

Christ
Lutheran
Church

Proclaimer

Worship

Sunday Morning
Holy Communion
At 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Education

Sunday Morning -
9:15 a.m. for All Ages;
Children 3 & up -
Meet upstairs in their
classrooms
Junior High Youth -
Youth Room
Adults - Fellowship
Hall

Nursery

Nursery is available for
children who are infants
through 4 years of age
during Sunday morning
worship and the Sunday
School hour.

Office

Monday - Thursday from
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday from
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
210-822-3394
office@clcah.org



*Through God's Grace
All are welcome as we joyfully,
Receive...to Give
Learn...to Serve
and Worship...to Grow.*

From the Pastor . . . Listen! God is Calling!

The season after Epiphany is just around the corner. This season, while perhaps lesser known than its counterparts of Advent and Lent, still plays a crucial role in our Christian formation. Throughout Epiphany, we see Jesus revealed to be the Christ, the son of God, and we also hear story after story of call and discipleship. So, Epiphany is a good time to listen for God's voice, to shut out all the other sound that swirls around us, to find in the stillness a place either to begin or to renew. What is God calling you to do? What is God calling us as a community of faith to do? Together, we will explore these questions this Epiphany at Christ Lutheran.

Join us for worship that emphasizes our global ministry partnerships with our fellow believers in Africa. Mary Overstreet has begun work on a new set of banners for the sanctuary, which will lift up the glory of the continent of Africa. Listen as our music incorporates drums and rhythms from our faithful African brothers and sisters. On January 7, we will hear from the ELCA global mission staff in both worship and education hour. On January 28, Karen and Lee Mueller will present in education hour on their trip to Africa to witness some of these flourishing ministries first hand. The other Sundays of the season, in adult education, we will study the book of Acts considering how God's spirit enlivened the very first communities of faith and still enlivens ours today. Each and every Sunday will lift up the themes of discipleship, as together we listen for where God might be calling!

- Pastor Leslie Price

Groups

Angelicus Choir

Every Wednesday

5:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

Book Club

First Tuesday

6:45 p.m. - Location TBA

Dominos Group

First Thursday

9:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

First Thursday Lunch

First Thursday

12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Gloria Choir

Every Wednesday

6:15 p.m. - Sanctuary

Healing Prayer

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.

Rode Prayer Chapel

Hope Circle

TBD

9:30 a.m. - Primrose House

Joseph's Sons

First Monday

6:30 p.m. - Location TBA

Lydia Circle

Second Monday

6:30 p.m. - Primrose House

Men's Breakfast

Second Tuesday

7:00 a.m. - Bill Miller BBQ

Mulligans

Second Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Hoffbrau

Quilters

Every Tuesday

9:00 a.m. - Primrose House

Sanctuary Choir

Every Wednesday

7:05 p.m. - Sanctuary

Soul Sisters

First Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Julian's

Other groups meet during the year. For information, please contact our church office or visit our website www.clcah.org.

January 7 – ELCA Global Mission Visits Christ Lutheran

Did you know there are more Lutherans in Tanzania (6.5 million) than in all of North America (5.5 million)? The Global Church is full of exciting facts and ministry during this changing time in the church. Andrew Steele, Director for ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, and Rahel Mwitula-Williams, Manager for Donor Relations, will join Christ Lutheran Church to share the Good News about what God is doing globally through the ELCA. Andrew and Rahel recently led an ELCA mission immersion trip to Tanzania and Rwanda, where CLC members, Karen and Lee Mueller, joined them to visit with ELCA missionaries and companion church leaders. Sunday, January 7, Andrew and Rahel will be preaching at both services and teaching during an all-ages education hour at 9:15 a.m. on the ELCA Global Church and also on their trip to Tanzania and Rwanda. They will also be hosting a lunch after the 10:30 a.m. service for anyone interested in learning even more. RSVP to the church office if you would like to attend the luncheon.

Unhanging the Greens

Help! We need lots of willing folks to join in the “un-decorating” project following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on **December 31**. The sanctuary was beautifully decorated for the Christmas season, but now those decorations need to come down, get packed up, and be put away until next year. Please stick around after worship to ease the burden for all participants. This can be a quick process if we have lots of help. Thanks!

New Member Sunday

Join us on Sunday, January 28, in the CrossWay after the 10:30 a.m. service for a reception honoring the new members of our CLC family! Call the church office if you are interesting in joining ... all are welcome here!

Liturgical Planning Team

Do you ever wonder what goes into planning a worship service? Do you wish you could help select the hymns? Do you ever find yourself imagining a creative way to engage the congregation in faith exploration? Then Liturgical Planning Team might be for you! This team meets two to four times throughout the year to plan the major church seasons, including Advent/Christmas and Lent/Holy Week. Together we develop concepts, themes, and ideas for implementation that bring the theology of these seasons to life. If you're interested in serving on this team, we will be meeting on Thursday, January 11, at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to plan for Lent and Holy Week. RSVP to Pastor Leslie or the office to let us know you will be there!

Benevolence Committee Site Visit

Our Savior Lutheran Community, a mission congregation led by Pastor Steve Rode, is one of ten Lutheran Ministries and 13 community ministries our congregation supports through your benevolence dollars. Recently, Lynnell Burkett and I made an unofficial "site visit" to worship with Our Savior on a Sunday morning at the new Boerne Hill Country Family YMCA. It was delightful to be in the presence of 24 faithful Lutherans who have found a home in this warm and welcoming community. We saw some familiar faces, were moved by Pastor Steve's Advent sermon, and robustly sang the hymns and liturgy accompanied by Pastor Steve's niece, Emilie Borchardt, on oboe. Pastor Steve introduced us as representing Christ Lutheran, and he thanked you for your generous support.

- Jan Norris, Benevolence Committee Member

Thank You from the Staff

The staff thanks you, the congregation, for your generous Christmas gifts. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are overwhelming. We very much appreciate your ongoing gifts of support and love. You make Christ Lutheran a great place to serve!

- Pastor Leslie, Carrie, Becky, Linda, Clara, Dan, Matthew, Ryan,
Sam, Sharon, Ariana

Member News

Births

- *Prayers of praise and thanksgiving on the birth of Boone Besfer on December 1. Boone is the son of Ashley and Ben Besfer, grandson of Rhonda and Allen Vasbinder, and great-grandson of Jeanette Wahl.*

Sympathy to:

- *The family and friends of Dale Stark who died on December 9.*
- *Shirley Wiley and family on the death of her husband, Richard.*

Faith University Sunday Mornings at 9:15 a.m.

January 7 – Andrew Steele, Director for ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, and **Rahel Mwitula-Williams**, Manager for Donor Relations, join Christ Lutheran Church to **share the Good News about what God is doing globally through the ELCA**. Read more on page 2.

January 14 & 21 – The Book of Acts

The Holy Spirit is clearly at work in Acts, pouring out on people from many nations on the day of Pentecost, giving Jesus' disciples the power to speak boldly, gathering early believers together for worship, and sending out Peter and Paul as missionaries. In this course, participants will examine the beginnings of the church and will find meaningful connections between the early church and the church today. Join Pastor Leslie for this course on the Book of Acts, which will meet twice in January and twice in February.

January 28 – Karen & Lee Mueller present on their trip to Africa with ELCA Global Mission. More information coming soon. Look at the bulletins and watch for Constant Contact news.

Here's a peek at the rest of the schedule for Faith University this spring semester:

February 4 & 11: The Book of Acts

Sundays throughout Lent: Our new Mission & Outreach Team has been hard at work building up our efforts to increase the mission involvement of CLC. Join us during Lent as we hear from various team leaders about the important work this team has planned for us, which we are hoping you will want to be a part of! We have four foci for our efforts which you will learn more about in February and March: 1) increasing our welcome to the LGBT community, 2) beginning a relationship with an African-American congregation to witness to our desire for interracial justice, 3) increasing our support for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, and 4) investing in the education of the poorest members of our community of San Antonio.

April 8 & 15 – Dr. Michael Fischer, the Janet S. Dicke Professor in Public Humanities at Trinity University AND a member at CLC, will present two special Faith University classes exploring conflict: what causes conflict, what prolongs it, and what, if anything, resolves it.

April 22 & 29 – As some of you may know and others of you will learn, Pastor Leslie has a love of modern Americana music. Over the years, she has discovered that many of these Americana artists, whose music is secular, come from strong religious upbringings that spill over into their music in glorious and prophetic ways. Together we will explore these artists' take on the gospel and consider what we might learn from them.

May 6, 13, & 20 – Dr. Dan Long, Professor at St. Mary's and our beloved Minister of Music, returns to Faith U to lead a course on sin and redemption in Johnny Cash's music.

Sunday School for Parents

Our class for parents of Sunday school children and youth of all ages continues to grow and thrive. We are delighted to report that the class fills the bright and comfortable Primrose House each Sunday. This group gets together to talk about all things related to faith and parenting, from silly stories of what your kids did last week to the challenges of how to parent faithfully in today's world. Sunday school for Parents is led by its faithful participants. The church leadership and Pastor Leslie are very grateful for their donation of time and talent! There are still slots available to lead. If you would like to sign up to lead a month or even one Sunday, please talk to Pastor Leslie. Note: nursery is also provided during the education hour for children not old enough for Sunday school.

Here's the schedule for January:

January 7 – NO Sunday School for Parents, ELCA Global Mission Event in Fellowship Hall

January 14 – Sarah Loyd will lead.

January 21 – Open

January 28 – Open

Lucy Circle ... Join the Conversation

The Lucies welcome the New Year with our first meeting on Sunday, January 21 at 9:15 a.m. in the Parlor. We'll discuss the essay, "Shunned," by Meredith Hall. The writer lays bare her lifelong pain after being shunned by her entire close-knit community after she got pregnant as a teen. You may find the essay online, FREE, at <https://www.creativenonfiction.org/online-reading/shunned>. Please grab a cup of coffee or tea in the CrossWay and join us. All CLC women and visitors are welcome.

Join us on Monday, January 15!

Join the group from CLC attending the Martin Luther King Day March in San Antonio! Tentative plans are to gather at the Alamodome Parking Lot B at 9:15 a.m. on January 15 to travel by VIA bus to the start of the march, which begins at 10:00 a.m. We will catch the VIA bus at the end of the race at Pittman Sullivan Park to arrive at the Alamodome parking lot around noon. Please wear your "God's Work. Our Hands." t-shirts. We hope to walk together with folks from Abiding Presence Lutheran Church. Watch for final details in January bulletins and weekly emails. Call the church office for more details.

Sunday School for Preschool

Our preschool lessons are stated in simple terms, but they are vast concepts to propose. Children are amazing in that they can understand these very big things, even if they are stated in simple words. Perhaps this is why our Savior instructed us that the Kingdom of Heaven belonged to “such as these.”

Sunday, January 7: Preschoolers can be dropped off in the nursery so their parents and Sunday School teachers can attend the education class by ELCA Global Mission in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 14: Lesson on Jesus at the Temple

Sunday, January 21: Lesson on The Baptism of Jesus

Sunday, January 28: Lesson on Jesus Chooses His Disciples

Sunday School for Elementary

Beginning in January, our elementary children will begin a nine-part Bible study on the parables. They will learn the parables and the meaning behind each story. Godly Play material will be used for some of our lessons, and we'll read scripture, play games, and do fun biblical crafts to go along with the teachings. Please be on time as all 60 minutes of our time will be used for biblical fun!

Sunday, January 7: ELCA Global Mission Sunday

Sunday, January 14: Why Jesus Told Parables

Sunday, January 21: The Story of the Soils

Sunday, January 28: Stories of the Kingdom

Kids' Night Out

Kids' Night Out, for kids ages kinder through 5th grade, will take place Friday, February 23, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Parents, drop off your kiddos for an evening of fun. We will have lots of fun activities, crafts, games, bouncy house, and pizza hosted by our Senior High Youth. This event will help with fundraising for our Youth Mission Trip to Houston, TX. (See more about our trip to Houston on page 8.) To sign up for this event, please email Carrie Jowers: carriejowers@gmail.com. The cost for the event is \$30 per child.

Junior High

Souper Bowl of Caring

On Sunday, February 4, our youth will lead our congregation in the fight against hunger. They work really hard to educate our congregation and our kiddos about hunger, so please join them at the 10:30 a.m. worship service to hear what they have to say about fighting hunger in our community and the world. This year our collection will benefit Christian Assistance Ministry.

Confirmation Class

Sunday, January 7: ELCA Global Mission Sunday
Sunday, January 14: Breakfast Fellowship/Lesson on Hunger
Sunday, January 21: Gospels Overview - Required Lesson
Sunday, January 28: Birth of Jesus - Required Lesson

Confirmation Large Group

Confirmation Large Group will take place on Wednesday, January 10, in Fellowship Hall. We will have our Pizza Feast starting at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Leslie will teach from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Please have your Bibles, a pen, and your Confirmation Binder with you for class.

Spaghetti Dinner & Talent Show

Sunday, March 4, at 5:00 p.m.

Come support our youth as they raise funds for their summer mission trip to Houston, Texas, on Wednesday, June 27 through Sunday, July 1. (Read more about the trip on page 8.) Our children and youth will be showing off their special talents during this yummy meal and special time of fellowship. Tickets are \$20 per adult and \$10 for children under the age of 13. For tickets please contact Carrie Jowers in the church office.

ELCA Youth Gathering

Houston: June 27 through July 1

Our youth may know the town of Houston as Beyoncé's or the Astros' hometown, others as the world's hub of the energy industry, some for its prominence as the flight control center for all of NASA's manned space missions, but we know it best as the host city for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering! We also know Houston to be a diverse, multicultural metropolis with thriving performing arts and culinary scenes, over 55,000 acres of green space, a large and growing international community, and so much more. Youth Gathering programming will take place in three main venues: NRG Stadium, NRG Arena, and NRG Center, located just outside of downtown Houston in the entertainment complex known as NRG Park, a convention and sports entertainment complex.

It's not too late to register for this mission trip! You may register today in the church office or call Carrie Jowers in the church office. The registration deadline is Monday, January 15.

High School Retreat

Camp Chrysalis: February 9 through February 11

This year our senior high retreat will take place the weekend of February 9 through February 11 at Camp Chrysalis. Registration has begun for this event and will end on Thursday, February 25. The cost for the retreat is \$160. Scholarships are available upon request.

Save The Date for These Fun and Exciting Summer Activities

Camp Chrysalis: Sunday, June 10 through Friday, June 15

ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston: Wednesday, June 27 through Sunday, July 1

VBS: Monday, July 23 through Thursday, July 26

“The Power of WE” - Women’s Retreat - April 6-8

This spring the women of Christ Lutheran are once again invited to gather at the beach in Port Aransas! This year’s retreat will be led by Jennifer Dunn and Heather Rosenquist. Under their leadership we will explore the ways that women support each other in day-to-day life and become more powerful as a “we” rather than just a “me.” They have a variety of activities and learning experiences planned for us. Many thanks to them for sharing their gifts with us. We will stay at the Mustang Island Retreat Center, a ministry of the Episcopal Church. The cost for the weekend is \$250 for double occupancy rooms and most meals are covered. Registration opens on January 14. You can pick up a registration packet in the CrossWay or go online to download the forms and make your payment.

Soul Sisters, 7:00 p.m., First Thursdays, Julian’s in Sunset Ridge

Soul Sisters is a welcoming group of 20-40-somethings who identify as sisters on this faith journey together. We might be single or married, have children or not. We are a group for the young-at-heart, and we seek to have meaningful conversations about our lives of faith amidst the real struggles and challenges that come our way. We are a casual group that practices trust and unconditional love. We hope you'll join us on January 4 as we begin a new year supporting one another through our journeys of life and faith!
Contacts: Sarah Loyd and Pastor Leslie

Men’s Work Retreat at Camp Chrysalis

All Christ Lutheran men are invited to a work retreat at Lutheran Camp Chrysalis (close to Kerrville), on the weekend of January 19 - 21. On Saturday the 20th, we’ll assist the camp staff with several projects related to the conversion of the old Program Office into the camp’s new Laundry Facility. Arrival is flexible to suit your schedule – we hope you can join us either Friday evening or Saturday morning for the workday. Departure is planned for Sunday morning after breakfast. Evenings are dedicated to stargazing and relaxing by the campfire. Reservations are required so that the camp can provide sufficient meals and lodging. Contact Bob Lynch, (830) 438-3389, or Larry Sulser, (210) 822-6797, for further information and reservations.

Praises to:

- All who participated in the Family Service Association Angel Tree project. Thank you for your generosity!
 - The Soul Sisters and The Mulligans for sorting the gifts for the Angel Tree project.
 - All who helped decorate the Sanctuary and CrossWay for Christmas. Beautiful job!
 - The children who made the dazzling ornaments for the sanctuary Christmas tree.
 - All who volunteered at Boxes of Blessings!
 - All the children who participated in the Sunday School Christmas Pageant, and many thanks to their parents who helped them prepare.
 - Our talented music ministry for the beautiful Lessons and Carols worship, Christmas worship, and bell offerings during the Christmas season.
 - All who helped with the Advent Festival and Cookie Exchange.
 - All the worship helpers and ushers who helped with the Christmas Eve services.
 - Edna Robbins, Carolyn Dufelmeier, Mary Overstreet, and Troy Hall for their help in directing the decorating of the Sanctuary and CrossWay.
 - Lisa Diana and Paul Pfeifer for their help with the Mission Outreach Opportunities.
-

CLC Book Club

Please note the meeting date change. We are meeting on the 2nd Tuesday, January 9, as the 1st Tuesday is so close to the new year.

Thanks to Carolyn Dufelmeier for hosting our December meeting. We had a wonderful time with interesting comments on the reading and great conversation afterwards. In January, our book is *Ahab's Wife The Star Gazer*. Cyndi Manes will be the discussion leader and the meeting will be held at the Primrose House at 6:45 p.m.

Looking forward in February we will be back to the 1st Tuesday, and Willie Hagen will be the discussion leader. The book is *H is for Hawk*. We will once again meet at the Primrose House at 6:45 p.m..

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to assist with the Altar Guild duties each Sunday. The duties are split into three shifts and you only need to volunteer for one shift! Assistance is needed on Saturday mornings to set up the communion for the early service on Sunday, after the early service on Sunday mornings to “reset” the communion, and after the late service to clean it all up. Volunteers usually sign up to do a month at a time.

If you can help, please contact Kay Dahle at 210-650-0478 or e-mail her at kdahle@smhall.org. Thank you in advance for your willingness to serve!

Staff

The Rev. Leslie Price
Pastor

Carrie Jowers
Director of Faith Formation

Dana Ferrero
Director of Day School

Becky Richard
Office Manager/Accountant

Linda Sulser
Administrative Assistant

Dr. Dan Long
Director of Music Ministry

Matthew Goodson
Organist

Ariana Acosta
Youth Choir Director

Sharon Wiedemann
Youth Choir Accompanist

Clara Tenorio
Church “Keeper” &
Nursery Attendant

Sam Tenorio
Custodian

Ryan Loyd
Sound Tech

Congregation Council

Robb Decker, President
Joe Diana, Vice Pres.
Sharon Wiedemann,
Treasurer

Blossom Stobb, Secretary
Sarah Loyd, Trustee
Chris Fidaio, Trustee
Carolyn Dufelmeier, Trustee
Pastor Leslie Price

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ELCA GLOBAL MISSION IN AFRICA

Sunday, January 7



Join us for the beauty of African music, banners, and a presentation by ELCA Global Mission representatives, Andrew Steele and Rahel Mwitula-Williams. Andrew and Rahel recently led an ELCA mission immersion trip to Tanzania and Rwanda, where CLC members, Karen and Lee Mueller, joined them to visit with ELCA missionaries and companion church leaders. They will also be hosting a lunch for anyone interest in learning even more.