

THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



NOVEMBER 2020

9212 Taylorsville Road
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; his mercy endures forever. (Psalm 107:1)

Grace and peace to you my brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we are entering the month of November, one thing that comes to mind is Thanksgiving, a tradition that was started way back in history in 1621 when the pilgrims from Plymouth, England came to America by the Mayflower and Wampanoag Indians shared their harvest together. On December 26, 1941 president Franklin Roosevelt signed the resolution to establish the fourth Thursday in November as the Federal Thanksgiving Day holiday. It seems that every nation or culture in the world has a similar tradition. In the bible the Jewish celebrated harvest called 'the Feast of Tabernacle'; thanking God for his providence. For those of us who live or work in a non-agrarian setting perhaps the concept of harvest is a little bit different but the idea is still the same; we thank God for his providence through the works of our hands whether we receive it daily, weekly, monthly or seasonally.

During this Thanksgiving season, I would like to invite you to focus on naming God's gifts that we need to be thankful for. Some of you may have heard my temple talk last Sunday as we began our Stewardship campaign, however if you didn't I would like to highlight it again in this letter.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.christlutheranlouisville.com

Pastor - Rev. Bimen Limbong

Interim Associate Pastor - Rev. Elisa Owen

Director of Music - Ann Colbert Wade

First of all, I would like to begin with ‘thanking God’ for his generosity. We all know that this year has been a difficult year for all of us because of this pandemic. This pandemic has impacted our lives deeply in many levels; physically, mentally, economically and even spiritually. We have had two members of our church get infected by the virus; thankfully they have recovered. And we still don’t know how long this will last. However, one thing that I have learned in the last six or seven months is that God remains faithful and his presence among us is even more imminent.

As I reflect upon God’s faithfulness and providence in the last six to seven months I discovered that:

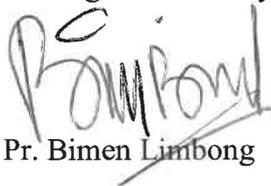
- ✠ When our church’s doors closed for in-person worship, God opens each of our homes to become his ‘church’, a holy place and sanctuary where his word is being shared, his gospel is being proclaimed and where the Holy communion is being shared in a means of grace.
- ✠ We experience what the church truly is. What we learned in Sunday school or from the Sunday school song is still relevant that the church is not a building but it is the people living out their lives, called, enlightened, sanctified for the work of Jesus Christ. That we are the church, the body of the Lord, we are all God’s children and we have been restored.
- ✠ God not only opens his church in each home, but extends our church beyond our border. We have people joining our online worship regularly from different part of our country and the world; from Minnesota to Alaska and from Indonesia to Germany and other places in between. We now have our associate member, Pr. Michael Piescer who serves as a missionary in Japan. Indeed, we are part of the ‘*holy catholic church*’ with lower case ‘c’, the universal church, the body of Christ throughout the world.
- ✠ We continue to live our mission of making Christ Known through our connectedness with God, with One Another and the World. We continue to provide meaningful worship experiences to our members either through online or in-person worships. We use several social media platforms for our congregation to use in our worships and Bible Studies/Sunday school. I am delighted to see our members find ways to connect with each other like Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Busy Women groups. We continue to be involved with our community through JAM, Feeding Louisville, Water Step, and those who show up at our door a regular basis.

Secondly, I thank God for your generosity. For the last seven months our giving and financial wellbeing is better than what we expected. We do however realize that some months we received less than we expected, we receive less loose offerings because our worships were mostly on-line but at the same time, we spent less than what we used to, but overall the giving continues to be strong throughout this pandemic. We thank you for that. We thank you for honoring your commitment to support the ministry of our church. Because of your generosity;

- ✦ We were able to fund our capital campaign projects. We completed our roof and bell tower projects. Our digital sign is in progress and other projects will follow.
- ✦ We are able to provide meaningful worships to our members, community and the world. Our worship has been viewed by hundreds if not thousands of viewers from around the world weekly. We are working on improving our livestreaming service
- ✦ We are able to support our community as I mentioned above.
- ✦ We are able to support our pastors and staff. Even as we are now in the process of calling our permanent associate pastor.

In conclusion, in spite of this pandemic we don't stop being a church; we actually live out what the church is really about and throughout it all we discover that God is faithful and good, his mercy endures forever. However, this virtual connection will never replace our in-person connection. For God created us for a relationship. We continue to pray that this pandemic will be over so that we can gather together again as a community of faith in-persons. Now as God continues to entrust us with this ministry, God counts on you to continue your generous support for this coming year in thanksgiving, as we continue in our ministry of making Christ Known. Again, it is a privilege to serve you as your pastor and to follow my lead as I follow Christ, especially during this difficult time. God bless you!

Serving Christ with you,



Pr. Bimen Limbong





With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4: 33-37)

As we on the evangelism team consider ways God might be calling us to reach out to our neighbors in Jeffersontown, I as pastoral resource for that team want to invite you to ask two questions of yourself. If you want to sell your land and homes and lay the money at the service of Christ, that's OK too. I personally would use any money you come across from such an unexpected sale and gift set up a rental assistance fund for those facing eviction. Unfortunately, we've had multiple folks come by the church in that situation lately. The delay of a second CARES act with eviction assistance in it is taking its toll on our brothers and sisters.

But that is not where I want to dwell this month! Instead I want to focus on all of our personal efforts at evangelism. The first question I ask you to think about is who is my Barnabas? The second is who is my Timothy? Your Barnabas would be someone you look up to as a mentor in the Christian faith. Your Barnabas is someone who encourages you and talks openly with you regarding the "state of your soul," or, even more specifically, your relationship with Christ. When they ask "how are you?" They really want to know. Your Barnabas is someone who encourages you when you are despairing and invites you into deeper relationship not only with her but with Jesus. Your Barnabas is someone for whom you can shout your gratitude for not just in this Thanksgiving month, but all year long.

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Your Timothy, on the other hand, is someone who looks up to you as their mentor in faith. Someone who can ask you what you think about the struggles they are having with Jesus, or the struggles they have in coming to believe in him as Lord and Savior, or even their struggles period; someone who can count on your listening ear and your encouragement of them. Your Timothy does not have to profess Christianity, just profess a need for your love and encouragement. If Jesus is important to you, an integral part of your search to become fully human by becoming fully God's, then your Timothy will pick that up from you sooner or later. You don't have to lead with a Jesus shaped two by four.

These two questions are important questions in an age in which the United States is the third largest mission field in the world, right behind China and India. We are country that has more than 246 million people *not* attending church on a given Sunday, and more joining their ranks every day. With each succeeding generation fewer people call themselves Christians. While as many as 60% of people born before 1946 attend church, Dr. Thorn Rainer cites this data: "Our recent research on the younger generation, the Bridgers (born 1977 to 1994), indicates that only 4% of today's teenagers and college students understand the gospel and its implications for our lives, even if they attend church. Further evidence for the faltering of American faith: in 1990 20.4% of Americans were in church on any given Sunday, in just thirteen years that number declined to 17.8%. The rapid growth of megachurches in the last few decades is misleading, since no county in America has a greater church population than it did ten years ago.

But, these statistics are not the reason the questions about Barnabas and Timothy should be important to you. After all, statistics tell a type of story, but do they directly address the concerns we have about our children, grandchildren, spouses and friends who struggle in the world to find a north star they can count on? Not really. Christian faith has a history of being just that centering north star for many, many people over the centuries. But, it is not effectively shared in any other way than in relationship with real people. So, who is the person, or persons, who you serve as their Barnabas?

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Who have you taken on as your special responsibility because God has called you to do so? I am not suggesting we should fear for Jesus Christ's future. I have no doubt that Jesus will take care of himself when it comes to ensuring that his work in the world continues. What bothers me is watching people close to you and me struggle for meaningful relationships in the world, people they can count on. I am certain God calls those of us who are trying to follow Jesus to be those people. And, I am commending the Barnabas and Timothy questions to you for the simple reason that, if faith has served as a help to you in your life, a light that has caused you to realize what lasts, what is important and what is true, then why wouldn't you want to pass such a gift on? As the song I heard on the radio on the way to church this week said, God has put a more than 6 billion doors in the world through which God's love might walk through, and one of them is you. Who are you loving? Who are you teaching how to love? Who might you reach out to in order to offer them support as they learn to love like Christ? Who might you reach out to who could help you grow your ability to love? May God answer these questions in and through you during this season of thanksgiving for the hope we have in Christ that, Covid or no Covid, always carries within it the power to sustain us all.

Peace and love,
Elisa

The majority of the above paragraph is taken from an article: Greenberg, Stan; Smith, Kent; and Rheenen, Gailyn Van (2007) "The Mission Field Next Door: A Status Report on North American Missions," *Leaven*: Vol. 15: Iss. 3, Article 4, p.3.

SOCIAL MINISTRY UPDATE

Jeffersontown Area Ministries (JAM) will not be asking for purchased Christmas gifts for families this year due to the pandemic. The JAM board decided to ask for donations of \$50.00 gift cards from Target, Walmart or Meijer to give to the parents for each child in need.

If you would like to donate a \$50.00 gift card, please purchase from the suggested retailers and deliver to the church office in an envelope labeled "JAM Christmas". The deadline is December 5th. The cards will be taken to the JAM office for distribution.

MUSIC NOTES

Last month I promised a bit of information about the congregational favorite *Beautiful Savior* (ELW 838) but first a non-musical shout-out to my niece Kelli Colbert. She made and donated a bunch (sorry but I didn't count them) masks in several sizes and styles for whatever the church wanted to do with them. I gave them to Pastor Elisa who took them to give to the folks taking our meals for the homeless. Thanks Kelli!

The anonymous hymn (the word *hymn* technically refers to the text or poetry) came from a Jesuit manuscript of 1662 in Germany where it had 6 stanzas. *Fairest Lord Jesus* is the translation by Richard Starrs Willis known to many. However, English speaking Lutherans have used the translation *Beautiful Savior* by Joseph Seiss (1823-1904). Born in a German Moravian colony in Maryland, Seiss came from an Alsatian family. Going against the will of his father and his bishop he studied with his Moravian pastor anyway, and then was helped by the Lutherans. In 1842 he was licensed to preach by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Virginia and eventually became the pastor of the English speaking St. John's Lutheran Church in Philadelphia.

As is sometimes the case, the tune's name get pretty confusing. The tune called *Schoenster Herr Jesu* which appeared with the original text of the same name is **not** the tune we use, also called *Schoenster Herr Jesu*. To add to the fun, "our" tune also has two other names – *St. Elizabeth* and *Crusader's Hymn*. What is important to us is simply that it is a pretty tune and easy to sing.

The St. Olaf Choir's founder and director, F. Melius Christiansen, made a choral arrangement of *Beautiful Savior* which has become the choir's "trademark" and "signature" and has been on its choir tour programs since 1920!

All of the above information comes from *Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship* by Paul Westermeyer and published by Augsburg Fortress.

Ann Colbert Wade
Music Director



FINANCE

Current Expense and Benevolence Update Through September 2020

Expected Receipts: \$ 339,715.00

Actual Receipts: \$ 319,812.00

At the end of August, the difference between these two amounts was (\$10,986) for eight months. In the one month of September this number increased by \$8,917 to a shortfall of (\$19,903). The church envelope short fall which was down only (\$2,800) at the end of August is down (\$10,486) at the end of September. Much of remaining shortfall is related to COVID-19 and not meeting in person including Loose Offering, Easter Offering, and Activity Room use. The good news is COVID has actually reduced some expenses. However, we wish we were paying those expenses and able to worship/fellowship in person without COVID-19.

Recently 3rd quarter statements of giving were mailed. Please review yours statement.

Thanks to all members who have mailed in their offerings, had their bank mail a check directly, or used Tithe.ly. We appreciate your continued support for our mission of Making Christ Known even during this extraordinary time.

If you have any questions, you may call Mike Kull at 502-802-4485. We will continue to make weekly deposits of all received contributions.

Thank you to November Counters: Ed Shuette, and Dave & Shirley Williamson.

Memorials have been received in the months of August and September in memory of Bob Ebert, Herb Miller and John Poisel. Memorial giving can be done online via Tithe.ly, just scan QR code. Just make sure to choose Memorial Fund and enter the name of the person in the Note section. Thank you for your generosity.

*****PLEASE SCAN QR CODE*****



SCAN ME

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

In September, the Council approved revisions to our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) to (1) reflect changes in our congregation's life due to COVID and (2) more accurately and holistically define the role of the associate pastor by broadening the critical tasks.

In October, the Call Committee received three candidate recommendations from the Synod. The Call Committee is having initial conversations with each candidate and will continue the discernment process through additional conversations and conversations with their references as appropriate. The Holy Spirit is truly at work through this team and the candidates. Please continue your prayers.

As a refresher on what the next steps may be:

- ✦ The Call Committee may recommend one candidate to the Council and inform other candidates of this decision
- ✦ The Council interviews the candidate
- ✦ The Council may accept or decline the candidate
- ✦ If the Council declines the candidate, the Call Committee continues the search
- ✦ If the Council accepts the candidate, the Council notifies the congregation and the Bishop's office of candidate and upcoming call meetings
- ✦ The Congregation has opportunities to meet the candidate informally and shares in brief worship service
- ✦ The Congregation has a call meeting conducted by a representative of the Bishop. Two congregational votes would be conducted. (1) Making a decision to call the Associate Pastor [2/3 majority] and (2) Make a compensation decision [simple majority]
- ✦ If the congregation's votes pass, two congregational officers sign and send the call proposal to Bishop who forwards to the candidate. Candidate may have 30 days to respond.
- ✦ If the congregation's vote fails, the Call Committee continues the search for an Associate Pastor.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please reach out to Jenny Nixon, Call Committee Chairperson at (502) 550-6424 or jennynixon@gmail.com or anyone else on the Call Committee; Morgan Bowman, Dale Breitenstein, Karen Koch, Dave Pfalzgraf and Liz Walker.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES UPDATE

Over the course of two months, the Worship Committee has given serious thought to mid-week Advent services and Christmas Eve services. After much discussion, the committee has decided as follows:

- ✝ Mid-week advent services will be virtual only. Over the last few years, attendance numbers have dropped. Most people attending have been those who prepared meals, those who came for the meals and choir members.
- ✝ There will be only one Christmas Eve worship service at 7 p.m. Seating will be limited to 50 worshippers and reservations must be made. This service will also be streamed live on our usual platforms. There will be no hand-held candles as there will be no safe way to pass the flame and maintain social distancing; nor is there a safe way to extinguish the individual candles. Poinsettias will adorn the altar only.

We know these decisions are unsettling to some. However, Covid cases are on the rise at this time and we cannot predict where the numbers will be in December. If the numbers continue to increase, the possibility of no in-person church services at all in December exists.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

Advent Devotionals have arrived. They can be picked up each Sunday in the Narthex if individuals are attending in person worship. You may also call the church office to arrange a time to pick one up or they can be mailed to you upon request.

Peace and Health to all as we approach our Advent Season.



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE FALL CAMPAIGN

As many of you are aware, our fall stewardship campaign theme is called *Beginning a Culture of Generosity*. This does not mean that we are just beginning to be generous. We have been blessed by your support over the years. It means becoming more aware of ways we can grow in our giving and our faith journey. This is especially true with the uncertain times we are facing during this pandemic.

By now you should all have received our initial letter outlining this year's appeal. A second letter will be mailed the week of November 9th along with your 2021 intent card. It will detail additional ways to make your pledge as many of you will be joining us virtually. We ask that you have them returned to us by November 15th. Bulletin inserts, mailers, emails and temple talks will also be used to share our stories of generosity in the next few weeks.

Also, one of our members has graciously offered a challenge grant. Last year we received 85 pledge cards. An additional \$100 will be donated to the Church for every pledge received over and above the 85 we received last year. If you have not filled out an intent card in the past, please do.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for "Making Christ Known".

God Bless,
Bill Gibson
Stewardship Chair

PRESCHOOL YARD SALE

With the closing of our preschool in August the time has come for the Preschool Committee to sell all their inventory/assets.

There will be a Preschool Yard Sale on Saturday, November 7 from 9am-2pm in the church gym. This sale is for **ALL members** of Christ Lutheran Church and our past teachers.

All the funds generated from this sale will be used for children's and youth ministry within our church and our community in honor of Donna Scott's legacy.

Masks are required the entire time, and all items must be taken the day of the sale. Anything not sold will either be donated to community organizations or disposed of.



NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	
1 9am Sunday School 10:00am -In-Person Worship -Worship@Home Service w/ Communion 11:45am Call Cmte Meeting	2	3 7pm Property Zoom Mtg	4
8 9am Sunday School 10:00am -In-Person Worship -Worship@Home Service w/ Communion 1:15pm Confirmation Class	9	10	11
15 9am Sunday School 10:00am -In-Person Worship -Worship@Home Service w/ Communion	16	17	18
22 9am Sunday School 10:00am -In-Person Worship -Worship@Home Service w/ Communion	23	24	25
29 Advent Begins 10:00am -In-Person Worship -Worship@Home Service w/ Communion	30		

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	5	6 7pm Busy Women's Bible Study	7 9am-2pm Preschool Yard Sale
	12	13	14
	19 7pm Council Zoom Mtg	20	21
	26  OFFICE CLOSED	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28

IMPACT STORY
AN OUTCOME STORY
by Dr. Karen Westbrooks

In July 2015, the Christ Lutheran Church Council partnered with Deaconess Dr. Karen Westbrooks to create a counseling practice in the brick house next door to the church. Using her own funds, she re-purposed the house and registered it with the Secretary of State as Jeffersontown Counseling Services. Now, five years later, in the Season of COVID, you might wonder if the house is sitting empty. It is not.

Most services to the public took a big hit with less traffic, less revenue and for the Counseling Center far fewer clients. New Telehealth regulations made it possible for Karen to take her ministry online for those who were not paranoid enough to think that their “confidentiality” would escape into cyberspace.

COVID not only impacted the economy, but it also amplified the social injustice in this country – injustice that has been pervasive over multiple generations lasting 400 years! Surely, no one could have escaped the horrific accounts of black men being murdered in the streets just this year alone: Amaud Arbery, George Floyd, David McAtee, Sean Reed, Michael Ramos, Elijah Ellis. And most recently, Jacob Blake was handcuffed face down in the street after being shot seven times in the back in front of his children.

Now, imagine, you are a child again – experiencing the secondary trauma of “something bad happening” to someone you love and depend on for your safety and security. The sons and daughters are the unspoken victims of the killings and the threat to child mental health is the collateral damage. CDC guidelines prevent the brick house from being a place where clients come and go back to back, so, it is becoming a sanctuary for the really special cases, the reunion stories. One especially dear outcome story involves a young daughter who experienced the terrifying reality of her dad not coming home one night, the next night and the next. At just seven years old, she feared the worst.

During one of our early sessions, the little girl said, “Can I tell you something? Something bad happened to my daddy.” Dr. Westbrooks knew that this case would require more than “counseling.”

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She got permission from the child's mother to, on her own time, talk with key members in this child's family. If her dad was not dead, where is the next place he might be? Right. The child's father was in jail. At the next session, Dr. Westbrook reported to the child that her father was not dead, he was alive. She then asked the little girl to be very patient, because "Ms. Karen" would work to find out how to get her dad on the phone. With cooperation from the father's attorney, we started phone sessions with the father from the counseling office in the brick house and the father was encouraged to do the hard work of telling his daughter he was in jail.

After a few months in jail, the father was released into the Home Incarceration Program which means wearing an ankle bracelet that confines and severely limits his coming and going. At the same time, "orders to shelter in place" meant moving the child online by having video sessions.

In August 2020, after noticing an especially long gaze between father and daughter, Dr. Westbrook contacted the father's attorney again and requested that he file a motion with the court for in-person therapy sessions. The motion was granted for dad and daughter to meet in a therapeutic setting, namely the brick house at 9214 Taylorsville Rd. Please, let us pray that the killing stops and that our daughters and sons have the privilege of being reunited with their fathers.

"Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life." -Proverbs 13:12

JEFFERSONTOWN COUNSELING SERVICES

MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST

502-742-5473

9214 TAYLORSVILLE RD
LOUISVILLE, KY
40299-1762

JEFFERSONTOWN COUNSELING SERVICES

ANOTHER IMPACT STORY

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Christ Lutheran Church,

はじめまして。聖望学園のチャプレンピースカーと申します。よろしくお願ひします。[Hello. It's a pleasure to meet you. My name is Rev. Michael Piescer and I am the school chaplain at Seibo Gakuen.]

I have been working as school chaplain at Seibo Gakuen, which is a Japanese junior and senior high school of over one thousand students, for the past twenty years. I am currently a rostered pastor in the Lutheran Church Missouri-Synod, but for several reasons have decided to seek Candidacy in the ELCA. In the following paragraphs, I would like to share a little bit about my Candidacy journey so far and how that has led me to Christ Lutheran.

When I first began to consider becoming a rostered pastor in the ELCA, I contacted Rev. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson, who serves as an ELCA missionary in Japan. Rev. Hinlicky pastors an English congregation which meets at Tokyo Lutheran Church and her husband, Rev. Andrew Wilson, serves as professor of Church History at the Lutheran Seminary in Tokyo. After several email exchanges and a lunch meeting, Rev. Hinlicky suggested that I get in touch with Rev. Franklin Ishida, who is program director for Asia and the Pacific with ELCA Global Mission. You can imagine my surprise at being referred to Rev. Ishida because, even though I had never met him before, I knew his father, who at one point was president of the Lutheran Seminary in Tokyo. I have also met his mother many times, so it truly is a small world, especially in Lutheran circles.

Normally, the Candidacy process takes place within the U.S., so Rev. Ishida informed me that there would be many challenges since I am living and working in Japan. One of the first challenges was to find a synod that would be willing to work with me and facilitate my journey through the process. After considering several options, Rev. Ishida's boss in Global Mission contacted Bishop Gafkjen of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod. After some consideration, the Synod decided to take on the challenge of working with me from Japan. As it turns out, Bishop Gafkjen was not only an Assistant to the Bishop who handled Candidacy before he was elected, but he also has served on the ELCA Roster Committee. I could not have asked for a better Bishop to oversee my Candidacy. Rev. Heather Apel, who is Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership, is the primary person that is currently working with me. She was a seminary classmate of Rev. Ishida, which was another great connection.

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The next challenge was to find an ELCA congregation that would allow me to become an associate member while continuing to live and work in Japan. After thinking through the available options, Rev. Apel contacted Rev. Bimen Limbong and you, the members of Christ Lutheran. Even though we have never met and you do not know much about me yet, you opened your arms to receive me as a member of your congregation. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your willingness to do that. So, for the time being, I am now a member of three Lutheran Churches (St. John's Lutheran Church in Bakersfield, California; Hanno Lutheran Church in Hanno City, Japan; and Christ Lutheran Church in Louisville, Kentucky).

After becoming a member of your congregation, I discovered more surprising connections. As it turns out, Pastor Bimen is friends with Rev. Ishida. Furthermore, while Pastor Bimen is from Asia and is now serving as a pastor in the U.S., I am from the U.S. and serving as a pastor in Asia, so we share a lot of experiences in common. Not only that, but Pastor Bimen informed me that there is a Japanese congregation which meets in your sanctuary on Sunday afternoons. After learning about all of these connections, I really feel like my ending up at Christ Lutheran is not simply a random coincidence, but the result of God's plan and guidance.

There are still many challenges that lie ahead in my Candidacy process. The current one is trying to find a way to do a psychological assessment online, which is a standard requirement for all candidates. Please pray that there would be a way for me to be assessed without having to leave Japan. Also, since I work five or six days a week as school chaplain and there is a thirteen hour time difference between Japan and Louisville, I am not sure how much I will be able to be involved in the life of the congregation. However, in the coming weeks and months, I hope to discuss various possibilities with you and Pastor Bimen.

I should also mention something about my family. My wife, Yoko, is originally from Japan. We met at Concordia University in Irvine, California, and have been married for over 26 years. Our son, Yoshua, is working as a nurse in Seattle. Our daughter, Amy, is a junior at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, where she is studying social work.

I am looking forward to getting to know you better and working with you in making Christ known.

In Christ,
Rev. Michael Piescer

Pastor Piescer & his family,
Yoshua
Amy, Yoko



Pastor Piescer &
his wife, Yoko



MAKING CHRIST CONNECTIONS: Connected to One Another
Meet Liz Dawson, our new chair of the Christian Education committee!



Work: Radiology Coordinator at Norton Community Medical Associates

Play: Loves the beach, camping/hiking, playing boardgames and Nintendo with Luke, and anything Disney!

CLC Member Since: Birth! Liz is a 3rd generation member at Christ, attending with 6 year old son, Luke, her mom Becky (Owen) Miller and stepfather Roger Miller. Her Great Aunt Jane Owen was the church secretary for 26 years.

Favorite Bible Verse: Matthew 6:25-34, especially verse 34: "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." *This brings me comfort in knowing God is saying, "Liz, I GOT you!! Trust in my plan." God and I have talks all the time about how I'm impatient but I know everything will be revealed on HIS time, so this is a constant reminder to me!*

Favorite traditions at Christ: *The candles and Chrismon tree during our Christmas Eve service. I love the children's parade on Palm Sunday, stripping the altar on Maunday Thursday and seeing it all put back on the altar Easter Sunday. Easter wouldn't be complete without Lift High the Cross or Handel's Messiah.*

Time & Talents Shared at Christ: Liz recently became the new Chair of Christian Ed, attends Busy Women's Bible Study, and is on the "dream team" planning how to make use of the vacant space we now have. Over the years, Liz has served in all kinds of areas: on council, choir, as a worship assistant (Lector, Communion Assistant/Prep) and many youth-related activities (Youth Director, Nursery Attendant, VBS, chaperone, Confirmation classes to name a few!).

Why do you go to church? *I go to continue to grow my faith. I also want to help cultivate my son, Luke's, faith. I have many fond memories of church events I participated in that have helped me on my faith journey. Each phase of life presents new ways to see God and serve him. Church is more than worshiping on Sundays. I also like to get to meet and collaborate with other church members. Stay tuned, this year's Christmas Youth Event is gonna be amazing!!*

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN

One Card at a Time

As you probably know by now, Christ Lutheran Church has a Card Ministry. Members send cards to our members in nursing homes or who are unable to come to church, as well as to our members who may be sick or who have lost a loved one. We have recently started sending cards for birthdays and anniversaries as well.

It is no secret that cards are expensive. Many members purchase cards for us and bring them to the Church Office. We as a church are grateful for those donations. This month 3 of our members got together and made cards by hand.

Many thanks to Beth Allgeier, Kathy Armstrong and Sherry Davis for their time and talents to create these very special cards that many of our members will soon be receiving.



Not only does this speak to our mission of *Making Christ Known*, it also seems to echo the theme of our Stewardship Campaign *Creating a Season of Generosity*.



NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

November Birthdays			
11/1	Cassi Shearer	11/20	Michael Tewell
11/2	Sarah Brace	11/21	Bennett Bruederle Barbara Morgan Molly Pryor
11/5	Norma Kuerzi	11/24	Ethan Allgeier
11/7	Carol Korman	11/26	Jamie Richardson
11/8	Emmaline Korgar Maurice Owen	11/27	Martha Flynn
11/10	Joyce Anderson Michael Kull	11/30	Fran Kilgore
11/11	Grazia Johnson		
11/13	Colin Selch		
11/14	Alexandra Kenitzer Doris McQuese Kenneth Overstreet		
11/15	Stella Paul		
11/16	Tom Farrar Jake Murphy Natalie White		
11/18	Patricia Friedman Madeline Hawkins Tucker Lynch		

CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC: Old Testament</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
November		
8	The Promise Continues	
December		
6	Moses and the Wondering	
13	Of Tents and Kings	
20	No Confirmation Class	Christmas Program
January		
3	No Confirmation	JCPS Winter Break
10	Psalms	
24	Wisdom Literature	

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Join us in celebrating the confirmation of Gavin Kissling, Kennedy Hoehner, Samuel Limbong, Alex Paul & Emily Paul. These youth were confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 25. The Christian Education committee present each student with an engraved Bible.

The confirmands each submitted video of their faith statements, which were shared during the worship service. If you did not get to see the videos or just want to enjoy them again they can be found on our website, christlutheranlouisville.com.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION





Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School
pre-k - adult: 9:45 a.m.

Visit the



Christ Lutheran Church, Jeffersontown Kentucky
Facebook page

Worship Times: Saturdays at 5:30pm, Sundays at 8:30am & 11:00am. **Sunday School:** Age 3—adults at 9:45am every Sunday. **Nursery :** Infant to 6 years old in Room 3 during 8:30am & 11am services.