THE COMMUNITY Spirit

JANUARY 2020

THE GOOD NEWS OF
CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - COLUMBIA, IL

IN **2019**
CCLC WAS INVITED TO...

Be the Light

IN **2020**
GET READY TO...

Shine Brighter

We gathered great momentum in the Be the Light movement last year.
In January, we will refresh this mission and learn
how we can shine even brighter!!!

Monthly Member SpotLIGHT

Each month a "SpotLIGHT" shines on one member of Christ Community as we continue to learn about the different lights of Christ who make up our community. Enjoy this month's edition.

Member: Mike Amato

Family: My wife, Debbie, and I have been married for 41 years. We have two children, Joshua and Stephanie, and their spouses, Tina and Andrew. We have been blessed with seven awesome grandchildren, Tyler, Gabriel, Cole, Aleiya, Avery, Mikayla, and Emma.

Occupation: I owned Amato Painting Company for over 20 years and enjoyed meeting new people and being my own boss.

Activities/Hobbies: In my younger years I enjoyed hunting and fishing. I now enjoy building puzzles, fixing broken toys, and designing natural scenery for my wildlife collection.

Member Since: 2013

Favorite Church Ministries/Activities: My favorite ministry is teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. I have been teaching for over 45 years and can't image ever stopping. I also enjoy Group 133 and helping out wherever I can .

What brought me to Christ Community: We were church shopping and thought we'd cross the river and check out Christ Community. We were late and considered not coming in, but we wanted to worship and figured we'd probably never come back so we walked in...and we've been coming ever since.

What keeps me here? Sunday School, children, youth, new friends, Children's time, VBS.

How have I seen God at work in or through Christ Community? I see God at work in everything we do: In our Advent and Lenten Dinners, Easter Breakfast, Fellowship Time, in the love shown to children and each other, in the support of Group 133, in our Light Group, in our God's Work Our Hands Day, in our worship, and in our acceptance of our differences.

January Birthdays

1 Cole Abram
2 Neal Bockwoldt
Madi Powell
4 Bill Browne
5 Maya Speckhard
Matthew Spoljaric
6 Cail Furkin
Cole Carver
Samuel Blechle
7 Whitney Embick
7 Kobey Mojzis
Nolan Sternau
9 Kathy Spoljaric
10 Bear Wheatley
11 Julie Reichert
14 Maci Browne
15 Mae Descher
17 Charlotte Eugea
21 Rodger Renaud
22 Joe Madlinger
Brian Donovan
24 Mark Hendershot
Maddux Miers
Tim Sternau
26 Quincy Davis
29 Asher Gilbert
31 Michelle Denny
Emmitt Wheatley

Shine Brighter in 2020…

How will YOU "be the light" in 2020?
How will you show the light of Christ to others?
How will you be a light to those who need it?
How will you Shine Brighter?

Well here's some of what to expect in January…

- **Make sure you have a "Be the Light" shirt...new sizes available!!**
  - *If you've never had a "Be the Light" shirt, What are you waiting for? They're free. It only requires your commitment to do what the shirt proclaims—Be The Light*
- **"Be the Light" Yard Signs**
  - *Share the spirit of being the light in your neighborhood. Signs are only $10 and invite us all to affirm our commitment to shine Brighter in 2020*
- **The new "Bright Light" Award**
  - *January 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30—more information coming soon*
- **Light Groups—ANYONE Can Join—WHY should you?**
  - *Light Groups are a way of connecting with others in our church while fulfilling our calling to "be the light".*
  - *These groups aren't for "someone else". They are for EVERYONE to get connected with others and support each other in being the Light out in the world!*

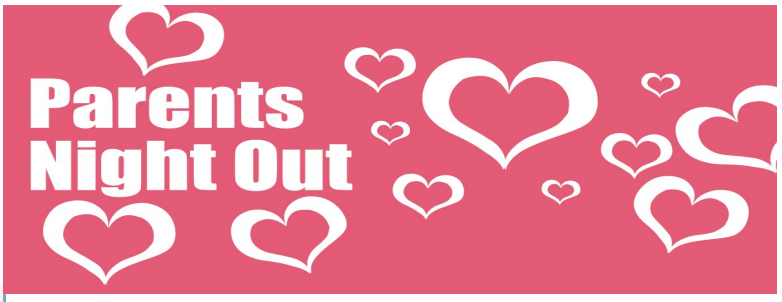
Join One TODAY!!! SIGN UP BELOW…

L.E.D. Heads	Friday Night Lights	T.G.I.F.	Lightworkers
1st Tuesdays	1st Fridays	2nd Fridays	3rd Tuesdays
Leaders: Lisa Donovan, Jason Reichert	Leader: Jaime Miers	Leader: Penny Madlinger	Leaders: Ryan Gilbert, Lynn Pelker

>>> SIGN UP HERE <<<

IT'S A DARK WORLD…

It's almost time for the Super Bowl which means it's almost time for the Souper Bowl. In fact this is the 30th anniversary for this fight against hunger having begun in 1990. As a congregation let's celebrate that 30 years with a strong push to bring in the most we ever have!! So as in past years, bring in your cans of soup and any other canned goods you can throughout this month, culminating on Souper Bowl Sunday...February 2nd. Donations can be dropped off any time leading up to the 2nd or on that Sunday as we bless the ingathering of this food for the community. All donations will then be given to local food pantries.



Share an evening with your significant other without distractions. Let the youth of CCLC take your kids for a night of fun at church while you're out on a much needed date!!

Friday, February 14th, 2020 6:00-9:30pm @ Christ Community

Simply giving

Give to God First in the New Year

Simplify your life and sign up today for "Simply Giving". Under this program your offering is deducted automatically in whatever amount & duration you choose. It's a simple program (hence the name) that helps the church you love further God's mission in the community and beyond while helping you to be a first fruits giver for God. Remember it's because of the generosity of people like you that the ministries at Christ Community continue and flourish!! To enroll, contact Penny Madlinger today to begin "Simply Giving"!

SSALT

Sisters Serving and Learning Together

All women are invited to gather each month on the 2nd Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in Karen Walker's home for fellowship & encouragement as Sisters in Christ. Our first gathering of 2020 will be January 12th. Bring ideas on books the group could consider reading together and discussing. Please join us!! Contact Mike Schmidt with any questions.

Twenty-five members attended the 5th annual Top of the Hill Gang Christmas party at the Waterloo Country Club. Good food, good people and a spirited gift exchange made the event a big success.

January 5th at 4:30 pm we are going to Gallagher's for their family style Chicken Dinner. Look for a sign up on the welcome center.

Questions? Contact **Penny Madlinger** at pmadlinger@christclc.org or 618.281.4646.

"Group 133"

Men's Spring Retreat

?????? (waiting for a date)

For now, all men of the church, please think and pray seriously about attending this retreat! It's a time to recharge in the outdoors, get filled by good food, good company, and God's amazing presence...please mark your calendars today! More information coming soon.

A good introduction to what to expect at the retreat is through Group 133's regular gatherings on the third weekend of each month. This month 133 will gather Sunday evening, January 19th at 7:00 p.m. at Waterloo Country Club in order to try again for the Christmas Party that had to be cancelled in December due to weather. Please contact Nathan Rau or Jason Reichert with any questions about the retreat or Group 133 in general.

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Raising Young People to Know God and be Transformed by Christ

Message from Lynn:

December went by so quickly. I sincerely hope all of you had time to relax and enjoy time with each other as a family. Jesus' birth was celebrated and hopefully gives all a renewed since of hope and joy!

The Rock Youth Group learned some interesting facts about "The Grinch" and his transformation while partaking in Grinch snacks.

The Christmas Kindness Event was a great gathering of families in this season of kindness. Thanks to the Children and Family Ministries Team for their efforts to put this event on!

Unfortunately with a double whammy of bad weather and a bout of bronchitis, **Amplify and Ignite** weren't able to meet for their Christmas party. We'll look forward to some great times together in the New Year!

Youth Group in January

The Rock Youth

3rd—5th Graders

Wednesday, January 8th @ 4:30 –6:00 pm
Wednesday, January 22nd @ Incredible Pizza
Depart at 4:30 from CCLC, Return by 6:30

Ignite Youth

6th—8th Graders

Sunday, January 12th, 12:00-2:00 p.m. on site
Sunday, January, 26th, off site...Movie Day

Amplify Youth

9th—12th Graders

Sunday, January 5th, 11:45-12:45 p.m., on site
Tuesday, January 21st, 6:00-8:00 p.m., on site

Quake 2020

January 12th, Parent Meeting, after worship

January 17th-19th

Theme: More+: Our God Is More Than Enough.
Bible Text: Ephesians 3:20-21

Upcoming Events...

- **February 9th—Winter Jam Christian Music Festival**
- **February 14th—Parents Night Out & Ignite Lock-In**
- **March 21st—Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser**

Sunday School Resumes

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, January 12th.

Everyone, ages 3-adult, is invited and encouraged to attend. If you have never come to Sunday School before, this is another great New Year's resolution just waiting to happen! Childcare for children birth-2 years old is available. We are excited to have you join us for some amazing adventures, as the Holy Spirit leads us and guides us on this amazing journey of faith!

Be Like Jesus

Lock-in/Servant Event

Be Like Jesus is a 24-hour servant event for young people in 3rd-6th grade hosted by Faith Lutheran Church in O'Fallon, IL. This year it's March 27-28 and it's jam-packed with music, games, activities, food, fun, and, of course, service. This is a great opportunity for your son/daughter to gather with other Christian young people from all over the metro area for a safe, fun, & Christ-centered event.

Signup and cost information coming soon!

For now save the date on your family calendar and plan on sending your son/daughter. Consider being a chaperone, too. Parents and high schoolers are needed.

Questions? Please contact Lynn!

Swing Dance Lessons

On Thursdays in January (9, 16, 23, 30) from 7-8pm, come learn a whole host of swing steps taught by Neal and Susan Bockwoldt.

Fun-loving individuals, 12 & older, with or without a partner, are welcome. NO CHARGE for lessons. Just bring yourselves and slick soled shoes for dancing. (NO rubber soled shoes, bare feet or stocking feet!)

New steps taught each week to grow your skills. Questions, please contact Neal.

Save the Date

CCLC Youth Annual Silent Auction & Fundraiser

March 21, 2020

Mark it down now so you won't miss this fun evening and a chance to support our youth.

2020 Pledging By the Numbers*

48
Total Pledges

2
New Pledges

10
Increased Pledges

2
Decreased Pledges

$168,650
Total Pledged, 2019

$251
Avg Monthly Pledge

**-as of printing date*

Finances At a Glance

We give thanks to God for all who generously support the mission and ministry of Christ Community. We can't do God's Work without your support!

Budgeted YTD Offering*
$ 180,433

Actual YTD Offerings*
$ 168,089

Net Difference
($ 11,344)

YTD Total Income**
$ 876,682

YTD Total Expenses**
$ 822,624

Net Difference*
$ 54,057

Amounts as of the end of November

** - Member Giving Only*

*** - Income and Expenses for all operations including Hilltop Kids Ministries*

Church Council Leadership

Debbie Amato	**314.749.4843**	**debbieamato@hotmail.com**
Bob Bauer	**618.281.6903**	**rgbauer1@hotmail.com**
Kevin Blechle	**618.340.9005**	**blechlek@gmail.com**
Lisa Donovan	**618.281.3155**	**lisadonovan6@gmail.com**
Mark Haubein	**618.281.3722**	**mhaubein@vijon.com**
Russ Miers	**217.553.7060**	**rmiers62704@hotmail.com**
Heather Speckhard	**314.680.1602**	**speck@htc.net**
Scott Verseman	**618.304.4978**	**scott.verseman@usdoj.gov**

Council members are people just like you, who worship with you each week, love the Lord, and also have families and jobs and lives beyond CCLC. As members of council they are dedicated to giving their all to serve God's mission in this church and represent us all. If you have thoughts, questions, or concerns, they would love to hear from you directly and get to know you more. Feel free to reach out to them personally at their monthly "Fireside Chats" after worship on the first Sunday of the month.

Join in on Sunday Morning

Sunday School—9 a.m.
Fellowship—10:00 a.m.
Worship—10:30 a.m.

Get Connected

Worshipping is at the heart of who we are as children of God, but we were also created to be in relationship with one another. At Christ Community those connections are central to who we are. Want to get connected with others? Join a Light Group today! Click here to join now or talk to Pastor Jared TODAY!

January @ CCLC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec 29 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1 Office and Programs Closed	2 7p Property Team	3 7p Friday Night Lights	4
5 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:45a Fireside Chat 11:45a Amplify Youth 4:30p Top of the Hill Gang @ Gallagher's	6 7a Wake up Waterloo 7p Boy Scouts	7 7p Worship Team 7p LED Heads	8 9:15a Hilltop Chapel 9:45a Staff 4:30p Rock Youth 4:30p Confirmation	9 7a-Wake Up Call 1p Knit Crochet Pray 6:30p Girl Scouts 7p Swing Dance Lessons	10 7p T.G.I.F.	11
12 ***9a Sunday School Resumes*** 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:45a Ignite 7:00p SSALT at Karen Walker's home	13 7a Wake up Waterloo 7p Boy Scouts	14 6p Finance Team 7p Council	15 9:15a Hilltop Chapel 9:45a Staff	16 7a-Wake Up Call 1p Knit Crochet Pray 7p Swing Dance Lessons	17 **Quake Youth Gathering in St. Louis**	18
19 9a Sunday School 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 7p—Group 133 at Waterloo Country Club	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 4:30p Amplify 6:30p Light Workers	22 9:15a Hilltop Chapel 9:45a Staff 4:30p Rock-offsite 4:30p Confirmation	23 7a-Wake Up Call 1p Knit Crochet Pray 6:30p Girl Scouts 7p Swing Dance Lessons	24	25
26 9a Sunday School 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:45a Ignite-Movie Day	27 7a Wake up Waterloo 7p Boy Scouts	28	29 9:15a Hilltop Chapel 9:45a Staff	30 7a-Wake Up Call 1p Knit Crochet Pray 7p Swing Dance Lessons	31	FEB 1

CCLC Staff Directory

Pastor
Rev. Jared M. Parker
618-281-4646 ext. 101
jparker@christclc.org

Children, Youth, & Family
Lynn Pelker
618-281-4646 ext. 111
lpelker@christclc.org

Office Manager
Penny Madlinger
618-281-4646 ext. 109
pmadlinger@christclc.org

Hilltop Kids Ministries
Daleena Guldner
618-281-4646 ext. 102
dguldner@christclc.org

Office Assistant
Amanda Stapf
618-281-4646 ext. 100
astapf@christclc.org

Christ Community Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 234 Columbia, IL 62236

Phone: 618-281-4646
Fax: 618-281-4647
office@christclc.org
www.christclc.org

Address Service Requested

Christ Community Lutheran Church
1 Christchurch Way
P O Box 234
Columbia, IL 62236
www.christclc.org