

# THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2022



9212 Taylorsville Road  
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it... And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:1-5, 14)*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!

Once again, I found our Christmas Eve services to be comforting and joyful this year after all the challenges and tragedies we were facing. Our church was beautifully adorned with Christmas decorations and beautiful candles on the wall behind our cross as one of our decorations' highlights. But it was even more meaningful with our Spirit-filled worship experiences on both of our services with all the special music from our choir, youth and the Japanese Church. We thank all who helped and those who came to worship. Then on Sunday afternoon, we took all the candles down and this week we are going to take the rest of Christmas decorations down as well and keep them for the next year. Then we might think that the Christmas is over.

*continued on pg. 2*

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

[www.christlutheranlouisville.com](http://www.christlutheranlouisville.com)

Lead Pastor - Rev. Bimen Limbong

Associate Pastor - Rev. Richard Gianzero

Director of Music - Ann Colbert Wade

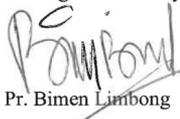
But the truth is that Christmas is not over yet, in fact it has just begun. The Christmas also goes beyond the twelve days of Christmas as we traditionally observe it. Christmas is today and everyday throughout the years as we celebrate Jesus, the Word becomes flesh and dwells among us and the work of Christ as Howard Thurman said has just begun, *‘to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people, to make music in the heart’*.

You may also have unwrapped all your Christmas gifts gifted to you by your family members or friends, but the truth is that we will continue to unwrap God’s gifts throughout the year. You may find surprises and unexpected gifts to unwrap this coming year. But the most important gift God has given us, is his Son, Jesus Christ, who reveals himself to us every day and always in many and various ways and to see his glory being revealed to us; full of grace and truth. As we are standing on the brink of the new year of 2022 with what this new year may hold for you and for our church, I would like you to pray with me with this prayer (The Lutheran Prayer of Good Courage):

*Lord God,  
you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the  
ending,  
by paths as yet untrodden,  
through perils unknown.  
Give us faith to go out with good courage,  
not knowing where we go,  
but only that your hand is leading us  
and your love supporting us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Amen.**

Serving Christ with you,



Pr. Bimen Limbong



*“Arise shine for your light has come and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will rise upon you... nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn... They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD” (from Isaiah 60:1-6).*

The 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas ends on the Eve of the Epiphany – along with Christmas and Easter, Epiphany is one of the three oldest liturgical holidays of the church, celebrated on January 6.

Epiphany means “manifestation,” and we commemorate the Magi’s visit to Jerusalem and then on to Bethlehem where they find the Christ. This Feast Day embraces the words of Isaiah, where the Christ becomes the light to the Gentiles. Churches of various traditions also commemorate the baptism of Jesus by John, manifesting His identity to the public.

Throughout Christmas and towards Epiphany we continue to read in Matthew and Luke’s gospels the messages of angels. I love the song *Angels We Have Heard on High* while paying attention to the messages of angels to Joseph and the Magi “on the down low.” The angels sent the Holy Family to Egypt and the Magi back to their homes through a quiet and secret message because of danger from King Herod – who called himself “king of the Jews.”

Epiphany is important to me, not simply as one of the three first and primary Christian feast days, but in its human implications. King Herod converted to Judaism as a way to strengthen his status, and even remodeled the Temple in Jerusalem to gain favor with Jewish religious leadership. He and his family ultimately gained support from Rome which upheld his and his son’s political claims as vassals.

The arrival of the Christ, and the Gentile Magi’s arrival to worship, threatened Herod’s position and aspiration. The angels warned Joseph and the Magi to flee. I often wonder at the use of religious piety guile and the twisting of truth to make traps. I also wander at the grace of God which guides the faithful in subtle ways toward safety.

In 2022 may each of hear both the angels’ message on high, and on the “down low.” We live in challenging times, may we believe like David, that God leads us “in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake” (Ps. 23: 3b).

Blessed 2022,  
Pr. Rich

## COUNCIL UPDATE

It is the time of year that we begin preparing for the annual meeting. This year the annual meeting will take place following the 11:00 service on January 30<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting we will review the prior year and set our budget for 2022 and elect members to the Congregational Council and the Endowment Fund Committee.

If you are interested, or know of someone who would be excellent, in serving on either of these committees please let us know (see the contact information below). The responsibilities of a council member are to attend meetings once a month for a two-year term. The Council is also responsible for general oversight of the life and activities of the congregation to ensure everything is done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the ELCA. Additionally, we ask our council members to serve as a liaison to committees of the church so that they can aid in communication from the committee to the leadership of the church.

The Endowment Fund Committee is a separate voting body that is responsible for serving as the custodian and managing entity of the Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. They meet fewer times a year, but their members also serve two-year terms.

Prayerfully consider serving in one of these leadership positions or helping to identify others for service. If these are not the areas of service for you, there are myriad committees that are looking for people to assist in the organizing and support of the mission of CLC. We will be providing more information about these soon to connect people's gifts with the areas of the church they will be most connected.

Peace and blessings,

Roger Kissling

[Rogerkissling75@gmail.com](mailto:Rogerkissling75@gmail.com)

502-797-0349

## WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

Please join Pastor Bimen **every Monday** at noon for a recurring prayer meeting and short Bible study. Individuals are welcome to come in person or join the meeting virtually via Zoom; link provided below. It is a great way to connect with God, our community and each other.

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88673354124?pwd=emlVSUdLeXVPNVVXYUhJd3dDNIRkdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 7335 4124

Passcode: 900074



## FINANCE

### **Current Expense and Benevolence Update Through September 2021**

**Expected Receipts:** \$383,053.00

**Actual Receipts:** \$367,649.00

There are 3 budget line items that are most under what was budgeted: Activity Room (-\$9,740), Church Envelopes (-\$5.052), and Loose Offering (-\$2,224).

The FINAL deposit for 2021 will be made at 2pm on Friday, December 31.

Thanks to December Counters: Ron & Sharon Coombs and Kathy Kull.

Thank you to all members for the contributions in 2021.

Memorials given in the months of November & December were given in memory of Pastor Thomas BeMiller and Norma Porterfield.

Online  
Giving



**SCAN ME**

*Thank  
You*

On behalf of the Social Ministry Committee and JAM, we would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to the congregation for donating 25 gifts cards/\$1250 for JAM families' Christmas gifts.

## WHO IS ATTENDING THE 2022 YOUTH GATHERING

Each month we will feature 2 youth who are planning on attending the ELCA Youth Gathering. This month meet Gavin K. & Samuel L.



Gavin Kissling is a sophomore at duPont Manual High School where he is in the J+C (Journalism and Communication) magnet program. His favorite subject is English, and he is a member of the debate team, creative writing club, and book club. In his free time he likes to read, run, hang out with his dog, and play card games with his family. When asked if he was the eighth dwarf in Snow White what would his name be, he said it would be Friendly.

If you knew you wouldn't fail, what thing would you do?

*World peace.*

Would you rather have hands instead of feet or feet instead of hands?

*Hands instead of feet. You can walk on hands, you can't play the kazoo with feet.*

Would you rather have only two close friends or many acquaintances?

*Many acquaintances. Friends take far too much maintenance to maintain a close relationship.*

Would you rather forget who you are or not know who everyone else is?

*Not know who anyone else is. You can get through life without knowing anyone's name. It's a bit more difficult to deal with not knowing who you are or what you want.*

Would you rather win one million dollars today or ten million on ten years?

*Ten million in ten years. I think I would need 10 years to figure out what to do with it and how to use it responsibly.*



*cont'd on page 7*



Samuel Limbong is a sophomore at duPont Manual High School where he is in the MST (Math, Science, Technology) magnet program. His favorite subject is Math, and he participates in the chess club and robotics. In his free time he likes to draw, read manga, watch anime, and practice the piano. When asked if he was the eighth dwarf in Snow White what would his name be, he said it would be Cheeky.

If you knew you wouldn't fail, what thing would you do?

*Do a back flip.*

Would you rather have hands instead of feet or feet instead of hands?

*Hands instead of feet because without my hands I can't draw.*

Would you rather play video games or play outside?

*Depends. If the boys are out in the neighborhood, then I'm playing outside. But if no one is outside I would rather play video games.*

Would you rather lose your ability to speak or have to say everything you are thinking?

*Lose my ability to speak. If I said everything I thought I would have no friends.*

Would you rather not be able to read or not be able to write?

*Not be able to read (because if you can't read then you can't write).*



# JANUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	
<b>Jan 30</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b> 12pm Annual Meeting 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	<b>Jan 31</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg		
<b>2</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School ALL Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b>	<b>3</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>4</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends 7pm Property Cmte Mtg	<b>5</b> 9:30am W Friends 7pm Choi
<b>9</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School ALL Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b>	<b>10</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>11</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends 12pm WELCA Mtg 6:00pm Social Min. Mtg	<b>12</b> 9:30am W Friends 7pm Choi
<b>16</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School All Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b> 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	<b>17</b>  12pm Prayer Mtg 7:00pm Worship Mtg	<b>18</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends	<b>19</b> 9:30am W Friends 7pm Choi
<b>23</b> <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School All Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b> 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	<b>24</b> 12pm Prayer Mtg	<b>25</b> 9:30am Tuesday Friends	<b>26</b> 9:30am W 7pm Choi

**TEMPORARY OFFICE**



**HOURS**

Monday: 8:30am—2:30pm

Tuesday: 8:30am—3:00pm

Wednesday: 8:30am—1:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am—12:00pm

Friday: 9:00am—12:00pm

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p><b>Dec 31</b>  <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b></p> 	<p><b>1</b>  </p>
<p>Wednesday                      r Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>6</b>                      Committee Chair                      Annual Reports DUE</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>
<p>Wednesday                      r Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b>                      7pm Busy Women's                      Bible Study—Virtual                      Meeting</p>	<p><b>15</b>                      2pm J'town Sportscard                      Show - Youth Fundraiser</p>
<p>Wednesday                      r Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>20</b>                      7:00pm Council Mtg</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>
<p>Wednesday                      r Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>

## WELCA UPDATE

Women of the ELCA met at Shirley Williamson's home for a wonderful lunch and Bible Study in the month of December.

The Craft Fair in October was successful as usual, and we thank all who helped. While we did not have as many vendors as years past, all the vendors that participated would like to come back next year. Some of the proceeds raised were used for gift cards for the pastor, I-K WELCA, Ronald McDonald House, help in Appalachia, and quilt batting for Lutheran World Relief quilts.

Tuesday Friends meet each Tuesday at 9:30am, in rooms 9 and 10. They have currently made scarves for homeless, in addition to their ongoing quilt production. Come join for fellowship and bring whatever you are project you might be working on.



The Fellowship Committee has met to discuss possible future activities for our congregation. Some events that are in the works are a Ladies Tea in the spring, Derby Dinner, movie, and chili cook off. Please let the committee know if you have any ideas. You may contact Bonnie Kroening at 245-1020 or any other members, Kathy Kull, Renate Fish, Robinn Barmore, or Amy Schneider.

## LIVE STREAMING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our church is in need of volunteers to help with the live-streaming of our Sunday worship. No experience is necessary to be a volunteer, all individuals wishing to help will be trained. Positions needed include an individual to run the powerpoint program and an individual to run the live-stream and manage the sound. At this time the only service that we live-stream is the 11am Sunday service. Please contact either Pastor Bimen, 553-6025 or Roger Kissling, 797-0349.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please let us know how we can pray for you. Just call the church office, 267-5082, or email us at [church\\_office@christlutheranlouisville.com](mailto:church_office@christlutheranlouisville.com) and we will send out a prayer request. Christ Lutheran has some fierce prayer warriors always ready and willing to lift you up in prayer.

## WEDNESDAY FRIENDS & PROPERTY NEWS

Wednesday Friends have kept busy this fall keeping the leaves mulched, sticks picked up, the bald cypress needle-like leaves raked up to use as mulch, and trimming out the plants that are dormant for the winter. They have been picking up the trash that accumulates every week as well. So if you have noticed that there are not so many leaves and sticks on the sidewalks or parking lots, thank a Wednesday Friend! Individuals that have helped throughout the year are: Mark & Sherry Davis, Berliana Limbong, Pat Friedman, Tammy Kissling, Jean Eisen, Roger Miller, Marilyn & Raymond Peak. Please do not feel left out ... join us on Wednesdays at 9:30am weather permitting.

The property committee has decided to replace some toilets in the building for more efficient and taller ones. This upgrade should decrease our water bill a bit.

The committee is also considering putting a stronger pad in front of the garage, where the tree roots are lifting the asphalt, and under and in front of the dumpster where the weight of the garbage truck is making ruts in the asphalt. Sometime in the next few years we will need to replace the asphalt in the parking lot due to its many cracks that only continue get worse over time. Wednesday Friends have done an excellent job keeping the weeds from growing in the parking lot cracks and for that we thank them.

If you would like to join the property committee we certainly would welcome some new ideas and expertise. The property committee usually meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Come join the fun!



Thank you to members of our Worship Committee and Property Committee for transforming our sanctuary into a glowing atmosphere full of Christmas Joy and Wonder for our candle light Christmas Eve worship services.

## 2021 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled to be held on Sunday, January 30 immediately following the 11am service. Lunch will be served prior to the meeting convening, unless Covid-19 numbers do not allow for in person meeting. Please RSVP with our church office you plan to attend lunch and the meeting, 267-5082.

Reports will be available to the congregation by Sunday, January 23. They will be available for pick up in hardcopy as well as emailed to all active members.

### **2021-22 Adult and Children's Sunday School/Education Schedule 9:45-10:45am Each Sunday**

<b>AGE</b>	<b>ROOM</b>	<b>TEACHER</b>
Pre-K	6	
Grades 1 & 2	7	Liz D.
Grades 3-5	5	Matt H.
Grades 6-8	9	Roger K.
Highschool	8	Kathleen B.
Adult Forum	Brick House	Pastor Rich
Adult II	1 & 2	Mike K.
Adult III	11 & 12	Becky M.

Note: **Week 4** of each month Middle and Highschool combine with Pr. Rich in Room 8. Adult Forum still meets in the Brick House on week 4.

Floating Substitute: Rachael G.

\*Interested in serving as a substitute or helper with Sunday School? Contact Pr. Rich. We welcome your help! We may combine middle and high school on occasion.

## 2022 CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	What	When, Where, Who
1/2 1:15pm	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
1/9 1:15pm	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
1/16 1:15pm	Biblical Justice (Hebrew Bible)	
1/23 1:15pm	Justice and Mercy (The Sermon on the Mount)	
1/30 1:15pm	Simul iustus et peccator (Sinner and Saint in Lutheranism)	



**It's time to start planning for  
the ELCA Youth Gathering!!**

We continue to prepare for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering both financially and spiritually. On Saturday, December 4, CLC, in partnership with J&J Allstar Sportscards Shows, hosted our first ever sports trading card show. Despite the fact that there were a small number of vendors and shoppers we still raised \$416 towards our trip to Minneapolis. We hope that as these shows continue (once a month for all of 2022) that they will increase in size and that our profits will increase as well. Our next show is Saturday, January 15 from 9am – 2pm.

We had another Gathering Prep Bible Study session on Sunday, December 12 to help prepare us spiritually for our trip. This was the first of 2 sessions on the topic of God's boundless creation and was led by Pastor Kerri McFarland from St. Stephen. We are hoping for good weather for our next session so that we can get outside and really experience the beauty of all that God has created. Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 9, from 1:30pm – 3:00pm at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Fern Creek.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Gathering fund or Sponsored a Sunday! Your generosity makes it possible for the youth to attend this life impacting event.

It's not too late if you would like to join us for the Gathering. The Gathering is open to all students currently in 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades and is going to be held in Minneapolis July 24-28, 2022. Please contact Tammy Kissling or Pastor Rich with any questions.

## YOUTH UPDATE

On Saturday, December 18 several of our youth families along with Pastor Rich met at church for a Christmas Celebration. During the evening the group enjoyed food and fellowship while celebrating the impending arrival of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

To mark this special occasion the group assembled 150 snack bags. These bags will be delivered to Fern Creek Methodist who will then distribute to members of our homeless community here in Louisville. It was a wonderful way of making Christ known this holiday season.

Much thanks to Sarah Mertz for organizing the event. Thanks to the families who attended. Your time, as always, is greatly appreciated.



## JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

January Birthdays		January Anniversaries	
1/1	Kathy Armstrong	1/3	Charlise & Mark Fullmore
1/4	Logan Rush	1/4	Berliana & Pr. Bimen Limbong
1/5	Terri Kenitzer	1/5	Malissia & Jim Bell
1/6	Becky Miller	1/7	Kathy & Michael Kull
1/7	Phil Hernandez	1/22	Amy & Ken Schneider
1/8	Ron Morgan	1/23	Janet & Doug Kull
1/10	MaryLou Miller Sara Ridgway		
1/11	Ed Greaves		
1/12	Roger Miller		
1/13	Hannah Colbert		
1/14	Susan Yankey		
1/18	Marilyn Peak		
1/19	Sophia Gianzero Aurora Martinez		
1/20	Kathleen Breitenstein Barbara Hester		
1/22	Jennifer Kemnitz		
1/23	Ashby Hallum		
1/26	Faye Saleh Rose Straub		
1/27	Holly Ellenberger		
1/28	Earl Breitenstein		
1/30	Teresa Rupp		

**Don't forget to share your special  
dates with us!**

**We would love to celebrate you!**



**CHRIST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

9212 Taylorsville Road  
Louisville, KY 40299

Sunday Worship  
8:30am & 11am

Sunday School  
preK—Adult 9:45am

Find us on  @

Christ Lutheran  
Church  
@CLCLouisville

**Worship Times:** 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.