



CHRIST THE KING

LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 2023

Herald

To me, the month of November in Minnesota has always been a bit of an “in-between” time—not quite fall any longer and not yet winter. For some it can feel a bit bleak, with its ever-diminishing daylight and the rapid increasing of its decreasing temperatures. For others, as sunny summer memories begin to fade and the promise of holiday celebrations hover on the not-too-distant horizon, it can be a time of reflection mixed with anticipation. I recently read a wonderful poem called “November for Beginners” from former U.S. Poet Laureate Rita Dove. In this poem she describes this “in-between” nature of November perfectly. She writes: “We sit down in the still of the past and rise in a light that is already leaving.”

I don’t know about you, friends, but I definitely fall in the reflective/anticipatory type of November people. It’s a mood that fits our liturgical moment, too. We begin this month as we do every November with All Saints Day—a time we set aside to commemorate all those who have come before us, particularly those who have died in the past year. And we will end this month celebrating the festival of Christ the King, a day which both recalls Jesus’ transfiguration and ascension and anticipates his amazing return.

This month, as we find ourselves somewhere in between grief and glory, between mourning and morning—I encourage each of you to dwell in that “in-betweenness”. Hold space in your heart for the past—for all those people and moments that have come and gone—and also look forward in hope to what brilliance the future might hold. This is a time for reflection and it is also a time for anticipation. Let yourself hang in the uneasy balance of this moment. Feel the weight of that lump in your throat and the tears that come with it. But also feel the weightlessness of those butterflies in your stomach and the smiles and giggles that are always so quick to follow.

Dwell in this season of not quite and not yet. See what new ideas it might provoke in you. And then share them with one another.

I’m excited to see what we might discover together.

Pastor Per Halaas

Birthday Greetings

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

- Marilyn Linquist 11/7
- Nanette Eklund 11/13
- Pat Halverson 11/16



Advent/Christmas Season



Please consider making a donation "in honor of" or "in memory of" loved ones to beautify our sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season.

Ordering starts on November 12th and the forms can be found on the narthex table or in the office. Forms are due by Dec. 10th.

Daylight Savings
Ends

Sunday, Nov. 5
Fall back 1 hour.



Volunteers for November

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

Greeters 11/12, 11/19, 11/26

Readers 11/12, 11/19, 11/26

Communion servers 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26

Communion prep on 11/26

Coffee server 11/26

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

Usher Schedule for November

Nov. 5 - Team G—Jack Bergerson & Mark Murray—Co-Captains

Nov. 12 & 19 - Team AD - Jon Greiner, John & Marilyn Akimoto - Co-Captains

Nov. 22 (Thanksgiving Eve) & 26 - Team K - Roger Olson, Captain

The office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23 and Friday, Nov. 24 for Thanksgiving.



CTK Staff

Pastors

Rory Philstrom, Lead Pastor rphilstrom@ctkb.org

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

Program Staff

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Maintenance

Dan Lenort, Custodian dlenort@ctkb.org

Care Card Ministers

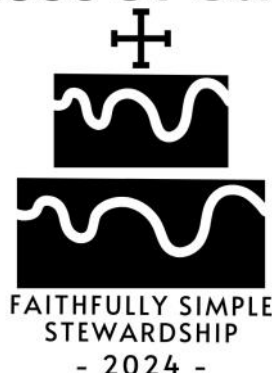
Sharon Anderson & Darlene Hansen

Dec. Newsletter Deadline Tuesday, Nov. 14

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

Piece of Cake



Take part in something good. It's a piece of cake! Sharing in the good work of community ministry at Christ the King in Bloomington is easy. It's as easy as showing up to pray for one another, like we do every Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. It's also as easy as making a donation in an amount that makes sense in your life and faith practice to sustain this work that we do and the community that we share together.

One of our confirmands this year, Eli Jones, put it this way, "My journey of faith [means doing] things in Community, in relationship with you and in relationship with God." Taking part in community is faithfully simple, just show up and share.

In 2024, we are praying to God and asking you to help us grow our community's commitments by 10%, from 124 commitments to 136. Each commitment means a family or an individual that has done a simple thing and declared their intent to give to this community and to make it their own. We are a community together, one committed follower of Jesus next to another. It seems so simple in such a complex world, but through this simple practice of church together God is changing lives with the power of connection, joy, and love.

Do that simple thing and make your commitment to CTKB today at ctkb.org/give. It's a Piece of Cake! And join us for Piece of Cake Sunday on November 19th to celebrate this simple, beautiful, and joyful community we share.

All Saints Sunday November 5th

Join us on Sunday, November 5th at our 9:30am worship or on our livestream on our website - as we remember and give thanks for the community of saints - those who have gone on before us, and the whole people of God!

November Open Forums

November 5 - Grieving and Giving Thanks for the Saints of CTK

November 12 - CTK Foundation Updates and Invitations

November 19 - Piece of Cake - Stewardship Celebration

November 26 - Transforming: An Open Conversation on the Bible & the Lives of Transgender Christians

Loaves & Fishes— Wednesday Night Dinner 11/8 and 11/22

We will be prepping the meals and handing them out, as well as, having them available inside at CTK.

If you would like to help prep or handout on 11/8—please contact the office!

On 11/22—Thanksgiving Eve—we will be making a thanksgiving meal— turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, stuffing and green bean casserole. We will be handing these meals out for Loaves & Fishes, and you are welcome to a meal in the social hall before worship. If you would like to donate a turkey (or 2—we will need to make turkey for 200) for the meal, please contact Jane V. at jvevea@ctkb.org or if you want to help prep, serve or hand out, please contact the office—952-881-8600. Thank you!

CTK-Be: When?



This question of "When?" is a question that lodges us in time. In scripture there are two words used for time: *chronos*, which means the normal flow of time, and *kairos* which means an important moment in time. God is eternal and unbound by time, and yet still speaks to us and acts in, through, and over time. When we ask, "When?" in our examination of our faith lives, we are seeking for how God shows up in our histories and also how to notice God's opportunities right now.

This month we invite you to consider this "When?" question with some faithful intention.

- When in the story of your life has God felt especially active and near-at-hand?
- When have you felt like God has been delayed in showing up?
- How is God already answering your longing question of, "When?" Imagine Jesus announcing to you, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!" How is the present moment pregnant with the possibilities we have been waiting for?

The Health Cabinet invites you to a Women's Retreat at the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington. Watch for more details.

Women's Weekend **Fri., January 26th – Sun., January 28th, 2024** • 3:00pm – 12:00pm

Save the date for our annual women's retreat!

Registration opens December 1.

When: Friday, January 26th, 2024 at 3:00pm

Where: Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center

Walk and Talks at the Mall of America.

When: 6:30pm the 1st Monday of each month and 10:00 am the 1st Thursday of the month.

Thursday, November 2nd and Monday, November 6th

Meet on the East side on the first floor near the escalator going down to Sealife.

This is a social event with a chance to get some movement. Tailored to all abilities and ages.

Questions? Contact Lynn Lenort – llenort@ctkb.org.

November Gift of Love — Bridging, Inc.

The mission of Bridging, Inc. is to bridge community resources with existing needs by providing the economically disadvantaged in transition with quality furniture and house-hold items free of charge. Bridging serves people in need based on qualified referrals from Social Service agencies and churches in the seven county Twin Cities area. Learn more about this organization "serving over 4,500 Minnesota families each year" online at: www.bridging.org.

Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bloomington One of the Select U.S. Congregations to Receive Lilly Endowment 2023 Clergy Renewal Program Grants

Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bloomington has received a grant of \$59,000 to enable its minister, Rev. Rory Philstrom, to participate in the 2023 National Clergy Renewal Program. Christ the King is one of 177 congregations across the United States selected to participate in this competitive grant program, which is funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. and administered by Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. Established by the Endowment in 2000, the program's grants allow Christian congregations to support their pastors with the gift of extended time away from their ministerial duties and responsibilities.

Ministers whose congregations are awarded the grants use their time away from the demands of daily ministry to engage in reflection and renewal. The approach respects the "Sabbath time" concept, offering ministers a carefully considered respite that may include travel, study, rest, prayer and immersive arts and cultural experiences.

Through the National Clergy Renewal Program, congregations apply for grants of up to \$60,000 to support renewal programs for their pastors. Collaborative in nature and implementation, the program allows congregations to partner with their ministers in developing experiences that address their unique renewal needs and aspirations. Recognizing that ministers' families are subject to the stress and demands placed on pastoral leaders, the program encourages pastors to involve their families in renewal activities. Congregational needs during the minister's renewal experience also are considered. A portion of the grant monies may be used to support interim pastoral support during the pastor's sabbatical, as well as renewal activities within the congregation. Since the National Clergy Renewal Program's inception, more than 3,527 congregations have participated in the program, including the 177 congregations receiving grants in 2023.

Rev. Philstrom's renewal time will be taken over the three months of summer 2024 and will be structured by the stages of Joseph Cambell's "Hero's Journey." Each key stage will be marked by extended time with his key relationships, including friends, wife, children, parents, and siblings. It will also include silent retreats, travel by Amtrak, and wilderness experiences in the American West.

During the same time period, Christ the King for their own congregational renewal adventures, one for each month of the leave. These will include *The Adventure of Joy*, *The Adventure of Relationships*, and *The Adventure of the Spirit*. These adventures will be marked by special guest speakers and exciting activities for the congregation and the community.

"Pastors play an important role in nourishing the spiritual lives of individuals and in guiding the work of the Christian congregations they serve," said Christopher L. Coble, the Endowment's vice president for religion. "Through these grants, we seek to honor pastors for their extraordinary service and enable them to engage in a brief period of rest and renewal. We have learned that such experiences invigorate the leadership of pastors and bring new vitality to their congregations as well."

Dr. Robert Saler, director of the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs, noted that the National Clergy Renewal Program integrates key attributes of healthy congregations, including a mutual respect for the renewal needs of both ministers and the congregations they serve. "The program provides an opportunity for congregations to express appreciation for their ministers' service and leadership," Saler said. "At a time when leaders are often praised for their pace of innovation and productivity, the National Clergy Renewal Program pays homage to the timeless wisdom embedded in the practice of reflection and renewal."

Children, Youth and Family

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>

CYF Activities in November

Nov. 2nd— 6pm—Christmas Program meeting

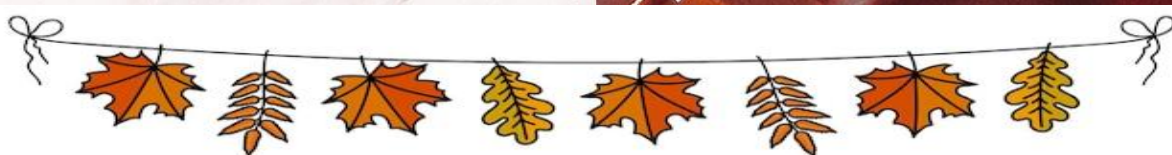
Nov. 4th Play Space (see above)

Nov 12th - Children singing in Worship

Nov. 12th - 1pm National Youth Gathering Info Meeting

Nov. 17th - Youth Event Details to come

Nov. 22nd—No WOW or Confirmation/Crowd - Worship for Thanksgiving Eve



CTK Foundation

Denise Hagedorn, the current CTK Foundation President, recently met with John Ramseth, who was one of the original board members of the Foundation. John was amazed that the Foundation's endowment is now approaching three quarters of a million dollars and that it has been able to distribute grants of about a quarter of a million dollars for religious, educational, and charitable purposes from its earnings.

In this month of giving thanks, the Foundation board would like the members of Christ the King to know that:

- We are thankful for the vision that the pastors, council, and congregation had so many years ago to start the Foundation.
- We are thankful for the commitment, hard work, and decisions that the original board members made to create the legal documents to start the Foundation.
- We are thankful for all the small donations made by many people over the years that have grown into such a large fund.
- We are thankful for the unique opportunity to serve on this board with such creative, thoughtful, and caring fellow CTK members where we get to come together to help fund good things happening in the congregation and community.
- We are thankful for the Foundation because we know that the legacy of this wonderful community will always be intact.


The Foundation will be presenting an Adult Forum on Sunday, November 12th, after the church service. Please join us to learn more about the Foundation, what it is doing, and how you can participate in the Foundation's grant process.

Thank you!

A very heartfelt thank you to all who helped to make my mother, Beverly Harper Johnston's memorial celebration special. Your service is very much appreciated. Special thanks to Jane and Dan for always going above and beyond. Bjorn for your time and talents. And, Pastor Rory, your gift of just the right words is a true blessing. God bless you all. Sincerely Jean and Jim Stoll (and our entire family!)

September 2023 Treasurer's Report

Sept 2023 total income was \$41,790.40 and disbursements were \$51,617.51 making us behind for the month by \$-9,827.11. Year to date, our actual income is \$504,268.63 with expenses being \$509,550.68. This puts us behind for the year by \$-5,282.05. 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!

		Sept Budget	Sept Actual	YTD Actual
	Income	\$ 56,190.15	\$ 41,790.40	\$ 504,268.63
	Disbursements	\$ 54,155.49	\$ 51,617.51	\$ 509,550.68
	Margin (Deficit)	\$ 2,034.66	\$ -9,827.11	\$ -5,282.05



November 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30a Bible Study-LG 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	2 3:30-8pm AAM - #30, 32, 34, 10 4:30p Bloomington -Richfield Grief Coalition-Lounge 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Christmas Program Meeting	3 Office Closed 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	4 8:00a Family Play Space-West Chapel DST ends-set clocks back 1 hour
5 All Saints Sunday 8:30a KCC-WC 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum-SH BLAST, Parenting Village 6pm BSO-SH	6 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 5:00p Public Witness Meeting-#110	7 <u>General Election-LG</u> 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	8 8:30a Bible Study-LG 2:30p CTK prep L&F 3:00p Bartimaeus 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Worship 6:00p WOW-#36 7:00p CROWD 7:00p Trinity Choir 7:30p Health Cabinet Meeting	9 3:30-8pm AAM - Rooms 30, 32, 34, 10 4:30p Bloomington -Richfield Grief Coalition-Lounge 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	10 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	11
12 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum-SH BLAST, Parenting Village 1:00p NYG Mtg-SH 6pm BSO-SH	13 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	14 Newsletter Deadline 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 Anon	15 8:30a Bible Study-LG 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Worship 6:00p WOW-#36 7:00p CROWD 7:00p Trinity Choir	16 3:30-8pm AAM - Rooms 30, 32, 34, 10 4:30p Bloomington -Richfield Grief Coalition-Lounge 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	17 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	18
19 Commitment Sunday 9:30a Worship 8:30a KCC-WC 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Piece of Cake-Social Hall 6pm BSO-SH	20 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	21 3:30-8pm AAM - Rooms 32, 34 & 10 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Chapel Ringers 6:30p Yoga 7:00p Council-LG	22 8:30a Bible Study-LG 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal Thanksgiving Meal 6:00p Thanksgiving Eve Worship	23  Office/Building Closed	24 Office/Building Closed	25
26 Christ the King Sunday 9:30a Worship 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Open Forum-SH BLAST, Parenting Village	27 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	28 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 Anon	29 8:30a Bible Study-LG 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Worship 6:00p WOW-#36 7:00p CROWD 7:00p Trinity Choir	30 3:30-8pm AAM - Rooms 30, 32, 34, 10 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal		