

the Messenger



Christ Lutheran Church, LCMC
Maple Plain, MN 55359

ARISE, SHINE, FOR
**YOUR LIGHT
HAS COME,**
and the glory of the
LORD rises upon you.

ISAIAH 60:1, NIV



January 2019

The Epiphany.... The Wisemen...A New Year

The manifestation of the true King to the wisemen is celebrated on the twelfth day of Christmas January 6. Matthew writes, "When they saw the star they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh."

The first thing about finding him was that he was not in Jerusalem. There is the kingdom of Herod and there is the kingdom of God. One is of love and righteousness and the other is of power and pride. Jerusalem was of the world, it was corrupted, and was a false light to the world. In order to find him, they had to submit to the prophet Micah, and go to lowly Bethlehem.

The wisemen did not see a miracle working, walking on the water baby... they saw a baby surrounded by poverty and powerlessness. But the Wisemen were not fooled by his poor surroundings. They believed in what had been revealed to them about this one being born the new King of Israel, and they worshipped him. God revealed to them first that God was doing something new in the world and second that He was trustworthy. They found him under the star in Bethlehem as their studies and the prophet Micah had said.

In finding him, their response of joy, was not of personal gain but one of giving, and one of honoring, and worshipping. Has your world been filled with temporal things, glitter, meaningless celebration of stuff? Is your world filled with the experiences of disappointment, confusion, and disturbing news? Come to Bethlehem (a place set aside, away from the rush) follow the quiet and still road of faith, of obedience, and of worship. You will find one truly worthy of worship! There is a light in the darkness!

As we come into a New Year it seems like life, cultures, economies, history, and political powers have been thrown into a blender, as we have no idea of what is coming. But we have the powerful promise that there is one who is present, who is true, who has power to keep us, and is worthy of our thanks and praise. *Jesus, he is the same yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8*

As you begin the New Year in faith, may I share some reflections. Practice daily prayer not as how to remind God what you need, but as a time to:

- *Present your body and life to God as an act of worship.
- *Do not hold onto your negative thoughts but be renewed in your mind, get God's perspective.
- *Read the scriptures with passion and joy.
- *Pray for your enemies or people different than you, love them with prayer.
- *Search and find God's will for what you should be doing.
- *Be confident that God is working in you for His pleasure and for your benefit.
- *Know that you are in a struggle against the powers of darkness, but that the Lord has the will to deliver you from them all.

We look forward to the New Year and the wonder of God working among us to do His good will. The Light shines in the darkness!

May God confirm in you that He is calling you to know the wonder and power of faith in Christ.

Happy New Year,

Pastor Ron Boettner

December COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- ⇒ January 3, 4, & 5 – Three Days of Prayer
- ⇒ January 6 – The Day of Epiphany
- ⇒ January 17– Council meeting



Love, INC Heartland
is our *January*
Benevolence Partner

Month	Name	Term	Committee Assignment
	Brad Sim	19-21	
	Jean Flatten	2019	CLW
	Tom Zulkosky	17-20	
	Greg Rietow	19-21	
	Molly Sartor		Youth Director
	Nancy Wood	18-20	President
January	Dale KenKnight	17-20	Secretary
	Yvonne Breeschoten	18-20	
	Mark Mundahl	17-20	Vice President
	Deb Stueven	19-21	
	Rich Mickschl	18-20	Treasurer
December	TBD		
	Pastor Ron Boettner		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<div>6</div> <div> 9 am - Worship 10 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:15 am - AIC 10:15 am - Good Life 10:30 am - Adult Study </div>	<div>7</div> <div> 9 am - Quilters 6:30 pm - Prayer Team </div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div> 5:15 pm - Confirmation 6:30 pm - Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Youth Group 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal </div>	<div>10</div> <div> 9:15 am - Charis 6 pm - Pre-Council </div>	<div>11</div> <div> OFFICE CLOSED 7 am - Prayer Breakfast 7 pm - Prayer Service </div>	<div>12</div> <div> 9:30 am - Stations of Prayer 10 am - Winter Warm-Up </div>
<div>13</div> <div> 9 am - Worship 10 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:15 am - AIC 10:15 am - Good Life 10:30 am - Adult Study </div>	<div>14</div> <div> 9 am - Quilters </div>	<div>15</div>	<div>16</div> <div> 5:15 pm - Confirmation 6:30 pm - Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Women's Bible 6:30 pm - Youth Group 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal </div>	<div>17</div> <div> 9:15 am - Charis 7 pm - COUNCIL  </div>	<div>18</div> <div> OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 am  </div>	<div>19</div>
<div>20</div> <div> 9 am - Worship 10 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:15 am - AIC 10:15 am - Good Life 10:30 am - Adult Study </div>	<div>21</div> <div> Martin Luther King Jr. Day 9 am - Quilters 6:30 pm - Prayer Team 6:30 pm - Youth Comm. Mtg 6:30 pm - Youth Committee </div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div> <div> 6:30 pm - Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Women's Bible 6:30 pm - Youth Group 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal </div>	<div>24</div> <div> 9:15 am - Charis </div>	<div>25</div> <div> OFFICE CLOSED </div>	<div>26</div>
<div>27</div> <div> 9 am - Worship 10 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:15 am - AIC 10:15 am - Good Life 10:30 am - Adult Study </div>	<div>28</div> <div> 9 am - Quilters </div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div> 6:30 pm - Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Women's Bible 6:30 pm - Youth Group 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal </div>	<div>31</div> <div> 9:15 am - Charis </div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div>

Volunteer Schedule



Jan. 6

Greeters: R. Grandstrands

Lector: Tim Boettner

Coffee: M. Carlsons

Jan. 13

Greeters: ***Will You Serve?***

Lector: Steve Pennaz

Coffee: Stouts/S. Rennebohm

Jan. 20

Greeters: Rietows

Lector: Bonita Heilman

Coffee: J. Flatten/Zulkoskys

Jan. 27

Greeters: Heilmans

Lector: Renee Burrows

Coffee: Roilands/Anderson & Farmer

Council Representative: Dale KenKnight

Sunshine Caller: Carolyn Grandstrand

Altar Guild: Julie Doyle, Mary Steffl

Ushers: Heilmans, Mark & Barb Carlson, Wade Burlet

CHRIST LUTHERAN WOMEN – January 2019

CLW MISSION STATEMENT

We open our hearts to God,
by worshiping and hearing His word.

We serve Him and worship in work,
by extending our hospitality to others
and sharing His word.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR! MAY THE COMING YEAR BE
FILLED WITH BLESSINGS, GOOD HEALTH AND
HAPPINESS FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES!**

QUILTERS

You are invited to join our QUILTERS, who meet every Monday morning from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Fellowship Hall. Come for the fun, fellowship and coffee and be a part of this creative ministry. No sewing ability is necessary. *Quilters resume on Monday, Jan. 7 at 9am.*

A FUN DECEMBER!

On **Wednesday, December 5th**, a lively group of 26 Seniors celebrated the start of the Christmas season with our annual **LUTEFISK LUNCHEON**. It was a time of wonderful food and great fellowship, with everyone feasting on an array of traditional foods. God Jul och Gott Nytt År! (Merry Christmas & Happy New Year in Swedish)

On **Saturday, December 8th**, several of our ladies attended our annual **LUCIA TEA & PRAYER PARTNER EXCHANGE**. The group enjoyed a variety of sweet and savory hors d'oeuvres while Val Homuth read a wonderful Christmas prayer. Afterward, the ladies learned the identities of their 2018 secret prayer partners and small gifts were exchanged. Names were then drawn for 2019 secret prayer partners for those who chose to participate. As a special project, the ladies made 25 beautiful treat packages for residents of Haven Homes. They decorated them with festive ribbons and Christmas stickers and filled them with chocolate candies. Each package included a blessing and a message from the Christ Lutheran Women. Val reported that even though their number was small, they felt sisterly love and gratefulness for each other.

We send a special THANK YOU to everyone who helped make these two traditional holiday events a success. We appreciate all you do!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, February 16, 2019, Potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m., & Bunco party at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 30, 2019, 7:00 p.m.: Spring business meeting

Your Sisters in Christ,

Val Homuth, Mona Hawkinson, Bonita Heilman, Jean Flatten & Marilyn Rönnkvist

*We, your sisters in Christ, cordially invite you
to join us as we worship God in service, in sharing
His Word and in fellowship.*



Ron Boettner	1/1	Libby Heilman	1/17
Virginia Holm	1/4	Dareld Schliinz	1/17
Arthur Fries	1/5	Dale Eckhoff	1/18
Clint Lueck	1/6	Taylor Michael	1/24
Kathy Oman	1/11	Greg Rietow	1/28
Steve Pennaz	1/12	Vicki Pieper	1/31
Kathy Mutchler	1/13		



Jan. 6-3 Days of Prayer Worship Service

Feb. 10-MNATC Worship & Brunch

Feb 10-Youth Bake Sale

Feb. 16-Potluck & Bunco! 5:30pm

CHARIS WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will resume the study of James on January 10, 2019. This look into the letter from Jesus' brother to the church and to us has helped us understand better how Jesus would have us live. We invite all women to join us on Thursdays at church at 9:15 A.M. Bring your Bible, grab a cup of coffee, be blessed by God's Word.

Questions? Contact Becky KenKnight or Joan Murphy - or any one of the other 20 Charis Ladies!



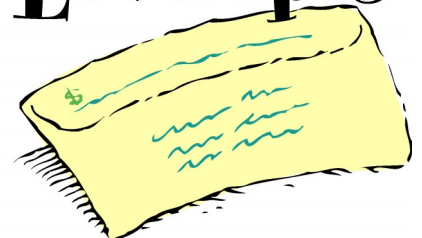
2019 Offering Envelopes for 2019 are available.

2019 offering books are on the narthex table next to the sanctuary windows. For those who have expressed an interest in receiving an offering book, you will find your book in *alphabetical order*.

If you currently do not have but wish to use an offering book, please call the office.

If you would like to support Christ Lutheran Church with regular electronic giving please contact the office administrator Tami Greenwood who confidentially handles this process. Her email is tgreenwood@mpclc.org

Offering Envelopes



FURNISHING COMMITTEE UPDATE!

New cabinets, replacing the existing wall of cabinets in the Fireside Room, were completed by McKenzie Cabinets. The Furnishings Committee is very happy with the quality and craftsmanship of the cabinets as well as the coffee cart and would like to thank McKenzie Cabinets. If you have a need for cabinetry, you can reach DJ McKenzie @ 612-483-1291.

Signs for the following areas have been ordered:

Fellowship Hall

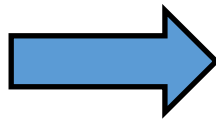
Kitchen

Nursery

Youth Director

Women's, Men's and Handicapped Restrooms

Once the signs have arrived and been installed, Phase I of the Furnishings Committee's overall goals have been completed.



*Thank you for the supporting the
Adopt a Family mission!*



Mission & Outreach Opportunity for all ages

Winter Warm Up

Join us to make warm tied blankets (no sewing) for our Love INC neighbors in need!

Saturday, January 12

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Then stay for soup! Sign up today!

Donations accepted:

*No sew fleece throw kits (clearance!)

*Cash to purchase kits

Bring a friend, a joyful heart and willing hands to cut and tie blankets!

Contact Deb Stueven with questions or donations

Your "Food Shelf" Shopping List



Baking Mixes



Mayonnaise

Boxed meals/Side Dishes



Salad Dressings



Rice



Toothbrushes



Jello, Pudding mix



Kleenex



Boxed Pasta



Paper towels



Cocoa & Tea



ALWAYS NEEDED:
Grocery bags
for clients food!

January Food Items for the Maple Plain Food Shelf

**THANK
YOU!**

