



# Christ Lutheran CHURCH

**WEEKLY SCRIBE**  
**January 18, 2026**

## **Faith Formation Opportunities ~ *Sundays 9:20 a.m.***

	<b>Sanctuary</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>	<b>120 Library</b>
1/18/2026		Baptised We Live Pastor Erica/Pastor Tim	<b>Bible Survey</b> D. Keammerer
1/25/2026		Baptised We Live Pastor Erica/Pastor Tim	<b>Bible Survey</b> D. Keammerer
2/1/2026		Baptised We Live Pastor Erica/Pastor Tim	<b>Bible Survey</b> D. Keammerer

## **2026 Lenten Dinners at CLC!!!**

During Lent, you are invited to join in Lenten dinners at **5:30 p.m.** Wednesdays at CLC, before each **7:00 p.m.** evening service. Please sign up for each meal in advance in the East Link so that the cooks know how many to expect, and consider bringing a dessert to share. A free-will offering will be collected at each meal. Come and join in the fellowship!

**As the season of Lent approaches, we are looking for individuals or groups to make the evening meals. Sign-up sheets are in the East Link, for more information call the church office. Remember when signing up to also ask for volunteers to set-up and clean-up the hall.**

### **Dinner schedule:**

**February 18 ~ Denise Maragos (Something Delicious)**

**February 25**

**March 4 ~ Stephen Ministry (Soups and Surprises)**

**March 11**

**March 18**

## CLC Social Ministry and Mission January 2026

“Spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed” (Isaiah 58:10).

### **First Contact, Inc. and Mike Steiner Congregational Member Needs Memorial Fund.**

Each month the Social Ministry highlights a special giving opportunity and volunteer opportunities. January’s emphasis is to support 1) First Contact Porter County <https://facebook.com/firstcontactportercounty> and 2) the Christ Lutheran Mike Steiner Benevolence Fund.

**First Contact** is a not-for-profit interdenominational resource and referral ministry, which endeavors in the name of Jesus to assist Porter County residents in need. The vision of FC is to engage a community of givers, through churches, individuals, and organizations to help support those facing hardship. FC has offices in Valparaiso and Portage. When Porter County residents come to the offices of Christ Lutheran with needs as described above, First Contact is our partner in helping address these needs. FC also welcomes volunteers to help in staffing their office hours.



**Mike (Marjorie) Steiner** was a member of Christ Lutheran who through her will asked her family to donate her financial savings (about \$15,000) to CLC. She asked that these monies be used to help CLC members who at a particular time have social, physical, and financial needs. The Social Ministry Committee established policies and procedures for making effective use of these funds to benefit those needing help with rent, utilities, emergency food, medicine, and counseling. It has been years since Mike’s initial gift, and numerous CLC members have benefited, so the fund needs new donations each year.

Help achieve our goal of \$2500 in January (over/above giving combined with CLC’s \$1200 budgeted amount). By achieving our goal CLC helps **First Contact** and **Steiner Fund** thrive. Use your weekly worship giving envelope with a check to CLC and indicate “F.C./Steiner”, or contribute through Subsplash on the CLC website <https://clevalpo.org> via the “Give” button. Thank you to members for supporting monthly emphases.

## **QUILTS**

Quilts Completed: 53

## **BABY CARE KIT PROJECT**

2026 GOAL-500

KITS COMPLETED-105

**JANUARY NEEDS**-1 yard of flannel or more and girl tops and boy shirts in sizes 6 months to 2T.

**INTERESTING FACT**- There are fewer items available at local resale shops.



## **FABRIC KIT PROJECT**

2026 GOAL-100

KITS COMPLETED-8

**JANUARY NEEDS**-Cotton fabric in 3 yard lengths. Solid colors and printed designs can be used. This fabric is sent to LWR SEWING CENTERS somewhere in the world where sewing skills are taught.

**INTERESTING FACT**-Since 2016 when this project started here at CLC, 1,310 kits have been sent.

## **PERSONAL CARE KIT PROJECT**

KITS COMPLETED 108

**JANUARY NEEDS**-CASH TO BUY NEEDED ITEMS IN BULK.

*Lent is a season when traditionally Christians make a sacrifice of some type to remember Christ's sacrifice for us. In this spirit, I am making this request for thie time during lent. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through Good Friday, I will match any contributions to the Personal Care Kit Project. Please help me help remember those people all over the world that are less fortunate than we are. Any contribution will be greatly appreciated and will be used to purchase items to be included in the kits. Thank you for your participation in this project.*

## **ALUMINUM CAN PROJECT**

2026 GOAL-\$250

Cans collected-0

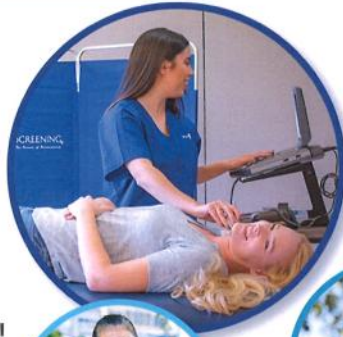
**JANUARY NEEDS**-Fill the red truck or the white basket in the Gathering Area EACH SUNDAY! Having a party over the holidays that includes aluminum cans, remember to save them for LWR.

**INTERESTING FACT**- The money earned from the cans purchased about 280 4 ounce bars of soap in 2025.

**Special screening package for  
\$129 for our members includes:**

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

**Call to schedule an appointment near you!  
800-324-9458 and use code: HABC001**



**Christ Lutheran Church  
Friday, January 23, 2026  
Activity Center**

## **SCAM ALERT REMINDER**

*They continue to be persistent!*

Once again, scammers are impersonating CLC Staff by text and email. Please be cautious! If the "from" address does not match our CLC addresses, it is fake. If a text comes from a number that is not in your contact list, please do not reply! If you are ever unsure, call the church office to confirm.

**REMEMBER:** our staff will NEVER ask for help with gift cards, and we DO NOT ask for assistance as we're going into a meeting.

**IF IT'S A NEW NUMBER, DO NOT RESPOND!** That is the only way they will get tired of targeting us.

Christ Lutheran Church offers a Grief Support Group every other week on Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11 am in the Conference Room. (209). The group serves adults who have experienced a loss of a spouse, parent, child, friend, or neighbor. The core group of peer support welcomes others to walk together in our grief journey .

Come when you can. Coffee and Kleenex available.

The group is facilitated by Cheryl Slack, a Stephen Minister. You may contact her at 219-241-0677 or one of the pastors if you have any questions.

Upcoming dates are January 14, 28; February 22, 25, 2026.

### **CIRCLE Dinner Providers Needed for 2026**

Meals are needed for the high school youth group. Circle meets every Sunday from 6-8pm, with a meal to start at 6:00. Would you be willing to cook a meal and share it with the kids? You would be cooking for about 15 people and are welcome to stay for fellowship. If you are interested, please scan the QR code.



### **January Altar Gifts**

#### **Holy Communion**

Phyllis Schroeder ~ In Memory of David

Safrin Family ~ Celebrating our Grandson, Luke, 9th Birthday!

#### **Altar Candles**

Phil Hahn ~ In Memory of Laurel Hahn

#### **Eternal Lamp**

Michael & Lois Felten ~ In Memory of Connie Felten Bretscher

## **LENT/EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE 2026**

**Ash Wednesday**

**February 18**

**1:00 p.m.**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Mid-Week Lenten Dinners**

**February 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25 @ 5:30 p.m.**

**Mid-Week Lenten Services**

**February 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**Palm Sunday**

**March 29**

**8:00 & 10:30 a.m.**

**Maundy Thursday**

**April 2 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**Good Friday**

**April 3**

**1:00 p.m.**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Easter Vigil**

**Saturday, April 4 @ 4:00 p.m.**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**April 5**

**8:00 & 10:30 a.m.**

# **Lent**



## Message for our Stephen Ministers

We have prepared, decorated, been renewed; we've celebrated, sang those familiar and loved Christmas hymns, and we have gathered as we were able. Now we begin undecorating and returning to those familiar patterns.

Perhaps now is the right time to seek out a person to listen, to trust confidentially, as those concerns and bothersome details resurface. The birth of the One we celebrated is now in the world, active and available to all of us. Someone wearing those blue name badges or either Pastor is waiting to speak with you about having your own Stephen Minister.

There are 17 of us, highly trained to faithfully walk with you, support you, on your journey.

## Attention all Youth



If you are participating in the ISSMA program this year through your school, we would love to have you share your talents with us in worship. If you are interested, please contact or speak with Mr. Bartusch to schedule a time to play during our Sunday morning worship services.

## CLC Retreat

**Registration is now open for the CLC 2026 Retreat: Living as a Christian When the Ground Feels Shaky**

We'll gather at the Lindenwood Retreat Center in Plymouth Feb 20-22, hearing stories of faith and sharing in study, worship, and fellowship. Follow the QR code below to register online!

Any questions ask Don MacMillan or Pastor



*The colorful banners* on display in the Sanctuary, the Gathering Place and Fellowship Hall are being shared by member, Phil Hahn. These banners are on loan from First Christian Church and were created by Phil's late wife, Laurel. Laurel made over forty liturgical banners and hundreds of quilts for family and others. Phil is making this display possible for us to enjoy and in remembrance of Laurel and her many talents.

*Phil is an active member at CLC as a worship assistant, musician, and choir member. Phil is also a board member and participant for The South Shore Brass, a brass band that holds various concerts at Christ Lutheran throughout the year.*

*We appreciate Phil and his kind offer to share these beautiful banners with us over the next few weeks. Thank you, Phil.*

*~ Worship and Arts Committee*

#### A Note of Thanks from The Social Ministry Committee

When I loaded up my car for the first of three trips to deliver our gifts of games and puzzles to the Crisis Center in Gary, I was brought to tears by your generosity. For the last few years we have partnered with Bethel Lutheran Church in Gary to do an Advent project together. This year CLC had so many wonderful projects and I confess that I wondered if it was too much. But I needn't have worried. The Crisis Center was so grateful for the many new or gently used puzzles and games that were donated and it was a joy to deliver them to the Center. The gifts are deeply appreciated by the staff at the Center and by the many kids who will know that these gifts were given by two partnering congregations who love them in Jesus' name.

Gratefully,

Kathy Sutherland and the Social Ministries Committee

## LLP Registration

2026-2027 Registration is now open for everyone! We have plenty of Beginner AM and PM classes left and some afternoon Young 5/PreK spots.

The classes that will be offered this coming fall are:

- Beginners Tuesday/Thursday AM 8:45-11:15 (\$225/month). 3 & 4 years old.  
Must be 3 by August 1, 2026
- Beginners 3 Session AM Mon/Wed/Fri 9:00-11:30 (\$275/month). 3 & 4 years old.  
Should be 3 by Feb. 1, 2026
- Beginners 3 Session PM Mon/Wed/Fri 12:30-3:00 (\$275/month). 3 & 4 years old.  
Should be 3 by Feb. 1, 2026
- Pre-K AM Mon/Wed/Fri 8:45-11:15 (\$250/month) 4 & 5 years old.  
Must be 4 by August 1, 2026
- Pre-K PM Mon/Wed/Fri 12:15-2:45 (\$250/month) 4 & 5 years old.  
Must be 4 by August 1, 2026\*
- Young 5's AM Mon-Fri 9:00-11:30 (\$357/month) 4 & 5 years old. Should be 4 by June 1, 2026
- Young 5's PM Mon-Fri 12:30-3:00 (\$357/month) 4 & 5 years old. Should be 4 by June 1, 2026\*

\*Enrollment of up to 16 students in these classes will combine for a split class of PreK/Young 5.

An Extended Day Program will be available for Registration in Fall of 2026 for Spring Semester. Pre-K and Young 5 AM students, who will be attending Kindergarten the following school year, are eligible to enroll.

LLP reserves the right to cancel classes if enrollment is insufficient. A non-refundable registration fee of \$175.00 is due at the time of confirmation of registration. Additional siblings registering for the same school year may pay a reduced registration fee of \$119.00. Once you receive confirmation of registration from LLP you may pay for registration online via a link provided. The registration fee is not due until you receive confirmation that your child has secured a spot for the 2026-2027 school year.

Please contact Jen Gottlieb at 219-462-6660 #14 or [LLP@CLCValpo.org](mailto:LLP@CLCValpo.org) for more information.

Registration is online at [www.clcvalpo.org](http://www.clcvalpo.org) (click through to the LLP page).



## Attention All Thrivent Financial Members!

Do you have any ***Thrivent Choice Dollars*** that have not been directed to the charity of our choice?

### Minimum and maximum Choice Dollars Designations

Eligible clients will be designated a minimum of 25 Choice Dollars and a maximum of 5,000 Choice Dollars per eligibility period (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31).

Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed **until March 31, 2026**.

There are two ways of directing ***Choice Dollars*** to Christ Lutheran Church:

**Computer:** Go to the Thrivent Financial web site ([www.Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com)) and direct the ***Choice Dollars*** on-line.

**Phone:** Call Thrivent Financial at 1-800-847-4836. When prompted by the electronic answering system, say “***Thrivent Choice***.” Follow the remaining prompts, and a representative will come on the line to assist you. You will need your Thrivent membership ID number and will need to answer some other personal questions to verify that you are the Thrivent member who is on the line.

Thank you to every member of this church for your endless support.




Landscaping  
Worship Leaders  
Hosting events  
Food donations for different pantries  
Worship at the Beach  
Staff Gift Donations  
Popcorn Fest  
Easter Bake Sale  
Youth Dinners, Youth Events  
Lenten Suppers

Donations to Bethal Lutheran Church

Angel Tree (We gave gifts to four families, 2 of which were veterans)

CLC is such a generous and giving church, you should all be so proud!

**COME ONE**



# SOUPS

**STEP RIGHT UP TO OUR GREATEST SOUPS YET!**



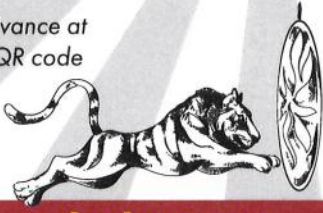
**Our 2026 Soups event raises funds for  
hunger relief programs & scholarships.**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026 4-7 PM**

**Porter County Expo Center**

**Tickets \$25**

*Available at the door, in advance at  
Hilltop or by scanning the QR code*

**HILLTOPHOUSE.ORG**

**[219] 477-4222**

Missing Women's Black Leather Coat

Has a collar, no belt, size medium\

Tiny pin on front "PEO"

If you find this coat please let the office know.

Thank you!!



A heartfelt thank you to the Congregation for  
your Christmas gift for the staff at  
Christ Lutheran Church.

Milan Coburn

Jan Bina

Quinn Bartsch

Ed & Gerhards

Bob

Levy  
Leinhardt

Pastor Tim

Joy Doherty

Pastor  
Guica

NEEDED: CHRISTMAS CARDS  
WHEN: ANYTIME  
WHERE: SANDY KEAMMERER'S MAILBOX

**Sandy collects cards all year, so keep them coming.**