

# CHRIST CHRONICLE



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Pastor	1
From the Principal	3
From the Congregational Chair	3
From the Treasurer	4
From the Board of Youth	5
Music Director Notes	5
God Cares About You	6
Scrip Summary	7
Celebrations & Shut-in Worship	8
Calendar	9
Worship Schedule	10
School News	11
CLC-S Staff Spotlight	12
Service & Social Groups	13

## Dear Friends in Christ,

As the season of Christmas comes to a close we continue to celebrate God's gift of Christ to us – a gift for the whole year and for our whole lives.

In the post-Christmas season, when the bills come in, we often wrestle with the financial impact of Christmas gift giving. Regrets of going overboard or even of not doing enough creep into our thinking. We make promises to ourselves to do it differently next year, but when next year comes we do the same thing all over again. In the process, we forget about the giving Christ.

I challenge you to change your spiritual perspective by changing your financial perspective. Our lives need to have a healthy balance between the areas of saving, spending and giving. Unfortunately, most of us think only about spending, somewhat about saving, and seldom about giving.

The truth is, when we look at life from a Christian perspective, giving is actually the most important of the three! Giving softens our heart and frees us from a "false dependency" on money and ourselves and encourages us to become more dependent on God. When your heart is in the right place you will not feel bad about giving! While giving comes in many forms, giving to God is the most important!

Start by gifting the first fruits of your monetary income to our church, no matter what your level of income. 2 Corinthians 9:7 teaches us: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." For some, the goal is 10%. For others, it is much higher.

The 10% amount, or tithe, is an Old Testament mandate. The New Testament does not talk about 10%, it speaks of giving above and beyond out of a heart of love for God.

Giving to the Lord starts with giving to your church. Other forms of giving are above and beyond – giving money to a mission or charity you support, giving to a friend, coworker, or neighbor in need, or giving of your time or talents to your church and in service to others. Not only does the action of giving your money or other resources generate good in the lives of others, it also generates contentment in your heart and helps you to grow spiritually.

Interestingly, giving is first and foremost for God's benefit—even though He already has everything He needs. He really does not need "our" money! "Our" money is already His! So why give? Giving to God is an act of stewardship taught by Christ. It, like Abraham sacrificing Isaac, demonstrates our faith in Him. We freely return to God what He has entrusted to us without expecting anything back in return. It is the ultimate challenge to give to Him the very money that says, "In God We Trust," and in turn to actually Trust God.

Second, giving is encouraged by God for our benefit. It teaches us to rely upon God first in our lives and how to live unselfishly. Unselfish people, people who are generous and giving make better spouses, parents, friends, relatives, coworkers, employees and employers. Through giving, God teaches us how to prosper in our lives financially, but more importantly He teaches us how to prosper in our relationships with others and especially with Him.

No one has ever become poor by giving. However, we sometimes wonder if there are situational exceptions that "give us permission" to not give, such as during tough financial times. Jesus reminds us that even the poor widow at the Temple gave everything she had. She relied upon God to provide everything for her daily needs in life. We do not even know her name and yet she leaves us a wonderful legacy of faithfulness to God.

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(Continued from page 1) Pastor's article

Ironically, some people have observed that after they stopped giving, their finances seemed to get worse. Relying upon ourselves instead of God creates an unhealthy attitude and a spiritually dangerous situation. God works to teach us to depend upon Him. His primary concern is our soul and not our financial solvency.

By this time, you may be mildly upset with what I am writing. After all, most people do not like to be challenged on the way they live financially. Just wait...my next words may challenge you even more! The hard truth is if you are unable or unwilling to live with 90% (10% of giving is just a starting point) of your income, you are struggling to live with 100%. This indicates your challenges may be bigger than financial ones. They are most likely spiritual, relational, or both. I encourage you to sit down and take an honest look at your whole life – your finances, your relationships, and your faith in Christ. Be prayerfully willing to rearrange your priorities in all three areas, always seeking God's guidance. He may guide you to cut out some "extras" financially, refocus your time in relationships and service to Him, and reevaluate what is most important in your spending, saving and giving. All of this, with much prayer, can be done. Learn from the Bible and remember this: When you give, do it out of love for God, not out of guilt. Remember, we are talking about reshaping your life not just your pocketbook.

Giving is all about changing your attitude toward money and your heart toward God. It impacts your spirit and builds an eternal trust in the One who gave everything for you in the life and death of Jesus.

When you find yourself doing well financially, be wary and be careful! The temptation, and it is an easy one, is to "accidentally" spend all of the extra on yourself. The challenge is to see the opportunities God places before you to give above and beyond yourself and your own selfish desires. Financial budgeting in a responsible way is a great way to begin to plan. Begin by praying to God about how He might want you to use any "above and beyond" surplus money not included in your budget. The same holds true in the other areas of your life.

Look around and watch for opportunities to give that money away, to spend that time wisely, and to invest yourself in service to Him and others. If you're intentional about seeking out those circumstances, God will guide you to them—or them to you!

In Christ,  
Pastor Neal Groeling

You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18



Fellowship Meal

### January Fellowship Meal Schedule

January 3 - Karen & Linaya Kolke  
January 10 - Board of Education  
January 17 - TBD  
January 24 - TBD  
January 31 - TBD

All meals are on Wednesday evenings at  
5:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

We look forward to seeing you all at the  
meal!

Look for the poster board in the Narthex  
to sign your group up to host a meal.



January 27, 2018 in the CLC-S Parish Hall

Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m.

Workshop is from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

A workshop describing what Stephen Ministry is  
and offering a sample of Stephen Ministry training.

Contact any Stephen Leader for more information.



## From the Principal

*Kim Rasmussen*

### Being in the Moment

Those of you who know me, probably know about my beloved Chihuahua, Skippy Jon Jones. That little fur face turned me into a dog person! My son Noah, is a groomer, and spends a significant amount of his time working with dogs. One day, he was telling me how dogs don't hold grudges, not like people do anyway. Dogs are for the most part, in the present, meaning that they don't remember that you didn't give them a treat last night, or that the one you gave the cat was bigger. They focus on the here and now. What a great example for us! This time of year is always busy! There are so many things to think about and so many things to do, that we often forget to be in the present. Advent is about waiting and preparing, but it's not about spending the time in between now and the big event so busy that you miss the anticipation and the joy.

And oh, do we have so many wonderful things going on right now in the present! Kindergarten is working on a super-secret Christmas project, first grade is reading the Christmas story and making beautiful cards for the teachers, second and third grade are perfecting their English skills with prepositional phrases like, "In a manger." Fourth and seventh graders are learning math skills, while sixth graders are working on writing projects about heroes and super powers. Fifth graders are learning about the culture and history behind the nativity story, and the eighth graders are working through the book *The Ripper*...just to name a few. We have a few things going on that you should mark on your calendars too. January 10<sup>th</sup> is Step Up to Success night. You are invited to come and visit next year's classroom to hear all about what your child will be learning in the next grade. Just in case that's not enough to entice you to come, we will also be serving Dion's Pizza for the fellowship meal that night! There is no school on January 15<sup>th</sup> in honor of MLK's B-day. We will be celebrating National Lutheran School's Week January 21<sup>st</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>, which

(Continued on page 5)

## From the Congregation President

*Jerry Shroff, Congregation Chairman*



### New Year Reflections

It's a New Year!!! New beginning!!! Time to share in new opportunities!!! Time to move full steam ahead...and a time for gratitude. For some reason the new year always puts me in this place.

I am energized moving forward but I am also reflective of the past year – for all its challenges, hurts, and triumphs plus victories. As we move forward I want to reflect on last year, personally, and corporately as a congregation. So, for some random reflections...in 2017

- Some dear friends and servants went home to be with our Lord...I will miss them but thankful in the knowledge that I will spend eternity with them.
- My youngest daughter after college graduation began her next chapter in marriage to a young man I love dearly.
- We (Christ Lutheran) faced tremendous budget and financial challenges.
- We unanimously faced and addressed those challenges.
- We trained our first class of Stephen Ministers, equipped to listen to and support members of our Church, School and community going through challenging times (as we all do from time to time).
- Over \$50,000 (50% of what is needed) was donated to purchase God Cares About You property showing commitment to this mission field long-term.
- Fed, clothed, and shared the Gospel with thousands of touches every month at God Cares About You.
- Our school went through significant changes in personnel and financial direction while continuing to be one of our top missions as well as excelling in laying down proper academic foundations for our community's youth.
- Supported Missions in Eastern Europe, Mexico, Africa, the Navajo Nation, and the Far East as well as in our own back yard.

(Continued on page 7)



**They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news,  
the praises of the LORD.**

*Isaiah 60:6*



**Average Weekly offerings (Aug – Nov) - \$8,450**

**Weekly Offerings budgeted to keep His mission within Christ Lutheran moving forward \$9,423**

Our general offerings are down about \$3,200 versus offerings over the same period last fiscal year.

For the balance of this fiscal year we need to average \$9,895 a week to reach our budget to keep His Missions within Christ Lutheran moving forward.

Faith in God moves the heart toward thanksgiving, which moves us toward making offerings to the Lord in His House. Our thanksgiving to our Lord for all His benefits to us simply overflow into sacrificial giving to Him who has given His all to us.

What Isaiah prophesied, the Wise Men did, and we still do today: give with a thankful heart.

Thanks,

Randy Bennett, Treasurer  
Tom Hebblewhite, Chairman Board of Stewardship  
The Board of Stewardship



Offering Envelopes

If you haven't already collected your 2018 Offering Envelopes, they are waiting for you in your church mailbox in the narthex.

If you did not receive Offering Envelopes and would like some, please contact Kristie in the church office and she will be happy to assign you a box.

## CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

2017 Contribution Statements will be distributed to your church mailbox by the end of January. Please contact Julie in the church office if you did not receive a statement or if you have any questions regarding your contributions.

## FROM THE BOARD OF YOUTH

December is a great time of year as we celebrated the birth of our Lord. The youth spent a lot of time visiting with their families. They hosted a Christmas party for the kids from the school. One of the nights activities was making Christmas stockings for homeless kids. They also made roughly 130 dozen luminarias and would like to thank everyone who supported them.

In January, the youth will host another game night for the middle school kids. They also will be serving breakfast for the Stephen Ministry conference that will be held here at church. The youth will also start preparing for the Youth Quake that will take place in Phoenix in April.

Away from church, many of the kids are involved with various athletics. One other is also on the church choir, and also plays piano. Others are also involved with girl and boy scouts.

Youth celebrating birthdays December: Gabe Yoder and Olivia Klein

Thanks again for all your support,  
CLY and JoY



## NOTES FROM YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

By Beth Shroff

### ***It's a New Year! Time for You to Try New Things!***

*Whew...December is over. December is always the busiest time for our music ministry, and this year was no exception with our school concert, Sunday school special program, choir special music, bell choir special music, individual special music, Advent services, Christmas Eve, and more.*

*Sometimes I don't know if I'm coming or going – and this year I added Chelsey's college graduation and Avery and Chelsey's wedding celebration. It just further proved to me that with God's help all things can happen. It was a month of joy!*

*Now it is January. This, for many, is a time of new beginnings, new year's resolutions, a time to try new things. I want to invite you to do just that. If you enjoy singing, bell ringing, and being around others that share the joy of Jesus, please consider joining our choir or bell choir this year.*

*Now is a perfect time to join in. We will be starting to work on new music for worship and special occasions. We will be providing special music on Palm Sunday, Easter, and other occasions. If you start now you will be learning all the new music as all others are learning it, which I know can be a big thing when joining an ongoing group.*

*I promise that you will be happy if you join. You will, of course, experience the joy of music. Along with that you will experience great Christian fellowship, meet new people and make new friends. We are a fun-loving, friendly bunch!*

*Finally, it is a way for you to share your love for our Lord and Savior through worship and song. I can't think of a better reason than that. So please consider joining us this new year.*

*(Continued from page 3) From the Principal*

coincides with the Science Fair. And you thought December was busy! While we look forward to these events, let's stay in the present, enjoying every minute of blessings we have here and now!

In Christ,  
Kimberly Rasmussen

## 7th Annual Ladies' Luau

Sunday Jan. 28, 2018

We can't all run off to Hawaii for some beach time, but all the women in the congregation are invited to the Fellowship Hall after late service on Sunday Jan. 28th. No need to dress up, but Hawaiian shirts are encouraged. No need to bring a dish, the Fellowship Board is providing all the fixings for ham sandwiches, pineapple fruit salad and dessert. Enjoy some beach music, fun and fellowship to brighten up your winter's day!

## ... AND FOR THE MEN OF THE CONGREGATION

*There's nothing  
better than...*



**MEAT... MEAT...**

**MEET** your fellow men outside between the Church and Parish Hall for meat. Same time as the Ladies Luau!



**Newsletter for God Cares About You, a Ministry of Christ Lutheran Church,  
7701 Candelaria Rd. NE, ABQ NM 87110 (505.884.3876)**

**God Cares About You**

**Our Mission in the International District**



Just a few words at the end of the year to remind you all of what happens at the mission.

The mission currently averages over 3,000 contacts each month, with Gospel Outreach, Bible Studies, Back-to-Work program, food and clothing distribution, worship services, children's ministry activities, and more. The mission has been even more active during the holiday season with a Thanksgiving meal, and special toy distributions to families Christmas week and following a special worship service on Christmas Eve.

Summers involve distributing cold water and food to the homeless on the streets, and winter follows in a like manner with hot chocolate, coffee and food. Meeting the basic life necessities of people is often challenging. There is a constant flow of soap, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and other personal items given to those who have nothing. Devotions and prayers are a constant reminder of the love of Jesus Christ to those who are served.

Our Children's Ministry continues to blossom. "VBS" takes place on Fridays during the summer, and on Friday afternoons during the school year. Children not only hear about the love of Jesus, they experience it firsthand as they are clothed, given socks and shoes, fed, and loved by the staff of volunteers who help. Each week varies, but we see 20 to 60 children every week! The multitude of languages spoken by these children makes communication challenging – but they all know they are loved and safe while at the mission.

Those who serve as volunteer staff at the mission come from a variety of area congregations, but the core staff who work on a daily basis are all individuals whose lives were changed by the mission. They were homeless, out of work, hungry, and in need. The mission changed their lives and now they give back! They work to change the lives of others who are in similar situations. It is a blessing to watch the Holy Spirit work!

The mission (GCAY) continues to operate through the support of offerings like yours, numerous grants, congregational support, and individual donations. In addition, the continual inflow of donated food, clothing, household items, and even vehicles, help to meet the daily needs of God's children.

In addition to all of the above, we continue to raise funds in order to purchase the property the mission currently leases. With a \$25,000 matching gift challenge recently completed, we now have well over \$50,000 raised of a needed \$100,000 toward the purchase of the property. Securing the ownership of the property will allow the mission to grow and flourish for many years to come.

Thanks to all who support the work of Christ at God Cares About You!

Pastor Neal Groeling



(Continued from page 3) President's article

- Hosted a very successful National LWML Gathering for the first time in Albuquerque.
- Celebrated the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation through many avenues including education, study, Luther Walk, Luther Trivia Night, Luther Movie Night and hosted Circuit Wide Reformation Service with President Anderson.
- ...and of course, throughout the year we welcomed new visitors, members, celebrated Baptisms, Confirmations, joined in worship and fellowship, and experienced Communion together.

These are just a few of my personal and corporate reflections for 2017. It excites me as we move forward into 2018. Prayerfully in 2018 I would, if it is God's Will, love to see the following happen.

- Personally, lose weight, grow Spiritually in my Walk, help share the Gospel both locally, through and with my Church, and nationally through my automotive contacts.
- As a Congregation, develop an outreach strategy of reaching our local neighborhoods to grow our Church and His Kingdom.
- Train a second class of Stephen Ministers, add some Stephen Leadership, and match current Stephen Ministers with members going through times of grief or suffering.
- Acquire the God Cares About You property without a mortgage or loan.

- Grow our school by all becoming Ambassadors and Promoters simply by telling the story of the best kept secret in Albuquerque – we truly have a great school, with tremendous staff and most importantly a heart for Jesus.

- Determine a way, within budget, to bring leadership staff to lead/mentor our Youth, young families, assist Pastor in care of our homebound, elderly and infirmed and outreach opportunities.

- Send a group to Eastern Europe to support Benjamin Helge in his Mission Work.

- Develop an outreach strategy to make sure all that visit not only feel welcomed when they visit but also feel invited back to join in Worship and fellowship.

- ...and of course, throughout the year welcome new visitors, members, celebrate Baptisms, Confirmations, worship and fellowship, and experience Communion together.

As we seek God's will and wisdom in 2018, my biggest prayer is for us all to grow in our love for Him and for each other as we work in His Mission Field together.

God's Peace,

Jerry

## Scrip (Gift Cards) at Christ Lutheran Church & School

Karen Kolke, Coordinator

We sold \$19,295.95 worth of gift cards during the month of November.

**We gave out \$958.95 of "free" money that went to the many distribution groups available for you to choose from:**

Capital Improvement Fund earned \$104.60 with 20 families participating  
 School Scholarship Fund earned \$5.23 with 3 families participating  
 School Tuition distributed \$179.82 with 10 families participating  
 Extended Care distributed \$10.25 with 2 families participating  
 Playground Fund distributed \$54.59 with 5 families participating  
 Youth Accounts distributed \$62.83 with 3 families participating  
 God Cares About You Mission distributed \$17.91 with 2 families participating  
 The Technology Fund received \$470.47 with 47 families participating. Some families put all their distribution toward technology.

If you have questions on how the program works or how to make purchases online, see Karen Kolke or call her at 206-0906.

Scrip is  
fundraising  
while you  
shop!

shopwithscrip.com

## January Celebrations!



“Happy Birthday” to the following members of who were born in January:

Jan. 2	Rachelle Golich Erin Oetting Jerry Shroff
Jan. 4	Randy Bennett Joshua Bickel Connie Kallsen Lee Swanger
Jan. 8	Leslie Helge Madelyn Stephens
Jan. 10	David Yocky
Jan. 11	Jacob Guyer
Jan. 12	Philippe LeGault
Jan. 15	Susan Lund Gabe Yoder
Jan. 16	Michael Kelm
Jan. 17	Dan Curtiss
Jan. 18	Debbie Schneider
Jan. 19	James Handrock
Jan. 20	Caleb Naber
Jan. 21	Kathryn Ballengee Paul von Soosten
Jan. 22	Ronald Bentz
Jan. 25	Jacob Gallegos-Ortega Barbara Weinlein
Jan. 26	Dwayla De Dios
Jan. 27	Marty Rasmussen
Jan. 28	Olivia Klein
Jan. 29	Jamie Blea Tatum Lowe
Jan. 30	Blake Postlethwait C. Rulaine Ethridge Travis Jackson Flora Nemitz



(Please let the church office know if we missed your special date)

Same Program  
New Name



**Worship Anew**  
is the new name for  
Worship for Shut-Ins

Watch **Sundays at 12:30-1 p.m.** on the following stations: Local station - KAZQ-TV 32, Comcast Cable - Channel 22, Direct TV - Channel 119, Dish Satellite Channel 110 & Channel 8817, **OR** at 9:30 a.m. on Direct TV-Channel 377 (Total Christian Television), **OR** Visit the website: [www.worshipforshutins.org](http://www.worshipforshutins.org) and click on the “Online Worship” button. You can watch any recent broadcasts, anytime, day or night!

### Weekly Scripture Readings & Sermon Summaries *January 2018*

#### January 7, 2018 – The Baptism of Our Lord

Psalm: 29; Epistle: Romans 6:1-11; Gospel: Mark 1:4-11 “The Gospel Unfolds” - Sermon Text: Mark 1:4-11 – *Rev. Dr. Daniel Brege*. The Gospel unfolds as God appoints a man (John the Baptist) to introduce the Gospel. This Gospel is directly linked to forgiveness. At Jesus' Baptism, the Gospel begins to unfold, identifying Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, the One who pleases the Father. The Gospel now unfolds for each of us in our Baptism.

#### January 14, 2018 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 139:1-10; Old Testament: 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Gospel: John 1:43-51 “Come and See!” - Sermon Text: John 1:46 - *Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer*. God ought to reveal Himself in people and things that are larger-than-life, dramatic, and bombastic – right? Wrong! He invites us to “**Come and See**” Him in the insignificant, mundane, and humble. Our worship this week will help us to “**Come and See**” God in the simple Word-made-flesh, Jesus Christ.

#### January 21, 2018 – Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 113; Old Testament: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Gospel: Mark 1:14-20 “Fishers of Men” - Sermon Text: Mark 1:14-20 - *Rev. James Elsner*. Fishing is a favorite sport for many. Casting and reeling a hook to lure the fish. “Fishing” for people? It’s better done with a net. And the net of the Gospel of God’s love in Jesus is best.

#### January 28, 2018 – Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 111; Old Testament: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Gospel: Mark 1:21-28 “A New Teaching!” - Sermon Text: Mark 1:21-28 - *Rev. William Mueller*. Jesus isn’t what the people of Capernaum were expecting – and how wonderful that is! Are we guilty of making assumptions about Jesus – only to discover how wrong we were? Praise God Jesus is far, far more than was ever expected!

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# January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> 8:15 AM Worship with communion 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00 AM Worship with communion	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM Destination Imagination 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>3</b> <b>School Resumes</b> 8:45 AM Chapel 9:15 AM Cherub Choir 10:00 AM Kids Love to Dance 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 7:00 PM Choir	<b>4</b> 9:30 AM Thursday Bible class 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>5</b> 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM Cribbage 7:30 PM AA & Al-Anon
<b>7</b> 8:15 AM Worship with communion 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00 AM Worship	<b>8</b> 3:30 PM Girl Scouts 5:30 PM PTL Meeting	<b>9</b> 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Quilters Meeting 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Board of Fellowship 7:30 PM Board of Lay Ministry	<b>10</b> 8:45 AM Chapel 9:15 AM Early Childhood Chapel 10:00 AM Kids Love to Dance 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 7:00 PM Choir	<b>11</b> 9:30 AM Thursday Bible class 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>12</b> 9:30 AM New Beginnings 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM Cribbage 7:30 PM AA & Al-Anon
<b>14</b> 8:15 AM Worship with Joyful Noise 9:15 AM Blood Pressure Clinic 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00 AM Worship with communion 2:00 PM Rio Grande Turtle & Tortoise Club	<b>15</b> <b>Chronicle Items Due</b> <b>NO SCHOOL - MLK Day</b> 9:00 AM Chronicle Items due to office 7:00 PM Board of Church Properties mtg.	<b>16</b> 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>17</b> 8:45 AM Chapel 9:15 AM Cherub Choir 10:00 AM Kids Love to Dance 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 7:00 PM Choir	<b>18</b> 9:30 AM Thursday Bible class 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>19</b> 9:30 AM Senior Fellowship 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM Cribbage 7:30 PM AA & Al-Anon
<b>21</b> <b>NLSW Begins</b> 8:15 AM Worship with communion 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00 AM Worship 12:20 PM Parent/Youth Meeting	<b>22</b> <b>Science Fair</b> 3:30 PM Girl Scouts	<b>23</b> 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Quilters Meeting 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Vesper	<b>24</b> 8:45 AM Chapel 9:15 AM Cherub Choir 10:00 AM Kids Love to Dance 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 7:00 PM Choir	<b>25</b> 9:30 AM Thursday Bible class 2:30 PM God Cares About You Communion 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>26</b> 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>27</b> 8:00 AM Stephen Ministry Workshop 9:00 AM Cribbage 7:30 PM AA & Al-Anon
<b>28</b> 8:15 AM Worship with Joyful Noise 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00 AM PS-8 Sing 11:00 AM Worship with communion 12:30 PM Ladies Luau/Men's Meat	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study	<b>31</b> 8:45 AM Chapel 9:15 AM Cherub Choir 10:00 AM Kids Love to Dance 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 7:00 PM Choir	<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Thursday Bible class 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>2</b> 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous	<b>3</b> 8:00 AM Cribbage until 3 p.m. 7:30 PM AA & Al-Anon

# Services During January

Date	Time	Sermon	Children's	Lay Minister	Comm. Asst.	Ushers	Counters	Lector	Acolyte	Music	Sound
7	8:15	Neal Groeling*	Neal Groeling	Tim Klein	Brandon Klein	Bill Larsen Lee Swanger Chris van Dyck Glen Postenrieder	Swanger & Postenrieder	Angie Bischoff	Gabe Yoder / Matthew Sainz	Beth Shroff	Cody Nemitz
	11:00			James Gruetzner	-	Angie Bischoff Dan Curtiss Grace Curtiss Barb Gunderlach		Kelly Gruetzner	Josh Henderson / William Wertz	Beth Shroff	Phil Pelzman
14	8:15	Neal Groeling*	Sarah Handrock	Jerry Schroff	-	David Hommel Doug Bickel Bob Dragan Tim Klein	Bennett & Ricard	Ron McBrayer	Calvin van Dyke	Joyful Noise	Thomas Hinrichs
	11:00			Matt Helge	Cornelius Amindyas	Ralph Hughes Ted Paulat Warren Henry James Cheek		Eunice Hoeft	Athena Amindyas	Beth Shroff	Linda Groeling
21	8:15	Neal Groeling*	Jerry Shroff	Marty Rasmussen	Randy Bennett	Bill Larsen Lee Swanger Chris van Dyck Glen Postenrieder	Paulat & Amindyas	Kimberly Rasmussen	Tatum Lowe / Aubrey Burmeister	Beth Shroff	Leslie Helge
	11:00			Kelley Burmeister	-	Angie Bischoff Dan Curtiss Grace Curtiss Barb Gunderlach		Rebekka Reusch	Ella Cossin	Beth Shroff	Phil Pelzman
28	8:15	Neal Groeling*	Neal Groeling	Al Koschmann	-	David Hommel Doug Bickel Bob Dragan Tim Klein	McBrayer & Oetting	Al Koschmann	Jacob Guyer / Aubrey Burmeister	Joyful Noise	Ben Groeling
	11:00			Jerry Shroff	Jason Wertz	Ralph Hughes Ted Paulat Warren Henry James Cheek		William Wertz	Katie Kees / William Wertz	Beth Shroff	Juanita Steinke

\* Leading liturgy;

Greeters: Board of Youth

Altar Society: Julie Henderson & Tanya Sainz

Flowers: Faye Hansen

© Thank you to James Gruetzner for compiling this worship schedule each month. ☺



# SCHOOL NEWS



## CHRISTMAS BREAK



**Celebrate our Savior!**  
**School resumes Wednesday,**  
**January 3, 2018**



IN OBSERVANCE  
OF  
MARTIN LUTHER  
KING JR. DAY  
THERE WILL NOT  
BE SCHOOL ON  
MONDAY,  
JANUARY 15.

## IT'S STILL ALL ABOUT JESUS

2018 NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

A week's worth of fun:

Mon. Jan. 22 - Science Fair/Teacher Switch Day

Tue. Jan. 23 - Decades Day

Wed. Jan. 24 - Rainbow Day

(school picture after chapel)

Preschool 2 and 3 year olds: Purple

Pre - K: Blue

Kindergarten & 2nd grade: Green

1st & 3rd grade: Yellow

4th & 5th grade: Orange

6th - 8th grade: Red

Thu. Jan. 25 - Sports Day

Fri. Jan. 26 - School Shirt/Crazy Hair/Jump for Heart

Sun. Jan. 28 - Entire School closes out National  
Lutheran School Week by singing at the  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service



**Monday, January 22**  
**visit the Parish Hall**  
**after school to see**  
**all the hard work**  
**our students put**  
**into their Science**  
**Fair Projects.**

CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL PRESENTS



**MARDI GRAS**  
*Auction*

SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY  
**10TH**  
**6:00 PM**



SILENT AUCTION  
PHOTO BOOTH  
DESSERT BAR

*Beats and Masks Provided at the Door*

Dear CLC-S Family,

On February 10th, 2018, the Christ Lutheran School Parent Teacher League will be hosting its annual auction to benefit the school. At this time, we are seeking donations from local businesses and community organizations for the auction. All profits from the event will be used to fund projects at the school.

If you feel called to donate a gift card, product, or service, it would be greatly appreciated and you will be recognized at the auction as a donor. We do ask, however, that all items are new and unused.

Thank you for considering this request.

Blessings,  
The PTL Board



## CHURCH & SCHOOL STAFF SPOTLIGHT



**Sarah Handrock**  
**5TH GRADE TEACHER**

I have been a Lutheran school teacher for 25+ years in Ohio, Illinois, California and New Mexico. I have a B.S. in education with a second major in Spanish and a New Mexico teacher's license. I believe the more ways a child's mind is engaged; the more likely they are to retain what they have been taught. I freely admit that I like to push the kids to do as much as they can. Homework is an opportunity for students to practice what they learn in school, but I believe a lot of busy work is not good for children. They also need time to play and explore their world. I try to give the students time during the class period to work on assignments. If the student uses their time wisely, they should be able to get the majority of their work done during the school day. I believe that free reading is the single biggest thing a student can do to improve their reading skills. I play a variety of instruments and I like to use my guitar for singing in the classroom, especially during devotions, but also in other classes where music might come up as a part of the curriculum. I have two major rules in my classroom. The first is to show respect to everyone, our God, staff and other students. The second is to love one another. I explain that these are verbs. We show respect and love by our actions. If I need to discipline I try to make the punishment relate to the crime. (i.e. throwing paper might result in a student having to clean the entire classroom floor.

On a personal note, I have been married to my husband Jim for 32 years and counting. We have two adult sons Daniel and Michael. We moved to Albuquerque in 2011. My husband worked for Sandia National Laboratories in California for many years. They requested that he transfer to Albuquerque. We decided to go with the adventure. We have grown to love Albuquerque and Christ Lutheran. We like to hike, go on field trips with the Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Society, and square dance. We have a dog and three turtles.

**Thomas Hinrichs**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER**  
**7th Grade Homeroom Teacher – Math and Technology**



*But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” – 1 Peter 3:15*

I am in my second year of teaching here at Christ Lutheran and second year overall. I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Middle School Education with endorsements in Social Sciences and Math from Concordia University, Nebraska in 2016. Before going to college, I spent my entire life in small town Nebraska where I grew up being a huge Cornhusker football fan.

I am blessed to be the 7th Grade Homeroom teacher as well as the Math and Technology teacher for the entire middle school. Every student is different so it is important to meet students where they are at to help them learn and grow to the best they can be. I believe that a classroom should be interactive and interesting for the students to provide them the best learning environment. I am very excited for this year to see my students learn and grow in their faith.



**Deon Haas**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER**  
**8th Grade Homeroom – Social Studies and Literature**

*Isaiah 40:31 ~ but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not be faint.*

I believe that it is very important to show God's love and forgiveness to all students. No matter what we study, God's word is a wonderful tool to enhance the learning process. I enjoy having conversations with my students as we learn about history and characters in a novel. Asking questions as we learn is a great way to have students push themselves to understand the subject and to defend their thoughts. I love to teach beyond the textbooks which enhances the learning – using simulations, projects, and watching movies based on a novel or history lesson, where we can talk about the differences. To watch students grow in their faith walk and educational journey is a reward beyond measure.

I graduated from Metropolitan State College of Denver, Colorado in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in History and a minor in Reading. I taught in Colorado until 2000, when I came to Christ Lutheran in Albuquerque. In 2001 I finished my theology courses to become a called teacher to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.



### Join More than 12,000 Congregations in Providing Care

Are there hurting people in your church or community whose needs are going unmet? Can you imagine the difference it would make to

have 10 or 20 lay caregivers in your church who are well-trained and ready to respond to people in need? More than 12,000 churches have learned an effective, proven strategy for equipping laypeople to provide high-quality, distinctively Christian care.

On Saturday, January 27, 2018, Christ Lutheran Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico is hosting a Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m., and refreshments will be served. This workshop is an excellent opportunity for church leaders and other members to learn about the Stephen Series, a ministry system that equips and mobilizes laypeople for effective caring ministry.

#### Practical Ministry Skills

At the workshop, you will experience a sample of the training Stephen Ministers (lay caregivers) receive, and you will take home practical knowledge and skills on "Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief" and "How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way." You will also learn why churches from more than 150 different Christian denominations use the Stephen Series for training and organizing laypeople for one-to-one caring ministry.

#### A Highly Affordable Workshop

The cost of the workshop is \$15 per person or \$50 for a group of four or more from the same congregation. It is free for Christ Lutheran members. For more information, or if you want to register for the Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop, talk to Leslie Helge, David Yocky, or Pastor Groeling. We hope to see you at the workshop!



## Senior fellowships

The Senior Fellowship outing this month will be on Friday January 19th. We will leave the Church at 9:30 and car pool to the J & R Vintage Auto Museum in Rio Rancho. Following our tour we will have lunch in one of the fabulous restaurants in Rio Rancho. The cost to tour the museum is \$5.00. Come join us!! Just let Lee Swanger or Eunice Hoeft know that you would like to go on this interesting trip.

For more information call: Lee Swanger (294-6752) or Eunice Hoeft (889-9705).



#### Christ Lutheran Chronicle

The Chronicle is published for members and friends of Christ Lutheran Church & School. News items and articles are due in the church office on the 15th of the month prior to the month in which you wish to be published. Your submission may be edited for content or length. Thank you for your participation and cooperation!

Let's start out 2018 with lunch at The Egg and I on Menaul and Louisiana. That will be January 11th at 11:45 a.m. They have reserved their meeting room for us. We invite any of our ladies age 55 and over, to join us for good conversation and delicious food. It is so wonderful that our numbers have increased and we do have such fun. Please call Eunice at 889-9705 or Marcia at 271-1287 if you have questions, or if you need a ride. We are glad to drive you both ways.

HONOR  
CIRCLE

## YOUTH EVENTS

**CLY – Christ Lutheran Youth (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders) Up-Coming Events: Mon. Jan. 12th:** Help with Middle School Event-Game Night @ 7:00 – 9:30. (Adult helpers Sarah Nixon and Thomas Hinrichs). Watch for future events.

**Teacher for High School Bible Class:** Bill Vering

**JoY - Jesus and You with nOthing in-between (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Graders)**

**Up-Coming Events: Mon. Jan. 12th:** Middle School Event-Game Night @ 7:00 – 9:30. (Adult helpers Sarah Nixon and Thomas Hinrichs). Watch for future events.

**Teacher for Middle School Bible Class:** Doug Rickers

For more info. contact the Youth Board at [clcyouthgroup@outlook.com](mailto:clcyouthgroup@outlook.com)

#### Christ Lutheran Women's Guild/LWML

Happy New Year! I can't believe it is 2018 already. The New Year can be a time to start new traditions or new habits. Do you make new year resolutions? I have never been successful in keeping resolutions but I always attempt to try something new or change some behavior. Why not try something new with the LWML. The Women's Guild is a part of the LWML- the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The LWML can sound like yesterday's news. What is a league or a guild anyway? These are fancy words for a group. The LWML is not yesterday's news - it is a vital group of women making a difference in the world. Here at Christ Lutheran the LWML group is called the Women's Guild. The title does not matter - it is the relationships and the work we accomplish. The LWML is women working together to delve into God's Word, to hold each other accountable, and hold each other up during times of trial. It is women working together to serve our congregation by serving meals at funerals and special events, to provide meals for families in need, making quilts, and meeting together for Bible study and fellowship. It is women gathered together in prayer and gathering mites. There is a place for you in LWML. Are you seeking other women to walk alongside you? Do you like to quilt or care for others? Do you want to support missionaries? Is there something else you are seeking? Contact us - we may already be doing it. Please come join us for a Bible study or an event. It is a place to belong. We are waiting for you. New Year - new friends.

Debbie Yocky

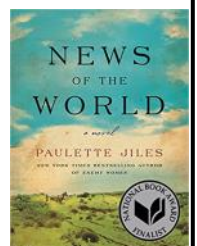
Women's Guild President

#### BOOK DISCUSSION

"News of the World" by Paulette Jiles - National Book Award Finalist.

Historical fiction set in 1870 in the Southwest that explores the boundaries of family, responsibility, honor, and trust.

Join us, Friday, January 19, 2018 at 7:00  
Contact: Al & Marcia Koschmann 271-1287  
[akoschmann@yahoo.com](mailto:akoschmann@yahoo.com)



Christ Lutheran Church and School  
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Albuquerque, NM 87110

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## Christ Chronicle

Christ Lutheran Church & School  
Monthly Newsletter

Sunday Worship Times: 8:15 & 11 a.m.

Sunday Bible Class: 9:45 a.m.

## January

## 2018



### Sharing God's love with all His children, while growing together in Christ!

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Kristie Naber, Church Secretary  
Julie Henderson, Bookkeeper &  
parttime Pre-K Teacher  
Bruce Kirkpatrick, Custodian

Kim Rasmussen, Principal/Preschool  
Director  
Jennifer Hurt, School Secretary  
Blanca Mejia, Preschool Teacher  
Hayleigh Saavedra, Preschool Teacher  
Lorraine Trujillo, Pre-K  
Lishelle Burmeister, Kindergarten  
Tanya Sainz, 1st Grade  
Krista Stephens, 2nd Grade  
Kimery Doyle, 3rd Grade  
Sarah Nixon, 4th Grade  
Sarah Handrock, 5th Grade  
Tallie Elbert, 6th Grade  
Thomas Hinrichs, 7th Grade  
Deon Haas, 8th Grade