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CLC NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER

2025



Pastor Kenneth Lentz - 928-970-1313
Published by Christ Lutheran Church, Office Administrator



Already our thoughts are beginning to turn toward the celebration of the holidays. Thoughts in that direction came to me when I recently visited Home Depot and Wal-Mart to get some supplies for my house. I couldn't believe it. Thanksgiving and Christmas already? I remembered my return from a visit to Europe in September a few years ago. I went to Wal-Mart to buy an alarm clock. My attention was caught by the familiar strains of "Frosty the Snowman." I was amazed by a large display of Christmas items prominently positioned to catch the eye of any shoppers entering and clearing the checkout area. I saw "Precious Moments" angels, Santa-capped Winnie the Poohs, and three-foot straw reindeer in an aisle I entered in my search for the alarm clock department.

I was so incensed by what I saw that I decided to write a letter to David Glass, the president of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. I opined that it was insensitive to confront shoppers with Christmas "supplies" so many weeks before Christmas. I noted that C.S. Lewis accused the shopkeepers of the England of his day of encouraging "profane attempts to keep up some superficial connection with the Nativity." I asked Mr. Glass to consider some sensitive restraint. I received a reply from Wal-Mart assuring me that Wal-Mart "always strives to serve the best interests of its customers." It was a form letter. I wrote a second letter to Mr. Glass and didn't receive a reply to that letter. I published my letters and my thoughts in the Venice Gondolier and took the matter as President to the Venice Ministerial Association. I encouraged my fellow clergy and my readers to express their feelings to their local retailers. There was little or no reaction to the expression of my concerns. The mighty outcry I envisioned never happened. I failed to raise up the hue and cry of the rabble.

Oh well, here we go again. The truth of the matter is that neither I nor you can do much to check the secular tendency to exploit religious holidays for the sake of hedonistic self-indulgence. But we can observe the holiday season in accordance with our religious and spiritual traditions and beliefs. The celebration of Thanksgiving will occur in just a few weeks. No matter the outcome of the presidential election, we will give thanks for the democracy in which we live. Soon thereafter, the liturgical season of Advent will begin on Sunday, November 30. We will dedicate ourselves to preparation to receive the coming of Jesus in three epiphanies: the coming of Jesus to Bethlehem 2,000 years ago, the coming of Jesus into our hearts and minds in the present, and the coming of Jesus again at the end of time upon the clouds of Glory. The liturgical color of Advent is blue, the color of the sky whence our Savior will come again.

And then, beginning on Christmas Eve, we will celebrate the birth of our Savior. The Christmas season begins on Dec. 25 and continues for twelve days until Epiphany on January 6, the celebration of the visit of the wise men in Bethlehem.

There is little we can do about the trivialization of our religious holidays except to celebrate in our hearts the great glad tidings that "Jesus is the reason for the season." Well, happy holidays.

Your fellow traveler along the Way,
Pastor Ken

Music and Worship



Our **MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE** meeting was held on OCT. 29. This important meeting was designed to cover the months of November and December. The following was discussed/

The choir will meet at 8:30 every Sunday in the Fellowship Hall and will sing on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month with some exceptions. Choir Director is Joyce Bailey.

All Saints Sunday – Nov. 2 - names of those who have passed in the last year will be read and a bell rung in memory.

The Kyrie will change on Nov. 9th to page 203 in the hymnal.

There will be a **New Member Orientation** meeting held in the Hall on Nov. 14th at 2:00

Thanksgiving - There will not be a service at Christ Lutheran, however, for your convenience, Faith Lutheran will have a service, time TBD

The Advent Wreath will be put in place on the altar before service on Nov. 30th, the first Sunday in Advent.

Poinsettias Plants - Envelopes to order Poinsettias for Christmas have been placed in the Sunday Bulletin. Last Sunday to order is will be Dec. 7th .

We will **Deck the Halls** immediately after service on Dec. 7th. Many volunteer hands are needed for this job. Volunteers are needed to distribute Poinsettias in the Sanctuary on Dec. 23rd. Many hands make light work.

The **Christmas Eve** service will be announced in the newspapers, on our website and on the church's phone message.

Christmas Eve service, Dec. 24 will be a Candlelight service at 7:00 PM.

Joyce Bailey will be the soloist.

The Center aisle will be adorned with our gorgeous candles provided by Joyce and Bill Hanisits. Each attendee will be given a small candle for the ceremony.

Christmas Day - There will not be a service on Dec. 25th.

We will **“undecK” the Halls** on January 11th immediately following the service.

The next Music and Worship Committee meeting will be held on January 13th at 11:00.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lois Greene,
Chair Music and Worship*

OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM



ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND (EHH) - Thank you for donating food and personal care items to EHH! It is always a JOY to see our Little Red Wagon full! Located on the campus of Englewood Methodist Church, 700 E Dearborn St., EHH is open to clients on W and TH, 8am-1pm. Thank you to our October volunteers: Joyce Hanisits, Carol Rice, Kat and Lee Smith. If you would like to volunteer as a pantry worker, please let Carol Rice know. Volunteers are needed Nov. 12 and 13.

A special thank you to our Oktoberfest team for supporting EHH by donating \$160 raised from the 50/50 drawing. Oktoberfest was a fun and festive event! Our support is especially timely as need is expected to increase due to the government shutdown which will impact SNAP and other programs causing food insecurity for families and many seniors.



QUILTING AND KNITTING - Please join us for a time of Christian fellowship, fun and service...no skills necessary. We meet in the Fellowship Hall from 9-noon every Wednesday. All willing hands and hearts are welcome. Our quilts are donated to Lutheran World Relief and sent throughout the world at times of disaster.

Beautiful knitted and crocheted Prayer Shawls and Lap Robes are donated locally. If you know someone who would be blessed by a prayer shawl or lap robe, please let Pastor Ken or Carol Rice know..



THRIVENT - Are you a Thrivent member? Please remember to direct your Choice Dollars each quarter. Christ Lutheran is 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. Grant requests can be initiated by calling Thrivent or by going online. Need a project idea? The Outreach Ministry Team will help.

KIDS' NEEDS of ENGLEWOOD - We continue to collect new and gently-used clothing for Englewood area elementary, middle and high school students, ages 5-18. These donations can be placed in the Kids' Needs collection box in our narthex. Pastor Ken enjoys volunteering each month with Kids' Needs during their TH evening shopping nights. Thank you, PK! We know the kids and parents love your magic tricks.



It was decided to once again focus on Kids' Needs for our Christmas outreach project..collecting new shoes, socks, undies, jackets and sweatshirts. Please start shopping as you see sales on these much needed items for kids, ages 5-18.

TROSHUK FAMILY - Please continue to support our Ukrainian family with your prayers, including prayers for world PEACE!??

"CAROLS AND POINSETTIAS" - Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Monday, December 22, as we visit our Homebound members. At each stop, we sing a couple of Christmas Carols and deliver poinsettias. It is a time of JOY! We meet at the church office at 10am and carpool.



*The next Outreach Ministry Team will be on TH, November 13, at 11am in the office meeting room.

Peace and Joy!

Carol Rice for the Outreach Ministry Team Pastor Ken, Ellen Novotny, Moira Ehlers, Pastor Linda Fernandez and Kat Smith



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

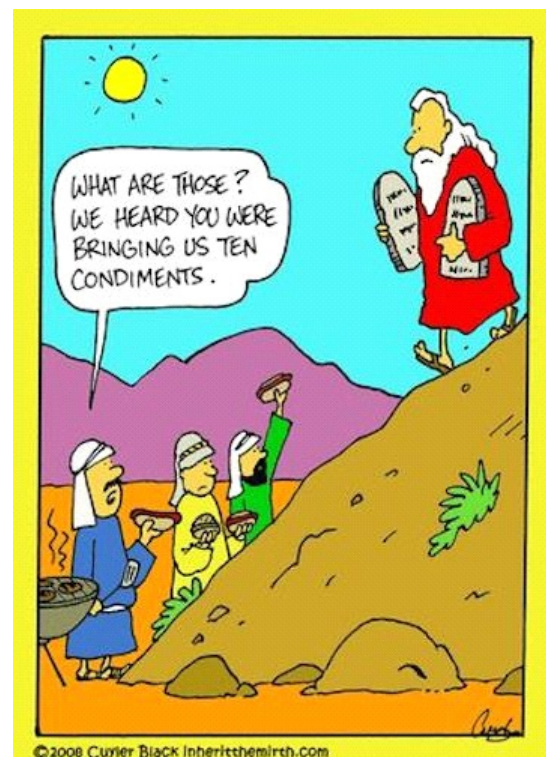


NEW CLC PHONE directories (yellow cover) are available. Again, please let us know, via e-mail, a note, phone call, or carrier pigeon, etc. if your information needs updated. PLEASE, if you have changed or there is an error, please let us know. We can't express how important it is to keep us up to date by sending us any NEW info at office@christlutheranfleng.org telling us to add or correct your e-mail. And remember, *penmanship counts* ... if I can't read it . . . guaranteed it will be 100%

incorrect.

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.



Christ Lutheran Men

November, BE THANKFUL !!!

MEN'S MINISTRIES, MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men of Christ Lutheran Church meet in Christian Fellowship to share and serve our Lord. All Men are welcome and encouraged to join with us.

The Men's Group will **meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, 9am** at the Church Conference Room. There will be some special events, held on different dates; TBA

Up-coming Schedule:

Thursday Nov. 6th, 9^{am} at Church Conference Room

Coffee, Devotions, Donuts

Bible Study

Thursday Nov. 20th, 9^{am} at Church Conference Room

Coffee, fellowship, Devotions

Devotions and program

- **Nov. 27th, Thanksgiving. Blessings to all!**

SPECIAL DATES: Please mark your calendars

Thursday Dec. 4th, 9^{am} at church Conference Room

Coffee, Devotions

Planning for Holiday Dinner

Thursday Dec. 11th,

Men's sponsored **Holiday Dinner Party**

Boca Royale Club House

Entertainment

Christmas Bingo and prizes

More details to follow!



Reservation, pre-paid sign-ups required.

Choice of - Beef, Salmon, or Chicken

Includes potatoes, veggie, rolls,
coffee/tea & soft drink.

Cash bar.

\$30.00 per person includes tax and gratuity--

GREAT FUN!!

Sunday Dec.

Church Decorating. After worship

Mark Baker, Facilitator



If your birthday is not listed,
and you would like it to be,
please contact the office,
via e-mail at . . .
office@christlutheranfleng.org
to share your special day

November		
Tom	Mills	11/10
Julie	Wentzel	11/13
Michael	Yankowski	11/19
Don	Kliner	11/23
MaryJane	Rock-Brien	11/25
Thomas	Newton	11/25
Joyce	Bailey	11/28
Char	Wymer	11/29

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Lutherans have been in the news this week!

Protect Yourself!

IF YOU HAVE THESE SYMPTOMS.....

YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOU SERVE PEOPLE IN NEED FIRST AND ASK QUESTIONS LATER....YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOU CARE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO IMMIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND ASYLUM SEEKERS...YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOUR "RELIGIOUS" ACTIVITIES INCLUDE FEEDING HUNGRY PEOPLE, HOUSING THOSE IN NEED, AND SUPPORTING THOSE WHO ARE POWERLESS...YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOU BELIEVE SECOND CHANCES ARE UNLIMITED....YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOU THINK EVERYONE'S STORY MATTERS...YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOU CAN ONLY IMAGINE FOLLOWING A GOD WHO LOVES EVERYONE...YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOU WANT TO BELONG WITHOUT HAVING TO PRETEND...YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN!

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED THAT YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES MIGHT BE SHOWING SIGNS OF

Church Attendance

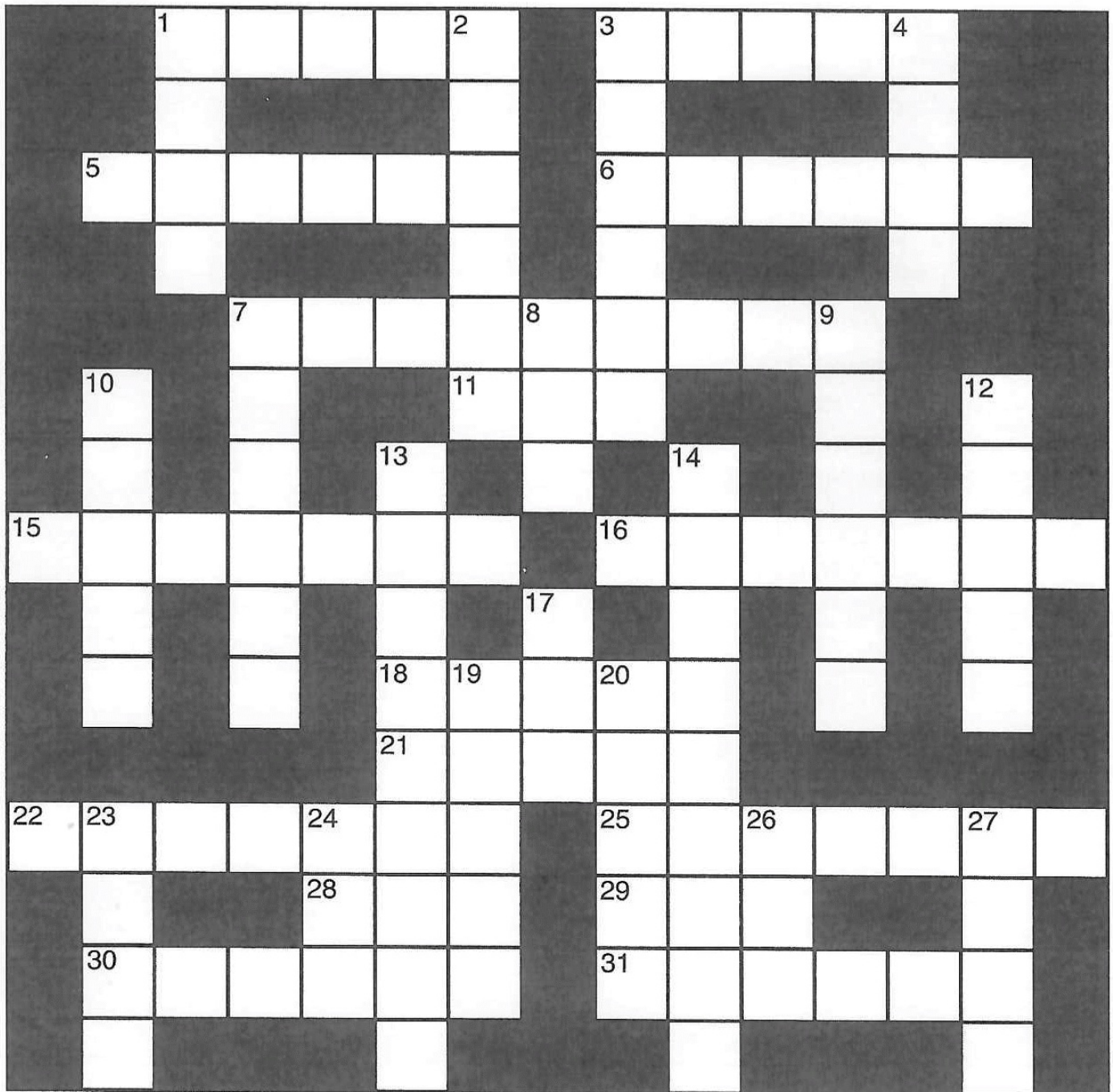
<u>Octoberr</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Giving</u>
10/05	51	\$3,147.00
10/12	54	\$2,342.00
10/19	43	\$1,623.00
10/26	77	\$2,462.00
Oktoberfest	107	\$2,665.00
	225	\$12,239.00



Please assist the church by completing a survey for each member in your household. The information in the survey is a very valuable tool to Christ Lutheran Church. It allows us to know which of our members would be good on which committees, who is willing to serve in which areas, and which of our members have talents that can be shared with the church. This may involve education, training, and practice in various fields, always with the intent of glorifying God. It's been many years since we did our last survey and it is important to have up-to-date information about the gifts God has given to each of us to use for His glory. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. This survey can be picked up in the Narthex and returned at your earliest convenience. Thank you!



Bible Places



Bible Places

ACROSS

1. Southern kingdom
3. Mountain in Sinai
5. Ancient Greek city (site of Oracle)
6. City in northern Palestine (Joshua 19:47)
7. Town of Jesus' birth
11. Mound of ancient ruins
15. Ancient Greek city
16. Home of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1)
18. Chastiser of Job (Job 35:1)
21. Kidneys in Latin
22. Home of Mary and Martha
25. Ancient capital on Euphrates
28. Rodent
29. Samuel's mentor
30. Save (Psalm 35:17)
31. These waters parted

DOWN

1. Slayer of Sisera (Judges 4:21)
2. Altitude (Ezekiel 19:11)
3. Father of Abdon (Judges 12:15)
4. Wilderness stopping place (Numbers 21:16)
7. Town in Manasseh (1 Chronicles 6:70)
8. Veh. producing little exh.
9. Where Abraham took Isaac (Genesis 22:2)
10. Puerto Rico city
12. Brother of Abraham (Genesis 11:27)
13. Jesus' home on Sea of Galilee (Matthew 4:13)
14. David's royal city
17. Desert in Canaan (Numbers 13:21)
19. Island in the Philippines
20. Husband of 1-Down (Judges 4:17)
23. Work for (2 Thessalonians 3:12)
24. Curve
26. Offer
27. Son of Judah (Genesis 38:2-4)



Pastor Ken



Nancy Berry & Donna Elliott



Band Members



Char & Rich Wymer, Dottie Berner, Ingr



Bob Cosler & Ingrid Becker



11/01	
2	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
3	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
4	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10 / BRIDGE CLUB CLASS / BRIDGE CLUB 12 - 5
5	QUILTING 9:00 - 2:00 ^{PM} / FELLOWSHIP DINNER / CALVARY CHAPEL BIBLE STUDY 7-8PM
6	MEN'S GROUP 9:00AM / COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12 / BRIDGE CLUB 12 - 5
7	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
8	
9	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
10	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
11	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10 / 10:00AM BRIDGE CLUB CLASS / BRIDGE CLUB 12 - 5 ^{PM}
12	QUILTING 9:00 - 2:00 ^{PM} / CALVARY CHAPEL BIBLE 7-8 ^{PM}
13	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9-12 / OUTREACH COMMITTEE 11:00AM / BRIDGE CLUB 12 - 5
14	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM} / NEW MEMBER CLASS 2:00PM
15	
16	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM} - NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
17	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30PM
18	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10 / 10 BRIDGE CLUB CLASS / BRIDGE CLUB 12 - 5 / 1PM CHURCH COUNCIL
19	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00PM / CALVARY CHAPEL BIBLE STUDY 7PM
20	9AM MEN'S GROUP / COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12 / BRIDGE CLUB 12 - 5
21	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00AM / FUN NIGHT DONE RIGHT 4-8PM
22	
23	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
24	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
25	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10 / 10 BRIDGE CLUB CLASS / BRIDGE CLUB 12 - 5
26	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM} / CALVARY CHAPEL BIBLE STUDY 7PM
27	THANKSGIVING
28	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
29	
30	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}