

*We are a Christ-Centered congregation committed to the authority of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. We follow His Word, which commands us to reach out to all people with the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, witness and service.*

# Christiana Courier

Carl Haynes, pastor  
704-279-4655 (Office)  
704-223-1468 (Cell)



*O God, you give the winter's cold,  
as well as summer's joyous rays.  
You warmly in your love enfold,  
and keep us through life's wintry days.*

—Samuel Longfellow



## Council Officers for 2020 & Retreat Date

The Congregation Council Officers for 2020 are: Jason Smith - President, David Preslar- Vice President, Linda Crouch - Secretary. The new council members serving the term 2020-2022 are: Eddie Eller, Earlene Ritchie, Laura Ritchie, Robbie Robinson & Jason Smith.

The council retreat is set for January 11 beginning at 8 am in the Smith Assembly Hall.

Members should dress comfortably and bring with them their council notebook, a writing instrument, and Bible. There will be coffee and lunch will be provided by the outgoing council members.

The Church Office  
will be closed  
December 23-  
January 1.



## Youth to lead worship in January

During the month of January, Christiana youth will be taking part in various aspects of worship and will serve as readers, ushers, and greeters during the entire month. On January 26, the youth will lead worship and be responsible for the sermon time as well. We are blessed with many children and youth here at Christiana and it is wonderful to see them growing in their faith as well as taking part in leading worship.

## Volunteers needed!

If anyone is interested in portraying a character in this year's production of Living Last Supper on April 9 or Living Last Words on April 10, please contact Becky Morris right away.



## December Attendance

### December 1

Sunday School: 60

Worship: 101

### December 8

Sunday School: 76

Worship: Attendance not recorded

### December 15

Sunday School: *Hark musical*

Worship: Attendance not recorded



Volunteers are needed as  
nursery assistants for 2020.

Please contact Pastor Carl or the church office  
if you are willing to help.

## Those Who Serve in January

### Nursery Attendants

Jan. 5 Wendi Hawkins & Karen Goodman

Jan. 12 Susanna Paskiewicz & Emily Barnes

Jan. 19 Carmen Merrell & Caylee Hawkins

Jan. 26 Jeniffer & Aubrey Honeycutt

### Offering Counters

Jan. 5 Laurie & Cam Ritchie

Jan. 12 Marsha & Dale Beaver

Jan. 19 Richard Crouch & Eddie Eller

Jan. 26 Madeline Zieverink & Karen Goodman

## January Birthdays

1 Erica Isley	18 Roy Pethel, Jr.
3 Scott Isley	19 Katie Sease
5 Emily Barnes	20 LuAnne Scott
5 Jeanne Diaz	21 Kent Cozart
10 Megan Lyerly	21 Dollie Lingle
12 Matt Fleming	22 Chase Hawkins
13 Pr. Carl Haynes	23 Marshall Shank
13 Sheryl Lyerly	23 Meredith Diaz
14 Camille Abernathy	24 Dylan Kluttz
14 Eddie Eller	25 Hannah Isley
14 Denise Koehn	25 Riley Isley
16 Emmett Shank	26 Marlene Pethel
18 Charlie Beretsky	29 Lynda Pethel



### January Altar Flowers

Jan. 5: Kathy & Carl Haynes

*Pedestal: Suzanna Paskiewicz*

Jan. 12: Emily Barnes

*Pedestal: Suzanna Paskiewicz*

Jan. 19: Sandra McKenzie

*Pedestal: Carmen Pethel*

Jan. 26: Jeff & Angie Fleming

*Pedestal: Carmen Pethel*

*Please notify Kathy Haynes if you would like to provide flowers for any available Sunday throughout the year.*



## *If You've had an Epiphany...*

*God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*  
Colossians 1:27

From the very beginning when God called Abraham and blessed him and promised to make a great nation of his descendants, God also promised that through him all the nations of the world would be blessed. (Gen. 12:3) Abraham's descendants would eventually become known as the People of Israel, God chosen people. But God did not choose them so that they could keep to themselves. God chose them to tell the nations about him.

Psalms 105:1 is just one of many verses that say: "Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples." The people of Israel were to "make known" the Lord's deeds among all the peoples, but they failed to do so. Instead, they chose to keep God to themselves and unfortunately didn't do a very good job of that. For they rebelled against God and disobeyed his commandments.

The Scriptures prophesied of a messiah, one who would be the Savior of the whole world. Jesus is that messiah. But even when he was born, John tells us in 1:11 that "He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him." How sad. But we also know that God did not rely on the people of Israel to make known to the world the messiah. He used means of his own—such as a star.

Somehow, some way God made known to wise men by a special star that a king had been born. These men followed that star to a house in Bethlehem and found a toddler there about two years old named Jesus. They gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh and they worship him. These men were Gentiles, i.e. non-Jews. God had given them an Epiphany, he had made known to them, that Jesus was their King, their Savior, their Messiah.

King Herod, on the other hand, who was a Jew, saw in Jesus, not a Savior, but a threat. Consequently he sought to kill the child. Of course he was unsuccessful. Jesus was the King, but not in the sense that Herod thought. Jesus was not after Herod's earthly kingdom, he was after his soul. Even so, Jesus was still a threat to him.

The same is true today. Jesus is the King, the only Savior, the Way, the Truth and the Life and no one comes to God the Father except through him. (John 14:6) In John 1:12 we learn that all who do receive Jesus, who believe in his name, he gives the right to become children of God, who are born by the will of God.

Such people have had an *epiphany*, i.e. God has made known them the truth about his Son Jesus. If you've had an epiphany, and you believe in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, then he is no threat to you. You are like the Wise Men who came looking for Jesus, to give him gifts and to worship him. Those who do not believe are like King Herod and Jesus is very much a threat to them. And the reason is, as The King Jesus demands obedience and allegiance. He demands our all. The sinful human nature does not like that at all, it feels threatened.

We who know Christ as Lord are called to be *epiphanies* out in the world, making Jesus known to all people who come in contact with us. We dare not repeat the mistake of the Old Testament people of Israel and try to keep Jesus for ourselves. Jesus himself tells us in John 20:21: "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And in Matthew 28:19-20 we know that Jesus commands us to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations.

Thus it is our calling. It is our mission. It is our birthright. It's what we're suppose to do as Christians – share the good news of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus with the world. As we make him know to others through our words and deeds, God will be faithful to cause people to have an *epiphany*, to come to see clearly Jesus as Savior and Lord.

When we have perfect vision in our eyes we say our eyesight is 20/20. When we look back on something we missed and see what we did wrong, we say "Hindsight is always 20/20. Let's pray for God to give us 20/20 vision in our spiritual sight to see Jesus clearly and be able to proclaim him clearly to others. Let's make that our priority in the year 2020.

*Pastor Carl*



## Congregational Prayer Concerns

Lane Pethel, chemotherapy for lung cancer. LaVaughn Beaver's husband, Alan, recovering from toe amputation in Forsythe MC. Ava Scott, allergies and asthma. Linda Crouch's sister, Diane Owens, taking chemo treatments for breast cancer. Kathie Albright, recovering from surgery to strip veins in her legs. Charlotte Pacilio's son, Andy, recovering from motorcycle accident at home. Patti

Boles, under doctor's care. Ann Carscaddon, hospice care at Autumn Care, rm. 205. Tammy Hill's friend, Linda Shaw, cancer spread. Joe Koehn, back issues. Joe Haas, Autumn Care in rm. 808 for PT. Wanda Smith's friend Becky Lord, treatment for stage 4 cancer. Marsha Beaver's friend, Patsy McBride, cancer. Wanda Smith receiving injections for back pain. Linda Haynes' co-worker, early stage liver cancer. Rose & Don Dedmon in poor health. Bill Welch, bladder cancer. Ricky Cross, COPD.

Sympathy is extended to Ann Meacham and family upon the death of her husband, Bill.

### Annual Reports due January 1

All persons responsible for a written annual report should have the report to the church office no later than January 1.

E-mailed reports are preferred at [christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com](mailto:christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com)

### Packing Away the Christmas Decorations

On Saturday, January 4 at 10am, Christmas decorations will be taken down, carefully packed, and put away. This is a big job that takes a lot of help. The Worship Committee & Altar Guild of Christiana invite all who will come to help with this endeavor.



### WINTER SNOW SCHEDULE

If it snows or ices on Sunday morning and the roads are too dangerous for travel, worship services will be cancelled and the church phone tree will be activated to notify you. You may also watch WBTV or WSOC television stations for cancellation notices. You can get a quick list of all cancellations by going to [www.wbvtv.com](http://www.wbvtv.com) or [www.wsocvtv.com](http://www.wsocvtv.com). Also check our website or Facebook page or call Pastor Carl at 704-223-1468.

### Members in Nursing Homes



#### Autumn Care

Ann Carscaddon  
Joe Haas

#### Liberty Commons:

Elizabeth Ritchie

#### Genesis Healthcare:

Carolyn Barringer Corl

#### Trinity Oaks:

Cardell Gibson Katherine Lyerly  
Pauline Lyerly Doris Pethel  
Maxine Casper

## The Wise Men

Oh, we have learnt to peer and pore  
On tortured puzzles from our youth,  
We know all labyrinthine lore,  
We are the three wise men of yore,  
And we know all things but the truth. ...

Go humbly, humble are the skies,  
And low and large and fierce the star;  
So very near the manger lies  
That we may travel far.

Hark! Laughter like a lion wakes  
To roar to the resounding plain.  
And the whole heaven shouts and shakes,  
For God himself is born again. ...

—G.K. Chesterton

## Scripture Lessons for January

### Epiphany Sunday, January 5

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-11 (12-15)  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

### The Baptism of Our Lord, January 12

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Romans 6:1-11  
Matthew 3:13-17

### The 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany , January 19

Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42a

### The 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany , January 26

Isaiah 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:1-9 (10-14)  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-25



The Church Office is in the process of compiling the 2019-2020 Annual Report Booklet and Church Directory. If your personal information was incorrect in the last directory or

if you have a new address, phone number, E-mail address, or if your birthday was not listed or was incorrectly listed, please fill out the following form and return to church office or place in the offering plate. The information may also be e-mailed to: [christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com](mailto:christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com).

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

## Pastor's Class for New Members

If you are interested in becoming a member of Christiana please see Pastor Carl. He will be teaching a New Members Class in January and part of February. The classes will be held during the Sunday School hour starting at 9:15am. The dates for the classes are January 12, 19, 26 and February 2. Please let Pastor Carl know by January 5 if you plan to attend.

## Scholarships Available Through Christiana in 2020

The following scholarships are available through Christiana Congregation. Those interested in applying please note the requirements. Complete information about each scholarship and applications are available on the church website, [www.christianalutheran.org](http://www.christianalutheran.org). If you have any questions or if you need assistance in accessing the information, please contact either Emily Barnes, chairperson of the 2020 committee, or the church office.

### Lena Bangle Lyerly Scholarship

Must be a Christiana Lutheran Church member that participates and attends Christiana Lutheran Church as school schedules allows.

Enrolled in a two or four year college/university.

Working toward a degree in Health or Christian Ed. and having accrued 12 or more credit hours in that school of study.

### Brad Patrick Scholarship

Scholarship will be awarded to a Rowan-Salisbury Public High School Senior with a financial need to further their education.

Applications may be obtained in the Guidance Counselor's office in any Rowan County High School.

### Hubert & Blanche Ritchie Scholarship High School (1)

Must be a participating and engaged member at Christiana Lutheran Church for the previous 24 months prior to the application deadline.

High school senior.

Enrolled full time in a two or four year college/university.

### Hubert & Blanche Ritchie Scholarship College (2)

Must be a Christiana Lutheran Church member that participates and attends Christiana Lutheran Church as school schedules allow.

Full time college student

See full eligibility requirements on the church website.

All scholarship applications must be completed and returned to the church office by 12 noon on Friday, March 13, 2020. Any applications received after that date will not be considered. All applicants applying for scholarships must have an official transcript from the school sent to the church office. No others will be accepted. For those applying, and meeting scholarship requirements, check(s) will be made payable to the educational institution and the recipient awarded the scholarship only. This way we ensure the funds are going to support the student in their academic endeavors and not for miscellaneous or erroneous expenses.

## LCW Happenings

MKL Group  
will meet at the church  
on Tuesday, January 7 at 10 a.m.  
Debbie Eller is program leader.  
El Patron for lunch

Sister Lucille Group will meet  
at 7:00 p.m. on January 7 in the  
Smith Assembly Hall. Hostess and  
program leader TBA



## Bible Quiz

According to Matthew, who was present at Jesus' baptism? (Choose all that apply)

- A. John the Baptist
- B. The Spirit of God
- C. Jesus' mother, Mary
- D. His first disciples

Answer:

A. & B. See Matthew 3:13-17

**Council Meeting Minutes  
December 8, 2019**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Also Present</b>	<b>New Council</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Cam Ritchie, President	Linda Crouch	Boni Lowry	Pastor Haynes
Dale Beaver, VP	Kevin Holland	Mike Yarbrough	Laurie Ritchie
Vickie Keene, Secretary	Jenny Roberts	Marlene Pethel	Jason Smith
Sue Wall	Branson Pethel	Terry Ritchie	Earlene Ritchie
David Preslar			Laura Ritchie
			Eddie Eller
			Robbie Robinson
			LaVaughn Beaver

**Concerns, Receptions and Approvals**

- It was reported by the Nehemiah Group that the Security Plan still has updates that are needed before the plan can be printed and shared with the congregation.
- It was reported by the Nehemiah Group that the Fellowship Hall and the back door of the church bus have been left unlocked recently and present a security risk for the property. A security bar for the bus will be purchased and installed.
- President Ritchie shared that the employee job descriptions have been updated with minor changes and he will meet with each employee by year end for a review of the changes and their job performance.
- President Ritchie reported that the preschool agreement has been updated, reviewed and signed by the Directors.
- It was noted there has been no further contact from the individual who recently inquired about the purchase of the Old 80 property.
- Interest in the availability of the Cub Pack trailer has been made by a church member and Cub Pack 351 at Faith Lutheran Church since the Christiana Cub Pack is no longer active. It was noted that the trailer was acquired by donation from another inactive Cub Pack. Council will request a recommendation from the Scout leaders to disburse of this property. The title for the trailer will need to be located.
- Minutes for the Council and Congregational meeting on November 10, 2019 were approved as presented.

Financial reports as of November 30, 2019 were presented and explained by Laurie Ritchie.

- November envelope offering was under budget \$785 with YTD envelope offering under budget \$4042
- November expenses were under budget \$4595 with YTD expenses under budget \$12,691
- Spendable cash as of November 30, 2019 was \$60,467.35
- Contributions to Brighten the Beacon Fund in November were \$2918
- \$2304 was collected from the November BtB meal and other donations for the steeple cleaning project.
- Designated Fund balance Bus/Shelter funds have been fully repaid. \$5053 in additional funds collected was credited to BtB designated funds.
- Fellowship Hall Construction Expenditures in November
  - Payment to Crescent Construction - \$97,022.43
  - Payment to A-1 Tree & Lawn - \$300
  - Loan origination fee paid to F&M Bank - \$375

*The financials were approved as presented.*

**Reception of:**

The Pastors Report for November was received as submitted. Pastor Haynes shared that the new Council members and officers will be installed on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee and Auxiliary Reports**

**Stewardship:** The 2020 Fundraising schedule was shared with members. Approved additions to the calendar include: CLM Valentine Dinner – February 16<sup>th</sup> and offering for Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary on August 9<sup>th</sup> when Pastor Mary Havens will preach at Christiana.

58 pledge cards have been received to date: \$148,760 to the General Fund and \$37,376 to the BtB Fund

It was noted that a draw from the F&M loan will likely happen in December. The projected monthly payment is approximately \$1700 if the full \$150,000 is accessed. Sufficient funds should be available for this payment based on pledged monies for 2020.

**Property:** It was noted the steeple cleaning went smoothly and the results are very good.

**Social Ministry:** Six angels remain on the tree at this time but are expected to be taken by the end of service today. Gifts must be returned by December 15<sup>th</sup> for delivery.

**Evangelism:** The final draft of the Pictorial Directory has been sent to production and is expected to be received in January. Devotions from the Advent booklet will be posted to Facebook daily.

**CRS:** 22 lbs. of canned items for Rowan Helping Ministries was collected at the covered dish meal on 12/5.

**Nehemiah Group:** Five members were CPR certified at the training provided on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Fellowship & Brighten the Beacon:** List of volunteers and food items shared for the BtB Council meal this Tuesday.

**LCW:** Both group will meet and complete seasonal activities for shut-ins in December.

**Youth:** Delivery of Angel Tree gifts and caroling will take place December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Prayerful Consideration of Council Matters**

Council Officers for 2020 were elected as follows: Jason Smith, President, David Preslar, Vice-President and Linda Crouch, Secretary.

The Council retreat and January meeting will be held on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Exiting Council members will prepare and provide lunch for this meeting.

**Closing Prayer- Pastor Carl Haynes**

**Adjourn**

**Council Retreat & January Meeting: January 11, 2020 @ 8:30 am**

**Lockup for January 2020: Mike Yarbrough**

Respectfully submitted:  
*Vickie Keene, Council Secretary*

### **The living present**

There are two ways of remembering. One is to make an excursion from the living present back into the dead past. The other way is to summon the dead past back into the living present. ...

When Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of me," (1 Corinthians 11:24), he was not prescribing a periodic slug of nostalgia.

—Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking*



6190 US Hwy 52  
Salisbury NC 28146  
Address Service Requested

Phone: 704-279-4655  
Fax: 704-279-1595

Sunday School 9:15 AM  
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Pastor: Carl M. Haynes  
E-Mail: [pastorcarl@charlotte.twcbc.com](mailto:pastorcarl@charlotte.twcbc.com)  
Council President: Jason Smith  
Council Vice-President: David Preslar  
Council Secretary: Linda Crouch

Church Secretary: Ann Teague  
Email: [christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com](mailto:christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com)  
Church Treasurer: Laurie Ritchie  
Organist/Music Director: Becky Morris

Christiana Lutheran Men: Jason Smith  
Christiana Rowdy Seniors: Jenny Roberts

Chancel Choir  
Becky Morris, Director  
Wednesdays 6:45 p.m.

Handbell Choir  
Kathy Haynes, Director  
4 p.m. Sundays

Children's Choirs  
Becky Morris, Director  
Little Thrive, afternoon on Sundays  
Young Thrive, afternoon on Sundays

Mailed Dec. 18, 2019

Visit our website:  
[www.christianalutheran.org](http://www.christianalutheran.org)

Join us on Facebook



**Blood Drive**  
**January 19**  
**12-4:30 p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall**

**Call Denise or Joe Koehn**  
**at 704-642-1658**  
**to set up appointment**  
**Walk-ins welcome!**

**GIVE BLOOD**



**SAVE LIFE**

### **An Important Message from our Treasurer**

It would be very helpful to me and to all who help count and record the offerings if you would do the following:

1. Please use the envelopes you were given for 2020. **PLEASE DO NOT USE OLD ENVELOPES** because in most cases, the numbers have changed.
2. Please put your **NAME** on the envelope.
3. If you make a contribution to the Brighten the Beacon Fund, Cemetery Fund, etc., please write a **SEPARATE CHECK** as these monies are deposited into a separate account from your regular envelope offering.
4. **PLEASE** use one of the special envelopes for your contributions to any fund other than the general fund.

**Do not use your general fund envelope for contributions to special funds.**

These procedures will help ensure that your contribution gets posted to your name and to the proper account. Thank you for your help and if you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
*Laurie Ritchie*