

THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2026



9212 Taylorsville Road
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



“Then sing my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great thou art! How Great thou art! Then sing my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great thou art! How Great thou art!”

Epiphany Greetings to you all,

The excerpt above, as we all may know it, is the refrain of one of the hymns we love to sing, *“How Great Thou Art”*. I chose this for two reasons. First, the connection we have with the story behind that hymn. That hymn was originally written by Carl Boberg, a 26-year-old Swedish minister, in 1885 which he called, *“O Store Gud”* – “O Mighty God.” The words, literally translated to English said:

*“When I the world consider / Which Thou has made by Thine almighty Word
And how the web of life Thou Wisdom guideth / And all creation feedeth at Thy board.
Then doth my soul burst forth in song of praise / Oh, great God, Oh, great God!”*

He was inspired during a walk home from church in Mönsterås, Sweden. He experienced a sudden thunderstorm that transformed the peaceful landscape into a dramatic display of nature's power. After the storm passed, he was struck by the beauty of the clear sky, the singing birds, and the distant church bells ringing, which moved him to write the poem. *continued on pg. 2*

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.christlutheranlouisville.com

Lead Pastor - Rev. Bimen Limbong

Director of Music - Ann Colbert Wade

Administrative Assistant - Jeremy Rhodes

Church Office: 502-267-5082

The poem was first published in a local newspaper in 1886 and quickly gained popularity in Sweden. It was later set to a Swedish folk tune, although the name of the tune has been lost to history. The hymn was translated into German and then into Russian, where it became known as "Velykiy Bog" (Great God). The English version of the hymn, which we know today, was translated and adapted by Stuart K. Hine, a British missionary. Hine encountered the hymn while serving in Ukraine and was inspired to add new verses that reflected the themes of Christ's sacrifice and the promise of His return. His version was published in 1949, and it quickly became popular, especially during Billy Graham's crusades, where it was sung widely.

His story reminds me of what we were going through, especially last week with the snowstorm that we had that almost paralyzed our city, people got stuck home or at work, church' services were cancelled including ours. As I am writing this letter, I am looking at our church's parking lot is still be covered by snow. Besides winter storm, our country is also going through political storm marked with violence. We look forward to the day when these storms will pass that we will be able to see the signs of new life, hope, peace and God's wonders. We might not be able to prevent the winter storm from happening, except for preparing ourselves to endure it. But for the political storm, we all can help deescalate or eliminate altogether by embodying peace, starting from ourselves. As Martin Luther King Junior, whose day we just celebrated, rightly said, *"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."* We can be that light and love.

The second reason I chose this is to give you a heads-up about our upcoming Lent. For our Midweek Lent theme this year, we will focus on the stories behind the hymns that we love to sing. Kathleen has been leading a class at our church every third Sunday of the month with the very same topic. People enjoyed that class. She and I will co-lead the same theme as part of our Midweek Lent series this year. I invite you to come to learn the stories behind some of the most beloved hymns and to sing them starting on Wednesday, February 25 at 7:00PM.

Journeying with you in Christ

Pr. Bimen

CARE PACKAGE EVENT



Once again, the Youth Ministry is assembling care packages for our homebound and young adult members who are serving in the military or away at college. We want to remind them that though they are miles away, they are close in our hearts—Jesus loves them, and we do too!

**Package Assembly will take place during the
Youth Valentine's Event on Sunday, February 1st,
3-7pm**

Know someone we should send a care package to?

Please contact the church office or Sarah Pryor (502-758-5108 or spryor@bellsouth.net) as soon as possible so we can shop for them!

If you'd like to support our project:

Monetary donations would be much appreciated to help cover cost of package contents and shipping (make checks payable to CLC and please note that it is for care packages). To donate items, please contact Sarah Pryor to coordinate. Thank you!!!

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14

FINANCE

General Fund Giving through December 2025

Expected Receipts: \$367,115

Actual Receipts: \$357,881

Thank you to our January offering counters.
We appreciate their time and dedication each week.

[Online](#)
[Giving](#)



SCAN ME



The Social Ministry Committee collected and delivered 32 gift cards to JAM on December 15! These gift cards help families in the J'town area this Christmas. Hopefully so sweet children woke up to their most wished for present Christmas morning. Thank you to all who donated, your generosity is overwhelming.



In 2026 we will continue our mission to help J'town Area Ministries. Each month we will collect specific items for the JAM food pantry.

For the month of **February** we will collect paper products:

- + Paper Towels
- + Toilet Paper
- + Tissues
- + Napkins
- + Paper Plates
- + Paper Cups



All youth are invited to a **Valentine's Party** on **February 1**. Bring your love & kindness and enjoy an afternoon of treats and activities centered around God's love for us. We will pack care packages for members, see page 3 for care package details.

Festivities will begin at 3pm in the gym and go until 7pm.

RSVP by texting Kyle Fletcher at 502-309-6500. Let him know by January 30th!

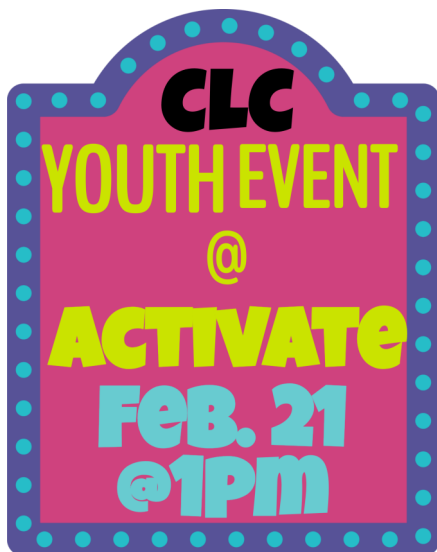


On **February 21** **ALL** youth & young adults are invited to go to **Activate** for an afternoon of fun!

Interested Contact Tracy Richardson by February 8 @ 859-351-2590.

Tracy will need to confirm numbers with Activate.

\$10/person for 1 hour of fun, lunch will be provided at church at noon. Drivers need to get kids to and from Activate.





We hope to spot YOU at VBS this summer!!

Mark your calendars for July 27-31, 2026 from 5-8p.m.

Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. with thrilling adventures to follow at the Tune Lagoon.

Youth ages K- 5th grades are invited to step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys we will plunge into daily adventures to discover the nature of God. Join us as we navigate through wild games, rooted bible adventures, and the imagination station! Together we will learn what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God our creator.



Please RSVP here:
www.myvbs.org/clc26



**IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT
SUMMER'S **BEST** EVENT!!!**



Calling all volunteers: Youth grades 6-12 and adults of all ages!!

The Christian Education committee is happy to announce we will be hosting evening VBS July 27-31 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. To make this year another awesome success we need your help in the following areas:

Meal hosts- Will help prepare and serve the meals prior to VBS. Please note you would need to be available in the late afternoon to be able to prepare the meal to be served by 5:30 p.m. Meals will have been planned and items purchased in advance.

Opening & Closing Hosts: This group will work with Pastor Bimen helping host the opening *Sing & Play Tune Lagoon* and *Canopy closing* sessions. "Start the evening with high-energy music and introduce a new Bible Memory Buddy each day. Wrap up the evening with cool science experiments, skits, and music that all tie to the daily Bible Point."

If you are interested in helping, please mark your calendars for our first VBS team meeting on Sunday June 14th, at 12:30 p.m. We will discuss and plan for another fun year! Please sign up in the Narthex or contact Liz Dawson, fabuliz10@yahoo.com with your intent to commit to VBS by Friday June 12th.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE OUR VBS A MAGICAL SUCCESS!!!

FEBRUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	
1 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Hour 1:15pm Confirmation Cls 3pm Youth Valentine's Party	2 12pm Prayer Mtg	3 9:30am Tuesday Friends	4 9:30am We Friends 7pm Choir
8 8:30am No Service 10am Worship 11:15pm Annual Congregational Meeting 2pm Forest Hills Worship	9 12pm Prayer Mtg	10 9:30am Tuesday Friends 12pm WELCA Circle 	11 9:30am We Friends 7pm Choir
15 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Gospel Songs & Stories Class 11am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Hr. 1:15pm Confirmation Cls MESSENGER Articles to Liz Walker Deadline	16 12pm Prayer Mtg	17 9:30am Tuesday Friends	18 9:30am We Friends 11:30am - 1 to Go 7pm Wors Imposition 7:45pm Ch
22 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Hour	23 12pm Prayer Mtg	24 9:30am Tuesday Friends	25 9:30am We Friends 6pm Lenter 7pm Wors 7pm Choir
			



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Wednesday Rehearsal	5	6	7
Wednesday Rehearsal	12	13	14 
Wednesday 1:30 pm Ashes Ship w/ Ash Rehearsal	19	20	21 1pm Youth @ Activate 
Wednesday Supper Ship Rehearsal	26	27	28



Meals for the Recovering & Homebound



We would like to expand our meal outreach to more of our congregation during illness or recovery. It's a beautiful way to let our brothers and sisters know that we care and we are present. If you think that this is a ministry you'd like to participate in, contact Sherry Davis, 502-608-9534.

How will it work? Pastor will contact Sherry when he knows of a need. Sherry will reach out to the family and find out what the specific needs are. Once Sherry has all the info, she will then contact interested individuals to provide and deliver. We'd like to create a list of those who think this is a great ministry and want to help. There are already few of us doing this but **we'd love more help** so we can reach more members in need.

If you are already doing this for our members, THANK YOU!! It's a wonderful way to let our brothers and sisters know that we care!!

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



Ash Wednesday is **February 18th.** Imposition of Ashes can be received 2 ways - Drive thru from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm or at the 7:00 pm worship service.



Our **Midweek Lenten Service Series** will begin on **Wednesday, February 25th.** Join us for these midweek Lenten services where we will worship and explore our beloved hymns and stories, reflecting on faith, hope and God's presence along the Lenten journey. Through music and reflection, we pause, listen, sing and prepare our hearts for Easter.



Each Wednesday through March 25th, please join us for supper at 6:00 pm, followed by a service beginning at 7:00 pm.

GOSPEL SONGS & STORIES

Gospel Songs & Stories - Led by
Kathleen Breitenstein



"Jesus Loves Me" was our focus song for the January session of Gospel Songs and Stories. Over 15 participants learned that one of the most beloved songs started as a poem in a novel of fiction. Initially included in the 1890 novel, *Say and Seal*, as words of comfort to a dying child, the words were soon set to music. After that, the song has transcended the page, time, and culture to be recognized by children and adults all around the world! This and so many other gospel songs impact our lives in ways we're exploring so we'd love to have you join us for the **next session on February 15th**. We may find that God loves you and me, "Just As I Am."

WHIRL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This class is for our youngest students - **PreK through 5th grade**. This class will meet in Room 7 each week. This class is being led by Karen Lawyer and is sure to be a lot of fun! We hope to see all our elementary kids each Sunday for crafts, prayers, stories, treats!



CALLING ALL MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS!!!

Join us for **SUPERMAN & THE GOSPEL OF JESUS**

Classes will meet in Room 8 except on the third Sunday of each month, where the class will join the Gospel Songs & Stories class. Come and find out all about this engaging curriculum focusing on "how the Man of Steel reflects on the Son of God". This class is led by Liz Dawson & Kyle Fletcher.

Join the **Women of the ELCA** on Tuesday, February 10 at noon. Bring your own lunch and join the Bible Study, while enjoying warm fellowship.



The group meets the second Tuesday of every month; with the exception of June, July and August; in Room 1. All women of Christ Lutheran are invited to come and participate.



Have you wanted to connect with our members but not sure how? Why not send a card or two to our home bound members or those in assisted living and nursing homes. Send a birthday card or two. These cards bring joy and smiles to so many and is such an easy ministry. Address labels and cards are available in the Solarium. Drop your cards off at the church office for mailing if you would like or mail on your own.

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

MONTHLY MINISTRY ATTENDANCE

Sunday / Mid-Week Worship Service

DATE	EARLY	LATE SERVICE	ONLINE	TOTAL
1/4/26	28	46	14	88
1/11/26	28	54	13	95
1/18/26	33	57	No Live Stream	90
1/25/26	No Service	No Service	No Service	0

Monday Weekly Prayer Gathering

DATE	IN PERSON	ONLINE
1/5	No Service	0
1/12	8	0
1/19	7	0
1/26	No Service	0

Forest Hills Worship

DATE	TOTAL
1/11/26	18

2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor Bimen Limbong, 502-553-6025,

[**pastor_bimen@christlutheranlouisville.com**](mailto:pastor_bimen@christlutheranlouisville.com)

Roger Miller, President, 502-415-4243, [**rmlcm@yahoo.com**](mailto:rmlcm@yahoo.com)

Steve Sarson, Vice Pres., 502-295-9418, [**ssarson@gmail.com**](mailto:ssarson@gmail.com)

Dale Breitenstein, 502-262-6168, [**dalebreit@gmail.com**](mailto:dalebreit@gmail.com)

Randy Hesler, 502-939-2172, [**rlhesler@gmail.com**](mailto:rlhesler@gmail.com)

Mike Kull, 502-802-4485, [**mjk111048@aol.com**](mailto:mjk111048@aol.com)

Sarah Pryor, 502-758-5108, [**spryor@bellsouth.net**](mailto:spryor@bellsouth.net)

Natalie Rawlings, 502-314-2157, [**natalierawlings83@gmail.com**](mailto:natalierawlings83@gmail.com)

Tracy Richardson, 859-351-2590, [**tirky@yahoo.com**](mailto:tirky@yahoo.com)

Nick Zavagli, 502-645-1485, [**nicholas.zavagli@gmail.com**](mailto:nicholas.zavagli@gmail.com)

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

February Birthdays	February Anniversaries
--------------------	------------------------

2/1	Kameron Garr	2/5	Alita & Tony White
2/9	Lisa Williamson		
2/13	Chris Kull		
2/14	Randy Ferris		
2/15	Kyle Fletcher Kayla Flecher Duncan Karen Koch Curt Sigdestad		
2/16	Shari Bessette		
2/21	Ashley Ridgway Dave Williamson		
2/23	Whitney Stephens		
2/25	Ryan Bessett		

HAPPY
Birthday
FROM YOUR
CHURCH FAMILY





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.