

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

2 Corinthians 5:20

February 2019



Saluting Our Scouts

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

Inside this issue:

Congregational Meeting	2
Worship Opportunities	
Lenten Worship Series	
Go and Tell	3
Who's Who in the Pew?	
Fat Tuesday Food Collection	4
Coffee Servers	
News Youth Can Use	5
Sunday School News	6
Mardi Gras	
UW Women's Hockey Game	7
BWCA Canoe Trip	
Senior Luncheon	8
Pickleball	
Rebecca's Rebels	
Men's Night Out	
Lutheran Worship—Son of A	9
Preacher Man	
Elizabeth Circle News	10
Memorials	11
Thrivent Choice Dollars	
Calendar	Insert

Christ Lutheran Ambassador

A Gracious God—A Generous People



***"Live generously and graciously toward others,
the way God lives toward you."***

Matthew 5:48b

"God Is Love"

by Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

This is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. A great day for the florist, but if you don't have a sweetie to celebrate with, it can be a difficult day to get through. I remember, when I was young and single, wondering what was wrong with me: "Why doesn't anyone love me?"

There is an actual saint behind Saint Valentine's Day—actually three. The Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom died for their faith. One legend tells us that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. If it is the Saint Valentine I am thinking of, he lost his head.

Valentine's Day is a day we celebrate the love shared by a couple, but what they feel for one another is really just a glimpse of the love God has for us. I remember writing a paper during my seminary days, when I focused on 1 John, where John tells us, "My beloved friends, let us continue to **love** each other since **love** comes from **God**. Everyone who **loves is** born of **God** and experiences a relationship with **God**. The person who refuses to **love** doesn't know the first thing about **God**, because **God is love**—so you can't know him if you don't **love**. This **is** how **God** showed his **love** for us: **God** sent his only Son into the world so we might live through him." Let's cut to the core of this text. What 1 John is telling us in his best Greek (he seems to be trying to impress us) is that God is love. God has so much love, it was just overflowing from God. God, all by God's lonesome at the very beginning when nothing existed, had no one and nothing to love. God needed someone and something to love. And that is why the world and all that exists, including us, was created, so God could be who God is and love.

So, this Valentine's Day, whether you have someone special in your life or not, you can celebrate God's love. It may not be as exciting as going out for dinner, but God's love is like no other. It is steadfast and everlasting.

Congregational Meeting February 3



Immediately following Family Express
Worship— 9:45 a.m.

The congregation will discuss and
approve the 2019 budget.

Boy Scout Sunday February 10

We provide space in our building for the Boy Scouts to meet and store their equipment, so the Boy Scouts are going to thank us on Sunday, February 10. They will be here in uniform to help usher and will provide cake for fellowship.



Refugee Sunday February 24

On February 24 George Carlson, retired bishop of the South-Central Wisconsin Synod, will be our guest preacher. George and his wife Solveig have worked with Lutheran Social Services for years, helping them settle refugees in the Madison area. Pastor Scott led a Refugee Bible study this past fall. Members of that Bible study requested that more people be made aware of the reality of refugees' experience. Today there are millions of refugees in the world. The two major reasons to leave home are famine and violence. Truth be told, there have always been refugees. In the readings for Epiphany, we learned that even Jesus and his parents were refugees. Mary and Joseph were forced to leave Bethlehem because of Herod's plan to slaughter every boy under the age of two.



New Members Received February 24!

New members will officially be received into our community of faith on Sunday, February 24, at all three services. If you know anyone who is interested in joining or if you are that someone, please contact the church office (873-9353) so Pastor Paula can arrange a visit.

New member orientation will be on Sunday, February 17, immediately following the Family Express Service in the Conference Room. Pastor Paula asks that all new members attend. It is just a time to get to know one another and to share information about the congregation.

Lenten Series: African-American Spirituals

by Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

This year we will once again use the Holden Evening Prayer service for our liturgy and African-American spirituals as the basis for the meditation.

Lament Psalms are fitting during the time of Lent, sorely missing from our ELW. They are in the Bible, but the folks who put together our worship book focused on Psalms of Praise and Thanksgiving, throwing in a few Royal Psalms. Lament Psalms are just what their name means. In them you will hear the pain and the suffering of the psalmist. Details of their experience are seldom given. What we hear crying out from the pages is their agony. They were included in the Book of Psalms because their experience is the human experience. While some end with just pain, most turn towards the end to express their hope that God will deliver them or the story of God's deliverance. Lent is one of the few times during the church year that the church drags them out. African-American spirituals are probably the closest thing we have to laments, so I love to sing them during Lent. So that is what we will do.

We will use Holden Evening Prayer, and when the time comes for the meditation, a spiritual will be sung by one of the choirs, a soloist, or the congregation, followed by a homily. In the homily, we will examine the story behind the words.

Ash Wednesday, March 6: "Shut de Door, Keep Out de Devil"

March 13: "Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen"

March 20: "Down by the Riverside"

March 27: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

April 3: "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel"

April 10: "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

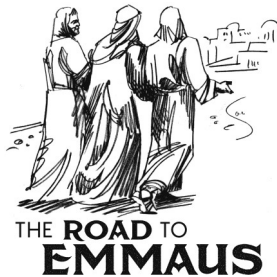


Go and Tell

by Roger Slack

Jesus had many followers during His ministry on earth. We often call the twelve Jesus' disciples, but more accurately, we should refer to them as His twelve apostles. An apostle is one sent to deliver His teachings. There were many more disciples that were not in the spotlight, but did things behind the scenes for Jesus and the twelve, who never received acknowledgment in the Gospels' accounts. Occasionally a name is mentioned that we know very little about. Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea were both members of the Jewish Council that Jesus was brought to before being taken to Pilate to be condemned and crucified. They knew Jesus and tried to be voices of reason speaking for Jesus in the Council, as they knew the leaders were jealous of Him. Joseph was the man who went to Pilate to ask for Jesus' body. He and Nicodemus placed him in Joseph's new tomb. It is interesting to see how God used them at this time when the eleven went into hiding, fearing for what would happen next to them.

Another name for a lesser-known disciple was Cleopas. He is mentioned in Luke 24:13-36 as one of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus that Easter morning. The two were apparently going home. They were both confused about what had just happened and saddened because of what they had expected for Jesus and their nation. We don't know if Emmaus was home or just a stopping point for the night. When Jesus caught up with them, they did not recognize Him. Why I don't know, but it was



necessary for them to understand what Jesus was again telling them, that He would rise from the dead. I went online to see if there was any other information about Cleopas. To be honest, it was somewhat confusing, depending on which historian you listened to, but one suggested that Cleopas was Jesus' uncle, the brother-in-law of Jesus' mother, Mary. The Simon referenced in verse 34 was his son. If that is correct, I can see why Jesus appeared to them, not only for a witness to the now eleven Apostles, but to Mary. Oh, what wonderful news that would have been for her.

We don't have to be in the spotlight for God to use us, even now, as followers and disciples of Jesus.

Who's Who in the Pew—Gloria Hayne

by Diane Matson



Believe it or not, her last name isn't "Intheoffice," as in "I don't know, ask Gloria "Intheoffice" or "You'd better check with Gloria "Intheoffice." Even though she's been the face of Christ Lutheran Church as the church secretary for 41+ years, Gloria **Hayne** has led a pretty multifaceted life since having met her late husband Lonnie when both were students at Dana College in Blair, Nebraska. They were married for 52 years at the time of his passing.

An elementary teacher by trade, Gloria first taught second grade in Eagle, Nebraska, while Lonnie studied for his master's degree. A move to Las Vegas found her teaching kindergarten during Lonnie's employment with the Atomic Energy Commission.

Stoughton became home in 1976, and Gloria stayed home with daughters Lisa and Vicki until the girls started school. Stints at Equifax and Stoughton City Hall preceded her job at Christ Lutheran, where to date, Gloria has worked with eleven pastors and one intern!

Grandchildren Mitchell, Megan, Andrew, Christian, Matthew, and Noah keep Grandma on her toes, and she is a proud great-grandma to Anders William! Gloria's hobbies include quilting and nurturing her green thumb, as evidenced by the beautiful copper-colored pot just outside of the church's main entrance, placed in Lonnie's memory and positioned so that Gloria can see it from her desk in the office.

One might think that with everything going on in her life, Gloria should have been twins! She has definitely been surrounded by them in her life. Gloria's mother was a fraternal twin, husband Lonnie was an identical twin, and grandsons Noah and Matthew are also identical twins!

When asked about her favorite aspect of Christ Lutheran, Gloria is quick to mention you, the people. Always smiling, her welcoming presence in the office truly makes her the face of Christ Lutheran. Thank you Gloria "In the office" Hayne. You put sunshine in our days.



Let's Celebrate "Fat Tuesday" by 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, February 3, Christ Lutheran will begin collecting food for the Stoughton Food Pantry and continue collecting through Fat Tuesday, March 5. 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 three tons or 6,000 pounds. How is that for a challenge? We did it last year, we can do it again! Can we collect three tons? Bob the Builder would say, "**Yes we can!**" God would say, "Nothing is impossible for those who believe."

Thank You from Stoughton Food Pantry

Dear Members of Christ Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Stoughton Food Pantry, we thank you for your generous donation of \$1,425.00. We are truly humbled by the continued support from your congregation. The food pantry is a valuable resource for needy families in our area, and many will benefit from your gift. Your gift enables us to continue to meet the needs of those who might otherwise go hungry.

Throughout 2018 our pantry has had 1,790 visits from families in need and has distributed a total of 140,874 pounds of food.

Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry. Stoughton is a better place because of caring congregations such as yours.

Linda Lane, Volunteer—Stoughton Food Pantry

We Have New Coffee Servers

by Diane Matson

In the grand scheme of things, new coffee servers are **not** front page news...unless it involves twenty-two church women coming to an agreement on what to order. Much discussion centered on the size, the shape, the color, the price, the lids, etc. After **much** deliberation, we **do** have new coffee servers!

It began as a project spearheaded by the Elizabeth Circle, and twenty-five white, forty-two ounce coffee servers with detachable tabs to denote regular or decaf coffee (brown and orange tabs) and tea (green tab) have arrived and been in use since the Lutefisk Dinner. Many thanks to Elizabeth Circle member Barb Harried and the Lutefisk Committee for absorbing the cost.

Because Lutherans don't handle change well (or at all), the "other" coffee servers have not been retired from service completely and are available to those who prefer not to have to hand wash the new pots or who are unwilling to be challenged by getting the new lids in the proper position to secure a seal which allows coffee to remain hot for up to six hours!

Thank you, Barb. Thank you, Lutefisk Committee.

“God and Games”



4th–6th Grade

Wednesday evenings whenever there is confirmation

“God and Games” is happening again. Youth and their parents are invited to our confirmation suppers, which are served from 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. The gym is yours from 6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.—**NO BIG** people (7th and 8th graders) are allowed in. You play games and end or begin or whatever with a short devotion. Jacob Fitzsimmons, a college student at Edgewood, is your fearless leader. This is his fourth and last year as your leader. This spring Jacob graduates from Edgewood College with a nursing degree. You will probably see some of our high school youth helping out as well. Brady Estervig was a regular last year.

“God and Games” will continue through Lent. Mom and Dad can come and worship, and you can go into the gym to play.

Garage Sale Set for March 15-16



The youth are planning their fifth Garage Sale/Silent Auction/Bake Sale/Manna Café for March 15 and 16. 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 four years. We are counting on you again this year. Start cleaning out your closets and setting your treasures aside now. You can start bringing it to the church on Friday, March 8. That sounds like the distant future, but it will be here before you know it.

Wednesday Evening Menus



Supper is served from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Confirmation students and their families, “God and Games” participants and their families, or older 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 6

Baked Chicken, Cheesy or Baked Potatoes
Vegetables with Ranch Dip, Dinner Rolls
Apple Crisp with Ice Cream
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

February 13

Beef Stew, Salad, Dinner Rolls
Ice Cream with Fresh Strawberries
and Chocolate Syrup
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

February 20

Homemade Mac and Cheese or Chicken Alfredo
with Vegetables, Fruit Salad
Homemade Bread
Root Beer and Orange Floats
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

February 27

Spaghetti and Sauce with or without Meat
Lasagna with or without Meat, Lettuce Salad
Garlic Toast, Cookies and Ice Cream
Coffee, White and Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice

7th and 8th Grade Sunday School in February

February 3: Class with Todd Hipke
February 10: Service Project—Valentines
February 17: Class with Todd Hipke
February 24: Prep for Mardi Gras



Sunday School News for February

by Jenny Hoffman

Our February Sunday School theme is: "We may all be different, but we are all a piece of God's plan." The bulletin board craft will be completed by our first grade class this month. Please make sure to come down and take a look. To go along with the theme, we will continue with our tradition of having all of our Sunday School classes create Valentine cards for members of our church who are shut-ins or live in area nursing homes and assisted living facilities. This service project is run by Mary Onsager and will take place on Sunday, February 10. We will also have supplies available in the hallway if anyone else in the church would like to participate and create a card.

I wanted to thank everyone who has donated materials for our Sunday School. Please note that I will no longer need the following items: water bottles and paper towel tubes. All of your generous donations have been used in many of our crafts this year, and the students have enjoyed creating some really fun things to help support their learning.

I would like to ask the congregation for help in prepping our weekly crafts/activities. Each Sunday during Sunday School, I plan to have items that need to be prepped available in the youth room, which is at the end of the fourth through eighth grade hallway. Anyone who has time during Sunday School and would be interested in helping out can stop in. Most of the work needed are things like cutting, pasting, counting out items for classes, or tracing items. I appreciate all of the parents that have volunteered their time over the past few weeks. It has been a huge help. Please note that the materials will all be set up with directions on what is needed, and I plan to be available in the youth room working along with you.



Christ Lutheran's Mardi Gras

Sunday, March 3

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.



Lunch will be served in the Manna Café. The menu includes Chicken and Sausage Gumbo over Rice, Corn Bread, Buttered Noodles, Chicken Alfredo with Vegetables, Pancakes with Strawberries and Whipped Cream, Meatballs and Mashed Potatoes, Strawberry Shortcake, Coffee, and Milk.

The activities this year include past years' favorites: In Jail with Paul and Silas, Cross the Red Sea with Moses Cakewalk, 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 in February. 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.

Once again we will need cakes, pies, cupcakes, brownies, etc. for our Cakewalk. 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!

Buy your tickets for...

Cast Your Lots with Jonah Raffle

1 ticket-\$2.00 3 tickets-\$5 7 tickets-\$10.00

Prizes:

Few Nights Out in Stoughton Basket

Let Someone Else Cook Basket

Sports Basket and more...

We have yet to determine the 1st Prize!

The drawing will take place at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 3.



UW Women's Hockey Game

Sunday, February 10—An Event for the Entire Congregation!

The game starts at 2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10



On Sunday, February 10, Christ Lutheran is going to a UW women's hockey game. We had a great time last year, so we are going again. The UW women's hockey team is amazing, and one of our own members is a member of the team, Maddie Posick. This event is open to anyone who wants to go. We have 60 tickets, so sign up now. We'll be taking a bus, leaving at 12:30 p.m. from the church parking lot. \$10 covers the cost of the bus and ticket.

A 12:30 p.m. departure means a quick lunch. The bus will stop at Culver's. Once again, Culver's has agreed to give us a percentage of their profits if we get a crowd to fill their establishment on Sunday, February 10, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.



Boundary Waters Canoe Trip 2019

Monday, July 22—Sunday, July 28

Youth in Grades 7-12 and **All Interested Adults**

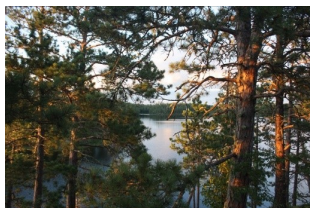
Cost: \$350—\$300 after campership

To keep costs down, we pack out our own food and provide as many of our own tents and Duluth packs as possible. We have fifteen Duluth packs. The Outfitter provides the canoes, paddles, life jackets, a few Duluth packs, bunkhouse accommodations for Monday, July 23, breakfast the following morning, and a shower when we come off trails. We come off trails the morning of Sunday, July 28, shower, and head home. We usually arrive home about 10:00 p.m. For youth who can drive, parents may want to leave a car in the church parking lot. Our entry point has yet to be determined. Seagull and Sag are the most popular.

The group will leave Monday, July 22, at 6:00 a.m. That means you need to be at the church by 5:30 a.m. to pack. Why so early? We have 500 miles to travel. Bring food to snack on in the vehicles. We will stop at Duluth Harbor for lunch. Bring a packed lunch if you like. Food can be purchased there. In Grand Marais, we will have supper at Sven and Ole's Pizza before we head up the Gunflint Trail and to Voyageur Outfitters. That cost is part of the trip. We stop there as well the day we come off trails. Sven and Ole's has great pizza.

What do you do in the Boundary Waters? You paddle, portage, cook your meals over an open fire, swim, fish, and enjoy the wilderness and the people you are with. Bring a book to read and some small portable games. We come off the water about 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, shower, pack up, and leave for home. The cost of the trip will also cover breakfast/lunch at the Mid Trail Cafe about 30 miles south of the Outfitters.

Once you have signed up, Pastor Paula will share with you a list of items that you will need to pack. If interested, please complete the registration form and submit a \$50 deposit written out to CLC Youth.



Pickleball!

It's that time again! Members of Christ Lutheran and Covenant Lutheran will meet in the CLC gym on the following dates:

February 10—6:00-8:00 p.m.

March 24—6:00-8:00 p.m.

- Paddles are available for you to use.
- If you haven't tried this sport, come and give it a try. We can teach you the rules. It's so much fun!
- All levels of players are welcome.



Senior Luncheon

Monday, February 18

11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$10

Program: Can we ever do anything bad enough for God to stop loving us?

At baptism, as I wrap the baby quilt around God's new son or daughter I say, "Imagine God telling you, 'I love you, and there is nothing you can do that will ever stop me from loving you.'" At the program today, we will talk about that promise from God.

Menu:

Ham or Baked Chicken
Scalloped Potatoes
Green Beans
Swedish Rye Bread
Strawberry Shortcake
Coffee and Milk



Christ Lutheran Church is Skaalen's Church of the Month

by Karen Warwick



It is CLC's turn to volunteer and help at Skaalen for the month of **February**. Please look for the many opportunities to volunteer posted in the narthex and sign up! One opportunity is to buy birthday gifts for the residents. I know the residents really look forward to all the volunteers do.

Rebecca's Rebels

Monday, February 18

Viking Brew Pub

6:30 p.m.



Women of the Bible:

Deborah and Jael— Breaking the Stereotypes

Deborah was a Judge of Israel, and Jael's actions led to the defeat of Israel's enemies. Come and hear their stories.

Men's Night Out at Viking's Brew Pub

Monday, February 25

6:00 p.m.—Pints

6:30 p.m.—Supper and Program

Program: Aaron Matson



Aaron is a Video Imaging Specialist with seventeen years of experience with crime scene investigation, crime scene reconstruction, police officer training, and court testimony. He has some interesting stories to tell.

Lutheran Worship—Son of a Preacher Man

by Sophie Geister-Jones

This past summer, I remember having a conversation with a pastor about pastors and, inevitably, the kids of pastors. He had two sons, and me and my brothers are the children of two pastors. “Theological offspring,” some might say.

But anyway, this pastor—who, let me remind you, had two sons—told me that he thought that clergy who have children ultimately do a disservice to their kids, and that they shouldn’t have children, because they mess them up.

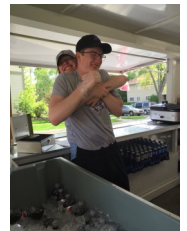
Um, excuse me? I get it, I know there’s a lot of stereotypes that go around with PKs (Pastors’ kids). They’re holier-than-thou or naughty as heck. Generally, they are not fun to be around.

I take offense to that. I would like to believe that me and my brothers were not what the stereotypes say. I would also like to believe that we weren’t somehow messed up or shorted because our parents are pastors. In fact, I’d like to think that growing up with pastors actually helped me as an individual.

I learned to be sneaky. I come from a town of about 13,000 people. My church has about 1,500 members. What that means is that a lot of people recognized me as the daughter of the pastors. A lot of *old* people recognized me, even if I didn’t recognize them. That meant that no matter what I did, if it was anything out of the norm, it eventually got back to my parents. I grew up in a fishbowl. So I grew up learning how to make sure things didn’t get back to them. (Nothing too serious, really.)



I learned how to work hard, how to work smarter, and how to avoid work. Easter Sunday meant not only going to church, but also working in the kitchen during the Easter breakfast, and working after the breakfast to clean up things. My mom started a pie-making operation out of the church kitchen this past Thanksgiving, and my brothers and I became pie delivery people. We also had mandatory shifts at the church food stand during Syttende Mai.

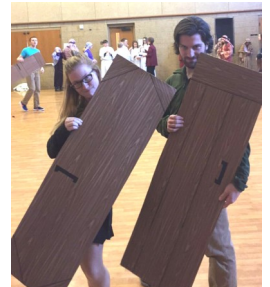


It was about halfway through confirmation class that I realized my parents couldn’t flunk me, the pastor’s kid, and so I started doing my algebra homework during that time. (My dad was not happy with that.) When it came around to making confirmation stoles, my little brother picked the shortest verse in the bible, “Jesus Wept” and puffy painted that onto the felt. There was a learning curve with the three of us. Luke got it right.

How to avoid work? Hide in the bathroom. Or under the tables in your Sunday School room. Or in your mom’s office. This was mostly me. My brothers did not like this tactic of mine.



I learned how to be an ass. Like, literally, Christmas 2010, my mom custom made that costume for me. There was no negotiation. I also learned how to be an angel, and King Herod. One year Matt and I were doors. (This last Christmas ended my 15 year streak as being in the Christmas program. It was sad, except not really. The costumes didn’t fit me anymore.)



Growing up as a PK, I’ve learned about intolerance (this is at all the men that think my mother isn’t good at her job because of her *gender*—excuse me, but she’s fantastic at everything she does). I’ve learned about tolerance too, and how churches and religion **should** act as safe spaces for people to be themselves. I’ve learned a lot about taking a system of belief and making it yours, about not being afraid to ask

questions and criticize. I’ve learned to be independent (Luke definitely learned to be independent with the amount of times we forgot him at church on Sunday and had to go back and get him.) I’ve learned about what community means, and importance of making sure everyone is fed (and that dessert should always be brownies **and** rice krispies **and** ice cream), and that people just want to be heard, so we should all learn to listen.

So, you know, maybe some PKs aren’t the greatest people. Maybe I’m not the greatest person, and maybe my “playfully sacrilegious” aesthetic is a little on the nose. But, Mr. Pastor, *sir*, I don’t think saying that PKs are intrinsically messed up is an truthful statement. Because I think that I’m a pretty decent human being. I think my brothers are pretty decent people—probably better people than me. And I think, more than anything, our parents being pastors, and us being raised (again, quite literally) in the church is integral to that.



NEWS FROM YAGM SENEGAL

Pastor Kristin Engstrom, YAGM Country Coordinator

January, 2019

Circles of Ministry

This past Christmas, if you gave a gift through the ELCA Good Gifts, you contributed to ministry here in Senegal and to the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program. To say thank you and to give you a glimpse of how you, me, our companion churches, the yagm, and cows are all caught up in one big circle of ministry together, I want to introduce you to Karjetta, Maddie, and Mariam.

Five kilometers outside of Linguere in northern Senegal is the Senegalese Lutheran Development Services dairy farm, which is run by two families: Aliou and Karjetta Ba and Sidaty and Mariam Ba. The farm provides cross-breeding services to create higher milk yields in local cattle, and processes milk to create financial opportunities and improve nutrition. It is supported in large part from ELCA Good Gifts and World Hunger contributions.



Karjetta Ba, as pictured in the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog.



The dairy farm is also where you will find YAGM Maddie every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday night learning what it means to be a Senegalese dairy woman rather than a Minnesota dairy woman, but she's not learning alone.

As Maddie milks her first cow, she is accompanied by Mariam, who holds the milk bucket or shares in the milking when Maddie's hands get tired.

Without the dairy farm, Maddie would not be immersed in life with Senegalese dairy women. She would not have the opportunity to be formed in companionship and discipleship by her Senegalese sisters. And without the dairy farm, which is supported by the ELCA, the ELCA itself would not be receiving the gift of young adult leaders who are learning to thrive in a global and diverse world. From Mariam, Karjetta, Maddie, and myself: Thank you.

Accompanying YAGM Senegal

My work as an ELCA Global Missionary is possible thanks to the generosity of many congregations and individuals in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Thank you! Jerejef! Jokonjol! Jaram! You can contact me at kristin.engstrom@elca.org. You are also invited to support me as an ELCA Global Missionary here.

If you would like to more closely follow YAGM Senegal, please visit our blog at <http://yagmsenegal.wixsite.com/blog>. Nio farr! (We are in this together.)



Pastor Kristin Engstrom

As an ELCA missionary, I serve as the Country Coordinator for the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program in Senegal, West Africa.

I'm originally from the mid-western United States, and served as a parish pastor in northern New Jersey for six years prior to moving to Senegal in 2016.

Inside Senegal

I recently restarted wolof lessons. Wolof is the predominant language spoken in Senegal.

Two new words to share: *warekat*, or pastor, but literally means "someone who preaches."

taskatu xibaar, or missionary, but literally means "someone who spreads the good news."

Baptism:



Noah Scott Sharp
Son of Erik and Abbey Sharp

Deaths:

Loraine J. Johnson
Michael T. "Max" Kapfer

Memorials:

In Memory of:

Loraine Johnson
Loraine Johnson
Loraine Johnson
Loraine Johnson
Richard Obrecht

From:

Ann Nelson
Harry and Shirley Reese
Genevieve Wilberg
Family and Friends
Family and Friends

Endowment Foundation:

In Memory of:

Loraine Johnson
Loraine Johnson
Gift

From:

Roger and Joyce Utermark
Nancy Holzhuter
Dan and Diane Matson



Altar Flower Chart for 2019

If you would like to give flowers on a special day, call Gloria at 873-9353. The cost is \$32.50. **The dates available are:** February 17; March 3, 24, and 31; April 7, 21, and 28, May 5 and 26; June 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30; July 14; August 4, 18, and 25; September 15; November 3, 10, and 24; December 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.



THRIVENT®
Be Wise With Money™

Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars® to Christ Lutheran.

Direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars® by calling 1-800-847-4836, press 1 for Choice Dollars. Call Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values, and Thrivent volunteer leadership.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #119
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

Phone: 608.873.9353

Fax: 608.873.3949

**Email: pastorpaula@clcstoughton.org
office@clcstoughton.org**

CLC Website: www.clcstoughton.org

Staff:

Gloria Hayne, Church Secretary

Eileen Klinzing, Financial Secretary

