

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles January 2015

Message from the Pastor

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

My driveway has been plowed three times and we've cancelled two Wednesday worship services because of storms. There's no doubt about it – winter is here, and we are coping with short, gray days and long, dark nights. Just before I sat down to type this message, I looked at weather data and discovered that there are only 9 hours and 3 minutes separating sunrise from sunset. That's a whole lot of night.

But we do not need to give in to the gloom. As we struggle with dark nights, and even darker trials of illnesses, crises and death, God brings us His divine light – His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

On Christmas Eve, we hear the 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 the Feast of Epiphany, Isaiah 60:1 proclaims:

*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 and wise men to the baby Jesus. The light of this star led 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. Our Lord desires that we trust Him always, especially when darkness threatens. Look to your Savior who 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

Church Office Hours

Tuesday to Thursday

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Friday

8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

Pastor

Rev. Russell Craig

(518) 369-7631

Secretary

Madison Burrell

Music Director

Sharon Calka

Office: (518) 456-1530

church@clcalbany.org

www.clcalbany.org

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

+ Church Un-Decorating Party: January 10

What goes up must come down. Your help is needed to take down the Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 10, at 10:00 p.m. Coffee and bagels will be provided.

+ Annual Congregation Meeting: January 18

All church members are urged to attend our annual meeting on January 18 immediately after our morning worship service. In the event of bad weather that day, the meeting will be held the next Sunday, January 25.

+ TSL to Add Programs

Building on the success of the after school program, TSL Adventures will move two vacation week programs (February and April) and a Summer day program to CLC.

+ Church Council to Meet Twice in January

The council will hold it's regular monthly meeting on January 5. Due to schedule conflicts, they will meet again on January 26 rather than in February.

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Please use good sense and error on the side of caution when deciding to attend any church event.

Wednesday worship: The 11:00 A.M. service will be canceled if either the *Guilderland* or *Voorheesville* schools are delayed or closed. Make sure you check the status of both school districts.

Sunday worship: Pastor Craig will send out an email message (please share with friends) and post the closing on the system used for the local TV announcements. Not every channel lists every closing, so check several stations.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY – NOVEMBER 2014

Income \$ 87,150.99

Expenses \$ 87,254.08

Difference \$ -103.09

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Carol Fike
Pastor Arthur Gerhardt
Lois Gerhardt
Hilda Griessel
Herta Haupt
Joe Henstenberg
George & Janet Pomakoy
Richard Smith



Family & Friends

Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)
Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
Benjamin Chagnon (infant being treated for neuroblastoma)
Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)
Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)
Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)
Joe & Norma Kafer (relatives of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
James Kniskern (brother of Judy Bliven)
JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)
Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)
Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)
Angela Riordan (friend of Davia & Michael LaChapelle)
Rosemary Snyder (mother of Jeff LaPorte)
Robert Way (WWII brother of James Way)
Susan Welsh (daughter of Virginia Bradt)
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 Sr.
16 Della Henstenberg
26 Hilda Griessel
Hazel Lanza

JANUARY 2015

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1 <i>New Year's Day – Office Closed</i>	2 <i>Office closed</i> 7:30pm AA	3
4 10:30am Communion 4:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	5 2:30pm TSL 7:00pm Council	6 Epiphany 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL 8:00pm AA	7 11:00am Communion 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	8 2:30pm TSL	9 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	10 10:00am Church Undecorating
11 10:30am Communion 4:00pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	12 2:30pm TSL	13 12:00pm CLC Women 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL 8:00pm AA	14 11:00am Communion 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	15 2:30pm TSL	16 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	17
18 10:30am Communion 11:45am Congregation Meeting 2:30pm Micronesians 7:30pm GA	19 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> 2:30pm TSL 6:30pm Deacons	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL 8:00pm AA	21 11:00am Communion 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	22 2:30pm TSL	23 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	24
25 10:30am Communion 4:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	26 2:30pm TSL 7:00pm Council	27 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL 8:00pm AA	28 11:00am Communion 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm GA	29 2:30pm TSL	30 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	31

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

Date	Communion Assistant	Lector
4	Joe Fahd	Joe Fahd
11	Alan Fike	Alan Fike
18	Linda Halbrend	Linda Halbrend
25	Lorraine Urbano	Lorraine Urbano