Stewardship at Christ Church

Following Jesus. As Christians, that is what we are called to do—follow Christ—and, for more than 100 years, that is what this congregation has faithfully done. This past year, we adopted a vision statement that centers on worship, hospitality and outreach as a way of following Jesus in our life together and into our communal future. We have looked back at where we have been, taking stock of our gifts and our challenges. We have committed to stepping forward in faith into God’s promised future for Christ Church Lutheran. We have committed, not to altering our course, but to broadening our vision and expanding our worship, hospitality and outreach.

It is with this vision in mind that we ask you prayerfully to consider what it means to follow Jesus in your stewardship, particularly your stewardship of money, because it is our financial gifts that help make our worship, hospitality, and outreach (and even more!) possible.

As you consider your financial stewardship and ways to grow in that as you follow Jesus, know that this congregation is grateful, too, for your gifts of your time and talents. It is your stewardship of all God’s blessings—and the promised work of the Holy Spirit—that brings our vision to life.

As we continue to explore what it looks like to follow Jesus, we give thanks for you and for the blessing you are to this community. We invite you to join us, and all the people of Christ Church, in prayerfully considering how God is calling you to continue to support the work of our community and to continue to grow in the stewardship of God’s good gifts.

Vicar William Starkweather, on behalf of the rest of the Stewardship Committee—Marilu Peters, Clayton Smith, Kristine Stedje, Daniel Rinehart, and Pastor Carlson
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.
(excluding summer months)

Contacts
Pastor: Kristine Carlson
Music: Pastor Robert Buckley Farlee
Pastor Martin Seltz
Vicar: Will Starkweather
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
Pat Baehler
Dan Mueller
Rita Schoenike

Interim council members, to replace Grace Duddy and Michael Jefferis, to be determined

*Next submission deadline for the Courier: October 15
To submit content, e-mail Lynn Larson at: kevlar2955@hotmail.com or give to Stephanie in the church office, who will pass along to Lynn.

Announcements

Retirees
We will gather on Wednesday, October 31, at 11:00 a.m. Sally Messner will tell us a little about her background and sing for us, accompanied by Pastor Carlson. Lunch will be provided (no potluck). Wear a silly hat for Halloween. Everyone is welcome.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

Transportation To/From Christ Church
A number of our congregation members receive rides to church from dedicated, volunteer drivers. We are grateful to these drivers for their many years of service. If anyone needs a ride or would be willing to drive occasionally, please contact Bill Dunstone.
Readings and Psalms

Date: October 7
First Lesson: Gen 2:18–24
Psalm 8
Second Lesson: Heb 1:1–4; 2:5–12
Gospel: Mark 10:2–16

Date: October 14
First Lesson: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm 90:12-17
Second Lesson: Heb 4:12-16
Gospel: Mark 10:17-31

Date: October 21
First Lesson: Isa 53:4-12
Psalm 91:9-16
Second Lesson: Heb 5:1-10
Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Date: October 28 – Reformation Sunday
First Lesson: Jer 3: 31-34 or Jer 31:7-9*
Psalm 46 or Psalm 126*
Second Lesson: Rom 3:19-28 or Heb 7:23-28*
Gospel: John 8:31-36 or Mark 10:46-52*

Date: November 4 – All Saints Sunday
First Lesson: Isa 25:6-9 or Deut 6:1-9*
Psalm 24 or Psalm 119:1-8*
Second Lesson: Rev 21:1-6a or Heb 9:11-14*
Gospel: John 11:32-44 or Mark 12:28-34*

Date: November 11
First Lesson: 1 Kings 17:8-16
Psalm 146
Second Lesson: Heb 9:24-28
Gospel: Mark 12:38-55

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

Upcoming Adult Forums

A separate document provides the full descriptions of each forum, as well as other fellowship events scheduled for October. Contact the church office to obtain a copy. The following only addresses the 11:15 a.m. Sunday forums.

October 7
Healing in the Bible II: Jesus and the Samaritan Leper

Early in the Old Testament, God announces to Israel, “I am the Lord, your healer” (Exod. 15:26). Later, Jesus is introduced as one who comes teaching, preaching, and healing (Matt. 4:23). What is the healing work of God in Christ, and how do we understand it in relation to the work of other physicians and healers? As we think about these and similar questions, we will concentrate today especially on the story of Jesus and the Samaritan Leper (Luke 17:12-19).

October 14
Stigm(at)a: Facing the Wounds of Christ

Award-winning writer Lisa Deam speaks on what it means to be marked—physically, emotionally and spiritually. In the context of Paul’s letter to the Galatians, she considers the branding of slaves, the wounds of saints and the scars each of us bears. Marks of suffering carry a divine meaning, Deam suggests. Although painful, they bring followers of Christ closer to the cross and help them to mirror Christ’s image to one another.

October 21
Election Matters

Senator John Marty, long-time friend of Christ Church Lutheran, joins us just a few weeks before a major election to discuss significant issues, focusing on marriage and voter amendments and other topics of interest.

October 28
Valpo Sunday

Valparaiso University president Mark Heckler will tell us more about this historic institution, its significance for American Lutheranism, and its exciting future on the global stage.
Organ Task Force Update

The Organ Task Force has been meeting over the summer months to continue its exploration of the possibility of acquiring a historic Holtkamp organ for our sanctuary. Here is a summary of the developments.

In June, the task force recommended a financial feasibility study for the project. The council contracted with Elaine Weber Nelson, who previously assisted us with the Reaching New Heights campaign, asking her to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of raising $650,000—the amount estimated for preparing the space and installing the rebuilt organ. Recently, the task force and council heard Ms. Weber Nelson's report, advising, at this time, our congregation would likely not be able to support a capital campaign for $650,000.

Also, the task force continued its communication with the State Historic Preservation Office regarding design possibilities for organ installation in light of our “Landmark” status. In the process, limitations for the design were clarified.

Finally, on August 22, Christian Holtkamp, president of the Holtkamp Organ Company, visited Christ Church and met with several task force members. He informed us that the organ we were considering for Christ Church (the 1949 “St. Paul's organ”) is no longer available. He also shared specifications for two other Holtkamp organs that are available, inviting us to consider these possibilities.

These various developments do not signal the end of our work. Our current organ has serious flaws and will need replacement or rebuilding within the next few years. The task force will meet soon to investigate options and make recommendations to the council.

Helping Hands

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

September and October 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Darrell &amp; Jeanne Anderson</th>
<th>Donna Lindberg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Bode</td>
<td>Josh &amp; Sally Messner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Cherland</td>
<td>Dan &amp; Sharon Mueller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary &amp; Stephanie Gustafson</td>
<td>Marilu Peters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wynn &amp; Marilyn Johnston</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeannette Kretzmann</td>
<td>Marion Williams</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Happy Birthday to You!

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

10/6  Gene Bruss
10/9  Nathan Bier
10/11 Sarah Selden, Kinzie Wiklander
10/17 Jill Shingledecker
10/19 Sylvia Bergquist
10/22 Jason Bergquist, Juanita Burke
10/23 Rosie Peters
10/27 Eleanor Uglum
10/30 Tim Hokkanen
Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from September 18, 2012  
Kindly submitted by Josh Messner, council secretary

Committee Reports

Property: Elevator grant was submitted in a new category; we are awaiting a decision. Awaiting Historic Structure Report to set next year’s goals.

Treasurer’s Report: Our envelope deficit grew by less than $1,000 in August.

Pastor’s Report (submitted in writing)

Highlights of this past month include:

- Burial of Donald Swenson at Ft. Snelling, 08.22.12.
- Presiding at the marriages of Jamie Helding & David Dorman, 09.01.12; and of Kevin Reuther & Gerald Tyrrell, 09.15.12.
- Organizing two Sunday forums to help us consider issues related to upcoming vote about the marriage amendment. Gratitude to Daniel Holmgren and Erik Haaland, and to Clayton Smith for leading these.
- Finalizing the forums for fall 2012, along with Josh Messner. Thanks to Josh, too, for a full and beautiful brochure telling about all the fall offerings.
- The organ project—receiving Elaine Weber Nelson’s feasibility study results (a very helpful assessment not only of the project, but of our congregation, too), and her recommendation that we are not ready to move ahead with a new organ at this time; the withdrawal, by Christian Holtkamp, of the offer of the St. Paul’s Organ; discerning—-with the Organ Project Committee and the Church Council—where we are and how to proceed in this project together.
- Working with the Structure Committee on a proposal for a Pastoral Support Committee.
- Hosting a luncheon sponsored by Josselyn Bennett of the ELCA churchwide offices in Chicago, for the CEOs and Board Chairs of the ELCA nonprofit service organizations in the Twin Cities. Thanks to Joanne Seltz, Mary Bode, & Pat Baehler for the work of hospitality for this event.
- Meeting with planners for the upcoming four concerts (2012/2013) of Accordo, and their proposal to build a portable structure to raise the chancel 1-1/2 feet for the concerts.
- Welcome Sunday and the Activities Fair that followed.
- Working with our vicar and the Stewardship Committee (deacons Kristine Stedje and Daniel Rinehart, members Marilu Peters and Clayton Smith) to design, implement and lead our Fall Stewardship Campaign with the theme, “Following Jesus.” It will go for six Sundays, based on the Gospel readings, with sermons and Stewardship Talks, exploring and naming our identity and its meaning for our worship, congregational community, and outreach, and for our financial stewardship.
- Numerous pastoral care conversations, as well as conversations with potential new members.
- Changing our church office server and phone service to Popp Communications.
- Supervising our vicar and working with our seminary students.

Looking ahead:

- I will be away at Holden Village—on retreat and with my sons—Sept. 24 through Oct. 3.
- Stewardship Sunday, October 21.
- Valparaiso Chorale in concert here Oct. 27; singing in our worship, Oct. 28, with Rev. Brian Johnson, Head of Campus Ministry at Valpo, preaching, and President Mark Heckler speaking at the forum. A big Valpo weekend!

Thank you for the great joy and privilege of being your pastor, in ministry with you here!

Council Meeting Minutes continued on the next page
Vicar’s Report (submitted in writing)

Some of the highlights of my ministry in the past month include:

- I have been blessed to work with the stewardship committee to prepare the fall stewardship campaign, focusing on the theme of “Following Jesus.” We will spend six weeks exploring stewardship through the lens of our vision statement and talking about what it means to follow Christ in our stewardship of time, talents and treasures.
- Confirmation continues to go well. At this point, we have one remaining class to discuss new material, and then we will shift to review and preparation for Andy’s confirmation service. Andy has agreed to give a stewardship talk as part of our fall stewardship campaign, which will be a wonderful chance for him to engage practically some of what we have discussed in class.
- I continue to serve in various roles within worship and will be preparing to preach on September 30 about outreach as it relates to our vision and our stewardship.
- I was honored to come and celebrate the marriage of Kevin Reuther and Gerry Tyrrell on September 15. It was a beautiful day for a wedding and a most beautiful and joyous celebration.
- Fall semester classes have begun at Luther Seminary. This semester I am taking a Systematic Theology class focusing on the Holy Spirit and “Exercises in Biblical Theology,” which explores practical application of our theological studies through engagement with case studies.
- On September 28, I will be meeting with faculty members from Luther Seminary for the faculty approval process. They will send their decision to my candidacy committee in the Southeastern Synod for my upcoming approval interview on November 8.

It continues to be a great joy and blessing to serve as your vicar. Grace and peace to you all.

Business

Recent Resignations and Next Steps
Grace Duddy and Michael Jefferis have resigned from the church council. Gratitude, good wishes, and prayers to both of them. Per our congregation constitution, the council will look for interim council members to fill these vacancies until the newly elected council members can begin serving after the annual meeting.

Vision Implementation Update
Structure. Committee continues to collect information on our current organization and activity, which is now organized into a detailed overview document. Discussions continue as we move toward aligning our current activities with our congregational vision.

Proposal for a Pastoral Support Committee
Resolution adopted to put into effect the proposed pastoral support committee.

Organ Task Force Proposal
The task force met recently to reflect on the news from Chris Holtkamp (the withdrawal of the offer to us of the St. Paul’s organ), the results of Elaine Weber Nelson’s feasibility study, and how to move forward with the question of our current organ in light of the historic structures report. Revised proposal pending, but council assented to the task force’s general direction.

RIC Proposal
Council received the proposal and tabled further discussion until a focused council retreat this fall (on October 13).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 PM Property</td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>5:30 PM Stewardship</td>
<td>12:00 PM Communication</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM Eucharist</td>
<td>Columbus Day</td>
<td>9:00 AM Staff Meeting</td>
<td>Safe House Meal</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 PM MN Watercolor Awards</td>
<td>7:00 PM Choir</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM Eucharist</td>
<td>7:30 PM Accordo Concert</td>
<td>7:00 PM Executive Committee</td>
<td>7:00 PM Choir</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:15 AM Education</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Council Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 AM Finnish School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:30 PM Mapping Workshop</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3:00 PM Rose Ensemble Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM Stationery</td>
<td>7:00 PM Choir</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM Eucharist with Valparaiso Univ. Chorale</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 PM Friends of CCL Board Meeting</td>
<td>11:00 AM Retirees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 AM Education with President Mark Heckler, Valparaiso Univ.</td>
<td></td>
<td>11:15 AM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meals on Wheels

Christ Church Lutheran
October 2012
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>Will Starkweather</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>James Yao</td>
<td>Max Wipperman</td>
<td>Howard Polsfuss</td>
<td>Sally Messner</td>
<td>Marni Schmdt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chuck Merrell</td>
<td>Lucille Buelow</td>
<td>Fred Bentz</td>
<td>Carol Flanders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>Rachel Mann</td>
<td>Andy Hokkanen</td>
<td>Daniel Rinehart</td>
<td>Dave Kutzbach</td>
<td>Will Stark</td>
<td>Taylor Brorby</td>
<td>Karen Woestehoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erik Haaland</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
<td>Kevin Olsen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>Taylor Brorby</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Clayton Smith</td>
<td>Gary Skrivseth</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Melody Pauling</td>
<td>Luann Skrivseth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ben Cherland</td>
<td>Noah Niermann</td>
<td>Dan Mueller</td>
<td>Rachel Mann</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>Mary Bode</td>
<td>Andy Hokkanen</td>
<td>Simo Sarkanen</td>
<td>Jeannie Anderson</td>
<td>Bob Swenson</td>
<td>Daniel Rinehart</td>
<td>Samantha Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jason Bergquist</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Taylor Brorby</td>
<td>Ute Swenson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 4</td>
<td>Simo Sarkanen</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Daniel Holmgren</td>
<td>Dave Kutzbach</td>
<td>Dick Bruesehoff</td>
<td>Paul Hanson</td>
<td>Mary Lou Doll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will Starkweather</td>
<td>Jan Radloff (Torch)</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
<td>Naomi Bruesehoff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gene Bruss (Crucifer)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>