

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH Proclaimer

Worship

Sunday Morning
Holy Communion
At 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.



Through God's Grace we Joyfully,
Receive...to Give
Learn...to Serve
and Worship...to Grow.

Education

Sunday Morning -
9:15 a.m. for All Ages:
Children 3 & up- Chapel
Junior High Youth:
Boys- Room 216
Girls - Room 214
Sr. High - Room 206
Adults- Fellowship Hall

Nursery

A Nursery is available for children who are infants through 4 years of age during Sunday morning worship and the Sunday School hour.

Office

Monday-Thursday from
9 a.m.-4:30p.m.
Friday from
9a.m.-12p.m.
210-822-3394
office@clcah.org

January 2012

FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings to all of you as we begin the New Year! It is indeed a year of exciting new beginnings as we welcome Pastor Marie and her husband David into our community of faith. We are delighted to have them and the gifts they bring to enhance our Christian life and discipleship. I hope that every member of our congregation will make a special effort to get to know David and Pastor Marie. Invite them to your dinner group or make an appointment for coffee with Pastor Marie or drop by the church office to introduce yourself and say hello. I know that Pastor Marie will be working hard to get to know all of you as well.

One important way we can support Pastor Marie is to attend her installation on January 22nd at both the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. This is the time when Pastor Marie officially accepts the duties of serving our congregation as a minister of Word and Sacrament. As she promises to walk alongside us in service, we promise to do the same for her. You won't want to miss this meaningful service.

I am excited to see the ways in which our congregation will be challenged and grow as a result of Pastor Marie's ministry. She brings energy, poise and innovation to the office of pastor. She already has lots of ideas spinning in her head to enhance our current ministries and to develop new opportunities for growth and outreach. We are also grateful to welcome David, who has already been attending our young men's group, The Mulligans. David plans to take a key leadership role in our new Male Spirituality Team at CLC. With a master's degree from Luther Seminary, we are blessed to have such a capable and educated volunteer!

Most importantly, Pastor Marie and David will become part of our Christ Lutheran family, and Mike and I have experienced firsthand the incredible gifts membership in this family of God brings. I know that you will share with our new pastor and her husband the same welcome, care, concern, support, encouragement and love that you have shared with us. Happy New Year! Indeed!

- Pastor Leslie Kida

Groups

Bell Choir

Every Wednesday
6:00 p.m. - Room 203

Bell Ensemble

Every Wednesday
5:30 p.m. - Room 203

Book Club

First Tuesday
6:45 p.m. - Location TBA

Dominos Group

First Thursday
9:45 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

First Thursday Lunch

First Thursday
12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Healing Prayer

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.
Rode Prayer Chapel

Hope Circle

Third Thursday
9:30 a.m. - Primrose House

Joseph's Sons

First Monday
6:30 p.m. - Location TBA

Jubilate Choir

Every Wednesday
5:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

Lydia Circle

Third Tuesday
7:00 p.m. - Primrose House

Men's Breakfast

Second Tuesday
7:00 a.m. - Bill Miller BBQ

Quilters

Every Tuesday
9:00 a.m. - Primrose House

Sanctuary Choir

Every Wednesday
7:15 p.m. - Sanctuary

The Mulligans

Date, time & location TBA

Young Women's Group

Date, time & location TBA

Other Groups meet during the year. For information about any of the above groups, please contact our church office.

From the Parish Council

This first article of the New Year from the Parish Council is dedicated exclusively to the members of our congregation who are under 18 years of age. Sam Becvar and Lia Mathsen shared with me that they run home after school every day and say, "Hey, Mom and Dad, I'm home! Did the new *Proclaimer* come today?" So, those of you under 18 who are already avid readers of the *Proclaimer*, read on. For parents whose under-18 kids are not yet avid readers of the *Proclaimer*, slip this article in front of their Post Toasties at breakfast tomorrow morning.

OK, so no one eats Post Toasties anymore. Then, cut and paste this article into Facebook, and they will be sure not to miss it.

[ASIDE: In order to attract more readers to the *Proclaimer*, Kathryn Coffey and I had planned to start a gossip column. We had a great title, "Heard at the Communion Rail." Jan Norris, the longtime Pulitzer Prize-winning editor of the *Proclaimer*, loved the idea. Unfortunately, the two fuddy-dud pastors we had at the time frowned on it. The idea faded into the past as Kathryn followed her fuddy-dud pastor husband to his new church in Austin. So, "Heard at the Communion Rail" remains a dream to be realized.]

Now that I have the attention of you under-18s, here is the hot news! For the next few months, your programs are going to be led by none other than Pastor Leslie and Pastor Marie. Pastor Leslie will be leading the youth from confirmation age through high school and Pastor Marie will be leading the fifth graders and younger members of our church. This provides a unique opportunity for each of you to get to know our pastors on a one-on-one basis in a setting outside of the sanctuary. I encourage each of you to take advantage of this limited opportunity ... because this is not a permanent set-up ... we expect to add a staff position for the youth and children before the summer. Of course, our two gifted pastors will still be involved, but not to this extent.

Pastor Leslie has shared some of what she and Pastor Marie have in store for you. In addition to Sunday School, they plan to have regular fellowship events, opportunities to meet with the pastors one-on-one, group volunteer opportunities in the community, the Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer, a week at Camp Chrysalis in Kerrville this summer (you need to sign up now...see article elsewhere in this *Proclaimer*), Vacation Bible School as well as other summer activities. What a great chance for you to get to know each other better, explore your faith together and have a good time while doing so!

By having our pastors so closely involved with you this spring, you should realize how important you are to our congregation ... and you will come to appreciate that our pastors are definitely not fuddy-duds!

Call if you have news,

-Bob Oliver, Parish Council President

Thank You All ... From the CLC Staff!

The staff would like to thank the congregation for the Christmas gifts we received. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are overwhelming. We appreciate the support and love that are gifts from all of you. You make Christ Lutheran a great place to serve!

- Pastor Leslie, Becky, Linda, Rosario, Dan, Peter, Sandy, and Sam

Christmas Pageant ... Christ is Born!

Many thanks to the 30 children who so lovingly played the parts of Mary, Joseph, the prophets, angels and shepherds, and outstanding young readers, Jack Chegin and Kelli Jackson, who presented "The Messiah is Born" in our sanctuary on Sunday, December 18. Their bright eyes, delightful voices and adorable costumed presences reminded us of the important role children play in the life of the church ... and their pure wonder helps invigorate our adult faith.

Huge thanks to Karin Oliver and Becky Richard who, with the help of many volunteers, put this production together – especially Dana Whelan, Bambi Attleson, Allison Gates, Ben Richard, Sarah Richard and Joe Diana. Thanks to Peter Gross for his gifted musical accompaniment and to Cyndi Erp for coordinating the confirmation bell players. And to Beth Callaghan, the Mistress of the Banners, who, with the help of her husband John, sister Pam, daughter Erin and friend Sue, created five beautiful banners that we will be able to use for many years.

Costumes, made in years past and happily recycled, were the creative handiwork of Marty Halstead, Mary Overstreet and Lucy Mathesen. There are many more and we thank you all! It was a labor of love, collaborative evidence of what a village can do, a cheerful restoration of joy in the message of Christmas ... and just cute!

Member News

Sympathy to:

- Ed Wells & family on the death of his mother, Florence DePaola, on December 13
- Jan Norris on the death of her brother, Bill Hunsecker.
- Mary Overstreet on the death of her uncle, George Huebner.
- Kathi Stodghill on the death of her father.

Please Note

- There will be ONE service on Sunday, January 1 at 11 a.m.
- There will be no Christian Education classes on Sunday, January 1. Classes will resume on January 8.

Confirming our Faith (6th-8th grades)

At Christ Lutheran, we invite all middle school youth and older teens who have yet to be confirmed to meet in the confirmation rooms on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. for small groups. The girls meet in room #214 while the guys meet in room #216. Here's what is happening for our confirmands this January:

- January 8: Gospels Overview
- January 15: The Birth of Jesus
- January 22: The Baptism of Jesus
- January 29: The Teachings of Jesus

Also **DON'T FORGET** we have **CONFIRMATION LARGE GROUP ON JANUARY 4 FROM 6-8 p.m.** with **Pizza Feast** starting at 5:30 p.m. Please remember your binders and Bibles!

Senior High Youth Group at Pastor Leslie's House

Mike and Pastor Leslie are delighted to open their home to all the 9th-12th graders at CLC along with their friends! **On Sunday, January 8, at 5 p.m.** we will have a pizza, Wii and hot tub party! All you have to do is bring your suits and any Wii games that you enjoy! We will have sodas and other snacks! Our address is: 15110 Morning Tree, San Antonio, 78232.

Senior high youth are always invited to the youth room on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. for faith discussion and fellowship with other teens and of course, with our wonderful leader, Will Garrett.

Faith University: Exploring Mark's Gospel

The Gospel of Mark is not just good news about Jesus. It reveals, sometimes in surprising and scandalous ways, how Jesus is God's good news to us. This winter, our lectionary (the scripture selections we read each Sunday in worship) brings us through many passages from Mark. So on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. during adult education you will have an opportunity to become something of an expert yourself as we spend seven weeks together delving into Mark's simple but gripping gospel. Participant guides are available but not necessary. If you'd like one, place your order with the office. Guides cost \$10 each. This class begins January 8 and runs every Sunday through February 19.

Camp Chrysalis, Here We Come!

Attention all parents of 1st through 8th graders! Pastor Leslie or Pastor Marie (yet to be determined ... one of our pastors will be with the senior high youth at the Gathering) will accompany our children to camp this summer, the week of July 15-21. Please mark your calendars for this important time for your children to grow in their faith and have the experience of a lifetime.

Check out the camp website at http://www.crosstrails.org/downloads/2012_Summer_Registration.pdf and contact Karin Oliver with questions or plans at rkarinoliver@satx.rr.com.

Children are encouraged to bring a neighbor or friend with them to camp ... or just enjoy bunking with Sunday School friends. Scholarships will be made available upon request.

Parents: Please join us for a Camp Chrysalis Parent Information Meeting on Sunday, January 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.

ELCA National Youth Gathering: Exciting Stuff!

Around 30,000 Lutheran teenagers will gather in New Orleans next summer from July 18-22! Our CLC kids will be a part of this amazing gathering ... where they'll hear dynamic Christian speakers and popular Christian bands, enjoy the giant activity center, and serve in the continued recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina. The theme for this major national gathering is: "Citizens with the Saints," based on Ephesians 2:14-20. Christ Lutheran hopes to fill a 15-passenger van with youth eager to serve the needy and grow in their faith. Pastor Leslie will lead this trip and is enthusiastic about the opportunity to work alongside the youth to make a difference in people's lives in New Orleans.

Pastor Leslie will host an informational meeting about the trip for parents and youth on January 22 in the Senior High Youth Room – immediately following 10:30 a.m. worship. If you are interested in participating but can't make the meeting, please call the office and talk to Pastor Leslie. Registration is due February 1st with all or part of a \$150 deposit. The total cost per family is \$350 plus fundraising. Scholarships are available for youth in need. Please talk to Pastor Leslie.

CLC Book Club ...

Literature and Laughter

If one of your New Year's Resolutions involves reading more, making friends and enjoying life, the CLC Book Club has a deal for you! Join this friendly gaggle of Lutherans for reading, conversation, eating (because we're Lutheran after all) and fellowship. First meeting of 2012 is on Tuesday, January 10 at 6:45 p.m. at the Primrose House (on the church grounds) for a poetry discussion featuring our very own CLC poet laureate Mary Margaret Rode and her newly published Morning Songs. On February 7, same time and place, Dorothy Woods will lead a discussion of John Grisham's The Associate. On Tuesday, March 6, we'll discuss In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin by Erik Larson.

Un-Hanging of the Greens

Help! We need lots of willing folks to join in the "un-decorating" project following the late service on January 8. The sanctuary was beautifully decorated for the Christmas season, but now those decorations need to come down, get packed up and put away until next year. Please stick around after worship to ease the burden for all participants. This can be a quick process if we have lots of help. Thanks!

Hope Circle

The Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, January 19 in the Primrose House at 9:30 a.m. Pastor Darwin Huartson will lead the Bible study. Please join us!

Carolyn Schneider ...

Heading for Egypt

As many of you know, I am heading for Egypt in January to teach a course at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo during the spring semester, and I am really looking forward to it. It means, though, that my old contact information at the Collegeville Institute will no longer be valid. Since I want to keep in touch, here is my new email address: carolynschneider153@gmail.com. That will be the best way to contact me while I am in Egypt.

-Carolyn Schneider

Praises to ...

- All you fabulously generous Lutherans for buying, wrapping and sharing your beautiful Angel Tree gifts with 50 San Antonio children and their families. Their Christmas celebrations were much merrier for your kindness. Family Service thanks you for your big ole Texas hearts!
- All who brought in bags of much-needed groceries to share with hungry neighbors who look to the Alamo Heights Faith Community Outreach Initiative for assistance in feeding their families. More than 40 bags filled with non-perishable foods came rolling in thanks to you and we are, again, overwhelmed by your generosity.
- Lori Harris for following us all around with her camera and recording fun fellowship events ... then sharing the pictures with us!
- All who are involved in our music ministry – the Sanctuary Choir, Handbell Choir, Jubilate Choir and our energetic leaders, Dan Long and Peter Gross – for the amazing and uplifting and inspirational sounds they brought to us throughout Advent and the Christmas season. Joy!
- Kim Wheelless for coordinating our busy Meals on Wheels program. Five days a week, volunteers (including Kim and her family) come by the church kitchen, pick up hot meals, drinks and dessert and deliver a nutritious lunch to shut-ins in our neighborhood.
- Mary Overstreet for the beautiful Christmas banners hung in our Sanctuary and to Jim Vasquez and crew for once again hanging the banners.
- Terry Westerman who faithfully leads the Prayer Group every week.
- All who attended the Christmas Workshop and helped decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas season.
- The fantastic group who attended the Christmas party at Haven for Hope for children living in the SAMM Shelter.

“God is Good” Said the Little Child

"God is Good" was written on an ornament by a nine-year-old girl whose family lives at Haven for Hope. On Saturday, December 13, eight youth and 12 adults from Christ Lutheran spent the afternoon at Haven for Hope volunteering in Santa's workshop. Over 160 children live with their families at the facility. We were joined by other volunteer groups from across San Antonio including volunteers from the Air Force. We helped the children make crafts for their families and were able to reach out and get to know some of the folks who live at Haven. It was also a wonderful time to share with other members of Christ Lutheran. Yes, "God is Good," and all who were there could certainly feel His presence.

-Ken Thompson

Lucy Circle: Faith & Fellowship

Our Sunday morning 9:15 a.m. Lucy Circle continues with the following dates this spring ... and you're invited to this friendly, casual gathering of Lutheran women who look at faith through a modern lens to apply the teachings of the Bible to our busy lives. Come for the good conversation and fellowship. Join us in the Parlor on the following Sundays:

January 15

February 12

March 25 (bypasses the Sundays before and after Spring Break)

April 15

May 20

Grab a cup of coffee and bring your Bible and your creative thinking to these monthly gatherings. No pre-study necessary. You will receive the monthly "Gather" magazine during the study. Our roster has 13 great women; please join us to make that group 14, 15, 16....

Questions? Call Karin Oliver at 826-1450.

Help! Quilters Needed!

Every Tuesday morning, starting at 9 a.m., quilters meet at the Primrose house to build quilts for Lutheran World Relief and our wounded warriors. There's work for every skill level ... including handwork for those who enjoy quilting the old fashioned way. Please consider adding this ministry to your life ... and you'll love the reward of doing something kind for a stranger in need while enjoying the fellowship. Our coffee pot is on and good company surrounds us while we work.

We're so glad Marty Halstead joined us recently.

For those who prefer to cut squares and/or sew at home, we love you! If you'd be interested in joining these folks, let us know. For more information, contact Lucy Mathesen at 824-1899(h) or 383-2837(c).

God bless you!

-Lucy Mathesen

Sunday School: Pre-school through 5th Grade

Children who are three years old through the 5th grade are invited to our children's Sunday school program. Every Sunday, we use a rotation system to tell the story to children in meaningful ways. All children meet in the Moench Chapel at 9:15 a.m. to hear the Bible story for the day. Then the children separate into age-appropriate groups and rotate to a workshop that further emphasizes the lesson. Examples of workshops include games, service projects, music, art, food, storytelling and puppets. Children return to the Moench Chapel at 10:15 a.m. to join their families.

- January 8 –Jesus is Born
- January 15 –John the Baptist
- January 22 –The Disciples
- January 29 –The Lord's Prayer
- February 5 –House on the Rock
- February 12 –The Prodigal Son

Jubilate Choir: Spring Schedule

Our 15-member Jubilate Choir will start rehearsals Wednesday, January 11 in the sanctuary at 5:30 p.m. All children, kindergarten through 5th grade, are invited to join! Prerequisite? A desire to join with other children in singing for worship once a month. Our spring calendar follows.

Every Wednesday, unless otherwise noted, we'll meet in the sanctuary from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. for rehearsal. On the Sundays noted, we will meet at 10 a.m. to sing for worship:

- Wednesday, January 11 – Rehearsal Schedule Begins
- Sunday, January 22 – Sing for worship
- Sunday, February 26 – Sing for worship
- Wednesday, March 14 – No rehearsal/Spring Break
- Sunday, April 1 – Sing for Palm Sunday worship
- Sunday, May 13 – Sing for Mother's Day worship
- Wednesday, May 16 – Jubilate Choir pool/pizza party at the Olivers'

This concludes our spring calendar.

Staff

The Rev. Leslie Kida
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Marie Purcell
Associate Pastor

Marilyn Hamilton
Director of Day School

Becky Richard
Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Linda Sulser
Administrative Assistant

Dr. Dan Long
Choir Director

Peter Gross
Organist

Rosario Alferez
Church "Keeper"

Sam Tenorio
Custodian

Parish Council

Bob Oliver, *President*

Will Garrett, *Vice Pres.*

Terry Bowen, *Treasurer*

Debbie Vasquez, *Secretary*

Ken Thompson, *Trustee*

Lisa Chegin, *Trustee*

Kim Fischer, *Trustee*

Pastor Leslie Kida

Pastor Marie Purcell

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There will be one
service on
New Year's Day,
January 1
at 11 a.m.