

Sharing
Mission,
Ministry,
& Life
in Christ

Godly Play: Spiritual Growth for more than just kids

Our Sunday School program at Christ Lutheran Church is called Godly Play. It is a Montessori method for Christian education and has been utilized in churches around the world. Created by the Rev. Dr. Jerome Berryman in the 1970s, the Godly Play method is about understanding how the stories of God's people connect with our own experience and relationship with God. Godly Play was designed to introduce Christian language, stories and ideas to children.

Additionally, the Godly Play program supports the teachers' developing faith relationship with Christ. They are free to focus on spiritual preparation and relationship-building between teachers, children, Christ, and families.



Ways That You Can Help with Godly Play:

Door Person

The door person plays a critical role in the program, but the job is not difficult. The door person does no work outside of class. He or she helps to organize the room and waits for the students to arrive. As each child enters the classroom, they greet the child, and ask them to take a deep breath and prepare themselves for the lesson.



Following the story, the door person listens as each child tells the teacher what work would help them best respond to the story, and facilitates distribution of materials (such as clay, paper, story pieces, etc.) After cleanup and the feast, the door person assists children with reconnecting with their parents.

If you're interested in Godly Play, I would highly encourage you to attend an official Godly Play training. There are introductory workshops, as well as doorperson workshops available virtually in October, November, and December. Check the Godly Play Foundation website (godlyplayfoundation.org) to learn more.

If you can't attend a training, read Jerome Berryman's book, *Teaching Godly Play or The Complete Guide to Godly Play: Volume 1*. It explores these ideas in depth and answers many questions about how Godly Play works. It's a short read and I would be happy to lend you my books.

Please contact myself or Deacon Laura to answer your questions, tour the classroom, and give you further resources.

submitted by Sally Wonder



'Let
the little
children
come to me;
do not stop
them; for it is to
such as these that
the kingdom of God
belongs... Mark 10:14

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Call Committee Update

Time keeps moving on as we await prospective candidates for our Senior Pastor position. Although we have not had any candidates to interview as of yet, the Synod's Pastor Jennifer Beamsley informs us that the Synod has seen a bit more mobility in candidacy recently. She is hopeful this is a sign we could see a possible candidate soon. As we have previously indicated, the economy, inflation of housing, and interest rates are of continued concern with prospective candidates everywhere. We all realize we are coming upon 18 months without a Senior Pastor, and also realize we have been blessed with a staff, Council, program leaders and support teams that are dedicated to the operation of CLC. Together we have prepared for a new Senior Pastor and understand the concerns facing a person's consideration in moving, yet maintain patience, faith, and hopefulness in obtaining the right candidate for CLC. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the Call Committee or Council members. The success of this process can only be achieved through your unwavering support and prayers. Thank you!

Your Call Committee: Jack Wilson (Chair), Kris Campbell, Tammy Ferrin, Deacon Laura Gorton, Diane Larsen, Jean Salley, Sandy Stansell

The list of Council members can be found on the back cover of this newsletter or at makingChristknown.org.

In the CLC Family

We express our condolences to the family of Kimberly Redford who died August 21. May light perpetual shine on her. +

Congratulations to Carter Brinkley who was received into God's family by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on September 1.

To the family of Christ,

Thank you for your cards, texts and especially your prayers these past months. I had surgery a few weeks ago and my recovery has begun. As I regain my strength, I look forward to returning to worship services.

Blessings,
Karen McGinnis



Pet Blessing

Join PATHWAYS on Monday, October 7 to celebrate the wonders of God's creation and remember how God's creatures — of all sizes, shapes, and

species — bless our lives. Be reminded how they are essential to the environment as we share a blessing on our pets and commit ourselves to caring for their wellbeing in the world. Bring your furry friends (and not so furry ones) and meet us on the labyrinth at 5:30 pm. You may also bring a picture of your pet to be blessed.

Worship Ministry Training

Are you interested in learning a new worship ministry role? Want a refresher? Curious to learn more without committing? Join us for a day of worship ministries training. This will be held on Saturday, October 26. Note the times for each role's training session:

9:00-9:45AM	Altar Prep, Linens/Vestments, Communion Prep & Clean-up
9:45-10:30AM	Communion Assistant, Lector, Acolyte
10:30-11:15AM	Assisting Minister
11:15-11:45AM	Sacristan and Worship Host
11:45AM-12:15PM	Coffee Hosts & Donut Pick-up

October 6

Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 8
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

October 13

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm 90:12-17
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

October 20

Isaiah 53:4-12
Psalm 91:9-16
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

October 27

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

Service and Outreach

During the month of October, the Service and Outreach team will be collecting new and gently used coats of all sizes. Coats will be donated to Rockford Rescue Mission and Rock House Kids, or other organizations as needed. Drop your coats in the bin in the gathering space!



Newcomers Orientation & Luncheon

If you've been visiting Christ Lutheran recently or worshipping with us for a while, please join us for our Newcomers Luncheon and Orientation on October 13 at 11:45 am. This is your opportunity to learn more about CLC ministries, ask questions, and enjoy fellowship with congregational leaders and each other. This orientation is intended to help visitors discern whether



Calling on you...
let's get better acquainted.

CLC is the place
you'll call home.

Please notify
Katie Belinson
in the office
by October 8

if you plan to attend. We hope you
will join us! (katie@makingChristknown.org)

Education

Adult Forum

The Bible is filled with stories of the time between an ending and a new beginning. Join us at 9:30 am on October 6, 13, and 20 to dig into these stories and reflect on Christ Lutheran's experience during this interim period.

Holden Village

Dive into the history and life of Holden Village, nestled in the North Cascade Mountains (Washington state). Deacon Laura will share photos from her trip in 2019 and Deacon Jennifer will share music from the community on October 27 at 9:30 am. We'll share some details about a potential summer 2025 trip.

Godly Play

All children ages three years to fifth grade are invited to join us on October 6 and 20 in the Godly Play room, beginning at 9:30 am. (Cue the learning and playing...)

Christ in Literature

The year is 1739 and 16-year-old Eliza Lucas is left in charge of her family's three plantations in rural South Carolina while her father pursues his military ambitions. Based on historical documents, including her letters, this is a fictional account of how her actions influence the course of U.S. history. Join us as we discuss Natasha Boyd's *The Indigo Girl* on Monday, October 7 at 3 pm.

Deacon Laura's Office Hours

Deacon Laura is not in the office Fridays or Saturdays. She will not be checking her email on these days. If you need to connect with her about something urgent, please call or text her cell phone. (If you don't have her number, please call the office. It is also listed on the answering machine if you call after hours.) She will try to respond to emails received over the weekend by Monday afternoon.

Financial Update

through August 31, 2024

CONTRIBUTIONS exceeded budget by:	\$ 32,012
EXPENSES less than budget by:	\$ 10,396
SURPLUS	\$ 42,408

Thank you, Lord, for our dedicated members meeting their pledges, and Deacon Laura and staff for their frugal spending of the budget. We are truly blessed.

Submitted by Jeff Bieck, Treasurer



Christ Lutheran

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facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere

Also on Facebook, search:
Pathways: A Center for Spiritual Renewal

† **Worship:** Sundays 8:00 & 10:30 am

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Our Council

Jenny Campbell	President
Howard Yakey	Vice President
Shirley Collins	Secretary
Jeff Bieck	Treasurer
Jenny Breckenridge	Council Member
Elizabeth Brinkley	Council Member
John Herring	Council Member
Peter Hightower	Council Member
Lori Murphy	Council Member
Denise Rindels	Council Member
Don Skadow	Council Member
Dave Swanson	Council Member

Our Staff

Deacon Laura Gorton	Acting Interim Minister
Deacon Jennifer Fox	Minister for Worship & Music
Katie Belinson	Dir. of Outreach & Communications
Dagny Brandt	Church Musician
Michelle Nelson	Finance & Office Administrator
Chris Parkinson	Church Musician

The Mission Endowment Fund Committee recently awarded \$6,760.57 in scholarships to the following CLC college and university students:

Anna Campbell / Veronica Campbell

The committee also awarded \$15,775 to the following agencies dedicated to helping make Christ known:

ELCA Global Church Sponsorship	\$2,000
Empower Boone Food Pantry	\$2,275
Habitat for Humanity	\$2,500
LSSI Children and Family Services	\$3,000
Mosaic	\$2,500
One Body Collaboratives	\$ 500
<i>(Bridges to Prosperity of Northern IL)</i>	
Rock House Kids	\$ 500
Rockford Interfaith Community Garden	\$1,000
Rockford Rescue Mission	\$1,500

MEF Fund Supports Scholarship and Agencies

