

**Looking Inside  
December 2014  
January 2015**

Page 2  
Christmas Worship  
Schedule

Page 3  
December Birthdays  
Trinity Gathering

Page 4  
Letter from Pastor Eric

Page 5  
Christmas Eve Survey  
Results

Page 6  
Youth News  
Angel Tree

Page 7  
2015 Vision  
Commitment Campaign

Page 8  
Third Quarter Statement  
Music News  
Prayers of Sympathy  
Baptisms

Page 9  
Poinsettias Order Form

Page 10  
Remembering Those in  
Prayer  
Thanksgiving Baskets

Page 11  
December Calendar

Page 12  
Music Calendar



**WEDNESDAY VILLAGE NIGHT**

For the month of December we will not have Village Nights. It will resume Wednesday, January 14 and continue through February 11.

Take this opportunity to gather with 40 others (including about 12 children) in our faith community for food, fellowship, worship and study each and every Wednesday.

**5:45-6:30 pm: Meal (Provided)**

**6:30-6:50 pm: A time for children's music; Bible stories & worship**

**6:50-7:50 pm: Bible Study & Confirmation class**

**Chancel Choir gathers at 7 pm for practice.**

This year, our young families are encouraged to gather with all who attend for the common meal and then the activities for their young children. Linda Keener offers music time for the children (2 groups on alternate Wednesdays: preschool thru kindergarten; 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade). Those Wednesdays the older children are NOT in music, they will plan and lead worship; those Wednesdays the younger children are NOT in music, they will have a Bible story time with Pastor Eric.

Our annual Children's Christmas Pageant will be held on December 14 after the second service. Once again, Council members will be providing snacks for the children and the congregation between the service and the program.

If you have children who are interested in having a part in the program, please contact Heather Heckel at [h.l.heckel@gmail.com](mailto:h.l.heckel@gmail.com).



**Christmas Pageant**

## **CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT CHRIST CHURCH**

***Christmas Eve, 5:30 pm & 10:00 pm (Note change in times)  
Candlelight and Holy Communion***

5:20 pm: Prelude music in the sanctuary by the Bell Choir

9:45 pm: Carols in the Commons Area with the Chancel Choir

***So come a little early to the Christmas Eve service of your choice  
and enjoy the pre-service music.***

***Christmas Day, 10 am to 2 pm (Meal included)***

***A Service conducted by the Indian Christian Fellowship***

Most of the service and the sermon will be in English.

***Come and stay as long as you want. All are invited.***

***Dec. 28, First Sunday of Christmas, 8:15 and 10:30 am***

***Service of Lessons and Carols***

(No Sunday school)

***December 31, New Year's Eve, 10 pm to 2 am***

***A Service conducted by the Indian Christian Fellowship***

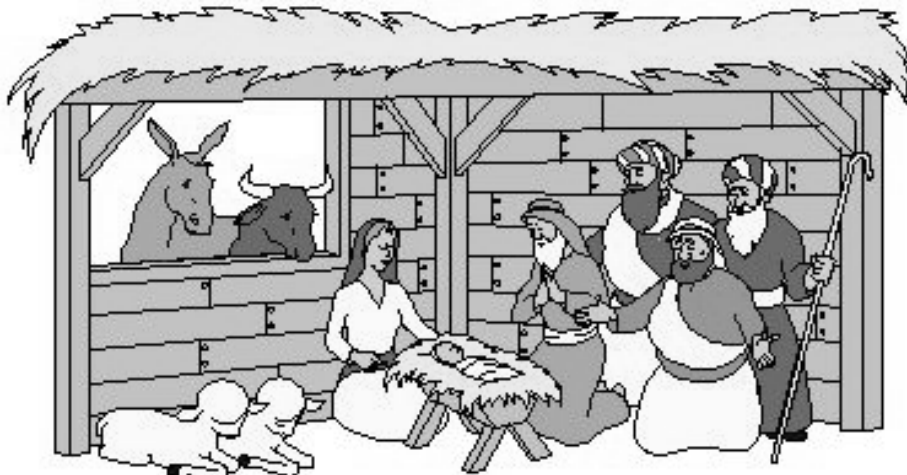
Most of the service and the sermon will be in English.

***Come and stay as long as you want. All are invited.***

***January 4, Second Sunday of Christmas, 8:15 and 10:30 am***

***Holy Communion and Carols***

(No Sunday school)



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kathy Hade
- 2 Sierra Lackey  
Adam Hade  
Deborah Goodwin
- 4 Joanne Buckel  
Ali Meyer  
Patty Donovan  
Joe Barnes  
Inara Small
- 7 Heather Riddell
- 8 Samuel Rinaca
- 14 Jamie Glendenning  
Martina Cathey
- 15 Robert Magann, Jr.
- 16 Stephanie Karn
- 17 Vikki Shumaker  
Ashley Karn  
Devin Dougherty
- 18 Kay Rilee  
Bill Riddell  
Nicholas Carlsen  
Phoebe Carlsen
- 23 Lynne McAfee
- 26 Susan Nepomuceno
- 27 Nancy Hendrickson
- 28 Erin Ring
- 30 Natalee Rinaca  
Rachel Tripp  
Dennis Burns
- 31 Ann Mansueti  
Lainey Riddell

## THURSDAY'S TRINITY GATHERING: A TIME FOR MEN & WOMEN TO STUDY TOGETHER

December 11 & January 8; 10:30 am

At Imperial Plaza

Topic: *"Who Is the Church for Anyway? A Study in the Parables"*

The Trinity Gathering is looking at Biblical stories, especially the parables that can strengthen our own faith and discipleship.

The gathering is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month (10:30 am - 1 pm) at Imperial Plaza (1717 Bellevue Avenue) in the "Virginia Room" (ask at the gate for directions). Lunch is \$11.

Here is your personal invitation to attend. It is a wonderful opportunity for good fellowship, good food, and good discussion. It is a significant way to get closer to Jesus and to your faith community. Call Kay Rilee (262-4226) if you plan to attend.

### NEW COUNCIL LEADERSHIP ELECTED AT THE NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

At the November council meeting the following elections took place:

Jim Ingraham as president

Jim Schnellenberger as vice-president

Congratulations to them and a warm thanks to our president, Heather Heckel, and vice-president, Glen Kellogg, who complete their terms of service at the end of 2014.

Members and Friends of Christ Lutheran,

This is a very belated note to thank you for the wonderful send off that you gave to me when I left Richmond at the end of May. I've enjoyed the laprobe, especially now that the temperatures are finally going down a bit.

I'm hoping to work with a congregation about 50 minutes from home as their interim pastor. I was there last Sunday and will be there again next week.

But missing worship with you all so much-along with Village Night and bell choir. I keep you all in my prayers.

Dear Christ's Disciples,

I have been visiting in our congregation, having discussion at meetings and other gatherings, and listening to our people in many other opportune places. In each of these places I have had conversation about our worship. Some hope we have more organ; others want less use of the organ. Some people have expressed a concern that we are less and less "Lutheran" in our practices and choices while others want even more of a "user-friendly" worship experience.

It is difficult to have strong and solid, dynamic and meaningful worship that suits all tastes and opinions. Some of that is because of a longing to "do it as it was done in the church I grew up in" or a desire to have worship "like I experienced when I went to a friend's church." Some want to sing songs that mean something to them...But again, that is determined by personal taste, history and experience.

What I believe I am charged to do as a Lutheran pastor is to remain Lutheran and yet identify the special voice that we as Christ Church have and need to have in our worship. What is the context of our worship in Lakeside? What are the key elements of a faithful Lutheran worship? What does it mean to be spirit-filled in our praise of a good and gracious God?

Okay, what is central to a Lutheran worship experience? Is it the organ? But many Lutheran churches throughout history did not have an organ to use. Is it singing a hymn of praise every Sunday? But why would we use a hymn of praise as we prepare for Christmas during Advent or Easter during Lent? These are penitential and reflective seasons.

Central to a Lutheran worship experience is: being gathered as a community of the faithful; proclamation of the Word; celebration of Holy Communion; and sending worshipers out to "Love and serve the Lord." Lutheran worship is the place we have baptisms, recognize ministries within and outside of congregational life, give praise to God, pray for the needs of the church, others, and our world; and participate in worship rather than being just spectators (I've been to services like that and I go away empty).

Do I fulfill that responsibility perfectly? Of course I do not. So I am glad for Linda Keener and a Worship Planning Team to work with me so we can offer to you and to all those we welcome this important part of Christ Church's life.

I encourage you to talk with me, Linda or one of the team (Kathi Charlson, Linda Pickels, Willie Carey and Bob Boclair), offering your comments and ideas to help us have a distinct and yet faithful Christ Lutheran Church voice in and for our community as our worship.

In Nomine Jesu,  
Pastor Eric

## Our Christmas Eve Service Times Questionnaire Results

At a Worship Planning Team meeting early in the fall, times of our Christmas Eve Services and whether or not they needed to be evaluated and possibly changed was discussed. The decision was to hear the voices of our congregation. A questionnaire was developed and offered on two Sundays this past fall. A total of 52 questionnaires were returned.

Early service times:

- 6 chose the 4 pm time
- 8 chose the 5 pm time
- 8 chose the 6 pm time
- 2 chose 6 pm as the 1<sup>st</sup> choice & 5 pm as the 2<sup>nd</sup> choice
- 2 said either 5 or 6 pm
- 1 either 4 or 5 pm
- 3 would come at any of the times

There was concern that some people might still be at work on Christmas Eve so 4 pm would be difficult; others thought 4 pm and 5 pm were better for meal and family time afterwards.

Late service times:

- 2 wanted it to remain at 11 pm
- 21 wanted it to be at 10 pm (with a number of those expressing their appreciation that they would get home at an earlier hour)

Two people also offered the following times for just one service:

- 1 wanted 7 or 7:30 pm
- 1 wanted 8 pm

The late service was the easiest for the team to recommend to council because of the over-whelming numbers: 10 pm.

The early service was much more difficult. The team was sensitive to the “some still at work” issue, so 4 pm was not considered at this time. To remain sensitive to those who wanted it that early and to recognize the fairly divided 5 and 6 pm split, the team recommended to council a 5:30 pm time.

Council approved their recommendations and asked that another questionnaire be made early in the new year in order to determine how the congregation felt these times chosen worked or didn't work.

Thanks to all who filled out a questionnaire.

The new Youth Sunday School class is up and running. We are temporarily meeting in the classroom next to Pastor's office at 9:30 am, and welcome new faces every week. Our class discusses any relevant topics, and we look into the Gospel lesson for the day. Youth are invited to come and enjoy breakfast and the company of peers in a relaxed setting.

The deadline to sign up for Winter Celebration, the high school youth gathering of all the Virginia youth at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg, is coming up fast. We need to have your application in by December 7, 2014 along with a check for \$85. Forms are available online at <http://www.vasynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/registration-form-WC2015.pdf> or in the Youth Sunday School room.

A tentative date of December 20 has been set for the CLCY Holiday Shopping/Party where we'll shop to purchase items still needed for Angel Tree gifts. Lunch will be provided and bring a white elephant gift for a gift exchange. Gift should cost no more than \$7, should be wrapped but without names.

A RALY event (Richmond Area Lutheran Youth) is scheduled to be at Epiphany on December 21 in their cabin behind the church. There will be a mini tacky light tour, caroling, s'mores and hot chocolate. More information will be sent out as the details are finalized.

The Youth has their own web page on the CLC website thanks to Susan Tripp's efforts. The youth can get the password from either Susan Tripp or Jane Dry to access the page on the website- <http://christlutheran.org/youth/youth-members/> The acolyte/crucifer schedule is on there, as well as other relevant Youth information.

Thank you from the Youth to Trenton Hizer and all who were involved in the Chili Cook off in November. Funds were raised for the Youth activities and a good time was had by all!

The **Angel Tree** should be up by November 23. The rules are simple. Take one or more angels from the tree. Each angel has an assigned number. *Find that angel in the log book and record your name.* Purchase and wrap gift. Securely attach angel to package.

Return to bottom of angel tree and record the date returned beside your name in the log book. Please have all gifts back by December 21, preferably sooner.



Several of the wishes are for bicycles which are rather expensive. There is one family in which four children would like a bike. In most cases there will be an alternative wish on the angel. In the hope that someone might come along that wishes to purchase a bike, do not take the bike angel for the purpose of getting the alternative. Wait until December 9 to take the alternative.

If you are unable to get out to search for a gift, feel free to make a donation. I have elves who say they love to shop.

Contact Paul Quel (262-7548 or [PQUEL1232@comcast.net](mailto:PQUEL1232@comcast.net)) if you have questions.

***Just a reminder that there is still time to participate in the 2015 Vision Commitment Campaign.***

During October, Commitment Cubes and Cards were circulated among Christ Lutheran members. The cubes and commitments were then dedicated on November 2.

If you did not have a chance to receive one of our Commitment Cubes during the campaign, that is not a problem. There are 2015 Vision Commitment Cards and a Commitment Cube on the Welcome Table. Simply complete a Commitment Card and place it in the Cube.

While you are at the Welcome Table, also make sure to check out our “Book of Glad”, an easy-to-read pamphlet that summarizes just some of the ministries of Christ Lutheran made possible by your financial support. It also illustrates how stewardship at Christ Lutheran does not end with the conclusion of the Commitment Campaign, but is an on-going ministry of our church. Thank you for participating in the 2015 Vision Commitment Campaign!

Your Stewardship Team:

Jim Ingraham, Jan Foltz, Cathleen Jacobson, Carol Mitas, Bob Light, Jeremy Ott

**EARLY EPIPHANY SEASON  
WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES  
AT CHRIST CHURCH**

***January 7, (Wednesday) Epiphany Festival  
Celebration***

5:45 pm: Festival Meal (Food from the many nations provided)

7 pm: Festival Service of Holy Communion  
*We will commemorate the Epiphany that tells the story of the coming of the magi to Bethlehem.*

*We will celebrate the Christ of all nations through a meal with selections from various traditions and a worship service that includes the languages of several nations.*

***January 11, Baptism of Our Lord, 8:15 & 10:30 am***

***Affirmation of Baptism and Holy Communion***  
Sunday school for all ages: 9:25 am

We are pleased to welcome Renovación Apostólica, a local Spanish-language church, to Christ Lutheran. The people of Renovación Apostólica are worshiping on Sunday afternoons and having Bible studies and education classes on Thursday evenings in the Fellowship Hall. They requested to use our facilities because they were outgrowing the church where they had previously been meeting.

After much discussion and deliberation, Council approved the request.

If you are here while they are, please take the time to introduce yourself and welcome them.

We look forward to having them here! - Heather Heckel, Council President

## Third Quarter Contribution Statements

Contribution statements for the quarter that ended October 31, 2014 were mailed out to members this past week. Please use your statement as a reference and a guide in achieving your **2014** pledge. Contributions received through December 31 will be counted towards the 2014 pledge year.

### Special Contribution Envelopes

We also encourage everyone to make use of your special envelopes. These special contributions are critical in helping our church cover any unexpected and un-budgeted expenses that occur during the course of the year. Upcoming special envelopes most members likely still have in their envelope boxes are for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. And, of course, you may also make an online contribution at anytime at Christ Lutheran's website ([christlutheran.org](http://christlutheran.org)).

If you did not receive a statement, or have any questions about your statement, please contact our Financial Secretary, Cindy Williamson, through the church office.

Thank you for your financial support of Christ Lutheran Church!

Your Stewardship Team

### Music! Music! Music!

There'll be lots of it during December! The children will be working on their pageant. The Bell Choir will play Christmas music at Manor Care on Saturday, Dec. 13.



Choir members AND congregation members are invited to go caroling to some of our homebound members at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 10. The Children's Choir, Bell Choir, Bell

Ensemble, Chancel Choir plus extra volunteer singers plus Early Ensemble members are working on Christmas Eve music. What an exciting time of year!

We hope you will consider joining us for any or all of these wonderful—and meaningful—musical opportunities. Just let Linda Keener know of your interest.

### Our Prayers of Sympathy are for

Joanne Tripp on the death of her uncle on October 9; for Dave Vess on the death of his aunt on October 9; for Betty Magann on the death of her stepmother on October 23; for the family of Danny Baisden on his death on October 26; for Jennifer John on the death of her father on November 10; for the family of Charlie Harris on his death on November 18; to Pim Bhut on the death of her father on November 19 and for Brenda Barnes on the recent death of her uncle.

### **BAPTISM**

"Through Baptism God has made this new brother a members of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus..."

**October 12**

**Brantlee Thurman Cathey**

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ and worker with us in the Kingdom of God."



# POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

**DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15**

Please fill out the bottom portion of this form and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate at any worship service *to give a poinsettia for use in the church during the Christmas services.*

**Please attach a check so that we do not have to collect at a later time.**

You may order red poinsettias in a foiled pot with a bow at a cost of \$14 per pot. These plants may be taken home after the 11 pm Christmas Eve Service or after the 8:15 am or 10:30 am. service on December 28.

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ plant(s) to be used in the church during the Christmas services.

Please **PRINT** the following information:

**TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN MEMORY OF**

\_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Please **PRINT** the following information:

**TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN HONOR OF:**

\_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

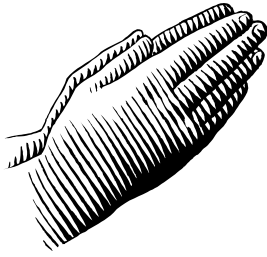


The 2014 Larry Bain Memorial Chili Cook-off was a smashing success this year, raising almost \$400 for the youth. A great crowd enjoyed a wide variety of chilies and other dishes. Winners of the chili cook-off are:



Best chili: George Springer  
Best non-chili: Margaret Hudgins  
Best cornbread: Liz Baisden  
Best dessert: Emily John  
Best kid's entry: Carleigh Heckel

A big thank you to all the chefs who entered their chili and other dishes. They were all delicious! Thanks to the event's judges. Also a very big thank you to all the folks who helped with set-up and clean-up for the event.



## Remembering Those in Need of Prayer

An important ministry at Christ Lutheran Church is remembering people in prayer. But so often the person and the name of the one who submitted the person get lost in the months that pass. Though God is not bound by our naming and remembering, it is important that the Church be a good steward of each person's name. Because we want to be intentional about our congregation's prayer life, we offer the following:

- \*The bulletin now carries the names of persons who have been recently submitted.
- \*The newsletter contains our homebound members, those family and friends serving our country, and friends and relatives in need of long term prayers.
- \*And, you may place names of anyone under the stone on the altar at any time. These will be left there for about 1 month.

Please remember: you need to continue to be an intentional steward of the person's name you submit. Keep pastor and the church office "in the loop" as conditions change; make sure we all can celebrate the "prayers answered" by taking that person's name off the prayer lists.

### Our Homebound:

Nancy Drummond, Hope Harman, Jeane Kobes, Katherine Magann, Elinor Mansueti, Walter & Yvonne Olphin, Margie Werner

### Family & Friends Serving Our Country:

Courtney Charlson, Pamela Charlson, Oliver Clayton, Keith Cunningham, Luke Dahlen, Burt & Jeri Evans, Adam Lewis, Josh Mullins, and Vincent Salla.

Members, Friends & Relatives in Need of Long Term Prayers: Dennis Burns, Donna Coffman, Don Jones, Edith Murphy, Tom Jones, Arthur & Agnes Cunningham, Christy Mayes, Anna-Marie Burruss, Rick Kelley, Pete Orebaugh, Howard Lugar, David Phillips, Barbara Blevins, Robert Tignor, Halle Buttriss, Alice Lucan, Randy Smith, and Clara Paige.

## Thanksgiving Baskets

The Grumpy Old Man will be attempting to do both of these ministries this year. He never was known for being overly bright. The routine will probably be identical to that used last year. Expect to see the Thanksgiving baskets in the Commons by November 2. Donations are "rationed" out by the first letter of your last name. There will be additional details in the Sunday bulletins and of course cash donations are also accepted. If you live near the church and think that you might have freezer space for a frozen turkey (the bird, not Grumpy) or two, please contact Paul Quel at [pquel1232@comcast.net](mailto:pquel1232@comcast.net) or 262-7548.



## DECEMBER 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7 PM Vision Team	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8 AM Lakeside Networking & Support	<b>6</b> 7 PM AA & AIAnon
7 <b>8:15 AM</b> Worship <b>9:25 AM</b> Adult Forum, led by Pastor Chris Price (Central Classroom); rehearsal for pageant (Fellowship Hall) <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship <b>after 2<sup>nd</sup> service</b> Children's Choir	<b>8</b> <b>9 AM</b> Men's Group <b>7 PM</b> Council	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>5 PM</b> ACTS Small Group <b>7 PM</b> Choir and congregation – caroling for home-bound members	<b>11</b> 10:30 AM <i>Trinity Gathering</i> (at Imperial Plaza)	<b>12</b> <b>6 PM</b> <i>Littlest Lutherans &amp; Cool Christians</i>	<b>13</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> – Confirmation Classes will decorate sanctuary <b>11:30 AM</b> Bell Choir plays at ManorCare; afterward, party at the church for Bell Choir <b>7 PM</b> AA & AIAnon
<b>14</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Worship <b>9:25 AM</b> Adult Sunday School children will rehearse Pageant <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship <b>after 2<sup>nd</sup> service</b> Children's Christmas Pageant	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>8 AM</b> Lakeside Networking & Support	<b>20</b> <b>11:30 AM</b> Theatre Outing to Cultural Arts Center <b>7 PM</b> AA & AIAnon
<b>21</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Worship <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship <b>after 2<sup>nd</sup> service</b> Congregational Meeting to approve 2015 Budget and vote on Council nominations <b>after 2<sup>nd</sup> service</b> Children's Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i> <b>5:30 PM &amp; 10 PM</b> Christmas Eve <u>Worship Services</u> * (Answering service will be monitored. Leave message if there is an emergency.)	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day</i> <b>Church Office Closed</b> * See Note	<b>26</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> * See Note	<b>27</b> 7 PM AA & AIAnon
<b>28</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Worship <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

## *December Music Ministry Calendar*

*Sunday*

*Monday*

*Tuesday*

*Wednesday*

*Thursday*

*Friday*

*Saturday*

	1	2	3	4	5	6
			7:00 Chancel Choir			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:20 Early Ensemble 10:00 Chancel Choir 11:45 Children's Ch. 3:00 Bell Ensemble 4:00 Bell Choir			7:00 Chancel Choir caroling			11:30 Bell Choir at Manor Care & party at church
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:20 Early Ensemble 10:00 Chancel Choir 4:00 Bell Choir			7:00 Chancel Choir			6:00 Chancel Choir party at Kelloggs
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
7:50 Early Ensemble 10:00 Chancel Choir 11:45 Children's Ch. 3:00 Bell Ensemble 4:00 Bell Choir			<i>Christmas Eve</i> 4:30 Bell Choir 5:00 Children's Choir 5:30 Worship 9:00 Christmas Choir 9:30 Bell Ensemble 10:00 Worship	<i>Christmas Day</i>		
28	29	30	31			
			<i>New Year's Eve</i>			

# **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

Brothers and sister graced with the Cross of Jesus Christ  
joyously drawn together by the Good News into a ministry of  
seeking, sharing, caring and serving

## **The People of Christ Lutheran Church, Ministers**

The Reverend Eric J. Moehring, Pastor  
Linda Keener, Music Director  
Susan Nepomuceno, Program Liaison  
Katy Vess, Administrative Assistant  
Heather Heckel, Web Master  
Carol Jones, Newsletter Editor

## **Congregational Officers and Council Members**

Heather Heckel, President	Shannon Fleming
Glen Kellogg, Vice President	Bruce Matson
Paul Quel, Treasuer	Ferrell Newman
Cindy Williamson, Financial	TInky Keen
Stephanie Feaser	James Ingraham
Gerald Ransone	Ernie Foltz
Chad Foltz	Faith Hobson

## **Sunday Schedule**

Worship:	8:15 AM
Sunday School:	9:25 AM
Worship:	10:30 AM (Nursery available)

Church Address:	7809 Woodman Road, Richmond, VA 23228
Church Phone:	804-266-5775 Fax: 266-4979
Church Web Page:	christlutheran.org
Church Office Hours:	Monday-Friday, 9 AM-5 PM
LAMB's Basket:	Tues., Thurs. & Fri., 10 AM-1PM (565-8007)