

# Good News

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

January 2021

This is Christ's church,  
and there is a place  
for you here!

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*A Relaxed Mind,  
A Peaceful Soul,  
A Joyful Spirit,  
A Healthy Body &  
Heart full of Love.  
All these are my Prayers for  
You.  
Wish you a Happy New Year!*

LCOR's 2021  
CHURCH COUNCIL

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. Paul T. Christian</b>
<b>President</b>	<b>Dean Freeburn</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Bill Banze</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Brian Barnes</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Marva Farrington</b>
<b>Property</b>	<b>Gregory Bergeret</b>
	<b>Bruce Smith</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>Christan Stager</b>
<b>Worship</b>	<b>Dee Christian</b>

*"So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us"*

*2 Corinthians 5:20a*

## *A word from Pastor Paul:*

Romans 8:37-38

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

As I was thinking about this New Year we are beginning and all the changes that have taken place in this past year, the year 2020 at times seems like a blur from all the disruptive and destructive consequences from COVID-19. This virus has devastated the lives of too many people both directly and indirectly. Our lives have been changed beyond our control and we long for a sense of normalcy and consistency.

Hopefully this pandemic has caused us to look to our creator, redeemer and sanctifier -- the Father, Son and Holy Spirit -- for a sense of normalcy and consistency. Paul writes that because of God's love for us lived out in the life, death and resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ nothing this world can throw at us will be able to separate us from his love for us. Through his love for us we are able to conquer all things, including pandemics, shutdowns, face coverings and social distancing. God's love for us crosses all artificial and man-made barriers!

Another change the year 2021 brings is my new role as a Chaplain at the Petersburg Federal Correctional Complex. With the way I was ultimately able to assume this new role, no one person could have ever orchestrated what happened the way it did. I can only know and believe it had to have been directed by the hand of God. I know in my heart it was God's way telling me I've got some more work for you to do!

So as I pondered this new role I have as your Pastor and as a Chaplain, these verses from Paul's letter to the Romans and Corinthians popped into my head. I am a new creation and the old has passed away. Together we, all of us, are a new creation. God has called all of us to be ambassadors for Christ to be his hands and feet in this lost and hurting world. God has called us to bring a message of reconciliation and a message of hope to people inside the walls of the church and inside the walls of Petersburg Federal Correctional Complex.

I thank God and all of you for the opportunity to serve Him and you in this new role as Chaplain and your Pastor and look forward as we minister to teach other, to our communities and to the world.

Blessings as we celebrate the New Year and New Opportunities.

Pastor Paul

## 2021 LCOR Community Foundation Scholarship

Dear Church Family,

A new year is upon us and on behalf of the Scholarship Committee members I want to wish all of you a healthy and happy 2021! Let us hope that 2021 will be less pandemic-filled than 2020.



It is that time of year again when anxious high school seniors all across the United States are either finishing their final college applications or receiving their first acceptance or rejection letters in the mail. That means it is also the time for our high school seniors to apply for our very own LCOR Community Foundation Scholarship. Over fifteen years ago LCOR members acted on their commitment to education by establishing an endowed scholarship with the Community Foundation in Richmond, Virginia. Three members—Hurley Wilvert, Norma Tauer, and Marian Helsel—provided the initial funding for the scholarship. Subsequent donations by the Wilvert family and other members have made this \$1,000 scholarship possible.



To be eligible for the \$1,000 scholarship, applicants need to be graduating high school seniors and a communing member of Our Redeemer, in addition to other requirements. The application, complete eligibility requirements and additional information about the scholarship are available at [www.tcfrichmond.org](http://www.tcfrichmond.org). Applications for the LCOR Community Foundation Scholarship will be available online at the Community Foundation's website starting in early January, 2021.

If we have more than one eligible applicant, the applicant(s) not receiving the Community Foundation Scholarship will be eligible to receive the \$500 LCOR Student Appreciation Award. The fully completed and timely submission of the Community Foundation Scholarship application to the Community Foundation will suffice to be eligible to receive the \$500 award. Please note that receipt of the LCOR Student Appreciation Award is dependent on available church funds and submission of an application does not guarantee actual receipt and pay out of the award.

You may contact me at [gerritbsmith@aol.com](mailto:gerritbsmith@aol.com) or at (804) 896-6301 if you have any additional questions. The deadline to submit the scholarship to the Community Foundation is March 2, 2021.

Please note that application submissions to the church office or me **do not** constitute a proper submission of the application.

Good luck to all the applicants!

Gerrit Smith, on behalf of the Scholarship Committee



## *Welcome!*

We welcome, **Dean Freeburn** as our 2021 Church Council President and **Bill Banze** as our 2021 Church Council Vice President. We look forward to your new ideas and leadership!

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## *Generosity warms the heart*

Thank you for your warm generosity this holiday season while adorning our “**Warming Tree.**” We donated 32 pairs of gloves/mittens; 24 pairs of socks, 24 blankets, 18 hats, 7 scarves, a sweater and a toy to the Hope Center to warm the bodies and souls of those in need this winter season. Your warmth is genuinely appreciated!

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## *Outreach Team* *(Evangelism and Social Ministry Committees)*

Members in 2020:

Dee Christian

Dean Freeburn

Ruth Knight

David Pemberton

Jeane Pemberton

Paul Propst

Mary Propst

Gerlinde Smith

Martina Smith

Colette Williams

Pastor Paul Christian

Chair, Marva Farrington

This year has been a year to remember. 2020 has been one we want to forget, but yet one where our community needed us more than ever! It has tested our abilities to adapt to the ever-changing guidelines for reaching out to our community neighbors. Despite the restrictions we were able to support our neighbors by:

- Feeding the Hungry, collecting Warming Garments for the Hope Center
- Collecting non-perishable food items along with monetary donations for “Martha for the Homeless”
- Supporting the Walnut Hill Elementary with donations of school supplies
- Learning about Human Trafficking in our area and what we can do help discourage this practice
- Supporting the “Walk Against Hunger” although it was virtual this year
- Fifth Friday Singers visiting the Brighter Living Community and lifting their spirits in song.

For this year (2021), we hope to be able to: support and faithfully encourage our neighbors in their needs, both physical and spiritually.

Our next meeting is January 19<sup>th</sup> via zoom. If you would like to join us, please let Marva know so she can send you the link. We welcome new members and ideas for reaching out to “Reflect the Love of Jesus Christ in Thought, Word and Deed! Please come and share your ideas and thoughts.

# Worship Notes

By Committee Chair Dee Christian

As we usher out Father Time and usher in Baby New Year, it is a custom to resolve in the new year to do things differently. Many resolutions focus on getting healthier – eating less, eating better, exercising more, losing weight, etc.

I challenge you to consider your spiritual health in your goal setting for this year's resolutions. I encourage you to take on one or more of the following spiritual disciplines and to strengthen your walk with God and our Savior, Jesus Christ. The seven faith practices – practices because practice helps to strengthen you in that area – are:

**Pray** -- *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).*

**Study** -- *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105).*

**Worship** -- *I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together (Psalm 34:1-3).*

**Invite** -- *But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:14-15).*

**Encourage** -- *Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action (1 John 3:18).*

**Serve** -- *For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45).*

**Give** -- *"...give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back" (Luke 6: 38).*

## ➤ Upcoming Services and Activities

- Jan. 3 – Service with Holy Communion at 10:15 a.m.
- Jan. 9 – Removal of the Greens at 9 a.m.
- Jan. 10 – Service of the Word at 10:15 a.m.
- Jan. 17 – Service with Holy Communion at 10:15 a.m.
- Jan. 24 – Service of the Word at 10:15 a.m.
- Jan. 31 – Service of the Word at 10:15 a.m.

## Volunteers Needed

Thank you to all who serve as worship assistants! We welcome volunteers to help with our worship experience. If you are interested in helping out on any of the subcommittees or just want to know more about what each does, you can talk to one of the following members:

Altar Guild – Edna May  
Usher Board – Bart Connors  
Music/Choir – Cindy Nicol

Soundboard – Melissa Watts  
Lay/Communion Assistant/Acolyte – Dee Christian

## *Mark Your Calendars*

We invite all members to help with the **Removal of the Greens** at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>. Many hands make light work. With enough hands the task can be completed in an hour. Refreshments will follow in the fellowship hall. Thank you in advance for your assistance! ~ Dee Christian

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## *Experiencing God*

How do you experience God? Do you see Him in your home, community, church? Please join us beginning Jan. 3, 2021, as we continue our in-depth study of **Experiencing God**. Written by Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, and Claude King, the Experiencing God Bible Study is based on the Experiencing God book. Through examination of biblical and contemporary illustrations, participants will understand and apply seven realities of experiencing God. Churches will be helped to better function as the body of Christ, as members understand how to experience God as a church. **Adult Sunday School** meets each Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Study materials will be provided. Refreshments and coffee are also provided.

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## *Scriptures of Christmas and Epiphany Sundays in January 2021*

January 3 – Second Sunday of Christmas  
Jerimiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:1-18

January 24 – Third Sunday of Epiphany  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

January 10 – Baptism of Our Lord  
Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

January 31 – Fourth Sunday of Epiphany  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

January 17 – Second Sunday of Epiphany  
1 Samuel 3:1-20  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51



# WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE IN

## January 2021

<b>January 3, 2021</b>	<b>Service with Communion</b>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>
Lay Asst/Cantor: Kelly Sharpe	Usher: Brian Barnes	
Acolyte: Elizabeth Christian	Tellers: B Smith / D Christian	
Accompanist: Cindy Nicol	Altar Guild: McLain / Pemberton	
Sound Board: Mark McLain		

<b>January 10, 2021</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>
Lay Reader: Martina Smith	Usher: Sarah Riser	
Acolyte: Isaac Watts	Tellers: P Propst / M Watts	
Accompanist: Cindy Nicol	Altar Guild: Knight / Bergeret	
Sound Board: Melissa Watts		

<b>January 17, 2021</b>	<b>Service with Communion</b>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>
Lay Asst/Cantor: Christan Stager	Usher: Melissa Smith	
Acolyte: Emily Christian	Tellers: B Smith / K Sharpe	
Accompanist: Cindy Nicol	Altar Guild: E May / M Watts	
Sound Board: Martina Smith		

<b>January 24, 2021</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>
Lay Reader: Dee Christian	Usher: Bill Banze	
Acolyte: Elizabeth Christian	Tellers: B Smith / D Christian	
Accompanist: Cindy Nicol	Altar Guild: McLain / Pemberton	
Sound Board: Melissa Watts		

<b>January 31, 2021</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>
Lay Reader: Kelly Sharpe	Usher: Scott Watts	
Acolyte: Isaac Watts	Tellers: P Propst / M Watts	
Accompanist: Cindy Nicol	Altar Guild: Knight / Bergeret	
Sound Board: Melissa Watts		

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## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*



## January 2021



Marie Hastings	12	Jamie & Lee Powers	26
David Pemberton	15		
Bruce Smith	16		
Mary Propst	17		
Sun Bun Bergeret	25		
Marva Farrington	31		




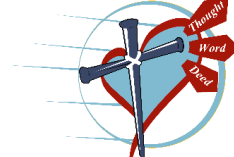
**Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer**

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(804) 732-8567

# JANUARY 2021

**Our Mission:**

Reflect the Love of Jesus Christ In  
Thought, Word and Deed!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December 27 10:15 AM Worship Lessons & Carols of Christmas	December 28 	December 29	December 30	December 31	January 1  Happy New Year!	2
3 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship with Communion	4	5	6  Epiphany	7	8	9 9:00 AM Removal of the greens
10 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship Service of the Word 11:30 AM Church Council Mtg	11  7:15 PM Neighborhood Watch Mtg – Walnut Hill Elem School	12  M Hastings B'day	13	14	15  D Pemberton B'day	16  B Smith B'day
17 M Propst B'day 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship with Communion	18  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19  6 PM Outreach Team Mtg via zoom	20  10:30 AM NARFE	21	22	23
24 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship Service of the Word  Good News Deadline	25  SB Bergeret B'day	26  J & L Powers Anniversary	27	28	29	30
31 M Farrington B'day  9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship Service of the Word	February 1	February 2	February 3	February 4	February 5	February 6  

*May all the Blessings of The Lord Be Yours in Abundance  
In The New Year - ~ - Isaiah 43:19*



