

Psalm 25:8-9

The Christogram

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

February, 2024
Volume 62 Issue 2



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*All the paths of
the LORD are
steadfast love and
faithfulness,
for those who keep
his covenant
and his
testimonies.*

Psalms 25:10



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website page.

Christ Lutheran Church
2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805
863-682-7802

CHRIST LUTHERAN STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Christopher Hazzard
(cell) 863-732-1322

Office Secretary

Terry Krum
863-682-7802

Council Officers

President John Freer
Vice-President Dawn Peters
Secretary Robin Fox
Treasurer
Finance Secretary Emma Block
Christian Ed Rita Czanko
Outreach & Missions Blake Albright
Stewardship Kim Kaniecki
Trustees Sandy Spanier
Youth Group
Communications Kris Welch

Board of Elders

Carlos Orellana (Head)
Lee Crapo
George Czanko
Keith Kallstrom
Steve Rosane
Fred Sterns

Committee Chairpersons

Fellowship Coordinators

Vi Zabel & Belinda Freer

Altar Guild

Barbara and Alfred Miller

Director of Music

Elena Miraztchyska

Endowment Fund

Helen Borgwardt

Mary-Martha Guild

Charlotte Mantz

E-Mail Addresses

Pastor

pastor@clclakeland.org

Office

clcsecretary@gmail.com

Christ Lutheran Guiding Statement

Christ Lutheran Church is a growing family of believers who love, accept, and welcome all, so that we may share God's love in word and deed.

Serving in February

February 4

Elder.....George Czanko
Lector.....George Czanko
Greeters Joann Shepker
Audio..... Kim Kaniecki
Video..... Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/Stream: Andrea Hazzard

February 11

Elder.....Lee Crapo
Lector.....Carlos Orellana
Greeters
Audio..... Kyle Welch
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

February 14 (Ash Wednesday)

Elder.....Carlos Orellana
Lector.....George Czanko
Audio..... Maria Hazzard
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

February 18

Elder..... Steve Rosane
Lector..... Kim Kaniecki
Greeters
Audio..... Maria Hazzard
Video..... Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/Stream: Andrea Hazzard

February 21 (Lent)

Elder.....George Czanko
Lector..... Steve Rosane

February 25

Elder.....Fred Sterns
Lector.....Mike Coates
Greeters Robert and Cheryl Langanke
Audio..... Kyle Welch
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

February 28 (Lent)

Elder.....Keith Kallstrom
Lector.....Carlos Orellana

ALTAR GUILD SERVICES

Gwen Snook and Helen Borgwardt

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP @ 5:30 PM

Elder..... Lee Crapo/Keith Kallstrom (2/10)
Lector.....Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten
Audio..... Lee Crapo/Robin Fox/Taniqua Jackson

Christ Lutheran Church

2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd

Phone: 863-682-7802



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Bible Study @ 10a	2 African Violet Society Show	3 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
4 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Elders Meeting	5	6 Trustee WD 9a Quilters@ 10a Outreach @ 5:30p	7 Mary Martha @ 9a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Youth @ 6p Jr. Conf @ 7p Choir @7p	8 Bible Study @ 10a	9	10 Fashion Show 1-4 pm 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
11 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Souper Bowl Sunday	12 Council Mtg @ 6:30p	13 Trustee WD 9a Quilters@ 10a	14 Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Ash Wed Service @ 6:30 Choir @7:30p	15 Bible Study @ 10a	16	17 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
18 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Communication Board Mtg	19 9 AM Deadline for Newsletter items	20 Trustee WD 9a Quilters@ 10a	21 Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Lent Service @ 6:30p Jr. Conf. @ 7p Choir @7:30p	22 Bible Study @ 10a	23	24 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
25 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Stewardship Meeting	26	27 Trustee WD 9a Quilters@ 10a	28 Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Lent Service @ 6:30p Jr. Conf. @ 7p Choir @7:30p	29 Bible Study @ 10a		

Bulletin announcements are due each Tuesday by 9:00 a.m.

**The Infirm
and
The Homebound**

*Remember to keep these
people in your daily
prayers.*

- Vi Bertsch
- Sen & Dale Campbell
- Donita Duncan
- Marilyn Gillette
- Hazel Gust
- Al Herman
- Judy Kargel
- Fran Klug
- Dorothy Lovelace
- Don & Nancy Matter
- Fran Murphy
- Lois Smith
- Norma Tipton
- Amy Wilson



Steve West	Feb 4
Fred Sterns.....	Feb 4
Gary Hancock.....	Feb 5
Judy Veal.....	Feb 8
Mary Heinz.....	Feb 10
Kyle Welch	Feb 10
Skylar Peterson.....	Feb 16
Nancy E. Matter.....	Feb 17
Amanda Peterson.....	Feb 21
Robert Langanke	Feb 21
Donna Coates	Feb 24
Delaney Peterson	Feb 25
Kathy Siedenstrang.....	Feb 25
Charlotte Mantz.....	Feb 27
Anne Smith	Feb 27



John and Allison Gillespie	Feb 1 (32 yrs.)
Christopher and Erica Bell.....	Feb 5 (13 yrs.)
Jack and Joan Kersten	Feb 8 (55 yrs.)
Gary and Mary Witte.....	Feb 14 (22 yrs.)
David and Lora Wacker.....	Feb 27 (40 yrs.)



Thank you to Debbie and Rick Smith who served for the month of January. Gwen Snook and Helen Borgwardt will serve for the month of February. Thank you for your service to the Lord and Christ Lutheran Church.

Baptismal Birthday Blessing

(Leader reads:)

Loving God,

You created all the people of the world, and you know each of us by name. We thank you for *(Name)* who celebrates the anniversary of *his/her* baptism. Bless *him/her* with your love, that *he/she* may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and grace. May *he/she* love *his/her* family always, and be ever faithful to God. Grant this through Christ our Lord. (All:) **Amen**

(Place your hands on the person's head or shoulders.)

May God, in whose presence our ancestors walked, bless you (All:) **Amen**

May God, who has been your shepherd from birth until now, keep you. (All :) **Amen**

May God, who saves you from all harm, give you peace. (All:) **Amen and Amen**

Linda Storts.....	Feb 1
Betty Coombs	Feb 5
Reagan Bell	Feb 8
Alfred Miller.....	Feb 9
Lois Foster	Feb 15
Scott Seiferth.....	Feb 26
Stacey Orellana.....	Feb 28



DON'T FORGET BAGS FOR TALBOT HOUSE —

Thank you to all of you who continue to support this ministry! Talbot House does extraordinary things to help the homeless. We are blessed to share in that ministry! Their doors are open to both men and women and they provide meals, shelter, & clothing, and direct them to medical care as needed. We collect offerings of canned goods-meat, vegetables, fruit, soup, paper goods-paper towels, toilet paper, napkins; cleaning supplies; soap-dishwashing, personal soap, laundry; toothbrushes & toothpaste. We also collect gently used clothes -free from stains, and have working zippers and buttons. There are especially marked baskets in the mail room at the back of the church to place your offerings. Our pickup day is the second Tuesday of every month. We also have a box on top of the table where you may place unused medicines, empty pill bottles, and unopened bottles of over the counter medicines. Talbot House uses the empty pill bottles to measure out soap and shampoo for the residents. Please remove labels from the empty bottles. Large containers of spices, flour, and sugar are real blessings.



From the Pastor.....

Take it to the Lord in Prayer

Ash Wednesday, which marks the start of lent, is February 14th. Lent last for forty days, the same length of time that Jesus fasted in the desert immediately following His baptism and before the start of His public ministry. Lent is a time of repentance and spiritual renewal in preparation for Easter. We are encouraged to increase our time in Bible reading and prayer, to practice self-control through fasting, and to attend mid-week worship.

To aid in increased prayer, we are launching a more formalized prayer ministry. Spearheaded by Rita Czanko, prayer team members are being sought to pray for specific items throughout the week. Members will receive a binder with guidance, which will be prayed through throughout the week from home. Prayer team members will receive very generalized things for which to pray; this will NOT turn into an opportunity for gossip, and confidences will not be violated. The time commitment for team members is anticipated to be about a half an hour a day. If you are interested in serving, please contact Rita. Please watch the video on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/uKwMKJcR7yo>

Another opportunity for increased prayer is using *Bless Every Home*. This app provides the names of five of your immediate neighbors every day. <https://app.blesseveryhome.com/> As we pray for our neighbors, we care for our neighbors, and the Lord often allows ways to share Jesus with our neighbors to emerge.

Also, please pray for the pew you sit in as you attend church. If the pew has empty space, pray for the Lord to fill it.

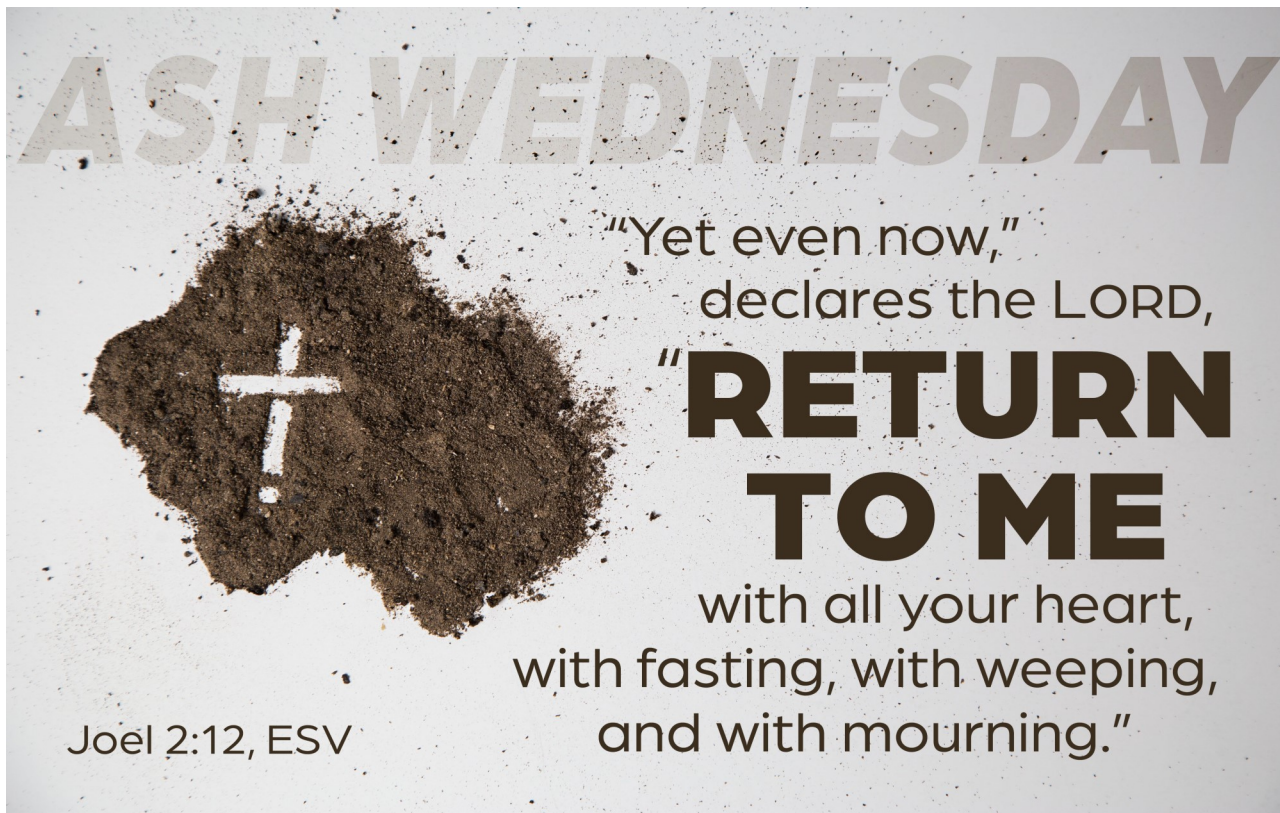
As we do the good work of prayer, our faith grows. “Prayer must be more than an emergency measure in time of trouble; it must constantly reach out for the more abundant life promised by God” (Lutheran Cyclopedia; <https://cyclopedia.lcms.org/>). As we pray, we can be confident that the Lord will fulfill his promise of the more abundant life, not only our own, but our neighbor’s.

Pastor Chris

Bible study

Join us for Sunday morning Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. Using a lecture and Q & A format, we are in the process of walking through the Explanation of *Luther’s Small Catechism*. Due to the nature of this study, each day’s discussion can stand alone as beneficial, should you be reluctant to commit to long-term attendance. This study repeats on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in person, or via Zoom.





ASH WEDNESDAY

"Yet even now,"
declares the LORD,
**"RETURN
TO ME**
with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping,
and with mourning."

Joel 2:12, ESV

2024 Flower Chart



The new Flower Chart will be posted in the Narthex starting in November. You can sign up for flowers for the new year. Please write your name and what occasion is being celebrated. If you would like real flowers, please let us know, otherwise they will be silk flowers. When you donate money for the flowers, please mark it for the Flower Fund. The monies in the Flower Fund pay for the Christmas and Easter Flowers that are put in the church. If you have any questions, please call me.

Barbara Miller 863-858-5790

Looking for Christ Lutheran in social media? Check us out at our website: www.clclakeland.org
Feel free to leave comments! We are also on Facebook at: Christ Lutheran Church Lakeland-LCMS. Please like, follow, and share on your Facebook page. You may also leave comments on our Facebook page.

Stewardship



As we all know, February is known for Valentines Day. A celebration typically for romantic love but also celebrated by and among children. It's meant to be a "sweet" and "emotional" love kind of holiday. And that's all well and good but we need to remember the most important love in our lives is the "agape" love given to us by our Heavenly Father. The kind of love that doesn't depend on us and our actions. It's a kind of love that we find difficult to understand because we are all so incapable of expressing that kind of love. What a wonderful and blessed thing this agape love is for us. It's so deep and profound that it has caused our Heavenly Father to give His one and only Son to die for us so that we could be with Him for eternity.

What do we do to express our thankfulness and appreciation for this great sacrifice? How can we possibly ever find a way to show God what it means to us that He would do such a great thing? I believe that it will truly take eternity of praising and worshipping Him to fully express our love, but we can start now. We can make every effort in our daily lives to show Him what it means to us.

So many ways in every day have the potential to give back to God a little bit of our thanks. Serving Him, worshipping Him, studying Him are just a few ways to do this.

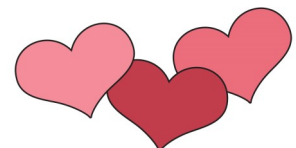
We ask that each of our members here at Christ Lutheran Church take the time this year to examine ways in which we can more fully express our thanks to Him. Whether it be here or out in the world in which we live. We must all try to spread that kind of love around and in doing so, spread *HIM* around. He and His kind of love is so very needed in this world and to be just a small part of that should be and *is* a privilege for us all.

May God bless you in your efforts to give Him thanks and praise and in doing so, bless those around you!

In Christ,

Kim Kaniecki

Board of Stewardship



Mary Martha

Mary Martha thanks all of the donors, workers, leaders of the January 20th rummage sale! We made approximately \$800 in sales. This was due to the very hard work of those who signed up to help! Many hands make light work! Y'all are the BEST! The proceeds will go to our benevolence fund!



Mary Martha guild met for their monthly meeting on January 7th.

Upcoming events:

Our Fashion Show on February 10th! Tickets are \$10 per person. Heavy Hors D'oeuvre's and light drinks will be served. We are pre-selling tickets at both services. If you live in a community, we urge you to sell tickets. Just take tickets to sell and return the tix you don't sell. No money needs to be turned in until the event. We have posters for you to post on community boards. See the Mary Martha "Fashion Show" table to make arrangements. At the door tickets will be available. The proceeds from this event will be donated to "Peace" the Comfort dog and her ministry. Please invite as many ladies to this event as possible!

March 10th - Accessories Sale! We will have purses, wallets, jewelry, etc for sale during Fellowship Hour after Sunday worship service. If you have donations to contribute, please bring to the Church prior to March 8 for us to mark for sale. We always have fabulous deals! If you need pick up for donations, call Charlotte at 863-409-6270.

Christ Lutheran Church, Mary Martha Guild will host The LWML Winter Haven Zone Rally on April 13, 2024. Our theme will be: 2 Corinthians 4: 7-9

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."

We must make crafts on this day for our FL/GA convention held Sept 13-15, 2024. And you ladies need to attend this, if you are able! If you have crafty friends for this day! Please bring them! We need ideas!

The Quilters; the State quilt that Barbara Miller had embroidered the squares for was purchased by John Freer and he has graciously donated it to the VISTE ball for auction on Feb 3rd! Thanks, John!

The next meeting of the Mary- Martha guild will be held on February 7th. This date is off of our regular meeting time due to the fact that February 14th is Ash Wednesday. Hostesses are Karen, Helen and Beverly.

Mary Martha is still accepting recipes for our Church Recipe Cookbook! Y'all bring it!

Charlotte Mantz



Super Bowl Sunday at CLC is Souper Bowl Sunday

Super Bowl Sunday 2024 is on the second Sunday of February. February 11. Every year on Super Bowl Sunday, we at CLC celebrate not with a football but with bowls. Every year after the Sunday morning worship service, we gather in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy eating bowls of soup. Different kinds of soup. The more different kinds and varieties of soup, the more we enjoy the fellowship.

We ask people to sign up to bring a crock-pot of soup. We need about 15 crock-pots. What kind of soup? Your favorite soup is always the best.

We always get about 80 to 90 people to join us for Souper Bowl Sunday. It has become an annual CLC tradition. There are two reasons for Souper Bowl Sunday. The first reason is fellowship, getting to know each other. The fellowship allows us to share Jesus with one another.

The second reason is to help replenish the Food Pantries. CLC does not operate a Food Pantry. Instead, we support two Food Pantries in the city. Light House Ministries and Talbot House Ministries. The cost for this event is a can of soup. Many organizations collect food cans, etc. for the local food pantries in November and December. Then by the end of January, the local shelves at these food pantries are getting bare. Light House and Talbot House look forward to our donations to help replenish their shelves.


Come on February 11. Enjoy the fellowship. Bring a can of soup.

In the Narthex, sign up to bring a crock-pot of your world famous soup.



There are changes to **The Lutheran Hour**[®] broadcast in our area. The program's final broadcast on WJBR 1010 AM at 7:30 a.m. on Sundays was January 21, 2024. An alternate listening option for our area is **WFLF 540 AM** on Sundays at 7:30 a.m. To find other airings near you, check the broadcast guide for Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) at lhm.org/guide.

Dial-a-Podcast is a new option to listen to The Lutheran Hour on your phone. Simply call LHM's main phone number (800-876-9880) and press option three to be forwarded to listen to The Lutheran Hour.



SERVICES FOR LENT
GUIDED
to the CROSS

The Holy Season of Lent will begin with Ash Wednesday, February 14 . Our Lenten theme this year is *“Guided to the Cross.” Throughout this series we are guided to the cross to live in forgiveness, hope, love, peace, perseverance, and grace. Each week will reveal how Christ and His cross serve as examples for us of how to live our lives for and through our crucified Christ. Services will take place at 6:30PM every Wednesday through Lent. The pastors of our Winter Haven Circuit will once again join in a round robin during the season.*

Ash Wednesday - Guided to Forgiveness

Feb. 21st - Guided to Peace

Feb. 28th - Guided to Love

March 6th- Guided to Perseverance

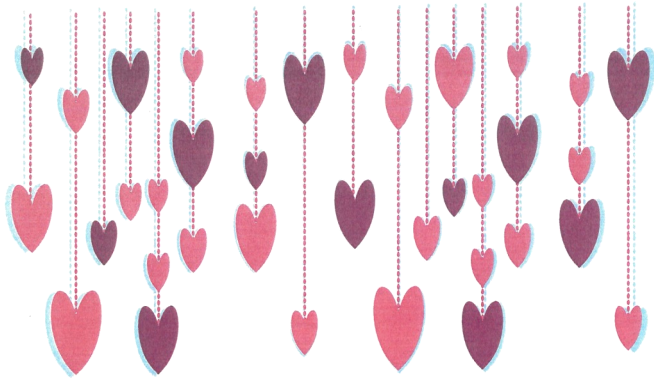
March 13th - Guided to Hope

March 20th - Guided to Trust

HOT DOG CONCESSIONS SIGN-UP

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for Volunteers for Christ Lutheran Church Hot Dog Concessions Stand for the Tigers Baseball Spring Training. The training games are in February and March. Please put your name and telephone number on the sheet. We will contact you for days you will be available. Many hands make light of work. Sign up now to make sure your days are reserved. Any questions, please contact John Freer at 863-660-6438 or Charlene Rosane at 863-660-1689.





FASHION SHOW

Join us food, fashion, and fellowship!
(Heavy Ho'r D'oeuvres will be served)

When: Saturday, February 10, 2024
Time: 1:00-4:00 PM

Where: Christ Lutheran Church – Fellowship Hall
2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd

Cost: \$10.00
Sponsored by Mary-Martha Guild
See Charlotte Mantz for tickets
863-409-6270

Proceeds to benefit "Peace" – the Comfort Dog



LIVING A

CHOCOLATE LIFE

WOMEN'S RETREAT

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4450 HARDEN BLVD, LAKELAND, FL

HOSTED BY KATIE'S LADIES

Special Guest Speaker -

Deb Burma



**Please join us for a time of fun and fellowship
as we look at how sweet it is to be loved by
Jesus!**

Friday, March 1st - 5:30 - 8:30

Saturday, March 2nd - 8:00- 3:30

**The cost is \$40 and all meals are included,
childcare will also be available. If you have any
questions, please email
acrabb@stpaullakeland.org or call the front
office at 863-644-7710.**

LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS

FEBRUARY 18TH



Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting in a Nutshell
By Robin Fox, Council Secretary, January 8, 2024



Treasure: Jon Lindstrom

For the month of December our actual performance is at a negative \$4,846 compared to the budgeted amounts. For YTD, our actual performance is at a negative \$23,758 compared to the budgeted amounts. There were no noteworthy income items this month. There was six noteworthy expense this month, Central American Missions, MABE Communications, Guide One Insurance, Randolph Air Conditioning, Car allowance expense, and POS-Amazon for computer. Our undedicated bank assets are \$76,859. The stewardship reports our total church income is about 14.6% higher this year than in 2022 at the end of December.

Pastor Report: Pastor Christopher Hazzard

Ash Wednesday: February 14th

Church leadership boot camp, January 27th, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Fall Pastor's Conference: September 23rd-25th 2024.

Thank you to all who assisted in the life of the congregation during the Advent and Christmas season.

Thank you for the Christmas gifts. They are greatly appreciated.

We will be participating in the Lenten Round Robin preaching this Lent. Theme: Guided to the Cross

LCEF strategic planning goal setting under way; facilities evaluation committee was formed. A major theme for the year: Prayer

President: John Freer

I want to welcome our new and returning council members who will be serving CLC in 2024.

We are progressing along training our new accountant Tammy Street who will be taking over the duties Jon did as treasurer.

There are several projects this year we'll need to address:

Sanctuary Carpet

Resurfacing the parking lot

Several other maintenance projects.

As our congregation continues to grow, if you notice new faces visiting our church please continue to introduce yourself and welcome them.

The next few months will be very busy as there are several activities going on.

Baseball parking and concession stand.

Vice President: Dawn Peters

Nothing to report.

continued on page 14

Continued from page 13

Christian Education: Rita Czanko

Nothing to report.

Board of Elders: Carlos Orellana

Attendance has been increasing.

New Member Requirements: New Members will receive a packet and will sign off on receiving the packet.

Stewardship: Kim Kaniecki

Nothing to report.

Board of Outreach: Blake Albright

2024 Free Will Offerings (Fellowship) January – Options for Women; February – Senior Orphans; March – VISTE; April – Central American Missions; May – Free Burma/Stephen Wiesensauer

December was One More Child \$108.

Baby Bottles for Options for Women will be delivered on January 29th.

Baseball Parking – Games start February 24th and the last game is March 24th.

Souper Bowl Sunday will be handled by Outreach.

Board of Communications: Kris Welch

We purchased a new Mac Mini for the tech room to run ProPresenter. The current iMac has had problems since we got it and they appear to be getting worse.

The iMac will be gone through and will be used elsewhere in the church, if possible.

The new Mac Mini will be set up and able to be used by the 1/14/24 service.

John Freer has found a buyer for excess audio/video equipment. Money raised will go towards the upgrades scheduled for 2024 and for a training class in February.

MABE has our signed quote for the audio upgrades and will be getting us on the schedule for the first half of 2024.

Trustee Report: Sandy Spanier

Helped with Christmas decorations.

Staked up the palm tree which was blown down in a storm.

Replaced an outside light. Fixed a broken lock.

Painted outside electrical receptacles.

Finished the door map & key log.

Youth Board: Pastor Hazzard

Souper Bowl Sunday is in the planning stages (February 11th)

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fox

Central America Missions December 2023



As of this writing; I am at the Hospital San Benito Jose in Comayagua, Honduras. This is our first mission of three that I have scheduled for 2024. I came a few days early to make sure the facility and equipment is ready for us to perform our job.

There are other groups coming to do charitable work also and there may be some changes in the equipment status that we may be unaware.

Lately, I am involved with another group called Global Vision. They are a group of ophthalmology. They are helping with cataract surgery and implants on mostly the elderly. What is more important is that they are also working with the Honduran Medical School of Ophthalmology; Global Vision helps these local young ophthalmologists with teaching, equipment and implants. Yesterday, I met a young ophthalmologist who was performing cataract surgery at San Benito Jose. She was working with a scholarship from Global Vision. I was so glad to see that this young ophthalmologist; her whole crew, was made up of Honduran professionals.

This weekend we will have to unpack 2,300 lbs. of medical supplies that we sent last November, please see the pictures. These supplies we got as donations from a hospital from the Coco Beach area. Sometimes the blessings are overwhelming, but we definitely have a use for all the supplies. Following this shipment, we sent another one for Christmas of 1,800 lbs. This shipment was mostly hospital linens and donations from the Dream Center. It was distributed among the orphanages and San Benito Jose.

While we are here, I am expecting our first shipment from 2024 of 2,300 lbs. of mostly hospital linens, medical supplies and more donations from the Dream Center.

We have mostly the usual crew coming back with four new members. This is a good because it provides consistency to the group.

This year we are starting strong; thanks to the support provided by Christ Lutheran Church. Please continue to keep the Central American Mission in your prayers; that we continue to help those who need it the most. Your financial support is also needed. If you give financial donations; make sure you write on the envelope "Central American Mission"



Our first shipment for 2024 made it before we started our week.

Carlos Orellana

more pictures on page 16



*Sunday, January 21st.
Lots of people waiting
For us.*

Most of us went on an outing to Pulhpalzak Waterfalls on Saturday the 20th. Unfortunately The weather didn't cooperate.

*Medical supplies we sent
Last November, 2300 lbs.*



*Local ophthalmologist doing
Cataract surgery sponsored by
Global Vision.*



*Dr. Miller acquired a portable
X-ray donated by his Rotary
Club in Washington State.*



*Local learning how to use
the X-ray machine.*