

Christ Lutheran church 2016



Dear Friends in Christ,

When I was in high school I had to be one of the most uncoordinated kids around. To walk and chew gum at the same time was a major accomplishment, so when it came to gym class I would rather have walked across a bed of red hot coals barefooted than have had to participate in the activities. Unfortunately, gym was one of those required courses and coal walking was not offered as a substitute so there I was constantly standing out, but not in the way I wanted. Over time I took to heart the remarks of the other kids in the class and the gym teacher about my athletic ability and I truly believed I was the most uncoordinated person to have ever walked the face of the earth. For years I lived up to those words I had heard so many times before.

It wasn't until I was well into my 30's and I was helping my son with his karate lessons that I discovered I wasn't the most uncoordinated person in the world. Yet in spite of that discovery and the fact that I obtained a black belt in karate, I am still extremely self-conscious when I become involved in any kind of athletic endeavor. The words from my past still ring in my ears.

Words are the most powerful force in the world. There is a Jewish proverb which says that if we liken words to a weapon they are more like an arrow than a sword. A sword can be drawn and be placed back in its sheath without ever having been used, but an arrow once released can never be put back.

As we enter into the New Year perhaps each of us should ask ourselves, "How will we use this power this year"? Before we speak, will we stop to think about the effects our words will have on the person or persons to whom we speak them? How many words which should never have been said or weren't meant as they came out that can never be taken back have been spoken in anger? How many families have been torn apart because of words which were thoughtlessly spoken? How many kind words and words of gratitude which we meant to say will forever remain unsaid? Why are harsh or negative words so easy to speak? Why it is so easy to remember harsh words and so difficult to remember kind ones? Why is it that hurtful words are usually more potent than healing words? Why is it that while most of us recognize the healing potential of words, we are often stingy when it comes to using them?

Our words have tremendous power; more than we often realize. In his book Words That Hurt- Words That Heal, Rabbi Joseph Telushkin tells about Rabbi Riemer who once devoted his Yom Kippur sermon, the most important talk a rabbi gives during the year, to what he labeled "Four Phrases to Live By." He urged the synagogue's overflow crowd to "resolve that in this coming year you will learn to say four phrases more often than you have in the past: "Thank you." "I love you." "How are you?" "What do you need?" To that list Telushkin adds a fifth phrase "I'm sorry."

Words that hurt. Words that heal. As you enter into a New Year, what words will you speak? How will your words change the world?

Yours in Christ

Pastor Randy

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Council Minutes - November

Old Business:

Window bid - Keith will continue to look into bids.

Sign update - Guff Sherman has the sign completed. It will be stored and put up in the spring.

Bathroom update - Denise called the architect and left a message but has not received a call back.

Food Pantry - The Methodist Church will make Kathy a signer on their account with the Food Bank for the Food Pantry.

New Business:

Election of officers for new council:

Denise Harro - President

John Clonan - Vice President


Cheryl Romatz - Secretary

Listening devices for sanctuary - Denise shared information from John Harro regarding a device that will allow those with hearing impairment to better hear our church services. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Lutefisk dinner update - Mark Larson shared that the Lutefisk dinner made about \$800 which will be donated to the Food Pantry.

Next Meeting: January 11th, 2016, 6:00 PM

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

TACKLE  HUNGER

... Super Bowl. Every year millions of millions of people in our country and the noticed. February 7th, 2016, we will s is a day when we begin collecting to his year our Souper Bowl of Caring This organization was founded in es nutritionally complete meals for 70 countries. The prepackaged meals – costing less than a quarter to make – are funded and assembled by donor volunteers in the United States. Their in-country partners us the food to prevent starvation and curb malnourishment in children and families worldwide. “The generous will themselves b blessed, for they share their food with the poor.” Proverbs 22:9.

COMMUNION DATES

11:00 AM Service Sunday, 1st and 3rd Sunday, January 3rd and 17th
6:00 PM Service Sunday, 2nd and 4th Sunday, January 10th and 24th

CROCHETING THEIR WAY MINISTRY



Collecting yarn for the women at Wildwood Prison who are for people in the community. There is a box outside of Randy's office for your donations.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Women's Friday Bible Study meets at 11:30 AM. Women's Bible Study stands on its own, so if you miss one week you can come to not be behind. If you have questions about either, call Barb. There will be no class January 1st. Classes will resume January 8th.

THE ADVENT CONSPIRACY

Thank you for your support of the Advent Conspiracy Well Project. This year we received over \$7,500. Through your generosity we are able to give enough to build three wells. Thank for changing a small corner of the world.

ADVENT CONSPIRACY

CLOTHING DRIVE

2016 Project Homeless Connect will be held January 28th, 2016 in Kenai. Homeless or near-homeless people from our local meet with intake volunteers who will identify the participants' top three needs. Homeless Connect can help with. We can help local homeless and people by donating lightly used clean clothing, shoes, winter gear. Items donated here at Christ Lutheran Church between now and January 28th will be delivered to the 2016 Project Homeless Connect. If you have a question, you can contact Sandy at sandyalaska@gmail.com or 262-7460.



LUNCH BUNCH - CALLING ALL LADIES!!!!



Ladies:
The Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, January 12th at 11:30 AM at the new Acapulco Restaurant.

Remember in Prayers:

Healing for: Roxie's aunt's friend who has masses in body; Alex's friend's mom who is recovering from back surgery; Matt Altobelli's brother-in-law's mom with cancer; Natasha's friend in Philadelphia; Dennis Alder's mom who is ill; Lynne Sandahl who is dealing with an autoimmune disease; Katie MacLeod's niece who had a mini stroke; Jim Andrews having heart problems; Keith Pieh's knee; Twyla Mundy's friend starting chemo treatment; Billie Shackleton balance problems; Jim Delker's niece dealing with kidney issues; K Dean's son-in-law's mom who had a stroke; Marsy's dad with back pain and other problems; Sandee Simon's friend with genetic problems; Katie MacLeod's lung problems; Dennis Bible's cousin's granddaughter, Emily recovering from an automobile accident; Stephanie Bouchard dealing with lupus; Darnell Schneider dealing with health problems-wisdom for her doctors.

Continued prayer for those with cancer: Lori Weimer's father; Scott Cunningham's sister; Joann's friend, Marilyn; Ted Kreger with a rare form of cancer; Kathy Gensel's friend with breast cancer; Norma Forbs and her husband both battling cancer; Marlene Pearson's friend; Sue Bigg's friend, Jerry; Jon and JoAnn Hagen-Lillevik's friend; Lana Syverson's brother-in-law; Sandy Knutson; Deanne Pearson's friend in Seattle and her sister with breast cancer; Dee Richard's brother, Bob; Leslie Virelli; Barb Norbeck's friend; Michael Hollinger's mom; Polly Crawford; Katie MacLeod's nephew, Joe Auld; John Brewer's brother, Glenn; Dee Richard's five year old grand niece; Rochelle Schneider's son-in-law, Tom; Dick Evenson; Chris Stiuve's family friend diagnosed with brain cancer; Renee Henderson's and JoAnn Hagen's friend.

Strength for: Roxie's brother so he can be more independent; families facing difficult situations; Betty Wittenberg's father dealing with Parkinson's; Robin Castleman's brother suffering from depression; Marlene Pearson's son, Mark, who has ALS; Belle Warren dealing with family problems.

Prayers for: Bill Thompson's mother's health problems; Paul undergoing a heart procedure; safe travel for everyone; Katie's nieces husband's liver transplant; Kelly and Mark Harro looking for work; peace in the world; those suffering from depression; people who deal with different addictions; an end to racial prejudice; peace in Somalia, Robin Castleman's niece's twins, Patrick and Andrew who are now home; Palestine; Israel, Nigeria, Middle East, Syria and Ukraine; safety for those in the military; protection for Jamie Willard's husband in Afghanistan; wisdom for the leaders of our country and world; the unemployed.

Comfort for: Linda whose husband was killed in automobile accident and she is recovering from injuries she suffered in the crash, comfort for those that struggle this time of year; children around the world who are in orphanage; Sue Seggerman's sister who lost her son last March.

Thanksgiving for: continued improvement for Dan Houglum; Lev thanksgiving for family and friends near and far; Sarah Stei the University of Alabama, for Carol Clonan who graduated Stenga Blossom who graduated from Creighton.



ANNUAL WINTER CHILL POTLUCK



SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST

Immediately following the 11:00 Worship Service

It's a Southwestern Theme!!

Bring a potluck dish and a friend.

Green or red chili, tacos, enchiladas, frijoles, pasole,
 tamales, and a salad or dessert.

(Oh yes, and Tums, Zantac, or Roloids as needed).



THANK YOU

A note from Betty Miller: It is the Thankful season of the year. I have relocated to Bellingham WA, after 31 years on the Kenai Peninsula. There were many reasons for the move. Primarily it was to be closer to family. I am a boat ride away from my family in Victoria BC (Did I tell you I was Canadian?). I have been blessed in getting to know the church family while living in the area. I am thankful for the passing of the Peace (hugs, words, smiles) in and across the aisles. I enjoyed helping in the kitchen, VBS, Bell choir, and working with others in Sunday school. Even cleaning the church was pleasant because of you. Thank you for your love and support. As Tiny Tim said, "God Bless Everyone". Betty Miller
New Address: 2229 Michigan Street, Bellingham WA 98229

FOOD PANTRY



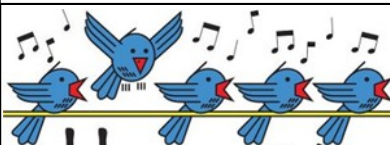
Food
Pantry
Ministry

This is a joint project of Soldotna United Methodist Church and Christ Church. Additional support comes from generous individuals, local businesses, as well as help from the Kenai Peninsula Food

3 boxes were distributed serving 127 adult and 62 children. The pantry is open Wednesday from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. Bagging begins Wednesdays at 10:00 AM and you are welcome to come for an hour or for the afternoon. Peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit, canned entrees like chili, ravioli, pork and beans, etc. 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 Wednesday (10:00 AM to 2:00 PM), please call Cosette at 262-7610



CHURCH CHOIR PRACTICE



Those who like to make a joyful noise to the Lord, church choir practices on Sunday mornings from 10:00-10:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Any questions, contact Anna Veach (334)349-3046.

Add your voice



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PO Box 508
Soldotna AK 99669
Return Service Requested.

Christ Lutheran Mission Statement:

Knowing Christ

Empowering His Followers

Making Him Known To Others

Please Call Us ... 262-4757

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.