and you are

welcome to share your thoughts, feelings and perspectives with me anytime. Call me, e-mail me, drop by my office on a weekday morning, ask me to come visit you in your home or at work. We are in this together and every voice, every person, every member of this body matters.

Together we will complete the tasks of this interim time. We will thoughtfully, prayerfully examine the history of Christ Lutheran. In sharing stories of the past, we will seek to come to terms with the difficult times as well as celebrate what has been good. We will identify future goals and priorities, surveying the congregations so that all voices are heard.

All this week, I have thought about Jesus' words "to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." That is my prayer for this body of Christ Lutheran Church – that this Interim time may be a year of the Lord's favor, a year in which we embrace the past, name the present, and prayerfully discern God's call into a future of hope. To do this well, the whole community will need to communicate honestly and often so that everyone stays committed to moving forward in this process.

This is a holy time in the life of Christ Lutheran. God's Spirit will be blowing through our life together in this interim time. We all drink of the same Spirit, the Spirit who

will move and breathe new life and energy into the ministry and mission of this congregation, preparing us for the next chapter.

I am grateful for all who share this journey—and for the gifts each one brings to the body of Christ Lutheran Church. May God bless us and guide us during this time of discernment, giving us grace, strength, peace and courage as we complete the tasks of this interim time.

In Jesus love and service,

*Pastor Cheryl Matthews*

Pastor Cheryl may be reached at: (608) 863-1697  
or  
pastorcherylmatthews@gmail.com

**Please let the church office know if someone is in the hospital.**

## **Masks required**

The Christ Lutheran Church Council approved the decision that starting August 12, 2021, masks will be required for all indoor activities and to allow the Executive Board to make necessary changes as needed.

# Council and Committee Night—February 8

All committees will meet individually on Tuesday, February 8, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Full committees and council then meet together in the sanctuary at 6:30pm, and the council meets at 7pm

## Christ Lutheran Church Council Minutes December 14, 2021 Fellowship Hall

### Members Present

Jerry Hoefflein, Leslie Falkner, Tim Lehmann, Heidi Bradshaw, Kaye Wurm, Cathy Zunker, Kathy Wagner, Joe Wurm, Vickie Kuester, Beth Hein, and Pastor Randy Skow-Anderson (ex-officio).

### Members Absent

Dick Tyson, Juan Gamez.

### Call to Order

Council President Beth Hein called the meeting to order at 7:17pm at the church. Vision Statement was read by Kaye Wurm. Mission Statement was read by Pastor Randy. Council Purpose was read by all.

### Approval of Agenda

[12-1] *A motion was made and seconded to approve a revised agenda; Lehmann/Hoefflein; motion carried.*

### Dwelling in the Word

Pastor Skow-Anderson led us in a Word/Meditation on John 1:1-5,14.

### Approval of November 9, 2021,

### Council Minutes

[12-2] *A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November 9, 2021, council meeting; Lehmann/K. Wurm; motion carried.*

### New Business

A. Action--Approval of new members:

[12-3] *A motion was made and seconded to accept new members Cheryl Matthews by transfer from Christ Lutheran Church (ELCA), Arcadia, WI; Susan and Michael Mommsen by transfer from First Congregational Church, Menomonie, WI; and David & Nila Natzke by transfer from Peace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Menomonie, WI. Falkner/Bradshaw; motion carried.*

B. Action--Approval of transfer of membership:

[12-4] *A motion was made and seconded to approve transfer of membership for Jon and Sharon Becker to*

- United Lutheran (ELCA), Red Wing, MN. Wagner/Bradshaw; motion carried.*
- C. Discussion--Call Process: Guest Pastor Randy Olson (45 min.) {Transition Team; Call Committee (Ministry Site Profile); Ministry Schedule; Vision; Interim Pastor (Guide and Resource); Document 5/5; Call Process Manual; CAT Survey}
- D. Discussion: Finalize budgets; approve at next council meeting--January 11, 2022; obtain a detailed Financial Report.
- E. Discussion: Staff Recognition

### Old Business

- A. Cash Flow: Begin Monthly Focus in January; every other month General Fund.
- B. Administration: Update on Office Manager position.
- C. Campus Ministry Board--one member now; one May 5, 2022.

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## Council E-Mail Directory

- Heidi Bradshaw (Congregational Life): heidigwynbradshaw@gmail.com
- Leslie Falkner (Congregational Life): llfalkner@clipay.com
- Juan Gamez (Administration Committee): mfd1697@aol.com
- Beth Hein (Council President): heinfamily73@gmail.com
- Jerry Hoefflein: jer\_bear\_47@yahoo.com
- Vickie Kuester (Outreach Committee): kuesterv@uwstout.edu
- Curt Larson: c2larson@wwt.net
- Tim Lehmann (Administration Committee): tmcleh@gmail.com
- Pastor Cheryl Matthews: pastorcherylmatthews@gmail.com
- Dick Tyson (Outreach Committee): tysonr@uwstout.edu
- Joe Wurm (Administration Committee): kjwurm@hotmail.com
- Kaye Wurm (Council Vice President): kayewurm@gmail.com
- Cathy Zunker (Council Secretary): catrocks1@yahoo.com

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Reports

- A. Pastor’s Report
- B. B. Committee Reports/  
Actions/Financial Report

Other (time remaining)

Adjournment

[12-5] *A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting; Lehmann/Bradshaw; motion carried.*

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57pm and closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

*Cathy Zunker, Secretary*

**Church Basement Ladies**

Will be performing as part of their 20th anniversary tour at the Pablo Center at the Confluence in Eau Claire on Sunday, April 3. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call 715-832-ARTS (2787) or go online to [pablocenter.org](http://pablocenter.org).

**CLCW News**

**Work on quilts at home**

If anyone would like to put Lutheran World Relief quilts together at home, there are material and fillers at the church to be used for the quilts. If interested, please come to the Fireside Room on Mission Work Days between 9am and 11am to pick up the material and fillers. Thanks!

There are assorted greeting cards and napkins are for sale in the

“Book Nook” (glass display case in Fellowship Hall). This is a fundraiser by the CLCW. Please leave payment in the wood box sitting on top of the cabinet.

**Dates to remember**

February 8: Mission Work Day at 9am

February 22: Mission Work Day at 9am

*Nancy Bourget and Arla Graff*  
CLCW Co-Presidents

Thank you for filling out a pink communion card at every worship service! The pink cards are located in the racks on the back of the pews. (One pink card per family is fine as long as all present at the service are listed on the card.)

*The church has a drop box for placing offering envelopes after office hours. The box is located outside the office wing entry door.*

**CONGRATULATIONS to**

Isabel Eckert on early graduation from high school! We are very proud of you. – Love, *Mom, Dad, Isaac and Iris (and your family at CLC).*



I am beginning to plan **First Communion classes** for this spring. If you have a child that is interested in participating, please let me know.

Make sure to get April 1-3 on your calendars for our **Retreat to Luther Park!** We will be leaving Friday evening and returning Sunday around noon. This is a requirement for Confirmation students, but we are welcoming all other middle and high school youth! I will be looking for at least one parent chaperone/driver.

**Memorials/Honoraria**

**For the Radio Broadcast Fund in memory of:** 1/30—To commemorate the 5th anniversary of Kari Bostrom’s death—January 31, 2017 from Jake & Shirley Bostrom

**Undesignated in memory of:** 12/26—Don & Rae Herman from family; 1/9—Bill Neverdahl from Tim & Kathy Lehmann

**For the Christ Lutheran Church Women (CLCW) in memory of:** 12/26—Gay Evenson and Phyllis Hansen from Pastor Bob & Sue Dahm

**For the Furnace Replacement Fund in memory of:** 12/26—Joel Bradshaw from Heidi Bradshaw

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**For General Fund (Current Expenses)**

**in memory of:** 12/26—Jerry Smith and Bill Neverdahl from Larry & Vickie Kuester

**For the Radio Broadcast in honor of:**

1/2 - Jane Amble's years of service from Melanie Yager; 1/9—Homebound members and friends of CLC from the Christ Lutheran Church Women (CLCW).

**For General Fund in honor of:** 1/2 -

Jane Amble's retirement from Beth Hein; 1/9—Jane Amble's and Pastor Randy's retirements from Darrin & Arla Falk and Kathy; 1/16—Jane Amble's and Pastor Randy's retirements from Nancy Bourget; 1/16—Pastor Randy's Retirement from Beth Hein

**Our sympathy to . . .**

...the family and friends of Lonnie Bauer (Mindy Eckert's uncle), who passed away December 29. A memorial service will be held February 7 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

**Thank you . . .**

. . . so very much for all the prayers and cards that were sent while I was sick — *Joan Labs*

...for all the noisy, and not-so-noisy, offerings this past Youth Sunday, January 23. \$95 was raised for Lutheran Disaster Response: Tornado Relief. These funds will be used to help those

effected by the December tornadoes that ravaged the Midwest.

...for enriching our residents' Christmas! To everyone who donated, words cannot express the joy you brought to so many. Thank you to those who dropped off gift bags; they came in very handy! Thank you for your kindness! — *Deb (ALH Activity Director)*

. . . to all of our friends and church family at Christ Lutheran for your kind thoughts, well wishes, and prayers this past year for both of us as we recovered from our surgeries and illnesses. Your kindness is so very much appreciated! We are both "on the mend" and doing very well. A special thank you to LuAnn Dohms and Andrew Maki for covering for me when I was not able to be at church to accompany at many of the services! God bless all of you! — *Jeff & Mary Merritt*

... for the wonderful gifts in honor of my retirement! First, THANK YOU to the congregation for the beautiful diamond necklace! THANK YOU to the CLCW quilters for the handcrafted quilt that is a work of art! THANK YOU to the CLCW for the Chamber Gift Certificates! THANK YOU to everyone for your cards, gifts, and well wishes! God bless all of you. Love, *Jane*

**FOOD MINISTRY NEWS**

**We need YOU!**

To sign up to help with either Wednesday's Table or CLC Food-Shelf, call the church office at 715-235-5573; use the following link: <https://www.welcome2clc.com/volunteer-signup.html>; or sign up on the church website: [welcome2CLC.com](http://welcome2CLC.com). Thank you!

**CLC FoodShelf**

Each week we are serving up bags filled with several meals of healthy, non-perishable food to several families in need. You can help in two ways: Donate money to the FoodShelf Fund or donate food items. Please place all food donations in one of the collection carts.

**Wednesday's Table**

*Serving take-out meals only at this time from 5pm—6pm.*

Menu is available in the church bulletin and on the church's facebook page. Menu items are subject to change.

Please welcome Shanara Patchen, the new Wednesday's Table Coordinator! She began work January 19.



Dear friends, family, and partners in mission,

It is New Year's Eve, the dishes are done, a few completed jigsaw puzzles remain on our kotatsu (a low table where we often sit because there is a little heater inside of it so we stay warm), the sparkling juice is chilling in the fridge (for Hannah) and the grown-up sparkling "juice" has yet to be uncorked.

What a year, right?

This is a quiet New Year for us. It comes at a particularly difficult time, as it is marking the tenth anniversary of my mother's death, which for some reason is making me feel a little more reflective than the past couple of years.

Milestones. Holidays. These things that help us mark time and give us an opportunity to look both back and ahead simultaneously.... they are opportunities.

This newsletter is incredibly self-indulgent and I ask for a measure of grace in receiving it as it truly is representative of what mission is, what Jesus commanded and what Paul gave words to in his letters. It's simply a story of gratitude.

May 2022 bring you moments that are opportunities to experience God's incredible grace and mercy.

Love,  
the Benckes

**Farewell to 2021**, and to a dear friend

I had two residences as a child, both in Hastings, MN, so there was never a big shift in my circle of friends. My first big move happened when I went off to college. I don't remember feeling anxious about meeting new people, or even wondering if I would make friends. I knew it would happen. But I wondered if I would ever have the special bond with them that I had created with my circle of high school friends. I experienced a similar lack of faith in the back of my brain/heart when I moved to Menomonie, where I knew no one. Would I make good friends and relationships that would last over time? The answer was a resounding "yes" in both cases.

No matter where we have travelled, whether 90 minutes away by car, or a 26-hour journey by airplane, there have been wonderful people along the way, people to whom we have been tethered by experiencing joy and sorrow, together. When we moved to Japan in 2006, we knew that God would bless us with deep relationships, despite our shortcomings. God is faithful. But I don't think we could have imagined the gift He gave us in Mr. Nishi.

We met the Nishi family in 2008 shortly after I returned to Japan with Hannah as a newborn. Mr. Nishi was an avid country music fan, a grandfather to a bunch of kids who became Emilie's playmates, and a retired military em-

ployee. It did not take long for him to invite us into their lives at a deeper level, as he was keen to engage. We shared every New Year with them until COVID-19 shut down intimate gatherings. We never did anything to deserve his friendship. It was freely offered.

We have spent countless evenings convening around his kotatsu (a low table), drinking beer or tea. Mr. Nishi would give us history lessons ranging from what Kumamoto was like during World War II to how much he loved Taiwan. He had an opinion about everything political but firmly believed that country music could solve the world's problems. One just needed a good dose of country great Merle Haggard.

When Patrick experienced his first stroke while Emilie and I were still in the U.S., Mr. Nishi followed the ambulance and stayed with Patrick at the hospital until 3am. He and his wife took care of Hannah for the several days it took us to get back to Kumamoto.

Years later, when we applied for permanent residency, he went with us to Immigration to vouch for us, dressed in a suit and tie. He drove Emilie to school for three years, giving Emilie a chance to complain about her parents by listening with compassionate ears of wisdom and experience. Mr. Nishi took care of our plants and

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watched over the property while we were in the U.S. for our two-month-long home assignments. Those were some of the big things. But it is the little things, the common conversations over time about nothing in particular, that have been the nails that hold those big things together.

Mr. Nishi has been a teacher and steadfast friend to our family for 13 years, and when his diagnosis of stage 4 lung cancer was confirmed, our family was devastated. When there was a crisis in our family, it has been Mr. Nishi who God enlisted to walk with us. Who do we turn to when it is that very person whose impending separation from us is the crisis?

Mr. Nishi is facing death squarely in the eye, and as of today, is in palliative care at a nearby hospital. We were able to go and visit, receiving special permission during tight COVID protocols (it helped that Mr. Nishi's wife works at that same hospital). We knew it was goodbye. It was gut-wrenchingly similar to when Patrick said goodbye to his brother, knowing that Matt's stage 4 pancreatic cancer diagnosis would mean only a sliver of a chance of reuniting on this side of death. I spent the rest of the day unable to really function.

When people talk about mission, they often assume it is about evangelization or "leading someone to Christ." When we, as Christians, evangelize, we let Scripture speak for itself in the relationships we cultivate and the experiences we have every day. Our God is a

missional God and desires the outpouring of love from us to whom-ever we are blessed to have in our lives. And in so doing, His mission is poured out mutually, through us and through "the other," if we are keen to listen to His teachings in the Word.

Mr. Nishi, our beloved Japanese grandpa, we love you, and will continue to love you by taking care of those who are important to you. May God call you home with dignity and peace in His time, where you may rest from the pain of life, and may Merle Haggard be there to greet you.

## Did you know . . .

. . . you are invited and encouraged to write down your thoughts, wishes, and dreams for CLC on the Wonder Wall (formerly the wall calendar) to the left of the door facing the sanctuary.

. . . if you shop Amazon.com, a small percentage of your purchases can support Christ Lutheran Church *without additional cost to you*. Just use the link below, where you will be asked if you want to support Christ Lutheran, and learn how simple it is! Our unique link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1021308>. You can also find that link on the "Give" page of our website: [www.welcome2clc.com/give](http://www.welcome2clc.com/give).

. . . to get our monthly "Friendly Visitor" newsletter by email, send us a message using the instructions on the "Contact" page of our website: [www.welcome2clc.com](http://www.welcome2clc.com).

. . . donations of items for Dunn County Humane Society may be placed in the white, lidded bin located in the narthex next to the cart for Stepping Stones. A full list of items needed at the Humane Society is on the bin.

. . . you can give electronically? Electronic gifts are fast and secure, helping to fund the important work we are called to do. Give anytime, anywhere, to your favorite funds. Schedule and manage recurring donations. Make one-time donations to special appeals. Pay for events, programs and other activities. Visit the "Giving" tab on our website, contact the church office, or scan the QR code provided here to learn more.



. . . all signs need to be approved by the church office. Thanks for bringing all requests for signs to the church office for approval and subsequent posting of the signs around the church.

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. . . there is a signup sheet in the narthex to sponsor a Sunday radio broadcast (\$105 per broadcast). Sunday sermons are broadcast on local radio station WMEQ 880 AM (and worldwide via iHeartRadio) Sundays at 9:30am; or listen to a recent Sunday service any-time online at [www.welcome2clc.com](http://www.welcome2clc.com).

. . . “God Pause” Daily Devotion is available on the homepage of the CLC website at [www.welcome2clc.com](http://www.welcome2clc.com).

### **Vanco Mobile app replaces GivePlus**

Our church is now using a new online giving app, Vanco Mobile. This easy-to-use app replaces the GivePlus Mobile app currently in use to make donations.

The switch is simple! Your log-in credentials are the same in Vanco Mobile as in GivePlus Mobile. Recurring gifts created through GivePlus mobile will continue as scheduled. New gifts, or changes to previously scheduled recurring gifts, can now occur through Vanco Mobile.

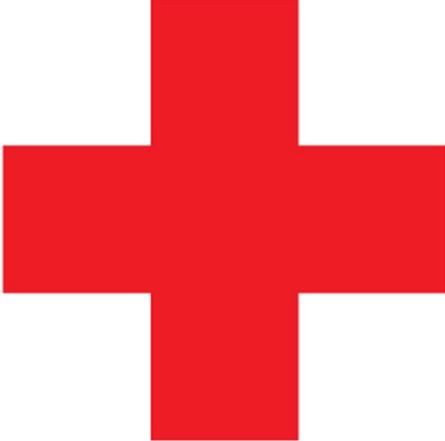
Download the free Vanco Mobile app today in the [Google Play store](#) or the [Apple App store](#). Find your organization by searching for your church by Christ Lutheran Church or by its invite code, E77RKM.

Thank you for using GivePlus Mobile. Remember to download the Vanco Mobile app before January 31, 2022.

### **BLOOD DRIVE AT CLC – FEBRUARY 10**

Volunteers are needed for the blood drive at the church on Thursday, February 10. Food donations are also needed for the

“Canteen.” Note that homemade cookies are preferred instead of store-bought cookies. Please see the sign-up sheets in the office wing hallway or call the church office at 715-235-5573. Thanks.



*Give blood.*  
Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.  
**American Red Cross**

**Blood Drive**  
**Christ Lutheran Church**  
1306 Wilcox St.

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**  
**12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: [menomoniechristlutheran](#) to schedule an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App  
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# Prayer Ventures for February

**1** *Black History Month* Give thanks for the gifts, accomplishments, influence and witness of our African-descent neighbors — we stand together as siblings in Christ and partners in the gospel, doing God’s work in the world together. Pray that God will guide our church as it strives for racial justice, socioeconomic equity, racial reconciliation and an end to racism in our church, society and institutions.

**2** Give thanks for the small and subtle ways in which the Spirit encourages and deepens our faith each and every day.

**3** Pray for parish nurses who serve in ministries of health and healing and for the ELCA-affiliated Evangelical Lutheran Parish Nurse Association, which supports parish nurses and promotes a culture of health, healing and wholeness in Lutheran congregations, agencies and communities.

**4** Pray for those who lost homes and were displaced during the December wildfires in Boulder County, Colo. Give thanks for the partnership of Lutheran Disaster Response, the Rocky Mountain Synod and Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains as they work together to provide food, temporary shelter, emotional and spiritual care, and assistance with recovery work.

**5** Pray that our anxieties about the future will be quieted by the assurance that the Spirit’s gifts of hope and peace are more powerful and enduring than the threats and uncertainties we face in life.

**6** Pray that, just as the fishermen Simon Peter, James and John dropped everything they were doing to follow Jesus, we, too, with all our gifts and flaws, might respond to God’s call to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, serve our neighbors in need and do God’s work in the world.

**7** Remember in prayer those impacted by severe weather, especially Typhoon Rai in the Philippines and the recent tornadoes, flooding and winter storms across our country. Pray that God’s presence will bring healing and hope during recovery, comfort those grieving the loss of loved ones, and strengthen the people and organizations that respond to crises and help with recovery, including Lutheran Disaster Response.

**8** Remember and give thanks for siblings in Christ of every generation who have shared the gospel, inspired others to believe, and borne God’s grace, peace and hope into the world through their words, example, service and sacrifice.

**9** We live in a time of war, conflict and unrest in many regions of the world. Pray for the safety of people living amid turmoil, the well-being of refugees and immigrants fleeing threats, and the protection of children and youth living in circumstances unimaginable to us. Ask the Spirit to guide us as courageous and compassionate advocates, peacemakers, companions and bearers of hope in the world.

**10** Pray for the leaders of youth and family ministries and for outdoor ministry professionals as they participate in the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza in Minneapolis, an event that provides them with encouragement, support, education and networking opportunities.

**11** “I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart” (Psalm 138:1). Pray that every aspect of our life, service and generosity will reflect our gratitude for God’s awesome, undeserved love and blessings.

**12** Give thanks and praise to God for the companion-synod relationships that connect our synods and congregations with Lutheran churches around the world, blessing, nurturing and strengthening them for their ministry together.

**13** Give thanks that God teaches us something new every day and equips us so well to share the good news of Jesus Christ, care for neighbors in need and reflect God’s gracious love through our words, actions and interactions with people.

**14** Pray for immigrants and refugees, in our country and around the world, who seek safety, relief and a place to rebuild their lives. Ask that God’s compassion, wisdom and desire for justice guide us in resolving the problems and crises that displace people from their homes and nations.

**15** “Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green” (Jeremiah 17:7-8). Praise God for the work of the Spirit, which renews and nourishes us when we feel uncertain, weary or anxious.

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**16** Thank God for our special relationship with the Moravian Church in America, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1999. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these challenging times.

**17** Pray that the Spirit will help us understand and follow the ways, desires and commandments of God that protect our well-being in daily life.

**18** Give thanks that our faith and hope are grounded in Christ's resurrection and the promise of one day being raised to eternal life as God's children. Pray that the Spirit will help us articulate — in our own imperfect words — our joy, our faith and the good news of Jesus Christ for all people.

**19** Pray that our seminaries and Lay Schools for Ministry program will grow, thrive and prepare our church leaders for ministry in diverse and changing contexts, in the present and with insightful anticipation of the future.

**20** "Love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as [God] is merciful" (Luke 6:35-36). Ask the Spirit to help us do what seems difficult or impossible and live as willing disciples of Christ.

**21** Reflect on what God is stirring in us right now, and pray that we might discern what God calls us to be: bearers of love, hope, healing, reconciliation and the good news of Jesus Christ.

**22** Pray that the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers, which mirrors God's love and forgiveness of us, will inspire us to forgive those who have caused us offense, anger or distress, and that we might seek forgiveness and grace from people we have hurt.

**23** The theme of the ELCA Youth Gathering and our camps' summer curriculum is "boundless: God beyond measure." Pray that we will live into this theme, growing in faith and gratitude for God's infinite power, presence, love and wisdom.

**24** Thank God for hearing and responding to our prayers — spoken and silent — and for tending to

our needs, easing our worries, calming our anger and providing refuge in time of trouble. Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire us as we do God's work in the world, caring for our neighbors in distress.

**25** Pray for the Deaconess Community of the ELCA, a diverse body unified in its commitment to proclaim the gospel, show mercy, demonstrate servant leadership and bring healing and reconciliation to the world.

**26** Look into the vast night sky at the stars, planets, meteors and comets, and praise God for stirring our awe, wonder, curiosity, humility and imagination.

**27** "And all were astounded at the greatness of God" (Luke 9:43). Give thanks that in Jesus Christ we glimpse and experience the glory and power of God poured out upon humanity for our healing and salvation.

**28** Give thanks for the evolving technology that helps us with everyday tasks, connects us with people around the world, provides new tools for treating the sick and injured, and helps us reach more people with the gospel. Pray that we will consider the impact of technology and use it equitably and justly for the well-being and benefit of all people.

## **LCM meals for spring semester**

Lutheran Campus Ministries is looking for volunteers to provide a home-cooked meal for students for the following dates for the spring semester: February 7, 14; March 28; April 4; May 2. If you are interested, please email Sara Reed at [lcmostoutdirector@gmail.com](mailto:lcmostoutdirector@gmail.com) or call 715.563.6336. Thank you!

**The Friendly Visitor**  
*from*  
**Christ Lutheran Church**  
**1306 Wilcox Street, Menomonie, WI 54751**

**February Service Group  
Coordinator:  
?**



Please let us know if you wish to receive a paper copy of this newsletter by calling our office at 715-235-5573 or by emailing us at [The.Office.CLC@gmail.com](mailto:The.Office.CLC@gmail.com). THANK YOU!

**Pastoral Ministry**

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation.

Pastor: Cheryl Matthews (608-863-1697 [pastorcherylmatthews@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcherylmatthews@gmail.com))

Lutheran Campus Ministry Director: Sara Reed ([lcmstoutdirector@gmail.com](mailto:lcmstoutdirector@gmail.com))

Chancel Choir Director/Worship Leader: Brian Klein

Worship/Choir Accompanist: LuAnn Dohms

Alternate Accompanists: Andrew Maki, Mary Merritt

**Youth Ministry**

Youth Director: Josie Wilterdink ([cosmo.clc@gmail.com](mailto:cosmo.clc@gmail.com))

**Sunday School (COSMO)**

Superintendent: Josie Wilterdink ([cosmo.clc@gmail.com](mailto:cosmo.clc@gmail.com))

Accompanist: Mary Merritt

**Maintenance**

Custodian: Tom Surdick (cell 715-505-7022)

**Missionary Sponsorship**

Patrick & Jackie Bencke, Japan ([jackie@bencke.com](mailto:jackie@bencke.com))

**CLC FoodShelf**

Heather Lannon ([clc.pantry.table@gmail.com](mailto:clc.pantry.table@gmail.com))

**Wednesday's Table**

Coordinator: Shanara Patchen ([skhpatchen13@gmail.com](mailto:skhpatchen13@gmail.com))

**Office Staff**

Church Secretary Office Hours: Monday through Thursday—8:30am to 3pm;

Friday—office closed. (Please note that the pastor's day off is Friday.)

Secretary: Jillyn Geissler ([The.Office.CLC@gmail.com](mailto:The.Office.CLC@gmail.com))

Treasurer: Dick Rank/Tricia Rank-Larson ([Financial.CLC@gmail.com](mailto:Financial.CLC@gmail.com))

**Radio Ministry**

Radio Broadcast on 880 AM Sundays at 9:30am

Limited Range (Parking Lot) Frequency on 107.7 FM

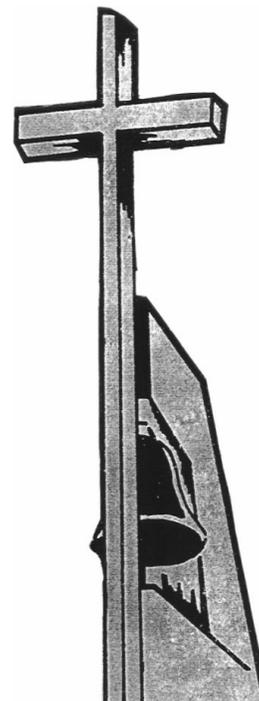
**Livestream Ministry**

Audio Visual Specialist: Darrin Falk ([TechUser.CLC@gmail.com](mailto:TechUser.CLC@gmail.com))

**Internet Ministry**

Sunday bulletins, "Friendly Visitor" newsletters, calendar, audio of Sunday services, and much more may be found at [www.Welcome2CLC.com](http://www.Welcome2CLC.com) or at [www.facebook.com/Welcome2CLC](http://www.facebook.com/Welcome2CLC).

[www.Welcome2CLC.com](http://www.Welcome2CLC.com)  
Facebook: Welcome2CLC



**Christ  
Lutheran  
Church**

**PHONE  
715-235-5573**

"Love Jesus,  
Grow Together,  
Serve Others."

**Welcome!**

# February 2022 - CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<i>1</i> 6:30 PM Exec Board	<i>2</i> 3:30 PM THE SPOT  5:00 PM -6:00 PM CLC FoodShelf  5:00 PM -6:00 PM Wednesday's Table  6:00 PM Christ Time	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 10:00 AM Luther Park Annual Meeting
<i>6</i> SCOUT SUNDAY 9:00 AM Worship service (in-person and livestream)  10:15 AM Faith Formation  12:00 PM -4:00 PM ChiliFest at Luther Park  2:00 PM Worship at Autumn Village	<i>7</i> 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion (in sanctuary)	<i>8</i> 9:00 AM Mission Work Day  5:30 PM Admin, Cong Life/Worship, Outreach Cmte's  7:00 PM Council	<i>9</i> 3:30 PM THE SPOT  5:00 PM -6:00 PM CLC FoodShelf  5:00 PM -6:00 PM Wednesday's Table  6:00 PM Christ Time	<i>10</i> 12:00 PM -6:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive in CLC Fellowship Hall	<i>11</i> 5:30 PM Family Movie Night	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> SOUPER BOWL OF CARING  9:00 AM Worship service (in-person and livestream)  10:15 AM Faith Formation	<i>14</i> 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion (in sanctuary)	<i>15</i> 7:00 AM -8:00 PM ELECTION IN FELLOWSHIP HALL	<i>16</i> 3:30 PM THE SPOT  5:00 PM -6:00 PM CLC FoodShelf  5:00 PM -6:00 PM Wednesday's Table  6:00 PM Christ Time	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> YOUTH SUNDAY  9:00 AM Worship service (in-person and livestream)  10:15 AM Faith Formation	<i>21</i> 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion (in sanctuary)	<i>22</i> 9:00 AM Mission Work Day  3:15 PM Communion at The Neighbors	<i>23</i> 3:30 PM THE SPOT  5:00 PM -6:00 PM CLC FoodShelf  5:00 PM -6:00 PM Wednesday's Table  6:00 PM Christ Time	<i>24</i> 4:30 PM Wednesday's Table Board Meeting	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> 9:00 AM Worship service (in-person and livestream)  10:15 AM Faith Formation	<i>28</i> 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion (in sanctuary)					