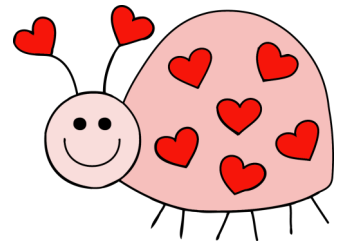




THE NUGGET



February 2017, from Pastor Dan

Epiphany is a time of the revelation of who this Jesus is, and as we finish up the season of Epiphany in February our main focus is on the teachings in Matthew Chapter 5. In here we find the Beatitudes and the teaching of Jesus that remind us that in God's view of the world, it is often the down and out, the poor, those who are the brunt of jokes and the persecuted that are truly blessed. To twist things even more, the word for "blessed" is the one often used to describe those who are at the top of their game, the ones who are successful and affluent. In the God's eye view of the world, it is the ones who seem to have lost everything the world holds dear, who are open to be filled with all God has to offer. While the prevalence of the prosperity Gospel seems to be on the rise in our world, the antithesis of that comes to us in Matthew as well as the rest of the Gospels. Prosperity is not a sign of God's blessings, but often can become an impediment to them. When our focus is to fill our lives with our stuff, there is simply less focus on receiving that which comes from God. The solution of course is to see that all we have in life, no matter how much or how little, is a gift from God, and it is a gift for a purpose. We are blessed to be a blessing. Ultimately it is not about "me" "an" "God" which always ends up with a vision of a "mean" "God" but rather our calling to learn to live together as the children of God in this world.

On Wednesday, March 1st, we change focus. This is Ash Wednesday and begins our Lenten journey, where the reflection is more on ourselves and our relationship to God. We will be gathering on Wednesday evenings and worshiping together using the liturgical setting called the Holden Evening Prayer. Even in this Lenten liturgical worship however the focus is to strengthen our spirit for the purpose of reaching out into the world and being the body of Christ alive and active in the world.

And so we continue in our personal lives and in our church year, round and round from action in the world, to reflection and prayer on that action and to the interaction as we gather with one another. It is a journey we make each year in the worship life of the church, and each day in our own worship life. Learning what it means to be a child of God in this world, bringing that word alive in how we act in the world and then reflecting on that alive and active word in our prayer, study and worship.

I look forward to our journeying together through the teaching of, and the reflecting on, the word of God alive and active in our lives and in our world.

COUNCIL MINUTES—January 9th, 2017

Members Present: Jeff Belluomini, Pastor Dan Bollerud, Denise Harro, Kate Veh, Casey Olson, Jim Delker

1. Jeff Belluomini moved to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Seconded by Jim Delker. All in favor. Motion passed.
2. The Task Force is working diligently to put together a mission profile. They need to meet with Bishop Shelley, then present to the congregation.
3. Jeff Belluomini presented a summary of user groups of the church.
4. Call Committee Members: Jon Lillevik-Chair, Elaine Larson, Jeff Belluomini, Sue Stein, Brook Carver, Katie Olson, Marlene Pearson (alternate). First meeting tentatively the 24th.
5. Pastor Dan still planning on new member meeting and a communion class.
6. Christmas Gift Giving Project went well.
7. Food Pantry: New Year's Noodles in January, Souper Bowl Soup in February.
8. Finances: Casey Olson will look at inflows and outflows and bathroom project budget. Simply Giving program has made a huge difference in our finances. Council would like a treasurer's report once a month. Council will talk to congregation about the Simply Giving Program.
9. Technology: Need to find out what technology needs are for the Worship and Music Committee and different user groups. Pastor Dan will continue Power Point presentations through spring.
10. Chairs: more chairs need to be purchased.
11. Church Credit Card: Pastor Dan feels the church may need to get one as there are many purchases throughout the year that the pastor is needing reimbursement.
12. Bathroom: There are a few additional items needed and then the project will be complete.
13. Bible Based Self-Help Curriculums: The council will research the need and benefit of offering these curriculums (marriage classes, divorce care, financial help, etc.) .
14. Council donated money to help with a member's family burial.

Next meeting: February 13th, 2017 6:00 PM

CONGREGATIONAL MISSION PROFILE

As an ELCA church, calling a pastor is a purposeful process. A key component of the call process is putting together for Bishop Shelly a profile of our congregation to present to a prospective pastor. We have begun the process with the Sunday survey questions that you have found in your bulletin. A longer survey is being put together and you will receive that in a few weeks.

We very much appreciate the answers to the questions that we have received so far. If you have missed any of those questions and wish to make your thoughts known, extra copies can be found in the church entryway. If you have questions or want to make comments contact any of us on the Mission Task Force Committee or Pastor Dan.

The committee: Roger and Marlene Pearson, Mark and Elaine Larson, Jon Lillevik, JoAnn Hagen, Lee and Andrea Frey, and Brenna Belluomini.

★ BEER ★
&
Hymns



*A fundraiser
for the
Soldotna Food Pantry
Sponsored by
Christ Lutheran Church
Friday, February 17th
6-8 P M at
Oddie's*

Beer & Hymns: Bring a friend for an evening of songs and raising money for a great cause: the Soldotna Food Pantry! Other beverages will be available.

REMEMBER IN PRAYERS

January 1

Concerns: Continued prayers for Sue Stein's daughter and son-in-law whose parents passed away with in six weeks of each other, those traveling, world peace.

January 8

Concerns: Gale who is has cancer and undergoing treatment; safe travels for Lee's Frey's parents.

Joys: Cameron Frey's birthday

Passings: Joyce Duwe's brother, Patrick; Mahan family whose mother passed; Rosemary Bird and family at the loss of her sister.

January 15

Concerns: A family who lost their house in a fire; Katie MacLeod's friend Marlene's niece, Marilyn going through chemo, safe travels for Peter, Erin and family, leaders of local, state and U.S. government, Michelle

Joys: Billie Shackleton turns 90 this week, Community generous help and donations to family who lost home from a fire,

January 22

Concerns: Our nations transition, President Trump and other leaders, Project Homeless Connect, prayers for our young people, Mike having surgery, Margie and Byron McCord ill from trip to Africa-bring them to health to share your love.

Joys: Dave and Jane 63 years of marriage, Rhoda and Dick 60th anniversary.

January 29

Concerns: Call committee, Joe and Gary at the end of ALS, Robin-healing with diagnosis of lung cancer

Passings: Death of Amy Downing

February 5

Concerns: Cairos Ministry, those struggling with homelessness, Gracie Altobelli another seizure

Joys: Jen and Brook Carver expecting another baby, Levi's birthday and all the youth of our congregation

Passings: Family of Fred West whose sister passed away

Ash Wednesday and Lent Services



Lent is 40 days (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday. Our English word Lent is derived from the word "lengthen", because Lent occurs at the time of year when the days are lengthening after the short dark days of winter. It is a season that invites the believers into a more reflective mood. We are encouraged to take time to attend to the parts of our lives that we often neglect. Lent begins Wednesday,

March 1st. During the Lenten season will be having midweek Lenten services on Wednesday morning at 11:00 AM and in the evening 6:00 PM. Please join us!

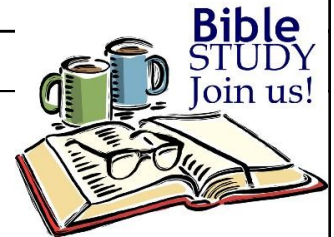
In addition, there will also be a number of Lenten devotional materials in the entryway to help you with your prayer and devotional life as you make your Lenten journey this year.

ADDRESS/EMAIL CHANGES

Kathryn (Katie) MacLeod's new address: 380 W. Katmai Ave. Soldotna, AK 99669

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please join "The Bad Girls of the Bible" bible study group at
10:00 AM in the Senior High room.
Contact Kate Veh for information 260-4669.



PODCAST



Christ Lutheran Soldotna podcasts are available on iTunes!
On your mobile device open your podcasting app
(IOS would use iTunes Store) and search
christ lutheran soldotna or go to www.christlutheransoldotna.org
and subscribe by going to the top menu:
Listen-Subscribe to iTunes!
Now you won't have to miss a single message.

LUNCH BUNCH - CALLING ALL LADIES!!!

Ladies: The Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, February 14th, 11:30 AM
at Gingers in the Peninsula Center Mall.



CHOIR

For all of you who like to make a joyful noise to the Lord, the church choir practices on
Sunday, at 10:00-10:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please Join us!
If you have any questions contact Anna Veach (334)349-3046.


FIRST THURSDAY BLUEGRASS JAM

We invite you to join us at the
"1st Thursday Blue Grass Jam" to be
held at Christ Lutheran Church on
Thursday, March 2nd
at 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM.
This evening is for those wanting to
"jam" or for those wanting to listen to
others jam. Please join us, you will
love it!



COMMUNION DATES—NOTE CHANGE IN DATES FOR THIS MONTH

11:00 AM Service, 1st and 3rd Sunday, February 5th and 19th
6:00 PM Service, 2nd and 4th Sunday, January 12th and 26th

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES	FOOD PANTRY
<div> <div>Jon Lillevik2/3</div> <div>Branden Frey2/4</div> <div>Jean Evenson2/5</div> <div>Gabby Triana2/5</div> <div>Marsy Ware2/5</div> <div>Kelly Seggerman2/6</div> <div>Levi Benner2/7</div> <div>Dillon Jensen2/7</div> <div>Scott Cunningham2/8</div> <div>Denise Harro2/8</div> <div>Peter & Carmen Triana♡2/8</div> <div>Sandy Umlauf2/9</div> <div>Casey Olson2/10</div> <div>Dena Cunningham2/12</div> <div>Randy & Karen Jensen♡2/13</div> <div>Hannah Thompson2/13</div> <div>Doug & Darnell Schneider♡2/15</div> <div>Dan Gensel2/16</div> <div>Karen Jensen2/16</div> <div>Kathy Gensel2/21</div> <div>Sammie Johnson2/21</div> <div>Dennis Alder2/22</div> <div>Addison Gibson2/22</div> <div>Mandy Redder2/22</div> </div>	<div> <p>We are collecting items for the Soldotna Community Food Pantry. In a total of 123 boxes were distributed serving 222 adults and 102 children. The pantry welcomes more volunteers. Bagging begins Wednesdays at 10:00 AM-2:00 PM and you are welcome to come for an hour or for the afternoon. Volunteers are needed for bagging staple products as well as working with clients. Peanut butter, tuna, cereal, canned fruit, canned entrees like soup, chili, pork and beans, canned and dried beans are always needed. If you are shopping and wish to buy extra food for the pantry, please drop it by the church and we will get it to the pantry. Small bottles of shampoo, bars of soap, tooth paste, etc. are also needed. Of course, money is always appreciated. There is a donation container on the table for your gifts. If you wish to help with the staffing any</p> <p>Wednesday (10:00 AM to 2:00 PM), please call Cosette at 262-7610.</p> </div> <div>  </div>
<div> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY!</p> </div>	

CROCHETING THEIR WAY MINISTRY

We are collecting yarn for the women at Wildwood Prison who are crocheting articles for people in the community.

There is a tote
on the donation station
for any donations of yarn. Everything is appreciated!



CLOTHING DRIVE

Winter is here. When you are homeless life on the street can be harsh. New, clean and lightly used winter gear and clothing including shoes, boots, hats, scarves, socks, etc. continue to be collected. Handmade items are appreciated. Drop off items at the church and they will be delivered to one of the homeless outreach agencies. Contact Sandy 262-7460 or sandyalaska@gmail.com for more information.





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Soldotna AK 99669
Return Service Requested

Christ Lutheran Mission Statement:

Knowing Christ

Empowering His Followers

Making Him Known To Others

Please contact us ...

Phone: 262-4757, Web: www.christlutheransoldotna.org or Email: clchurch@alaska.net

We want to include you in our prayers, arrange for pastoral visits, and announce information to the congregation, when appropriate. Please notify the church office as soon as possible when:

- A member of your family or someone you know dies.
- You or someone you know is ill or grieving.
- You or someone you know is in the hospital.
- You or someone you know wants to plan a baptism, wedding or celebration.
- You move or change telephone numbers.