

Christ the Servant Lutheran

January 2023

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jan. 6 Warren Bennett
 Jan. 15 Emilee Olson, 16
 Jan. 17 Tara Peters
 Jan. 17 Lonnie & Judy Sparks, 32 years
 Jan. 22 Tammy Buckendahl
 Jan. 25 Lucas Petersen, 15

January Events

Sun 1st 10am worship
 (no Sunday school)
 Mon 2nd office closed
 7pm Bible study
 Wed 4th 6pm meal
 6:30 Bible study
 Thu 5th 9am PieceMakers
 Fri 6th 6:30 Girl Scouts
 Sat 7th take down decorations
 Sun 8th 9am Sunday school
 10 worship
 11 potluck
 Mon 9th 7pm Bible study
 Wed 11th 6pm meal
 6:30 Bible study
 Fri 13th Kathy out of office
 Sat 14th fellowship hall reserved
 Sun 15th 9am Sunday school
 10 worship
 Mon 16th 7pm Bible study
 Tue 17th 6:30 Grief Share
 Wed 18th 6pm meal
 6:30 Bible study
 Thu 19th 2pm Card Club
 6pm MOPS
 6:30 Council meeting

Fri 20th 6:30 Girl Scouts
 Sun 22nd 9am Sunday school
 10 worship
 Mon 23rd 7pm Bible study
 Wed 25th 6pm meal
 6:30 Bible study
 Sat 28th 9:30 Women of CTS planning meeting
 5pm chili/soup/cinnamon roll cookoff
 Sun 29th 9am Sunday school
 10 worship
 Mon 30th 7pm Bible study

Card of Thanks

Thank you all for the prayers, cards, and meals during my recovery. It was a great blessing. Thanks also to Pastor Cindy for taking me to and from the doctor and surgery. God bless you. Greg Moen

Thank you for your donation of \$308.16 to Mercy Meals. May God bless you.
 Rhonda Wrenholt, director

Thank you for your donation of \$515.00 and for serving our guests a Christmas meal. We believe that together, we will make a difference. Thank you for partnering with us as we seek to serve the least, the last and the lost.

Pastor Will Perrigan
 Executive Director, Norfolk Rescue Mission

Marie Shafer gave our Agape Circle money to fund our Circle sending birthday cards to all members in her husband Marion's memory. Our Agape Circle has disbanded. She said what money ever left should go to the kitchen fund. So we are enclosing \$107.87.

Local Benevolence: \$247.04 to MOPS

From the Pastor – January 2023

A new year, we wonder where has the time gone. Now we begin to ponder what is next, what will we do, where will we be in the coming year. What we know for sure is that God is present and will be our guide during the coming year.



The Bethlehem Light on the altar, comes from the Grotto in Bethlehem and moves each year from that location, all around the world. The light on the flame in Bethlehem is maintained and the Scouts from around the world help in moving it to others. We are blessed to have the light, as I am a Keeper of the Light, and I have shared it many times. You are welcome to bring a candle or a lantern in order to transport the light into your home.

As we begin this year, I pray that we will continue to work together and continue sharing God's love and light. Let us come with joy, with hope, with love and with peace to bring the Light of Christ to all we meet, to all we encounter, to all who walk into our space.

God's Peace and Happy New Year,

Pastor Cindy Cone

CTS Council Meeting

November 17, 2022

Member present: Brian Anderson, Linda Sheppard, Brenda Beaudette, Greg Moen, Linda Schaffer

Members Absent: Jared Weich, Tara Peters

Linda Schaffer opened the meeting with prayer.

Meeting minutes: Brenda moved to accept October's minutes and Greg seconded. Council approved motion.

Financial Report: There were five Sundays in October. Still positive for the year.

Pastors report: Senior Dinner will be held at the church. There will be two Seniors. Brian to get gift cards for the organists to show appreciation for their services to the congregation.

Council discussed that any cancellation of scheduled activity such as Sunday Morning Worship, Sunday School, Wednesday evening Advent/Lenten services etc; will be decided and communicated by Pastor Cone and/or Brian Anderson.

Council to provide advent meal on Dec. 1 before Advent service.

The council continues to review policy's

Sunday school Christmas program is on Sunday December 11th.

Next meeting is on December 15th.

Brenda closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted;

Linda Sheppard

Congregational Meeting

November 20, 2022

President of the council Brian Anderson opened the meeting with devotion and prayer.

Motion to approve minutes from the congregational meeting of June 12th, 2022 was made by Shirley Theil with Dean Hoffart seconding. Motion approved.

Reviewed the proposed Constitutional Amendment; Chapter 15-

Current

15.01 The Congregation Council shall consist of the Senior Pastor and the ten elected members from the congregation.

Proposed

15.01 The Congregation Council will consist of the Senior Pastor and between 5 and 11 elected members from the congregation. It is preferred to have an odd number to prevent tying up a vote.

Motion to approve was made by Jerry Beaudette. The congregation approved the amendment.

Pastor spoke of the engagement of the congregation. Putting together items for foster kids and adopting a family who lost everything in a fire. She will put together a list of items that are needed.

The vote to approve the budget proposal for fiscal year 2023 – 33 votes yes 3 votes no

The vote for the Congregational amendment was ---35 votes yes 1 vote no

Respectfully submitted;

Linda Sheppard

If you have not heard, I have been taking classes with Saint Paul Lutheran Seminary out of Texas. The program that I am in is for Parish Service Certificate, which for those that were part of ELCA it would be equivalent to the PMA, Parish Ministry Associates. All of the classes are online so I do not have to travel to Texas, although it would be nice at this time to be there.

You may be thinking, how did you decide that you would start taking seminary classes? As most know, I have been assisting with worship for a while and there have been a couple times that I thought about what I could do to learn more about assisting in ministry. This summer there were several thoughts that came to my mind. If you would like to learn more about the journey that God is sending me on, please ask.

I am still working full time so I am only taking 1-2 classes a semester. The fall semester I took Homiletics 1 and New Testament Survey. Let me share with you what I have learned in each of these classes.

Homiletics 1 is about preaching. In this class, I had to write two sermons and give them to my peers during our Zoom class. Before we could get to that point, there was a lot to learn. Preaching is not just reading a scripture, writing a few things about it and then give it. There is a lot more to it. It is Universal, Contextual, Personal, Public, Oral, Visual, Theological and Work. In this class we learned how to preach the Law and the Gospel. We also learned how we can look at scripture and study it. Look at the scriptures in this way, figure out the setting, look at ALL the characters, and what is the plot of the scripture. We might even have to look at the scriptures before and after to see what the setting or plot is. The first sermon used Matthew 5:1-12 which are the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount, which happened to be the Gospel on All Saint's Sunday. My second sermon is from the Gospel of Matthew 2: 13-23, Escape to Egypt. I have not preached this sermon yet, but you will hear it on New Years Day as I will be filling in for Pastor Cindy. I really enjoyed this class.

New Testament Survey was a lot harder. We learned a lot of history as to how the New Testament books were picked to be part of the canon. There was a lot of information that we talked about with each book of the New Testament. We learned that who we think was the author, might not actually be them because of the style of writing. During the time that the books were written, they were all orally shared. There were very few people that were able to read or write so the scriptures were shared orally to others. When we talked about the Gospels, I learned that Matthew, Mark and Luke are called the Synoptic Gospel, which means that these three have very similar stories that they shared in similar ways. Then there was John which is not part of the Synoptics, because it was written very different than Matthew, Mark and Luke. As I mentioned, this was a harder class for me, but enjoyed learning about the Synoptics and have enjoyed the learning.

I will continue to take 1-2 classes a semester. I plan on being done in around 3-4 years. When completed, I will be able to fill most of the roles a typical Pastor would fill. I could be part of area pulpit supply, do nursing home or retirement facility services, minister to those who are shut-in or hospitalized, and even lead worship at CTS. The only thing I really couldn't do is marry couples, since I will not be ordained. That takes much more time. I want to thank Christ the Servant and LCMC Heartland District. They have both decided to support me with my journey to receive a Parish Service Certificate. I look forward to each semester and the classes that I will be taking.

Blessings to all of you: Michelle Anderson

Tanzania Update

It has been a long time since you may have heard about our Tanzania family. So here is an update.

A lot has happened since the start of 2022, including opening two new sub parishes, adding new Pastors and the exponential growth of the Church in Tanzania. When we started the partnership with Tanzania, there was the Main Parish; Msaranga Mandka Center with 4 sub parishes, Betheli, Kanaani, Mandaka Juu and Mandaka Emmanuel. There was a 1-2 Pastors that would serve all the parishes along with several Evangelists.

ELCT Northern Dioses decided there should be some changes made. The parishes that are mentioned above have now become 3 parishes.

Msaranga Mandka Center and Mandaka Juu are now a center with Mchungaji (Pastor) Emmanuel Owoya. Betheli is now called Betheli Msufini with Mchungaji Elizabeth Kway, and a new sub-parish (Ebenezer) will soon be in the planning phase.

Kanaani is now called Kanaani Lombeta, which Mandaka Emmanuel (Mandaka Chini) is part of this parish.

Each of the parishes will have Evangelists serving with Mchungaji's. The parishes were growing and the Dioses wanted be able to serve the people better geographically as there are many that want to worship; however, it is difficult due to transportation.

With this change, it has brought questions as to how the partnership between CTS and Msaranga Mandaka will look going forward.

There has been talk about having a small group of people go to Tanzania in late spring, along with bringing them to America in the near future. We ask that each of you pray about this.

During 2022, the Prayer Sisters and Brothers would still Zoom. If you have any questions, please talk with Margaret Svitak.

December 3, 2022 there was a Christmas Celebration with our Tanzania Family where we shared scriptures, thoughts and sang Christmas Hymns. It is always great to hear them sing.

Going into 2023 there were two questions that came up.

Buildings come and go. How do we help the ministry?
How do we take the Word and transform lives?

These are great questions to think about with our relationship with the Tanzania family, but also at Christ the Servant.

Baraka (Blessings)

Pastor Cindy Cone

Brian and Michelle Anderson

Margaret Svitak

JANUARY-FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

JAN 1

Greeters: Broders
Ushers: Warren, Greg
Lector: Brenda
Communion: Katelyn, Michelle
Offerings: Louise, Nell

JAN 8

Greeters: Hoffarts
Ushers: Finkrals
Lector: Linda
Communion: Mary, Louise
Offerings: Wittes

JAN 15

Greeters: Jaegers
Ushers: Danita, Greg
Lector: Richard
Communion: Svitaks
Offerings: Louise, Nell

JAN 22

Greeters: Broders
Ushers: Freeses
Lector: Colin
Communion: Bob, Louise
Offerings: Wittes

JAN 29

Greeters: Hoffarts
Ushers: Warren, Danita
Lector: Connie
Communion: Katelyn, Michelle
Offerings: Louise, Nell

Altar Guild: Connie Petersen
Communion bread: Pat Witte

FEB 5

Greeters: Jaegers
Ushers: Finkrals
Lector: Lu
Communion: Bob, Louise
Offerings: Wittes

FEB 12

Greeters: Broders
Ushers: Katelyn, Michelle
Lector: Kay
Communion: Svitaks
Offerings: Louise, Nell

FEB 19

Greeters: Hoffarts
Ushers: Freeses
Lector: Brenda
Communion: Mary, Louise
Offerings: Wittes

FEB 26

Greeters: Jaegers
Ushers: Danita, Greg
Lector: Colin
Communion: Katelyn, Michelle
Offerings: Louise, Nell

Altar Guild: Linda Sheppard
Communion bread: Nell Finkral