



Sunday Worship
Explore the Bible (Matthew 1-13)
December through February

In December we begin a new 3-month sermon and study on the gospel of Mathew 1-13. Just as the book of Genesis begins the Old Testament, the gospel of Matthew is the beginning book of the New Testament. Matthew’s audience is the Jewish people where he wrote his account of Jesus’ life to prove Jesus was truly the Promised Messiah of the Old Testament, the Son of David, the Son of God. Matthew is an eyewitness testimony about how the life and ministry of Jesus fulfilled the prophecies of the Old Testament. Matthew was one of the 12 disciples. Copies of the personal study guide are on the back table for use in expanded personal and group settings during the week (suggested donation is \$5).

Dec. 6 (2nd Sunday in Advent)
Matthew 3:1-12 “The Way Prepared”

Dec. 13 (3rd Sunday in Advent)
Matthew 1:18-25 “The King Arrives”

Dec. 20 (4th Sunday in Advent)
Matthew 2:1-12 “The King Worshipped”

Dec. 27 (1st Sunday of Christmas) – Matthew 4:1-10
“The King Tempted”

Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 13, during worship
The Sunday school children will present their Christmas program during worship on Sunday, December 13. We will still have opening and closing songs, scripture, a short message and communion. The Christmas

Program theme is “Sing a Song of Christmas” where our favorite Christmas carols will be sung with background stories on each carol. Please note: there will be a **short congregational meeting** following the service to approve the church budget for 2016 and vote on two proposed recommendations from the Childcare Oversight Committee.

Midweek Advent Services

Our mid-week Advent services will be held on three consecutive Wednesdays in December (2, 9, 16) at 7 p.m. Our theme this year will be: “Seeing Christ in Christmas” or “**Seeing in Christmas.**” Do we see Christ in our Christmas celebrations, or have our celebrations hidden Christ in our midst? Besides hearing the usual Advent/Christmas scripture readings, we will be getting some guidance from Paul’s letter to the Philippians. Each Wednesday we will hear a weekly message and receive an insert with daily suggestions for ways you can see and be Christ in **Christmas** in the coming week and beyond. A booklet of suggestions will be available for the Advent season. We will again use the Holden Evening Prayer as our liturgy. Each service will last about 40 minutes, preceded by a soup supper in the fellowship hall beginning at 6:15. After worship the youth will have cookies, bars and coffee in the fellowship hall for more conversation.

Christmas Eve Services

Thursday, Dec. 24 at 5 and 11 p.m.
You and your family are invited to attend one of our two Christmas

Eve candlelight services on Dec. 24. Our first service will be celebrated at 5:00 p.m. and will include the lighting of individual candles and the Lord’s Supper. Our late service will be celebrated at 11:00 p.m. in the silence of the night as we await the arrival of our Savior’s birth on Christmas Day. This service will also include the Lord’s Supper as we end with the lighting of individual candles while we sing “Silent Night.” Join us on this special day as we remember that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Congregational Meeting:
“What’s Next?”

Thursday, Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Pastor Garry Seefeldt, our LCMC consultant, who was here earlier this year will be returning for a final visit to share with us “what’s next?” At his last meeting with us in late April, Pastor Garry had us fill out a 10 question questionnaire (which he requested we re-do these past two weeks) so that he could compile these questionnaires and give us a final report based on these questionnaires and his time with us in March and April. He will be returning to Christ the Servant on December 9 with visits and consultations on Thursday. At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10, the entire congregation is invited and encouraged to gather in the fellowship hall to hear his report. This meeting will be an important meeting for ALL members as we look to our future mission and ministry. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend on December 10!

PASTOR STEVE'S LETTER: "WHY DID JESUS COME? "

As we approach another celebration of Jesus' birth on December 25, have you ever considered the reason(s) that Jesus came to earth? Now the obvious answer would be to save us from our sins (thus the meaning of the name "Jesus" = He will save us from our sins). Jesus died on the cross in our place as He became sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21) so that He might take the penalty of our sin (eternal death and separation from God) and that we might be pardoned and reconciled back to God. His death became our salvation! But did Jesus' arrival on earth mean more than the cross? While I do not want to diminish the power of the cross (for that is the only message the apostle Paul said matters in this world – see 1 Corinthians 2:2) I want to invite you to consider what it means when we believe and trust in Jesus with our whole life. I would like to share four portions of scripture as you prepare for Christmas this year and a few starter reflections.

First, Jesus came so that "to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become **children of God**." (John 1:12). As we "receive" and "believe" in Jesus we become children of God. Think about that for a moment—children of God. We become a part of God's family which must mean without receiving and believing Jesus we are not part of God's family. While all life is given to us by God our Creator, our sin has separated us from God. God becomes our Father through the Son, Jesus. We talk a lot about our personal rights these days, especially when it comes to living our lives and what we do with our bodies. But when it comes to God, we have no rights before Him. He is holy and we are not holy. But when we receive and believe in Jesus we are given the "right" to become children of God. Think what that means now and for all eternity to know you are a child of God.

Second, Jesus came so that we might have **life** in His name (1 John 4:9). Now this life is not the life the world seeks to offer us (which is based on circumstance and things going our way). Jesus, in the Good Shepherd chapter of John's gospel, says: "I have come that we have life, and have life to the full." (John 10:10) What does "full" life mean to you? Some would say a full life is a long life, lived each minute to the fullest extent. Others might say a full life is a life lived without great trials and suffering. Still others might say a full life is a life blessed with every material blessing. Jesus came to show us the heart of the Father in heaven. Jesus came to restore life that has been broken by sin. Jesus came to restore a daily relational walk with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit. Life boils down to Jesus in your life. "Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life." (1 John 5:12)

Third, Jesus came so that we "might receive **God's abundant provision of grace** and the gift of righteousness." (Romans 5:17). We talk a lot about grace, but grace is a gift that God gives to us each and every day in Jesus. God knows our every situation and Jesus has promised to never forsake or abandon us. Grace is not stored up in advance, but it is given in proportion to the nature of each new day. As the apostle Paul learned in this life, he wrote with great confidence in facing his daily challenges these words: "His grace is sufficient for you." (2 Corinthians 12:9) Human strength will only take you so far. Burn-out and stress tends to win that battle in the long run. But when Jesus came He was "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14) and He said to us: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28) Learn daily how Jesus brings you the grace you need for the moment each and every day.

And finally, Jesus came so that when we were baptized into His name we were also "buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too might live a **new life**." (Romans 6:4). Jesus came to drown our sinful self every morning so that a new life in Him might arise to bring glory to God. Jesus said that our lives ought to be like a "light that shines before others, that they may see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16) Without Christ our sinful nature would continue to reign in and over us (we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves). So Jesus came so that we might live new lives fully pleasing to God where our lives are guided and directed more and more by the Holy Spirit.

These are just a few reasons that came to my mind as additional reasons Jesus came to the earth for us. I encourage you to open your Bibles and find more reasons why Jesus came to earth. On nearly every page you can read more reasons. Seek to find Jesus in your Christmas preparation this year!

Come into my heart, Lord Jesus!

Pastor Steve

PASTOR MATT'S LETTER

*The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. **Luke 2:20***

*For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **1 Corinthians 11:23***

Christmas' tradition of giving of gifts can be a wonderful expression of sharing the blessings of love and relationship with someone that seeks to mirror, although dimly, God's giving of the gift of His Son Jesus to the world. At the same time, this very same tradition can me diminished by the giving of gifts to try and compete, to keep up with gifts that have been given, or with the practice of just grabbing something without any thought or care. I remember one time, and one time only, I had to go to the store on Christmas Eve and I chose to go to Walmart – the home of we got 'em cheap and plenty boxed gift sets. You know the ones, where you get just one more coffee cup with some really bad hot cocoa and a razor that plays Christmas music and doubles as a safety light.

I found myself actually feeling sorry for the people, oh and there were plenty, who were there sifting through these gifts because they had to get one for someone at the office who had just given the something, or for grandpa Clyde cause he'll love it, or for any other reason. You know what is going to happen already, that's right – REGIFTING. The modern development of taking the unwanted, useless, and completely impractical thing that has been given to you as a gift, and passing it on to someone, else to show your own lack of care and thoughtfulness. Regifting has become a word driven by Black Friday sales and the need to have that just never seems to satisfy; demonstrated by the fact of regifting itself.

But perhaps this Christmas we will hear the story of the birth of Jesus the Christ differently as God gives His most precious of gifts to the world. You see in reality, REGIFTING is not a new concept at all; God is the first one to give a gift with and EXPECTATION of it being regifted. The shepherds in the fields were told about the delivery of the gift of God, they went and received it, and they regifted not only the story of the angels, but went on regifting praising and worshiping God as they returned. This was a gift worth passing on. This is not a cheap boxed gift of more of what you already have, it is a deeply thought out, personal gift with the desire to touch the receiver in such a way as to be the one gift remembered and used forever.

Paul reminds us even more clearly that this is a gift passed on that is unlike any other gift. This gift of the baby Jesus grows to be a man who sitting with His disciples finally opens the package and reveals its ultimate purpose and value, the gift of Jesus' very body and blood for the world to conquer sin, death and the power of the devil; and His command to receive and REGIFT it to others. To literally speak it to others, what you have been given. To present the package to another because you care so much for them that you want them to receive what is all wrapped up here – life, love, transformation.

Perhaps this Christmas will be the one where we here the story of the gift of Jesus' birth and we will realize that we to need to regift it to the people in our lives who don't have what it offers. Perhaps we will risk to speak it to others and begin to unwrap it for them so that they too can receive what has been given, and REGIFT it to others as well. Merry Christmas.

Pastor Matt

YOUTH CALENDAR

Hey YOUTH — Youth Group, Confirmation and FLYTE are going to join forces this year to take part in our annual Christmas Caroling and Meal Delivery night. And the Congregation is invited too! On Saturday, December 19, the youth will be gathering at the fellowship hall to make meals, pack gifts and prepare for a night of caroling. We will meet at 10 (but I will confirm this as we get closer) so as to be prepared to depart at 6 p.m. to carol and deliver meals. The congregation is invited to join us at 6 p.m. as we divide up to cover the city and all of our shut-ins and widows and widowers as we carol and bring to them a bit of Holiday Cheer made by the youth. Then back to the fellowship hall to share in some chili and Christmas cheer together. **COME AND TAKE PART** in this very fun and important ministry of CTS this holiday season.

Confirmation families, be watching for information about the 10/10/80 Event coming December 12. This year it will begin a bit later to allow practice for the Christmas program but see the letter for information.

Sunday School Christmas Program — This week, keep watch for a letter about the Sunday School Christmas program and practices beforehand. The Christmas program is Sunday, December 13, and it is time to learn some lines and prepare to tell the story of Jesus' birth through the songs we love so well.

YOU are needed. As we begin to form the new year of learning and passing on the faith, we need YOU to help and teach a topic for our children and youth. Classes are two or five sessions long and range from 1 to 1½ hours in length. Typically a class leader would teach on Wednesday or Sunday, but each class has the flexibility of scheduling in agreement with the teachers and the parents of children. Each class has fully documented information and ideas for class time, and the pastors are here to help support and work with you as you prepare and teach. We can even participate with you to help learn the ropes of youth ministry. What is needed most is a heart for Jesus and His children and a desire to pass on your faith.

Sunday School Exploration of the Bible — A time of Gathering happens from 8:45 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. in the fellowship hall and then all the classes break out into their learning areas. This year as we continue digging deeper into the Word we are moving our focus to look into Matthew chapters 1–13 for the winter, and in the Spring we will dig into the first part of Acts. We want to thank all those who are serving the kingdom giving their time and talents to pass on the faith to our youth. Please thank these individuals for their service to Our children.

3- and 4-year-olds and Kindergarten Korrie Hall

1st through 3rd Grade Becky Bahnfleth and Amanda Cyboron

4th through 6th Grade Judy Carstens, Kristy Rosberg and Fern Zechmann

Junior High and High School Mary Weich, Greg Moen, Charlie Skoglund, Nate Metschke and Brian Anderson

Great Job — **Lucas Petersen** and **Dylan Hall** for leading the congregation in the Lord's Prayer November 15th in worship as a part of your study in the Life Long Learning process.

Thanksgiving Volunteer Celebration was a nice night of fellowship and sharing as members and volunteers shared a meal of thanksgiving for those who give of their time to perform service and ministry to the congregation of CTS. The strength of the Church is the Body and all its members individually taking on their roles in service to God's kingdom. Thanks to all who serve.

Minutes of the Monday, October 26, 2015, Joint Board Meeting -- 6:30 p.m.

Present: Greg Moen, Brian Anderson, Joan Falke, Charlie Skoglund, Linda Cyboron, Mary Weich, Margaret Svitak, Becky Bahnfleth, Pastor Steve, Pastor Matt
Absent: Steve Jessen, Ginger Beckman

The agenda for tonight's meeting was distributed, reviewed, and items added. Pastor Steve opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

Greg presented the budget review committee's recommendations and associated spreadsheet showing monthly positive cash flow. See that report for specific details. The Board of Administration will meet two more times. Board members were instructed to get their proposed budget needs to Greg by November 12, which will be presented to the congregation for consideration at the November 22 quarterly mission meeting. Margaret wants everyone to have a copy of this year's budget as well. The Board of Administration will meet with the budget review committee to have the proposed budget to members of the Board of Spiritual Oversight by November 8. That board will meet with Greg to review the proposed budget on November 12 at 6 p.m. We will need to set a meeting date in December for the congregation to vote on the proposed budget.

Pastor Garry: Margaret distributed a letter she has drafted to the congregation, which will be put in mailboxes for members to pick up on Sunday; letters not picked up will be mailed on Monday. This will be announced during worship on Sunday.

Charlie recommended that we discontinue our association with "Food for the Poor," as they appear to spend a lot of money on marketing and promotion. He suggested doing something local through our church instead. Other ideas were to hold a mission fair (Becky) or support orphans in Tanzania (Pastor Matt).

Becky reminded us that we still do not have pictures of board members on the display board, which was taken down when the visitor center was redone. Pastor Matt has taken some photos, which are still in the camera.

Pastor Matt shared that a date for his upcoming medical procedure is unknown at this time, after which he will be off work for 6 weeks. He should know more when he gets back from Tanzania.

Pastor Steve shared that our 40th anniversary is coming up next year. This will be discussed at the mission meeting. Ideas include forming a committee, compiling a cookbook, and doing a pictorial directory.

Joan discussed the low turnout at the congregational stewardship meeting last month, which was promoted in the newsletter and bulletins. She reported that she has received a few completed Time & Talent sheets. She explained the topics for Taking Time are 1) caregiver support, 2) grief support, 3) spirituality, 4) book club, and 5th Mondays, which are Wild Card.

Joan requested to place a bookcase in the library for boxed cards and napkins that are being sold as part of the kitchen fundraising. It was suggested instead to put these in the fellowship hall where they are more visible.

Pastor Steve announced that Christ the Servant was awarded a \$5,000 grant from Thrivent to the childcare program based on an application submitted by Liz Armitage.

The agenda for the November 22nd Quarterly Mission Meeting was set: 1) Pastor Matt's time off; 2) Budget/recommendations; 3) 40th anniversary. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, November 17, at 6:30 p.m. The boards will first meet separately and then come together for a joint board meeting. Pastor Matt closed the meeting with prayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Women of CTS are selling Christmas magnets that read, Keep Christ in Christmas for \$5.00 each. These are a great gift idea for friends and family. There is a total of 200 that need to be sold. If you would like to purchase them or help by selling contact Michelle Anderson 402-640-8275. The proceeds are being used to replenish the account from the bathroom remodel.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH Balance Sheet As of October 31, 2015

CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH Profit & Loss January through October 2015

	Oct 31, 15		Jan - Oct 15
ASSETS		Ordinary Income/Expense	
Current Assets		Income	
Checking/Savings		Church Income	198,344.49
Endowment-4076	7,128.42	Total Income	198,344.49
General checking	9,737.18		
Savings - 4034	11,178.91	Expense	
Total Checking/Savings	28,044.51	Administration	154,461.14
Other Current Assets		Advertising - use evangelism	274.04
Designated giving		Church Building and Grounds	23,710.48
Aaron & Anna Cyboron (China)	-125.00	Church Properties - Parsonage	4,552.78
Amanda Cyboron	25.00	Discipleship	5,311.44
Brandon & Marie Cyboron (china)	-575.00	Fellowship & Evangelism	3,078.64
Church Property Fund	-21,341.63	Outreach - Mission Beyond our C	7,206.16
Daycare Fund	-4.50	Reconciliation Discrepancies	-37.11
Disaster Relief Fund	-100.00	Service and Local Mission	3,773.58
Good Samaritan Fund	-256.41	Worship	4,338.70
Memorials	-3,291.26	Total Expense	206,669.85
Military Bible Sticks	-250.00	Net Ordinary Income	-8,325.36
Missions/Growth	-1,705.71		
Parsonage	-3,023.73	Other Income/Expense	
Special Projects	-7,263.00	Other Income	
Tanzania (Water) Fund	-400.00	Daycare Income	17,847.18
Tanzania Youth Missiom Fund	-50.00	Total Other Income	17,847.18
Worship Fund	-2,500.00	Other Expense	
YWAM Joe Rystrom	-100.00	Daycare (Based on 6 kids)	17,791.21
Total Designated giving	-40,961.24	Total Other Expense	17,791.21
Jared & SauMan Weich	-120.00	Net Other Income	55.97
Total Other Current Assets	-41,081.24	Net Income	-8,269.39
Total Current Assets	-13,036.73		
TOTAL ASSETS	-13,036.73		
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00		

CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH Profit & Loss October 2015

	Oct 15
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Church Income	21,758.10
Total Income	21,758.10
Expense	
Administration	17,356.37
Church Building and Grounds	3,280.43
Church Properties - Parsonage	328.68
Discipleship	319.61
Fellowship & Evangelism	129.35
Outreach - Mission Beyond our C	1,206.16
Service and Local Mission	175.89
Total Expense	22,796.49
Net Ordinary Income	-1,038.39
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Daycare Income	266.87
Total Other Income	266.87
Other Expense	
Daycare (Based on 6 kids)	3,382.53
Total Other Expense	3,382.53
Net Other Income	-3,115.66
Net Income	-4,154.05

November 17, 2015, Joint Board Meeting -- 8:25 p.m.

Present: Greg Moen, Joan Falke, Charlie Skoglund, Steve Jessen, Margaret Svitak, Linda Cyboron, Pastor Matt, Pastor Steve, Becky Bahnfleth
Absent: Brian Anderson, Mary Weich, Ginger Beckman

We have collected \$250 so far for Garry Seefeldt (per Pastor Steve). We have spent \$3,800 for mediation this year. Our part of the shared expense is \$470 for his next trip. Greg made a motion that we pay for Pastor Garry's \$470 travel expenses plus a \$500 honorarium with the church paying the difference from the designated offerings; Linda seconded; motion carried on voice vote.

The proposed budget was reviewed (see handout). Greg and Steve Jessen will present about the childcare program to the congregation on Sunday. Charlie made a motion that this budget be presented to the congregation on Sunday; Becky seconded; motion passed on voice vote.

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13, in the sanctuary immediately following worship to vote on the 2016 budget.

Pastor Steve made a motion to start giving something to LCMC as of this month, as we have given nothing so far this year although we budgeted \$600. We will give \$125 to LCMC this month and next. We have budgeted \$500 for LCMC next year.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, December 15, at 6:30 p.m. (Greg will be unable to attend).

Meeting adjourned at 9:45. Pastor Matt closed with prayer.

All Women of CTS are invited to join us for our winter gathering on Saturday December 5th. We will have the 2nd annual cookie exchange and decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. Starting at 10:00 a.m. with our gathering, business meeting, and exchange of some wonderful cookies/candies made by you. Following the gathering we will have a potluck meal and decorate for Christmas. Please bring 3 dozen each of your goodies to share and an item for potluck. Invite your friends to join us for some fun, fellowship, and prepare yourself for the Christmas season.

Kathy Rogers has many cookie & candy tins, which she will bring to the cookie exchange for anyone to use.

STEWARDSHIP

Gracious God remind us when we gather for worship and in arms of service of who and whose we are. We are Your servants, You are our Master, our Creator. Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism we become your sons and daughters. What do you think of when you hear steward or stewardship? In the liturgy, we pray before the Great Thanksgiving that we give thanks to God for "ourselves, our time and our possessions, sign of Your gracious love....," does God have your heart? Is God #1 in your life?

At the all congregational stewardship meeting September 22nd I shared some of the "Dave Ramsey" financial information learned through his financial classes. Beans and rice, that is one of many things he shares; things we do now so that we can live debt free later. The three random stewardship meeting adult registration drawing winners were: Brian Anderson, Carol Olson and Orlin Olson. There were no children registration drawing winners as no children were in attendance. Another important aspect of Dave's teachings is that if expenses are greater than income, you need to sell things and increase ways to generate more income. This application also applies to the congregation and is symptomatic of our condition. There are positive things we can do, do we have the desire?

If you missed the meeting, there will be NO pledge drive for tithing cards this year. Some congregations have stopped doing a budget. Can you imagine? Giving needs to be Vertical-between God and the individual. The Holy Spirit is alive, may the Holy Spirit live in you. Giving needs to be vertical not horizontal. We profess to be Christians and disciples of Christ, to honor biblical truths and teachings. Let us live our faith, not our fear!

In Service to Christ,

Joan

Women of Christ the Servant
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2015

Present: Julie Freese, Vice-President; Kathy Rogers, Treasurer, Fern Zechmann, Secretary.

Julie opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer. October meeting minutes have previously been approved by board members online. Kathy presented the treasurer's report showing a balance of \$870.81. Fern moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. Julie seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business

Living Proof Live with Beth Moore: Informational signs are up and bulletin inserts will be going out soon. Anyone interested in attending will need to contact Michelle by the end of December so reservations can be made.

Cleaning of carpets: Wanda Muhs made arrangements so this could be done. We will pay \$300 from our profit from CTS bags. The church will pay the remaining \$300. The carpets look great.

Magnet Fundraiser: The "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets are in. They will be \$5 each. We need ladies to sell these after worship or individually. Kathy will also have these available in the church office.

CTS bags: Wanda and Nell completed these and Michelle is collecting for them.

Pastor Appreciation: Quilts were presented by Wanda Muhs, and Mary Weich purchased items for the bags for the wives. Fern made 116 cupcakes.

War Room Bible Study: This study has been completed. Be watching for another session.

Wine, Women and Wisdom: November 19th will be hosted by Julie Freese and December 17th will be hosted by Michelle Anderson. Watch for listing of the women who have been studied previously and the sign-up sheet for hosting in 2016 on our bulletin board. We discussed not limiting this to women of the Bible but also outstanding Christian women, past or present. Kathy moved that we accept this idea. Julie seconded. This was approved.

Ornament Day at Creatively Fired: This will be held on Sunday November 15, 2015 from 1-4 pm. We received \$26.43 from Creatively Fired from the last event. Refreshments for this event were discussed. Fern moved that we not provide refreshments and Julie seconded the motion, which passed.

WCTS Directories: Will be completed by December gathering.

Mercy Meals – Julie will be setting up a time in January for this project.

Cleaning Days: We plan to have these every 6 months in the future. Our next one will be held before the "Bless and Be Blessed" rummage sale in May.

New Business

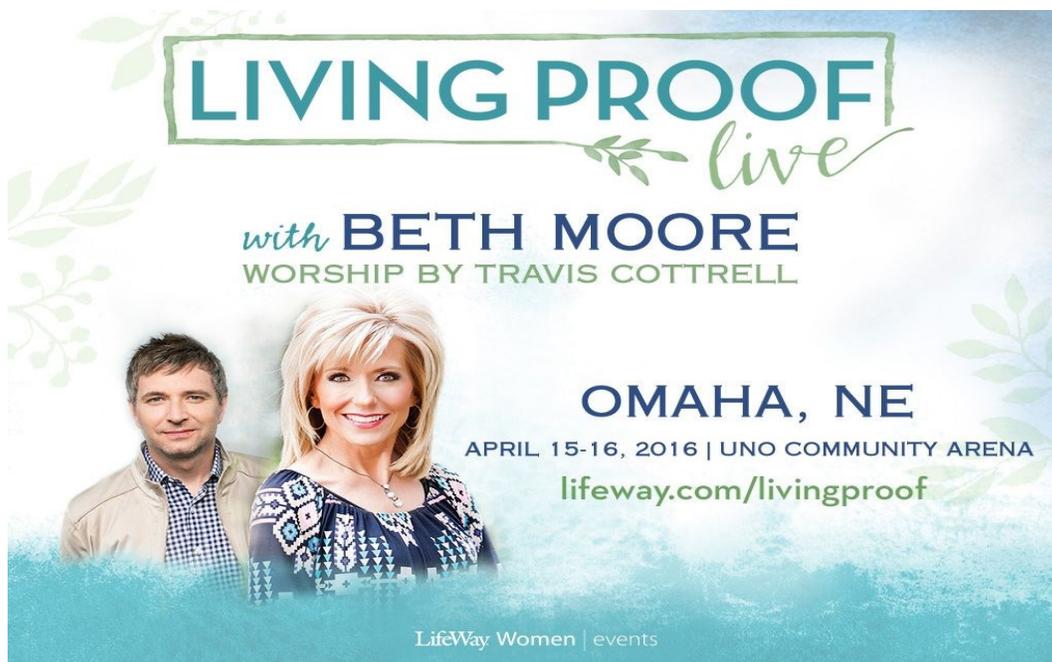
Thank offering: We will be collecting the money starting Sunday, November 15th. There will be a jar in the back to place your money.

December 5th Gathering: Michelle will be getting this together. We are asking ladies to bring 3 dozen cookies each and we will be sharing that day and packing some for shut-ins and others. We will need ladies to help deliver them. Following the gathering we will be decorating the church. Last year we had pizza delivered and paid for it out of our account. We discussed whether we should do this again or have ladies bring food. Julie moved that we have ladies bring food. Kathy seconded the motions and it was approved.

2015/2016 Events:
November 15 – Creatively Fired Ornament Day
December 5 – Annual Cookie Exchange/Decorate for Christmas
January – Mercy Meals (TBA)
February (around Groundhog Day) – Movie/Discussion Night
March 5 – Spring Gathering
April 15-16 – Living Proof Live with Beth Moore
TBA – Spring Cleaning
May 7 – Annual Bless and Be Blessed
June 4 – Annual Meeting (VP and Treasurer election)

The meeting was adjourned and Kathy closed in prayer.

Women of Christ the Servant are planning a trip to:



Event cost: \$59 plus Hotel \$25-\$35 Commitment with money to Michelle Anderson by December 31, 2015. Questions: 402-640-8275

KITCHEN FUNDRAISING UPDATE

A total of 26 BON TON coupon booklet donations were gathered for a \$130.00 total. We wish to say "Thank You" all those who purchased a coupon booklet and made an effort to participate in this fundraiser. While we were in hopes that 100 booklets would be purchased (giving us \$500) we are thankful to each of you who donated in this way.

We are thankful for those companies and/or individuals who have partnered with us thus far in our fundraising efforts. While this is only the beginning of what will be an continuing effort to raise the needed funds; we hope that you will find many fine quality items for sale from an on-going list of quality companies and individuals.

Partnering companies and/or individuals are being very considerate of us at this point. We DO NOT wish to abuse a privilege OR break an established trust. Some are willing to work with us on an on-going basis and others are willing to work with us at some time again in the future.

If you and/or someone you know wishes to make a purchase or order an available item(s); please do so as soon as possible. Be a sales person. Spread the word. Let's move some inventory and raise some CASH!!! With the up-coming holidays many items would make a fine gift and/or "stocking stuffer". The Georgia pecans are great for holiday baking.

Inventory items will have to be paid for and/or returned for credit. We will need to know which items need to be ordered SOON to insure available stock and needed time for order fulfillment for the holidays.

You will find Kitchen Fundraising "For Sale" items in the fellowship hall on the bookcase, baker's rack and serving cart. There is an information sheet available with the current list of items for sale and pricing. There are copies of the sheet available if you would like to take one with you, you will find copies of the sheet on the serving cart.

Some planned Kitchen Fundraising activities planned for 2016 include:

CTS Lutheran Church Cookbook-in conjunction with 40th Anniversary. Calling all cooks - start going through your favorite recipes to decide which recipes you would like to share. We need volunteer workers to assist in compiling, proofreading, etc.

2016 Barbecue-Duane Theil has agreed to prepare the meat. We need volunteers. Many others needed to help with other plans!!

Areas where you would like to help out, comments and/or questions? Please speak with Joan-Telephone: #(402)664-3057 or Louise-Telephone: #(402)379-4268.

HEALTH MINISTRY

*"I pray that everything may go well with you, and that you may be in good health,
as I know you are well in spirit." – 3 John 2*

Happy, Healthy Holidays

The holidays are a great opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends, celebrate life, to be grateful and reflect on what's important. They are also a time to appreciate the gift of health. Here are some holiday tips to support your efforts for health and safety this season.

Wash your hands often — Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Wash your hands with soap and clean running water, and rub them together for at least 20 seconds. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.

Stay warm — Cold temperatures can cause serious health problems, especially in infants and older adults. Stay dry, and dress warmly in several layers.

Manage stress — The holidays don't need to take a toll on your health and pocketbook. Keep your commitments and spending in check. Balance work, home, and play. Get support from family and friends. Keep a relaxed and positive outlook. Make sure to get proper sleep.

Travel safely — Whether you're traveling across town or around the world, help ensure your trip is safe. Don't drink and drive, and don't let someone else drink and drive. Wear a seat belt every time you drive or ride in a motor vehicle. Always buckle your child in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt appropriate for his/her height, weight and age.

Get checkups and vaccinations — Exams and screenings can help find potential problems early, when the chances for treatment and cure are often better. Vaccinations help prevent diseases and save lives. Schedule a visit with your healthcare provider for needed exams and screenings. Ask what vaccinations and tests you should get based on your age, lifestyle, travel plans, medical history and family history.

Watch the kids — Children are at high risk for injuries. Keep a watchful eye on your kids when they're eating and playing. Keep potentially dangerous toys, food, drinks, household items, choking hazards (like coins and hard candy) and other objects out of kids' reach. Learn how to provide early treatment for children who are choking. Make sure toys are used properly. Develop rules about acceptable and safe behaviors, including using electronic media.

Prevent injuries — Most residential fires occur during the winter months. Keep candles away from children, pets, walkways, trees and curtains. Never leave fireplaces, stoves or candles unattended. Install a smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector in your home. Test them once a month, and replace batteries twice a year.

Handle and prepare food safely — As you prepare holiday meals, keep yourself and your family safe from food-related illness. Wash hands and surfaces often. Avoid cross-contamination by keeping raw meat, poultry, seafood and eggs away from ready-to-eat foods and eating surfaces. Cook foods to the proper temperature. Refrigerate promptly. Don't leave perishable foods out for more than two hours.

Eat healthy and be active — With balance and moderation, you can enjoy the holidays the healthy way. Choose fresh fruit as a festive and sweet substitute for candy. Limit fats, salt and sugary foods. Find fun ways to stay active, such as dancing to your favorite holiday music. Be active for at least 2 1/2 hours a week. Help kids and teens be active for at least 1 hour a day.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



**American
Red Cross**

DONATE BLOOD: To give the Gift of Life, contact the American Red Cross office; appointments are available every Tuesday.

Happy
Birthday

Happy
Anniversary

Jeanne Nicholson 12/4
Pastor Matt 12/7
Haleigh Roberts 12/8
Sharon Boelman 12/11
Jessica Piske 12/12
Andy Lutz 12/13
Cody Loughrey 12/17
Marilyn Woolard 12/17
Shirley Theil 12/19
Don Burke 12/23
Benson Metschke 12/23
Marilyn Nickols 12/25
Richard Sinkbeil 12/28
Janet Hrouda 12/29
Richard Olson 12/29
Darcy Metschke 12/30
Micah Bahnfleth 12/31

Bill Thoendel & Lu Carter 11/30
Matt & Becky Bahnfleth 12/27
Leonard & Fern Zechmann 12/29

**Belated anniversary wishes to
Jeremy & Sharel Olson (Oct. 28)
and Rich & Deb Olson (Nov. 6).**

*Best wishes to all those celebrating
this month. May God continue to
bless you in the upcoming year!*

If your birthday or wedding anniversary is
not listed, please provide the church office
with your full date of birth or anniversary.

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

January = 371

February = 261

March = 474

April = 421

May = 460

June = 346

July = 263

August = 419

September = 322

October = 494

PieceMakers quilters tied a total of 29 quilts this year: one for the Rescue Mission, one for Orphan Grain Train, three senior quilts, two quilts for the pastors, and 22 for Lutheran World Relief!

As of November 30, we will no longer be collecting pill containers. The Malawi project has collected over 1 million containers and at this time will be quitting this project. We will be looking for other places that may need them. Thanks to all.

Our Meals on Wheels time is quickly approaching. Please mark your calendars for Jan. 25 through Feb. 5. We have plenty of room for everyone to help. This is a fantastic opportunity to serve our community and fill a need. Please consider signing up for a time slot. Most routes take an hour or less. Thank you! *Becky Bahnfleth*

Book of Timothy



NORFOLK FOOD PANTRY

Items needed: Soda crackers, snack crackers, canned soup, canned vegetables, beans (dry or canned), rice, tomatoes, canned meat, tuna, chicken, Tuna Helper, Chicken Helper, peanut butter, jelly.

NORFOLK RESCUE MISSION

Items needed: Facial tissue, toilet tissue, paper towels, cleaning products, disinfectants, dish soap, laundry soap, fabric softener, dryer sheets, diapers (all sizes), deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, soap, shampoo, Band-Aids, Tylenol, antibiotic ointment, coffee, creamer, sugar, disposable plates and cups, sugar, salt, pepper, flour, cornstarch, ketchup, mustard, chili powder.

BRIGHT HORIZONS

Items needed: Yellow ruled pads, steno pads, sticky notes; deodorant, children and adult Tylenol, cough medicine, Band-Aids, diapers (larger sizes); disinfectants, paper towels, toilet tissue, facial tissue; napkins, hair picks, shampoo, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, fabric softener, dryer sheets; gas cards, phone cards, Wal-Mart or grocery store gift cards.

DECEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	COFFEE	GREETERS	USHERS	ACOLYTE	FAMILY ADVENT READING	LECTOR	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
12/6	Charlie & Louise S.	Richard & Kay Jaeger	Jo Roberts & Steve Morton	Katelyn A.	NATE & DARCY METSCHKE	Lonnie Svitak	Michelle & Micheyla Anderson
12/13	Mary Lund	Scott & Gina Krohn	Kevin & Rhonda Piske	Kelcie Hall	RON & KORRIE HALL	Becky Bahnfleth	Gary & Mary Weich
12/20	Sharon & BJ Koeppe	Richard & Deb Olson	Brian & Michelle A.	Zachary Cordner		Steve Morton	Lonnie & Margaret Svitak
12/27	Mile & Nell Finkral	Steve & Darla Jessen	Chuck & Jeanne N.	Colin and Elizabeth B.		Linda Cyboron	Scott & Gina Krohn

If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please make your own trade and notify the Church Office.

December Offering Counting Teams:

1st Dean & Doris Hoffart
 2nd Nell Finkral, Louise Skoglund
 3rd Marsha Burke, Rhonda Piske
 4th Darcy Metschke, Korrie Hall

Altar Guild: Julie Freese, Korrie Hall

(Paraments blue until Christmas Eve, then white)

Communion Bread: Nell Finkral

Membership Care: Michelle Anderson, Marcy Kratochvil

Deadline to submit articles for the newsletter is the
third Friday of each month.

To view our online calendar, visit www.christtheservantnorfolk.com and click on the Calendar tab.

November 17, 2015, Board of Administration Meeting -- 6:30 p.m.

Present: Greg Moen, president; Joan Falke, stewardship; Steve Jessen, finance

Absent: Ginger Beckman

Joan offered the opening prayer. Minutes of the last meeting had been approved electronically. The agenda was reviewed, and the following action items were added: 1) staff evaluations; 2) stewardship; 3) sexual misconduct policy; 4) nominations for board openings; 5) update QuickBooks with daycare utility expenses; and 6) daycare insurance premium.

The balance sheet was reviewed. Total assets were minus -\$13,036.73 year-to-date as of October 31.

The proposed budget was reviewed. Greg shared that the amount of minus -\$10,188 on the budget at the end of the year is based on his best guess as far as income and spending for the next two months. The proposed budget includes \$100 per month to pay back what was borrowed. We should end the year with a deficit of \$10,000. We need to know the amount of the daycare fund from 2014 to current, as well as learn the intent of the endowment fund.