It's All the Buzz!

The beautiful new Christ Church Lutheran congregation directories have arrived! Distribution began January 29. If you are a member and have not picked up your copy, please see Mary Bode. Special thanks to Matt and Mary Woestehoff for donating their time and talents to the photography and layout. Thank you to Martin Seltz for overseeing this project. Thank you to Gary Wahlstrom's company, Chippewa Graphics, for the printing.

Easter Memorial Garden

Help us decorate our sanctuary on Easter morning with colorful plants and flowers! As in years past, we have a number of beautiful options. For complete details, refer to the separate order form or see Pat Baehler in the education wing on Sunday mornings. The plants and/or flowers will be yours to take home after Easter service. Please note that, due to our florist's early deadline, all orders must be submitted by Sunday, March 18.

First Accordo Concert a Success

On February 6, 2012, chamber music enthusiasts flocked to Christ Church Lutheran for Accordo's season opener. This was the first of a three-concert series at Christ Church. The evening received rave reviews. The next concerts at Christ Church Lutheran will be Monday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. and Monday, May 14, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase online at http://www.schubert.org/accordo/ or at the door on the night of the concert—unless it is already sold out.
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.

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

Officers
President: Erik Haaland
Vice President: Kevin Olsen
Secretary: Josh Messner
Treasurer: Melody Pauling

Council
Mission: Michael Jefferis
Property: Open/TBD
Stewardship: Grace Duddy
Worship: Pat Baehler
Education: Rita Schoenike
Member-at-large: Dan Mueller

Announcements

Wednesday Lent Services
Worship services will be at 11:30 a.m., followed by a noon lunch, and 7:00 p.m., preceded by a 6:00 p.m. supper.

Retirees: No Meeting
There will be no regular meeting in March due to the Lenten services. However, “retirees” will serve the soup lunch on Wednesday, March 28. Attend the service at 11:30 and then join us for lunch. Everyone is welcome.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

Courier Deadline
The next submission deadline is March 15. To submit content, e-mail Kevin and Lynn Larson at: kevlar2955@hotmail.com or give to the church office, who will pass along to Lynn (Courier editor).
Readings and Psalms

Date: March 4
First Lesson: Gen 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Second Lesson: Rom 4:13-25
Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

Date: March 11
First Lesson: Exod 20:1-17
Psalm 19
Second Lesson: 1 Cor 1:18-25
Gospel: John 2:13-22

Date: March 18
First Lesson: Num 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Second Lesson: Eph 2:1-10
Gospel: John 3:14-21

Date: March 25
First Lesson: Jer 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
Second Lesson: Heb 5:5-10
Gospel: John 12:20-33

Date: April 1 – Palm Sunday
First Lesson: Isa 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Second Lesson: Phil 2:5-11
Gospel: Mark 14:1—15:47 or
Mark 15:1-39 [40-47]*

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

Good Design is Forever

On January 28, 2012, a multi-generational crowd of more than 1,000 visitors attended this day-long event at Christ Church Lutheran to celebrate that good design is timeless, always current and relevant forever.

The event included exhibits of 1960s Finnish glass and textiles, hourly tours of Christ Church, documentary films, children’s art projects, a café, live music in our sanctuary, and FinnStyle merchandise. This was a hugely successful cooperative effort among Christ Church Lutheran, Friends of Christ Church Lutheran and local Finnish organizations.

A look at the live music in the sanctuary...

Thank You Note

Thank you for the wonderful tribute during the annual congregation meeting on February 19. We were overwhelmed by the kind words, cake and gifts. We will both cherish our beautiful framed photos of Christ Church. We know that the congregation will be in good hands with the newly elected president and secretary, Erik Haaland and Josh Messner, respectively, as well as the re-elected vice president and treasurer, Kevin Olsen and Melody Pauling. Finally, we look forward to continue serving Christ Church in other capacities in the years ahead.

Sincerely,
Gene Bruss and Jan Radloff
March Adult Forums

We will focus on the Gospel of John, featured this church year in the lectionary. For more information on all winter sessions, pick up an adult forum brochure or see the Weekly Schedule page on the church website—where you also can find pre-reading materials.

March 4. Pastor Carlson helps us sink deeply in the Passion narrative in the Gospel of John as we prepare to hear this story in worship and as we prepare to hear a local performance of Bach’s Saint John Passion.

March 11. Paul Westermeyer, professor of church music and cantor at Luther Seminary, leads a discussion of J. S. Bach’s life, vocation and cultural context, with reflections on Bach’s musical and theological importance and the significance of his cantatas.

March 18. Paul Westermeyer returns to help us hear and understand Bach’s music in new ways. Bach’s Saint John Passion serves as a central part of the discussion.

March 24. Please join us this Saturday evening for a performance of Bach’s monumental Saint John Passion. A group of Christ Church members and friends are planning to attend this performance together. All are welcome and the tickets are discounted. Please see Josh Messner or the display on the back table for more information.

Bach Society of Minnesota  |  Saint Mary’s Chapel  |  Saint Paul Seminary, Saint Paul  |  7:30 p.m.

March 25. The Visioning Committee will give us an update on how we are implementing our vision for Christ Church.

March and April 2012

Erik Haaland  
Daniel Holmgren  
Melody Pauling  
Howard & Erla Polsfuss  
Joaanne & Martin Seltz  
Cliff Siewert  
Gary & Luann Skrivseth  
and family

Dick & Elyane Strom  
Robert & Annette Swanson  
Gary & Janice Wahlstrom  
Don & Marvel Walmann  
Evelyn & Wally Wermager

Helping Hands

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

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 Madson  
3/13  Lucille Ebel  
3/16  Renee Bergquist  
3/18  Wendy Noakes, Margaret Graebner, Pat Baehler  
3/19  Loralei Brekhus  
3/21  Christine Bier  
3/22  Vivian Bartsch  
3/23  Virginia Buegel  
3/24  Howard Polsfuss, Sally Messner  
3/27  Max McGlothlin  
3/28  Phyllis Mattill  
3/30  Mary Lou Doll, Andrew Hokkanen, Avis Swenson
Committee Reports

Education: The education committee has decided to meet quarterly and will provide quarterly reports.

Mission: March is food month and will be a busy one for the mission committee. Food donations are always needed. Currently, monetary donations are needed to reimburse members for shelter meal spending.

- Michael attended the February meeting of the Longfellow Community ecumenical ministerium about food resources. The goal was to help charitable givers distinguish between the various organizations in the area to better maximize donations. This group is meeting in March at CCL.
- Volunteers are needed through the summer to help with shelter work. A back-up lead cook is needed for each quarterly meal that we organize (third Monday of the first month of each quarter) at Our Saviour’s Housing.

Property: No report. Currently seeking a chair.

Stewardship: The stewardship committee will present an adult forum in April on stewarding our spiritual gifts. The committee continues research in planning for the 2012–2013 stewardship program.

Worship: The committee has held two meetings this year, both to plan for Lenten/Triduum worship. Midweek Lenten worship will be centered on the Psalms. The Easter flower garden campaign is starting.

Council at Large: No report.

Treasurer’s Report: Both income and expenses were less than budgeted in January, leaving an operating surplus of $1,284 for the month. January was a good month for investments; Thrivent earnings were strong.

- The success of the Good Design Is Forever event moved the Finlandia Foundation to give Christ Church $1,000 in gratitude for our hospitality.
- Memorial gifts of $2,000 were received in January.

Pastor’s Report

- January 22: Twenty members of Christ Church Lutheran traveled to Saint Olaf in Northfield to participate in a Holtkamp organ demonstration with Dr. John Ferguson.
- January 28: Good Design Is Forever, a celebration of Finnish culture and design at Christ Church; more than 1,000 people came to tour the sanctuary and see exhibits.
- February 4 and 11, respectively: A third KidArt Saturday with two dozen children and a second Cabin Fever Saturday with almost 40 children and parents.
- February 4–5: A weekend away for me; thanks to Vicar Starkweather for preaching and to Pastor Farlee for presiding.
- February 6: Accordo concert, more than 300 chamber music fans in our sanctuary.
- February 17–18: Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly elected new bishop Rev. Ann Svennungsen; resounding vote against the Marriage Amendment.
- February 19: Annual Meeting followed by Mardi Gras Party in Concordia room and discussion with Chris Holtkamp about potential new organ for Christ Church; continued visits throughout winter to assess potential gifts to finance new organ.
- Looking ahead: March 8–15, week of vacation; March 22–24, Music That Makes Community, conference on leading worship hosted by Christ Church; March 24, Bach’s Saint John Passion performance; April 1–8, Holy Week; April 9–18, continuing education trip to Finland with Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes continued on next page
Summary of Council Meeting Minutes continued…

**Vicar’s Report (submitted in writing)**

- I continue to be blessed with opportunities to preach, assist in worship and sing in the choir. I preached on February 5 on the healing of Simon’s mother-in-law; also attended worship planning meetings to prepare for Lenten worship and celebration of the Three Days.
- Confirmation classes are a joy. I am grateful for Daniel Rinehart’s able assistance in lesson planning and teaching; pastoral care visits continue.
- February 17–18: Attended Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly. While not a voting delegate, I was grateful for insight into the synod’s operations and the chance to observe the election of a new bishop.
- Update on the other half of my time: Spring semester classes have begun at Luther Seminary. Mine include Gospel and Epistles of John, Ministry with Persons with Mental Illness and Their Families, and Money and the Mission of the Church.

**Old Business**

**Organ Project Report:** The organ project task force is looking for a chairperson to replace Erik Haaland. We are moving forward this winter with Steve Edwins to create three-dimensional graphics of the organ proposal.

**Visioning Report:** The visioning committee’s activities were reported in full at the congregational meeting and will be the focus of a church council retreat this Saturday, February 25.

**New Business**

**Historical Structures Report:** Will Stark’s report from the congregational meeting was reviewed briefly. The grant money will stay with the Friends of CCL budget, so it will not be part of the church budget.

**General Council Meeting Processes:** Council approved a plan to reduce paper usage for council meetings. Council also agreed to approve minutes of regular meetings within a day or two of the meeting in order to meet Courier printing deadlines and to provide the congregation with information in a more timely manner.

**End of Meeting Minutes**

**Guest Speaker April 22**

The Rev. Dr. Frederick Niedner, Professor of Theology at Valparaiso University, is coming to Christ Church Lutheran on Sunday, April 22, as a 100th anniversary guest. He is the grandson of Pastor Friedrich Niedner, the first full-time pastor of Christ Church.

Dr. Niedner will preach at our 9:30 a.m. worship service and will bring some family archives to share during coffee fellowship. He also will teach the adult forum that morning. His session is titled “How Do You Know a Resurrected Person When You See One?” and will address how the four Gospels respond to questions about Jesus’ resurrection and what this means for us.

The forum will start promptly at 11:10 a.m. Dr. Niedner will talk briefly about his grandfather before beginning the Bible study. We hope you can join us for the entire morning!
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<td>9:30 AM Eucharist</td>
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<td>11:30 AM Worship Noon Lunch 6:00 PM Supper 7:00 PM Worship</td>
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<td>9:30 AM Cabin Fever  Reset clocks forward one hour at bedtime</td>
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<td>9:00 AM Stationery 7:30 PM Accordo Concert</td>
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*March is Minnesota Food Share Month*
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