

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
220 S. Main Street
DeForest, WI 53532
Return Service Requested

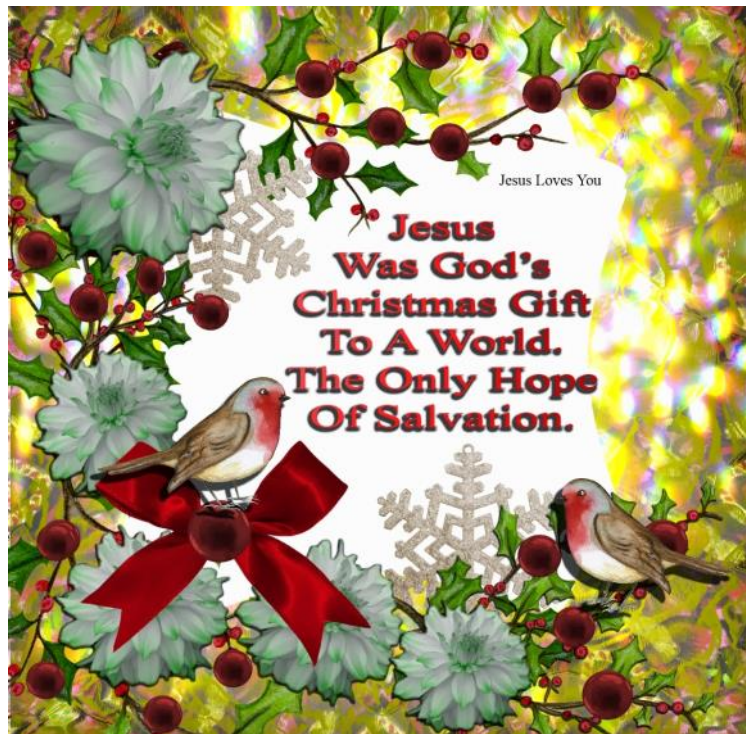


The Door Post

*Ask, and it will be given you;
search, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened for you.*

Matthew 7:8

December 2023





**IN-PERSON SUNDAY
WORSHIP**

Service at 8 am and 10:30 am
Sunday School at 9:15

Christlutherandeforest.org
Or [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

PUBLICATION DATE: December 1, 2023

2023

Church Council

Judd Blau, President	Vicki Sobczak, Vice-President
Gus Knitt, Treasurer	Jen Lockman, Secretary
Mark Zimmerman	Randy Hanson, Worship & Music
Sandy Legried, Christian Ed	Nancy Johnson, Fellowship
Jim Emerson, Stewardship	Michelle Gest, Youth & Family
Jenny Wiersma, Altar Guild	Vicky Heimbecker, Stephen Min.

CONTACT US:

Phone: 846-4718 or 846-4719

Email: office@christlutherandeforest.org

Website: www.christlutherandeforest.org

CHURCH OFFICE

Mon–Thurs 9 am—3 pm

PASTOR

Pastor Sue Beadle

STAFF

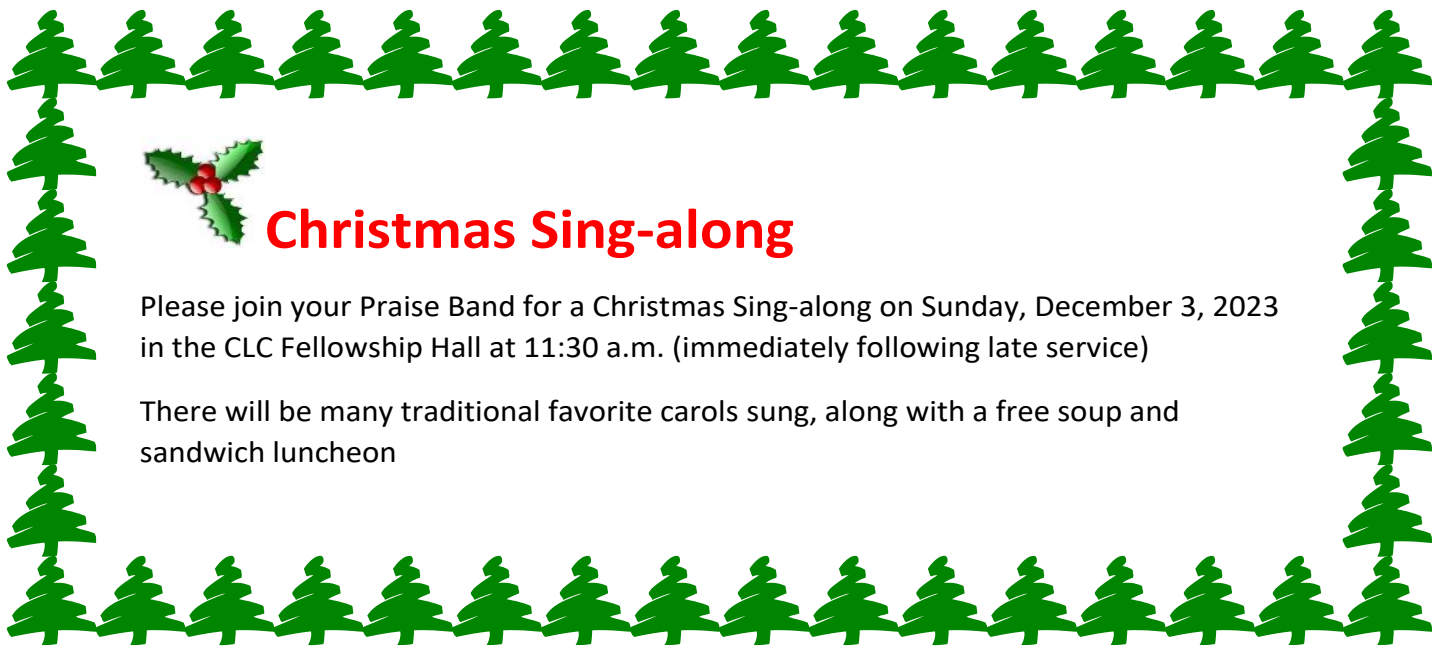
Karen Berg, Office

Alice Marohl, Office

Burgess Andruss, Maintenance

Neil McLaughlin, Choir Director

Deacon Bonnie Vize, Organist



Christmas Sing-along

Please join your Praise Band for a Christmas Sing-along on Sunday, December 3, 2023 in the CLC Fellowship Hall at 11:30 a.m. (immediately following late service)

There will be many traditional favorite carols sung, along with a free soup and sandwich luncheon

Pastor Sue's December Newsletter Article 2023



I love the Christmas hymn, “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear,” even though it never mentions Jesus by name. It’s a beautiful song that talks about both the glory of the angels singing “Peace on earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all gracious king,” and it also talks about “You, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low.” The reality of Christmas is both of those things—joy and pain, peace and despair. We would so much like to breeze through the holidays with no anxiety, no stress, no strain—but that doesn’t often happen.

I wonder if we think we have to have a “perfect” Christmas with “perfect” gifts, “perfect” meals, “perfect” decorations, etc., etc., etc. I know I put a lot of time into decorating, shopping, wrapping, and planning for what I hope will be a wonderful Christmas celebration. It took me awhile to let go of the idea that everything had to be “perfect,” because of course, it never is and it doesn’t need to be.

If you are feeling the stress of the holidays, sing this verse from “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear:”

And you, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!

Look for the angels in your life who will help make your heart glad. Make sure you rest, because there you will hear the angels sing. I pray your Christmas celebrations will be life-giving and not life-draining. Do what you can do to bring joy to your loved ones and to receive joy from your loved ones. The birth of Jesus our Savior should be a time to look into the lowly manger where a beautiful baby boy lays looking at you with great love—the Son of God, love’s pure light, born for you and me and every person on this earth. May you experience the gift of God’s great love this Christmas season in profound, yet simple ways.

“While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in bands of cloth, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2: 6-7)

Christmas blessings to you,
Pastor Sue



Lutefisk Dinner Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped to once again make our Lutefisk Dinner such a huge success! It was an exceptional day, as we served a delicious traditional Norwegian meal to about 1,400 guests from all over Wisconsin and our neighboring states of Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, and from as far away as New York! This intergenerational ministry, with members of all ages joining together to serve, is a gift to our guests, and a joy to experience. The many happy faces and glowing reports of those leaving the Fellowship Hall spoke volumes for all the hard work that went into this event.

It's such a blessing to see so many of our Church family (over 160) working together, and getting better acquainted in the process, so again, thank you! A special thank you to those who helped to prepare for the dinner ahead of the big day: the lutefisk crew at the Manthe-Paulson farm; those doing promotions and helping with the administrative work involved; all the crews helping prepare rutabagas, meatballs and coleslaw; the set-up group in Fellowship Hall and Norse Corner; and the cold food packing crew for carry-outs. Also, a very special thank you to Pastor Sue and Alice, Karen and Burg, who all take on a tremendous amount of extra work throughout our Lutefisk season. And as always, special thanks to the decorating team for the many displays that help turn our Church into such a delightful celebration of the harvest season.

David Erickson
Lutefisk Committee Chair

Lutefisk Dinner – Food for Sale

We still have some food to sell after the Lutefisk and Meatball dinner! Here are some of the items available for purchase:

- Lefse – small bag \$4; large bag \$17
- Lutefisk – 5# bags at \$9.00 per pound
- Herring – 26 oz. jar \$15; 12 oz. jar \$9

If interested in any of these items, please call the office at 608-846-4718 to arrange for a time to pick up and pay for items. Thank you!

*Special thanks to
David Erickson as Lutefisk
Committee Chair and
Vicki Sobczak as Bazaar and
raffle Chair.*



Jesus the Teacher ***The Lesson***

Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn.

Blessed are the meek.

Blessed are those who thirst for justice.

Blessed are the merciful.

Blessed are the pure in heart.

Blessed are the peacemakers.

Blessed are you when you are persecuted.

Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is great in heaven.

Then Simon Peter said, "Are we supposed to know this?"

And Andrew said, "Do we have to write this down?"

And James said, "Will we have a test on this?"

And Philip said, "I don't have any paper?"

And Bartholomew said, "Do we have to turn this in?"

And John said, "The other disciples didn't have to learn this?"

And Matthew said, "May I go to the bathroom?"

And Judas said, "What does this have to do with real life?"

Then one of the Pharisees who was present asked to see Jesus' lesson plan, and inquired of Jesus, "What are your anticipatory set and your objectives in the cognitive domain?"

And Jesus wept.

--source unknown

Youth Group Events

Calling all fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth graders of Christ Lutheran Church. Please join us December 4th from 5:30-7pm in the Friendship Room at CLC. We promise, with the help of God, you won't want to miss this! COME AND JOIN THE FUN!



Christ Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Following the last worship service,
reports for the Annual report are due in the
office By December 31, 2023

Financial Update

The financial statements shown in the Door Post are the combined General Fund and Building Fund. At the end of November, the combined funds show a positive balance of \$1,653.00. That surplus needs explanation. The Building Fund has a surplus for the year of \$8,563.60 while the General Fund has a deficit of \$6,909.80.

As of the end of October, even with a Christmas offering, it appears based on bills still to be paid that the General Fund will be about approximately \$4,000 short at the end of the year. The Church Council decided not to send a letter and make a large appeal for additional funds, but it is asking that you consider adding an additional \$25 to \$50 to your December or Christmas offering.

Thank you for your past support and your support at this time.

Gus Knitt
Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER DOOR POST--OCTOBER, 2023 RESULTS					
COMBINED GENERAL & BUILDING--DEBT SERVICE FUNDS					
REVENUE	OCTOBER, 2023		Year to Date		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Offerings/Donations, Misc.	\$ 26,566.63	\$ 33,322.50	\$ 321,760.08	\$ 366,547.50	
Total Revenues	\$ 26,566.63	\$ 33,322.50	\$ 321,760.08	\$ 366,547.50	
EXPENSES					
CLC Expenses	\$ 29,513.44	\$ 31,676.25	\$ 301,249.88	\$ 348,438.75	
Principal & Interest Payments	\$ 1,885.64	\$ 2,062.50	\$ 18,856.40	\$ 22,687.50	
Total Expenses	\$ 31,399.08	\$ 33,738.75	\$ 320,106.28	\$ 371,126.25	
Total Net Income (Loss)	\$ (4,832.45)	\$ (416.25)	\$ 1,653.80	\$ (4,578.75)	
Note: Members have contributed weekly, monthly, semi-annually, and annually. Annual contributions totaling \$37,200 (\$33,200 for the General Fund and \$4,000 for the Bldg--Debt Service Fund) were received through the end of July creating the year-to-date surplus of \$1,653.80. THANK YOU for your continued support!					

Year End Reminder

Remember December is the last month for giving for 2023 tax purposes. Any donations must be postmarked by the end of December 2023. They can also be dropped in the office outside mail box or on Sunday's service.





Date	Readers	Ushers	Communion	Acolytes
Dec 3				
8:00 am	Tim Thompson	CaylieJo Perea Team Thompson	Team Paulson	CaylieJo Perea
10:30 am	Jason Gest	Team Ringhand	Team Blau	
Dec 10				
8:00 am	Jeff Gaffney	Maddie Riedel Maddy Gaffney Team Kvalheim	None	Maddie Feldman Leighton Vieau CaylieJo Perea
10:30 am	Anne Emerson	Team Lockman	None	
Dec 17				
9:00 am		Maddie Riedel Team Janovitz	None	
Dec 24				
3:00 pm	Tim Thompson	Team Campbell	Team Ursin	Brinley Schwenn Leighton Vieau Monroe Paulson Marshall Paulson Maddy Gaffney Keegan Little
5:00 pm	Gus Knitt	Team Paulson	Team Knitt	
7:00 pm	Jeff Gaffney	Team Blau	Team Emerson	
Dec 31				
9:00 am	Isabelle Emerson	Team Emerson	Team Legried	Brinley Schwenn

Thank You Sunday Helpers

Volunteers who usher, as well as those who read the scriptures, help with communion, and serve as acolytes are a big part of the Sunday services. They not only help get things done, but they add to the feeling of community that is so inviting and makes our church feel like "home." They all serve as our church together.

Those who volunteer regularly find that it is a great way to get to know one another and build great friendships along the way. Please consider volunteering to help during the worship services.





PILLOWCASE SEWING DAY A HUGE SUCCESS

Two hundred ninety-eight pillowcases were made by a group of 23 women on September 23rd at Christ Lutheran for children at UW Children's Hospital in Madison. Just think how many smiles these pillowcases will put on children's faces undergoing cancer treatment. There was great fellowship and plenty of food to eat.

Thank you to Deb Bursaw, Sharon Jones, Rachel Anderson, Connie Leonard, Beth Brining, Anne Emerson, Isabelle Emerson, Cathy Nelson, Jen Lange, Marilyn Wild, Tina Standish, Rose Kirkeng, Barb Anderson, Jane Zuelsdorf, Cindy Edge, Vicky Heimbecker, Kim Niesen, Jane Fahey, Diane Bollig, Joyce Muhlbauer, Sue Bellefeuille, Pam Olson and Pam Hamele. Also thank you to Debbie Meister and Shirley Stronach for helping with washing, ironing and packaging the pillowcases.

Another date will be chosen in the spring to sew again so watch for that date. Come join us and bring your friends. If you would like to donate material it has to be 100% cotton. It takes 3/4 yard for the main piece and 1/3 yard for the pillowcase end. Otherwise, a money donation towards the material is always appreciated. Social Ministries



Pillow Cases for Sale

Christmas is coming, so you may be looking for a gift. There will be pillowcases for sale in the friendship room. The pillowcases were made by members of the CLCW. Check them out! Lots of fun fabrics for kids of all ages! Each pillowcase is \$7.00. There will be an envelope to collect your money. Thank you.

Blood Drive

We will be hosting this year's blood drive Wednesday, December 27th, from noon - 5pm at Manthe Paulson Farm's shop (4083 Manthe Road). Appointments preferred.

Feel free to contact Tracy Paulson at tmanthe@yahoo.com or 608-279-9650 to set up an appointment.

We will be looking for volunteers and possibly food donations again as well. We will know more as it gets closer and what regulations are at that time.

Help save lives!



Donate blood
at our
upcoming
blood drive!



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Lutefisk

Lutefisk as a Christmas season meal has gained attention in Norway over the past 20 years.^{[13][14][15]} The Norwegian Seafood Export Council indicated sales of lutefisk to restaurants and catering companies in Norway increased by 72% between 2005 and 2008.^[13] A 2005 survey found 20% of Norwegians ate lutefisk during the Christmas holiday season, although only 3% would consider it for their Christmas dinner.^[16]

Madison, Minnesota has dubbed itself the "lutefisk capital of the world" as well as claiming the largest per capita consumption of lutefisk in Minnesota.^{[3][17]} St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota serves lutefisk during their Christmas Festival concerts. They also host an annual music festival called "Lutefest". Lutefisk, though, is not served at this festival.^[18]

Many Lutheran churches across Wisconsin also serve Lutefisk dinners as a yearly tradition. Four popular churches are St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Dodge County, Christ Lutheran Church in DeForest, Orfordville Lutheran Church in Rock County and Northland Lutheran Church in Iola.

Lutefisk is also consumed in Canada because of its relatively large Scandinavian population, particularly in the traditionally agricultural, inland provinces of Western Canada. As of 2016, there are about 463,000 Norwegian Canadians, 350,000 Swedish Canadians, 207,000 Danish Canadians and 143,000 Finnish Canadians.^[19] Organizations such as the Sons of Norway hold annual lutefisk dinners. Lutefisk is sometimes available in specialty stores^[20] and supermarkets where there are large Scandinavian populations. Kingman, Alberta proclaims itself on its greeting sign to be the "Lutefisk capital of Alberta".

We Made Wikipedia!



Norwegian Constitution Day dinner in Minnesota, with lutefisk, lefse, and meatballs (Norwegian: *kjøttkaker*).



Lutefisk for sale in a Norwegian market.



Bible Readings

Week of December 3

Isaiah 64:1-9
 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:24-37

Week of December 10

Isaiah 40:1-11
 Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13
 2Peter 3:8-15a
 Mark 1:1-8

Week of December 17

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 Psalm 126
 Luke 1:46b-55
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

Week of December 24

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
 Luke 1:46b-55
 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
 Romans 16:25-27
 Luke 1:26-38

Week of December 31

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:22-40



70+

Birthdays This Month

Patricia Schaefer	Dec. 5
Barbara Shigley	Dec. 13
Nancy Nesheim	Dec. 13
Ann Otis	Dec. 17
Carol Brommer	Dec. 18
Char Hanson	Dec. 19
Martha Schultz	Dec. 21
Christine Carter	Dec. 24
Stan Nelson	Dec. 25
LuAnn Guffey	Dec. 28
Dale Breggeman	Dec. 29
John Carter	Dec. 31
Randy Hanson	Dec. 31

A special thank you to those who provide altar flowers throughout the year. As a reminder, when providing flowers, please make sure to contact the office at least a week or two in advance so an announcement can be put in the Sunday Bulletin.



Quilt Sale

The Quilters are having a quilt sale December 17th as a fund raiser. The Quilters are looking to raise money for quilting material and other supplies. They would also like to raise funds to ship the quilts to those in need, wherever they may be.



Bake Sale

The Youth Group will be sponsoring a Bake Sale December 17th after the Service. Anyone wishing to donate baked goods is welcome to help.

Giving Tree

Gifts should be returned to the tree unwrapped with the tag you took by December 3rd. Thank you for making someone's Christmas a little bit brighter.

Toys for Tots

Please drop off your donations for Toys for Tots by December 4. They accept toys, books, games, sports equipment, hand held electronics, backpacks, but no clothes.



HOLIDAY SERVICE

SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 17th

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM (one service)

9:00 am

CHRISTMAS EVE (three services)

No Sunday Morning Service

3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm

December 31st (one service)



9:00 am

December

2023



Phone: (608) 846-4718
 E-mail: office@christlutherandeforest.org
 Website: christlutherandeforest.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26					1	2 9:00 am Praise Band decorating- FH
3 NameTag Sunday 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Sing Along/Praise B	4 8 am Quilters 6 pm Girl Scouts Trip #8217-NK 6 pm Stephen Ministries - CR	5 9 a.m Women's Bible Study- FR 5:30 pm Property Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Quartet Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Cub Scouts FH/NK/SSI 6:30 pm Bell practice 6:45 pm Defo Study Club FR	6 5:30 pm Confirmand Chime Trio 6 pm Confirmation-NK 7 pm Choir practice	7 6 pm Boy Scout -FH	8	9
10 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	11 8 am Quilters 6 pm Girl Scouts Trip #8217-NK 6 pm Stephen Ministries - CR	12 6:00 pm Quartet Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Cub Scouts FH/NK/SSI 6:30 pm Bell practice	13 5:30 pm Confirmand Chime Trio-S 6 pm Confirmation-NK 7 pm Choir practice	14 6 pm Boy Scout -FH 6:30 pm Cub Scout Committee-FH	15	16 9 am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
17 9:00 am Worship Christmas Program	18	19** DOOR POST DEADLINE 9 a.m Women's Bible Study- FR 6:00 pm Quartet Bell Rehearsal 6:30 pm Bell Practice-S 6:30 pm - Pack party-FH	20 6 pm Confirmation-NK 7 pm Choir practice	21 6 pm Boy Scout party - FH 6 pm Boy Scout Committee meeting 7 pm Council meeting	22	23
24 Christmas Eve 3:00 pm Worship 5:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Worship ----- 31	25 	26	27 6 pm Confirmation-NK	28 6 pm Boy Scout -FH	29	30