

Christ Connections



CHRIST
providence



CHRIST
south



CHRIST
concord



CHRIST
online

november/december 2021

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

CHRIST PROVIDENCE

8:45 a.m. **Traditional Worship**

10:00 a.m. **The Bridge Service**

10 - 10:45 a.m. **Sunday School**

11:00 a.m. **Contemporary Worship**

4519 Providence Rd., Charlotte

CHRIST SOUTH

10 a.m. **Outdoor Worship**

315 Reid Dairy Rd, Waxhaw

CHRIST CONCORD

10 a.m. **Multi-Generational**

Modern Worship

240 Pitts School Rd. NW, Concord



For links to live-stream services,
upcoming virtual events, bulletins,
ChristKidsTV and more:
christelca.org/online

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA





PASTOR SCOTT SUSKOVIC

from the Senior Pastor

Well Done, Pastor Drew! Well Done.

A “call” is more than a desire to do this job or that job, to climb this ladder or that ladder, to make this money, have this title or get that degree. A call runs deeper than that. It taps into the purpose for which one was born. It builds on the gifts one has received. There is a sense of God’s hand guiding the process and opening the doors. You know it is a call when peace and assurance fill your heart even as it races with trepidation as to where this call may lead you.

With Pastor Drew’s announcement of his new call to be a Chaplain in the U.S. Navy, I was understandably deeply saddened. His partnership in the church was unparalleled. His humble spirit combined with his deep intellect made for an amazing combination that I will dearly miss. I was so hoping that he would remain here at CLC long after I retire.

But how can you argue with a call, especially one that has been stirring within Drew’s heart for the past twelve years and would not go away? And how can you argue with such a call? It would be one thing if he were leaving to work for a church down the block or across the city, but to join the deeply respected military and to serve those brave men and women in uniform is such an honor and privilege.

Makes me want to open a fifth campus—Christ Navy!

We will miss his well prepared Bible Studies, his deeply profound preaching, his comforting pastoral care and his sincere prayers. And I will miss a colleague that I have grown to respect and love greatly.

We will enjoy these last couple of months together and plan a huge celebration in December to send him off to Officer Leadership School in January. We will also put together a call committee to start with the difficult search process for a new pastor. If anyone has any names of potential pastoral candidates you want us to consider, please pass those names directly to me.

I remember years ago whispering to my daughter, Hannah, after one of Pastor Drew’s sermons, “He is so good!” She went into one of those controlled laughs you have to stifle in church until she could whisper back, “You know why you like him so much?” I shrugged. “Because he is just like you.”

What a compliment, but that’s not all together true. We do share the same passion for ministry, we do have a similarity in preaching style, we do have the same theology, but that pastoral heart of Pastor Drew is beyond compare.

Sad to see him go. Excited for his new adventure. Grounded in the call. Feeling blessed to have seven years together. But now we send him off with a God-Speed and words of deep gratitude, “Well done, Pastor Drew. Well done!”

**Gone Sailing,
Pastor Scott**


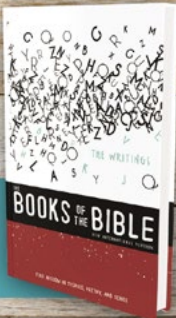
Join us for
THANKSGIVING
christelca.org/online
WORSHIP
Wednesday, November 24 • 6:30 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Sanctuary)
-or- Online (Christ Online)


CHRIST LUTHERAN
providence | south | concord | online
SMALL GROUPS
Looking for a Small Group to Join?
Check out REALM for available groups
(Community>Groups>Find Groups)


cornerstone gifts
Christmas is Coming...
(and so are the moose!)
SHOPPING STARTS OCTOBER 31
NOW OPEN SUN-TUE-WED UNTIL 12:30 P.M.

New Sermon Series
GOD IS _____!
Starts November 14

WATCH SERIES' PROMO VIDEO,
SNEAK PEAK FOR EACH SUNDAY'S
SERMON & READ MORE:
christelca.org/sermon-series


Community Bible Experience
Reading Starts Nov. 8th!
PART THREE:
The Writings

FIND CLASSES • GET BOOKMARK • LEARN MORE
christelca.org/cbe

GOD IS _____!
 Community Bible Experience
The Writings
SERMON SERIES
November 14 - January 2

How would you finish the sentence: God is _____!

Faithful? Distant? Close? Real faith is rooted in knowing who God really is and this faith is the source of hope. The Writings are one of three sections of the Old Testament and a powerful expression of who God is! From the poetry of the Psalms to the historical accounts in books like Chronicles, the Writings are passionate expressions of who God really is for you. A God worthy of our praise. A God who comes ever closer in love!

November 14 • God is Refuge (for the Doubting)

Psalms 16; John 20:19-31 | CBE 1-70

November 21 • God is King (for the Discouraged)

Psalms 93; John 18:33-38 | CBE 71-142

November 28 • God is Joy (for the Downcast)

Song of Songs 2:8-13; Luke 1:26-38 | CBE 143-208

December 5 • God is Inspiration (for the Depleted)

Proverbs 31:10-17, 28-31; Luke 1:39-48 | CBE 209-288

December 12 • God is Messiah (for the Dismayed)

Job 38:1-11; Matt 11:2-10 | CBE 289-355

December 19 • God is Hope (for the Disappointed)

1 Chronicles 17:1-15, Matthew 1:18-25 | CBE 357-412

December 26 • God is With Us (for the Distant)

2 Chronicles 6:18-21, John 1:1-14 | CBE 412-480

January 2 • God is New Life (for the Dreamer)

Daniel 3:8-27, Matt 28:16-20 | CBE 480-531

CLASSES STUDYING CBE PART III: THE WRITINGS

Digging Deeper Bible Study, led by Pastor Tenny

Wednesdays starting Nov. 10 • 10:00 a.m.

at Christ Concord -or- Online (Zoom)

Community Bible Experience, led by Pastors Scott and Drew

Wednesdays starting Nov. 10th • 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

at Christ Providence (Forum) -or- Online (Zoom)

Women Making Connections, led by Lara Barnett & Brooke Schell

Wednesdays starting Nov. 10th • 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

at Christ Providence (Worship Ctr. Parlor) -or- Online (Zoom)

Emerge Class, led by Rob Stark, Alexis Williams and Pastor Drew

Sundays starting Nov. 14th • 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

at Christ Providence (Music Room) -or- Online (Zoom)

The Crew, led by David Deeds

Sundays starting Nov. 14th • 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

at Christ Providence (W150) -or- Online (Zoom)

Download the reading guide bookmark, find links to these classes and learn more at christelca.org/cbe.



AWAKENED FAITH *lecture series*

RACE IS NOTHING, RACE IS EVERYTHING.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

A discussion on Scripture, race and justice, led by Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler

Dr. Sadler is Associate Professor of Bible and Director of the Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation at Union Presbyterian Seminary (Charlotte Campus). A biblical scholar and faith-based justice advocate, Dr. Sadler studies the intersection of race and Scripture, the impact of our images of Jesus for the perpetuation of racial thought in America, the development of African American biblical interpretation in slave narratives, the enactment of justice in society based on biblical imperatives, and the intersection of religion and politics.

Dr. Sadler is the managing editor of the African American Devotional Bible, associate editor of the Africana Bible, and the author of *Can a Cushite Change His Skin? An Examination of Race, Ethnicity and Othering in the Hebrew Bible* and co-author of *The Genesis of Liberation*.

A tireless racial justice advocate, Dr. Sadler has been invited to serve as an expert on matters of race by Churches Uniting in Christ, the National Council of Churches, and the World Council of Churches. His activism includes work with the Community for Creative Non-Violence in Washington, D.C., Durham C.A.N., H.E.L.P. Charlotte, the U.S. Africa Ebola Working Group, the board of People Demanding Action, the Justice Action Mobilization Network (JAMN) and he has worked organizing clergy with and developing theological resources for the Forward Together/Moral Monday Movement in North Carolina. He also serves on the board of the NC NAACP and is chairperson of their Healthcare Committee.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

A panel discussion facilitated by Ryan Carter on Charlotte's

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS

Where you live impacts your life.

It impacts where your kids go to school, how they get there, who they go to

school with, and how long it takes them to get there. It impacts your commute and what kind of job you have access to. It impacts your social life in what amenities you have access to and what kind of relationship you have with your neighbors. It impacts where you get your provisions and groceries from. It impacts your access to recreation and fitness opportunities.

Charlotte is in the midst of an affordable housing crisis. What can we do and how can we learn more? On December 5th, Ryan Carter from Rebuilding Together of Greater Charlotte will facilitate a panel conversation with staff from tenant rights organizations and other activists engaged in the continuous work to create a more equitable housing market. We'll talk about the impact the housing market is having on all levels of the pay scale, it's impact across generations, race, and much more. Join us.

AWAKENED FAITH

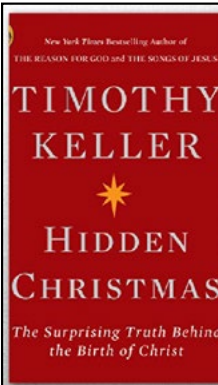
lecture series

DIVERSITY • EQUITY • INCLUSION

Sunday, November 7 • 6:30 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Forum)
-or- Online (Zoom)

"Race is Nothing, Race is Everything."
Join Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler to explore the critical juncture of faith and race.

Register in REALM



FAITH FELLOWSHIP STUDY: **Hidden Christmas**

Sundays • 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.
Christ Providence (Forum)
-and- Online (Zoom)

Join us for a 4-week Advent study based on Tim Keller's book, which examines the truth of the Nativity story for a deeper understanding of the redeeming power of God's grace.

Starts November 21st!
christelca.org/online



Poinsettias

\$10 EACH

Deadline to order:
December 15th

Purchase in REALM

AWAKENED FAITH

lecture series

DIVERSITY • EQUITY • INCLUSION

Sunday, December 5 • 6:30 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Forum)
-or- Online (Zoom)

Hear from local experts about Charlotte's housing issues & ways to help, especially as we resume our Room in the Inn ministry.

Register in REALM

PRIMETIMERS

A SOCIAL GROUP FOR 50+

Christmas Party

Sunday, December 12 • 4-8:30 p.m.
hosted by the Morrisons (York, SC)

The Morrison family is providing rotisserie turkey breasts. Please provide salad, veggie or dessert. \$5 per person.

RSVP IN REALM by December 5th
or email Dessick@me.com

All Saints Day

Honor loved ones who have passed on by lighting a remembrance candle in their honor at this special service.

November 7, 2021



HOW CAN WE **PRAY** FOR YOU?



 christelca.org/prayer-request

GATHERED IN PRAYER

formerly called Intercessory Prayer Group

meets each Monday • 1:30 p.m.
at Christ Providence (Worship Ctr. Parlor)

If you have a heart for praying for others please consider joining in this ministry.

Contact D'Linda Highum:
 (206) 310-6037 • dlindahighum2@gmail.com

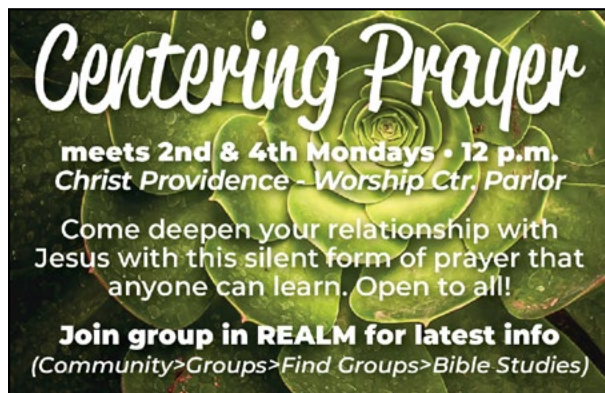


Centering Prayer

meets 2nd & 4th Mondays • 12 p.m.
Christ Providence - Worship Ctr. Parlor

Come deepen your relationship with Jesus with this silent form of prayer that anyone can learn. Open to all!

Join group in REALM for latest info
 (Community>Groups>Find Groups>Bible Studies)



 **CARING TEAM OPPORTUNITY**

Bereavement Teams help with receptions for a funeral or memorial service.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mary at:
mparker@christelca.org



Honoring Our Loved Ones

All Saints' Sunday is the time we set aside to remember all those who have passed on before us. Join in the remembrance of our loved ones with a lighting of a candle at this special service. Members of Christ Lutheran that have passed since last year's All Saints Day include:



Kathryn Brady



Richard Engebrecht



Margaret Livingston



Joseph Stauss



Mickey McKeon



Helen Nachenberg



Clara Ellen Peeler



Ruth Sensenbrenner

not pictured: Jean Morgan, Imgard Blais



What's Happening at Christ South?

by AIMEE TOPPING, CAMPUS DIRECTOR

We are excited to welcome Pastor Ryan, Ashley, Gabe, Phoebe and Levi to Christ South! Many of us were able to meet the Ritzmann family in October and look forward to getting to know them as they settle in. We'll have a few events to celebrate so keep an eye out for dates!

With the arrival of Pastor Ryan at Christ South, the next few months will be a period of transition and progress. In the meantime, things will continue to look very familiar. We'll worship under the tent while the weather cooperates. We can close the tent sides once it gets chilly (there will be an open area at each side for air circulation) and use outdoor heaters to keep everyone warm.

For the kids, we'll continue to offer BLAST for preschool and elementary-aged children during the service, and Affirm Life for our middle schoolers after worship. Our youth have lots of fun activities planned in conjunction with the other campuses.

We have several things happening for the holidays as well. Some highlights include South Sisters sponsoring a family for Christmas and helping with Room in the Inn, an adult social event, and a family-friendly candle lit service on Christmas Eve.

As a friendly reminder, please make sure to update your family information in *REALM* and make sure you're signed up to receive emails so that you don't miss out on important announcements. You can also sign up for text message notifications by texting SOUTH to 84576. We also post all news on our *Facebook* page!

As we move into the holiday season, many of us reflect over the last year. It's hard to believe, but 2021 took as many unexpected turns for Christ South as 2020 did. Thank you for your prayers, continued support, and especially your willingness to trust in God's plan for our church family as we move into the new year. Peace be with you!

Please Welcome Pastor Ryan Ritzmann and Family!

by PASTOR SCOTT

It is with great excitement and joy that I announce a call extended to Pastor Ryan Ritzmann to serve Christ Lutheran primarily at our Christ South campus. By a vote on October 10th of 178 in favor, 1 against and 2 abstaining, the motion overwhelmingly passed with cheers from all four of our campuses.

Pastor Ryan comes with almost 12 years of pastoral experience and a heart that radiates for discipleship and evangelism. He is a gifted speaker, connects easily with people and is eager to join the mission of Christ Lutheran to reach out to those who have not heard the Gospel.

As the family works to transition from Jacksonville to Christ Lutheran in the coming weeks, his official start date will probably be close to Thanksgiving. Many thanks to the call committee – Lane Goode, Eric Runge, Jessica Shurley and Lori Conway for their diligent and faithful service in finding such a great fit.

Thrive Scholarship Fund

Each year, Thrive is flooded with parents searching for an inclusive educational program, but they simply do not have the resources to afford tuition. Their children need therapeutic services and specialized teachers. Unfortunately, due to financial reasons, they must go without.

As a ministry of Christ Lutheran, we try to provide these families with as much financial assistance as possible. This year alone, we have allotted nearly \$24,000 of financial aid to Thrive families in need. We have reached the limit of our available funds, yet the flood of students in need continues to surge.

On behalf of these families and students, we are asking for your help. By donating to the Thrive Scholarship Fund, you will be gifting our students with the opportunity to learn in an environment that makes them feel comfortable, safe and celebrated. You'll also be providing those students with services to improve their quality of life and fill their parents with hope.

Here are a Couple of Ways to Give

You can donate online by visiting the *Christ Lutheran's website*. Choose GIVE from the choices located across the top menu. Donations designated to Thrive School will go directly to our Thrive Scholarship Fund.

You may also mail a check to Thrive Day School at 305 Reid Dairy Rd. Waxhaw, NC 28173.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and willingness to support Thrive and our exceptional students.

CHRISTMAS 2021

[Save the Dates]

**December 10th and 11th
Xperience Christmas Show
at Christ Providence**

6:00 p.m.

**Friday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Worship
at Christ Providence**

Children's Service • 10:00 a.m.

Contemporary 3:00 p.m.

Traditional • 6:00 p.m.

Contemporary • 8:00 p.m.

Traditional • 10 p.m.

**Friday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Worship
at Christ Concord**

4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Friday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Worship
at Christ South**

5:00 p.m.

Music Ministry to Ghana

by KENDALL FICKEN and PASTOR SCOTT

Several months ago, high school student Kendall Ficken enlisted the help of her church family to donate used musical instruments to a school in Ghana, Africa. The response was awesome. She collected violins and trumpets, clarinets and flutes, drums and recorders. She packed them into a shipping container and sent them to the eager students in Ghana. With great appreciation and deep gratitude, these African students received these instruments and put together a video of thanksgiving. That video will be shown in worship on November 14. Look for your used instrument in the hands of these students.

But Kendall is not done.

These students are practicing outdoors. When Kendall saw that, she realized there was more work to be done. With the help of an African architect and builder, she has determined that for \$60,000 we can build a music building for these students. How cool is that?

On November 14, not only will we see that video from Africa, but you will hear Kendall once again invite us to change the lives of these students. We can do this. Remember, we have committed that for every one million dollars we raise for Christ South Worship Center, we will give away \$50,000. For the first million, we gave \$25,000 to LWR for our work in Central America and \$25,000 for our Garden Ministry. For the next million we raise, we would like to give a gift towards this music building in Ghana, along with your additional donations.

Come on November 14. See the impact. Hear the story. And be the hands and feet and the music of Christ all the way to Ghana, Africa.

Advent Resources!

Advent is an exciting time that many of us spend counting down the days to Christmas. But it is much more than that. It is a special time to prepare. To prepare our hearts to be open to the amazing gifts God found in Jesus. If you are looking for some ways to prepare, check out the ELCA World Hunger's site for Advent calendars, devotionals, and more at elca.org.

ELCA World Hunger's Advent resources are designed to help us get ready to celebrate the birth of Christ while remembering those who are currently facing the greatest needs among us. Through ELCA World Hunger, our church creatively and courageously works toward a just world where all are fed. Together, we act, pray and hope for truly sufficient, sustainable livelihoods for all. O Come Emmanuel!





Put on your Walkin' Shoes!
by PASTOR DREW

Shoes have a limited lifespan. I know runners who can burn a hole in the sole of a shoe in a matter of months. The shoe I love the most is a good walking shoe. Comfortable, tough, and usually modest in style, walking shoes have the ability to go the distance. Walks are shared between friends, spouses and families. Stories are told on walks and shoes bear witness to them all. In the Bible a man named Enoch "walked with God" (Genesis 5:24).

Today, I want to invite you to join me and others from Christ Lutheran Church to come take a walk. On Sunday, November 7, we'll be participating in Charlotte's annual CROP Walk. Charlotte CROP walk has raised nine million dollars since 1978 to help end hunger around the world. I would love for you to save the date, put on your walking shoes, and help feed those who are hungry.

Ways to Get Involved

- Register to walk on the Christ Lutheran Church Team at charlottecropwalk.org.
- Ask people to sponsor your walk. A suggested goal is \$150 per walker.
- If you are unable to walk, please consider supporting the Team with a contribution.

CROP Walk is a true community event and all donations go to feed the hungry – with a significant portion staying to assist those in the local community. It's going to be fun. It's going to be formative. It's going to be for a great cause. Let's meet at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Memorial Stadium in uptown Charlotte and walk together!

43rd Anniversary Walk!
Sunday, November 7

**at the American Legion
Memorial Stadium**

REGISTRATION 1:00 p.m.
OPENING CEREMONY 2:00 p.m.
WALK BEGINS 2:30 p.m.



oneblood 
Share your power.

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, December 19
8am - 12pm at Christ Concord

TO REGISTER, GO TO:
oneblood.org/donate-now
use sponsor code: Christ Concord

 **ROOM IN THE INN**
Starts December 2nd!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- Overnight Hosts
- Drivers (CDL required)

Volunteers must be vaccinated and wear a mask while indoors.

Sign up at signupgenius.com
(search: ckramer@christelca.org)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY
CRISIS ASSISTANCE
FREE STORE

Christ Lutheran helps run the Crisis Assistance Free Store near Uptown on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

Interested in Helping?
Kate Shepherd (ckshepard71@gmail.com)

 **DAYTIME OPPORTUNITY:**
Teacher Partners

All teachers appreciate extra support in the form of motivational quotes, emails, small gifts, and maybe even sending cards in the mail.

If you are interested in helping support a teacher at McClintock Middle School, please contact:
diane.gavarkavich@gmail.com.

 **HELP CHARLOTTE CROP WALK STOP HUNGER**

2021 Hybrid CROP Walk
November 7 • 2:00p
at the American Legion Memorial Stadium in Uptown Charlotte -or- online

REGISTER • DONATE • LEARN MORE
crophungerwalk.org

ROOM IN THE INN Starts December 2nd!

Roof Above has decided to proceed with Room in the Inn for the coming season. We start on **Thursday, December 2** and it will run until March 31, 2022. Christ Lutheran desperately needs volunteers for overnight hosts and driving our church bus. If you have a CDL license, are willing to drive, and have been vaccinated, please let us know. Christ Lutheran and Roof Above will follow all COVID safety protocols.

If you are not already added, please join our RITI group in *REALM*. Our season's Signup Genius is live; you can access that here: signupgenius.com. If you are reading this in print, enter 'signupgenius.com' into your web browser and search for the Room in the Inn 2021-22 signup by email: 'ckramer@christelca.org.' You can also email Lane Goode (lane.goode@gmail.com) or Randy Satterfield (randy@rpsbenefits.net).



SAVE YOUR STUFF FOR Donation Saturday

Saturday, January 29, 2022 • 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
at Christ Providence (parking lot)

Declutter your house after Christmas and 'save your stuff' for Donation Saturday! This is a joint event benefitting several different local non-profits:

Assist M.E. provides durable medical equipment to qualified low-income, uninsured and underinsured residents of the Charlotte area. They collect mobility-related rehab equipment (ie. canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, scooters, bath aids, toilet aides, home medical beds, etc). Volunteers prepare and redistribute equipment into the community. "Previously ignored or forgotten equipment kept in garages, basements and attics finds a new purpose in a new life." Assist M.E. served nearly 400 people in 2020 and will exceed that in 2021.

Trips for Kids collects donated bikes to support their annual bicycle recycling program for Charlotte Recyclery. Donated bikes are used for the Earn-a-Bike program and are also sold to fund programming.

Crisis Assistance collects furniture and clothing donations to help our neighbors in need.

Goodwill Industries – Electronics will recycle, refurbish and destroy electronic components (please delete any personal information).



Family Night is Back!

After a 19-month hiatus, McPIE is back in the school building! Our Fall Family Night Sampler kicked off at the beginning of October with success! Each week, students and families arrive at McClintock and are greeted with warm smiles and a warm meal. Dinner is served from 5 - 6 p.m., then students and parents are dismissed to classes and clubs from 6 - 7 p.m. Childcare is available for babies through 5th graders, breaking barriers to participation.

Adult options include Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World, Women's Journey, ESL, Let's Race and Foresight 20/20. Middle School students have 3-4 different club options each week to "sample." Students are able to sample Top Scot Chef, Soccer, Robotics, Rugby, Coding, Sketch Squad, Hiking, Woodworking, Medical Explorers, Outdoor Adventure, Innovation Station, Quadcopters and Crafts! All of these moving pieces require the coordination of our volunteers, and McPIE is blessed with the best! THANK YOU to everyone who has kept this ship floating, especially during such unprecedented times!

McPIE Daytime Opportunities

Can't commit to nighttime volunteering? We have several ways to get involved during the day:

Teacher Partners – now more than EVER, teachers need to feel loved, supported and appreciated. Partner with a first- or second-year teacher and remind them how important they are with cute cards, special messages and little gifts that make a big impact! Contact Diane to partner (Diane.gavarkavich@gmail.com).

Teacher Appreciation Luncheons – on early release days (and occasional teacher workdays), McPIE serves lunch to McClintock teachers and staff. Help prepare food and/or serve by connecting with Alice McRorie. (alicermcrore@gmail.com).

Copy Crew – a good way to volunteer an hour or two each week (or every other if there's enough volunteers). Copying helps McClintock's amazing teachers by saving them time. Don't worry if you don't know how to make copies, training will be provided! Time frame is 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Contact Jill Tan (jillgtan@gmail.com).

Tutors – students need extra help and we will begin providing tutors as soon as all the logistics get worked out with CMS. In the meantime, contact Celia if you are interested (Cwoven92@gmail.com).

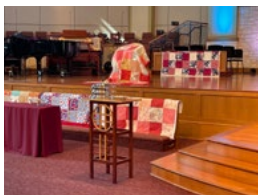
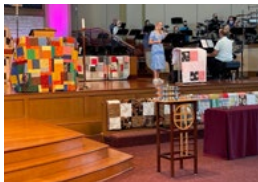
Blessing of the Quilts

by ANNA MOORE

People worshipping at Christ Providence on September 5 were able to participate in the Blessing of the Quilts. The display was a small sampling of the quilts that were made thus far in 2021. Many quilters have been working in person to put together these quilts. Several quilters have worked at home putting together the beautiful tops. Despite the COVID pandemic, they have been able to produce 308 quilts. Also, 112 fabric kits were prepared so that ladies around the world can make dresses.

The quilts and fabric kits were delivered to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Columbia, SC on September 16. These boxes will be sent to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed anywhere there is a need. The quilters will continue to work throughout this year so that more boxes can be sent in November.

The quilters encourage anyone interested in this ministry to join them at Christ Providence in the Center 6 room on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. No experience is necessary, only a caring spirit and a love of service. Come join the fun!



Christmas Shopping Event 'TIS THE SEASON!

The Holidays are quickly approaching and that means it's time to start thinking about Christmas! The Christmas Shopping Event will take place over several days this year in order to keep everyone socially distanced and ensure the safety of our families and staff.

Many families in our community need our help, especially during the ongoing pandemic. With the help of benevolence money and individual monetary donations, we will sponsor up to 30 families this Christmas season!! It will look different, but the Christmas spirit will be STRONG!

This Christmas, the actual shopping will take place over several days. The youth will shop on **Saturday, December 4th**. Families and/or small groups can "Adopt a Family" and purchase their wish list items and drop them off at Christ Providence between December 3-7. From December 6-8, parents of the sponsored families will have an opportunity to come to Christ Providence and wrap their families' Christmas gifts from the wish list items purchased and organized.

There are several ways to get involved with this wonderful ministry! Members can:

- Be a personal shopper for a family and deliver gifts to Christ Providence December 3-7 or as scheduled.
- Donate new items (or gently used items).
- Support this ministry with monetary donations.
- Sponsor a family. Contact Amy Daniels at adaniels@christelca.org
- Administrative help
- Assist families with wrapping their gifts December 6-8.
- Advanced shopping for items needed.

Donations accepted include:

- New board games
- Game systems (new or refurbished)
- New books, toys, minority baby dolls
- New clothing, coats
- New or used bikes and scooters
- Wrapping paper, tissue, boxes, tags, tape, scissors
- Yard sale items

Household goods accepted:

- Paper towels, toilet tissue
- Shampoo, conditioner
- Hand/dish soap
- Laundry detergent, dryer sheets
- Kitchen utensils, place settings, silverware
- Cleaning supplies
- Towels, washcloths
- Toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss
- Pots and pans

Get into the Christmas spirit of giving at the big Christmas Shopping Event! "The joy of sharing gives a special feeling to the one giving at Christmas!" Contact Amy Daniels (adaniels@christelca.org) or Angela Davis (adavis@christelca.org) for information and to sign up!



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Family Sponsorship Event

December 3 - 8

YOUTH SHOPS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Families & small groups can also sponsor a family and shop wish list items

ASSIST FAMILIES WITH WRAPPING GIFTS, DECEMBER 6-8

Donations & Household Good Always Accepted:

New board games
Game systems (new or refurbished)
New books, toys, minority baby dolls
New clothing, coats
New or used bikes and scooters
Wrapping paper, tissue, boxes

Gift tags, tape, scissors
Yard sale items
Paper towels, toilet tissue
Shampoo, conditioner
Hand/dish soap
Laundry detergent, dryer sheets

Kitchen utensils
Place settings, silverware
Cleaning supplies
Towels, washcloths
Toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss
Pots and pans

DROPOFF WISH LIST ITEMS & OTHER DONATIONS AT CHRIST PROVIDENCE BETWEEN DEC. 3-7

**Contact Amy Daniels at adaniels@christelca.org or
Angela Davis at adavis@christelca.org for information and to sign up!**

Alternative Gift Market

by PASTOR MELODY

Starting to think about Christmas presents this year? Instead of gadgets, nick-nacks or ties, what about giving a gift that can change lives? A well with clean fresh water in Sudan, medical relief for the displaced in Niger, bikes for rural villages in Africa – all of these can be a great gift for any loved one! Our middle and high school youth are sponsoring an Alternative Gift Market on **Sunday, November 21** at all campuses. An Alternative Gift Market, or AGM, is a place to buy gifts for family or friends that goes to support those in need.



On November 21st, the youth will present the ministries they are helping through AGM. They'll share in a temple talk during worship and make presentations in Sunday School classes the needs from around the world that you can help support. We'll also have a table available at each campus to make purchases to support AGM.

Also on November 21st, our AGM website will go live at clcagm.org. Here you'll be able to see commercials the youth put together for each of their projects, order your gifts and pay for them. Your gift will come in the form of a card that says, "a donation has been made in your honor." You can pick your cards up November 21st, 28th or December 5th, or you can pay for postage and we can send you your cards via U.S. Mail. The gift market will stay open until December 5th.

Help support our youth by giving the gifts to support those in need around the world!

SAVE THE DATE FOR Upcoming Fall Youth Events

by ANTHONY CURRIER

Hello Everyone! I wanted to let you know what we have in store for our fall season moving forward regarding youth events:

For Middle School youth, we have...

CROP Walk: Sunday, November 7
Game Night: Friday, November 12
Fusion: Sunday, November 21
Ice Skate: Sunday, December 5 • late afternoon
Fusion: Sunday December 19

For High School youth, we have...

Halloween Party: Sunday, October 24 • 5-9 p.m.
CROP Walk: Sunday, November 7
Hiking Day Trip: Sunday, November 14
Fusion: Sunday, November 21
Ice Skate: Sunday, December 5 • evening
Fusion: Sunday December 19

I also want to remind everyone of our regularly recurring scheduled events, including Caffeine and Conversation in the Center Six room at Providence from 10-10:45 a.m. every Sunday; and Affirm:Life every Sunday after worship for about 30-45 minutes. Wednesdays are for Xperience for the high school youth from 6-7:30 p.m., and 180 Degrees for the middle school is around the same time. Stay tuned to E-news for more updates. Remember to save the dates!

MIDDLE SCHOOL
GAME NIGHT
Fri., November 12 • 5-7 p.m.
at Christ Providence (the Pit)
Middle schoolers are invited for a fun night with various games, including trivia!
light food provided • \$5 donation appreciated

Baptismal Class
Sunday, November 7
1:00 p.m. on Zoom
For info, email Jane at jsatterfield@christelca.org
Find Zoom link at christelca.org/online

Children's Christmas Eve Service
Friday, December 24 • 10:00 a.m.
at Christ Providence

TEC WEEKEND
FOR GRADES 9-12
Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) is a youth-led spiritual retreat for high school students to talk about their faith & bond with others through the weekend's themed lessons and activities.
The next TEC retreat is scheduled for:
JANUARY 15-17, 2022
at Tekoa Foothills (Casar, NC)
Go to hihtec.org to sign up now!

CONGREGATIONAL EVENT FOR 5TH GRADE & YOUNGER
Halloween Walk-Thru
pickup goodies, craft items & more!
Saturday, October 30
10-11:30 a.m. at Christ Providence (parking lot)
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED



XPERIENCE
meets Wednesdays • 6-7:30 p.m.
at Christ Providence (The Pit)
High School's Xperience is back
in person and we need you! Bring a
great attitude, mask, and a friend.

CONTACT FOR INFO Bill (bporter@christelca.org) -or-
Kristin (glaeser.kristin@gmail.com)

Looking to the Future

by PASTOR MELODY

This is the first time in a LONG time that I feel really hopeful for the future. I see that we are starting to gather back in person more and more. Even though we are wearing masks and trying to be safe, we are pressing forward. This brings a breath of fresh air. It also gets me excited about what God is doing in our future. There are many retreat and mission trips coming up; several of which have been pushed back on the calendar more than once. I have been impatiently waiting for these awesome events to happen. And I want my church family there. So, get out your calendars and read on!

Family Retreat

Originally, we had a family retreat scheduled for the spring of 2020 – you know what happened there. But now we have a chance for families to reconnect or connect for the first time – **February 18-20, 2022!** This will be an opportunity for families of all shapes and sizes to come for a weekend of fellowship and devotion in the mountains of Arden, NC at Lutheridge. Lutheridge offers hotel-style lodging with adjoining room options. Mark your calendars for family fun!!

Middle School Retreat

Having a tight-knit peer group is an important aspect to helping develop faith in youth. We have lost that over the last year because the youth haven't had as many opportunities to bond. On **March 11-13, 2022**, our middle schoolers are heading to Lutheridge for a weekend of bonding and growing closer as a group and to God. Keep an eye out for more information!

Faith Ministry

International mission trips can be a life-changing experience! That's why we are partnering with Myers Park United Methodist and Faith Ministry to start opportunities for our youth and adults of Christ Lutheran to experience community service on a global scale. We're putting together a group to partner with our neighbors for an international mission trip to build houses and help with community wellness in Reynosa, Mexico from **July 3-9, 2022**. To learn more about Faith Ministry, you can visit, faithministry.org. If you're interested in joining the group, let me know.

Xperience Tour/ National Youth Gathering

Two of the most incredible, God-moving activities that I have been a part of since I came to Christ Lutheran are the Xperience tour and the National Youth Gathering. This year we're putting them together. The National Youth Gathering is where ELCA youth (30,000 people) from all over the United States are gathering in Minneapolis for several days of worship, service, fellowship and fun! This year we're heading there early in order for our Xperience group to tour several churches. No, you do not need to be in Xperience to participate. All current high school students are encouraged to attend. This is a life-changing experience that you can't miss, so save the date for **July 20-28, 2022**. More information will be available very soon!!

Retreats and mission trips can be life-changing, God-moving events in your life. Please plan to join us for these amazing experiences – your presence will only make them better!



THRIVE DAY SCHOOL

GIFT OF INCLUSION

PLEASE DONATE to the Thrive Scholarship Fund.

Use the QR code to donate online.



MAIL DONATIONS TO:
305 Reid Dairy Rd. Waxhaw, NC 28173

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CHRISTkids

AN IN-PERSON WORSHIP EXPERIENCE
FOR AGES 3 YEARS - 2ND GRADE
at Christ Providence during both services

*** ages 4 & up must wear a face mask ***
masks available upon request

DATES TO KNOW

**Last Sunday School
DECEMBER 12**

**Last Wednesdays Together
DECEMBER 15**





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november/december 2021

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CONTENT DEADLINES FOR 2022 EDITIONS

Jan/Feb - December 10 Mar/April - February 15 May/June - April 15
July/Aug - June 15 Sept/Oct - August 10 Nov/Dec - October 15

TO SUBMIT A STORY OR NEWS ITEM

Fill out a Communications Project Request Form, found online at form.jotform.com/80496362784165

A SILENT FILM
Organ Recital

"The Phantom of the Opera"
with ORGANIST SCOTT FOPPIANO

OCTOBER 29
7:00 p.m. at Christ Providence

\$5 each • \$20 max per family
cash/credit payable at the door

Ways to Give

Place offering in the plate as you
leave worship on Sundays

Text "Praise" to 73256

Choose "Give" on our website (christelca.org)

Mail to the church office