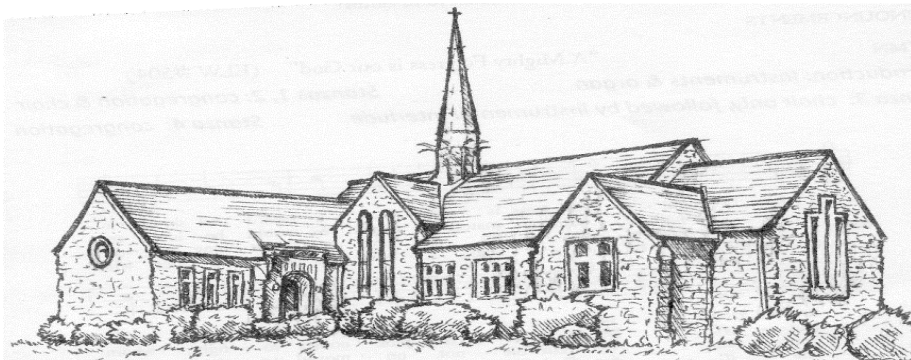


CHRIST'S COMMUNIQUE

Issue: 643 December 2024



9am Casual Worship

We have moved inside for the colder months of the year! We will have a projector screen up in the FSH, & Live Streaming on FB & later on our website.



11 am Traditional

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary.

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service 7pm

PASTOR CINDY'S NOTE

For as in one body, we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. (Romans 12:4-5)

On October 20, 2024, Pastor John Wertz, Assistant to the VA Synod Bishop, led members of our congregation in a lively conversation about our past, present and future. Pastor Wertz invited us to reflect on three questions.

- 1) Foundations – Why does Christ Lutheran Church exist?
- 2) Strengths – What are the top strengths of our congregation?
- 3) Possibilities – What exciting ministries can we imagine for the future of Christ Lutheran?

In last month's Communique, I highlighted answers to the first question. Christ Lutheran Church, Roanoke, VA is founded on worship, care for one another, and service to our community.

Participants in the workshop also had no trouble answering the second question about our strengths. Friendliness and acceptance of others, welcome and generosity are some of the qualities that make our congregation strong. Worship, music, and care for children (including Noah's Landing Preschool) are some of the ministries through which we faithfully share the gospel. Our beautiful building and our location are wonderful tools for ministry as well. Members and friends of Christ Lutheran Church bring a variety of gifts that enable us to work together to love God, one another, and the world around us. We are blessed indeed!

As a congregation these strengths will continue to empower us as we look to the future of our ministry together. Consider the gifts of time, talent and treasure you can share with and through Christ Lutheran. What are your hopes and dreams for the ways we can grow and change together in the months, years, and decades to come? Please let me know if you have a particular gift or skill to share or if you would like to become involved in a new (or new to you) ministry. As the body of Christ, we are always stronger together!

In Peace and Hope,
Pastor Cindy

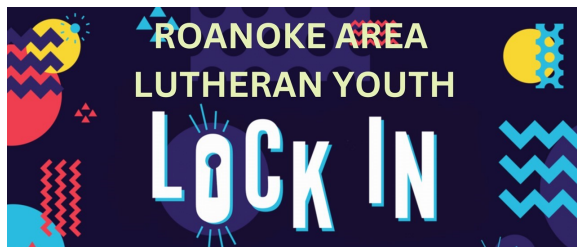
FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ROANOKE AREA LUTHERAN YOUTH

JOIN US FRIDAY DEC. 6 AT 6PM

@ COLLEGE LUTHERAN
FOR OUR ANNUAL LOCK-IN

CITY OF SALEM CHRISTMAS PARADE



AND CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT
SALEM WALMART FOR OUR
CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

TOGETHER @ 10 INTERGENERATIONAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



All are invited to TOGETHER@10 in December
(**Sunday Dec. 1st, 8th, and 15th**) as we
prepare to tell the Christmas Story.

How about you?

Shepherd, sheep, angel, Wise Person,
Narrator.....? No lines to memorize! We'll
present the pageant at the 11am worship on
Sunday, December 15.

Contact Pastor Cindy for more information.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH BUNCH WITH A MISSION

Our annual Christmas Luncheon with a Mission includes all adults.

Join us on Wednesday, December 11 @ 11:30am.

Chef Brian will prepare a lovely meal for us while we congregate to enjoy the season together and support **FAMILY PROMISE**. This is happening right after our December commitment to support this important outreach project so our gifts will benefit the future of this mission.

A wish list will be provided soon, and checks can be made to the church with the line item of Family Promise. A \$15 cash donation to cover cost of food is requested. Please respond to the church office by Monday, **December 9.**

LADIES, SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

Christmas is just around the corner and so is our annual Ladies Crazy Santa party. We will gather on **Monday, Dec. 9**, at 6:30pm for this traditional evening of fun and laughter at the home of Bev's.

Bring an appetizer to share and a gift of **\$20 value to exchange**. Beverages are provided. Since parking can get tight in the neighborhood, meet in the parking lot at our church at **6:15pm** or Covenant Presbyterian on Deyerle Road for shuttles and carpools to the event. RSVP to the church office by **Thursday Dec. 5.**



MORE GATHERINGS

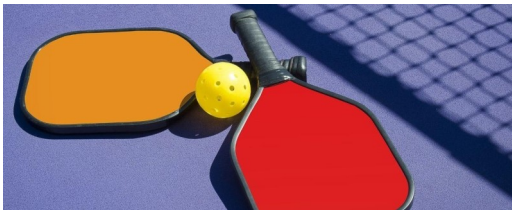
FAMILY PROMISE

Our church is scheduled to serve Family Promise families at the Alexa House **December 1-3, Sunday-Tuesday**. We will need volunteers each night to prepare dinner (2-3), serve dinner (2), and stay overnight (1-2) with our guests. We need a total of 18-20 people to make this happen. Our guests are families that are unhoused with children. More specific details to follow as the time draws near. If you would like more information on this ministry or to volunteer, contact Georgia.



CLC PICKLE BALL CLUB

Would you like to join us one Sunday?
We meet at the Garst Mill Park Courts on
Sunday afternoons @ **2pm, Dec. 8 & 22**.
Weather permitting.
If interested in playing or learning to play,
RSVP to Shelley.



TOYS FOR TOTS

Christ Lutheran and Noah's Landing
Preschool will be collecting new unwrapped toys
for the Toys for Tots program from now until
Dec 12. These toys go to children in the
Roanoke Valley. Look for the drop box in the
Narthex.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Join us on **Dec. 15** after the 9am & 11am
worship services for the purpose of voting
on new council members and approving
the 2024 Financial Budget.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

7pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Festival worship with choir, children's message,
Holy Communion, Candlelight and more . . .

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to
celebrate our Saviors birth!



**CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM
12/24/2024 — 01/02/2025**

ON GOING MINISTRIES AT CLC



MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Mondays at **10:30am** meet in the FSH. All are welcome to join this group. They will not be meeting Nov. 25, Dec 23 and 30.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: join us on Wednesdays @ 7:30pm in the Choir room. New singers are always welcome!

HANDY FOLK GROUP: Join the women & men that make up this wonderful group of people that take care of our church building. Friday **Dec. 8** at 8am they will meet at Famous Anthony's at Oak Grove Mall for breakfast then some maintenance work on church property. Contact George if you have questions.



SOCIAL CLUB: Christ Lutheran Social Club meets on Thursday night, **Dec. 12, with a Christmas Dinner @ 5pm** at CLC. If you would like to help serve meals or drive the bus to pick up our members, please let Wanda & Greg know if you are able to volunteer.

CHURCH COUNCIL: will meet Tuesday, **Dec. 10**. Meetings are the 2ND Tuesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall @ 7pm. Please let Chip know if you are unable to attend this meeting.



GREEN TEAM: Join us in the Parlor on Wednesday, **Dec. 11 @ 1pm**. Our mission remains the same: *"As good stewards of the earth, it is our mission to educate, act and advocate for a future where our children and grandchildren can live and thrive."* **1)** clean dry egg shells, **2)** Tabs for The Ronald McDonald House, **3)** Soft plastics can be left in the cloak closet, **4)** Reusable grocery bags are available for purchase \$2 each. If you are interested in joining the **"Green Team,"** contact Gudrun.

The Green Team was fortunate to have **Davey Stewards from Star City Compost** speak at their November meeting. Davey spent four years organizing his company which opened in January 2024. He is passionate about climate change and sees composting as a way to fight it. His company collects food waste from individuals/families and a few businesses and turns it into compost. At the next meeting, the Green Team will discuss how we, as a congregation, can support his company. One option is for individuals to sign up (\$30.00 one time fee to sign up) and then receive a bucket to put food waste in. For \$12.00 a month, the bucket can be emptied at any of the five locations (the closest one is St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church) and a new liner obtained.



YARN N PRAYER: Gathering will be on Wednesday, **Dec. 18 @ 3:30pm** in the parlor. **Thanks for the** Baptismal Shawls that have been sent in. If you are able to knit or crochet a blanket, in whites or cream, please let us know! Contact Rita for more info.

RAM LUNCHES: this faithful group continues to make lunches for RAM House the last Friday of each month, **New date Dec. 20, the week before Christmas.** Contact Kathy & Steve for volunteer opportunities.



CHRIST'S COMMUNIQUE: Collating the newsletter, Sunday bulletins, **Christmas Eve service!!!** New date & time: **Thursday Dec. 19 @ 12noon**, all our volunteers are invited. Any Articles for the January 2025 newsletter need to be received **by Dec. 12**, Many Thanks.

PRAYERS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



PRAYERS FOR :11.17- Sommerdahl's (safe travels), Carl's Mom, Mary, Phoenix + family.

11.10- Sandra, New members: Donna, Chris, Kirsten & Chole, Matt, Yvette, Pledges for 2025, Thanks to Robin and Phyllis for stepping up while Pastor Cindy was out of town, Sharon, Patti, Ashley, Cameron, Irina (health issues), Irina's son (adversity),

Amy + her family, Tina (test results), Leon & Tammy, Robin.

11.03- Jean (hospitalization), Judy (hospitalization), Doug.

10.27- Birth of Austin (miracle baby), Sandra, Kim (stage 4 cancer), Johnny, Becky + family, Warren, Tom, Sam, Kim (Michele Schner's SIL).

10.20- Sue, Carla, Connie + Family, Eddie, Ken, Ray.

Families of: 10/20- Donald (Deb's father), **10/20-** Barty, Louise, **11/03-** Floyd, Richard.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS DECEMBER

Dec.1- First Sunday of Advent:

Jer 33:14-16, Ps 25:1-10, 1 Thess 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

Dec.8- Second Sunday of Advent:

Mal 3:1-4, Ps Luke 1:68-79, Phil 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

Dec.15- Third Sunday of Advent:

Zeph 3:14-20, Ps Isa 12:2-6, Phil 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18

Dec.22- Fourth Sunday of Advent:

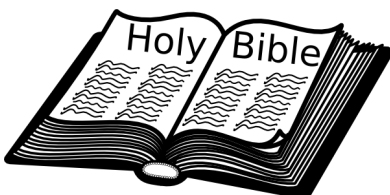
Micah 5:2-5a, Ps Luke 1:46b-55, Heb 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-55

Dec.24- Christmas Eve:

Isa 9:2-7, Ps 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20

Dec.29- First Sunday of Christmas:

1 Sam 2:18-20, 26, Ps 148, Col 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!



1st- Gwinn
3rd- Susan
4th- Betty, Greg, Judy
5th- Nate
6th- Maggie
7th- Hans

8th- Joyce, Charlotte
9th- Sue, Linda, Denman
11th- Geoff
12th- Vincent, Chip, Vicki
13th- Emily, Will, Franziska
14th- Alexander
15th- Madeline, Shelley
16th- Betsy, Courtney,
17th- Kylie
18th- Ed, Lauren
18th- Jack
20th- Jean
21st- Emma, Randy
22nd- Marcia, Zach, Richard, Coraline
24th- Joseph, Michael
27th- Sarah
29th- Jim, Amy
30th- Charles Easton

NEW MEMBERS

On November 10, we had Donna, Chris, Kirsten & Chloe join our church family at the 9am Drive In worship service.

Donna Campbell

Look at your mailed newsletter for details.

Chris Shaver

Look at your mailed newsletter for details.

Also, at the 11am traditional service we had Yvette and, Matt join our church family. We hope you will warmly welcome all to our church family.



NOVEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Committee Report: Below is an overview of the proposed church budget for 2025. A detailed budget showing all line items will be posted on the Christ Lutheran website and is also available by calling the church office. Highlights of the budget are that the overall total is about \$90,000 less than last year. The largest portion of this savings is due to having one pastor now. Benevolence to the Virginia Synod is the same. There were some adjustments to other benevolent causes. Property expenses have increased. Other changes were more subtle.

Giving for 2024 has thus far been less than expected, but we are hoping for a good finish to the year! This new budget is within a projection for contributions hoped for in 2025. That projected income for next year was based on YTD actual through August plus the same September to December amounts contributed last year. If you have not submitted a pledge for financial giving in 2025 it is not too late to do so. Thank you for your support!

Submitted by Jim Weber, Finance Committee Chair

2025 BUDGET SUMMERY

Benevolence:	\$61,500.00
Worship:	\$11,065.00
Evangelism:	\$1,300.00
Stewardship:	\$575.00
Social Concerns:	\$1,400.00
Parish Education:	\$2,500.00
Youth:	\$3,200.00
Administration:	\$38,050.00
Staff Benefits:	\$223,507.00
Plant Operations:	\$65,737.00
Noah's Landing:	\$72,002.00
GRAND TOTAL:	\$480,836.00

LOOKING TOWARDS JANUARY 2025!



SAVE THE DATE:

Table Talk Group

Kick-off Potluck Luncheon, Jan. 7

TOGETHER@10 Sunday School

1st Sunday of the Month:

INTERGENERATIONAL GATHERING

EPIPHANY PARTY!

All Together fun, food, fellowship and learning in the FSH

3rd Sunday of the Month:

3yrs-5th grade: Downstairs in the Community Room

Youth: MS & HS Youth Lounge upstairs

Adult Meeting in the parlor



**Potluck
Dinner**

Annual Congregational Meeting

January 19th, Potluck Luncheon

Christ Lutheran and Noah's Landing Preschool

will be collecting Soup for Seniors. **From January 5th-26th,**
items needed most are:

Low Sodium & Nutritious soups, Canned Meats (such as tuna),
Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruits, Peanut Butter, Oatmeal, Crackers
and Boost or Ensure.

Drop off all items in the box labeled in the Narthex .



Winter Celebration
Jan. 24-26, 2025
Eagle Eyrie, Lynchburg

In 2025, Winter Celebration will be Jan. 24-26 (Friday evening to Sunday noon, as always) at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center in Lynchburg. This event is for **9th through 12th graders** and their adult advisors to spend intentional time in community with God and each other.

[Click here for more information on Winter Celebration and links to registration options.](#)

EACH WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

- 9am Sunday Casual Worship & Facebook Live Streaming,
 - 11am Sunday Traditional Worship
- Adult Bible Study Monday mornings @ 10:30am.
- Choir rehearsal Wed. nights at 7:30pm in the choir room



FOLLOW US ON

CHRISTLUTHERANROANOKE

www.christlutheranroanoke.org

Newsletter can be found on our website.

CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED

12.24.2024—01.02.2025

STAFF OF CHRIST LUTHERAN

Pastor: Rev. Cynthia Keyser
(O) 982-8334 ext#13, (C) 524-8430.
pastorcindy@christlutheranroanoke.org

Church Office Administrator: Fiona Schulz
(O) 982-8334 ext#10.
secretary@christlutheranroanoke.org

Organist/Dir. Music: Nancy Delaney
(H) 597-3189.

New Song Music: Kim Mucha
(C) 529-5456

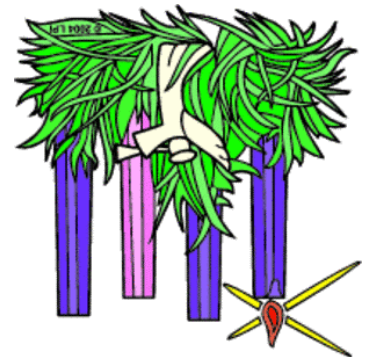
Director, Noah's Landing: Diana Pilat
(O) 982-2254, noahslandingpreschool.org

Treasurer: Cheri Keller
(O) 982-8334 ext#14,
treasurer@christlutheranroanoke.org

Financial Secretary: Joyce Noell
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Good news especially for:



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