

Christ Lutheran Church

Proclaimer

Worship

Sunday Morning
Holy Communion
At 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
beginning September 8.
One service at 9:30 a.m.
on September 1 with
breakfast fellowship at
9:00 a.m.

Education

Beginning September 8:
Sunday Morning –
9:15 a.m. for All
Ages:
Children 3 & up –
*Meet in the
Moench Chapel*
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



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

September 2019

From the Pastor . . .

As September approaches, we recognize that it is time to RALLY!! We are excited to return to two worship services at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. with education for all ages at 9:15 a.m., beginning on Sunday, September 8. Please note, however, that we will **not** have our traditional church picnic that Sunday as we anticipate we will still be worshipping in Fellowship Hall and will not have adequate space for a picnic. We will instead host that picnic as part of our celebration of returning to worship in the Sanctuary, which we are hoping will be sometime at the end of September or beginning of October. Please watch the bulletin and Constant Contact to be apprised of the schedule as it develops for the fall. We are on track with our construction work to date. The tile is being installed as I write, and the wood flooring installation is scheduled to begin next week. The body of the Sanctuary has been painted and the wood beams have been stained and refreshed. It is looking magnificent. As we return to our renewed space, there will be an opportunity to contribute to the Sanctuary project through our Wellspring Appeal. (Read more on page 5.)

In other exciting news, we welcome back Director of Faith Formation, Carrie Jowers, as we kick off our programmatic year. She couldn't have returned at a better time, and she and I just spent a lovely afternoon planning a slate of events for this fall! I know that our youth, children, and families are just as excited as I am to have her back with us in ministry and fellowship. Many thanks to our Call Committee for working so diligently to discern how best to fulfill our ministry needs and welcoming Carrie back after her year away.

I would also like to provide an update regarding our seminary students. As you read in last month's *Proclaimer*, Lisa Diana, our candidate for Word and Service, is taking some time away from her work here as Minister for Mission & Outreach to pursue a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education. We are delighted for her as she begins this next stage in her faith and ministry formation. At the same time, Allyson Pryor, our candidate for Word and Sacrament, has completed her studies at Luther Seminary, earning her Master of Divinity. Congratulations, Allyson! She has one final step in her process, which is to be approved officially by our Synod's Candidacy Committee, the team that oversees ministry fitness and preparedness. After that, Allyson becomes available for a call to a congregation to serve as pastor. While she awaits that call, Allyson has been appointed by our Synod Bishop, Sue Briner, to serve part-time as

Groups

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 beginning
September 11
5:30 p.m. – Sanctuary

Healing Prayer

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
10:00 a.m.
Rode Prayer Chapel

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. – Location TBA

Quilters

Every Tuesday
9:00 a.m. – Primrose House

Sanctuary Choir

Every Wednesday beginning
September 11
7:00 p.m. – Sanctuary

Soul Sisters

Second 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.clcqh.org.

Pastor (Continued from page 1)

Generosity, Racism, and Border Response Coordinator. Allyson has been actively involved in the PEACE for Racial Reconciliation Task Force in our synod. She has an MBA and a background in strategic planning and organizational development. She will also come on in a very small, part-time role at Christ Lutheran, as we help support her during her transition into called ministry, taking over Lisa's duties and additionally assisting Pastor Leslie with some preaching and teaching. We pray for Lisa and Allyson as they continue their ministry formation.

There is so much to look forward to at CLC. I'm excited for where we have been, and I am excited for where we are headed. But most importantly, I am excited to be on that journey with all of you. Thank you for your faithfulness to our congregation, for your vibrant spirits and for your commitment to our community.

– Pastor Leslie

The Lucies are Back!

We invite all women of the church and guests to join us on Sunday, September 15, for Lucy Circle. We meet on the third Sunday of each month during the school year at 9:15 a.m. in the Parlor. Our mission: to read and discuss essays and short stories that open our hearts and minds to others, and give us a better understanding of the pain, joy, life, love, goodness, faith, and realities that people face. We share personal reflections and hope to leave each discussion with enhanced wisdom and compassion. We launch this year with a reading by Anne Lamott, titled "Show Up With Hope." With Earth beset by conflict, climate change, pollution, and other ills, the best-selling author asks, "What better time to be hopeful?" This article from National Geographic, October, 2018, reminds us of many hopeful things all around. Please grab a cup of tea or coffee and join us. If you'd like me to send you a copy of the essay, please email me at janschubert@satx.rr.com.

- Jan Norris

Companionate Ministry

Brenda and Bobby and their children are deeply grateful for the continued generosity and kindness of their Christ Lutheran friends. We asked for your help in getting Brenda's children ready for school and you responded joyfully! All the school supplies, new jeans and outfits, new tennis shoes, socks and underwear will give the kiddos a fresh start and we pray for their success in school and life. Thank you, thank you, thank you!! We hope you'll feel really good about the role you're playing in this family's quest for success!

Faith University, Sunday Mornings, 9:15 a.m., Fellowship Hall

September 8, 15, 22, 29: Generosity in the Age of Too Much

In connection with her recent appointment to the Office of the Bishop, our recent Luther Seminary graduate and pastoral candidate, Allyson Pryor, will share how we can be transformed by generosity as a faith practice. The class will include Bible study, personal reflection, and fun activities that help each of us explore our relationship with the many gifts we have received from God.

October 6: Ngong Road Ministries

We are delighted to welcome back to CLC, one of our benevolence partners, Ngong Road Ministries. This crucial ministry provides support and education for Nairobi children living in poverty to transform their lives after their families have been affected by HIV/AIDS. Visiting with us that Sunday will be the in-country Program Director, Kelvin, who is visiting the U.S. from Kenya in October. We will also be delighted to welcome back Lacy Kraft, Ngong Road's Development Director. Together, they will give us an update on the ministries our benevolence dollars support and the impact they are making on children's lives in Kenya.

October 13, 20, 27 and November 10, 17: Short Stories by Jesus

Drawing upon the work of New Testament scholar, Amy-Jill Levine, Pastor Leslie will offer a five-class series on parables. Together we will reconsider several familiar parables found in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Levine writes, "Parables bring to the surface unasked questions, and they reveal the answers we have always known, but refuse to acknowledge." We will look at parables in their original, first-century context so we can appreciate them more fully. We will debunk some of the traditional interpretations that often limit our perspectives, and we will open new pathways to engaging and finding fresh perspectives on these well-known passages.

November 3: Dia de los Muertos Event

On November 3, we will gather for our traditional inter-generational celebration of Dia de los Muertos on All Saints Sunday.

November 24: Fair Trade Sunday

Hollye Schwarze will once again provide us an opportunity to make fair trade purchases as we approach the holidays, offering for sale a variety of products which ensure that the producers are paid a fair wage. Coffee, teas, toys, clothing, and much more will all be for sale! Come support fair trade!

December 1, 8: The Christmas Story According to the Gospels

Join Pastor Leslie as together we look at the Christmas Story from a fresh perspective, contrasting and comparing how each of the Gospel writers chose to present the story of God's incarnation on earth.

Member News

Baptisms:

- Audrey Christianson, daughter of Logan & Mollie Christianson on August 18.

Children's Choir

It's time to get ready to sing! We have a few changes to our children's choir for the fall that we're super excited about. This year we will have one children's choir, Gloria Choir, for Kindergarten-8th grades. Mary Villarreal, a music educator with many years of experience teaching, will be back leading the choir again this year along with Sharon Wiedemann as our faithful accompanist.

The children and youth will learn introits, hymns, anthems, and benedictions. Choir rehearsals are fun and educational. The children will assist in worship once a month. In December the choir will have the opportunity to sing on a River Barge. What a great way to make memories that will last a lifetime. Please join us on Wednesday, September 11, from 5:30-6:15 p.m. in the church sanctuary for our first rehearsal.

Wednesday Night Choir Schedule for the Fall:

Wednesday, September 11 - December 11. No rehearsal on November 27 (Happy Thanksgiving!).

Singing in Worship at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sundays October 6, November 10, and December 8. Please arrive at the choir risers by 10:00 a.m. on those Sundays.

Sunday School: Coffee & Conversation

Our casual opportunity for Sunday morning adult education meets in the Primrose House. We typically start around 9:30 a.m. after folks have had a chance to get a cup of coffee and check in with one another a bit. This gathering offers the opportunity to relax and join in conversation around various topics of faith and life. We will also rotate leaders for short discussions on the readings of the day and how they relate to our Christian faith. It is fun and relaxing. We hope you will join us.

- Joe Diana

Sanctuary Wellspring Appeal

Throughout our history, CLC has been blessed by the faithful and generous stewardship and bequests of members who preceded us in death. We are grateful to stand on these steadfast “stewardship shoulders,” and we are still inspired by their faith and generosity. Their gifts have enabled us to provide a wellspring of resources over the 89-year history of Christ Lutheran. Most recently, a significant portion of these gifts, which had been invested while awaiting fruition, served as the financial impetus for our congregation to undertake the Sanctuary renewal project that advances our welcoming mission. We are blessed and grateful for their legacy, which will make our space more vibrant and inviting to all who worship with us.

The Congregation Council believes that blending these legacy gifts with contributions from those of us today who call Christ Lutheran our church home will give each of us a personal connection to the Sanctuary beautification. We are asking you to consider a gift in whatever amount you are able. Even the smallest gifts contribute to the whole. Your gift to the Sanctuary Wellspring Appeal allows you to partner in faith and stewardship with our departed benefactors to bring this exciting project to life. Your gifts will offset the Sanctuary renovation costs and play a meaningful part in advancing our mission into the future.

We hope to return to worship in the Sanctuary in late September or early October. On our first Sunday back in the Sanctuary, when we dedicate our renewed space, we will recognize and offer these gifts in gratitude for the generosity of God’s faithful who have gone before us and in thanksgiving for our enhanced worship space. Together we will give praise to God as we celebrate this renewed sacred space where all are welcome.

- CLC Congregation Council

Soul Sisters

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 conversation 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. We meet on second Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at Julian’s in Sunset Ridge. Our first meeting for the year is October 10. Please contact the church office if you will need child care.

- Caitlyn Zwang

Mulligans

Mulligans is a welcoming group of 20-40-somethings who are dads, singles, or married men with or without children. This group of young and young-ish men invites other guys to the group for great conversation to find a deeper meaning of your faith, yourself, and your family. It's a no-pressure place of trust and commitment to each other. We welcome ideas for service projects. Please consider making Mulligans your time for friendship and faith. We meet at 6:30 p.m. on second Tuesdays. Location is TBD. Next meeting is October 8. Call Casey, Chad, or the church office for the location.

- Casey Passant & Chad Burkhardt

Rally Day & Sunday School Start September 8

Welcome to Rally Day 2019! Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 a.m. for all ages and we want you!

Preschool through kindergarten age children will be engaged in Godly Play. Godly Play is storytelling based on Montessori principles. Each lesson will include time to get ready, tell a story using objects and then explore with questions.

Elementary age children will be using Whirl by Spark. Children will connect with the Bible text used during worship, focus on key stories and discover their faith with others in one classroom. Sunday School is a great time for our children to explore their faith with peers and begin to forge meaningful relationships with their church family.

Stepping Stone for our 3-Year-Old Children Entering Sunday School Sunday, September 8

At Christ Lutheran, we welcome 3-year-old children to begin a new stage of their faith development by beginning Sunday School. To honor this big step in their lives, we will welcome these children and their families to come forward for a special blessing during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, September 8 (Rally Day). At this time, each child will be given a Spark Story Bible as a way to enter their faith journey at church and at home with their families.

FX3 (6th-8th grades) and The Light (9th-12th grades)

FX3 (Friends, Fellowship & Faith) and The Light kick off on Sunday, September 15 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Generally, these groups meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays each month for Bible study, fellowship, and fun. Our September schedule will be a little different. We will meet for our regular group activity on September 15. On Saturday, September 21, the youth will host a booth at the Cross Trails Fall Fest in Fredericksburg. The funds collected will help defray the cost for travel to The Gathering that will take place in Minneapolis in the summer of 2021.

Confirmation Class (6th-8th grade)

Through our confirmation program, we seek to encourage, inspire, and nurture students as they experience God's baptismal promises, grow in their faith and understanding, and discover what it means to be God's people in the world today. We tackle the stuff that defines our Lutheran religion, such as the Bible, theology, and the Small Catechism. Most importantly, we learn about the grace and love of God.

On four select Wednesday evenings (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) throughout the year, we will spend time in a large group, hearing interactive presentations by Pastor Leslie that cover the upcoming topics for the next several weeks in Sunday school. On Sunday mornings (9:15 to 10:15 a.m.), students will gather with their Sunday school teachers to talk in-depth about the topics covered in large group and how they might apply this learning to their lives.

Our first Wednesday large group of the year will take place in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, September 4. We invite all parents and students (6th - 8th grades) to come at 5:30 p.m. to Fellowship Hall for an orientation. Following the orientation, our large group class will take place, and we will end at 8:00 p.m. Pizza will be provided for all at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, September 8 (Rally Day) upstairs in the Youth Fellowship Room. We are looking forward to an exciting year!

Important Dates for Children & Youth

- Wednesday, September 4 - 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Orientation, 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (Dinner provided)
- Sunday, September 8 - Rally Day, Sunday School and Confirmation kick off at 9:15 a.m. (Please note there will be no church picnic this day)
- Sunday, September 8 - Stepping Stone (3-year-old children receive Bibles at the 10:30 a.m. worship service)
- Wednesday, September 11 - Wednesday Night Gloria Choir begins at 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, September 15 - The Light and FX3 Bible studies begin 5:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. (6th -12th grade)
- Tuesday, October 29 - Trunk or Treat 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, November 3 - All Saints Sunday (All Congregation Event at 9:15 a.m.)
- Sunday, November 10 - Pageant rehearsals begin during Sunday School (3 years old through 5th grade)
- Sunday, December 1– Hanging of the Greens: Children decorate ornaments for the Christmas Tree
- Sunday, December 8 - Advent Festival in Fellowship Hall, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 14 - Pageant rehearsal 10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
- Sunday, December 15 - Christmas Pageant at 9:15 a.m. in Sanctuary, children should arrive by 8:00 a.m.
- Sunday, December 22 & 29 - No Sunday School, Christmas break.

Small Group Ministry Sunday!

September 22

It's time for another year of wonderful fellowship and ministry in the form of all the amazing small groups we have at Christ Lutheran! On Sunday, September 22, we will celebrate the small groups within our faith community – groups that seek to care, pray, engage, and serve for the sake of growing together spiritually to become a dwelling place for God.

Our NEW small group ministry brochure will be unveiled on Sunday, September 22, and all members of Christ Lutheran will be encouraged to consider where they might want to be involved. Our small groups range in focus, including: Bible studies, service, worship-oriented, fellowship, and special interests. The brochure also highlights the many wonderful music ministries in which members are invited to participate.

We currently have almost 50 groups, but if there is something you're interested in that you can't find, please chat with Pastor Leslie about starting up a new group. To get in the 2019-2020 Small Group Ministries brochure, please talk to Pastor Leslie by Sunday, September 8.

Praises to:

- All who purchased school supplies for Brenda's children and Lutheran World Relief, and backpack supplies for the Interfaith Welcome Coalition. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. If you continue to find some great prices for school supplies, you can bring them for Lutheran World Relief through the month of September.
- All the super moms who have worked diligently to organize and facilitate our Sunday School program for our young children. Thanks for all your amazing dedication and creativity! Let's keep the momentum going!
- All who attended the SA Food Bank service project!
- The Visitation and Eucharist Ministry team, the Liturgical Planning group, and the Welcome Team for their extra effort and time.

CLC Book Club

Celebrate your love of reading! Join us for good books and great friends! In September, we will discuss Good Old Boys by Elmer Kelton. In October, the book is Garlic and Sapphires, the secret life of a critic in disguise by Ruth Reich. In November, The Heart Mender by Andy Andrews. Join the group that loves to share impressions of the books each month while enjoying each other's company. Even if you haven't read the book, you are always welcome! Call the church office or Edna Robbins for more information. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month in Primrose House at 6:45 p.m.

Habitat for Humanity Build Friday, October 11, Saturday, October 12

Christ Lutheran Church continues to work with Habitat for Humanity in building affordable homes in our community. Since 1999, Christ Lutheran has helped sponsor and build homes as a member of the South Texas Lutheran Cluster. CLC volunteers contribute their time, labor, and prayers to assist a selected family to build a structure they will call home. This fall, the Lutheran Cluster will sponsor a house in Lenwood Heights at **5207 Enid St, 78237**.

CLC has designated the 11th and 12th of October as our service days. You can also sign up for any of the workdays online at www.HabitatSA.org. Sign-In begins at 7:45 a.m. and the safety briefing begins at 8:00 a.m. Because of the type of work being performed, the age requirement for workers is 16 years and up. No building experience is needed, and all tools will be provided on site. Each house is assigned a building supervisor, and that person will provide all the necessary guidance.

Please note: closed-toed shoes are required for all, even lunch providers. Bring your own water bottle to reduce trash at the building site.

Adult Volunteer Waivers can be completed on-site or printed out and turned in when you arrive. **Under-18 Volunteer Waivers** will be available on site but must have a guardian's signature for the minor to be able to work.

A reminder to check in at one of the following places the night before and also at 6:30 a.m. the day of the build for any last-minute delays or cancellations of the build: www.HabitatSA.org
<https://www.facebook.com/HabitatforHumanityofSanAntonio/> or 210-223-5203 x 184 for a recorded message

A sign-up roster for October 11 and 12 will be posted in CrossWay. There will also be a map providing the directions to Lenwood Heights.

Staff

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor
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
Mary Villarreal
Youth Choir Director
Sharon Wiedemann
Youth Choir Accompanist
Allyson Pryor
Interim Pastoral Assistant
Carrie Jowers
Director of Faith Formation
Brandon Albrecht
Asst. to Director of Faith Formation
Clara Tenorio
Church "Keeper" & Nursery Attendant
Sam Tenorio
Custodian
Jesus Garcia
Sound Tech

Congregation Council

Robb Decker, *President*
Lori Harris, *Vice Pres.*
Sharon Wiedemann,
Treasurer
Heather Rosenquist,
Secretary
David Hough, *Trustee*
Chris Fidaó, *Trustee*
Carolyn Dufelmeier,
Trustee
Pastor Leslie Price

Christ Lutheran
Church
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Rally Day

Sunday, September 8

8:00 a.m and 10:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
10:30 a.m. Bible Stepping Stone for 3 year-old Children