



Welcome to the Light

DECEMBER 2010
VOLUME 53, No. 12

Worship Services
9:30 a.m. each Sunday

5:15 p.m.
Christmas Eve

10:00 a.m.
Christmas Day

Education
Adult forums begin at
11:10 a.m., following
Sunday worship
services

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Life Together *by Pastor Kristine Carlson*

We are entering a very important year in the history of our congregation and in our life together—the 100th year of Christ Church Lutheran. On Christ the King Sunday, November 21, we celebrated our 99th anniversary as a congregation. Now, as the season of Advent dawns, we begin our journey together into our centenary year. I think this is a deeply moving and significant time to be a part of this congregation—a time when we can look back with gratitude for what has been, delight in who and where we are now, and turn to the coming years with anticipation and hope. I am thankful and feel privileged to be your pastor during such a time as this and I am very grateful for our partnership together in this journey.


Our 100th Anniversary Committee has been meeting regularly and making plans for the year. Members of the committee are: Mary Bode, chair; Karen Woestehoff; Pastor Martin Seltz; Pastor Robert Farlee and me. Here are some highlights of our plans:

- The theme for our 100th year will be “Bearing the Name of Christ.”
- There will be a new photo directory of our congregation. We will produce this ourselves with the help of talented members and friends. In the month of May, we will be asking you to come for a photo shoot. We are hoping for 100% involvement! Please be planning ahead for your photo shoot.
- There will be an anniversary booklet project.
- On March 6, Rev. Dr. Melinda Quivik—former visitation pastor here—will come to preach. Her husband, Fred, will lead the adult forum that morning on (in his words) “Something Special for Christ Church.”
- The arts will be a main focus with a new commission of a visual art piece, as well as a new musical work.
- On November 20, 2011, we will celebrate our 100th birthday on Christ the King Sunday. Dr. Martin Marty will be here to preach at a great festive worship service.
- There will be a banquet, too, of course!

Begin to mark dates on your calendars. Inform friends and family members who might like to come and then bring them along.

My hope and prayer is that this significant year will be a fruitful time for us, when the Holy Spirit is deepening us in faith, growing us in love and wisdom, and opening us to the next 100 years with hearts for hospitality, outreach, creativity and joy.

Contacts and Information

 <p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p>	3244 34 th Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55406-2185	
	Phone: 612.721.6611 E-mail: mail@christchurchluth.org	
	Fax: 612.728.0552 Web: http://christchurchluth.org	
	Office Hours	
	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday–Friday	
	Worship	
	9:30 a.m. each Sunday Education hour follows at 11:10 a.m.	
	Contacts	
	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	
Officers		
President:	Gene Bruss	
Vice President:	Kevin Olsen	
Secretary:	Jan Radloff	
Treasurer:	Melody Pauling	
Council		
Mission:	Dan Mueller	
Property:	Gary Gustafson	
Stewardship:	<i>Open</i>	
Worship:	Yi-Ru Chen-Sarkanen	
Education:	Rita Schoenike	
Elders' Board		
Ute Swenson, Bob Swenson and Paul Hanson		

Announcements

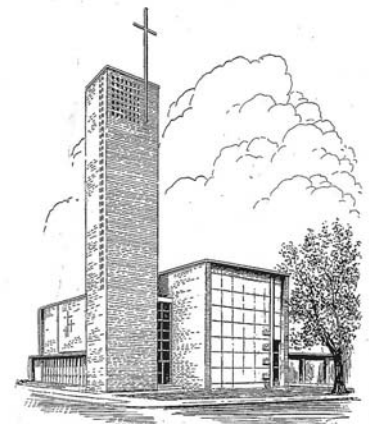
Congregational Meeting

When: Sunday, December 12
Purpose: Review and vote on the church budget for 2011 and elect congregational leadership

Courier Deadline

The next submission deadline is December 15 (for the January *Courier*). E-mail Jan Radloff at: jan.radloff@mpls.k12.mn.us or submit to the church office.

Merry
Christmas



Readings and Psalms

Date: **December 5**

First Lesson: Isa 11:1-10

Psalm: 72:1-7, 18-19

Second Lesson: Rom 15:4-13

Gospel: Matt 3:1-12

Date: **December 12**

First Lesson: Isa 35:1-10

Psalm: 146:5-10 *or* Luke 1:46b-55*

Second Lesson: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matt 11:2-11

Date: **December 19**

First Lesson: Isa 7:10-16

Psalm: 80:1-7, 17-19

Second Lesson: Rom 1:1-7

Gospel: Matt 1:18-25

Date: **December 24 – Christmas Eve**

First Lesson: Isa 9:2-7

Psalm: 96

Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Date: **December 25 – Christmas Day II**

First Lesson: Isa 62:6-12

Psalm: 97

Second Lesson: Titus 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

Date: **December 26**

First Lesson: Isa 63:7-9

Psalm: 148

Second Lesson: Heb 2:10-18

Gospel: Matt 2:13-23



**Contact the church office about which option will be used.*

Christmas Wish

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.

~Author Unknown



Adult Forum Schedule

December 5

More Worship Matters

Originating during the November 28 forum (*Worship Matters* led by Pastor Robert Farlee), our conversation about worship continues.

December 12

Congregational Meeting

We will review and vote on our church budget for 2011 and elect congregational leadership.

December 19

Our Pick-Up Christmas Pageant

First, enjoy Christmas coffee and treats in the Luther Lounge. Our pageant will be intergenerational, with no rehearsals and no lines to memorize. Are you interested in participating instead of just watching? This is your chance! If you have ever wanted to be Mary, Joseph, a Wise Man, a little lamb or a star (!), come to the chapel around 11:00 a.m. to select a role, find a costume and receive brief directions about how to play your part.

Around 11:30 a.m., everyone will be invited back into the sanctuary to see and hear the Christmas story enacted by our volunteer cast.

December 26

After worship, enjoy coffee and fellowship together.

President's Message

It has been a year since I was elected president of Christ Church Lutheran. Our main focus for 2010 was the fundraising campaign *Reaching New Heights—Match the Grant!* to repair the tower. Thanks to you—members of Christ Church Lutheran and the Friends of Christ Church—our goal of \$200,000 was achieved and surpassed with an additional \$32,000. This is much more than any of us anticipated. Thanks be to God.

This coming year, 2011, will also be very busy for Christ Church Lutheran as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the congregation. The planning has already started, so keep an eye open for events to be announced.

This month is our election of officers and the approval of the 2011 budget. The related congregation meeting is December 12, following the morning service. I hope every voting member will attend this important meeting.

– Gene Bruss

Retirees

Our Christmas party will be held on Wednesday, December 29. All are invited. Caroling will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by dinner (no potluck). A suggested donation is \$4.00.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

Memorial Service

Harriet Rabe passed away on October 29. Her memorial service was held on November 2, with Pr. Carlson officiating.

Happy Birthday to You!

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

- 12/2 Carol Flanders, Traci Boser
- 12/3 Isis Faulk
- 12/5 Shawn Deresch
- 12/7 Trisa Smetana
- 12/8 Jeremy Gustafson
- 12/12 Jeannette Kretzmann
- 12/15 Rita Schoenike
- 12/20 Kari Polsfuss, Margaret Schmidt
- 12/21 James Bartsch, Gerald Westby
- 12/22 Judith Wascher
- 12/24 Carol Mead
- 12/28 Rosie Lindberg-Lakso, Erla Polsfuss
- 12/29 Dorothy Hanson, Larry Schmidt, Cathy Sieving, Gary Wahlstrom

Helping Hands

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

November and December 2010

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Darrell & Jeanne Anderson | Dan & Sharon Mueller |
| Mary Bode | Marilu Peters |
| Gary & Stephanie Gustafson | Cliff Siewert |
| Wynn & Marilyn Johnston | Dick Thompson |
| Jeannette Kretzmann | Marion Williams |
| Donna Lindberg | |



Youth Corner

by Luann Skrivseth

Senior Youth Group

PCYC Children's Gift Sale

Saturday, December 11

Meet at church at 10:30 a.m.

We will be volunteering at Plymouth Christian Youth Center (PCYC) to help kids shop for gifts for their family at the sale from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is really fun—you won't want to miss it. Mark your calendars!

Junior and Senior Youth Groups

Christmas Movie Night

Friday, December 17, 6:00 p.m.

I'll order pizza!

Everyone: The Young and "Not So Young"

You are invited to participate in the following:

Christmas Pick-Up Pageant
Sunday, December 19, 11:30 a.m.
(after coffee hour)

Want to be one of the Wise Men? Or how about playing Mary or a twinkling star? Join us for this unique telling of the Christmas story.



Preschool News

by Stephanie Gustafson

What happened when princesses, super heroes and cartoon characters went knocking on doors along the atrium hallway? Building staff, parents and church members shared in the Halloween holiday fun as they handed out treats. More holiday fun is in store in the coming weeks. Stop in often for an update!



As changes to the preschool program are being considered, Pastor Carlson has been meeting with preschool families to obtain their input. Feel free to share in the visioning. Contact Pastor Carlson directly or Liz Karlen via Preschool.

Thank You Note

My warmest thanks and appreciation for all the prayers and cards received during my hip replacement and recovery. Your loving concern gave me comfort and strength.

God bless each one of you.

*Sincerely,
Erla Polsfuss*

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from October 12, 2010

Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary

Missions: CCL scheduled to serve at Our Savior's Shelter on October 25; Michael Jeffries has joined the Mission Board.

Education: This year's Christmas program will be either a "pick up" program or a planned program on 12/19/10. Upcoming youth activities include: poinsettia sale, Sundaes and Sardines, raking/Council of Churches, Minneapolis area ELCA-sponsored Celebration of Compassion, and PCYC Service Project (buying Christmas gifts).

Stewardship: Pledge packets will be mailed out later this month.

Treasurer's Report: Envelope giving is down; third quarter giving was lower than it has been in several years.

Thrivent Choice: CCL has received \$864 from this new Thrivent program; they will be transferring funds once a month. Motion: Move that we put the Thrivent Choice contributions in the General Fund. Motion carried.

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

- The great success of our *Reaching New Heights: Match the Grant* capital campaign
- Welcoming four Luther Seminary students who will be working at Christ Church in varying capacities and lengths of time.
- The start of our 2010/2011 Adult Forums for growth in faith and life.
- Meeting with our tower project team, including representatives from Property, Preservation, and Communication committees and grant consultant, Erin Coryell.
- Meeting with our organ project task force to discuss a possible new organ for Christ Church Lutheran.
- The baptism of Victoria Marie Wall, daughter of Valerie Vadnais and Charles Wall, on October 3.
- Being the on-call pastor for a fellow Longfellow Parish congregation (St. Peder's) during a week of their pastor's vacation.
- Planning meetings, including: seasonal worship, 100th Anniversary, FCCL Board and Strategic Planning Task Force.
- Pre-marriage meetings with several couples being married at Christ Church Lutheran.

Old Business

Fundraising: More than \$230,000 has been pledged so far; gifts continue to come in.

Organ Project: There will be a meeting on Saturday, October 16, at 10:00 a.m. The committee is proposing engaging an architect to help with this project.

100th Anniversary: The committee is requesting \$12,000 from the CCL endowment fund interest; there is \$6,000 in the anniversary trust fund budget. Motion made to take \$3,000 out of the 100th anniversary trust fund. Motion carried. Some items being considered are: speakers, commissioning a hymn and a history book. The celebration will begin on Christ the King Sunday. Council is asking a member of the committee to come to a council meeting to discuss the 100th anniversary budget request.


Thrivent Line of Credit: Gene has delivered all the documents to Thrivent. Joel from Thrivent will go over the documentation and bring the papers to church for signature.

New Business

Strategic Planning: Moving forward to develop a process for the strategic planning. Dan Mueller went over his handout regarding our vision for 2020. Motion: Council approve the framework we have and to move ahead with the proposal. Motion carried.

Announcements: Congregation meeting will be December 12.

December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Lunch 6:00 PM Supper 7:00 PM Worship	2 6:30 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	3	4 10:00 AM Finnish Language School
5 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Bldg. Tour 11:10 AM Education	6	7 9:00 AM Stationery 6:00 PM Stewardship 7:00 PM Common Committees	8 10:15 AM Preschool Chapel 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Lunch 6:00 PM Supper 7:00 PM Worship	9 12:00 PM Staff Mtg. 6:30 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	10	11 10:00 AM Sr. Youth— PCYC Gift Sale 12:00 PM Finnish Christmas Party
12 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Congregation Meeting	13	14 7:00 PM Executive Committee 7:30 PM Council	15 11:30 AM Worship Noon Lunch 6:00 PM Supper 7:00 PM Worship	16 6:30 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	17	18
19 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:30 AM Christmas Pageant	20 <i>No Preschool this week due to Christmas break</i>	21 Winter begins	22	23 6:30 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 5:15 PM Pre-service Music 5:30 PM Carol Service	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 10:00 AM Worship
26 9:30 AM Eucharist	27 <i>No Preschool this week due to Christmas break</i>	28	29 11:00 AM Retirees' Christmas Party 4:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	30 4:00 PM Wedding— Susannah Carlson & Brian Odlaug No Choir	31	

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

Date	Assisting Ministers	Acolytes	Lectors	Head Ushers	Greeters	Prayer Writers	Nursery Workers
December 5	Simo Sarkanen	Donna Torgerson	Lynn Larson	Gary Skrivseth	Carol Flanders	Melody Pauling	Mary Lou Doll
	Grace Duddy	Phyllis Mattill		Michael Jefferis	Juanita Burke		
December 12	Grace Duddy	Kelly Brandon	Paul Hanson	Dave Kutzbach	Bob Swenson	Ginny Buegel	Brandons
	Pat Baehler	Mary Bode		Dick Thompson	Ute Swenson		
December 19	Pat Baehler	Sami Hoss	Mary Lou Doll	Gary Skrivseth	Sunday School	Phyllis Dunstone	Samantha Rice
	Kris Stedje	Phyllis Mattill		Sunday School			
December 24	Simo Sarkanen	Chuck Merrell	Simo Sarkanen	Phyllis Mattill			
5:15 p.m.				Jeanne Anderson			
December 25	Jason Bergquist	Donna Torgerson	Marni Schmidt	Dave Kutzbach			
10:00 a.m.	Phyllis Mattill	Donna Gawreluk		Dick Thompson			
		Phyllis Mattill					
		Melody Pauling					
		Gene Bruss					
December 26	Phyllis Mattill	Donna Gawreluk	Phyllis Mattill	Michael Jefferis	Carol Flanders	Howard Polsfuss	Traci Boser
	Pr. Carlson	Jan Radloff			Juanita Burke		
January 2	Kris Stedje	Phyllis Mattill	Lynn Larson	Jeanne Anderson	Kevin Olsen		
	Jeanette Bidne	Lucille Buelow		Fred Bentz	Will Stark		