

**On our way rejoicing, proclaiming, teaching, and sharing God's love!**



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 346

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Phone: (262) 736-4757

**December**

**2021**

# December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 <b>*Baptism of Avah &amp; Quinn Hyndman*</b> 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Choir 10:15 Worship - In Person and Facebook Live	6	7	8 6:00 Movie Night <i>The Shack</i>	9 6:00 Council Meeting	10	11 7:00-11:00 Breakfast with Santa
12 <b>*Cookie Walk*</b> 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Choir 10:15 Worship - In Person and Facebook Live	13	14	15	16	17 9:00-6:00 Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Daniel's Foods <b>*Sign Up at Church*</b>	18
19 <b>*Children's Program*</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship - In Person and Facebook Live	20	21	22	23	24 4:00 Christmas Eve Worship	25 
26 <b>*No Sunday School*</b> 9:15 Choir 10:15 Worship - In Person and Facebook Live	27	28	29	30	31	

## Christmas Eve Worship

Christmas Eve worship will take place on December 24th at 4:00 p.m.

## Children's Program

The children are hard at work practicing for their program this year! Please join us at our regular worship time on Sunday, December 19th at 10:15 a.m.

# Christ Lutheran News

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## A Word From the Pastor

During my time as a teacher, I attended a workshop about brain-based learning. One of the presenters told a story about a method she used one day to introduce a new spelling word. She placed a napkin at the top of each child's desk and put a big homemade chocolate chip cookie on each napkin. She told the students they couldn't eat the cookie until the end of the lesson. They read the definition of the new word. They wrote it in their notebooks 10 times until they could spell it by memory. They heard example sentences using the word and came up with their own sentences that included the new word. When the lesson was finished, she asked the students how they were feeling about the cookie. They told her they couldn't wait to eat it. Someone shared that looking at the cookie made the task of writing the word 10 times feel a little better. Another kid said the smell of chocolate chips was driving him wild, and he could hardly concentrate. A girl said that at first, she was disappointed she couldn't have the cookie right away, but as the class went on, she realized that waiting for the cookie made everything more fun. The teacher said, "*That's* anticipation. *Now*, you can eat your cookie."

The word, if you haven't guessed, was anticipation. Advent is a season of anticipation, and we are a lot like those kids waiting for the cookie. They could smell it and see it. It had been promised at the end of the lesson. Waiting for the cookie filled them with a different kind of energy. They had important work to do. Spelling class went on as usual, but there was excitement in the air.

Advent is a time of hopeful waiting, of looking forward to what God has promised. Like the kids, we have work to do. We go about our business, but there is an underlying excitement. We sense that something is coming.

God is always up to something new. God is stirring up our lives with new people and new questions, with hope, and sometimes even with anger about injustice. God is connecting us and calling us as individuals and communities.

It's Advent, and we are full of anticipation for the coming of God in Jesus. As we gather with family and as a congregation, as we get ready for Christmas, and as we go about our everyday tasks, God's coming is getting nearer by the hour.

There has been a lot of darkness, but now, as promised, the Advent wreath grows brighter by the week. Behold! He is coming soon!

Peace,

*Pastor Kalen Barkholtz*

## Poinsettias for Christmas

Poinsettia orders will be taken until December 19th. This year they are \$8.50 a plant, and they are red. Please fill out a form and return it, with payment, to Denise Gibbons by December 19th. Please pay with cash or checks made out to WELCA. For questions please contact Denise at (262) 749-4649.

## Movie Night: The Shack



The Bible Study group is going to gather to watch the movie *The Shack* which follows a man named Mack Phillips as he spirals into a deep depression following a family tragedy. Facing a crisis of faith, he receives a mysterious letter urging him to travel to an abandoned shack in the Oregon wilderness where he encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers. Through this meeting, Mack finds important truths that will transform his understanding of his tragedy and change his life forever. Please join us on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!

## Cookie Walk

Would you like to have some delicious homemade Christmas treats to pass around at upcoming gatherings? We will have a cookie walk after worship on December 12th! We'll have a variety of Christmas cookies and bars for sale. Fill a plate with whatever items you wish, and give a free will donation to help support our high school students attending the ELCA Youth Gathering this July. We need some folks to donate cookies as well. If you can bring some treats, please contact Pastor Kalen or sign the sheet on the table inside the sanctuary door.

## Mitten Tree

The mitten tree is up in the fellowship hall! Please decorate it with warm mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and earmuffs to keep the kids who need them warm. Please bring all items by December 12th.



## Funds for Friends

Please remember to save your Daniel's Foods "Sentry" receipts and ask for a green sticker to put on the receipt. Then turn in your receipts in the marked box as you enter the sanctuary within the month (or two). Sentry pays 1% of the total receipts. Looking back a year, Christ Lutheran turned in receipts totaling \$59,000 so received \$590. This is an easy fundraiser so please save your Sentry receipts, turn them in and watch this amount grow.

## Christmas Gifts for Sharon School Children



If you would like to help with our Christmas gift project, please talk to Beth Fredrick. For each child you shop for, you will receive information including the gender, age, and a wish list. Please bring gifts back by December 12th. They do not need to be wrapped. Christmas gifts for Children is our Second Sunday Offering for December.

## A Message From the Council

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Christmas Season is upon us. What a special time of year. Families are making gathering plans, special food and baking preparations, shopping for that one unique gift, and watching the excitement in our children/grandchildren in anticipation of Christmas Day.

Many of these things can be seen around our church family also. The Sanctuary has once again been beautifully decorated for the season. The manger scene should be put up some time this week. The cookie walk is making a return this year on December 12th after worship. Please donate your special treats and also fill a plate with others' special treats. Donations from this will help support our high school students attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in July. The Children's Christmas program will be presented during worship on December 19th. It is always entertaining and enjoyable.

Sunday attendance is slowly but surely growing. It is so nice to see people back in person and enjoying worship. This year's Christmas Eve service will be at 4:00 pm. We hope this fits the busy schedules of that day.

I need to ask again, that you consider serving on the Church Council. We will need four people to fill the empty seats we will have in January. During this year's Stewardship drive, giving of our "time" was one of the topics. Being a Council member is a great way of giving, and is vital to our mission as a community member. Please give this prayerful consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me or any Council member.

May You All Have A Very Merry Christmas and A Safe, Happy and Healthy New Year!

Stay Safe, Be Healthy and Pray and Pray,

*Dan Way*

Council President

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**



**Please remember these people in your prayers:** Cindy Bangert, Orson Bangert, Tom Fredrick, Jacob Friesema, family of John Gibbons, Kim Jacobs, Erik Jelinek, Tom Kleiber, Jean Kovarik, Marilyn Lowry, Ray Lowry, Bill Piculas, Janet Schilke, Jimmy Sheppard, Joy Smith, Jacqueline Webster, Doris Wehrwein, and Toad Wenzel.

**Please remember our members in care facilities:**

Thank you for your continued prayers and cards for those who are in care facilities.

**Tom Kleiber**  
St. Michael's Manor  
% Tom Kleiber  
1516 Russet  
Racine, WI 53402

**Tom Fredrick**  
Delavan Health Services  
905 Geneva St.  
Delavan, WI 53115

**Jean Kovarik**  
Golden Years  
611 Harmony Dr.  
Room 7  
Lake Geneva, WI 53147

# LET'S celebrate

## Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations this Month!

(If you or someone you know is not listed here, or if our information is incorrect, please let the Church Office know.)

### Birthday Celebrations

12/12 Carol Frederick      12/19 Brandon Stafford      12/24 Kenneth Rambatt  
12/13 Sarah Jacobs-Kalb      12/21 Kenzley Woodrich      12/27 Pam Woodrich  
12/15 Tom Kleiber      12/23 Jacalyne Rambatt      12/31 Lee Wenzel

### Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

12/26 Lukas & Jennifer Hennig-Tislau

### Baptismal Anniversary Celebrations

12/1 Kaylee Fredrick      12/2 Addison Schmig      12/12 Margie Christenson  
12/1 Ronald Maas      12/2 Haley Woodrich      12/16 Robert Webster  
12/3 Collin Frederick