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# CLC NEWSLETTER

## OCT. / NOV. 2023



**Pastor Kenneth Lentz - 928-970-1313**

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We begin the holiday season under the cloud of global violence. Violence in Ukraine, violence in the Middle East and violence in Maine (today I heard that the gunman killed 16 and injured dozens more).

On Friday evening, October 20, I and Dotty Berner, Allen Dreyfuss, and Bob Cosler, accepted the invitation of the members of the Jewish Congregation of Venice to attend Shabbat, their Friday evening services. The service was led by their cantor, Marci Vitkus, who did an excellent job of leading the Jewish members and the non-Hebrew speaking visitors from five local Christian congregations through the Hebrew service. I was happy to see that we were all led in prayer not only in behalf of those who mourn the loss of Israeli citizens but also for the innocent Palestinians in the Gaza Strip under the tyrannical heel of Hamas militants

Last Thursday, I received a letter written to the ELCA by our presiding bishop, Elizabeth A. Eaton. She writes:

“The ELCA’s commitments call on us to denounce unequivocally any attacks—past, present or future—by any party that leads to civilians becoming victims. Our hearts are with all those who have been killed or injured, and with their families and friends. With an anticipated ground invasion, the most urgent need is for an immediate cease-fire to allow humanitarian aid to reach Gazans. Our advocacy as a church continues, guided by our long accompaniment of the Ev. Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and our commitments as a church to peace, justice, and ecumenical and interreligious dialogue and collaboration. In these days of continued grief and distress over the horrific attack by Hamas on Israelis and the largely indiscriminate Israeli military response affecting civilians in Gaza, we lament with all who mourn and live in fear. We believe that God is the one who makes ‘wars to cease to the end of earth.’ (Psalm 46:9)

It is our hope that the Muslims and Christians in the West Bank will continue to be largely spared the brutality in Gaza. Some of them are Lutheran Christians. One of them is a pastor in our own Florida-Bahamas Synod.

The prayers of some of our more conservative Christian brothers and sisters are only for Israel in the belief that Christ will not return to earth until the Temple Mount is under Israeli control. That kind of narrow-minded thinking is contrary to any efforts to bring about peace between Israel and the Palestinian lands. Unfortunately, many of the Israeli victims of the brutal attack on Oct. 6 were friends of Palestinians with whom they were working to advocate, peacefully, a two-state solution. The violence unleashed on Oct. 6 and the consequent deaths of thousands of innocent Palestinians caused by Israeli shelling will only deepen the resolve and hatred of thousands of young Palestinians who may survive the war. What can we do? We can send humanitarian help to both sides and we must pray, pray, pray for the peace now that will be the peace of that day when the lion shall lie down with the lamb.”

We have much to think about as we approach our national day of Thanksgiving and the following season of Advent dedicated to preparing ourselves for His coming, His coming at Bethlehem, His coming into our hearts now, and His coming again upon the clouds of glory to fully consummate the kingdom to come.

*May peace be with you,  
(Your fellow traveler along the Way)  
Pastor Ken*

## Music and Worship

The Music and Worship Committee met on Nov. 1st. The Hymn of Praise will be changed periodically going forward. The congregation will be encouraged to sing the Angus Dei following the Lord's Prayer.

The Advent Wreath and candles will be displayed on Dec. 3rd. The Sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas on Dec. 10th and a creche is being built to display the Nativity statues on the front of the church. Volunteers needed. There will be a Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 7 PM on Dec. 24th.

Our new pipe organ is in place waiting to be "voiced" after the carpeting is installed in the sanctuary. There will be a dedication service to follow with special guests (dignitaries, bishop) with Pastor Lentz presiding.

A tentative date of March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 PM has been set aside for our Gala Organ Concert presented by Richard Benedum. Major publicity will be needed. Refreshments will be served. Many volunteers requested.

The next Music and Worship committee meeting will be January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 in the office.

*Lois Greene,  
Chair Music and Worship*



**Great Sermon . . . It'll keep me nagging all week!"**

# OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM



**CAROLS AND POINSETTIAS** - Please save the date-December 21 at 10am. We will have a joyful time visiting our Homebound members and sharing Christmas cheer.

**ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND** -THANK YOU for all the “Little Red Wagon” donations and to our recent pantry volunteers, Joyce H., Carol R. and Brenda S. Brenda and Jim S. have volunteered to be in the pantry in November.



## QUILTING AND KNITTING

Please join us for a time of Christian fellowship and service...no skills necessary. We meet every Wednesday, from 9-Noon, in the Fellowship Hall. All willing hands and hearts are welcome. Most of our quilts are donated to Lutheran World Relief.

Knitted and crocheted Prayer Shawls and Lap Robes are donated locally.



## THRIVENT

Are you a Thrivent member? Please remember to direct your Choice Dollars each quarter. Christ Lutheran would feel blessed to receive these gifts. Also, please consider applying for a Thrivent Action Grant (value of \$250) to support a special project for our church and/or the community. Need a project idea? The Outreach Ministry Team will help.



**FAMILY PROMISE** of South Sarasota County-DREAM WALK was on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Ken and Carol R. walked. Thank you to all who donated money to sponsor our team. The week of November 26-December 3 will be our next time to serve families being housed at Englewood Methodist Church. If you would like to help provide a meal, please contact Ellen or Carol. For more information about

FP see [www.familypromisessc.org](http://www.familypromisessc.org)

**KIDS' NEEDS of ENGLEWOOD** -Throughout Advent and the Christmas season, Nov. 26-Dec. 31, we will be donating SHOES, SOCKS, UNDIES, SWEATSHIRTS and JACKETS to KIDS' NEEDS. Items are needed for kids of all sizes. These gifts of necessity show our love and care for local children and families

**TROSHUK FAMILY** -It was wonderful to have them join us for worship on Reformation Sunday and once again sing a hymn in their native language. The family is doing well! Please continue to support them with your prayers.

\*Our next Outreach Ministry Team meeting is on Thursday, January 11th at 11am. All are welcome on our team. Please share your ideas for reaching out into our community with Christ's love.

Peace and Joy!

Carol Rice for the Outreach Ministry Team





### **Things you need to know!**

*If you are planning to bring baked goods to church for fellowship after service, please text or call Angie Ziegler at 941-525-7829*

*Joyce Hanisits, council rep to Fellowship Ministry*



### **Christ Lutheran Church Privacy Statement . . .**

*The Church Directory of Christ Lutheran Church is provided to the members for the purpose of conducting church business only. The church Directory is not for sale and use of the information; including names, telephone numbers, emails or web addresses for purposes other than church-related business is strictly prohibited.*



*Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. Philippians 1:3-6*

Warm Autumn wishes to all of you! I just wanted to update you on a few things coming up through the Women's Circle this fall. A few of us met in October, and decided to move our meetings to the second Thursday mornings from 10:00-11:00. Our next meeting will be November 9.2023 at 10:00 am we will be discussing the Women's Advent luncheon/tea, which is scheduled for Wednesday December 13 at 1 pm in the parish hall. All are welcome . Bring a friend! Sign Up sheets will be posted in November at the church. That will be our December meeting and we will reconvene in January. We will also be discussing a possible early evening midweek Bible study that has been requested. Please join us! I look forward to seeing you all!

*Blessings, Pastor Linda*

# November



## November

11/09	<i>Brenda Kehrier</i>
11/13	<i>Barbara Kludt</i>
11/13	<i>Julie Wentzel</i>
11/16	<i>Beverly Nielsen</i>
11/19	<i>Michael Yankowski</i>
11/28	<i>Rebecca Lentz</i>

*If your birthday is not listed, and you would like it to be,  
please contact the office*

(via e-mail at . . . [office@christlutheranfleng.org](mailto:office@christlutheranfleng.org)) to share your special day.

**Yesterday is a beautiful reflection.**

**Today is a new beginning.**

**Tomorrow is a limitless possibility!**





# & Attendance

## Treasurer Report

Sept	Attendance	Giving	October	Attendance	Giving
3	44	\$3,191.00	1	44	\$2,859.00
10	41	\$2,186.00	8	35	\$1,266.00
17	43	\$1,861.00	15	51	\$3,799.00
24	48	\$1,671.00	22	50	\$3,985.00
			29	78	\$1,782.00
	<b>176</b>	<b>\$8,909.00</b>		<b>258</b>	<b>\$13,691.00</b>



### ORGAN DONATIONS -

You are invited to make a contribution for our new organ to be installed by mid 2023. Please make checks to Christ Lutheran Church with "organ fund" in memo section.



Left to Right  
Allen Dreyfuss, Pastor Ken, Cantor Marci, Bob Cosler & Dotty Berner

Photo was taken at Service for Peace at the Venice Jewish community Center on October 20<sup>th</sup>.



1	Quilting 9-noon / Fellowship Committee at 10:00am / Music & Worship at 11:00am
2	Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon-5pm
3	Tai Chi 10:00-11:00 <sup>am</sup> / Bridge Club
4	Orchid Society / Evangelism Committee at 10:00am
5	Worship Service 9:30 <sup>am</sup> / Bible Study at 11:00am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00 <sup>pm</sup>
6	Lutheran Heritage Class at 10:00am / Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm
7	Bridge Club noon - 5pm
8	Quilting 9-noon
9	Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon-5pm / Women Circle 10am
10	Tai Chi 10:00-11:00am / Bridge Club
11	Saturday - no activities
12	Worship Service 9:30 <sup>am</sup> / Bible Study at 11:00am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00 <sup>pm</sup>
13	Lutheran Heritage Class at 10:00am / Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm
14	Bridge Club noon - 5pm
15	Quilting 9-noon / Church Council 1:00pm
16	Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon-5pm
17	Tai Chi 10:00-11:00 <sup>am</sup> / Bridge Club
18	Saturday - no activities
19	Worship Service 9:30 <sup>am</sup> / Bible Study at 11:00am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00 <sup>pm</sup>
20	Lutheran Heritage Class at 10:00am / Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm
21	Bridge Club noon - 5pm
22	Quilting 9-noon
23	Thanksgiving Day
24	Tai Chi 10:00-11:00 <sup>am</sup> / Bridge Club
25	Saturday - no activities
26	Worship Service 9:30 <sup>am</sup> / 11:00 <sup>am</sup> Bible Study / Bridge Club noon - 5:00 <sup>pm</sup>
27	Lutheran Heritage Class at 10:00am / Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm
28	Bridge Club noon - 5pm
29	Quilting 9-noon
30	Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon-5pm