



# Christ Lutheran Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

605 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Norfolk, Nebraska  
402-371-1210 + [www.clnorfolk.org](http://www.clnorfolk.org)

**VISION STATEMENT:**  
*Growing together in faith*

**Week of December 7, 2025**

# FOCUS

*This week's opportunities  
to serve and participate in  
the ministries of Christ Lutheran*

**Scripture Readings: 1 Kings 19:1-18, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12**  
**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

## **Hymns for 5:30 & 8:00 services**

Liturgy: Divine Service 1, LSB pg. 151ff

- #344 – “On Jordan’s Bank” (stz. 1, 2 & 5)
- #342 – “What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”
- #362 – “O Little Town of Bethlehem”
- #332 – “Savior of the Nations, Come” (stz. 1, 6 & 8)
- #346 – “When All the World Was Cursed”
- #343 – “Prepare the Royal Highway”

## **Songs for 10:30 service**

- “O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)” by Passion
- “Prepare Him Room” by Sovereign Grace Music
- “The King is Coming” by Red Rocks Worship
- “He Has Come for Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)”

## **MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP**

**Wednesdays in December**

**12:15 & 6:30 p.m.**

Meal served 5:00-6:15 p.m. at CLS

**WORSHIP AIDS** – please see an usher for the following ...

- **Personal hearing devices** for the hearing impaired.
- **Non-alcoholic wine** and **gluten-free wafers** are available for Holy Communion.
- **Large print LSB hymnals** for those with limited vision.

**\*\* IN 8:00 WORSHIP TODAY** – We are honored to have the choir and band from Lutheran High Northeast add their praises to our service. Thanks to these LHNE students for sharing their talents with us. You can hear more of the choir and band next Sunday, December 14 at their Christmas concert at 1:30 at LHNE.

**\*\* ADVENT DEVOTIONS** – On Wednesdays during this Advent season, we get a chance to learn about the *Names of Jesus*. If you want to follow along (whether you attend midweek services or not), pick up a devotion book from the Gathering area! We hope these bless your family this season as you read together.

Advent devotions *Born to You a Savior* from Lutheran Hour Ministries are also available in the Gathering area.

**\*\* CHOOSE YOUR FAVORITE ADVENT / CHRISTMAS HYMN** and come ready to sing this Wednesday during our midweek Advent services. You will have the chance to suggest the hymns we sing during the 12:15 and 6:30 worship times and sing selected stanzas of them throughout the service.

**\*\* NEXT SUNDAY - FESTIVE SWEATER WEEKEND** – Break out your brightest, coziest, most wonderful Christmas sweaters and outfits! Join us at church the weekend of December 13-14 as we celebrate the season with a little extra joy (and maybe a few jingles). Come festive, come fun, and let's make the sanctuary sparkle!

**\*\* GOLDEN YEARS** – meets this Sunday, December 7 at 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for their regular meeting with Devotion and Potluck Meal. The activity for the evening will be Christmas Trivia time. We think you'll enjoy that – but if not, we're also going to have a Christmas Cookie Exchange! For those of you who like to bake Christmas cookies, bring a dozen of your favorites and we'll share them with the group. This is a fun time to kick off the Christmas season. Golden Years meets every first Sunday of the month at 4:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!

## **ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD**

**\*\* SUNDAYS** – 9:15 in Fellowship Hall led by Pastor Carretto.

Currently studying Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to the Corinthians. Our study guide is the New Testament!

**\*\* MOSAIC & CLC** 9:15 a.m. at Christ Lutheran School led by Glenna Gutz

A Bible study and worship time celebrating every person's talents and gifts. Call 402-316-8873 for more info.

**\*\* ALSO ON SUNDAYS** at 9:30 in the music room at school.

This is geared towards parents of any age, but all adults are welcome. If your child is too small to be in Sunday School, they are welcome to join us too.

**\*\* MONDAYS** – 7:00 p.m. led by Pastor Carretto.

We're now studying the book of Genesis chapter by chapter. As the first book of the Bible, it's filled with all kinds of interesting stories that amazingly open up much discussion for our modern day life as Christians. We meet every Monday night starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Hope you can join us for this new study!

**\*\* TUESDAYS** – 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. All are welcome to join us for fellowship and faith conversations studying God's Word. Meet at Inspire Home & Land Realty, 2100 Market Lane – Suite 700.

**Tuesday Men's Breakfast/Bible Class** meets bi-weekly at 7:00 a.m. at Orphan Grain Train (enter east door)

**\*\* WEDNESDAY MORNINGS** – 9:30-10:30 a.m. Join Pastor Moreno in the Fellowship Hall. Current study on the **Book of Luke**.

**\*\* THURSDAYS** – 6:30 a.m. **"The Letters of the Apostle Paul"** is the current focus for Men's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast is included. Led by Monte Glaser.

## **SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS**

... and watch for more information in coming weeks. All of these are great events that you can participate in and also connect with your church family and the community.

- ♥ **Wednesdays, December 10 & 17** – *Midweek Advent Worship 12:15 & 6:30 p.m.*
- ♥ **Sunday, December 14** – *Festive Sweater weekend*
- ♥ **Sunday, December 14** – *LHNE Choir & Band Concert, 1:30 p.m. LHNE*

**Building Healthy Families: December 7** - Trauma, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, or family conflict negatively impact many people, including those within our church fellowship today. When it does, we are often left searching for answers without knowing where to find help, especially help that will share and incorporate the important tenants of our Lutheran Christian faith. Lutheran Family Service offers professional mental health counseling with master's prepared and licensed therapists who share your faith and world view, now available to all regardless of location through telehealth. Call us...it's why we're here! **Lutheran Family Service** [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org)

**LIFE QUOTE: December** - "Children brightly signaled hope in our sin-infested world of old—consider the births of Seth, Isaac, Moses, Samson, Samuel, John, and, finally, of course and paramount, Jesus. And we, too, must become as children." *James M. Kushiner, Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

## **YOUTH CONNECTION**

**\*\* NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** on December 21 or December 28.

**\*\* CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE** – December 17 is the Children's Christmas Service at 6:30 p.m.. We will be practicing the songs in Sunday School. All parents should have received a link for how their child can be involved. If you did not receive this, please contact Cori Woltmann at [cwoltmann@clnorfolk.org](mailto:cwoltmann@clnorfolk.org) so we can update your information. The children are anxious to share the story of the birth of Jesus with you.

**\*\* YOUTH GROUP DURING ADVENT** – The schedule is different during Advent. December 10 & 17, dinner is at 5:00, and at 6:00 you can meet us in the youth room and we will discuss the *Names of Jesus* (be sure to pick up your devotion book from the Gathering area). Church is at 6:30 and we can go together! Whether you come to all or part of it, we would love to see you. Text Cori Woltmann at 507-456-5380 if you have any questions.

**\*\* SAVE THE DATE – YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY** is Monday, December 22. Can't wait to hang out with you! Sign up on the youth room door.

**Have you been getting the texts?** Email Cori Woltmann at [cwoltmann@clnorfolk.org](mailto:cwoltmann@clnorfolk.org) or text at 507-456-5380 to make sure you are added and receive all the latest news on what's happening.

## **LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHEAST**

Educating for Life + Promoting the Faith



### ***Lutheran High Northeast***

2010 N. 37<sup>th</sup> St. Norfolk, NE 68701  
Office 402-379-3040 Fax 402-379-8340  
Email [info@lhne.org](mailto:info@lhne.org) Web [www.lhne.org](http://www.lhne.org)

**\*\* GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER** – sponsored by Sophomore class for prom fund. Skip the stress and support a great cause! Bring your gifts to be beautifully wrapped by students on any of the following dates: Sundays, December 7 & 14 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. NO appointments needed. Suggested donation is \$3 for small and medium gifts and \$5 for larger or custom-sized gifts. Wrapping paper will be provided unless you have a specific wrapping paper you would like to bring in.

**\*\* LHNE CHRISTMAS CONCERT** will be on Sunday, December 14 at 1:30 p.m. The freshman class will provide cookies and coffee for a free will donation at the LHNE and CLS Christmas concerts.

### **STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE** (through General Fund Offerings)

Week of November 30, 2025

Received \$18,133

### **BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS**

DEBT DRIVE: Goal \$190,000

Received to date \$144,037

Balance Remaining \$45,963

### **STEWARDSHIP OF TIME**

Week of November 30, 2025

Worship 356

**\*\* 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now available in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not use them until after January 1, 2026 as they have been renumbered for the new year. If you cannot locate your box, please notify the Church Office.

## **HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Wednesdays, December 10 & 17**

**12:15 & 6:30 p.m.**

Advent Worship Services  
(December 17 at 6:30 – Children's Service)

**Wednesday, December 24**

**4:00 & 6:00 p.m.**

Christmas Eve Services (both traditional)

**Thursday, December 25 – 9:30 a.m.**

Christmas Day Communion Service

**Saturday, December 27 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, December 28 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Wednesday, December 31 – 5:30 p.m.**

New Year's Eve Communion

**\*\* ANGEL TREE** – Names are now available on the Angel Tree in the Gathering area. Select an angel from the tree and record it in the Angel Tree notebook. Items purchased should range between \$15 and \$20. Gifts need to be wrapped separately with the angel tag attached to it. All gifts need to be returned by December 19 for distribution. Contact Dale Schlote at 402-649-7266 with questions.

**\*\* HOPE MEMORY TREE** - When you've lost a loved one, regardless of whether it is a recent loss, or if some time has passed, the holiday season can be a rather difficult time to navigate through. Instead of bringing warmth, love and excitement, the holidays lack the joy they once had for you.

Your loss has meaning. There is **hope** because love never dies. Christ's death on the cross opened the gateway to Eternal Life. As a reminder of that hope, during the upcoming Advent/Christmas season, we invite congregation members to participate in the **Christmas Holiday Hope Tree**.

You are invited to take one of the snowflake ornaments provided and personalize it with a loved one's name and hang it on the **Hope Tree** as a way to memorialize your loved one this year. It is also a way to celebrate the joy your loved one has brought into your life. The ornaments may be removed from the tree when you come for Christmas services or during the week after Christmas and taken home to place on your personal tree.

**\*\* LB531 GIVING OPPORTUNITY** – There are still funds available through LB531 but time is running out! Businesses and individuals can contribute, and it is a true dollar-for-dollar tax credit. If you do not qualify, we are able to refund your contribution. To learn more or to participate, please contact Chad at the Child Care or Lynn in the church office. This is a wonderful way to invest in the future of our children while also being a wise financial decision.

## **HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, December 7**

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Voters Meeting
- 9:15 a.m. Bible Class /Sun. School
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 4:00 p.m. Golden Years

### **Monday, December 8**

- 1:00 p.m. Finance
- 6:00 p.m. Book Club
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Class

### **Tuesday, December 9**

- 10:00 a.m. Pastors Conference

### **Wednesday, December 10**

- 9:00 / 1:20 Preschool Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Class
- 12:15 p.m. Advent Worship
- 2:40 p.m. Chapel
- 5:00 p.m. Advent Meal
- 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship
- 7:15 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal

### **Thursday, December 11**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:15 a.m. Preschool Program
- 2:30 p.m. Preschool Program
- 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6:45 p.m. Worship Team

### **Saturday, December 13**

- 9:30 a.m. Instrumental Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Worship

### **Sunday, December 14**

- 8:00 a.m. Worship
- 9:15 Bible Class / Sun. School
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion

## **PRAYER REQUESTS 12.07.25**

Please remember the following in prayer during the coming week. You may also want to send a card or note to those on this week's prayer list to let them know they are being thought of.

- For those battling cancer, for their families and caregivers.
- For those homebound, in care centers, nursing homes, suffering long-term illness; facing tests, uncertainties about their health, undergoing surgery, or going through difficult times..
- For those with health concerns this week including Bruce Viergutz, April King, Cheryl Husmann, Earl Henseleit, Denise Volquardson, Shelby Bliss, Jeanine Kollath, Lee Krohn, Robert Klawitter, Becky Stevens.
- For those celebrating birthday blessings of 80 years or more including: Gertie Hofmann (9), Elsie Nathan (9), Joan Schulz (10), Cliff Haas (11), Ronald Siecke (11).
- For our country and our nation's leaders.
- **REQUESTS & PASTORAL NEEDS - for Prayer Requests or special needs requiring pastoral care, please contact the Church Office (402-371-1210). We will handle needs on an individual basis.**

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
& Friday, 8 a.m. – 12 noon**

**ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER 14 FOCUS  
ARE DUE WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 10, BY 10:00 A.M.**

## **SOME HOLIDAY HUMOR**

From *Christmas Unwrapped* by Scott Emmons

### **Decorating for Dummies**

I hope you'll heed this good advice  
and not just try to wing it.  
I've found it's best to pop the corn  
before you try to string it!

### **Gift Thrift**

For saving cash at Christmastime,  
I've got a special knack.  
When someone says  
"You shouldn't have,"  
I take my present back!