



## Welcome to the Light

SEPTEMBER 2010  
VOLUME 53, No. 9

**Worship Services**  
9:30 a.m. each Sunday

**Education**  
Adult forums, which follow Sunday worship services, will resume the second half of September. Watch for other communications (e.g., weekly bulletins) for more details.

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### Life Together *by Pastor Kristine Carlson*

I hope your summer has been a good one, a time of renewal and refreshment in body, mind and spirit. Mine certainly has been that, as it has included time with my family (a week with all three sons at Holden Village—heaven!) and with my large extended family at a reunion in Montana. Thank you for the gift of time away for re-creation. I'm energized again for the wonderful partnership in ministry that I enjoy so much with you as your pastor.


We have been working hard as a congregation in our *Reaching New Heights: Match the Grant!* fundraising campaign. Thanks to the steering committee that has led our efforts. Thanks to our campaign consultant, Elaine Weber Nelson, whose guidance and expertise has been invaluable. A special thank you to our congregation's president, Gene Bruss, who has given unstintingly. As I write this, we are receiving some of the early commitments, and I am moved by how generous people are being in this campaign. I am moved also by how joyful the giving is for people! I talked on the phone today with a person who is making a very generous gift to our campaign and the thing that struck me most is how happy that person said they were to be making their gift. I hope you, too, can know joy in your giving—no matter what the amount. We are all in this together. Every gift counts and every gift helps us reach our goal of \$200,000. Thank you for your generosity.

We are also working hard to prepare for a fruitful fall in our life together and in our outreach. Come to worship at 9:30 a.m. on September 12 to welcome one another back after a summer of comings and goings. In addition to being our "Welcome Sunday," September 12 is our "Commitment Sunday." During that worship service, we will offer to God, with deep and great gratitude, our commitments to *Reaching New Heights*. After worship, our celebration will continue. This campaign is another way the body of Christ in this place is being built up through the Spirit's work in us—built up in our community life together and built up for service in God's world. We are so very grateful.

This summer, we have said good-bye to our cherished vicar, Gretchen Pierskalla, and to our wonderful St. Olaf College summer intern, Kyle Svingen. God has blessed us through these two people. Now God is opening new doors, with new relationships—bringing guests and newcomers to our worship and into our community life. There is a rare and wonderful life here. People are looking for it and need it. Let us be looking for our own family, friends and neighbors to invite to Christ Church Lutheran. Let us be doing our good work of welcoming and making connections with all who come.

I'll end here, as I ended my report a few days ago to our church council: Thank you for the joy and privilege of being your pastor.

## Contacts and Information

 <p>CHRIST CHURCH LUTHERAN</p> <p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p>	3244 34 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55406-2185	
	Phone: 612.721.6611 E-mail: <a href="mailto:mail@christchurchluth.org">mail@christchurchluth.org</a>	
	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
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>		
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

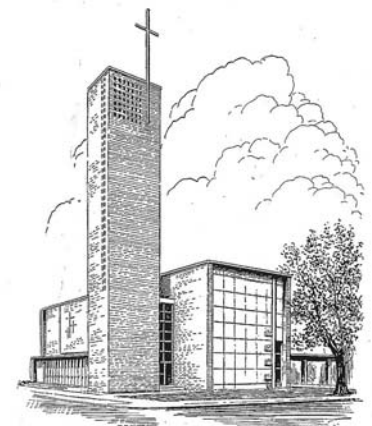
### September 12

In addition to being “Welcome Sunday” (welcome back from summer), this is “Commitment Sunday” in conjunction with our fundraising campaign. Refer to the *Life Together* article on page one for more information.

### *Courier* Deadline

The submission deadline for the October edition of the *Courier* is **September 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

September 12 is Commitment Sunday for our tower fundraising pledge program (*Reaching New Heights: Match the Grant!*). By this date, I hope all congregation members have turned in their pledges.

Darrell Anderson has built a replica of the tower—built to scale, which will be placed in the back of the church. The tower will be filled with LEGO® bricks to represent how much has been pledged, allowing everyone to watch and track the progress. Our goal is \$200,000: \$160,000 to match the grant and \$40,000 for future use (e.g., repairs to the courtyard). I'm confident we can reach our goal.

The fundraising committee has worked very hard and I want to thank everyone for their time on this project. I also thank you—congregation members—for your participation in helping us reach our goal. I also want to acknowledge the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran for all their help and involvement with our campaign.

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## Shelter News

On Monday, July 26, Christ Church took its turn serving at Our Saviour's Housing ("The Shelter").

We were delighted to have some new people on our team: Rachel Mann, who made a great salad; Dan Mueller, council member and chair of the Missions Committee; and our St. Olaf summer intern, Kyle Svingen. They carried food and helped Elayne Strom, Clyde Hanson and Mary Lou Doll serve the meal. Ute Swenson again provided some wonderful bakery bread.

More Christ Church members are needed for this important mission work in our community. Our next serving date is Monday, October 26; our commitment is only four times per year. We choose a simple meal to cook and serve. It's a very meaningful way to serve our neighbors in Christ's name.

Contact Mary Lou Doll to volunteer.

## Lost Items

Two eight-foot rectangular tables are missing from the church property. If you know the whereabouts, please contact Chuck Merrell or the church office.  
Thank you!

## Readings and Psalms

Date: **September 5**

First Lesson: Deut 30:15-20

Psalm: 1

Second Lesson: Philemon 1:21

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Date: **September 12**

First Lesson: Exod 32:7-14

Psalm: 51:1-10

Second Lesson: 1 Tim 1:12-17

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Date: **September 19**

First Lesson: Amos 8:4-7

Psalm: 113

Second Lesson: 1 Tim 2:1-7

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Date: **September 26**

First Lesson: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm: 146

Second Lesson: 1 Tim 6:6-19

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

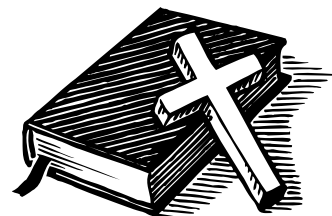
Date: **October 3**

First Lesson: Hab 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalm: 37:1-9

Second Lesson: 2 Tim 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10



## Retirees

Join us on Wednesday, September 29, at 11:00 a.m. to hear what Pastor Carlson has to say about things happening at CCL. Feel free to ask questions and share comments. A potluck lunch will follow. Everyone is welcome!

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

## Baby Shower

Christ Church is happy to announce the arrival of its newest member, baby boy Matias Toiva Sarkanen, born August 7, to proud parents Yi-ru and Simo Sarkanen.

### Congratulations!

Matias has no relatives stateside, so the family of Christ Church Lutheran is giving a Matias a baby shower. It will be held on Sunday, September 5, which is Labor Day weekend, after worship in the Luther Lounge.

### All are welcome!

Donations will be collected at the shower to be used toward a crib from the Christ Church family.

You are invited to bring a small wrapped toy or book also. We will shower this new little boy with love and gifts as we welcome him into his special family at Christ Church.

Please contact Mary Bode if you have questions.

# Happy Birthday to You!

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

9/2 Julie Parkos  
9/4 Scott Schoenike  
9/5 Zachary Swanson  
9/11 Tyler Larson  
9/12 Tim Brandon, Barb Revsbeck  
9/14 Prince Faulk, Giselle Schoenike, Will Painter  
9/15 Susan Schuett  
9/17 Dori Brandon  
9/18 Dorothy Koop  
9/20 Brian Woestehoff  
9/24 Amanda Gregg, Kathleen Rong  
9/26 Kevin Olsen  
9/27 Ruth Freudenthal

## Helping Hands

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

### September and October 2010

Pat Baehler  
Vivian Bartsch  
Fred Bentz  
Dori Brandon  
and family  
Lucille Buelow  
Juanita Burke

Shawn Deresch  
Bill and Phyllis Dunstone  
June Johnson  
Simo Sarkanen and  
Yi-ru Chen-Sarkanen  
Lee and Susan Schuett  
Sandra Tindell



## Note of Gratitude

As my summer internship at Christ Church Lutheran nears its end, I have enjoyed looking back on experiences and relationships from the last 10 weeks. I've been able to participate in many great projects, such as teaching preschool, compiling a small oral history, beginning a Fair Trade coffee and chocolate initiative and planning a few social events. However, these projects are in no way equal to the tremendous gifts I have received from the Christ Church community. I have met many wonderful, kind and thoughtful people who care deeply about the church and every single member of the Body of Christ. You invited me into your faith family with open arms and, for that, I will be forever grateful. Christ Church Lutheran is a special place and I couldn't begin to count the blessings that have been poured upon me this summer. Thank you all!

In the Spirit of Peace,  
Kyle Svingen

## Fundraising Campaign Update

by Elaine Weber Nelson

The *Reaching New Heights* campaign has been in full swing and we are pleased to report that, as of August 15, we have raised more than \$50,000 toward our \$160,000 federal matching grant!

Please remember that, by September 12, our goal is to raise \$200,000 from the congregation and the Friends of Christ Church. If you have not turned in your commitment card yet, please prayerfully consider your gift and submit your card to the church office or in the collection basket on Sunday.

Mark your calendar for the Commitment Sunday celebration on September 12!

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to Christ Church Lutheran.

## Youth Corner

by Luann Skrivseth

### Senior and Junior Youth Groups:

Bring your mom, dad and/or siblings—all are invited to a barbeque at Luann and Gary's house in Minneapolis. Please call (or e-mail) Luann to RSVP and get their address.

When: **Sunday, September 19,**  
at 12:30 p.m.

Food and beverages will be provided.

Meet the other parents and kids.

Bring ideas for youth activities and money for ice cream cones at Minnehaha Falls.

## Consider This

By Lynn Larson

Philosopher Brian Johnson, founder of the website <http://www.philosophersnotes.com/> asks:

1. What's one thing you could *stop* doing today that would have the most positive impact in your life?
2. What's one thing you could *start* doing today that would have the most positive impact in your life?

These are simple, but powerful, questions, which I think should be even broader by eliminating the ending text of "in your life." This minor edit encourages more consideration of how to make a positive impact anywhere, whether it is in your life or someone else's, including the church community. On a related note, my personal philosophy is "doing *something* is better than nothing." While I usually apply this philosophy as motivation to exercise, it also suits the CCL fundraising campaign. Too often, we all fail to take action because we think our action or effort has to be great. In reality, some of the greatest accomplishments begin with small steps.

## Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2010

*Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary*

**Note:** As you read these minutes, you will see that the council approved the Preschool Advisory Committee's recommendation to close the preschool program the end of May 2011. This decision was primarily based on declining preschool enrollment and the budget shortfalls that have resulted from it.

**Treasurer's Report:** Approximately \$40,000 in the checking account; the \$10,000 design retainer fee for the organ has cleared. Kevin submitted all paperwork to Thrivent for the fundraiser checking account; Save America's Treasures needs proof of the existence of this account. Melody will be receiving the check blanks from Thrivent. Friends of Christ Church have not yet transferred any funds into the fundraiser account. Melody will transfer funds from the tower trust account (approximately \$10,600) to the checking account and pay fundraising expenses from this account.

**Pastor Carlson's Report** (submitted in writing): Highlights of this past month include:

- *Reaching New Heights: Match the Grant*—meetings with the Steering Committee; the launch in June; celebrating the case statement in July; working with Gene Bruss on congregational list for donations
- Preparing for and attending the congregation meeting on 6/27/10 about the potential organ project
- Helping to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversaries of Martin Seltz and Robert Farlee
- Welcoming our St. Olaf College vocational intern, Kyle Svingen, who will be with us until August 20
- Attending a "Partners in Evangelical Worship" event in Houston and preaching at opening Eucharist worship
- Presiding at the wedding of Stephanie Randall and Adam Livingston on 6/19/10
- Participating in conversations about the preschool's future and initial meetings for our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Presiding at the burial of the ashes of Robert Leistico at the Lutheran cemetery in Hutchinson, Minnesota
- Rejoicing in the success of the summer preschool program, with great gratitude to all who assisted

**Vicar Pierskalla's Report** (submitted in writing): Expressed gratitude for her growth while at CCL and the guidance she received. June highlights include preaching in June and July; synod stewardship meetings; fundraising; pastoral care; and working with Kyle Svingen. Looking ahead now to Holden Village.

**Stewardship:** Melody reported that the annual giving "Commitment Sunday" is scheduled for November 14.

**Summer Intern:** Kyle Svingen arrived June 15. He is helping with the summer school program. Kyle and Todd Schoenike will be teaching the last week. Kyle will be part of a musical piece written by Pastor Farlee. He is working on a bike path map for the Longfellow neighborhood and is holding a young adult coffee on Sunday.

### Old Business

**Fundraising:** Case statements were distributed; Pastor and Gene have been going over giving units and possible expected donations. Congregation letter will be going out soon. Pastor is very grateful to congregation for agreeing to hire a fundraising coordinator—Elaine Weber Nelson has been wonderful to work with.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** A committee has been formed—Mary Bode and Karen Woestehoff are co-chairs.

**Organ Project:** An organ steering committee has been formed—Fred Bentz, Max Wiperman, Pastor Farlee, Pastor Seltz, Joanne Seltz, Gordon Braatz, Gene Bruss, Pastor Carlson, Paul Hanson and Will Stark.

**Preschool:** Reviewed documents provided by Stephanie Gustafson, including the proposed budget and Preschool Advisory Committee's recommendation to close the preschool at the end of May 2011. Council approved the recommendation and is extending the preschool subsidy for another school year, ending May 2011.

### New Business

**Strategic Planning:** Need to develop a strategic planning task force—Kevin Olsen and Dan Mueller have agreed to participate. We need a new vision for outreach ministry to families and young children.



# September 2010

## Christ Church Lutheran

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 PM Communic. Committee	2 7:00 PM Reaching New Heights	3	4
5 <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>  10:45 AM Fellowship  11:00 AM Baby Shower for Matias Sarkanen	6 <b>Labor Day</b>  Office Closed	7 7:00 PM Common Committees	8 7:00 PM 100th Anniversary Committee	9 12:00 PM Staff Meeting  7:00 PM Choir	10	11
12 Commitment Sunday  <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>  11:00 AM Celebration	13 9:00 AM Preschool Starts	14 7:00 PM Executive Committee  7:30 PM Council	15 6:00 PM Tower Project Meeting  7:00 PM Preservation  Courier Deadline	16 7:00 PM Choir	17	18 10:00 AM Finnish Language School and Finlandia Foundation Meeting
19 <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>  11:00 AM Education Hour	20	21	22	23 7:00 PM FCCL Event  7:00 PM Choir	24	25
26 <b>9:30 AM Eucharist</b>  11:00 AM Education Hour	27	28 7:00 PM FCCL Board	29 11:00 AM Retirees — Pr. Carlson, Speaker  6:00 PM Preschool Picnic	30 7:00 PM Choir		

**Christ Church Lutheran  
Volunteer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services (9:30 a.m.)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Head Ushers</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Prayer Writers</b>	<b>Nursery Workers</b>
<b>September 5</b>	Phyllis Mattill	Chuck Merrell	Melody Pauling	Gary Skrivseth	Carol Flanders	Chuck Merrell	Luann Skrivseth
	Mary Bode	Lucille Buelow		Michael Jefferis	Juanita Burke		
<b>September 12</b>	Simo Sarkanen	Donna Torgerson	Todd Schoenike	Max Wipperman	Kevin Olsen	Melody Pauling	Mary Lou Doll
	Jan Radloff	Phyllis Mattill		Fred Bentz	Will Stark		
<b>September 19</b>	Jason Bergquist	Kinzie Wilander	Paul Hanson	Dave Kutzbach	Howard Polsfuss	Ginny Buegel	The Brandons
	Phyllis Mattill	Kelly Brandon		Dick Thompson	Erla Polsfuss		
					Robert Swanson		
<b>September 26</b>	Mary Bode	Sami Hoss	Lynn Larson	Gary Skrivseth	Bob Swenson	Phyllis Dunstone	Samantha Rice
	Jason Bergquist	Phyllis Mattill		Michael Jefferis	Ute Swenson		
<b>October 3</b>	Phyllis Mattill	Donna Torgerson	Simo Sarkanen	Max Wipperman	Loren Wiklander	Howard Polsfuss	Traci Boser
	Mary Bode	Chuck Merrell		Fred Bentz	Kinzie Wiklander		