

# Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

## *Chronicles* *January 2014*

### *A Message from the Pastor*

Dear Saints of Christ,

A happy and blessed New Year to you all!

In case you haven't noticed, it is winter outside – at least it was ... and then it wasn't ... and now ??? Mother Nature just can't seem to make up her mind. But whether we have record cold or unseasonable warmth, over the next few months we will grind through short days and long dark nights, especially as the Christmas lights are stored away until next December.

While we wait for the days to grow longer and for Spring to arrive, what does God want us to think about? Rather than be fixated on the darkness, God's Word speaks about light – His divine light, Jesus Christ, who can brighten our days and our hearts.

On Christmas Eve, we hear words of Isaiah 9:2:

*The people walking darkness have seen a great light;  
on those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shined.*

On Epiphany (January 6), we again hear Isaiah proclaim:

*Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.*

On a cold, dark night in Bethlehem, a star blazed brightly and guided shepherds to the baby Jesus. The same star led the wise men to the newborn King of Israel. The light of this star drew them to the One who came to bring the light of God's love, forgiveness and hope to a world darkened by sin and death.

Jesus came to be your light and your guide as you walk through life. Trust Him always, especially when darkness threatens. Read what your Savior promises.

*I am the light of the world;  
whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life.*

May the light of Christ blaze brightly in your lives all year long.

*+Pastor Russ Craig*

### **Worship**

*Sunday 10:30 A.M.  
Holy Communion*

*Wednesday 11:00 A.M.  
Holy Communion  
(no service January 1)*

### **Church Office Hours**

*Tuesday to Thursday  
9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.  
Friday  
8:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.*

### **Pastor**

*Rev. Russell Craig*

### **Secretary**

*Madison Burrell*

### **Music Director**

*Sharon Calka*

### **Custodian**

*Fritz Herzog*

**Office: (518) 456-1530**

*church@clcalbany.org  
www.clcalbany.org*

## CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

### + "Un-decorating" Party: Saturday, January 11

The church looked wonderful for Christmas, but, alas, it is time to take down the tree and decorations. Your help is needed on 1/11 at 10:00 A.M. Coffee and bagels will be provided.

### + Annual Congregation Voters' Meeting: January 19

Please plan on attending the annual congregation voters' meeting which will begin right after our morning worship at Sunday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. The major agenda items will be the 2014 budget, and the election of Council members. In the vent of bad weather, the meeting will be held the next Sunday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>.

### + Operation Christmas Child

A job well done! Thanks to all that contributed to Operation Christmas Child. Our congregation donated **31** boxes to this most worthy cause. Know that you helped to brighten a child's Christmas.

### + Bowling for Beds: February 8

Since 2000, an Emergency Overflow Shelter has been operating at First Lutheran Church. To help support this ministry, the students of UAlbany's Cornerstone Campus Ministry are organizing a bowl-a-thon at Sunset Recreation Center, 1160 Central Avenue. All are invited to form teams and or make pledges. To sign up, speak with Sandy Smith.

### + New Custodial Service Begins in January

Fritz Herzog will retire as our church custodian, and the Council has contracted with Jan-Pro to clean of our facility.

### + Slavic Congregation is Moving to Cohoes

The Slavic congregation, which has been worshipping at Christ Lutheran for many years, has acquired their own building and will no longer be using our facility by the end of January. We pray that the Lord will bless them as they begin a new chapter in their church life. This lose will have a significant impact on our budget, so all are urged to pray for CLC and to support our ministry through your donations.

## Thank You!!

Thank you to Fritz for his years of service as our custodian. + Your CLC family

Thank you to David Snyder (friend of the Fahd family) for cleaning the fellowship hall & kitchen floors. + Church Council

Thank you to Earl & Ann MacIntosh for providing the beautiful Christmas tree. + Your CLC family

## FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY – NOVEMBER 2013

Income	\$ 78,426.02
Expenses	\$ 84,053.95
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Difference	\$ -5,627.93

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Madison Burrell  
Sharon Calka  
Carol Fike  
Hilda Griessel  
Herta Haupt  
George & Janet Pomakoy



### Family & Friends

Melissa Bernard (sister of Madison Burrell)  
Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)  
Jim Beutel (brother of Bea White)  
Ethan Bradt (grandson of Virginia Bradt)  
Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)  
Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)  
Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)  
Dustin Donovan (grandson of Virginia Bradt)  
Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)  
Landon Greene (grandson of Janice Bentsen)  
JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)  
George Lipani (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)  
Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)  
Heather Mires (granddaughter of Loretta Flanders)  
Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)  
Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)  
Dan Urbano (grandson of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)  
Sandra Van Horn (sister of Alan Fike)  
Ruth Varney (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)  
Sharon Walsh (daughter of Phyllis Mattice)  
Sharon Willet (friend of Larry Bohn)  
Our Armed Forces, especially those in Afghanistan

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Earl MacIntosh III  
5 David Klingstrom  
8 Linda Halbrend  
Herta Haupt  
11 Lori Zeh  
13 Madison Burrell  
15 Earl MacIntosh  
16 Della Henstenberg  
26 Nicole Gardner  
Hilda Griessel  
Hazel Lanza

## JANUARY 2014

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			<b>1</b> <i>New Year's Day</i> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>No 11:00 worship</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	<b>6</b> <i>Epiphany</i> <b>7:00pm</b> <b>Council</b>	<b>7</b> 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA	<b>8</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <i>Annual Reports</i> <i>Due</i> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	<b>11</b> <b>10:00am</b> <b>Un-decorating</b> <b>Party</b>
<b>12</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>12:00pm</b> <b>Christ Women</b> 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA	<b>15</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> <b>11:45am</b> <b>Annual Meeting</b> 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	<b>20</b> <i>Martin Luther</i> <i>King Day</i> <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Deadline</b>	<b>21</b> 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA	<b>22</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>Communion</b> 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA	<b>29</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>Communion</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	

All newsletter articles and announcements must be submitted to Madison by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS			ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS	
Date	Lector	Communion		
5	Lois Ruppert	Joe Fahd	Sandy Smith	In memory of the date of Wally & my wedding anniversary.
12	Lorraine Urbano	Lorraine Urbano	Kim DeMoor & Sandy Smith	In celebration of Madison Burrell's birthday on the 13 <sup>th</sup> .
19	Linda Halbrend	Linda Halbrend		
26	Alan Fike	Alan Fike		

*Flowers are provided, and part of the cost has been donated, by Emil J. Nagengast Florist.  
If you would like to donate the altar flowers in memory of a loved one, to honor an event, or to praise God,  
please sign-up on the flower chart posted in the narthex*