



## Welcome to the Light

JULY 2010  
VOLUME 53, No. 7

Worship Services  
9:30 a.m. each Sunday

Education  
Adult forums and  
Sunday school will  
resume in September

### Life Together *by Pastor Kristine Carlson*

Dear Friends in Christ,

The leadership of our congregation has been working to articulate our identity (i.e., who are we?) and to articulate our mission (e.g., what is God up to in us and how can we more fully be a part of that?). One of the things at the core of our identity is this: *we are a teaching congregation*. One of the ways we have been living that out is through our vicar program.

We have been so very blessed in the last three years with three excellent vicars—most recently, Gretchen Pierskalla. Gretchen came to us a couple years ago as part of a seminary class studying our congregation. She liked what she saw and has been a part of our life together ever since. Having her as our full-time vicar this past year has been a wonderful gift. It has been a joy to get to know her better, to experience her growth and to help shape this future pastor. We, in turn, have been blessed by her caring heart, her leadership in stewardship and children’s education, her outreach to newcomers and her faithful leadership in everything from worship to committee meetings.

This month is Gretchen’s last with us as our vicar. Toward the end of the month, she and her husband, John, will accompany the group from our church going to Holden Village for a week. When she returns from that trip, she will have just a few more days with us and then we release her back to Luther Seminary for her final year of study.


Our gratitude and Godspeed Sunday for Gretchen will be July 11. After worship that morning, join us for a special celebration of Gretchen (her husband, John, will be with us that morning, too, and we will celebrate him as well!). We will be presenting Gretchen with a gift from our congregation to purchase a red stole for her eventual ordination. *If you would like to make a contribution to this congregation gift for Gretchen, make a check out to Christ Church Lutheran and mark the memo line, Vicar Gift.* (Donations received beyond the cost of a stole will be passed on to Gretchen).

A special thank you to the people who have served on Gretchen’s Vicar Support Committee, which has met monthly with her and provided significant feedback and conversation for her pastoral formation: Marge Meffert, Gene Bruss, Luann Skrivseth, Gary Skrivseth and Patricia Baehler. My gratitude to you also—people of God at Christ Church Lutheran—for sharing your wonderful teaching gifts!

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## Contacts and Information

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	Fax: 612.728.0552 Web: <a href="http://christchurchluth.org">http://christchurchluth.org</a>	
	<b>Office Hours</b>	
	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday–Friday	
	<b>Worship</b>	
	9:30 a.m. each Sunday Education hour for all ages follows at 11:00 a.m.	
	<b>Contacts</b>	
	Pastor:	Pastor Kristine Carlson
	Music:	Pastor Robert Buckley Farlee Pastor Martin Seltz
Vicar:	Gretchen Pierskalla	
Youth:	Luann Skrivseth	
Office:	Stephanie Okoneski	
Preschool:	Stephanie Gustafson	
Facilities:	Chuck Merrell	
Courier:	Lynn Larson	
<b>Officers</b>		
President:	Gene Bruss	
Vice President:	Kevin Olsen	
Secretary:	Jan Radloff	
Treasurer:	Melody Pauling	
<b>Council</b>		
Elders:	<i>To be determined</i>	
Mission:	Dan Mueller	
Property:	Gary Gustafson	
Stewardship:	<i>Open</i>	
Worship:	Yi-Ru Chen-Sarkanen	
Education:	Rita Schoenike	
<b>Elders' Board</b>		
Ute Swenson, Bob Swenson and Paul Hanson		

## Announcements

### Farewell to Vicar Pierskalla

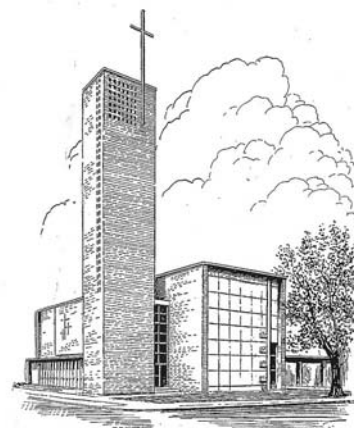
A celebration to honor Vicar Pierskalla will occur on Sunday, July 11, following the worship service.



### Courier Deadline

The submission deadline for the August edition of the *Courier* is **July 15**.

Please submit content to the church office or to Jan Radloff at: [jan.radloff@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:jan.radloff@mpls.k12.mn.us).



## President's Message

by Gene Bruss

The Tower Fundraising Committee has had a number of meetings with our consultant, Elaine Weber Nelson, who has been helping us organize the "Reaching New Heights: Match the Grant" campaign. The campaign's launch occurred June 20 in conjunction with a congregation picnic lunch in the courtyard. We will be contacting members of the congregation during July and August. Our goal is to have the campaign completed by the first week of September.

## Thank You Note

To all our friends at Christ Church Lutheran,

We wish to express our appreciation for all the love, support and prayers we received from Christ Church Lutheran members at the time of loss of our mother, Florence Veith. Many memorials were received and turned over to the "Bell Tower Restoration Fund." This would have made our mom happy, as she grieved over the fact that she could no longer provide support for her church while in the nursing home.

God bless you all,

The family of Florence Veith

## Preschool News

by Stephanie Gustafson

The time has come! The summer program for preschoolers has begun! Come and join the fun!



Week 1 – Clay and fort-building  
Week 2 – Science  
Week 3 – Arts and crafts  
Week 4 – "Around the World"

The program operates from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 6–30.

For more information, contact us as 612.721.6611 or visit [www.christchurchluth.org](http://www.christchurchluth.org).

## Readings and Psalms

Date: **July 4**

First Lesson: Isa 66:10-14

Psalm: 66:1-9

Second Lesson: Gal 6:[1-6] 7-16

Gospel: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Date: **July 11**

First Lesson: Deut 30:9-14

Psalm: 25:1-10

Second Lesson: Col 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

Date: **July 18**

First Lesson: Gen 18:1-10a

Psalm: 15

Second Lesson: Col 1:15-28

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

Date: **July 25**

First Lesson: Gen 18:20-32

Psalm: 138

Second Lesson: Col 2:6-15 [16-19]

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Date: **August 1**

First Lesson: Eccles 1:2,12-14; 2:18-23

Psalm: 49:1-12

Second Lesson: Col 3:1-11

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

Date: **August 8**

First Lesson: Gen 15:1-6

Psalm: 33:12-22

Second Lesson: Heb 11:1-3, 8-16

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40



## Retirees

We will meet on the **third** Wednesday, July 21, at 11:00 a.m. Colleen Wold Hiebler will entertain us with a great show filled with songs and laughter. No potluck, as it will be a picnic lunch with freewill donation. Feel free to bring friends. Everyone is welcome!

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

## A Firm Foundation

*by Lynn Larson*

While attending the picnic lunch that kicked off the bell tower fundraising campaign, I thought about the importance of a solid foundation. The success of a business initiative often depends on it, requiring appropriate human resources, policies and procedures, technology and so on.

Similarly, for a church, the building in which worship services are held is one part of the foundation that supports the ongoing mission of a church. The people—congregation members, staff and others—are another crucial part.

In either case, it is easy to ignore the foundation, focusing instead on a mission (which is generally more fun and interesting), until something goes wrong. Then the mission needs to be put on hold. A more balanced approach is to identify and address potential foundation issues along the way, ensuring the foundation remains strong to support an ongoing mission. This is what Christ Church is trying to do through the fundraising campaign.

Support the foundation, support the mission!

# Happy Birthday to You!

*If you are not listed here, or, if your birth date is incorrect, please contact the church office.*

7/1 Muriel Heller  
7/2 Margaret Doll  
7/3 Orville Bruss  
7/4 Heather Weimer  
7/5 Nicholas Boser  
7/7 Mary Bode, Dorothy Iverson  
7/8 Adam Schmidt  
7/9 Dick Strom, Janice Wahlstrom  
7/11 Chuck Merrell  
7/13 Kelly Brandon  
7/16 Ute Swenson  
7/19 Donna Gawreluk, Lily Hohertz-Foat  
7/21 Christine Warner, Patti Shingledecker  
7/23 Marilyn Johnston, Andrew Schuett  
7/24 Bonnie Nilson, Todd Schoenike  
7/25 David Doll, Donna Lindberg  
7/27 Jon Woestehoff  
7/30 Leah Skrivseth

## Helping Hands

The complete schedule for the year is posted in the Concordia room. The coordinators are Phyllis Dunstone and Juanita Burke.

### July and August 2010

Gene Bruss	David Kutzbach
Marie Dammann	Jan Radloff
Lucille Ebel	Patty Story and family
Dick and Doris Gliem	Bob and Ute Swenson
Muriel Heller	Donna Torgerson
Michael Jefferis	Max Wipperman



## Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from May 11, 2010

*Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary*

**Education:** Board is evaluating the Sunday school curriculum and planning for next year. The nursery project was tabled until next month.

**Treasurer's Report:** Melody Pauling is working with Cheryl Davis to learn QuickBooks. There is \$51,000 in the checking account. The switch to payroll direct deposit for CCL staff was successful.

Kevin Olsen reported that an application has been submitted to Thrivent Bank for a line of credit in the amount of \$200,000. Interest (5.5%) will only be paid on checks that are written.

**Pastor Carlson's Report:** Highlights of the past month include attending the Valparaiso Liturgical Institute (April 12-14); three baptisms; an all-day Internship Cluster meeting at Redeemer Lutheran Church; the congregation meeting on April 18; Friends of CCL board retreat on May 8; learning that Kyle Svingen will be our summer vocational intern from St. Olaf College, funded by the Lilly Foundation; working with the Communications Committee to design and draft an outreach brochure; and pre-marriage, personal and family counseling sessions.

Julia Dayton has donated \$2,500 toward our Save America's Treasures Grant; members of Pastor Carlson's former congregation in Fargo have been sending monthly donations to support the ministry of CCL.

Looking ahead: Ascension Day worship on May 13; Pentecost Sunday; ordination of Aimee Appell; attending worship training in Houston, Texas, June 21–24; devoting a lot of time and energy to the upcoming fundraising effort; celebration of Vicar Gretchen Pierskalla's year at CCL on July 11.

**Vicar Gretchen Pierskalla's Report:** Highlights include preaching on April 11; assisting in worship on April 18 and May 5; leading preschool chapel on April 21; providing pastoral care during home and hospital visits; preparing bulletins for Sunday worship; co-leading three adult forums; attending committee meetings, Pre-Synod Assembly meeting, a pre-baptism class and West Metro Internship cluster meeting; the Friends of CCL retreat; and preparing for Holden Village trip.

Looking ahead: Further conversations with Synod about a grassroots stewardship event; preaching for Ascension Day worship; fundraising preparation activities.

**Sunday Morning Sign-Up Sheets:** We are still working on how to handle Sunday morning security and are considering having the ushers help with this. A meeting needs to be called to talk to the ushers about this.

**Organ Proposal:** Pastor Carlson reported that she has been receiving offers from members of the congregation and offers from outside the congregation who want to contribute to the cost of installing the organ—these offers are adding up to one-half the cost of installation.

Motion by Kevin Olsen, seconded by Melody Pauling, that a study group be formed to prepare a recommendation for a process for the congregation to make a decision about the organ. Motion carried. Second proposal—that the council expresses interest in the organ and encourages staff to continue a conversation with interested parties. Agreed upon by consensus.

**Coffee Cart:** Gene Bruss thanked Rita Schoenike for her many years as coffee cart coordinator. Discussion followed on how to manage Sunday morning coffee.

**CCL Summer Program:** To date, only a few students have signed up.

**Future of Preschool:** At this time, only five students have signed up for next school year. Council would like the previous preschool task force and the preschool advisory board to develop a recommendation regarding the preschool to the council. Pastor Carlson will call the meeting; Gene Bruss will also attend this meeting, tentatively scheduled for June 8.



# July 2010

## Christ Church Lutheran

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	3
4 <i>INDEPEND- ENCE DAY</i>  <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>	5  <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	6 9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program  7:00 PM Common Committees	7	8	9 Clay & Forts	10  7:00 PM Longfellow Lutheran Parish Worship in the Park at Minnehaha
11  <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>  11:00 AM Farewell to Vicar Pierskalla	12	13 9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program — Science  9:00 AM Stationery 6:30 PM Exec. Comm. 7:30 PM Council	14	15	16  Group Leaves for Holden Village	17
18  <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>	19	20 9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program — Arts & Crafts	21  11:00 AM Retirees - Picnic Lunch	22	23	24
Holden Village						
25  <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>  Group Leaves Holden Village	26  The Shelter	27 7:00 PM FCCL Board	28	29	30	31
9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program — Around the World						

## Christ Church Lutheran

### Volunteer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services (9:30 a.m.)

Date	Assisting Ministers	Acolytes	Lectors	Head Ushers	Greeters	Prayer Writers	Nursery Workers
<b>July 4</b>	Simo Sarkanen	Phyllis Mattill	Marni Schmidt	Max Wiperman	Carol Flanders	Ginny Buegel	Yi-ru Chen-Sarkanen
	Lucille Buelow	Jan Radloff		Fred Bentz	Juanita Burke		
<b>July 11</b>	Jason Bergquist	Sami Hoss	Lynn Larson	Gary Skrivseth	Kevin Olsen	Howard Polsfuss	Traci Boser
	Phyllis Mattill	Kinzie Wiklander		Michael Jefferis	Will Stark		
<b>July 18</b>	Simo Sarkanen	Heather Weimer	Paul Hanson	Dick Gliem	Loren Wiklander	Kay Madson	Patty Story
	Phyllis Mattill	Allison Weimer		Doris Gliem	Kinzie Wiklander		
<b>July 25</b>	Jason Bergquist	Donna Torgerson	Simo Sarkanen	Dave Kutzbach	Howard Polsfuss	Chuck Merrell	Brandon Family
	Lucille Buelow	Phyllis Mattill		Dick Thompson	Erla Polsfuss		
					Robert Swanson		
<b>August 1</b>	Phyllis Mattill	Donna Torgerson	Todd Schoenike	Max Wiperman	Carol Flanders	Melody Pauling	Ute Swenson
	Jan Radloff	Phyllis Mattill		Fred Bentz	Juanita Burke		