

THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2025



9212 Taylorsville Road
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



*“Lift ev’ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list’ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.” (ELW 841:1)*

Epiphany greetings to you sisters and brothers in Christ,

It is wonderful to be home indeed, after traveling for 10 days to Asia to attend the Asian Lutheran International Conference (ALIC) in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. It was a long trip and filled each day with a busy schedule. Yet it was a wonderful conference. I was able to connect and reconnect with colleague leaders from North America and Asia. It was a wonderful continuing education where you were able to hear keynote presentations from fine theologians and leaders from those continents. I was inspired and humbled to hear their testimonies the way they live out the gospel despite persecution they are facing in their home countries. Their testimonies were not foreign to me, because I myself went through some of the persecution. Yet, they helped and inspired me to stay focused on my call as a Christian and pastor in my ministry context.

continued on pg. 2

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.christlutheranlouisville.com

Lead Pastor - Rev. Bimen Limbong

Director of Music - Ann Colbert Wade

The theme of conference was 'Lift Every Voice', based on the first stanza of the hymn 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' as printed above. It is the African American National Anthem; a hymn of thanksgiving to God for liberation from slavery and a celebration of freedom.

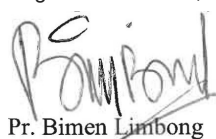
Based on that hymn stanza, the conference highlighted the broader implications of liberation, particularly within the context of Asian churches and ministries and for any settings for that matter. The general theme is sub-divided into three sub-themes as Professor Rajashekar put it:

1. **Voices of creation crying for liberation.** This sub-theme focuses on creation and eco-justice. The future of our planet is in peril due to the exploitation of its resources, resulting in environmental degradation, ecological disasters, and climate change, which affect the lives of millions of people. ALIC seeks to explore the implications of eco-justice for the church's mission and ministries and the stewardship of God's gift of creation.
2. **Voices of the suffering and crucified people longing for liberation.** This sub-theme focuses on people who experience abuse, discrimination, and marginalization. Millions of people in our world are suffering on account of war, violence, displacement, food insecurity, migration, poverty, and economic injustice. How will the Asian church and congregations advocate liberating justice for the forgotten people of our world?
3. **Voices of unity and discord in the Christian Community.** This sub-theme will explore division, conflict, and polarization within the Christian church regarding the full participation of all God's people. The church, as a community of saints and sinners, is not free from the evils and prejudices of our world. Yet, the church's calling is to proclaim the gospel of God's love and acceptance of all people, irrespective of race, caste, sex, gender, disability, political or ideological orientation. Will the Asian churches and congregations dare to follow God's commandment to love one another?

Of course, this theme applies not only to Asian churches and congregations, but also to all churches and congregations both in Asia, North America and everywhere else. We lift our voices for the sake of God's creations, for our peace and unity throughout the world.

For those of you who would like to hear more about my trip, I am planning to do a presentation at church on Thursday, February 6 at 7:00pm.

Serving Christ with You,



Pr. Bimen Limbong

UPCOMING *Events*



February 28th is our **Italian Night Fellowship Dinner**. Dinner and dessert will be provide. This is an adult only event. RSVP to church office. See page 12 for details.



January's Thirsty Third Thursday will be at **Molly Malone's** on **February 20th**. Check out page 9 for details.



Let's **Tackle Hunger January 27th through February 16th!** See details on page 8.



Check out **page 8** for all the details of our new small group...**MELCA Group!**

2025 IS THE YEAR OF INVITING

2025 ...The Year of Inviting!

Here are some planned events for the first 6 months of 2025. More details for each event will be shared monthly. We hope you will come to these events and invite friends and family!

We are so excited for to meet monthly with our members and hopefully invite others to check out Christ Lutheran. It's a great place to worship and to spend time with friends.



2025: A YEAR OF INVITING

JANUARY	Chili Cook Off
FEBRUARY	Italian Night MELCA - First Friday in February
MARCH	Youth @ Activate Rock Painting
APRIL	Community Easter
MAY	Game Night
JUNE	VBS Pedal in the Parklands - Bike Ride

CHURCH OFFICE@CHRISTLUTHERANLOUISVILLE.COM 502-267-5082 CHRISTLUTHERANLOUISVILLE.COM

FINANCE

General Fund Giving through December 2024

Expected Receipts: \$354,555.00

Actual Receipts: \$361,303.00

Thank you to everyone for their contributions. We headed into December right on budget for contributions.

Thank you to Kathy Kull and Ron & Sharon Coombs for serving as our December offering counters.

We received a memorial in memory of Todd DeNardo in the month of December. In January we received a memorial in memory of Audrey Albin.

Online
Giving



SCAN ME



Sunday, January 26 was our first ever **Chili Cook Off**. It was a grand success with over 8 different chilis vying for the championship title!

While the competition was fierce, it was a veteran chef

of CLC who took the title. Congratulations to our very own **Mary Glasscock**! She was awarded an apron and chef's hat that will have her name added to it, and will be on display for the year. Mary also received bragging rights of being the **CLC Chili Champion** for the next 364 days! Congratulations Mary!!



CLC FAITHFUL SERVANT

Kathie Armstrong



Kathie Armstrong started playing the cello in fifth grade, but she never owned her own instrument until her husband surprised her one Christmas. Today, our congregation gets to enjoy Kathie's gift every second and fourth Sunday at Celebration Service.

Cello isn't the only musical talent Kathie shares with us. A longtime member of Christ Lutheran, she also lends her voice to the beautiful hymns and anthems that float down from the loft when the choir is in full "sing."

But for many years, Kathie has shared a quieter gift. Without any fanfare, she has been making quilts for the Lutheran World Relief organization, first with the Wednesday Women's Circle and now with the Tuesday Morning Friends. The Friends meet weekly at 9:30am to sew, knit and visit.

"Pastor Bimen will often stop by to say hello, and when my daughter, Beth, worked in the office, she'd come and chat for a minute. It's a chance to enjoy each other's company and do some small good."

Small isn't exactly the word for it. The quilts Kathie makes are 60 x 80 inches, each with 48 10-inch squares. In 2024, Kathie made, packaged, and sent 37 large quilts to Lutheran World Relief. She made 38 quilts in 2023.

"It's something I really enjoy," Kathie says. "And if we all just do a little bit, together we can do so much."

If you'd like to do something for the Tuesday Friends, they're always looking for fabric. "It takes two types of fabric for each quilt," Kathie explains. "Flat sheets in any color work great. And I'm ready to start on a bunch of new quilts!"

CLC FAITHFUL SERVANT

Shirley Williamson



“Keep me busy or keep me out of trouble,” Shirley Williamson says. “That’s one of the things I love about our church — there really isn’t much you *can’t* do.”

Fortunately for us, Shirley finds lots of things to keep her busy at Christ Lutheran. A member since 1970, she’s always been involved in Bible study, women’s groups and service projects. She’s taught Sunday School and VBS, served on Church

Council and Worship Committee, and counted money.

She also sings and makes quilts for nursing homes. Shirley’s crystal-clear soprano voice can be heard almost every Sunday, alternating between senior choir and the celebration band. And on Tuesday mornings, you’ll find her quilting with friends at the church, making blankets that are given away to people who need a little warmth in their life.

There’s a practicality to all this activity. “I make myself clean the house and then reward myself with sewing,” she explains with a laugh. Then she adds, “I love to learn, and I love the fellowship. It’s amazing to me what I’ve learned over the years.” Both Shirley and our other Faithful Servant this month, Kathie Armstrong, single out Lou Bemiller as an early source of sewing inspiration and guidance.

As for singing, she says, “I could be dog-tired, but I always come home from choir practice feeling rejuvenated.” Happy to try something new, Shirley was a proponent of having a contemporary service to appeal to a younger crowd, which meant learning new hymns. “They’ll never get to be old favorites if we don’t play them,” she points out — practically.

“I’ve always been part of a church choir. It’s a big part of my life,” Shirley says. We’re thankful Shirley has played such a big part in the life of our church and community.

WELCA will meet on Tuesday, February 11 at noon. Lunch and Bible study will be provided. All women on Christ Lutheran are invited to join the group.

The group meets in Room 1.



Have you heard the news? There's a **new small group at CLC** and if you're a man...you're INVITED!

Our new group is **Men of the ELCA or MELCA** for short.

This group will meet the first Friday night of every month at 7pm. The first meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 7.

Why should WELCA have all the fun?



The Social Ministry Committee is asking for donations of non-perishable food items or monetary donations in order to "**tackle hunger**". This is a initiative of the NFL, one that is continues to important to Christ Lutheran Church.

Donations will be collected **January 27 through February 16**. All donations will be delivered to JAM the week of February 10. Please drop off food donations in the Solarium. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering plates, label envelope with "**Tacking Hunger Event**"

THIRSTY THIRD THURSDAYS

*Thirsty for theology? Thirsty for connection and fellowship?...
or just thirsty?*

Whatever you thirst for, join us for one of our monthly gatherings, held **every 3rd Thursday of the month, starting around 6pm** (or whatever time you can make it). No sign up, just show up—the aim is to have an easy, fun way to connect with each other—men & women, young & old, married & single. While this is an adult fellowship group, we'll check out venues around town that are kid-friendly, so you don't have to get a babysitter. Stop in for a quick visit or stay for dinner. Pay on your own.

**Join us in February for our next
THIRSTY THIRD THURSDAY,
February 20th at 6pm - ish at:**



Molly Malone's

933 Baxter Avenue,
Louisville, KY

<https://mollymalonesirishpub.com/louisville/>

Great food and drinks in a loose, friendly environment, come as a stranger, leave as a friend. Come and enjoy traditional Irish fare - bangers & mash, fish & chips, corned beef & cabbage.

Questions or suggestions?

Contact Sarah Pryor

758-5108 or



spryor@bellsouth.net



FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	
2 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Hour Tackle Hunger	3 12pm Prayer Mtg	4 9:30am Tuesday Friends 7 pm Worship Cmte	5 9:30am W Friends 7pm Cho
9 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Hour 2pm Forest Hills Commons Worship →Tackle Hunger Deadline	10 12pm Prayer Mtg	11 9:30am Tuesday Friends 12pm WELCA Circle 6:30 pm Social Ministry	12 9:30am W Friends 7pm Cho
16 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am LIFT Class 11am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Hour	17 12pm Prayer Mtg	18 9:30am Tuesday Friends	19 9:30am W Friends 7pm Cho
23 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Hour	24 12pm Prayer Mtg	25 9:30am Tuesday Friends	26 9:30am W Friends 7pm Cho



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 12pm Pickleball</p> <p>← Tackle Hunger Event →</p>
<p>Wednesday Air Rehearsal</p>	<p>6 7 pm Pastor's ALIC presentation</p>	<p>7 7 pm MELCA</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>Wednesday Air Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 6pm Thirsty Third Thursday-Molly Malones</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15 6pm Italian Night</p>  <p>MESSENGER Articles to Liz Walker Deadline</p>
<p>Wednesday Air Rehearsal</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>Wednesday Air Rehearsal</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 6 pm Adult Italian Dinner</p>	

Back by popular demand the **Annual CLC Adult Italian Night**. Join us as the Fellowship Committee hosts an delicious Italian dinner on **Friday, February 28 at 6pm.**

Dinner & desserts will be provided. No Italian cuisine is complete without vino, so feel free to bring your favorite bottle of wine. The cost of the meal will be shared.



RSVP by calling or emailing the church office: 502-267-5082; church_office@christlutheranlouisville.com.



Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Thank you Pastor Mercer for all your help these past few years, working alongside Pastor Bimen. Our congregation is so thankful for the support and pastoral assistance you provided Pastor Bimen and our congregation.

We appreciate you coming out of retirement when you felt called to share your pastoral gifts, lightening the ministerial load. We hope you and Marty enjoy this next chapter of retirement.

CARE PACKAGE EVENT



Eleven college student and twelve homebound members are receiving care packages from Christ Lutheran this month. Led by Sarah Pryor, several members packed boxes and gift bags full of love and treats. In addition to favorite things, each package had hand written cards sharing Jesus' love. Such a wonderful way for our loved ones to know they are loved and missed by their family and their church family!





2025 SPRING SCHEDULE

DATE:	TOPIC:	WHERE:
JANUARY 5 TH	TRANSFORMED	ROOM 8
JANUARY 12TH	LIFT HERE COME THE MAGI	ROOM 5
JANUARY 19TH	NO CLASS: MEET & GREET WITH BISHOP GRAHAM	GYM
JANUARY 26TH	NO CLASS: ANNUAL MEETING & CHILI COOKOFF	GYM
FEBRUARY 2 ND	WHERE JOY IS FOUND	ROOM 8
FEBRUARY 9 TH	I AM NOTHING WITHOUT YOU	ROOM 8
FEBRUARY 16TH	LIFT: LOOK TO GOD	ROOM 5
FEBRUARY 23 RD	ASK SEARCH KNOCK	ROOM 8
MARCH 2 ND	ARE YOU THERE GOD	ROOM 8
MARCH 9 TH	ANOTHER FINE MESS	ROOM 8
MARCH 16TH	LIFT: JESUS ARRESTED	ROOM 5
MARCH 23 RD	YOUR SAFE PLACE	ROOM 8
MARCH 30TH	NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK	-----
APRIL 6 TH	FACING THREATS	ROOM 8
APRIL 13TH	LIFT: GOOD FRIDAY	ROOM 5
APRIL 20TH	NO CLASS: EASTER	-----
APRIL 27 TH	GOD HELPS	ROOM 8
MAY 4 TH	WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BLESSED	ROOM 8
MAY 11TH	NO CLASS: HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY	-----
MAY 18TH	NO CLASS: GRADUATION CELEBRATION	GYM



2025 SPRING CLASS SCHEDULE:

- ❖ Lift meets in Room 5 from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. on the 3rd Sunday of each month unless otherwise specified.
- ❖ Intergenerational, all ages welcome!!

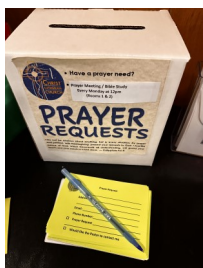
DATE:	LESSON:	MEETING PLACE:
JANUARY 12TH	Here come the Magi! <i>Matthew 2: 1-12</i>	ROOM 5
JANUARY 19TH	MEET OUR NEW BISHOP	GYM
FEBRUARY 16TH	Look to God <i>Psalms 121</i>	ROOM 5
MARCH 16TH	Jesus Arrested <i>Matthew 26: 36-55</i>	ROOM 5
APRIL 13TH	Good Friday <i>Matthew 27: 1-61</i>	ROOM 5
APRIL 20TH	EASTER	NO CLASS
MAY 18TH	GRADUATION CELEBRATION	GYM

Living In Faith Together

**COME JOIN THE
FUN!**

ON-GOING CLC MINISTRIES

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 and we will send out a prayer request. **We also have a Prayer Box in the Narthex...just fill out a prayer card and drop it in the box.** Christ Lutheran has some fierce prayer warriors always ready and willing to lift you up in prayer every Monday at our Weekly Prayer Meeting.

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

Our weekly prayer meetings will continue on Mondays at noon in Rooms 1 & 2. Individuals are invited to attend in person or online. Pastor Bimen leads this weekly worship opportunity. All are welcome.



Zoom Link:

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

Meeting ID: 886 7335 4124

Passcode: 900074

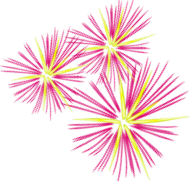
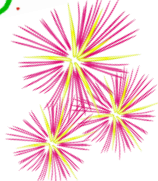
ONGOING SOCIAL MINISTRY WORK

Please remember to place your gently used shoes in the WaterStep bin in the Narthex. This is an ongoing project to help Third World countries obtain water filtering equipment. Thank you for your donations that make this happen.



FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

February Birthdays		February Anniversaries	
2/01	Kameron Garr	2/05	Alita & Tony White
2/15	Kyle Fletcher Karen Koch Curtis Sigdestad		
2/16	Shari Bessette		
2/18	Tammy Kissling		
2/21	Ashley Ridgway David Williamson		
2/23	Larry Paul Whitney Stephens		
2/25	Ryan Bessette		


**Don't forget to share your
special dates with us!
We would love to celebrate you!**


NEWLY ADDED WORSHIP ASSISTANT POSITION

Have you noticed a new lay position during our worship services? With Pastor Mercer's retirement, we have begun using lay people in the role of Liturgist, to assist Pastor Bimen during our two Sunday worship services. At this time Steve Sarson and Roger Miller have volunteered to be trained in this capacity and have been serving for several weeks now. We are grateful for their time and talents.

We could always use a few more folks who might be willing to serve in this capacity. If you feel called to help, let Pastor Bimen know.

MONTHLY MINISTRY ATTENDANCE

Sunday Worship Service

DATE	EARLY SERVICE	LATE SERVICE	ONLINE	TOTAL
01/05/25	12	No service		12
01/12/25	19	43		62
01/19/25	21	30		51
01/26/25	No Service	83		83

Monday Weekly Prayer Gathering **Forest Hills Worship**

DATE	IN PERSON	ONLINE
01/06/25	No meeting	
01/13/25	No meeting	
01/20/25	No meeting	
01/27/25	10	

DATE	TOTAL
01/12/25	No service

PLEASE REMEMBER...

We ask that you fill out the attendance cards that are handed out at each worship service. These cards capture important information that helps us keep our records up to date. Attendance is recorded every Sunday and this data is included in our Annual Report.



ATTENDANCE

Walking with Christ, we love and serve
our church & neighbors

2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor Bimen Limbong, 502-553-6025, pastor_bimen@christlutheranlouisville.com
Roger Miller, President, 502-415-4243, rmlcm@yahoo.com
Steve Sarson, Vice Pres., 502-295-9418, ssarson@gmail.com
Dale Breitenstein, 502-262-6168, dalebreit@gmail.com
Randy Hesler, 502-939-2172, rlhesler@gmail.com
Mike Kull, 502-802-4485, mjk111048@aol.com
Sarah Pryor, 502-758-5108, spryor@bellsouth.net
Natalie Rawlings, 502-314-2157, natalierawlings83@gmail.com
Tracy Richardson, 859-351-2590, tjrkly@yahoo.com
Nick Zavagli, 502-645-1485, nicholas.zavagli@gmail.com

CLC JOB OPENING

Job Title: Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Supervisor: Lead Pastor
FLSA Status: non-exempt, part-time, 30 hours per week

Christ Lutheran Church is seeking an enthusiastic servant leader to join our staff as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. This part-time position will play a pivotal role, both as a leader and an example, in nurturing the faith development and spiritual growth of our youth and young adults, fostering a strong sense of community, and working collaboratively with the Lead Pastor and other church leaders to support the overall mission and vision of the church.

The detailed job description on the CLC website.

To Apply: Interested candidates should submit a resume to church_office@christlutheranlouisville.com.



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.