

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Good News
February 2022

FEBRUARY



Christ Lutheran Church
2610 N. Campbell Street
Valparaiso, IN 46385

Dear Friends of Hilltop,


COWBOY UP! Hilltop's SOUPS Dinner is back in 2022! Will you help sponsor this fundraising event by donating some delicious homemade desserts? This community-wide event has grown over the years and after a 2-year pandemic related hiatus we are happy to bring it back! 2022 SOUPS will be held on **March 1st, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Valparaiso University Harre Union Ballroom**. In 2019, more than 800 guests sampled an array of seventeen soups and voted for their favorite and enjoyed may wonderful treats from our local churches and bakeries.

This year we are inviting local churches to each generously contribute desserts to serve at least 50 people for our Annual SOUPS Dinner. Many people have come to anticipate this traditional evening of conversation, entertainment and soup tasting offered by our favorite local restaurants along with a wonderful selection of desserts. Each dessert sponsor will have their logo and name card to identify their dessert. Hilltop will schedule a pick-up time the day of the event for a volunteer to bring your desserts to the Harre Union so we may set up.

Hilltop Neighborhood House provides childcare scholarships for low income parents that are working or going to school themselves. While at Hilltop, the children receive a high-quality early childhood education, free meals and other support services. In addition, Hilltop's free afterschool program KIDREACH provides school-age children access to tutoring, free meals and a safe place to be in their own neighborhood. Hilltop food pantry serves over 1,800 food insecure families every month. Our generous sponsors and special events like this SOUPS Dinner make these programs in our community possible – neighbors helping neighbors.

Will you please complete the dessert sign-up sheet and return to me at Hilltop by **February 14th**? Feel free to email to me at lpavlopoulos@hilltophouse.org or mail to Hilltop at 460 S. College Ave., Valparaiso, IN 46383.

Thank you!


Lisa Pavlopoulos
219-477-4222, ext. 251

If an individual or a group of members would like to bake desserts for the Hilltop House Soup Dinner please let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Jen Bias
Parish Administrator
219-462-6660

CLC Social Ministry and Mission February 2022

Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are helpless.
(Proverbs 31:8)

Social Ministry Emphasis for February is Hilltop House <https://www.hilltophouse.org>

February's emphasis is to provide monetary and volunteer support for Hilltop House and Hilltop Food Pantry. HH is located "on a hill" in a neighborhood west of Valparaiso U. where social service needs are real for the families and children living there. HH can provide as a health care provider Medicare and Hoosier Healthwise benefits to those in Porter County living below the poverty level (estimated to be 9000 children and 4000 women in Porter County). A gift of \$50 permits Hilltop to provide childcare, health care, and community improvement activities within a child's own family setting (also contributions may qualify for Indiana's Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit).

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

Also, look for a possible virtual Hilltop fundraiser sometime this Spring (annual Soup dinners have had to be cancelled until the Pandemic is behind us). And, the Hilltop Food Pantry [Hilltop Food Pantry | Valparaiso, IN \(hilltophouse.org\)](https://www.hilltophouse.org) welcomes donations at 606 Union Street, Valparaiso, IN

Additional 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 between homes, providing daily meals and a space to be during the day. Overnight shelter began at area churches on October 15. Christ Lutheran will resume our hosting in April 2022.

In the meantime, you can help NCMS feed their guests. Lunch supplies can be dropped off at the resale shop counter during hours of operation (usually 10-5). **Requests include: Lunch meat, Fruit, Individual juice, Snack cakes, and Chips.** Dinners are also appreciated; please call New Creations (219-548-3548) for more information about quantities and scheduling of dinners. Information to follow soon on our scheduled night to feed the men. Meanwhile please pray for those in our community living in cars, tents and on the streets. There is a basket inside door #3 for suggested food donations for Men's Shelter.

Faith Formation Opportunities Sunday 9:20 a.m.

Date	Sanctuary	Church Hall	120/Library	107/Brides Room
February 6	How Lutherans Interpret the Bible-video series #7	Sunday School 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	Sunday School Beginners- Kindergarten
February 13	Christians & Contemporary Topics-Kaitlyn Jedrzejowski	Sunday School 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	Sunday School Beginners- Kindergarten
February 20	Christians & Contemp. Topics-Kaitlyn Jedrzejowski	Sunday School 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	Sunday School Beginners- Kindergarten
February 27	Christians & Contemp. Topics-Kaitlyn Jedrzejowski	Sunday School 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	Sunday School Beginners- Kindergarten

For Children and Families

Bible Basics for Third Graders and their Families/Bible Presentation in Worship

Though our Together in Faith program is on hold as we wait out the end of the pandemic, we want to be sure our 3rd graders have their usual milestone of learning about how we read the Bible and receiving their own Bibles. **3rd Graders and Families are invited to a Bible Basics class at CLC on Saturday, February 12 from 9-10:30, and to join in the Bible Presentations in worship on Feb 13.**

Register here for Bible Basics:



Communion Conversations

Our young folks begin receiving communion at a variety of ages, whenever families determine that they are ready. If your child has not yet participated in our Communion Conversations class, learning more about the sacrament, this year's opportunity will be **Saturday, February 26 from 9-10:30am at CLC.**

Register for Communion Conversations here:



Church Giving Envelopes

The 2022 giving envelopes are available outside the church office and at the Welcome Center. The box envelopes are no longer numbered so you can take the first box available.

Please let me know if you are unable to pick up your envelopes and we can make other arrangements.

Thank you!

Little Lamb Preschool

Registration Continues

Little Lamb Preschool (LLP) registration is now open for the fall 2022-2023 school year. All information is available on our webpage- www.CLCCValpo.org. Tours are happening virtually this year. Please make sure to visit our webpage and take the tour. Please call Jen Gottlieb at 462-6660 if you would like more information or have any questions. We would love to have you become part of the LLP family!

Dudes and Donuts

This year our traditional Dudes and Donuts event will take place at everyone's own home. The children are still doing the cute gifts for their dudes as they have in the past and some are recording cute messages, poems or performances. A virtual blessing from Pastor Erica will be sent home via our Class Dojo app. Never fear, they will also be able to share a donut treat together as well. Family Express is donating pre-packaged donuts for them to share. Thank you, Family Express!

Mission Statement & Educational Philosophy

Christian Mission Statement: Little Lamb Preschool, in union with Christ Lutheran Church, serves God by shepherding God's children as we nurture the whole child in partnership with families.

Educational Philosophy Statement: We are a Christian preschool whose goal is to provide excellence in education and opportunities for faith formation in a loving, safe learning environment for every child. Based on evidence that shows young children learn best through play, we provide developmentally appropriate opportunities for them to explore, make discoveries, and learn respect for themselves and others. We firmly believe that all children are wonderful gifts from God to be cherished and nurtured. In collaboration with families and Christ Lutheran Church, we encourage and support children to learn and grow socially, emotionally, academically, physically, and spiritually.



Campbell Street Closure

Campbell Street south of VHS will be closed due to the Valentine's Day 5K on **Sunday, February 6, starting at 9:00 a.m.** CLC traffic will have to enter and exit from/to Vale Park.

COWBOY UP! Hilltop's SOUPS Dinner is back in 2022! Help support this fundraising event by attending on March 1, 4—7:00 p.m. In the Valparaiso University Harre Union Ballroom.

AMOS

A Mission of Service (501c3, nonprofit organization)

Medical Mission Trip to GUATEMALA, MARCH 11-20, 2022

We need your help please!

A request from Gail Mannington RN CEN, I am an AMOS Board Member and the Treasurer.

Our team of 12 has been announced and we are planning for our Medical Mission trip to Esquipulas, 6 hours east of Guatemala City. We provide medical clinics, speech pathology services and education to remote mountain villages surrounding Esquipulas and Copan, Honduras where they have limited/no access to medical care.

Since our first trip in March 2017 the opportunities to provide services has exceeded our expectations. Christ Lutheran's congregation has been the Cornerstone support for our trips since our first trip in March 2017 by providing necessary medications, monetary donations, knitting/crocheting of newborn hats, making of cloth bags for our teenage feminine hygiene education program, providing t-shirts which identify us as a team providing services to their people, supplies for our education program provided to the orphans in the orphanage where we stay – to name a few... and prayers to bless us on our way.

I am humbly asking for your support again. On average, we see and treat about 1000 patients in 5 clinic days and the needs are voluminous.

Monetary donations can be made to Gail Mannington and below is a list of medications, **bold** means high volumes needed, underlined means we run out quickly.

The following ointments: **Neosporin**, **Hydrocortisone**, Anti-itch cream, **triple antibiotic**, **Diaper Rash**, antifungals, muscle rub, Benadryl

Vitamins: Adult and Children Chewable (NO GUMMIES PLEASE, they melt)
Children's Pain and Fever medications, cough syrups, Flu relief. (We run out each time)

Infant Pain and Fever medications. (We run out each time)

Benadryl, Tums/Antacid meds, Anti-diarrhea meds, Daytime and Nighttime multi-symptom meds, any

NSAIDS (Ibuprofen, Aleve, Naprosyn, Motrin, Advil, Aspirin) Acetaminophen/Tylenol, Pepcid, Zantac, Baby Aspirin, Urinary health meds

Any orthopedic items: ankle braces, arm slings, knee braces, ace wraps, etc. (These items can be gently used)



News from the American Red Cross: Dangerously Low Blood Supply

This is serious. The Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. The dangerously low blood supply levels have forced some hospitals to defer patients from major surgery, including organ transplants. Your donation is desperately needed.

Please make an appointment if you are able to give, the two blood drives at **Christ Lutheran will be on February 14 and June 27 from**

1:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the activity center.

Volunteer sign-up on the sheet available at the Welcome Center desk or call the church office (219-462-6660) to get signed up.

Photo Directory

The dates for the photo directory has been changed. It will now take place on **Tuesday, March 1 - Saturday, March 5.**

Sign-ups to begin shortly!!

Altar Gifts

We will offer again the monthly giving for Altar Gifts in February. There will be sign-ups at the Welcome Center for the following Memorials:

- * Holy Communion Wine \$25/month
- * Altar Candles \$25/month
- * Eternal Lamp Candles \$25/month

If you would like to order flowers, please call the church office (219-462-6660) for details.

COVID Procedure Update

As community transmission remains high, we are maintaining our COVID planning, relying on what we know helps protect our beloveds. Until further notice:

- **Masks are required for everyone**
- Please maintain **appropriate physical distancing** for both seating and at the altar rail.



Attention All Thrivent Financial Members!

Do you have any *Thrivent Choice Dollars* that have not been directed to the charity of our choice?

Minimum and maximum Choice Dollars Designations

Eligible clients will be designated a minimum of 25 Choice Dollars and a maximum of 5,000 Choice Dollars per eligibility period (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31).

Choice Dollars expiration date

Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed **until March 31 of the following year.**

There are two ways of directing *Choice Dollars* to Christ Lutheran Church:

Computer: Go to the Thrivent Financial web site (www.Thrivent.com) and direct the *Choice Dollars* on-line.

Phone: Call Thrivent Financial at 1-800-847-4836. When prompted by the electronic answering system, say “*Thrivent Choice.*” Follow the remaining prompts, and a representative will come on the line to assist you. You will need your Thrivent membership ID number and will need to answer some other personal questions to verify that you are the Thrivent member who is on the line.

Emergency Closure Information

CLC follows the Valparaiso Community school (VCS) closure decisions for weather. If you suspect schools may be closed please visit www.cancellations.com, or tune your radio to 105.5 FM; if Valparaiso Community Schools are closed, we definitely are closed. As always, use your own discretion if CLC is open and your road conditions are poor.

Youth Director Report – February 2022

Clint Mullet, Director of Youth Ministries

Circle and Fusion Updates

- Our youth ministry continues to meet in-person, following precautions, and following best practices as outlined by our church’s safety plan and the Porter County Health Department.
- Fusion has been meeting regularly on Sunday mornings. Recent attendance has been impacted by bad weather and the Omicron surge. We have still had a great time studying the Book of Luke, discussing parables, and playing exciting games together!
- Circle has been meeting regularly on Sunday evenings. We’ve had a flexible schedule this month, but recently moved back to our normal meeting times. We spent two weeks in January discussing the biblical connections between The Civil Rights Movement and the Gospel, as well as reconnecting and building friendships!

Confirmation Report

- Our Confirmation students wrapped up their Worship unit at the end of 2021. We are currently working through our 10 Commandments unit. We’ve especially enjoyed having Kaitlyn Jedrzejowski, our VU field work student, helping with games and lessons at Confirmation!

Silent Auction

- We raised just over \$2,000 dollars through the Silent Auction this year. Proceeds will be used for the 2022 National Youth Gathering trip. Thank you to everyone who donated, bid, and collected their items! A big shout out to Gathering trip members, Fusion kids, and Confirmation class students who helped with set-up, tear-down, and making calls.

Quake

- We will be taking 9-14 kids and 3-4 adults to Quake in February. Quake will be in Schaumburg, IL. We are looking forward to a fun, meaningful weekend together!
- The Covid pandemic remains uncertain, so we are holding onto our plans loosely. While we are planning for this trip, I will remain up-to-date on guidelines and precautions for our group. Please pray for our planning and safe travel!

Status of National Youth Gathering

- The 2022 National Youth Gathering will be July 24 – July 28, 2022. We will be taking 23 kids and 6-8 adults to Minneapolis, Minnesota for this amazing week! Our current budget for National Youth Gathering ranges between \$40,000 - \$50,000 dollars.
- Future youth ministry fundraisers will be held for this trip. Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements.

LENTEN SERVICES

ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 2

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 10

MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 14

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 15

EASTER VIGIL APRIL 16

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 17

