



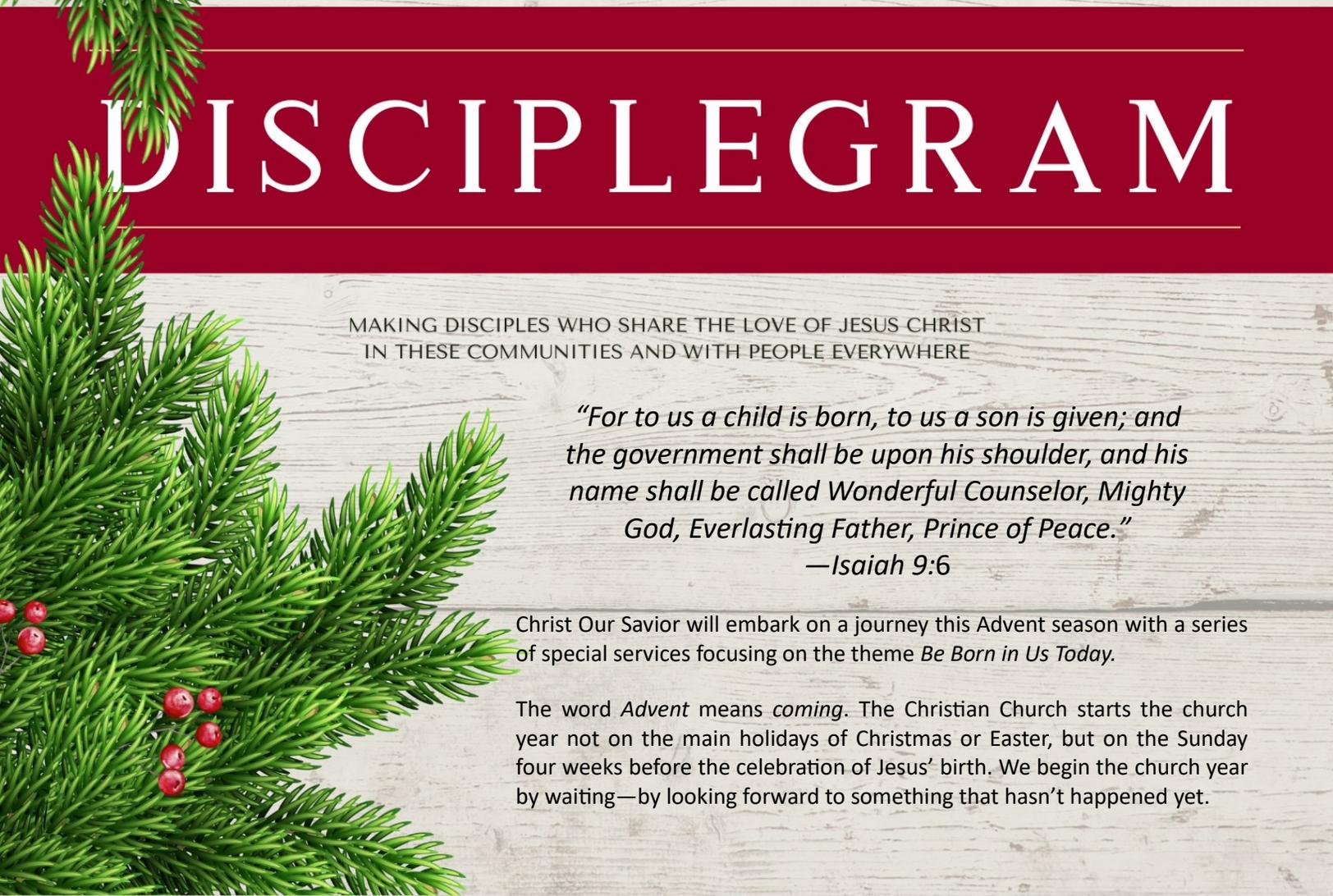
Christ Our Savior
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

November/December 2022



BE BORN IN US
Today

DISCIPLEGRAM



MAKING DISCIPLES WHO SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST
IN THESE COMMUNITIES AND WITH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE

*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and
the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his
name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”*

—Isaiah 9:6

Christ Our Savior will embark on a journey this Advent season with a series of special services focusing on the theme *Be Born in Us Today*.

The word *Advent* means *coming*. The Christian Church starts the church year not on the main holidays of Christmas or Easter, but on the Sunday four weeks before the celebration of Jesus’ birth. We begin the church year by waiting—by looking forward to something that hasn’t happened yet.

The season of waiting during the four weeks of Advent is not merely a season of standing still and holding our breath until Christmas finally arrives, but it is also a time to prepare for what's ahead. We remember *what*—and *whom*—we are waiting for. As excitement builds on the streets and in the shops around us, excitement can build in our hearts, as well. The glitter and show of the Christmas decorations and parties are a fun way to celebrate the season externally, and the worship of Advent can prepare us internally for the love that is coming to rescue us, the fulfillment of all God's promises, the Savior that is promised to give us hope in the middle of our sinful world and difficulties.

Our Advent series is entitled *Be Born in us Today* (published by Creative Communications). The focus is on the fact that Christ is born in us spiritually every day, bringing Blessing, Renewal, Guidance and Power. It is through Him that we

have strength and support for each day, and the power of his spirit within us molds and shapes us into his image.

Each week focuses on a different aspect of how Christ's arrival changes us each day.

We remember that Jesus comes bringing blessing. In Genesis 12:2, God promised Abraham "And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing." That promise was fulfilled with the birth of Jesus, who brings the blessing of salvation to all of mankind.

We remember that Jesus comes bringing renewal. Isaiah 40:31 tells us: "but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." This renewal of our strength is as true for us today as it was when the prophet Isaiah spoke those words.

We remember that Jesus comes bringing guidance. David wrote in Psalm 31:3, "For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me." Just as the Israelites doubted God's plan as they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years, we often doubt whether God's hand is guiding us. But this promise from scripture reminds us that Jesus' arrival at Christmas is God's clear path to the promised land of heaven.

We remember that Jesus comes bringing power. This message is based on the words of Moses' song in Exodus 15:6: "Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord,

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MISSIONARIES

Rev. David Erber—*Nigeria*

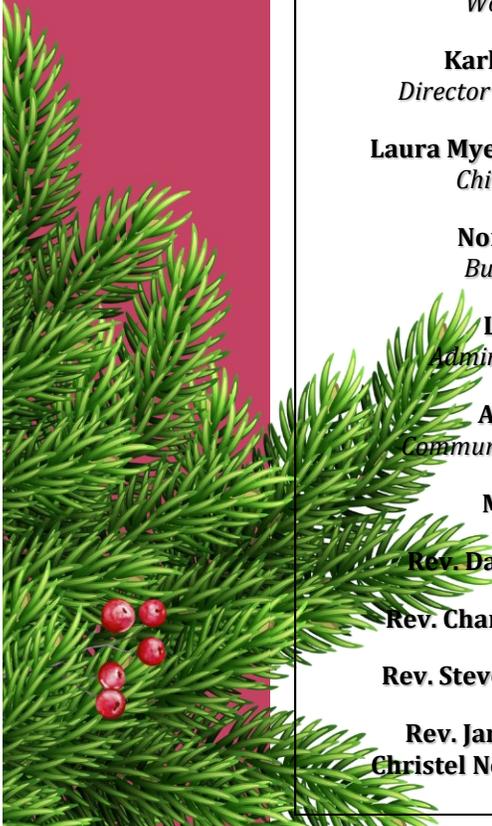
Rev. Charles Ferry—*Indonesia*

Rev. Steven Mahlburg—*Macau*

**Rev. James and Deaconess
Christel Neuendorf**—*Puerto Rico*

**Let us know how you'd like
to receive the Disciplegram**

If you would like to
receive an electronic version
of this newsletter, email
Alyssa Anders at
alyssaa@christoursavior.org.
Include your preferred
email address and the current
mailing address where you
receive the Disciplegram
newsletter.



shatters the enemy.” This power comes wrapped in swaddling clothes at Christmas.

As we go through this series, we hope you can join us for midweek Advent services. Shadow of the Cross Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills will host services at 12 p.m. followed by a luncheon. Pastors from our circuit churches will lead these services:

- ✠ November 30, Pastor Fairbairn from St. Paul, Northville, preaching *Christ our Hope*
- ✠ December 7, Pastor Schumm from Prince of Peace, preaching *Christ our Peace*
- ✠ December 14, Pastor Dupre from Shadow of the Cross, preaching *Christ our Joy*

Christ Our Savior will have four evening Advent services on November 30, December 7, 14 and 21. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. in the gym, followed by a service at 7 p.m.

The observance of Advent is more than just the hour midweek service, however. Advent happens on the other days of the week, too. To help your spiritual walk this season, we have a number of different resources available for you.

For adults, there are devotional booklets available. Written by Chad Bird, the booklet for adults ties in with the theme *Be Born in Us Today*. Each day there is a short message to give encouragement and focus to us in this season of preparation.

Advent is also an important time for families to learn together. Parents with little kids can grab a sticker activity book and cardboard background from the Welcome Desk. Each day the kids can add a sticker to the nativity display as their parents read part of the Christmas story. We will also be posting weekly craft ideas to do as a family on our blog (christoursavior.org/blog). These craft projects tie directly into the *Be Born in us Today* theme that the midweek services will follow. You can do these crafts any time during the week and have a conversation as a family about how the gift of Jesus changes our lives every day. There is something for older kids too—daily devotional booklets will be available in their Sunday School or Catechism classrooms.

Finally, let’s not forget that the opportunities we have to witness this Christmas season. Bracelets that say “Keep Christ In CHRISTmas” are available at the Welcome Desk for you to take and wear to encourage discussion about Jesus, the true meaning of Christmas. As we approach the Advent and Christmas season, more people are open to discussing spiritual topics and COS provides special activities and services you can invite them to. Prayerfully consider those whom you already know that God is leading you to share His love with. May God lead you in being bold to share your faith—their eternity depends on it!

In this Update

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- ◆ Call for Submissions
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- ◆ Proposal 3 Passed; Now What?
- ◆ Membership Updates
- ◆ New Members
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- ◆ Memorials and Gifts
- ◆ Altar Flowers
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- ◆ Holiday Service Schedule

Call for Submissions

The Disciplegram welcomes your submissions! Christ Our Savior’s newsletter is published six times a year. If you have any news reports, poems, artwork, short stories or articles that you would like to share, please let us know!

We reserve the right to make final decisions on what is published. We try to print articles as submitted, but will edit if necessary. Items will be included as space allows.

Submit articles to Alyssa Anders, Communications Coordinator, either via email (alyssaa@christoursavior.org) or in her mailbox. Please include your name and phone number with each submission.

This is YOUR newsletter. Feel free to use it!

Featured
Ministry

Christian Resources International

God's Word for Everyone



For most of us, the most difficult part of buying a new Bible is choosing which translation we prefer. Numerous publishers and book stores offer a wide selection, and we have our choice of size, cover design and quantity of footnotes. Many people around the world face much different circumstances, however. Bringing God's Word to every corner of the world is a daunting task, and we praise God for those who shoulder that ministry.

You may have noticed that every couple of months we collect materials for a ministry called Christian Resources International. If you have dropped off Bibles or other materials, thank you! In this newsletter, we'd like to share with you how that contribution was used to bring light into darkness.

The CRI website shares the history of their organization:

Our Mission Cry at CRI—to share, send and sow—started over 60 years ago with a simple man with a simple but profound dream, and a heart to fulfill Matthew 28:19—to go and make disciples. The Word of God does not return void, so what better way to train, lead, and equip than to send Bibles—the word of God!

Christians in other countries need access to Bibles but lack the money to get them. In America, studies show that the average home has 7 extra Bibles sitting around the house.

From the beginning, one man's dream of a few books going overseas has turned into a Worldwide Global Mission with companions like you who are strategically sharing, sending and sowing God's Word to every nation.

Our strategy to plant distribution centers globally. Distribution centers are locations we have strategically set up around the globe that will allow people easy and free access to the word of God. These facilities are helping you and I make sure that we can get the word distributed quickly whether through our CRI Missionaries or those from other denominations.

It started with the founder and is carried on by the Executive director, Rev. Woolford but accomplished only through you by your financial gifts, generous literature donations, dedicated will to continue God's vision! Thank you for becoming a book missionary and aligning yourself with the mission to Share, Send, and Sow God's Word!

One of the staff members at CRI, Maria Woolford, took the time to answer some questions and share a little bit more about their ministry.

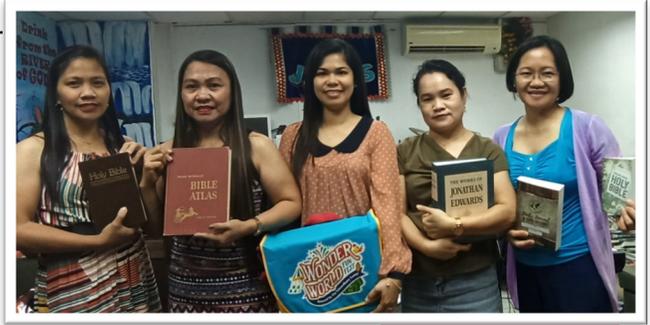
CRI works with missionaries around the world. There are about five missionaries who receive containers annually and have distribution centers for the books and materials they collect. There are many other missionaries that sometimes receive only one container to start their ministries in their local community. Sometimes that's all they need but they are certainly eligible to receive containers in the future from CRI.

The majority of the donated material is in English. Every missionary or recipient who receives a container can speak and read in English. Most people in other countries like those where these containers are sent speak multiple languages, so reading in a language other than their mother tongue is not necessarily an obstacle. Additionally, English is the most widely spoken language in the world—it is considered the international language—and many people are able to communicate fluently in that tongue. Some of the missionaries who received containers get creative and use the English Bible as a tool to teach people how to read and write in English. This was the case in Belize when CRI shipped three containers and met with the local people, churches, and schools. For those who don't know English, there are always people in their communities who know

how to read and translate the English literature into their native language.

Although the ministry has changed since its inception sixty years ago, the biggest needs at CRI have remained the same. They still need donations of Bibles (used or new). If you have other Christian literature, such as devotionals, biographies, reference books, Christian music and DVDs, they also have a need for these kinds of materials. They also need financial support for the increased cost of shipping the containers.

If you would like to learn more about this ministry, visit their website missioncry.com. Our church also regularly collects materials to donate to CRI. Watch for announcements in the COS Update for the Sundays that we will collect Bibles and other Christian materials. On these Sundays, there will be a sign on the Welcome Desk and a bin in front of the Desk for your donations. COS member Robert Russie collects the donations and delivers them to the CRI headquarters in Fowlerville, MI.



Receiving materials in Sri Lanka



CHRISTmas Blessings 2022

We Need Your Help!

For the past 8 years, church members have volunteered to go food shopping to fill a "basket" to be given to families in need in the community, and surrounding area, at Christmas time. Thus, the **CHRISTmas Blessings Program!** The **CHRISTmas Blessings** program will enter its **9th year** with the same enthusiasm and caring spirit as year one. The program has been a success because of **YOU**. You and your willingness to work together, for others, in the name of the Lord! Please read on to find out how YOU can help, this year, bring **CHRISTmas Blessings** to many in need.

HOW YOU CAN HELP...

We need you to volunteer to purchase food items to fill a **CHRISTmas Blessings Bin**. This empty "Bin" will be provided to you, along with a **\$60 GIFT**

CARD from MEIJER'S to purchase food. To help with this project you will receive: a list of suggested food items to purchase, a Christmas card to sign and fill out for the family who receives your bin, and an invitation that includes our various church services.

To fill a **CHRISTmas Blessings Bin** contact Linda Hollman via email (lindah@christoursavior.org) or contact her at the church office (734) 522-6830. Let her know how many Bins (one, or even more if desired) you would like and pick up the Bin(s) between **November 27 and no later than December 10**. There will also be committee members available before and after services to sign up/hand out bins. Shop, fill your bin(s), and return them to the church **GYMNASIUM** anytime

(continued on next page)

during the **week of December 12-16** (please be mindful of school in session). Return **NO LATER** than December 16, 2022.

CHRISTmas BLESSINGS DAY! December 17th!

The day of the event, families will be directed to the church gymnasium – to share in a **warm breakfast** (thanks team Wiltenburg!), some welcoming conversations, and then escorted through the hall to the narthex – where the CHRISTmas Blessings Bins will be along with prayer partners in the church if guests desire prayer time.

Some **CHRISTmas BLESSINGS EXTRAS:** We are

collecting children's hats, mittens, scarves, and socks that will be available for the children to choose from that day. If you would like to donate these items, return them in a separate container. A donation of veggies from an area vendor will be bagged and included with your donated Bin. So good! There are also other tables of donated items that are offered to our guests to choose from...It's amazing. It's a Blessing!

Want to help, but just don't know how? Let us help you, help many. Join us. Contact Linda Hollman for further details or with questions. **THANK YOU!** *The CHRISTmas Blessings Committee*



Proposal 3 Passed; Now What?



What is the Church's response to the passing of Proposal 3 for reproductive freedom? Consider some points from men who lived during the passing of another law that led to the execution of millions in Nazi Germany. Simply put, the Church's response is to fight back and refuse to compromise in the truth.

On Wednesday, I woke up with knots in my stomach. I made the mistake of checking Twitter and the first thing that I saw was, "Michigan Passes Proposal Three." I was sick to the point of throwing up. It wasn't because Prop 3 had passed; I had a hunch that it would. We live in a culture that worships murder and the destruction of the family, so I wasn't surprised at all by Michigan's election results as this nation continues to turn its back on God the Almighty, worship self and convenience, and place their trust in men (and women) and false promises. This has certainly been the case for generations and something that I preach against often. But it's one thing to know that. It's another to see it in text, solidifying what you already know to be true. And numbers speak volumes.

2.4 million.

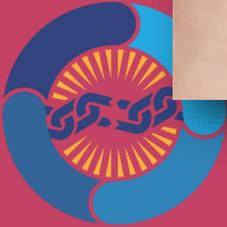
The AP estimated after 87% of the votes counted, 2.4 million people (definitely more) voted to be able to kill a baby in the womb up

until birth. 2.4 million people voted to allow young children to circumvent parental approval to begin mutilating their bodies and changing their gender. 2.4 million people voted to allow young women to have an abortion without talking to their parents. 2.4 million people voted to protect the one performing the abortion if something goes wrong. 2.4 million people voted to give up parental and religious freedom rights and surrendered their children by giving the State a blank check to do with whatever they see fit.

This past week 2.4 million people embraced evil. What's worse is that many of these people claim to be Christians, even leaders within the church. They claim to worship a Jesus who loves children, but they hate them. They allege to serve a Jesus who protects the vulnerable, but they throw them to the wolves. They wish to follow Jesus even unto death, until persecution is looming at the door and they flee to the gods of

This article was written by Rev. Tyler Cronkright and published on his blog, *Stories and meditations from the little church on the corner in Southwest Detroit.*

Follow him at tylercronkright.com for more personal stories about the work that is happening at Family of God.



narcissism, sex, and violence.

What breaks my heart the most, however, is that of these 2.4 million plus people, many of them were duped. They went to the car dealership thinking they bought their dream car that everyone will love, only to pull off the lot and have the engine explode. They bought a lemon. How many people that voted “yes” genuinely thought they were doing what was best for their kids, their families, and their state? How many people voted “yes” because “I can’t see these claims in the language of the proposal?” And how many people knew exactly what this Proposal would do but packaged it in shiny paper and a big red bow and gave it to the public with a sinister shit-eating grin? How many pastors neglected to talk through this proposal with their congregations because “church and politics don’t mix.” Evil comes in many forms. Satan, the deceiver and the father of lies, will do whatever it takes to get you to bend your knees and bow to him. And that’s exactly what took place this week.

There is nothing new under the sun.

Which means that despite all of this, Jesus is still Lord. Jesus still holds all things together. He is still the Son of the Father, the Messiah, the Prince of Peace. He is still your hope and your salvation. He is still God.

So, what do we do next, Church? Do we roll over? Do we give in? Do we just accept defeat and say, “God is in control, so lets just let the world go to Satan?” We are still Christians. We still take our marching orders from Jesus, the Lion of Judah. We still have fifth commandment responsibilities; “We should fear and love God that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor’s body; but we should help and be a friend to him in every bodily need (Luther’s explanation of the fifth commandment).” We cannot sit idly by and let our neighbors be trampled by evil. What’s our next move?

I appeal to my good friend Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who wrote a short essay entitled “The Church and the Jewish Question.” In short, Bonhoeffer was radically engaged in the church struggle, which was the tension between the Church and the State in Germany when Adolf Hitler rose (was elected) to power in 1933 and in the years following. In April of 1933, Germany passed the Aryan paragraph which banned Jews from various organizations and professions. It took away rights and dehumanized the Jews. Of course all of this would lead to the Holocaust (don’t worry, I’m not comparing abortion to the Holocaust; exponentially more people die from abortion than from the Holocaust). Bonhoeffer saw this was not of God and there

needed to be a response from the true Church against the State. He wrote this:

There are thus three possibilities for action that the church can take vis-à-vis the state: **first** (as we have said), questioning the state as to the legitimate state character of its actions, that is, making the state responsible for what it does. **Second** is service to the victims of the state’s actions. The church has an unconditional obligation toward the victims of any societal order, even if they do not belong to the Christian community. “Let us work for the good of all”. These are both ways in which the church, in its freedom, conducts itself in the interest of a free state. In times when the laws are changing, the church may under no circumstances neglect either of these duties. The **third** possibility is not just to bind up the wounds of the victims beneath the wheel but to seize the wheel itself.

The first thing we can do is continue to be vocal. Question every single move the State makes. Push back on every “mandate.” If a law is passed that is in direct violation of the Word of God, hold the State accountable. Shout from the rooftops, use your social media platforms, be bold and engage in conversations. Sign petitions. Write letters. Be vocal! We are at war, and we cannot hide in the foxholes like cowards and let others do the fighting. We need to resist. Do whatever it takes. Pull your kids from public schools that embrace trans ideology and participate in the State’s grooming processes and indoctrination. Consider home schooling. Take it upon yourself as parents and grandparents to be bold and teach the truths of God to our kids. Out of love for your children, fight back.

No matter how much we question and hold the State responsible or how much we fight, the State will push back and will do whatever it takes to get its way. And there will certainly be casualties. According to God’s Fifth Commandment, we must help our neighbors in every bodily need. We must service the victims of the State’s actions. Women who have had abortions and feel the incredible guilt, shame, and pain, we embrace them, minister to them, love them. Kids who naïvely pursue to be sterilized and have regret, we take them under our wings and proclaim the redemptive love of Christ. Kids struggling with a gender identity crisis, we come along side of them, listen to their struggles, and pour out the promise that God made them beautifully, purposefully, and loves them perfectly.

But there will certainly come a point when these aren’t enough. Perhaps it’s even now. We must act.





Paul Schneider,
c. 1920

We must do whatever we can to seize the wheel of the State's train that is steaming towards our kids and our families. Are you willing to do this? Are you willing to love your families so much that it means seizing the wheel of a moving freight train? Let me be clear, this does not mean throwing rocks at your senators or frozen bottles of water through your governor's window in peaceful protest. What it does mean is becoming active in your communities to stop this evil. Become more than just a social justice computer warrior. Wrestle the wheel out of the hands of the ones trying to take your children's lives. Protect your loved ones. Be willing to lay down in the road and give up all you've ever known to stop it.

Pastor Hill, with whom I co-host a podcast about Bonhoeffer, introduced me to another contemporary of Pastor Bonhoeffer. Consider Pastor Paul Schneider for a moment. Another pastor under Hitler's rule who openly opposed the Nazi ideology. He sought not to antagonize the State but to have harmony between the Church and the State. But as the Nazi party continued to push their ideals, specifically that some human races were "higher" than others and they would eliminate the "lower" by force, Schneider became more and more bold in his preaching, stating that "National Socialism becomes more obviously opposed to biblical Christianity." He urged his hearers to take up their cross and follow Jesus, saying, "Do not deceive yourselves, you cannot participate in Jesus' glory and victory unless you, for his sake, take up the holy cross and go with him along the path of suffering and death." In other words, to be resurrected with Jesus, you must die with Jesus – maybe even a martyr's death.

Pastor Schneider became Prisoner Schneider for his refusal to come alongside the Nazi party. In November of 1937, he was taken to Buchenwald Concentration Camp where he was constantly taunted and had no privileges. On April 20, 1938, to honor Hitler's forty-ninth birthday, the prisoners honored him by revering the Nazi flag. Of all the men, there was one who would not bow to the swastika. Schneider received a vicious punishment of whippings, lashings, and placement into solitary confinement with no furniture, no light, no Bible. Nothing. He became a skeleton in tattered rags left to rot in his cell

with nothing but bread and water to eat and drink.

In 1938 he preached the Gospel to the fellow prisoners through the bars of his prison cell. He was tied to a rack and whipped 25 times. He continued to suffer until July 18, 1939 when he was injected with a massive overdose of strophanthin to stop his heart and he died. Why would he endure all of this? Pastor Schneider has the answer:

"Someone has to preach God's Word in this hell."

In John's Gospel, Peter tells Jesus that he will certainly lay his life down for him (13:37). Of course Jesus then tells Peter that he will not hesitate to deny Jesus when he has an opportunity to lay his life down for him. The irony is not lost. The issue is that Peter has not seen Jesus lay his life down. But he will. He will see just how much love his Lord has for him and only in his weakness will Peter be made strong. Peter would be strengthened by the Spirit and indeed will lay down his life for Jesus as he is crucified upside down. All of the apostles, with the exception of John, will die a brutal death for the sake of Christ and for the sake of the Truth.

Brothers and sisters, you have an opportunity to do the same. You have an opportunity, dare I say privilege, to speak the truth in the midst of lies and evil. And it may just cost you your life. But hold fast to this truth: you have a God who has led by example and gave his life for you first. He has promised the Holy Spirit to come and fill you when you are being persecuted. In your persecution, not only will you suffer for Christ, but you will suffer WITH Christ. But as Paul puts it, you know him and the power of the resurrection, and may share in the sufferings of Christ, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible you may attain the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:10-11). Christ is with you. He is leading the charge. He is fighting with you and for you, so that you, and all who believe in him, have the promise of eternal life in the Resurrection.

So, dear Christian, let's fight for truth. Let's mend our brothers and sisters. Let's lay our lives down for our friends. Because after all, the war is over. Jesus has won. And through him, you have victory too.

Your move. Because someone has to preach God's Word in this hell.

Rev Tyler R. Cronkright

Membership Updates

September '22—October '22



To keep the congregation better informed about the membership of our church, the Board of Elders has decided to include updates in each Disciplegram. Every two months, a report will be published that includes a list of gains and losses and the reason for each change.

In addition, there are members at the end of this report that the Elders have not been able to reach. They request your help with these members. If you have any information about them or possible ways to contact them, please share that information with the chairman of the Board of Elders, Mark Anders (ElderMarkAnders@christoursavior.org) or with the church office (734-522-6830).

Received by Transfer from Other LCMS:

- Bruce Howard on Oct 2, 2022
- Nina Howard on Oct 2, 2022
- Caleb O'Hara on Oct 2, 2022
- Molly O'Hara on Oct 2, 2022
- Alex Wrase on Oct 2, 2022
- Kristen Wrase on Oct 2, 2022
- Liam Wrase III on Oct 2, 2022
- Sloane Wrase on Oct 2, 2022
- Will Wrase II on Oct 2, 2022

Received by Baptism:

- Emmeline R. Campau on Sep 18, 2022
- Henry Kamrath on Oct 2, 2022

Deceased Individuals:

- Randy Flagg on Sep 23, 2022
- Ed Kendrick on Oct 10, 2022

Removed from Membership:

- Brandon Henry on Sep 30, 2022
- David Henry on Sep 30, 2022
- Jonathan Henry on Sep 30, 2022
- Jordan Henry on Sep 30, 2022

Unreachable members:

- Peter & Denise Frauenheim, Easton, Reese
- Joel & Jamie Ferguson, Alexis

Any questions about the information presented here can be directed to the chairman of the Board of Elders, Mark Anders (ElderMarkAnders@christoursavior.org), or the church office (734-522-6870).

New Members

Received on October 1, 2022

In the life of our church our membership is constantly changing, and we rejoice when we have the opportunity to see it grow. This past October we welcomed new members and we want to give everyone the chance to get to know them better. Here are short biographies from each household to help you get acquainted. If you see any of these faces in the hallway or around church, make sure to say hello and introduce yourself!



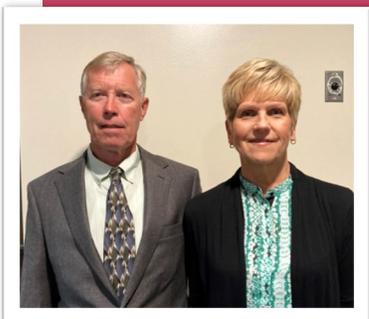
Philip & Catherine Anders: Philip was previously a member of Christ Our Savior and was confirmed here and involved with the youth group for many years. When he met and married Catherine, they moved north and attended several different Lutheran churches near their home in Holly, MI. They recently moved back to the Livonia area and Phil re-joined our congregation, and Catherine joined for the first time as a member. They have two daughters, Eloise

and Colette, and a dog, Remy. Phil works as an engineer, Catherine currently stays home with the girls.



Shirley Erickson: I grew up in Detroit where I was confirmed and married at Nativity Lutheran Church and was a member there until moving to Plymouth in 1971. We then became members of Risen Christ Lutheran Church. I have 2 sons and 3 grandchildren; one family is in Howell and the other lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I enjoy reading, needlework, word puzzles and being outdoors when the weather is nice. I'm very glad to be

joining the COS family.



Bruce & Nina Howard: Here's a little information about ourselves. We were married in 1977 at Grace Lutheran Church in Redford. A couple of children later we joined Shadow Of The Cross Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills. Early church experience led us to a smaller congregation but as we grew older we wanted more opportunities to meet new people

and to be part of a larger congregation. We were members there for 35 years then decided to visit COS one Sunday. COS satisfied all our needs.

Bruce is still working and runs a small sewer contracting company. I am a retired nurse (5 years) and mainly worked in allergy offices. We have a daughter who lives in San Diego and a son who lives near Battlecreek. We own a 5th wheel camper and spend a few weeks in the summer exploring Michigan. In the winter we head to Florida and spend time in an RV park near Okeechobee. We like to ride bikes and recently upgraded to electric pedal assist which is softer on the knees.

Thank You for accepting us into the congregation. We have met many friendly people already and know that we belong to something special here. Numerous activities and studies will keep us occupied for years to come.

Caleb & Molly O'Hara: We are so excited to join this congregation & call Christ Our Savior home! Molly works as a school social worker at a local middle school. Caleb is a full time football coach at Concordia University. Caleb previously taught at a Lutheran grade school before transitioning to football full time. We have a beautiful & very active two year old daughter named Hannah who is the light of our lives!



The **Wrase Family** moved to Livonia in 2011 and were members of St. Paul's in Farmington before joining Christ Our Savior. Will runs the Bobcat dealership at Merriman and I-96, and Kristen is an ASD Coach for Wayne-Westland school district. Liam (9) and Alex (6) attend Coolidge Elementary, and Sloane (3) will get there eventually. We are excited to join the congregation and grow in our faith. God's Blessings to you all!



Voters' Assembly Meeting

On Monday, November 21, 2022, congregation members of Christ Our Savior gathered for our fall congregational meeting.

During the meeting the call committee gave a presentation on their progress, the treasurer gave an overview of our financial situation, the chairman of the Board of Elder's spoke about our membership and the duties of the elders, the Ministry Action Plan (MAP) for 2023 was presented, and the chairman of the Church Council gave a report.

The call committee presented two candidates for the position of Director of Christian Family

Life Formation (DCFLF). There was time for questions and discussion about the candidates.

Since we had a quorum of members present, (10% of the voting membership, as outlined in our bylaws), a vote for the call was made. Steve Wilson received a unanimous vote by the attending members.

A call was extended to Steve Wilson and we will be waiting for his response. Pray for him as he deliberates this call.

We would like to thank the call committee for all the time/work they put in to provided our Church with quality candidates.

Memorials and Gifts

Gifts in memory of Randy Flagg		
Intended for:	Given by:	
General Fund	Ray Steinberg, John & Donna Duneske, John & Nancy Gormley, Ed & Darlene Yee & Family, John & Barbara Lappetito, Rich & Phyllis Nader, Debra Elsholz, Richard & Gail Gulau, Susan & James Mitchell, Gudi French, Janet Kehe, Rich & Robin Young, Judith Mayle	
Youth Group	Karen A Hansen	
Family of God	Shirley Speirs, Jill Ritzler, Bob & Gini Krenz	
Music Ministry	Margarita Macy, Ruth Germeroth, Katharine Stasevich	
Retiree Repair Team	Mr. & Mrs. John Fuhrman	
Food Pantry	Janice Gitlin	
Jubellation Handbell Choir	Lois Drake	
	Anonymous	
Gifts in memory of Ed Kendrick		
Intended for:	Given by:	
General Fund	Judith Mayle, Katherine Tyson	
Retiree Repair Team	Mr. & Mrs. John Fuhrman	
In honor of:	Intended for:	Given by:
Celia Weidendorf's 90 th birthday	Music Ministry	Barbara Weidendorf



Altar Flowers

As of January 1, 2023 altar flower pricing will increase to \$20.00 per arrangement. Arrangements may be scheduled on the flower chart in the hallway next to the glass entry doors. Envelopes are provided to indicate the date, occasion, and payment for which you are requesting flowers. Please return the envelope to the church office or in Laurie Riegel's mailbox outside the office door. Please DO NOT place the envelope in the offering plate. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie by email: laurier@christoursavior.org or phone: 734-522-6830 x 101.

Christmas Poinsettias

The celebration of Christmas brings special thoughts to all in different ways. While many people think of our special loved ones at Christmas, others want to express their thankfulness for all of the blessings God has bestowed upon them. What better way to announce these thoughts by purchasing a Poinsettia plant(s) this holiday season to help decorate our altar. The price per plant will be \$15.00 for a triple stem plant. Poinsettia order form envelopes are available at the Welcome Desk. Checks are payable to: *Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church*. DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th. Completed envelopes can be placed in Cheryl Moldenhauer's mail box. You can either pick your plant up after service on December 25th, or you may beautify the church by leaving the plant on the altar.

True love
came at
CHRISTMAS

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

November 30, December 7, 14 and 21
Advent Dinners at 6:00 p.m.
Worship Services at 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25
Service of Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24
Service of Holy Communion at 5:00 p.m.
Worship Service at 10:00 p.m.

NEW YEARS EVE

Saturday, December 31
Service of Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m.