



The Messenger

A Message from Pastor Ley

About the time you receive this newsletter, we will have just completed our annual meeting. Figuring out what to write for my annual report is always one of my most difficult tasks of the year. Part of the challenge stems from the fact that in addition to the many apparent events and changes that occur during the course of a year, there are a multitude of smaller but no less significant things that happen which go unreported, either because of their confidential nature or because the individuals who carry them out do not want the attention. Each year I am reminded that a lot of Christ Lutheran's ministry is carried out not as a result of big programs, but in the lives of individual Christians who quietly live out their faith not only around the church, but also in the wider community.

We have people at Christ Lutheran who, without any acclaim, regularly visit the homebound or provide rides to doctors' appointments or to church. Some include the sick in their daily prayers or send encouraging notes. There are others who volunteer their time to care for God's good creation. A number of members of our congregation quietly see that the hungry in our community are fed. Others mentor youth. Around the church, there are the folks who show up to rake leaves or tend gardens or mow lawns or change banners or set up for communion or make props for Sunday School stories or move tables or offer to teach a class or host a funeral lunch or pitch in to cover an unexpected financial need.

These are not the kind of ministries or people that often garner a lot of ink in an annual report, but they are every bit as much an extension of our ministry and a response to our common call to love God and to love our neighbor.

I have never been one to make New Year's resolutions or to make a big deal about giving something up for Lent. Over the years, though, I have found that Lent is a good time for some self-examination and reflection. This year for Lent, I would encourage you reflect on your ministry and how you live out your love for God and neighbor, even in small ways, either within the church or in the larger community, not to add to your burdens or make you feel guilty, but so that you might think about the things you do in a new light, look at them through the lens of faith, and perhaps even recognize Christ at work in you.

-Pastor Joel Ley

You are invited! A new adult class starts in February: “By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther’s Small Catechism.”

This course will begin February 5 at 8:15 AM (before worship for one hour, subject to adjustment). A different facilitator will lead the study each week. A textbook will be provided to each attendee, so it is important that you sign up either by leaving a message at the church office or by adding your name to the list on the bulletin board in the narthex.

This thought-provoking class will put us up close and personal with Luther’s Small Catechism. It is designed as an introduction for adults who have rarely encountered it as well as a fresh look for adults who have studied and even memorized it. It is for also those who sometime find the Bible to be a difficult forest of words, the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer to be rote exercise, the sacraments to be mystical rituals, and Martin Luther to be largely irrelevant.

So, the purpose of this course is to create space for plain and honest conversations with Luther’s Small Catechism. We hope that the Holy Spirit will use the course to ignite – and reignite – in us the irresistible spark generated by Luther’s poetic and profound examination of our beliefs.

Each week for seven weeks beginning February 5th we will look at the elements of the Catechism. The topics are listed this way:

- The Story of the Small Catechism
- The Ten Commandments
- The Apostles’ Creed
- The Lord’s Prayer
- The Sacrament of Holy Baptism *and* Confession
- The Sacrament of the Altar
- Daily Prayer and the Household Chart

Be sure to reserve your spot early in order that we have enough materials on hand. Questions? Contact John Lohrmann at 509-629-3130 or email johnlohrmann@charter.net.

Lent Begins

We start our journey toward the cross and Jesus’ resurrection on **Ash Wednesday, February 22nd**. **That evening we will worship at 7:00 p.m.** Tentatively, the Ash Wednesday liturgy will be preceded by a soup supper at 6:00 p.m.

On the subsequent Wednesday evenings of Lent, beginning March 1st, we plan to gather for soup supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by Lent Vespers at 7 p.m. Back by popular demand, Sarah and Emily will present the Godly Play Lent lessons to us during vespers in lieu of a homily.

OUR PRAYER CHAIN

If you aren't on our e-mail prayer chain and would like to be, we can make that happen! Just send or give Erin your e-mail address, and she will get you on the list. You can contact her at

(509) 525-2243 or

christlutheran@gohighspeed.com.

Prayer requests can be submitted to Erin at the church office as well.

Weekly Happenings at CLC

- Quilt/ Mission Group - Tuesdays 9 to noon
- Men's Group - alternating Tuesdays at 10am
- Confirmation Class - Wednesdays at 6:30pm
- Bible Study - Thursdays at 1pm
- Adult Education Class - Sunday at 10:30 am
- Worship & Wonder - Sunday at 9:30 am

Attendance Report

Average Sunday Worship Attendance

December 2021 - 131

December 2022 - 134

Pastoral Acts

Funerals

Janet Tinker (January 6th)

Loren Harvey (January 21st)

JoAnn Clapp (January 26)

Church Office Hours

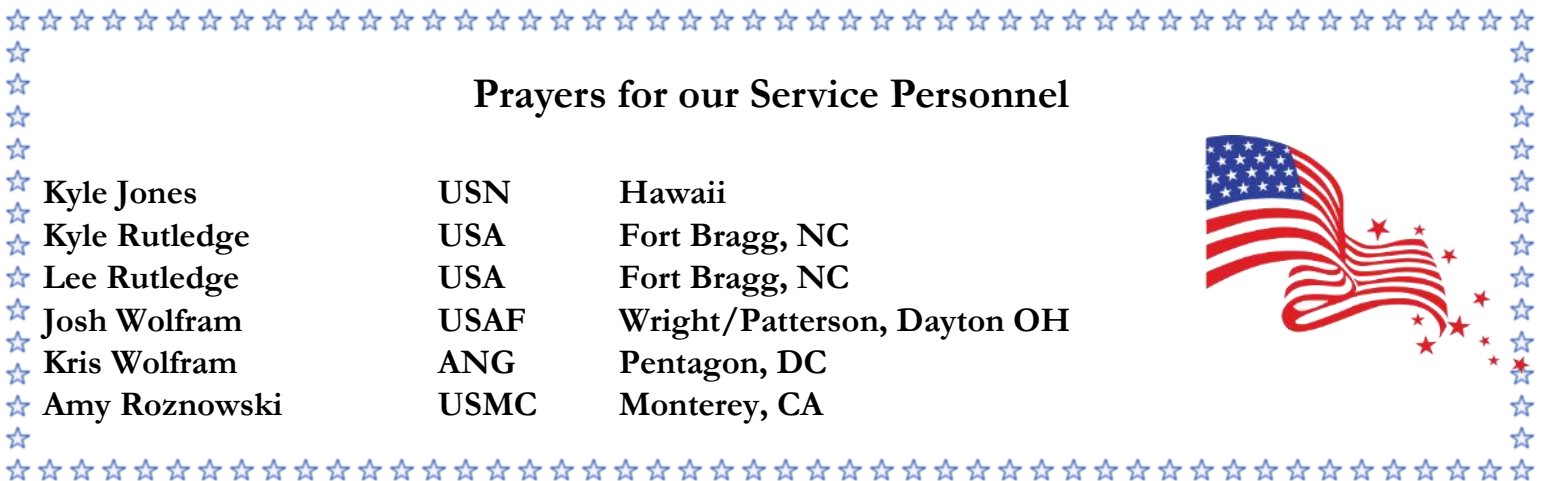
Monday - Friday 8:30 am - Noon
and 1:00 pm - 3:30pm

Office Closure

The church office will be closed on Monday, February 20th for the Presidents' Day holiday.

Prayers for our Service Personnel

Kyle Jones	USN	Hawaii
Kyle Rutledge	USA	Fort Bragg, NC
Lee Rutledge	USA	Fort Bragg, NC
Josh Wolfram	USAF	Wright/Patterson, Dayton OH
Kris Wolfram	ANG	Pentagon, DC
Amy Roznowski	USMC	Monterey, CA



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 2023**

Council president Leslie Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those attending were Pastor Joel Ley, Leslie Anderson, Jeannine Manny, Cecilia Rutledge, Dan Grinstead, Marit Rasmussen, Eric Schmid, Barbara Hoffman, Karleen Heintzberger, Carmen Funderburk, Melanie Hein, Emily Stone, and John Lohrmann.

Dan Grinstead gave devotions.

Minutes from the December 13, 2022, meeting were revised and approved by email December 19th, 2022.

Financial Report: Cecilia Rutledge submitted a written financial report for the month of December:

Operational Income came in \$39,309 more than budgeted and Operational Expenses were \$1,849 less than budgeted for the month of December. Total Operational Funds resulted in a net inflow of \$39,973 for the month of December. Designated/Restricted account activity resulted in a net inflow of \$3,901 for the month of December. Overall Combined Funds resulted in a net inflow of \$43,874 for the month of December.

Committee Reports:

Property Report: Dan Grinstead reported routine maintenance and snow shoveling during the last month. He is hoping to have one more leaf-raking party this week or the next. Walla Walla Electric will be replacing bulbs in the ceiling of the Fireside Room Friday.

Finance & Budget: Eric provided the Counting Schedule for Q1 and Q2 2023 and the budget plan draft approved at the last meeting with YE 12/31/22 financials laid in.

Worship: Barbara Hoffman has been out of town and therefore had no worship report.

Evangelism: Karleen Heintzberger reported that Joyce Anderson will be teaching a watercolor class on January 28, 2023, from 10:00 to 12:00 pm. There are 12 spaces available. Rebecca Thorpe has offered to lead a personal Inventory workshop based on the local Blue Zones organization. More information will be forthcoming.

Fellowship: (See continuing business).

Outreach: Melanie Hein has accepted the appointment to fill out the remainder of Sara Van Donge's term as Outreach Chair.

Youth & Family: Emily reported that the expanded room for the Sunday School was awesome. The kids were able to spread out and the noise volume went down.

Adult Education: John Lohrmann reported that January 8 the Adult Education class began "500 Years of God's Word in Common Language." The class should finish in four weeks, after which they will begin the "By Heart" curriculum, which should take about eight weeks. A survey has gone out asking the congregation for their input on topics of most interest, best days and times for class. The results will be compiled in a couple weeks.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Joel provided a report of his pastoral acts, teaching/learning opportunities, meetings/events, etc., for December 2022.

Christ Lutheran Church budgeted to help support a seminarian from the synod. Pastor read a nice thank-you letter received from that student, C. Ethan Edsall, from Deer Park, WA.

Pastor reported that Christ Lutheran Church ended the year strong financially with remarkable attendance for Advent Vespers and Christmas Eve services.

Several members contracted COVID during the last couple of weeks. For this reason, he urged caution during services and when in close contact with others, which would include the wearing of masks.

The Godly Play presentations and the Sunday School Christmas Program brought many positive comments from the congregation. Well done to all involved.

Loren Harvey, our brother in Christ and sexton for CLC, died this past Wednesday. His funeral will be held January 21, 2023. Pastor will perform the funeral for Judy Loposer on February 4, 2023.

Continuing Business:

- A. Ministry Expansion, external: (None)
- B. Congregation, internal:

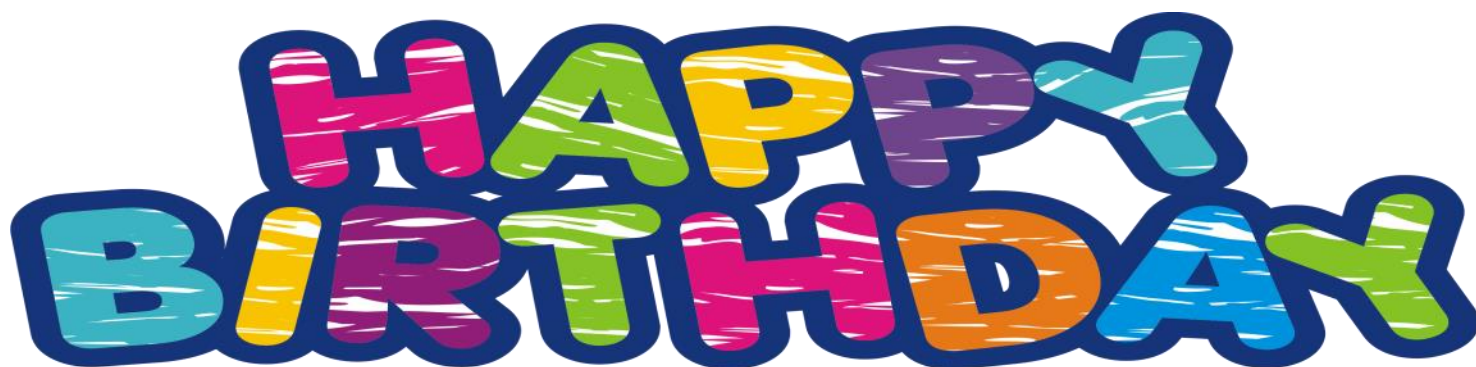
It was agreed that the Tuesday Council meetings will be moved back to the time of 7:00 p.m. Leslie distributed a completed council member list and counting schedule for January to June 2023.

1. Melanie Hein is the new Outreach Chair
2. Appointments:
 - Barbara Hoffman made a motion to approve Gene Spangrude as Financial Secretary and Cecilia Rutledge as Treasurer. Dan Grinstead seconded, and the motion passed.
 - Carmen Funderburk made a motion to reappoint Alicia Lohrmann and Dan Grinstead to the Endowment Fund committee with terms to end 12/31/2025. Eric Schmid seconded, and the motion passed.
 - Barbara Hoffman made a motion to reappoint Debbie Moberg-Williams, Kari Isaacson, and Deanne Johnson to the Audit Committee, to be tasked with the assignment of auditing Christ Lutheran Church's financial records for the period of 1/1/2021 to 12/31/22. Carmen Funderburk seconded, and the motion passed.
3. Carmen Funderburk was appointed to act as Council Vice President.
4. Stewardship Program: Joel, Leslie, and Peter will look at what is available from ELCA and hopefully come up with a stewardship program suggestion in February.
5. Sexton: Marit will start the search for a new Sexton. Dan has offered to cover the duties for the time being. Barbara suggested that a list be generated of people with experience in sexton type duties who can assist Dan. A list was started among council members.
6. Watercolor Workshop (see Evangelism above).
7. Blue Zone "Personal Inventory" workshop (see Evangelism above).
8. Carmen reported that with the sickness going around, Dine-Around will be postponed until February. She proposed picking a date for CLC's attendance at the Walla Walla Sweets game in the Sweet Spot. July 14 was chosen as the date.
9. Leslie read a letter of concern from Barbara Knudson regarding the placement of a cell tower at the Blue Mountain Community Church.

New Business

- A. Melanie Hein asked for council approval for the 40 Days of Giving fundraiser. Dan Grinstead moved to approve the fundraiser, Pastor Joel seconded, and the motion passed.
- B. The cluster meeting for the purpose of nominating candidates for the office of synod bishop will be held on Sunday, January 22, 2023, by Zoom at 3:00 p.m. In addition to Pastor Joel, two voting members from Christ Lutheran can attend. Leslie urged council members to consider the nomination.
- C. Cecilia noted that nominations for Synod Assembly Representatives are usually made at the annual meeting. The Synod Assembly is April 28, 29, 30, in Pasco.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted, Jeannine Manny, Council Secretary



Cassie Spangrude	2/2	JoEllen Riley	2/17
Maxine Amen	2/4	Henry Gall	2/20
Max Lohrmann	2/7	Erik Krebs	2/24
Julie Drischell	2/17	Troy Hein	2/29

Treasurer's Report

December 2022 Income		December 2022 Expenses	
General Fund:	\$63,325	General Fund:	\$24,469
Other Income:	1,117		
Designated/ Restricted:	5,455	Designated/ Restricted:	1,554
Total Income:	\$69,897	Total Expenses:	\$26,023

December 2022 Net Income (Loss): \$43,874

Monthly Results:

Operational income exceeded operational expenses by \$39,973 for the month.

Designated/Restricted Account activity resulted in a net inflow of \$3,901 for the month.

Year To-Date Results:

Total Operational Income to-date is approximately \$18,286 ahead of budget for 2022.

Total Operational Expenses are approximately \$19,864 under budget for 2022.

Year to Date Net Income (Loss): \$22,923

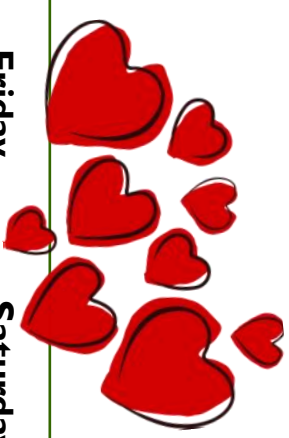
Balance Sheet Items:

CLC's checking account ended the month with a \$241,216 balance.

Total cash, including restricted/endowments accounts, totaled \$416,209 as of 12/31/2022
 CLC had \$1,757,024 in positive equity on 12/31/2022.



February 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9:30 ^{am} Worship Service 9:30 ^{am} Worship & Wonder 8:15 ^{am} Adult Education 11 ^{am} VBBS Meeting	6	7 9 ^{am} Mission Group 10 ^{am} Men's Group	8 6:30 ^{pm} Confirmation	9 10 ^{am} SIAG Meeting 1 ^{pm} Bible Study	10	11 18 10 ^{am} to noon Blue Zone Workshop
12 8:15 ^{am} Adult Education 9:30 ^{am} Worship Service 9:30 ^{am} Worship & Wonder	13 20 - Presidents Day Office Closed	14 9 ^{am} Mission Group 7 ^{pm} Council Meeting	15 6:30 ^{pm} Confirmation	16 1 ^{pm} Bible Study	17	18 10 ^{am} to noon Blue Zone Workshop
19 8:15 ^{am} Adult Education 9:30 ^{am} Worship Service 9:30 ^{am} Worship & Wonder	20 - Presidents Day Office Closed	21 9 ^{am} Mission Group 10 ^{am} Men's Group	22 6 ^{pm} Soup Supper 7 ^{pm} Ash Wednesday Liturgy	23 1 ^{pm} Bible Study	24	25 Family Lent Event
26 8:15 ^{am} Adult Education 9:30 ^{am} Worship Service 9:30 ^{am} Worship & Wonder	27	28 9 ^{am} Mission Group				

Worship & Wonder 11+ will meet February 12th & 26th



Christ Lutheran Church

1420 South 2nd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362-4502

Return Service Requested

We're on the Web!

www.christwallawalla.org

February 2023 Newsletter

CHURCH COUNCIL AND STAFF

·President·

Leslie Anderson

·Secretary·

Jeannine Manny

·Treasurer·

Cecilia Rutledge

·Stewardship·

Peter Swant

·Fellowship·

Carmen Funderburk

·Outreach·

Melanie Hein

·**Pastor**·

Joel Ley

·Office Manager·

Erin Aycock

·Sexton·

vacant

·Organist·

Eleanor Elkins

Paul Holce

·Personnel·

Marit Rasmussen

·Property Management·

Dan Grinstead

·Finance/ Budget·

Eric Schmid

·Worship·

Barbara Hoffman

·Youth Education·

Emily Stone

·Youth & Family·

Sara Pinkerton

·Adult Ed/ Library·

John Lohrmann

·Evangelism·

Karleen Heintzberger

Mission

We are God's people, united by faith in Jesus Christ, forgiven, chosen and called by Him through the Word and Sacraments to be a mission people.