

# Cornerstone

## JANUARY 2022

### SMALL GROUPS and BIBLE STUDIES

*In January, February, and Beyond...*

As a Christian what would be your ideal small group to be a member of? Maybe you have never really thought of that, maybe you have. This past fall we had the Alpha series be our main bible study or small group on Wednesday nights. The plan was to create a new kind of small group and to mix new people together who maybe never expected to be in the same small group. The idea was to expand our view of small groups and to get us thinking what we want to be part of, to think about how we like to grow into the likeness of Christ, how we like to encourage others, how we like to learn, and to experience different levels of being open to learning wise, spiritually, or emotionally.

As we go into the new year, we have an opportunity to really think and pray about what kind of small group we have an interest in. We could fall back into some old patterns but maybe now is the time to really invest ourselves in thinking about making this opportunity work better. We might desire a small group that wants to focus on: how to be a Christian grandparent to our grandchildren, or how do we share our faith and wisdom with our children, or how do we adjust as Christians to living in a non-Christian culture, or how do I find true peace in God, or how do I find purpose in life again, or how do I really know and learn how to live in the Holy Spirit, or what

book of the Bible has always drawn your attention but you have not yet studied it, or what book on Christian faith would you like to read and study?

Maybe you would like to lead or co-lead a small group/Bible Study. Maybe you would like to have a small group where you can talk about important things from your own experience. Maybe that is part of your calling to have a small group to help others find a place to talk or place to be listened to. Pastor Wes and I would gladly help you be part of a small group or to lead one. We can visit with you and help you identify the important things to have a good small group and how to invite people into it. We think or sense

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
January						Jan 1, 22
2 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Fellowship	3 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Coffee Time	4	5 4:30pm Kingdom Kids 7:30pm Music Practice	6 9:00am Charis Women's Study 6:00pm Mission & Outreach	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8
9 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Fellowship 10:20am Anchored In Christ 10:30am Adult Discussion	10 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Coffee Time 6:30pm Prayer Team	11 3 Days of Prayer Prayer Stations 9-11am & 4-6pm	12 7:30pm Music Practice 6:30-7:15pm - Prayer Service	13 9:00am Charis Women's Study	14 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast	15
16 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Fellowship 10:20am Anchored In Christ 10:30am Adult Discussion	17 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Coffee Time	18	19 4:30pm Kingdom Kids 7:30pm Music Practice	20 9:00am Charis Women's Study 7:00pm Council Meeting	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Fellowship 10:20am Anchored In Christ 10:30am Adult Discussion	24 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Coffee Time 6:30pm Prayer Team	25	26 7:30pm Music Practice	27 9:00am Charis Women's Study	28 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast	29
30 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Fellowship 10:20am Anchored In Christ 10:30am Adult Discussion	31 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Coffee Time					

Love God, Love Others, Serve the World,  
Teaching them that  
Jesus Changes Everything



this is a time of us being moved by the Spirit to form new small groups. To have ownership and passion for your group is really a key to growing and renewing our congregation.

For the next couple of weeks, we are inviting people to reflect on these things and to focus themselves on being part of a small group or even leading one that they would like to do. We believe God is knocking on our people's hearts and that they are free to step forward in a new way. Our small groups can meet on any day, anytime, anywhere, of the week. We can help you find or build a small group that fits you. If you would like to be a small group leader, we can work with you to let other people know and be part of your group. You can invite friends, family, and new people. Start Dreaming, Researching, and finding what you would like to be part of!

Pastor Ron

## Finance Update for Christ Lutheran

*Our monthly offerings for November were \$25,211 which is about \$2,500 above our average monthly giving. Our expenses were very high because of \$15,000 being paid towards the remodeling of the bathrooms for plumbing and tile work, plus there were three pay periods that came in the month of November. The total expenses were \$46,567, whereas the average monthly expenses are \$25,667. The amount in the savings account is \$71,427. For the year our expenses are below budget except for the building improvements on the bathrooms and new air conditioning at the parsonage.*

*If you would like offering envelopes, they are now available at church in the narthex. If you give online or would like to, Tami Greenwood our office administrator can help you with that.*

## 2022 – The year of the “Next Step”

*As you begin the new year many people think about what they want to accomplish. It is a great time to think about how you intend to live your life the next 365 days. Being intentional with our time is a great way to live each day to the fullest. Along those lines the beginning of the year is a good time to ask yourself, what next steps do I want to take in my relationship with Christ.*

*The entire purpose of the church is to help people to love God, love others, and serve others. You may have heard us at Christ Lutheran regularly refer to these three things. Notice that each of those statements begins with a verb: Love, Love, Serve. However, these are not just any kind of verbs, they are action verbs. You can’t do any of these things passively. You need to take action to love God, you need to take action to love others, and you need to take action to serve others. The church is not called to be passive attenders on a Sunday morning, but active participants! It’s all about taking the next step in your faith walk with Christ. Continuing to take the next in your walk with Christ means continually moving closer to Jesus.*

*As we enter into this new year it is a great time to ask the question, “What will my next step be?” There are many ways to take the next step. Signing up for a slot or two when your Serving Team is serving for the month, OR, signing up for something NEW and trying out a different area. Being a part of a small group or joining adult discussion after church or praying with the prayer team on Monday nights. Participating in the Mission and Outreach events that will be taking place in 2022. Maybe deepening your commitment to spending time in the Bible and intentionally seeking out God in prayer more consistently.*

*One of the most important “next steps” you can do doesn’t even take place inside the church, but out where you live most your life during the week. Will you talk about your faith in Jesus with someone this year? Develop closer relationships with your neighbors, coworkers, and those around you so that your faith will just naturally come up? Invite someone you know to Alpha so that they can have faith conversations in a safe place, maybe for the first*

*time? Our faith is in a savior that came so that **all** may be saved. Yet the words of Paul from Romans 10:13-14 continue to ring in my ears: “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?” God has sent His church, he has sent us, to tell the world about the savior, Jesus. **What “next step” can you take to share Jesus with someone this year?***

~Pastor Wes

### Charis Women’s Bible Study

Charis resumes on Thursday January 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9 am in the church Fellowship Hall. We will be socially distanced as we were before the break. (Joan’s and Becky’s caregiving roles have improved greatly!) If you are more comfortable, please feel free to wear a mask. Please don’t attend if you are sick or have been recently exposed to the Covid virus. Bring your workbooks, and review chapters 1-4 in Revelation. Looking forward to studying His word together. (Watch your emails in the event of a last minute change.)

### Three Days of Prayer

Christ Lutheran will be celebrating Three Days of Prayer on January 10,11, and 12. **Monday** – Follow the hourly prayer guide (in Sunday's bulletin & emailed out Monday morning) **Tuesday** – Prayer stations 9-11am & 4-6pm set up in the church. Sign up for a time in the Narthex or call the office. **Wednesday** – Prayer Service, 6:30-7:15

**Serving Team:** Bethlehem  
**Month:** January

<b>Date</b>	<b><u>Greeter</u></b>	<b>Date</b>	<b><u>Reader</u></b>
<b>2</b>	<u>Vicki &amp; Wade Burlet</u>	<b>2</b>	<u>Val Homuth</u>
<b>9</b>	<u>Gary &amp; Kathy Mutchler</u>	<b>9</b>	<u>Nancy Wood</u>
<b>16</b>	<u>Danielle Thomas</u>	<b>16</b>	<u>Karlene Boettner</u>
<b>23</b>	<u>Diane Ahlstrom</u>	<b>23</b>	<u>Kathy Oman</u>
<b>30</b>	<u>John &amp; Kathy Oman</u>	<b>26</b>	<u>Dale KenKnight</u>

<b>Date</b>	<b><u>Altar Care</u></b>	<b>Date</b>	<b><u>Coffee</u></b>
<b>2</b>	<u>Vicki Burlet</u>	<b>2</b>	<u>Larry &amp; Nancy Wood</u>
<b>9</b>	<u>Nancy Wood</u>	<b>9</b>	<u>Greg &amp; Becky Rietow</u>
<b>16</b>	<u>Nancy Wood</u>	<b>16</b>	<u>Kathy Oman</u>
<b>23</b>	<u>Sue Pedersen</u>	<b>23</b>	<u>Vicki Burlet</u>
<b>30</b>	<u>Nancy W. or Sue P.</u>	<b>30</b>	<u>Becky KenKnight</u>

### Serving Team Coordinators

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