

Sharing
Mission,
Ministry,
& Life
in Christ

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Christ Lutheran
WHERE FAITH MAKES FAMILY

Gratitude and Thanks

The staff of Christ Lutheran has had much to be grateful for in the past year. Here are just a few highlights:

- Have you heard the phrase, "Tough times don't build character; they reveal it."? The strength of character the congregation has displayed time and again this past year has been nothing short of remarkable. I am proud and grateful to serve in ministry together. –Katie Belinson
- I am grateful for dedicated Spirit Singers who come to rehearse on Wednesday nights even when they are very busy, when the weather is cold, and when they are weary. It brings us joy when we sing together! –Dagny Brandt
- I am grateful to serve in a congregation that embraces musical diversity in worship while honoring the structure of our liturgy, and where our core value always remains "making Christ known" both in our building and beyond our walls. –Deacon Jennifer Fox
- I am grateful for the support of the entire staff team by the congregation during this past year as we continue to be without a settled senior minister. I am grateful for the many ways that members have stepped into new roles during this time. –Deacon Laura Gorton
- Every day I see the generosity, compassion, and dedication of the members and volunteers of this congregation. I am grateful for their support and partnership in this endeavor. –Michelle Nelson
- I am grateful for the Spirit Singers. Their dedication to learning music inspires me to be a better musician. Our bell music does not have words and this helps me remember the importance of reflecting during worship. –Chris Parkinson



In response to the multiple expressions of gratitude we've experienced, the staff has made a donation to Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center (LOMC) on behalf of CLC. It also made 38 "birthday bags" with everything you need for a birthday celebration (cake, candles, and balloons.) These bags were donated to Empower Boone and were distributed that very same day!

For the service, generosity and faithfulness of the CLC family, we thank you for helping to make Christ known in many ways!

Thank You! The staff of Christ Lutheran expresses its deepest thanks for the generous outpouring of affection reflected in our staff Christmas gifts. Words alone seem insufficient to convey our gratitude. Please know that these gifts are received graciously. We see the Holy Spirit moving at CLC, and it is a joy to be in ministry with you all. Your support and giving spirit are so appreciated. Thank you!





NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

ALWAYS A BEST DAY OF THE YEAR!

February 2

New members will be received on February 2. We look forward to welcoming new friends to the CLC Family.

Financial Update

through December 31, 2024

Budgeted Contributions YTD:	\$ 474,569
Actual Contributions YTD:	\$ 537,065
Actual Expenses YTD:	\$ 461,218
Net Surplus or (Loss)	+\$ 75,847

The above figures (as shown in the 2024 Annual Report) reflect an increase from 6% to 10% for our Synod Mission support. Designation of the year end surplus will be presented at the Annual Meeting on February 2.

Thank you for your generous and continuous support of making Christ known.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Bieck, Treasurer

Prayer Event

Praying for the World March 14-15

War and violence rage. People lack access to safe drinking water, food, and shelter. Families flee their homes for safety. Across our globe, on a daily basis, situations unravel that have a profound impact on individuals, communities and nations.

We invite you to join PATHWAYS for 24 hours of *Praying for the World* on March 14-15. With the help of a prayer guide, we will lift up people around the world into God's loving care. We invite you to join us—to pray, stay awake and stay alert to the needs of the world.

Soon we will begin registration for one-hour time slots for participants to pray in the comfort of their homes. Join us on Zoom to start and end our prayer vigil together, both at 6:00 pm on March 14 & 15.

Let us join in solidarity as we pray for our world. Visit seekthepath.org for more details and registration.



Fun facts about PATHWAYS

2024 Snapshot

- PATHWAYS facilitated 24 offerings, including two offsite
- 321 people journeyed with us
- 37% of participants were outside the Christ Lutheran congregation

PATHWAYS
A CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL



February 2

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

February 9

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

February 16

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

February 23

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

We Have the Soups!

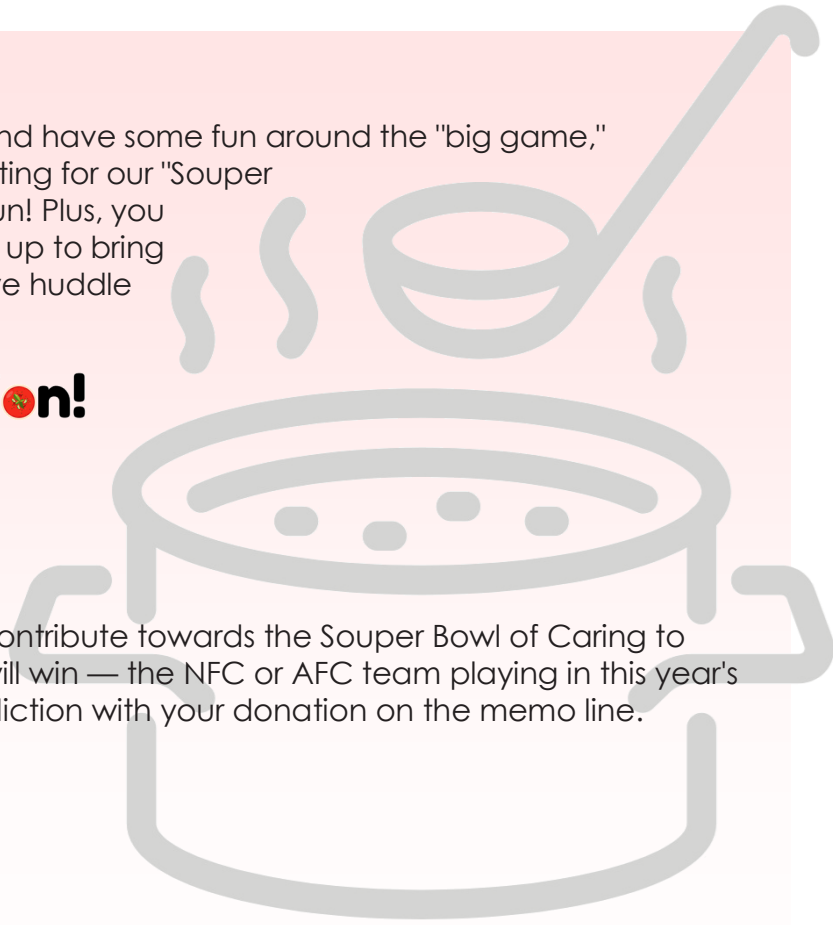
To celebrate a new year of ministry together and have some fun around the "big game," join us on February 2 following the Annual Meeting for our "Souper Celebration." There will be soup, games, and fun! Plus, you can donate to the Souper Bowl of Caring. Sign up to bring soup and/or bread. We hope you'll join us as we huddle together in the West Wing!

**Souper
Celebration!**
FEB 2

Service and Outreach



There are two final Sundays to contribute towards the Souper Bowl of Caring to benefit Empower Boone. Who will win — the NFC or AFC team playing in this year's "big game?" Indicate your prediction with your donation on the memo line.



Education

Adult Forum: We will have two final sessions on the five gifts of discipleship, held on February 9 and 23. Join us on February 16 to hear Kris Campbell share about the Walk to Emmaus. (Due to the Annual Meeting, there is no Adult Forum on February 2.)

Godly Play: More faith-building, sharing and playing happens on February 2 (during the Annual Meeting) and February 16. See you there, friends!

Christ in Literature

Our February (nonfiction) selection, *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan, explores the threat facing the Great Lakes, a large group of freshwater lakes that hold 20% of the world's fresh water supply. All are welcome to join the discussion on February 3 at 3 pm.



Kids Camp

Save the date!

Mark your calendars for a great week of fun this summer June 23-27 at Christ Lutheran. We're going on a road trip at Kids Camp (formerly Vacation Bible School) as we travel to different destinations while learning and playing together. We'll begin each day at 5:30 pm with a light dinner, and end the week with a Family Fun Fest on Friday, June 27.

Invite your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends to come along for the journey. Be on the lookout for more information and registration materials coming soon!

(CLC volunteers: Contact Shirley Collins to volunteer to help or with any questions.)




Christ Lutheran

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Phone: 815-885-2522

makingChristknown.org

 facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere

Also on Facebook, search:

Pathways: A Center for Spiritual Renewal

† **Worship:** Sundays 9:00 am

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Our Council

Jenny Campbell

Howard Yakey

Shirley Collins

Jeff Bieck

Jenny Breckenridge

Elizabeth Brinkley

John Herring

Peter Hightower

Lori Murphy

Denise Rindels

Don Skadow

Dave Swanson

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Our Staff

Deacon Laura Gorton

Deacon Jennifer Fox

Katie Belinson

Dagny Brandt

Michelle Nelson

Chris Parkinson

Acting Interim Minister

Minister for Worship & Music

Dir. of Outreach & Communications

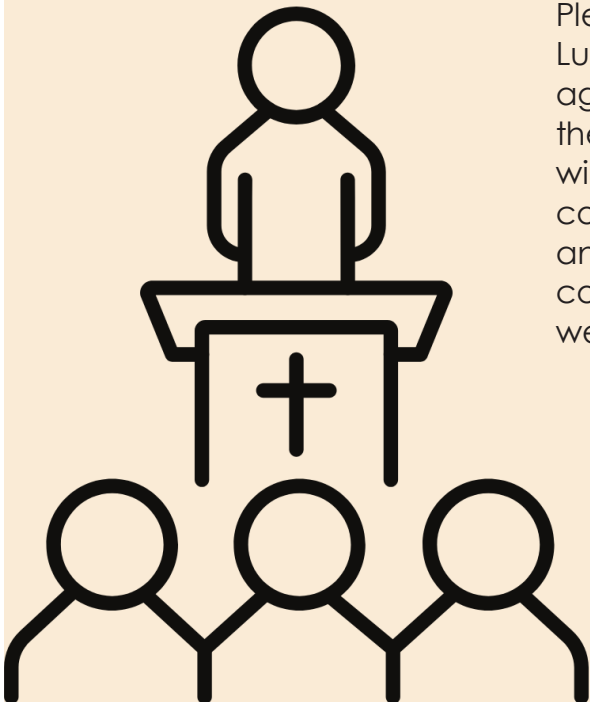
Church Musician

Finance & Office Administrator

Church Musician

CLC Members:

Please plan to attend the 2024 Annual Meeting of Christ Lutheran Church on February 2 following worship. The agenda includes a Year in Review and presentation of the 2025 Ministry Spending Plan (budget) for voting. We will elect new church council leadership, 2025 nominating committee, synod assembly delegates (and alternates), and members of the audit and mission endowment committees. Your participation is important as together we close out one church year and begin another.



ANNUAL MEETING FEB 2