



Welcome to the Light

FEBRUARY 2012
VOLUME 55, No. 2

Worship Services
9:30 a.m. each Sunday

Education
Adult Forums
11:10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
(following Sunday worship
services and fellowship)

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Note: Information about upcoming adult forums is provided separately—as a supplement to this edition of the *Courier*.

Stewards of the Story

What's your story? This winter we are exploring how we can be *Stewards of the Story*, both of God's story and our own story. This month I will share with you some of my stewardship story.

It is said that much of a child's outlook and attitude are formed in the first few years of life, by the adults caring for the child. I grew up in a German Lutheran family on an isolated farm. My mother had a Methodist/Baptist background and she was a schoolteacher who loved to read. The local Lutheran parochial school did not have Sunday school or preschool. My mother subscribed to *Wee Wisdom* magazine (she never told the Lutherans that it was a Unity publication) and every night she would read to me, helping me memorize Bible verses, hymn verses and poems.

One of the first bits of poetry that I learned has affected the way I believe and the way I live. My definition of stewardship and my attitude toward stewardship are found in this bit of verse:

Not what we Give, but what we Share
For the Gift without the giver is bare.
Only one Life—will soon be past—
Only what is done for Christ will last.

If every giving unit within Christ Church Lutheran (CCL) signed a pledge card, gave 10% of their monetary income, set up an automatic bank-withdrawal payment to CCL, and then sat back and said, "Well, that's done; I'm through with stewardship" and only came to church for an hour on Sunday mornings, we would be a far less "rich" congregation.

The blessings at Christ Church do not come from the much needed financial contributions alone, but from the time, energy, enthusiasm, creativity, care and prayer from everyone in the community. We survive with the financial support; we thrive with the commitment and enthusiasm.

Thank you so much for using all of your gifts!

Marilu Peters
Stewardship Committee

Contacts and Information

 <p>CHRIST CHURCH LUTHERAN</p> <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
Facilities:	Chuck Merrell
Courier:	Lynn Larson
Officers as of February 19	
President:	Erik Haaland
Vice President:	Kevin Olsen
Secretary:	Josh Messner
Treasurer:	Melody Pauling
Council	
Mission:	Michael Jefferis
Property:	Open/TBD
Stewardship:	Grace Duddy
Worship:	Open/TBD
Education:	Rita Schoenike
Member-at-large:	Dan Mueller

Announcements

Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday is February 22. Services will be at 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

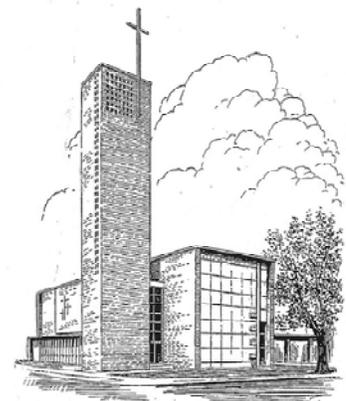
Retirees: No Meeting

There will be no regular meeting in February or March due to the Lenten services. Instead, plan to attend these mid-day services, followed by a delicious soup lunch.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

Courier Deadline

The next submission deadline is February 15. To submit content, e-mail Kevin and Lynn Larson at: kevlar2955@hotmail.com or give to the church office, who will pass along to Lynn (*Courier* editor).



Readings and Psalms

Date: **February 5**

First Lesson: Isa 40:21-31

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

Second Lesson: 1 Cor 9:16-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Date: **February 12**

First Lesson: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30

Second Lesson: 1 Cor 9:24-27

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

Date: **February 19**

(Transfiguration of our Lord)

First Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm 50:1-6

Second Lesson: 2 Cor 4:3-6

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Date: **February 22** (Ash Wednesday)

First Lesson: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

or Isa 58:1-12*

Psalm 51:1-17

Second Lesson: 2 Cor 5:20b—6:10

Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Date: **February 26**

First Lesson: Gen 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-10

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

Date: **March 4**

First Lesson: Gen 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalm 22:23-31

Second Lesson: Rom 4:13-25

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38



*Please contact the church office about which option will be used.

Thank You Notes

Thank you for your calls, visits and prayers during my recent hospitalization and recovery.

Marie Dammann

Thank you, thank you all Christ Church Lutheran members, non-members, past members, friends, neighbors and staff (I hope I haven't missed anyone) for your prayers, help, friendship and support during the many months my dear daughter Rosie suffered from cancer. And thank you for your kind words and sympathy after her death on December 27, 2011. I don't know what I would have done or would do without my church family during these difficult times and the times that will continue to be difficult and sad.

Finally, thank you for your generous donations to Rosie's Fund that helped support the family during her illness and will continue to go to support little Isis and Prince and their father, Will, as they struggle to build a new life without their mother and partner.

God bless you all. I love you all!

Donna Lindberg and family

Thank you, Will Stark, for the generous gift of your Yamaha baby grand piano to Christ Church!



President's Message

by Gene Bruss

With my term of office as congregation president ending at the annual meeting on Sunday, February 19, 2012, this is my final *Courier* article. The meeting is scheduled to start at 11:10 a.m. in the church sanctuary, following the morning service. I urge all voting members to attend. Erik Haaland is the newly elected president and Josh Messner is the secretary, replacing Jan Radloff.

It has been a busy two years. My term started with the congregation's approval to do repair work on the tower, as well as a few other repair projects. Special thanks to the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran for helping with fundraising for the tower.

In 2010, a committee was formed to plan the future of Christ Church. With their vision now complete, implementation will begin in 2012. The committee has put in many hours working on this project.

The last major undertaking we had was the 100th anniversary of Christ Church Lutheran's ministry in the Longfellow area. This was well attended and included many former members.

I want to personally thank all members who served on boards or committees and the members of the church council who served these past two years. Thank you, Pastor Carlson, for your wonderful leadership and for being our pastor these last five years. For me, it has been a joy as president to work with you.

Happy Birthday to You!

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

2/3 Alan Ebel, Saige Wyatt
2/4 Amy Sampson, Cathy Polsfuss
2/6 Noah Niermann
2/7 Lee Schuett
2/8 Don Walmann
2/11 Doris Gliem, Sharon Mueller,
Alexander Jenkins-Buegel
2/14 David Kutzbach
2/15 Gary Gustafson
2/16 Leonard Rabe
2/18 Jane Buckley Farlee
2/22 Henry Painter, Elizabeth Pinske
2/23 Robert Buckley Farlee
2/26 Bob Victorin-Vangerud

Deaths

Sylvia Bunting passed December 12, 2011, at the age of 97. Funeral information was not shared with CCL.

Katherine Marks Revsbeck died December 14. Her funeral was held December 28, 2011.

Rosie Lindberg-Lakso died December 27. Her funeral was held January 4.

Helping Hands

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

January and February 2012

John & Virginia Buegel	Lynn Larson
Ted Buegel & Amanda Jenkins-Buegel	Greg & Kay Madson
Bob Farlee	Cynthia Neubecker
Carol Flanders	Kathy & Terry Rong
Roger & Liz Gomoll	Marni Schmidt
Paul Hanson	Rita & Ken Schoenike
	Cathy Sieving

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2012

Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary

Note: There was no council meeting in December 2011.

Committee Reports

Education: Pick-up pageant went well; photos will be posted on the bulletin board. Youth group collected money for toys. For the time being, the nursery will share space with the adult forum. Are holding off on a speaker system until we know for sure where the nursery will be located—it may go back to the basement location after that area is cleaned up

Mission: Will be serving the meal at Our Saviours Shelter on January 23; Rachel will be doing the cooking. Volunteers are lined up for the next three months to provide meals for the Safe House in St. Paul.

Property: No report; a property board representative is needed for the council.

Stewardship: The stewardship committee will be hosting quarterly adult forums on stewardship. Grace Duddy will be leading an adult forum on spiritual gifts. Marilu Peters has written articles for the *Courier*.

Worship: Has not met.

Council at Large: Visioning committee report was given earlier in the meeting (see below).

Treasurer's Report: Council members reviewed the January–December 2011 profit & loss/budget vs. actual report and the CCL balance sheet as of December 31, 2011. Kevin Olsen shared that envelope giving for the 4th quarter 2011 was 13% above the 4th quarter of 2010. Congregation members responded well to the 4th quarter appeal for an increase in giving. The year ended with a budget deficit of \$2,364.86.

Melody Pauling stated that all bell tower bills have been paid. A final report needs to be filed.

Pastor's Report (submitted in writing)

The last Council meeting was November 15, 2011. Some of the events of the past two months include:

- Christ Church Lutheran turned 100 with a rare and wonderful celebration, *A Foretaste of the Feast to Come*, our banquet on Saturday, November 19, and a festive worship—an outpouring of joyful creativity and gratitude—on Sunday, November 20, with Dr. Martin E. Marty preaching. Many thanks to our 100th anniversary committee for planning our year-long commemoration: Mary Bode, Karen Woestehoff, Pastor Martin Seltz, Pastor Robert Farlee and myself.
- Advent and Christmas: This year we again had midweek worship during Advent: Morning Prayer at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch and Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. preceded by supper. Our theme was *All Things New: The Advent of Christ* with preaching and presiding by our cantors, our vicar and lay members. These were very well-attended. Thanks to all who helped with the worship and with the meals.
- We received a baby grand Yamaha piano for the sanctuary—a gift to Christ Church Lutheran from Will Stark. It's a wonderful instrument and has already expanded our use of piano in worship. For now, it's housed in the chapel.
- I presided on New Year's Eve at the wedding of Brian Erlien and Leann Dauer.
- Two beloved members of our congregation died: 1) Katherine Revsbeck at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston (funeral was December 28, 11:00 a.m.—a Eucharist service with 160 people attending and a luncheon following) and 2) Rosie Lindberg-Lakso died at home just after Christmas (funeral was January 4, 11:00 a.m. with more than 400 people attending and a luncheon following). Gratitude to Marilu Peters, Joanne Seltz and Karen Woestehoff for facilitating the funeral luncheons.
- The visioning committee, chaired by Dan Mueller, wrapped up its work with a written report to be submitted to the January church council. Gratitude to this committee that included: Kevin Olsen, Luann Skrivseth, Jason Bergquist, Grace Duddy, Julie Brandon and myself.

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes continued on next page

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes continued...

- Two outreach events for children: 1) a second *KidArt*, led by Sally Messner and Christine Brand, on December 17, with two dozen children and 2) our first *Cabin Fever Saturday*, led by Liz Karlen and myself on January 14, with 20 children, 15 parents/friends of the congregation, and five musicians, who led everyone in circle dances.

I will be away the first weekend in February at my Knitski weekend. Right now, there is no snow in the Detroit Lakes area, so it looks like it will be mostly a Knit weekend. I'm grateful to my colleagues—cantors and vicar—who will cover pastoral duties while I am away.

Inter Tribal Elders, who have rented space from CCL for some time, will be ending their time with us. Their grant was not renewed and will be going dormant at this time. The rent for January will be the final payment to us.

Vicar's Report (submitted in writing)

Highlights of this past month include the following:

- Midweek Advent worship went very well. My thanks to all who invested their time and effort into the planning and implementation of our beautiful worship services and delicious meals.
- I have been blessed with the opportunity to preach several times in the past month.
- Confirmation has gotten off to a great start! Daniel Rinehart and I have set a tentative schedule that aims for completion around Christ the King Sunday in 2012.
- I was privileged to lead two adult forums (January 8 and 15) in the area of "stewarding our story" and exploring the *Book of Faith* initiative.
- Hospital visits and pastoral care visits are ongoing.
- I completed fall semester classes in Senior Preaching and Worship and Pastoral Care of Singleness, Marriage and Family in mid-December. I also completed a two-week intensive class from January 3–13, a whirlwind overview of the Biblical narrative from Genesis to Revelation.
- Met twice with my vicar support committee. I appreciate their support and look forward to meeting January 22.

Old Business

Synod Assembly: Erik Haaland, Melody Pauling, Pastor Carlson, Vicar Starkweather and Pastor Farlee will attend on February 17 and 18 at Shepard of the Lake Lutheran Church in Prior Lake.

Organ Feasibility Study: This is an ongoing process; pastor will continue with more visits in January.

Organ Project: The committee is working with Chris Holtkamp to get a revision of the organ design and resubmit to the State Preservation Office.

New Business

Annual Meeting will be held February 19, 2012, 11:10 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Visioning Committee: Motion to the council, moved by Kevin Olsen, seconded by Melody Pauling, that the council:

- approve the "Realizing the Vision" statement
- provide leadership in moving the implementation of the vision forward
- publicize the vision widely, so that it is known and accepted by the whole congregation
- reaffirm the council's December commitment to provide funds from Endowment Interest to support new initiatives inspired by the vision in 2012; committee proposes allocating \$5,000 to outreach, \$2,500 to worship and \$2,500 to congregational community

Kevin highlighted items in the visioning document previously sent to council members; the 2012 council needs to work out the process and priorities of the visioning committee. The 2012 budget is structured to the visioning document. The vote on the motion was called for following the discussion. Motion passed. Pastor Carlson moved that the council thank the visioning committee members for doing the work the council had asked them to do (and more) in presenting us with a good document; seconded by Erik Haaland. Motion passed. Josh Messner suggested a celebratory cake be included with the Fat Tuesday lunch following the congregation meeting on February 19.

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

Date	Assisting Ministers	Acolytes	Lectors	Head Ushers	Greeters	Prayer Writers	Nursery Workers
February 5	Pat Baehler Chuck Merrell	Phyllis Mattill Erik Haaland	Lynn Larson	Gary Skrivseth Dan Mueller	Kevin Olsen Will Stark	Sally Messner	Ute Swenson
February 12	Simo Sarkanen Donna Gawreluk	Donna Torgerson Phyllis Mattill	Daniel Rinehart	Michael Jefferis Taylor Brorby	Howard Polsfuss	Virginia Buegel	Marni Schmidt
February 19	Grace Duddy Taylor Brorby	Sami Hoss Phyllis Mattill	Ben Cherland	Dave Kutzbach Dick Thompson	Carol Flanders Juanita Burke	Kay Madson	Karen Woestehoff
February 22, Ash Wednesday							
11:00 AM	Erik Haaland Lucille Buelow	Phyllis Mattill Pat Baehler	Ginny Buegel	Michael Jefferis		Will Starkweather	
7:00 PM	Will Starkweather Jan Radloff	Donna Gawreluk Chuck Merrell	Paul Hanson	Gary Skrivseth	Gene Bruss Jan Radloff		
February 26	Taylor Brorby Donna Gawreluk	Donna Torgerson Phyllis Mattill	Daniel Holmgren	Gary Skrivseth Greg Madson	Bob Swenson Ute Swenson	Taylor Brorby	Luann Skrivseth
March 4	Jason Bergquist Mary Bode	Andy Hokkanen Phyllis Mattill	Liz Gomoll	Dave Kutzbach Dick Thompson	Pat Baehler Rachel Mann	Melody Pauling	Samantha Rice