



May 2022

*Happy Mother's Day!* I am not quite sure how to interpret that. Is it a day for happy mothers or is it a happy day for mothers? I sincerely hope all mothers and mother-figures feel blessed this and every day.

For many years my own mother was not happy. Childhood trauma left her depressed and with other mental struggles. Motherhood is hard. The expectations our society puts on women to be mothers in a certain way are stressful and somewhat unrealistic. Certainly our American society does not support mothers very well, with limited health care, spotty prenatal care, underfunded child care, food insecurity and career inequality.

*The First Book of Samuel* opens with Hannah, a second wife, unable to bear children, abused and mocked by the first wife who has several children. *On the day when Elkannah (her husband) sacrificed, he would give portions to his first wife and to all her sons and daughters, but ... he would give Hannah only one portion... 1 Samuel 1:4-5.* And her husband did not understand why Hannah would weep. When she prayed, deeply, pouring her heart to God, the priest Eli thought she was drunk. He also did not get it. For many women, Mother's Day is not so happy.

Throughout my childhood, for however hard she had it, my mother loved us. We all knew that. Even while sad, she cared about us. My mother eventually sought therapy and came to terms with her past. In her last years she was at peace and grateful for family and friends.

*God hears the Hannah mothers.*

Creator God, thank you for mothers who gave us life. Thank you for aunties and grandmas and step-moms and other women who care for us and encourage us. Bless them all with your Holy Spirit that protects and makes life good. Amen.

Pastor Chris

## Birthday Greetings

to our homebound and semi-homebound members celebrating May birthdays:

- **Steve Olson 5/5**



## Usher Schedule for May

**May 1 & 8 - Team AD Jon Greiner & John and Marilyn Akimoto**

**May 15 & 22 - Team K Roger Olson, Captain**

**May 29 - Team F Jack Carlson & Jay Stanley, Co-Captains**

## Reconnecting with Nature

After this long winter, and dreary April, everyone is excited to be out & about again and reconnecting with nature in one way or another. The feelings of life & renewal that Pastor Chris spoke of on Easter are things we all experience when get involved in our natural world, this is especially true of those who garden & tend plants and feed our pollinators.

If you're a senior who no longer has the ability or opportunity (or both) to garden, but would like to, maybe I can help. I'm looking to work with seniors to create container gardens, raised beds (for annuals, perennials, herbs, veggies or dwarf fruits), and/or interior plantscaping (for those who cannot get outside easily). We can use your existing pots/planters or I can bring new/gently used ones, along with the soil & plants to your home for assembly, or bring completed planters/pots, depending upon how much 'hands-on' participation you would like to have. You can suggest plants you'd like, or I can provide ideas for you.

It's all about what helps you to best connect with plants and nature. Please contact Val Rivers (952/847-0395) to find out more, or if you have any new or gently used pots/planters you would like to donate.



**If you would like to read during worship or help serve communion please contact Jane V in the office - [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org) or 952-881-8600.**

### CTK Staff

#### Pastors

**Rory Philstrom**, Lead Pastor [rphilstrom@ctkb.org](mailto:rphilstrom@ctkb.org)  
**Chris Hagen**, Interim Associate Pastor [chagen@ctkb.org](mailto:chagen@ctkb.org)  
**Trevor Skorborg**, Visitation Pastor [tskorborg@ctkb.org](mailto:tskorborg@ctkb.org)

#### Program Staff

**Jane VeVea**, Congregational Coordinator [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org)  
**Trevon Tellor**, Director of Children's Ministry [trevon@ctkb.org](mailto:trevon@ctkb.org)

#### Music Staff

**Bjorn Gustafson**, Director of Music [bgustafson@ctkb.org](mailto:bgustafson@ctkb.org)  
**Darin Tysdal**, Asst. Music Director [mahlerii@aol.com](mailto:mahlerii@aol.com)

#### Administrative

**Jane Bishop**, Financial/Property Administrator [jbishop@ctkb.org](mailto:jbishop@ctkb.org)

#### Maintenance

**Dan Lenort**, Custodian [dlenort@ctkb.org](mailto:dlenort@ctkb.org)

### Care Card Ministers for May

Dan Pierce and Gail Hill

### June Newsletter Deadline Friday, May 13

Please email newsletter articles to [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org) or leave a hard copy in the church office.

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## May Open Forums

### **May 1 Jack Hurbanis, Congregational Organizer of Environmental Justice for the Minneapolis Area Synod**

Jack Hurbanis joined the synod as the Congregational Organizer for Environmental Justice in January 2022. In his role, Jack will work to organize congregational leaders around issues of energy justice, environmental stewardship, and climate resiliency in the midst of our current climate crisis.

### **May 8 Norma Malfatti, Director of Evangelical Mission to the Minneapolis Area Synod**

The Rev. Norma Malfatti began serving as our Director for Evangelical Mission (DEM) in January 2021. Prior to coming to the Minneapolis Area Synod she served as the DEM in the Upstate New York Synod for five years and as a redeveloper before that. Norma loves to dream with congregations about what the Holy Spirit is up to in their community and how they can be a part of the Spirit's movement. She also has a deep love for stewardship and generosity and currently serves as the Vice President of the Stewardship of Life Institute's (stewardshipoflife.org) Board of Directors.

## Families Moving Forward - May 23rd-27th

CTK was scheduled to host FMF here May 22nd-28th. However, due to concerns related to the continued covid outbreak, they will not be coming to our building - they will be sheltering at a hotel in Chanhassen. We will, however, still be providing some groceries for breakfast & lunch and **5 evening meals. We will need volunteers for dinner on Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. You can buy food from a restaurant or prepared food from a grocery store OR you can prepare a meal in the CTK little kitchen. If you are willing to make a meal - or donate \$ for the groceries, PLEASE contact Jane V at [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org) or call the office at 952-881-8600. If you are able and choose to cover the cost of the meal - THANK YOU! However, your time is already a contribution and there are funds to reimburse the cost if you wish. In that case, please save receipts and pass them on to Jane Bishop in the CTK office.**

Instructions from FMF are below. Thank you!

- Meals should be delivered to the hotel and be ready to serve at 5 p.m. A Beacon staff member will be at the hotel to direct volunteers. Holiday Inn Express & Suites-Chanhassen, 7855 Century Blvd.
- Bring ready-to-eat meals that have been prepared in a commercial kitchen or that have been picked up from a restaurant or grocery store.
- If the meals are packaged for each individual or family (i.e. already in boxes or on plates or divided into family packages), the meals may be dropped off for the staff member to distribute and no dishware is needed as families have plates/utensils in their rooms.

## Affirmation Sunday - May 22 at 9:30am worship

Please join us in celebrating our 8th graders getting confirmed on May 22<sup>nd</sup> during worship. We will be having treats and refreshments on the patio following worship.

## Tai Chi

Tai Chi class to begin Thursdays at 9:30 starting May 12<sup>th</sup>. Class will be in the West Chapel, and follow CTK guidelines for masking. There is no charge for the class. If you have any questions, you can text or call Linda Thompson at 612-990-9113.

## Memorial Services at CTK

May 7 - Pat Carlson at 11am

May 7 - Ruth Dukart at 3pm

May 21 - Jon Oleson at 11am





## Bryant Park Community Garden



There will be a total of 35 new tall & large boxes (5.5 ft. x 3 ft. x 2 ft.) to rent for \$20 each for the season. We will limit rentals to one box per household and if there are any left to rent as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, we will open them up to those who already have a box. Click on the [link](https://www.ctkb.org/news/bryant-park-community-garden), stop by the office for a form or go to our website <https://www.ctkb.org/news/bryant-park-community-garden>.

You can start planting your garden the second full weekend in May. If you have any questions please call the office, 952-881-8600.

## CTK Foundation Reminder:

The scholarship deadline is coming up on May 15<sup>th</sup> to apply to any ELCA college or university. Visit the website to apply. We will need both the application and recommendation forms.

## Christ the King Foundation Memorials/Gifts

In memory of Darlene Timm - John & Marilyn Akimoto

In memory of Tom Lee - John & Marilyn Akimoto

In memory of Charlene Weidenbach - John & Marilyn Akimoto

Thrivent Choice Dollars - John and Gail Hill

## CTKB Reads News from the library

Come into the CTK Library. Walk past the desk that divides our space from the gathering room. Enjoy watching a small child sitting at the little table, looking at a picture book or coloring on a page. Perhaps you will see someone sitting on one of the two comfortable chairs reading. Walk toward the far wall and begin to notice the book shelves. These shelves contain treasures for they hold the writings of famous Christian authors. Collections of books by Henri Nouwen, C. S. Lewis, Bonhoeffer, Martin Luther, Barbara Knutson (one of CTK's own writers). Look farther to see book on prayer and spiritual life, then art and a shelf of bibles. If you are not familiar with the Bible interpretation entitled "The Message", take it from the shelf and read a passage or two. It is written in modern language. Eugene Peterson, the interpreter, had a way to use words which are fun to read and always express the meaning of the scriptures.

Right around the corner, you will find books on health and grief. Also, books in large print. Next, memoirs. And last, the fiction section appears. These are the books which are most frequently checked out of the library. We screen them carefully to make sure that they are appropriate for a Christian library.

Our mission statement states that our library is a safe place for spiritual education, discipleship and faith enrichment. We on the Library Team hope that our endeavors help to carry out the ministry of God's church. Come in, browse and enjoy. Find resources which will help you to grow in relationship to Jesus Christ as well as books to entertain and learn.

A quote from our brochure: "People who live well and live long tend to be avid, curious readers."

Joan Perlich for the Library Team

# Children, Youth and Family News



## Spring Plant Sale Pick-Up

Plants and gift cards will be ready for pick up on **Tuesday, May 10 from 4:30-6:00 PM** at CTK in the courtyard by the gazebo. Please let us know if you will be unable to pick up your plants and/or need delivery help. If you have questions about pick up or delivery, please contact: Sarah Marotz, [sarah@ceramicbytes.com](mailto:sarah@ceramicbytes.com)

## Confirmation Sunday

This year our 8th graders will be confirmed on **Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Join us at 9:30a to celebrate and welcome our new confirmands!



## KNIGHTS OF THE NORTH CASTLE VBS June 20-24

Mark your calendar for this summer's Vacation Bible School- **Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>-Friday, June 24, 9am to 11:30am.** We will be, once again, be doing everything OUTSIDE! Look for more information to come in Constant Contact and CYF Emails. **If you would like to volunteer to help, either that week or with the planning, please email Tre at [trevon@ctkb.org](mailto:trevon@ctkb.org) or call the office 952-881-8600!**

## Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative Update

We at CTK are happy to report that we collected and mailed over 50 signed post cards from our Postcard Push event on Sunday, March 27th! Hooray! We are exceedingly grateful for the support our congregation expressed for Bring It Home MN! Collectively, the Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative (made up of about 100 faith communities across MN) presented over 800 postcards to our state legislators! We believe that together, leading with our faith and values, our efforts are making a difference in the future state of deeply affordable housing in MN and the housing stability this bill would provide. Many thanks times 50!!

In addition, a couple of us participated in a rally at the state capital organized by Beacon. Over 140 members (in-person & on zoom) from the collaborative gathered to raise awareness and show support for the Bring It Home bill. Several state legislators spoke in favor of the bill. A couple of folks shared their story of facing housing instability and the need for rental assistance. One woman courageously said, "when all of my money goes for rent, the rest of my needs go unmet." A Beacon partner spoke of the impact that the lack of safe, stable, affordable homes for everyone has on all of us, quoting the late Senator Wellstone – "We all do better, when we ALL do better!" It was a truly powerful event and enthusiastic show of support.

There will be more ways to be involved in this important calling in the future. We will keep you in the loop!  
Peggy Indahl & Chris Gabel, CTK/Beacon leaders

## May's GIFT of LOVE

### VEAP ... Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People

VEAP has been helping our neighbors in need for 49 years and is an important partner of Christ the King. They focus on pathways to stability for families, children and the elderly through programs that promote access to healthy foods, stable housing and other supportive services. VEAP is able to leverage buying power through a number of programs ... purchasing healthy foods at a recused cost means we they can meet more needs and make a larger impact. Because of this, VEAP can feed an individual for as little as \$1.00 for 3 days. Christ the King and VEAP have been partners for a very long time and together we can continue to care for our neighbors. Please consider making a financial donation in May. Imagine the difference your generosity can make! **Many Many Thanks!**

## March 2022 Treasurer's Report

March 2022 total income was \$49,261.01 and disbursements were \$58,026.91 making us behind for the month by \$8,765.90. Year to date we have received \$172,558.92 with \$163,692.71 spent. That makes us ahead for the year by \$8,866.21. We are so very grateful for your continued support of God's work. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!! If you have any questions regarding the financials, please feel free to contact CTKB Treasurer, Suzan Pederson at [suzan.pederson@gmail.com](mailto:suzan.pederson@gmail.com) or Jane Bishop, Financial & Property Administrator. Be Safe ... Be Well!

*thankful*

	March Budget	March Actual	YTD Actual
Income	\$ 50,354.50	\$ 49,261.01	\$ 172,558.92
Disbursements	\$ 56,638.84	\$ 58,026.91	\$ 163,692.71
Margin (Deficit)	\$ -6,284.34	\$ -8,765.90	\$ 8,866.21