

Christ the King Lutheran Church

December 2020 Newsletter

This holiday season will look different for the church this year. We will continue with the online sermons by Gordon Huesby. The link can be found on the churches website www.lutheransontheloose.org and also on the church Facebook page.

The Advent faire, Christmas program and candle light service on Christmas Eve have all been canceled.



Call Committee Report by Ron Brown

It has almost been two years since the church has had a fulltime pastor. During this time the ELCA Oregon Synod has not been able to find any candidates for us. The call committee voted to recommend that the congregation look outside the ELCA synod and look at other Lutheran synods. At the November meeting the Council approved the recommendation and will be taking it to the congregation for a vote. If you have any questions please contact Ron Brown, Call Committee Chairperson.

Ministerial Association Christmas Food Baskets from Steve Lyons

Due to COVID restriction for 2020 we will be implementing a new 'drive thru' (limited contact) food box program this year. We will also have limited food box delivery volunteers for those recipients who are homebound or unable to make a drive thru option work for their situation. It is our home to bless families in our community while also follow the Oregon mandates and keep everyone health & safe.

We are asking for your consideration for supporting this year's drive. A donation of any amount would help to increase our reach and feed our community. Again, thank you for your past participation in this program that is such a blessing to both the givers and the receivers!

CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE From PASTOR HUESBY

Dear Congregation:

Normally confirmation instruction would involve weekly class sessions, reading, workbook assignments and memory work. Our original intention was just that - for the 1st year. We had planned on the second year of classwork to do a survey of Biblical history, both Old and New Testaments.

Our plans have changed because of the disruptions caused by Covid -19.

We will have a one-year course only, limited to Luther's Small Catechism, textbook readings, workbook lessons, and memorizations. So without weekly classroom, person-to-person sessions, we have had to rely on the help of families of these students. Family members have been pressed into duty and their participation is greatly appreciated.

We have therefore established a tentative schedule for the completion of the course, culminating in the Rite of Confirmation.

We have reached the last of the weekly assignments. Workbooks are to be completed and submitted by Sunday December 13th and reviewed and returned to each student shortly thereafter.

The Rite of Confirmation will (tentatively) be conducted on Sunday, January 10th. We will do our best to figure out how to deal with "Covid" and keep everyone posted.

Students preparing to be confirmed:

Addyson Brown

Helen Hellberg-Wilson

Jake Hellberg-Wilson

Thad Krumbah

Christmas Angels Project

Looking ahead to our Christmas "Angels"...we have been asked to support 5-10 children who have a parent in prison. There will not be gifts for care givers, only the child. It has been suggested that you buy a Walmart gift card and put them in a Christmas card with a note for the child. Do not sign the card. Suggest amount is \$20

Tillie, pastor at the Methodist Church needs them by December 6th

Please talk to Gretchen if you are interested in participating in this mission!

Church Council President's Report by Chuck Pease

Happy Holiday Greetings to you all. Recently I read on the internet an article about Christmas. Stealing the main question from this article goes like this. Question is: What message does Christmas give us? Article made that question answered very simple. Answer: The message of Christmas is that where there is Hope, Love, Light and Life the plan and purpose of God will reach you personally and the church.

The church has gone two years without a regular pastor after Christmas Eve. We had an interim and then Pastor Gordy filled in after interim left to retire. The church really appreciate Pastor Gordy for his willingness to fill in as the pastor presently. The search for a new pastor continues with the Call Committee and Church Council, they are two groups in the church that really are working hard to fill the void of a new pastor. Thank You to those involved with this search. To put simple as a fisherman, presently there is no bites on the fishing line. This is because there is an extreme shortage of Lutheran Pastors nationally.

So what is the plan and purpose God has for the church? This can only in my opinion by God himself. So that being said we have to rely on HOPE, LOVE, LIGHT and LIFE. I look at the Church as a huge family. All families have struggles. The church at times appears to be struggling, but as a family we do what is needed to get a positive reaction. So it's simple to deal with struggles in life we have to have a purpose and a plan. Thus comes the old saying "That's Life" as we all go on with the daily routines. So look for the new light it will come to the congregation, the churches life is good still we have to just keep being positive, always show love to people, we have to never give up so this gives us hope. Last but not least God has a purpose, along with a plan for the church.

Closing have a great holiday season, remember we make life positive on how we react to the struggles in life.

Merry Christmas

Church Council

President – Chuck Pease

Vice President – Dave Bremer

Secretary – Heather Vaughn

Rick Kain

Maggie Dygert

Gretchen Brown

Steve Pommerening

Laurie Hackney

Katie Moon

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Prayer Requests:

- Davis family as Roger Davis battles cancer.
- Katie & Oliver Moon, York family and Barkstrom family as they mourn the loss of Andrea Barkstrom to cancer.
- Daniel O'Harrow as he recovers from COVID
- Don Richardson and family for acceptance, Joanne Morrison's (Bamford's) son
- Roxy Skold and Virginia Pease as they continue to recover
- Maggie Dygert, Margaret & Marvin Timmons
- Krumbah & Alden family for healing
- Lane Flinnery and family as he battles Leukemia and staying in Spokane at the Ronald McDonald house.
- Caysn Hiett, the great nephew of Bruce Galbreath (LaVonne's son)
- Safe travel during the holiday season



Comments from our Brother and Sisters in Christ –

Looking for members to write a few lines/paragraph. For example... a bible verse and what it means to you... a funny joke...just a few ideas....

Andrew Kain wrote:

Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

“This verse is a pivotal point in the book of Romans. Paul shifts from teaching the Gospel to teaching practical, life-transforming habits. In this holiday season, this verse reminds me to serve my local community as best I can. By serving, I am practicing worship – praise God.”

Lutherhaven News

Thank you, Lord, for all our front-line and back-line workers. For health care workers and grocery store checkout clerks. For sanitation workers and shelf stockers and tele-workers and out-of-workers. Thank you, Lord, for the Lutherhaven staff, who plan and prepare and program and pivot, so that campers of every age, from older adults to families with littles, can hear about Jesus 'midst the beauty of the magnificent camp sites you have blessed us with. Thank you, Lord, for all who work to support our daily lives!

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving...

give thanks to God, and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

God's faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 100

Your Servant in Jesus,

Bob Baker, Executive Director

What are you Thankful this holiday season?

Congregation Member News

Address change: Elsie Mason
1010 NE 3rd Ave Room 217
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

Engagement: Evan Kain proposed to Chloe Rowe and she said yes, wedding date undetermined

60th Anniversary Committee

1961 The church was formed by a group of Milton-Freewater residents that were attending the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Walla Walla. A Committee is being formed to plan the celebration. If you would like to be involved contact Gretchen Brown for more information.

Financials

November 2020 Income	\$ 4550.00
Expenses	\$ 4079.04
Net Income	\$ 470.96