

Isaiah 9:2

The Christogram

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

December 2024
Volume 62 Issue 12



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

Serving in December

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 Karen Crickenberger
Finance Secretary Emma Block
Christian Ed
Outreach & Missions Blake Albright
Stewardship Kim Kaniecki
Trustees Sandy Spanier
Youth Group
Communications Kris Welch

Board of Elders

Carlos Orellana (Head)
Lee Crapo
Keith Kallstrom
Steve Rosane
Fred Sterns
Dave Wacker

Committee Chairpersons

Fellowship Coordinators

Joyce Munz and Charlotte Mantz

Altar Guild

Dawn Peters and Charlene Rosane

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.

December 1

Elder Carlos Orellana
Lector Carlos Orellana
Greeters Joann Shepker
Audio Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/Stream: Cheryl Erwin

December 4 - Midweek

Elder Lee Crapo

December 8

Elder Carlos Orellana
Lector Kim Kaniecki
Greeters
Audio Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

December 11 - Midweek

Elder Carlos Orellana

December 15

Elder Lee Crapo
Lector Roland Feickert
Greeters Pat Hurd
Audio Kim Kaniecki
Video Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/Stream: Roland Feickert

December 18 - Midweek

Elder Steve Rosane

December 22

Elder Keith Kallstrom
Lector John T Doherty, Jr.
Greeters John T Doherty, Jr.
Audio Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Andrea Hazzard

December 24 - Christmas Eve

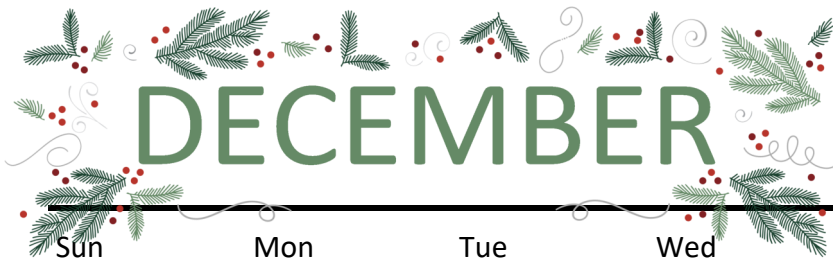
Elder All Elders
Audio Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

December 25 - Christmas Day

Elder Dave Wacker

December 29

Elder Fred Sterns
Lector
Greeters Bob and Cheryl Langanke
Audio Judi Rudolph
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Cheryl Erwin



Christ Lutheran Church

2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd

Phone: 863-682-7802

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Elders Meeting	2 ----- Church	3 Adopt a Block @ 11a Outreach @ 5:30p Church	4 Trustee WD 9a Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15 Advent Service @ 6:30p Choir @ 7:30p Office	5 Bible Study @ 10a Closed	6	7 5:30p Worship
8 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship	9 Council Mtg @ 6:30p	10 Adopt a Block @ 11a	11 Trustee WD 9a Mary Martha mtg @ 10a Luncheon @ 11:30 Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15 Advent Service @ 6:30p Choir @ 7:30p	12 Bible Study @ 10a	13	14 5:30p Worship
15 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Annual New Member Welcome Communication Board Mtg	16 9 AM Deadline for Newsletter items	17 Adopt a Block @ 11a	18 Trustee WD 9a Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15 Advent Service @ 6:30p Choir @ 7:30p	19 Bible Study @ 10a	20	21 5:30p Worship
22 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Stewardship Mtg	23	24 NO Adopt a Block Music in the Courtyard @ 5:30p Christmas Eve Service @ 6:30p	25 Christmas Day Service @ 10 a Church Office	26 NO Bible Study Closed	27	28 5:30p Worship
29 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Church Potluck	30	31 NO Adopt a Block				

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
- Carolyn Calendar
- Dale Campbell
- Betty Coombs
- Betty Costine
- Joanne Ditton
- Donita Duncan
- Gerald Frizzell
- Rosie Fyffe
- Helen Gavin
- Donna Grant
- Pam Hanson
- Bob Kossel
- Fran Klug
- Sally Martel
- Nancy Matter
- Rose McLauchlin
- Fran Murphy
- Joanna Perlewitz
- Jerry Poole
- Don Rohrbach
- Paul Schierschwitz
- Natalie Thiele
- Norma Tipton
- Amy Wilson
- Fred and Marlene Yost



Rosie Fyffe.....	Dec 2
Linda Johnson.....	Dec 2
Linnea Vogt.....	Dec 3
Neal Whitehurst.....	Dec 5
Kris Welch.....	Dec 5
Rick Joost.....	Dec 9
Diane Hill.....	Dec 9
Carol Stuckert.....	Dec 10
Fran Murphy.....	Dec 10
Debora Stephenson.....	Dec 15
John T. Doherty, Jr.....	Dec 16
Erica Bell.....	Dec 16
Ted Nelson.....	Dec 22
Norma Tipton.....	Dec 26
Richard Caughey.....	Dec 26
Alfred Miller.....	Dec 27
Taniqua Jackson.....	Dec 29
Pat Wiesenauer.....	Dec 30



Linnea Vogt and David Vogt.....	Dec 15 (35 yrs.)
Steve and Pat Calhoon.....	Dec 20 (49 yrs.)
Lynn and Lynnette Newman.....	Dec 29 (45 yrs.)



Thank you Sandy Spanier and Janette Williams for serving for the month of November. Dawn Peters and Sandy Spanier will serve for the month of December. Thank you for your service to the Lord and Christ Lutheran Church.

Baptismal Birthday Blessing

Gracious Lord, we give thanks that in Holy Baptism we receive forgiveness of sins, deliverance from death and the devil, and eternal salvation. On this baptismal anniversary, bless [name] continually by Your Word and Spirit that [he/she] may faithfully keep the covenant into which [he/she] has been called, boldly confess [his/her] Savior, and finally share with all Your saints the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- Michael Simonds Dec 1
- Yvonne Case Dec 1
- Violet Zabel Dec 3
- Shirley Lindstrom..... Dec 8
- Judith Verbeke..... Dec 10
- Mary Vaughn Dec 17
- Blake Albright Dec 18
- Neal Whitehurst Dec 19
- Dawn Peters Dec 26
- Lynn Newman..... Dec 26
- Linnea Vogt..... Dec 31

*First year Anniversary as
Member of Christ Lutheran Church
Clarence Baker, Dec. 5*

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ALTAR GUILD SERVICES

Dawn Peters and Sandy Spanier

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP @ 5:30 PM

- Elder**.....Lee Crapo, Steve Rosane (12/14)
- Lector**.....Debbie Smith/ Gerie Slaten/
Carlos Orellana, Steve Rosane
- Audio**.....Lee Crapo/Robin Fox/Taniqua Jackson

**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.....



Peace is our common pursuit. As Advent leads us to Christmas, we are especially seeking a distinct season of peace. We need a quiet place to rest during this restless time. Year after year, with each Advent season, we wonder if this year will bring a peace that endures. We crave the reassurance that God knows all our needs and will provide for them, not just for these short weeks but for every season. Often, we grow impatient as we seek peace. Despite knowing the promises of God to provide for us, we might try to find peace on our own. We then define peace according to the ways we seek it. We might imagine that peace comes when we finally have enough of all the things we plan to buy. Or we might look for the perfect place where peace is an undisturbed solitude, the cabin beside a still lake. We might seek peace by escaping memories of the past. Or peace might be an elusive future where everyone does exactly what they should. These are our many ways of defining peace, but sadly, each of these directions could go on and on without ever being fulfilled. As we seek peace in these many ways, God intersects us with a peace that both passes our understanding and yet meets our needs. God knows the many ways and directions by which we seek peace. As we journey, God meets us, halts our endless pursuits, and gives us a new understanding of His gift of peace. That peace comes always through the birth of Jesus, the Word become flesh who steps into the world and fulfills our desire for peace. In the end, we find our lasting peace and treasure. God's peace doesn't send us on an impossible search. God's peace is not an invisible needle buried in a haystack. God's peace is a treasure laid in the straw of the manger. God's peace is the priceless Son of God, born in the stable and laid in plain view for us all. He is the diamond found in the manger's straw. As the Prince of Peace, He is the peace that we seek.

Join us each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. during Advent to worship with the theme, "Peace Came to Earth." The hymn of the same name, whose text was written by Jaroslav J. Vajda, serves as the framework for our Advent series and will serve as hymn of the month. Additionally, a daily Advent devotional based upon the theme of Peace will be available.

Pastor Chris

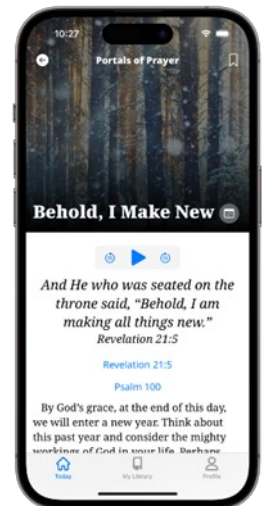
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ROMANS

Bible study: Join us Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. or Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. as we have a lively conversation about the book of Romans. All are encouraged to attend. New attendees are especially welcome.

Portals of Prayer: Have you ever wished that you could hear the Portals of Prayer devotions and Bible readings read to you? There is an app for that! The *InPrayer* app by Concordia Publishing House is available in the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.



Music in the Courtyard Join us Christmas Eve at 5:30 p.m. as we “sing and make melody to the Lord” (see Ephesians 5:19) to prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas worship. Light refreshments will be served.



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

Waiting with Anticipation

If you look up the definition of the word 'Advent' in the dictionary you will see "the arrival of a notable person, thing or event." The advent of television is used as an example. That certainly was a momentous time. The advent of technology has been a very beneficial thing for the world as well.

The Advent season in the church year is defined as "a time of expectant waiting and preparation". What are we waiting for? What are we preparing for? Why, the arrival of our Lord God in the form of a human being we know as Jesus Christ, of course! What a wonderful season it is! We should be as eager for Christ's arrival, as a child is for Christmas morning. The gift Christ brings is worth significantly more than any gift Santa could bring. He brings the promise of eternal life!

As we all prepare our hearts and homes for the celebration of this event, may we each remember the same joy that we had as a child on Christmas morning. Let each of us take this month to prepare for His coming and ask Him what we can do to help others prepare for His coming as well.

At our most recent council meeting, we were discussing how Christ Lutheran Church is so busy! There's seldom a day that someone is not on our campus doing something for God or our neighbors. What a wonderful thing that is! So many are busy 'preparing' for many things here and we are so thankful for them all!

On another note, the Board of Stewardship would like to invite the congregation to our annual celebration of this year's new members. Please join us Sunday, December 15th in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate those that have joined Christ Lutheran this year. We are so thankful for each and every one of them!

Have a blessed Advent and Christmas Season!

In Christ,

Kim Kaniecki

Board of Stewardship



MARY MARTHA



The Mary Martha Guild of LWML would like to wish all members of Christ Lutheran congregation a very Blessed Christmas to you and yours!

All women of Christ Lutheran are cordially invited to the Mary Martha Christmas Luncheon. This will be held on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at the Huntington Hills Golf and Country Club, 2626 Duff Road, Lakeland. We will have lunch at approximately 11:30am. The Mary Martha regular monthly meeting will be held at 10am in the Fellowship Hall and we will proceed from there to Huntington Hills. The 10am meeting is half an hour later than our normal starting time. You do not need to be a regular attendee or member to attend this luncheon, but as always, all ladies are invited to our meeting! What a great opportunity to check out our great organization. Serving the Lord with gladness!

There is a sign up sheet in the narthex on the Mary Martha board. Please make your entrée selection and place it there, or text Charlotte @ 863-409-6270.

Entrée selections are:

Burger and French Fries

Fried Haddock Sandwich and French Fries

Club Wrap with French Fries

Tuscan Chicken Salad (This is a salad with grilled chicken on top)

All entrees are \$20 and don't include gratuity, so plan accordingly. They accept cash and cards.

Mary Martha has been super busy! We held our Winter Haven Zone Fall Rally on Saturday, November 9 at Grace Lutheran Church, Winter Haven. We collected our "Gifts from the Heart" for the Hope House in Bartow. This is the maternity home for high risk ladies who need a safe space and life guidance during and after their pregnancies. We would like to thank our Congregation for the generous donations to Hope House. Their needs are on going, so I will be providing future needs for them. Many of you might know that Hope House is located in the older home in Bartow where the movie " My girl" was filmed. The home holds six women for themselves and their babies.

Continued on next page

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On November 16th, the Mary Martha group held a Fall Bazaar for our community! We had 19 vendors with beautiful goods. We had concessions, a bake sale and door prizes! It was a rousing success! We would like to thank everyone who baked for us, helped serve and set up and break down!

We are already planning for next year!

In His Service;

Charlotte Mantz

“From heav’n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev’ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:

To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.

*LSB 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come
Vs 1,2,&13
Text: Public domain*



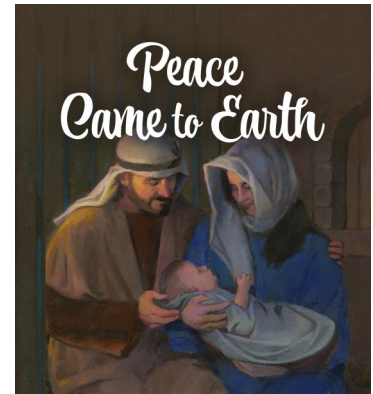
DECEMBER SERVICES

MID WEEK ADVENT SERVICES

December 4, @ 6:30pm

December 11, @ 6:30 pm

December 18, @ 6:30 pm



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
December 24th, @ 6:30 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
December 25th, @ 10 am



*Come
Let Us
Adore
Him*

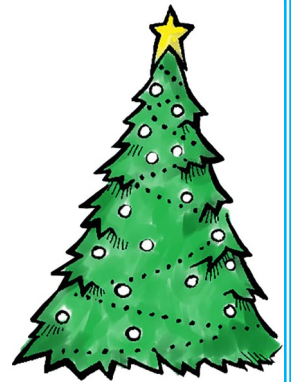
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given

Isaiah 9:2

OUTREACH

Angel Tree

We once again will have an Angel Tree for the children who live at the Lighthouse Ministries. The tree will be put up in the Narthex on Friday, November 22nd. We ask that you take a tag and then sign your name on the sheet located on the outreach bulletin board (the one by the water fountain). A box will be placed by that bulletin board to receive your UNWRAPPED gift with the name tag attached. We leave the gifts unwrapped so that the moms can do the wrapping. We will also have tags on the tree for monetary donations, wrapping paper, and scotch tape. We ask that you return the gifts by Sunday, December 15th. The Outreach Committee will then sort the gifts for each child, and put them in a separate bag for delivery to Lighthouse. The Outreach Committee gives each child a Bible or Bible story book from Christ Lutheran Church. Thank you to all who participate!



SEMINARY NEWS

We will sponsor a new seminary student again who is in their last year of seminary. More information will be coming.



Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting in a Nutshell
By Robin Fox, Council Secretary, November 11, 2024



Treasure Report:

For the month of October, our actual performance is at a negative , compared to the budgeted amounts. For YTD, our actual performance is at a negative , compared to budgeted amounts. There was no noteworthy income item or increase in assets for October 2024. There was one noteworthy expense item or decrease in assets.

Pastor Report: Pastor Christopher Hazzard

George Czanko Graveside service, Tuesday, December 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at Bushnell
Advent Theme: Peace Came to Earth

I would like someone else to be the point person for CLC apparel.

President: John Freer

Roof Update – GAF is the manufacturer of the rolled roof on the Fellowship Hall. John has been in contact with Maria since October 24, 2024. All paperwork has been submitted to Maria for approval of the claim.

New Council Members Update

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Vice President: Dawn Peters

Nothing to report.

Christian Education:

Nothing to report.

Board of Elders: Carlos Orellana

No new members this month

80+ people on Sunday

25+ people on Saturday

Stewardship: Kim Kaniecki

The Board of Stewardship is planning the annual New Member Welcome Celebration for all those that have joined the church this year on December 15th. (Pending council approval). Gift of Treasure sheets have been dispersed and will be dedicated to God at year end by Pastor.

Board of Outreach: Blake Albright

Angel Tree process

Spending money on baseball signs and pamphlets

Parking is going from \$5 to \$10 per car/vehicle

Central American Missions

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Board of Communications: Kris Welch

Nothing to report at this time.

Trustee Report: Sandy Spanier

Hurricane debris was cleaned up and a few repairs were made.

Two trees were trimmed.

Clocks set back.

Rocks that were removed from the garden by the entrance sign were replaced.

Second Roomba was installed in the sanctuary.

Additional information was submitted to the GAF claims department for the Fellowship Hall roof repair.

Youth Board: Pastor Hazzard

Nothing to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fox

Central American Missions December 2024



For the past two or three Christmas's Christ Lutheran Church has helped me to send a small financial donation to the Franciscan Friars, to the house for the elderly, and the two orphanages we help in Comayagua, Honduras. This small donation helps them to have something to celebrate for Christmas.

This year is no different; our outreach team has made a significant donation that I supplement to make a greater impact. It seems that there is always a crucial moment of need; now with the passing of Hurricane Sara, I am very sure our help will come in at a precise moment.

Thank you Christ Lutheran for your support to the Central American Mission. You have such giving hearts. Keep the mission in your prayers. Carlos Orellana

Guatemala Mayan Indians



Dresses made in Lakeland



You are helping them hope for a better future.

