

# 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 19, 2020—The Second Sunday of Epiphany



## A Message from ELCA Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton

*"Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."*

(Luke 10:36-37)

On Monday, our nation will be observing Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Dr. King's work called us, all of us, to remember our neighbor. As a civil rights leader, he spoke about a vision of a beloved community and preached a message of love. In his last speech, Dr. King said, "Let us develop a kind of dangerous unselfishness" and then spoke of the parable of the good Samaritan. The key of the parable is the man's answer: Being a neighbor is about how you act when a person is in need. As children of God, we are all deserving of respect and dignity.

According to Pew Research, in the ELCA more than 90 percent of the congregations are involved in some type of food ministry whether it's a soup kitchen, food pantry, community garden or other similar ministry. Through ELCA World Hunger, our congregations accompany communities toward a world of justice where all will be fed. We care for our neighbor in need, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day is another opportunity for us to be the church for one another.

We are called to be a church that embraces each person and confronts racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, age, gender, familial, sexual orientation, physical and economic barriers that can manifest themselves in unjust treatment, inequalities, exclusion and violence. Do we always get it right? No, we don't. As a denomination that must do better at being a neighbor - we have work to do.

Dr. King once said, "There comes a time when silence is betrayal." When we hear and witness actions that intimidate, degrade, make fun of or cause harm and choose not to speak up, we are equally complicit in the action. Whether it is on a school playground, a water cooler conversation, in the halls of Congress or in a congregation, we are called to be the Samaritan. We are to show mercy and break our silence of all forms of violence including those that stereotype groups, demean people and discriminate.

Through our baptism in Jesus Christ, we become part of the One Body; what happens to one happens to us all. When we all are allowed to thrive in a society that treats everyone with dignity and respect, we open ourselves up to endless possibilities for prosperity. When opportunities are awarded to everyone equally, then we will all have unity and social harmony.

In his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," Dr. King wrote, "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." We have an opportunity to continue the legacy and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. not just on King Day, but every day, at all times and in all places.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

God's peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
ELCA

## 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,  
Dir. of Communications

Mara Leonard—Organist

## Contact Information

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(630) 325-3271



Christ Lutheran Church of  
Clarendon Hills



@ChristClarendon

Pastor Erin is currently out of town attending her sister's baby shower. She will be back in the office on Thursday.

This Sunday morning we welcome **Pastor Carole Willer** who will be preaching and presiding over our worship service.



Be sure to watch the mail for your 2019 Giving Statement; they were mailed out this week. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your statement, Cyndy Wedryk, our financial secretary is the person who can address them. Just call the office or send us an e-mail and we will be happy to have her follow up. Thank you to everyone for your faithfulness to the ministries of Christ Lutheran Church in 2019.



### Serving in Worship Today

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Carole Willer

**Chancel:** Lori Ball, Wendy Sanders

**Communion Bread:** Debra Joslin,  
Avery Hancock

**Assisting Minister:** Pastor Craig Felde

**Communion Assistant:** Pastor Craig Felde,  
Deacon Steven Dickens

**Projection:** 8:30 Lori Ball 10:15 Open

**Nursery:** Micki Llewellyn

**Sunday School:** S. Dickens, S. Kraner, T. Lyon

**After Service Bakers:** Mary Satchwell & Evelyn Reed

**Planning  
Meeting Today 9:30  
In the Fellowship Hall**



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Sunday, January 19

Bible Study 7:30AM—Fireside Room  
**Contemporary Worship 8:30AM**—Pastor Willer presiding  
Sunday School 8:45AM—Growing Grove  
Middle School Ministries 9:30AM—Youth Room  
Rummage Sale Planning Meeting 9:30AM—Fellowship  
Common Life Table 9:30AM—Fellowship Hall  
Mardi Gras Planning Meeting 9:45AM—Growing Grove  
**Traditional Worship 10:15AM**—Pastor Willer presiding  
*Scout Pinewood Derby 3:00PM—Fellowship Hall*

## 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  
*Annual Reports Due into the office*

## Saturday, January 25

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room

## Sunday, January 26

Bible Study 8:00AM—Fireside Room  
**Worship 9:00AM**  
Sunday School—Growing Grove  
**Congregational Forum 10:10AM—Sanctuary**  
Middle School Ministries 10:00AM—Youth Room

## Tuesday, January 28

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

## Wednesday, January 29

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

## Thursday, January 30

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

## Friday, January 31

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall

## Saturday, February 1

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room  
Souperbowl of Caring Food Drive 9AM-4PM—CH Jewel

## Sunday School

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.



## Sunday, February 23

11:30 a.m.

Let the CLC Youth Group kids cook and serve you lunch!

Sponsored by the CLC Youth Group. Admission is only \$5.00. Proceeds will go toward future youth events.



# 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.



## Financial Snapshot

Many of you have been wondering where we stand with our Stewardship Drive. These are the numbers as of 1/13/20:

47 pledges received for a total of \$153,382.00

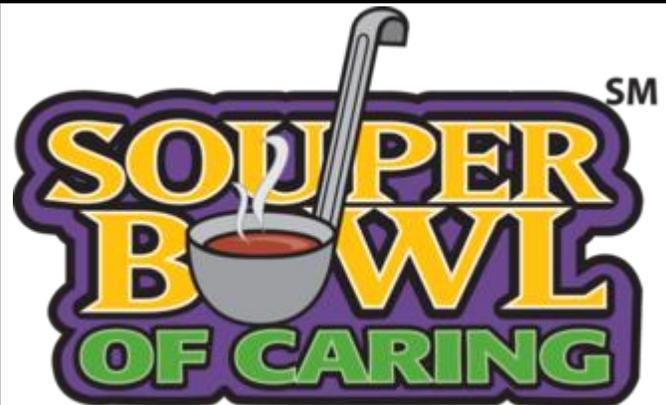
As we finished the 2019 fiscal year, we have made great strides in paying down our capital campaign loan (the Mission Investment loan). The terms of the loan allow a once yearly payment toward the principal. In September, 2018 the Council voted to pay down the principal of the loan by \$132,804.00. In the fall of 2019 the Council voted to pay down the principal by an additional \$25,000.00 (these amounts represent the pledges and donations received up to that date). From January through November of 2019 we also paid an additional \$833.00 each month toward the principal. The principal balance as of 12/31/19 is \$43,399.03.



We are asking for everyone's participation in a survey to

help determine how we can best care for everyone as we make transitions to our worship schedule. The results will be most helpful if completed before 2:00 p.m. Monday, January 20th. Pastor Erin will receive and collate results. Paper copies can be found in the Welcome Center or you may access it online at:

<http://bit.ly/CLCworshipsurvey>



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 *Superbowl 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.