



The Bridge

December 17, 2021



Here is our YouTube link for Sunday

ADVENT 4, December 19--LIVE STREAM WORSHIP at 10AM on SUNDAY
Just click on the link! That's it!

If you'd like to watch the worship after Sunday, you can just click on this link too!

https://youtu.be/uR884e_iU2M

God is With Us

Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear and son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." –
Matthew 1:23

At my home congregation in New York, we had a tradition of the “improvised” Christmas pageant. People brought cloth and craft supplies and some of their own homemade costumes. Based on what people brought, we would decide which characters would be in the pageant. We never quite knew what we would come up with. The children were usually sheep or angels and the adults would take various roles. Some were repeated – Sharon was always the Innkeeper’s wife, Claire was always the star. Some people switched roles every year – one year I was Mary and one year I was the narrator – and some people always came up with clever characters like the “Holy Host and Hostess”, the “Old Goats” and I remember one person taped drinking straws to their clothing and they came as “The Straw in the Manger”.



The narrator would hop around from Luke’s version of the birth of Jesus to Matthews and back again depending on which part of the story we could cover. The pageant was never rehearsed, it was never the same, sometimes we would be missing some pivotal characters (like Joseph or Herod) and sometimes we had two of another character. Sometimes we had an audience and sometimes everyone was included in the show. Sounds like chaos, but it usually worked out. We had good memories from the occasion and everyone was an important part of the performance.

The most amazing part about these pageants was that, each time, the story got told. It was always in different ways, but no matter how strange things were, how unpredictable the actors, or faulty the props, the story of Jesus was told, understood, and new elements always came out.

That is, I think is a good illustration of the story of Church – our church and all churches. We are not putting on a spectacular show for anyone; we just have a community of characters each with roles that we have made up ourselves, determined by the items we have brought into it. It’s never rehearsed, it’s never the same and sometimes we are missing some pivotal characters. It sounds like chaos, but it usually works out somehow. And amazingly, the story of Jesus gets told each and every week.

We spend a lot of time in churches trying to figure out the “right way” to do things. We want to “prepare” the way the world tells us to – to seal up all of the cracks and fix all the rough spots so that we are perfect, functional and well-rehearsed (or we at least *appear* to be.) But the Christmas story asks us to “prepare” in a different way. We prepare by being alert to the presence of God in the midst of our imperfect and unrehearsed lives. We wait for the unexpected. We prepare by looking for grace in the ungraceful.

We, the church, are the story of Jesus today. The story of grace shining through the chaos of the world. The improvised and imperfect actions of human beings, blessed by the presence of God among us.

Blessings to you this Christmas Season! **Pastor June**

To read Pr. June's Sermon from last Sunday, Click Here

<http://revjunewilkinssermons.blogspot.com/>

Christmas is a time of giving and Christ Lutheran would like to give a gift to our staff for all that they have done during this unprecedented year. We will be collecting for a Christmas Purse to say thank you for all that you do for our church. Our staff members are Pastor June, Silke Pyrlik, Tami Kuhlmann, Linda Sheetz, Mike and Patty Conklin, Nancy Conder and Garrett Keyes. If you would like to contribute to the Purse, you can place your



contribution in the offering plate, give to either Carol Benton or Phyllis Rowe, or drop it by the office. Please make your checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church and mark "Purse" on the memo line. The deadline for giving would be **December 20, 2021.**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 12/12/21

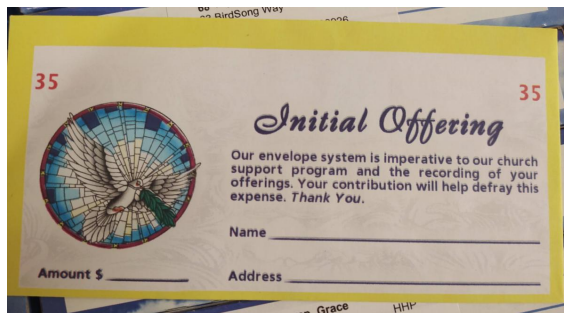
A Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, December 12, 2021, in the church sanctuary. A quorum of voting members (42) was present to vote on nominees for 2 open positions on the Church Council for 2022. The 2 nominees were:

1. Chris Wilcox for election to a 2-year term
2. Susan Fidler for re-election to a 2-year term

Both nominees were unanimously voted in.

Pastor June thanked outgoing council members Phyllis Rowe and Leslie Heavener for their service to Christ Lutheran Church. Pastor also gave a review of the past year's accomplishments and is thankful for all the hard work and forward-thinking of our congregation.

Lynn Baglyos
Council Secretary



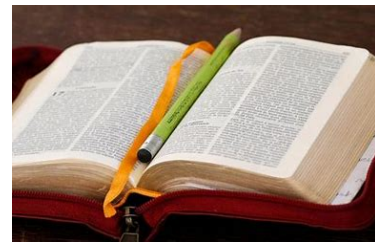
***PLEASE pick up your
Offering Envelopes
for 2022
in the Ministry Lobby.
Thank You!***



**Many thanks to Wendy Dickes for
the Christmas arrangements.
They are beautiful!**



Wednesday Bible Study
11 a.m. via Zoom
Our Wednesday Bible Study is
taking a break until Jan. 5.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!



ADVENT COLLECTION

For All our Ministries and Service Partners

Here at Christ Lutheran we are celebrating the season of Advent with a collection throughout the season to support our local ministries-The Deep Well Project, The Little Free Pantry, The Thursday Lunch Break and The CLC Preschool.

Our focus is to collect **new, unwrapped** adult (men's, ladies) and children's **socks, gloves, hats, and even scarves** beginning on the **first Sunday of Advent, November 28 through the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19th**. As you wish, place your donations in the basket(s) in the Narthex on Sunday morning, or in the Sanctuary, up towards the front (eventually by the tree).

Pastor will offer a blessing of the donations, which will be given to our local ministries for their use.

Some members may wish to make **additional donations** to Deep Well, the Preschool, or the Little Free Pantry (of **toys, food, paper products, etc.**) a list of items has been created and placed out in the Narthex.

If you have questions, please contact Chris Wilcox at 843-384-1667 or christineewilcox@aol.com. Thank you!

The First Ever Hilton Head Martin Luther King Concert

CELEBRATE MLK!

A MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA



Featuring the
MLK Community Choir

With local soloists:

**Bessie Bates, Scott Gibbs, Terry Herron,
Rick Radcliff, Nicky Riley, John Simmons,
and more!**

Saturday, January 8th, 7pm

Tickets available on Eventbrite

celebratemlk2022.eventbrite.com

\$20 per ticket

AT CHRIST LUTHERAN!

COVID UPDATE:

The COVID risk level remains “High” for Hilton Head but is “Medium” for Beaufort County. The infection rate is 1.11%, the positive test percentage is 3.5%, and the number of people hospitalized with COVID is 6, with 4 of those needing ICU care. As you may have read, the Omicron variant has now been detected in South Carolina as well as in 30 other States. Please continue to encourage anyone you know who is not vaccinated to do so, and to get the 3rd dose as soon as they are eligible. You can find locations to get the vaccine by going to <https://vaxlocator.dhec.sc.gov/>.

We continue to follow the CDC Guidelines recommending all people, regardless of their vaccination status, wear a mask whenever they are indoors in public. Please practice social distancing (except for your immediate family) when you attend in-person worship.

As always, if you are experiencing any COVID symptoms, please stay home to keep your fellow congregation members safe.

As you travel and gather with family and friends over the next couple of weeks, I wish you a healthy and blessed Christmas.

Lynn Baglyos

Flower Sign-up in the Sanctuary

The flower chart for January and February are posted on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary. The cost will be \$45.

You can give them in honor or memory of anyone you wish. Also, you can choose to take them with you or let us distribute them to our home-bound or ill members. The memorial/honorarium will be posted in the Sunday bulletin weekly.

UPDATE ON CANDACE LOVELY:

Candace Lovely is undergoing rehab therapy to recover from a stroke she suffered during heart surgery in St Louis, MO.

Since Candace and Randy will be in St Louis for quite some time while she undergoes physical and occupational therapy, this will be her mailing address for those who want to send cards.

*Candace Lovely
Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis
Room 410
4455 Duncan Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110*

Prayers--

(Most recent are put at the top of the list)
Please advise the office if situations have changed.
Thank You!



Ellen Gifford (Sister of Janet Garnjost), in hospital in Arkansas

Kathy Mork who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Gloria Szymanski (Robin Baselice's mother)

John Babbitts. Please pray for our former member.
Cards can be sent to his home: 3 Chantilly Lane
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926
He has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Pat (sister-in-law) of Tami Kuhlmann

Bob Bacher (broken hip, in rehab)

Jim Woods (Lois Gregory's son-in-law)

Herm and Marilyn Kuhlmann (David's parents) who are in a nursing home in Missouri.

Deanna Coyne is requesting prayer for her brother, Jim Donaldson, who is very ill.

David Gendlsen, cancerous brain tumor, friend of Robin and Fran Baselice

Dana Dapolito, relative of Robin and Fran Baselice, reoccurring cancer.

Gary Gregory (Lois Gregory's son) for ongoing health issues

Any prayer requests for Christ Lutheran members or friends can be shared with Linda in the church office at info@clchhi.com or with Pr. June at pastorjune@clchhi.com. Please include the person's address that you wish us to pray for. If you'd like to call the office, you can do so between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday- Thursday at (843)785-5560.



Sunday, December 19

10:00 am Advent 4 worship with Communion

Tuesday, December 21

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, December 22

No Bell Practice until January 5

No Bible Study until January 5

Thursday, December 23

Christmas Holiday, Office Closed

Friday, December 24

4 pm Children's Christmas Service

8 pm Candlelight Service

Church Office Closed

Monday, December 27

Christmas Holiday, Church Office Closed

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

843-785-5560