

The Epiphany of Our Lord

WELCOME TREASURED MEMBERS AND HONORED

GUESTS! Mystery means something hidden that is now revealed. While many “mysteries” surround the Epiphany of Our Lord, Paul reminds us of the central mystery of how, the Lord calls all people into the light of Christ by faith, through the proclamation of the Gospel.

NOTE TO OUR GUESTS: Since Holy Communion is a public demonstration of unity in faith, those who commune should express their acceptance of the faith and teaching for which we stand. Our welcome to visitors is heartfelt. Visitors from another Lutheran church or Congregation are asked to please approach our Pastor, if you have not already done so, before attending communion this morning. Also, if you’re not a member of an LCMS church but would like a blessing, cross your arms across your chest to receive the blessing. Individual cups are available, in addition to the common cup, as you approach the Altar. Non-alcoholic white wine is available in the center of the tray.

VISION STATEMENT: Christ Lutheran Church will continue its Christ-centered, life directed focus, responding to the needs of its members, emphasizing local and worldwide witness, and acting as a catalyst for the improvement of the neighborhood.

Hymns: 400; 370; 810; 832; 397; 367
Liturgy: Special Service Folder.
The First Lesson: Psalm 72page 485
The Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12.....page 977
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12.....page 807
Sermon: Rev. Karl Eckhoff
“An Epiphany Prayer” Psalm 72

CHECK OUT THE CHRIST LUTHERAN FACEBOOK PAGE AND “LIKE” US TO STAY INVOLVED AND INFORMED.

ELDERS PRAYING WITH PASTOR: - Tommie Washington
ASSISTING WITH HOLY COMMUNION: Tommie Washington, Ralph Teske and Mike Fritch

GREETING YOU THIS MORNING are Pastor Louis and Hilda Knief.

ACOLYTES: Joe Lamberti
NEXT SUNDAY: Ethan Kizer and Lucas Whalen

USHERS FOR JANUARY: Team #2 (Samuel-Hannah and Team #4 (Simeon-Anna).

LAST WEEK: Tithes and Offerings: \$17,016.00, MTD: \$40,942.15; Improvement Fund: \$14.00, MTD: \$351.00. Attendance: 120. Sunday School Attendance: N-2nd 0, 3rd-7th 0, 8th- HS 5, Adults 46, Visitors 1, Total 52.

THIS IS THE 1st SUNDAY OF OUR PLEDGE YEAR

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are placed today by Mitzie Ehlen, given to the glory of God and in memory of her husband, William Ehlen.

HOSPITALIZED:
CONTINUED PRAYERS: Jayme Knapp, Mike Clayton, Barb Dreher, Shawn Foote, Phyllis Wendland, Gerald Wendland, Don Sparks, Abigail Young, Eddy Jones, Al Garman, Donna Gogele, Rachael Otten, Sandra McGarity, Pat Kretzmann, Diane Hume, Kamron Lightbody, Donald Anderson, for those in the military, for our Church Boards and their members, for Christians being persecuted worldwide. THE BOARD OF ELDERS REMINDS YOU that if you wish to have your prayer request added to the Christ Lutheran Prayer Chain, please contact either the church office (637-5309 or laura@berkshier.net) or our Lay Minister, Reg Lee (678-4764 or fbrd2002@comcast.net).

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH is hosting a Dave Ramsey’s “Financial Peace University”! Have you ever made a New Year’s resolution about your finances and failed to follow through? Do you just wish you could use the words “peace” and “finances” in the same sentence? This is your chance! Financial Peace University is a nine-class course on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30 PM, from Jan. 9th-Feb. 27th. The last class will be held Sunday, March 3rd. Registration is available online at

www.salemofpeoria.com. Or you may contact Rebecca Sipf at (937)408-9461 or beccagurl1@hotmail.com.

LUTHERAN WATCH IS COMING! WATCH #43 will be held March 1-3, 2019 at the Spalding Renewal Center. Registration forms are available in the church office. Cost is \$100 for the weekend, and assistance is available should you need it. For more information, you can contact Barb O’Dell at (309)635-7962 or Pastor.

CLYF, YOU’RE HAVING FUN NEXT SUNDAY!! – There will be open gym along with the football playoffs on January 13th at CLS. Time is 3:00. There will be snacks, pizza, drinks and games. There is no cost. For more info, check with Christel VandeVoorde, Joe Rudebeck or Pastor.

TITHING ENVELOPES FOR 2019 are available in the annex this morning. PLEASE CHECK YOUR INFORMATION ON THE LABEL and make sure it is correct. This information is what will be listed in the coming church directory. If you don’t see your envelopes, please contact the church office at 637-5309.

A NEW FLOWER CHART has been posted in the annex for next year, so families may sign up to provide flowers for the altar each Sunday. If you have any questions, please call Christel VandeVoorde at 267-3053.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER – We cannot be fruitful stewards and bear the fruit of good works apart from Christ. Like the apple which stays red and juicy for along time after being picked appears to be as healthy as when it hung on the tree, we, too, may look and act healthy, but, apart from a true connection with Christ, we will wrinkle up and rot as surely as an apple in a bowl on a table. Some of us may try to maintain an outward connection with Him by showing up for church now and then, but without faith linking us with the Person of Christ, our lives will be fruitless. “Apart from Me,” Christ said, “you can do nothing” (John 15:5), nor are our works even acceptable to God without faith in Him (Hebrews 11:6).

DID YOU KNOW our congregation has a family that has been part of Christ Lutheran School for over 90 consecutive years? Kurt William Leucht was born in a tiny village of Zaulsdorf, Germany. He came to America in 1914 at the age of 18 with a sponsorship from Pastor Jass of Christ Lutheran Church. Kurt was a very active member of our church and chose to send his children to CLS and the tradition continues.

Parent(generation)>Children (Years at CLS)

Kurt (1)>Betty (1927-1935), Jack (1930-1938), Tom (1937-1945)
 Betty (2)>Vera (*Zentko*) (1949-1957), Larry (1956-1964)
 Vera (3)>Jay (1956-1964), Becky (1968-1976), Karen (1970-1979), Matt (1984-1992)
 Jay (4)>Bethany (1985-1994), Sam (1988-1997)
 Becky (4)>Andrew (1994-2003), Jayme (2001-2010)
 Karen (4)>Amanda (1994-2003), Samantha (1995-2004)
 Matt (4)>Zachary (2003-2012)
 Jack (2)>Jackie (1954-1962), Kay (*Foote*) (1956-1964)
 Kay (3)>Noell (1975-1984), Shawn (1980-1989), Nick (1988-1997)
 Nick (4)>Harlon (2012-2020)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS - Thank you to all the children who helped tell the story of Jesus' birth at their Sunday School Christmas Program. Thank you also to the teachers, Chris Schneider, who helped direct; and David Best for playing the piano for the service. The first quarter of Sunday School Mission Offerings are going to support Mary Ellis, granddaughter of Booma Jass. Mary is in Dresden, Germany. Mary is part of Kontaktmission USA, working to bring the Good News to an area of what was part of East Germany, which is primarily atheist due to the communist government of the past.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER – *Adults:* Pastor Eckhoff, Dwayne and Karol Allen, Ruth Allen, Dale Eckhoff, Donna Gogele, Suzanne Heinz, Del and Nan Hume, Bill and Judy Nelson, Jeff and Kathy Otten, Jeff and Chris Grebe, Jim Grebe, Louis Heuermann, Nancy Knoll, Barb O'Dell, Tommie Washington, Linda Wenzel, Warren and Connie Bremer, Reg Lee, Al Schneider, Lin Von Behren, Bonnie Hester, Laura Baize, *High School* – Rachel and Rebecca Grebe; *Helpers:* Sue Lee and Sam Grebe

AS YOU LOOK FORWARD to your worship next Sunday, you should read the appointed lessons for the The Baptism of Our Lord:

The First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7
 The Second Lesson: Romans 6:1-11
 The Holy Gospel:

THIS WEEK THE LORD WILLING (JAN 7 – JAN 13)

MON 1/7: School Resumes
 Youth Board @ Peacock's.....5:30 PM
 Elders 6 PM
 Bell Choir6:45 PM
TUE 1/8: Church Council.....6:30 PM
WED 1/9: Chapel..... 10:00 AM
 Confirmation6:00 PM
 Adult Choir7:00 PM
THU 1/10: Quilting.....Noon
FRI 1/11:
SAT 1/12:
SUN 1/13: Holy Communion 9:00 AM
 Sunday School and Bible Classes..... 10:30 AM
 CLYF Open Gym 3 PM

2019 ELDERS' RESPONSIBILITY LIST

Albert-Rayford – Cleveland Ralph Teske
 Closen – Fredericks Tommie Washington
 Frederking – Kirkwood Kirk Wessler
 Kisler – Mills..... Terry Mooney, Jr.
 Minassian – Roth.....Mike Fritch
 Rudebeck – Tosch Joshua Eckhoff
 Traenkenschuh – Zentko Gary Heinz