



Christ Lutheran Church Sunday Schedule

9 a.m. Contemporary Worship with Communion

10:15 a.m. Education Hour: Pathfinders for Children & Teens, Alpha "Challenging Lifestyles" Bible study on the Beatitudes, Alpha "Questions of Life" course, Prayer Ministry Team meets.

11:15 a.m. Traditional Worship with Communion

5:30 p.m.—7:30/8 p.m. Alpha "Questions of Life" course with dinner. Youth meet!

6 p.m. Prayer Services (once a month)

For information on Christ Lutheran Church, please call us at 301-652-5160.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

301-652-5160 (Fax) 301-652-2301
Website: <http://www.heartmindsoul.com>
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The Rev. Marvin Tollefson
Pastor

Jennifer Tessneer
Minister of Family & Community Care

Clare Cho
Minister of Music

Richard Czypinski
Office Manager

Florence Heacock
Small Groups Coordinator

Church Council

Barry Lemley, president
Sanna Solem, vice president
Laurie Heinecke, secretary
Chee Kin Tang, treasurer

Lisa Bente, Martin Brockman, Dottie Davis,
Grace Lloyd-Davies, Maura Miller, George
Wenchel, Elke Womack, Marta Woodward.

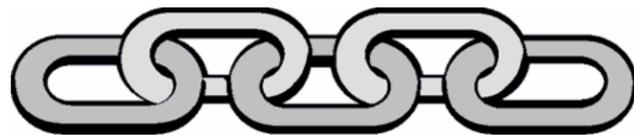
Mission of The Chronicle

To glorify God, give thanks for His many blessings and grow His church. To promote and report back on events and opportunities designed to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ and serve His church.

Please contribute to The Chronicle! Let's share all the exciting ways God is at work here at Christ Lutheran! Questions? Please call Jennifer Tessneer at 301-652-5160, ext. 5.

Next Chronicle Deadline

Submissions for the January issue of The Chronicle are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 19. Please drop them off in the box on Jennifer's office door or e-mail them to:
jenniferclc@heartmindsoul.com



STRENGTHENING YOUR FAITH

THE CHRONICLE

Volume 69,
Issue 12

Reach Up, Reach Out & Grow

December
2003

WE WELCOME YOU!

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ; to transform all people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a community of believers making and baptizing disciples so that Christ's forgiveness and healing can be accomplished in the world.

We are a community of believers because God wants us to be something together and represent God with our unified diversity. Our vision is to further God's Kingdom in our midst.

DECEMBER CHRONICLE HIGHLIGHTS

Updates & Reminders

Page 2

Special Events

Page 3

Youth & Family

Page 4-5

Small Groups

Page 6

December Calendar

Insert

Christmas Events

Insert

Updates & Reminders



Mi Refugio Update: God's Miracle of Teamwork

I went to Mi Refugio thinking that I would experience a life-changing event. Was I ever right! Little did I know at the time that the life-changing event wasn't necessarily my own.

Teams from all over the world go to Mi Refugio to perform God's work for the "less fortunate" children of Guatemala City and surrounding areas. Miracles were unraveling right before our very eyes. Classrooms were being erected, hills were being

moved, bathrooms were being built, decks and walkways were under construction, mouths were being fed ... all of this plus the heart-rendering laughter of little children so poor by economic standards, but so rich in the Spirit of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The life-changing event I found taking place was in the hearts and souls of those very children whom Kari Engen, the founder and director of the school, had taken in and provided educational, medical, dental and nutritional assistance to. More importantly, she provides a strong sense of spiritual awareness and acts as a primary vehicle through which God's love constantly touches these children.

The miracles don't stop there, though. The overwhelming love of Christ springs forth from each and every teacher at the school as well. Every morning consisted of praise and worship before breakfast. Every afternoon was full of smiles and cheer. Every evening we were blessed with studies of the Word and singing songs of praise and thanks for all that God has given us, Jesus has sacrificed for us, and for the Holy Spirit's strength and encouragement that helps us through all of life's labors.

Never before in my life have I experienced such a showering of love and blessings poured forth from our Father in heaven. It is my prayer that each of you will be able to enjoy the same. Dios le bendiga!!! God bless you!!!

– Rick Koenig

ALPHA “Questions of Life” Courses Underway

The Alpha Course is for anyone interested in finding out more about the Christian faith.

Alpha is being offered at two times: from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Sundays and from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays (meal included).

Childcare can be arranged! Please speak with Robert & Eileen Dalzell or call Florence Heacock for details at (301-652-5160).



CLC Ambassador's Update: Discerning God's will at CLC

“But those who
hope in the LORD
will renew their STRENGTH.
They will SOAR on
wings like eagles;
they will RUN and
not grow weary,
they will WALK
and not be faint.”

Isaiah 40:31



Small Group Ministries

We warmly invite you to participate in these spiritual, faith-based opportunities. Unless another contact is listed, please call Florence Heacock, small groups coordinator, at 301-652-5160, ext. 3, for information.

Adult 9 a.m. *Sunday Bible Class* coming soon! Check back for details.

Alpha "Challenging Lifestyles" Bible study on the Beatitudes meets at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays.

Alpha "Questions of Life" Bible study meets from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Sundays. A second group meets from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays (with a meal).

Small Group Facilitators Bible Study meets once a month. Time and date TBA.

Alpha "A Life Worth Living" Bible study meets on Friday nights.

10:30 a.m. *Wednesday Bible study* with Pastor Marv.



Men's Master Builders meet for prayer breakfasts on various Saturday mornings each month. For details, contact Richard Czipinski 301-652-5160.

Promise Keepers events to be announced ...

Other

Graceful Growing Together (GGT) is CLC's stewardship initiative based through prayer, Bible study, faith, love, fellowship, and gifts to continue to experience spiritual growth and fulfill the vision that God has given our church for future centuries and generations.

Teddy Bear Ministry is a small group prayer and Bible study and faith-based ministry of love, caring, and healing.

Women

THRIVE
Women of Faith meets at 7:30 a.m. on two Saturdays per month in the upstairs education hall.



"Search for Significance" Bible Study meets the second Thursday of each month at the home of Ingrid Dallaire. For details, please contact Ingrid at 301-654-6962.

CLC Women's Circle Groups meet at various times during the month. For information, please contact Wilma Christ at 301-320-5127 or Dottie Davis at 301-598-9657.

Young women's group (20s and 30s) meets at 7 p.m. on Thursdays. For details, contact Jennifer Tessneer at 301-652-5160, ext. 5.

PRAYER

*"... Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
(1 Thes. 5:17)*



Prayer Room I is open for prayer at 8:15 a.m. Sundays. Prayer Room II is open for prayer Monday — Saturday.

The *Prayer Ministry Team* meets at 10:15 a.m. every Sunday for focused, intentional prayer time to lift all prayer requests to God. Please submit your prayer requests in the prayer request boxes in the narthex and colonnade. For more information, please call Paula Mathis at 301-540-7391.

Prayer Services at 6 p.m. on Nov. 16 & Dec. 14. **6**

Special Events

Youth & Family Ministry



God Busy at Work in Youth & Family Ministry at CLC

BETHESDA, Md. (CLC) – Youth and family ministry at Christ Lutheran Church is ON FIRE!

Leaders are journeying with God to discover where He is taking their ministry, the youth have transformed into servant evangelists, and the development of a parents' ministry is next on the agenda.

"It's awesome how God is calling people to children's, youth and family ministry," said Jennifer Tessneer, CLC's minister of family and community care. "This is a church where families are the priority."

Among those God has called to youth ministry are Rob & Rachel King and Erica Sprague, CLC's new senior high youth leaders. They led the teenagers on a "reverse trick-or-treat" servant evangelism event the weekend before Halloween, giving out bags of candy to strangers in Bethesda. A sticker on each bag read, "God's love for you is the best treat of all" and provided information about CLC and an invitation to "Come experience that love."

"It was awesome to watch the teens of CLC bring a smile to the people surprised by the act of kindness," Erica said, "and it is cool to think of all the ways what they did that night could help someone in the future."

The Kings know firsthand the impact the youth can have. Ian Dalzell and Jonathan Hoang of CLC's youth group first met Rob during a servant evangelism event last November. Rob excitedly received the gifts the teens offered and even agreed to have his picture taken with them. At the time, he had never attended CLC.

Less than a year later, Rob and Rachel had joined the church and were out doing servant evangelism with some of the same youth who first introduced them to CLC.

During the "reverse trick-or-treat," Ian, Jonathan and Rob met a woman eating a hot dog near the 7-11 in Bethesda. The woman, who confided in them that she was unemployed, was overjoyed with the two bags of candy she received.

"She had to have said thank you five or six times," Rob said. "That was the best part of the night for me because Ian and Jonathan got a chance to see someone being thankful."

The youth, who meet from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Sundays, have been focusing on stepping out of their comfort zones for Jesus and growing a youth ministry and personal faith that works in real life. Plans are in the works to attend the three-day Winterfest worship festival in Lynchburg, Va., at New Year's, and they will be doing a Christian calendar fund-raiser to help raise money for future youth projects and events.

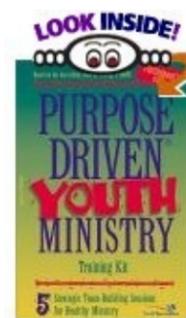
The energy from the youth has pumped up CLC's adults, who are doing their best to keep up with the teens.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

Pastor Marv went out for pizza with CLC's new praise band after a recent rehearsal. He said Ian, who is in the band, ate almost a whole pizza.

"He was famished," Pastor Marv said. "I realized I wasn't burning the same amount of energy he was!"



To prepare for the growth they are seeing in the teens, the youth team and committee have been working through the Purpose Driven Youth Ministry curriculum to develop a ministry that is obedient to Christ's five purposes for the church: evangelism, worship, service, fellowship and discipleship. A first session focused on our personal relationships

Have a question or want to get involved in Youth & Family Ministry at CLC? Ask one of these people:

Youth & Family Committee

- Lisa Bente (council representative)
- Laurie Heinecke (council representative)
- Jennifer Tessneer (minister of family/community care)
- George Wenchel (council representative)

Children's Team

- Laurie Heinecke, Pathfinders pre-school and lower elementary teacher
- Jennifer Tessneer, Pathfinders upper elementary teacher

Youth Team

- Eileen Dalzell, Pathfinders junior high teacher
- Rob & Rachel King, youth group leaders
- Erica Sprague, youth group leader
- Mark Woodward, Pathfinders senior high teacher

Youth Contacts

- Nick "Southside" Brown
- Sebastian "The Translator" Brown
- Ian "You Can Call Me Hank" Dalzell
- Jonathan "Sleepy" Hoang

with Jesus and the importance of being a man or woman of God as a foundation for doing the work of God. The group, whose goal is to work through the curriculum in five months, will look at the five purposes in more depth when they meet again on Nov. 19.

Meanwhile, ministry representatives from CLC have been attending trainings and conferences, passionately opening themselves to God to equip them for the ministry He has called them to. Among the most exciting is Donica Merhazion, who represented CLC at "Nurturing God's Way," a three-day workshop focused on developing a parents' ministry.

This much energy – and Christmas isn't even here yet!

CLC's children are getting ready, though, beginning preparations for their annual Christmas program. This year's presentation, called "The Christmas Letters," will be the message at a combined 9 a.m. worship on Sunday, Dec. 14. They are asking the congregation to reserve that morning to come together in a special celebration of God's gift of Jesus to the world and His work in the lives of our young people. Anyone who would like to help with costumes, props, scenery or refreshments should speak to Jennifer or Laurie Heinecke.

Small Groups for Children & Youth



Pathfinders Sunday Morning Adventure for Children & Teens meets from 10:15 a.m. — 11:15 a.m. every Sunday.

Making Disciples Confirmation Ministry meets weekly. Time TBD.

CLC Teenagers meet from 5:30 p.m. — 7:30/8 p.m. every Sunday starting October 12 for fun, friendship and Bible Study. Come hungry!

For details or to volunteer with children & youth, please call Jennifer Tessneer at 301-652-5160. Many thanks and blessings!