



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STEVE

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor. Luke 2:52

This is all we know of Jesus childhood (besides getting left behind at the temple when he was 12) from his infancy to the beginning of his public ministry when he was about 30 years old.

Yet there is a lot in that verse from Luke. Increasing in wisdom is important as children grow into adults. Wisdom can't be bought. Wisdom is knowing what is important, and what is not.

Jesus increased in years and in divine and human favor. Two areas where Jesus "increased" was in his relationship with God his Father and in his relationship with people. Any wise person will have good relationships with God and with people.

What can we do as parents and youth to increase in wisdom, in years, and in favor with God and man?

Let me offer a few basic but important commitments.

To grow in wisdom, talk as a family about what matters and what doesn't. If you are watching TV together, discuss what you are seeing. If you see a commercial that is full of lies, talk about it. If you haven't already, make family devotions a part of your family time together. Just a few minutes a day can make a big difference over the years in the direction we go in our lives.

To grow in favor with God make worship a priority as a family. Take time to thank God publicly, to listen to His Word, to learn hymns and songs that have guided God's people throughout the centuries. Be strengthened in your faith as you receive communion. Be committed to our congregation's programs of Sunday school, confirmation, senior high youth group or an adult Bible study.

Encourage youth to attend Bible Camps and mission trips.

We need each other's support and encouragement along life's journey. Come to be strengthened in your faith and to help strengthen others' faith. As you make good choices on faith formation habits you will be much more likely to grow in divine and human favor.

Pastor Steve

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ROL News for January

If you are interested in volunteering or helping in the classrooms please contact Francine Kovash at fkovash@hotmail.com or 507-951-2234.

The lessons for January will be:

1/5 - The Ten Commandments: Worship God - Exodus 20:2-17; Acts 17:16-34

1/12 - The Ten Commandments: No Idols - Exodus 20:2-17; Kings 23:1-20

1/19 - The Ten Commandments: God's Name - Exodus 20:2-17; Exodus 3:13-14; Deuteronomy 10:17; Isaiah 9:6-7; Revelation 1:8; Psalm 22:3

1/26 - The Ten Commandments: The Sabbath - Exodus 20:2-17; Genesis 2:1-3

3-year-old through 2nd grade sing on 1/26 at the 8 AM service.

Offering collected during ROL and to the left of the altar in the sanctuary from January through June will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief to assist in the Africa Drought crisis. July through December offering will go to the Channel One Food Shelf.

Thanks! Francine Kovash



Confirmation News

January Schedule:

1 - No Class

8 - Addiction - presentation by Matt Petersen

15 - Crucifixion

22 - Resurrection

29 - Pentecost

All students must complete 12 sermon notes and 3 service projects and have them turned in by April 12th, 2020. We will plan something fun for those that have everything done and turned in by January 29th! Reminder to the 8th grade students - Faith Statements will be due in early April!

Remember to visit www.clcbyron.org/confirmation to view the acolyte schedule, see service project opportunities and view your child's progress report. Please contact me with any questions at theo9diane@gmail.com

Thank you, Diane Theobald

January Acolyte Schedule:

1/05 8am Katie Schoeppner, Austin Hart

1/12 8am Allie Petersen, Amara Weis

1/19 8am Ethan More, Abby More

1/26 8am Jackson Ihrke, Joshua Dickison

10am Jack Stalboerger, Jaxon Boynton

10am Willy Blood, Jackson Ihrke

10am Lukas Swenson, Clara Hoegh

10am Austin Hart, Alex Hoerle



YOUTH MISSION TRIP – PINE RIDGE, SD - JUNE 21 – 26, 2020

There is only 1 spot left for the Mission Trip to South Dakota. Please drop off your \$125 down payment to the church office as soon as possible. Students attending should assist with the Youth Committee sponsored fundraisers such as Cabin Fever Babysitting, Shareholder Dinner, Palm Sunday French Toast Breakfast, and the Solstice Stomp 5K.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Calling all 9th - 12th graders! Youth group meets weekly on Wednesdays from 7pm-8pm in the youth room. In December we had a Christmas Party with secret santas, caroled at Madonna Summit, and sponsored Cabin Fever. We hope to get a ski trip scheduled soon. Contact Kim Postier at postier.kim@gmail.com with questions.

CABIN FEVER DATE NIGHT - FEB. 14

Please note: January will not have a Cabin Fever night! The next Cabin Fever will be February 14. Future dates: Mar 13, April 17



SAVE THE DATE - VBS FOR 2020

VBS will be held on August 3-6, 2020 from 6-8pm. VBS will be open to kids aged 3 years old thru completion of 5th grade. Contact Sherri Biewer with questions or to volunteer at sdathe@hotmail.com

FAMILY SLEDDING & PIZZA EVENT

A family sledding event is being planned by the education committee for February 9 at one of the sledding hills in Byron with pizza to follow at the church. More details will be out soon.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY EVENTS

Camp Victory Winter Blast

January 17-19, 2020 Grades 3-9
Cost \$115

Join us for a winter blast! Going flying down our tubing hill, challenge your friends in a game of laser tag, and compete in our annual Frigid-a-Rod!
<https://campvictory.com/event/winter-blast/>

TEEN HOPE MINISTRIES – YOUTH GOSPEL CHOIR

Weekly choir practices begin mid-January and run until around concert time which is expected to be around Mother's Day. Practices will be held at Hope Summit Church. <https://www.teenhopeministries.org/ministries/teen-gospel-choir/>

NOVEMBER 2019 MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF LARRY BROOKS

Roof Fund.....Mildred Broin and Jeff & DeAnn Boe

IN MEMORY OF HUGH KUHLMAN

Undesignated.....Jenny & Bob Zinn

Music Fund.....Memorials received by Family of Hugh Kuhlman

IN MEMORY OF LOIS HJELLMING

Undesignated.....Ronald & Debra Ruegg

IN MEMORY OF KENNETH BALE

Roof Fund.....Robert & Jeannette Tweite

IN MEMORY OF DONNA BAUMBACH

Faith Chest Fund.....Tom & Donna VanHeuklom

BINGO AT THE LEGION

Join CLC council members and congregational members this winter as we help the American Legion run their Saturday afternoon bingo. We are scheduled to do this January 11 & 25th, Feb. 8th & 22nd, March 14 & 28th. It is a great time to get together for social time and learn something new about Bingo.

Please contact Candee Ostreng at 507-775-2055 or costreng@yahoo.com if you need more information or would like to volunteer.

JANUARY 5TH SPECIAL GUEST

Pastor Emily Carson, Assistant to the Bishop/Director of Evangelical Mission for the SE MN Synod will be preaching during the 8am and 10am Sunday worship and leading adult class at 9:15am on Sunday, January 5th. Her topic for adult class is "Sharing your Story" as well as sharing your congregation's story. She will also share some on the SE MN Synod's work together during adult class and answer questions about the work of the synod. Bishop Regina Hassanally will preach and lead adult class on February 16th.

PICTURE DIRECTORY

Directories are ready for pick up and are located on a table by the fellowship hall. The directories have names on them.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Please submit your committee reports, for the annual report, to the church office by Sunday, January 5, 2020.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you forget to bring your offering envelope to church or want to supplement your electronic giving, the office printed some generic offering envelopes you can use. They will be located on tables by the office and entrances to the sanctuary.

RESCHEDULED FOOD PACK AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AGES AT CLC - SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

Due to inclement weather, our November food pack had to be cancelled. CLC has reserved 50 spots for a new food pack on Saturday, January 25 from 11:30am to 1:30pm. We will meet in the church parking lot at 10am and carpool to the Eagan pack site. You might want to consider bringing along a sack lunch to eat on the way. The pack has jobs for people that prefer not to stand. This event is open to all ages of CLC members. Confirmation kids wanting to go must speak with Diane Theobald about availability unless a parent is attending with them. No kids should be dropped off! Please RSVP to the office at office@clcbyron.org or 775-6646 by Sunday, January 19.

Feed My Starving Children was founded in 1987. It is a Christian non-profit organization that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children.

ZUMBRO RIVER CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

Sunday, February 9th, 2020 at Mount Olive Church, Rochester, MN is the Zumbro River Conference Assembly. Registration is at 1:30pm with the meeting to follow. If you are interested in going as a delegate, please contact Pastor Steve at 775-6646.

WEDNESDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Nirmala will lead the Bible Study during the month of January at 9:45am on Wednesday mornings.

We will study the New Testament book of Colossians for four weeks. All are welcome.

Please come and explore with us.

Pastor Nirmala

MEN'S GROUP INTEREST?

Pastor Steve is looking for interest in forming a monthly men's group. We would either meet once a month on a Saturday morning or at 6pm on a weekday. If you are interested in a group such as this, please let Pastor Steve or the office know.

HELP NEEDED

The dark roast coffee prepared before the 10:00 service requires a volunteer to make it at 9:30 or earlier. Elaine Meek and Jill Rheingans are looking for an additional one or two people to join the team. With 4 helpers, each would only do the coffee one time per month. Contact Jill or Elaine if interested.



NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP	2019	2018
Total Attendance	1,085	1,216
Avg Sunday Attendance	271	304

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP	2019	2018
1st Sunday	252	167
2nd Sunday	451	476
3rd Sunday	269	313
4th Sunday	no data	162
Christmas Eve	no data	658
5th Sunday	no data	<u>119</u>
Total Attendance	972	1,895
Avg Sunday Attendance	- - -	316

ADULT AND FAMILY BORDER TRIPS IN 2020

Border trips to the US/Mexico border in south Texas are available with the company Border Perspective. They offer 2 types of trips. The Service Learning Trips are for adults or families, are 6 days long, and are designed to be immersive, educational and will intentionally place you in the lives of immigrant leaders serving families on the U.S. & Mexico border. You will volunteer at a local shelter and serve alongside immigrant pastors and their congregations. This trip costs \$425/person and does NOT include transportation to get there. The South Texas Border Journey trips are for adults only, are for 4 days, and are intended to be educational and immersive. It will intentionally place you in the lives of immigrant leaders and you will hear and learn more about the immigrant issues. Trip cost is \$750/person and includes local transportation but neither trip includes transportation to get to Harlingen, TX. If you have any interest in these types of trips, contact the office or Pastor Steve.

<https://www.borderperspective.org/>

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 2, 9:15am

All active, confirmed members of Christ Lutheran are encouraged to attend and be a part of the decision-making process of our church. Questions regarding the meeting may be addressed to any church council member. Watch for a council table in the narthex in January.

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLC CATECHISM CLASS

Join us from 9:20-9:55 on Sunday mornings to explore our Christian identity and the Lutheran distinction between Law & Gospel. All ages are welcome. This year we will be turning our attention to the Lord's Prayer and the Sacraments. Hope to see you on Sunday.

WEATHER AND WORSHIP

If there is heavy snowfall/wind on Saturday evening, please check KTTC, CLC Facebook page, clcbyron.org or look for an email from Constant Contact for worship service announcements. It's possible the first service could be canceled and not Sunday School or the second service. Please keep checking the above sites to see any and all updates.

REMINDER ~ Remember to get your Time and Talents forms and pledge cards turned in to the office. Thank You.

BOOK CLUB

MONTH	BOOK	HOST
Jan 7	The Life We Bury	Chris Polzin
Feb 4	An Unlikely Friendship	Sue Briske
Mar 3	Big Little Lies	Gayle Jaben
Apr 7	Assassin Vacation	Nancy Nehring
May 5	The Stranger in the Woods	Jodi Wild

We meet at the church the first Tuesday of each month Sept – May at 7pm. We take turns hosting by bringing some snacks/and or dessert and leading the discussion. Each person brings their own beverage.

-Kristie Nelson

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, DECEMBER 18, 2019

Call To Order at 6:30 ~ Joe Biewer

Members Present ~ Candee Ostreng, Kaia Long, Jason Pfeilsticker, Mark Turany, LeAnn Bieber, Joan Skare, Randy Holz, Pastor Steve Rheingans

Approval of Agenda ~ Motion by Candee, 2nd by LeAnn....Motion carried

Approval of Minutes ~ Motion by Jason, 2nd by Mark

Treasurer's Report

November 2019 was a poor month ending \$4,905 in the red; Expense exceeds Income for the year by \$9,291.

November Income.....\$22,497.32	YTD Budget.....\$322,014.00
November Expense.....\$27,403.17	YTD Income.....\$292,474.70
November Difference....(\$4,905.85)	YTD Expense.....\$301,766.46
2018 YTD Difference was \$2,380.21	2019 YTD Difference...(\$9,291.76)

Information/Discussion Items

Discussed the 2020 proposed budget from the finance committee with Jason answering questions.

Nominating committee has a few positions to fill. Will have done by next month.

Reports for Annual committees are due to Elaine by January 5th.

Annual Meeting is Sunday February 2nd, 9:15am.

Bingo update from Candee. Money will go to the church Building Fund. Volunteers are needed Jan 11, 25, Feb 8, and 22.

Jason made a motion to transfer Berg, Hallaway and Brekke funds into the Endowment Fund, 2nd by Kaia Long.

Adjourned with the Lords' Prayer. Next meeting will be January 14 at 6:30.

Respectfully Submitted, Joan Skare

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DONATIONS

After age 70 1/2 and older, individuals may distribute up to \$100,000 tax-free each year from their IRAs to certain charitable organizations without including the amount of the charitable distribution in gross income when filling tax returns.

An added benefit is this method of giving also reduces gross income for the calculation determining the amount of Social Security benefits that may be taxable.

YTD 2019 we have collected over \$23,000 in QCD donations. CLC members donate over \$67,000 annually through electronic giving.

ELECTRONIC GIVING FORMS

Give to the mission of Christ Lutheran Church electronically. Please complete an electronic giving form found on the kiosk, or access the website, click on "Online giving" to set up an account with your own password. Thank you for supporting the future of Christ Lutheran.

Christ Lutheran Church
 201 Frontage Road NW
 Byron, MN 55920 www.clcbyron.org
 Office Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm Mon - Thurs
 507-775-6646 office@clcbyron.org

Non-Profit Organization
 US Postage Paid
 Byron, MN
 Permit Number 17



January 2020

Worship ~ Traditional	8:00 AM
ROL	9:05 AM
Adult Ed	9:20 AM
Worship ~ Blended	10:00 AM



FAMILY PROMISE NEWS ~ IHN

HOST WEEK DECEMBER 29 - JANUARY 5

We are looking for people that can help with driving, fixing and serving meals and staying over night. Please contact our coordinators with whatever your are able to help with. Call them if you have any questions. Thanks in advance for your help.

Bob and Karen Brekke 775-6369 Overall Coordinators

Bob Brekke 775-6369 Driver Coordinator

Elaine Meek 775-2061 Meal Coordinator

Hertha Lange 775-6726 Overnight Coordinator

IT IS TIME TO START PLANNING FOR THE MOTHER/DAUGHTER LUNCHEON !!



The committee will start meeting in January and they are in need of more

members. Please

contact Kristine

Ihrke at

ckihrke@gmail.com

to find out more information.

