

CHRIST TODAY

A monthly newsletter for friends and members of Christ Lutheran Church, Warren NALC/ LCMC



SPECIAL DATES

- Church closed - 1/1, 1/2
- Epiphany - 1/5
- Church undecorating - 1/5
- Name Tag Sunday - 1/5, 2/2
- Blood Pressure ck - 1/5, 2/2
- Evangelism mtg - 1/7, 2/4
-
- Bible Study - 1/8, 1/22, 2/5, 2/19
- Grief Share - 1/9, 2/13
- Youth Group - 1/10, 1/24, 2/14, 2/28
- Euchre, - 1/11, 2/8
- Baptism of the Lord - 1/12
- Worship meeting - 1/12, 2/9
- Parish ED meeting - 1/13, 2/10
- Staff meeting - 1/14, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25
- Pins & Needles - 1/14, 2/11
- Exec meeting - 1/14, 2/11
- Teleconference - 1/15, 2/12
- Student Skit - 1/19, 2/16
- Council meeting - 1/21, 2/18
- Pantry Distribution - 1/21
- Prayer Night - 1/30, 2/27

January 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

From the Pastor's Desk

“One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple”

It has been said of David, King of Israel, that he was a man after God's own heart. Knowing his glaring departures from holy and responsible behavior may make us wonder, *Why did God say this about David? He committed murder and falsehood, adultery and a lot more. So why would God honor him by sharing with us that David is a man after his own heart?* We can look to Psalm 27:4 as part of the answer to that question. David reveals where his heart lies in the first sentence, “One thing have I asked of the Lord.” We all know that David hasn’t asked God for just one thing; from his youth on up he continually prayed to God for hundreds of things that are recorded in God’s Word.

When lions and bears attacked his father's flocks, *he prayed for God's help* and was enabled to kill the attackers. Before every battle David fought, he submitted himself, his army, and the coming battle to his God, *trusting Him* to give him the strategy and the victory despite having to face huge, well-equipped armies. The odds were against them, but *David knew that God was for them, and would help and deliver them.* And He did. When the Israelites brought the ark of the covenant home to Jerusalem, David leapt and danced and sang to God in exhilarated praise and excitement before all the people. *He honored his great God, and was utterly filled with joy because the tangible evidence of God's presence was finally with them again.* So when David says “One thing have I asked of the Lord,” we know that this prayer is *the one prayer among them all; it is his greatest desire and hope, the deepest and most urgent longing of his soul.* What is this longing, this deepest hope? “*That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*” Wouldn’t God look with pleasure on David as He received this prayer? **Oh yes, because when David longed for something, it was God's presence that he wanted most.** When he prayed for an everlasting relationship with the Lord, he actually used words, out loud, talking to God; he asked God for what he desired. I think that is what God wants us to focus on. **“Seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness first and all these things shall be added unto you!” Matt 6:33**

What is the deepest and most urgent longing of our soul today? *The whole salvation process is a process of bringing back all who are created in the image and likeness of God to his presence/kingdom. It is a process of restoration. Eternal life means to live with him forever!* I know we have a lot of prayer requests, but I want you to lift up the prayer of David above all prayers and pray to God in the same way as David did. *Nothing is more important than dwelling in the presence of the Lord!* “One thing Have I asked of the Lord; this is what I seek.” Join me in praying this prayer as we enter into the new year! **May the Lord sustain us and help us to do so!**

Pastor Tsegaysesus H. Hunde

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Phyllis Burkhardt

Designated to Thanksgiving baskets
Given by: Terry & Esther Straka

In Memory of Marge Holland Wyss

Undesignated gift
Given by: Charlene Caty,
Charles & Doris Currier

Designated to Capital Improvements
Given by Terry & Esther Straka

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed from death to life.

John 5:24



Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry

This year, we delivered 39 shoeboxes to the collection center at The Woods Church. They will be added to other boxes to be delivered by Samaritan's Purse to children all around the world living in desperate and dangerous living conditions. Please continue to pray for the safety of these precious children and their families, and for the Holy Spirit to open their hearts and minds to accept the Gospel messages delivered with the boxes. Knowing Jesus as their Savior is the most precious gift of all! **THANK YOU** to everyone who lovingly packed a shoebox, or donated money to cover shipping for this wonderful evangelistic outreach.

Barb Harry
Coordinator for the Shoebox Ministry

Thanksgiving Box Distribution

The Evangelism Committee would like to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in any way to make the Thanksgiving Box Ministry successful this year – whether you donated food, or money to purchase grocery store certificates to Oak Ridge Market. We provided Thanksgiving boxes for 35 families, or 76 people who were so grateful for the food and the grocery store certificates used to help supply food for their Thanksgiving meal. In addition to the food, each family received a blanket that was donated by Trudy Oser. She donated the material and the time to make these beautiful blankets of different patterns and colors. **Thank You** Trudy for your generous heart and your wonderful talent!

That same day we also distributed Pantry boxes to 10 families, including 28 people, not qualifying for the Thanksgiving boxes. They received food, cleaning supplies, paper products, and \$20 in grocery store certificates. **Thank You** also for the volunteers who came to check expiration dates, sort, pack, and distribute the boxes! We could not have done all this without your help! All of the families expressed their gratitude for all they received!

Barb Harry & Melissa Bruesehoff
Thanksgiving Box Ministry co-chairs

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Thank you IT committee members who have worked with numerous contractors the past few weeks to assist with the installation of the sound & video systems in the Narthex & Sanctuary.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 2025

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
10:00 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP						
Services are in-person & Live Streamed			1 Church Office closed	2 Church Office closed	3	4
5 Epiphany/Name Tag Worship Service at 10 am with continuous Holy Communion 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour 11:15 - Blood Pressure Ck.	6 9:30 a.m. Prayer group 5:30 Genesis 7:30 Handbells	7 Three 12:30 p.m. Evangelism and SC Meeting	8 Days of Bible Study at 11 am & 7 pm	9 Prayer Noon - Grief Share	10 6 - 8:00 Youth Group	11 2-5 Euchre
12 Baptism of the Lord Worship Service at 10 am w/ continuous communion 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour 11:30 - Worship Mtg	13 9:30 a.m. Prayer group 5:30 CLC Praise Band 6:00 p.m. Parish Ed. Mtg 7:30 HandBells	14 10:00 Staff Meeting 10-12 Pins and Needles 6:30 Executive meeting	15 7:00pm Teleconference	16	17	18
19 Worship Service at 10:00 featuring student skit 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour January birthdays	20 9:30am Prayer group 5:30 Genesis 7:30 Handbells	21 Noon-1:00 Pantry Distribution 6:30 Council Meeting	22 Bible Study at 11 am & 7 pm	23	24 6-8 Youth Group	25
26 Worship Service at 10 with Holy communion 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour Congregational Mtg	27 9:30am Prayer Group 5:30 CLC Praise Band 7:30 Handbells	28 10:00 Staff Meeting	29	30 7:00 Prayer Night	31	

February 2025

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
10:00 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP						
Services are in-person & Live Streamed						1
2 Name Tag Sunday Worship Service at 10 am 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour 11:15 - Blood Pressure Ck	3 9:30 a.m. Prayer group 5:30 Genesis 7:30 Handbells	4 12:30 p.m. Evangelism & SC Meeting	5 Bible Study at 11 am & 7 pm	6	7	8 2-5 pm Euchre
9 Worship Service at 10 am with Holy Communion 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour 11:30 - Worship Meeting	10 9:30 a.m. Prayer group 5:30 p.m. CLC Praise Band 6 pm Parish Ed 7:30 Handbells	11 10 am Staff Meeting 10-12:00 Pins and Needles 6:30 Executive Meeting	12 7:00 pm Teleconference	13 Noon- Grief Share	14 6-8 Youth Group	15
16 Worship Service at 10 am with Student Skit 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour celebrating Valentines Day	17 9:30am Prayer Group 5:30 Genesis 7:30 Handbells	18 6:30 Council Meeting	19 Bible Study at 11 am & 7 pm	20	21	22
23 Worship Service at 10am with Holy Communion 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15 - Catechism 11:15 - Coffee Hour celebrating Feb. b-days	24 9:30 am Prayer Group 5:30 CLC Praise Band 7:30 Handbells	25 10 am Staff Meeting	26	27 7:00 Prayer Night	28 6-8 Youth Group	

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH NALC/LCMC

Phone: 586-293-0700

Fax: 586-293-5046

Email: churchoffice@clcwarren.org

Web: www.christlutheranchurchwarren.org

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Tsegayseus Hurisa Hunde

Tsega.hunde@clcwarren.org

Kathi Frezza, Business Director

Kathi.frezza@clcwarren.org

Shannon Huizdos, Office Administrator

Shannon.huizdos@clcwarren.org

Evelyn Hudson-Wright, Youth & Family Ministry

Evelyn.hudson-wright@clcwarren.org

Justin Bowse, Music Director

Justin.bowse@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Cheryl Gothro, President

Cheryl.gothro@clcwarren.org

Dave Dietz, Vice President

remprinting@sbcglobal.net

Jim Bruesehoff, Treasurer

Jim.bruesehoff@clcwarren.org

Suzanne Sopfe, Secretary

Suzanne.sopfe@clcwarren.org

Church Office Hours

Mon. – Thurs: 9am – 2:00pm

Friday – 9:00 am - noon

From the Council President

Hello and **Happy New Year** fellow members in Christ! What a quick 2024!! I pray this new year will offer a rejuvenated spirit and faith in Christ Jesus. My hope is that this New Year is welcomed with open hearts and minds to the love that can be shared with our fellow congregational members at Christ Lutheran Church.

Thank you to those who contributed to the beauty of our church during the Christmas season. I pray you were able to join in the festivities, especially the Advent services, celebrating the waiting and preparation of our hearts and minds for the birth of our Lord. I find the Christmas season's decorations and lights that surround us, add to the joy and excitement that we feel no other time of the year. I thank those of you who took advantage of our annual Sing-a-Long to assist the ARK Association, by offering warm clothing and blankets while enjoying songs, lunch and fellowship. Also, Neighborhood Caroling, offered songs to cheer those around us, letting them know that CLC is near and welcoming them to visit. My constant prayer is that this feeling of hope and joy in Christ never leaves us, even though the seasons of our lives continually change.

Thank you to all those who support and assist with the function of our offices, building, grounds, and ministerial activities. You are needed and greatly appreciated. If you are unfamiliar with the activities within CLC, feel encouraged to check out our Website for the calendar of weekly events. **The really BIG NEWS is the new Audio-Visual Sound System that we have been anxiously awaiting, is finally here and will be in service the beginning of January!**

We continue bi-monthly Bible studies and new off-site Bible studies called Home Cell Study. This study is offered once a month, at members' homes, led by Pastor Hunde and Evelyn Hudson-Wright, our Youth and Family Director. Our Pins and Needles group creates Lap Robes for veterans and those living in nursing homes. Another group creates Greeting Cards for members, and there's Euchre once a month as well. We continue to offer Youth and Young Adult night activities twice a month. Please encourage and support these young people so they remain interested and involved in the teachings of our Lord, continuing to grow in faith, becoming productive members of Christ Lutheran Church. There are many, many more activities held within our church home. Please join us!

Remember, we will hold our **Annual Congregational Meeting January 26**, following the regular service. As always, it is important that all who are able to, so attend. The information provided and the opinion shared are important to the function of our church home.

We continue to offer prayers and comfort to those who have lost loved ones over the past year... **Continued on page 6**

YOUNG AT HEART

Age 50 PLUS

JANUARY
Birthdays & Anniversaries

FEBRUARY
Birthdays

The Lord bless and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24)

David Fehmer	1/1
Virginia Lobstein	1/1
Shirley Mannikko	1/3
Robert Schmalenberg	1/4
Marion Runde	1/10
Allan Busch	1/11
Carol Coles	1/20
Marilyn Niehaus	1/20
JoAnn Parobek	1/20
Lee O'Bryan	1/22
Randy Byrne	1/28

Happy Anniversary

Lee & Nancy O'Bryan Jan.22 54 yrs

Mike & Pat VanSlembrouck Jan.22 60yrs.

Send a card & share a wish with our young at heart 50+ Seniors of CLC

Michelle Reich	2/1
Don Young	2/1
Ann Slavko	2/4
Nancy O'Bryan	2/8
Cynthia Schleis	2/8
Daniel Nicholson	2/11
Lawaun Modrich	2/12
Dorothea Rehn	2/12
Larry Oser	2/15
Gerhilde Rometsch	2/15
Leigh Bull	2/19
Ellen Paquin	2/20
George Schleis	2/21
Michele Schultz	2/22



From the President (continued from page 5)

Sending prayers for strength and healing to those who suffer illness or are homebound is important. Thank you to all who assist our homebound whenever needed. We continue to seek the Lord for guidance and strength through prayer in daily living. Come and join us, hear the gospel, and allow the Holy Spirit to fill you with hope and love. Contact the office if you are in need of prayers, pastoral counseling or assistance with planning necessary related events. Also contact the church office if you would like to be added to the prayer list, receive communion or if you are in need of a ride for church services.

Our 2025 pictorial directory is due to arrive in February. Our annual 2024-25 phone directory will arrive within the year as well. If you have an emergency, contact the church office during regular office hours. If a need arises after hours, please call Pastor or myself. Our numbers are listed in the directories and on our CLC website. We look forward to seeing you in church for a new beginning. **Yours in Christ, Cheryl Gothro**

NALC Disaster Response

North American Lutheran Church congregations throughout the United States have come to the aid of people suffering from a variety of natural disasters. From the wildfires in California, the flooding along the east coast, to hurricanes in Florida, the response of NALC congregations has supported those affected by these disasters and are preparing to help others who might fall victim in future situations.

Disaster Response receives no financial support from the NALC. One hundred percent of the funding comes from offerings and donations.

Our Michigan Mission Warehouse is in Owosso and needs to be restocked. The Evangelism Committee has selected Health Kits to help supply the warehouse. Look on page 8 for a list of items. They also are requesting new or used Bibles. These items are not expected to last for years or even months; so they don't have to be top-shelf quality.

Please consider helping with this project. We are suggesting you provide complete kits; if possible, partner with someone else to provide a kit if you wish.

The Disaster Response Team suggests packing the items in a 2-gallon Ziploc bag, or a drawstring tote bag. We will be collecting these kits during the month of February. At that time, you may place your finished kits on the table in the hallway. If you have any questions, please see me.

Thank you for your participation.
Esther Straka

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and to those who gave of their time to help us move the big furniture into our new apartment. It wouldn't have been possible without the many hands of our church members. Brittani and I are getting settled in day by day and from the bottoms of our hearts, we would like to thank you and also thank God that our waiting is over. **Denise and Brittani Baloga**

Thank you to all of my dear CLC friends. I am healing well and I want to thank you for all the beautiful cards and all your prayers. God bless you all! **June Foster**

A **Thank you** note was received from a visitor who picked up a Thanksgiving Basket last month. It reads, "When I got home and I looked in my box, I could not believe it. It was the best box I ever got and the \$40 gift card was out of this world! A big, happy Thanksgiving to all parishioners at Christ Lutheran.

Christ Lutheran Church, NALC/ LCMC
32300 Schoenherr Rd.
Warren MI 48088
586-293-0700
www.christlutheranchurchwarren.org

NON-PROFIT ORG
PERMIT NO. 6
ZIP + 4
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID



January-February 2025

NALC Disaster Response Kits

Health Care Kit

(pack in a 2 gallon plastic storage bag or tote)

- 1 bath towel
- 1 wash cloth
- 1 shampoo (2 if travel size)
- 1 bar of soap (2 if travel size)
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 pack of floss
- 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size)
- 1 deodorant
- 1 nail clipper

Bibles

(we encourage you to write a message of hope in the front of donated Bibles)

All of the following are acceptable:

- New or Used (highlighted or underlined text is acceptable)
- Child, teen or adult Bibles
- Bible stories for children
- Spanish or any language
- Large print
- Prayer books