

In the Neighborhood for GOOD



917 EVERGREEN AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA 15209

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JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

In the Year of Our Lord 2020, Volume 10, Issue 1



IT'S A NEW YEAR

I like to research the root meaning of words. “New” is a common word, but it has an interesting definition: “already existing, but seen, experienced or acquired for the first time.”

The Kingdom of God is all around us, already existing, but the question for us in this “New Year” is whether we will see, experience or acquire it, **perhaps for the first time.**

At CLC, we have spent a little over two years taking what was already existing and making it new. Some see it; experience it; and have acquired it for themselves. Some have not. That’s the way it has always been from the first time Jesus spoke his first sermon, **“The Kingdom of God is falling on you.”**

Some experience it. Some don’t.

Throughout this newsletter you will find much that is new. **And throughout this New Year you will be given the opportunity to experience the New at CLC.** I hope and pray you will take advantage of all that is new at CLC. It will only bring something good into your life.



Pastor Scott

Scott M. Olbert, Pastor, CLC

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2020 In the Neighborhood for Good 2020

**COME
INVITE
WELCOME
SERVE**

The first 3 words of this Credo help us to fulfill the 4th, and in Serving, we fill our hearts with Christ and His Great Commission to spread His teachings to humanity. What a Mission!

When you Welcome, let another see Christ in your eyes, your smile, your handshake or hug, and your help.

Happy New Year

**Pastor Scott's
Day Off is
Monday**



Child Care Available . . . FOR PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN DURING WORSHIP, AN INFANT NURSERY IS UPSTAIRS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE. JUST FOLLOW THE SIGNS.

New Members . . . We Welcome

Michelle Bauer and granddaughter, Naia Almarza, join the CLC faith community by Affirmation of Faith. Michelle lives right next door!

Tim Komoroski, Millvale Police Chief, has been stopping by CLC ever since the Tree of Life tragedy, making sure that we remain at peace when at worship. He is now becoming a member of our faith community by transferring from Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church.

Eltion (Tony) and Emily Kosova. Originally from Albania, Tony was raised as Christian Orthodox and Emily as an ELCA Lutheran in Erie. They shower their parental attention on their new puppy, CoCo. Tony and Emily join by Affirmation of Faith.

Kristen Etzel and Nicole Morley join us after previous involvement in The Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community. They bring along their soon-to-be two-year-old son, Hobson Morley.

Ed Kapsha is joining us as an associate member of CLC. With one foot in the Roman Catholic Church and now one foot in CLC, he serves as our Director of Music and Liturgy.

NEW FAITH AND FAMILY CAFÉ

“Millvale and Beyond” is the new series for our Faith and Family Café beginning January 12th at 8:30 in The Gathering Place. We have an outstanding series of speakers who will help us better understand what is happening in Millvale, our larger community and our country. Here is January's lineup:

January 12: Brian Spoales, Mayor of Millvale

January 19: Sara Innamorato, State Representative, 21st District, PA

January 26: Tim Komoroski, Millvale Police Chief

The series is not complete but, so far, here's who is coming in future weeks:

February 16: Zaheen Hussain, Director of Sustainability, New Sun Rising

March 1 and 8: Melissa Stoller, Assistant to the Bishop, SWPA Synod

March 22: Bethany Hallam, Allegheny Council-At-Large Food, fellowship, and the opportunity to educate ourselves as citizens and people of God!

NEW THERAPISTS AT MCCC

Our three therapists for the Millvale Community Counseling Center have full clients loads! In only four months, we are reaching capacity!

So, we are grateful that we are adding therapists beginning Tuesday, January 7th. Esther Hunter is an experienced therapist, adjunct faculty at LaRoche College, and an ordained minister.

We are also adding a female intern from University of Pittsburgh.

Spread the word to everyone who might need help going through a bump in life, that affordable and quality counseling is available at MCCC. All anyone has to do is call the church office at 412-821-4300 to schedule an appointment.



Please visit us at the CLC Website:
<https://www.clcmillvale.com/> ;
Youtube: clcmillvale ;
Twitter: ChristMillvale ;
Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale.
You can also email to:
ChristLutheran917@hotmail.com.

NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD TABLE . . .

Our next Neighborhood Table on January 6 at 6:00. Along with Pam Farbacher, Mike Rios is one of our new chefs providing a great meal for everyone who walks in the door.

Come, be an ambassador for CLC with members of the Millvale Community.

January 2020 at CLC!!

WED., JAN. 1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY, Office is closed**
THU., JAN. 2 7PM Choir Practice
FRI., JAN. 3 6PM Girl Scouts; 7:30 NA
SAT., JAN. 4 9AM AA; **5PM HIGHER GROUND**; 7 NA

SUN., JAN. 5 - 9:30AM Traditional Worship;
8:30AM CLC Kids; 8:30AM Faith and Family Café
Hannah Circle After Worship in Library
10:30AM & 4PM Bible Studies

MON., JAN. 6 **4PM St. AfterSchool;**
6PM NEIGHBORHOOD TABLE
6:15PM Yoga ; 7PM Pain Support
TUES., JAN. 7 1-8PM Millvale Community Counseling
THU., JAN. 9 6PM Sewing Team; 7PM Choir Practice
FRI., JAN. 10 7:30 NA
SAT., JAN. 11 9AM AA; **5PM HIGHER GROUND**; 7 NA

SUN., JAN. 12 - 9:30AM Traditional Worship;
8:30AM CLC Kids; 8:30AM Faith and Family Café
10:30AM & 4PM Bible Studies

MON., JAN. 13 **4PM St. AfterSchool;**
6:15PM Yoga ;
TUES., JAN. 14 1-8PM Millvale Community Counseling
WED., JAN. 15 5:30-7:30PM Daisy Troop
THU., JAN. 16 7PM Choir Practice
FRI., JAN. 17 6PM Girl Scouts; 7:30 NA
SAT., JAN. 18 9AM AA; **5PM HIGHER GROUND**; 7 NA

SUN., JAN. 19 - 9:30AM Traditional Worship;
8:30AM CLC Kids; 8:30AM Faith and Family Café
Hannah Circle After Worship in Library
10:30AM & 4PM Bible Studies

MON., JAN. 20 **4PM St. AfterSchool**

SUN., JAN. 26 - 9:30AM Traditional Worship;
8:30AM CLC Kids; 8:30AM Faith and Family Café
10:30AM & 4PM Bible Studies

MON., JAN. 27 **4PM St. AfterSchool**
6:15PM Yoga
TUES., JAN. 28 1-8PM Millvale Community Counseling
WED., JAN. 29 5:30-7:30PM Daisy Troop
THU., JAN. 30 7PM Choir Practice

IF YOU WANT TO HEAR THE SERMON, NOW YOU CAN! We love having children—and lots of them—at worship, and we want parents to be spiritually nurtured by worship, prayer, and preaching. Our Nursery is up and running for Saturday and Sunday worship Services. Not only that, the Nursery is staffed by qualified childcare providers who supply consistent and competent childcare during Worship on Saturdays and Sundays. You'll find the Nursery next to the CLC Choir rehearsal room.

Our Sincere Thanks to Sherrie Lane and Linda Jansen for updating and keeping the Calendar current!!



Our sympathies go out to the Family of former CLC member Donna D. (Ewing) Moser who entered eternal life on Thursday, December 19, 2019. Donna was 73, of Troy Hill, and mother of Deanna Moser and Jason (Tina) Moser.

New Gathering Place . . .

Eighty-five members gathered in our new Gathering Place for a Congregational Christmas Party on December 6th. Countless compliments flooded the room, as everyone took in the beautiful renovations. Christmas scenes filled the projection screen as Christmas music flowed through the new sound system.

We have already begun booking events for The Gathering Place, which was one of the outcomes we hoped for—generating income through rental of the space by community groups. Without a doubt, we have the most beautiful space for events in all of Millvale!

Call the church office—412-821-4300 to reserve your event at The Gathering Place.

The Gathering Place

- WHERE BUSINESSES MEET AND GROW!!
- TEAMS INTERFACE!
- PLANS DEVELOP!



- PEOPLE CONNECT AND NETWORKING BUILDS!!
- FUNDRAISING HAPPENS!!





Christ Lutheran Church

917 Evergreen Avenue
Millvale, PA 15209

Phone 412-821-4300 ~

Fax 412-693-9742 ~

www.clcmillvale.com ~

christlutheran917@gmail.com

The Reverend Scott Olbert
Pastor

The Reverend Thomas R. Stennett
Pastor Emeritus

Steve Slepecki, Seminarian
Ed Kapsha

Director of Music and Liturgy

Paul Bell
Director of Organizational
Development

Beth Rios
Council President

Ray Lardin, Treasurer

Pat Bauer
Children's Choir Director

Deb Olbert, Director CLC Kids
Patty Ellison

Office and CL Kids Support
Jade Lane, Minister for Youth

Maureen Herbster
Pastoral Liaison

Sherrie Lane and Michelle Hilliard
Sextons

I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess. Martin Luther



NEW CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

At our December gathering, the following officers were elected for 2020:

Beth Rios—President

Julie Slepecki—Vice-President

Ray Lardin--Treasurer

Jackie Worst—Recording Secretary

Mandy Freiss—Corresponding Secretary

A NEW OFFICE STAFF ARRANGMENT

Rheba Salac continues to work for us from home. She works on the bulletin, the bulletin insert, the newsletter, the Higher Ground slides, and special projects like the Christmas Concert bulletin.

Patty Ellison, who has worked as Rheba's assistant, will now work in the office 9-12 overseeing the day-to-day responsibilities. We will continue to use office volunteers for various routine tasks.



A NEW TRADITION

Saturday, December 14th, saw a standing-room-only crowd enjoy our concert, "A Christmas to Remember."

Featuring Ring Pittsburgh, the CLC Adult Choir, the CLC Kids Choir, and SoulSpirit (The Higher Ground band), it was a wonderful evening of music. The concert concluding with the finale, 'Til the Season Comes 'Round Again" that included all musicians and vocalists. An extended standing ovation was the response from the enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

With 208 in attendance, at least half were community members who experienced for the first time the renovated sanctuary, monitors displaying the evening's concert songs, and the spirit of joy present throughout the evening.

Our Christmas Concert, replacing the former Sunday School program, will be our new tradition in the winter months.



NEW WORDS

Recently, Deb and I went to AA Workshop in Wheeling on Adverse Childhood Experiences. These are traumatic events in childhood that cause problems in the present and set children up for life difficulties as adults.

We can counter these ACE's with:

- Relationship
- Compassion
- Support
- Kindness
- Respect
- Encouragement

You'll find these words soon adorning the walls of the hallway outside our CLC Kids rooms!



Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Please remember those without abundance, the NHC Food Bank is now at 416 Lincoln Avenue in Millvale, 412-487-6316.