

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

2 Corinthians 5:20

February 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

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Christ Lutheran Ambassador



Lent Begins February 14—Ash Wednesday

by Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

We worship at noon **and** 6:30 p.m. using Holden Evening Prayer as our liturgy. For those of you who have never heard it, it is absolutely beautiful. This year's theme is "The Lord's Prayer." I find it absolutely amazing that Jesus' followers have prayed the prayer Jesus taught his disciples for 2,000 years. Jesus is still teaching us to pray. We will take a closer look at the prayer we speak so often, using Luther's Small Catechism.

There will be no supper or "God and Games" on Wednesday, February 14, but both will resume the following week on Wednesday, February 21.

The Lord's Prayer

- Wednesday, February 14: "Our Father in heaven,"
- Wednesday, February 21: "hallowed be your name."
- Wednesday, February 28: "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven."
- Wednesday, March 7: "Give us today our daily bread."
- Wednesday, March 14: "Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us."
- Wednesday, March 21: "Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil."
- Maundy Thursday, March 29: "For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen."

Congregational Meeting

February 4—9:45 a.m.

Mark your
calendar!

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the congregational meeting on February 4. The meeting will be held at approximately 9:45 a.m., following the 9:10 a.m. Family Express service. Approval of the 2018 church budget will be the main agenda item.

Mark your
calendar!



Lenten Suppers Begin Wednesday, February 21

Lenten suppers begin Wednesday, February 21. There will be no supper on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Supper will be served from 5:30–6:30 p.m. The youth and adults participating in this year's mission trip to Baton Rouge will be serving the meals and cleaning up. A freewill donation will be taken to cover the costs and hopefully a little more. We ask for at least \$3 per person. That covers our costs, but the youth are trying to raise a few funds to help them cover the cost of their trip.

Wednesday, February 21

Chili and Homemade Chicken Soup with Spaetzle
Grilled Cheese Sandwiches
Fruit Salad
Brownies and Ice Cream
Coffee, Milk and Apple Juice

Wednesday, February 28

Baked Chicken
Cheesy Potatoes and Baked Potatoes with Toppings
Fresh Vegetables with Ranch Dressing, Biscuits
Apple Crisp, Cookies and Ice Cream
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk and Apple Juice



Garage Sale Dates Have Been Changed

We took a second look at the calendar and realized we had planned the garage sale at the beginning of spring break. The new dates are March 9-10. This is by far our biggest fundraiser for the mission trip. Last year we almost cleared \$10,000. Congregation, you have been great supporting us 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 2. If you need help, let us know. The youth will be more than willing to help you transport your items to church. (Talk to Nina Milbauer or Pastor Paula.) Thank you!

Global Health Ministries

by Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

It's that time of year again, time to start collecting for Global Health Ministries. The kits are our offering at the Synod Assembly in May.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic has added enormous challenges to health care worldwide. Missionaries, their health care worker colleagues, and patients' families in third world countries must provide daily care to AIDS patients who suffer from the symptoms of a devastating end-stage disease. There is pain, nausea, diarrhea, and skin eruptions, to name a few. It is not a disease we can ignore, and it is not going away.

How can we help? By creating this AIDS/Hospice Kit, we can provide cleanliness and comfort to someone who is suffering. By enclosing a devotional booklet in this kit, we can provide comfort and hope. And through our prayers and generosity, we can reach far into the lives of those who have been affected.

Hospice Kits

New or gently used items:

- 1 regular size bath towel
- 1 washcloth

New items:

- 1 bath size bar of soap (wrapped)—any kind
- 1 toothbrush, single and in original packaging
- 1 toothpaste (size medium or large—or two small sample sizes)
- 1 "pick" comb
- 1 nail clipper
- 6 Band-Aids
- 1 jar or tube of petroleum jelly (4 oz. or more)
- 1 pair heavy duty-household gloves (kitchen type), size medium
- 1 small devotional booklet, *Portals of Prayer* or *Christ in Our Home*



The birth of a baby should be a happy experience. In some countries, however, it brings new worries and problems. What if the baby is ill? How do we keep the baby warm? How do we feed another mouth? When the newborn arrives, it may be with the assistance of the local midwife—if there is one in the area, and if the family will accept her assistance.

The midwife has the training and knowledge to handle the delivery, but often does not have the very basic equipment, such as a clean cloth for the mother to lie on, a suitable instrument to cut the umbilical cord, or a towel to dry and wrap the baby.

Now imagine a baby born at a hospital in your hometown. Then take a moment to imagine a baby born in Africa, India, Madagascar, or Papua New Guinea. That baby has the same need to arrive in a well-prepared environment—and the same need for a chance to survive as a baby born at a well-equipped suburban hospital in The United States.

How do we bridge the gap between abundance and nothing?

As friends of Global Health Ministries, we have the opportunity to serve in a very special way by providing much-needed medical supplies and equipment to areas of the world where the people have very little. We have been challenged to provide "Newborn Kits" which GHM will send to the areas where they are needed so that the midwives and the new mothers may feel that they are not alone, that someone cares, and that they can welcome the babies into a safer world.

Our reward: Their profound appreciation and the joy of serving the Lord and making a difference.

Newborn Kit:

Please use new or clean used items in excellent condition.

- 1 regular size bath towel—no longer than 48"
- 1 36" square of muslin or sheeting
- 1 washcloth
- 1 bath size bar of Ivory soap
- 1 newborn stocking cap (keep hand-knit ones very small, use baby yarn)
- 1 small baby shirt, size 0-3 or newborn
- 1 receiving blanket (approximately 30" x 30")
- 2 cloth diapers
- 2 diaper pins



Christ Lutheran to Serve Daily Bread

Sunday, February 25

Our Daily Bread is a free meal program provided monthly by the Stoughton area churches. Christ Lutheran serves the meal about twice a year. We are serving from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 25, at First Lutheran. The menu in February is Meatloaf, Homemade Mac and Cheese, Fruit Salad, Green Beans, Brownies and Ice Cream, Milk and Coffee. If you would like to donate or help out, there is a sign-up sheet on the information desk in the narthex. If you would like to come and enjoy the meal, you are most welcome. If you need transportation, please call 873-3895 by noon on February 25.



Thank You from START

Thank you so much for your continued support of the Stoughton Area Resource Team. Please know that your generous contributions truly make a difference in the lives of so many throughout our community. Blessings and holiday wishes to you.

Sincerely,
Cindy Thompson, Program Director

Last year CLC donated \$10,700 to START. \$6,300 in designated gifts and \$4,400 from the Ladies' Night Out!



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." We will be collecting food 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!**"





Christ Lutheran's Mardi Gras

February 11
10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.



Lunch will be served in the Manna Cafe. 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 food will be reasonable priced and delicious.

The activities this year include past year's 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**. Crafts the youth will be making will also be on display prior to the Mardi Gras celebration. Ticket prices for the games are 3 for \$1.00.

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.

This event is a fundraiser for the youth's mission trip. Please, plan to attend, support our youth, and have a good time!

Cast Your Lot with Jonah Raffle



1 ticket - \$2.00, 3 tickets - \$5.00, 7 tickets - \$10.00

Prizes:

- \$500 Gift Certificate for new tires at Conant Automotive
- A Few Nights Out in Stoughton Basket, value \$240
- Let Someone Else Cook Basket, value \$250
- Sports Basket, value \$324
- Snuggle Quilt, priceless

The drawing will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 11.

"God and Games" to Continue During Lent

4th–6th Graders, 6:30–7:30 p.m.



"God and Games" will continue through Lent. Youth are invited to our Lenten suppers, which will be served between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. The gym is yours from 6:30–7:30 p.m. Bring mom and dad along and they can worship while you play and enjoy a devotion. Jacob Fitzsimmons, a college student at Edgewood, is your fearless leader. What is great to see is some of our high school youth helping out as well.

There will be no "God and Games" on Ash Wednesday, February 14. We begin Wednesday, February 21. It is a great way to expend some excess energy during these cold winter months.

First Communion—4th Graders



Parents and 4th grade child will have two choices for First Communion instruction. On Sundays—February 25, March 4, 11, and 18, parents and child will meet in the conference room from 10:30-11:00 a.m. or the same Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Families choose which time will work best for them! Also on Thursday, March 22, 4th grade students will bake bread in the church kitchen after school until 5:00 p.m. If your child needs a ride from school, please let the pastors know.



Grace Notes Continues to Practice

Grace Notes will continue to practice during Lent, immediately following Lenten services, between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m. We hope to sing once a month at Family Express. Everyone is welcome to come. The more the merrier!

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.

February 7

French Toast with Whipped Cream and Strawberries

Pancakes with Homemade Applesauce

Scrambled Eggs, Egg Bake and Quiche Lorraine

Ice Cream and Chocolate Syrup

Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

February 14—No Dinner—Ash Wednesday

Confirmation youth are expected to attend services at 6:30 p.m.

7th and 8th Grade Sunday School in February

February 4: Make Valentines

February 11: Service Project—Prep for Mardi Gras

February 18: Lesson with Jen

February 28: Lesson with Jen



2018 BWCA Canoe Trip

July 23–29

Grade 7–Adult

Cost: \$350

Each participant will receive a \$50 campership.

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 had 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 was 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.

Ole and Lena Bake Sale and More...

by Mary Onsager

Women With a Mission would like to thank all the members of our congregation who contributed baked goods, lefse, jams, and jellies for the 28th Annual Ole and Lena Bake Sale and More... held December 2, 2017. We had a very large variety of the best baked goods in town, and the lutefisk participants, church members, and event volunteers, continued throughout the day to purchase and clear the display tables of all the baked goods.

Thank you to all who attended, our check-out staff, raffle table supervisors, lefse sellers, table replenishers, and our wonderful Women With a Mission committee that plated, boxed, and made all the baked goods look so festive and inviting.

Winners of the raffle items were:

- 50" TV won by Roger Utermark of our congregation
- American Girl Doll with rosemaled bed and doll quilt won by Betty Seamonson
- Green Bay Packer tickets and gift basket won by Margaret Young of our congregation

We welcome any congregational members interested in joining our women's group; please contact Mary Onsager at 873-3999. Profits from all of our sales benefit many areas within the church, and over the last 28 years we have raised over \$94,000. We will be meeting in the early spring to distribute the profits from this year's sale.

Thank you,

Women With a Mission

Phyllis Gullickson, Gloria Hayne, Alice Hendrickson, Ruth Hillbo, Louise Kluge, Mary Onsager, Edie Tholo, and Cathy Young



Adult Bible Study

Begins February 1

Adult Bible study on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit will begin in February. Classes will be at 9:00 a.m. in the morning and 7:00 p.m. at night. Please join Pastor Scott beginning February 1.

The Holy Spirit

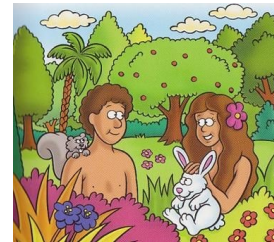


- Eternal Spirit (Hebrews 9:14)**
- Spirit of the Lord (Acts 5:9)**
- The Comforter (John 14:16)**
- Spirit of truth (John 14:17)**
- Spirit of understanding (Isaiah 11:2)**
- Spirit of wisdom (Ephesians 1:17)**
- Spirit of counsel (Isaiah 11:2)**
- Spirit of might (Isaiah 11:2)**
- Spirit of knowledge (Isaiah 11:2)**
- Breath of the Almighty (Job 33:4)**
- Spirit of holiness (Romans 1:4)**

Senior Luncheon

Monday, February 26—11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$10



Program: That First Couple—Adam and Eve
We'll have some fun with the differences between the genders.

Menu:

Ribs
(In honor of the rib God removed from Adam to form Eve.)
Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetable
Rye Bread
Apple Crisp and Ice Cream
Coffee and Milk

Elizabeth Circle News

More News from Missionary Kristin Engstrom

Our first YAGM blog post comes from YAGM Hannah (or Tenning, her Senegalese name). Hannah is living this year in Fatick, Senegal, and serving with the Lutheran Church of Senegal. She divides her time between the Center for Women's Promotion, where she accompanies students receiving training in fabric dyeing, dressmaking, and computer skills, and the Office of Diaconia, where she is learning how the church accompanies those in crisis or difficulty.



Millet farm (Millet is used to make couscous)

The holiday season seems to be never-ending in Senegal. One week it is the Mourides pilgrimage to Touba, a few weeks later the Tidja pilgrimage to Medina Baye Kaolack, and now we find ourselves at Advent (Mourides and Tidjans are two types of Senegalese Islamic brotherhoods, or denominations). Christianity is the minority here, and the population of Senegal is estimated to be 92% Muslim. However, the holidays or celebrations I have experienced thus far all seem to include food, and more than enough food to go around within the community.

What I have found is that a common theme to all holidays at home back in the states is also food. So while we are all missing our friends and families and the different foods we eat for the holidays at home, I have been reflecting upon the hearty Serer couscous diet of my home here in Fatick.

I am living with a Serer family in Fatick, Senegal. The Serer people occupy the west central area of Senegal, and are an ethno-religious group (more cultural/holiday celebrations!). The Serer diet consists, naturally, of locally grown agriculture and superfoods. Besides the addition of rice in the diet, the main grain consumed in my specific region is millet (rice is not local to this area and is heavily subsidized, therefore we eat it every lunch, and often it is eaten for every meal). The millet flour, through a minimum two-day process of washing, pounding, steaming and drying, turns into Serer couscous. In Serer this is called Saj or Saig, (pronounced Sigh-g in my Serer dialect). This production usually creates enough Saig to last a couple weeks, and it is eaten for every dinner and sometimes breakfast.

The Saig is finally prepared for dinner by adding a ladleful of baobab leaf powder, stirred around in the bowl, pouring just enough boiling water to cover the Saig, and letting the Saig expand. The Saig is usually served with a sauce-like stew, which often includes mooringa or other plants and leaves that I have a hard time catching the name of (surprise, more superfoods!). You each create a little bowl in your portion of the larger communal bowl, and are then served a hefty dosage of sauce, which you scoop up with your hands to naami (naami = eat!!!).

My conversations with my host father usually center around what is "medicama," and I have found that pretty much every meal has at least some little added herb or plant to make it "medicama." I have also found that almost every part of each plant is used in some varying format in each dish. For example, baobab trees: the fruit is used, the leaves are used, the branches are used, and the bark of the trunk is used. In Senegal, we consume what grows nearby, and without the complexities of globalization, the Serer diet seems to be full of nutrition. Food is central to human survival, so it may as well be looked at as a form of "medicama."

When we all eat around the communal bowl in Senegal, there is always more than enough to go around, and there is always more than enough to share with others. Food and community go hand in hand.

*It is important to note that while I love this couscous, the reality is that there are mixed reviews from my YAGM cohorts and other volunteers/foreigners I have spoken to ratings from "greatly dislike" to "love" exist. And with no prior knowledge of what you are eating, you will most likely think it's grainy sand dirt mush. But now that you know all that goes into this Serer staple, maybe you can add it to one of your holiday feasts?



Deaths:

Richard A. Felland
Laurie Stenjum

Memorials:

In Memory of:

June Lehr
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Carol Ewald

From:

Gloria Hayne
Joanne Roneid
Gloria Hayne
Mark and Ruth Hillbo
Evelyn Kahl
Greg and Mary Onsager
Family and Friends
Bethel Circle
Roger and Geri Slack
Gloria Hayne



Endowment Foundation:

In Memory of:

Ann Sphar
Ann Sphar
Richard Felland

From:

Roger and Joyce Utermark
Family and Friends
Myron and Mary Sime



Altar Flower Chart for 2018

The following Sundays are available for the giving of altar flowers: February 18; March 4 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 15; December 2. Contact Gloria in the church office to reserve your date.

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!



Greeting Cards For Sale!

Bethel Circle has greeting cards for sale. If you need a card for a birthday, anniversary, new baby, thank you, or sympathy you can purchase a card for \$2.00 each. See Gloria in the church office! All proceeds from the card sale will go to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund.



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STOUGHTON, WI

**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

