Dear Friends in Christ,

Lent is soon upon us, starting as late as it can this year. The word Lent means “spring” and, with such a late start, you’d think we might be anticipating a warm spring Lenten season. As I write this, however, we are deep in snow with more on the way. Plus, a friend tells me that Farmer’s Almanac, which has correctly nailed each of our storms so far, predicts a great winter storm sometime during the third week of March. We shall see what Lent brings in our natural world.

At church, Lent will bring our beloved tradition of midweek Wednesday worship. I hope you will mark your calendars and come to all of it. Ash Wednesday is on March 9, with Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist worship in the sanctuary at 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

For the next five Wednesdays—March 16, 23 and 30 and April 6 and 13—come to midweek worship in the chapel. There will be a service of Morning Prayer at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch. A service of Night Prayer will begin at 7:00 p.m., preceded by supper at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Our theme for the midweek Lent worship is the same theme as of our 100th anniversary year: Bearing the Name of Christ. Our preachers will be our own people—some of our seminarians and some members. Each week, one of them will share a reflection on this theme, especially as it relates to baptism. Come and journey together in the name of Christ and in the promises of our baptism this Lent.

I also especially invite you to come to the education hour on Sunday, March 13. From 11:00 a.m. until noon, we will participate in “table talks” together in the classrooms off the atrium. There will be treats to enjoy and a guided discussion—with questions from our Visioning Committee—that will encourage conversation about our sense of the vision and mission of Christ Church Lutheran. We want the input of everyone in this process. Come for good conversation together that will shape the future of our congregation in important ways.

Also, come on Sunday, March 6, as we welcome our former visitation pastor, the Rev. Dr. Melinda Quivik, who will preach at our worship service that morning. Her husband, Fred Quivik, will lead our adult forum (see inside for more information).

Lent, the future, the past, vision, mission, baptism—we are entering a rich time together. I look forward to sharing it with you and seeing what happens in our midst as we journey together to the cross and the tomb.

~ Pastor Kristine Carlson
Contacts and Information

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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 follows at 11:10 a.m.

Contacts
Pastor: Pastor Kristine Carlson
Music: Pastor Robert Buckley Farlee
               Pastor Martin Seltz
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
Mission: Brian Odlaug
Property: Gary Gustafson
Stewardship: Open
Worship: Erik Haaland
Education: Rita Schoenike
Member-at-large: Dan Mueller

Announcements

Spring Plant Sale
The senior youth group is taking plant orders now through April 10. For details, refer to the article on page 4.

Courier Deadline
The next submission deadline is March 15 (for the April Courier). Send an e-mail Jan Radloff at: jan.radloff@mpls.k12.mn.us or submit content to the church office.
Adapt this text into a markdown format and ensure it's readable.
**Retirees**

There will be no meeting in March. Please plan to attend Wednesday Lenten services at 11:30 a.m., followed by soup lunches. Retirees will cook the March 30 soup lunch. Come, help and/or eat.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

**Spring Plant Sale**

This has been one long, cold and snowy winter, so I am ready for some color and warmth. It’s time to start watching for the snow melt in the streets and the first robin. It’s also time for the spring plant sale! This year, we also offer many vegetables, herbs, shrubs, grasses and perennial plants.

The senior youth group is taking orders now. Just give your order to me or a senior youth kid or place it in the basket at the back of church. Last day to order is Sunday, April 10, and plants will be available for pick up on Sunday, May 15.

– Luann Skrivseth

**Database Needed**

The quarterly “giving statements” that church members receive from Jan Radloff are currently produced using outdated technology. To replace the current system, a Microsoft Access database and related reports need to be developed.

If you are an Access whiz and are willing to invest your time and talent, please contact Lynn Larson for more information.

**Happy Birthday to You!**

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

3/7 Julia Boser, Gloria Sutherland
3/8 Joel Eisfelder, Shirley Miller
3/9 Michael Bergquist
3/10 Jason Wyatt
3/11 Ted Buegel
3/12 Greg Wyatt
3/13 Lucille Ebel
3/16 Renee Bergquist
3/18 Wendy Noakes, Margaret Graebner
3/19 Loralei Brekhus
3/21 Christine Bier
3/22 Vivian Bartsch
3/23 Virginia Buegel
3/24 Howard Polsfuss
3/27 Max McGlothlin
3/28 Phyllis Mattill
3/30 Mary Lou Doll, Andrew Hokkanen and Avis Swenson

**Retirees**

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3/7 Julia Boser, Gloria Sutherland
3/8 Joel Eisfelder, Shirley Miller
3/9 Michael Bergquist
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3/13 Lucille Ebel
3/16 Renee Bergquist
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– Luann Skrivseth

**Helping Hands**

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

**March and April 2011**

Erik Haaland       Dick & Elayne Strom
Daniel Holmgren    Robert Swanson
Melody Pauling     Gary & Janice Wahlstrom
Howard & Erla Polsfuss Don & Marvel Walmann
Joanne & Martin Seltz Evelyn & Wally Wermager
Cliff Siewert
Gary & Luann Skrivseth and family
100th Anniversary Celebration  
by Mary Bode

It is tradition during a centennial anniversary year to invite former pastors to return to preach. On Sunday, March 6, The Transfiguration of Our Lord, former visitation pastor, the Rev. Dr. Melinda Quivik, will be our guest.

Melinda Quivik most recently taught liturgy and homiletics at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Currently, she is a liturgical scholar living in Houghton, Michigan, with her husband Fred Quivik—a consulting historian and former member of the Christ Church Preservation Committee. Fred will be our guest speaker during the adult forum on March 6. His topic will be “Facing Jesus’ Three Temptations in an Age of Global Climate Change.”

We welcome Friends of Christ Church Lutheran (FCCL) members Melinda and Fred Quivik as special guests during our 100th anniversary.

A Century of Viola Turpeinen

When: Saturday, March 12, 2011  
Where: Christ Church Lutheran  
Finlandia Foundation-Twin Cities Chapter

For more than 30 years, the music of Viola Turpeinen (“The Accordion Princess”) and her band filled Finn Halls across the Upper Midwest on warm summer evenings. This beautiful and talented musician from Champion, Michigan, sang and played her way into the hearts of Finnish-Americans, continuing to be fondly remembered two and three generations later. The March 12 event will include:

- 5:30 p.m. informal supper, sharing stories and memories
- 7:00 p.m. lecture by Carl Rahkonen, music librarian, professor and Finlandia Foundation Lecturer of the Year, explaining how Viola captured the hearts of Finnish-Americans
- 8:30 p.m. dance, recreating the atmosphere of the old dance evenings

For more information, go to [www.minnesotafinnish.org](http://www.minnesotafinnish.org). To RSVP for the supper or to send in your stories, e-mail Betsey Norgard at norgard@winternet.com or call 651.786.5988. Tickets at the door: $7 supper (RSVP requested); $10 lecture and $10 dance or $15 for both.
Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from January 11, 2011
Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary

Stewardship: Pledges are down 6% from last year; we are not sure about the reason for this. The majority of people who did pledge did not increase the amount of their pledge. Thank you letters are being handed out, giving Kevin the opportunity to thank people personally for pledging.

Treasurer's Report: Prelimarily, it appears that the budget deficit will be approximately $38,500 for 2010. We were short $18,000 in budgeted income from envelope giving; Preschool income was down because of decreased enrollment. We only experienced 1% growth in envelope giving instead of the 5% growth we had hoped for. Expenses were about $9,500 lower than budgeted.

Council may meet the third Tuesday of the month instead of the second Tuesday to give Melody more time to compile the current financial reports. Need to verify this change with all council members.

Pastor Carlson's Report: Highlights of the last month include:
- Christmas 2010, with a memorable pick-up intergenerational Christmas Pageant after worship on December 19, organized by the Education Committee; family-friendly Christmas Eve worship with wonderful music provided by our choir, cantors and flutist Liz Gomoll, and gift bags handed out to “children of all ages” after worship in honor of our 100th anniversary as a congregation; Christmas Day Eucharist worship with more great music plus oboist Merilee Klemp.
- Gratitude to Rev. Gordon Braatz for preaching on Dec. 26 and on Jan. 2, while I presided.
- The wedding of Susannah Kristine Carlson and Brian Lawrence Odlaug on December 30.
- The funeral of Donald Weydt, at Morris Nilsen Funeral Home, with burial at Ft. Snelling, on January 5.
- Two baptisms on January 9, The Baptism of Our Lord: Matias Toivo Chen Sarkanen and Sebastien Tristan Edwin Lewis.
- Planning for the funeral of Myrtie Trudeau on January 13, with burial the following day at Ft. Snelling.
- Participation in a group of responders to a doctoral thesis by Rev. Jeff Sartain on “The Pastor as Artist.”
- Pastoral counseling and visitation.

Looking ahead:
- Continued work on our strategic planning/visioning.
- Continued celebrations of our 100th Anniversary as a congregation.
- I will be away on Sunday, Feb. 6 (a vacation Sunday). Pastor Seltz will preach and preside.
- There will be a wedding on January 29, Whitney Reiners and Benjamin Wickboldt.

My sons were home for Christmas and New Year’s—such a gift! And Christ is born again in our hearts and world. Thank you for the joy and privilege of being your pastor.

Pastor Carlson stated that she is trying to limit non-member weddings to four to six per year; will be meeting with several other people to work out a way to get more revenue from non-member weddings.

Old Business
Tower Fund: $109,920.62 has been received so far toward the fundraising pledges; 92% of the CCL membership responded to the tower fundraising endeavor. Pastor Carlson, Mary Bode and Karen Woestehoff will be sending out thank you letters to everyone who gave to the tower fund in 2010. Pastor stated that she is enormously grateful to Karen for her help with the tower fund project.

Organ Fund: Presently with the architects and the organ designer in Northfield.

100th Anniversary Funding Request: We will have more information after the committee meets tomorrow.

New Business
Strategic Planning: There will be an adult forum this Sunday on strategic planning—taking stock and getting feedback regarding the strengths of the congregation.
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 PM Stewardship</td>
<td>11:15 AM Preschool Chapel</td>
<td>6:30 PM Longfellow Parish Basketball</td>
<td>6:00 PM Sr. Youth—Weekend at Izalys Resort, returning Sunday</td>
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<td>7:00 PM Common Committees</td>
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</table>

**Daylight Savings Time Begins**

9:30 AM Eucharist
11:10 AM Education

**Courier Deadline**
7:00 PM Executive Committee
7:30 PM Council

9:30 AM Worship
12:00 Lunch
6:00 PM Supper
7:00 PM Worship

9:30 AM Eucharist
11:00 AM Sr. Youth Food Shelf Shopping
11:10 AM Education

No Retirees

11:30 AM Worship
12:00 Lunch
6:00 PM Supper
7:00 PM Worship

6:30 PM Longfellow Parish Basketball
7:00 PM Choir

11:00 AM Finnish School
10:30 AM Finlandia Foundation Meeting

10:00 AM Finnish School

Move clocks ahead 1 hour

**Ash Wednesday**
11:30 AM Eucharist
7:00 PM Eucharist

6:30 PM Longfellow Parish Basketball
7:00 PM Choir

No Preschool

**Eucharist**
9:30 AM
11:10 AM Education

**Executive Committee**
2:00 PM

**Supper**
6:00 PM
7:00 PM

**Worship**
11:30 AM
12:00 Lunch
6:00 PM
7:00 PM

**Without Retirees**

**No Preschool**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assisting Ministers</th>
<th>Acolytes</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Head Ushers</th>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Prayer Writers</th>
<th>Nursery Workers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>Grace Duddy</td>
<td>Donna Gawreluk</td>
<td>Marni Schmidt</td>
<td>Gary Skrivseth</td>
<td>Carol Flanders</td>
<td>Kay Madson</td>
<td>Traci Boser</td>
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<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Jan Radloff</td>
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<td>Michael Jefferis</td>
<td>Juanita Burke</td>
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<td>March 9 Ash Wednesday</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Lucille Buelow</td>
<td>Ginny Buegel</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Kris Stedje</td>
<td>Donna Gawreluk</td>
<td>Simo Sarkanen</td>
<td>Jeanne Anderson</td>
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<td>Jan Radloff</td>
<td>Rachel Mann</td>
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<td>March 13</td>
<td>Jason Bergquist</td>
<td>Donna Torgerson</td>
<td>Lynn Larson</td>
<td>Gary Skrivseth</td>
<td>Kevin Olsen</td>
<td>Melody Pauling</td>
<td>Kelly Brandon</td>
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<td>Chuck Merrell</td>
<td>Lucille Buelow</td>
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<td>Michael Jefferis</td>
<td>Will Stark</td>
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<td>March 20</td>
<td>Mary Bode</td>
<td>Sami Hoss</td>
<td>Paul Hanson</td>
<td>Dave Kutzbach</td>
<td>Kris Stedje</td>
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<td>Ute Swenson</td>
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<td>Jason Bergquist</td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td>Simo Sarkanen</td>
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<td>Lucille Buelow</td>
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<td>April 3</td>
<td>Jeannette Bidne</td>
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<td>Dick Thompson</td>
<td>Robert Swanson</td>
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