



Welcome to the Light

SEPTEMBER 2012
VOLUME 55, No. 9

Worship Services
9:30 a.m. each Sunday

Education
Watch for notices about upcoming adult forums in the Sunday bulletins and future editions of the *Courier*.

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Summer 2012 Forums Address Same-Sex Marriage

In case you missed it, the following was included in August Sunday bulletins.

Same-sex unions are much in the news these days. As a society, this issue has us deeply divided. Minnesota citizens will soon vote on a constitutional amendment to outlaw same-sex marriage. Yard signs are everywhere. What are we to think of all this? Two summer forums—one past (August 19) and one ahead (September 2) were designed to be opportunities for same-sex couples in our congregation to tell the story of their relationship and to share how they view these partnerships in light of their Christian faith.

Past August 19 Forum: The Story of One “Gay Marriage”

Erik Haaland and Daniel Holmgren met at Saint Olaf College nearly 10 years ago. In June of 2006, they celebrated their commitment to each other with what felt like a big old wedding at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Roseville. They have been members of Christ Church Lutheran since November 2010. Daniel spends his days working for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota in the human resource department. For the last few years, Erik has been finding work as a house painter while seeking a pastoral call in the ELCA. Currently, he also serves as president of our congregation.


September 2 Forum Ahead: Trusting the Heart God Gave Me

Clayton Smith grew up in a Baptist family of four in Atlanta, but quickly found his way to the Lutheran faith after arriving at Saint Olaf College in 2006. Since graduation, Clayton has worked in the development department at the Minnesota Orchestra. He joined the choir at Christ Church Lutheran a year ago and became a member last December. On August 27, Clayton celebrated his two-year anniversary with his boyfriend, Jared. He will share how he has learned to trust his heart when making big life decisions (as big as they get when you’re 24) and how we might all consider our hearts a little more when wrestling with the issue of marriage equality.

Editor’s Reflection

I just finished the novel, *The Help*, which, if you’re not aware of it, is set in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, telling a story of two black maids and one white socialite who come together to write a book about what it’s like to work as a black maid in white homes. Black people had few rights during that time; Mississippi, like other states, outlawed marriage between a black person and white person. This part of U.S. history seems crazy now, doesn’t it? I can’t help making a comparison to today’s same-sex marriage debate. Down the road, what will we see when looking back to the 2010s?

Contacts and Information

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	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. (excluding summer months)	
Contacts		
Pastor:	Kristine Carlson	
Music:	Pastor Robert Buckley Farlee Pastor Martin Seltz	
Vicar:	Will Starkweather	
Youth:	Luann Skrivseth	
Office:	Stephanie Okoneski	
Facilities:	Chuck Merrell	
*Courier:	Lynn Larson	
Officers		
President:	Erik Haaland	
Vice President:	Kevin Olsen	
Secretary:	Josh Messner	
Treasurer:	Melody Pauling	
Council		
Pat Baehler Grace Duddy Michael Jefferis Dan Mueller Rita Schoenike		

***Next submission deadline for the *Courier*: September 15**

To submit content, e-mail Lynn Larson at: kevlar2955@hotmail.com or give to Stephanie in the church office, who will pass along to Lynn.

Announcements

Retirees

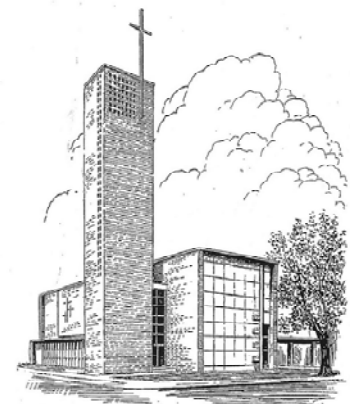
Join us on Wednesday, Sept. 26, at 11:00 a.m. for Bingo. Please bring a wrapped white elephant prize if you have something. A potluck lunch will follow. Everyone is welcome.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone



Our Church is on Facebook

Are you one of the 900 million users of the social networking network, Facebook (FB)? We are eager to make a FB connection with you! Find Christ Church Lutheran on Facebook and “like it.”



Readings and Psalms

Date: **September 2**

First Lesson: Deut 4:1–2, 6–9

Psalm 15

Second Lesson: James 1:17–27

Gospel: Mark 7: 1–8, 14–15, 21–23

Date: **September 9**

First Lesson: Isa 35:4–7a

Psalm 146

Second Lesson: James 2:1–10 [11–13] 14–17

Gospel: Mark 7: 24–37

Date: **September 16**

First Lesson: Isa 50:4–9a

Psalm 116:1–9

Second Lesson: James 3:1–12

Gospel: Mark 8:27–38

Date: **September 23**

First Lesson: Jer 11:18–20

Psalm 54

Second Lesson: James 3:13–4:3, 7–8a

Gospel: Mark 9:30–37

Date: **September 30**

First Lesson: Num 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29

Psalm 19:7–14

Second Lesson: James 5:13–20

Gospel: Mark 9:38–50

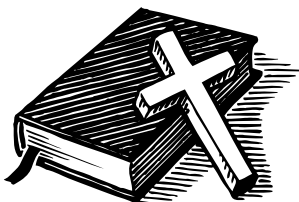
Date: **October 7**

First Lesson: Gen 2:18–24

Psalm 8

Second Lesson: Heb 1:1–4; 2:5–12

Gospel: Mark 10:2–16



Christ Church Lutheran Receives Preservation Award

Christ Church was recently selected to receive a 2012 Minnesota Preservation Award from the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota (PAM). Out of more than 50 nominations, we were one of only 10 to receive an award.

This award honors our tower restoration project in 2011. The jury was very impressed with the collaborative work of the congregation and the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran, the involvement of the wider community, and the potential for our efforts to serve as a model for other organizations.

Todd Mack, of MacDonald & Mack (the architectural firm with whom we worked), submitted our nomination with the help of Will Stark, member of the congregation and Friends Board member. Here is an excerpt from the nomination:

This inspiring collaboration between the Friends and the congregation can serve as a model for other historic sacred places in Minnesota. Further, this specific restoration project is a classic example of behind-the-scenes stewardship, of a collective effort to address many small problems before they grow into big problems in a historic building.

What separates this project from just another maintenance project was the incredible attention to detail and dedication to the value of the historic structure and preservation philosophy from every member of the team, from client to architect to contractor.

Celebration Gala

We will be presented this award and honored at the Minnesota Preservation Gala on Thursday evening, September 20, at the Ford Center.

If you would like to attend, please speak to Pastor Carlson about how to purchase a ticket.

Valparaiso University Chorale Concert

Come hear the Valparaiso University
Chorale in concert!

Christ Church will host the Valparaiso University Chorale on Saturday, October 27.

Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the
sanctuary with a reception to follow.
The Chorale will join us again Sunday
morning for worship. Christ Church is
hosting Chorale students Saturday
night. If you are able to take two or four
students, please contact Josh Messner
(jmessner001@luthersem.edu).



Transportation To/From Christ Church

A number of our congregation members
receive rides to church from dedicated,
volunteer drivers. We are grateful to
these drivers for their many years of
service. If anyone needs a ride or would
be willing to drive occasionally, please
contact Bill Dunstone.

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
9/19 Molly Starkweather
9/20 Brian Woestehoff
9/24 Amanda Gregg, Kathleen Rong
9/26 Kevin Olsen

Death

Long-time CCL member Don Swenson passed away
on August 18. His funeral was held August 21 with
Pastor Carlson officiating.

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 2012

Darrell & Jeanne Anderson	Donna Lindberg
Mary Bode	Josh & Sally Messner
Ben Cherland	Dan & Sharon Mueller
Gary & Stephanie Gustafson	Marilu Peters
Wynn & Marilyn Johnston	Dick Thompson
Jeannette Kretzmann	Marion Williams

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2012

Tactfully submitted by Josh Messner, council secretary

Committee Reports

Property: Changing phone services; we are improving the quality of service and reducing our monthly phone expenses.

Stewardship: Grace and Will have created a robust stewardship campaign for the fall centered on the idea of generosity.

Organ Task Force: SHPO declined most recent proposal. Feasibility study is arriving this week. Next steps will be discussed soon.

Treasurer's Report: Income deficit is growing slowly but steadily.

Pastor's Report

Submitted in writing

Vicar's Report

Submitted in writing

Business

Vision Implementation Update

- *Structure.* The mutual ministry proposal is in revisions and a new proposal will come after further discussion.
- *FIGs.* Meeting Monday 27 August.

Other

- Ongoing discussion of Sunday's forum and related matters.
- Continued discussion of proposal regarding the coalition working against the marriage amendment. Council expressed formal thanks to Daniel and Erik for their faithful and generous presentation.

End of Meeting Minutes

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Christ Church Lutheran September 2012						1 2:00 PM Helding / Dorman Wedding
2 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Education	3 <i>Labor Day</i> Office Closed	4 7:00 PM Property Committee	5 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 4:30 PM Accordo Mtg.	6 7:00 PM Choir	7	8
9 <i>Welcome Sunday</i> 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Building Tour 11:10 AM Reception and FIGs Activities Fair	10	11	12 9:00 AM Stationery	13 LSS Safe House Meal 7:00 PM Choir	14 4:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	15 <i>Courier Deadline</i> 3:00 PM Tyrrell / Reuther Wedding
16 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Education 6:00 PM Finnish Movie	17	18 7:00 PM Executive Committee 7:30 PM Council Meeting	19	20 7:00 PM Choir	21	22
23 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Education	24	25 7:00 PM Friends of CCL Board Meeting	26 11:00 AM Retirees	27 7:00 PM Choir	28	29
30 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Education	Minnesota Watercolor Art Show September 30—November 2 in the Atrium of Christ Church Lutheran					

**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
Sept. 2	Pat Baehler	Phyllis Mattill	Noah Niermann	Greg Madson	Jan Radloff	Pat Baehler	Yi-ru Chen-Sarkanen
	Erik Haaland	Lucille Buelow		Taylor Brorby	Gene Bruss		
Sept. 9	Simo Sarkanen	Andy Hokkanen	Lynn Larson	Dave Kutzbach	Howard Polsfuss	Erik Haaland	Traci Boser
	Ben Cherland	Phyllis Mattill		Dick Thompson	Carol Flanders		
Sept. 16	Jason Bergquist	Phyllis Mattill	Clayton Smith	Gary Skrivseth	Bob Swenson	Sally Messner	Kelly Brandon
	Pat Baehler	Noah Niermann		Dan Mueller	Ute Swenson		
Sept. 23	Taylor Brorby	Phyllis Mattill	Daniel Holmgren	Max Wiperman	Dick Bruesehoff	Virginia Buegel	Erin Anderson
	Erik Haaland	Jan Radloff		Fred Bentz	Naomi Bruesehoff		
Sept. 30	Grace Duddy	Andy Hokkanen	Simo Sarkanen	Dave Kutzbach	Will Stark	Taylor Brorby	Ute Swenson
	Jason Bergquist	Phyllis Mattill		Dick Thompson	Kevin Olsen		
October 7	Will Starkweather	Phyllis Mattill	Grace Duddy	Max Wiperman	Howard Polsfuss	Will Starkweather	Marni Schmdt
	Chuck Merrell	Lucille Buelow		Fred Bentz	Carol Flanders		