100 Years +Bearing the Name of Christ+

What a grand occasion for our congregation! Thank you to all who participated in the special 100th anniversary events this past year. On Saturday, November 19, it was wonderful to greet old Christ Church friends and meet new Christ Church friends as we gathered for “A Foretaste of the Feast to Come” and enjoyed sparkling wine and canapés. Liz and Roger Gomoll were perfect hosts for the evening. The delicious banquet feast, prepared by famous chefs and served by an energetic group of young servers, was a treat. Special greetings from Bishop Mark Hanson, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, and State Senator John Marty added to the special event. Our capacity crowd conveyed a message that many people far and near have Christ Church Lutheran dear in their hearts.

Sunday morning’s beautiful music prepared us for our Festival Anniversary Eucharist. The joyful congregational singing and the special anniversary sermon by Dr. Marty made for rich and memorable worship. Thank you to all who made their mark on our 100th anniversary, which is now part of the history of Christ Church Lutheran.

With thanksgiving for the past and hopes for the future, we praise you God.

Mary Bode
100th Anniversary Chair

Advent Midweek Worship

The theme is “All Things New: The Advent of Christ.” These Wednesday services will be held in the Christ Chapel: Morning Prayer at 11:30 a.m., followed by a noon lunch, and Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a 6:00 p.m. supper. Preachers and presiders will be our seminary students and members of the congregation—Erik Haaland, Grace Duddy, Vicar Will Starkweather, Daniel Rinehart, Josh Messner and Ben Cherland. Cantors will be Pastor Carlson, Pastor Farlee, Pastor Seltz and Sally Messner. All are welcome! Invite a friend, neighbor, co-worker and/or family member.

- November 30: Christ comes as the light in whom we walk.
- December 7: Christ comes as the image of the invisible God.
  Text: Colossians 1:15-20.
- December 14: Christ comes as the one who makes all things new.
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 follows at 11:10 a.m.

Announcements

Advent Midweek Worship

Mark your calendar for the three Advent services and meals—morning and evening—beginning Wednesday, November 30, and going through December 14. More information is provided on the front page.

Building Tours

Beginning January 2012, docent-led tours of Christ Church will occur the second Sunday of each month, beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the courtyard.

Courier Deadline

The next submission deadline is December 15. To submit content, send an e-mail to Jan Radloff at: jan.radloff@mpls.k12.mn.us or give to the church office.
Readings and Psalms

Date: December 4
First Lesson: Isa 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Second Lesson: Peter 3:8-15a
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Date: December 11
First Lesson: Isa 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm: 126 or Luke 1:46b-55*
Second Lesson: 1 Thess 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Date: December 18
First Lesson: 2 Sam 7:1-11, 16
Psalm: Luke 1:46b-55 or
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26*
Second Lesson: Rom 16:25-27

Date: December 24 (Christmas Eve)
First Lesson: Isa 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

Date: December 25 (Christmas Day)
First Lesson: Isa 62:6-12 or Isa 52:7-10*
Psalm 97 or 98*
Second Lesson: Titus 3:4-7 or
Heb 1:1-4 [5-12]*

Date: January 1, 2012
First Lesson: Num 6:22-27 or
Isa 61:10—62:3*
Psalm 8 or 148*
Second Lesson: Gal 4:4-7 or
Phil 2:5-11*

*Please contact the church office about which option will be used.

President’s Message
by Gene Bruss

The tower project is now complete. The last task was replacing the top half of the chimney. Because changes to the architect’s plans were made as the job progressed, the architect’s person, Angie, was onsite many days to provide oversight. I would like to personally thank the contractor, Macpherson Towne Company, and the architect, MacDonald & Mack, for their excellent work. The workers are to be commended for the fine quality of workmanship they put into the project. Special thanks to the Property Board for their many meetings and for the many decisions they had to make. It’s wonderful to have this project completed.

On a different note, I would also like to pay tribute to the anniversary committee for their dedication and hard work over the past year, culminating with the festive anniversary weekend November 19 and 20.

On Sunday, December 11, at 11:10 a.m., there will be a congregational meeting in the sanctuary. There are two agenda items for which a vote is needed—the election of officers for 2012 and the 2012 budget. Please try to attend this important meeting.

A “100” ice sculpture added to the festivities on Saturday, November 19. Placed on a table in the corridor of the education building, it shimmered from the light of nearby votive candles. The sculpture was later moved outside, as shown here, providing a nice welcome as people arrived for the Sunday worship service.
Retirees
Join us for an after-Christmas party on Wednesday, December 28, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Hot cider will be served during a time of socializing and caroling, followed by a brunch (no potluck). Everyone is welcome.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

Member Transfers
Rev. Judith Wascher transferred to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Denver, Colorado.

Janet Moede transferred to Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

The Golden Years
by Lynn Larson

I had always admired my friend’s grandparents. Relatively free of health problems and mentally sharp, they lived in their own home in a Milwaukee suburb. Earlier this year, approximately one month prior to their 60th wedding anniversary, my friend’s grandfather passed away at the age of 95.

A couple weeks after the funeral, my friend told me how her grandmother, 91, called the nearby Lutheran senior care center. I immediately thought that her grandmother was looking to move out of her home now that she was alone. This was not the case.

My friend continued the story, sharing how her grandmother called the care center to inquire about volunteer opportunities! She continues to thrive and stay busy. The golden years, indeed!

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

12/2 Carol Flanders, Traci Boser
12/3 Isis Faulk
12/5 Shawn Deresch
12/7 Trisa Smetana
12/8 Jeremy Gustafson
12/12 Jeannette Kretzmann
12/15 Rita Schoenike
12/20 Kari Polsfuss, Marni Schmidt
12/21 James Bartsch, Gerald Westby
12/24 Carol Mead
12/28 Rosie Lindberg-Lakso, Erla Polsfuss
12/29 Dorothy Hanson, Larry Schmidt, Cathy Sieving, Gary Wahlstrom

Laughter...

Laughter prevents hardening of the attitudes.

– Anonymous

We cannot really love anybody with whom we never laugh.

– Agnes Repplier

Shared laughter creates a bond of friendship. When people laugh together, they cease to be young and old, teacher and pupil, worker and boss. They become a single group of human beings.

– W. Lee Grant

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

November and December 2011

Jason Bergquist Phyllis Mattill
Taylor Brorby Marge Meffert
Mary Lou and Peter Doll Chuck & Kristy Merrel
Donna & Pete Gawreluk Ray & Rosie Peters
Dorothy Iverson Kevin Olsen & Will Stark
### Committee Reports

**Education and Youth**: Upstairs nursery continues to be working out great; would like a speaker in the nursery to be able to listen to the church service. Sunday school student is attending adult forums. Youth trip will be attempted during spring break if workable with families. KidArt program will be held November 12, 2011; December 17, 2011; February 4, 2012; and March 17, 2012—led by Sally Messner and Christine Brand. Cabin Fever Saturdays, led by Liz Karlen, will be the second Saturday of January, February and March 2012. Education and Youth will coordinate the “Pick-up Christmas Pageant.”

**Mission**: Will be serving the meal at Our Saviour’s Shelter on October 31. Will be preparing a monthly meal for eight people at Safe House in St. Paul; first meal is scheduled for this Saturday.

**Property**: The electric wires in the alley needed to be moved twice. The first time they were moved, the wires were still too close to the chimney and needed to be moved a second time. The cross will be put back up tomorrow (October 19). Erik is painting the downstairs trim, hallways and stairways.

**Stewardship**: Pledge program concludes Sunday, October 30. A reminder to council members to submit pledges this Sunday, October 23.

**Worship**: A planning meeting was held September 25 to discuss fall worship projects.

**100th Anniversary (Mary Bode)**: Council members were given a handout outlining the November 19 celebration and also a copy of the 100th anniversary budget. Two hundred seventy-five invitations have been sent out. Mary explained how the evening would proceed. Mary also stated that the 100th anniversary budget may be a little tight, but expressed hope that it will cover everything.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Council members reviewed the January–September 2011 profit & loss/budget vs. actual report and the CCL balance sheet September 30, 2011. Actual income is $17,700 below what was budgeted. We did receive higher than average envelope contributions the first Sunday in October—$8,000; average is $3,000 per Sunday. Total operating expenses are approximately $12,000 less than budgeted.

### Pastor’s Report (submitted in writing)

Highlights from the past month include:

- Attending the Bishop’s Theological Conference at Heartwood Conference Center in NW Wisconsin (owned by Thrivent Financial), Sept. 25–27. Bishop Mark Hanson spoke several times and preached at the Eucharist worship service. He expressed confidence that the ELCA is more and more a healthy, missional church. These last years—since the vote to approve the ordination of gay and lesbian partnered candidates for ministry—have certainly been difficult times, he said, with a loss of congregations, with a loss of offerings to the wider church, and with a necessary and thorough restructuring of the church-wide offices. He also expressed sorrow that, in order to get to a renewed place of vision and energy, there have had to be such losses. Even so, his spirits were lively and full of hope for the future of the ELCA. Almost 200 clergy from the Minneapolis and St. Paul Area Synods attended this gathering. I am very grateful I was able to be there.

- At the Bishop’s Theological Conference, I also had a chance to welcome, on behalf of Christ Church Lutheran, our new interim bishop, Glenn Nycklemoe, who was my bishop when I served in the SE MN Synod.

- Conversation about the election process for our next bishop—at the Theological Conference and at our local pastors’ conference meeting. It is an ecclesiastical ballot, so there are no nominations ahead of time. However, there will be a Ministerium on November 10 at St. Stephen’s in Bloomington, where three former
bishops will speak about the work and needed gifts of a bishop. There is also talk about having such an event for lay people to attend. The Synod Assembly to elect the next bishop is February 17–18, 2012, at Shepherd of the Lake in Prior Lake; two voting members from Christ Church (a man and a woman) will attend as well as the pastor and vicar.

- Working with our vicar, Will Starkweather, to grow our relationship and to help him find his way into ministry and leadership here. What a joy to have Vicar Starkweather!

- Hospital visits and pastoral care visits.

- Three weddings—three weekends in a row—for couples not otherwise associated with our church. Thanks to our cantors; to our wedding coordinator, Joanne Seltz; and to Chuck Merrell and Stephanie Okoneski for their fine work. We continue to assess this outreach for its impact on the staff and its effectiveness both as a ministry and as a financial endeavor.

- Meeting with our Altar Guild, Oct. 2, led so very well by Lucille Buelow. I have ordered a new alb (my first since 1980!) to wear in time for our 100th anniversary.

- Continued work on: our stewardship program with Grace Duddy, chair; our visioning process with Dan Mueller and Kevin Olsen; our 100th anniversary planning with Mary Bode, Karen Woestehoff, and our cantors; our organ project, headed by Erik Haaland; and adult forums for 2012, with Josh Messner.

- A visit on Oct. 4 from Dena Sanford and Mark Chavez of the Omaha office of the National Park Service—the group that works with us as a National Historic Landmark and that helped us receive our matching grant for Reaching New Heights. People from the congregation met with them to discuss our tower project, a future courtyard and accessibility project, and the organ project.

- A wonderful and renewing week’s vacation with my husband, visiting our youngest son at Vassar College and enjoying some days in my hometown, NYC. Thank you for the gift of re-creation. And thank you to everyone who provided leadership and ministry in my absence: Vicar Starkweather, Erik Haaland, Rev. Gordon Braatz, Sally Messner, Stephanie Okoneski, Chuck Merrell. And thanks to Taylor Brorby for staying with Saga!

### Old Business

**Priority List:** To follow up from our September meeting that a priority list be created for long-range planning; we discussed who should be involved in creating this list, including the Property Board, Preservation Committee and the Friends of CCL. The Preservation Committee and the Friends of CCL have met regarding this matter. Will Stark is working with the Preservation Committee on obtaining a grant for an assessment of our needs.

**Organ Project:** The organ committee has met twice since the last council meeting. They have met with the Park Service and the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO); have had conversations with Chris Holtkamp and with Steve Edwins. They are still working on the design of the organ and how it can be modified, so it would be approved by the SHPO. The organ committee will be presenting at the adult forum on December 4.

### New Business

**Synod Assembly:** All-day assemblies on February 17 and 18, 2012, at Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church in Prior Lake. CCL may send two lay voting members (one male, one female) and one youth lay voting member. Deadline for early-bird registration is January 5, 2012.

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**Assisting Ministers**
- Mary Bode
- Pat Baehler
- Erik Haaland
- Taylor Broby
- Chuck Merrell
- Phyllis Mattill
- Jason Bergquist
- Andy Mossner
- Josh Mossner

**Acolytes**
- Donna Torgerson
- Phyllis Mattill
- Donna Gawreluk
- Taylor Broby
- Sami Hoss
- Simo Sarkanen
- Donna Torgerson
- Donna Gawreluk
- Phyllis Mattill
- Taylor Broby
- Simo Sarkanen
- Phyllis Mattill

**Lectors**
- Eri Schmidt
- Taylor Broby
- Liz Gomoll
- Simo Sarkanen
- Chuck Merrell
- Taylor Broby
- Phyllis Mattill
- Taylor Broby
- Phyllis Mattill

**Prayer Writers**
- Pat Baehler
- Kay Madson
- Howard Polstuss
- Ute Swenson
- Pat Baehler
- Jeanne Anderson
- Kevin & Lynn Larson
- Phyllis Mattill
- Melody Pauling

**Head Ushers**
- Dave Kutzthompson
- Dick Thompson
- Gary Skrivseth
- Michael Jefferis
- Dave Kutzthompson
- Dick Thompson
- Gary Skrivseth
- Michael Jefferis

**Greeters**
- Kevin Olsen
- Will Stark
- Carol Flanders
- Juanita Burke
- Howard Polstuss
- Melody Pauling
- Will Starkweather
- Erik Haaland

**Nursery Workers**
- Traci Boser
- Kelly Brandon
- Ute Swenson
- Kevin Olsen
- Dan Rinhart

**Volunteer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services (9:30 a.m.) and Christmas Eve**

**December 4**
- Mary Bode
- Donna Torgerson
- Phyllis Mattill

**December 11**
- Erik Haaland
- Donna Gawreluk
- Taylor Broby

**December 18**
- Pat Baehler
- Will Starkweather
- Jan Radloff

**Christmas Eve 5:15 P.M.**
- Simo Sarkanen
- Phyllis Mattill
- Taylor Broby

**Christmas Day**
- Jan Radloff
- Donna Gawreluk
- Phyllis Mattill

**January 1**
- Josh Mossner
- Phyllis Mattill