



# THE NUGGET



November 2016, from Pastor Dan

“This is true. We are all beggars.” As we move on to Reformation Sunday and beyond, let us start with the final words of Martin Luther. The hallmark of the Reformation is the emphasis that we are saved by the grace of a loving God. Throughout history, humanity has tried to put qualifiers on that simple concept. We are saved by grace and all we have to do is... and then the list go on and on. Taken to the extreme, salvation by grace calls us to see all those around us as brothers and sisters in the family of God. The little adorable child sitting in the same pew in church as well as the ISIS extremist who just brutally murdered someone because of their misguided view of what God wants in this world. I must say that Grace, pure grace, is uncomfortable for me. But then I remember that I claim that same grace for myself. I remember that even on the cross Jesus offered forgiveness and grace to not only the victims of systemic barbarism, the thief on the cross, but the perpetrators of it. “Father forgive them for they know not what they do.” So what am I to do with the grace that I am not only blessed with, but burdened with? First I must acknowledge that there is evil alive in this world. It manifests in individuals as well as systems that leave wrecked lives and broken bodies in its path. It manifests by greed, carelessness, callousness, and self-righteousness in many and varied forms. Grace also calls me to accept how easy it is for me to be blinded to the ways I play my part in making this world, this community, this life, what it is.

From Reformation, we move on to All Saints Sunday. Remembering those special ones in our lives who embodied the love and grace of God for us. These are not perfect people mind you. We are all *Simul justus et peccator*, simultaneously Saint and Sinner. They were, however, special gifts in our lives and the lives of so many others. In recognizing them and their impact on our lives, it is also a calling to be Simul Justus et peccator, simultaneously saint and sinner, for others.

Then as we move on toward Christ the King Sunday, we find ourselves contemplating when it will all end and the world will be God’s once more. First of all, no one knows when that will be, and try as we might, no one will get that figured out. Secondly, it doesn’t matter when it will happen. We have our marching orders. We are simply called to follow Christ’s example, albeit poorly at times, and in this topsy turvy God’s view of the world, simply serve one another. Simply love one another. Simply be there for one another. Simply pray for one another. Christ manifest his Kingliness on Christ the King Sunday by totally giving of himself for the sake of others.

Welcome to this fall journey with Christ. It is a topsy turvy roller coaster ride at times, but our travel partner makes the journey worth it all.

## COUNCIL MINUTES—OCTOBER

### OLD BUSINESS

**Snow plowing and gravel.** Jeff Belluomini made a motion to approve the purchase and delivery of five of the barriers for the parking lot near the grass, not to exceed \$650. Cheryl Romatz seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed. Jeff will contact Carmen Stephi to order them.

**Sign.** The sign is complete and installed with LED lights. Thank you to Peter Micciche for spearheading the installation.

**Bathroom Construction and Church Remodel.** The handicapped restroom is completed and useable. Work will start on bathroom remodel as soon as countertops are available.

**Chairs:** Dan Gensel picked up 15 additional chairs from Costco. We will wait to dispose of the old metal chairs till after Lutefisk Dinner, will assess need for more chairs at that time. Discussed donation of metal chairs and current rack to the Catholic Church in Soldotna. New racks/carts for chair storage etc will be ordered.

**Food Pantry.** We took up a special collection for the Food Pantry and raised \$600. The Food Pantry requested reusable bags.

### NEW BUSINESS

**FaceBook.** Christ Lutheran Church Fellowship is the title of the Facebook page.

**Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting will be November 6, 2016. The Pearsons have requested time at the annual meeting to update and discuss the mission profile. George Stein will get together with Deb Delker and get the budget ready for the meeting. Pastor Dan will report on the state of the process of the call. Worship and Music committee will report. Denise Harro will give an update about the construction. Contact John Clonan about the pizza for the meeting.

**Next meeting:** Annual meeting November 6th

## WORSHIP/MUSIC COMMITTEE PLANS FOR SPECIAL SERVICES-NOVEMBER

### Month of November: "Color-coded" Food Drive: Bring Food to Match Colors

November 6th: Red

November 13th: Green

November 20th: Orange and Yellow

November 27th: Brown and White

Of course, food of any color is always appreciated and green \$ are especially nice!

November 6: All Saints Sunday with Bluegrass Music

November 13: Kickoff of Advent Conspiracy

We will again be doing the "**Living Well**" Project, which provides money for wells in Third World Countries so that they can have clean water. Last year, your generous donations provided for two wells. If you wish to donate, just put your money in the offering plate with the designation, "well."

November 20th: Annual Thanksgiving Service with Special Music provided by Children and Adult choir

Annual Soup and Bread Potluck headed up by Peter Micciche: Watch for signups

November 27: Beginning of Advent

Wednesday Advent Services at 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place  
Sunday, November 6th following the 11:00 AM Worship Service.  
Watch the bulletin, the November Nugget, your email,  
and the mail for more information.



## FOOD PANTRY



The Food Pantry is a joint project of Soldotna United Methodist Church and Christ Lutheran Church. Additional support comes from generous individuals, organizations, local businesses, as well as help from the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank. We are collecting items for the Soldotna Community Food Pantry. In September a total of 154 boxes were distributed serving 225 adult and 95 children. During our special offering, we raised over \$600. Watch for upcoming events to help this much needed cause in our community. If you wish to help with the staffing any Wednesday (10:00 AM to 2:00 PM), please call Cosette at 262-7610.

## WORSHIP/MUSIC COMMITTEE PLANS FOR SPECIAL SERVICES-DECEMBER

December 18: Christmas Pageant at 11:00 Service

We'll put on our own pageant in an impromptu fashion and sing carols.  
Costumes provided.

December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 5:00 and 7:30 PM

**NEEDED:** Someone to coordinate cookies and hot chocolate between services

**NEEDED:** Someone to help with cleanup

December 25: Christmas Day Services at 11:00 AM

Wear your pajamas and come sing carols.

## 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 Belloumini.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYERS

The "Remember Prayer" list comes from prayer concerns heard during our worship service or via email requests sent to the pastor/church for prayer. If you have a prayer concern that you would like shared on our email prayer chain or if you would like to be on the prayer chain.

### October 2nd

**Joys:** Thankful for gifts of beauty that surround us, open our hearts and eyes, Pastor Dan and his sermons,

**Concerns:** Healing for Dennis Alder's back, those traveling.

**Passings:** Dave and Jane Stein's friends, the Pond family, whose husband passed away.

### October 9th

**Concerns:** Donna Alder, those traveling, people in need in our community, Katie, Jim Delker's mother having surgery, the Romatz's grandson, Jaeger, going in for tests, man walking daily on the side of the road with no reflective tape, our congregation's upcoming annual meeting and members step to up to be leaders within the church, those in the path of Hurricane Matthew, being present amongst the politician's shenanigans; students of KPC and ACC.

### October 16th

**Joys:** thankful for everything and the beautiful sunny day, Jim Delker prayers of thanks for a successful surgery for his mother.

**Concerns:** those traveling in the northwest amid the storms, healing for Katie's neck and Levi's shoulder, Billie Shackleton is lonely and would like visitors, Dee Richard's son, Bruce, having knee surgery, Keith Pieh's knee was scoped, prayers for comfort,

**Passings:** Betty Walden passed, prayers for Ron Walden and family.

## ADVENT CONSPIRACY

Perhaps some of you have begun your Christmas shopping or are considering starting soon. As you begin making your plans, please consider the Advent Conspiracy. The story of Christ's birth is a story of promise, hope, and revolutionary love. So what happened? What was once a time to celebrate the birth of a Savior has somehow turned into a season of stress, traffic jams, and shopping lists. And when it is all over, many of us are left with presents to return, looming debt that will take months to pay off, and this empty feeling of missed purpose. What if Christmas were to become a life changing event? Welcome to the Advent Conspiracy. This year, as in the previous three years, we don't want to change the whole world, but we do want to change one village. More than a billion people worldwide lack access to clean water. A woman or child in sub-Saharan Africa will walk an average of 3.7 miles every day to get water, not all of it clean. Helping a community construct and maintain a well opens a world of opportunity. This year we would like to collect enough money to furnish one village with a well and change their world. The cost is \$2,500. If you want to see what difference a well can make in the life of a village and what some of the conditions are in sub-Saharan Africa read *Along Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park. It is a quick read, but one certainly that will touch your heart. There are also copies of *The Advent Conspiracy* in the entryway. Take one, read it, share it, and try some of the ideas to make your Advent and Christmas more meaningful.

## ADDRESS CHANGES

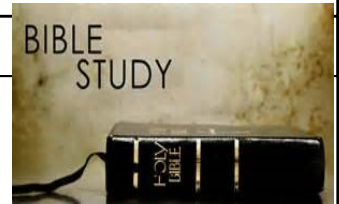
Sharon Wallace's new address: 35885 Southern Bluff, Soldotna, AK 99669  
Email: [swallace@alaska.net](mailto:swallace@alaska.net)



Change of  
Address

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please join "The Bad Girls of the Bible" bible study group at  
10 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](http://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, November 8th, 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 began practicing on Sunday, September 11th, meeting at 9:45-10:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please Join us!  
If you have any questions contact Anna Veach (334)349-3046.

## COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES

If you have children in college or the military please email the church or phone the church office 262-4757 with their address. Even if the address is the same as last year, please provide us with this information.

## COAT DRIVE

Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Nome, Alaska is having it's annual winter coat drive. It's going to be held Saturday, November 5th. If you have any lightly used or new coats to donate, drop them off at the church and they will be picked up and shipped to Nome. Children and teen sizes are especially needed.

## FIRST THURSDAY BLUE GRASS JAM

We invite you to join us at the "1st Thursday Blue Grass Jam" to be held at Christ Lutheran Church on Thursday, November 3rd @ 6:30 - 9:30 PM. This evening is for those wanting to "jam" or for those wanting to listen to great music. Please join us, you will love it!



## COMMUNION DATES

11:00 AM Service, 1st and 3rd Sunday, November 6th and 20th  
6:00 PM Service, 2nd and 4th Sunday, November 13th and 27th



**BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES**

Jeff Belluomini 11/1  
 John & Janet Brewer ♡ 11/2  
 Martha Nelson 11/4  
 Pollyanna Makabe 11/4  
 Anna Veach 11/5  
 Lori Vedders 11/7  
 Gracelyn Altobelli 11/11  
 Josh Pieh 11/15  
 Carmen Triana 11/16  
 Corbin Stuve 11/18  
 Tom Hodel 11/19  
 Kevin & Kim Christianson ♡ 11/19  
 Clyde & Gwen Johnson ♡ 11/20  
 Lavern Wahl 11/21  
 Chuck & Lori Marquardt ♡ 11/21  
 Roger & Marlene Pearson ♡ 11/23  
 Marlene Pearson 11/23  
 Katie MacLeod 11/25  
 Jeanna Carver 11/26  
 Damien Redder 11/27  
 Deb Delker 11/28  
 Olivia Rinke 11/28  
 Jim & Deb Delker ♡ 11/30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY!

**ANNUAL SOUP/BREAD POTLUCK****Sunday, November 20th**

We will give God thanks for all of his blessings in our lives at both worship services. There will be a Thanksgiving Soup Lunch following the 11:00 AM Service.

We will provide chicken soup, chili, and beverages. Please bring bread, crackers, veggies, cheese or a pumpkin dessert to round out the meal. There will be a free will offering to help cover the cost of the dinner. Heading up this will be Peter Micciche.

**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.

**ADVENT FAIR / CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Each year we do special events that require members contribute their talents. The contribution of their time and skills to plan an event is very valuable to the success of these programs each year. This year **we are in need** of someone to run the advent fair and the Christmas boxes for the college students. Both of these projects are fun and memorable for the youth of our congregation.

Please contact Denise Harro if you would be willing to take on one of these programs.

**AMAZING LUTEFISK OPPORTUNITY**

Saturday, November 12th, 5:00 – 7:00PM

Join us for the annual Lutefisk dinner!

Swedish meatballs, lefse, potatoes, corn and dessert.

Sign-up sheets and recipes can be found on the bulletin board.

Cabbage and meat will be in the refrigerator on Saturday, November 5th.

We hope people will continue to help as they have done every year. A reminder that Mark and Jon will be stepping aside and assuming a supportive role in the annual Lutefisk dinner. We need your help if the dinner is to continue.

Invite your friends and





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## **Christ Lutheran Mission Statement:**

**Knowing Christ**

**Empowering His Followers**

**Making Him Known To Others**

### **Please contact us ...**

Phone: 262-4757, Web: [www.christlutheransoldotna.org](http://www.christlutheransoldotna.org) or Email: [clchurch@alaska.net](mailto: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.