



MISSION STATEMENT

**Called by God to
Worship, Learn and
Nurture; Sent to
Serve and Tell**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Jesus is Lord and
Savior. We are called
to learn and share
the Good News.
Welcome and serve
all people. We are
servants of God to
others. Holy Spirit,
mighty in prayer
leads us to answer
God's call. Fellowship
sustains each other.**

To the Saints in Yakima,

Can you believe we're already approaching the end of the year. Advent begins this month, and I'm already excited. October closed with our Fall Retreat on Prayer, and it went beyond even what I expected. Everyone has shared with me that it was a meaningful and deeply moving time together. We focused on matters of faith rather than "church business," and I was reminded once again of the incredible power God offers us through prayer; praying together, but also continuing that conversation with Jesus throughout our day. The feedback has been consistent: people didn't want it to end. It's difficult to put the experience into words. Because of that, it's been suggested to have another retreat during Lent; a one-day gathering right here in Yakima so that everyone can participate. We'll provide lunch (was there any doubt that there will food) and keep the day accessible for all. I believe this may be one of the best ideas we've had all year, and I'm looking forward to what God will do next.

As I wrote in October's newsletter, there is a church tradition this time of year when we think about stewardship. Even if it was completely unconnected to budget, stewardship (the use of our time, resources, and giving) is part of trusting Jesus in everything. All our gifts are given by Him for us to use and enjoy. The budget aspect is so that based on everyone's commitment, we can plan what we can do in the upcoming year, and allows us to be good stewards of everyone's generosity. Your commitment help us plan faithfully for the year ahead, ensuring that we can continue God's work in meaningful and responsible ways. Your generosity makes ministry possible, and we receive it with deep gratitude and joy. Together, we're practicing stewardship not as a duty, but as an act of faith and thanksgiving.

Finally, the Attitude of Gratitude theme is a way of just celebrating what we have been given, and recognize that Christ Lutheran is an oasis of hope in our community. How wonderful is it that God has brought us together and given us a mission that excites us. After a couple of decades in ministry, this is where I've felt most like myself; where sharing the Gospel feels as natural as breathing. I don't think I'm alone when I say our church feels like home. I enjoy knowing each of you and sharing your faith, laughter, and your prayers. It's easy to have an attitude of gratitude when we encounter straightforward grace from Christ. We feel welcomed.

With Thanksgiving,

Pastor Chris



During this holiday season when we reflect on everything God has placed in our lives, we have the unique opportunity to place emphasis on giving thanks. Believing in God allows us to be thankful when things go well and patient when things go against us. It is crucial at the times when things are going against us to thank God for granting us the learning experience he has placed in front of us.

During the first three weeks of November, you will be hearing a member reflect on their "Attitude of Gratitude" moment. Each talk will focus on an area in the life of Christ Lutheran. For many years, we've worried about the fact that we don't have children or young families. However, we still have visitors come and even stay to join our family. Look at all the gifts that they have brought to our altar. Maybe God is telling us that we fill a need for middle-aged, and recently retired people. And that's okay too. There's always a place for those willing to serve, no matter the age.

We worry that our congregation size is too small. Bigger is not always better. Would the spirit in Christ Lutheran be any more alive if we had more people? Would we be more active? Small means better relationships and stronger connections with each other. Let's start to focus on the best parts of our congregation and learn to tell that story to those who haven't entered our doors yet. Let's share the story of God's grace and love in a way that stands out. We have a good start with our reader board.

Let us not overlook God's good gifts to us every day. Notice what we see, what we have, and who is with us. Notice the beauty and variety around us. Keep noticing and give thanks to God, our great giver.

Today we thank you God for everything you have placed in our lives. We thank you for the good and the bad. We thank you for allowing us to be patient through the bad in our life so that we may learn what it is you want us to learn from the situation. We ask that today you give us the great gift of being able to notice all of your gifts. Open our hearts to a spirit of thanksgiving we pray. Amen.

Blessings,

Deacon Kathy

Being a Christian is like being a Pumpkin

God picks you from the patch and brings you in (John 15:16)

Then He washes all the dirt off of you (2 Corinthians 5:17)

He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, fear, hate, and greed. (Romans 6:6)

He carves you a new smiling face (Psalm 71:23)

And He puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see. (Matthew 5:16)



NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

November Birthdays and Anniversaries



Birthdays

- 1st Joan Jangard
 11th Mackenzie Bond
 13th Charlotte Abercrombie

Anniversaries

- 14th Darold & Laura Larson
 16th Brad & Sheri Bissell

Serving Our Country

David Carlson
 Luke Harper
 Hannah & Nick Brown—USAF
 Ian Dunbar—USMC



Jane Peterson	Carol Murphy	Victoria Hall	Brian Hatheway
Lloyd Crabtree	Bryon Van Arsdale	Del	Lilly
Sandy Peterson	Jill	Mel & Joan Jangard	Maxine Hall
Glen & Sally Atterberry	JD Sundseth	Earl Williams	David Lundy
Lori Dando	Kane & Blake	Alisha	Jim Eling
Alisse & Joseph	Jean Raabe	Shawn Lugo	Norma Zucconi
Christina Zucconi			

The friends and families of Larry Julius, Larry Kimble, Eloise St. George, Judy Bedard, and Michael Gellar.

(The people listed here have been on our prayer list for the past two months. If your loved one is no longer on the list and needs our continued prayers, please let Deacon Kathy know.)

The month of November is a time to feed those in our community who may not have enough to eat.



On Monday, November 10th, 5:45 p.m., be a part of feeding the residents at Camp Hope. Suzanne Brown is planning a warm, nutritious meal. But she does need help with carrying some of the big pots. This ministry not only fills hungry stomachs but fills our members with joy. The people we serve are always grateful for our time and our care.

On Saturday, November 22nd, at noon, we will be serving a meal to “our” veterans at Pear Tree Place Next Step Housing. Following the meal, we will distribute food boxes to the 17 residents. Currently, we have approximately \$1,000 in our fund, which equates to \$50 per box. As you know, that won’t purchase a lot of food. Please consider donating money this month so we can fill out the boxes.

This ministry has been a gift not only for the veterans in that we share fellowship with them but also for the food that we distribute. As with Camp Hope, the members of Christ Lutheran get even more out of these visits. Consider joining us for a couple hours of service and fellowship with these people who have served our country on our behalf.



Red Cross Blood Drive

November 21st

12:00 – 5:00

Giving blood on or around Thanksgiving is the ultimate way to share gratitude and a kind gesture with patients in need. Make rolling up a sleeve part of your holiday traditions



Ladies Lunch Out

November 20th

11:45

Location to be determined



Guy's Night Out

November 20th

Abby's Pizza

4808 Tieton Drive



Christ Lutheran Church Retreat 2025

“A Focus on Prayer”

By Lori Murphy

Spirit filled. Emotional. Meditation and prayer. Thoughtful communication. Great music. Bonding moments. Meaningful worship. Inclusion. Joyful!

When Deacon Kathy asked me to share my retreat experience with all of you, these are the words that came to my mind immediately. It was wonderful to share this special time with twice as many folks as we had last year, at our first retreat. It is my hope that we can continue to increase our congregation's participation to have as many people attend as possible.

Camp Ghormley, on White Pass, was as beautiful as I remembered from last year. Although the weather was rainy, I was reminded of how much this area needed the “liquid sunshine” and it made it even cozier. We began our weekend with an amazing dinner prepared by the Camp Ghormley staff, joined by some of our friends from last year – a scrapbooking group from Yakima who also has a gathering the same weekend.

After returning to our lodge, we had a fun time with a session of “Fact or Opinion” (perhaps a church retreat version of Truth or Dare) and answered some questions that Pastor Chris had prepared in advance. It was a great way to get to know one another better, and it was really funny! Like last year (without giving away too much), Pastor Chris presented us with our new “secret names”. I have learned that we have tons of comedians in our group, and the laughter abounded all evening! You'll need to attend next year to get your new alias! We also had opportunities to sing some favorite hymns, with Sonya Duncan leading the way with her wonderful guitar-playing and singing.

A lot of folks were able to come up Saturday morning, and after a delicious breakfast we gathered again to begin our day – focusing on prayer. We had the opportunity to participate in small groups, guided along with questions posed to us by Pastor Chris: If you lived a life of ceaseless prayer, what would change in you? What would change in the world? These moments with the small group were some of my favorites; I learned so much from my friends and fellow Christians. The most powerful moment of the retreat for me was when we were each asked to pray for a person in our group. We listened to what our prayer partner's needs were and prayed out loud for them. To hear someone lift your name to God in prayer is a very emotional and powerful thing. I lost count of how many times I cried this weekend; but I was not ashamed, and no one made me feel embarrassed because of my emotion. Sometimes there are feelings inside that need to come out, even when we are completely unaware they are trapped in us! The Holy Spirit was indeed with us all weekend.

We shared more music on Saturday, with David Lundy joining us on guitar and making beautiful music. After a wonderful prayer meditation, led by Alisa Peterson, we concluded with the Holden Evening Prayer service and communion.

As I did last year, I walked away with a love and renewed hope in my heart – for my life, for the life and work of our congregation, and for the world. I'm looking forward to seeing where God leads us next, and I will continue to prayerfully consider what role God wants me to play in that journey.

Save October 2nd & 3rd, 2026 for the next Fall Church Retreat!



**NEW
WEBSITE
NOW LIVE**

www.christlutheranyakima.org

Our new website is now live
at www.christlutheranyakima.org.

This new website is modern, more energetic, engaging,
and user-friendly! Check it out!

TIP: If you have our website bookmarked (saved as a
favorite) in your browser, it might not work the first
time. You will have to type in our web address, and once
it opens to the new website you can re-bookmark it again
as a favorite!

HURRICANE MELISSA

Your love is needed

lwr.org/melissa-relief

The needs of our neighbors in the Caribbean are growing as Hurricane Melissa brings devastation to communities already living in fragile conditions.

Our partners at Lutheran World Relief are already preparing a response to reach families affected by Hurricane Melissa with **urgently needed care like food, water, shelter and essential supplies.**

Right now, the number one need is financial gifts so that the team at Lutheran World Relief can reach our neighbors as quickly as possible.

HOW TO GIVE

You can give directly through Lutheran World Relief at lwr.org/melissa-relief, by scanning the QR code below or by mailing a check to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. Please write **MELISSA RELIEF** in the memo line.

Gifts can also be made through our congregation. Designate **"LWR MELISSA RELIEF"** when making your gift and we will rush a gift from the church to Lutheran World Relief.

**Thank you for sharing God's love with our neighbors
when and where they need it most.**

**Until your love reaches
every neighbor.**



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

LWR.ORG/MELISSA-RELIEF

COMING TO CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH SOON

- 2nd All Saints Sunday, Faith, Fitness, & Fellowship, 2:00
- 5th Magical Mystery Tour, Noon, Matthew 25:31-46
- 9th Council Meeting, 11:00
- 10th "Women of the Bible Speak" Study, 11:00
Camp Hope Meal, 5:45
- 12th Magical Mystery Tour, Noon
Social Ministry Meeting, 3:00
- 16th Faith, Fitness, & Fellowship, 2:00
- 18th Worship & Music Meeting, Noon
- 19th Magical Mystery Tour, Noon
- 20th Ladies Lunch, 11:45
Men's Pizza Night, 6:00, Abby's Pizza
- 21st Red Cross Blood Drive 12:30-5:30
- 22nd Thanksgiving with the Vets, TBD
- 23rd Consecration Sunday Brunch, 11:00
- 24th "Women of the Bible Speak" Study, 11:00
- 26th Magical Mystery Tour, Noon
- 27th Thanksgiving Day



- 2nd Advent Services, 5:30 Soup & Bread, Worship 6:30
- 9th Advent Services, 5:30 Soup & Bread, Worship 6:30
- 13th CLC Progressive Christmas Dinner, 4:00—8:00
- 16th Advent Services, 5:30 Soup & Bread, Worship 6:30
- 24th Christmas Eve Services, 7:00



- 25th Family Fun Night 4:00-5:30



All dates and times are subject to change!