Dear Friends in Christ,

The leadership of our congregation has been working to articulate our identity (i.e., who are we?) and to articulate our mission (e.g., what is God up to in us and how can we more fully be a part of that?). One of the things at the core of our identity is this: we are a teaching congregation. One of the ways we have been living that out is through our vicar program.

We have been so very blessed in the last three years with three excellent vicars—most recently, Gretchen Pierskalla. Gretchen came to us a couple years ago as part of a seminary class studying our congregation. She liked what she saw and has been a part of our life together ever since. Having her as our full-time vicar this past year has been a wonderful gift. It has been a joy to get to know her better, to experience her growth and to help shape this future pastor. We, in turn, have been blessed by her caring heart, her leadership in stewardship and children’s education, her outreach to newcomers and her faithful leadership in everything from worship to committee meetings.

This month is Gretchen’s last with us as our vicar. Toward the end of the month, she and her husband, John, will accompany the group from our church going to Holden Village for a week. When she returns from that trip, she will have just a few more days with us and then we release her back to Luther Seminary for her final year of study.

Our gratitude and Godspeed Sunday for Gretchen will be July 11. After worship that morning, join us for a special celebration of Gretchen (her husband, John, will be with us that morning, too, and we will celebrate him as well!). We will be presenting Gretchen with a gift from our congregation to purchase a red stole for her eventual ordination. If you would like to make a contribution to this congregation gift for Gretchen, make a check out to Christ Church Lutheran and mark the memo line, Vicar Gift. (Donations received beyond the cost of a stole will be passed on to Gretchen).

A special thank you to the people who have served on Gretchen’s Vicar Support Committee, which has met monthly with her and provided significant feedback and conversation for her pastoral formation: Marge Meffert, Gene Bruss, Luann Skrivseth, Gary Skrivseth and Patricia Baehler. My gratitude to you also—people of God at Christ Church Lutheran—for sharing your wonderful teaching gifts!
Contacts and Information

3244 34th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55406-2185

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 for all ages follows at 11:00 a.m.

Contacts
Pastor: Pastor Kristine Carlson
Music: Pastor Robert Buckley Farlee
         Pastor Martin Seltz
Vicar:  Gretchen Pierskalla
Youth:  Luann Skrivseth
Office: Stephanie Okoneski
Preschool: Stephanie Gustafson
Facilities: Chuck Merrell
Courier: Lynn Larson

Officers
President: Gene Bruss
Vice President: Kevin Olsen
Secretary: Jan Radloff
Treasurer: Melody Pauling

Council
Elders: To be determined
Mission: Dan Mueller
Property: Gary Gustafson
Stewardship: Open
Worship: Yi-Ru Chen-Sarkanen
Education: Rita Schoenike

Elders’ Board
Ute Swenson, Bob Swenson and Paul Hanson

Announcements

Farewell to Vicar Pierskalla
A celebration to honor Vicar Pierskalla will occur on Sunday, July 11, following the worship service.

Courier Deadline
The submission deadline for the August edition of the Courier is July 15.
Please submit content to the church office or to Jan Radloff at: jan.radloff@mpls.k12.mn.us.
President's Message

by Gene Bruss

The Tower Fundraising Committee has had a number of meetings with our consultant, Elaine Weber Nelson, who has been helping us organize the “Reaching New Heights: Match the Grant” campaign. The campaign’s launch occurred June 20 in conjunction with a congregation picnic lunch in the courtyard. We will be contacting members of the congregation during July and August. Our goal is to have the campaign completed by the first week of September.

Thank You Note

To all our friends at Christ Church Lutheran,

We wish to express our appreciation for all the love, support and prayers we received from Christ Church Lutheran members at the time of loss of our mother, Florence Veith. Many memorials were received and turned over to the “Bell Tower Restoration Fund.” This would have made our mom happy, as she grieved over the fact that she could no longer provide support for her church while in the nursing home.

God bless you all,

The family of Florence Veith

Preschool News

by Stephanie Gustafson

The time has come! The summer program for preschoolers has begun! Come and join the fun!

Week 1 – Clay and fort-building
Week 2 – Science
Week 3 – Arts and crafts
Week 4 – “Around the World”

The program operates from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 6–30.

For more information, contact us as 612.721.6611 or visit www.christchurchluth.org.

Readings and Psalms

Date: July 4
First Lesson: Isa 66:10-14
Psalm: 66:1-9
Second Lesson: Gal 6:[1-6] 7-16

Date: July 11
First Lesson: Deut 30:9-14
Psalm: 25:1-10
Second Lesson: Col 1:1-14

Date: July 18
First Lesson: Gen 18:1-10a
Psalm: 15
Second Lesson: Col 1:15-28

Date: July 25
First Lesson: Gen 18:20-32
Psalm: 138
Second Lesson: Col 2:6-15 [16-19]

Date: August 1
First Lesson: Eccles 1:2,12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm: 49:1-12
Second Lesson: Col 3:1-11

Date: August 8
First Lesson: Gen 15:1-6
Psalm: 33:12-22
Second Lesson: Heb 11:1-3, 8-16
Retirees

We will meet on the third Wednesday, July 21, at 11:00 a.m. Colleen Wold Hiebler will entertain us with a great show filled with songs and laughter. No potluck, as it will be a picnic lunch with freewill donation. Feel free to bring friends. Everyone is welcome!

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

Happy Birthday to You!

If you are not listed here, or, if your birth date is incorrect, please contact the church office.

7/1 Muriel Heller
7/2 Margaret Doll
7/3 Orville Bruss
7/4 Heather Weimer
7/5 Nicholas Boser
7/7 Mary Bode, Dorothy Iverson
7/8 Adam Schmidt
7/9 Dick Strom, Janice Wahlstrom
7/11 Chuck Merrell
7/13 Kelly Brandon
7/16 Ute Swenson
7/19 Donna Gawreluk, Lily Hohertz-Foat
7/21 Christine Warner, Patti Shingledecker
7/23 Marilyn Johnston, Andrew Schuett
7/24 Bonnie Nilson, Todd Schoenike
7/25 David Doll, Donna Lindberg
7/27 Jon Woestehoff
7/30 Leah Skrivseth

A Firm Foundation

by Lynn Larson

While attending the picnic lunch that kicked off the bell tower fundraising campaign, I thought about the importance of a solid foundation. The success of a business initiative often depends on it, requiring appropriate human resources, policies and procedures, technology and so on.

Similarly, for a church, the building in which worship services are held is one part of the foundation that supports the ongoing mission of a church. The people—congregation members, staff and others—are another crucial part.

In either case, it is easy to ignore the foundation, focusing instead on a mission (which is generally more fun and interesting), until something goes wrong. Then the mission needs to be put on hold. A more balanced approach is to identify and address potential foundation issues along the way, ensuring the foundation remains strong to support an ongoing mission. This is what Christ Church is trying to do through the fundraising campaign.

Support the foundation, support the mission!

Helping Hands

The complete schedule for the year is posted in the Concordia room. The coordinators are Phyllis Dunstone and Juanita Burke.

July and August 2010

Gene Bruss               David Kutzbach
Marie Dammann           Jan Radloff
Lucille Ebel             Patty Story and family
Dick and Doris Gliem    Bob and Ute Swenson
Muriel Heller           Donna Torgerson
Michael Jefferis        Max Wipperman
Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from May 11, 2010
Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary

Education: Board is evaluating the Sunday school curriculum and planning for next year. The nursery project was tabled until next month.

Treasurer’s Report: Melody Pauling is working with Cheryl Davis to learn QuickBooks. There is $51,000 in the checking account. The switch to payroll direct deposit for CCL staff was successful.

Kevin Olsen reported that an application has been submitted to Thrivent Bank for a line of credit in the amount of $200,000. Interest (5.5%) will only be paid on checks that are written.

Pastor Carlson’s Report: Highlights of the past month include attending the Valparaiso Liturgical Institute (April 12-14); three baptisms; an all-day Internship Cluster meeting at Redeemer Lutheran Church; the congregation meeting on April 18; Friends of CCL board retreat on May 8; learning that Kyle Svingen will be our summer vocational intern from St. Olaf College, funded by the Lilly Foundation; working with the Communications Committee to design and draft an outreach brochure; and pre-marriage, personal and family counseling sessions.

Julia Dayton has donated $2,500 toward our Save America’s Treasures Grant; members of Pastor Carlson’s former congregation in Fargo have been sending monthly donations to support the ministry of CCL.

Looking ahead: Ascension Day worship on May 13; Pentecost Sunday; ordination of Aimee Appell; attending worship training in Houston, Texas, June 21–24; devoting a lot of time and energy to the upcoming fundraising effort; celebration of Vicar Gretchen Pierskalla’s year at CCL on July 11.

Vicar Gretchen Pierskalla’s Report: Highlights include preaching on April 11; assisting in worship on April 18 and May 5; leading preschool chapel on April 21; providing pastoral care during home and hospital visits; preparing bulletins for Sunday worship; co-leading three adult forums; attending committee meetings, Pre-Synod Assembly meeting, a pre-baptism class and West Metro Internship cluster meeting; the Friends of CCL retreat; and preparing for Holden Village trip.

Looking ahead: Further conversations with Synod about a grassroots stewardship event; preaching for Ascension Day worship; fundraising preparation activities.

Sunday Morning Sign-Up Sheets: We are still working on how to handle Sunday morning security and are considering having the ushers help with this. A meeting needs to be called to talk to the ushers about this.

Organ Proposal: Pastor Carlson reported that she has been receiving offers from members of the congregation and offers from outside the congregation who want to contribute to the cost of installing the organ—these offers are adding up to one-half the cost of installation.

Motion by Kevin Olsen, seconded by Melody Pauling, that a study group be formed to prepare a recommendation for a process for the congregation to make a decision about the organ. Motion carried.

Second proposal—that the council expresses interest in the organ and encourages staff to continue a conversation with interested parties. Agreed upon by consensus.

Coffee Cart: Gene Bruss thanked Rita Schoenike for her many years as coffee cart coordinator. Discussion followed on how to manage Sunday morning coffee.

CCL Summer Program: To date, only a few students have signed up.

Future of Preschool: At this time, only five students have signed up for next school year. Council would like the previous preschool task force and the preschool advisory board to develop a recommendation regarding the preschool to the council. Pastor Carlson will call the meeting; Gene Bruss will also attend this meeting, tentatively scheduled for June 8.
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<td>4</td>
<td>INDEPENDENCE DAY</td>
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<td>7:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program</td>
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<td>9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program</td>
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<td>Group Leaves for Holden Village</td>
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<td>9:00 AM Stationery</td>
<td>9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Crafts</td>
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<td>9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program</td>
<td>11:00 AM Retirees - Picnic Lunch</td>
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**July 2010**

*Christ Church Lutheran*

- 9:00 AM - Noon Preschool Summer Program
- Science
- Arts & Crafts
- Group Leaves for Holden Village
- The Shelter
- FCCL Board
- Holden Village
- Around the World
- Longfellow Lutheran Parish Worship in the Park at Minnehaha
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Nursery</th>
<th>Prayer Writers</th>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Head Ushers</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Acolytes</th>
<th>Assistants</th>
<th>Ministers</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Yi-Ru Chen</td>
<td>Fred Benz</td>
<td>Julia Burke</td>
<td>Max Wippman</td>
<td>Todd Schoenike</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Jan Radloff</td>
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<td>July 11</td>
<td>Todd Schoenike</td>
<td>Carol Flanders</td>
<td>Max Wippman</td>
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<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
<td>Maria Wiklander</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
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<td>Robert Swanson</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
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Volunteer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services (9:30 a.m.)

Christ Church Lutheran