



The Christ Candle December 2024

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ADVENT
HOPE • PEACE • LOVE • JOY

CLC Staff

The Reverend Dale M. Zylstra
Kelly Seitzinger - Secretary
Abigayle Kubiak - Organist

Congregation Council Officers

Nancy Zimmerman - President
Don Winston - Vice-President
Jan Kopischke - Secretary
Kelly Seitzinger - Treasurer
Dara Kubiak - Financial Secretary

Council Members

Mike Vidimos Bob Talley
Dave Holeman Shirley Whitesell
Elden LaHayne Robin Bellamy
Art Cinnovski

Ministry Team Leaders

Worship & Music Director—
Jan Kopischke
Choir Director—Lori Zylstra
JuBellation Director—Judy Rodgers
Genesis Bells Director—
Jan Kopischke

Fellowship - Esther Fuehrer
Finance/Stewardship -
Social Outreach- Julie Vidimos
Property - Don Winston
Christian Ed - Robin Bellamy
SCS Superintendent - Kelly Seitzinger
Visitation - Rosemary Wignall
Worship & Music - Judy Rodgers
Youth Ministry - Robin Bellamy

**All meetings are open to members
of the congregation.
Scheduled meetings are sometimes
adjusted based upon the ministry
team members schedules.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

~ An E.L.C.A. Congregation ~

**7051 Indianapolis Blvd,
Hammond, IN 46324**

The Reverend Dale M. Zylstra

**The Reverend James T. Swanson,
Pastor Emeritus**

Phone: (219) 844-6122

Website: clchammond.com

Office Email: office.clch@gmail.com

Pastor's Email: pastor.clch@gmail.com



Mark Your Calendar Dates to Remember!



- Dec 01 - Advent Begins
- Dec 07 - Hammond Christmas Parade
- Dec 15 - SCS Christmas Program
Cookie Contest
- Dec 22 - Pastor Swansons 85th Birthday Party
- Dec 24 - 7pm Candlelight Worship
- Dec 25 - Christmas Day Worship
- Dec 29 - Lessons & Carols
- Jan 06 - Joint Epiphany Worship

Highland Community Band Christmas Concert

**Tuesday December 17, 2024
at 7:00 p.m.**

Come join us for a free performance by the Highland Community Band! Performance will be held at the Highland High School auditorium. Come out and support our members in the band...it's always an amazing concert!

Estuary Group - Dec 4th

Estuary Group with Pastor Dale meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7pm in Byquist Hall.



Surprise!!

Pastor Emeritus James Swanson will be celebrating his 85th birthday in December.

Please join us on **December 22nd** for fellowship after church for a **SURPRISE** birthday party, hosted by his family and Nancy Zimmerman.



Men's Group - Dec 18th

Men's Group with Dave Roman meets at 7pm in Byquist Hall.

Cookie Contest - Dec 15th.

Please bring cookies for Fellowship after service. A prize will be awarded for the cookies getting the most votes.



Check out our website.

Visit us at:
clchammond.com



Go to YouTube.com and Search:

**Christ Lutheran
Hammond IN**



Find me on

facebook

If we haven't found you yet...check us out on Facebook!!!

Search: Christ Lutheran Church Hammond

Nativity Scavenger Hunt for Advent

We have begun a new church year with the Advent Season. When you enter the Sanctuary Building, you will begin to see the changes in decor gradually as the Altar Guild adds something new each week. You'll also see 12 Nativity Scenes hidden (in plain sight) throughout. Ten of them were donated by Don and Darcy Winston a few years ago with the idea to give them away. When you find one, please feel free to take it home to add to your own Christmas decor, or to gift to someone who may not have their own set. In this season of preparation, how many people know the story of the greatest gift ever - the birth of a baby in a manger who would sacrifice his life for the sins of the world? Help spread the message of Christ's birth.



Note: some have boxes while others do not, but we will assist the finders in packaging each set. If you have questions, please ask Jan Kopischke.

SCS Christmas Program

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

DON'T MISS IT!!!!

Sunday, Dec 15th
during worship

Silent Night,
 Holy Night



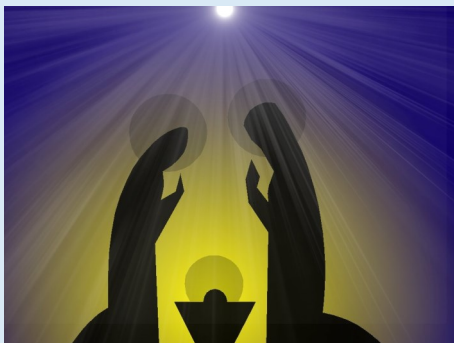


THE SEASON OF ADVENT, which is the beginning of the church year, is a time of waiting, a time of preparation, hope and joyful anticipation for the celebration of Christ's coming as God among us, for Christ's coming to us in Word and Sacrament now, and for Christ's coming at the end of the age. The word *ADVENT* is from the Latin phrase *adventus Domini*, meaning the coming of the Lord. The color of Advent is a shade of blue that reminds us of the color of the night sky just before sunrise, a sky, which symbolically in the season, holds the promise of the Light, which is to come.



THE ADVENT WREATH, The origin of the Advent wreath is somewhat obscure. Evidence points to its use in pre-Christian Scandinavia. During the Middle Ages, Christians adopted this usage and began using it in homes. By the year 1500, more formal practices surrounding the Advent wreath had developed. The endless circle of the Advent wreath reminds us of Jesus' eternal reign. The evergreens signify eternal life. The four outer candles symbolize the four weeks of Advent. The color of the candles is blue for royalty with one that is pink to symbolize rejoicing that the Christ child is near, as is the color for the season of Advent. The large center white candle on our Advent wreath is the Christ candle and is lit on Christmas Eve and at all services during the twelve days of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE - THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



The Christmas season celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the incarnation of God. It lasts for 12 days, December 24 through January 5, the eve of the Epiphany of our Lord. White, a color associated with the festivals of Christ and suggesting gladness, joy and light. It's principle themes are: God's presence in human life; God's love for all of creation; and the Paschal mystery of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection.

The word *Christmas* originated as a compound meaning "Christ's Mass". It is derived from the Middle English *Christemasse* and Old English *Cristes mæsse*, a phrase first recorded in 1038. "Cristes" is from Greek *Christos* and "mæsse" is from Latin *missa*. In early Greek versions of the New Testament, the letter *X* (chi), is the first letter of Christ. Since the mid-16th century *X*, or the similar Roman letter *X*, has been used as an abbreviation for Christ. Hence, Xmas is often used as an abbreviation for Christmas.

We believe Jesus Christ, born humbly in a manger this night, is the Son of God. He is the light in the darkness — sent from God to save us from our sins. We believe we are called and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to share the good news of his birth, life, ministry and resurrection. On this night, as we celebrate Christ's birth, we affirm the mystery of our faith: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.



Glory to God in the highest heaven - Luke 2:14

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Advent 1</p> <p>9am SCS, Confirmation & Adult Ed</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:30pm Worship & Music Mtg.</p>	2	3	<p>4</p> <p>7:00pm Estuary</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:15pm Genesis 7:00pm JuBellation 8:00pm Choir</p>	6	<p>7</p> <p>Hall Rental</p>
<p>8 Advent 2</p> <p>9am SCS, Confirmation & Adult Ed</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p>	9	10	<p>11</p> <p>7:00pm Council</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:15pm Genesis 7:00pm JuBellation 8:00pm Choir</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p>Hall Rental</p>
<p>15 Advent 3 SCS Christmas Program</p> <p>9am SCS, Confirmation & Adult Ed</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:30pm Cookie Contest</p> <p>12:30pm Christian Ed Mtg.</p>	16	<p>17</p> <p>7:00pm Highland Community Band Concert</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00pm Men's Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:15pm Genesis 7:00pm JuBellation 8:00pm Choir</p>	20	<p>21</p> <p>Hall Rental</p>
<p>22 Advent 4</p> <p>9am Adult Ed</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:30pm Pastor Swansons 85th Birthday Party</p> <p>Hall Rental</p>	23	<p>24</p> <p>7pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship</p> <p>Hall Rental</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:30am Christmas Day Worship</p>	26	27	28
<p>29 Lessons & Carols</p> <p>9am Adult Ed</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Hall Rental</p>	31	<p>1</p> <p>Happy New Year!</p> 	2	3	4

Christmas Flower Garden 2024

Orders for Poinsettias for use at the altar at Christmas are now being taken.



Don't hesitate! Order yours now!

Cost: \$10.00 per plant



Orders Due by:

December 15th

Please Print

Your Name: _____

Envelope Number (If you have one): _____ Phone: _____

Given in Memory of: _____

Given in Honor of: _____

Total poinsettias ordered: _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____ Amt. Due

Sunday Dec. 15th

Donation towards Christmas decorating fund \$ _____

Please Indicate:

_____ I will take home my plants after service (Christmas Eve)

_____ I will leave plants for decorations for Christmas season

2024 Tax Deductible Contributions

Please note that any contributions to the church need to be **received** by the church by December 31, 2024 in order to be tax deductible for 2024.