



CHRIST THE KING

LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2023

Herald

New Endeavors on the Horizon

This past summer I have been discerning with our CTKB Council an exciting new opportunity for my career in ministry and pondering the question of additional certification or schooling, in particular around the practice of Spiritual Direction. With the council's blessing, I have accepted an offer into a doctoral program at United Theological Seminary and will begin coursework this coming January for a Doctorate of Ministry in Spiritual Direction.

This program will grant me the opportunity to bring to a new culmination a variety of threads which have woven themselves throughout my work as a pastor and spiritual leader over the last dozen years. The first is a love and affection for the mystical traditions and the practice of spiritual direction. The second is work in the intersections of play, theology, and practical ministry. Another is the joy I find in one-to-one pastoral counseling and discipleship. Yet another is directing organizations and small groups through processes of discernment and self-actualization. Engaging in the work of the DMin in Spiritual Direction program will grant me the intellectual space to draw these various threads together into a more cohesive whole while also setting me up to carry forth the weaving of this tapestry throughout the rest of my career in ministry.

Throughout this discernment process, I only wanted to move forward with this doctoral program with the blessing of you, my congregation. I hope for this to be a journey we embark on together, and look forward to sharing much of my learning in a variety of ways here at CTKB. As part of their blessing and support, our council has agreed to reduce my hours here down to .8 time and grant me the additional time to engage in my studies and coursework. I will work with the council and staff on exactly what that time reduction looks like, and likely it will change and adjust throughout the program.

Finally, this is not the only "new endeavor" coming in 2024. This last month we received news that we have been granted a Lilly Foundation grant for Clergy & Congregational Renewal in Summer 2024. Come to the Open Forum on Oct 22nd to learn more about this time of sabbatical and get ready to have an awful lot of fun. I am excited about these new opportunities and look forward to your questions, conversation, and dialogue in the month ahead!

Peace,
Pastor Rory

Birthday Greetings
to our homebound and
semi-homebound members
celebrating October birth-
days:

- Mabel Olsen 10/16



Flu Clinic

The Health Cabinet and Bloomington Public Health have scheduled a Flu Clinic for **Wednesday, Oct 4th 4:30-6:30pm**. Sign-up at Blm.mn/Clinics Pre-registration is recommended—walk-in appointments are limited.

Volunteers for October

If you would like to greet, read, serve/prep communion Count, or serve coffee on any of the following Sundays:

Greeters 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29

Readers 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29

Communion servers 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29

Communion prep on 10/1, 10/15, 10/29

Coffee server 10/1, 10/15, 10/29

Please call the office 952-881-8600 or email Jane V at jvevea@ctkb.org.

Loaves & Fishes— Wednesday Night Dinner 10/11 and 10/25

On 10/11 and 10/25 CTK will be preparing and serving every other week. We will be making the meals and handing them out, as well as, having them available inside at CTK. Teams and individuals will be assigned/volunteer. If you want to help, please contact the office—952-881-8600. Thank you!

Usher Schedule for October

Oct. 1 & 8 - Team F — Jack Carlson & Jay Stanley — Co-Captains

Oct. 15 & 22 - Team I - David Tillotson—Alice & Henry—Co-Captains

Oct. 29 - Team G—Jack Bergerson & Mark Murray—Co-Captains



CTK Staff

Pastors

Rory Philstrom, Lead Pastor rphilstrom@ctkb.org

Per Halaas, Pastor of Community Care phalaas@ctkb.org

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Care Card Ministers

Mary Peterson & Darlene Hansen

Nov. Newsletter Deadline Friday, October 13

Please email newsletter articles to jvevea@ctkb.org or leave a hard copy in the church office.

The King's Herald is published monthly by Christ the King Lutheran Church
Jane VeVea, Editor & Publisher
jvevea@ctkb.org 952-881-8600

CTK-Be: What?



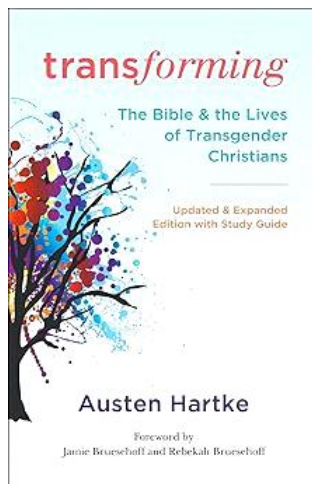
This question of "what?" is a defining question and one that follows us around our whole lives. It continues to be rephrased as we grow from children to adults.

- *'What do you want to be when you grow up?'*
- *'What are you going to study in college?'*
- *'What do you do?'*

These questions are often relegated to overused, oft dreaded, conversation starters that supposedly symbolize who you are as a person. But we do ask this question for a reason. In scripture, James reminds us that faith without works, without a tangible "what?" is dead. This month we invite you to consider this "what?" question a little more

deeply through the eyes of your faith.

- What do you do that makes you feel fulfilled and alive?
- What do you do privately and what do you do publicly or with others that defines your practice as a Christian?



Coming on Wednesdays this October 7-8pm

Sign up to participate in a Bible and book study with Pastor Rory Philstrom, where we will read "Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians" by Austen Hartke and study accompanying passages of scripture. We will seek to engage the conversation around gender and sexuality with integrity, and unpack the terminology, sociological studies, and biblical and theological perspectives that most impact transgender Christians.

Sign up link - <https://forms.gle/epsXx7Hg9wgZ9VFfA> or on Constant Contact or our website.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS CELEBRATION - October 4th



Wednesday, October 4th, we will hold our Blessing of the Animals service at 6:00PM. This event allows us a time to give thanks to God for the companionship that our pets give us. For the care and love of all of our pets and animal friends, the pastors will bless each pet whether they have fur, feathers or scales. We are asking that

when you bring your pet for blessing you also bring a pet food or treat which will be given to VEAP for their shelves. VEAP services 125-150 families a day and over 20% of them look for food for their pets – especially older folks whose only companion may be a dog or cat. And this pet food donation doesn't only need to be on the night of the Blessing. When you bring your regular food donations for VEAP on Sundays, now and then include something for the animals even if you don't have a pet yourself. Pastor Rory or Per will bless your pet and the VEAP donation will go to help take care of the pets of our friends and neighbors who need assistance.

Monthly Walk and Talks (October-April)

The first Monday of each month at 6:30pm
The first Thursday of each month at 10am.

Meet at the Mall of America on the first floor
at the top of the east escalator that goes
down to Sea Life.

Thank you!

Helpers, Bakers, Bells, and wonderful People,
Thank you all for your help in making my
grandma's goodbye wonderful!
The Senn Family

October Gift of Love Home Line

Renters continue to face a wave of challenges and many people are struggling with housing insecurity. HOME Line provides free and low-cost legal, organizing, education, and advocacy services so that tenants throughout Minnesota can solve their own rental housing problems. They work to improve public and private policies relating to rental housing by involving affected tenants in the process. For more information go to

<https://homelinemn.org/>.

October Forum Schedule

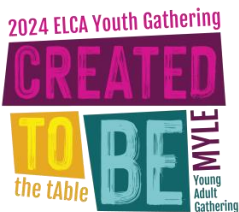
October 1 - Simple Prayer for Complex Times

October 8 - What's it like to be RIC? A Panel Discussion with Three Local Open & Affirming Congregations

October 15 - Council Updates

October 22 - Clergy & Congregational Renewal in 2024

October 29 - Visions of Abundance: Reforming How We Look at the World



Summer is right around the corner!

And you know what that means?

It's time for the *Created to Be*:

the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans!

Okay. Summer isn't really around the corner. And the gathering is a ways off, *but the deadline for priority registration is coming up fast*. So, if you're curious about what all the hubbub is about, come join us for a brief informational meeting.

Here's the scoop:

What: 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering informational meeting
When: Wednesday, October 4th at 7:45pm (right after CROWD)
Where: The CTK youth room
Who: 8th-12th graders and their families

Bryant Park Community Fall Garden Clean-up

Fall clean up is coming. It is tentatively planned for Sunday, **October 29th 1-4**, so pencil this in on your calendar. Watch CTK emails and Facebook updates for any date or time changes. We will be working on clearing out the boxes and working on the pathways. Save some leaves for covering the boxes for winter.

The water to the garden may be turned off at anytime after October 12th, so plan accordingly.

Family Play Space at Christ the King - 2023-2024

RSVP to save your family's spot for one or more of the family play space events at Christ the King Lutheran Church this season! In order to make sure the play space is fun for everyone, the space is limited to about 15 families at a time

Save your spot for each event separately:

- [November 4, 2023](#)
- [December 2, 2023](#)
- [January 6, 2024](#)
- [February 3, 2024](#)
- [March 2, 2024](#)
- [April 6, 2024](#)



2023-2024 Play Space Schedule and Details:

When: First Saturday of the month November 2023 - April 2024

- 8:00am - 12:00pm (come for all or part of the time)
- Nov. 4 & Dec. 2, 2023
- Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 2, & Apr. 6, 2024

Where: Christ the King Lutheran Church (CTK)

- West Chapel
- Enter through door 6 - Southwest side of building

Who: Families with young children

- Ideal for children ages 6 months through about 6 years old, but younger and older children are welcome
- Parents and guardians are expected to stay, play, and supervise their children
- All are welcome - no need to attend worship or other activities at CTK

For more information go to our website: <https://www.ctkb.org/events/family-play-space-at-ctk--212/2023-11-04>

Memorials & Gifts to Christ the King

In Memory of Maxine Blanchard

Gifts from family and Margit Hauge

In Memory of Darlene Bordson

Gifts from Sharon Anderson, Jane Bishop and Doug Solberg, Lyle Bordson, Jim and Jean Butala, Curt and Mary Fandrey, Chris Gabel, Jan and Lynne Gasterland, John and Gail Hill, Dave and Jackie Irey, Margit Hauge, Gary and Jo Hofstad, Bev Larson, Roger and Verla Olson, Lorraine Peter, Mary Peterson, Dan and Barb Rhodes, Ron and Carol Rydell, Rick Turnquist, Bev Wegge, Dave and Bonnie Westermoe

In Memory of Margie Magnuson

Gift from Lois Torvik

In Memory of Carolyn Senn

Gifts from Ron Senn and family, Chris Gabel, Dave and Bonnie Westermoe

Children, Youth and Family



October 4th- Blessing of the Animals 6pm

*No WOW as all will be celebrating the animals/pets. Children will be invited to participate in a quick project before service.

Tuesday, October 10th
Christmas Planning meeting at 6pm

Sunday, October 15th—children will be singing in worship!

Oct 18–20th MEA
Oct 18th No WOW/Crowd

Friday—Oct 20th YOUTH Halloween themed Lock-in

Friday 5:45pm–Saturday
Halloween FUN
—more details to come!



2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO BE MYLE
the table Young Adult Gathering

Youth Gathering 2024

Current 8th graders and High Schoolers

For all those interested in participating in the 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans please let us know by Oct. 25th.

Send questions to Pastor Per, Val Rivers, or Kristina Elder

Informational Meeting—Wednesday, Oct. 4th at 7:45pm

Trunk & Treat



Who: Open to anyone, families, kids, adults to hand out candy

What: A safe and fun way to Trick & Treat

Where: CTK Parking Lot

When: Wednesday, October 25th

6:00–7:00pm

How: We will have a sign-up for you to sign your car up to hand out candy. This will be posted on our Website!



It's going to be a spooktacular event! Hope to see you there!

**Family Play
Space at
Christ the
King**

**2023–2024
See page 5
for sign-up
and details!**

Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Update and News

The purpose of the RIC Program is to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; work for racial equity and commit to anti-racist work and support the national program. Christ the King is in the process of exploring the possibility of becoming an RIC church. There have been newsletter articles, starting last fall, with information on the LGBTQAI+ letters (what do they all mean?) and our ongoing process. Many of you have been contacted via phone or in person conversations for input. Our team has written several drafts of our welcome statement, which were and are available for comment, and have also had two open forums on the topic. The team along with many other CTK members attended Bloomington Pride on September 10 wearing our "This Lutheran Loves You" shirts.



In the next few months we want to continue to engage and inform the entire congregation about this process, answer questions, and proceed to a vote at our annual meeting. There will be an Open Forum on October 8 with a panel from three nearby Lutheran churches who have all become RIC churches. They will discuss their experience with the process, and there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions.

Also during October there will be book study led by Pr. Rory on the book "Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians" by Austen Hartke and recommended by an Open Forum presenter. The book study will meet on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 PM. Sign up links are in the Bulletin and on Constant Contact. In November/December look in the mail for a survey to gain input from the entire congregation about becoming an RIC church. Our hope is to have the final welcome statement completed in the next few months, and to have a final discussion and approval at the annual meeting in January.

This is an ongoing process as we work to be a welcoming congregation for everyone. We appreciate your input and questions and further conversations on the RIC process.

Chris Gabel—Public Witness Ministry Team
Peggy Indahl and Mike Haddox, co-chairs

August Treasurer's Report

August 2023 total income was \$42,485.26 and disbursements were \$53,480.73 making us behind for the month by \$-10,995.47. Year to date, our actual income is \$462,478.23 with expenses being \$457,933.17. This puts us ahead for the year by \$4,545.06. In addition to the ERC credit received in July, we've had some other good financial news over the summer. Thanks to a generous bequest from Clayton Gardner's estate, we have been able to retire the remaining \$100,000 of our mortgage with Thrivent Financial! We still have a 40K loan from the CTK Foundation to pay off to be fully debt free from our renovation project 12 years ago, but this is a big step in the right direction! We are grateful for your financial support and for all the many ways you tend to our life together and to the work God calls us to do. If you have any questions regarding the financials, please feel free to contact CTKB Treasurer, Don Perlich at dperlich@yahoo.com or Jane Bishop, Financial & Property Administrator. Grace & Peace!




	August Budget	Aug Actual	YTD Actual
Income	\$ 48,690.15	\$ 42,485.26	\$ 462,478.23
Disbursements	\$ 54,105.49	\$ 53,480.73	\$ 457,933.17
Margin (Deficit)	\$ -5,451.34	\$ -10,995.47	\$ 4,545.06



October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30a KCC—WC 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum—SH BLAST, Parenting Village 6pm BSO—SH	2 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting—SH 2:00p Staff Meeting 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32 & 34 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	3 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32, 34 & 10 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Chapel Ringers 6:30p Yoga 7:00p AWB Rehearse	4 8:30a Bible Study-LG 10:15a Library Team 4:30p Flu Shots 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 5:30p Foundation Mtg 6:00p Worship Blessing of the Animals 7:00p Trinity Choir 7:00p Book Study-LG 7:45p CROWD—National Youth Gathering Mtg	5 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 30, 32, 34, 10 4:30p Bloomington-Richfield Grief Coalition—Lounge 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	6 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 7:00p RIH Meeting-LG	7
8 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum—SH BLAST, Parenting Village 6pm BSO—SH	9 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting—SH 2:00p Staff Meeting 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32 & 34 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	10 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32, 34 & 10 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Chapel Ringers 6:00p Christmas Plan 6:30p Yoga 7:30p Emotions Anonymous - #110	11 8:30a Bible Study-LG 2:30p CTK prep L&F 4:30p Bartimaeus 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Worship 6:00p WOW-#36 7:00p CROWD 7:00p Trinity Choir 7:00p Book Study-LG 7:30p Health Cabinet	12 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 30, 32, 34, 10 4:30p Bloomington-Richfield Grief Coalition—Lounge 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	13 Newsletter Deadline	14 9:00a RIH Cohort Meeting—SH
15 8:30a KCC—WC 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum—SH BLAST, Parenting Village	16 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting—SH 2:00p Staff Meeting 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32 & 34 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	17 Noon Judean Circle-Lounge 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32, 34 & 10 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Chapel Ringers 6:30p Yoga	18 8:30a Bible Study-LG 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Worship MEA no CYF 7:00p Trinity Choir 7:00p Book Study-LG	19 MEA 9am D&D Workshop-Room 36 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 30, 32, 34, 10 4:30p Bloomington-Richfield Grief Coalition—Lounge 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	20 MEA 9am D&D Workshop-Room 36 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 5:45p CROWD Halloween Lock-In	21
22 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum—SH BLAST, Parenting Village 10:45a Gasterland Book Club-#11 6pm BSO—SH	23 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting—SH 2:00p Staff Meeting 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32 & 34 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	24 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32, 34 & 10 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Chapel Ringers 6:30p Yoga 7:30p Emotions Anonymous - #110	25 8:30a Bible Study-LG 2:30p CTK prep L&F 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Trunk-N-Treat 7:00p Trinity Choir 7:00p Book Study-LG	26 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 30, 32, 34, 10 4:30p Bloomington-Richfield Grief Coalition—Lounge 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	27 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	28
29 Reformation Sunday 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum—SH BLAST, Parenting Village 1:00p Garden Cleanup 6pm BSO—SH	30 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting—SH 2:00p Staff Meeting 3:30–8pm AAM - Rooms 32 & 34 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	31  Happy Halloween 5–6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal				