

# THE MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2022



9212 Taylorsville Road  
Jeffersontown, Kentucky 40299

502-267-5082



*“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)*

The verses above are often quoted in wedding ceremonies because it tells us what love is. But the truth of the matter is that those verses are not talking about what love is as much as what love ‘does’. They are more than just romantic feelings between couples, and in fact it has nothing to do with romantic feeling to begin with; but they are about actions or sacrificial love.

Those verses are part of Apostle Paul’s pastoral letter in response to conflicts and divisions that the church was facing. As Christianity was getting further away from Jerusalem and more gentiles became Christians, the church faced new and complex challenges. The church had to deal with their new reality such as whether it is lawful to eat food that was being offered to the idols, a Christian marries a non-believer, a woman takes off her veil during worship or is allowed to speak in public, etc.

*continued on pg. 2*

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

[www.christlutheranlouisville.com](http://www.christlutheranlouisville.com)

Lead Pastor - Rev. Bimen Limbong

Associate Pastor - Rev. Richard Gianzero

Director of Music - Ann Colbert Wade

Some of them were bragging about their spiritual gifts; thinking one is better than the other or vice versa. People treated others based on their social status. Even they went into a more extreme that some church's members sided with one apostle over the other; the followers of Paul or Apollos. Over all, it was about power or control. Paul urged them to practice love above all things.

Well, there is nothing new under the sky. The church throughout the ages always faces challenges as the church confronts its values and the values of the world or as the people of God learn to adapt into the new reality. Even with our church, especially for the last two years we are dealing with many issues and decisions; whether to have in person or online service, masking or no masking, regular communion or virtual communion, etc. There is always disagreement in every decision we make which is very normal and healthy but how we respond to our disagreements will make a difference. God gives us different gifts and we view things differently; it is God's ideas to begin with. I am sure God doesn't expect us to think the same. However, God expects our unity in spite of our uniformity; for indeed, our unity lies at the foot of the cross.

My seminary professor once said that if you would like to learn more about the church conflicts and how to approach them, read Corinthians. Paul emphasizes that above all things, choose love. He concludes, "*And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three, and the greatest of these is love.*" (1 Corinthians 13:13). So let's practice that love when we face conflicts and disagreements that will not create divisions among us. As the apostle Peter also said, "*Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*" (1 Peter 4:8)

Serving Christ with you,



Pr. Bimen Limbong





*“But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way” (1 Cor. 12:31).*

I try to listen to teenagers, and not just my teenagers. What do they talk about? How does their conversation reveal their experiences in the world? I listen to parents as well, and try to pay attention to how they talk about their children, and their aspirations for their children. Themes of “giftedness” often emerge among both teenagers and parents. Sometimes an unhealthy competitiveness about gifts creeps into the timbre of conversation, often revealing more about insecurity than celebration.

The church at Corinth had no problem with their version of “time, treasure and talents (gifts)” surveys and actions. Paul writes extensively to them about their life together as church. Paul affirms the “gifts” of the church, but, as Apostle and Teacher, wants to show them a “more excellent way.” This way is the way of love - which we discover in 1 Corinthians 13. Sometimes the scholars’ insertion of chapters and verses in scripture draw our attention away from the flow of biblical prose. Read 1 Corinthians 12:31, don’t stop. Read right through chapter 13 and into chapter 14. This is a love letter from the apostle to the church.

I’d like to hear more celebration about the character of teenagers - how they care for others and share concern for the hurting. I want to lift up the teenagers’ pursuit of truth - love does not “rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth.” Even the most “gifted” young person in any field may or may reach a crescendo or apex of a sport or academic pathway. Such heights emphasize a narrow aspect of human endeavor. But love is a more excellent way.

Love is the character of Christ, the very personality of God as a human being. While gifts are important, love makes space for the gifts of all instead because God’s gifts are never for the few, but for the common good of all. Can we learn to celebrate the development and demonstration of character, and love as something worth “pursuing,” as Paul says in 14:1?

Love makes it possible to bear truth and endure the fruits of truth. Love imbues the “gifts” people have with life-giving and life-sharing service - it does not insist on its own way. In the year ahead, may we learn from the church at Corinth, and the Apostle Paul to “pursue love and strive for the spiritual gifts” (14:1).

Peace,  
Pr. Rich

## COUNCIL UPDATE

As we turn the calendar into a new year on the Church Calendar and a new Council here at CLC, I would like to thank all the members this year for their commitment to support and carry out the work of the church. It has been an honor to work with each one of them.

This month we discussed the preparations for the Annual Meeting and some additional information regarding the upgrading of the equipment for the sanctuary. We have been blessed by the contribution to complete this and work has begun on this important upgrade for our congregation. You may notice the cameras which have been placed in the sanctuary which will be connected to a new station for the technology which will be placed outside the sanctuary.

In addition to the cameras, the sound system is being upgraded to ensure the sound at home is of a quality to match that of when you attend in person. Opportunities to upgrade the video presentation capabilities are possible, but in recognition of changes to the physical appearance of the sanctuary we will make sure to gather feedback from the congregation before any of these changes take place.

The council also held a special meeting to discuss what it means to be a church in a digital age. There will be further thoughts and considerations to undertake and those wishing to provide insight, ideas or participate are encouraged to reach out to us. Currently, there are places we could utilize volunteers to help with our online experience, some which are technical and some which require little knowledge and comfort with technology. Contact the office if you are interested in pitching in.

Peace and blessing,  
Roger Kissling, Council President

## FINANCE

Thanks to January Counters: Mike & Jean Barney and John Schmitt.

Memorials given in the month of January were given in memory of Norma Porterfield and Pastor Bob Anderson. The memorials given in memory of Pastor Anderson were given for the Western KY Tornado Relief Fund.

[Online  
Giving](#)



SCAN ME

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

christlutheranlouisville.com • (502) 267-5082  
9212 Taylorsville Road Louisville, KY 40299



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This past Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, the Church Council of Christ Lutheran Church, with guidance and support from Bishop Bill Gafkjen, discussed and voted to accept the Negotiated Resignation of Pastor Richard Gianzero. As part of this agreement, Pastor Rich will serve his final day as a Pastor at Christ Lutheran on this coming Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. He will be in the office from 6-8pm if you wish to stop by in person to say goodbye, or if you wish to leave a note, the office will make sure to deliver these to him.

While this may be a surprise to many of you, this is the result of months of discernment between Pastor Bimen and Pastor Rich regarding the Shared Ministry Expectations for Christ Lutheran. As they have not been able to reach agreement on this, Pastor Rich, in consultation with the Synod office, has offered to resign in respect to Pastor Bimen's role as Lead Pastor and to ensure there is no division in the church. The negotiated resignation is used in cases, such as these, where the bishop of a synod determines that there is no possibility of resolution to a situation.

The Bishop's office has pledged to continue working to support the congregation as we process this and work to address our systems to support our pastors, lay leaders, and church community moving forward. While we are working to discern our next steps forward, it is important to remember our calling as Lutherans to show grace as we work to strengthen our relationships with each other in worship and service in "Making Christ Known."

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Bimen Limbong, Lead Pastor

Roger Kissling, Council President

## WHO IS ATTENDING THE 2022 YOUTH GATHERING

Each month we will feature 2 youth who are planning on attending the ELCA Youth Gathering. This month meet Noelle W. & Petra L.



Noelle Winskye is a freshman at Oldham County High School where her favorite subject is science. She also enjoys playing soccer and riding horses. In her free time she likes to hang out with her friends. When asked if she was the eighth dwarf in Snow White what would her name be, she said it would be Nosy.

If you knew you wouldn't fail, what thing would you do?

*Math.*

Would you rather have only two close friends or many acquaintances?

*I would rather have 2 close friends, quality over quantity.*

Would you rather lose your ability to speak or have to say everything you are thinking?

*I would rather say what I think because I say it anyways.*

Would you rather be the best player on a losing team or the worst player on a winning team?

*I would rather be the best player on a losing team because I like being the best.*

Would you rather win one million dollars today or ten million dollars in ten years?

*I would rather win ten million in ten years since it's way more and I could use it more then.*

*cont'd on page 7*

2022 ELCA  
YOUTH GATHERING  
**boundless**  
GOD BEYOND MEASURE



Petra Limbong is a freshman at duPont Manual High School where he likes to learn about English and Psychology. He is a member of the Swim Team, and participates in the Chess Club, Asian Community Club, and Robotics. In his free time, he likes to swim and socialize. When asked if he was the eighth dwarf in Snow White what would his name be, he said it would be Delighted.

If you knew you wouldn't fail, what thing would you do?

*Get a girlfriend, I'm joking I would solve world hunger*

Would you rather play video games or play outside?

*I would rather play outside because the sport that I play requires me to go outside. Also, I can't sit down for more than 2 hours at a time.*

Would you rather to never eat your favorite food the rest of your life or only be allowed to eat your favorite food for the rest of your life?

*I'd never eat my favorite food for the rest of my life because I can keep changing what I like. So, if I get bored of my favorite food, I might switch it and come back to it later.*

Would you rather have only two close friends or many acquaintances?

*I would rather have many acquaintances because more friends means more connections and having a lot of connections can help you achieve things that require a lot of people, like solving world hunger.*

Would you rather be able to sleep as late as you wish or be able to stay up as late as you like?

*I'd rather be able to stay up as late as I like because the more waking hours I have then the more things I can do (Unless I have the backlash of not sleeping at all).*

2022 ELCA  
YOUTH GATHERING  
**boundless**  
GOD BEYOND MEASURE

# FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	
		1 7pm Property Cmte Mtg	2
6 <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School ALL Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b>	7 12pm Prayer Mtg	8 9:30am Tuesday Friends 12pm WELCA Mtg	9 9:30am W Friends 7pm Choir
13 <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School ALL Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b>	14 12pm Prayer Mtg	15 9:30am Tuesday Friends 7:00pm Worship Mtg.	16 9:30am W Friends 7pm Choir
20 <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School All Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b> 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	21 12pm Prayer Mtg	22 9:30am Tuesday Friends	23 9:30am W Friends 7pm Choir
27 <b>8:30am Worship</b> 9:45am Sunday School All Ages <b>11am Worship &amp; Worship@Home</b> 1:15pm Confirmation Cls	28 12pm Prayer Mtg		





**TEMPORARY OFFICE**

**HOURS**

Monday: 8:30am—2:30pm

Tuesday: 8:30am—3:00pm

Wednesday: 8:30am—1:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am—12:00pm

Friday: 9:00am—12:00pm

<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
	3	4	5 9am-2pm J'town Sportscard Show - Youth Fundraiser
Wednesday r Rehearsal	10	11 7pm Busy Women's Bible Study	12
Wednesday r Rehearsal	17	18	19
Wednesday r Rehearsal	24 7:00pm Council Mtg	25	26

## LIVE STREAMING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our church is in need of volunteers to help with the live-streaming of our Sunday worship. No experience is necessary to be a volunteer, all individuals wishing to help will be trained. Positions needed include an individual to run the powerpoint program and an individual to run the live-stream and manage the sound. At this time the only service that we live-stream is the 11am Sunday service. Please contact either Pastor Bimen, 553-6025 or Roger Kissling, 797-0349.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please let us know how we can pray for you. Just call the church office, 267-5082, or email us at [church\\_office@christlutheranlouisville.com](mailto:church_office@christlutheranlouisville.com) and we will send out a prayer request. Christ Lutheran has some fierce prayer warriors always ready and willing to lift you up in prayer.

## SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

Jeffersontown Area Ministries sends its thanks to our congregation for its generous donation of \$1,400 in gift cards for families in need for Christmas 2021.

At its December meeting, the Church Council voted to discontinue our congregational participation in the Feed Louisville program. Also, the Council made the decision to send the remaining donated funds to Feed Louisville to help support tornado relief in Kentucky.

Jeffersontown Area Ministries is asking for paper products to be donated in February. Also, as in past years, the Social Ministry Committee will sponsor a toilet paper collection challenge for JAM. In 2022, our goal is to collect 500 rolls of TP to donate to JAM. Please bring your donation to church by February 27 to be counted and delivered. Help us beat our challenge goal!

## WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

Please join Pastor Bimen **every Monday** at noon for a recurring prayer meeting and short Bible study. Individuals are welcome to come in person or join the meeting virtually via Zoom; link provided below. It is a great way to connect with God, our community and each other.

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88673354124?pwd=emlVSUdLeXVPNVVXYUhJd3dDNIRkdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 7335 4124

Passcode: 900074



## MUSIC NOTES

The world has lost one of the most significant poets/hymn writers of our era, Susan Palo Cherwien. From her obituary: *Poet. Hymnwriter. Thinker. Singer. Surrounded by her family, Susan's soul took wing on December 28, 2021 due to Metastatic Uterine Sarcoma.* Susan's husband is David Cherwien, the Cantor at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis and the Artistic Director of the National Lutheran Choir, composer, conductor and organist. You can watch her Holy Eucharist/ funeral service on YouTube.

Our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) lists eight hymns using her texts: 261, 306, 374, 447, 548, 648, 672 and 699. Please take a moment and read through/study some or all of them - they offer a wonderful message and perhaps a different viewpoint on our faith. Well done, thou good and faithful servant – rest in peace, Susan.

Caldwell Chapel at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary on Alta Vista will be the scene of our own Norma Porterfield's memorial service/celebration of life on Saturday, April 2 at 10:00. All are invited and welcome.



Ann Colbert Wade  
Director of Music

## WELCA UPDATE

The next regularly scheduled women's circle will be on Tuesday, February 8, beginning with lunch at noon.



We will be offering an online option for any women who are not able to attend in person, no matter your reason. This will be a hybrid meeting with both in-person and on-screen options using Zoom. If you would like to receive an invite to the Zoom meeting, please email Jean Eisen at [skinut2357@yahoo.com](mailto:skinut2357@yahoo.com). Jean will send the invite on the day before the meeting.

Hope you are able to join.

## LITTLE SCRIBBLING ON THE USE OF THE TERM “CATHOLIC CHURCH” IN THE APOSTLE’S CREED

The use of the term ‘holy catholic church’ in our Apostle’s Creed is often misunderstood as the Roman Catholic Church. To avoid such misunderstanding, some people substitute that term with the ‘holy Christian church’. But the truth is that term does not refer to Roman Catholic Church per se. In fact, the Roman Catholic Church is part of the ‘holy catholic church’ that we confess in our Apostle’s Creed.

The word catholic with the lowercase ‘c’ simply means universal, general or concerning the whole. It is derived from a compound of two Greek words put together as one “*katholikos*” from the words “*kata*” + “*holos*,” which, when put together means “*throughout all*.” This is found for instance in Acts where the phrase “*church throughout all*” is stated (Acts 9:31). The word *catholic* was first used in this sense in the early second century when Ignatius of Antioch declared, “*Where Jesus Christ is, there is the ‘catholic church’.*”

We believe that the church is the body of Christ, where Jesus is the head and her Lord. The church is to be the body of Christ extended throughout time as well as space, the whole company of God's redeemed people

throughout the ages. Therefore, ‘the holy catholic church’ means the same as ‘the holy Christian church’ throughout the world that has nothing to do with a particular church’s institution or place. We should not hesitate to use that term in our worship or you may use the alternate translation if you recite that creed if you wish; all is right and proper.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and  
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\* Traditional use of this creed includes these words: "He descended into hell."  
\*\* universal

## 2022 CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	What	When, Where, Who
2/6 1:15pm	Class Resumes Topic TBD	
2/13 1:15pm	Field Trip - TBD	
2/20 1:15pm	Lutheran - Christians in the World today	
2/27 1:15pm	The road to Calvary through Lent	



**It's time to start planning for  
the ELCA Youth Gathering!!**

We continue to prepare for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering both financially and spiritually. On Saturday, December 4, CLC, in partnership with J&J Allstar SportsCards Shows, hosted our first ever sports trading card show. Despite the fact that there were a small number of vendors and shoppers we still raised \$416 towards our trip to Minneapolis. We hope that as these shows continue (once a month for all of 2022) that they will increase in size and that our profits will increase as well. Our next show is Saturday, January 15 from 9am – 2pm.

We had another Gathering Prep Bible Study session on Sunday, December 12 to help prepare us spiritually for our trip. This was the first of 2 sessions on the topic of God's boundless creation and was led by Pastor Kerri McFarland from St. Stephen. We are hoping for good weather for our next session so that we can get outside and really experience the beauty of all that God has created. Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 9, from 1:30pm – 3:00pm at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Fern Creek.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Gathering fund or Sponsored a Sunday! Your generosity makes it possible for the youth to attend this life impacting event.

It's not too late if you would like to join us for the Gathering. The Gathering is open to all students currently in 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades and is going to be held in Minneapolis July 24-28, 2022. Please contact Tammy Kissling with any questions.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**for**  
**THE ANNUAL EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA**  
**& EGG HATCH**



*Save The Date*

*Easter Eggstravaganza*

A fun afternoon celebrating the Easter season with crafts and an Easter version of "Trunk or Treat"

Sunday, March 27, 2022 at 12:15pm  
(after the 11am church service)

**We NEED YOUR HELP!**

Teens to organize craft stations

2 adults to help man food station

Many, many decorated cars and hand out eggs  
(filled with candy or other small trinkets)

Please contact Heather Rush at 502-599-3337 or  
heather1281@gmail.com if you have interest in helping.



## FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

February Birthdays		February Anniversaries	
2/1	Kameron Garr	2/5	Alita & Tony White
2/2	Nick Gray	<p style="text-align: center;">happy birthday!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</p>	
2/3	Penny Reese Dawson		
2/5	Chris Huber Emily Selch		
2/7	Pastor Richard Gianzero Terry Rupp		
2/8	Samuel Limbong		
2/9	Lisa Williamson		
2/13	Chris Kull		
2/15	Mike Gray Karen Koch Curt Sigdestad		
2/16	Shari Bessette		
2/18	Tammy Kissling		
2/19	Audrey Albin		
2/21	Ashley Ridgway Dave Williamson		
2/23	Larry Paul		
2/25	Ryan Bessette		

**Don't forget to share your special  
dates with us!  
We would love to celebrate you!**



**CHRIST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

9212 Taylorsville Road  
Louisville, KY 40299

Sunday Worship  
8:30am & 11am

Sunday School  
preK—Adult 9:45am

Find us on  @

Christ Lutheran  
Church  
@CLCLouisville

**Worship Times:** Sundays at 8:30am & 11:00am.

**Sunday School:** Age 3—adults at 9:45am every Sunday.

**Nursery :** Infant to 6 years old in Room 3 during 8:30am & 11am services.