

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

IN TOUCH

DECEMBER 2019

FROM PASTOR CRAIG

As the culture dives headlong into the Christmas Season, the Church dwells in Advent. Many Christmas Trees are already up and decorated, many more after Thanksgiving weekend. Stores have been playing Christmas songs as early as October, yet the Church is not there as it comes to the end of the current church year awaiting the beginning of a new one with Advent. It may seem that Advent is the Church's version of "Bah humbug," but not really. Yes, we do try to refrain from singing Christmas carols, instead singing songs of anticipation of the coming Christ. There are Advent traditions: the lighting of the Advent Wreath, Advent calendars, and mid-week Advent worship.

This year our Wednesday Night Advent Worship services will be a little less preaching and a little more reflection and prayer. I'm planning to use a form of evening prayer at both Christ Lutheran Church and Washington Lutheran Church. The theme for the Wednesday night services is "Preparing in Christ's Presence." This midweek worship series includes prayer, readings, and song around the themes of "Do Less," "Wonder," and "Hope."

The themes for each Wednesday Night of Advent are:

- ◇ December 4th – "Do Less" *What can you let go of or erase from your to-do-list in order to be more present with Christ this Advent?*
- ◇ December 11th – "Experience Wonder" *How can we experience wonder for God's works and be fed by wonder in the midst of this busy season?*
- ◇ December 18th – "Hold on the Hope" *How can we hold on to hope in the midst of the world's troubles?*

Wednesday Night Advent Worship begins December 4th at Christ Lutheran. Washington will host Wednesday Night Advent Worship on December 11th and Christ Lutheran again on December 18th. All Wednesday Night Advent Worship Services begin at 7:00 P.M.

Advent blessings,

Pastor Craig

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Christ Lutheran: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am to Noon

Washington Lutheran: Tuesday, 2:30-4:20pm; Friday, 9am to Noon

MICK MCBRIDE, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Good Morning!

I am writing this a week out from Thanksgiving 2019. So much to be thankful for on a personal level and as Lay Council president. I think our CLC family has much to be thankful for as well. We will talk about that in person on December 8th at the Congregational Meeting.

While being thankful is emphasized in November, we put extra emphasis on giving in the month of December. We here at Christ Lutheran have many opportunities to give to others who can really use the help. Here are few examples:

- ◇ Help with the Feed My Starving Children food pack – it is fun, and can you think of a better cause than feeding kids who don't have enough to eat.
- ◇ Donate food to the food pantry – You can drop it off at the church and Ken will take it downtown for you.
- ◇ Help with the next dinner we serve at the Beacon of Hope.
- ◇ It is always a great form of giving to offer a listening ear or a helping hand to those in our lives who are struggling physically, mentally, or emotionally.

Please be prayerful in considering giving of yourself, you are a great gift.

Love you all, see you Sunday.

Mick

HOLIDAY COOKIE SUNDAY & FESTIVE SWEATER SUNDAY

On Sunday, December 22nd, wear your favorite Christmas clothing and bring some of your favorite holiday cookies to share during Fellowship. What could be more fun?

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN



QUILTING continues every Tuesday at 1:00pm at the church. All are welcome to join in. Come check it out!

HOLIDAY BRUNCH & CAROL SING will be held December 5th at 12:30pm.

LADIES NIGHT OUT will not be held in December but will resume in January weather permitting.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

The mobile pack will be in town Saturday, December 7, at the Community Christian School Gymnasium from 12:00 noon to 2:00 P.M. A sign-up sheet is available to sign up to fill food packets. Please consider joining us for this worthwhile event.

M&M containers are available. Once you enjoy the m&m's, fill the containers with quarters (\$14 worth), cash or a check in any amount to be given to Feed My Starving Children.

FROM CLC TO THE MOOSE - MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Christ Lutheran Quilting ladies most graciously donated 39 quilts and 3 pillows to the Fort Dodge Moose Lodge who will then distribute them to the Domestic/Sexual Assault Outreach Center (DSAOC) and the YWCA.

The Women of the Moose have an annual program where they collect donated blankets and quilts during the month of November. The quilts are then distributed to help keep disadvantaged children warm!

This program was started when one of the women wanted to give back or pass it forward. You see, when she was young and didn't have much except a newborn, she was given a blanket and never forgot the overwhelming emotions and gratitude she felt. Thus she began the program at the Fort Dodge Moose Lodge.

The Christ Lutheran Ladies are also more than generous, making quilts yearly and donating them to those in need. These two programs go hand in hand!

The Loyal Order of the Moose provides services and funds for families in need locally and helps fund "Mooseheart" a campus for children in need. The Moose was founded in 1880 and is Nationwide.

Your Brother in Christ,
Garrett Savery



'TIS THE SEASON!

Advent Mid-Week Worship will run as follows:

December 4, 7PM at Christ Lutheran Church

December 11, 7PM at Washington Lutheran Church

December 18, 7PM at Christ Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion, 5PM at Christ Lutheran Church

LAY MINISTRY COUNCIL MINUTES

Those present were: Pres Mick McBride, Brenda Savery, Joyce Hanson, Sue Kraft, Jerry Kraft, Liz Lombard, Jan Bowers & Pastor Miller.

MOTION carried to approve the Minutes of the Oct 2019 Lay Ministry Council Meeting (Sue, Jan)

Pastor's Report:

- * Pastoral Care Visitations
- * Lifeline Screening on Oct 17 was well attended
- * All Saints Sunday – several candles were lit in memory of loved ones who died in the faith. The Christ Lutheran members: Abraham Bishey and Jeanette Dencklau
- * Veterans Day - Pictures and Memorabilia were displayed in honor of family members who have served
- * 2019 vacation: Upcoming: Nov 15-17 and Dec 26-31 12/29 : Annette Howard will be preaching, YTD: 2 Sundays, 9 days,
- * 2020 vacation: Florida January 23-30, 1/29 Eric Howard will be preaching
- * Thanksgiving Soup Potluck and Worship on Wed Nov 27

MOTION carried to approve Financial Secretary/Treasurer Reports for Oct 2019 (Brenda, Liz)

Other Reports

- * Annual Congregational Auction was held Oct 20 th . Proceeds: \$3,100
- * Quilts from Christ Lutheran will be distributed to children through the Mooseheart Project.
- * Mittens and hats from Christ Lutheran were distributed to various FD schools and daycares.

Ongoing Business

- * Office Secretary – Carmin continues to help with those duties
- * Upcoming Joint Exec Council Meeting with Washington Lutheran
- * **Annual Congregational Meeting – Dec 8th**, Annual Report Congregation Meeting – Jan 26 th
- * Feed My Starving Children – Special Collection and sign-up Dec 7
- * Church Custodian(s) – This position needs to be filled

New Business

Council discussed the 2020 Vision/Budget, Motion carried to approve the Vision to present to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting


Next meeting will be Dec 9 th at 7:00 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Brenda Savery
LMC Secretary

-
- ◆ **SIGN UP SHEETS** are in the hallway. Please consider volunteering to Read, Usher or supply Flowers
 - ◆ **CHRIST IN OUR HOME** is available in the Fellowship Hall
 - ◆ **MAILBOXES / BULLETIN BOARDS** Please check regularly for information
 - ◆ **DIRECTORY UPDATES** If you have a change of information, please let us know so that it may be updated
 - ◆ **LORD'S CUPBOARD** is always in need of pantry items. Please give generously!

DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00AM Worship Holy Communion Coffee: Council	2	3 10:30AM Clergy Text Study 1:00PM Quilting 6:00PM Yoga at CLC	4 6:00PM Confirmation at CLC 7:00PM Advent Worship at CLC	5 12:30PM CLCW Holiday Brunch & Carol Sing	6	7 Noon-2:00PM Feed My Starv- ing Children at Community Christian School
8 9:00AM Worship Benevolence Sunday <u>Annual Meeting</u> <u>following worshi</u> Coffee: Women's Circle	9 7:00PM Lay Ministry Council	10 10:30AM Clergy Text Study 1:00PM Quilting 7:00PM Joint Council Meeting at WLC	11 6:00PM Confirmation at WLC 7:00PM Advent Worship at WLC	12 9:00AM -1:00 PM Pastor Craig at Fort Dodge Forum	13	14
15 9:00AM Worship Holy Communion Gospel Song Sunday Coffee: Altar Gld	16	17 10:30AM Clergy Text Study 1:00PM Quilting 6:00PM Yoga at CLC	18 6:00PM Confirmation at CLC 7:00PM Advent Worship at CLC	19	20	21
22 9:00AM Worship Festive Sweater Holiday Cookies	23	24 5:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE Worship with Holy Communion	25 Merry Christmas 	26	27	28
				Pastor on Vacation December 26-January 1		
29 9:00AM Worship	30	31 New Year's Eve	<u>FLOWERS</u> 12/1 Mick & Janet McBride 12/8 Ken & Eileen Samuelson (Eileen's Birthday) 12/15 OPEN 12/22 Mick & Janet McBride - Merry Christmas! 12/29 Jerry & Sue Kraft (Wedding Anniversary)		<u>READERS</u> 12/1 Mick McBride 12/8 OPEN 12/15 Arlene Opheim 12/22 Mike Opheim 12/29 Mike Opheim	
			<u>USHERS</u> NEEDED EVERY SUNDAY	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u> Tim & Kellie Guderian		
Pastor on Vacation December 26-January 1						

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

2220 10th Ave, N
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Telephone: (515) 576-4925
Email: christlutheranfd@gmail.com
Website: www.christlutheranfd.org

Rev. Craig D. Miller, Pastor
Mick McBride, Council President

In Our Prayers

Kate McBride (home)
Heidi Janssen (home)
Bonnie Byro (FD Health & Rehab)
Luella Jensen (home)
Alan Johnson (home)
Alvin Dencklau (home)
Eleanor Kullberg (Villa Care)
Jeff Johnson (son of Russ & Evelyn)
Shirley Tatum (FD Health & Rehab)
Lydia Becker (home)
Eileen Samuelson (home)

OCCASIONS TO CELEBRATE

December Birthdays

12/3 Brenda Savery
12/6 Steven Bishey
12/7 Jace Peterson
12/10 Eileen Samuelson
12/12 Rachel Conrad
12/16 Wesley Brayton
12/17 Mark Peters
12/21 Harmony Conrad
12/23 Ray Pickett
12/31 Matthew Better
12/31 David Urlaub

December Anniversaries

12/18 Doug & Sharon Harp (1976)
12/26 Jerry & Sue Kraft (1981)
12/31 Chuck & Sondra Schwanz (1961)

“A friendly, caring church extending the love of Jesus to all.”