

Christiana Newsletter

We start with Christ in our serving, in our caring, in our growing

Christmas Choral Festival

Sunday, December 13 at 4:00pm

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 20 at 4:00pm

Candlelight & Carol Services

Thursday, December 24 at 3:00, 4:30 & 9:00pm

(Holy Communion at 9:00pm only)

Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion

Friday, December 25 at 10:00am



Armful of Love

Bring wrapped gifts by
Wednesday, December 2

Christmas Potluck
Luncheon

Wednesday, December 9 at 11:30 am

Bake Sale

Pre-order by December 6,
Sale and pick-up December 13

Poinsettias

Order through Sunday, December 13

Pick-up after the 10am Christmas Day Service



A preacher chided, "So who's birthday is it anyway?" The debate between commercialism and the real meaning of Christmas heats up yearly. No exceptions this year. As I write this, the plain red Starbucks cup without Merry Christmas is already seeing "red" from opinionates.

Children challenge parental control as December 25 looms. Case in point, my one year-old grandson scoots up and down the toy truck aisle at Fleet Farm, "Let's *ge dhat* one...there *free* in that pack... this one for *Chismas*." How can you say no?

Perhaps we need creative ways of saying "yes."

Values are the true gift. What are the values we live by every day that extend to Christmas? Or Christmas values that reach out the rest of the year? How do we say "yes" in a way that demonstrates and supports our Christian values? "Yes" is a powerful word when it affirms our values.

I recall the comment, "don't tell your children that we cannot afford the toy, computer, skates, phone, whatever." Children smell the lie a mile away when the new TV is hung or new car drives up to the house. Instead, discuss family values and goals, how we choose to spend our money. What do we need for living, recreating, transporting, and for the future?" We all cringe at impulse buying because it often turns to buyer's remorse.

The advice pertains to the older children and, frankly, the little ones are easy. My future truck owner was just as excited over the \$4 Tonka Truck as the \$80 truck that sounds sirens and takes up half the living room. Opening packages on Christmas morning outweighs the gift inside for the wee ones!

Steven Covey (author of the "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" books) recommends families develop a mission statement. Cooler heads prevail when thinking about these things in July, than in the excitement of the holidays.

Most of us know that we must budget our limited funds, so what values and goals guide those budgets? Do our children hope to go to college? Do we want to experience God's creation on a yearly vacation? Do we want piano lessons, dance lessons, or to play hockey? Will an iPhone at Christmas serve those goals?

Are we interested in creating a value of generosity (the opposite of selfishness) in our children? That is, more than throwing a buck into the Salvation Army pot. Christmas can be a powerful "yes" when we share values of generosity with our children. The ELCA Good Gifts are a great option. Pick up the printed version at church so your kids can read the stories, understand the people behind the stories, and see the pictures that make them real.

How do you think Jesus wants us to celebrate His birthday? - Pastor Dave



Property Commission Update

Mold Remediation - By the time you receive this, we should have Christiania locked up dry for the winter. We filled in holes around the foundation; we removed the patio and graded that area; and we installed extensions to the downspouts to get the water away from the church.

Next spring during our "Spring Clean Up," we will be landscaping the east and north sides of our church. We obtained rock that matches the rock on the south side of the church. We will be looking for volunteers early next May – stay tuned. We've asked the Executive Council to think about their "vision" for the back yard over the winter. Please share your thoughts also.

Roof Replacement / Maintenance - After our shocking bid for replacement of the existing flat roof, the church contracted with Building Envelope Consultants to do a total assessment of the roof – what needs to be done immediately; what can be scheduled out into future years. The report indicated that the entire flat roof needs repairs and the section over the Fellowship Hall needs replacement in 2016. We sent a request to Council asking for permission to get bids on this before winter. David Frame is helping with this. He noted areas of immediate concern on the roof and sealed those areas. We would not have any worries over winter. What a valuable asset for Christiania. Thank you, David!

Project List – An updated project list was sent to the November Council meeting for their review. We took a hard look at what projects should be considered repairs and maintenance. In this category is landscaping, replacing the church telephone system, outside masonry

needs, repair of stain glass window frames, painting of the bell tower, update of the alarm system and miscellaneous repairs.

We created a "Future Capital Improvements Project" list that captures our larger needs – the parking lot repair or replacement, the roof repair or replacement, landscaping in the back yard, and the refinishing of the floors in the education wing and youth room. This year, with our limited funds and time, we are concentrating on the acoustic panels in the Fellowship Hall. These panels will be installed in the spring.

Twin Church Ball Field – Steve Anderson and his family have mowed the ballfield faithfully for many years. 2015 was their last year. We are looking for other members that would like to take on this service to their church. The Children, Youth and Family Leader has plans for using this next year.

Pew Replacement with Chairs – This is still on hold until we realize the financial impact of the mold remediation issue.

Parsonage Update - Cleaning continues around the parsonage. There was more junk and trash than we realized. It looks so good!! Thank you to Steve Fredrickson for repairing the parsonage garage doors.

If you have questions or concerns, you may call me (Jeanne) at 952-215-8705 or contact Brad Smith, Steve Anderson or Warren Peterson.

Blessings from your Property Committee



The Worship Team will be taking orders for poinsettias (6 1/2" red or white) to decorate our sanctuary for our Christmas Services. Orders will be taken between services on Sunday, November 29, December 6 and December 13. The cost is \$11 per plant and they may be picked up after the 10:00am Christmas Day service.

Poinsettias

The Youth's Annual Pie and Bake Sale will be Sunday December 13. You can preorder pies until December 6. Preorder forms are available at the Information Desk or on our website.

Youth will be baking pies on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 11 & 12. Sign-up with Steven or use the Sign-Up Genius. Proceeds will be used to defray the costs for kids attending camp.

Volunteers are needed! Please see Steven for additional information.

Thank you for your support of **Christiania's youth programs!**



Worship at Christiania

Dec. 6: Luke 3:1-6

8:30 Traditional Worship/Communion

10:45 Non-Traditional Worship/Communion led by the Nitty Gritty Church Band

Dec. 13: Luke 3:7-18

8:30 Traditional Worship

10:45 Non-Traditional Worship led by the Nitty Gritty Church Band

4:00 p.m. Christmas Choral Festival

Dec. 20: Luke 1:39-45

8:30 Traditional Worship/Communion with LWE

10:45 Traditional worship/Communion with WOV Setting 5 Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Program

Dec. 24: Luke 2:1-14

3:00, 4:30 & 9:00 pm Traditional Candlelight Worship (Communion at 9pm only)

Dec. 25: Luke 2:8-20

10:00 am Traditional Worship with Communion

Dec. 27: Luke 2:41-52

8:30 and 10:45 Hymn Sing with Twelve Days of Christmas Liturgy

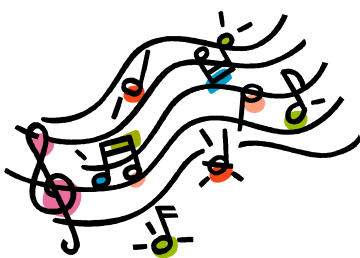


Annual Report Information

If you are responsible for a report to be included in the annual report (Executive Council, Ministry Teams, treasurers and or secretaries of organizations) please have the information to the church office by December 31, 2015.

The Annual Meeting of Christiania Lutheran Church and Christiania Lutheran Church Foundation will be Sunday, January 31, 2016. Annual Reports will be available Sunday, January 24.

Thank you for respecting the deadline!



Christmas Choral Festival

Please join us at 4:00 pm on Sunday, December 13 for the Twelfth Annual Christmas Choral Festival. Help us

celebrate the season as we continue this cherished tradition. A free-will offering will be collected to help give us an opportunity to experience more outside music and musicians in 2016.

Invite your friends, relatives and neighbors! Refreshments will be served following the festival.

Baptisms at Christiania



11/08/15 Myra Christine Rudiger

*11/22/15 Ryan James Awe
11/22/15 Aiden Orion Petersen*

Christiania Lutheran Church

26691 Pillsbury Avenue Lakeville, MN 55044

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Friday

Telephone Numbers

Office

952-461-2283

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952-461-4182

Email lbauer@ChristianiaLutheranChurch.org

Web Address

www.ChristianiaLutheranChurch.org

Christiania Staff

Dave Mesaros

Senior Pastor

Linda Bauer

Office Manager

Steven Olan

CYF Leader

Harold Martin

Custodian

Tom Carlson

Worship/Music Coordinator

Rachel Fausch

Treasurer

Other Contacts

Joe Jorgensen

Council President

Cheryl Schindeldecker

Altar Guild

Debbie Lundeen

Bells Director

Joe Jorgensen

Chorister Choir Director

Linda Otto

Church Women (CLCW)

Daryl Rieck & Bob Monio

Usher Coordinators



Armful of Love

Thanks to everyone who picked up gift tags to purchase items for the Armful of Love families that Christiania is sponsoring this year!

Remember: take a tag, sign up by the corresponding family number and name, take an instruction sheet, and Happy Shopping! Check the box next to the name/gift when you bring your wrapped gift back to church.

We are a church that makes a difference—thanks to you!

Due Date for all gifts purchased is Wednesday, December 2

Sherri Mohn, 612-597-2367

Creativesewing8@gmail.com

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 31, 2016

Please mark your calendars

The Deadline for reports is December 31

If you are interested in remote attendance, please contact the church office prior to January 21, 2016 for details and instructions.

Christiania Lutheran Church Women (CLCW)
The December 16 Meeting will include election of officers. If you would like to serve on the board, please contact Linda Otto (ottolm@frontiernet.net or 952-469-8561).

2015 Norwegian Dinner a HUGE Success!

*Thank
You*

Thanks to all who helped to make this year's Norwegian Dinner such a successful event!

This year's **profit** was over \$8,800. The best new income EVER! And if everyone has lutefisk for Christmas, we will clear \$9,000!! This would not be possible if it was not for the amazing effort of so many people, including potato peelers, meatball makers, cookie bakers, servers, kitchen cooks, dish washers, table setters, singers, ticket sellers and ticket buyers, the many who donated crafts and food, delivered meals, decorated and volunteered to make and help on Lefse day.

Special thanks to Linda Otto for her amazing leadership—and to Harold Martin for keeping everything working.

This is an important ministry of our CLCW. Most of the proceeds will be used for benevolences within our church, local community, metro area and the world. Thanks for helping the CLCW Grow Locally and Inspire Globally.

Tusen Takk!!

Potluck Christmas Luncheon



On December 9th, the annual Christmas Potluck, sponsored jointly by Lunch Bunch and CLCW, will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Christiania. Please bring something to share: casserole, salad, vegetable dish, etc. The program has not been finalized yet, but the food has always been something to look forward to and enjoy. If you have any comments or questions, call Karen Erickson at 952-652-2605.

Wednesday Meals

Wednesdays 5:30—6:15, \$4

December 2: Goulash, garlic bread, carrots & celery, fruit cocktail, cookies, milk

December 9: Turkey hot dish, dinner rolls, veggie tray, apples & oranges, bars, milk

December 16: Breakfast for supper: scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, blueberries & strawberries, milk

December 23 & 30: NO MEAL

Do you have a favorite meal that you cook? Does your family not cry when you make supper? Either way, I'm looking for you! I need one meal for the Wednesday meal program during the confirmation season. I provide all the sides and serve it - you don't have to do anything other than make the main dish and bring it to the church. Contact Rachel Fausch at 612-756-0406 or rachel.fausch@hotmail.com for more information and available dates. Thank you!

Altar Guild

Every year after the holidays, the Altar Guild members do a cleaning of the pews in the sanctuary and chapel area. This year we are asking church members to help if they CAN. On **January 9, 2016 at 8:30am** the Altar Guild will meet to do this cleaning. After cleaning, we have a short meeting to sign up for service for 2016. All are welcome to attend and hear more about the Altar Guild - we are always looking for new members.

This is a big task and we appreciate your help. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Cheryl Schindeldecker at 952-469-3795 or candeschinde@gmail.com.

Prayers for our Congregation

Prayers of Concern

Please remember the following in your prayers –

Bridget Anderson
Orville Nelson
Philip Tupa
Ruby Hagen
Marjorie Tonsager
Crisa Aasen
Brianna Streefland
Mary Lou Ruh
Marcie Tonsager
Ron Petersen
Vonny Laddusaw
Dick Panek
John Christianson



Due to space concerns, we ask you to check our website, announcements or prayer chain email for additional prayer concerns.

ADVENT READERS/CANDLE LIGHTING

November 29: 8:30 Scott & Lori Firm
Ava, Zach
10:45 Justin & Heidi Christensen
Naomi

December 6: 8:30 Brian & Kim Buechele
William, Kate
10:45 Eric & Crystal Luxmore
Lexie, Carson

December 13: 8:30 Derrick & Chris Hongerholt
Sophie, Clara Mae
10:45 Leif & Kate Johnson
Ashleigh, Violet



December 20:
8:30 Mark & Jean Latzke
Caitlin
10:45 Ken & Maren Zaffke
Elise, Reuben



Sunday School

Hello Sunday School families-

We are continuing to work on our Christmas program.

Rehearsal - Saturday, December 19 from 9-11am
(Children K-5th grade)

Program - Sunday, December 20 at 4pm

Please have your children to church at 3:45 to
get their costumes on and get organized.

Children should be attired in their Holiday best.

Sunday School Christmas Party - December 20
(during Sunday School hour)

No Sunday School: December 27
or January 3

We will resume lessons January 10 learning
about Jesus calling his disciples.

*Thank you for the blessing of working with your children, and
may you have a blessed Christmas!*

Sunday School Superintendents

Michelle Vosejka, vosejka@lonstel.com

Kris Geissler, kriabblil@gmail.com

ChristianiaSundaySchool@gmail.com

What: Secret Santa – A Children's
Boutique - All items \$1

When: Sat. December 19 11am-1pm

Where: Christiania Lutheran Church

Why & How: Congregational Life

Commission, together with Christiania's Youth,
will host a shopping boutique for our younger
children (up to 5th grade) in order to help them
get their Christmas shopping done. Members of our
youth group will be assisting the young shoppers with
purchasing and gift wrapping. There will be coffee and
Christmas cookies for the parents & caregivers to enjoy
in the Fellowship Hall while the little shoppers shop.

How you can help: *Please bring any items for
donation to the boutique to Christiania by December
6.* Proceeds will go toward Christmas Sharing. If you
have any questions, please contact Amy
Lindquist, 952 469-1187.



The Missions team is providing members two opportunities to give back this holiday season.

Queen Anne Courts - the residents were so appreciative of our gifts last year that we decided to hold another drive this year. The gifts will be for basic needs for the families which would include things like laundry detergent, toothpaste, soaps, dish soap, personal hygiene supplies and cooking items. Grocery cards are much welcomed as well; you can either buy the card yourself or give a check and we will buy the cards. Christmas gift bags will be made on Sunday, December 20th after the second service and we will deliver them that day to the residents. This is the second year of this project; last year it made a big difference in the Holiday season for everyone involved. There will be laundry baskets in the fellowship hall for you to put your donations in. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

ELCA Good Gifts - This is a wonderful way to share your blessings with others this holiday season without having to leave your home to shop!. You will find a tree in the fellowship hall decorated with ornaments representing "ELCA Good Gifts." A goat, a fruit tree, baby chicks or school supplies for example. You select an ornament off the tree, take it home and go to the website on the back of the ornament, www.ELCA.org/goodgifts, and choose your "Good Gift." Then write your name on the back of the ornament and hang it on your Christmas tree. Imagine giving someone a pig for Christmas! I think I will give baby chicks.



Merry Christmas!

Your Missions Team, Dave Olson, Jane Ward, Karen Erickson and Lori Peterson



Good Morning Youth

(All Grades 6-12)

All youth are invited to sit together at the youth table at the start of coffee hour. After the Sunday School opening, they are invited to the Youth Room for various activities, and a short lesson each week! You can also serve with the children during the coffee hour in the Sunday School wing.



Secret Santa Boutique
Saturday, December 19
11:00am to 1:00pm
Help children shop and wrap
gifts for their families!

SAVE THE DATE—SKI RETREAT

What: Ski Retreat

When: Presidents' Day Weekend
Saturday, February 13 -11am to
Monday, February 15 -11am

Where: Stay at Camp Onomia and
Ski at Spirit Mountain

Who: Middle School and High School Students

More details to come



Christiania Youth!

CONFIRMATION

Class: Wednesdays, December 2 and 9 6:30-8pm

Caroling: Wednesday, December 16 6:30-8pm

No Class: December 23 & 30

Bake Sale prep



What: Mixing, rolling, baking,
frosting, (munching??)

When: Friday, December 11 from
6:00pm-9:00pm

Saturday, December 12 starting at
9:00am

Where: Church kitchen

Youth are invited to sign up to bake pies and other goodies for our sale. Please sign up with Steven Olan or through the sign-up genius link on the website.

We will also be decorating the church Christmas tree, have a drum circle and make blankets for the homeless.

COME JOIN the FUN

Bake Sale is Sunday, December 13

Children, Youth and Family (CYF) News

- **EPIC discount cards** are now being sold by our Children, Youth, and Families ministries. If you buy directly from one of our students they earn \$10 per card towards camp and retreats. If you buy from Steven or at an upcoming event the money goes to scholarships for camp and CYF activities such as the Halloween festival, Lego party, Easter Egg hunt and any more to come!
- **Pie and Bake Sale:** December 11 & December 12 for the sale on December 13. We will also be decorating the Church Christmas tree, have a drum circle, and make blankets for the homeless during our down time!
- **Christmas Caroling and Christmas Party:** Wednesday, December 16! Instead of our normal Confirmation Class, we will be bringing Christmas cheer to Christiania's shut-ins' homes.
- **Secret Santa Boutique:** December 19 (see article).

December Ministries

Offering Counters

Dec. 6	Joan & Jack Eckdahl, Bill Kanfield
Dec. 13	Bill Kanfield, Greg Silus
Dec. 20	Greg Silus, Brad Bauer
Christmas	Judy Lantto, Lori Peterson, Cathy Breyer Earl & Cheryl Schindeldecker, Jeff Martin Bruce & Debbie Lundeen, Steve & Geeg Aaker
Dec. 27	Brad Bauer, Kermit Berg

Acolytes

Dec. 6	8:30	Calvin Marsh, Hannah Simon
	10:45	Nathan Anderson, Brooke Nelson
Dec. 13	8:30	Abby & Morgan Emmons
	10:45	Rachel Estrem, Grace Seurer
Dec. 20	8:30	Jack Mohn, Lilli Sweden
	10:45	Afton Vandenheuvel, Michael Rogers
Dec. 27	8:30	Quentin DuLac, Aven Estrem
	10:45	Max Parker, Joshua Dennehey

Lectors

Dec. 6	8:30	Arnie Schultz
	10:45	Brenda Mesaros
Dec. 13	8:30	
	10:45	Lucky Rimpila
Dec. 20	8:30	
	10:45	Heidi Christensen
Dec. 27	8:30	Alice Storlie
	10:45	Alice Storlie

ELCA Good Gifts

This is a wonderful way to share your blessings with others this holiday season without having to leave your home to shop! Watch for the ornaments on the tree in the Fellowship Hall.



Coffee Servers

Dec. 6	Bob & Gladys Michelsen Cadyn & Ashlynn Henry
Dec. 13	Dave & Bertie Mohling Zachary VeVe, Kristina Walker
Dec. 20	Ken & Sue Beske Emily Johnson, Michael Rogers
Dec. 27	Doug & Phyllis Hullett Michael Fish, Ayden Scribner

Communion Assistants

Dec. 6	8:30	Bob Jacobson
	10:45	Brenda Mesaros, Cal Tonsager Heidi Christensen
Dec. 20	8:30	Bruce & Debbie Lundeen
	10:45	Lori & Scott Firm
Dec. 24	9:00 pm	Cheryl & Earl Schindeldecker Mariann Storlie
Dec. 25	10:00am	

Youth Ushers

Dec 13	8:30	Nate Rowan, Jake Bronson Jenna Hayes, Logan Petersen
Dec. 13	10:45	Hayden Jensen, Will Kanfield Maggie Nielsen, Matthew Walker

Greeters

Dec. 6	Kim & Brian Buechele
Dec. 13	Mary & Warren Peterson
Dec. 20	Jean, Mark & Caitlin Latzke
Dec. 27	Alice & Don Storlie



Northfield Retirement Community
Innovation. Choice. Tradition.

Did you know ... Northfield Retirement Community received the Service Industry Advertising Awards – Bronze Award for Social Media for our presence on Facebook. We have surpassed 900 “likes” from residents, staff and families who are sharing in the many ongoing activities and events across the NRC campus! You can help us gain more friends by going to northfieldretirement.org and clicking on Facebook. Join us!

Queen Anne Courts

This is the second year of this project; last year it made a big difference in the Holiday season for everyone involved. Watch for the laundry baskets in the Fellowship Hall for you to put your donations in. See the Missions Team Report for additional Information. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



26691 Pillsbury Avenue
Lakeville, MN 55044

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 952-461-2283
Fax: 952-461-4182

Worship Schedule

Sunday:

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Education & Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Non-Traditional Worship

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www.ChristianiaLutheranChurch.org

DATED MATERIAL



December Food Shelf

baby items: diapers, soaps, ointment,
powder, wipes, baby food,
milk (canned or powdered)

Honoring Baby Jesus

Rachel's Treasurer Office Hours

Tuesday 9:30am to 11:30am
Friday 1:30pm to 3:00 pm



Deadline for the January 2016 edition of
the Christiania Newsletter is Dec. 18.
Email info. to Linda Bauer at
lbauer@ChristianiaLutheranChurch.org.

Loaves & Fishes

Tuesday
December 29
Creekside
Community Ctr.
Bloomington

Prep-3:30pm
Serve-5:30pm
Adult and youth
volunteers are needed.



Book Discussion Group

Love came down for Christmas,
remember to share it with others. We
invite you to join us at 11:30 in the
Fellowship Hall. Bring a bag lunch -
coffee is furnished.

December 30:

Read any Christmas Book and
share it with the group.

January 27:

The Shoemaker's Wife
by Adriana Trigiani

Calendar Page