

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Good News  
January 2022



Welcome 2022 Council Members

President	LUKE VENSTROM
Vice President	ELLEN SWAYNE
Treasurer	SCOTT STEINWART
Financial Secretary	FAITH NOE
Secretary	SARA LONG
Christian Education	CHRISTINE BULL
Christian Growth	KATHY STEFANS
Property	KARL SCHMIDTT
Social Ministry	LISA OWEN
Stewardship	CRYSTAL RIDLEY
Little Lamb Board Rep	LAURA VENSTROM
Youth	KRIS ALBERS
Youth Representative	DANA ABBRING

Installing New Council Members  
January 9, 2022

## CLC Social Ministry and Mission

January 2022

*“Spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed” (Isaiah 58:10).*



**First Contact, Inc.** <http://firstcontactinc.org> and **Mike Steiner Special Needs Memorial Fund.**

Each month the Social Ministry highlights a special giving opportunity and volunteer opportunities. January’s emphasis is to support 1) First Contact <http://firstcontactinc.org> and 2) the Christ Lutheran Mike Steiner

Benevolence Fund.

First Contact is a not-for-profit interdenominational resource and referral ministry, which endeavors in the name of Jesus to assist Porter County residents in need. The vision of FC is to engage a community of givers, through churches, individuals, and organizations to help support those facing hardship. FC has offices in Valparaiso and Portage. When Porter County residents come to the offices of Christ Lutheran with needs as described above, First Contact is our partner in helping address these needs. FC also welcomes volunteers to help staff their office hours.

Mike (Marjorie) Steiner was a member of Christ Lutheran who in her will asked her family to donate her financial savings (about \$15,000) to CLC. She asked that these monies be used to help CLC members who at a particular time have social, physical, and financial needs. The Social Ministry and Mission Committee established policies and procedures for making effective use of these funds to benefit those needing help with rent, utilities, emergency food, medicine, and counseling. Since it has been quite a few years since Mike’s gift, and since numerous CLC members have benefited, the fund needs new donations each year.

Help achieve our goal of \$2500 in January (over and above giving combined with CLC’s budgeted amount of \$1200). By achieving our goal CLC will help **First Contact** and **Steiner Fund** continue to thrive. Use your weekly worship giving envelope mailed with check to CLC and indicate “FC/Steiner” 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.

## 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!

## Faith Formation Opportunities Sunday 9:20 a.m.

Date	Sanctuary	Church Hall	120/Library	107/Brides Room
<b>January 2</b> <b>New Year’s</b>	Break	Break	Break	Break
<b>January 9</b>	How Lutherans Interpret the Bible-video series #3 Kathy Stefans	<b>Sunday School</b> 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	<b>Sunday School</b> Beginners- Kindergarten
<b>January 16</b>	How Lutherans Interpret the Bible-video series #4	<b>Sunday School</b> 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	<b>Sunday School</b> Beginners- Kindergarten
<b>January 23</b>	How Lutherans Interpret the Bible-video series #5	<b>Sunday School</b> 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	<b>Sunday School</b> Beginners- Kindergarten
<b>January 30</b>	How Lutherans Interpret the Bible-video series #6	<b>Sunday School</b> 1st-4th Grade	Justice, Law, History Dave Keammerer	<b>Sunday School</b> Beginners- Kindergarten

## Registration for Sacred Ground ends on Sunday, January 9

**Sacred Ground** is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America’s history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Christ Lutheran Church, in partnership with St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, invites you to join in this discussion circle **on Wednesdays at 6:00 – 7:30pm beginning on January 12 and meeting every other week for 10 sessions. We will meet via Zoom.**

**For registration**, go to: <https://clcvalpo.org/SacredGround> or click on QR Code. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Owen ( [jlo46383@msn.com](mailto:jlo46383@msn.com)) or Kathy Sutherland ( [ksutherland54@yahoo.com](mailto:ksutherland54@yahoo.com)). For more information about Sacred Ground, please see this link: <https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/about>



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Cold, Dark, Snow, Ice This is the time of solitude, comfort food, maybe even isolation. Perhaps you are feeling it! Perhaps something has happened; a new worry. An old worry? *We have someone for you!* A partner. A caring voice. Your **Stephen Minister** is waiting to meet you: talk with you, pray with you. Support you.

Ways to let us know: 1) Church office-leave a number, 2) a pastor, 3) Stephen Minister's wear those blue name tags. Call, Email, Text. Confidentially.



## Little Lamb Preschool

### Little Lamb Preschool Registration News for 2022-2023

LLP will be accepting online registrations from CLC families as well as present and past LLP families, beginning January 4, 9AM. Registration will be available online only on the CLC website (CLCValpo.org). The link will be available online beginning January 4<sup>th</sup> at 9AM. Please note that current LLP students have registration priority for spots on January 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 AM. For current students and families, the registration link will be on the Class Dojo website on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9 AM. Please call Jen Gottlieb at the preschool 462-6660 #14 have any questions. We would love to have you become part of the LLP family!

### The Faith of Children and Their Families

We would like to thank all of the CLC Church staff. Every year, but especially this year, the support, guidance and help that the church staff has given LLP has been outstanding. Our weekly Chapel Time and Christmas programs were in person this year and we were so happy to begin this tradition once again.

Throughout December the children learned about the Christmas story at other times as well. We were so happy to hear the reactions of parents and grandparents thanking us for the Pre-K and Young 5's Christmas Programs, and the message the children learned about the birth of Jesus and then shared with their families. The Beginners have heard the story in their classrooms and have been retelling the story with the Playschool Nativities. All of the older students made individual nativities to take home, while the Beginners made Advent Wreaths. LLP Families demonstrated living out their faith by donating over 125 gifts for families of Housing Opportunities. What a blessing to see the faith of our students and their families!

Thank you Christ Lutheran for joining with Little Lamb Preschool as together we "shepherd God's children!"



## 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.**

### 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.**

# 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. We raise funds to purchase the prescription medications to provide to this population and collect over-the-counter medications to take with us.

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**



February 25<sup>th</sup> – February 27<sup>th</sup>  
Hyatt Regency Schaumburg  
in Schaumburg, IL  
Cost: \$250.00

Quake is a weekend of worship and activities to cultivate spiritual growth for all 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade teens

Interactive events

- Talent Show
- Stage Games
- Worship

Discipleship and bonding

- Campfire Worship
- Large group and small group discussion times
- Workshops

Service project

- Packing disaster relief meals

Speaker: Jen Jacobsen

- Youth Minister

Quake Band: Lynn Stoneking

- Singer/songwriter from Minnesota



Quake Permission Slip  
Due by 1/3/21

WHEN: 2/25 – 2/27

WHERE: Valparaiso, IN to Schaumburg, IL

DEPOSIT: \$95.00 (due with permission slip)

TOTAL COST: \$250 (remaining amount due (2/6/21))

In regards to:

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

To be read and completed by the parent or guardian:

I give my permission to for, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in this trip. In doing so, I make the following acknowledgments:

- I acknowledge that I am aware of the full details of this event’s activities and risks
- I agree that the information contained in my son/daughter’s Emergency Contact Form and General Waiver on file with the church office is accurate
- I understand that if my child is taking prescription medication at this event, I will notify the leader of the event and ensure medication is placed in a sealed bag with dosage instructions.
- Should an emergency arise, the leaders or supervisors of this event have my permission to obtain any medical care, at their discretion, for my son/daughter
- I understand that my child’s picture from this event may be used in any Christ Lutheran Church promotional material.
- I agree to defend and indemnify Christ Lutheran Church its employees, and volunteers against any claim or action that may arise on behalf of myself or my son/daughter other than the willful, wanton, or reckless misconduct of Christ Lutheran Church, its employees, or volunteers.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For Youth Director:

Medical Form on File: \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit Paid: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2021 ANGEL TREE PROJECT A GREAT SUCCESS THANKS TO VERY GENEROUS DONORS



Priscilla Bible Study is very grateful with the outcome of our 2021 Advent giving project. The generosity of the donors exceeded our expectations! Not only did we reach our initial goal of \$1,600 five days before the cut-off date, additional donations came rolling in. Together, we certainly shared God's love to some wonderful adults & children, and we have extended more joy over the birth of the Christ child to 91 adults & children in our community.

### THANK YOU ANGEL TREE DONORS FOR YOUR SUPPORT & GENEROSITY!!!

For this Advent Season, 57 adults & 34 children, living in Porter County, were sponsored by our partner groups > KidsReach at Hilltop Neighborhood House, Housing Opportunities, Disabled American Veterans, & our congregation. Each sponsored adult & child received a \$25 gift card (9 adults received a \$15 gift card).

A total of \$2,186 was donated for our service project, & just \$1 remains in the Angel Tree Fund (because the figures would not divide evenly).

Family units sponsored by our nonprofit partners: Housing Opportunities with Lisa Franko, Hilltop Neighborhood House (KidsReach Program) with Amy Osburn, Disabled American Veterans of Porter County with Mr. Ed Seykowski, as well as CLC with Jenny Bias & Diana Iltzsche for men in the NCMS program. Priscilla Bible group really appreciates the wonderful helpfulness of these partners.

Members & friends confidentially donated money to the established 2021 Angel Tree Fund & then gift cards for a few local stores were purchased by members of Priscilla Bible Study Group. The gift cards were distributed to our nonprofit sponsors in a real Christmas card & envelope with a cordial holiday message. Our sponsors delivered the Christmas cards & gift cards to their recipient families on or before Christmas Day.

The generosity of our donors was overwhelming & heart-warming! The path for sharing the joy of the birth of the Christ-child was 91 people wide!

