

First Fruits

December 2019

Volume 23, Number 12

Worship Ministry



CHARITON COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, at 7 PM
Chariton Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
(1027 Ilion Avenue, Chariton)



FIRST LUTHERAN WILL NOT BE HOLDING MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES THIS YEAR.

**WE HAVE BEEN INVITED to St. Andrews
Episcopal Church in Chariton (1112 N. 7th Street)
for their mid-week Bible study.**

This will start on Tuesday, December 3, and
continue on Tuesday, December 10 & 17. It will
begin at 1 PM and last about an hour.

**THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, ENTITLED
"CHOSEN TOO" WILL BE PRESENTED ON
DECEMBER 15 DURING THE 9 AM WORSHIP
SERVICE AT FIRST LUTHERAN.**

There will be acting, singing and bells. You
won't want to miss this program as Elaine and
Dave tell all of us how we are "Chosen" to
follow Jesus. Cinnamon Roll
Sunday will also happen this
Sunday. Come enjoy the story of
Jesus' birth, a cinnamon roll, and
fellowship!



Chariton Community Longest Night Service

Friday, December 20
7 PM

Community of Christ Church
(231 N 7th Street, Chariton)

Sponsored by Lucas Co. Interchurch Council

Christmas Poinsettias

Please consider providing a
poinsettia plant for the
season of Christmas.

IN CHARITON, please have
them at the church by
Christmas Eve morning.

IN CORYDON, please bring them with you on
Christmas Eve.



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

**Eucharist with carols
and candlelight**

Corydon 4:30 PM

Chariton 6:30 PM

THERE WILL NOT BE
SUNDAY SCHOOL
ON DECEMBER 22 or 29.
SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL
RESUME
ON JANUARY 5.



FROM OUR CONGREGATION PRESIDENT:

“God is good all the time. All the time, God is good.” This phrase is said during worship service every Sunday at my daughter’s church. It is a blessing to hear it and more of a blessing to hear the children say it. They even have t-shirts with this phrase on it so they can be bold in their faith as children of God. Such an easy phrase to say and one we should be saying everyday as well.

The month of December we should reflect on all the good, the joys and the peace that God has given us. He gave us his only Son, born as a babe and He walked among the people as a human. Wouldn’t that be such a great awesome experience to walk with Jesus? I try to walk with Jesus everyday but because I am human I don’t always stay walking with Him. This Advent Season we should all focus on the coming of Jesus with anticipation, hope and joy. Advent is a time of spiritual preparation through prayer, fasting and repentance, much like the Lenten season.

We have the opportunity to join our sisters and brothers of the Episcopal Church for this time of prayer in December. We will meet on Tuesdays at 1:00 PM starting December 3 at the Episcopal Church to study the scripture readings for the coming Sundays. This will last approximately 1 hour but I am sure you will leave with many hours of pondering what the reading is really telling us on how to live our lives and walk with Jesus.

I look forward to the Children’s Christmas program every year. I want them to always remember their walk with Jesus through the story of his birth. They are always excited to see what part they will play and they always do a great job. This year the program will be December 15 during the 9:00 AM service. This is also cinnamon roll Sunday so bring your appetite and share a walk with Jesus. **“God is good all the time. All the time God is good!”**

Gayle Bortz Council President

Stewardship Ministry

**DECEMBER 15
CINNAMON ROLL
SUNDAY**



The youth attending the next Youth Gathering will be serving cinnamon rolls on Sunday, December 15, in exchange for a free-will donation. All donations will be put toward the next Youth Gathering!

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH!
THIS IS ALSO THE SUNDAY FOR THE FIRST
LUTHERAN CHRISTMAS PROGRAM.**



**SALVATION ARMY
BELL RINGING
OPPORTUNITY**

First Lutheran will be ringing the Salvation Army Bell on Saturday, December 14, in front of Dollar General. Please see the sign-up sheet on the desk in the Fireside Room.

STOCKING HAT & MITTENS

It is that time of year when we start working with Headstart for our stocking hat and mittens Christmas gifts for the children. If you are interested in helping, please buy hats and mittens that will fit any size child. Then watch for the tree that will be put up in December.



Thank you! LuAnn, Jean, and Allison

DID YOU KNOW YOUR CANCELLED STAMPS HAVE VALUE??



The Women of the ELCA is working to donate cancelled stamps to the ministry of Lutheran World Relief. The cancelled stamps are sent to a group that sorts and sells used stamps to collectors around the world. Thus far, 65 million stamps have been collected by a group in Kyle, Texas, and they have donated \$42,000 to the shipping fund of Lutheran World Relief to ship quilts and kits around the world. To help you participate, the following information is provided.

- All stamps are welcome.
- Commemorative and seasonal stamps are most valued.
- Cut the stamps from the envelope leaving 1/4 inch around the stamps so as not to damage the stamps.

Start now -- we often get the most mail with stamps during the Christmas season!

You can put your donated stamps in a designated container that you will find on the desk in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran.

Thanks!



The End of the Month meals are being replaced by Together Tuesday Meals. This community effort provides free meals for those stretching their budget dollars. The host location will be the Chariton Methodist Church and meals are served from 5-6 PM. Please help spread the word and if you want to join in the fellowship, please come. If interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Fay Utesch at 515-451-1232 for dates of service. There is also a sign-up sheet in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran.



ATTENTION: To anyone that is cleaning closets or decluttering during the holidays and those cold winter days! The Breakfast Gals have decided to plan the annual basement sale at FLC in June 2020. Donated items such as clothing, household items, etc. would be appreciated. We cannot accept TV's or computers. Items may be placed in the church basement. If you need items picked up or have any questions, please contact Linda Comstock (641-774-4406) or Fay Utesch (515-451-1232).



Annual Meetings and Potluck Dinners

Christ the Servant

Sunday, January 12, 2020

Everyone is welcome to attend the annual meeting for ministry at Christ the Servant in Corydon. The meeting will begin about noon following regular Sunday worship. A potluck meal will be shared after the business portion of the meeting is concluded.

First Lutheran

Sunday, January 19, 2020

On this day, Christ the Servant and First Lutheran will gather for joint worship at Chariton beginning at 9 AM. The business meeting will follow at around 10:15 AM. Following the business items of the day, we will join in the sharing of a potluck meal in the Fireside Room. Those who are able are invited to bring two dishes to share with others.

⋮⋮⋮⋮ On the Vine

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will gather on **Wednesday, December 4**, at First Lutheran, beginning at 1:30 PM.

LAF :: Lutheran Adult Fellowship will gather in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran beginning at **6 PM on Sunday, December 8**, for our Christmas party. Please bring finger foods.

“Sharing the Weight” Blanket Making Party at CTS will be held on Tuesday, **December 10**, from 9 AM-3 PM. We invite everyone to come and join us. Come as early as you can and stay as long as you like.

The Women of the ELCA will be going to Albia to attend the St. Paul's Lutheran Church Annual Soup Luncheon & Supper on Thursday, **December 12**. The time to carpool will be determined. If you wish to carpool, please call Barb Vogel at 641-774-2008. Following the luncheon, we will go the home of Geraldine Wiig for Bible study. All women are invited!

The CTS (Christ the Servant) Women's Bible Study Group will meet on Tuesday, **December 17**. We will meet at Noon for our *Gather* study. Watch the bulletins for the meeting place to be announced.

“Coffee, Conversation, Camaraderie” CCC@CTS will be on the **third Friday of each month at Christ the Servant. Our next gathering will be on Friday, December 20, from 9-11 AM.** Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry will have their Thrivent Action Team Coffee shop open and anyone is invited to attend. Community residents are invited to come with friends or come alone and make friends.

BENEFIT FOR FINN CARROLL: **This Saturday, November 30th, a benefit for Finn Carroll will be held at Carpenter's Hall.** Finn has leukemia and is a little more than 1/2 way through the 3 years of treatment. He is the grandson of Duane and Cindy Bedford. A free-will donation dinner will be served starting at 5:00 PM with a silent auction beginning at 6:00 PM and a live auction at 7:00 PM. Donated items for the auctions are most welcome. Dancing and a DJ will follow the auctions and continue till midnight. For information about the event or donations, call Duane at 203-8891 or Carlee Bellon at 515-745-9752.

THE FLC QUILTING GALS are in need of 7 decent sheets (full size or larger) for quilt backs. If you have any laying around that you don't have a use for, you can bring them to FLC and they will be put to good use.

THE FOLLOWING EVENTS ARE IN WAYNE COUNTY AND WILL BENEFIT THE WAYNE COUNTY FOOD PANTRY AND THE EMPTY STOCKING FUND:

You are invited to the 2019 drive-through **Holiday Tour of Lights** at the **Wayne County Fairgrounds**. It will be from 5 to 9 PM on **November 29, 30 and December 1, 6, 7, 8**. Many of the buildings on the grounds will be decorated as well as many decorations between the buildings. Any money donated at the entrance will go to support our Wayne County Food Pantry. Area businesses, organizations, churches, and individuals have joined together in setting up the light displays. Thank you to each and every one of them.

2019 Festival of Trees is also at the Wayne County Fairgrounds. Friday, November 29th from 5-7 PM; Saturday, November 30th from 3-7 PM; and Sunday, December 1st from 5-7 PM. Saturday only from 4-7 PM there will be Santa/Wagon rides/Cotton Candy/Photo Booth/Balloon Animals, Face Painting. There is a free will donation for this that goes to the Empty Stocking Fund for Wayne County.



First Lutheran Church
Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

1004 Curtis Ave • Chariton, Iowa 50049

email: flcchariton@iowatelecom.net

FaceBook: First Lutheran Church ELCA, Chariton, IA
and Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
phone: 641-774-4875

December

**** CHARITON COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING
SERVICE – Tuesday, November 26**

**** CHRISTMAS PROGRAM at FLC
- December 15 at 9 AM**

**** CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
-- Corydon: 4:30 PM
-- Chariton: 6:30 PM**

**Be Bold in our Faith as Children of God
and Share the Good News of Salvation with All People**

(First Lutheran Mission Statement)



Share the Joy of Christ, and Serve Others

(Christ the Servant Mission Statement)

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<http://twitter.com/iowalutheran>



First Lutheran Church Chariton, IA
 flcchariton@iowatelecom.net
 (641)774-4875
 Worship 9 AM
 Sunday School 10:15 AM

Christ the Servant Corydon, IA
 Office: 641-774-4875
 Sunday School 10 AM
 Worship 11 AM

December 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Holy Communion <u>9 am</u> –First, Chariton <u>10 am</u> – CTS Sunday School <u>10:15 am</u> – FLC Sunday School <u>11 am</u> –Christ the Servant, Corydon <u>1 pm</u> – Slavic Worship	2 <u>7 pm</u> – Quilt Guild in Fireside Room	3 <u>10 am</u> – FLC Worship Committee <u>11:30 am</u> –Lucas Co. ICC at St. Andrews Episcopal <u>1 pm</u> – Advent Bible Study at St. Andrews <u>4:30 pm</u> –Budget Meeting at CTS	4 <u>1:30 pm</u> – Prayer Shawl Ministry at FLC <u>7 pm</u> –Budget Meeting at FLC <u>8 pm</u> – AA @ CTS	5 <u>9 am</u> – FLC Quilting <u>7 pm</u> –Slavic Worship	6 Office Closed	7 <u>8 pm</u> – AA @ CTS
8 Holy Communion <u>9 am</u> –First, Chariton <u>10 am</u> – CTS Sunday School <u>10:15 am</u> – FLC Sunday School <u>10:15 am</u> –Executive Comm. at FLC <u>11 am</u> –Christ the Servant, Corydon <u>1 pm</u> – Slavic Worship <u>6 pm</u> – Lutheran Adult Fellowship	9 <u>2 pm</u> –Laplanners Quilt Guild at CTS <u>6:30 pm</u> –Council at FLC	10 <u>8 am</u> –Breakfast Gals <u>9 am-3 pm</u> – Blanket Making Party at CTS <u>1 pm</u> – Advent Bible Study at St. Andrews	11 <u>8 pm</u> – AA @ CTS	12 <u>9 am</u> – FLC Quilting Time TBA– Women of the ELCA <u>7 pm</u> –Slavic Worship	13 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline!	14 <u>8 pm</u> – AA @ CTS
15 Cinnamon Roll Sunday <u>9 am</u> – Christmas Program at FLC <u>10 am</u> – CTS Sunday School Holy Communion <u>11 am</u> –Christ the Servant, Corydon <u>1 pm</u> – Slavic Worship	16	17 <u>Noon</u> – CTS Women's Bible Study (place TBA) <u>1 pm</u> – Advent Bible Study at St. Andrews <u>3:30 pm</u> – CTS Worship Committee <u>4:30 pm</u> –CTS Task Force	18 <u>8 pm</u> – AA @ CTS	19 <u>9 am</u> – FLC Quilting <u>Noon</u> –Wayne County Ministers Meet <u>7 pm</u> –Slavic Worship	20 <u>9-11 am</u> – CCC at CTS Office Closed <u>7 pm</u> –Longest Night Service at Community of Christ Church (Sponsored by ICC)	21 <u>8 pm</u> – AA @ CTS
22 Holy Communion <u>9 am</u> –First, Chariton <u>11 am</u> –Christ the Servant, Corydon No Sunday School at CTS & FLC <u>1 pm</u> – Slavic Worship	23	24 Christmas Eve-HC <u>4:30 pm</u> –Corydon <u>6:30 pm</u> –Chariton	25 	26 <u>7 pm</u> –Slavic Worship	Wendy Vacation: December 26-31	
29 Service of the Word Readings & Carols No Sunday School at CTS & FLC <u>1 pm</u> – Slavic Worship	30 Wendy Vacation: December 26-31	31	AA – Alcoholics Anonymous		Wendy's Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 7:30 AM – 3 PM	