



BEING DISCIPLES: MAKING DISCIPLES

Jesus called disciples to follow him and so to learn to share in his identity and in his mission, and then to go and make disciples, and teach them in turn to make disciples. There is a dynamic of following, of being a disciple, and of being sent out, as apostles, or sent ones, to make disciples.

A disciple follows someone in order to learn from them, and Jesus makes it clear to Simon Peter (John 13:36) that he was about to go somewhere where we cannot follow him yet: to the right hand side of our Father in heaven, where he intercedes on our behalf.

To claim to follow Jesus is to concern oneself with adhering to his ethical teaching. But that is an inadequate response. To follow after Jesus requires us to be disciples-and that requires us to literally follow someone whom we have physically encountered, from whom we can learn something of how to live this life according to the pattern Jesus inaugurated.

Thus making disciples is an apostolic task, in that-regardless of whether our own function within the body of Christ is primarily as an apostle, a prophet, an evangelist, a pastor or a teacher, making disciples happens as we are sent out by whoever we have gathered to in order to be ourselves, discipled. Making disciples is not a pastoral task-or a prophetic or even an evangelistic or a teaching task; although apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers will go about making disciples in different ways, because they have different personalities and priorities, carry different facets of Jesus. We must rediscover this; must recognize that we are all sent, and not just a few.

Throughout this year let us remember that we are a chosen race, royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into the marvelous light. (1Peter 2:9). As you make resolutions this year; let "BEING DISCIPLES : MAKING DISCIPLES" be your main resolution and you are able to accomplish it with the help and power of the Holy Spirit.

I encourage you to attend worship regularly, read the Bible daily, pray at all times. Share you talents, time and treasures to keep the mission of Christ Lutheran lively and vibrant.

Have a Blessed New Year! - Pastor Nirmala Reinschmidt

LENTEN SERIES

"Stories of faith" will be the theme of our Wednesday evening Lenten worship services for the 5 Wednesdays after Ash Wednesday and before Holy week. Pastor Steve is looking for members who will share 10-12 minutes about: 1. How God got you through a difficult time. 2. How faith is helping you get through a difficult time. 3. How your faith makes a difference at work. 4. Key chapters/moments or people that helped you grow in your relationship with God. You can respond to any of these subjects or just one. Please email Pastor Steve if interested in sharing your story clcpastorsteve@gmail.com



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SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS - 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:

- 1/1 - No Sunday School. Happy New Year!
- 1/8 - The Body of Christ - 1 Corinthians 12:12-31
- 1/15 - Abraham and Lot Separate- Genesis 13
- 1/22 - Jacob Tricks His Dad - Genesis 27
- 1/29 - The Israelites' Grumbling - Exodus 16:1-17:7

Offering collected during Sunday School 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

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY -

The January Wednesday mixed Bible Study will be taking a chapter a week on the Gospel of Matthew, covering Matthew 1-4. This year most of our gospel readings are from the Gospel of Matthew so this should help us come to a deeper understanding of Jesus' teachings in the gospel.

SUNDAY MORNING VIDEO & DISCUSSION IN CHOIR ROOM

This video series is an invitation to search, question, and discuss. After the 11-14 minute video there will be a 10 min discussion. Please join us on Sundays in the choir room from 9:20 – 9:45am. Jan 15 - Matthew (grief); Jan 22 - Rich; Jan 29 - You (values)



Sunday School Christmas Program



CONFIRMATION NEWS - JANUARY

2023 - The Confirmation class continues to learn about the Old Testament and will have a class on Depression and Addiction. We are always looking for ideas for Service Project as each student needs to complete 3 by the end of the year. If you have ideas or would like to lead a project, contact Dani Esser at esser.danielle@mayo.edu.

OLD TESTAMENT FOR ALL AGES

Wednesday evenings at 7pm, everyone is invited to sit in on 35 minute lectures by the pastors on the Old Testament.

January 4 - Psalms of Help & Trust;
Psalm 22,23,74

January 11 - Proverbs & Wisdom Writings;
Proverbs 3

January 18 - Addiction

January 25 - Israel (prophets); Amos 1-6



YOUTH/FELLOWSHIP

3

MISSION TRIP - The second \$125 payment was due November 15. The final \$125 payment is due April 1. We have 2 open spots remaining to Benton Harbor, MI for the week of June 25-30, 2023. Registration forms are on the kiosk. Total trip cost is \$375/student. Please consider joining us!

CABIN FEVER DATE NIGHT - January 20, 6-9pm

Enjoy a night out while the Confirmation and mission trip students babysit your kids. We will have a theme and planned activities including crafts, games, snacks, a movie, and lots of fun!

The Youth Committee is sponsoring this fundraiser with a free will donation to support the mission trip and bible camp scholarships. Final date this year is February 10.

RINGING INVITE FOR ALL AGES - If you like music and want to try a new easy adventure, you are invited to do a short-term session of easy tone chime and handbell ringing during late January and early February. Please let Jane Cabaya know, and for more info 507-775-6183, janecabaya25@gmail.com

Practice dates are Tuesdays, Jan. 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, and Tuesdays, Feb. 7th, 14th and 21st

Tone chimes (3rd-6th graders)- Tuesdays at 6 to 6:30 in the sanctuary.
Handbells (Teenagers 7th gr. and up) - Tuesdays at 6:30-7 in the sanctuary.



JuBELLance (Adult Handbells) - SOME Wednesdays at 6 -7. Ask Jane Cabaya for a schedule.

THANK-YOU - Thanks goes to all volunteers who have helped with funerals, especially this past year. The families of passing loved ones have been so appreciative of your help. Thank you so much. - Sandy Erickson

THANK-YOU - Dear friends, Thank you so much for the cards, thoughts and prayers I have received from you since my surgery. The caring you have shown has been so helpful and encouraging for me. Thank you, also, Pastor Steve for your visits and prayers! Thank you all again! Sincerely, Carolyn Reinecke

JOY GROUP - The Joy Group is scheduled to meet Tuesday, January 10 at 10am. If the weather is hazardous, the group will not meet.

BOOK CLUB - Book club will be meeting on Tue, Jan 3 at 7:00 pm at CLC. We are discussing "The Big Finish" by Brooke Fossey. Linda Danielski will be our host. Feel free to join us if you are interested. The February book will be distributed at January's gathering.

CAMP VICTORY WINTER BLAST - They will have tubing, laser tag, and the annual Frigid-a-Rod! January 27 at 7pm to the 29th at 2pm. Cost is \$147/kid, open to grades 3-9. campvictory.com

ROCHESTER TEEN GOSPEL CHOIR - Rehearsals start in February with a May concert. Contact Tim or Elaine Meek if interested in carpooling.

Teenhopeministries.org

CARD MAKING - Please join us at CLC on Saturdays, Jan 21, Feb 18, Mar 18, and Apr 15 for card making. We will set up at 8am and craft from 9-noon. Contact Joan Skare or JoAnn Brooks if you have questions.

Dec Cabin Fever



Christmas Cantata



OUTREACH/WORSHIP/NEW MEMBER

2023 COMMUNION REGISTRATION - Please register for communion once annually by writing your name on the communion list on the registration table.

CLC NOMINATING COMMITTEE - If 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 the council president know or complete our Time and Talent Form. www.clcbyron.org/time-talents/

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS - The theme for our Lenten Devotions this year is Death VS Life Endings VS New Beginnings. For example when you are going through job loss, your loved one passed away, or your relationship has ended you may feel depressed, sad, or in despair. Somehow in difficult times God intervenes to provide you with new blessings to strengthen your faith. This is one option for your topic, you are welcome to write on a different topic also to give the devotional some variety.

Please choose the Bible verse that you would like to write on. Write a devotion of 250 - 500 words and send it to Julie Carlblom by Feb. 1st. A sign up sheet will be at the sign up table, outside the office. Email Pastor Nirmala with questions.

SALVATION ARMY FOOD COLLECTION - CLC collects food in the blue barrel by the front door for the Salvation Army. Thank you for your donations.

FAMILY PROMISE - IHN - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Volunteer options are: overnight volunteer, evening engagement, life skills. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4FA4AA22A3F94-volunteer1> To sign up for "Feed A Family", <https://www.fprochestermn.org/feed-a-family>

SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY - Please bring in your Food Shelf items to donate, or a cash donation for Channel One on or before Souperbowl Sunday, Feb 12.

SUNDAY MORNING TREATS ARE NEEDED - Volunteers for fellowship between services at CLC are needed. If your last name starts with T - Z, please provide 3 dozen or a batch of treats on any given Sunday. Please put the treats in the kitchen by Thurs of that week. Contact Sandy Erickson if you are able to help clean up after fellowship time. Thank you for all who have helped in the past.

LEFSE - Thanks to all who helped make, and purchase lefse! We raised over \$1,300 which will go towards redoing the parking lot.

CHRISTMAS GOODIE SALE - Thanks to all who made the Christmas Goodie Sale a success! We made over \$850 which will go towards the Faith Chest Fund.

THE MEANING OF EPIPHANY - Epiphany, which comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, means "an appearance" or "a revealing." Centuries ago, the church set aside January 6, the 12th day after Christmas, to mark the revealing of Jesus as Christ to the wise men, who were Gentiles. Jesus' first followers were Jewish, so the revelation of the divine Christ to the non-Jewish magi reminds us that Jesus came to earth to save the whole world. Symbols of Epiphany include light, a star, a crown (or three crowns) and a globe or stylized portrayal of the world. The color of Epiphany is green to symbolize life, growth, hope and eternity. On the church calendar, the Epiphany season lasts until Ash Wednesday, which is determined by the date of Easter.

NEW MEMBER INFO - There will be a new member class on January 8 at 9:15am in the choir room. In this class you will get to know our church practices, our beliefs, and our commitment to the mission. You will receive a reminder postcard in January. The new member reception is on January 29 at both services.

Thank you for choosing our church as your church home. -Pastor Nirmala



ANNUAL REPORTS - Please submit your committee reports for the annual report, to the church office by Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 - 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 January.

WORSHIP/STEWARDSHIP

CLC COUNCIL MEETING 12/20/22

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

Members present: Pastor Steve Rheingans, Mark Turany, Candee Ostreng, Jason Pfeilsticker, Joan Skare, Joe Biewer, Dave Schlobohm, and Linda Danielski. Members not present: Anna Palmer, Ben Johnson, Naomi Meek, and Allie Petersen.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Joan Skare and seconded by Candee Ostreng. Motion passed.

Jason Pfeilsticker submitted the treasurer's report. November 2022 ended \$2,374.11 in the red. Expense exceeds income for the year by \$814.86. Jason Pfeilsticker submitted the budget for 2023. There were also discussions regarding maintenance that remains to be done on our building.

There are five open council seats for this next year (3 adults, 2 youth). Mark Turany is working on filling those

seats.

Our annual meeting is scheduled to be held on February 5, 2023.

Mark Turany submitted a list of inactive members which was reviewed by the council members. After some discussion, Joe Biewer made a motion to approve moving the members to inactive status. The motion was seconded by Dave Schlobohm. Motion passed.

Discussions were held regarding approval of a new custodian. Joe Biewer motioned that we extend an offer to Conner Esser as the new custodian. Joan Skare seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

The next meeting will be January 17, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Danielski, Council Secretary

CLC POTLUCK & THANKS TO ROSE & DAVE



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 for in church and in car worship).
- In-car worship on Sunday mornings at 8am & 10am in the parking lot on 87.9 on the FM radio
- Watch the Live Streamed service at home using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAdS22Tn6Epi6yZqzmNKK2g>

NON-MEMBER DONATION STATEMENTS OR ENVELOPES

If you are a non-member that gives donations to CLC and would like a donation statement or regular envelopes, please contact the office.

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 "Choice Dollars" and continue with the prompts. Thrivent is no longer sending out emails indicating you have money to direct. We received \$84 in November in Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Christ Lutheran Church
 201 Frontage Road NW
 Byron, MN 55920 www.clcbyron.org
 Office Hours: 9am - 3pm Mon - Thurs
 507-775-6646 office@clcbyron.org

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

January 2023



Worship Times

8am Traditional Worship
 9:05am Sunday School/Adult Ed
 10am Contemporary Worship
 LiveStream Worship
Communion is the 1st and 3rd Sundays



CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastors can be reached by office phone 775-6646 or
 Pastor Steve 612-250-9724 or clcpastorsteve@gmail.com
 Pastor Nirmala 507-271-0348 or clcreinschmidt@gmail.com
 President, Mark Turany 507-259-3820 or mturany@charter.net

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - Please
 pray for Rob Larson, Carolyn Reinecke, Harriet
 Douglas, Cindy Wiebusch, Judi Bale, Jim
 Gronvold, and Ed Nelson

TIME & TALENTS (Volunteer Opportunities)
 - can be left in the offering plates or update
 online at www.clcbyron.org/time-talents/

2022 DONATIONS - *All donations
 for 2022 need to be turned in to the
 office by Thursday, December 29 at
 noon.*

ZUMBRO RIVER CONFERENCE

ASSEMBLY - Sunday, Feb 5, 2023,
 online via Zoom at 1:30pm. Please let
 Pastor Steve know if you are interested in
 participating.

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 an-
 nouncements. It is possible that the first
 service could be canceled and not Sunday School or the 2nd service.



"Please stand for the 7th illustration stretch."

ATTENDANCE - 2022

NOVEMBER
 Weekly Avg 189
 2021 Nov Avg 138

| DEC | In Person | In Car |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 12/4/2022 | 222 | 1 |
| 12/11/2022 | 338 | 0 |
| 12/18/2022 | 177 | 0 |
| 12/24/2022 | 411 | 0 |
| 12/25/2022 | 46 | 0 |
| Weekly Avg | 239 | |
| 2021 Dec Avg | 180 | 8 total |
| (weekly avg includes Christmas Eve) | | |

MOVIE TIME – Movie Time is coming back! Please join us at CLC on the 2nd Sundays of the month for a fami-
 ly friendly movie at 2pm. This event is open to all ages. Feb 12, Mar 12. Movie selections will be on the kiosk.