

"So we are ambassadors
for Christ..." -

2 Corinthians 5:20

January 2018



Sunday Worship

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Family Express Worship

9:10-9:40 a.m.

with Sunday School
following

Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Highway B
Stoughton, WI

Christ Lutheran Ambassador



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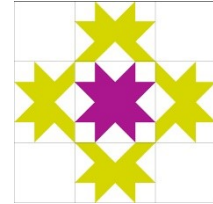
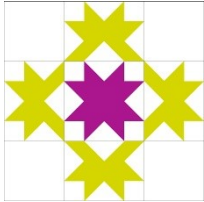
Christ Lutheran's 2017 Man of the Year, Kent Spilde!

Not everyone is able to give their kidney to someone in need, let alone someone you know. It's not a simple choice, especially when you are a husband and father to three children. Nevertheless, Kent Spilde made the decision to do exactly that—give a kidney to a boyhood friend. The result is a healthy life for a formerly sick man, and the satisfaction of knowing that you've brought health and salvation to a friend in need. Kent is married to his wife, Chris, and the father of Avery, a freshman in college, Brandt, a sophomore in high school, and Beckett, a middle school student.

Road Trip to Quilt Town, U.S.A.

Road Trip to Hamilton, Missouri

The dates for the trip have been set. We will leave from the church following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 14. Our goal for the first day is to reach Hamilton, Missouri. Stores open at 9:00 a.m. Monday, January 15. We will be waiting. The second day, our goal is to shop all day. We will spend a second night in or near Hamilton and head home on Tuesday, January 16. Of course we will do a Google search and see if there is anything interesting to stop and look at. Our goal the third day is to be home by early evening. The cost? \$100 for hotels, \$25 each for gas, and whatever for food and fabric. Sign up now, there is room for seven in the van and Pastor Paula is one of them. She will do the driving. Five or six hours is nothing—she lived in South Dakota for nine years.



CLC Members to Participate in ALICE Training

The Stoughton School District and Stoughton Police Department have invited daycares, 4K providers, and community leaders to participate in ALICE training. ALICE is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate and is a new perspective in preparedness on how to proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event. The four-hour training event will take place at the Stoughton Fire Department on Friday, February 9, from 8:00 a.m. to noon, and members of CLC will be participating, including Steve Hendrickson, Pastor Paula, and Matt Hanson. If you would like to be part of it, please contact Pastor Paula.

Garage Sale Set for March 23-24

by Pastor Paula Geister-Jones



The youth are planning their 4th Garage Sale/Silent Auction/Bake Sale/Manna Café for March 23-24. This is by far the biggest fundraiser for the Youth Mission Trip. Last year we almost cleared \$10,000. Congregation, you have been great supporting the youth with your used and unwanted items for the past three years. We are counting on you again this year. Start cleaning out your closets and setting your stuff aside now. You can start bringing it to the church on Friday, March 16. I'm going to need some extra hands to transport everything I'm bringing—this is Pastor Paula speaking. If you need help, let us know.

SEEKING: Church Directory Chairperson(s)



CLC would like to have a new church photograph directory to record our growing community of faith. Pastor Scott and the Evangelism Committee are seeking an individual or a couple of folks who would consider being chairperson(s) of this venture. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Pastor Scott in person or by phone at 469-4946. Thanks!

Have Your Blood Pressure Checked

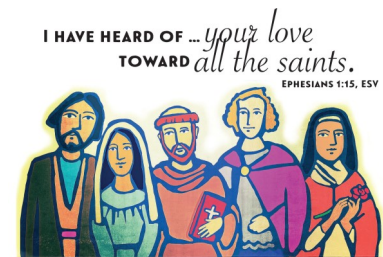


Just a reminder that you can have your blood pressure checked in the library on the second Sunday of every month.



Go and Tell by Roger Slack

In the past few days, I have been listening to and reading Paul's letter to the Ephesians. The letter was one of those written while Paul was in prison in Rome. The first chapter struck me as not what you would expect that a man in chains in prison would write. It is almost as if he is on an emotional high, exuberant in his pride in them and also his desires for them. Verses 15 to 19 stood out to me, as he expresses his love and desires for them: "For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you, and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe." It doesn't sound much like a man beaten down with no hope. In Paul's letter to the Philippians, he mentions that his imprisonment in the cause of Christ was being made known throughout the whole Praetorian guard. I'm sure the soldiers guarding him, at first, had a hard time figuring out what made this guy tick. The word soon spread to the point that even some in Caesar's household became Christians. I would hope that we as a congregation would pray for our people, our children and young people, and our neighbors around us what Paul prayed for the Ephesians that each might know joy and peace and freedom in their day-to-day lives.



Elizabeth Circle Shares an Article from the Magazine *Living Lutheran*...

Kristin Engstrom
YAGM Country Coordinator, Senegal

In a culture where Christians and Muslims live side by side in the same communities, and sometimes the same households, Kristin Engstrom finds that Christmas is for all: "It is beyond anyone's comprehension that you would ever exclude someone from a celebration or meal because they're of a different faith."

Local markets sell Christmas trees; tinsel appears on doors and cars; and in schools of the Senegalese Lutheran Development Service, both Christian and Muslim students celebrate the end of term with a Christmas program featuring songs and presentations from their cultural traditions. *Père Noël* (Father Christmas) arrives to dance by the tree and give gifts (provided by parents) to every child.

For Engstrom, Christmas is a sign of how "in a Senegalese context, for both Christians and Muslims, God is at the center of life...here in Senegal, people have so much grace."



Senior Luncheon

Monday, January 22
11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$10.00

Program: The Difference between Faith and Magical Thinking

There is a difference. It irritates me when I read and the author assumes that people who believe are just misguided individuals who believe in magical thinking. To begin the program we will have a few magic tricks performed. Don't worry, it will be entertaining.

Menu

Beef Stroganoff with Noodles
Vegetable, Green Salad
Homemade White and Swedish Rye Bread
Cheesecake with a variety of toppings
Coffee and Milk





Christ Lutheran's Mardi Gras

Sunday, February 11
10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.



Lunch will be served in the Manna Café. The menu includes... Chicken and Sausage Gumbo over Rice, Cornbread, Buttered Noodles, Homemade Pizza, Pancakes with Strawberries and Whipped Crème, Meatballs and Mashed Potatoes, Cotton Candy, Coffee and Milk.

The activities this year include past years' favorites... In Jail with Paul and Silas, Cross the Red Sea with Moses Cake Walk, Bounce with Joseph Bounce House, Bible Bingo, Some Awesome Crafty Jacob Crafts, Esther's Face Painting Beauty Parlor, Fishing with the Disciples, Resurrection Bean Bag Toss, and Cast Your Lots with Jonah Raffle. Raffle tickets will go on sale at the end of January. Crafts the youth will be making will also be on display.

And there will be a Hallway of Games like Twister, Giant Jenga and Giant Yahtzee. Of course there will be prizes for the winners.

Once again we will need cakes, pies, cupcakes, brownies, etc. for our Cake Walk. If you haven't signed up yet to bring a cake, the sign-up sheet is in the narthex on the information desk.

Please support your youth and plan to attend!



Christ Lutheran Celebrates "Fat Tuesday" with a Goal of Collecting Three Tons of Food for the Stoughton Food Pantry



Did you know that "Mardi Gras" is French for "Fat Tuesday"? It comes from the tradition of slaughtering and feasting upon the fatted calf the day before Lent, because with Lent came a forty-day fast during which all Christians in the early days, then Catholics following the Reformation, gave up eating meat. Mardi Gras has also been called "Carnival," and *carnival* comes from the Latin words *carne vale*, meaning "farewell to the flesh."

It is not a Lutheran tradition to give up anything or "fast" during Lent. The Ash Wednesday liturgy encourages us to focus instead on "acts of love." So beginning Sunday, January 7, Christ Lutheran will begin collecting food for the Stoughton Food Pantry and continue collecting through Fat Tuesday, February 13. We have more time this year, since Lent begins so late. Decorated paper bags will be handed out for you to take home (filled with a Thrivent "Live Generously" t-shirt). Thrivent will be helping us reach our goal by donating \$250 worth of groceries. This year our goal is 3 tons or 6,000 pounds. How is that for a challenge? Last year we collected 2½ tons. That was more than we have ever collected before. Can we collect 3 tons? Bob the Builder would say, "**Yes, We Can!**"



Baptismal Pool Party

Sunday, January 21
10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$3 per adult and \$2 per youth at the High School pool
Free-Will Donation for Lunch
Kindergarteners–5th Grade



We are going to celebrate our baptisms. Many of us don't remember when we were baptized; we were too small. The fun begins in the gym right after Sunday School with some games, a craft and a devotion. Lunch will be served at 11:15 a.m. At 11:45 a.m. we will climb into cars and head to the high school for some time in the pool. Open swim is from noon to 2:00 p.m. Families are welcome to stay the entire time. Youth younger than 3rd grade do need a parent present. Youth in 3rd grade and above will return to the church by 1:30 p.m. and may be picked up here. We will also need drivers.

Saturday, January 27

Note The Change of Date.

The game starts at 2:00 p.m.
UW Women's Hockey Game
Cost: \$5



On Saturday, January 27, Christ Lutheran is going to a UW Women's Hockey game. Why? Because, as this article is being written, they are still undefeated and rated #1, but the real reason is that one of our own members is a member of the team, Maddie Posick. We'll leave from the church parking lot at 12:30 p.m. The sign-up sheet is on the information desk. **Sixty tickets have been purchased, so sign up now!**

Join Us at Culver's!

Plan on stopping by Culvers on Sunday, January 28, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for lunch! For a second year, they are going to help our mission group youth and adults. Culver's will give the group 10 percent of the profits between those hours, so PLEASE, after church go to Culver's for lunch.



Wednesday Evening Menus

Supper is served from 5:45 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

Confirmation students and their families, "God and Games" participants and their families, choir members—really anyone is invited to come and break bread. A donation of \$3.00 is suggested to help cover the cost of food.

January 3

Homemade Pizza
Lettuce Salad
Sundaes and Root Beer and Orange Floats
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

January 10

Homemade Chicken Spatzle or Beef Barley Soup
Grilled Cheese Sandwiches and Homemade Bread
Fruit Salad
Cookies and Ice Cream
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

January 17

Spaghetti and Sauce/ with or without meat
Lasagna/ with or without meat
Lettuce Salad
Garlic Bread
Brownies and Ice Cream
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

January 24

Turkey and Gravy over Biscuits
Homemade Mac and Cheese
Tatter Tot Casserole
Vegetables with Ranch Dressing
Apple Crisp with Ice Cream
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

January 31

Tacos
Cheese Quesadillas
Spanish Rice
Fruit Salad
Cookies and Ice Cream
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice



7th and 8th Grade Sunday School in January

January 7: Take down Christmas decorations

January 14: Make signs in support of the UW Women's Hockey Team and Maddie Posick

January 21: Class with Jen

January 28: Class with Jen

2018 BWCA Canoe Trip

July 23–29

Grade 7–Adult

Cost: \$350

It is tough to pick dates. If we go any earlier in the month it conflicts with sports, and July is such a great month to go—the lakes have actually warmed up. Those who have gone before fall in love with the place and go back time and time again. Nathan and Lori Moll have both been up there seven times. They love the place. This is my 41st year. I love the place. It is my holy place. Last year I discovered I am not as strong as I once was. My 17- and 25-year-old sons were much stronger paddlers. Teresa Pellett and Jacob Proctor went for the first time last year and they really enjoyed themselves. So do many others. Some think we are just plain crazy. How can paddling and portaging be that much fun? I think it is nature and the beauty around us that grabs hold of our hearts.

I have called the outfitters and requested Seagull and Sag Entry Point. There are still routes we have yet to take starting out from there. The past two summers we have experienced something we have never experienced in the BWCA: beautiful weather every single day we were out. There was no wind, no rain, just 80 degrees and sunshine. It is the first time in years we were in the water swimming every day. Could it happen again? And last summer, for the first time in a long time, I carried a food pack. Luke took off down the portage with the canoe and left me with a food pack. **They are heavy!** So guess what I did? I purchased a food dehydrator. We are going to take some serious pounds off those food packs this coming summer and still eat well.

Registration forms are now on the information desk. Pick one up and fill it out and return it to the church office with a \$50 deposit.



This Is How to Do It!

Mary Onsager catches acolytes Zara Quam and Noelle Hanson showing the correct way to eat while in their robes!



CLC youth decorating the Christmas tree!

Baptism:



Rose Christine Nelson,
daughter of Yvonne Christine Nelson

Wedding:



Diana Olson and Joseph Kozenski

Deaths:

Anna M. Sphar
Carol Ewald

Memorials:

In Memory of:

Maxine Trulson
Maxine Trulson
Maxine Trulson
Maxine Trulson
Maxine Trulson
Maxine Trulson
Wesley Slack
David Christenson
Ann Sphar

From:

Steve and Alice Hendrickson
Merle and Anita Lebakken
Roger and Geri Slack
Genevieve Wilberg
Bethel Circle
Family and Friends
Gloria Hayne
Family and Friends
Family and Friends

Endowment Foundation:

In Memory of:

Carol Ewald
Carol Thompson
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar

From:

Bob and Louise Kluge
Myron and Mary Sime
Roger and Joyce Utermark
Karen and Charles Wineland



Christ in Our Home daily devotional booklets are available in the narthex.



Altar Flower Chart for 2018

Available dates are: January 28; February 18; March 4, 18, and 25; April 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; May 6; June 3; July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; August 5 and 26; November 18 and 25; December 2 and 30.

A Capital C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S



The Sunday School performed “A Capital Christmas” on December 17 at the 10:30 a.m. service. All students in Pre-k through 8th grade had the opportunity to take part in the program either by singing songs, taking part in the nativity, or telling part of the Christmas story. We had a high level of participation from students in all grade levels.

The students had a dress rehearsal on December 16. During our Saturday practice, the second through eighth graders took what they had practiced during Sunday school and we worked on blocking out the final program. The students had an opportunity to get their costumes fitted and see how their parts fit into the overall program. The students had a great time. They were able to practice the program through a couple of times and enjoyed treats provided by the Sunday School students’ parents.

A big thank you to the Sunday School staff for allowing the Christmas program staff to come into their classrooms and work with the students throughout the last two months. Thanks to the parents who practiced with their children at home, who helped out during the practice on Saturday, and who provided treats for the students. Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time and talents especially Kyla Betts, Gloria Eddy, Tom Lehr, and Linda Kunz. You all worked tirelessly to make sure that the program ran smoothly. Finally, thanks to the students who worked so hard. You all did a great job making this a very successful program.



Lutefisk Dinner was Huge Success

by Ted Sehmer, Lutefisk Committee Chairman

I am again thrilled and amazed with the outcome of the lutefisk and meatball dinner that was held here at church on Saturday, December 2.

We served 876 people this year, 915 in 2016, and 829 in 2015. From interviews I had with diners in the gym, everything was wonderful, fantastic, and one of the most organized church dinners they had ever attended, with the best lutefisk! Every year we receive rave reviews.

It takes about 250 volunteers to run the dinner. From the people who did the up-front work of reservations and food preparation prior to the meal to all of the cooks, wait staff, servers, people who worked in the rooms that supplied food and drink, and the clean-up crew who worked late into the evening, a huge thank you for your hard work!

*Thank
You*

*Thank
You*

*Thank
You*



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**Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Road B
Stoughton, WI 53589**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

“So we are ambassadors for Christ...” -

2 Corinthians 5:20

Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

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Gloria Hayne, Church Secretary

Eileen Klinzing, Financial Secretary

