

# The Heavenly Herald

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

News From The President	2
CLC 2017 Calendars	2
January Calendar	3
Worship Servants for January	4
DCE	5
All Choirs Schedule	6
News From Our Evangelism Deacon	6
This Month in Our History	7
Financial Secretary Needs YOU	7
Assistance for the Hearing	7
NEW on our Website	7
First Sunday Food Drive Trend	8
CLC Choir News	8
Hark The Herald—Adult Version	9
Hark The Herald—Youth Version	10
CLC Annual Christmas Pageant	11
UPDATE: Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange	11
Sunday School Reminder	11
UPDATE: Christmas Cookie Exchange Social	11
Greeting Card Fundraiser	12
Bottles and Cans for Little Cherubs	12
On the Bulletin Board	12
Meet our Missionaries	13
Weather and Worship	13
2017 Pledge Packets	13
60th Anniversary Christmas Cards and Notepads for Sale	14
News From Our Stewardship Deacon	14
2017 Flower Chart	14
Souper Bowl	14
News from our Little Cherubs	15
CLC Annual Women's Retreat	15
December 2016 Memories	16-17
Our Sincere Appreciation	18
Support Hope Pregnancy Center	18
Discretionary Fund	18
Christmas Eve 2016	19
Columbarium Memorial News	20
CLC Music Offering	20
Bible Studies at CLC	21
Helping Hands	21
January Birthdays	22
January Anniversaries	22
Council and Voters Reminder	22

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

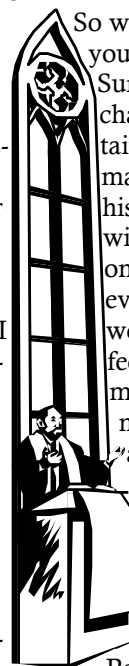
This message is written for the day of January 1<sup>st</sup>. It is the first day of the month as well as the first day of a new year, 2017. I would imagine that many people have made a list of hopes and dreams that they might like to fulfill in this New Year. One calls them New Year's resolutions. Over the years I have made a number of them always hoping that I would complete them. Often I have found myself able to do just that doing such things as making sure all homework was complete, losing a few pounds, seeking to gain more patience, making sure that I would get enough hours of sleep, helping more people who needed my help and the like. (Somewhere in there was to fight less with my brother and sisters)

However, I would guess that there were more times when resolutions went to the wayside. There were times when the promises I made to myself would be filled with emptiness and I would be filled with guilt or a feeling of failure. I failed at doing this, or doing that.

Yet when I think back to all the resolutions I was unable to fulfill I also find myself recognizing that I am not perfect and that the things I may have challenged myself with through New Year resolutions were beyond my reach or unrealistic. Some of the things may have even demanded a change in personality.

In light of all of this I must admit that I am able to be renewed in spite of my shortcomings or failures. I am renewed because I know that the Lord Jesus was able to do what I

could not do. He was able to fulfill all the resolves that were laid upon him, and that he fulfilled them for me. In being born as one of us He identified with us and his resolve was to take on our shortcomings, our failed resolutions; one may even call them sins. He was faithful even when I was faithless because in his love for us he could not help himself. His resolve brought me a sense of freedom so that I could pick myself up each day and move forward with life, a life beyond the newly made resolutions of a given year. In a word, saved! Jesus saved me! He has also saved you!



So when the time comes for you to fulfill your New Year's resolutions, don't sweat it. Sure, give them a try. Give yourself a chance. Goals are great to set, and if attainable, they can be rewarding. God has many goals he would like us to fulfill as his children. In fact there are more goals within the kingdom of God for us to take on than anyone of us can imagine. However, if the time comes and you sense your weakness, your shortcomings, your imperfection do not crumble in despair. Remember that you have been saved. Remember that Jesus is right there with you and raising you up to new life each and every day... And by the way, today has another title attached to it. Today is also the day known as 'Name of Jesus' which means...God Saves! That's a resolution that will never fail.

Peace to you all in the New Year.

*Dear Members and Friends of CLC,  
 I simply want to say thank you for such a generous and heartfelt gift given to me at Christmas. Kathy and I will always cherish the kind words of greeting in cards received and the sentiment of appreciation expressed through this Christmas gift.  
 With sincere thankfulness,  
 Pastor Gustafson*



**COME WORSHIP  
WITH US**

**Sunday Worship Services:**  
8:00 am & 10:30 am  
( Nursery Care Available - 10:30  
am )

**Sunday School  
&  
Adult Bible Classes:**  
9:10 am

**Summer Worship Service:**  
9:00 am  
( Fathers Day to Labor  
Day )



*The Heavenly Herald  
is published for members and  
friends of Cheshire Lutheran  
Church.*

*Church Staff  
Rev. Charles Gustafson-Pastor*

*Carol Santoro-Office Manager*

*Martha Medford-Organist &  
Choir Director*

*Andrew Schaefer - Director of  
Christian Education*

*Jeff Mann-Parish President*

*Beth Soulier-Editor*

**NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT  
AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

Greetings All,



I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and that you have a Happy, Healthy and Rewarding 2017! Kyong and I really missed the CLC Christmas services and wish we were able to attend, but had a wonderful time visiting our daughter and her family in Washington State. Thanks to Tim Weiland's photo journalism skills, we were still able to see the beautiful tree and decorations.

A big thank you to all the volunteers that helped decorate the church, those that helped cut, prepare and decorate the Christmas Tree and all the choirs, Martha and of course Pastor G for all their hard work in preparing for and conducting our Christmas Pageant and services. Thank you also to Karen & Tim Weiland, Karen Bailey, Vickie DePaolo, Don & Diane Drust and everyone that pitched in to make the Advent Jubilee / 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration such a big success!!

Hard to believe I have now concluded my first year as your Congregation President, and I want to personally thank all of you for your unwavering support. It has been a rewarding and humbling experience serving in this capacity and I truly appreciate the hard work, dedication and support of Pastor Gustafson, my fellow Council members and the Voter's Assembly!

The congregation is very blessed to have nearly all the council members agree to continue serving in their current positions for another year. We thank Jonathan Schrumm very much for his hard work and dedication over the past two years while serving as our Christian Education Deacon. Jon contributed greatly to the success of this important program and we are grateful for his dedicated service.

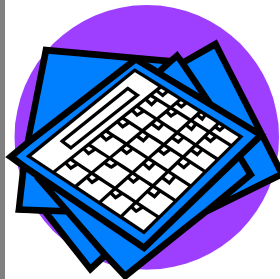
The 2017 CLC Council will be formally installed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> service on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Our annual meetings will also take place following each of the regular Sunday services on January 8<sup>th</sup>, and I encourage you all to plan on attending one of these important meetings – I promise to be brief!

Yours in Christ,

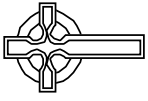
Jeff Mann  
CLC President

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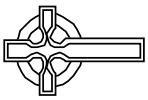
**CLC CALENDARS FOR 2017...**



**2017 Calendars** are here. The calendars are a gift to our congregation compliments of the Alderson/Slater Funeral Home. You are welcome to pick up a copy from our hallway counter or narthex table.



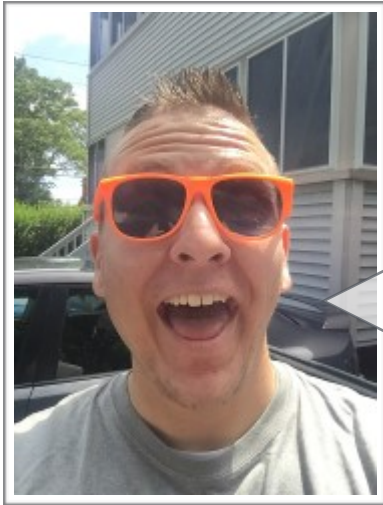
# GAO Galendiar



# January

# January Servants

# Cheshire Lutheran Youth and Family Ministry!



Come to Cheshire Lutheran this winter for many opportunities to gather in fellowship, dive into God's Word, and serve our community. Cheshire Lutheran's youth and family ministry is ready to take on the upcoming year, are you? Below you'll find the important dates and remember to sign up!

## Peanut Butter and Jelly Service Projects

*(PBJ will always happen after the late service concludes)*

**January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**February 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**March 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**April 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**May 7<sup>th</sup>**

## Family Ministry Events

**February 25<sup>th</sup>** UConn Game at XL Center at 12pm (tickets pre-purchased)

## CrossRoads (Senior High)

### **January:**

22<sup>nd</sup> Trip to IT at Jordan's Furniture  
 -Meet at CLC at 12pm and return by 4pm  
 -Cost is \$25/ person

## High Impact (Junior High)

### **January:**

11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:10pm to 8:30pm Bible Study  
 28<sup>th</sup> Laser Tag trip to Laser Planet in Waterbury  
 -Meet at CLC at 1pm and return by 4pm  
 -Cost is \$8/ game per person

Dates and times are subject to change. Additional dates may also be added. Sign ups will be located in the hallway on the small bulletin board.

## CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

Date	Time	Event	Choir
January 4 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 8 - Sunday	10:10 AM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Youth Choir
January 11 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 15 - Sunday	10:10 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
January 18 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 22- Sunday	10:10 AM	Rehearsal	Sunday School Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Sunday School Choir
January 25 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 29 - Sunday	10:10 AM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir or Soloist
	10:30 AM	Performance	Youth Choir or Soloist
February 1 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir



### NEWS FROM OUR EVANGELISM DEACON...

The Hartford Courant had an article on Dec. 23rd regarding the Archdiocese of Hartford weighing in on closing churches. It states that the Catholic population has decreased by 27% since 1965 and attendance fell by 70% during this time period. Church officials say that it is less about saving money and more about revitalizing the church. Cheshire Lutheran has not experienced this kind of drop in attendance since 1965. The Rev. James Shanley of the Archdiocese ended the article by saying that "we're trying to discern the will of God".

For 60 years Cheshire Lutheran has proclaimed the Gospel message to the members and visitors who have come to worship here. We have been blessed through the leadership of Pastors' Nuechterlein and Gustafson. Our church has benefited from the countless volunteers who have served as officers, teachers, and the many positions that are needed to continue to run a vibrant congregation. Through our offerings and prayers we have shown that we are concerned with the world and that we want to make it a better place.

May we continue to make a difference in the lives of the the people that we touch through our service to God.

John Balash Evangelism Deacon

## THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

A monthly glimpse of the history of your Cheshire Lutheran Church:

January 3, 1521	Martin Luther excommunicated from Catholic Church by Pope Leo X
January 1958	First congregational officers elected, parish constitution adopted, and congregation officially named Cheshire Evangelical Lutheran Church
January 29, 1961	Opening dedication ceremony of Cheshire Evangelical Lutheran Church



## FINANCIAL SECRETARY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU...

The Financial Secretary is always in need of volunteers to aid in counting church offerings after the 10:30 AM Sunday services. If you are available 4 - 6 times per year for approximately one hour, please contact Bill Soulier!



## SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED ...

A hearing assistance system (Williams Sound Corporation) and four receivers have been donated to CLC. A receiver (hearing aid) may be obtained from any usher. Please feel free to ask for one and make sure you return to an usher at the end of the service so it can be returned to its proper storage place for use at another time.



## NEW ON OUR WEBSITE... [WWW.CHESHIRELUTHERAN.ORG](http://WWW.CHESHIRELUTHERAN.ORG)

The following has been recently added to our Website:

- ✚ Audio recordings of Anthems sung by our Choirs last month
- ✚ Pictures from the Advent Jubilee
- ✚ Pictures from the Christmas Pageant
- ✚ Pictures of the Tree felling and decorating the Church for Christmas
- ✚ Pictures from Christmas Eve services
- ✚ Current and Past Heavenly Heralds
- ✚ Sunday School pictures
- ✚ Little Cherubs news and pictures



## NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION?

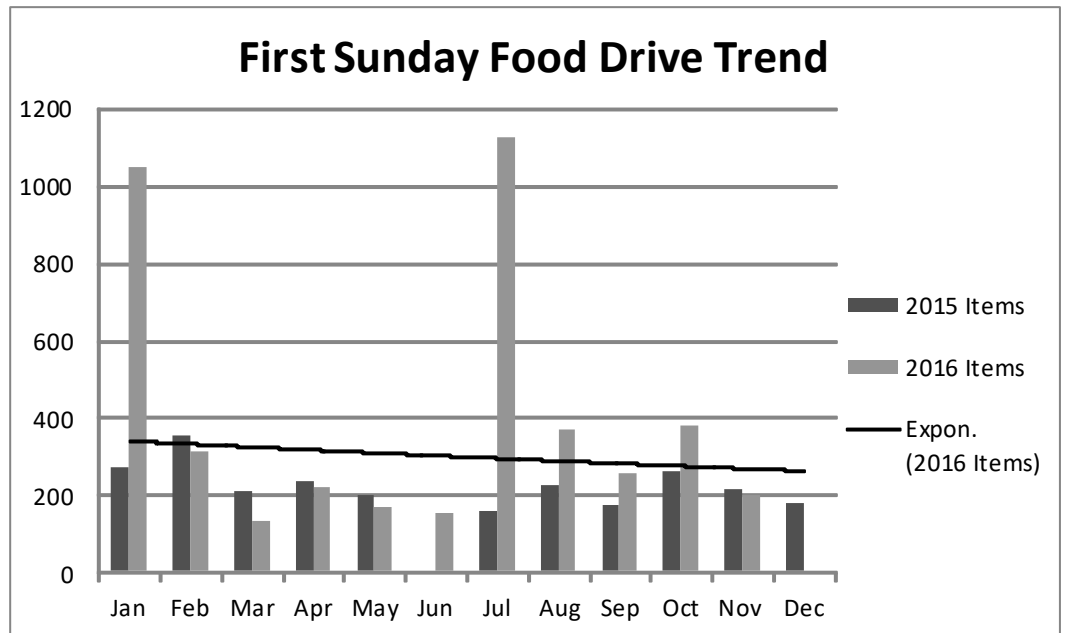
Just slip your information or a note into one of the folders on the hallway table outside the church office. Folders have been created for each of the council members, Beth Soulier (the editor of this newsletter) and a few others and placed outside the office. We have found that this is a great way to distribute information within the congregation.





**DONATE YOUR FREEBIES!**

If you happen to spot an item at the grocery store selling at a special price “buy one-get one free”, purchase it and donate the free item to First Sunday Food Drive



“Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’” John 21:15b

**LET'S NOT FORGET THOSE LESS FORTUNATE...**

Don't let our First Sunday Food Bank donations fall behind last year's totals. Please note that the Cheshire Community Food Pantry is open Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:00 am until noon and Tues. & Thurs. from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Please check expiration dates. We want to insure the food we are sending is not out of date. Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted, including non-food items such as soap, tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc.

**CLC CHOIR NEWS...**

All Choirs rehearse on Wednesday evenings as follows:

- 6:30 PM – Youth Choir
- 7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir
- 8:00 PM – Parish Choir

The Parish Choir sings on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays and the Youth Choir performs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. Both Choirs usually sing at the 10:30 but sometimes are asked (mostly Parish) to sing at the 8:00 service as well.

The Bell Choir will perform on special occasions 5-7 times throughout the year.

Each choir is praying for new members. Please consider joining, you will be happy you did! No experience necessary!





**LET'S SEE HOW YOU DO!****JANUARY 2017**

Submitted by and Special Thanks to Debbie Sherman

**A. Vocabulary – the Church Design - match the following :**

- |       |                               |  |
|-------|-------------------------------|--|
| _____ | 1. <b>The narthex</b>         | a) The elevated area at the front of the church where the altar is located.  |
| _____ | 2. <b>The sanctuary</b>       | b) The smaller speaker's stand and can be used for all the Scripture readings.   |
| _____ | 3. <b>The chancel</b>         | c) The dark red light near the altar or sanctuary candle. It has a candle that burns continuously as a reminder that God is always present.                |
| _____ | 4. <b>The altar</b>           | d) The general term given to all of the cloths that are placed on the altar, lectern and pulpit.   |
| _____ | 5. <b>The eternal light</b>   | e) Front and center of the church. It is the chief focal point of the church building. It is a table for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.             |
| _____ | 6. <b>The lectern</b>         | f) To cover the pastor's body and clothing, taking the focus off of the pastor and reminding worshipers that he is a representative of God.                |
| _____ | 7. <b>The pulpit</b>          | g) The space or entryway that leads into a church  |
| _____ | 8. <b>The paraments</b>       | h) The larger stand and it is normally used for the reading of the Gospel and the sermon.  |
| _____ | 9. <b>Pastoral vestments</b>  | i) At the base of the steps leading up to the altar, or it may be at the entrance to the sanctuary to symbolize baptism as one's entrance into the church. |
| _____ | 10. <b>The baptismal font</b> | j) Where the worship service is held and where the people are seated.  |

**B. Fill ins (from the Readings):**

1. "Lord, do you not care that my s\_\_\_\_\_ has left me to serve alone? Tell her to help me."
2. 'Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but d\_\_\_\_\_ and a\_\_\_\_\_."
3. "The Lord is my \_\_\_\_\_ and my salvation; whom shall I fear?"

**C. Descramble:**

- |              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| 1. LESP GO   | G _____ |
| 2. TNECOETSP | P _____ |
| 3. MTTEAESNT | T _____ |
| 4. WHERBE    | H _____ |

**D. Name that hymn...**

1. "Lord, Grant Us Grace to Know the \_\_\_\_\_." (was an insert hymn)
2. "O \_\_\_\_\_ Star, How Fair and Bright"
3. " B \_\_\_\_\_ and B \_\_\_\_\_ of the Stars of the Morning"
4. "I Want to Walk as a Child of the L \_\_\_\_\_"

**Final Question :**

**From which book of the Bible does the Benediction "The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace" come from? And would that be from the Old or New Testament?**

*See Answers on Page 22*

# Junior Version!

JANUARY 2017

Submitted by and Special Thanks to Debbie Sherman

**Epiphany** is a feast day celebrated on January 6 of the arrival of the Three Magi from the Far East to worship the Christ Child .(Matthew 2) Some think the Magi were kings, some think they were astrologers.



1								2		3			4		
5															
			7												
6															
								8					9		
			10									11			
								13							
14															

**Across**

1. Jesus was laid in this when he was born.
2. A word that means a sudden insight or the name of the church's feast day on Jan. 6.
5. The Three Kings brought the Baby these.
6. We celebrate on December 25 the birth date of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The Roman King of Judea at this time.
10. Mary was the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.
11. The first woman
12. The earthly father of Jesus
13. John the \_\_\_\_\_ who lived in the wilderness and ate locust and honey
14. The name of the baby born in Bethlehem and is the Son of God.
15. The Three Kings gave the baby Frankincense, Myrrh and this.

**Down**

1. The Three Kings are known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Three Kings came from the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name " \_\_\_\_\_", which means. God with us!' Matthew 1:23
4. An \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream to tell him to take Mary as his wife.
6. The cup on the altar that holds wine is the \_\_\_\_.
7. The Three Kings may have been \_\_\_\_\_ and not Kings.
9. The family House or Lineage of Jesus

## UPDATE—SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT...

“Twas the Night Before” by Rachel Olson /edit. Medford was presented by CLC’s Sunday school children during the 10:30 service on Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup>. Dress rehearsal was canceled because of snow on December 17<sup>th</sup>; making the Sunday school hour on Sunday our dress rehearsal, costume fitting, & singing practice.

The rehearsal was a bit shaky but the actual pageant went very well. The children did not quite get the passing out of the little candles just before the song Silent Night. I found out later was quite entertaining to the congregation.

Many thanks to Martha Medford for another outstanding job.

The production was videotaped and will be loaded to the CLC site in January for all to see.

Carlene Myers



## SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDER...

Sunday school classes will resume on Sunday January 8<sup>th</sup>; with each Sunday school class learning a different story/lesson from the Bible.

**Advent coin boxes:** The money the children collect in Advent coin boxes this year; will support:

- ✠ Cheshire food bank
- ✠ Heifer International. Heifer International will use the monies raised by CLC Sunday School to purchase a Bee hive which will be given to a struggling family in a foreign country.

The Advent coin boxes will be collected on January 8, 2017. Please make sure your child’s name is on his/her box.

The students of the Sunday School will sing for the January 22 - 10:30 AM service. They will sing "I will make you Fishers of Men" and will practice on Jan. 8, 15 and 22 at 9:10 AM, the beginning of Sunday School. *Parents, please plan to attend the Sunday School hours and the 10:30 service* on Jan. 22.

Many Blessings for a happy, heathy New Year,  
Carlene Myers & Martha Medford



## UPDATE—15TH ANNUAL OPTIONAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE, APPETIZER/WINE AND GIFT SWAP EXTRAVAGANZA...

The women of CLC got together for the Christmas Cookie Exchange and as usual, shared great food, cookies and gifts!

Thanks to Karen Weiland for hosting this year. It was a huge success. It is always a fun evening.

Happy New Year to ALL...



## GREETING CARD FUNDRAISER!

(A project of the Thursday Ladies Group)

A variety of greeting cards with Christian messages are for sale at \$1 each. These high quality cards are displayed in a rack on the counter outside the office. We will continuously update the selection which includes Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Thank You, seasonal and miscellaneous choices.

After making your selection, please leave your money or check in the box attached to the display.

The ladies thank the congregation for their generous support and hope to continue their record of giving to various church ministries.

We thank all for their support and especially thank those who leave large bills in the box.

Contact Persons; Rita Stark (272-3488) and Carolyn Bammann (272-7083).



## CANS AND BOTTLES—BOTTLES AND CANS...

Save your returnable Bottle and Cans. Money raised will benefit Little Cherubs. A collection box is located in the storage closet towards the back of the Fellowship Hall.

## ON THE BULLETIN BOARD:

*Remember to check the Bulletin Boards and/or hallway table for sign-up sheets and information about various events!*

### *This month on the Bulletin Board:*

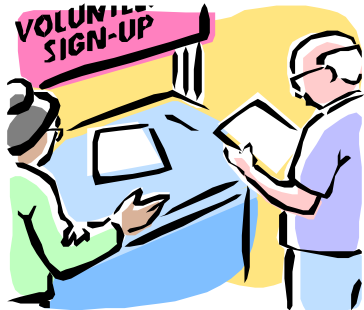
- † CLC Little Blessings Nursery Needs Volunteers
- † Give Your Old Car A Good Home **Good News Garage** information
- † Cheshire Food Drive Volunteer info. and sign-ups
- † Hope Center 2017 volunteer sign-ups
- † 2017 Usher Schedule
- † Little Cherubs enrollment information

### *Others looking for help!*

- † **Fellowship Deacon needs volunteers** to help make the events happen. Contact Karen Weiland if you can help in any capacity. 203-250-1574 or email [kweiland3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kweiland3@sbcglobal.net)
- † **Helping Hands** - Contact the Church Office if you would like to be a member of the helping hands committee.
- † **All Choirs** rehearse on Wednesday evenings are as follows:
  - 6:30 PM – Youth Choir
  - 7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir
  - 8:00 PM – Parish Choir

Now is the time to sign up to join the Parish Choir for Adults or the Youth Choir for Children. Previous singing in Choirs is not required, only a love of music and a desire to contribute to our worship on Sundays. Speak to Martha Medford or any current member of the choirs for Questions.

- † **Sunday School Teachers Needed**—Prayerfully consider serving our congregations children by volunteering to Teach them a few Sunday mornings during the year. See Carlene Myers or Andy.



# MEET OUR MISSIONARIES...

Help us impact Vietnam by sending a tax-deductible gift to: P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861. Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, memo: support of Cima family. Or give on-line at: [www.lcms.org/cima](http://www.lcms.org/cima).

JOHN.CIMA@LCMSINTL.ORG  
ALICE.CIMA@LCMSINTL.ORG

SQUARE TWO

THE CIMA FAMILY NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 10, NUMBER 11, NOVEMBER 2016

Join us in praising God for the 14 students and 2 teachers from Seoul Foreign School (SFS) who traveled to Viet Nam to partner with the LCMS in community development work. This 9th group of students to come to Vietnam from SFS displayed the typical servant heart and hard-working nature of previous groups. This year, the SFS team traveled to Thai Nguyen, where they served in Thai Hai, an ethnic minority village that seeks to preserve the ethnic culture of the Tay people. SFS students learned about local culture, practiced traditional crafts, and served by laying a new entrance road to the village (see pictures below). The previous clay road was prone to landslides when rains came, increasing the risk of motorbike accidents. This new road will be safer and will help to promote sustainable tourism to this special village. These are the small, practical ways that we can show Christian care and compassion for the people of Vietnam. What a blessing for LCMS to serve in this way! Please pray for the people of Thai Hai, that they will preserve their culture, find ways of earning a living, and that through our service they might see the One who has served us all!

We also give thanks for 6 adults from Nebraska who gave up their Thanksgiving holiday to serve LCMS' urban ministry projects- Play! café and student leadership training. Arranged by MM28, a Christian organization, the group served alongside Play! café staff to prepare decorations for Christmas (c). They also helped with LCMS' university student leadership training. The MM28 group led team building exercises (including a human knot game; see picture b!), and also a discussion about what leadership looks like (see picture a). Though not labor-intensive like SFS' project, the MM28 group provided a significant service—building positive and affirming relationships with students, Play! café staff and LCMS personnel. The visit was especially significant for one participant, Gerry, who had served in the Navy off the coast of Vietnam during the "American War" (that's what it is called here). Prior to his arrival he was unsure of how he would feel being back, but he was amazed by how warmly he was received by the Vietnamese people. Please pray for those touched by this group, that numerous seeds planted might bear fruit as we follow up, that they might be filled with Advent hope, peace, joy, and love.

# WEATHER AND WORSHIP...

Who knows what kind of winter we will have this year! To find out when worship services have been cancelled due to weather conditions, check TV channels, WTNH channel 8 or MyTV 9, WFSB channel 3 and on the radio, WTIC 1080 AM. All these stations have websites that list weather closings too! A mass e-mail will also be sent. If you would like to be included on our mass e-mail please let the church office know.



Stay warm!

# PLEDGE PACKETS FOR 2017...

Pledge Sunday for 2017 are here. Please assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations by returning your pledge card to the church as soon as possible. Thank you!





## 60TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS CARD AND NOTEPAD SALE...

Christmas Cards with photos of Cheshire Lutheran Church and notepads with the church logo are now on sale. Christmas cards cost \$10.00 per pack of 15 cards (with envelopes) and notepads are \$1.00 each. Please contact Karen Bailey or Karen Weiland to purchase. See the order forms on the hallway table nearest the Library.

## NEWS FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP DEACON...

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Thank you to all who have pledged or requested envelopes for donations. Although we have had a good start, we are actually down a few pledges from this time last year. If you have not picked up your pledge packet (or you have but have just not had a chance to return it yet), please think about returning your pledge card at your earliest convenience. It is never too late to submit your pledge. If you make regular contributions but do not pledge, if you have not already done so, please make sure to see Carol Santoro, our Church Secretary, to obtain a box of envelopes so that your contributions can be noted. This will be helpful to you for personal tax filings.

As I must regularly do, I would like to take a minute to thank Carol Santoro for all of her hard work over the past couple months. She was invaluable in assisting to get the pledge packets together before taking some much deserved time off. I would also especially like to thank Nancy Schweizer for her tremendous help filling in while Carol was away. Much thanks to both of you for making this a smooth process.

I again thank all of you for your generosity and consideration towards helping to keep CLC strong. I also thank all of you who returned a Time and Talent survey. We had good response and we would like to utilize those responses to help get more members involved in various aspects of the workings of the Church.

Sincerely,

David Veleber  
Stewardship Deacon



## 2017 FLOWER CHART...

If you would like to place flowers on the altar on a particular Sunday, please sign up on the Flower Chart which is hanging on the Bulletin Board.

## NEWS FROM OUR SOCIAL WELFARE DEACON...



On Sunday, February 5th 160 million Americans will tune into the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal.

Please join young people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. Drop a monetary donation and/or a soup donation in the soup pot as you leave worship on February 5th. CLC's donations will go to Cheshire Community Food Pantry.

## NEWS FROM OUR LITTLE CHERUBS...

Our Wish for you.

Sunshine in your heart, no matter what the weather is outdoors  
The gift of friends and family surrounding you this holiday season  
Safety and ease and fun in your travels, either in or out of town

The joy of the miracles from this season awakening something special within you  
The love of this holiday season, entering all aspects of your life and those you love

Good food, fun, laughter, cheer and God's blessings in your life and in the lives of all those you  
Love.

We hope you had a great Holiday. We were busy in December preparing for Christmas. We made Advent Wreaths, we talked about poinsettia day and made a poinsettia flower. We made many Christmas Ornaments. We made the Angels that are hanging on the bulletin board outside the office.

We had a visit from Miss Kim from the Library. She is so wonderful with the children. We practice Christmas Songs. We did the letter H,I, and J and the number 6 & 7, we had a Christmas Dinner in which we had 26 people here enjoying everyone's company. The children put on a Concert. We talked about the first day of winter and made bird feeders out of pine cones, peanut butter and bird seed.

Miss Martha and I wish you a New Year of Health, Happiness and Cheer.  
May you be blessed in the coming year.

Miss Martha and Miss Joann

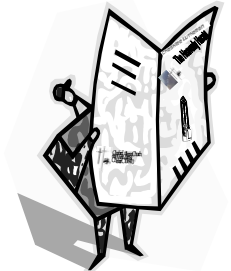


## PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A SUCCESS!!

(February 2017 Articles are Due!)

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier (soulierbeth@sbcglobal.net) by Friday **January 20<sup>th</sup>** or earlier! Place all non-electronic articles and information you would like printed into the HH in Beth's lateral file folder on the hallway

Thank You



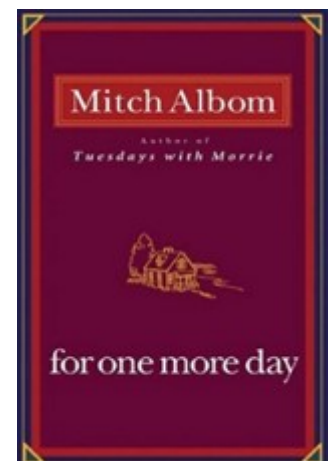
## CLC ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT 2017...

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual CLCW Retreat will be held on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Guest House and Conference Center in Chester, CT. The book we will be reading this year is *For One More Day*, by Mitch Albom.

*For One More Day* is the story of a mother and a son, and a relationship that covers a lifetime and beyond. It explores the question: What would you do if you could spend one more day with a lost loved one?

Please plan on joining us in May for an inspiring day with the women of CLC.

The registration fee including lunch is \$40. Please call me if you have any questions. Vicki DePaolo - 203-697-0810



# December 2016



Crèche Set Up  
December 3,  
2016



Advent Jubilee Dinner and 60th Anniversary Celebration December 4, 2016





# Memories

Christmas Tree and Church Decorating, December 17, 2016



Christmas Pageant December 18, 2016



# Our Sincere Appreciation



- † Many thanks to the “Thursday Afternoon Ladies” for assembling the huge December Heavenly Herald! HUGS!
- † Many thanks to Jonathan Manke for donating the lovely red Poinsettias that adorned our Altar on Christmas Eve. They were beautiful!
- † **Church Decorating – Thank You!**  
Thanks to all the folks that helped out with setting up the Christmas tree, decorating it, and decorating the church. The chosen tree is just beautiful!
- † VERY SPECIAL Thank you to Tim Weiland for ALWAYS being there to take pictures of all of our events! Tim, your hard work and dedication is GREATLY APPRECIATED!
- † Gracious thanks to Curt and Karen Smith for donating the beautiful wreaths that adorn the Church!
- † Special Thanks to Bill and Debbie Sherman for donating the lovely white Poinsettia plants that are placed beneath the Chrismon Tree in the Sanctuary.
- † Very special Thank You to Martha and her crew for the lovely Christmas Pageant. Your hard work paid off, the Pageant was phenomenal.
- † *Thank you from Martha Medford*—I wish to give a heartfelt thank you to the members of Cheshire Lutheran Church for the gift I received on Christmas Eve. Your kindness and generosity are very much appreciated.
- † *Thank you from Carol Santoro* for the gift received at Christmas time. It is truly nice to be thought of and your gift is very much appreciated.

## HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER...

Volunteers to deliver baby items to Hope Pregnancy Center, located next to the Library in Cheshire, are needed. If you would like to help once or twice a year, please sign up on the bulletin board.



We have re-directed the donated baby items which are collected in the bassinet outside the church office. For years we have been donating them to “Baskets of Love” where women of the Waterbury Church of Christ used them to make baskets which are distributed to new mothers in Waterbury Hospital, Bristol Hospital and New Beginnings in Waterbury. We would like to now donate these items to the **local** organization “Hope for Life”, d.b.a. Hope Pregnancy Center. They are located at 110 Main Street, Cheshire in a facility provided by Christ Community Church. They will gratefully accept infant clothing and unused nursery equipment. For further information, see the poster hung above the bassinet.

## THE DISCRETIONARY FUND...HELPING OTHERS IN AND BEYOND OUR COMMUNITY!



There are many ways to assist in the ministry of Cheshire Lutheran Church. One of the ways comes through the Discretionary Fund which is used to help people in need of assistance for various reasons. Many times those in need are members of the congregation. At other times, those in need simply come off the street seeking help for their family. However, in order to help others who wish to remain anonymous funding is needed. If you would like to help you can find special envelopes for contributions in the wall rack outside the church office. All donations are welcome no matter how small or large.

On the other hand, if you are ever in need of some immediate assistance the fund is there for you. You simply need to contact Pastor so that he can determine how you can be assisted in your time of crisis.

Take time to consider your blessings and then consider the possibility of being a blessing to others through a gift to the discretionary fund.

# Christmas Eve 2016



**Answers:**

Across: 1. Manger 2. Epiphany 5. Gifts 6. Christ 8. Herod 10. Mother 11. Eve 12. Joseph 13. Baptist  
14. Jesus 15. Gold

Down: 1. Magi 2. East 3. Immanuel 4. Angel 6. Chalice 7. Astrologers 9. David

## COLUMBARIUM AND MEMORIAL GARDEN NEWS...



The Columbarium Committee remains busy organizing the Inurnment Subscription and Memorial Plaque records. All congregants that have filled out Inurnment Subscription forms should have received a copy of their applications to store for safe keeping. All congregants that have filled out an application to have a Memorial Plaque ordered and placed on the wall will be receiving copies of their forms shortly.

4 Memorial plaques have been placed on the wall. Several more will be ordered just after New Years and will be placed on the wall as weather permits. If you ordered a Memorial Plaque, look for a message from Pat D. to proof your plaque before it is manufactured.

You may have noticed that the berm has been planted and is being cared for by the Mertz's. The Committee has plans for even further beautifying the area come Spring.



If you are interested in reserving a niche, purchasing a memorial plaque, or making a donation to beautify and maintain the Columbarium and Memorial Garden. Now is the time to speak to any member of the Columbarium Committee to confirm your interest in supporting and participating in this ministry. The Committee is now accepting applications for niches and memorial plaques. Monetary donations will be thankfully accepted toward landscaping and "hardscaping" the Memorial Garden.

Please feel free to contact any Committee member below to request more information or to obtain an application. The Committee thanks the members and leaders of Cheshire Lutheran Church for their vision and support of the Columbarium and Memorial Garden.



Don Drust, Chair	Buzz Gancarz	Priscilla Mulvaney
Vicki DePaolo	Linda Gancarz	Randy Raddatz
Judy DiDomizio	Margie Mertz	Beth Soulier
Pat DiDomizio	John Mulvaney	Tim Weiland

### Procedures:

You will find a box containing blue folders on a stand in the hallway. One folder contains inurnment procedures and the other contains memorial plaque procedures. Both folders also include fee schedules and the CLC bylaws concerning the columbarium wall. Please take whichever folder interest you and review it carefully.

If you have any questions or when you feel prepared to commit to the project, please contact Pat DiDomizio.



## CLC MUSICAL OFFERING...

Music performed during Sunday morning services, is sometimes recorded and then emailed to a number of people. Most computers will recognize the mp3 music file and play it back. It is especially appreciated by those who are not able to be with us on a given Sunday.

If you are interested in receiving an occasional musical offering, please send an email to: [juul@cox.net](mailto:juul@cox.net) with "CLC Music" in the subject line. Recipient addresses will not appear in the music email.

We would be happy to include you.

Judy & Bill Juul

# Bible Studies at CLC

## SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:10 for our Adult Bible Study.

## TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY...

Join us for Tuesday Bible Study which will begin again on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm with Chapter 13 of The Story

If you are interested in joining this study, please inform Andy so that the appropriate amount of materials may be ordered. Call the office at 203-272-5106 or email [dce@cheshirelutheran.org](mailto:dce@cheshirelutheran.org)



## CALLING ALL MEN...

Have you been searching for an opportunity to deepen your faith in God and strengthen your relationship with fellow Christians? Join us for an hour of Bible study, fellowship and prayer once a month. We meet at 9:00am on the third Saturday of every month. We look forward to seeing you.



## THURSDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUP...

Our Thursday morning Adult Study Group is continuing with its series of weekly lectures on Biblical Literature – from Genesis to Revelation – with Professor Craig R Koester, of Luther Seminary, in St Paul, MN. We meet in the church library; and all of you whose morning schedule permits you to join us are cordially invited to do so.

Sincerely – in Christ, Pastor Nuechterlein



## CLC HELPING HANDS...

The Helping Hands committee is looking for a new Chairperson and others to help coordinate. Kindly consider this wonderful opportunity. Contact the church office if you are interested.

If you are in need of help please call on our Helping Hands committee. Please call the church office and arrangements will be made for meals to be made and delivered to you by our committee.

Whether this need is the result of a hospital stay, a new baby arrival, or a recent loss of a loved one, we want to support you during your critical time.

*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. -- Galatians 6:10*



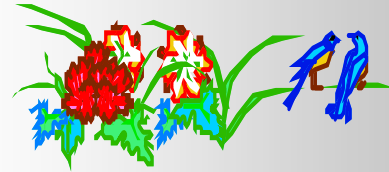
WELCOME TO CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH

- 1st Catherine Barden  
Todd Plantier
- 4th Emily Smith
- 5th Robin Harding  
Michael Carrington
- 8th Karen Neff
- 10th Craig Wilson
- 13th Jean O'Hara  
Carolyn Schmollinger
- 14th Barbara Manthey
- 20th Rebecca Mayer
- 23rd Margie Mertz
- 25th Carol Santoro
- 26th John Shepard
- 27th Don Dobbs
- 28th Eleanor Kenney
- 29th Mikayla Pryde
- 30th Todd Peters
- 31st Emese Gall  
Matthew Lynch

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

## January 2017

6th	Patrick & Kelley Collins-Pardee	5 Years
17th	John & Lynn Balash	42 Years



### COUNCIL AND VOTERS MEETING REMINDER...

No Voters meeting in January!!!  
The Annual corporate meeting will be held on January 8th after BOTH services!



#### Answers:

- A. Voc – 1. G      2. J      3. A      4. E      5. C      6. B      7. H      8. D      9. F      10. I
- B. Fill ins: 1. Sister      2. Dust & Ashes      3. light
- C. Descramble: 1. Gospel      2. Pentecost      3. testament      4. Hebrew
- D. Hymn: 1. Time      2. Morning      3. Brightest & Best      4. Light
- E. Final Question: Numbers 6:24-26. Old Testament



**Cheshire Lutheran Church**  
660 West Main St  
Cheshire CT 06410