



THE TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION OF CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
1660 BIRCH LAKE AVENUE, WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110

PASTOR'S CORNER

"Jesus ... said to them, 'Let the little children come to me.'"
- Mark 10:14

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I have been meeting with congregation members as part of the CTK Council's One-to-One Conversation initiative this summer. The conversations have been great and I have gotten a chance to learn more about why members participate in church, what they love to do, and their answer to what God's purpose is for us. I am hopeful that these conversations will allow us to see where God is leading us and what our current mission and ministry priorities are as a congregation.

As part of talking with a variety of church members, I have also heard many laments over the number of children and youth in the church. It is true that the state of the church is not the same as it used to be. We are living in a more secular time when church and Christianity has less influence in society and fewer people overall are going to church. Last spring I attended a learning session from the Reverend Traci Smith, a Presbyterian minister who focuses her ministry on equipping families find time for connection and spiritual nourishment. Rev. Traci shared that all congregations are experiencing the challenges of connecting with families and youth in the post-Covid time. She recommends slowing down, listening, and moving at the speed of relationships, which take time to develop.

The Holy Spirit is still in charge – the church isn't going anywhere. However, it may require that we slow down and listen to one another and for the nudging of the Holy Spirit. (Just like we are doing through our One-to-One conversations!) God is always initiates the action of God's people. God is speaking to us; it is just up to us to pause and listen to the nudging of the Holy Spirit and God's leading.

It can be tempting to look at the church and fret about its future when we don't see younger families and children/youth in worship. However, I believe that children and youth are not the future of the church; they are the present of the church. Their participation and presence in the church is happening right now. CTK recently hired Hannah Grove as our Director of Youth and Family Ministries. Part of her work is the restart a youth group and the first meeting in September brought together eight 6th-10th graders to

play games, be creative, and grow in faith and relationship with one another. On September 22, we had seven youth and three adults put together 24 hygiene kits for youth in foster care as part of our God's Work, Our Hands month. The children and youth are excited for service projects and putting their faith into action.

I am so grateful for the energy and enthusiasm that the youth bring to worship, learning about faith in Confirmation and Sunday School, and being an essential part of the body of Christ. I also love it when all the generations get an opportunity to be church together, whether it is through service projects, fellowship events, or faith formation experiences. I encourage you to interact with the children and youth here at CTK. Be curious and ask open-ended questions about their lives.

If you are still hoping to see more families and youth here at CTK, I encourage you to reach out to the youth and families that you know. You can even start by inviting them to a fun fellowship event like the Otter Lake Road Clean-Up (happening in early November!) or a bingo night. You are the essential connectors to the family and youth in the White Bear Lake area. Listen to how God might be calling you to make an invitation and remember that the Holy Spirit accompanies you in all that you do!

Peace,
Pastor Rebecca



JOIN US

PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON, WATCH US VIAL LIVESTREAM OR WATCH A RECORDING LATER AT CTKWBL.ONLINE.CHURCH. YOU CAN ACCESS THE BULLETIN BY CLICKING AT THE TOP OF THE LIVESTREAM PAGE.

OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

OCTOBER 6

Twentieth Sunday
After Pentecost

Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 8
Mark 10:2-16

“God, when human bonds
are broken”

9am Worship
Organ / Communion

OCTOBER 13

Twenty-First Sunday
After Pentecost

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm 90:12-17
Mark 10:17-31

“Son of God, eternal
Savior.”

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

OCTOBER 20

Twenty-Second Sunday
After Pentecost

Isaiah 53:4-12
Psalm 91:9-16
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

“O Christ, what can it
mean for us.”

9am Worship
Organ / Communion

OCTOBER 27

Reformation /
Confirmation Sunday

Genesis 1
Psalm 46
John 8:31-36

“Lord, keep us steadfast
in your word.”

9am Worship
KHB / Communion



THURSDAY

OCTOBER 17

Women’s Bible Study

This fall, the study is titled
“Receiving Grace:
A Study of Ephesians”
and our emphasis for
October is
“God’s Power Works in Us.”

9:30am
in the library.

October



WORSHIP LEADERS

	AV	ALTAR GUILD	LAM	READER	USHERS	COMMUNION	ACOLYTE
10.6	Joe / Mike	Connie / Peggy	Abby/Jack	John	Brianna / Julia	Nathali / Mallory	Levi
10.13	Mike/Joe	Ann	Cyndi	Ann	Scott / Michele	Bonnie / Craig	
10.20	Craig / Mike	Cathy / Stephanie	Michele	Polly	Mike / Peggy	Karen / Wayne	Abby
10.27	Mike / Craig	Lori / Lori	Janet	Mike	Michele / Scott	Ann / Polly	

Hospitality: Tom Sandhei, Bob & Bev Osborne, Lee Wood

If you are faced with a conflict, please attempt to trade with one another and let the office know. Thank you!

DEVOTION

You and I are a New Creation

The theses of my first class in seminary come from Paul’s second letter to the congregation in Corinth: “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!” 2 Corinthians 5:17, and from Mark’s gospel, on Jesus’ question to the disciples, “But who do you say that I am?” Mark 8:29a.

Paul looked back to the original creation story with Adam and Eve. Christ Jesus, as the Word, in our Triune God, was there, too. John’s gospel echoes this: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.” John 1:1-3a.

As we know, Luther said (paraphrasing) that there is nothing that we can do to merit salvation or reconciliation from death, since we’re already saved from death by our redemption through Christ’s perfect sacrifice - death on the Cross, which reconciled humankind from death for all time. As Paul writes: “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 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.” Romans 8:38-39.

What I have so profoundly appreciated through class so far is that insofar as we are a “new creation,” in Paul’s words, it’s important to note that we are not a “do-over” for the original Creation story. Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross was God’s perfect, redeeming reply to Adam’s sin, in an eternal sense – God’s truth through the incarnate Word, Christ Jesus – flesh redeeming flesh. Through our baptisms in the risen Lord, and through that glorious Easter Resurrection—we live anew in the promise that Jesus conquered death, and in doing so, through our own death to the old and rebirth in life, marked for Christ, Jesus made us a new creation, united in faith, love, and wisdom, each of us. You and I - where we’re all equal, as his disciples, and we are all entrusted with that same, sacred reconciliation message. Indeed, we are daresay urged on in our faith, entrusted with reconciliation to welcome our neighbors – no matter who they may be – sharing in God’s promise for us. Since we can see Christ Jesus’ holiness in each other, God’s love can’t help but overflow and our love glow for each other. Thanks be to God. Lord, help us always to see each other through your eyes. Amen.

Prayerfully in Christ,
Michael Stepan

COMING SOON

YOUTH & FAMILY

CTK Youth



Youth Led Worship

*“Let the little children come to me”
– Jesus, Mark 10:14*

CTK’s children and youth will be filling all of the worship leadership roles on Sunday, October 6 and sharing during the sermon. They’ve planned an “adult time” in place of the usual children/youth time. We are grateful for their leadership in our church and look forward to hearing their experiences of faith and welcome.

Youth group started off this month with a bang! We met on September 18th where we got to know each other a little better, we voted on a new name for the youth group, and we painted the letters of our new name on canvas to decorate the youth room! The youth have voted to call our youth group “Hannah’s Heath Bars.” Our next session we will be adding some finishing touches to the letters so that they can be up on the wall by the middle of October.



Speaking of October, here’s what’s coming up!

October 2nd - Regularly Scheduled Youth Group: putting finishing touches on our painted letters and playing kick ball (weather permitting)

October 6th - Youth Led Worship: during our normal worship time

October 9th - Confirmation

October 16th - NO Youth Group (school breaks)

October 23rd - Confirmation

October 27th - Confirmation Service for our 9th graders!

October 30th - Regularly Scheduled Youth Group: Halloween edition! Come to learn about what Christians believe about ghosts and other supernatural beings.

All are welcome to attend youth group. We meet on the Wednesdays above from 7pm - 8:30pm in the youth room. You can always invite friends!



Reformation and Confirmation Service

Sunday, October 26 we will be confirming Mallory Hoops and Nathali Schneemann. They participated in Confirmation for three years and will culminate by affirming their baptism during worship on October 26. Everyone is invited to wear red to celebrate the movement of the Spirit in both the church and their lives! We will celebrate during coffee hour with a cake reception as we celebrate this milestone in Mallory and Nathali’s lives.

COMING SOON

DISCIPLESHIP

**God's work.
Our hands.**

Thank you all who participated in our God's Work, Our Hands activities this month. We had a great rally Sunday complete with pancakes, Sunday School activities and videos, and starting up the new CTK Youth Group!

We also made 500 sandwiches for the Walker Food Share in around a half an hour! Thank you to everyone who helped make the sandwiches and got them into Pastor Rebecca's car for delivery later Sunday afternoon. Our sandwiches were distributed on Monday, September 16 and helped feed hungry people in Minneapolis.

We also put together 44 hygiene kits for foster youth serviced by Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota (LSS of MN). Thank you to everyone who donated hygiene items, put together complete kits, and helped organized and sort the kits! We'll be sending the hygiene kits to LSS of MN by the end of the month.

Together all of us can do God's Work with Our Hands!



MISSIONS

October is Masisiwe Scholarship Month



Our Masisiwe Student Scholarship fund drive commences this month to provide financial and prayer support for the children of our sister congregation in Tanzania. Our combined efforts make a huge difference in their lives now and in the future. Without funding they cannot progress beyond 6th grade.

Checks should be made out to Christ the King with Masisiwe Scholarship indicated on the memo line. It costs anywhere from \$50 to \$600 to support student depending on the school they attend. A Masisiwe church committee determines the individual scholarships based on student potential and family support. Please help us meet our 2025 goal of \$6,000 by October 31st. They need to know in November/December which students can start the year beginning in January 2025.

Sincere thanks to everyone who has supported this mission over the past 20+ years!

Please watch this video about the Student Scholarship project.

<https://vimeo.com/858001639/8a2ce76367>

Contact Polly Morrison if you have questions.



UPDATES

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Corner

Council initiatives update:

1. One-to-one conversations – this initiative was extended into mid-October to allow some remaining conversations to be completed. Thank you to those who have already participated. Your feedback about CTK will help us plan for the future.
 2. Sound System – Thank you to everyone who provided feedback to the sound system surveys. Also, special thanks to the King’s House Band and the Worship team for their insight and recommendations on the Sound System. The council will be working on getting quotes and finalizing plans for improving both the on-line and in-person sound.
 3. Message Map – In September, council members presented the first three stages of a message map developed by the 2023 council. The final two stages will be presented in October. The message map is a tool we can use to help tell our story to our friends, neighbors and community. It shows the breadth of our ministries. This is what we do at Christ the King and why we do it, to spread God’s grace.
- Finally, through August, income is still exceeding expenses by approximately \$6,100. Thank you for your continued strong financial support.

In Christ’s Service
Scott Tradup

ADMIN & FINANCE

August Financial Report

Envelope and online offerings:

01/01/24 through 8/31/24 = \$158,815
01/01/23 through 8/31/23 = \$184,568

Expenses Year-To-Date:

01/01/24 through 08/31/24 = \$171,733
01/01/23 through 08/31/23 = \$178,422

Cash account balances as of August 31, 2024

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$1,231

Savings = \$22,032

Memorial Savings = \$29,619

CD = \$42,044

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$54,819

Endowment Fund = \$90,000

Mortgage Balance = \$117,099

CONGREGATION

One-To-One Conversation Debrief

October 13, 10:15am

One-to-One Conversation partners are invited to attend a meeting after worship on October 13 in the Conference Room. We’ll be sharing what we learned from our conversations and starting to look for patterns and where God is leading us. If you haven’t participated in a One-to-One Conversation before then, please contact the church office to get one scheduled.



OCTOBER

2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm 7-8:30 Youth Group	3 7pm Property Team	4 Novak Funeral 11am	5 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
6 Youth-Led Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15-11:00	7 6:30pm WMA	8 7pm Admin Team	9 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm 7-8:30 Confirmation	10 Carlson Funeral 2pm	11	12 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
13 Worship 9am One-To-One Debrief 10:15 Sunday School 10:15-11:00	14	15 7pm Church Council	16 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm	17  9:30am Women's Bible Study	18	19 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
20 Worship 9am	21  Trumpet Deadline	22  4:30pm Family Shelter Meal	23 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm 7-8:30 Confirmation	24	25	26 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
27 Worship 9am Reformation/ Confirmation Sunday School 10:15-11:00	28	29	30 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm 7-8:30 Youth Group	31 Happy Halloween 		