



The Beacon

December
2017

**Christ Ev.
Lutheran
Church**

**320 N 28th St E
Superior, WI
54880**

**Office Phone
715.398.3680**

**Web Site
Christlutheran-
superior.org**

**Divine Worship
Services
Sunday - 8:00
a.m.
10:30 a.m.
Wednesday - 6:30
p.m.**

**Bible Study &
Sunday School
Sunday - 9 a.m.**



The God who Wore Sandals

“After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.” Mark 1:7

We are comfortable with a Jesus who wore sandals. Sandals put Jesus on our level. We can walk with Him and talk with Him and He tells me I am His own. We are right to think this way, for Jesus was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became every bit as human as you or I. As a man He sawed lumber and ate barley bread with smoked fish. As a man He suffered and even died. Very human stuff.

It is also very dangerous—if we stop at this point. If we picture Jesus as just another guy, we will be tempted to ignore Jesus when His words make us uncomfortable. We’ll dodge daily devotions and skip Sunday services and mouth-off to mother, because, after all, “Jesus has sandals, and He’s my personal Savior, and He respects my personal choice not to stoop down unless I feel like it.”

But John the Baptizer admits that he, John, was not a big enough man to untie Jesus’ sandal straps—because those sandals are on *God’s* feet! Anyone who claims to be a Christian (one who follows in Jesus’ footsteps) and is comfortable dodging devotions, skipping Divine Services, and mouthing off to parents, is just kidding themselves. You are following some other god, not the God who wore sandals!

The Advent and Christmas seasons confront us with this God who wore diapers and later sandals. He wore those sandals as a man in order to bear our sin. But this Man ever remains true God! And it is this sandal-wearing God who both dethroned death and would dethrone us from our belief that we can ignore Him. This is *God* before whom we bend the knee. This is the living Savior before whom we stoop down in humble service.

You’ll hear much more from this God with the sandaled feet in the Wednesday Advent services. I invite you to come with a friend, and together bow the knee before Him. That will truly make this a season of holiday happiness and cheer!

Pastor David Schoessow

The Season of Advent is Here!

Start the New Year with spiritual preparation for our dear Lord's imminent return in glory! Join us during Advent!

*"Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus,
Turn not from me aside,
And grant that I receive Thee
This blessed Advent tide.
From stall and manger low
Come Thou to dwell within me;
Loud praises will I sing Thee
And forth Thy glory show."
-THL 75:4*



Happy New Year! Well, not quite yet, but it will be soon. The new church year begins Sunday, December 3, the First Sunday in Advent. Spiritually enriching and challenging Divine Services are planned for each Sunday and Wednesday in Advent. Start the New Year right by preparing for our dear Lord's imminent return in glory! Join us during Advent!

"The Incarnation of Christmas"

Is your Christmas getting too commercialized? Is your calendar filled with shopping, parties and TV specials, but empty of times to meditate on the main focus of Christmas, namely the incarnation of our Lord that He might save us from our enemies? Then do something about it! Pencil into your December calendar time with Christ and His Church. Here is something worth coming out for on a cold December afternoon or evening!



"Behold the Light"

December 6: Advent Midweek 1 – 12:15 & 6:30 p.m.
Put On the Light! - Romans 13:11–14

December 13: Advent Midweek 2 – 12:15 & 6:30 p.m.
Many Lights Are Brighter—Together! - Romans 15:4–7

December 20: Advent Midweek 3 – 12:15 & 6:30 p.m.
A Light with a Special Purpose! - Romans 1:1–7

December 24: Christmas Eve – 4:30 p.m.
The Life in the Light! - John 1:4–5

Soup & Sandwich Suppers

Please join us for soup and sandwich suppers during Advent. They start **December 6 at 5:30 p.m.** The Board of Deacons is hosting this first supper.

Christmas Schedule

*"And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger."
-Luke 2:7*

December 24

8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Advent 4 "Conceived in the Womb of the Virgin"

4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Nativity)

December 31 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Christmas I and New Year's Eve

January 7, 2018 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Epiphany of our Lord (The Magi)

We offer four Divine Services during the Twelve Days of Christmas. Enjoy them all!

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday school Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 17 at 10:30 service. The 10:30 service will be totally devoted to the Children's Christmas program this year. The 8 a.m. service will be a Divine Service with Communion.

CASDA Mitten Tree

We once again have a Mitten Tree that will be set up in the fellowship hall. We are collecting new hats & mittens for CASDA. Just put hats and mittens on the tree in the fellowship hall. The items will be taken to CASDA the week of December 18.

Poinsettia Orders

It is time to order poinsettias to beautify the altar during Christmas. The price is still \$10. You will find order forms in various locations in the narthex & in the church office. Please fill out an order form and turn it in WITH the money to the office. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 4.

Pasty Bake Done! Thank You

Another successful pasty bake is in the books! We made 1674 pastys in 2 days thanks to our tireless volunteers, great work. Thank you to all the volunteers, the old hats and the newbies, it can't be done without you! Thank you to all the people who supplied food too, we ate well.

Church Council Minutes

November 9, 2017

Members Present: Wayne Ploetz, John Robinson, Don Hauser, Len Campbell, Roni Hauser, Pastor Schoessow, Jim Lemmerman and Sharyn Vengrin

Absent: Liz Hannula

Call to order: Don Hauser

Call for additional agenda items: None

Opening Prayer: Pastor Schoessow: We aspire to live quietly!

Minutes from Council Meeting: John made the motion to accept the October 17, 2017, minutes, Jim seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Schoessow: Looking Ahead:

Life in Christ-Life at Christ new member class Sundays at 11:45 am

Stewardship Sunday Nov. 5

500th Anniversary of Reformation Sunday Oct 29

Pasty Bake Nov. 12-17

Thanksgiving Eve Service Nov. 22

Advent Begins Dec. 3rd with Midweek services Dec. 6, 13, 20 at 12:15 and 6:30pm (supper at 5:30)

December 24 Regular services in the morning and Candlelight Service (4:30pm)

Could we put up a Thanksgiving display outside (corn stalks, pumpkins, gourds etc.?)

Pastor Schield:

No Report: Out of town!

Treasurers Report: Ending Balance: \$26,083.83.

John made the motion to accept the ending balance.

Seconded by Jim. All in favor. Motion carried

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board of Deacons: No meeting.

Trustees Report: Dishwasher has been completely installed. Call was made to the snowplow driver.

Board of Stewardship & Evangelism:

Board members will be volunteering at the Damiano Center on Monday, November 13. Future volunteer dates will be discussed at the next meeting. A sign noting Christ Lutheran Church will be made and brought to the Damiano Center on the 13th. Len to pick up the CASDA volunteers on November 1.

The Board was notified that Mission Endowment authorized, cut a check for \$500.00 which has been sent to the LCMS Disaster Response and Relief Fund. Many thanks to the Mission Endowment Committee.

The Halloween Trunk and Treat was successful- 90-100 children participated in the event.

Future door offerings are being considered for Lutherans for Life and the Orphan Grain Train.

The Board will serve soup and sandwich on December 13. The Guardian Angel Epiphany Brunch will be held January 7, 2017.

The Project Connect Booklet rack has been updated. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:00 pm, Tuesday, December 5 at Grizzly's Restaurant.

Board of Education:

Trunk or Treat-Great success we had about 90+kids Changes next year: Bonfire w/cocoa, and s'mores? 5:30-7pm

Plan for at least 100.

Christmas Program: December 17th at 10:30

Children are practicing.

Planning a family Winter Activity-January

Game Night/Caroling family event/December 9th at 2:00pm.

Serve soup and sandwich on Dec. 20th.

Next meeting December 11th at 5:00pm.

Memorial Committee: Check written for \$5,000.00 for dishwasher.

Endowment Committee:

Education Fund: Concordia Publishing-4-Faith Alive Student Bibles \$109.96.

Mission Fund: LCMS Disaster Response: \$500.00.

Memorial Garden: No activity

Old Business:

Church Facility Use Policy; Church Facility Reservation Request: Don will do research.

New Business:

Church Safety: Len will call and talk with Police Department in regards to talking with the Council.

November's Voters Assembly: Budget

Request to use Fellowship Hall: None

Next Council Meeting: December 14, 2017 @ 5:00 pm

Adjournment: Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by: Sharyn Vengrin

Voter's Meeting

November 12, 2017

Call to Order: Don Hauser

Opening Prayer: Don Hauser

Call for additional agenda items: None

Minutes from September 17, 2017 Special Voters' Assembly. Jim made the motion that we accept the minutes as written. They were seconded by Jim J. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance: \$26,083.83. Sharyn made the motion that we accept the Report as written. It was seconded by Millie. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business: Dishwasher-Completed

New Business: 2018 Budget-Jim made the motion we take a block vote. Wayne seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Adjournment-Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted by: Sharyn Vengrin

Stewardship

Christmas is coming. It is a joyous time of feasting. The Church feasts upon the Word of God in sermon, song, and sacrament.

We hear the proclamation of the message of the angels: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10–11).

We mingle our voices with theirs as we sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased" (Luke 2:14)!

We receive the proclaimed Savior, Christ the Lord, not wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in manger, but wrapped in bread and wine placed into our mouths for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

We feast in great joy indeed because of this great blessing from our Lord and God.

God's people in ancient Israel also feasted with great joy. The Lord showered His abundant blessing on His people. And He commanded them to feast upon it (Deut. 16). The people were to go to the place appointed, where the Lord would make His name dwell, and give offerings, each man as he was able, according to the blessing of the Lord that He had given them (Deut. 16:10, 15, 17).

And there the Lord would bless them with joy as they feasted upon what the Lord had provided. They ate of the choice parts of their offerings. They enjoyed the company of all the people of God as they together heard His promises of blessing, sang of His bountiful goodness, and partook of what He gave.

We feast on the Word who became flesh to dwell among us, not just during Christmas, but throughout all the year.

We feast not just on the salvation He has wrought for us in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, but we feast also on all the temporal blessings that God gives out of His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us.

We enjoy the rich bounty that God provides, not only in Word and Sacrament, but also in house and home, property and income, family and friends.

Let us then, as did our brothers in the faith from ancient Israel, give as we are able, according to the blessing of the Lord our God that He has given us.

Let us, like them, give generously of the first fruits of our income, which He gives, so that all may know and enjoy the salvation He gives and the joy we have in the Savior born in the city of David, who is Christ the Lord.

Blessing of Advent Wreath at Home

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19b

Response: Amen.

Leader: As we begin the season of Advent, let this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. As the prophet Isaiah says, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." Isaiah 9:2

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Response: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, the true light who comes into the world to enlighten all people, bless us as we light the candles of this wreath in preparation for Your coming, and enkindle in our hearts the fire of Your love that we may receive You with joy and gladness and evermore remain steadfast in the faith; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Response: Amen.

Leader: May the Lord Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this wreath for use in our home/school throughout this holy season of Advent.

Response: Amen.

Rite of the Christmas Tree

This order may be used with family or friends as you decorate your Christmas tree. You can find take home copies in the narthex.

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad!

All: **Let the sea roar and the fullness thereof! Let the fields be joyful and all that is therein! Then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the lord. For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness and the people with his truth.**

Leader: Jesus on the Tree of the Cross didst give salvation unto mankind

All: **That whence death arose, thence life might rise again.**

Leader: And that he who by a tree once overcame

All: Might likewise by a tree be overcome through Christ our Lord.

Leader: The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Praise be to Jesus who in his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness

Let us pray. . .

O Lord Jesus who didst bear on thine own sacred Body the sins of us and all mankind on the Tree of the Cross; bless this tree and let it be a reminder to us of the joy of thy birthday and of the glorious hope which thou has obtained for us.

All: Amen.

Each One Reach One!

The New Year brings with it another opportunity for us to gather an adult membership class (beginning later in January). During the past year you may have made many contacts with neighbors, friends and family who do not presently have a church home. With the blessing of God's Spirit on your consecrated effort, you may be able to lead them to know Christ as their Savior and/or to find a new church home in which to worship and serve Him. Invite these people to worship with you or to attend the next Life in Christ—Life at Christ new member class. You may also wish to have pastor contact them. And by all means, remember them in your prayers.

Christmas Is One of Two Times during the year when people without a church are especially open to invitations to come and worship. Use this opportunity to invite and bring your neighbors to our Advent and Christmas services. God bless your missionary work!

Guardian Angel Epiphany Brunch

We would like to invite you to join us on Sunday, January 7, 2018, following the 2nd service, for the Annual Guardian Angel Epiphany Brunch held in the fellowship hall. A delicious potluck brunch will be provided.

What is a Guardian Angel?

People participating will pick a name out of a hat. For the next year, the person who draws your name, will keep you in their prayers throughout 2018. You are welcome to remember your person on special dates, i.e., birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays, by giving cards or small gifts to this person. When signing your card, simply write, "From Your Guardian Angel."

The mailboxes located in the Narthex, will be used when delivering these surprises. Remember, we do not reveal

ourselves to the person we are praying for until next year at the Epiphany Brunch of 2019.

If you would like to participate in the Guardian Angel drawing, please fill out a form located in the Narthex and place it in the Guardian Angel box on the counter. The form should be submitted "no later than" Wednesday, January 3, 2018. You will need to attend the event to pick out a name from the basket.

This event is a potluck. There is a sign-up sheet on the office door in the Narthex for breakfast/brunch type items needed for the Brunch. Please check the sheet and consider bringing one of the items to the brunch. We appreciate your help on this. **Your favorite brunch-type recipe would be appreciated.** Ideas include: egg bakes, muffins, fruit, and juice.

God Bless and Thank You!

Family Game Day & Caroling

The Board of Education is hosting a family game day and caroling on Saturday, December 9 starting time either 2 or 3 p.m. (undecided at this time). There will be board games and such to play and those who wish to go caroling will be able to. Please dress appropriately to be outside if you are going caroling. There will be snacks available. If you have a favorite family board game, please feel to bring it.

Youth Upcoming Events

All 7th – 12th grade youth are invited to attend any or all events! We study God's Word in a variety of ways – music videos with today's current Christian artists, creative Bible lessons, and issues that relate to the youth! Join us! Bring a friend!

Come to the Youth Bible Study during the Christian education hour from 9 to 10 each Sunday, it promises to be good and there may even be food!

Getting Married?

A marriage preparation class for couples planning marriage is coming up in January, date yet to be decided. Limit of five couples. Please contact the church office immediately to get your spot.

Did You Know

Advent Devotionals

Advent devotionals are available for your family, free of charge, in the church narthex. There are a couple of different devotions available to choose from, take the one that works best for you or take both. You will find them in various locations around the narthex.

Invite Someone to Church

Christmas is one of two times during the year when people without a church are especially open to invitations to come and worship. Use this opportunity to

invite and bring your neighbors to our Advent and Christmas services. God bless your missionary work!

2017 Offerings & 2018 Offering Envelopes

Another year has flown by and it is time to distribute new offering envelopes. This year you will find them in your mailbox. If you don't have a mailbox they will be on the counter. The envelopes should be out by December 15. If you did not have envelopes in 2017 and would like them in 2018 please contact Roni in the office.

Reminder: please throw away any unused 2017 envelopes as of January 1. Please do not use 2017 envelopes in 2018 because the number will not be the same and your contribution will not get credited to you.

Your offerings for 2017 must be **to the church no later than December 31**. Contribution statements will be available in the narthex by January 31.

Remember our Service Personnel

PVT. John Seboe, Army, Afghanistan, grandson of David & Donna Manos; **Dustin Behrens**, Army Ranger, Special Forces, grandson-in-law of Jim & Judy Pohl; **LTJG Sean Freitas**, US Navy aviator, Texas, grandson of Carole Strohman; **Nathan & Jill Rogers**, Majors, Air Force Reserves, Daughter & son-in-law of Darrell & Joann Erdman;

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who stuffed a shoebox full of stuff for Operation Christmas Child. We gathered 71 generously stuffed boxes. Thank You Everyone!

Christ's Men

Men, Let's Do Lunch

Christ's Men will meet on Tuesday, December 5 at 12 noon at the Upper Deck Restaurant at the Bong airport. This is an opportunity to gain guidance and spiritual support from God's Word as well as an excellent opportunity for Christian friendship.

The Heating Season

The heating season is upon us again, please double check that all doors are locked, all lights are turned off (including bathrooms), and thermostats are turned down before your group leaves the church. Thank you!

Defending the Faith, Teaching the Truth

Issues, Etc. is a talk radio show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Recent topics include: Same-Sex Marriage, Reformation Solas, Depression, Radical Islam, What Boys Need, Pro-Life Women and more. Listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

Food for the Local Food Shelf

The first Sunday of every month is when you need to bring in your donations of non-perishable food items for the local food shelf. You may put your items under the table in the narthex. This is given to those in need and then to the local food pantry

Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

Are you receiving email from Christ Lutheran? If not, you are missing important and timely information from your church. We will not flood your inbox or share your email address (addresses are always hidden when sent from church). Please help us keep you informed! Call the office at 715-398-3680 or send it to clcoffice320@gmail.com

Looking for something?

The LCMS staffs the "Church Information Center", which offers a great deal of help and resources on a variety of topics. To contact the CIC with your questions, you may write: infocenter@lcms.org or call toll free 1.888.843.5267

December Birthdays

- 1 Louise Busse**
- 3 Beth Erdman
Linda Byrka**
- 4 Audrey Kidd**
- 7 Mary Manderscheid**
- 8 Margaret Stenberg**
- 9 Kaiti Derick
Todd O'Kash**
- 10 Bud Brand**
- 11 Joshua Pitt**
- 12 Amanda Bedard
Ken Ormsby
James Lemmerman**
- 14 Gertrude
Johnson**
- 16 Jennifer
Doane
Marie Haire
Nell Loughren**
- 20 Jim Pohl**
- 21 Alyssa
Isackson**
- 22 Sharon
Makela**
- 23 Sharyn
Vengrin**
- 26 Lisa Ahlberg
Lawrence Lehto
Bonnie Pahlen**
- 27 Kathleen Anderson
Adair Piper**
- 28 Lloyd Lehto
Mark Olson**



29 Scott Stenroos
Carole Strohman
31 Brett Austin

Online Information

LC-MS Website

lcms.org

Minnesota North District Website

mnn.lcms.org

Lutheran Witness Online

www.lcms.org

Click on 'Lutheran Witness' in left column

LC-MS Synod Radio Stations

www.kfuo.org—or—classic99.com

www.issuesetc.org

**Information on Pregnancy, Parenting
& Adoption**

getrealwithyourself.com