



PROCLAIMER

Christ Lutheran Church

January 2026

Worship

**Sunday Morning
Holy Communion**
8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Livestream
10:30 a.m.

Christian Education
for all ages
9:30 a.m.

Office

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
210-822-3394
office@clcah.org

From the Pastor . . .

Jesus and the Hebrew Scriptures: It's all about justice.

As we read through the Bible each year in our Sunday morning lectionary, we often read of Jesus quoting the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament). Jesus was deeply familiar with the sacred writings of his Jewish faith. Most commonly, Jesus quoted the Prophets and the Psalms. The Gospel writers make clear that Jesus was a literate rabbi (teacher) of the Hebrew Bible (Luke 4:16-17).

Throughout his earthly ministry, Jesus emphasized especially two themes of the Hebrew prophets: justice and righteousness. The Biblical justice of which Jesus spoke described the establishment or restoration of fairness, equitable, and harmonious relationships among all people, regardless of their age, gender, or their religious or ethnic backgrounds. This was a strong message to those who bore generational suspicions of individuals or groups "other" than one's own. It still is.

Jesus also preached the Hebrew virtue of righteousness, which focuses on behaviors that attend to the responsibilities of our relationships, whether with God or with one another. Persons of faith cannot separate justice and righteousness. Both are based on our relationships with God and with others in the societies in which we live.

In our Lutheran tradition, we seek to balance the law and the gospel – rules and salvation by grace. As we begin this new year, I am prayerful that we attend to matters of justice and righteousness not only because they are rules set down in the Scriptures, but because they are opportunities for us to be witnesses for Jesus in daily living.

It is not a "chore" or burden to support the Food Bank, but an opportunity to serve our neighbors in San Antonio who may need a hand this coming year. It won't be a demand that we contribute to Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services) but rather a chance to welcome an immigrant family. It can be a celebration of faith to embrace a new arrival to our community who risked all they had to find freedom and safety with us in our country.

The year 2026 will offer occasions to share the faith in ways obedient to our Lord's provision of opportunity: to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly (Micah 6:8). As we open our hearts and homes to advance justice, doing so, not in obligation but in joy, will be living in true righteousness.

- Pastor H

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Faith University in January, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

- **January 4 – Epiphany Party for all ages**
- **January 11, 18, & 25 - Discover the Bible Like Never Before with Rev. David Schulte**

Join us on a journey through Scripture with a captivating series of short, animated videos that explore the Bible in fresh and meaningful ways. Together, we'll dive into:

- What the Bible is and where it came from
- Its overarching story and central themes
- The rich variety of literary styles it contains
- And most importantly, why engaging with the Bible daily is essential for us as the people of God

** Spoiler alert: The Bible transforms lives.

These beautifully crafted videos are produced by The Bible Project, a team of creatives from diverse Christian traditions united by a shared mission—to make the Bible accessible and compelling for today's world. Whether you're new to Scripture or looking to deepen your understanding, this series is designed for you. Come ready to be inspired, challenged, and changed.

Children and Youth Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

We encourage our children to participate in our Sunday School programs here at CLC. All ages will meet in the children's chapel for a daily message and song followed by breakout groups by age. Sunday School is led by our faithful and amazing church members along with the Director of Faith Formation, Blythe Boeck.

Preschool (3 years old - Kindergarten)

We will jump into the wonder of learning the Bible stories through the Godly Play curriculum. Patti Lynch, Beth Whitten, and Deacon Lisa Diana will be the lead Sunday school teachers for this class.

Elementary (1st - 5th Grades)

This year, students will be exploring the great stories of the Bible through storytelling and art. Rhonda Barsalou and Natalie Stone will lead storytelling through the Old Testament, focusing on a different story each week and Suz Braaten, Scott Merkord, and Elizabeth Yust will lead the art component.

Confirmation (6th - 8th Grades)

Confirmands will meet with Ms. Blythe to dive further into the information discussed within each confirmation unit. They will have group discussions on topics covered and explore more about their faith.

If you have any questions about Sunday School or are interested in volunteering, please contact Ms. Blythe at blythe@clcah.org.

Confirmation Class: (6th through 8th Grade) Wednesday, October 8, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Confirmation Class will meet on Wednesday, January 7, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. upstairs in the education wing with Pastor Leslie. We will have pizza to make the evening easier to manage. We will be studying Jesus' life and ministry.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRY

Children's Choirs, Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Angelicus (pre-K) and Gloria (K - 5th grade) Choirs January Information and Spring Schedule!



The Gloria and Angelicus Choirs are looking forward to a fun and musical spring semester at Christ Lutheran. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, January 7, at 5:30 p.m. and run every Wednesday through May 13, except for the following Wednesdays:

- February 18 – Ash Wednesday
- March 11 – Spring Break
- April 1 – Holy Week

Angelicus Choir will sing in Worship at the 10:30 a.m. service on:

- February 1
- March 15
- April 12
- May 10 (Mother's Day)

Gloria Choir will sing in Worship at the 10:30 a.m. service on: TBD

Community Dinners, Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Everyone is invited to join us for Community Dinners following children's choir practice on Wednesday nights at **6:15 p.m.** These evenings are a wonderful opportunity for **all ages** to gather, share a meal, and enjoy fellowship together midweek.

If you're able to help by providing food, serving, or assisting with setup or cleanup, we'd love your support. Please use the link below to sign up.

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044FA8A82CA4F85-61335988-wednesday>



We hope you'll come hungry and ready to connect!



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach Update

There's an old camp song that starts, "It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around will warm up to its glowing . . ." Sometimes that is how I feel about Mission and Outreach. We don't always see the acts of kindness that people do, but through these sparks God is working to create warmth and hope for others, and as each act of service or love is added to this fire, each person who experiences it wants to pass it on. As we are beginning the new year of 2026, I am thinking about how all the small gifts and contributions that our congregation has given have amounted to something greater together. These gestures of hope and love have fed our neighbors, kept them warm, encouraged them, given them greater opportunity, and joy.

This was true especially at Christmas time when we donated toys to Inner City Development for their toy store. Jan Schubert and I loaded up our cars with the toys our congregation so generously donated, and we delivered them to Inner City. What a joyful sight – volunteers from the neighborhood and other churches were sorting and displaying toys, games, bicycles, baby toys, puzzles, sports equipment, and arts and crafts. Each section looked like a real toy store. We could imagine the happy families coming by the next day to shop for their kiddos at a 90% discount! And while we were there, a Harlandale ISD school bus dropped off a bunch of teenagers from Upward Bound who came to help. A true community project.

We also collected baby items for a vulnerable family. When we are treating the least of these with care, so are we welcoming Jesus into our midst. I'm looking forward to how we can respond to our neighbors in this new year. We are going to start by having a food drive for the Food Bank in January and organizing another volunteer opportunity to feed the hungry in February, so watch for more on these upcoming events.

Another recent venture has been our participation in a project, Tapestry of Care, hosted by the Congregational Collective, which aims to equip our congregations to respond to those struggling with mental health issues, as a safe and welcoming place to go and receive support as well as resources/referrals. Through this project not only are we hoping to increase access to those who need it, but to transform how we see our neighbor, not as someone who is "other" but as a companion, a friend, in which there is mutuality and love. We have formed a team around this mission to love our neighbors and will be sharing more information about the trainings that are available. If this is a team you would like to join, please contact Deacon Lisa Diana at lisa@clciah.org. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Our next Mission and Outreach Team meeting will meet **Monday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parlor and on Zoom. All are welcome to attend.

- Deacon Lisa Diana



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Food Drive for San Antonio Food Bank through January!

The Mission and Outreach Team is hosting a food drive for the San Antonio Food Bank in **the month of January!**

Please bring your food donations to the CrossWay or you can write a check to Christ Lutheran Church and designate it for the San Antonio Food Bank. Some of the most requested items are: **Baby food and Diapers, Beans, Canned Lunch Meats, Cereal, Chili and Soups, Full Meals Can/Box, Mac and Cheese, Peanut Butter, Pet Food, Poptop Food Items, Rice, and Tuna.**

Donating to the Food Bank?

Here are some tips:

We found the following from a Food Bank volunteer who visited with folks coming to access food. Here are some tips she shares, which might be helpful as CLC collects Food Bank offerings this month.

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac and Cheese in a box. They can rarely use it because it needs milk and butter which are hard to get from regular food banks.
2. Boxed milk is a treasure, as kids need it for cereal which they also get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce and spaghetti noodles.
4. They cannot eat all the awesome canned veggies and soup unless you include a can opener or buy pop tops.
5. Oil is a luxury but needed for Rice a Roni and other donated foods.
6. Spices, salt, and pepper would be a real Christmas gift.
7. Tea bags and coffee make them feel like you care.
8. Sugar and flour are treats.
9. They fawn over fresh produce donated by farmers and grocery stores.
10. Seeds are cool in spring and summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Tuna and crackers make a good lunch.
12. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but usually not sandwich bread.
13. Cake mix and frosting make it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
14. Dishwashing detergent is very expensive and is always appreciated.
15. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury, and women will cry over that.
16. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.



Bake Sale Raised \$746!

Our Mission and Outreach Thanksgiving Bake Sale raised **\$746.00**, which will go to families in need. Thanks to everyone who prepared, donated, and purchased all the yummy baked goods!

116 Pairs of Socks Collected by CLC Book Club

In December, the CLC Book Club hosted a sock collection event for our benevolence partner, Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM), at their Christmas party. We were able to collect 116 pairs of socks for those in need. Thank you for all of your generosity.

- Willie Hagen

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Un-hanging” of the Greens, January 4

Help! We need lots of willing folks to join in the “un-decorating” project following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on January 4. 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 share the work. It goes quickly! We promise. Thank you in advance for helping!

Liturgical Planning Team Meeting, Tuesday, January 6, 5:30 p.m.

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? The 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 the concept, 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 Tuesday, January 6, at 5:30 p.m. in the Parlor to plan for Lent and Holy Week. A light dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Leslie or the office to let us know you will be there!

Visitor & New Member Wine & Cheese Thursday, January 22, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

The CLC Welcome Team invites all visitors and new members to a Wine and Cheese gathering in the CrossWay on Thursday, January 22, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. We will gather for lively conversation in a casual and comfortable setting to get to know one another better. There will also be special activities for the children with Ms. Blythe. Please join us and get to know more about CLC in an evening of fellowship, fun, and food.

Men’s Work Retreat at Camp Chrysalis, February 20 - 22



MEN'S WORK RETREAT

CAMP CHRYSALIS
FEBRUARY 20-22

Calling all CLC men! Join us for a service and fellowship opportunity in the great outdoors of the Texas Hill Country.

We will gather Friday evening for dinner and fellowship, work on Saturday, followed by more fellowship, and depart on Sunday after breakfast.

Cost for meals and lodging is \$100, due January 16.

Contact Joe Diana, jnldiana@att.net, 210-607-9839, for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLC Women's Retreat at Mustang Island Retreat Center February 27 - March 1, 2026



CLC Women's Retreat: A Breath of Life February 27-March 1, 2026

Mustang Island Retreat Center

Visit <https://bit.ly/clcahwomens>
or use QR Code to register and for
additional payment information



Questions? email baden.tessa@gmail.com

Cost for the Retreat is \$300 per person and includes double occupancy lodging and all meals.
Speak to Pastor Leslie for scholarship information.

CLC is heading to Family Camp at the BEACH July 30 to August 2, 2026

In late July/early August, we invite you to spend a long weekend on the beach for Family Camp at the Mustang Island Episcopal Retreat Center! We use the term "family" loosely as singles and couples without children also are invited! It's about gathering with our church "family." Everyone stays in a beautifully furnished room with a private deck and bathroom and a view of the Gulf of Mexico. The program begins on a Thursday afternoon/evening and continues through Sunday lunch. Enjoy swimming, singing, surfing, arts & crafts, delicious meals, beach games, fishing, resting under a beach umbrella, a campfire, worship with great music, biblically-based teaching, and more. Last year we had almost 70 people attend from Christ Lutheran, and we all had such a wonderful time! Online registration is now open. Folks are encouraged to make their reservations soon as space fills up quickly (usually it's full around mid-March). Pricing: 1 person - \$460, 2 people - \$620, 3 people - \$800, 4 people - \$990. Children under 2 are free. To register: <https://www.dwtx.org/events/mustang-island-family-camp-session-10>

THANK YOU FROM THE STAFF

Every year we are so touched at the gift given to the staff from the congregation. We are grateful for your encouragement and support. We love what we do, but your kindness makes this a truly rewarding place to work and do ministry. Thank you!

- Pastor Leslie, Pastor H, Deacon Lisa, Blythe, Ainslee, Dan, Jeff, Mary, Carolyn, Sharon, Jesus, Clara, and Sam

DAY SCHOOL

Day School In House and Open Registration for the 2026 - 2027 School Year

As we begin planning for the year ahead, Christ Lutheran Day School is excited to announce registration details for the 2026-2027 school year. We are grateful for the continued support of our families and church community, and we look forward to welcoming both returning and new students.

In-House Registration will take place January 6 through January 16. This registration period is reserved for current students, church members, and alumni, giving our Christ Lutheran families the first opportunity to secure a spot for their child. If you are a church member, you qualify to participate in this in-house window and are encouraged to register early.

Open Registration will begin on January 22 and will be available to the wider community. Please note that all enrollment spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, and classes often fill quickly.

Christ Lutheran Day School is committed to providing a nurturing, faith-filled environment where children can grow academically, socially, and spiritually. Whether you are continuing your journey with us or considering joining our school family for the first time, we are thankful for your interest and partnership.

Please contact the Day School office at (210) 822-7671 for more information on enrollment.



Christ Lutheran Day School
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- 18 MONTHS-6 YEARS

SMALL GROUP CORNER

CLC Book Club, Tuesday, January 6, 6:45 p.m., Primrose House

Readers, please join the CLC Book Club in the Primrose House on Tuesday, January 6, at 6:45 p.m. to discuss Briar Club by Kate Quinn.

Living in Interesting Times, Thursdays in January, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Living in Interesting Times will meet Thursdays, January 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The goals of the group are to support each other during difficult times, be informed about what is happening in our world, and take collective action where appropriate.

January 8 will be a check in following the holidays, and an excellent time for new members to get oriented and share their interests.

Rev. Charles Fredrickson, an ELCA pastor and member of the San Antonio Chapter of Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, will be a guest presenter on January 15. He will discuss why Lutherans support the separation of religion and government, and how Lutherans approach issues in Texas such as state-sponsored prayer and Bible reading times in public schools, the posting of the Baptist Ten Commandments in classrooms, chaplains replacing counselors, book bans, and related topics.

Plans for January 22 and 29 are still pending. Please tell the group of any guest presenters you want to experience in the future.

All adults of all religious backgrounds are invited but must agree to two rules. No individual or group is to be quoted outside the group, and nothing is to be done which could cause harm to anyone. Sessions are not recorded and there are no written notes.

Please contact Paul Ziese for more information. Call the church office for his contact information.

Lunch Bunch, Thursday, January 15, Noon, Fellowship Hall

Lunch Bunch invites seniors to gather for lunch on the third Thursday of the month. We have had quite a big turnout for this event lately, so come join the fun and be a part of it. We would love to have you!

Fellowship with the Fellas, Thursday, January 29, 6:30 p.m., Wild Barley

In January, our men's group, Fellowship with the Fellas, will meet at Wild Barley (8403 Broadway) on Thursday, 29 at 6:30 p.m. for good conversation and fun! This new small group has been building momentum throughout the fall and would love to have even more men join them! If you're interested or have questions, please speak with Jayme Brown.

Lucy Circle, Sunday, January 18, 9:30 a.m., Parlor

CLC women are invited to Lucy Circle on Sunday, January 18 in the CLC Parlor to discuss an article by Gloria Steinem titled, "Families Born and Chosen," from Steinem's book, The Truth Will Set You Free, But First It Will Piss You Off! Linda Cornwell will lead the discussion. If you would like a copy of this short article, let me know.

- Jan Schubert Norris

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CORNER

A Message from the Director of Faith Formation

December was a joyful month for our youth ministry as we anticipated the coming of Jesus. Throughout Advent, all the Earth waits in hope. From worship to service to celebration, our youth experienced the season in ways that reminded us that the good news of Jesus is shared and celebrated across cultures and countries.

We also gathered for an **Advent Festival**, where youth explored global Advent traditions through hands-on activities, food, and fellowship.

One of the highlights of the month was our **Christmas Pageant**, which truly brought our theme to life. The youth helped lead us on a journey around the world, sharing the story of Christ's birth through the many celebrations and traditions held across the globe. Their enthusiasm and dedication shone brightly!

Thank you to our youth, volunteers, and families for making this December so special. It was a beautiful reminder that while Christmas looks different around the world, the message of hope, joy, peace, and love remains the same for all. We will kick off January with an **Epiphany Party for all ages on Sunday, January 4**. This will be a joyful celebration of the Wise Men and the light of Christ revealed to the world, with fun activities, fellowship, and plenty of ways for all generations to participate.

Sunday School will resume on January 11, and we are excited to welcome children and youth back as we continue hearing and interacting with stories from the Old Testament.

I look forward to a wonderful new year with our youth and families.

-Blythe



Spring FX3 Events



SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS FOR:

- Laurence Lee and his family as they grieve the loss of his father, Leslie Lee, who died on November 30, 2025.
- Larry Sulser and his family as they grieve the loss of his mother, Ruth Sulser, who died on December 4, 2025.

PRAISES TO:

- The congregation for their generous gifts to the CLC staff
- The music ministry for the beautiful Lessons & Carols service
- Our children who brought the Christmas story to life in the Christmas pageant
- All who donated toys to Inner City Development
- Our ushers and worship assistants who welcome all to worship with cheerful hearts
- Everyone who baked and purchased baked goods at the Mission & Outreach Bake Sale

STAFF

The Rev. Leslie Price

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl

Pastor

Blythe Boeck

Director of Faith Formation

Dana Ferraro

Director of Day School

Ainslee Ford

Office Manager & Accountant

Deacon Lisa Diana

Minister of Mission & Outreach

Dr. Dan Long

Director of Music Ministry

Jeff Hammack

Organist

Mary Patino

Youth Choir Director

Sharon Wiedemann

Youth Choir Accompanist

Sam Tenorio

Custodian

Jesus Garcia

A/V Tech

Carolyn Dufelmeier

Event Coordinator

Clara Tenorio

Nursery Attendant

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Michael Fischer

President

Bryan Woods

Vice-President

Jeff Timm

Treasurer

Paul Pfeifer

Secretary

Karen Corder

At-Large Member

James Ehler

At-Large Member

Edna Robbins

At-Large Member

The Rev. Leslie Price

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl

Pastor



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Christ Lutheran Church

GROWING TOGETHER

6720 Broadway
San Antonio, TX 78209
clcah.org
210.822.3397



EPIPHANY PARTY

Children of all ages are invited to a party to celebrate the season of light! Join us for crafts, games, food, and fun!



Sunday, January 4
9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall