

The Visitor

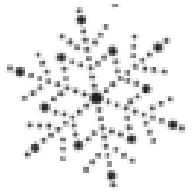
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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January 2022



¹³After the Wise Men were gone, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to Joseph in a dream. He said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, because Herod will search for the child in order to kill him."

¹⁴Joseph got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and left for Egypt. ¹⁵He stayed there until the death of Herod. This happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." (Matthew 2:13-15)

I'm sure you've heard about the "post-Christmas letdown." After all the excitement, lights, presents and family, January is just sort of blah. It's cold. It's dark. Sure, it's a new year, but by the time we get a week into the new year, it feels much like the old year. And then there are the Christmas decorations. They are fun to put up, but a chore to take down. Is the credit card bill a little higher this month?

Right after the Wise Men left, the excitement of that first Christmas turned to danger. Herod, the jealous foreigner who was king because Rome put him there, felt threatened by a child born into the legitimate, royal line. He made plans to kill this rival King. Perhaps you remember how he killed all the boys in Bethlehem who were 2 years old and younger.

The flight to Egypt, at first glance, may not seem all that encouraging. We have our problems, problems that we may have ignored during Christmas, but problems that didn't go away. Did the family get along great over the past weeks, or did old hurts surface again? Maybe new problems were created by short tempers and impatient hosts. Did the greed of getting overshadow the joy of giving? Did all the self-centered planning take our eyes off the selfless Savior? "Misery loves company" may be true, but just knowing Jesus had problems doesn't really remove our misery.

God had just kept his promise. Immanuel was born. He wasn't going to let a jealous king destroy the world's salvation by killing the Savior. He sent his angel to warn Joseph. Joseph fled to Egypt. Jesus was safe.

So are you. Stay focused on Jesus. Run to him when life lets you down. You're forgiven. This Child won't let you down.

-Pastor Riediger

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

We gather around the Word to grow and mature in our faith! By God's grace, we come back together for our in-person studies in January!

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAY MORNINGS — 9:15AM

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
TUESDAY MORNINGS — 6AM

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
THURSDAY EVENINGS — 6PM



SUNDAY MORNING FAMILY BIBLE HOUR: We are coming back together beginning January 2! In January, we will all be studying the same lessons. God's blessings to you and your families as you ponder all week the lessons we learn from the Word. In February, the adults will begin a study called "One by One."

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S STUDY: We will resume our study of the book, "The Foolishness of God" on January 4. We are at chapter 4.

THURSDAY EVENING LADIES STUDY: We will resume on January 6. We will be starting a brand-new study on the book of Romans.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS: This class is a wonderful review for anyone wanting to brush up on the basic teachings of God's Word. It's also the class designed for those interested in membership in our congregation. See Pastor Frelitz for details.



"*CHRIST AT WORK*" Sunday, January 30, is our Mission Festival. This a day we set aside to see the work we do as God's church. Mission Festival often takes our attention "someplace else."

But what about here? "*CHRIST AT WORK*" is an opportunity to come and see everything that Christ Ev. Lutheran Church is doing. Come to the gym after the 10:30 service. Check out the displays. Meet the leaders and volunteers of your church. Learn more about how you can get involved. Rejoice in all the work we do for Christ, at Christ!

Snow Shovel Brigade for the Month of January



January 2 – 8

Adam Greene

498-0475

January 9 - 15

Needed

January 16 – 22

Needed

Jan 23 – 29

Needed

Jan 30 – Feb 5

Needed

Thanks to those who keep the church's sidewalks clean during the winter months!





<i>January 2nd</i>	Betty Lee, Madelyn Mellor
<i>January 3rd</i>	Dorothy Garbers
<i>January 4th</i>	Simon Coenen
<i>January 5th</i>	Karen Young
<i>January 6th</i>	Brynn Hage, Renee Horstman
<i>January 9th</i>	Travis Dale
<i>January 10th</i>	Dawn Gorniak, Jonathan Hoffman
<i>January 11th</i>	Sandy Stockheimer
<i>January 12th</i>	Debra Stello, Brittney Niebuhr
<i>January 13th</i>	Natalie Sriver
<i>January 14th</i>	Carol Dable
<i>January 15th</i>	Brianne Caulum, Pam Plenge
<i>January 16th</i>	Tracey Krueger, Aria Jordan, Lily Robinson
<i>January 17th</i>	Graham Coenen, Paulet Voigt
<i>January 18th</i>	Amy Fruit, Thomas Buisman, Kristina Hanson, Thomas Luethe, Sara Semlar, Joshua Kistler
<i>January 19th</i>	Ava Kendall
<i>January 22nd</i>	Benjamin Black
<i>January 23rd</i>	Gail Skemp
<i>January 24th</i>	Leah Young, Carol Wang, Marge Zirbel
<i>January 25th</i>	Jason Hanson, Warren Pickar
<i>January 28th</i>	Ken Kindt
<i>January 29th</i>	Adrianna Young, Dawn Gerke
<i>January 30th</i>	Laura Kimball, Cheryl Thill

Remember our website!
christlutheranwestsalem.com



If you have recently moved, please remember to inform the Pastor or church secretary of your new address information and phone number so that we may keep contact with you. Thank You.



<i>New Year's Eve</i>	<i>6:30 pm</i>
<i>Sunday Morning</i>	<i>8:00 am</i> <i>10:30 am</i>
<i>Monday Evening</i>	<i>6:30 pm</i>

HEADED FOR THE HOSPITAL? ATTENDING ANOTHER CHURCH? MOVING?

Your pastors are here to serve in all of these areas, so please let us know when changes take place! We'd love to take you to God's grace; a grace that doesn't change even as our situations in life change!



NOTES & NEWS

THANK YOU to those who participated in the Live Nativity this Christmas season. What a wonderful opportunity to **Share the Good News!**



THE 2022 USHER'S SCHEDULE is available on the Usher's Cabinet. Please contact Pat McGuire with questions; 385-0178

INCLEMENT WEATHER
Cancellations will be posted one hour before the event. Call dial 786-1250; x 3 Thank you.

Please Pick-up in the Narthex/slat wall

- Contribution statements for 2021
- Offering envelopes for 2022
- Women of Christ pamphlet
- Usher schedules



Thank you to those who purchased poinsettias to beautify the altar this Christmas season.

HELP IS NEEDED with taking down the diorama at Riverside Park in La Crosse. **Please come Monday, January 1st at 9AM.** The process takes approximately 4-5 hours – but as you know, many hands make light (and faster) work. Hope to see you there!



Enjoy receiving encouragement and prayer requests by participating in our Prayer Chain!
Submit prayer requests by:

EMAIL prayers@christlutheranwestsalem.com
DROP them in the prayer box in the narthex
CALL one of the pastors

JANUARY
Altar Guild Servers

Sue Greene
Tina Willinger
Barb Mellor

JANUARY
Women of CHRIST

GROUP 12
Last Names: Vo - Yo

Women In Christ – A revised pamphlet will be available soon! Watch for an announcement in the bulletin about when you can pick up your copy. All women in our congregation are members of this important group! With assistance and direction from the Ladies Aid, women of the congregation are called upon to support our church and its members with a variety of tasks (Lenten suppers, funeral luncheons, meals for new moms, etc). We also gather to grow in faith and fellowship through activities and events. Thank you, ladies, for your involvement!



Rooted in God's Word

CARING CHRISTIANS MENTAL HEALTH On Tuesday January 3rd @ 6:30PM we gather at First Lutheran, La Crosse Topic: Making realistic goals



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP meets Jan. 4th at St. John's in Barre Mills at 7PM. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, come and be encouraged by God's Word and fellow Christians. Questions call Pastor Riediger at 512-0028 | Pastor Schultz at 786-1742.

MISSION FESTIVAL IS JANUARY 30th!

We are happy to have Vicar Jacob Roecker with us for our Mission Festival. Vicar Roecker is serving at St. John's, Barre Mills. Come and learn how we train our pastors.

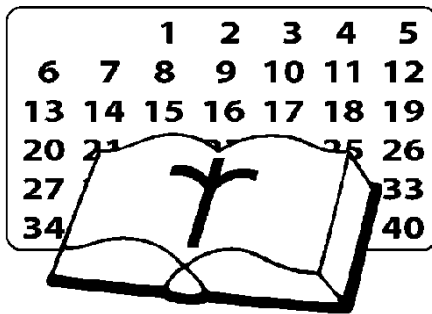


**O COME
LET US
ADORE
HIM**

Monthly Bible Readings

The Discipleship Journal Bible Reading Plan offers special features that will help you in your journey through the bible. By reading from four separate places in the Scripture every day, you should be able to better grasp the unity of the Scriptures, as well as enjoy the variety of seeing four different viewpoints.

Don't become frustrated if you fall behind. Each month lists only twenty-five readings. That offers several "free days" each month for catch up if they are needed. Here are the passages for JANUARY.



NEW TESTAMENT			OLD TESTAMENT	
	MATTHEW	ACTS	PSALMS	GENESIS
1	1:1-17	1:1-11	1	1-2
2	1:18-25	1:12-26	2	3-4
3	2:1-12	2:1-21	3	5-8
4	2:13-23	2:22-47	4	9-11
5	3:1-12	3	5	12-14
6	3:13-17	4:1-22	6	15-17
7	4:1-11	4:23-37	7	18-20
8	4:12-17	5:1-16	8	21-23
9	4:18-25	5:17-42	9	24
10	5:1-12	6	10	25-26
11	5:13-20	7:1-38	11	27-28
12	5:21-32	7:39-60	12	29-30
13	5:33-48	8:1-25	13	31
14	6:1-15	8:26-40	14	32-33
15	6:16-24	9:1-19	15	34-35
16	6:25-34	9:20-43	16	36
17	7:1-14	10:1-23	17	37-38
18	7:15-29	10:24-48	18:1-25	39-40
19	8:1-13	11:1-18	18:26-40	41
20	8:14-22	11:19-30	19	42-43
21	8:23-34	12	20	44-45
22	9:1-13	13:1-25	21	46-47
23	9:14-26	13:26-52	22:1-11	48
24	9:27-38	14	22:12-31	49
25	10:1-20	15:1-21	23	50



Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. (Malachi 3:10)

December Financial Summary

Needed Monthly to meet budget	\$ 46,760
November Income Received	\$ 54,496
November Expenses	\$ 43,277
Income (vs) Expense	\$ 11,219

Outstanding Debts

Church Mortgage	\$ 0
Church line of credit:*	\$ 0

CHRIST LUTHERAN CONTACTS

Pastor Don Frelitz

Ph: (608)-786-1250 Ext. 118
Ph: (608)-394-0644 (cell)
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Pastor Galen Riediger

Ph: (608) 786-1250, Ext. 113
Ph: (608) 512-0028 (cell)
E: griediger@christlutheranwestsalem.com

Church Secretary – Katie Rasmussen

Ph: (608) 786-1250, Ext. 114
E: secretary@christlutheranwestsalem.com

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President – John Lautz

Ph: (608) 792-2565
E: j.lautz52@gmail.com

Vice President – Pete Shay

Ph: (608) 518-2024
E: shaydpete@gmail.com

Christ-St. John's Lutheran School

Ph: (608) 786-1250
Web: www.christstjohns.org

Principal – Nate Livingston

Ph: (605) 520-1281
E: nlivingston@christstjohns.org

Luther High Principal – Philip Punzel

Ph: (608) 783-5435

Christ-St. John's Lutheran School

Serving: Christ Ev. Lutheran Church, West Salem & St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Barre Mills

Teaching Christ's Love.

Pre-Kindergarten – 8th Grade.

*The academics are challenging. The teachers are nurturing.
The lessons learned are for a lifetime.*

The Rest of the Story

I listened to the radio a lot growing up when I was helping my dad with whatever project he had going. Quite often we would end up hearing Paul Harvey, and I remember his little anecdotes at the end of his program. They would always finish up with, "and now you know the rest of the story."

We just finished celebrating the birth of our Savior. But His birth is not the whole story. If Jesus were only born, we would not be saved and would still be living in our sin. Jesus wasn't just born, he had to live a perfect life and then die, so our sins would be forgiven through him. We know this through the true words of the Bible, and because that faithful word has been passed down from generation to generation. And it is your responsibility to share it too! One way to share that is through the example of your life. Our theme this year is **Live Your Faith** based on Titus 2. We look to Jesus for an example on how to live our life, and pray we set that example for someone else as well.

After the joyous celebration of Christmas, it is hard to think ahead a few short months when we will be remembering Jesus' suffering and death. But it is all part of the rest of the story of our salvation. As we keep reading in our bibles, the story continues to tell us that Jesus did die, but rose again on Easter morning! Eternal death was defeated forever! That still doesn't complete the story though. We are waiting for the final chapter when Jesus returns to take us home to be with Him in heaven forever.

We have been given a time of grace here on this earth while we wait for the final chapter. God wants us to use that time to *live our faith* and tell everyone else His story too. We can do that in person, or just by inviting a friend to church to hear it there. We can give offerings to our church and to our synod to help spread the greatest story ever. And we can pray continually. We pray for the called workers who are spreading the word, we pray for those who haven't yet heard the word, and we pray that God helps us to use everything we have available to us from Him, time, talents, treasures, and prayer, to get that word out.

Praise be to God this New Year, that through His Word, we know the rest of the story. Let's go share it!

-Nate Livingston

School Calendar for January

- 3 Classes Resume
- 14 End of 2nd Quarter (45 days)
- 14 Class of 2026 Day (8th grade)
9:30am to 1:00PM @ Luther
- 17 No School – In Service Day
- 24-28 Winter MAP Testing (3rd through 8th grade)



Using SCRIP is EASY! Buy CSJ SCRIP cards for stores you already shop – spend them like gift cards - help fundraise for the school! Find out how; call Lisa Black to sign up or ask questions; 786-1250 x100 | lblack@christstjohns.org

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8:00 AM Worship Ushers – D 10:30 AM Worship Ushers – K	27 6:30 PM No Service	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 6:30PM Service Ushers - E	1
2 8:00 AM Worship Ushers – F 9:15AM Family Bible Hour 10:30 AM Worship Ushers – L	3 6:30PM Worship Usher-McGuire 6:30PM Caring Christians @ First Lutheran	4 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 7:00PM Grief Support @ Barre	5 5:30PM Confirmation Class 7:00PM Choir	6 2:00PM Salem Trc 3:00PM Mulders 6:00PM Women's Bible Study 6:30PM Bible info. Class (BIC) 6:30PM Christmas Decoration Takedown	7 8:00AM CSJ Chapel	8
9 8:00 AM Worship Ushers – G 9:15AM Family Bible Hour 10:30 AM Worship Ushers – M	10 6:30 PM Worship Usher – Cook	11 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 9:00AM Circuit Meeting 5:00PM Evangelism 6:00PM Elders 7:00PM CSJ Joint Voters Meeting	12 5:30PM Confirmation Class 7:00PM Choir	13 1:00 Mill St. Manor 2:00PM Salem Trc 3:00PM Mulders 6:00PM Women's Bible Study 6:30PM Bible info. Class (BIC)	14 8:00AM CSJ Chapel	15
16 8:00 AM Worship Ushers – A 9:15AM Family Bible Hour 10:30 AM Worship Ushers – N	17 6:30PM Worship Usher- Miller	18 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 6:30PM Ladies Aid Too	19 5:30PM Confirmation Class	20 6:00PM Women's Bible Study 6:30PM Bible info. Class (BIC)	21 8:00AM CSJ Chapel	22
23 8:00 AM Worship Ushers – B 9:15AM Family Bible Hour 10:30 AM Worship Ushers – H	24 6:30 PM Worship Usher – Osgood	25 6:00AM Men's Bible Study	26 5:30PM Confirmation Class	27 6:00PM Women's Bible Study 6:30PM Bible info. Class (BIC)	28 8:00AM CSJ Chapel	29
30 8:00 AM Worship Ushers – C 9:15AM Family Bible Hour 10:30 AM Worship Ushers – I 12:00PM Christ At Work	31 6:30 PM Worship Usher – Garbers	1 6:00AM Men's Bible Study 7:00PM Grief support @ Barre	2 5:30PM Confirmation Class 7:00PM Choir	3 1:30PM Ladies Aid 2:00PM Salem Trc 3:00PM Mulders 6:00PM Women's Bible Study 6:30PM Bible info. Class (BIC)	4 8:00AM CSJ Chapel	5