



The Christ Messenger

Christ Lutheran Church
Vienna, West Virginia

February 2021

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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 8:30-12:30
Thursday 8:30-12:30

Church Phone Number:

304-295-9241

Church Email:

CLCVienna@gmail.com

Secure Even When It's Not Safe

The world is unsafe in countless ways. It contains wilderness after wilderness, places where temptation and danger seem to reign. Struggle, pain, fear, violence, hate, death, and suffering are all part of the uncertain world that we wake to each day.

The Gospel of Mark discusses Jesus' own encounter with the wilderness. After he was baptized by John the Baptist, Jesus was driven into the desert wilderness, where he was tempted by Satan for forty days. What's more, when Jesus left the wilderness to re-enter society, he encountered another kind of dangerous wilderness, a world where John the Baptist had just been arrested for confronting Herod Antipas and his wife Herodias with some hard-hitting truth.

After forty days of temptation, Jesus was met by yet another temptation: to play it safe in a world that had just silenced his friend for doing exactly the kind of thing that Jesus came to do. Despite the risk posed by worldly power players like Herod, Jesus proceeded to teach, heal, and spread the good news of God's kingdom. Despite the danger, Jesus trusted in the promise that God's love was bigger than the wilderness of human wiles.

The world is not safe, and believing in Jesus does not change this fact. However, we are secure in an unsafe world because of the promises made by God in baptism. Think of children who are secure in the love of their parents. They may go to school and face bullies—a painful experience, for sure—but they are less likely to trust the lies of the bullies because they know a deeper truth about themselves, a truth instilled by the love of their parents. So it is with us. There is danger and wilderness all around, but we are secure in the truth of our baptism: we are God's beloved children, with whom God is well pleased. Grounded in this secure love, we derive courage to set out into the wild.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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February Schedule

Sundays in February 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.

February 17th – Ash Wednesday

There will be a distribution of ashes at Christ Lutheran on Ash Wednesday. We are working with Pastor Reid to set this up. More information will be emailed out when we get the details together.

February 28th – Communion Sunday

We will be having communion Sunday on February 28th at Christ Lutheran. The service will be at 1pm and Pastor Ian Reid will be presiding. If Wood County is orange or red, communion will be distributed by drive-thru in the church parking lot.

Good Samaritan Center Item of the Month February 2021



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. Thank you.

Prayer List

We keep the following people in our prayers:

Glen Addis; Wesley Archer; Tara Bannister; Russell Behnke; Robert Cunningham; Richard Dillinger; Jerry John DiNicola; Sally Ebeling; Pam Goots; Ann Hammer; Heather; Mary Hennen; Carrie Hommond; Diana Houllings; Diana Huddleson; Betty Knight; Laura Lemley; Jacob Logue; Johnnie Mays; Joel McGuier; Rob Miser; Gary Miller; 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.

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)