



I love Christmas traditions. The advent candles, Sunday school Christmas program, Christmas special music by Choir and Bells, caroling and singing carols at a candlelight service, Christmas goodies. I don't want others messing with traditions and I don't want to see them changed. Christmas is a good time to be a traditionalist.

It is interesting that "the event" I don't want anybody messing with is the celebration of "THE EVENT" that has changed everything. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. The angels declare "Do not be afraid" to shepherds. "Unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord."

God has changed the world forever by the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ. Sin, death and the powers of darkness are no longer the last word. Christ's coming has opened the door for forgiveness, life, and the power to love and serve God and others. All of this made possible by the child who was born to die and to lead us to real life – an undying life, eternal life. May you experience more fully the meaning of Christmas as well as Good Friday, and Easter this year.

One way to grow deeper in understanding God's intervention on planet earth is to read your Bibles. We have One Year New Testaments that give a reading for each day that are available outside the church office for \$5. You can read through the whole New Testament in a year in about five minutes a day. If you aren't currently involved in a Bible Study there are opportunities to be in one. I know of no better way to grasp more fully the meaning of God's intervention in the world than to read and discuss the scriptures.

Thanks to everyone who gave to the mission of Christ Lutheran this past year. Your participation in God's mission through Christ Lutheran helps us to pass the Gospel on in this generation. Thanks for your commitments of time, talent and offerings. Together we are making Christ's Love known in our community and beyond. We are equipping all ages to lovingly serve God and people.

Thanks to all who sent cards, gifts, and food this Christmas. Your generosity is appreciated.

Pastor Steve

PS The windstorm that passed through on December 15<sup>th</sup> took some of CLC's shingles with it. There will be a temporary patch on the roof this week and we have filed a claim with our insurance company.



Steve Rheingans  
Senior Pastor

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# EDUCATION

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS - JANUARY

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

The lessons for January will be:

1/2 - No Sunday School. Happy New Year!

1/9 - God Always Was and Always Will Be - John 1:1-8; Revelation 22

1/16 - God Makes People - Genesis 2:4-7, 18-23; Ephesians 2:10

1/23 - God Gives Gideon Strength - Judges 6-7

1/30 - God Goes Ahead of David's Army - 2 Samuel 5:17-25

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 will go to the Channel One Food Shelf. Thanks! -Francine, Sunday School Coordinator



## CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation students have been learning about parables this past month including from Luke 10-21 The Good Samaritan, Parables of Lost and Found, The Rich Man and Lazarus, and from Matthew 25 Sheep and the Goats. Large group sessions led by Pastor Steve, Pastor Nirmala, and Owen Hoegh have incorporated traditional teachings as well as skits to reinforce the learnings from these parables. Many service projects have occurred including partnerships with Rideability, Family Services of Rochester, Thrivent through Adopt A Family, and Salvation Army. It is hard to believe we have had 13 confirmation classes already! Thank you to the large group leaders, mentors, students, and parents who are making confirmation fulfilling this year. - Brenda Bendix, Confirmation Coordinator



Confirmation kids purchased and wrapped gifts for 2 area families in need.

## MIXED ADULT BIBLE STUDY IN JANUARY

Pastor Nirmala is leading the January discussion on the book of Jonah on Wednesdays at 10am in the Fellowship Hall.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**REGISTRATION** - It is not too late to register for Sunday School. Registration forms are on the kiosk or on the website at: [www.clcbyron.org/Sunday-school/](http://www.clcbyron.org/Sunday-school/)

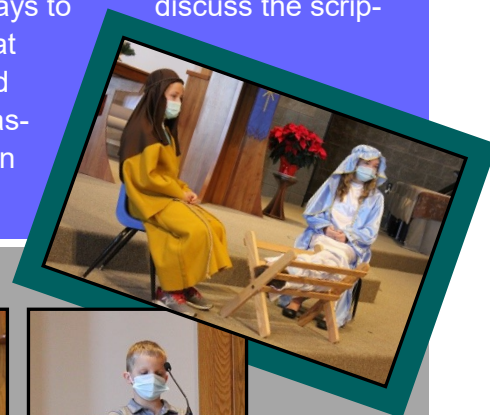
## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT

**EDUCATION** - Please join us in the Choir Room at 9:15am on Sundays to discuss the scripture readings for that day. This will be led by Pastor Steve, Pastor Nirmala, or Owen Hoegh.

## 2022 SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



Thank-you to our readers and actors!





# YOUTH/FELLOWSHIP/OUTREACH

## 2022 MISSION TRIP - LAKE TRAVERSE, SD

**JUNE 26 - JULY 1, 2022 - COMMITMENT IS NEEDED ASAP!**

2022 Mission Trip - Lake Traverse, SD June 26 - July 1, 2022 - CLC has reserved 10 spots for this mission trip. We encourage anyone from the current 8th grade through seniors to join this faith growing opportunity. Submit a registration form located on the kiosk along with your \$125 deposit as soon as possible. Space is limited so priority will be based on when checks are received. With fundraisers, our goal is to keep out of pocket costs to \$250/ student. Students are expected to assist with Youth Committee sponsored fundraisers. To date we have 4 deposits.



### YOUTH GROUP

Calling all 9-12th grade students for Youth Group on Wednesday nights at CLC starting at 7pm in the Youth Room. Our first meeting will be January 12. We hope to see you there! -Kristine Ihrke

### tone CHIMERS - GRADES 3-8

Do you want to "chime" again, or do you want to try tone chimes to play songs for a service?

Anyone in grades three through eight, who likes music, is invited. We need a bunch of chimers!! The group will practice on Thursdays, starting January 27 through February at 6:30 in the sanctuary (with masks).

If you are interested please talk with Mrs. Cabaya at the piano or organ at 8 a.m. service.

The group will practice one or two songs to perform for 8 a.m. church at the end of February.



### CAMP VICTORY WINTER BLAST

Join us for a Winter Blast! They will have tubing, laser tag, and the annual Frigid-a-Rod! February 4-6, 2022. Cost is \$125/kid. [campvictory.com](http://campvictory.com)

### BOOK LOVER'S LEAGUE

Please join us on Tuesday, January 4 at 7pm at CLC as we discuss "The Blue Notebook" by James Levine. We meet the first Tuesday of the month. Contact Kristie Nelson for details.

### JOY CLUB

JOY group will meet Tuesday, Jan 11, at 10:30am in the fellowship hall. If it is bad weather, will reschedule to the following week on Tuesday, same time, same place. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all members of this group and all members of CLC. God Bless us all.

### FAMILY PROMISE - IHN - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our current volunteer positions are as follows: **\*Overnight Volunteer \*Evening Engagement \*Life Skills** To sign-up for one of the above opportunities, click the link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4FA4AA22A3F94-volunteer1> There is also an opportunity for volunteers to "Feed A Family" in which the volunteer can either prepare, donate or deliver a meal for the families in the program. To sign up, visit <https://www.fprochestermn.org/feed-a-family>

### SALVATION ARMY FOOD COLLECTION

CLC collects food in the blue barrel by the front door for the Salvation Army. Thank you for your donations. If you are interested in dropping off the food when the barrel fills up, please let the office know.

### BUNDLES OF LOVE

Bundles of love is a non- profit organization located at Assisi Heights. This organization helps to assist MN families in need by providing handmade items for the newborn babies. They need gently used or new sheets to make items for the babies. Please help them by bringing them to the church and they will come and pick it up. If you need more information please call June at 507-216-1686. Thank-you - Pastor Nirmala

### SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY

Please bring in your canned goods or Food Shelf items to donate, or consider a cash donation for Channel One on or before Superbowl Sunday, Feb 13.

# THANK-YOUs/CHURCH LIFE

## THANK-YOUs!

\* Members of Christ Lutheran Church - I just wanted to send a note to say 'Thank you!' We are so grateful for the support you and the congregation showed Jeremiah Program. Welcome Baskets are the first things families get when they move onto campus. It's what starts to make their house feel like a home. Thank you for being a part of that. Please share my gratitude with the rest of the congregation as well. Happy Holidays! -Ally Hanten Ebert, Executive Director (Jeremiah Program-Rochester-SE, MN Campus)

\* Altar committee would like to express our thank you for the incredible response we received for the Sharing Tree this year. We supported the Jeremiah Program in Rochester. All the items were delivered before Christmas. They were simply overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness supporting this organization. Thank you again for all the donations this year. - Chris Polzin, Altar Chair

\* Evangelism/ConnectionTeam made and delivered 25 decorated Christmas bags filled with goodies. A huge thank-you for the volunteers that helped make this a wonderful project. - Joan Skare (see pictures below)

\* To our CLC Family: We want to thank those CLC members who provided the devotion, work, and resources to donate such a wonderful sack of sweets, fruits, fashions. It has been, and still is being enjoyed by both of us. There is an old saying that in a volunteer organization, 10% of the people do 90% of the work. We don't know if that held true for the wonderful care packages the CLC volunteers donated, but we hope all of them had as much fun working together as we are having enjoying the results. -Dick & Pat Fechter

\* Thank-you to the church ladies for visiting me and for all the wonderful Christmas goodies. -Betty Kuhlman

\* Thank-you to the Confirmation families for supporting families in need by all the service projects completed this year by our youth. - Pastor Nirmala

**CLC NOMINATING COMMITTEE** - Thank-you to all the committee members who are serving on the various committees. If you decide that you no longer want to serve, please let your committee chair know. If you are new to the church and would like to serve in various committees, according to your gifts, please let one of the pastors know.

**DEVOTIONALS** - Luther Seminary offers the following devotional that you can receive as a daily email: [www.luthersem.edu/godpause/](http://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/)

**JUBELLANCE** - If you love to play music, the Handbells may be for you! Our group is fun and supportive! We practice on some Wed evenings. Contact Jane Cabaya at 775-6183.

**ZUMBRO RIVER CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY** - Sunday, Feb 13

If you are interested in going as a delegate, please contact Pastor Steve.



## WEATHER AND WORSHIP

If there is heavy snowfall/wind, please check KTTC, CLC Facebook page, or watch for an email from CLC for worship service announcements. It is possible that the first service could be canceled and not Sunday School or the 2nd service.





# WORSHIP INFORMATION/STEWARDSHIP

## CLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 12/21/2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mark Turany.

Members present: Mark Turany, Randy Holz, Jason Pfeilsticker, Candace Ostreng, David Schlobohm, Kaia Long, Joe Biewer, Ben Johnson, Pastor Steve Rheingans, Naomi Meek and Lindsey Dickson.

Members not present: Anna Palmer and Linda Danielski

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Randy Holz and seconded by Dave Schlobohm.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Joe Biewer and seconded by Jason Pfeilsticker.

Jason Pfeilsticker submitted the Treasurer's report. November 2021 ended \$2522.88 in the black. Income exceeds expenses for the year by \$13,546.73.

Jason also gave us a report on work being done for next year's budget. We are going to adjust the budget to be more realistic with our income.

All council members have been instructed to send Mark any updates on committee memberships updates/needs.

CLC's annual meeting is planned for February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The recent severe weather did some damage to the roof. There are temporary repairs in place pending evaluation by insurance.

Jason Pfeilsticker made a motion to move 19 families to the inactive membership list. Dave Schlobohm seconded the motion and motion carried.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dave Schlobohm and seconded by Randy Holz. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Candee Ostreng for Linda Danielski, Council Secretary.

## TIME & TALENT FORMS

It is not too late to submit your Time & Talent forms and Pledge Cards to the office. To process electronically: <http://www.clcbyron.org/time-talents/>



## WORSHIP OPTIONS AT CLC

- In-church worship with traditional style at 8am and contemporary style at 10am (communion offered the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month).
- In-car worship on Sunday mornings at 8am and 10am in the parking lot on 87.9 on the FM radio (communion offered the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month).
- Watch the Live Streamed service at home using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAdS22Tn6Epi6yZqzmNKK2g>

## DONATIONS AND THANK-YOU

Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. Donation options include mailing in a donation to Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Frontage Road NW, Byron, online giving <http://www.clcbyron.org/giving/>, or dropping off a donation during church services or office hours.

**DONATE TO CLC THROUGH YOUR WORKPLACE!**

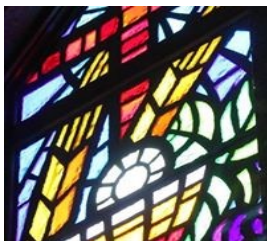
We are now listed with United Way as a 501C3 which means your employer can direct donations to CLC through United Way. Please contact the office with any questions.

**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS** - You can direct your Thrivent Choice dollars online or call 800-847-4836. When prompted, say "Thrivent Choice", Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice programs Terms and Conditions. If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth. A representative will work with you to direct Choice Dollars. Thrivent is no longer sending out emails indicating you have money to direct. We received \$40 in December in Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Christ Lutheran Church  
 201 Frontage Road NW  
 Byron, MN 55920      [www.clcbyron.org](http://www.clcbyron.org)  
 Office Hours: 9am - 1pm Mon - Thurs  
 507-775-6646      [office@clcbyron.org](mailto:office@clcbyron.org)

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

## January 2022



### Worship Schedule

In Person/In Car Worship - Sundays  
 Traditional Service - 8am  
 Sunday School/Adult Ed - 9:10am  
 Contemporary Service - 10am  
 LiveStream Worship  
*Communion is offered the 1st and 3rd  
 Sundays at in person and in car worship*



## CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastors can be reached by office phone 775-6646 or  
 Pastor Steve 612-250-9724 or [clcpastorsteve@gmail.com](mailto:clcpastorsteve@gmail.com)  
 Pastor Nirmala 507-271-0348 or [clcreinschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:clcreinschmidt@gmail.com)  
 Joan Skare 507-990-8946 or [joanskare@yahoo.com](mailto:joanskare@yahoo.com)  
 Mark Turany 507-259-3820 or [mturany@charter.net](mailto:mturany@charter.net)  
 If you want to volunteer helping others, call Joan Skare.

## ATTENDANCE

### NOVEMBER

11/7/2021	144	3 cars
11/14/2021	136	2 cars
11/21/2021	154	1 car
11/28/2021	118	0 cars

### DECEMBER

12/5/2021	137	1 car
12/12/2021	153	1 car
12/19/2021	223	0 cars
12/24/2021		
12/26/2021		

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, FEB 6

All active, confirmed members of Christ Lutheran are encouraged to attend on February 6 at 9:05am, 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 to answer questions in January.

**ANNUAL REPORTS** - Please submit your committee reports, for the annual report, to the church office by Tuesday, January 4, 2022.

## PRAYERS IN THE CHURCH

Please pray for Nancy Nehring, Jerry Hutchinson, Paul Douglas, Gary Bausman, Betty Jamsa, Kathy Labat, refugees, and families who have lost a loved one due to COVID.



"It's a 12-step group for church members who like to write angry letters but not sign their name."