

# The Messenger

Christ Lutheran  
Church  
5356 N. Hillside  
Wichita, KS  
67219



January 2026 Newsletter

Contact us at [office@Christ-Lutheran.org](mailto:office@Christ-Lutheran.org)



Christ Lutheran Church is looking for an accompanist for our Late Service. Piano (and organ, not necessary, but a bonus) experience with a singing group is a must

as you are accompanying the congregation during hymns during the last service only. Please contact Bonnie Johnson, Worship & Music Chair. Position is available starting in the new year.

-Bonnie Johnson  
CLC Worship and Music  
Chair



### Winter Worship Schedule

9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship  
10:10 AM- Sunday School  
11:00 AM- Traditional Worship

### Men's Breakfast

We will be at Auntie C's, located at 61st and Broadway. We will be there at 8:00 AM on Saturday, February 14th for some good food and fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Donn Bischoff at 209-2138.

### Quilt Day

Our next Quilt day will be on February 3rd at 9:00 am. For questions, contact:  
Rosie Harder 316-200-3233  
Rosieharder14@gmail.com

This group of quilters is open to anyone who wants to join them. Sewing or quilting skill is not necessarily required. They meet once a month and you can come and go as your schedule allows. The morning is filled with conversation, laughter, encouragement, and by doing the important work of creating quilts for Lutheran World Relief.



### 2025 Bookkeepers Report



	December	YTD	Rolling 12
	2025	2025	Months YTD
Receipts	\$12,897.80	\$223,491.99	\$223,492.99
Expenses	\$11,730.05	\$219,644.55	\$219,644.55
Variance	\$1,167.75	\$3,847.44	\$3,848.44

Respectfully Submitted, **Alan Wondra**



Secretary: Kali Mills

5356 N. Hillside, Wichita, Kansas 67219

Phone: 316-744-1242 Fax: 316-425-8875

[www.Christ-Lutheran.org](http://www.Christ-Lutheran.org)

E-mail: [office@Christ-Lutheran.org](mailto:office@Christ-Lutheran.org)

### Parish Nurse - Mary Garrelts



For any medical questions or concerns please contact **Mary Garrelts** at [mbgarrelts@cox.net](mailto:mbgarrelts@cox.net)

**Please utilize the calendar that is on the back of the office door for upcoming events. This is what Kali uses when putting events in the weekly THN and monthly newsletter.**



## **Upcoming Baptism**

At early service on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, we will joyfully celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Baptism as

Warren Eugene Umbarger is baptized into Christ's death and resurrection and welcomed into the family of God. We will also welcome Warren's parents, Carrie and Lane Umbarger, as new members of Christ Lutheran Church. In this shared moment of faith, the whole congregation affirms its calling to support Warren in prayer, nurture him in the faith, and walk alongside Carrie and Lane as together we live out our baptismal vocation.



## **SOCIAL MEDIA**



Interested in doing social media for church? Kelsey Helmick is looking for someone to take over making Facebook events and posting about the happenings at church. If

interested, contact her via text (785) 408-6645 or email: [helmickkelsey@gmail.com](mailto:helmickkelsey@gmail.com)

Thanks!

Kelsey Helmick

# **JANUARY 2026 NEWS FLASH-- TWO GATES, TWO TREES, AND TWO HOUSES: JESUS' CLEAR WARNINGS FROM MATTHEW CHAPTER 7**

ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT STUDYING THE BIBLE IS JESUS' ILLUSTRATIONS. HE WAS A TERRIFIC STORYTELLER, OFTEN USING PARABLES TO CONVEY IMPORTANT MESSAGES IN A MEMORABLE WAY. IN MATTHEW CHAPTER 7, WHEN JESUS TELLS US THAT THERE ARE TWO GATES, OR TWO PATHS THAT WE CAN FOLLOW AS WE LIVE OUR LIVES: JESUS SAYS " ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE; FOR THE GATE IS WIDE AND THE WAY IS BROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND THERE ARE MANY WHO ENTER THOUGH IT. FOR THE GATE IS SMALL AND THE WAY IS NARROW THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND THERE ARE FEW WHO FIND IT" MATT :7 13-14.

THE WIDE GATE REPRESENTS OUR CULTURE TODAY, CHARACTERIZED BY SELF-DEPENDENT, SELF-ABSORBED AND WANTING TO APPEAR OUTWARDLY BETTER THAN EVERYONE ELSE. THE NARROW GATE SAYS JESUS DIED FOR YOU; YOU NEED TO LIVE YOUR LIFE FOR HIM. THE NARROW GATE HAS A DEEP PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST. THE TWO TREES. JESUS SAYS" BEWARE OF THE FALSE PROPHETS, WHO COME TO YOU IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING, BUT INWARDLY ARE RAVENOUS WOLVES. YOU WILL KNOW THEM BY THEIR FRUITS. GRAPES ARE NOT GATHERED FROM THORN BUSHES NOR FIGS FROM THISTLES, ARE THEY? SO EVERY GOOD TREE BEARS GOOD FRUIT, BUT THE BAD TREE FRUIT IS CUT DOWN AND THROWN INTO THE FIRE. SO THEN, YOU WILL KNOW THEM BY THEIR FRUITS." MATT. 7:15-20. JESUS IS TELLING US TO BE AWARE OF THOSE PEOPLE, EVEN THOUGH THEY APPEAR RELIGIOUS ON THE OUTSIDE. THEY WILL DECEIVE YOU AND PULL YOU AWAY FROM THE TRUE WORD OF GOD. JESUS FINAL WARNING IN THIS PASSAGE IS THE COMMUNICATED THROUGH A COMPARISON OF TWO HOUSES, ONE BUILT ON ROCK AN ONE BUILT ON SAND.

JESUS SAYS " THEREFORE EVERYONE WHO HEARS THESE WORDS OF MINE AND ACTS ON THEM, MAY BE COMPARED TO A WISE MAN WHO BUILT HIS HOUSE ON ROCK. THE RAIN FELL, AND THE FLOODS CAME, AND THE WINDS BLEW AND SLAMMED AGAINST THE HOUSE; AND YET IT DID NOT FALL, FOR IT HAD BEEN FOUNDED ON THE ROCK. EVERYONE WHO HEARS THESE WORDS AND DOES NOT ACT ON THEM , WILL BE LIKE A FOOLISH MAN WHO BUILT HIS HOUSE ON THE SAND". MATT 7:24-27. JESUS' FINAL WARNING AND CHALLENGE TO US IN THIS CHAPTER IS THAT IT'S UP TO EACH OF US TO EXERCISE OUR FREE WILL AND CHOOSE BETWEEN LIFE WITH HIM OR A LIFE OF DESTRUCTION.

I SEE A SOLID CHURCH HERE AT CHRIST LUTHERAN. I SEE FAITH IN THE ACTIONS THAT PEOPLE DO:

CLEANING UP AROUND THE CHURCH  
MOWING THE GRASS  
SERVING THE HEIGHTS STUDENTS  
GOING TO BIBLE STUDY  
QUILTERS, QUILTING THEIR HEARTS OUT  
GREETERS  
USHERS  
HELPING WITH COMMUNION  
READING THE SCRIPTURE LESSON FOR THE SERMON  
LIGHTING THE CANDLES  
BEING PART OF THE COUNCIL  
BEING PART OF THE COMMITTEES  
BRINGING IN DONUTS FOR AFTER CHURCH SERVICE  
BRINGING DINNERS FOR POTLUCK (IT'S AMAZING)  
SENDING CARDS TO THE SICK  
BEING IN THE PRAISE BAND  
SINGING SOLOS  
PRAYING  
COMING TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY  
GIVING FINANCIALLY TO THIS CHURCH

I'M SURE I MISSED SOMETHING.

I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE NORTH WALL OF THE DINING ROOM TO BE COMPLETED WITH THE BANNER THAT SAYS "BUILDING UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN". ALL THE THINGS LISTED ABOVE ARE WAYS IN WHICH WE BUILD UP THOSE TREASURES IN HEAVEN. DURING THE LAST 3 MONTHS I'VE SEEN THIS CHURCH COME TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY. ANY NEW PASTOR THAT COMES HERE WOULD BE PROUD!!! BY YOUR ACTIONS YOUR FAITH HAS SHONE THROUGH THE HEAVENS.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL  
JOHN



## **January Human Needs Collection benefits those in need of assistance in the Wichita area supported by:**



This past year we surpassed 2000 Bags of Blessings that were shared with and handed out by 32 different agencies in and around the Wichita area. Since we began looking for available bulk item outlets, we've been able to receive significant discounts from bulk vendors. Where in the past one hygiene bag might cost about \$20, using the bulk items has dropped the unit cost by 20% - 30%.

With all that in mind, we are refocusing our Bags of Blessings fundraising strategy. While we will never turn away the donation of actual goods, we want to emphasize monetary donations.

### **Two Ways to Support Partners for Wichita's Bags of Blessings:**

- CLC is providing envelopes for donations to the Bags of Blessings project. Cash or checks made to CLC with Bags of Blessing in the memo line. Also, Noisy Offering on the second Sunday will support this ministry.
- However, you may also donate the individual items needed for the bags. See provided list to take for shopping.



# Christ Lutheran Human Needs Committee will deliver donations.

\*Feel free to take a Bags of Blessing list or a donation envelope.\*

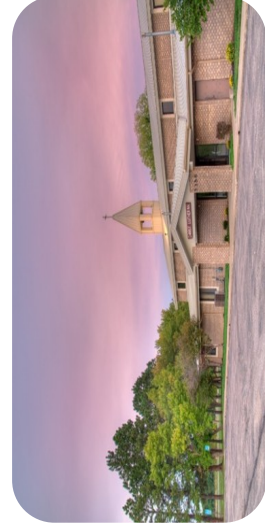


# Christ Lutheran Church

SINCE 1951

## Church Council

**President** Jim Garrelts  
**Vice President** Julie Stiebner  
**Secretary** Mitch Neuenschwander  
**Treasurer** Alan Wondra  
**Worship** Juanita Freed  
**Human Needs** Beverly Krasselt  
**Resource** Nick Baden  
**Property Care** Alan Schmidt  
**Parish Education** Kelsey Helmick  
**Outreach** Mary Garrelts  
**Youth** Emily Pector



**Organist** Margaret Dietz  
**Cantor/Choir Director** Jared Pector  
**Ostodian** Patty Wheeler  
**Bookkeeper** Alan Wondra  
**Parish Nurse** Mary Garrelts  
**Secretary** Kali Mills  
**Parish Ministry Associate** Jody Helton

## Staff Relations Committee

**Council** Mallory Fowler  
**Staff** David Lechner  
**Pastor** Forrest Ehrke

## Staff

## January Worship Volunteers

Date	Time	Usher	Greeters	PPT	Soundboard	Leader	Reader	Goodies	Altar Guild	Tellers/Offering
1/4	9:00	Justin Clouse	Jody Helton	Mary Garrelts	Jim Garrelts	Alan Wondra	Julie Stiebner	Kari Clouse	Janet Miller	Donn B & Paul Shaw
	11:00	Donn Bischoff	<b>NEED ONE</b>	Maynard Peterson	Matt Becker	Bonnie Johnson	Jamie Gibbs	Bonnie Johnson	Deb Bischoff	
1/11	9:00	Landon Clouse	Justin Clouse	<b>NEED ONE</b>	Jim Garrelts	Mary Garrelts	Robin Pressnall	Jo & Audry	Juanita Freed	Donn B & Becky D
	11:00	Ben Gibbs	Taylor Cook	Paige Gibbs	Courtlynn Dykstra	Donn Bischoff	Rosie Harder	Deb Bischoff	Carol Dooley	
1/18	9:00	Justin Clouse	Jody Helton	Landon Clouse	Alan Wondra	Jody Helton	Lantana Howell	Mary Garrelts	Derek Farris	Donn B & Bonnie J
	11:00	Rich Harder	Donn Bischoff	Casey Dykstra	Entwisles	Maynard Peterson	Steve Slipsager	Jamie Gibbs	Emily Pector	
1/25	9:00	Landon Clouse	<b>NEED ONE</b>	Justin Clouse	Alan W	<b>NEED ONE</b>	Kari Clouse	<b>NEED ONE</b>	Janet Miller	Donn B & Jamie G
	11:00	Paul Shaw	Becky Dykstra	<b>NEED ONE</b>	Gibbs	Annabel Entwisle	Jean Beal	Kelsey Helmick	Chandra Entwisle	



# January 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Happy New Year! 	2	3
4	5	6 Quilters 9 AM Men's Bible Study 10:30am	7 Women's Bible Study 10:30am 	8	9	10 Men's Breakfast 8 AM 
11	12	13 Men's Bible Study 10:30am 	14 Women's Bible Study 10:30am 	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 Men's Bible Study 10:30am 	21 Women's Bible Study 10:30am 	22	23	24
25 Warren Umbarger Baptism	26	27 Men's Bible Study 10:30am 	28 Women's Bible Study 10:30am 	29	30	31



## January Birthdays

Friday, January 2– Noah Miller	Saturday, January 3– Gwyn Snow	Tuesday, January 6– Alex Baden
Sunday, January 11– Caden Howell	Sunday, January 11– Penelope Barnhill	Monday, January 12– Sarah Serio
Tuesday, January 13– Dorothy Peterson	Thursday, January 15– Melissa Bohrer	Thursday, January 15– Luke Haynes
Friday, January 16– Mason Callison	Saturday, January 17– Audry Brungardt	Wednesday, January 21– Christina Vingerud
Friday, January 23– Melanie Barnhill	Friday, January 23– Jacob Callison	Saturday, January 24– Rich Harder
Monday, January 26– Robert Barnhill	Monday, January 26– Michael Carlstedt	Wednesday, January 28– Larry Cross
Saturday, January 31– Anita Lindsey		

## January Anniversaries



Wednesday, January 28– David & Jennifer Gorges		
--	--	--



## January Baptism Anniversaries

Thursday, January 1– Alan Schmidt	Friday, January 2– Brian Lechner	Friday, January 2– Brittany Lechner
Sunday, January 4– Sebastian Barnhill	Sunday, January 4– Sasha Bohrer	Monday, January 5– Julie Stiebner
Tuesday, January 6– Nick Baden	Wednesday, January 7– Nick Lechner	Wednesday, January 7– Nora Callison
Wednesday, January 7– Blake Albright	Monday, January 12– Melissa Mihalcin	Wednesday, January 14– Haley Ketchum
Saturday, January 17– Sydney Freed	Monday, January 19– Larry Zabel	Friday, January 23– Justin Clouse
Friday, January 23– Landon Clouse	Saturday, January 24– Jody Helton	Tuesday, January 27– Kari Clouse