

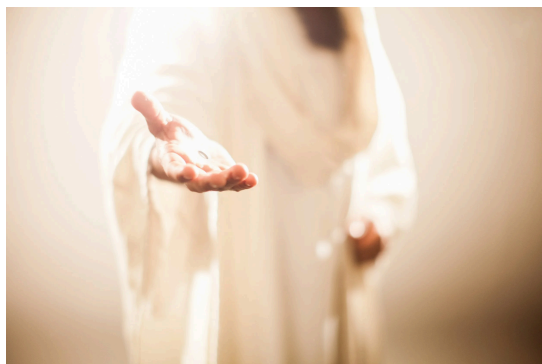


Christ Community Church Newsletter

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# Getting to Know Jesus in the New Year

Welcome to our Newsletter where we can keep you up to date on all the exciting happenings at our church.



Holy Thoughts with Pastor Jacob Sandholm

*"For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life:  
Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.  
And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved."  
Psalm 30:5*

Anyone who has said that believing in Jesus would be easy and would remove all trials from our lives are imposters of the faith and do not know the truth. That may have sounded harsh, but it saddens me when I see people leaving their faith in Jesus because they were told this lie. The truth is, whether you believe in Jesus or not, the world around us will be dark and filled with lies because of the 'prince of the air'. However, by opening

the Word of God, we are reminded that nothing and no one is more powerful than Jesus Christ.

Psalm 30:5 has been my encouragement and strength during the last month. A couple of weeks ago, I went into the hospital due to having extreme abdominal pain. I could not believe how bad it hurt. We found out that I had a four-millimeter kidney stone traveling from my kidney and through my urinary tract. Thankfully, the pain quickly subsided for Christmas and New Years, only to have it come back strong a couple of weeks later. At the time of writing this, I am still waiting for my kidney stone to pass, but I am grateful for the relief that I am feeling. During the time of pain, I was reminded of two things. First, I remembered what I always told people, "Pain is temporary". Second, I was reminded of the Word of God and how Jesus Christ felt so much more pain than I ever had, to save me and all of mankind from their sins.

I thought about these things, and though they gave me comfort, I was still feeling frustrated at the pain that came back, which was prohibiting me from being the father, husband, and pastor that I desire to be. So, while remembering the sacrifice that Jesus made for us gave me comfort in these times of distress, it was Psalm 30:5-6 that gave me motivation and hope that the pain would subside soon and that I could endure this season of life. The psalmist, who was close to King David, would have seen the struggles that the Israelites endured while under the reign of David, yet would have also been a witness to the glory that came after the pain. Psalm 30:5 reminds us that even though we may be in a season of pain, sorrow, weakness, or anything else, we can have hope that things WILL GET BETTER. We cannot achieve this on our own though. Like I said previously, this hope and strength is only found if we accept Jesus Christ in our life as our Lord and Savior. He is the One that can handle the weight of the burdens that we carry in life and is the One that will wipe away every tear at the end of time (Revelation 21:4).

It is 2026, and every year we always look to start new habits and become better versions of ourselves. May this year be His year in your life. Through any pain and suffering you endure this year; may you be reminded that joy will come in the morning. Think about this: The last couple of years may not have been easy, but you have made it to 2026, and that is truly a gift to say the least. God's wrath is real, but just like the psalmist says in this verse, "In His favour is life." I believe abundant life is only found in Jesus Christ. So, let us start this year by opening our Bibles, bowing our heads in prayer, and abiding in the One who gives us new opportunities every morning. Thank you for reading, and may God bless your January.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jacob Sandholm

**\*If you would like to connect with Pastor Jacob, please know that his office hours are Monday-Thursday: 8:30 Am-3:30 Pm. You can also contact the church email to connect with him: [christcommunitydc@gmail.com](mailto:christcommunitydc@gmail.com)**

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### January's Ministries



## Motherhood Ministry

We are always here to support those in need, and we plan to launch an encouragement campaign within the next month. In early spring, we'll also resume meal deliveries for moms who could use one less thing to worry about.

At the core of our mission is a desire to remind moms that they're not alone. Whether it's through a warm meal or a listening ear, we want to offer encouragement, support, and a sense of community.

If you'd like to learn more about this ministry or explore ways to get involved, we'd love to hear from you! Please don't hesitate to reach out at **[christcommunitydc@gmail.com](mailto:christcommunitydc@gmail.com)**.



## Outreach Committee

We loved celebrating the Advent season with you through Christmas caroling! With around 30 participants, it was a wonderful and fun-filled time. We're now in the planning stages for our next Adult Fun Night, happening in February—so stay tuned!

If you're interested in helping organize these activities, we'd love to have you on the Outreach Committee. To get involved, email us at [christcommunitydc@gmail.com](mailto:christcommunitydc@gmail.com) or text 641-242-2826.

## Elevate Youth Ministry





The New Year has come, and we are so excited to see what God does in our youth ministry in 2026. One of the best parts of the new year, is that we have the Ignite Bible Conference and Winter Jam to look forward too. On March 12-13 we will be attending the Ignite Bible Conference, while also attending Winter Jam on that same weekend, March 14. This year, we are excited to announce that we are planning on a youth weekend where we will stay in Des Moines for a few days to go to all the events. During this trip, we will be having team building exercises, Bible Studies, and time to focus on Christ and each other, without the distractions of our busy, everyday lives.

As we get into this New Year, we are also hoping to get more adult support. There will be a meeting for all who are interested in helping with our youth ministry after church on January 18. During this time, we are hoping to create a mission statement, vision, and a plan on how we want our Elevate Youth Ministry to look moving forward. If you feel called to help with our youth ministry in anyway, please come to this meeting or let me know!

Finally, be sure to check out our ELEVATE shirt store on our church store website, created by Neebz. We will be having this store open until the end of February and the best part about this is that we have a variety of different colors and styles for you to purchase and support our youth ministry. Like I said earlier, we are excited to see what God does in this new year and are looking forward to elevating His name this month and beyond!

*\*If you are interested in joining us for the Ignite Bible Conference or Winter Jam, please reach out to us on our website, email, or just let me know.*

Blessings,

Pastor Jacob Sandholm



## Missions

We are so thankful for the generous offerings received during the month of December, which help support our missionaries as they travel to Honduras and the Bahamas. Please keep our mission teams in your prayers—for safe travels and for the work they will be doing in these countries.

If you're interested in joining an upcoming mission trip or becoming part of our missions team, we'd love to connect with you. Reach out to us at **[christcommunitydc@gmail.com](mailto:christcommunitydc@gmail.com)**—we'd be honored to have you involved in this important work!



## Children's Ministry

Attendance in our children's ministry has been wonderful, and we are so thankful for so many enthusiastic kids eager to learn about Jesus each Sunday. During these months when illness and weather can be unpredictable, we are looking for a few additional volunteers to help cover last-minute helper cancellations in our classrooms.

A heartfelt *thank you* to those who are already serving and to those prayerfully considering it. If you'd like to learn more or be added to the team, please email Kaitlyn at [christcommunitydc@gmail.com](mailto:christcommunitydc@gmail.com).



## Choir

Choir continues to go well and we are so honored to bring music each and every Sunday. As a congregation, we're so thankful for the talented volunteers who bless us with their music. If you're interested in joining, you're always welcome to attend a rehearsal at the high school on Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Call Karen Spurgeon at 641-208-3202 for more information.

January						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					10am Bible Brunch	
				1	2	3
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15am Ad Council Meeting 5:30pm Elevate 4	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Pathfinders 5	Outreach Meeting 6:15pm 6	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 7	8	10am Bible Brunch 9	10
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5:30pm Elevate 11	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Pathfinders 12	13	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 14	15	10am Bible Brunch 16	17
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5:30 Elevate 18	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Pathfinders 19	20	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 21	22	10am Bible Brunch 23	24
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 25	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Pathfinders 26	Financial Peace University 6:30pm 27	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 28	29	30	31

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