

# Christ Lutheran Quarterly

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God Connects His Family: Worship and Fellowship:

***<sup>11</sup>He himself gave the apostles, as well as the prophets, as well as the evangelists, as well as the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>for the purpose of training the saints for the work of serving, in order to build up the body of Christ.<sup>1</sup> (Ephesians 4:11-12)***

Our devotions for this year have been revolving around the general theme: “God Connects His Family.” In May, we rejoiced at how God’s family encourages each other as we come together. In July, God’s family rejoiced that we don’t just come together, but we gather around the Means of Grace. The Gospel of Jesus is what makes us a family and keeps us connected to Him!

This month, God’s family is pictured as a body! If there is anything that really needs to be connected to function properly, it’s a body.

Even if we don’t have a medical degree, we understand the body. It has many different parts. Some parts are designed to be seen, others we don’t even know or think about (until something goes wrong). Some parts seem important. Some parts - even by those with medical degrees – aren’t completely understood. But one thing is certain: if any part of the body stops working, the entire body is affected.

In order to keep His Body going, our Lord gives us the public ministry. He gives “apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers” to train the Body and strengthen the Body. We all have the right and responsibility to read and know the Word. We all have the right and responsibility to keep each other focused on Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection so we can all know that we are no longer condemned sinners but redeemed saints.

Yet, God gives us these special gifts: the gift of workers who are trained and called to serve among us. We think of our pastors, teachers, Sunday School teachers and council members. To one degree or another, all have been called by this congregation of believers to guide and direct the public proclamation of the Gospel. Pray for them. Work with them. Rejoice in the gifts they’ve been given, which makes them gifts to us.

Together, we all grow. The Body is built up. The Body needs nourishment, so we come together to drink from the Living Water and feed on the Bread of Life. The Body needs exercise, so we come together to study, learn, pray, and work. The Body needs different parts and gifts, so we come together, each with our own, unique God-given gifts.

Christ Lutheran has just been given some new gifts. Jim Svendsen was re-elected for a second term on the church council. Nathan Jordan and Loren Logan were elected to their first terms on the council. Kurt Weber has been elected to his first term on the CSJ Board for Christian Education. Please pray for them as they begin their work. Pray for Mr. Peter Buege who has just been called to be the next Principal and 7-8 grade teacher for CSJ. Pray for Mr. Nate Livingston whom we’ve now asked to teach grades 3-4. By God’s grace, may they all be blessings to this family of believers.

God connects his Family. We are connected to Him through faith. We are connected to each other through that same faith we confess together. May we never take for granted this amazing family we have, this family we call Christ Lutheran Church.

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<sup>1</sup> [Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version](#) (Eph 4:11–12). (2019). Northwestern Publishing House.

**Pastor's Report: January – October 2022**

Membership	
<b>Baptized Members - 572 (599 – 2021)</b>	<b>Communicant Members – 496 (511 – 2021)</b>
Membership Action – Member Gains	
<b>Baptisms – 1 Adult Baptism - 1</b>	Sherie Grass (3/25), Olivia Grass (3/25)
<b>Confirmations – 6</b>	Clayton Dale, Gannon Hagedorn, Maya Hoff, Joanna Korstanje, Calvin Rick, Emmalyn Schauf (4/24)
<b>Transfers – 5 (4)</b>	Chris Schwier from St. John's Barre Mills (4/12); William Griswold (Milo, Alina) from St. Paul's, Bangor (4/12); Travis, Jahna (Jocelyn and Charlee) McDonald from Trinity, Brillion, WI (7/12); Carley Rucker from St. Paul's, Bangor (10/16)
<b>Profession of Faith – (2) Reinstatement – ( )</b>	Michael and Barbara Sullivan (8/7)
<b>Adult Confirmation – 1 ( )</b>	Sherie Grass (4/3)
<b>In Process</b>	
<b>Marriages –</b>	
Membership Action – Member Losses	
<b>Transfers – 14 (8)</b>	Kyle Holzhausen to St. Paul, Onalaska (1/11); Ashley Kendall (Ashton and Ava) to St. Paul's, Onalaska (4/12); Joanna Robinson to St. Matthew's, Stoddard (4/12); Lily Robinson to St. Matthew's, Stoddard (5/1); Eric and Heidi Dummer to St. John's, Barre Mills (7/12); Sara Semlar (Angel Miller, Navianna Davis) to St. Paul's, Onalaska (10/11); Daniel and Meggan Baudek, Olivia, Samuel, Clara to St. Paul's, Onalaska (10/11); Reed and Destinee (Walker, Husdon, Graham, Simon) Coenen to St. Luke's, New Lisbon, WI (10/11); Susan Snyder to St. Paul's, Bangor (10/11)
<b>Releases – 8 (3) Removals – Excommunication – ( )</b>	Scott and Carol Thompson (1/11); Brittany Sommerfeldt (Dummer) (4/12); Cole Hoyer (4/12); Brian and Corinne Hansen (5/1); Jerad and Karly (Beau, Brynnleigh, Baily) Baganz (10/11)
<b>Deaths – 6</b>	Judy Hutchens (2/10) <i>Jane Jensen: committal service on 4/9/22. Jane had been removed from membership in March of 2019, after moving to Las Vegas and we lost all contact information.</i> Margaret Zirbel (5/10) <i>Marian Yellick committal service: 5/2; David Loging (5/25); Joy Martin (6/4); Carol Witte (7/5); Dorothy Garbers (10/4)</i>
<b>In Process</b>	

## **Voters' Meeting: October 16, 2022**

The Voters of Christ Ev. Lutheran Church met on Sunday, October 16, 2022, following the 10:30 am service.

1. Thank you to those who have served us! Our thanks to Mark Krause (evangelism) and Ryan Rasmussen (treasurer) who served for the past three years and did not stand for re-election. Our thanks to Carl Rick who is completing his second term on CSJ's Board for Christian Education. Also, thanks to Dan Baudek who has served as one of our Luther High delegates.

Jim Svendsen was re-elected for a second term. He is currently serving as council secretary. Nate Jordan and Loren Logan were elected to the church council and Kurt Weber was elected to the CSJ Board for Christian Education.

2. The CSJ Faculty approached our congregation with the request to move our afternoon Lenten services from 2 pm to 3 pm. This would allow parents to pick up their children and attend the afternoon service without disruption to the school day. This recommendation was approved by the Voters.

### **Special Worship Opportunities**

As we enter the final two months of the year, please take advantage of these special opportunities to worship our Lord! Since Christmas Day and New Year's Day land on a Sunday, please note the adjustments that have been made to our worship plans. We pray these adjustments make our plans for family and worship easier and enjoyable!

**Thanksgiving:** Wednesday evening, November 23 at 6:30 pm or Thursday, November 24 at 9:00 am

#### **Christmas Services:**

December 18 at 2:00 PM: CSJ Christmas Service in the CSJ gym

December 24 at 6:30 PM: Christmas Eve Worship

December 24 at 8:30 PM: Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

December 25 at 9:00 AM: Christmas Day Worship (There will be no Family Bible Hour)

**New Year's Day:** Since New Year's Day lands on Sunday, we've moved our regular New Year's Eve service to New Year's Day. There will be one service at 9:00 AM on Sunday, January 1. There will be no Family Bible Hour

#### **Education Committee: Mr. Jamie Olson**

As part of our Family Bible Hour on Sunday morning we offer Sunday School and Teen Bible Study opportunities. The purpose of our focus on youth education is to encourage young people with Biblical stories and messages of God's Word, preparing them for a life of Christian education and growth. To that end, we want to encourage all our families with youth to make use of these Sunday School and Teen Bible Study opportunities. Our congregation currently has 37 baptized members from 3K-6<sup>th</sup> grade and 42 baptized/confirmed members from 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Of those students, we only average 8 (22%) 3K-6<sup>th</sup> grade students and 4 (10%) 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in our Family Bible Hour. That means that only 15% of our youth are active in Sunday School or Teen Bible Study. Of these students, 95% attend our elementary school and have an opportunity to study these Bible Stories there as well. We want all our families to make the most of the opportunities we all have to grow in the Word of God together. Please join us!

**Shepherding Committee: Mr. Josh Scriver**

Our newly formed Shepherding committee continues to make phone calls. Our goal is simply to stay in contact with each other and encourage each other as we worship and work together. Receive those calls with joy and thanks as we work to encourage and remain connected to each other. We also have a subcommittee that sends out greeting cards as events take place in our members' lives.

If you'd like to join our committee and take part in encouraging our members, please contact Josh Scriver or Pastor Riediger.

**Advance Planning: Mr. Brian Holzhausen**

The new directory is here! Thanks to all who worked to bring this project to completion. You can pick up your copy either on the table or on the usher's cabinet in the narthex.

**Treasurer: Mr. Ryan Rasmussen**

## Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

**Profit and Loss**

July - September, 2022

	<b>TOTAL</b>
▼ Income	
▶ 4000 Weekly Offerings	122,806.22
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$122,806.22</b>
GROSS PROFIT	\$122,806.22
▶ Expenses	\$150,791.59
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>\$ -27,985.37</b>
▼ Other Income	
9100 Interest Earned	236.70
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$236.70</b>
NET OTHER INCOME	<b>\$236.70</b>
NET INCOME	<b>\$ -27,748.67</b>

## **Christ-St. John's Lutheran School**

The Joint Voters of CSJ met on Monday evening, October 17. Here are the highlights of that meeting:

- Adjustments to the CSJ Articles of Agreement were presented and adopted.
- Mr. Peter Buege was called to serve as Principal and 7-8 grade teacher. Mr. Buege currently serves at First German, Manitowoc, WI.
- Mr. Nate Livingston's call was adjusted to be the full time 3-4 grade teacher.

The first quarter of our school year has just come to a close. It has been a good year so far with plenty of opportunities for students to grow academically and spiritually.

Our volleyball season ended with a tournament at Luther High School on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Basketball practices begin on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The first game in our basketball season is scheduled for November 11<sup>th</sup>.

There are several volunteer opportunities for those who want to be hands on at our school. Anything from listening to students while they practice reading to changing light bulbs and furnace filters. If you are willing to have your name placed on a volunteer list please contact Lisa Black in the school office.

## **GOOD STEWARD REPORT**

### **BLESSINGS**

God's grace and blessings for Good Steward continue to grow and abound. At the end of August our receipts from sales were \$484,240, which is \$11,000 or 2% more than 2021. The year 2021 was the best year in our store's history. We do also receive money from the sale of excess clothing. By the end of this year, we will have given more than \$4.5 million dollars to Luther High School. We thank God for His gracious blessings. We also thank Him for our continuing donations of merchandise and for our hard-working staff and volunteers.

### **GRANTS**

One of the important ways in which Good Steward disburses funds is to help families with tuition costs at Luther and at area Lutheran elementary schools. In 2022 grants amounting to \$72,000 were awarded to 85 students at Luther. In addition, Luther offers tuition aid of \$300 to all students at Luther. Thirteen area Lutheran elementary schools received tuition assistance of \$78,000 for 181 students. Volunteers at Good Steward are given the privilege of nominating students for a grant. For more information contact Lisa at Good Steward (608-779-9763).

## CHALLENGES

At the present time our biggest need at Good Steward is more workers. We are thankful for the many volunteers who do work at Good Steward. And we appreciate everything that they do. At Good Steward you can meet and work together with fellow Christians. And your work is a blessing for the Lord's Kingdom, especially for Luther High School and area Lutheran elementary schools. Volunteers who work a minimum number of hours are given the privilege of nominating students for a grant.

Good Steward is also in need of at least one Coordinator, which is a paid position. This position is for approximately 24 hours per week. For more information about a Coordinator position or about being a volunteer, please stop in at the store (1930 Rose Street, La Crosse) or call Lisa at 608-779-9763.

Our motto is: *Serve one another humbly in love. (Gal. 5:13)*



## Monthly Bible Reading Plan

### November

NEW TESTAMENT			OLD TESTAMENT	
	JOHN	2 PETER	JOB	EZEKIEL
1	7:37-44	1:1-11	1	1-3
2	7:45-53	1:12-21	2	4-8
3	8:1-11	2:1-9	3	9-12
4	8:12-20	2:10-16	4	12-15
5	8:21-30	2:17-22	5	16
6	8:31-47	3:1-9	6	17-19
7	8:48-59	3:10-18	7	20-21
		1 JOHN		
8	9:1-12	1:1-4	8	22-23
9	9:13-25	1:5-10	9:1-20	24-26
10	9:26-41	2:1-11	9:21-35	27-28
11	10:1-10	2:12-17	10	29-30
12	10:11-21	2:18-23	11	31-32
13	10:22-42	2:24-29	12	33-34
14	11:1-16	3:1-10	13	35-37
15	11:17-37	3:11-18	14	38-39
16	11:38-44	3:19-24	15:1-16	40-41
17	11:45-57	4:1-6	15:17-35	42-44
18	12:1-11	4:7-21	16	45-47
19	12:12-19	5:1-12	17	48
				DANIEL
20	12:20-36	5:13-21	18	1-2
		2 JOHN		
21	12:37-50	1-13	19	3-4
		3 JOHN		
22	13:1-11	1-14	20	5-6
		JUDE		
23	13:12-17	1-7	21:1-21	7-8
24	13:18-30	8-16	21:22-34	9
25	13:31-38	17-25	22	10-12

## December

NEW TESTAMENT			OLD TESTAMENT	
	JOHN	REVELATION	JOB	HOSEA
1	14:1-14	1:1-8	23	1-3
2	14:15-21	1:9-20	24	4-6
3	14:22-31	2:1-17	25-26	7-8
4	15:1-8	2:18-29	247	9-12
5	15:9-17	3:1-13	28	13-14
				JOEL
6	15:18-27	3:14-22	29	1
7	16:1-11	4	30	2-3
				AMOS
8	16:12-24	5	31:1-23	1-2
9	16:25-33	6	31:24-40	3-4
10	17:1-5	7	32	5-6
11	17:6-19	8	33:1-11	7-9
				OBADIAH
12	17:20-26	9	33:12-33	1-21
				JONAH
13	18:1-18	10	34:1-20	1-4
				MICAH
14	18:19-27	11	34:21-37	1-3
15	18:28-40	12	35	4-5
16	19:1-16	13	36:1-15	6-7
				NAHUM
17	19:17-27	14	36:16-33	1-3
				HABAKKUK
18	19:28-37	15	37	1-3
				ZEPHINIAH
19	19:38-42	16	38:1-21	1-2
20	20:1-9	17	38:22-41	3
				HAGGAI
21	20:10-18	18	39	1-2
				ZECHARIAH
22	20:19-23	19	40	1-5
23	20:24-31	20	41:1-11	6-9
24	21:1-14	21	41:12-34	10-14
				MALACHI
25	21:15-25	22	42	1-4



## 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