



Welcome to the Light

Welcome Erica Doss Rodriguez, Our New Office Administrator!

Erica began work at Christ Church Lutheran on Tuesday morning, October 9. A lovely bouquet of yellow roses and fall mums greeted her as she arrived; a gift from Kate Haugen and the rest of the interview committee that led us to Erica: Dan Mueller, Melody Pauling, and Pastor Carlson. Erica hales from Texas, so yellow roses seemed fitting! You will enjoy her wonderful “ya’ll”!

Erica graduated from Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, TX—the third generation to attend that school. Soon after graduating, she came north, to Minnesota, to work as a veterinarian assistant. Next, for eight years, she served as Events Coordinator and Administrative Assistant at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis. Before coming to Christ Church, she worked for four years in the financial division of a cell phone tower company.

We feel so blessed to have Erica at Christ Church now. Stop by the church office to meet and greet her! Office hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. She will also attend worship sometimes and you can meet her there. We extend the warmest Christ Church welcome to her!

Leipzig Church Council Visits Minneapolis: Cold Weather, Warm Welcome



Cold day at “the lake” (near Mille Lacs) with s’mores.



Bishop Ann Svennungsen visits with the Leipzigers at her reception, held in the Luther Lounge.



Part of the group with host Tom Olson of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church.

Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee hosted a Pancake Breakfast on October 21, after worship. Nearly 100 members and guests attended. This year’s Stewardship theme is “Out of Love”, inspired by John 3:16. The month of stewardship will include weekly Temple Talks about Stewardship in worship. On Sunday, November 11, we will return our 2019 pledge forms in a processional offering in the morning worship service.



Christ the King Sunday and the 107th anniversary of Christ Church Lutheran: November 25

On Sunday, November 25, Christ the King, we will celebrate 107 years in the life of this beloved congregation. Come for festival worship at 9:30 a.m. on this last Sunday of the Church year. Then, stay for coffee and good fellowship as we party on our birthday. Thanks be to God for the blessings of life together and life for the sake of the world here in this place.

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Christ Church Lutheran

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christchurchluth.org

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

A National Historic Landmark



Find us on Facebook: Christ Church
Lutheran, Minneapolis (@CCLmpls)



Find us on Instagram:
@christchurchlutheranmpls

Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship

Eucharist 9:30 a.m., followed by fellowship

September 23 through May

Godly Play for children ages 3–6, 11:05 a.m. –
12:00 p.m.

Spark! for children ages 7 & up, 11:05 a.m. –
12:00 p.m.

Educational forum, 11:15 a.m. –12:15 p.m.

Staff

Pastors	Pastor Kristine Carlson Pastor Erik Haaland
Cantors	Pastor Robert Farlee Pastor Martin Seltz
Office Administrator	Erica Doss Rodriguez
Children’s Minister Director	Tyler Egge
Facilities	Chuck Merrell
Courier Team	Hilary Gebauer Marc Katz Pastor Kristine Carlson

Congregation Council

President	Matthew Courtney
Vice President	Dan Mueller
Secretary	Kate Haugen
Treasurer	Melody Pauling
Council Members	Hilary Gebauer Max Herzberg DeAne Lagerquist Marcus Nooney Rachel Slater

November Birthdays

- 11/1 Michael Jefferis
- 11/2 Gretel Byers
- 11/5 Taylor Borby
Brook Williams
- 11/7 Viivi Bodurtha
Matt Byers
Rachel Slater
- 11/12 Kevin Reuther
- 11/16 Erica Rodriguez
- 11/17 Lucille Buelow
Luna Kjome
- 11/19 Myrna Murken
- 11/22 Lucy Woestehoff
- 11/23 Todd Brandon
Riley Jenkins
- 11/24 Maria Markman
- 11/26 Fred Bentz
Bob Anderson
- 11/27 Samantha Rice
Darrell Anderson
- 11/28 Nadia Lenskaia
Gary Skrivseth
Millie Wittwer
Matt Woestehoff

*If you are not named above,
and should be, or your birthdate
is inaccurate, please call the
church office 612.721.6611*

Helping Hands for November

- Robert Anderson & John Schmidt
- Jason Bergquist
- Sarah Brunsvold & Jeff Weispfenning
- Ernie Caltvedt
- Siri Caltvedt
- Kristine & David Denton
- Hilary Gebauer & Marc Katz
- Barb & Ron Johnson
- Jody McGuire & Aaron Amosson
- Marge Meffert
- Kevin Olsen
- Yi-ru Chen-Sarkanen & Simo Sarkanen
- Clayton Jelinek
- Bob Victorin-Vangerud

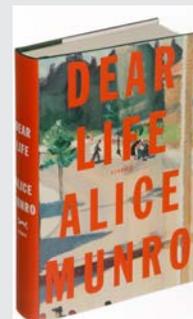
*All church members are part of
Helping Hands. You may be asked
to help with Sunday Coffee and
hospitality related events as needed.
Mary Bode is the coordinator. Call the
church office to connect with her.*

Come to the next Christ Church Book Discussion!

Saturday, November 10, at 10:00 a.m. in the Kretzmann Library

We will be discussing *Dear Life*, a book of stories by author Alice Munro.

Alice Munro is a Canadian short story writer who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2013. Munro’s work has been described as having revolutionized the architecture of short stories, especially in its tendency to move forward and backward in time. Her stories have been said to “embed more than announce, reveal more than parade.” All are welcome!



Lectionary Readings for November

November 4

All Saints

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm: Psalm 24

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Gospel: John 11:32-44

November 11

First Reading: Kings 17:8-16

Psalm: Psalm 146

Second Reading: Hebrews: 9:24-28

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

November 18

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm: Psalm 16

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Gospel: Mark 13:1-8

November 25

Christ the King

First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalm: Psalm 93

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

Funeral

June Ellen Johnson

June 15, 1930 – October 8, 2018

Funeral on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 11:00 a.m

B.A.S.I.C. — Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Come to an old-fashioned *smörgåsbord* at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 28. Marilu Peters will make Swedish meatballs and rice pudding. Bring something to go with, or bring a cash donation. Everyone welcome! There will be no meeting in December.

From the Church Council

Update for November

Dan provided our devotion by sharing reflections upon the book *Factfulness* by Hans Rosling. Although the book indicates that world health, education and life expectancy is improving, poverty is still widespread in the world. About four billion people live in difficult or dire conditions. When we compare income levels across the world, we see that we are in a very privileged position, and we need to ask the question, 'what is our responsibility to the rest of the world.' Dan concluded with a prayer of thanksgiving for God's abundant gifts and asking for God's help that we might have generous hearts toward those in need.

We received several updates. We heard about the visit from members of the church council of the *Sophienkirchgemeinde*. Thanks to several hosts from Christ Church and partner congregations, the Leipzig exchange was another great success. We look forward to future opportunities to share our faith and mission in Christ. We heard about the status of the sanctuary roof restoration and the completion of the organ loft. The roof is on schedule to be completed this fall, while the Project Management Task Force is coordinating the fabrication of organ loft railings and reinstallation of choir pews.

The Executive Committee recommended that Pastor Haaland be granted time for a three-month sabbatical during May – July 2019. Council approved the recommendation and requested that Pastor Haaland present a proposal to elaborate upon his sabbatical goals. At our November meeting, we will hear his proposal and consider a request for a stipend to partially support those goals. Pastor Haaland has served in his call to Christ Church Lutheran for five years, and Council expressed its gratitude for his wonderful ministry. We believe that both Pastor Haaland and the congregation will benefit from this sabbatical, which can be a time of personal, spiritual, and professional development.

Liaisons were requested to coordinate 2019 budget requests to the treasurer and president by the end of October. The primary agenda for November's meeting will be to develop and pass a budget that we can recommend to the congregation in December. We received regular reports and adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Treasurer's Report

Our financial news continues to be good. After adjustments, we are showing an \$18,000 surplus for the year. Some of this will have to go for some big bills which are coming due, but there will still be a surplus after that. This is a good sign for our decision to increase our staff, which will require an increased budget for 2019. Thank you for your financial support of Christ Church Lutheran!

Christ Church Lutheran Finances

(As of Sept. 30, 2018)	ACTUAL	BUDGET (9 mos.)	DIFFERENCE
<i>Member Giving/Envelopes</i>	236,658.47	232,120.00	4,538.47
<i>Other Income</i>	\$43,233.78	\$74,323.51	(\$31,089.73)
<i>Total Income</i>	279,892.25	306,443.51	-26,551.26
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$279,177.01	\$300,073.50	(\$20,896.49)
<i>Adj:EarlyGiving,TrnsfrsPend</i>	\$17,379.97		
<i>Total Surplus (or Deficit)</i>	\$18,095.21		

Thank You!

Thank you Dave Kutzbach for painting the church office this summer. Your time and careful work is very appreciated. You have made a beautiful new space to welcome our new office administrator, Erica Doss Rodriguez.



Courier Closeup — Jonathan & Carmina Stensland

This month's *Closeup* features Jonathan Arlen and Carmina Louise Stensland who have been members of Christ Church Lutheran for seven years.

What first brought you to Christ Church Lutheran?

[Jonathan] One Sunday in 2011, walking by, I noticed a festive gathering in the courtyard. Will Starkweather was being installed as vicar. I joined in. Pastor Carlson introduced herself, and asked me where I grew up. "Madagascar," I said. "I thought so," she said, and pointed to my silver bracelet. Then she said, "My Dad grew up in Madagascar." She lifted her wrist of bracelets...and I saw we were "related."

Do you remember the first time you came to Christ Church Lutheran?

[Carmina] I remember sitting on my dad's shoulders when I was really little and he would come up with me for the Sermon on the Steps. I also liked exchanging the peace.

Do you live in the neighborhood?

[Jonathan] We did. I built a house for us at 3632 39th Ave. S. when Carmina was just starting kindergarten.

What about our church do you like most?

[Jonathan] The people, community fellowship, worship. How we get ready for Advent, for Easter. Early on, adult education and wanting Carmina to experience a love bigger than her mom or her dad, alone. I also appreciate how the cycle of the church year holds place at Christ Church. This, along with what our cantors provide all year, I recognized as important for my spiritual health.

[Carmina] I like the Advent and Lent suppers, and the big events in the gym. One time me and Hans pretended to be train drivers and drove the kids around in the gym. I like Spark! Sunday School, singing, my teachers, and the pastors. Being with Kristine (Pastor Carlson) and our church group on our trip to Holden Village was fun and exciting.

How does Christ Church Lutheran help you live and share your faith?

[Jonathan] I am proud of our Church's personality, this Body, that I then speak about with friends, family, or strangers.

What important things have you learned in Godly Play and Spark!?

[Carmina] The Noah's Ark story. The "Ten Best Ways" given to Moses. The Road to Bethlehem. In Spark! we learn about the importance of our belief in God.

What do you do when you're not in church?

[Jonathan] In the summer, we play tennis or go swimming. In winter we read Percy Jackson books together, sing and tell stories. We love to go to Kabekona Lake to visit Grandma and Grandpa Stensland.

[Carmina] My grandpa is a Lutheran Pastor. He baptized me in their lake. My other grandma and great-grandma, aunts, uncles and cousins came too.



What can you tell us about yourselves that we may not have known?

[Jonathan] I am a builder by trade but people at Christ Church may not know that in my early '20s I was the typist for Robert Bly when he was writing *Iron John: A Book About Men*, published in 1990. It spent 62 weeks on the New York Times' "Best Sellers" list and was translated into many languages.

[Carmina] I love playing guitar and reading books about Greek Mythology. Our "Battle of the Books" team at my school won the inter-school trophy this year. I love sleepovers with my friends and I also love baking.

Do you have anything else to share?

[Jonathan] Just that our Sundays are cornerstones, not only to our weeks and months, but to our years.

"Closeup" is a Courier feature to help us get better acquainted with our fellow members. If you would like to share your story in "Closeup," call Donna Lindberg at 651.552.8499.

From ReconcilingWorks — Lutherans for Full Participation

Dear Congregation of Christ Church Lutheran,

Thank you very much for your gift to ReconcilingWorks – Lutherans for Full Participation for the amount of \$200.00. Your generosity helps us to continue our work for the full participation of LGBTQIA people in the Lutheran Communion.

Again, thank you.

Ken Neudorf, Board Member

Safe House Bathroom Remodel

Look what we were able to help make happen...Safe House has a new bathroom!

As part of our Second Century Campaign, we were able to contribute \$11,000 toward this project, which was completed over the summer.

(Safe House is an emergency shelter for youth experiencing homelessness; it is located in St. Paul and run by Lutheran Social Service of MN.)

Kelly Wolf, program manager at Safe House writes, "The new bathroom remodel is beautiful and we could not have done it without the generous support of Christ Church!" She also tells us that the youth at Safe House are thrilled with this newest update to the building.



Over the past several years, funds from our Second Century capital campaign have allowed us to accomplish other projects as well: In 2016 we remodeled and outfitted a fitness room in the basement of Safe House, and last fall Jonathan Stensland and other volunteers were able to build a new storage shed in the backyard. What a gift it is to be able to support the staff and youth of Safe House with these projects!

New Member Coffee with Pastor Carlson

Saturday, November 10 in the Luther Lounge at 10:00 a.m.

We will welcome New Members during worship on Sunday, November 11.

Plymouth Christian Youth Center — Annual Christmas Gift Sale

The holiday season is fast approaching, and it's time for the annual Plymouth Christian Youth Center's Christmas Gift Sale! For just \$1, North Minneapolis children can pick out five new gifts for their loved ones – mom, dad, grandparent, sibling, cousin, etc. – and experience the joy of giving as they 'shop' alongside a caring volunteer. PCYC needs over 3,500 gifts and 250 volunteers to transform their campus into a gift store and help 650 North Minneapolis youth shop. The Gift Sale will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2018. This is an event that is near and dear to our hearts at Christ Church Lutheran. The mission committee invites you to participate in the following ways:



- Donate money (checks made out to Christ Church Lutheran, "PCYC Gift Sale" in memo line)
- Buy gifts valued at \$8 to \$10 each, or re-gift new items from gifts you have received and never used. (Gifts for older children are especially needed.)
- Volunteer to set up or help children shop at the sale (Saturday, December 10). Sign up electronically: Go to <http://pcyc-mpls.org/> and click on Children's Gift Sale

Watch for the Mission Committee's table after worship on the following Sundays: November 18 and 25, or contact Luann Skrivseth (luannkays@gmail.com) for more information.

Fellowship Dinner — You are invited!

Our next Fellowship Dinner is coming up on Saturday, November 17. This dinner will be hosted by Luther Johnson and Mary Brown, 9524 Woodridge Circle, in Eden Prairie. Enjoy an evening with other Christ Church folks (visitors and long-time members alike!) who are looking to connect around a common table filled with good conversation, great food and lively laughter.

These dinners are typically a group of people who are hosted by one couple or individual who will prepare the main entrée for the meal, then invite others to come and bring a dish (appetizer, salad, side dish, bread, wine or dessert) to round out the meal. Dinners start at 6:00 pm.

The dinners are not formal and are a great way to get to know others in the church. Please think about "stepping out" and bringing your smile to a lovely evening with others here at Christ Church — all are warmly welcomed!

Contact Mary Brown via email to sign up: pastormarybrown@gmail.com. If you don't have access to email or if you have any questions, please contact Mary on her cell phone: 952-200-5731. **RSVP by Sunday, November 11** if possible.

In the **RSVP email**, please provide the following information:

Name (s):

Email address (es):

Home address:

Phone number (s):

Non-food allergies (pets, for example) & dietary restrictions/allergies:

Forum: Bible Study with Pastor Carlson — Sunday November 11 & 18, 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

A Biblical Love Story: the Book of Ruth

“Where you go, I will go.”

These words—traditionally used in wedding services—are said by one woman to another woman in the Book of Ruth. For two Sundays during the Forum hour, come to a Bible study led by Pastor Kristine Carlson, and find out more about this intriguing story.

The Book of Ruth is a short book in the Bible—just 4 chapters, 4 pages. On November 11, we will look at chapters 1 & 2; on November 18, we will look at chapters 3 & 4. No need to read it to come to the Bible study! But if you do, you will find yourself engaged with a remarkable Biblical love story.

In our study, we will look at the story of three people: two women, Naomi and Ruth—and a man, named Boaz. The lives of the women are marked by tragic deaths; by being poor and vulnerable; by being unjustly treated by the privileged. It is fascinating and moving to see how they find their way in an alien world, and how justice finally comes.

As it tells the love story of these three people, the Book of Ruth also raises issues of class, race, gender, and nation that still speak to us now.

Hope you can come for good Bible study together! Bibles will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

A look ahead...

December 2...Advent Fair in the Gym

December 23...Intergenerational Christmas Pageant



Muriel Heller sends her warmest greetings to her dear friends at Christ Church. Mary Bode and Muriel, 104 years young, had a visit recently in Des Moines.

Join us for an Advent Fair!

On Sunday, December 2nd, join us in the gym after church for an intergenerational Advent Fair. As we observe the start of the church year and prepare our hearts and lives for the birth of Jesus, we'll gather for a time of crafts, treats, music, and fellowship from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in place of both Sunday School and the Forum. Come as you are; stay as long as you are able. All are welcome at this intergenerational event!



This lovely photo taken by Ann Davis of our new green paraments—designed and woven by our Weaving Guild. Luminous!

The Little COURIER

*Jesus said, "Let the children come!"
At Christ Church Lutheran, we welcome
children and their families to the font, to
the table, and to worship.*

Children's Ministry at Christ Church Lutheran — November 2018

Meet your Children's Ministry Director!

We are so happy to welcome our new Children's Ministry Director, Tyler Egge! He grew up in Albert Lea, MN, and graduated last spring from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN. Now he is a first-year student at Luther Seminary, studying to become an ordained pastor. At Christ Church, he will be our Children's Ministry Director and do his parish field work from the seminary. We asked Tyler to share a little about himself.

Hi there! My name is Tyler Egge. It's been a wonderful first few weeks thanks to all of your warm welcomes. Below, I've answered a few random questions about myself, so you can get to know me a bit better before we get to meet in person!

Where are you from?

I spent the first eighteen years of my life in Albert Lea, Minnesota—about 90 miles south of Minneapolis. I have a relatively small extended family, and most of us live in or just outside of Albert Lea. My home congregation is First Lutheran in Albert Lea, which is the church my grandparents started attending in the 1950s.

Where did you go to college?

I am a proud Cobber! I just graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead last May with a degree in music with religion and church music minors. Besides going to class and doing homework, I occupied my time playing bassoon in the Concordia Band and the Concordia Orchestra, participating in campus ministry, working in the Office of Ministry, singing in local church choirs, and keeping myself warm in the middle of blustery Fargo-Moorhead winters!

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I just started at Luther Seminary this fall, where I am working toward a Master of Divinity degree. Sometimes people get this degree for other reasons, but for me it means that I am preparing to be a pastor in the ELCA. I first felt called to pastoral ministry when I was a first-year student in college, and it's persisted ever since!



What is one of your favorite places?

For the last three years, I have served on the summer staff at Shetek Lutheran Ministries in Slayton, Minnesota—three hours southwest of the Twin Cities. I've met and worked with wonderful individuals, lived in the midst of God's very good creation, and shared God's love with many (and had it shared with me!). Whenever I stand on the shores of Lake Shetek I feel an overwhelming sense of peace.

What's something you enjoy doing for fun?

I LOVE baking. It is one of my favorite ways to relieve stress. There's something about taking the time to be precise, waiting while what you mixed together is being transformed into something totally different, tasting the creation, and, finally, having enough to share with family and friends that is really special to me.

What's your favorite holiday?

I think Christmas has always been my favorite holiday. I love decorating for Christmas, Christmas music, eating Christmas dinner, going to church on Christmas Eve and lighting candles, and all other things Christmas.

And favorite food?

Brownies or fresh apples.

NOVEMBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 7:00pm- Choir	2	3 9:00am- Pew Moving Project
4 All Saints Sun 9:30am- Eucharist 11:05am- Sun School 11:15am- Forum	5	6 7:00pm- Preserv Property	7 1:00pm-Staff Meeting	8 Safehouse Meal 5:30pm-Exec Meeting 7:30pm-Proj Mngmnt	9 Sheridan Story Delivery	10 10:00am- New Member Coffee 10:00am- Book Discussion
11 9:30am- Eucharist 11:00am-Tour 11:05am- Sun School 11:15am-Forum	12	13	14 10:00am- Stationery	15 Courier Deadline 7:00pm- Choir	16 Shelter Meal at Our Saviour's	17
18 9:30am- Eucharist 11:05am- Sun School 11:15am- Forum	19	20 Sheridan Story Delivery 7:00pm- Racial Justice Task Force	21 1:00pm Staff Meeting	22 Thanksgiv- ing Day, Building Closed	23 Building Closed	24
25 Christ the King Sun 107th Anniver- sary of Christ Church Lutheran 9:30am- Eucharist, Coffee and Fel- lowship	26	27 6:00pm- Council 7:00pm- FCCL Board	28 Shelter Meal at Our Saviour's 11:00am- B.A.S.I.C.	29 7:00pm Choir	30	