

# Christ Connection

Empowered by God's love and following in the ways of Jesus Christ, we LIVE, GROW and SHARE AS Disciples of Christ.

For the Week Beginning January 12, 2020—The Baptism of our Lord



We have now entered the season of Epiphany (or if we're being really specific, the season *after* Epiphany). On January 6, we celebrate that the wise men followed the star and found Jesus - God-with-us. We celebrate this

new revelation of who God is - not only a God "out there," but also a God "right here."

Throughout these next Sundays, we will see God revealed again and again. Each revelation will tell us something more about who God is through Jesus - who he is and what he does. Each revelation broadens our understanding of what God is up to in the world. Each revelation also gives us an opportunity to reflect on our own faith experience. Where and how has God been revealed to us? Where do we look for God? Where does God find us unexpectedly? Where can we allow our experiences (or the experiences of others) to broaden our own understanding of who God is and how God works?

During this season, take time to look for where God is present in your life. Take time to look for where God is present in your world. And also challenge yourself - look for how God is present in the places you don't expect to find anything holy. For some, that might be in prisons or refugee camps or in slums or billion-dollar homes. For others, that might be in the person who divorced you or hurt you or betrayed you. For others, it might be in different religious, ethical, or political views. What we know is this, though - that God-with-us, Immanuel, has revealed that God is with us and intends to be with us - everywhere and all the time.

Be bold as you look for God in your life and the world, and tell someone else where you've experienced God. Also, be as gentle as you need to be when you look for where God is amidst the 'unholy.' But also be courageous. This is what it means to follow the star - to follow Jesus. Into places where we're comfortable, and also into places that are deeply uncomfortable. And all the time, wherever we are, God is with us.

*Pastor Erin*



This Sunday, a **special congregational meeting will be held in the fellowship hall at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 10:00 a.m.** The purpose of this meeting is to further discuss

and discern a 2020 budget. This meeting will provide an opportunity for open conversation for the congregation to further discuss questions and ideas sparked by the various budget scenarios presented prior to the last congregational meeting. Any unfinished business from this special congregational meeting will be taken up at the regular annual congregational meeting in February. **Following the meeting, there will be an informal opportunity to continue to ask questions and speak with members of the budget task force until 11:00 a.m.**

## Sunday Worship

8:30AM Contemporary

10:15AM Traditional

## Sunday Faith Formation

### Bible Study

7:30AM—Fireside Room

## Christ Lutheran Staff

Rev. Erin Clausen, Pastor  
Rachel Krohn, Pastoral Assistant  
Jon Ball, Dir. Contemporary Worship  
Bonnie Bucholz, Traditional Music Director  
Jo Chiko, Handbell Choir Director  
Rev. Craig Felde, Local Missionary  
Kristina Dickens  
Children & Family Ministries Director  
Nancy Woodruff,  
Director of Communications  
Mara Leonard—Organist

## Contact Information

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(630) 325-3271



Christ Lutheran Church of  
Clarendon Hills



@ChristClarendon

## Fudge Sale Was a Success

Thank you to everyone who purchased the home-made chocolate fudge to help raise funds for Erick Gallardo, the child we have sponsored through World Vision. Erick's sponsorship is supported by our Sunday School offerings, and his fund had gotten depleted over last year. We raised \$350.00! With the funds raised, we sent Erick a Christmas gift of \$110.00.

We are only able to send a monetary gift once a year to our sponsored child. A case manager will sit down with Erick's family and decide what the family needs. God is good!



## Pastor on Vacation January 15th–22nd

Pastor Erin will be on vacation from Wednesday, January 15-22 attending her sister's baby shower out of town. She will be attending the Council meeting on the 20th. Pastor Carole Willer will be presiding and preaching on the 19th. In the event of a pastoral need, please contact the church office and we will contact the pastor on call.

- The CH Bank is sponsoring the Secretary of State Mobile Unit on Wednesday, January 29th from 10am–2pm. The Secretary of State



Mobile Unit will be on hand to correct driver's licenses/State ID's, get a new license plate sticker or register to be an organ donor. Questions? Call the Village at 630-323-1240

- The Clarendon Hills Police Department is accepting worn out holiday lights and extension cords until February 1, 2020. You will find the collection bin in the lobby of the Police Department at 448 Park Avenue.



There will be a Rummage Sale Planning Meeting on January 19th at 9:30 a.m. The date for the Spring Rummage Sale is Saturday, April 4th, 2020.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Sunday, January 12

Bible Study 7:30AM—Fireside Room  
Contemporary Worship 8:30AM—Sanctuary  
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 9:30AM—Fellowship  
Sunday School 8:30AM—Growing Grove  
Middle School Ministries 9:30AM—Youth Room  
Traditional Worship 10:15AM—Sanctuary  
Pub Church 12:30PM—Tracy's Tavern

## Monday, January 13

Worship Team 7:00PM—Fireside Room

## Tuesday, January 14

Dartball 7:00PM—Hillside  
Handbell Practice 7:30PM—Choir Loft

## Wednesday, January 15

Scout Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall  
Worship Band Practice 6:00PM—Sanctuary  
Choir Rehearsal 7:30PM—Choir Loft

## Thursday, January 16

Scout Pack Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall  
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

## Friday, January 17

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall  
Knitting Ministry 10:30AM—Study Lounge

## Saturday, January 18

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room

## Sunday, January 19

Bible Study 7:30AM—Fireside Room  
Contemporary Worship 8:30AM—Pastor Willer presiding  
Sunday School 8:30AM—Growing Grove  
Middle School Ministries 9:30AM—Youth Room  
Traditional Worship 10:15AM—Pastor Willer presiding

## Monday, January 20

Church Council 6:30PM—Fellowship Hall

## Tuesday, January 21

Dartball 7:00PM—Forest Park  
Handbell Practice 7:30PM—Choir Loft

## Wednesday, January 22

Scout Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall  
Worship Band Practice 6:00PM—Sanctuary  
Choir Rehearsal 7:30PM—Choir Loft

## Thursday, January 23

Scout Pack Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall  
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

## Friday, January 24

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall

## Saturday, January 25

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room

# Sunday School

Don't forget we have a slight schedule change this Sunday, January

12th. Please drop off your child(ren) to the Growing Grove for Sunday School by 8:30 a.m. Children will have Children's Choir and Sunday School until communion. All children will be brought to the Sanctuary for communion where they will then stay with their families in time for the Congregational Meeting between services in the Fellowship Hall.

We understand that families may run a little behind in the morning to get to church, We welcome all children to Sunday School no matter what time they are able to join us. So if you are running behind, come on in! We want to make sure that you arrive safely to church!

# Nursery

The nursery will be open and staffed with volunteers during the Contemporary Worship Service, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30

a.m. The nursery is always open for parents whose little ones may need a break. All children must be supervised by an adult for safety reasons if they need to take a break in the nursery.

Please consider becoming a volunteer for the Nursery once a month! We would like to have four adults in the rotation each month. Please see Ms. Kristina or use your Connection Card if you are interested in volunteering.



## Meeting change for youth

The Youth Group will be meeting on Sunday, January 19th to plan the Mardi Gras Spaghetti Dinner.

All members of the youth group please meet with Ms. Kristina at 9:45 a.m. in the Growing Grove. There will be breakfast treats for the youth group members at the meeting. Youth will be released to parents at 10:15 a.m. The date of the Spaghetti Dinner will be determined at this meeting so stand by!



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

In preparation for the Annual Meeting, and to allow for our members to have time to ask questions of our church leadership, an informational forum is planned for **Sunday, January 26th. We will have one worship service that day, at 9:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary directly following the worship service.

The 68th Annual Meeting of the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church will be held on **Sunday, February 9th. We will have one worship service that morning at 9:00 a.m.** followed by the annual meeting in the Sanctuary.

Annual Reports will be available to pick up and study on Sunday, February 2nd, one week prior to the Annual Meeting.



It's Annual Report Time! If you are leading a ministry here at Christ Lutheran Church, we would like to feature your report in our Annual Book of Reports

which will be available to the congregation on February 2nd, one week before the 68th Annual Meeting of this congregation.

All Council/Quadrant leaders will be submitting reports on behalf of their quadrants, but we have many other vibrant ministries here at CLC and we want to share the good work being done, as well as challenges we have faced over this past year.

Please submit your reports to [Office@yourchrist.org](mailto:Office@yourchrist.org) in Microsoft Word by **Friday, January 24th.**



On **Saturday, February 1st** brave souls from Christ Lutheran Church will gather outside of the Jewel Osco in Clarendon Hills to collect non-perishable items for the HCS Family Services Food pantry. This yearly event is something that the pantry depends on; the pantry shelves tend to be depleted after the holidays. We will work in shifts, encouraging people who are doing their Superbowl Sunday shopping to pick up a few extra items for the pantry.

This year the pantry is most in need of the following: **ADULT DIAPERS, BABY WIPES, PASTA, TOMATO PRODUCTS, PAPER GOODS, CEREAL, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES AND CONDIMENTS.**

This is an annual event where we really do make a difference, consistently outperforming our previous year's goal. Let's make sure this year is no exception! A Donation Station is set up for those who can't be at Jewel but would still like to participate. **You may also contribute financially.** Please use the envelopes designated Souperbowl of Caring that are in the Welcome Center. Checks should be made out to Christ Lutheran Church. We will then issue one check to HCS.