

Christ's Ambassador

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Preston, Minnesota



January 2016

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, FOLLOW JESUS

Christ Lutheran Church - Preston, Minnesota

Telephone: (507) 765-2161

Email: christluthpres@centurytel.net

Website: www.christlutheranpreston.org

Pastor: Pastor Dan Bredberg (cell: 507-838-1745)

(email: pastordanpreston@gmail.com)

Council Members: Jim Keune, LaVerne Paulson, Cheryl Krage, Sandy Amundson, Carol Solberg, Bill Stockton, Kim Ristau, Diane Carr, and Deb Ebner.

Office Administrator: Amanda Means

Volume 51: Number 1

Church Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs., 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Worship: Sunday morning – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: Sunday morning – 10:10 a.m.

Worship Assistants

Greeters

January

3 Andy & Gail Bunge
10 Carl & Arlene Bakalyar
17 Don & Wenonah Berkland
24 Marilyn Bunge/Evie Christianson
31 Chuck & Vonnie Aug

Lectors

January

3 Andy Bunge
10 Wayne Dreier
17 Paige Donlinger
24 Pat Tollefson
31 Sue Grooters

Acolytes

January

3 Maeghan Kiehne/Kassidy Broadwater
10 Dilynn Ristau/Levi Hahn-Yetter
17 Cory Brown/Makenna Gatzke
24 Keanna Weedman/Kelly Ristau
31 Rylie Gatzke/Courtney Nelson

Communion Assistants

January

3 LaVerne Paulson/Cheryl Krage/Sandy Amundson
17 Jim Keune/Diane Carr/Brenda Reicks

Altar Guild – Pam Mensink/Roxie Knies/Lynn Haugan

Ushers – *Rick Grooters/Bob Hanson/Scott Wilson/Kevin Every

Money Counters

3 Darrel & Bev Olson 20 Harrison's
10 Sandy Amundson & Ron Laughlin 27 Ron and Sandy

January Service Group

Chairpersons: Schmidt, Paul & Karen.....4782
Randall, Lew & Jo.....507-358-5874

Bakke, Stacey & Mari Lyn.....2548
Durst, Philip.....3853
*Flood, Janice.....4918
Grabau, Dale & Becky.....4916
Grabau, Dan507-259-5093
Hager, Susan.....2218
Heibel, Kyle & Amanda.....507-886-3580
Herron, Melissa507-273-5864
*Major, Eugene2320
Marzolf, David & Margo2424
Nelson, Bruce & Anna.....507-352-5751
Pederson, Andrew & Jenna.....507-259-2132
Ristau, Randy & Debbie; Tyson.....2589
Severson, Tony & Paula; Megan2247
Scheevel, Eric & Tiffany9801
Tieskotter, Keith & Trista.....507-886-2845
Trende, Steve & Karen.....3362
Zimmerman, Mary & Robert Hanson507-251-6807

Ministerial Acts in December

Baptism

December 13 **Adam James Harstad**, son of Jay and Katie Marzolf-Harstad. Sponsors - Brian and Megan Kraby and Matt and Heidi Brown.

Lay Home Communion assistants - The Evangelism Team is looking for more people to help with Lay Home Communion. They would like to start doing this once a month. Contact Carol Solberg if interested.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

in **January**

1/1 Matt Hellickson
1/2 Bill Wojtkiewicz, Phil Milne
1/3 Walt Hansen, Terri Broadwater
1/4 Lynn Ristau, Grant Tieskotter
1/5 Zackary Soland
1/7 Jo Randall
1/8 Roger Dyreson, Kenny Wiegand, Kelsey Wilhelm
1/9 Kevin Schumacher, Jeff Woellert
1/10 Marissa Ostern, Kristina Schwartz
1/12 Joseph Brusse, Laura (Johnson) Wiltgen
1/13 Marie Glaser
1/14 Nathan Schwartz
1/15 Melissa Herron
1/16 Turner Sprenger
1/18 Brenda Ristau, Katie Marzolf-Harstad
1/19 Abbey Hellickson, Kristin (Schumacher) Wittrock
1/20 Jackie Burmeister
1/21 Cynthia Hokenson
1/23 Sue Ostrom, DeWayne Vogt
1/24 Pam Mensink
1/25 Elaine Hellickson, Mary Specht, Jeremiah Grabau
1/27 Deb Ebner, Jessica Marzolf, Arlene Rain; *Don & Betty Riehl – Anniv.*
1/28 Kendyl Bennett, Paige Bennett, Amanda Heibel, Don Hahn, Doug Keene
1/29 Matt Hoff, Terry Kraling, Bev Olson, Larry Ristau
1/31 Rick Grooters, Jordyn Marzolf, Janis Larimer Weaver

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

January Bible Study Focus Verses - Philipians 1:1-26

"May God bless you all. Yes, I pray that God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ will give each of you his fullest blessings, and his peace in your hearts and your lives."

CLC's Weekly Discipleship Plan

The beginning of a new church year marks a great opportunity to start new habits. One habit to consider is a weekly discipleship plan. This plan helps you take personal responsibility for growing in faith and BEING the church each and every day. Discipleship simply means learning to follow Jesus and live like He did. This plan is designed to give you intentional ways to live out your faith, emphasizing different ways to live like Jesus each day. The key idea to grasp is that faith is not just one component of life, reserved for one hour a week. Instead, faith involves everything we do, every second of our lives. You'll notice that all of these activities/ideas can be done on your own or in partnership with others. I pray this weekly plan can help you find specific ways to *BE* the church as you love God, love people, and follow Jesus. In Christ, Pastor Dan

Make a Difference Monday- Value: Blessed to be a Blessing (Genesis 12:1-3). God has blessed us so that we can bless others. *Look for simple ways to bless people and make a difference in their lives today. (a smile, a phone call, a prayer, a nice tip, paying someone's bill)*

Tuesdays with Jesus- Value: Dependence (Galatians 2:20) We seek to become increasingly dependent upon Jesus so that it is no longer we who live, but Christ lives in us. *Join us in the Heritage Room for Bible study at 9:30am or set aside other time today to be with Jesus in prayer, meditation and Bible Study.*

Workout Wednesday- Value: Whole Body Health- (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) We value personal responsibility for staying fit physically, mentally, and spiritually. *Visit a gym, fitness class or find your own ways to work on strengthening your body, mind and spirit. Take a walk. Read a devotional book. Do a crossword puzzle or Sudoku.*

Theology Thursday- Value: Wisdom- (Proverbs 24:3-4) We believe in curiosity, honesty, asking questions and using the mind God gave us to grow in wisdom and understanding. *Listen to online sermons and messages, visit Iamsecond.com or get together with friends/family and ask questions about God, faith and life, seeking wisdom and understanding.*

Fun Friday- Value: Relationships, Fun- (John 10:10) God created us for relationship. He also invented fun. Put the two together and you're in for a great night! So go out and enjoy life. *Use Fridays to have fun and build relationships with family, friends and people not connected to a church. Remember, faith is caught, not taught; it develops through relationships, so take time to invest in other people & show them Christians can have fun!*

Service Saturday- Value: Service- (Romans 12:1) We seek to worship God with our whole lives, especially by using the gifts he has given us to serve others. *Worship God today through service to others. Rake leaves, shovel a driveway, volunteer at a nursing home or food shelf, bake cookies to give away, or find your own way to serve others in love.*

Sabbath Sunday- Value: Rest, Strengthening Families- (Exodus 20:8-12) God commands us to honor the Sabbath day and to honor our family members. We desperately need a break, but rarely take one. We desperately need family time, but rarely get it. Therefore... *Commit to doing as little work as possible and use this day to rest, relax, worship God, renew your soul, and spend quality time together with family/friends. You won't regret it!*

FAITH



Every night in every home



SHARE

highs and lows



READ

a Bible verse or story



TALK

about how the Bible
reading might relate to
your highs and lows



PRAY

for one another's
highs and lows



BLESS

one another

1	Genesis 1:3-5
2	2 Samuel 23:3-5
3	Job 22:27-29
4	Job 29:2-4
5	Psalms 18:27-29
6	Matthew 2:9-11
7	Psalms 27:1-3
8	Psalms 89:14-16
9	Psalms 97:10-12
10	Psalms 104:1-3
11	Psalms 119:104-106
12	Psalms 119:129-131
13	Proverbs 4:18-19
14	Isaiah 42:5-7
15	Isaiah 45:5-7
16	Isaiah 58:6-9
17	Isaiah 60:1-5
18	Matthew 5:13-16
19	Luke 11:33-36
20	John 1:1-13
21	John 3:19-21
22	John 8:12
23	Acts 13:46-48
24	Romans 13:11-12
25	1 Corinthians 4:5
26	2 Corinthians 4:4-7
27	Ephesians 5:8-14
28	Colossians 1:3-9
29	1 Thessalonians 5:4-6
30	1 Peter 2:9-10
31	1 John 1:5-7

Christ Lutheran Church Council Unofficial Meeting Minutes – 12/9/15

Present LaVerne Paulson, Scott Wilson, Carol Solberg, Bill Stockton, Jim Kuene, Brenda Reicks, Sandy Amundson, Andy Bunge, Pastor Dan, Cheryl Krage, Kim Ristau, Diane Carr, Deb Ebner.

Absent Carol Solberg

Meeting called to order at 7:13pm by President Jim Kuene

Devotions Brenda Reicks

Agenda LaVerne made the motion to approve the agenda; Bill 2nd. All approved. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report Sandy made the motion to approve the Secretary's Report; Brenda 2nd. All approved. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report

Church paid for the new refrigerator in the kitchen from an anonymous donation. Deb will look into a rebate through Public Utilities. Stewardship Sundays is at \$10,545.00. No internal loans as of 11.30.15. LaVerne made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; Scott 2nd. All approved. Motion passed.

Team Reports

Pastor's Report - Thank you to Andy and Gail Bunge for hosting the Council Meeting at their home. Pastoral Acts for the month: November 24th was Doris Gatzke's funeral; hosted Community Thanksgiving at Christ Lutheran – it's a rare thing these days to have different faiths come together, Pastor was glad to be a part of it; Traditions Bible Study – they are interested in communion more often and will be brought up with the Lay Home Communion Team; Baptism coming up on January 13th; Thanks for Dave Hokensen for leading the Sunday service on November 29th; Pastor Paul Forde will be the contact person the week after Christmast and Jon Ebner will be leading the service on December 27th; Starting up a Men's Discipleship group in January.

Evangelism - No Report

Education - The Sunday school children sang in church on November 22. The children are enjoying playing the multi-generational bell ringers in church. There will be no Sunday School December 6th because of the Lutefisk Dinner. The children are now practicing for the Sunday School Christmas program which will be December 20th. We are now in need of Sunday School teachers for the second half of the year. We would appreciate anyone that would like to do this.

Property - Sound & Media along with Morem Electric will be coming to install the screen in church. A roof issue needed attention this past week. Part of the room next to the sacristy was leaking. Schweicharts came to check and found that the roof rubber is coming off. It was full of water underneath. They put a temporary patch on the spot. Our roof is about 20 years old. The rest of it looks pretty good. A permanent fix for that spot is \$1550. Scott will get also get a quote from Meismer in Spring Valley.

The front ramp was discussed. Scott will do a small sample spot with another product to see how it holds up. The power broom that was purchased works well.

Stewardship - No report

Worship - No report other than we are in need of an Advent Candle lighter for the 9pm Christmas Eve service.

Youth - It's becoming more apparent that the best way to interact with the youth is through confirmation. We welcome ideas for getting the older youth involved. Dustin Arndt has expressed interest in being a part of the youth team he has also been volunteering his time in the youth room on Sundays. Each youth in confirmation was scheduled to work a shift at the Lutefisk Dinner. The Youth picked a Family for Christmas in Fillmore County. The presents will be delivered on Monday. They are participating in a Youth Service Challenge. A number of students will be playing their instruments in church on Christmas Eve. Still looking for volunteers to help out in the youth room after church on Sundays – let us know if you're interested!

New Council Members - A warm welcome to Deb Ebner, Kim Ristau and Diane Carr.

Election of Officers

President – Sandy made the motion to elect Jim Keune as President; Bill 2nd; all approved. Council will help with announcements on Sundays.

Vice President – Scott made the motion to elect LaVerne Paulson as Vice President; Bill 2nd; All approved.

Secretary – Sandy made the motion to elect Cheryl Krage as Secretary; Scott 2nd; All approved

Treasurer – Brenda made the motion to elect Deb Ebner as Treasurer; Bill 2nd; All approved

Team Chairs for 2016

Worship/Music – Diane Carr

Youth – Kim Ristau and Cheryl Krage

Education – Sandy Amundson

Property – LaVerne Paulson

Evangelism – Carol Solberg and Deb Ebner

Stewardship – Bill Stockton

Old Business

- Time and Talent Sheets – No new sign ups

New Business

- ‘Did you Know’ for January Ambassador –Lutefisk Dinner Summary
- Mutual Ministry Team will be tabled until 2016.
- Pastor Dan and Jim have a Safety Policy outline that they will be going over to update and change with a small group (Scott Wilson, Jim Keune, LaVerne Paulson, Pastor Dan & Cheryl Krage)
- Small Group Leadership Campaign – small group opportunities through a program called Essential Questions. It takes a look at the book of Acts. There is a guide book for each small group leader which has questions. Looking for people to facilitate a small group. The idea is for all members to get together sometime during the week to go through this 10 week program which begins January 10th.
- Our doors will be approximately \$1,100 per door to update them with a crash bar. There are 6 doors that would need to be retrofitted. Scott will also price new doors.
- Staff reviews Staff reviews with Dan, Val and Amanda went very well. All will receive a 2% raise in 2016. LaVerne made the motion to purchase Preston Bucks in the amount of \$50 for each of them; Bill 2nd; All approved.
- A reminder to the Council members to submit and read the team minutes and council minutes prior to meeting.
- Thank you to our outgoing council members Andy Bunge, Brenda Reicks and Scott Wilson. Your service is appreciated!

Next Team Night – Wednesday January 6th, 2016

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday January 13th, 2016 (*location to be announced*)

Council Retreat – Saturday January 30th, 9am at Good Earth Village

Cheryl made the motion to adjourn meeting at 9:02pm; Scott 2nd. All approved. Motion Carried.
Meeting ended with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Krage, Council Secretary

MANY THANKS!!!!

- Leona Woellert would like to thank the Ministry Fair Committee for the Norwegian Buffet ticket that she won this fall. She really enjoyed her dinner!
- A huge thank you to the members and assistants of the Deborah Circle and the disbanded Ruth Circle. A very generous \$915 was donated for the Deborah circle project of Youth Ministry Scholarship which focuses on youth and education and the Columbian Scholarship Fund. (LIZWAN) Thank you so much for your amazing generosity!
- THANK YOU to everyone that made out Lutefisk dinner a big success again. We served over 900 people. The gift shop did an excellent job again also. I tried naming the different areas there are when we are preparing for this day, working that day, and cleaning up afterwards and it would have made this note way too long so I am just going to say a BIG thank you to all you great people that help make our dinner such a success. You are all very important people!
- Karen Trende, Sandy Amundson & Ron Laughlin

“Did You Know...?”

Did you know that there are many people that work the whole day the day of the Lutefisk dinner? We are so fortunate that we have so many great people that work very hard that day and many days before preparing. I think we all agree that it is a hard day but the fellowship we receive is the best part. We always wonder if it is worth all the work, but how else could we make that much money for our church? We can be proud to know that we were voted best Church Dinner and that is saying a lot because there are some good dinners around us. All I can say is keep up the good work!

Sandy Amundson

Adult Classes & Fellowship Groups

Adult Christian Education Classes

The Adult Christian Education class continues in January at 10:20 a.m. in the Heritage Room after worship.

Everyone is welcome, junior high and older!

Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's group will meet on Thursday, January 21st, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. in the Heritage Room. **All men are welcome!**

Couples Fellowship Group

The Couples Fellowship group will meet on Sunday, January 17th from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. There will be a light supper and a time of fellowship in the Heritage Room. **All couples are welcome!**

The Essential Question Challenge

Have you ever asked yourself, “What difference am I making with my life?” On some level, we all struggle to find our own answer to that question as we search for meaning and significance in life. With that question in mind, we invite you to join us as we begin **The Essential Question Challenge on January 10th, 2016.** The Essential Question Challenge is a journey through the book of Acts that builds on the question the Apostle Paul asked, “What shall I do, Lord?” (Acts 22:10). This 10-week Bible reading experience will help you see that God has a mission for all of his people—whether it's to serve him faithfully in the marketplace, in the home, in school, in the military or someplace else. There will be five readings each week and a Sunday morning sermon on the main idea of those readings. We will also have small group meetings throughout the week to discuss what we are learning as we read through Acts. Our prayer is that God will speak to each of us and help us discover how He is leading us to make a difference in our church, community and world. If you are interested in leading or co-leading a small group during this series, please contact Pastor Dan.

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00pm Worship/Communion 10:15am Coffee/Fellowship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	4	5 9:30am Text Bible Study	6 6:00pm Confirmation <i>All Team Night</i> 6:30pm Evangelism 6:30pm Education 6:30pm Property 7:00pm Worship 7:00pm Stewardship 7:30pm Youth	7 1:00pm Quilters	8	9
10 9:00am Worship 10:10am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee/Fellowship 10:15am Adult Ed. class 11:00am Radio Broadcast	11	12 9:00am RR Pastor's Conference 9:30am Text Bible Study	13 6:00pm WELCA Board 6:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm Council	14 1:00pm Quilters	15	16
17 9:00pm Worship/Communion 10:10am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee/Fellowship 10:20am Adult Ed. class 11:00am Radio Broadcast 5:30pm Couple's Fellowship	18	19 9:30am Text Bible Study	20 8:30am DO DAY 6:00pm Confirmation	21 8:30am Men's Fellowship 1:00pm Quilters	22	23
24 9:00pm Worship 10:10am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee/Fellowship 10:20am Adult Ed. class 11:00am Radio Broadcast	25	26 9:30am Text Bible Study 6:30pm Deborah Circle	27 6:00pm Confirmation	28 9:00am Mary Circle 9:00am Martha Circle 9:00am Lydia Circle 1:00pm Quilters	29	30 9:00am Council Retreat at Good Earth Village
31 9:00pm Worship 10:10am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee/Fellowship 10:20am Adult Ed. class 11:00am Radio Broadcast						