

Please take this FOCUS with you as it cannot be passed on.

Week of 12.05.21

We can recycle but we can't reuse ☺

CHRIST LUTHERAN
CHURCH



1871-2021
150 Years - Rooted In Christ

Christ Lutheran Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

FOCUS

Today is the Second Sunday in Advent

Scripture for today: Malachi 3:1-7b + Philipians 1:2-11 + Luke 3:1-14

**** ABOUT OUR WORSHIP DURING ADVENT** - Our normal rotation of liturgy (using Divine Service 1, 2, 4, and occasionally 3, as well as Vespers and Matins) for the traditional services (5:30 and 8:00) has been put aside during the season of Advent as we turn to Divine Service 5. While many of the spoken responses in this order of worship are familiar, it allows us to utilize some of the little-used songs from the back of the hymnal in the category of "liturgical hymns", giving us a chance to explore our hymnal and learn some alternate tunes for our liturgy. We hope you enjoy this "simple to sing" liturgy for the preparation season of Advent.

**** IN THE 8:00 SERVICE** - The handbell choir will be playing "Prepare the Royal Highway" by Sondra K. Tucker. This piece features mallets and martellato, which is hitting the bell into the table pads for accented notes. We thank Micah Hafer for playing the drum with our song today. If you want to follow along with the words, turn to hymn 343 in your hymnal while we play.

The solo "Mary Did You Know?" (written by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene) is sung by Carey Portwood in the 8:00 service. The song draws a unique perspective to the thoughts that Mary might have pondered as the mother of Jesus.

**** ANGEL TREE** - Once again, the Christ Lutheran Board of Christian Nurture is sponsoring the Angel Tree Project. This project gives people the chance to share with children who have a parent that is in prison, and who may not have as bountiful a Christmas as many of us. If you decide to participate in this project, choose an angel from the trees in the narthex, and purchase a gift for the child listed. Information about age, clothing sizes, and gift suggestions are given on it. Plan to spend about \$15 to \$20 on the gift. Wrap the gift, attach the top part of the angel, and return it to the church office by December 17. Let's do what we can to make Christmas better for these children.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

Wednesday, December 8 at 12:15 & 6:30 p.m.

"Wait Upon the Lord with Hope"

Supper served 5:00-6:15 p.m.

UNITING TO GROW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR CLS

We are pleased to report that our **Uniting to Grow** Capital Campaign total continues to increase, and we are past the \$6 million level. We are moving closer and closer to our Campaign Goal. Last weekend we announced the generous matching opportunity being provided by an anonymous donor. If you are among the donors that haven't made your pledge yet, it is important to do so in the next two weeks so that it can be matched by this generous offer.

Many of you will have the opportunity to complete your pledge decision at services this weekend. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of a pledge to this effort. If you have not made a pledge yet, you still have the opportunity to contribute to the success of our campaign. Stop by the parish office to make your pledge give them a call at (402) 371-1210.

The Mission Statement of Christ Lutheran Church



Share God's Word – Share His Love – Do It Now!

BIBLE STUDY MENU

SUNDAY		
ACTS	9:15 a.m.	Fellowship Hall (Carretto)
MONDAY		
Bible Stories	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall (Carretto)
WEDNESDAY		
Church Denominations	9:30 a.m.	Fellowship Hall (Moreno)
THURSDAY		
Men's Bible Study – "Armor of God"	6:30 a.m.	Fellowship Hall (Moreno)

MORE BIBLE STUDIES AVAILABLE

** **MONDAYS** – Join Pastor Carretto for "Bible Stories". You've read the Bible's familiar stories from the time that you were a small child. This Monday night Bible Study gives you the chance to see these stories in a new light and with new depth! We'll take one story a week. Join us Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for "The Rest of the Story".

** **WEDNESDAYS – THE BIBLE** - Join Pastor Moreno from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The current focus is on "Church Denominations".

** **THURSDAYS** – "Equipped – The Armor of God for Everyday Struggles" Men's Bible Study. 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Led by Pastor Moreno.

** **TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S BREAKFAST STUDY** takes place every other Tuesday morning, at 7:00 a.m. at First Choice Catering (1110 S. 9th Street). The next study will be Tuesday, December 7. Topic: James.

** **2022 LUTHERAN BIBLE INSTITUTE – BIBLE 101** is scheduled for Sundays, January 9, 16 and 23 (30), from 1:30-4:30 p.m. God offers hope in His holy love letter. Come and see. The Institute will be held Grace Lutheran Church, 416 West Park Avenue.

Our Stewardship of Time

In Worship 11/28/21	362
Communed	116
Thanksgiving	200

Our Stewardship of Treasure

Received 11/28/21 \$ 23,098

Your generosity and continued support during this time of restrictions is greatly appreciated.

Hospitalized

Known to be hospitalized this past week:
at FRHS – Mary Gray, Bob Lindsteadt,
Celeste Farlee.

If you or a family member are hospitalized,
please notify the Church Office.

LIFE QUOTE: "When we have eyes of faith, eyes that recognize these delights are gifts from God, then we realize that what we're missing, what we should be longing for, what we cannot live without, isn't Amazon or Starbucks or McDonalds. It's Him. And when we have Him, every other gift makes sense. Every other gift falls into its proper place." *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life for Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:16

**** PARENT PARTNERS** – a project of the Christian Nurture Board, is seeking “experienced” parent volunteers who would be willing to partner with “new” parents in our church. Simply put, you would reach out to and support brand new parents as they begin their journey in raising Christian children. Contact the church office to leave your name and receive further information.

MUSIC NOTES

**** CELEBRATION CHOIR** – During Advent, Celebration Choir rehearses on Thursdays, at 6:30 p.m. in the Church sanctuary. High school youth on up are welcome. Questions – contact Starla in the Church Office 371-1210. We will be working on Advent and Christmas pieces during coming weeks.

**** MUSICIANS NEEDED FOR 10:30 SERVICE** – Do you like to sing along to one of our local Christian radio stations? Many of the songs you hear there are being used in our 10:30 Sunday service. We would love for you to use your talents to lead worship! Please contact the church office if you would like to sing, play piano, drums, guitar or bass.

Mission Memo ... Pray for Church Workers Around the World & in our Community

Christ Lutheran Church, friends, and Servants of the Savior (SOS) help our "Sons" of the Congregation with prayers and tuition support when they study at Concordia Seminary. **Pray that future "Sons" of the congregation will be led by the Holy Spirit to become LCMS pastors.**

**** S.O.S. BIG EVENT IS VIRTUAL** - Due to concerns about Covid, the Christ Lutheran SOS group is again doing their BIG EVENT virtually. This fundraiser supports Missionaries, Orphan Grain Train, scholarships for sons of the congregation for seminary school, CL youth mission events, Lutheran Hour Ministries, and Priozersk Russian Orphanage. Thank you for your support of this endeavor. Donations may be dropped off or mailed to the church office.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**** SUNDAY SCHOOL** is filled with Bible lessons and fun activities to help your child grow spiritually. Please come join us! Email Cori Woltmann, Director of Christian Education with any questions. cwoltmann@clnorfolk.org We meet at the school at 9:15 a.m.

This week and next we will be working on songs for the Sunday School Christmas Service, scheduled for December 15 at 6:30 p.m. Character actors, narrators and scripture readers, as well as Angel Choir members have been busy rehearsing after school. Rehearsals are Mondays and Wednesdays after school at 3:30 p.m.

**** WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT** in Sunday School?

- December 5 - Hannah prayed to God for a baby. God hears our prayers!
- December 12- David & Goliath- God is on our side and is with us!
- December 19- Jesus is born- Even when we feel like nobody, Jesus came down for us.

**** SUNDAY SCHOOL ON DECEMBER 12** will begin in the Sanctuary at 9:15 (after the 8:00 service). This will allow the students to know what the seating process will be for the Sunday School service on December 15. We will also go through the songs and any moving parts that need to be rehearsed. At 9:45, students will be escorted, by their teachers, to the school where class will resume as usual.

YOUTH FOCUS

** **CONFIRMATION** (7th & 8th grade) has begun. 7th grade meets at the school (Room 131). 8th graders gather in the Chapel.

** **HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY** – meets at 9:15 a.m. every Sunday in Room 205 (Resource Room) at CLS.

** **WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP** - We are having a blast hanging out and spending time in God's Word at youth group. All are welcome, and bring a friend! Grade 7 & 8 is 6:30-7:30 p.m., and 9-12 is 7:45-9:00 every Wednesday. Meet by the grass at Christ Lutheran Church!

** **QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUTH EVENTS?** - Do you have a question about a youth event, or want to start receiving text notifications about our youth ministry? Email Cori Woltmann, Director of Christian Education at cwoltmann@clnorfolk.org, or send a text @ 507-456-5380.

LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHEAST

Educating for Life + Promoting the Faith



Lutheran High Northeast

2010 N. 37th St. Norfolk, NE 68701
Office 402-379-3040 Fax 402-379-8340
Email info@lhne.org Web www.lhne.org

** **CONCESSION STAND HELP REQUEST** - LHNE boosters are looking for an individual that would be willing to work with Scott and Christy Owen to run the concession stand. This individual would work closely with Christy and learn everything that happens behind the scenes with concessions. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Kari @ 402-649-8007 or ktbuss99@gmail.com.

** **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY GIFT WRAPPING** - On Saturday, December 11, Lutheran High's National Honor Society is having a gift-wrapping event from 1:00-4:00 p.m. If you are able, you can go to the Live Nativity held in Norfolk and then head on up to Lutheran High and have the students wrap your Christmas presents for you. Prices vary depending on the size of the gift. Thank you for your support!

** **LHNE CHRISTMAS CONCERT** - Come hear the sounds of the season from the LHNE Band and Choir on December 12. The concert begins at 1:00 p.m. Christ Lutheran School will also be having their Christmas concert following the LHNE performance.



** **CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES** - The **CLS K-8 Christmas Concert** will be Sunday, December 12 at LHNE at 2:00 p.m. Come join us as Christ Lutheran Schools helps prepare our hearts to receive the gift of God's son this Christmas Season.

The **Kindergarten Christmas Nativity** program Tuesday, December 14 at 2:00 and 6:30 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church.

** **STUDENT TEACHER HOST:** Christ Lutheran School will be having a student teacher, Mikala Perino, join the school in early January to teach preschool and 2nd grade. We are looking for anyone who could be a host to Mikala through March. If interested, please contact Drew Urban at the school office 371-5536.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

**** AUDIO/VISUAL** - We have installed new audio/visual Live Stream equipment for the broadcasting of our worship services. If you are interested in videography, this would be an excellent way to use your skills, or learn a new one. Training is provided. Contact the Church Office for more information.

**** CLICKERS NEEDED** - We need your help. Would you like to learn how to be a clicker (screen operator) for the worship services? We need you! Openings are available for all services. There is an urgent need. Please contact Lynn in the office and she will get you started on your journey in serving Christ Lutheran. Lynn's email is lwalmsley@clnorfolk.org. Training is provided.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR WEEKS OF DECEMBER 5, 2021

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, Sonia Clark, Sandy Cover, Megan Curry, Joyce Deuel, Bruce Gardels, Gail Gubbels, Bruce Hansen, Stacy (Kesting) Hart, Lynn (Brockman) Heinold, Judy Hilkemann, Kellie (Hoffman) Reyes, Elaine Holmberg, Melvin Jensen, Miriam Krueger, Georgia Lambrecht, Margaret McCutchen, Lisa Meyer, Robert Mock, Bryan Muehlmeier, Amy Neuhalfen, Keith Neuhalfen, Katrina Peabody, Tammy Peisal, Sondra Reigle, Melvin Sanders, Leon Schulz, Jay Sila, Steve Sothan, Nicholle Soukup, Larry Walker, Velda Warneke, Karen Widhalm, April Wiley, Kathy Wolfe, Don Wolff, Colton Wright, Allan Zeitz.
- For those homebound, in care centers, nursing homes, suffering long-term illness; those who face tests, uncertainties about their health, undergoing surgery, or facing difficult times, including: Elizabeth Ambrose, Mike Brockhaus, Shellie Bretschneider, Robert Daughton, Lucille Gesell, Jonathan Glaser, Timothy Hallberg, Nicole Hausmann, Craig Herpy, Joy Henkel, Melody Hulse, EllaMae Jensen, Lois Kapels, Steve Long, Lois Miller, Connie Mock, Hazel Pflueger, Renee Praeuner, Diane Pinger, Shelby Reeker, Michelle Reeson, Sandy Schulz, Brayden Vodehnal, James Wagner, Dominic Wolff, Jesse Wright, & a young girl, Taryn, & those undergoing tests/treatments.
- For Roger and Heidi Koerting in the loss of Heidi's father, Paul Claussen.
- We pray for all people in authority over communities and countries, all whose decisions affect the health of its inhabitants, and all who are charged to maintain justice within their borders and peace among nations.
- We pray for all who serve the Lord as they care for others – medical personnel and first responders, counselors and advisers, friends and neighbors, professionals and volunteers. For grocers, pharmacists, other retailers, and transport personnel who keep their stores open, the shelves stocked and deliver essential needs for all customers.
- That God would raise up a mighty army of believers who would guide our nation back to Christian principles.

PRAYER REQUESTS & PASTORAL NEEDS – If you have a prayer request or a special need that would require pastoral care, please do not hesitate to contact the Church Office (402-371-1210). We will handle needs on an individual basis.

**** DRIVE THRU LIVE NATIVITY** - Christ, Grace, Mt. Olive, and Our Savior in Norfolk are hosting a *Drive Thru Live Nativity* December 11, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Memorial Field Parking Lot, free and open to the public. The *Drive Thru Live Nativity* will include seven scenes from the Christmas story, music, Bible readings, actors, live animals, and giveaway gifts that go along with each scene to help families share the story in their cars and afterwards at home.

If you would like to participate at one of the Nativity stations, you may volunteer by signing up on the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4baaac2fa0fe3-live> or contact the Church Office.

**** THANK YOU** – The Evangelism Board thanks members of Christ Lutheran for their generosity during the past month with the donation of pajamas for the Good Neighbors and Salvation Army pajama collection events. Christ Lutheran members donated 62 new pajamas of various sizes, which were divided between the two agencies to help with their distribution to aid to families in need during the holiday season.

**Drive Thru
Live Nativity**

Saturday, December 11

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Memorial Field Parking Lot

715 South 1st St.

Sponsored by Christ, Grace, Mt. Olive and Our Savior Lutheran Church



DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesdays, December 1 & 8

Advent Worship 12:15 & 6:30 p.m.

Supper served 5:00-6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, December 15

Advent Worship 12:15

Sunday School Service 6:30 p.m.

(no supper served)

Friday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:30 and 8:30 p.m. Traditional

6:30 Contemporary

Saturday, December 25 – Christmas Day

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday, December 26

9:30 a.m. Worship

(no Sunday School or Bible Class)

Friday, December 31 – New Year's Eve

5:30 p.m. Holy Communion

No Saturday Worship (New Year's Day)

Sunday, January 2, 2022

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion

(no Sunday School or Bible Class)