



Christ Lutheran Church REPORTER

January 2020

A Publication of
Christ Lutheran Church
113 Union Street
Natick, MA 01760

Website: www.christnatick.org
Phone: 508-315-3170
E-mail: office@christnatick.org

The Rev. Rebecca Bourret, Pastor
pastor.bourret@christnatick.org

Tom Berryman, Music Director
musicdirector@christnatick.org

Gail Weston-Roberts,
Youth & Family Ministries Coord.
youthdirector@christnatick.org

Mary Avalos
Interim Administrative Assistant
office@christnatick.org

Leaders of the Congregation:

- George Hall, President
- Hannele Saramo-Raja, Vice President
- Edie Lohr, Treasurer
- Dorothy Nail, Secretary
- Carol Virshbo, Professional Leadership
- Laraine Marthinsen, Flowers
- Mary Avalos, Family Promise
- Robin Hurst, Family Promise
- Coffee Hour - open
- Frank Miller, Financial Secretary
- John Whitlock, Resource
- Amy Lousararian, Endowment
- Edie Lohr, Altar Guild
- Phil Roberts and Kim Petot –WMWA
- Bruce Schnepfer, Property
- Jeffrey P. Kinney, Stewardship
- Martha Cronin, Communications
- Janice Laakko, Visitation/Card

Congregation Council:

- George Hall (2020)
- Dorothy Nail (2020)
- David Pellauer (2020)
- Hannele Saramo-Raja (2020)
- Hilding Hedberg (2021)
- Celeste Larson (2021)
- Amy Lousararian (2021)
- Peter Miller (2021)
- Edie Lohr (2022)
- David Ripp (2022)
- John Whitlock (2022)





Pastor's Page

Wigs for Wheels

Christ Lutheran Church members and friends have an opportunity to help select a wig for me to wear on Sundays, while I undergo chemotherapy and until such time as I again have enough hair of my own, and to support our minibus acquisition project for Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey in El Paso.

Here's how it works: Cast as many votes as you like for any of the wigs pictured, each vote coming with a \$1 pledge for the minibus project, payable ASAP. I'll purchase and wear the winning wig on Sunday mornings. You'll have to act quickly, though: the bus auction ends on Friday, January 3—and my hair has started to fall out! With the exception of the pink wig, the actual wig may be closer to my natural color than as pictured.

The fundraiser has also been set be up on my Facebook and shared to Christ Lutheran Church's Facebook, so don't be shy about sharing and encouraging others to participate!

In addition to the cost of the minibus, we will need to fly Pastora and her husband, Fernando (who will drive the bus back to El Paso), to Boston, cover the costs of registration and insurance for the vehicle, and provide money for gas, food, and lodging for the 36-hour trip to El Paso.

Although we set a goal of raising \$10,000, there is no way that we can over-subscribe the fundraiser, as any money in excess of these costs will be donated to Cristo Rey for ongoing maintenance of the minibus.

Checks should be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church, with "Minibus" in the memo line—and all donations are, of course fully tax-deductible. With that, cast your votes!

Peace in Christ.

Pr. Rebecca Bourret



Wig #1



Wig #2



Wig #3



Wig #4



MUSIC NOTES

TOM BERRYMAN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Please note two outstanding musical events coming in February.

St. Olaf Choir at Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Wednesday, February 5 at 7:30 pm. Don't miss hearing the premier Lutheran college choir (and one of the finest a cappella choirs in the country) when they are in our area next month! <https://wp.stolaf.edu/calendar/event/st-olaf-choir-tour-worcester-ma/>

Tickets, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-olaf-choir-tickets-68477061735>.

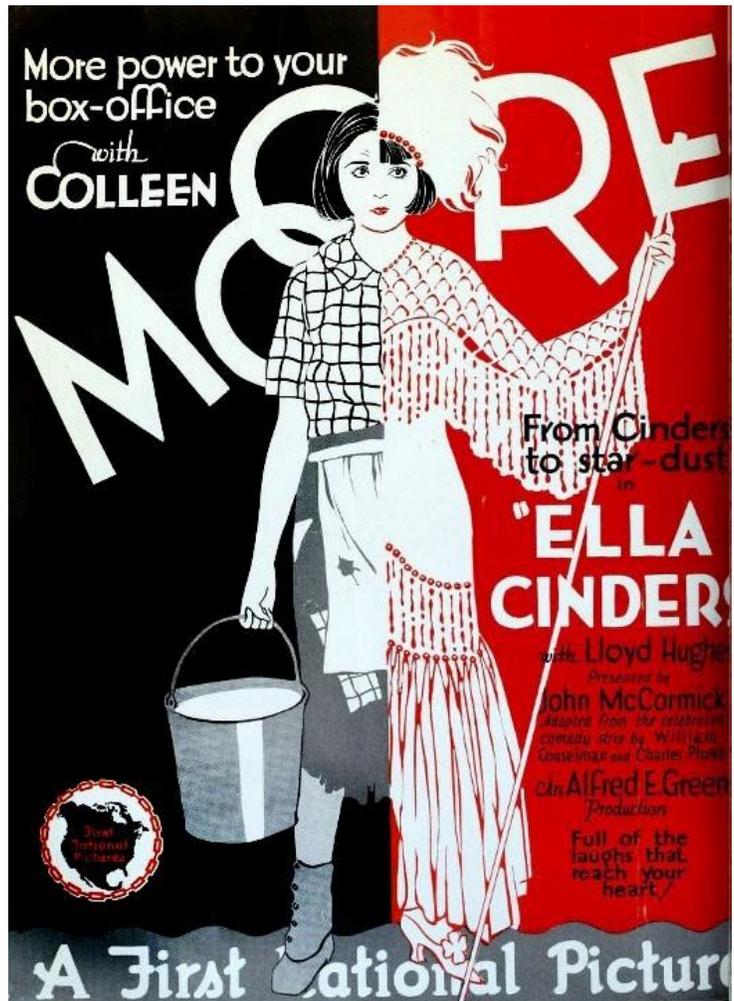
Listen to the St. Olaf Choir conductor, Anton Armstrong, speak about the Choir and their upcoming tour at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9W84CtNFQ4>.

Also in February:

Silent Movie Night

Our seventh annual evening with pianist extraordinaire Rob Humphreville features the famous 1926 film ELLA CINDERS on **Saturday, February 22** at 7 pm.

Alfred Green's movie re-tells the Cinderella story complete with lovely Ella and her wicked step-mother and step-sisters. Mark your calendars and invite friends and family.





Call for Thrivent Grants!

As our purchase of a minibus for Cristo Rey in El Paso and its ministry with migrants comes close to a reality, we can stretch the donations even further with a couple of Thrivent Action Team grants!

If you are a Thrivent member, you may apply for two grants of \$250 per year for a wide array of projects. Please consider applying for a grant to:

Pay for gas for the trip from Boston to El Paso;

Pay for lodging for the trip from Boston to El Paso;

Help insure the vehicle.

We could also use one grant to help with our mid-winter retreat. The purpose would be to offer incentive gifts for new participants (merchandise from the Camp Store).

Here's what you need to know to apply:

It's very simple to apply! All that you need to know is:

Your name, user name, and password to log into your account (and you can get help from Thrivent for that!)

- The date for the event you wish to support
- A name for the event (which needn't be clever; just descriptive)
- The type of event it is: a fund-raiser, act of service/kindness, or something educational
- How many people you expect to be involved in planning and executing the event
- How it's going to benefit people
- How you will use the \$250 in grant money (e.g. food, supplies, promotion)

That's it! Once the event has occurred, report back, which is just as easy, and you'll be eligible to apply for your next grant. Each Thrivent member is eligible to receive two grants each calendar year.

Not a Thrivent member? You can become an associate member for \$20, and receive one grant per year.

Still need help? Talk with Pr. Bourret!

Christ Lutheran Church at Calumet
January 31-February 2, 2020

Last name: _____

Adults: _____

Children (with age): _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Dietary restrictions/allergies: _____

Lodging options and rates:

- o Conference Center: \$168/adult, \$84/youth, \$546/family
- o Staff House: \$156/adult, \$78/youth, \$507/family
- o Heated Cabins: \$124/adult, \$62/youth, \$403/family

Above rates include two nights lodging and all meals, Saturday breakfast-Sunday lunch

Family rate is based on two parents/guardians and 3 or more youth

- o Large Village Cabin: \$440 plus per person meals
- o Small Village Cabin: \$250 plus per person meals
- o Village Room: \$210 plus per person meals
- o Weekend meal package: \$64/adult, \$32/youth

Children 6 and under eat and stay free

Total Due: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Due at registration: \$40/individual or \$100/family

Reminder: CLC pays all but the \$40 deposit for CL youth

(confirmation-high school)

Calumet
PO Box 236
West Ossipee, NH 03890

Adult Forum for January



For the first two Sundays in January, Russell Pollard will lead us in conversation about yet more difficult biblical texts, namely, those dealing with slavery.

The following weeks we'll delve into a topic that perhaps oughtn't be difficult, but yet seems to challenge us Lutherans, that is, evangelism. Like it or not, it's part of our name, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

We hope you'll join the conversations.

- January 5 Slavery in the Bible, part 1
- January 12 Slavery in the Bible, part 2
- January 19 The "E" Word, part 1
- January 26 The "E" Word, part 2

Bible Studies

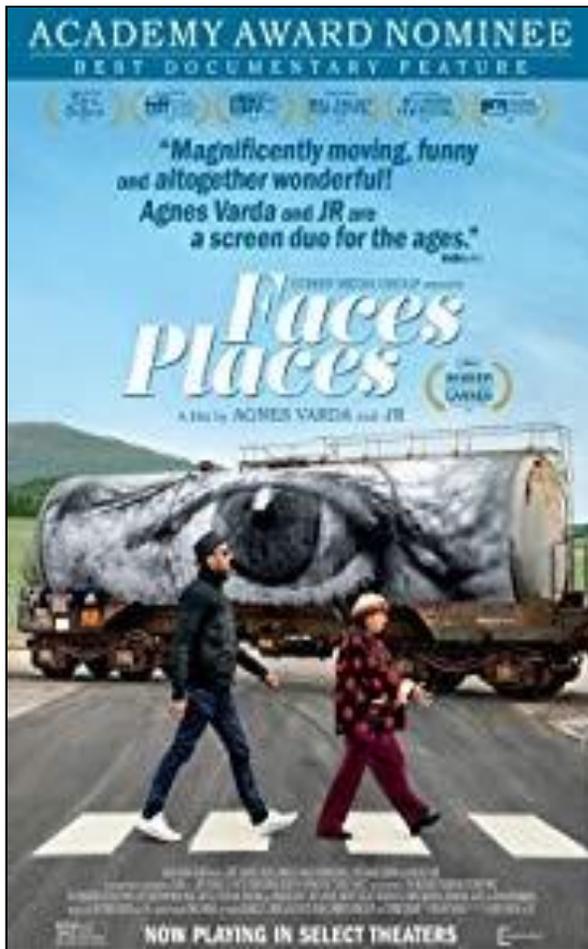
Come, join us on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. to experience Bible discussions with Pastor Richard Hurst. These sessions will last one hour. Coffee, tea, and cookies are provided.



Do you have a friend or family member who would enjoy receiving an inspirational card from our church?

Please give Janice Laakko the information, and she will ensure that a card or cards are sent to your friend or loved one.

Janice's email address is jlakko2585@verizon.net



CLC@the Movies

Faces, Places
 January 19, 2019
 4:00 p.m.

Agnes Varda, 88 year-old famed French film-maker teams up with 33 year-old French photographer, JR, to film a documentary of their travels through the rural villages of France.

Along the way, they create art as they spontaneously respond to the people and situations they encounter. The film captures the power of imagination as the two artists set out to “see what happens” as they travel in JR’s van which houses a small booth where subjects are photographed, with a poster size snapshot emerging from the side of the van seconds later.

Where they hang these photos becomes a visual delight for ordinary people who see themselves for the first time larger than life.

French peasant fare will be the theme for the potluck which follows the film. No time to cook? Come anyway and share the good company.

ASSISTING LIST FOR DECEMBER 2019

Date	Liturgical Day or Setting	Time	Greeter/Usher	Acolytes	Assisting Minister	Reader	Communion Assistant
January 5	Epiphany	10:00	Sandy Smith Deb Bianco	Kirstin Kirleis	Joyce Simon	Pamela Witcher	George Hall
January 12	Baptism of Our Lord	10:00	Ripp/Eck Family	Fiona Ripp	John Whitlock	Lana Peta	Lisa Chan
January 19	2d Sunday after Epiphany	10:00	Janet Thornquis Laraine Marthin	Peter Miller	Carol Virshbo	Russell Pollard	Cathy Gallagher
January 26	3d Sunday after Epiphany	10:00	Lana Peta George Hall	Anna Carlson	George Hall	Celeste Larson	Audrey Colson
February 2	Presentation of Our Lord	10:00	Beverly Fabriciu Patiricia Bianco	Liana Chan	Marianne Swenson	Alan Avalos	Joyce Simon

Date	Liturgical Day or Setting	Time	Coffee Hosts	Altar Guild	Tellers	Cantors
January 5	Epiphany	10:00	Rich and Robin Hurst Beverly Fabricius	Phil Roberts Robin Hurst	Jerry Precious Audrey Colson	Pamela Witcher
January 12	Baptism of Our Lord	10:00	Carol Virshbo	Carol Virshbo Edie Lohr	Hilding Hedberg Neal Fitzpatrick	Jeff Kinney
January 19	2d Sunday after Epiphany	10:00	Celeste Larson	Ellen Zagajeski Judy Precious	Frank Miller Marianne Swenson	Anna Carlson
January 26	3d Sunday after Epiphany	10:00	Amy Lousararian Edie Lohr	Ellen Zagajeski Judy Precious	John Whitlock Phil Roberts	Bob Weaver
February 2	Presentation of Our Lord	10:00	Cathy Gallagher	Pamela Witcher Dorothy Nail	Ross Petot Alan Avalos	Kim Petot

Christ Lutheran Calendar - Month of JANUARY 2020

For most up-to-date calendar information view online at: <http://www.christnatick.org/calendar/clc/>

Christ Natick, Christian Holidays, Office Hours, Youth & Family							Jan 2020 (Eastern Time - New York)			
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	1	2	3	4
29 10am - Holy Communion 11:15am - Coffee Hour	30	31		1 9:45am - Bible Study - 8:45pm - OLO Bell Choir 7:45pm - OLO Choir	2	3				
5 10am - Holy Communion 11:15am - Coffee Hour 5pm - Wonder and Wisdom	6 Epiphany 7:30pm - OLO Book Group	7		8 9:45am - Bible Study - 8:45pm - OLO Bell Choir 7:45pm - OLO Choir	9	10				11
12 10am - Holy Communion 11:15am - Coffee Hour	13	14 8pm - Resource	15	16 9:45am - Bible Study - 8:45pm - OLO Bell Choir 7:45pm - OLO Choir	17	18				
19 10am - Holy Communion 11:15am - Coffee Hour 4pm - OLO @ the Movies	20 Reporter Deadline	21	22	23 9:45am - Bible Study - 8:45pm - OLO Bell Choir 7:45pm - OLO Choir	24	25				
26 10am - Holy Communion 11:15am - Coffee Hour	27 7:30pm - Council	28	29	30 9:45am - Bible Study - 8:45pm - OLO Bell Choir 7:45pm - OLO Choir	31 Colomet Retreat	1				

7:30am - Al-anon,



1 What is the significance of your name? On this day we recall the naming of Jesus and pray that when we hear, say or think his name, we will recognize him as our salvation, our uniter and our sure source of love, forgiveness and new life.

2 Throughout National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, remember in prayer the men, women and children who are victims of this global tragedy, which disproportionately affects women and girls. Pray for an end to human trafficking and that all who suffer its abuse, injustice and oppression may find freedom, support, healing and safety, especially in our communities of faith.

3 Give thanks for the cloud of faith-filled witnesses who surround us as mentors of faith, vocation and life skills, enriching our lives through their example and sharing their faith, wisdom and knowledge.

4 Pray for the people and communities affected by the recent fires in California, that they will not lose hope but will experience God's presence and encouragement through the care and support of others. Give thanks for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response — with the California synods, Lutheran Social Services of Northern California and Lutheran Social Services of Southern California — to respond with physical, emotional and spiritual care.

5 Pray that the Holy Spirit will help us bear witness in the world to the light and truth of Jesus Christ, that we will be infused with enthusiasm for inviting others to believe and follow, and that all will experience the grace and fullness of God.

6 *Feast of Epiphany* God's glory is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, born among us and immersed in the messiness, complexity and commonness of humanity for the sake of the world. Pray that we will recognize God's divine presence and activity in the world for the redemption and healing of humankind and for the nurturing of our lives to better emulate Jesus.

7 Give thanks for the gift of wisdom that comes from God. Pray that our faith, with the encouragement of the Spirit, will compel us to share, teach and cultivate God's wisdom and ways among all people — young and old alike.

8 Give thanks and praise to God that we are adopted and called children of God through Jesus Christ, an immeasurable gift of grace, love and forgiveness in which we are immersed.

9 Pray for the ministries that have received ELCA World Hunger Big Dream Grants, which support domestic ministries as they pursue innovative and sustainable approaches to ending hunger. Ask God to help their work flourish and inspire others to seek new ways of ending hunger and lifting the human family.

10 The good news of Jesus Christ embodying God's love, forgiveness and promise of eternal life is for all humanity; no one should be excluded from this good news and mystery of grace. Ask that the Spirit fill and inspire us to speak enthusiastically about our faith and serve our neighbor — every neighbor — in the name of Christ.

11 Do you have goals, plans, hopes and ventures for this new year? Give thanks and take comfort and courage in the promise of God’s love, forgiveness, renewing Spirit and acceptance of us just as we are — in all our human endeavors.

12 Washed in the waters of baptism and touched by the Spirit, Jesus began his ministry and was made known to the world as the Son of God bringing the light and truth of God to the world. Remember in prayer how we are cleansed and renewed daily through our baptism, filled with the Holy Spirit, prepared for a life of praising God and serving our neighbor, and called to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

13 Pray for people who struggle with substance abuse and addictions and for those who are working to rebuild their lives and relationships through sobriety and the support of companions who understand the challenges of recovery. Pray that they will have faith in God’s unwavering love and forgiveness in moments of despair, joy, accomplishment, weakness and stumbling.

14 God’s voice and presence throughout creation are powerful and awesome. Give glory and praise to God as a humble member of the body of Christ, seeking God’s strength each day.

15 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* Give thanks for saints, martyrs and leaders, throughout history and today, who have dedicated their lives to racial justice, equality for all people and an end to racism and discrimination, and who stand with the neglected or weary. Pray that our actions, words and service for the sake of our neighbor will be inspired and guided by the witness and example of these bold leaders.

16 Pray for ELCA churchwide staff, volunteers and planning committees as they prepare for “boundless: God beyond measure,” the 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Ask the Spirit to guide them as they help youth, young adults and adults catch a glimpse and develop a deeper understanding of Christ’s love and what it means to live a life filled with God.

17 Give thanks that God shows no partiality or exclusivity in sharing love, mercy and forgiveness; the good news of Jesus Christ is for everyone and every nation!

18 The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today. Give thanks for the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, the Lutheran World Federation, the World Council of Churches and the ecumenical organizations and ministries with whom we journey together toward unity — unity that we celebrate and share in Jesus Christ.

19 Pray that in moments when God says, “Come and see” (meaning “trust and follow”), we demonstrate the same curiosity, hope and faith that moved the first disciples of Jesus, imperfect and uncertain as they were even when face-to-face with the Messiah.

20 Lift up in prayer the names of staff — paid and volunteer — whose vocation and faithful, generous service enhance and support the daily ministry and mission of our congregations and synods, including administrative assistants, business managers, custodians and people responsible for digital communications.

21 Pray for the leaders of every nation, including our own, that they will heal long-standing and recent rifts, pursue just and peaceful agreements and solutions for the well-being of the people they serve, and share resources to relieve hunger and poverty everywhere, without concern for profit or gain for any single nation.

22 Ask God to help us actively mend the suspicion and hatred in our nation and around the world that divide us, frustrate compassion and generosity, and undermine our understanding of how to live in community. Pray that where we are broken or in conflict, God will show us how to be whole.

23 Pray that we will find joy in following the will of God as it is written in our hearts and revealed in Scripture.

24 Thank God for our special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997; pray for the church, its diverse ministries and its members and leaders; and pray that together we will find mutual support, new partnerships and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

25 *Conversion of Paul* Reflect on how God has transformed you. Give thanks and praise to God for stirring our lives and calling us to be witnesses and servants doing God's work in the world. And give thanks for our faith, our unique personal histories, our strengths and weaknesses, and our gifts and skills, even when we are uncertain of their usefulness and relevance in the body of Christ.

26 Praise God for Jesus' life, teachings, ministry and personal example, which instruct us today as modern-day disciples called to follow Christ, share the gospel, serve our neighbor and grow the church in an ever-changing world.

27 Remember in prayer women of the early church, throughout history and today, whom God has called and equipped as witnesses, bearers and teachers of the faith, and leaders in every corner of the world. They are a blessing to the church.

28 Give thanks for theologians and teachers in our church, in our educational institutions and in our midst. Pray that God will grant them insight and wisdom to help us connect faith with daily life and deepen our understanding of God's word, ways and desires for us.

29 Ask God for forgiveness for the conflicts that divide our church and our congregations. Pray that when we disagree, we will exercise humility, love, respect and reconciliation, remembering and reaffirming our unity of spirit and purpose as siblings in Christ.

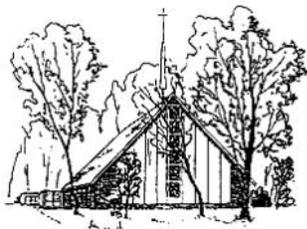
30 Ask God to help us when we feel discouraged or overwhelmed by or detached from the difficult challenge of reducing gun violence. Pray for wisdom, courage and boldness in advocating for legislation and cultural shifts that, though complex or unpopular, will protect the gift of life and honor the handiwork of our Creator.

31 "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Praise God and shout with joy!

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 5	Wonder and Wisdom/Ephiphany, 5:00 pm
January 6	Book Group, 7:30 pm
January 14	CLC Resource, 8:00 pm
January 19	Movie Night, 4:00 pm
January 28	CLC Council, 7:30 pm
Jan. 31 - Feb. 2	Calumet Retreat
February 9	Semi-Annual Meeting Part One

The February Reporter deadline is January 20, 2020



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