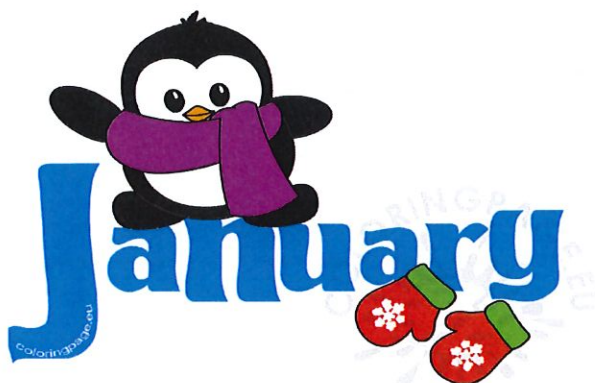


The Crusader

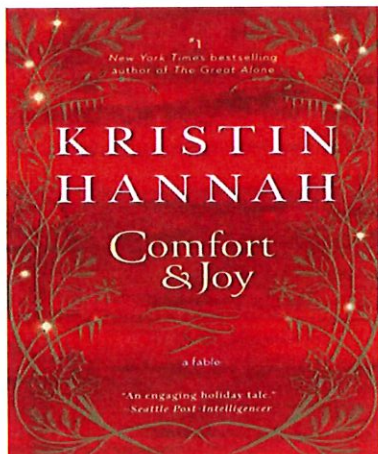
Christ Lutheran Church
315 N Shipley Street
Seaford, DE 19973
Rev. Ray M. Rogers
Seaford, DE 19973 Phone: 302-629-9755
8:30 am Praise Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Traditional Worship

JANUARY 2026



January Book Club

Comfort and Joy



For the start of this new year, the January Book Club selection is *Comfort and Joy: A Fable*, by Kristen Hannah, a New York Times bestselling author. Kristin Hannah is beloved by readers around the world for her unique blend of powerful emotion and exquisite storytelling. This story focuses on the second chances we receive in life. Join our book club on January 13, at 1:00 pm, to discuss this delightful story. Bring a snack to share and suggestions for more books to read this new year. Looking forward to seeing you at book club.

January LWML Mission Highlights

Read below to learn more about one LWML National grant and one LWML Chesapeake District grant. The mites we collect at church from our mite boxes on the 3rd Sunday of each month support these mission projects that touch the lives of people here and throughout the world sharing the message of Jesus's love.

National LWML Mission Grant #6 – 2025-2027

Biennium

Christ-Centered Hope for Cancer Patients — Phil's Friends, U.S. — \$100,000 Watch this video to find out more about Phil's Friends. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2oSoqwChZA&list=PL-KUFlq-](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2oSoqwChZA&list=PL-KUFlq-Un61AwATbFMHLkol8cZDNjUM&index=1)

[Un61AwATbFMHLkol8cZDNjUM&index=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2oSoqwChZA&list=PL-KUFlq-Un61AwATbFMHLkol8cZDNjUM&index=1).

The core of Phil's Friends mission is based on Matthew 25:36 - I was sick and you visited me. In the past 18 years, Phil's Friends has sent nearly 60,000 care packages and more than one million Cards of Hope. This ministry supports anyone with cancer regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, or income level. It costs \$100 for one year to support a cancer patient. This total includes the care package, 12 Cards of Hope, and postage. The care packages are hand-decorated, and the contents are customized according to the age and gender of the recipient. They are filled with simple, practical comfort items that cancer patients can use during their treatments. Phil's Friends is 100% donor supported. This grant will purchase supplies for care packages and Cards of Hope and will pay for shipping and postage to support 1,000 cancer patients for one year.

Chesapeake District LWML Mission Grant #8 – 2024-2026 Biennium

St. John's Lutheran Community Jobs Program – Farmville, VA -- \$5,000 This grant will create pathways in the community through the establishment of a jobs program to prepare participants for meaningful work and lifelong skills in the Farmville, Virginia, region.

Our Mites are Making a Difference

Around the world, our mission work touches people's lives to spread the message of God's love for us. Spreading the news of our Savior is the goal and purpose of all mission work. Our LWML is so thankful for your support of our Mite Box Ministry. Your gifts have made it possible to help fund each of the projects described in our Mission Projects Highlights every month. Your gifts share Jesus here in our community, in our region, in our country, and throughout the world. Thank you so much for sharing your blessings with others!

Upcoming Events:

- Friends Supporting Friends@11:00 am Mondays
- January 3rd@9:30 pm CornHole
- January 4th and 18th Holy Communion at both services
- January 10th@ 10 am BSSP
- January 13th@1:00 pm Book Club
- January 15th@2 pm LWML Meeting
- January 20th@2 pm Lay Ministry Meeting



January 4

January 11

January 18

January 25

Ginny Gray

Lynn Kirk-Flury

January 2026 Food Shelf Newsletter Article

Proverbs 3:27: "Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act."

In December, we provided gas and rent assistance to 2 neighbors and donated 20 pairs of socks, 30 emergency (Mylar) blankets in addition to 230 non perishable food items. GrabNGO lunch supplies were also donated.

Overall, in 2025 we assisted our neighbors by:

- Helping to pay for electric, gas, rent and short hotel stays.
 - Providing lunch meats, cheese, bread, peanut butter and jelly for sandwiches and fruit distributed weekdays by Love INCs GrabNGo lunch ministry.
 - Providing sheet sets, disposable rain ponchos, emergency thermal (Mylar) blankets, socks and hand warmers for Code Purple
- Providing emergency food boxes for needy individuals who may stop by our church for assistance.

Overall Donating:

3,080 non perishable food items and \$5,100 in monetary donations

Needs Met:

29 requests for assistance totaling \$5,155

Thank you for your continued support. Every donation made blesses someone.

FOOD SHELF TEAM

Linda Boone

Carl Boone

Janet Moore



"Jean and Keith Lohmeyer, Dave and Joel successfully completed the American Red Cross' CPR course. Additional opportunities to take the course will be available and is strongly encouraged."

Thank You

Dear members and friends of our "Church Family" at Christ Lutheran Church, Words cannot begin to express our thanks for your cards, letter, gifts, meals together, and words of encouragement that you have shared with Linda and me. You have showered us with one blessing after another, including what you did for us during Pastor Appreciation Month in October and now here at Christmas. We will continue to remember all of you in our prayers, especially as you seek the next full-time pastor for Christ Church. And we lift up Pastor Kevin and Karen as Kevin assumes the duties of the office. We know that God is going to continue blessing Christ Church as together you share Word and Sacrament and reach out to the community and well beyond with the love of Jesus Christ. In the unbreakable bond of God's love, Pastor Ray and Linda

Call Committee Update - December 2025

Congregational Members:

Since two experienced pastoral candidates communicated their interest in participating in our call process, the Call Committee will schedule an interview with them after Christmas.

In the meantime, the Call Committee will finish the application for a seminarian and will update the congregation before submitting it to Concordia Seminary before the January 31st deadline.

Madeline

Happy Birthday

01 Pastor Kevin Wackett
09 William Klettke
12 David Gray
14 Kameron Gum
14 Thomas Laiacona
14 Linda Rogers
18 Patrice Morris
22 Ginny Martens
23 Cathy Asche
28 Susan Calhoun
29 Kathryn Lamberton

CornHole

**There will be cornhole on Saturday at 9:30 am
in Friendship Hall on January 3rd, February
7th, and March 7th, 2026.**

**Please contact Bill Watkins if you have any
questions at 302-930-7025.**

Ooooo ... We Have a Mystery! Can You Help?

Michelle and Pastor Nuss started a Visual Faith Ministry shortly after they arrived at Christ Lutheran. Visual Faith activities use drawing and writing to help us focus on God's Word and remind us of God's presence in our lives. We had workshops hosted with St John's, Dover, at our church for our LWML Zone, several Prayer Journal workshops for our own congregation, and even Bible Studies using Visual Faith activities. With a Thrivent grant, Michelle and Pastor Nuss purchased supplies and materials to use with our Visual Faith activities. Some of these materials included supply kits containing high quality colored pencils & markers, erasers, pens, & pencils, stored in individual glass mason jars. These supply kits were used this summer in July and August when Michelle hosted a Visual Faith Bible Study, titled "Psalms With Stories." For 7 weeks, over a dozen women gathered every week for Bible Study. It was a wonderful opportunity to study and worship together.

Now, here's the mystery! When Michelle moved at the end of summer, she placed the Visual Faith supplies in a copy paper box labeled **LWML** in the Banner Storage room. In November, plans were made to use the materials for a December activity. Michelle was called as there was a misunderstanding regarding the box location. While she was on the phone, the box was located in the Banner Storage room, with all supplies labeled and neatly organized. Two weeks ago, when the supplies were needed, they could not be found. Multiple people looked in the storage room and other areas of the church, too. The supplies had ... **DISAPPEARED!** Can you please help us solve this mystery? Do you know where they might be? Thank you for your help!

January LWML News

January LWML Meeting, Thursday, January 15, @ 2pm

Our new year has begun and we need you to help make plans for 2026. Lots of ideas have been shared and some great things are being discussed. One big event quickly approaching is our Easter Egg project. Easter Eggs? Already? YES! Sales start the end of next month and our Easter Egg making weekend is March 21&22. Mark your calendars now! Come to the January meeting and we'll see you there!

Matthew 25 Ministries Pill Bottle Collections

Our church has collected hundreds and hundreds of pill bottles for Matthew 25 Ministries! Our pill bottles have been sent with their medical teams into developing countries through their medical missions. Lifesaving medicine has been distributed using our pill bottle donations. Due to the growing cost of shipping, we will be discontinuing our pill bottle collections, as shipping costs have grown to be so costly. Our LWML will continue to sponsor Matthew 25 Ministries in other ways. A special thank you to Patricia & Toby French for all their help in scraping off labels and washing and cleaning the hundreds of pill bottles we have sent. You are so appreciated!

BSSP January News Article

We hope you were able to either attend the BSSP Christmas Program or view it online. This year's program was based on the poem titled "Joyful Tidings". The students did an outstanding job! Thank you to all who donated cookies for our reception following the Christmas Program.

We will begin our Saturday morning classes on January 10th. The curriculum we will be using from January through May is *Growing in Christ* from CPH and the lessons will focus on "Jesus Shows He is True God" and "Jesus Teaches About God's Kingdom".

January Lesson Schedule

January 10 – Jesus and the Samaritan Woman

January 17 – Jesus is Rejected at Nazareth

January 24 – Jesus Calls Disciples

January 31 – Jesus Heals Many

We wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

BSSP Staff and Students





QuotesIdeas.com

January 2026

January 2026							Feb 2026 ▶
◀ Dec 2025	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Office Closed	3 9:30 am CornHole
4 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service w/Communion	5 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	6	7	8	9 Office Closed	10 10 am BSSP 6:30 pm Bunco	
11 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service Food Shelf Sunday	12 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	13 1 pm Book Club	14	15 2 pm LWML Meeting	16 Office Closed	17 10 am BSSP	
18 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service w/Communion Mite Box Sunday	19 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	20 2 pm Lay Ministry Meeting	21	22	23 Office Closed	24 10 am BSSP	
25 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service	26 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	27	28	29	30	31 10 am BSSP	