

The Heavenly Herald

660 West Main Street P.O. Box 157 Cheshire, CT 06410
 (203) 272-5106 Fax (203) 272-3523
 On the Web at <http://www.cheshirelutheran.org>
 Email us at: office@cheshirelutheran.org



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

News from the President	2
January Calendar	3
Worship Servants for January	4
Call Committee News	5
News From Our Evangelism Deacon	6
News from Our Stewardship Deacon	7
Importance of Attending Sunday School	7
All Choirs Schedule	8
CLC Calendars for 2018	8
Financial Secretary Needs YOU	8
Our Sincere Appreciation	9
On the Bulletin Board	9
CLC First Sunday Food Trend	10
Greeting Card Fundraiser	10
Meet Our Missionary	11
This Month in Our History	12
Pledge Packet Return for 2018	12
Cans and Bottles	12
Helping Hands	12
CLC Accepts Plaque for Gary Richards	13
CLC Memorial Bell Poem	14
Visit Our Website	14
News from Our House and Grounds Deacon	15
CLC Choir News	16
Use Amazon Smile	16
Weather Closings	16
News from Our Little Cherubs	17
Fellowship Thank You	17
CLC December 2017 Memories	18-19
Call Process and Status	20
CLC Music Offering	20
Sunday Morning Coffee Hour	20
Bible Studies at CLC	21
Support Hope Pregnancy Center	21
January Birthdays	22
January Anniversaries	22
Thanksgiving Offering Thank You	22

PASTOR NUECHTERLEIN'S MESSAGE

Thinking Ahead as This New Year Begins

Whenever we Christians come together for worship, each of us also brings with us memories from our past. We give thanks to God for the memories we cherish; and we ask His forgiveness for the memories we regret. But we also bring with us each Sunday troubling thoughts about the future:- thoughts about a difficult problem we must face at school or at work or at home – or thoughts about whether yet another crazed person somewhere in our country might, in a fit of rage, gun down another dozen people – or, if you're my age, thoughts about whether in your final days here on earth you may become a financial or physical burden to your spouse or your children or society. Whatever may be on your mind as you read this message, I'd like for you to think with me on this first Sunday of the new year about the future you and I face as Christians.

And even as we begin thinking together, we have to admit that there's a contradiction between what Jesus advises us and what we're inclined toward. Jesus says, "Do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will look after itself." But we're inclined to be anxious anyway, wondering, even worrying, about what each new day will bring.

Fortunately for us, the Bible assures us that the future is in God's hands – and that because it is, we don't have to be obsessed with worry. Nor are we to rely on the predictions of people who claim to be able to read the future in the stars, or in crystal balls. If our trust is firmly placed in God's promises as we know them from the Bible, we don't need any such so-called helps.

Yet although Jesus warns us not to worry about tomorrow, he does not mean that we should live as if there were no tomorrow. He himself looked ahead, seeing clearly the shadow of the cross on which He would die; and He warns us "to be ready, for the Son of Man is coming again at an hour we do not expect."

As we begin yet another new year, never has the shape of things to come been more unpredictable. You can ask the economists, or the students of foreign policy, or the businessmen, or the physicists, or the weathermen - and you get the same impression from them all – namely, that almost anything might happen. We could be on the threshold of a new era of peace and prosperity; or the entire civilized world could be pulverized by the destructiveness of a worldwide economic collapse – or by the demonic use of nuclear power. It's no wonder that if and when we dare to look into the future, we're inclined to be apprehensive.



BUT, and this is what matters most, by faith we can and do at all times and in all places "see Jesus" (Hebrews 2:9). And because we do, we can live in the midst of all this uncertainty without going berserk. No matter how much damage the devil manages to do, we can and do still believe that Jesus, our Savior/King will have the last word; and His last word to us who are His disciples will be this:- "Come, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of time."

Yes, the crystal ball is cloudy - by which I mean that we don't know what each new tomorrow will bring. But our hearts do not fail us, because the Jesus who tasted death as punishment for our sins was raised again to new life – to be our Savior and Lord – our Redeemer from sin - our Host with food from heaven here in Holy Communion - and the unseen guest at our every meal at home.

I'm struggling here to express a truth that is too glorious for words. So, I will stop writing now – and simply invite you to continue with me to "see Jesus" – to trust Him when He

(Continued on page 2)



COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Worship Services:
9:00 am
(Nursery Care Available)

Sunday School
10:10 am

Adult Bible Classes:
After Service

Summer Worship Service:
9:00 am
(Fathers Day to Labor Day)



The Heavenly Herald is published for members and friends of Cheshire Lutheran Church.

Church Staff

TBD-Pastor

Carol Santoro-Office Manager

Martha Medford-Organist & Choir Director

Bill Sherman-Parish President

Beth Soulier-Editor

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL

At our November Voters Assembly meeting, the following officers and new deacons were elected to serve on the Church Council beginning in 2018, joining our other continuing deacons:



- ✠ President – William Sherman
- ✠ Vice President – Steve Feero
- ✠ Recording Secretary – Terri Daly
- ✠ Financial Secretary – William Soulier
- ✠ Treasurer – Karen Smith
- ✠ Evangelism deacon – Alan Spose
- ✠ Social Welfare deacon – Dorothy Dierolf
- ✠ Youth deacon – Brad Shick

As I begin another term serving as President of our congregation, I hope you would agree that past-President Jeff Mann has very capably led us for the past two years, and especially so during our Pastoral vacancy. Thank you, Jeff!

“there are no strangers here; only friends that you haven’t met yet”. So, in case you may be pondering New Year

resolutions, I’d like to encourage you to say “Hello” and introduce yourself, throughout the year, to others within our CLC family whom you do not yet know...

Although we are turning the liturgical calendar from Advent to Epiphany, we at CLC are still in a state of preparation and prayerful, eager anticipation. Look for the latest information from our Call Committee elsewhere in the Heavenly Herald. In the meantime, we continue to be blessed with SO many individuals who give of their time and talent to keep our congregation’s ministries and responsibilities up and running week after week.

Looking ahead in the near term, for the governance of our “affairs of church”, the upcoming regular meetings of our Voters Assembly for 2018 are planned to be held on these dates:

Sunday	February 11	10:15 AM
Sunday	April 8	10:15 AM
Monday	September 10	7:00 PM
Monday	November 12	7:00 PM

Please note that the Sunday meetings will follow our worship service. Look for the full schedule, including Council meetings, in our annual report.

I recall a saying that goes something like “there are no strangers here; only friends that you haven’t met yet”. So, in case you may be pondering New Year resolutions, I’d like to encourage you to say “Hello” and introduce yourself, throughout the year, to others within our CLC family whom you do not yet know, whether in the pews, in our fellowship hall, or in passing through the hallway.

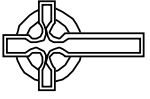
Happy New Year; I hope to see you in church! Yours, in Christ’s service,

Bill
William C. Sherman
Parish President, CLC

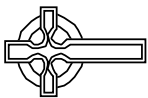
(Continued from page 1)

promises that He is with us always - and that He is Lord not only of the past and present, but also of the future. This is more than enough to sustain us until His final return in glory, at which time He promises to usher us into His nearer presence for all eternity.

The Rev Louis Nuechterlein
Pastor Emeritus



GAEL GALLENDAIR



January

January Servants

CALL COMMITTEE NEWS...

On 12/17, upon recommendation of the call committee--the voters' of CLC unanimously voted to extend a call to the Rev. Dr. David Rowold. Pastor Rowold has a time frame of two to four weeks to pray on and consider our call.

Below is a Bio of Pastor Dr. Rowold printed in the two Sunday Bulletins prior to the Vote:

Reverend Dr., David Patrick Rowold

- ✠ Sole pastor of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bloomfield, NJ. (6/8/03 to present)
- ✠ B.A. Concordia Seminary, Bronxville, NY, 1999
- ✠ M. Div. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. 2003
- ✠ Master of Philosophy 2007/PhD. 2012, Drew University, Madison, NJ
- ✠ Vicarage, Trinity Lutheran Church, Hicksville, NY
- ✠ Ordained, 6/8/03
- ✠ Size of present congregation: 178 baptized members, 119 communicants, 65 average worship attendance
- ✠ Born in Brooklyn, NY / 41 years old
- ✠ High School education, Hamden, CT
- ✠ Married to Tricia, born in New Haven, CT/ one child, Sarah Ann, age 12
- ✠ Presently resides in parsonage



Pastor Rowold was born in New York, where his father was a Lutheran Pastor. His family moved to Connecticut when his father received a call to serve a congregation there, and it is in Connecticut where our Pastor grew up. He attended public school in Connecticut, and upon his graduation from High School, enrolled in the Concordia University System, graduating Cum Laude from Concordia College in New York. After college, Pastor Rowold attended Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO, doing his Resident Field Education in North Saint Louis County and serving his Vicarage on Long Island, New York. It was just prior to his Vicarage that Pastor married his wife, Tricia.

Following his graduation from Seminary, Pastor was Ordained and Installed as the eleventh Pastor to serve Saint John's in NJ in its 115 year history. Pastor has also earned his Ph.D. from Drew University in Liturgical Studies; his doctoral dissertation was titled "English Language Liturgy in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod: It's Growth and Development."

District President's Comments dated 10/23/17:

David has been a steady and faithful pastor these 14 years he has served at St. John, Bloomfield. He does the fundamental tasks of the pastoral ministry well: preaching, witnessing, visitation. He is a very intelligent man who has a strong grasp of all theological subject matter and how they speak to an issue. He has been a good and active circuit visitor and has been helpful and faithful with every district task that has been entrusted to him.

As David has indicated, he has been at St. John for fourteen years now and he is ready to consider serving in another congregation.

Candidate's Comments dated May, 2017:

My strengths in ministry include preaching, leading worship, and teaching. I enjoy these greatly and find they are energizing. I have a genuine love of God and His people and desire to encourage the people of God and to help them know their Lord and His love for them. Also, I have been told that I do a good job thinking through situations and arriving at an approach to address them.

Since my ordination and installation on June 8, 2003, I have served as the sole pastor of the same congregation that called me right out of the seminary. After fourteen years, I have reached a point in my ministry that I feel God is calling me to serve elsewhere, to do ministry among His people in a different place. It is not an easy decision, but I believe it is the right one; it is time,

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

and I look forward to the next congregation that the Lord calls me to serve.



As always, we will keep you informed with Pastor Rowolds decision. Please keep the Committee in prayer as we perform our duties. We will do the same!

If you have any questions kindly contact Pat DiDomizio or any member of the Call Committed or our Parish President Bill Sherman.

The Cheshire Lutheran Church Call Committee:

Pat DiDomizio (jdidomizio@aol.com or 203.881.8399)

Carol Santoro (office@cheshirelutheran.org or 203.228.8124)

Beth Soulier (soulierbeth@sbcglobal.net or 860.338.5970)

Don Drust (don.drust@wakefern.com or 203.272.0054)

Steve Feero (steve@feero.com or 203.213.7753)

Alternates :

Ethel Daly (edaly316@gmail.com or 203.272.4543)

Ed Schweizer (eschweizer@snet.net or 203.272.9947)

Craig Wilson (craig.wilson0110@gmail.com or 203.272.8903)

Pat DiDomizio

Chair – CLC Call Committee



SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED ...

A hearing assistance system (Williams Sound Corporation) and four receivers have been donated to CLC. A receiver (hearing aid) may be obtained from any usher. Please feel free to ask for one and make sure you return to an usher at the end of the service so it can be returned to its proper storage place for use at another time.



NEWS FROM OUR EVANGELISM DEACON...

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Evangelism Deacon for the past 6 years. Pastor Gustafson was always helpful and encouraging to me during our time together and I miss him and his support. I am confident that Alan Spose will do an excellent job in serving as the next Evangelism Deacon. I have always felt that the members of Cheshire Lutheran have been supportive of me and the mission to spread the Gospel message to our community and the world.

As we look forward to having a new pastor lead us in our journey with Christ, we can all do our part to invite others to share the good news of hope and redemption

John Balash Evangelism Deacon

NEWS FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP DEACON...

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you to all who have pledged or requested envelopes for donations. We have had a decent start but we definitely could use more people to make sure they return their pledge packets as soon as possible. If you have not picked up your pledge packet (or you have but have just not had a chance to return it yet), please think about returning your pledge card at your earliest convenience. It is never too late to submit your pledge. If you make regular contributions but do not pledge, if you have not already done so, please make sure to see Carol Santoro, our Church Secretary, to obtain a box of envelopes so that your contributions can be noted. This will be helpful to you for personal tax filings.

As I must regularly do, I would like to take a minute to thank Carol Santoro for all of her hard work over the past couple months. She was invaluable in assisting to get the pledge packets together before taking some much deserved time off. I would also especially like to thank Nancy Schweizer for her tremendous help filling in while Carol was away. Much thanks to both of you for making this a smooth process.

I again thank all of you for your generosity and consideration towards helping to keep CLC strong.

Sincerely,

David Veleber
Stewardship Deacon



BENEFITS OF ATTENDING SUNDAY SCHOOL...

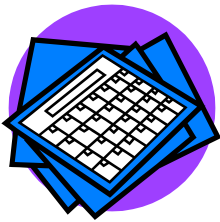
Why should adults as well as children and teens attend Sunday classes? The article below has been adapted and shortened from an article I read by Chapel Baptist Church. Judy DiDomizio, Education Deacon

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| C – Christlikeness | You will become more like Christ as you study His Word with others and are challenged to walk the walk, developing a moral compass in a confusing world |
| O – Obedience | Learn how to meet challenges in your life and how to apply God's Word in difficult situations |
| N – Needs | Sunday classes give Christians the opportunity to support each other in their faith formation |
| N – Nurture | You can learn to understand your spiritual gifts and how to use them for the glory of God. |
| E – Encouragement | Sunday School provides a small group atmosphere where you can give and receive from each other encouragement to live as Christ commanded. |
| C – Commission | The Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20) is extended to all who will listen and obey, to be baptized, to teach and to live as God has commanded |
| T – Togetherness | Sunday School can help us feel a sense of belonging as we journey through life together, a sense of Christian community |



CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

Date	Time	Event	Choir
January 3 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 7 - Sunday	8:30 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	9:00 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
January 10 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 14 - Sunday	8:30 AM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	9:00 AM	Performance	Youth Choir
January 17 - Wednesday	No Youth Choir Rehearsal		
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 21 - Sunday	8:30 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	9:00 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
January 24 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
January 28 - Sunday	8:30 AM	Rehearsal	Sunday School Children
	9:00 AM	Performance	Sunday School Children
January 31 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
February 4 - Sunday	8:30 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	9:00 AM	Performance	Parish Choir



CLC CALENDARS FOR 2018...

2018 Calendars are here. The calendars are a gift to our congregation compliments of the Al-derson/Slater Funeral Home. You are welcome to pick up a copy from our hallway counter or narthex table.



FINANCIAL SECRETARY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU...

The Financial Secretary is always in need of volunteers to aid in counting church offerings after the 9:00 AM Sunday services. If you are available 4 - 6 times per year for approximately one hour, please contact Bill Soulier!



NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION?

Just slip your information or a note into one of the folders on the hallway table outside the church office. Folders have been created for each of the council members, Beth Soulier (the editor of this newsletter) and a few others and placed outside the office. We have found that this is a great way to distribute information within the congregation.

Our Sincere Appreciation



- † Many thanks to the “Thursday Afternoon Ladies” for assembling the huge December Heavenly Herald! HUGS!
- † Many thanks to Jonathan Manke for donating the lovely red Poinsettias that adorned our Altar on Christmas Eve. They were beautiful!
- † **Church Decorating – Thank You!**
Thanks to all the folks that helped out with setting up the Christmas tree, decorating it, and decorating the church. The chosen tree is just beautiful!
- † VERY SPECIAL Thank you to Tim Weiland for ALWAYS being there to take pictures of all of our events! Tim, your hard work and dedication is GREATLY APPRECIATED!
- † Heartfelt thanks to Bill Juul for audtion recording all the music shared during our services as well as putting together and posting wonderful video memories for us all to see for the first time or again and again. We are Blessed...
- † Gracious thanks to Curt and Karen Smith for donating the beautiful wreaths that adorn the Church!
- † Special Thanks to Bill and Debbie Sherman for donating the lovely white Poinsettia plants that are placed beneath the Chrismon Tree in the Sanctuary.
- † Very special Thank You to Martha and her crew for the lovely Christmas Pageant. Your hard work paid off, the Pageant was phenomenal.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARD:

Remember to check the Bulletin Boards and/or hallway table for sign-up sheets and information about various events!

This month on the Bulletin Board:

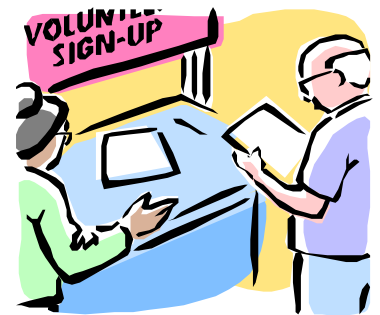
- † CLC Little Blessings Nursery Needs Volunteers
- † Give Your Old Car A Good Home **Good News Garage** information
- † **Cheshire Food Drive** Volunteer info. and sign-ups

Others looking for help!

- † **Fellowship Deacon needs volunteers** to help make the events happen. Contact Karen Weiland if you can help in any capacity. 203-250-1574 or email kweiland3@sbcglobal.net
- † **Helping Hands** - Contact Sally Schrumm or the Church Office if you would like to be a member of the helping hands committee. In particular, we are seeking someone to chair this committee.
- † **All Choirs** rehearse on Wednesday evenings are as follows:
 - 6:30 PM – Youth Choir
 - 7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir
 - 8:00 PM – Parish Choir

Now is the time to sign up to join the Parish Choir for Adults or the Youth Choir for Children. Previous singing in Choirs is not required, only a love of music and a desire to contribute to our worship on Sundays. Speak to Martha Medford or any current member of the choirs for Questions.

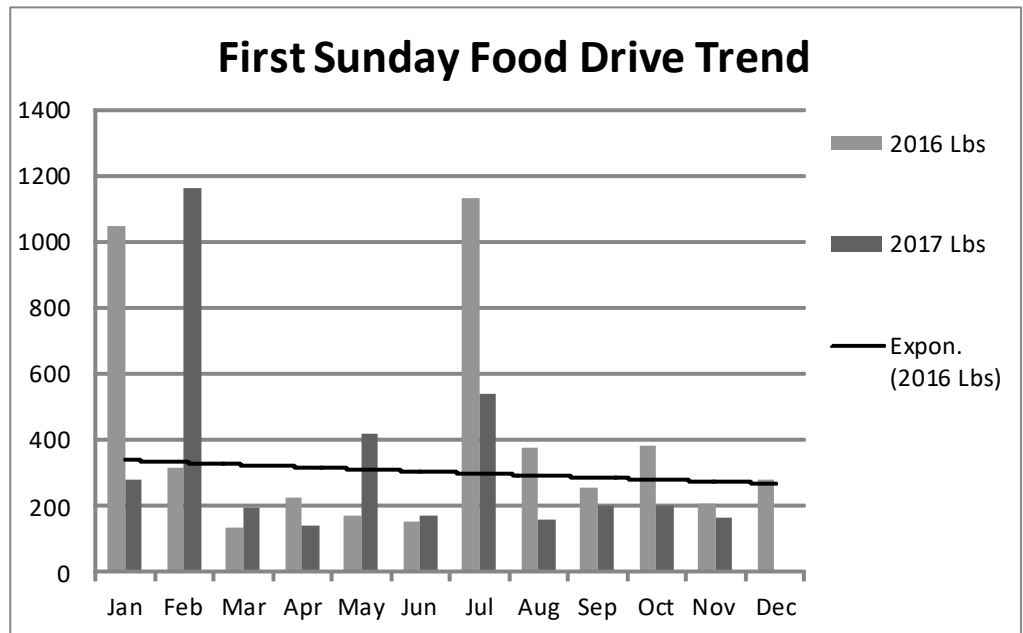
- † **Sunday School Teachers Needed**—Prayerfully consider serving our congregations children by volunteering to Teach them a few Sunday mornings during the year. See Judy DiDomizio.





DONATE YOUR FREEBIES!

If you happen to spot an item at the grocery store selling at a special price “buy one-get one free”, purchase it and donate the free item to First Sunday Food Drive



“Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’” John 21:15b

LET'S NOT FORGET THOSE LESS FORTUNATE...

Don't let our First Sunday Food Bank donations fall behind last year's totals. Please note that the Cheshire Community Food Pantry is open Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:00 am until noon and Tues. & Thurs. from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Please check expiration dates. We want to insure the food we are sending is not out of date. Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted, including non-food items such as soap, tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc.

GREETING CARD FUNDRAISER!

(A project of the Thursday Ladies Group)



A variety of greeting cards with Christian messages are for sale at \$1 each. These high quality cards are displayed in a rack on the counter outside the office. We will continuously update the selection which includes Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Thank You, seasonal and miscellaneous choices.

After making your selection, please leave your money or check in the box attached to the display.

The ladies thank the congregation for their generous support and hope to continue their record of giving to various church ministries.

We thank all for their support and especially thank those who leave large bills in the box.

Contact Persons; Rita Stark (272-3488) and Carolyn Bammann (272-7083).

MEET OUR MISSIONARIES...

J.P. and Aimee serve in northern Vietnam, where the LCMS has carried out human care and education projects for over 20 years. J.P. and Aimee work with local partners in developing and implementing community development projects in rural areas. They have also established a social enterprise to reach out to young families in the city. Moreover, J.P. and Aimee facilitate and oversee GEO personnel who teach EFL in universities in and around Hanoi, as well as short-term service teams from the United States and Asia.

J.P. was born and raised in Richmond, Va., received his undergraduate degree in theology from Lenoir-Rhyne College in North Carolina and received his Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., after serving in Vietnam for two years as a vicar. Aimee (Crawford) was born in Tulsa, Okla., and raised in Richmond, Va. She has both a bachelor's and a master's degree in dietetics from James Madison University in Virginia. J.P. and Aimee have two daughters — Celeste, born in March 2007, and Isabella, born in August 2009 and one Son, Isaac born this year in Vietnam.

Pictures from Play! café, an LCMS-sponsored social enterprise that Aimee started, partnered with another social enterprise, Tohe, that works with underprivileged kids, to hold a family event called KHOE Creative Festival (in Vietnamese, KHOE means to “show off,” as in to show off your creativity). Play! café only sponsored the event, but Tohe did a fantastic job of organizing it. Held at a lovely park, there were food stalls, craft stalls, and lots and lots of fun activities for kids. The Cima girls enjoyed spending most of the day there! Play! café had a booth, as well as activities for kids, including a large tarp that kids had fun running under. Some 1,500 people came to the event.



J.P. and Aimee Cima and their children Serving the Lord in Vietnam



After the smaller gathering for the Thai Concordia Lutheran Church's pastors and leaders, there was a larger gathering for the wider Protestant Thai churches held in Chiang Mai, Thailand. About 240 people gathered to celebrate the important and still relevant insights of the Reformation.

- Pray daily for J.P. and Aimee — and how you can support and tell others about their ministry. Visit lcms.org/cima
- Learn about LCMS international work at lcms.org/international
- Support and adopt an international worker. Call 888-930-4438.

LEARN • PRAY • GIVE • TELL • SEND • GO • CELEBRATE

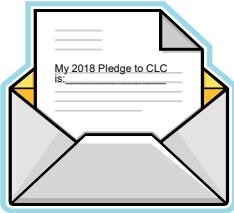




THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

A monthly glimpse of the history of your Cheshire Lutheran Church:

January 3, 1521	Martin Luther excommunicated from Catholic Church by Pope Leo X
January 1958	First congregational officers elected, parish constitution adopted, and congregation officially named Cheshire Evangelical Lutheran Church
January 29, 1961	Opening dedication ceremony of Cheshire Evangelical Lutheran Church



PLEDGE PACKETS FOR 2018...

Pledge Sunday for 2018 are here. Please assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations by returning your pledge card to the church as soon as possible. Thank you!



CANS AND BOTTLES—BOTTLES AND CANS...

Save your returnable Bottle and Cans. Money raised will benefit Little Cherubs. A collection box is located in the storage closet towards the back of the Fellowship Hall.

CLC HELPING HANDS...



“Helping Hands “ of CLC is designed to match members talents and time availability with those in need within our church family. In the past, this has formally included meal preparation and transportation needs and occasional visitation. Informally, there is a lot of helping “behind the scenes” from women and men in the congregation who see a need and respond to it. It is likely there are others who have needs and those who would be inclined to help but are unaware of the needs. Helping Hands is organized to meet the needs of both groups, men and women, singles and families.

Please consider requesting assistance such as meals, transportation, occasional errands, minor household repairs, and visitors.

Those able to offer occasional time and your talents, please sign up on the bulletin board, indicating your “offering”.



Let me tell you one of the many “ stories” from my decades as a Visiting Nurse. An elderly woman living alone (here in Cheshire) in the home her husband built was recovering from a fall. The problem.. the overhead light bulb in her kitchen had blown out and was well out of her reach. The kitchen was dark.. she would not ask any of the female caregivers to go down into the basement and drag up the ladder to change the bulb. I arrived with an observing male medical student. Immediately she asked him to get the ladder and change the bulb which he graciously did. She was so grateful.. just a little light bulb! I am sure there are many ways we can bring light to our fellow Christians!

Thank you for your prayerful consideration. Please contact the church office (203-272-5106) or me (203-710-0753) to request assistance or for any concerns or questions. Please note that all Information will be confidential.

Sally Schrumm, Chairman

CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH ACCEPTS GARY RICHARDS' PLAQUE DURING INDUCTION IN TO THE CHESHIRE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI HALL OF FAME...

On November 26, 2017 R. Tim Weiland, on behalf of the Cheshire Lutheran Church and former Charter Members, Lilian and Edwin Richards, introduced and accepted a plaque commemorating their son, Gary. It is a duplicate to that to be displayed in the Cheshire High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame. Gary graduated from Cheshire in 1961 but was unfortunately Cheshire's first casualty in 1967 during the Vietnam War. A copy of the presentation/ acceptance is below which notes CLC honors his life weekly upon ringing of Our Memorial Bell on each Sunday.

The ceremony took place at the Aqua Turf facility in Southington, CT. For more information on Gary and the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Memorial Bell dedication (occurred Feb 4, 1968), a link to a YouTube movie is available in the CLC website.



CHS Alumni Assoc. - Cheshire High School Wall of Fame Ceremony
Gary Charles Richards

I would like to thank the Cheshire High School Alumni Assoc. for allowing me to speak on behalf of the Gary Richards' family and his friends. Many of you are aware that both Gary and John Grivil were part of this year's Memorial Day ceremony at the High School in May. Eagle Scout Will Caron assembled the exhibit honoring both there. Will is also a member of Cheshire Lutheran Church. That exhibit and today's Alumni Association's honoring in the Wall of Fame, are both special in keeping their memories alive for future generations. Today I would also like to speak on a related event on how we at Cheshire Lutheran Church have been, and will continue to honor Gary Charles Richards. It all relates to a 107-year old bell.

You are aware that Gary died on February 16, 1967 in Vietnam. Gary's parents, Lillian and Edwin Richards, were charter members of the Cheshire Lutheran Church. That is they were members since it was organized in 1956. In Gary's obituary, they requested that 'in lieu of flowers' please send any contributions to the Church to help purchase a bell for their new sanctuary site on West Main Street. The developer who had purchased the land and old building previously used by the Saint Bridget's Catholic Church on Highland Avenue also possessed their discarded bell, which hadn't rung since 1940. Take it away and it was yours. As an aside the base structure of that former church building is currently Cheshire Pizza. Thus with a donated bell and the blessings of the Richards, the monetary memorials were used to help electrify and place it on a modest permanent perch at Cheshire Lutheran Church. This all took place in that year of 1967 with the first ringing at a service on Christmas Eve. Then on February 4, 1968 the bell was dedicated as the Cheshire Lutheran Memorial Bell and Bell Tower, in honor of Gary. We will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the dedication next year in February.

In conclusion we at Cheshire Lutheran Church weekly honor the memory of Gary with the ringing this bell before Sunday services in western Cheshire. We thank the Alumni Association in allowing us to speak for Gary at today's induction.

**CHESHIRE HIGH
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

TWELFTH
HALL OF FAME
AWARDS CEREMONY/DINNER



**AQUA TURF
RESTAURANT**
12:30 P.M.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2017



IN FEBRUARY 2018 WE CELEBRATE THE - 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMORIAL BELL



Then



Now



Dedication of the Cheshire Lutheran Church Memorial Bell took place February 4, 1968

A Poem By Tim Weiland

In the tower of St. Bridget's Roman Catholic Church on Cheshire's Highland Avenue it hung.
Enjoyed by many for thirty years, and then around the year 1940 it ceased to be rung.

In 1958 a new St. Bridget's Church was dedicated on West Main Street with more appeal.
A developer named Gerald Gregoire now owned the old building with land and had a deal.

He converted the church building into Church Plaza where currently Cheshire Pizza resides.
Another event tragically occurred to Cheshire in 1967 and it is with that the bell coincides.

It relates to your Church's Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Richards' son Gary who had suddenly died.
On February 16 Gary was Cheshire's first casualty of Viet Nam and all initially just sighed.

His aunt Mrs. David Johnson of Monroe questioned what could be done for him and the
Church?

Pastor Nuechterlein suggested a Memorial Bell Fund to set that bell upon a permanent perch.

With a donated bell from Mr. Gregoire and wholehearted consent of the Richards to proceed,
The Voters' Assembly resolved establishing the Fund with donations to cover perceived needs.

Removing the bell from the old tower and erecting a modest structure to hang it had to be done.
Electrified for simple ringing and for shrubs and flowers to capture the eastern morning sun.

The architect was from Russell, Gibson and von Dohlen, a noted firm from West Hartford,
Who just happened to design seven years earlier the Sanctuary for worshipping our Lord.

Let it be known that the bell is said to be made of bronze, and weighs 350 pounds.
Caste in 1910 by McShane Bell Company of Baltimore for past, current and future sounds.

Although it again started tolling on a Christmas eve service in that year of 1967.
Dedicated as your Memorial Bell the next year on February 4 to call and help open the heavens.

(Penned by R. Tim Weiland in 2012 for the 45th Anniversary of the dedication of the Cheshire
Lutheran Church Memorial Bell)



NEW ON OUR WEBSITE...WWW.CHESHIRELUTHERAN.ORG

The following has been recently added to our Website:

- ✠ Pictures and Video recordings of the past events held at CLC
 - ✠ Look for multiple video files of all the events celebrated at CLC in December including Christmas Pageant and Parish Decorating including the spectacular Tree
- ✠ Audio recordings of Anthems sung by our Choirs last month
- ✠ Current and Past Heavenly Heralds
- ✠ Sunday School pictures
- ✠ Little Cherubs news and pictures
- ✠ Upcoming events—Calendar

NEWS FROM THE HOUSE AND GROUNDS DEACON...

Hello everyone,

It's been a busy year for our houses and grounds and I'd like to let you all know what we've done this year (a lot).

In the beginning of the year the council approved money for an AED (defibrillator) unit for the church. Working with the Red Cross, we purchased the unit and installed the case in May. I think we can all rest a little easier knowing we have this equipment if needed now.

In June the refrigerator in the kitchen stopped working and we replaced it. We also had one of our air conditioner units repaired this summer.

This fall Little Cherubs invited the police department to look over our facility and offer any recommendations. They recommended changing the locks and having a 'safe' room to shelter in case of emergencies. This led to replacing the locks and installing a lock box for the police and creating a safe room in one of the bathrooms.

The majority of our work this year has been the parsonage. Just before pastor Gustafson left in May, Ed Schweitzer and I walked through the parsonage taking notes and comments from pastor as to what work needed to be done. After pastor moved out, we began working to clean up the parsonage. I cannot begin to express my thanks for everyone that has helped over the past 6 months. From removing wallpaper and painting to completely gutting the basement to ripping up floors and doors and all the gardening and cleaning up outside we are blessed to have so many talented hard-working members. Here is a short list of the work we have done at the parsonage over the past 6 months:

- ✦ Repaired both chimney's
- ✦ Replaced the washer and dryer
- ✦ Removed wallpaper from 6 rooms and hallways
- ✦ All rooms and hallways painted along with the trim
- ✦ Repaired kitchen ceiling and scrapped popcorn finish
- ✦ All carpeting removed and upstairs hard wood floors refinished
- ✦ Replaced all interior doors and painted
- ✦ Downstairs hallway and kitchen tile floor removed and replaced with matching hardwood so now the first floor is all hardwood
- ✦ Basement had water damage and mold. Removed paneling, sheetrock, drop ceiling and tile floor. Had CT basement System come in and install a new water proofing system and sump pump and now basement is dry and protected
- ✦ Repaired basement sliding glass door
- ✦ Replaced oil tank and oil line to furnace
- ✦ Removed 6 bushes and 3 trees. Trimmed all the bushes and weeded all the gardens and removed rotted fence by garage

Still to be completed is the kitchen cabinets and counter top and kitchen lights, the family room carpet and fixtures in the downstairs bathroom. I fully expect to have the parsonage ready for our new Pastor by the end of January. You can tell from all this work that we have transformed the parsonage and everyone should be very proud of the hard work that has been done by a fantastic group of volunteers. I hope I don't miss anyone because I'd like to acknowledge everyone that has worked on this huge project: Ed and Nancy Schweizer, Tim and Karen Weiland, Dave and Sally Schrumm, Bill Sherman, Bill Soulier, Pat DiDomizio, Jim and Margie Mertz, Brad Schick, Alan and Carol Santoro, Pam and Avery Clark, John and Lynn Balash, Barbara Carson, John Casberg, Al Manke, Terri Daly, Todd Plantier, Jeff Mann, Bill Juul and Paul Greenhalgh. Again, I apologize if I've missed anyone and thank you again!

Lastly, we have prepared for the birth of our Lord. On the first Saturday of December a hearty crew set up our creche. A big thanks to Jeff Mann, Tim Weiland, Jim Mertz, Paul and John Greenhalgh, Larry Fiedler and Joe Stark. On Dec 15th and 16th we set up our beautiful tree and



(Continued on page 16)



(Continued from page 15)

decorated the church. Again, thank you to all that helped to make our church festive and welcoming.

It's been a very full year and I look forward to working with our new pastor next year. I feel truly blessed to have so much help and support in this role and I look forward to serving you all in the future.

Andy
House and Grounds Deacon



CLC CHOIR NEWS...

All Choirs rehearse on Wednesday evenings as follows:

6:30 PM – Youth Choir
7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir
8:00 PM – Parish Choir

The Parish Choir sings on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays and the Youth Choir performs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. Both Choirs usually sing at the 10:30 but sometimes are asked (mostly Parish) to sing at the 8:00 service as well.

The Bell Choir will perform on special occasions 5-7 times throughout the year.

Each choir is praying for new members. Please consider joining, you will be happy you did! No experience necessary!

SUPPORT CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH AT AMAZON SMILE...

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to CLC.

Go to the Amazon.com site and click on the AmazonSmile link to register CLC. When you shop at Amazon, log into AmazonSmile.com instead. 5% of your purchases will be given to CLC.

Welcome to
amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.



WEATHER AND WORSHIP...

Who knows what kind of winter we will have this year! To find out when worship services have been cancelled due to weather conditions, check TV channels, WTNH channel 8 or MyTV 9, WFSB channel 3 and on the radio, WTIC 1080 AM. All these stations have websites that list weather closings too! A mass e-mail will also be sent. If you would like to be included on our mass e-mail please let the church office know.

Stay warm!

In November Our Little Cherubs were busy learning about Moses as a grown man. They learned about Moses and the Burning Bush, the parting of the Red Sea and Feeding the people in the Desert. When we returned after Thanksgiving we learned about The Commandments. We did an experiment showing the Parting of the Red Sea.

Since there was a storm day on Halloween on November 1, 2017 we decorated mini pumpkins, carved a pumpkin, roasted the seeds estimated how many seeds would be in the pumpkin. We did an experiment to discover if a pumpkin would sink or float. We also are working on our Numbers 7 and 8, letters A-G.

The children are learning about Fables so we did "The Tortoise and the Hare", the Nursery Rhyme "Three Billy Goats Gruff" and we learned about Veterans Day and we made a Flag.

For Thanks Giving we read Stories related to Giving and what the Pilgrims and Native Americans did on the first Thanksgiving. We made Turkey's and Card for their families. The most exciting part of the Holiday was our Thanksgiving Feast. We had one on November 20, 2017 for the 4 year olds and one on November 21, 2017 for the 3 year olds. We held it in the Gathering Hall with all the Children's mom's, dad's, Grandma's, Grandpa's and Friends. Miss Martha was kind enough to get the Chicken Pot Pies from Costco and Nancy and Ed set up the entire room. What a great time we all had. The families each signed up to bring a dish.

December was very busy getting ready for the Christmas! We studied the Bible, 10 Commandments, Advent and acted out the Christmas Story. Poinsettia Day was December 13th the children learned about the History of the plant and colored a flower. We learned about the Hanukkah Story with a visit from Jakes mom to talk about Hanukkah and a Menorah – She brought Potato Latkes and Treat bags for all.

The Children learned about the letters I and J.

We made many Christmas Ornaments, collected Holiday Recipes to send home to each family and we had a special visit from the Librarian from Cheshire Library!

Merry Christmas to all!

Miss Joann, Miss Martha and Miss Cindy



A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE FELLOWSHIP DEACON

To all the volunteers who helped with the church fellowship functions this year, I thank you for the time you took to make this church a joyful place to be.

It was an exceptionally busy year with many events. So thank you to all of my setter-uppers and cleaner-uppers, cooks, grillers and bakers. A special thanks to the ladies who helped me put together Pastor G's retirement luncheon and a huge thanks to Marilyn Miller for organizing the the Reformation Anniversary Luncheon. As always, I look forward to another year.

*We thank you for the time you spared
And the helping hand you gave.
It meant so much And we thank the Lord
For the effort that you made.*

Karen Weiland



**Fellowship
Committee**



CLC December 2017



Advent



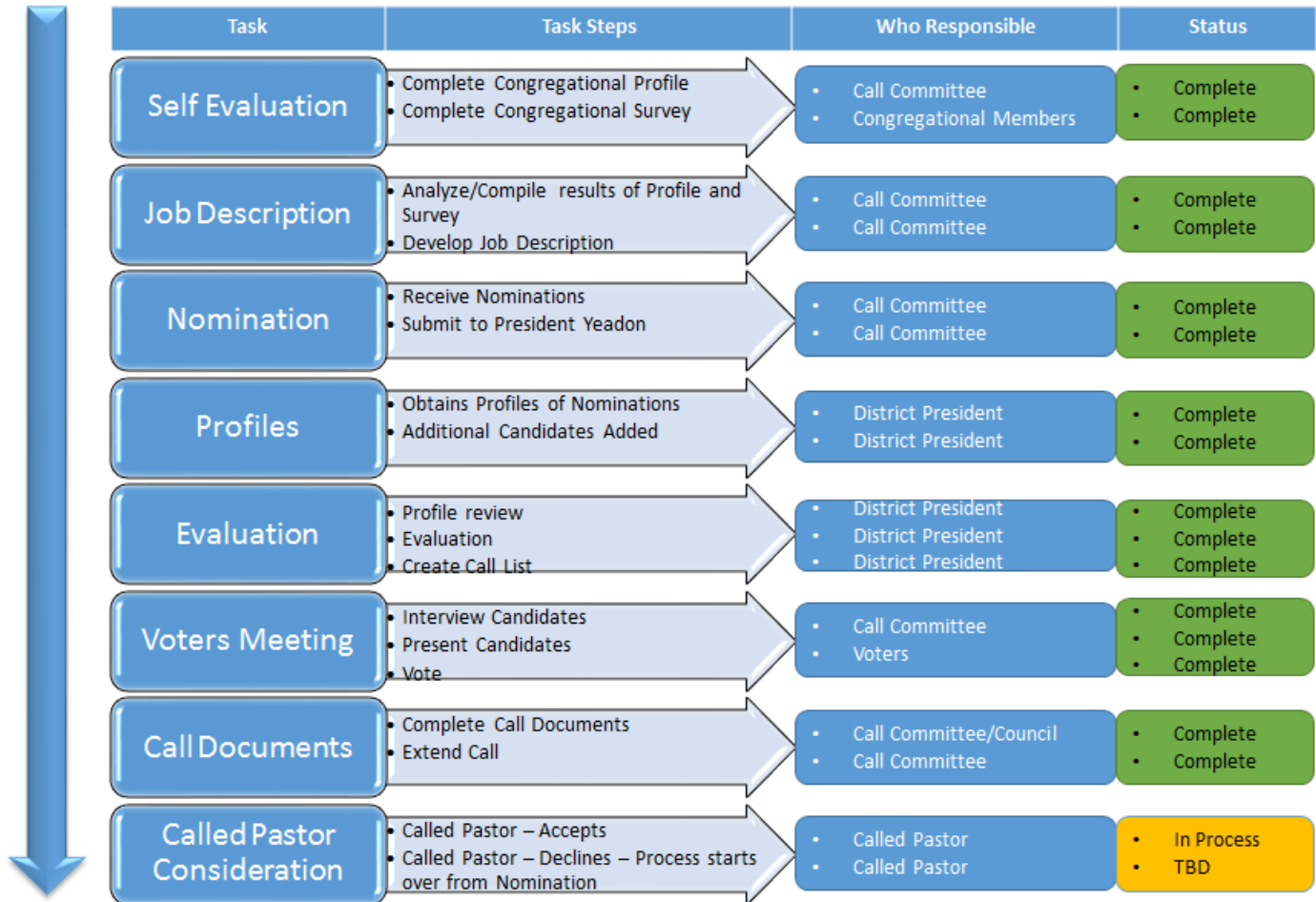
Christmas Pageant



Memories



Call Process and Status at Cheshire Lutheran Church



CLC MUSICAL OFFERING...

Music performed during Sunday morning services, is sometimes recorded and then emailed to a number of people. Most computers will recognize the mp3 music file and play it back. It is especially appreciated by those who are not able to be with us on a given Sunday.

If you are interested in receiving an occasional musical offering, please send an email to: juul@cox.net with "CLC Music" in the subject line. Recipient addresses will not appear in the music email.

We would be happy to include you.

Judy & Bill Juul



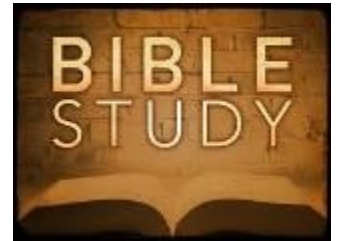
SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...

Volunteers are be needed to prepare, serve and clean up Coffee Hour starting on September 17th. This year, due to our Service time and other changes, Coffee Hour will be held after the service during Adult Bible Study. In an effort to keep this much anticipated fellowship going, we need volunteers. Can you help set up coffee a few Sunday's during the year? Purchase or make baked goods to be served? Baked goods may be brought in at any time and placed in the freezer so we have something to serve every Sunday. Kindly sign-up on the Bulletin board and if you have questions you can contact the office. Thank you!

Bible Studies at CLC

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...

PASTOR NUECHTERLEIN WILL BE LEADING our congregation's weekly adult Bible Study Hours during these months when we're without a full-time pastor. Sessions will be held each Sunday morning after the 9:00 AM Church Service (approx. 10:10 to allow you time for a quick fellowship coffee/snack). The following is the schedule for January 2018 which is still work in progress:



- ✠ Jan 7 – we WILL meet – viewing “Selfgiving Love, according to St John – with Dr Craig Koester

As always, I remain grateful for the opportunity to share with each of you new insights into the Word of God given to us through His Holy Spirit' and I look forward to your being with us as often as your Sunday morning schedules permit.

All our adult members, and your guests, are cordially invited to be with us.

Sincerely – in Christ,
Pastor Nuechterlein

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A SUCCESS!!

(February 2018 Articles are Due!)

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier (soulierbeth@sbcglobal.net) by Friday **January 19th** or earlier! Place all non-electronic articles and information you would like printed into the HH in Beth's lateral file folder on the hallway table.

Thank You!



HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER...

Volunteers to deliver baby items to Hope Pregnancy Center, located next to the Library in Cheshire, are needed. If you would like to help once or twice a year, please sign up on the bulletin board.

We have re-directed the donated baby items which are collected in the bassinet outside the church office. For years we have been donating them to “Baskets of Love” where women of the Waterbury Church of Christ used them to make baskets which are distributed to new mothers in Waterbury Hospital, Bristol Hospital and New Beginnings in Waterbury We would like to now donate these items to the **local** organization “Hope for Life”, d.b.a. Hope Pregnancy Center. They are located at 110 Main Street, Cheshire in a facility provided by Christ Community Church. They will gratefully accept infant clothing and unused nursery equipment. For further information, see the poster hung above the bassinet.



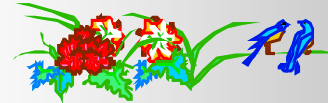
ROBERTA YOUNG
Bobbie Young
Teresa Young

- 1st Catherine Barden
Todd Plantier
- 4th Emily Smith
- 5th Robin Harding
Michael Carrington
- 8th Karen Neff
- 10th Craig Wilson
- 13th Jean O'Hara
Carolyn Schmollinger
- 14th Barbara Manthey
- 20th Rebecca Mayer
- 24th Ned McBain
- 23rd Margie Mertz
- 25th Carol Santoro
- 26th John Shepard
- 27th Don Dobbs
- 28th Eleanor Kenney
- 29th Mikayla Pryde
- 30th Todd Peters
Heidi Schlupp
- 31st Emese Gall
Matthew Lynch

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

January 2018

6th	Patrick & Kelley Collins-Pardee	6 Years
17th	John & Lynn Balash	43 Years



COUNCIL AND VOTERS MEETING REMINDER...

No Voters meeting in January!!!
The Annual corporate meeting will be held on January 14th after the 9:00 AM service!

Our Thanksgiving offering was dedicated to Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministries. These photos from their Facebook page illustrate the great job they do helping people cope with sudden tragedy. Thank you for your generous donations.

Vicki DePaolo, Social Welfare Deacon



Cheshire Lutheran Church
660 West Main St
Cheshire CT 06410