



**Christ  
Lutheran**  
CHURCH

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## The Good News November 2023



## Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 12 @ 9:20 a.m. in the Sanctuary



**Christ  
Lutheran**  
YOUTH

### Circle Dinners

Each week at Circle, our high school group, the youth share a dinner together as a way

of building community and spending time with each other! Over the past years, this has been a major part of the Circle experience our youth have. If you are willing to provide a dinner for our Circle members, please consider signing up using the QR code below. Dinners can be brought anytime between 5-6pm of that Sunday and we encourage you to stay and join our youth for dinner! Thank you so much!



**Faith Formation Hour  
With Pastor John Kost  
Church Hall  
November 12 & 19 @ 9:20 a.m.**

### **Care of Creation: What's a Follower of Jesus to Do?**

Air pollution, erosion, oil spills, water pollution, climate change, – the list is endless. There are so many ways that the earth is being exploited for our comforts. What is the proper balance between using the earth and nurturing it. How does being a follower of Jesus inform our actions regarding the earth's care?

Retired pastor, John Kost, invites you to join in the conversation on these issues as we explore:

1. Biblical and church teachings on stewarding creation.
2. How well we are doing in that stewarding.
3. Ways our congregation, community, country, and world could be better stewards.
4. Simple changes you can adopt toward being a better steward yourself.

Please join in on the conversation! Look forward to seeing you!

## CLC Social Ministry and Mission November 2023



Each month the Social Ministry Committee highlights a special giving opportunity. November's specific emphasis is providing support for the **Lutheran Diaconal Association** [www.thelda.org](http://www.thelda.org). Below is a message to CLC from LDA:

"Since 1919, the Lutheran Diaconal Association has formed people for ministries of service. In the early years we trained women primarily as nurses serving in missions and institutions of the church. Our ministries have changed throughout the last 103 years. Today we serve in congregations, in institutions and wherever God's people are.

A deaconess or deacon is someone one who serves. Jesus washed his disciples' feet and instructed them to do the same for others. Sometimes deaconesses and deacons do actual foot-washing like Jesus did; but more widely, they serve Christ by walking with those the world easily forgets; the marginalized, the poor, the powerless, the sick.

People who reach out to others in this way—with care and compassion in a hurting world—are practicing diaconal service, as all the baptized are called to do. Some of them desire to do this as a professional in ministry and enter a more formal training and formation process to become deaconesses and deacons. Since the earliest days of the church men and women have been set apart to do intentional servant ministry.

Deaconess/deacon ministry has come to mean many things: it means serving others on bended knee, and from positions of leadership. It means entering the hurt parts of society and carrying the light and love of Christ in service to others. It means telling the story of God's love and helping others to hear God in their own story. It means welcoming the stranger in our midst.

We are nurses, lawyers, engineers, musicians, social workers, chaplains, parish deacs, teachers, campus chaplains, missionaries, professors and so much more.

Stories of ministry abound. Stories like Deaconess Cheryl who serves as a hospice chaplain. She brings love, comfort and a voice for families to their loved ones. Cheryl holds a phone so that loved ones can say final good-byes and stands in hallways and prays for and with people who are dying. Or Deaconess Sara who works to serve her congregation. Or Deaconess Brittany who brings food to shut-ins and has learned technology to bring worship to people. Or Deacon David who works tirelessly at his church and community helping people receive their daily needs. Formation for our students continues as well. A dozen students met for their student seminar. We worshipped, had presentations and much conversation.

We are so grateful for our partnership with Christ Lutheran Church. Your congregation has made a huge difference in our ministry. Your prayer support and financial support are invaluable and help the LDA thrive and reach out to God's people, during this trying time and beyond. Thank you! For more info



FALL BACK

Turn your clocks back



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023, 7:00 pm

Followed by

**Pie Fellowship!**



Please join us for an Evening Prayer Worship Service with Holy Communion followed by our **Pie Fellowship!** You are invited to bring a pie to share (please pre-cut the pie)...or...come without a pie and enjoy the fellowship after worship!

## LITTLE LAMB PRESCHOOL

### Joyful Place

Little Lamb Preschool is a joyful place! We are pleased to be into our third month of school for the 2023-2024 school year and feel blessed everyday to be in this thriving and energetic space. Our caring and dedicated team have been working tirelessly to make sure the classrooms are welcoming rich with an exciting developmentally appropriate and challenging curriculum. Our families have also been working with us to keep illnesses out of our school. Working together to achieve this is the only way we are able to provide what these growing early learners need. Thank you to our families!!!!

### Chapel Time

In Outdoor Chapel time this month the children will hear several stories including "David Trusts God", "Jonah Learns To Obey" and "Ruth & Naomi." We will talk about how important it is for everyone to follow directions, trust God, be helpful to others, and that we have so much to be thankful for! The songs we are learning this month are "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," and "My God Is So Great!"

### Events at Little Lamb

Our events are in person this year and they are proving to be a lot of fun! In October, we celebrated the season with our annual Harvest Parties. We brought the pumpkin patch to Little Lamb and the children dressed in costumes, picked pumpkins, decorated them and enjoyed season themed games and snacks. We are hosting our favorite LLP whole school Carnival on the evening of November 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are looking for a short volunteering time filled with happy children, please contact Jen if you are available to work from 5:30-7:30 at our carnival [jen.gottlieb@clcvalpo.org](mailto:jen.gottlieb@clcvalpo.org). We also are planning Christmas Programs for our PreK and Young 5 classes. We are so looking forward to all of these special events!

### Service Projects

We are blessed with generous families with hearts for social ministry. We are now currently collecting items for Hilltop House. Soon we will turn our attention to Christmas and work side by side with Housing Opportunities to provide desired items for families in need. LLP Parents are in charge of all of our service projects.



Thank you, Christ Lutheran for joining with us as together we "shepherd God's children!"

## Faith Formation Opportunities

*Sundays 9:20 a.m.*

Date	Sanctuary	Church Hall	120	209	119, 107, LLP Annex	AC
November 5		Stewarding Creation in the 21st Century Pr. John Kost	God's Law is Love D. Keammerer	Jesus: The Greatest Story C. Slack	Sunday School	Fusion
November 12	Congregational Annual Meeting		God's Law is Love D. Keammerer		Sunday School	Fusion
November 19		Stewarding Creation in the 21st Century Pr. John Kost	God's Law is Love D. Keammerer	Jesus: The Greatest Story C. Slack	Sunday School	Fusion
November 26			God's Law is Love D. Keammerer		Sunday School	Fusion

## November Altar Gifts

Holy Communion      Vicky White ~ In Memory of my husband, William T. White

Altar Candles      Wanda Rodgers ~ In Celebration of Rudolph & Walta Rodgers  
Anniversary

Jeff & Grace Safrin ~ Praise and Thanks be to God—In  
Celebration of our daughters birthday,  
Kelly Kozloski

Eternal Lamp      Lois & Mike Felten ~ In Memory of Paul Bretscher

Vicky White ~ In Memory of my husband, William T. White

The 2023 Lutheran World Relief Ingathering was a HUGE success! Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this ministry of love to our siblings around the world over the past year. Thank you to Dave and Sandy Keammerer for the literal hundreds of boxes of personal care kits, baby kits and fabric kits you put together this year. Kudos to the quilting group - both CLC members and those from other congregations who created the lovely quilts. Way to go Kathy Page and the school kit contributors and packers. Gracias to Milan Coburn and the property committee for completing the carpeting early so we could move boxes into the Activity Center.

This ministry wouldn't be a success without the financial donations received from many of our members or the delicious baked goods donated & truck loaders who worked so hard yesterday. A very special thanks to Irene Adams and Jen Bias for keeping things organized and on track and to the 10:30 service attendees last week who assisted in folding and boxing up the quilts.

One box at a time CLC is making a difference and changing lives!

p.s. Thank you to Becky Fry for all of your hard work and dedication! You are truly an inspiration!!

### Personal Care Kits Update

Thanks to all who contributed to make this year's personal care kits project a success. With your help, we were able to complete 675 kits during 2023. Now it is time to begin collecting and packing items for 2024 as the need continues everywhere in the world. Your help is needed again this year to make our efforts successful. Please consider making regular donations throughout the year. Financial contributions are preferred, as I am then able to purchase items in bulk at a lower price. However, if you desire, any items you wish to donate may be placed in the basket in the gathering space. Financial contributions may be placed in the church offering with the designation "Personal Care Kit Project". With the help of many people, we can improve the lives of many more people throughout the world. Your help is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Dave Keammerer at 219-462-8447 or [dnssk@frontier.com](mailto:dnssk@frontier.com).

Thank you for your continuing support.



# GATHERING OF CHURCHES ON HOMELESSNESS



Sharing Current PADS Ministry and Update on New  
Permanent Shelter

Church leaders, PADS coordinators and volunteers, and interested  
community members are invited

Special guests: Ryan Peters, Respite Foundation; Glennas Jones, New  
Creations; Samantha Burgett, founder of Community Change Center  
and Sheriff dept social worker.



Light meal and refreshments provided by the members of Crossing  
Community Church and Christ Lutheran Church

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>  
@ 6:00 PM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, Valparaiso across from  
Valparaiso HS

RSVP by text 219-628-0950 or  
email [diltzsche@hotmail.com](mailto:diltzsche@hotmail.com)





# Side-By-Side Concert

**Christ Lutheran Church  
2610 Campbell St. Valpo, IN**

**Sunday, November 5  
at 4 PM**

**With students from North Judson-  
San Pierre Schools and  
Porter County Schools**

**Adults \$10    Seniors \$8    Students \$5    Preschool Free**



Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN  
PORTER COUNTY

**Will you be the voice for a child in need?**

There are children in Porter County who need your help!

Porter County CASA will be holding a **Virtual Information Meeting** for members of the community who are interested in learning more about becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate.

The CASA program trains volunteers to advocate for the needs and best interests of abused and neglected children in the court system. The need for CASAs speaking up for children in the court process has never been more vital than in these times.

The meeting will take place on **Wednesday, November 29 at 5:30 PM** on Zoom.

Interested potential volunteers can RSVP by emailing [casainfo@fysb.org](mailto:casainfo@fysb.org) to receive a Zoom link to the Information Meeting.

## Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Projects

The LWR truck arrives at the end of this month and the layettes, personal care kits, and sewing kits that Sandy and Dave Keammerer assemble will be picked up for shipment abroad. And guess what? In November, they will start all over again gathering items for these kits!

While many items in these kits are donated by CLC members, other items need to be purchased from time to time to finish the kits. That means the Keammerer's need funds for this ministry.

To assist in this ministry at CLC, I have applied for and received a Thrivent Action Grant that will provide \$250 for these LWR projects. However, I would like to see that \$250 grow to \$750 (or more), but I need your help! **From now through Thanksgiving**, I will match dollar for dollar your donation to the LWR projects up to a maximum of \$250. This means we could reach the \$750 goal—Thrivent Action Grant of \$250, your total donations of \$250 (or more), my match up to a maximum of \$250. Can you help with a small donation?

Just put your donation in an envelope marked **LWR Projects** and place it in the CLC collection plate on any Sunday in November!

If you have any questions contact Karl Reichardt by email or mobile phone ([karl.reichardt@valpo.edu](mailto:karl.reichardt@valpo.edu), 219-252-9519).

## Senior Group News

Due to Thanksgiving, our Senior Group will meet on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 9:15 a.m. in the Church Hall. Our speaker will be Judy Earnshaw of Phil's Friends. Judy will share the outreach her group does for cancer patients and care packages sent to those undergoing treatment. If anyone is looking for a fun place to volunteer, Phil's Friends is a great spot!

A few sweet treats are needed for our meeting and please sign up at the Senior bulletin board if attending.

December's outing will be on Sunday, December 17, 2023 for the Memorial Opera House's "White Christmas" 2:00 p.m. performance. Marilyn McGawn is spearheading this; tickets are going fast so please see her ASAP. Tickets are \$15 per person for the group rate. We all will just meet at the Memorial Opera House.

If you have any questions, please call Sue Reinhold at 219-286-0784 or Beth Bigham at 219-477-3937.

## **Annual Meeting: November 12**

Our congregation will meet **Sunday November 12, 2023 at 9:20am in the Sanctuary** for our **Annual meeting**, gathering prayer, conversation, and discussion. Join us as we hear stories of the impact of our year in ministry, elect our Council leaders, review our finances, and pray over our current Ministry Plan for August, 2023 - July, 2024.

In addition, this year we will consider the [Welcome Statement](#) developed out of our Deepening our Welcome process as a description of who we are as a congregation. This Statement has been written and rewritten based on the congregation's feedback, encouragement and concern:

**We Welcome You to Christ Lutheran Church! We are a community of people sharing God's love through Christ and growing together in faith.**

We celebrate all the ways we are made in the image of God, seeking to see God in everyone. We honor and respect each person's age, ethnicity, family composition, gender identity, gender expression, life history, mental well-being, physical ability, relationship status, sexual orientation, skin color, and socioeconomic standing. Together, we strive to love and serve our neighbor and all creation, including working toward racial and social justice. We would love to walk with you on this creative adventure\* of faith, grace, and love.

*\* The first sermon ever preached at Christ Lutheran was titled "A Call to Creative Adventure."*

In order to make the Welcome Statement an official document of our congregation, our Council is proposing to [establish a Bylaw and two Continuing Resolutions](#) which clarify the Statement and how it intersects our ministries. *(Note: the formal language of resolutions uses "Whereas" clauses to explain the context and rationale, and "Resolved" clauses to denote the action being taken.)* **Our Council unanimously supports the proposed Statement and recommends passing the proposed amendments.**

We will also consider a Bylaw revision to clarify the term of office for our Youth Representative to Council. The Council recommends revising Bylaw C12.02.03 to add the bold text:

C12.02.03. A youth or young adult at-large representative will be elected each year to serve a one-year term **beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31.**

**Finally, please note that this year, as a continuing evolution of our switch to a fiscal year for our Ministry Plan, we will meet again in May, 2024 to approve our Ministry Plan for August, 2024 through July, 2025.**

The links above are collected here, along with other documents that may be helpful to understand the above proposed changes to the Bylaws and Constitution:

- For comparison, [our current Constitution \(rev. 2022\)](#).
- The proposed [Welcome Statement](#).
- The [proposed resolution concerning the Welcome Statement](#).
- An [updated Constitution with the proposed changes](#) notated in Red; insertions are underlined.

Printed copies of these helpful documents are available in the Gathering Space. Questions on content or process can be addressed to [Pastor Tim](#) or [Ellen Swayne](#), Council President.

**Quilts**

2024 Goal: 500  
Quilts Completed:

**Baby Care Kits**

2024 Goal: 500  
Kits Completed: 100

**Fabric Care Kits**

2024 Goal: 150  
Kits Completed: 100

**Personal Care Kits**

Kits Completed:

**Aluminum Can Project**

2024 Goal: All we can get  
Amount Rec'd: \$0

2023 LWR Projects are completed for this year. The LWR year runs from November 1 to October 31.

The Baby Care Kit Project ended 2023 with 930 assembled kits.

Here are the numbers.:

Soap-1,860 4 ounce bars

Diapers Pins-1,860

Diapers-3,720 (All sewed by CLC AND CLC FRIENDS)

Blankets-1,860(930 sewed CLC)

Sleepers/Gowns-930

Towels-930

Socks-1,860

Pants-930

Shirts-2,790

Hats-100's (made by CLC)

Jackets/Sweaters-knitted by CLC-Sweat Shirts-930

Fabric Kits

900 yards of fabric

300 spools of thread

Aluminum Cans

400 pounds-\$130.00

Baby Care Kit needs for November are JACKETS, Sweat Shirts, and SWEATERS.

Fabric needs for November are 3 yard lengths of cotton material. Thrivent will supply the thread for each kit.

Aluminum Can Project needs all the cans we can get. Ask friends to save cans too!

Place all donations in the White Basket in the Gathering Area. Please indicate if donations of clothing are washed.

THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE HELPED WITH THESE PROJECTS IN ANY WAY.  
TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OTHERS THROUGH THIS  
OUTREACH MISSION. Sandy Keammerer