

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

Week of 12.12.21

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 Third Sunday in Advent

Scripture for today: Zephaniah 3:14-20 + Philippians 4:4-7 + Luke 7:18-28

**** 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** - Celebration Choir is singing "Advent Promise" by Pamela Martin. The words of the song ask God to prepare our hearts as it speaks of the hope and expectation that we have in the season of Advent. Thank you to Maddie Bryant for playing flute with the choir.

**** ANGEL TREE GIFTS** - If you participated in the Angel Tree gift program, items need to be returned to the Church Office by December 17. Wrap the gift, attach the top part of the angel and drop it off at your earliest convenience during the coming week.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

Wednesday, December 15 at 12:15

"Wait Upon the Lord with Rejoicing"

6:30 p.m. Sunday School Service

"Countdown to Christmas, Waiting for the Savior"

(No meal served this week)

UNITING TO GROW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR CLS

We would like to thank everyone who turned in a Commitment Card for the campaign at one of the services last weekend. The Commitment Weekend activities, coupled with the activity generated by the million dollar match have raised our pledge total significantly. Our total now stands at more than \$7.2 million! This represents another significant milestone in our effort to raise the funds necessary to build a new gym, cafeteria/multipurpose room and other improvements at the school. Costs have increased and we will need every dollar that we can raise to complete this project.

We are very grateful for the generosity of our supporters. With large campaigns such as the one we have undertaken, it is very difficult to contact everyone. It takes a large volunteer effort from volunteers who have busy lives themselves. If you have not been contacted regarding the campaign and weren't at services last weekend, please mail in the pledge card you received in the mail or stop by the church office to make your pledge. You can also call us at (402) 371-1210. Every pledge we receive, regardless of the size, will have an impact on the children of Christ Lutheran School for years to come.

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 12/05/21	476
Communed	237
Advent Midweek 12/1/21	186

Our Stewardship of Treasure

Received 12/05/21 \$ 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 – Wilma Purdy; in Omaha – Bob Lindsteadt, Steve Stortz.

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

LIFE QUOTE: "The birth of Christ is the ultimate solution to the loneliness that began in the Garden of Eden. Jesus came because God cares about lonely people, and so should we. Find opportunities to give lonely people gifts—not merely physical items, but the gift of your time, presence, and encouragement. May the glorious Gospel that is preached to you in the birth of Jesus be the gospel that you preach to yourself and your family this month." *Paul David Tripp, pastor, author, conference speaker – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:5

**** CALL COMMITTEES FORMING** for the positions of Associate Pastor and Director of Worship Arts. If you would like to serve on one of these Call Committees, please leave your name and contact in the Church Office.

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

Servants of the Savior (SOS) continues to support an orphanage in Russia, gives additional funds to missionaries who visit us, and provides a needed product to Mercy Meals. SOS members volunteer at Orphan Grain Train, prepare food packages for distribution in Norfolk, and provide the Lutheran Hour Ministries tracts in the narthex for the congregation. **Help the Big Mission Event proclaim the joyful news, "Jesus is our Savior." Please reply with your donation to the Big Mission Event by December 31.**

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 we are doing the final rehearsal 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 the past couple weeks.

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

- 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.



** **CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES** - The **CLS K-8 Christmas Concert** is 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 is 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.

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. During Advent, we are meeting as one group immediately after the Advent service.

** **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

** **LHNE ONE ACT QUALIFY FOR STATE** - The LHNE One Act team qualified for state for the first time in LHNE history! The State Championship competitions were held at the Johnny Carson Theatre in Norfolk last Tuesday. We are so thankful for Steven & Heather Whitney who directed the performance "Lady: Limited".

** **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.

** **MOCK TRIAL COMPETED IN REGIONAL COMPETITION** - On December 1st, both LHNE mock trial teams competed in their third round of competition and were selected to advance to the regional championships which they competed in on December 7th. Two of the remaining four teams in our region will be named regional champions and advance to the state competition in January.

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.

** **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.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR WEEKS OF DECEMBER 12, 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 Norm Hansen, recovering from shoulder surgery this past week.
- For those celebrating birthdays of 80 years or more including: Gertie Hofmann (12/9), Joan Schulz (12/10), Cliff Haas (12/11), Ronald Siecke (12/11) and Janice Nicholas (12/12), James Barritt (12/14), Janice Hintz (12/14) and Celia Siecke (12/19).
- 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.

**** 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.

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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)



POINSETTIA Order Form

We are taking orders for Poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas. You can purchase a Poinsettia with foil wrap for \$9.00

Order deadline is December 15, 2021

If you wish to purchase a Poinsettia ...

1. Fill out the Order Form
2. Enclose your check (**made payable to Christ Lutheran Altar Guild**) with your order form.
3. Return your order and payment to a member of the Altar Guild or to:

Christ Lutheran Church Office
605 South Fifth Street
Norfolk, NE 68701



Name: _____ Phone: _____

Plants Ordering: _____ Enclosed is: Cash _____ Check _____

In Memory of: _____

or

In Honor of: _____

_____ Check here if you will be picking up your Poinsettia after the holiday services.