



## Happy New Year!



Happy New Year! I'm sure I'm not alone in feeling a bit of shock that it's 2020 already. When I was younger I had a special fondness for New Year's among the holidays. It was a time to reflect and take stock and do all that navel-gazing one should do in one's teens and early twenties. Now it seems that things don't pause for any such stock-taking. Resolutions are well and good, and goals and projects, but life races on with incomprehensible speed.

This month in church we celebrate the season of Epiphany. In the "proper preface" for this season (which comes between "the Lord be with you / And also with you" and "Holy, holy, holy" and changes based on the day or the period of the church year) we remember the appearance

of Jesus to the Wise Men, his baptism by John in the Jordan, and his miracle of changing water into wine at the wedding in Cana. Each of these events is an "epiphany" or an appearing of Jesus. He is the one who draws homage from distant places; the one who created the oceans and yet is washed in the river; the one who has power over creation but uses it to save his host from embarrassment. The readings and prayers and songs of the season focus on light, and being illuminated by Christ. It's a fitting theme for some of the darkest weeks of the year.

We crash through some of these big events before taking one more look back, on February 2 toward Christmas. That day, the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, comes forty days after Christmas when Jesus was presented at the Temple. It doesn't often fall on Sunday, so since it does this year, we're going to celebrate it. Traditionally this festival was celebrated in connection with a procession into the church building and the blessing of the parish candles (which is why it's called Candlemas), and as the final end of the Advent-Christmas cycle in worship, it became associated with all this business about groundhogs and shadows and the end of winter.

We like beginnings and endings. It's a very human thing to mark off a year and make the line between one year and the next a meaningful one. But the worship of the church reminds us that time doesn't necessarily work that way. We move forward and backward, within the life of Jesus and the history of the universe. We go through ups and downs over and over again. Because however much we change, we still need the same stories and the same grace.

See you in church!

Pastor Ben Dueholm

### Table of Contents

- 2-3 News & Events
- 4 Youth & Children
- 5 Music
- 6 Calendar
- 7-8 Volunteers, Prayers & Anniversaries

### QUICK GLANCE

**January 5**  
Mount Olive Food Pantry

**January 6**  
Book Club

**January 7**  
Council Meeting

**January 9**  
Men's Bible Study & Breakfast

**January 12**  
Youth Chime Choir

**January 14**  
Deborah Circle

**January 19**  
Friends at Christ

**January 20**  
Council Reports Due  
Newsletter Announcements Due

**January 21**  
Spiritual Life Team Meeting

**January 26**  
Annual Meeting  
Congregation Potluck  
Scot's Farewell

**January 28**  
Preschool Team Meeting  
Council Meeting

**January 30**  
CLC & CLP Parent Education  
(See page 6 for calendar)

# NEWS AND EVENTS

**DONUT VOLUNTEERS:** We need donut volunteers to sign up for **2020**. If you enjoy a tiny indulgence on Sunday mornings, have children who race to the tray for their little treat or maybe just want to make a small contribution of time to keep the wheels turning smoothly, please sign up on the sheet on the narthex bulletin board. If you have never participated in this ministry before, worry not! It is very simple—no meetings to attend, no reports to file, a quick and easy way to give back to CLC. All you have to do is pick them up at Mustang Donuts in Snider Plaza (6601 Hillcrest Ave). They'll be in a box on the counter marked CLC. It's that easy!

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:** All are welcome to Adult Sunday School – no preparation necessary! Come as you are and join us. Classes are held each Sunday from 10-10:40 AM in Room 220 (upstairs) except as noted.

## January Topics:

- 05 - The Long Christmas: Holy Name, Epiphany
- 12 - Budget forum
- 19 - The Long Christmas: Presentation, Baptism of Our Lord
- 26 - Congregational meeting

**MT. OLIVE FOOD PANTRY DRIVE:** Sunday, **January 5**. Here's a reminder to bring in any non-perishable food and household/cleaning/paper product donations on the first Sunday of each month! This quarter, the pantry specifically needs canned meats, stovetop mixes, vegetables, fruits (canned), soups, stews, chili & crackers. Monetary donations are always welcome so the Pantry can buy in bulk at a discount. Checks can be made out to CLC and annotated 'Mt. Olive Food Pantry'.

**BOOK CLUB:** We will meet on Monday, **January 6**, at 7 PM to discuss the book "The Great Alone" by Kristin. Carlene Strobel will host at her home, 6227 Chesley Lane, Dallas. All are welcome even if you haven't read the book!

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY:** Stephanie will lead an 8-week study of Mark beginning Wednesday, **January 8**, at 11 AM in Room 218. All are welcome!

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST** will meet on Thursday, **January 9**, at 7:30 AM. Dana will bring the food. If you will be attending, please email Dana.

**THE DEBORAH CIRCLE'S** first meeting of the New Year will be held at the home of Judy Newell (4068 Stanford Drive, Dallas) on Tuesday, **January 14**, at 9:30 AM. Betsy will lead our discussion of Lesson 8 - Lazarus: The Final Witness, pages 167 - 190, in Ten Men of the Bible by Max Lucado. **A Reminder:** We will collect for V.N.A. Meals on Wheels at this meeting. Please make your check payable to V.N.A. with Meals-on-Wheels in the notation line.

**FRIENDS AT CHRIST** will meet on Sunday, **January 19**, at 6:30 PM at the home of Steve & Barbara. Please sign up on the narthex kiosk. Friends at Christ is an adult social unit for couples and singles and meets monthly for friendship and to discuss church and faith issues.

**THE M & M's** gathered in December at the home of Connie for a light dinner and a flurry of wrapping gifts and filling stockings for ladies at Mosaic. This treasured Christmas tradition is always a highlight of the season of giving, and we are grateful for the generosity of our members. We owe a huge thank you to Connie for warmly welcoming us and tolerating lots of glitter and gift wrap scraps on her floors. In January we will meet for a relaxing dinner and sharing stories of our Christmas celebrations. We will be meeting Monday, **January 20**, at 6:30 PM at (where else?!) Celebration on West Lovers Lane. Please let Pam know if you can attend.



**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held on Sunday, **January 26** between services. We will consider the 2020 budget and elect new members to the congregational council, preschool board, and nominating committee. And don't miss the **CONGREGATIONAL FORUM** on the proposed budget on **January 12** between services in the narthex.

**GIVE THANKS FOR SCOT'S 14 YEARS OF SERVICE** with a congregational potluck following the 11 AM service on Sunday, **January 26**. Share stories and your best wishes for Scot and Kristi as they move into a new phase of their career and into a new relationship with CLC!

**CLC & CLP PARENT EDUCATION SESSION** Thursday, **January 30**, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, Christ Lutheran Preschool will be hosting a parent education session surrounding the topic of children's mental health/managing children's stress. This session will be geared towards parents with children ranging from birth to elementary

# MONTHLY DEVOTIONAL

## Following the Star to Bethlehem

In a children's story about Christmas and Epiphany, a little camel was complaining of a stiff neck. The young camel was enlisted into a caravan of Magi traveling from the Middle East to Bethlehem. "It is not easy constantly looking up and following that Star," the little camel moaned.

The stiff neck of the youthful camel could have been avoided if the Magi had a GPS and knew the exact address of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. But this was 2,000 years ago and satellites had not been invented yet. The bright Star was the best guide the Magi could have.

To these astrologer-philosopher Magi however, there was more to that bright Star beyond its luminosity. Probably inspired by the Holy Spirit, they believed that the Star signaled the birth of an important King. They wanted to pay homage to Him. They were willing to brave the dangers of thirst, hunger, wild animals and bandits in the long desert journey as they followed that Star leading them to this new-born King.

Today we have our own star that guides us in our life journey. Like the Magi we want to follow the light of that star trusting that it leads us to the Lord Jesus. But we can get distracted by other "stars" – money, power, sex, popularity, and so on. Not that these things are bad in themselves; but they are false "stars" that can draw us away from the Lord.

Moreover sometimes our vision itself is blurred by immediate concerns. Health problems, unfulfilled expectations from loved ones, job stagnation, failing grades -- all of these could obscure our view. We may not have a stiff neck like that little camel, but personal issues can prevent us from seeing the true Star clearly.

But rejoice! We not only have the light of a star to follow. We have the Source of the light Himself -- the King Jesus. He is the Light of the world. Through His death and resurrection all distractions and all blurred visions are resolved. We can talk to Him and bring all our concerns to Him. In fact He invites us to do just that: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." (Mt. 28:11).

God, our Father, You accompanied and took care of the Magi in their dangerous journey to Bethlehem. Accompany us and help us focus our eyes on the Lord Jesus as we journey in this life, until that day when we will see and worship Him face to face. Amen.

Emmanuel

school. If you plan on attending, please sign up for an accurate headcount. Participation is highly encouraged and a Q&A session will occur. A quick description about the session is below: "Children have feelings, sometimes very big feelings. How can we as parents help them navigate how to express those feelings constructively? How can we manage ourselves when caught up in the storm of their anger or fear or confusion? Children are not just short adults - they have unique ways of understanding the world and their place in it. Come learn some tools to help children express themselves better and how to self-regulate when they get overwhelmed."

## PARKING LOT SAFETY

A recent review of safety and security at CLC/CLP was conducted by a committee of CLP/CLC staff and members of the congregation, and provided to Council for their approval. We are working to implement improvements recommended by this committee in order to ensure that we provide the safest and most secure environment possible for our children, families and congregation members.

One of the recommendations made was regarding the safety of our parking lot. We have observed several instances daily of cars using the CLC parking lot as a way to cut through traffic to and from the alley and Lovers Lane, often at speeds that are unsafe. This is a concern for all who use the parking lot, particularly our preschool families who are exiting their cars and walking through the parking lot to bring one or more young children to and from the preschool each day. Throughout the day, visitors to the church, CLP and CLC staff, and parents and children may also have a need to walk through the parking lot to their cars or to complete other tasks as they take care of their business with us.

Beginning January 6, we will be placing temporary barricades at the south end of the parking lot from 7 am Monday through 6 pm Friday evening. Access to and from the parking lot will be from Lovers Lane only. There will be limited access to and from the alley after 6 pm each day.

We ask that you enter the parking lot through the west driveway and exit through the east driveway. In addition, between the hours of 7 AM - 9AM and 4 PM - 6PM, we ask that you make a right turn only as you exit the parking lot, to allow for smoother traffic flow and less chance of an accident occurring. Signs will be placed to direct those who are using the parking lot.

We thank you for your cooperation in working to provide a safer environment for our children, families and congregation members.

Joanne Osterland, CLP Executive Director

# YOUTH & CHILDREN



**YOUTH & CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** (9:45 - 10:45 AM) Calling all toddlers through 4th Graders! Please join us each week for Sunday School. All students gather in the gym at 9:45 AM to introduce our Bible story and music. Students then go to class in the Education wing, second floor, just past the library and adult classroom. *Parents/grandparents are welcome at any time and extra hands with the very young are appreciated.*

**January Class Lessons:**

05	Jesus the Word
12	Jesus' Baptism
19	The Lamb of God
26	The Disciples

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** for youth entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade – 8<sup>th</sup> grade every Wednesday from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM in Room 218.

**HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY:** Sundays at 5:00 PM for youth 9<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**D-CAMP & FAREWELL TO SCOT TRIP:** The High School youth, Confirmation youth and young adult alumni will join together for a unique experience at Camp SO-TO in Arkansas from **January 17, 5 PM - January 20, 6 PM**. The High School youth will be teaching the Confirmation youth about the youth program and how they can keep it thriving for years to come. The cost is \$200 (scholarships available) & registration is now open: [clcdallas.org](http://clcdallas.org).

## CHRIST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

December was full of the joy and anticipation that comes with Advent and the Christmas season. The children's Christmas Program was a presentation of The First Christmas in Story and Song. The children acted out the story of the birth of Our Lord, and they sang several of our favorite Christmas songs. The program was well attended by parents, grandparents, and family members. The children sang so beautifully and the program was enjoyed by all! Many thanks go to our talented teachers, with special recognition to Ms. Kim, who planned and directed the program. Hando Nahkur and Mr. Brian, one of our Preschool teachers, provided beautiful accompaniment to the children's singing, while Scot provided an awesome narration of the story. Pastor Ben was there to lead us in prayer and to ask God's blessings upon all of us as we left to begin our family Christmas celebrations. What a beautiful evening for all!

Our Preschool Teachers return to school on January 3rd for professional development. The children are back in full routine as of January 6th.



We are excited to announce that the Preschool and Youth and Family ministry will be collaborating to provide a series of Parent Education Sessions here at Christ Lutheran!

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**JANUARY 30, 2020**  
**5:30-6:30 PM**

"Little Bodies, Big Feelings"  
presented by Kerry Dueholm, LPC, M. Div.

Children have feelings, sometimes very big feelings. How can we as parents help them navigate how to express those feelings constructively? How can we manage ourselves when caught up in the storm of their anger or fear or confusion? Children are not just short adults - they have unique ways of understanding the world and their place in it. Come learn some tools to help children express themselves better and how to self-regulate when they get overwhelmed.

Come with your questions, or submit them ahead of time when you RSVP here.

You are welcome to invite others who may be interested in this topic. Child care will be provided. Please RSVP by January 27 so adequate staff is available to care for the children.



We would like to invite members of the Congregation to read to the preschool children. Please email [cdcstaff@clcdallas.org](mailto:cdcstaff@clcdallas.org) if you are interested! Mornings are best, but we can be flexible and will work with your schedule. The children truly enjoy

this special time and we hope you will too! We thank you in advance for your generous participation!

We begin the New Year with thankfulness for all of God's goodness and look forward to all He has in store for us this year!

May God continue to bless us all!

Joanne Osterland  
CLP Executive Director

# MUSIC MINISTRY

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas season and New Year's celebration. I recently asked Benjamin the Bullfrog about his first Christmas in Dallas. He said it was delightful and seemed very happy about the lakes and ponds not freezing here in wintertime.



With Benjamin the Bullfrog

One of the many musical things we do in December is caroling. It is always wonderful to deliver music to our less mobile members and see all the smiles. It is challenging for us to find a way to visit everybody because traffic and distances limit us significantly. If you hoped to see us in December but did not, we will try to be there next year.

The soloists schedule for January-May 2020 was finalized in December. Many thanks to everybody who signed up! The list looks great! Finalized soloists schedule does not mean "unchangeable". If you are interested in making a musical offering in worship services, let me know and we will find a way for you to do that.

The following soloists/groups are scheduled to lead worship with music in January: January 5 - Hando Nahkur and Laura, January 12 - Johann and Sanctuary Choir, January 19 - Isaac, Alicia, Fred and Murray, January 26 - Alicia Coats and Sanctuary Choir.

Many thanks to Sanctuary Choir, Betsy, Ashley, Brad, Harper, Ann, Kelly, Scott, Murray, Suzanne, Laurel, Children's Choir and Youth Chime Choir for their beautiful musical offerings in December! Special thanks to Gary for all the sound engineering in worship services! God Gets the Glory!

"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us." (Martin Luther).

Hando Nahkur  
Director of Music  
[www.handonahkur.com](http://www.handonahkur.com)



Caroling

# JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>04</b> Wedding
<b>05</b> 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Youth & Children's Sunday School 9:45am - Sunday School Choir 10am - Adult Sunday School 11am - Worship	<b>06</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 7pm - Book Club	<b>07</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 7pm - Council Meeting	<b>08</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 10am - Staff Meeting 11am - Midweek Bible Study	<b>09</b> 7:30am - Men's Bible Study 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>10</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Youth & Children's Sunday School 10am - Adult Sunday School 11am - Worship 11am - Youth Chime Choir 3pm - Luther Committee	<b>13</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>14</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 9:30am - Deborah Circle	<b>15</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 11am - Midweek Bible Study	<b>16</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>17</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Youth & Children's Sunday School 11am - Worship 6:30pm - Friends at Christ	<b>20</b> <b>Council Reports &amp; Newsletter Announcements Due</b> 6:30pm - M & M's	<b>21</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 7pm - Spiritual Life Team Meeting	<b>22</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 11am - Midweek Bible Study	<b>23</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>24</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Annual Meeting 9:45am - Youth & Children's Sunday School 11am - Worship 12:15pm - Congregational Potluck & Scot's Farewell	<b>27</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>28</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 6pm - Preschool Team Meeting 7pm - Council Meeting	<b>29</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 11am - Midweek Bible Study	<b>30</b> 9am - CLP Chapel 5:30pm - Par- ent Education Session	<b>31</b> 9am - CLP Chapel	<b>01</b>

# VOLUNTEERS

## ACOLYTES: 8:30 AM | 11:00 AM

05 Samantha | Volunteer Needed  
 12 Tommy | Soren Dueholm  
 19 Volunteer Needed | Cole  
 26 Volunteer Needed | Volunteer Needed

## ALTAR GUILDS:

05 Laura & Steve | Shannon  
 12 Madge and Mary Ellen | Linda  
 19 Carolyn & Juris Laivins | Rachel  
 26 Laura & Steve | Connie & Jeff

## ASSISTING MINISTERS:

05 Juris | Steve  
 12 Virginia | Greg  
 19 David | Stephanie  
 26 Tom | Connie

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

05 Peter | Cathy  
 12 Karen | Linda  
 19 Lisa | Maria  
 26 Jack | Stephanie

## ALTAR FLOWERS:

05 Kathryn  
 12 Carolyn & Juris  
 19 Virginia  
 26 Connie

## USHERS:

08:30 AM Joe and Jack  
 11:00 AM John and Michelle

## OFFERING COUNTERS

05 Ginger & Randy  
 12 Scot & Suzanne  
 19 Suzanne and Pia  
 26 Volunteer Needed



Stephanie  
 Juris  
 Dan  
 Sara  
 John  
 Erling  
 Asher  
 Clay  
 Sara  
 Lasca  
 Philip  
 Emerson  
 Michelle  
 Alison  
 Patricia  
 Corabelle  
 Andrew  
 Frank  
 Brad  
 Zachary  
 Jack  
 Michael  
 Martha  
 James  
 Naomi  
 Melissa  
 Kris  
 Marcia



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARY

Jacqueline  
 Vernille  
 Ty  
 Kelly  
 Suzanne  
 Hunt  
 Eve  
 Tyler  
 Charlotte  
 Tanner



Carolina & Rick

## PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

(Names will remain on this list for four weeks)

For Healing	Relationship
Barbara	Congregation Member
Delores	Mother of Ken
Ashley	Friend of the Dueholms
Janeen	Congregation Member
Chester	Congregation Member
Rick	Congregation Member
Morris	Congregation Member
Joanne	Director of Christ Lutheran Preschool
Becky	Congregation Member
Judy	Congregation Member
Louise	Mother of Pat
Elaine	Congregation Member
Virginia	Congregation Member



Christ Lutheran Church would like to acknowledge **Brian & Melissa, Elaine, Bill, Allan & Cheri, Janie, Pamela, Ron & Joan, Vernille, Kathy, Letha, Olga** for their donation towards the Music Ministry in memory of Barbara, **Letha** for her donation towards the music ministry in memory of Borgie and **Herbert** for his donation in memory of Marilyn.

## *A Special* THANK YOU

THANK YOU to all of our generous members who provided food, gifts, and time to help with our annual Thanksgiving boxes and Angel Tree! The less-fortunate who are served by Emanuel Lutheran and Mt Olive Lutheran are thankful for your kindness.

From your Community Life Ministry Team

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT FOR JANUARY:** We give cheerfully "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV

### FINANCIAL UPDATE: JAN-NOV 2019

Fund	General	Building
Total Income	\$565,428.73	\$68,526.84
Total Expense	<u>\$625,171.75</u>	<u>\$77,646.00</u>
Net	(\$59,743.02)	(\$9,119.16)

Thank you for your support of Christ's mission!

## CONTACT US

### Pastor

Pastor Ben Dueholm - [pastorben@clcdallas.org](mailto:pastorben@clcdallas.org)

### Music Director:

Hando Nahkur - [hando.nahkur@gmail.com](mailto:hando.nahkur@gmail.com)

### Communication Coordinator

Sergio Peña - [spena@clcdallas.org](mailto:spena@clcdallas.org)

### Youth & Family Minister

Scot Redman - [sredman@clcdallas.org](mailto:sredman@clcdallas.org)

### Youth & Children's Coordinator:

Kylie Mauer - [kmauer@clcdallas.org](mailto:kmauer@clcdallas.org)

### Congregation Council

#### President:

Connie Uhri - [cuhri@clcdallas.org](mailto:cuhri@clcdallas.org)

#### Vice President:

Keith Dzygun - [kdzygun@clcdallas.org](mailto:kdzygun@clcdallas.org)

#### Secretary:

Lasca

#### Treasurer:

David

#### Financial Secretary:

Tyler

#### Administration (Property & Personnel):

Ken

Keith

#### Preschool Board:

Don

#### Community Life (Outreach Ministries):

Ginger

Brandon

#### Congregational Life (CLC events & fellowship):

Nici

Liz

#### Communications (PR, website, etc):

Lasca Weiss

Darren

#### Finance:

Tyler

David

#### Spiritual Life (Worship & Music, Education):

Scott

#### Youth & Family:

Angela

Gail