



**Christ  
Lutheran**  
CHURCH

2610 Campbell Street • Valparaiso,  
Indiana 46385 • (219) 462-6660  
[clcvalpo.org](http://clcvalpo.org) • [office@clcvalpo.org](mailto:office@clcvalpo.org)

**The Good News**  
**January 2024**



## Retreat 2024 - The Freedom of Forgiveness!

Registration is open for the retreat, which will be held **February 23-25, 2024**. Congregation members will share how God has been at work in their lives through the practice of forgiveness; it's a great time to step back from our stressful daily lives into a time of respite and spiritual renewal at the beautiful **Lindenwood Retreat Center near Plymouth, IN**. Scan this QR code to register:



### Social Ministry Additional Volunteer/Giving Opportunities:

#### **Northwest Indiana Lutheran Food and Supply Pantries Donations.**

**Men's Shelter** (and Resale Shop) <https://newcreationresaleshop.com> at 2102 Calumet Ave, 219-548-3548. You can help feed our neighbors experiencing homelessness: New Creations Men's Center continues to be home base for both single men and women in between having a "home", providing daily meals and a space to be during the day. You can help feed their guests at their daytime Center: lunch supplies can be dropped off at the resale shop counter during open hours (usually 10-5). Needed items include: lunch meat, fruit, individual juice, snack cakes, and chips. Call 219-548-3548 for more information. There is a basket inside door #3 for food donations.

**Housing Opportunities** <https://hoi.help/pantry> 2001 Calumet Ave., 219-548-2800. Food Pantry Needs: Peanut butter, Jelly, Spaghetti sauce (in jars), Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo. Non-Pantry Needs: New Pillows, Towels, Twin size sheets (can be used – no stains). One click donating! on Amazon wish list – items shipped directly to the shelter! [www.hoi.help/pantry](http://www.hoi.help/pantry) or drop off items in lobby at 2001 Cal. Ave. M-F 10am-4pm.

**Immanuel Food Pantry** <https://immanuelvalpo.org/food-pantry> 1700 Monticello – drive up drop off items. Donations can be dropped at Immanuel, best done Tuesdays and Thursdays 1-3 pm, at entrance between church and school.

**Hilltop Food Pantry** [Hilltop | Food Pantry \(hilltophouse.org\)](http://hilltophouse.org) 606 Union St.



## CLC Social Ministry and Mission January 2024

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

### First Contact, Inc. and Mike Steiner Special 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 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 and Mission 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. Since it has been quite a few years since Mike's gift, and since numerous CLC members have benefited, the fund needs new donations each year.

Help achieve our goal of \$2500 in January (over and above giving combined with CLC's budgeted amount of \$1200). By achieving our goal CLC will help **First Contact** and **Steiner Fund** continue to thrive. Use your weekly worship giving envelope mailed with check to CLC and indicate "FC/Steiner" or contribute through Subsplash on the CLC website <https://clevalpo.org> via the "Give" button. Thank you to members for supporting monthly social ministry emphases.

## **LENT/EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE 2024**

**Ash Wednesday**

**February 14**

**1:00 p.m.**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Mid-Week Lenten Dinners**

**February 14, 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Mid-Week Lenten Services**

**February 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Palm Sunday**

**March 24**

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

**Maundy Thursday**

**March 28**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Good Friday**

**March 29**

**1:00 p.m.**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Easter Vigil**

**Saturday, March 30**

**4:00 p.m.**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**March 31**

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



## LITTLE LAMB PRESCHOOL

### Little Lamb Preschool Registration News for 2024-2025

#### REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025 BEGINS IN JANUARY

**We would love to have you become part of the LLP family!**

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year begins ***Tuesday, January 9 at 9:00 AM for all CLC members (Currently enrolled students register Monday, January 10 beginning at 9:00 AM).*** ***Registration is only available online at [www.clcvalpo.org](http://www.clcvalpo.org)*** . If you have any questions, please contact Jen at the preschool ***(462-6660 #14 or [llp@clcvalpo.org](mailto:llp@clcvalpo.org))***.

**A virtual tour of Little Lamb Preschool is available on the website (CLCValpo.org—follow the Little Lamb tab).**

#### The Faith of Children and Their Families

We would like to thank all of the CLC Church staff. The support, guidance and help that the church staff has given LLP has been outstanding. Our weekly Chapel Time and Christmas programs were a joyous celebration of this wonderful

Throughout December the children learned about the Christmas story at other times as well. We were so happy to hear the reactions of parents and grandparents thanking us for the Pre-K and Young 5's Christmas Programs, and the message the children learned about the birth of Jesus and then shared with their families. The Beginners have heard the story in their classrooms and have been retelling the story with the Playschool Nativities. All of the older students made individual nativities to take home, while the Beginners made Advent Wreaths. LLP Families demonstrated living out their faith by donating gifts via our Angel Tree for Housing Opportunities. What a blessing to see the faith of our students and their families!



Thank you, Christ Lutheran Church, for joining with Little Lamb Preschool as together we "shepherd God's children!"



## Senior Group News

*Thrivent Financial is sponsoring a workshop/meal where we will be tying fleece blankets with the CLC youth on Sunday, January 7, 2024. We will be dining and working from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the CLC Gathering Space.*

*The Youth Group will be tying blankets for Living Hope. Our Senior Group will have additional fleece blankets to tie, along with port protectors to be stuffed, on behalf of Phil's Friends, the group represented by Judy Earnshaw, our November meeting speaker. Various other provided items will also be assembled at that time for Phil's Friend's cancer care boxes.*

*We will meet at church at 6 p.m., with a meal of sloppy joes & chips kindly provided by Thrivent Financial. Please come and enjoy the fellowship and a meal with our youth while we all work together for the benefit of these two great organizations.*

*Please respond to Judy Boom at [mbboom@comcast.net](mailto:mbboom@comcast.net) by December 30, 2023, if you are able to attend so that the appropriate amount of food may be provided.*

*If a few could also provide desserts, that would be appreciated.*

**January 25, 2024: Thursday, 9:15 a.m.** Meet at church for our meeting as Pastor Erica will share with us her sabbatical experiences! A sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board, and also indicate if you are able to provide treats for that meeting.



### Stephen Ministry

Winter seems to last forever when you are alone.”

Need to talk? Stephen Ministers listen. Call the church office **(219.462.6660)**, talk to a Stephen Minister (look for the blue badges) or one of the pastors. We are all here for you.

**Quilts**

2024 Goal: 500

Quilts Completed: 52

**Baby Care Kits**

2024 Goal: 500

Kits Completed: 100

**Fabric Care Kits**

2024 Goal: 150

Kits Completed: 16

**Personal Care Kits**

Kits Completed: 180

**Baby Care Kits for January:** 4 ounce Dial Soap, white or blue packs**Fabric Care Kits for January:** 3 yd. Lengths of cotton fabric**Aluminum Can Project:** Funds go to LWR projects.**Getting to Know CLC**

Join us to learn more about Christ Lutheran's ministry, history, and teaching.. We'll gather for a 3-week series during the Formation Hour on Sundays (9:20am-10:20) **January 28; February 4 and 11 in the Church Hall.** Please scan the QR code to register. Call the church office 219-462-6660 if you have any questions.

**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 14—Ash Wednesday****February 21****February 28****March 6****March 13****March 20**





**Christ  
Lutheran**  
YOUTH

## **A New Year Letter to the CLC Community!**

CLC Congregation,

As a new year starts, I've spent a lot of time reflecting on all that has happened this past year. It is amazing to think of all the ways God has moved in people's lives in just the span of one year. In honor of the new year, I wanted to reflect back on some of this year's highlights from Christ Lutheran's youth ministries.

In June, some of our youth attended Confirmation camp, where they developed deeper relationships with one another and with new folks they met at camp! We also held space for discussion about the Holy Spirit and about who each of us are as Christ-followers. Also in June, some of our high schoolers attended the synod mission trip in Louisville. We were introduced to new forms of ministry and with that, we had the opportunity to engage and partake in these ministries!

In August, we confirmed 9 students and were witnesses to their testimonies and the ways in which God is moving in their lives. It has been such a blessing to see how their faith journeys have continued and to walk alongside them!

In September, we hosted our annual Popcorn Fest booth, where we got to share God's love (and some delicious brats!) with the wider community. We also made college care packages for our college students and shared our support as they are in this stage of their lives!

In October and November, we held our annual Silent Auction, which brought some friendly competition and some beautiful auction items! Thank you to everyone who donated and supported the youth throughout this process! Also in November, we partnered with the Quilters to tie some of the quilts for Lutheran World Relief. It was such a fun time connecting with their group and learning more about how these beautiful quilts are created!

In December, our youth and the senior group were in fellowship together with a shared meal. We loved forming these new relationships and can't wait for future joint events with them!

As I've reflected back upon this year, my mind is filled with all the thanks I have for everything you all have done to support our youth ministries this past year. This past year was filled with many beautiful blessings and this new year will bring many new blessings and experiences with it! Many thanks to you for your continued support of our youth ministries!

Blessings on your New Year,  
Kaitlyn Jdrzejewski





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YOUTH

## **January 2024 Schedule**

**January 1st-6th | No Circle, Fusion, or Confirmation | Winter Break**

### **High School (9th-12th)**

January 7th | Tie Blanket Service Event | 6-8pm

January 14th | Circle | 6-8pm

January 14th | Youth Gathering Meeting | 1:30-3:30pm

January 21st | Circle | 6-8pm

January 28th | Ice Skating at Urschel Pavilion | 3-5pm

### **Confirmation**

January 10th | Confirmation | 6-7:30pm

January 17th | Confirmation | 6-7:30pm

January 24th | Confirmation | 6-7:30pm

January 31st | Confirmation | 6-7:30pm

### **Fusion (5th-8th)**

January 7th | Fusion | 9:20-10:20am

January 14th | Fusion | 9:20-10:20am

January 21st | Fusion | 9:20-10:20am

January 28th | Fusion | 9:20-10:20am

## YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES

### Fleece Donations Needed!

Do you have fleece lying around that you aren't quite sure what to do with? Consider donating it to the CLC Youth Ministries! In January, our youth will be making tie blankets to donate to Living Hope Emergency Shelter. We will be using fleece to create these blankets, so any donations would be greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for supporting our youth ministries!

### Mardi Gras Fundraiser!

Be sure to mark your calendars for February 4th at 5pm! Our Youth Ministries will be hosting a Mardi Gras themed fundraiser which will be in support of sending youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering in July 2024. There will be a New Orleans style dinner, live music performed by our very own youth, and a wagon float parade (Mardi Gras style!) There will also be time where our youth will be sharing more about what the Gathering is, as well as what they are most excited for! Tickets will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings in the Gathering Space, starting on January 7th. Tickets can also be purchased online at CLC's website. Tickets will be available until January 28th. If you are interested in submitting a wagon float for the Mardi Gras parade, please contact Kaitlyn at [kaitlyn.jedrzejowski@clcvalpo.org](mailto:kaitlyn.jedrzejowski@clcvalpo.org) by January 28th. Our youth are so excited to experience the Gathering and for the CLC community to take part in this journey!

### Circle Dinners!



Is there a new recipe you've been excited to try out? Have you been looking for ways to be involved with our youth? We are in need of volunteers to help provide dinners for Circle for the second half of the year. If you are interested in providing a dinner, the QR code will take you to a sign up! Thank you so much for supporting our youth!



# MARDI GRAS DINNER

ALL PROCEEDS RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS  
SENDING YOUTH TO THE ELCA YOUTH  
GATHERING IN NEW ORLEANS IN JULY 2024!

**LIVE MUSIC • NEW ORLEANS DINNER • WAGON PARADE**

**SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 4 | 5PM**

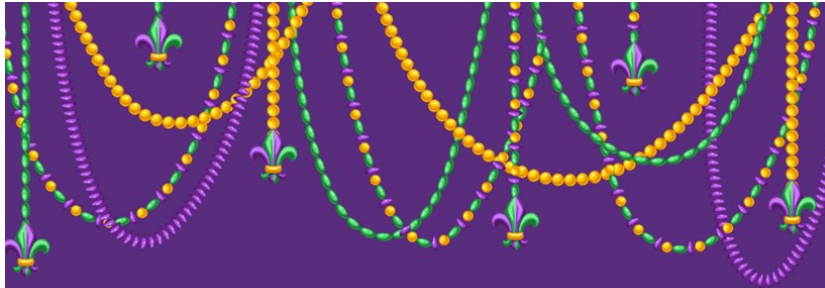
**\$10 TICKETS | 3 & UNDER FREE**



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

2610 Campbell St.  
Valparaiso, IN 46385





TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ON CHRIST LUTHERAN'S  
WEBSITE AT [CLCVALPO.ORG](http://CLCVALPO.ORG), OR AT THE TABLE IN THE  
GATHERING SPACE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS (01/07-01/28)

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING A WAGON FLOAT FOR  
THE MARDI GRAS PARADE, PLEASE REACH OUT TO KAITLYN AT  
[KAITLYN.JEDRZEJOWSKI@CLCVALPO.ORG](mailto:KAITLYN.JEDRZEJOWSKI@CLCVALPO.ORG) BY JANUARY 28TH.

TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE UNTIL JANUARY 28TH

