



The Christ Messenger

Christ Lutheran Church
Vienna, West Virginia

December 2020

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Our Mission:

As Children of God,
nourished by the Word,
Sacrament and Fellowship
of loving, forgiving, and
hopeful believers—
WE are guided by the Holy
Spirit to WITNESS to Christ's
saving presence in the
World!

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday 8:30-1:00
Thursday 8:30-1:00

Church Phone Number:

304-295-9241

Church Email:

CLCVienna@gmail.com

Old Problems and New Beginnings

By now the last of the leaves have likely fallen from trees in northern climes, and any still holding on look dry and dead. Snow has arrived, and its thick blanket shows the stains of city filth and grime, reminding us of the waste we are pouring over the land and into the water. This is the season we begin a new year in the life of the church and, as with our worship, we begin with a confession of our participation in the world's suffering.

Heavy hearts and burdened consciences will relate to Isaiah's confession, "We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away" (Isa. 64:6). Then, just as the cold nights in the northern hemisphere reach their longest, Mark addresses us with promises that the signs of the coming of the Son of Man will include the darkening of the sun, moon, and stars. Hold on, there is hope!

The promise of Advent is that God is always at work in the world, bringing new beginnings and a new creation to people and powers long bent on destruction. Yet, because we live in the generation that exists between the "already" of Christ's resurrection and the "not yet" of God's full restoration of the creation, we cannot know when that final day will arrive. Instead of becoming preoccupied with the end times, we are counseled to live our lives in a state of preparedness—trusting that our home is God's home and that God is coming once again to dwell with us. That trust is the strength that sustains us as we "wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 1:7).

From Sundays and Seasons

Church Address:

4513 Grand Central Avenue
Vienna, WV 26105

Church Web Page:

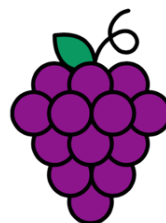
<https://christlutheranviennawv.org/>

Church Facebook Page:

[Facebook.com/christlutheranchurchviennawv](https://www.facebook.com/christlutheranchurchviennawv)

Pastoral Search

With the search for a new pastor getting started, CLC is looking for input from the congregation. Members of the church will have the opportunity to comment on the "Ministry Site Profile", which is the ad we put out for a new pastor. Also, church council is looking for people to serve on the search committee. If you are interested, please email Dave Freeman at freemand@marietta.edu



Good Samaritan Center Item of the Month

Jelly

Due to Covid-19, the Good Samaritan center is in need of additional donations. This includes any non-perishable items like peanut butter, pasta, baking mix, and other canned good items. Thanks you.



December Birthdays

December 12 – Jenny Knotts
December 13 – Bill Rogers
December 14 – Jerry Steege
December 16 – Gean Secreto
December 22 – Andrew Padgett
December 23 – Kim Wagoner
December 28 – Cynthia Read
December 30 – Will Rogers



December Schedule

Sunday's in December there will be one service, at 10 am in the Sanctuary. If, due to COVID-19 numbers, Wood County is orange or red, the church service will be prerecorded and sent out by email and posted on Facebook. Please make sure to check your email regularly to stay updated.

Christmas Eve 7pm – Sanctuary

Assistance Needed:

If you are able to help lead church services, please contact the church office. This does not include preparing a sermon. All that is needed is to preside over the service by reading through the bulletin that will be provided. The church needs someone to preside over services on December 20th and 27th.

Prayer List

We keep the following people in our prayers:

Glen Addis; Wesley Archer; Tara Bannister; Russell Behnke; Richard Dillinger; Jerry John DiNicola; Sally Ebeling; Pam Goots; Ann Hammer; Heather; Mary Hennen; Carrie Hommond; Diana Houllings; Diana Huddleson; Laura Lemley; Jacob Logue; Johnnie Mays; Joel McGuier; Rob Miser; Ben Moore; Mary Ann Roddy; Dottie Rothwell; Les Rothwell; Gean Secreto; April Sowards, Mildred Stanley; Keith Tanner; Zane Thorpe, April Tibbs; Donna Vincent; Terry & Vicki Wilson; Lois (Steege) Wood; police and first responders; our troops; Christians and other minorities in the Middle East; people in the Ukraine and eastern Europe; pray for peace; and for our military, especially for Airman Elijah Modesitt (U.S. Airforce), for all who have been diagnosed with COVID 19 and/or hospitalized for the virus, for all who have died from the virus, for all of our medical personnel and first responders who are treating patients, for all families and loved ones separated by quarantines, for people who do not have access to medical care to be treated, for folks who are unemployed and the underemployed.