

TABLE TALK

JANUARY 2024

Christ the King Lutheran Church
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Pastor's Letter



Grace and peace to you as we begin the 2024 calendar year. As I write to you, the church year has just begun with Advent, moved through Christmas and we are now in Epiphany. Soon will be Transfiguration Sunday followed by Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, February 14th. The year is off to a valiant beginning.

But before we get too far ahead of ourselves, it is important to be mindful of the present. By present I mean, those presents we received at Christmas time and the one we received some 2000 years ago (and continue to receive each and every day), the gift of Jesus.

Each and every day we are called to grow in our relationship with Gracious God, we are also to grow in relationship with family and friends and those we have yet to meet in our communities. We are to move simply beyond self and grow in awareness and compassion for the whole of creation. In closing I would like to share a poem written by Rev. Howard Thurman entitled *The Work of Christmas*:

When the song of the Angels is stilled.
When the star in the sky is gone.
When the Magi and elders are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock.

The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost.
To heal the broken.
To feed the hungry.
To release the prisoner.
To rebuild the nations.
To bring peace among all peoples.
To make music in the heart.
And to share Christ's love with all we encounter.

Peace, Frieden, Shalom, Salam,
Pastor Raymond



Church Service Volunteer Opportunities!



Three fun opportunities to share God’s love at church service are currently open:

Altar Guild: Weekly preparation of the Sanctuary for church services. The Altar Guild team works on a rotational basis and training will be provided.

Lectors/Assistants: Lectors do the readings and Psalms while Assistants help the Pastor to conduct the service. A script is provided.

Coffee Cart: Provide fresh water and check supplies for the coffee cart in the Narthex.

Please contact the office at ctkfremont@sbcglobal.net if you are able to help.



Christmas Eve 2023

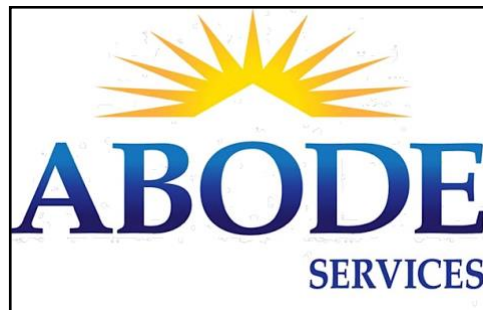


The Christmas Eve service was again memorable. The choir sang “Before the Marvel of This Night” By Carl Schalk and “Silent Night, Holy Night” was sung by candlelight with Lynn Waespi and Jason Tiller singing the first verse in the original German.

Come and Undecorate with Us!



On January 6th, Saturday at 4:00pm,
come and help us **undecorate** the sanctuary of Christmas decorations.



We have been blessed to provide Home Warming wares to a mother and her eight-year-old son. The mother is a student studying to be a nurse. They were very pleased and thanked us for our support. Thanks to Linda Pearson for organizing and providing a nice potted plant as a home warming gift. Soon after, we gathered and delivered 50 blankets for Abode.

Bonnie Immeker



There is a list of needed items on the bin in the narthex. Betty Wargo will deliver a full box of items in January. Thank you for your donations!



Fun, Food and Games



Game time will resume with afternoon playing times either on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday.

Games played are board or card games such as Five Crowns, Kings In A Corner, Canasta, Dominoes, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, or any games brought to our game time.

The church will likely be where we play in any area not being used.

We will have light snacks (can't play games without snacks).

Talk to our regular players: Laurel King, Bonnie Immeker, Roseanne Lawrence or Bunny Dubel, if you would like to join in. Let one of us know what day and what time is good. We will start with once monthly and see where it goes.



Eight Prayer Shawls were delivered in the past six weeks. Currently Debbie Pollak and Mimi Bauer are busily making Prayer Shawls, but more help is needed. If you are interested in knitting or crocheting a Prayer Shawl or know someone in need of a Prayer Shawl, please contact Debbie at bartpollak@gmail.com. Monetary donations are always welcome to purchase yarn. Make your check out to Christ the King and note it is for Prayer Shawls.

UPCOMING EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CTK BOOK CLUB: The CTK Book Club took a short break after Christmas. They are starting up again on Thursday, January 4th at 10am with a discussion on their next reading. Join us to find out what we will read next! All are welcome.

CTK COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, January 9th at 7:15 pm via CTK Zoom.

LUNCH BUNCH: Wednesday, January 10, at 1pm Lunch Bunch will meet at El Patio at 37311 Fremont Blvd., Fremont. All are welcome; many invite their friends. Plan for at least a 2-hour lunch, as it takes more time with a group. If possible, please bring cash, as separate checks are not always doable. Cost will be your order plus tax and tip. Please RSVP to Bonnie Immecker.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JOAN NOLAND: Saturday, January 13th, at 2pm at CTK.

SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETING: Monday, January 15th, at 6pm via CTK Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Bonnie Immecker.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: The Jesus and Justice Collective is sponsoring a Resource Fair on Sunday, January 14th, from 2 - 4pm at Bridges Church Gym. Visit the various tables hosted by a variety of organizations in our area that work to promote justice and equal opportunity for the citizens that struggle with food insecurities, housing, legal issues, and employment.

Some of the organizations are well known and others are not, so you are invited to explore and perhaps find an opportunity to volunteer your skills and talents for our under-served neighbors. The event is free and does not need preregistration.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING: Monday, January 8th, at 6pm via CTK Zoom.

TRI-CITY VOLUNTEERS FOOD BANK: Donations may be dropped off Monday to Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 37350 Joseph Street, Fremont.

Urgently needed items:

- Bottled Water (16.9 oz. or Smaller)
- Individually Wrapped Beef Sticks/Jerky
- Canned Goods and Packaged Foods (No dented cans and no items past their expiration date)
- Fresh Fruits and Vegetables from your Garden

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING: Monday, January 22nd, at 7pm via CTK Zoom.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY:

1/7	Baptism or Our Lord	Rev. Ray Waespi
1/14	2 nd Sunday after Epiphany	Rev. Ray Waespi
1/21	3 rd Sunday after Epiphany	Rev. Ray Waespi
1/28	4 th Sunday after Epiphany	Rev. Ray Waespi

Reminder about e-mail addresses and your contact list

Remember to double check the email address of any mail you want to send. You may have deleted or changed an e-mail address in your Contacts List but old e-mail addresses can still pop up when you are sending e-mails. If you want to verify a CTK member's address, please contact Dana.

2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Jan Holbrook, *Council Secretary*
Dana Brambley, *Treasurer*
Debbie Pollak, *Financial Secretary*
Kris Adams
Alan Claassen
Bunny Dubel
Bill Kemp
Laurel King
Chris O'Halloran
Terry Pearson
Jim Sepeda
Debbie Ward

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Christina Bauer, *Webmaster/Designer*