



## Welcome to the Light

### Lent and the Heart of God

God (or the church) seems to be having some fun with the timing of Lent and Easter this year. Ash Wednesday, which begins the season of Lent, falls this year on Valentine’s Day. And Easter coincides with April Fools’ Day. One might expect that our preachers will have something to say about that! It is certainly appropriate, though—especially the Lent/love connection. In this season we focus perhaps more than any other time on the love that

God shows for us in the life and saving work of Jesus Christ. And it is a baptism-centered time, so we remember that each baptized person has been welcomed as a beloved child of God.

What else is Lent about? Come and find out! We have a rich schedule of worship services, including midweek ones with meals. Families, including children of all ages, are welcome to all of these opportunities.

- **Wednesday, February 14** – Ash Wednesday  
Morning worship at 11:30 a.m.; evening worship at 7:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, February 18** – First Sunday in Lent
- **Wednesday, February 21** – Second Wednesday in Lent  
Morning Prayer at 11:30 followed by lunch; Evening Prayer at 7:00 preceded by supper at 6:00. Focus on the story of Noah and his family.
- **Sunday, February 25** – Second Sunday in Lent
- **Wednesday, February 28** – Third Wednesday in Lent  
Morning Prayer at 11:30 followed by lunch; Evening Prayer at 7:00 preceded by supper at 6:00. Focus on Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar.
- **Sunday, March 4** – Third Sunday in Lent

This schedule continues through Wednesday, March 21. After that, we enter Holy Week and the Three Days—see next month’s Courier for news about that.



### Bible Stories from the Heart

During the Forum hour on four Sundays in Lent, Pastor Carlson will lead a Bible Study on stories in the Book of Genesis. Come after worship and coffee on these Sundays—February 25, March 4, 11, and 18—from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Together we will engage with heart-warming and heart-breaking stories of biblical families and God’s faithful love. We will read about things we know from our own lives and families: falling in love, marriage, betrayal, birth, surrogacy, stealing, jealousy, death, grief, joy. We will find #MeToo stories. We will read about what it’s like to leave your homeland and try to find your way in an unknown place. We will read about dreamers, about people who wrestle with God, about injustice in communities and how communities heal and change.

As we engage with some of the most important stories in the Old Testament, we will do our own soul-searching and growing.

Come and see. The heart of God.

### Roman Catholic Priest, Scholar, Musician Comes to Christ Church on February 11

On Sunday, February 11, Christ Church Lutheran will be privileged to host Father J. Michael Joncas, professor of theology at St. Thomas University. Fr. Joncas will preach the sermon for our Transfiguration Sunday worship and then lead a forum on Catholic and Lutheran perspectives on liturgical renewal since the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s.



Father Joncas, an engaging and ecumenical speaker, is a priest, liturgical theologian, and composer of contemporary Catholic music, best known for his hymn “On Eagle’s Wings.” Besides teaching at St. Thomas, he also leads courses at the University of Notre Dame and at the Saint John’s School of Theology in Collegeville.

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## Christ Church Lutheran

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mail@christchurchluth.org  
christchurchluth.org

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

A National Historic Landmark



Find us on Facebook: Christ Church  
Lutheran, Minneapolis (@CCLmpls)



Find us on Instagram:  
@christchurchlutheranmpls

### Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

### Sunday Worship

Eucharist 9:30 a.m., followed by fellowship

#### October through May

Godly Play for children ages 3–6, 11:05am–12:00

Spark! for children ages 7 & up, 11:05–12:00

Educational forum, 11:15–12:15pm

### Staff

Pastors	Pastor Kristine Carlson Pastor Erik Haaland
Cantors	Pastor Robert Farlee Pastor Martin Seltz
Office	Stephanie Okoneski
Facilities	Chuck Merrell
Courier Team	Pastor Robert Farlee Mary Bode Pastor Kristine Carlson

### Congregation Council

President	Matthew Courtney
Vice President	Dan Mueller
Secretary	Kate Haugen
Treasurer	Melody Pauling
Council Members	Hilary Gebauer Max Herzberg DeAne Lagerquist Marcus Nooney Rachel Slater

## February Birthdays

- 2/4 Cathy Polsfuss  
2/5 Ernie Caltvedt  
Simeon Messner  
2/6 Noah Niermann  
2/11 Sharon Mueller  
Alexander  
Jenkins-Buegel  
2/14 David Kutzbach  
2/15 Gary Gustafson  
2/22 Henry Painter  
2/23 Robert Farlee  
2/24 Kevin Kniebel  
2/26 Bob Victorin-Vangerud



## Mardi Gras! Jazz!

The name is French for “Fat Tuesday,” but we celebrate on Sunday—the last Sunday before Lent. As in previous years, we will gather on Sunday afternoon, February 11, at 3:00 p.m. for some delightful jazz inspired by New Orleans and the Caribbean. And it’s for a good cause! Admission to the concert is free, but there will be a free-will offering, and all money collected will go to Lutheran World Relief to aid their work in hurricane-battered Puerto Rico. On that island they are working with the ELCA churches and social agencies to bring help to people who desperately need it.

So, come and enjoy performances by some of the cities’ best jazz musicians (many of whom live in the Longfellow neighborhood!), led by trumpeter Bill Simenson. Children are most welcome. Bring your friends! **Sunday, February 11, 3:00 p.m.**

## B.A.S.I.C. in February

No longer called Retirees, the social group now known as Brothers and Sisters in Christ, or B.A.S.I.C., that meets monthly for lunch, will not be having a meeting as such in February due to the Lenten worship schedule. Instead, on the last Wednesday in the month come for our Wednesday morning prayer service at 11:30 a.m., then stay for a nourishing and delicious lunch.

## Helping Hands for February

Mary Brown & Luther Johnson  
John Buegel  
Dawn Dankers & Michelle Hovey  
Donna & Pete Gawreluk  
Nick Goddard  
Liz & Roger Gomoll  
Tim Hokkanen  
Anna Mason & Kevin Kniebel  
Robyn & Marcus Nooney  
Claire Rosenfrisk  
Rita & Ken Schoenike  
Susan & Levi Stugelmeyer  
Cathy Sieving  
Morrie Wee  
Karen Woestehoff

*Each member is part of Helping Hands. You may be asked to help with Sunday Coffee and other hospitality related events as needs arise. Mary Bode and Joanne Seltz, coordinators.*

## Lectionary Readings for February

### February 4

#### *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Mark 1:29-39

### February 11

#### *Transfiguration of Our Lord*

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm 50:1-6  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Mark 9:2-9

### February 14

#### *Ash Wednesday*

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### February 18

#### *First Sunday in Lent*

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

### February 25

#### *Second Sunday in Lent*

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38

## From the Church Council

### Update for February

Sarah Brunsvold provided a devotion on renewal and open-ended possibilities in the new year. She read from several scripture passages to remind us that God daily offers new dawns and new hopes.

The January meeting was our last of Council's 2017 cycle. Following tradition, we took time to honor the contributions of outgoing members and welcome new members. Sarah Brunsvold will be stepping off Council after a two-year term. We are grateful that she'll continue to serve on the Children's Ministry Committee. Her wonderful sense of humor, as well as her pragmatic leadership, have been a blessing to Council's work. Thank you, Sarah!

Our treasurer, Melody Pauling, reported on preliminary estimates for 2017 year-end financials. Final numbers will be available for the congregation in the Annual Report, which will be available in advance of the February Annual Meeting scheduled for February 18. During worship on that Sunday, the new Council will be installed, including new at-large members Hilary Gebauer and Rachel Slater. The Annual Meeting will be convened promptly at 11:15 a.m. Reports will be shared, and the congregation will be asked to approve the 2018 Nominating Committee.

On behalf of the Mission Committee, Pastor Haaland presented a recommendation to help support the Christ Church Mardi Gras Jazz Concert, scheduled for February 11 at 3 p.m. The Council voted to support the concert by investing \$1,100 from the existing Visioning Fund and 100th Anniversary Fund. Council believes this concert has become an important part of the congregation's outreach and mission to the wider community. Proceeds from the free-will offering will support Puerto Rican hurricane relief.

We approved the State Legacy Grant contract and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran. The MOU defines the process for transferring the grant funds from the Friends to the congregation. The funds will support this summer's sanctuary roof project.

Council received regular reports. We ended with the Lord's Prayer.

## Come to the Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Christ Church Lutheran will be held on Sunday, February 18, beginning at 11:15 a.m. Why, you may ask, is it called an "annual meeting," when we meet at least twice a year? Because our constitution says we need to have one. In this meeting, as noted above, we will receive reports from staff and organizations within the congregation, and we will have an opportunity to comment or ask questions. We will also approve the Nominating Committee that will, later in 2018, work on assembling candidates for the elections toward the end of the year. Will there be surprises at the meeting? Come and find out!

### Treasurer's Report

Our financial news is good! We did end the year with a small deficit of just over \$4,500, but we have the resources to cover that easily. The budget set for 2018 was more conservative in estimating our income, so we should be in good shape for next year. More information will be available in the annual report. Thank you to all of you who supported our Christ Church ministries this past year!

## Christ Church Lutheran Finances

(As of December 31, 2017)	ACTUAL	BUDGET (12 mos.)	DIFFERENCE
<i>Member Giving/Envelopes</i>	279,360.59	298,000.00	-18,639.41
<i>Other Income</i>	\$106,629.27	\$101,865.00	\$4,764.27
<i>Total Income</i>	385,989.86	399,865.00	-13,875.14
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$390,515.78	\$399,865.00	\$9,349.22
<i>Total Surplus (or Deficit)</i>	<b>(\$4,525.92)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$4,525.92)</b>



## Courier Closeup – Luann and Gary Skrivseth

This month's *Closeup* features Gary and Luann Skrivseth, long-time members of Christ Church Lutheran.

### When did you start attending Christ Church Lutheran and what brought you here?

Luann: My mother was confirmed at Christ Church Lutheran (then called Christ Lutheran Church) and my parents were married here in November 1950. I was baptized at Christ Church and have been a member all my life. My father dragged me to the placing of the cornerstone of the education building by telling me that I would want to remember the moment. I guess he was right.

Gary: Luann and I were married at Christ Church in November 1972 and I have been a member ever since, so, Luann brought me here.

### Do you live in the neighborhood?

We live a couple blocks west of Minnehaha Falls, between the Creek and the Parkway, in our "starter home" which we bought shortly after we were married. We love the neighborhood and have always been Longfellow kids.

### What about our church keeps you coming back?

We love the rich worship services—the music, the sermons, the variety—but we keep coming back for the wonderful people. There is such a sense of community as we worship, work, plan, and play together. We have been supported during difficult times, of which we had many this year, and we have made great friends.

### Do you have any stories to tell about your time here or about events or activities you have been involved in?

Luann: I have served on the council, numerous committees, and I was a Sunday School teacher and coordinator for many years.

My greatest joy was serving as the Christ Church Lutheran youth director for twelve years. I have many wonderful stories from that time but they are best told over a glass of wine!

Gary: You will usually find me at the back of church ushering. I was most often chauffeur and chief cook and bottle-washer while Luann served as youth director. One of my fondest memories is square dancing with Pastor Kretzmann as my partner.



### How does Christ Church Lutheran help you live and share your faith?

Christ Church and our faith are really the center of our lives, with all else branching out from it. We are constantly refreshed and strengthened through worship and the community. We both enjoy helping others and Christ Church gives us many opportunities to serve and have a good time doing it.

### What do you do when you're not in church?

Luann: I am a paralegal at a small law office in the Kenwood area of Minneapolis. I am also a court-appointed conservator and Veterans Affairs fiduciary for a disabled veteran. In my spare time, I love to garden, read, travel, walk around the lakes, and spend time with family and friends.

Gary: I am hoping to retire soon from my job as an imprinter. I enjoy reading, doing crosswords, working in the yard, traveling, playing golf, fishing, and Luann tells me I am a world-class putzer.

*"Closeup" is a Courier feature to help us get better acquainted with our fellow members. If you would like to share your story in "Closeup," call Donna Lindberg at 651.552.8499*



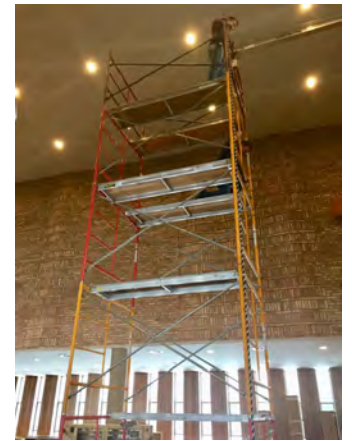
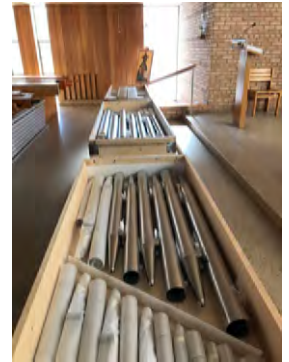
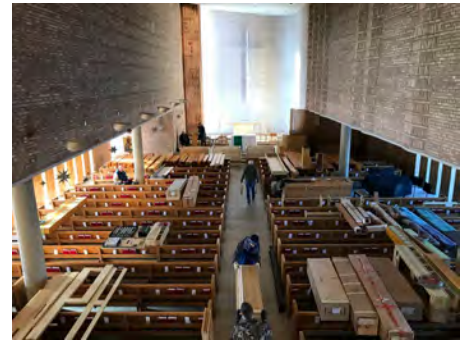
Scenes from last year's Mardi Gras Jazz Concert. Come on Sunday, February 11 and join in the fun! Plus, help people in Puerto Rico hit hard by last year's hurricane. See page 2 for details.





# Organ Installation

On a cold, bright Monday, January 29, two trucks and two vans arrived from the Dobson Organ Company. Their workers, plus Christ Church volunteers, pitched in to empty the trucks into our church, and then the builders set to work.



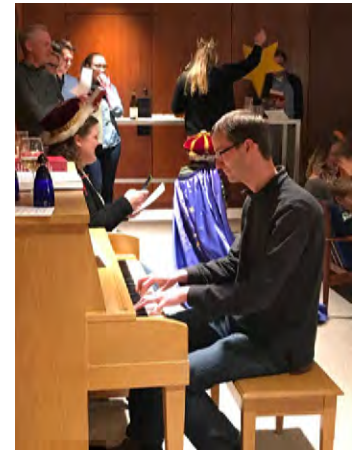
Within three days, the builders had gone from this to this!





## Epiphany Party 2018

On January 6, 2018 young and old gathered celebrating the Epiphany of Our Lord. We learned about the three magi, sang carols, ate king cake, and blessed the church for the year to come. Here are some pictures from the happy event.



## 2017 Christmas Cookie Sale Was a Great Success

Rita Schoenike

**A big thank you to all who helped bake for this year's Christmas Cookie Sale** (Gary, Marilyn, Karen, Mary B., Joanne, Eva Stukenberg from Thrivent, Pastor Haaland, Dawn, Phyllis, Janice W., Bev M., Marilu, and Rita). Also, Ken and Michael for helping with clean up.

These volunteers baked over 340 dozen cookies (31 different kinds). Eighty boxes were sold and \$750.00 was given through Christ Church to the Meals on Wheels program. The remainder of the cookies were used in an appreciation cookie tray for the choir and Sunday coffee hour.

Thanks to everyone who purchased these boxes for themselves or for gifts. We hope that you enjoyed eating them as much as we enjoyed baking them.

Again, we thank Thrivent Financial for sponsoring this project with seed money for groceries and supplies through their Thrivent Action Team program.

If you return your red boxes, we will wash and reuse them next year!



# The Little COURIER

*Jesus said, "Let the children come!"  
At Christ Church Lutheran, we welcome children and their families to the font, to the table, and to worship.*

Children's Ministry at Christ Church Lutheran—February 2018

## Nurturing Faith Event Communion and Acolyte Training

Pastor Carlson and Maria will be hosting another communion retreat and acolyte training. We will bake bread together that we will share with the congregation on the following Sunday. Bring your parents or grandparents along so they can learn too.

This event is for our children in third and fourth grades. Look for an email with a link to indicate what days work well for you. If you have questions or concerns, email Maria at [mmarkman001@luthersem.edu](mailto:mmarkman001@luthersem.edu)



## February Volunteer Schedule

Date	Godly Play Lesson	Storyteller	Doorkeeper	Spark! Lesson	Mentor 1	Mentor 2
2/4	Jonah	Jonathan	Yi-ru	Jonah and the Big Fish	Bob V-V.	Denise
2/11	The 10 Best Ways	Maria	Sarah	Teaching & Healing	Marcus	Jeff
2/18	Mystery of Easter	Donna	Jeff	Jesus Heals	Maria	Robyn
2/25	Faces of Easter I-III	Carmen	Robyn	The Transfiguration	Sarah	Marcus

### Quiet Space Helpers

These volunteers will be in the Quiet Space, the Chapel, during worship services on these dates to assist parents and children.

February 4 – Maria

February 11 – Yi-ru

February 18 – Carmen

February 25 – Kevin

### Kid's Corner

*Learning about the children at Christ Church and what they love most!*

This is Prince.

His favorite color is **turquoise**.

His favorite animal is a wolf or dog.

His favorite food is steak.

And his favorite thing about Christ Church is Pastor Carlson.



# February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 7pm Choir	<b>2</b> Sheridan Story delivery	<b>3</b> 9:30am Children's Ministry Staffing
<b>4 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b> 9:30am Eucharist, followed by extended coffee time • 11:05 Sunday School	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00pm Mission, Preservation, Property	<b>7</b> 1:00pm Staff	<b>8</b> Safe House Meal • 5:30pm Executive • 7pm Choir • 7:30pm Project Mgmt	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:30-11:30am Cabin Fever Saturday
<b>11 Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> 9:30am Eucharist • 11:00am Bldg. Tour • 11:05 Sunday School • 11:15 Forum • 3:00pm Mardi Gras Jazz Concert	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:00pm Racial Justice Task Force	<b>14 Ash Wednesday</b> 11:30am Eucharist 7:00pm Eucharist	<b>15</b> Courier deadline • Sheridan Story • 7:00pm Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10am Book Club
<b>18 First Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30am Eucharist with installation of Church Council • 11:05am Sunday School • 11:15am Annual Meeting	<b>19</b> Presidents Day – bldg. & office closed	<b>20</b> 7pm Council	<b>21</b> 11:30am Worship • 12n Lunch • 1pm Staff • 6pm Supper • 7pm Worship	<b>22</b> 6pm Endowment • 7pm Choir	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25 Second Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30am Eucharist • 11:05am Sunday School • 11:15 Adult Forum	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30pm FCCL Board Executive • 7pm Racial Justice • FCCL Bd.	<b>28</b> 11:30am Worship • 12n Lunch • 6pm Supper • 7pm Worship			