

Sunday Good News

Christ Lutheran, Wichita, KS

Take Home News for week of **December 24, 2018**

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Monday: 4:30p Contemporary Christmas Eve Worship Service
 7:00p Traditional Christmas Eve Worship Service
 Tuesday: **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
 Next Sunday: 10:00a Combined Worship Service

*Pastor Chad will be on vacation **December 26-January 2***

*Morgan will be on vacation **December 25-27***

Worship Notes:

- **Cell phones:** Leave them on, just turn off the ringer.
- **Social Media:** Feel free to text, tweet, Facebook, Instagram, blog, etc. during the service to let your friends know what is happening in worship and inviting them to join you next Sunday. Christ Lutheran is on Facebook. Pastor Chad Langdon is on Facebook & Twitter (@revchadlangdon). Twitter: #clcwichita
- **Wi-Fi:** Church Net Password: Christmas1225
- **Communion:** All are welcome to participate & receive the grace of God! The bulletin has further instructions & information.
- **Children:** Young people are always welcome and encouraged to participate as much as possible. There are worship jobs available for the children to do during the service. They can just pick any lanyard & it explains how they can serve today. There are also Children's Bulletins & Activity Bags in the lobby. We have a nursery available for children 5 and under, and it is staffed all morning.



The Poinsettias on the altar are given to the glory of God by: **Donn & Deborah Bischoff, Gerald & Nancy Christensen, Jan Clark, Chris & Juanita Freed, Jim & Mary Garrelts, Andy & Christie Hentzen, Lois Jensen, Bonnie Johnson, Pastor Chad & Lynde Langdon, Carl & Jean Mertins, Wes Nelson, Pastor Maynard & Dorothy Peterson, Paul & Beth Shaw, & Clay & Kristi Zecha.**

You may take your plant(s) home after worship. Thank you

Christmas-Themed CareNotes Available



- Coping with Holiday Stress
 - Getting Through the Holidays When You've Lost a Loved One
 - Rediscovering the Many Gifts of Christmas
 - Overcoming the "Blues" at Christmastime
 - Giving New Life to your Christmas Celebration
 - Grieving at Christmas: A Family Guide
 - Your First Christmas After a Loved One Dies
 - How Christmas Memories Can Bring Healing to Your Grief
- Christmas: A Time to Remember Those We've Loved and Lost
 - Finding Comfort for Your Grief in Christmas Traditions
 - Making Christmas Count: A Kid's Guide to Keeping the Season Sacred



"A star in the sky...and a choice to change direction..."

**Special service to celebrate Epiphany
Sunday, January 6, 2019
One combined service: 10:00 a.m.**

In Christianity, the Epiphany refers to a realization that Christ is the Son of God. Western churches generally celebrate the Visit of the Magi as the revelation of the Incarnation of the infant Christ, and commemorate the Feast of the Epiphany on **January 6**. Please join us!

Immediately following the service and in good Lutheran tradition, we will celebrate this occasion and the start of the New Year with a congregational potluck lunch (No sign up required). We hope you will join us. See **Deb Bischoff**, **Bonnie Johnson** or **Darla Steinert** if you have any questions.

From Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services:

Hope for the Holidays Gifts and Cards are En Route!

Will you keep these families in your prayers?

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of congregations, communities, and people like you who have made donations and written messages of hope for our brothers and sisters in detention.

Thanks to you, hundreds of children and families in detention and in foster care will wake up on Christmas morning to receive a special reminder that they are not alone or forgotten.

- Human Needs Committee continues to request items noted on the Human Needs Table for the Union Rescue Mission.
- Our Human Needs Planning Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, January 13** following second service. Please let **Forrest Ehmke** know if you are interested and able to attend as lunch will be provided.

HELP WANTED



We are looking for a few people to help a single mom move out of her apartment. It is a complicated situation, but we have been made aware of her need from a Lutheran church in Salina, where the woman now lives. She needs help emptying her apartment and loading it up into a truck on **Friday, December 28th** at 10:00am. The apartment complex is the Inwood Apartments, near K-96 & Rock Rd (behind Sam's). The move will include some bunk beds, a full bed, a couch, some dressers & some household items. If you are available, please mark the Tear-Off. **Pastor Chad** will then pass along contact information and more specific details.

ARTISTS WANTED!

We are looking for children & adults who are willing to design our bulletin covers for this winter/spring. Each Sunday we will feature one Bible story and we would love to have a piece of original art related to that story to grace our bulletin covers. Each week we'd like to feature a different person's artwork on the bulletin cover. Here are the Bible stories we'll be covering:

1/6 (Darla Steinert)	Matthew 2:1-23	God Protects Jesus
1/13 (Gerardo Naranjo)	Matthew 3: 1-17	Jesus and John the Baptist
1/20 (Christopher Naranjo)	Matthew 4: 1-17	Temptation in the Wilderness
1/27	Matthew 5: 1-20	Sermon on the Mount
2/3 (Cheryl Shaw)	Matthew 6: 7-21 [25-34]	The Lord's Prayer
2/10 (Darla Steinert)	Matthew 7: 1-14, 24-29	Built on the Rock
2/17	Matthew 13:24-25	Faith Like a Mustard Seed
2/24	Matthew 14: 13-33	Feeding of the 5,000
3/3	Matthew 16:24-17:8	The Transfiguration

Here are the instructions if you'd like to participate:

- Read the story in the Bible. Think about it & use your imagination.
- Create a picture of the story using crayons, pencils, markers, paint, etc...even computer graphic art or an original photo is welcome.
- Turn your picture into the office at least 1 week before the date listed above. You can give us a hard copy or submit it electronically.
- When your artwork is featured, be ready...people may want you to autograph their bulletins!

There are lots of great examples hanging in the hallway!

FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

*It's getting close! Our guests arrive Sunday evening, **January 6th** and will be staying with us until Sunday morning, **January 13th**. Most of our key volunteers have been trained and we are so excited! There's a few things we still need:*

- **Volunteer Slots Filled** – We still need a few folks for these following roles & times:
 - **Mon. 1/7** Morning Driver (6am-7am)
 - **Tues. 1/8** 2nd Overnight Volunteer (8:30pm-6am)
Morning Driver (6am-7am)
 - **Fri. 1/11** 2 Evening Volunteers (5:30pm-8:30pm)
 - **Sat. 1/12** 2 Evening Volunteers (5:30pm-8:30pm)
2 Overnight Volunteers (8:30pm-6am)

If you would like to volunteer or are able to fill these slots, please sign-up at the Family Promise booth. Training is required for all of these roles, so if you haven't gotten trained yet, we'll need to make that happen prior to you serving.

- **Stuff brought back** – If you have taken any ornaments off of the tree, it is time to bring them back ASAP. If, for whatever reason, you can't fulfill this, please let Elaine Miller know.
- **New Ornaments** – There are now white angels on the tree! These are all food-related items. We are responsible for providing a continental breakfast each morning and a sack lunch each day for our guests. We are now close enough to their arrival that we can start collecting the necessary food for these meals. If you can purchase some of these snacks & perishable items, please take home the matching angel and bring your food back sometime before **January 6th**. Please purchase any fruit as close to **January 6th** as possible.



We have had an incredible outpouring of support for this ministry during a very busy time of year. Thank you to everyone who has helped shine the light of Christ and make this a reality.

Exploration Teams

As a result of our Visioning Retreat in early November 2018, Christ Lutheran is forming 3 Exploration Teams. Each one of these teams will be heading in a slightly different direction, following the Holy Spirit's lead and discovering God's path for us. The hope is that each team will meet at least monthly in 2019, and have quarterly meeting with all the teams together to compare notes. Within each area, they will seek to answer these questions (and any others that pop up along the way):



- What are we currently doing in this area?
- Why are we doing each thing?
- Is there anything that we should stop doing?
- What other needs in these areas could we be meeting?
- What could we be doing to meet these needs if money wasn't an issue?
- What is God calling us to do in the future within this area?



#1: The OUT Team

The purpose of this team is to explore OUT in the community. They will be dealing with topics like accompaniment, identifying needs in the community, defining our "community", inviting others, and having intentional conversations with people & organizations in the community. Their goal will be to discern God's activity OUT in the community and ways that we can hook up with what God is already doing.





#2: The DEEP Team

The purpose of this team is to explore ways to DEEPen our relationship with God and with others. They will be dealing with topics like spirituality, caring for our church community, and staffing. Their goal will be to discern ways that God is calling us to DEEPen our relationships and possible ways that we can do that.



#3: The FACILITY Team

The purpose of this team is to explore ways to enlarge or improve our current FACILITY. They will be investigating topics like how we are currently utilizing our facility, if there are places that need improvement, and if there are better ways to use our physical structure to get the most out of it. Their goal will be to discern how God could better use our current structure and if God is calling us to enlarge or improve it by creating a needs list and prioritizing it.



We are currently recruiting folks to serve on these temporary, but important Exploration Teams. If you feel passionate or excited about any of these areas, we'd love to have your voice at the table. Please mark the Tear-Off in the Take Home News with your interest and we'll make sure you get included. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask to Pastor Chad or any of the council members.

Jack Durham, a longtime member of Christ Lutheran, died on **Monday, December 10**. He had been suffering from Alzheimer's disease for several years and living in a care home. His funeral will be held here at Christ Lutheran at 2:00pm on **Saturday, January 5, 2019**. Please continue to pray for his wife, **Pat**, and his daughter **Melanie**, and their family.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 144

Scripture reading for December 30, 2018: Matthew 1: 1-17

Next Week Worship Leaders 12-30-18 Combined at 10:00 AM

Pastor: Chad Langdon	Choir Director: Darla Steinert
Preacher: Reverend Larry Cross	Organist: Margaret Dietz
Leader: Mary Garrelts	Pianist: Lois Jensen
Greeters: Zabels	Reader: Jan Clark
Ushers: Donn Bischoff & John Muther	PPT: Alli Schul





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