Dear Friends in Christ

One of the things I always loved about being a student is the start of a new school year every September. So many good things would come with that: seeing old friends again after the summer and making new friends; new classes to take and subjects to learn; new teachers. Some of the things I loved seem sort of old-fashioned now in this computer age. I loved getting new school supplies—clean notebooks, sharpened pencils, a new assignment book. With the cooler weather and turning leaves, and the delight of making lists to keep track of all the new stuff, everything seemed fresh and exciting.

This September at Christ Church offers some fresh and exciting new things in our life together. Here is a checklist of some of them, to help you prepare for our new school-year offerings.

Welcome Sunday, September 8
• We welcome our choir back to musical leadership in our worship.

• After worship, come to an activities fair in the education building, where ministries and programs will have tables set up and informational materials, and someone to talk with you about how to get involved. This is a great opportunity to find meaningful work as a follower of Christ, learn and grow as you do it, and make connections with others.

• Wear a nametag. Let’s start the fall by wearing nametags so that we can get to know each other better and make new friends.

• For families of young children (elementary age and down), come to a conversation from 11:30–noon, led by Pastor Carlson, in the nursery space. Let’s talk together about our hopes and dreams for children’s ministry at Christ Church, and begin to make plans.

Sunday, September 15
• The Elm Ensemble will join our Christ Church choir for special music in our worship service.

• Educational forums begin again! Most forums are 11:15am–12:15pm in the forum room. Pick up a fall forum brochure and come. Let’s learn together!

Sunday, September 22
• Baptism of Liv Bonde Nelson, daughter of Peter and Jane Becker Nelson. Welcome little Liv!

Sunday, September 29
• Reception of new members. Welcome friends to our life together in ministry and mission.

• Kickoff of our fall stewardship campaign. Let’s grow together in our giving of our time, talents, and treasures.

In All of This
• Eucharist worship, every Sunday, 9:30am, all are welcome!

• Prayers for our call committee and congregation in our discernment of our call to a part-time associate pastor.

It’s an exciting time to be part of Christ Church. The Holy Spirit is stirring good things in our midst. Thank you for your commitment to this community and to God’s work in us for the sake of the world. Welcome to all of it!

—Pastor Kristine Carlson
Announcements

Retirees
On Wednesday 25 September, hear Pastor Carlson tell about the trip she and Pastor Farlee took to Leipzig, Germany. Potluck lunch to follow. Program begins at 11am. Everyone is welcome. Contact Bill and Phyllis Dunstone for more information.

Welcome Sunday
Sunday 8 September is Welcome Sunday. Much of our fall programming begins that day or the following week. After worship, come to coffee fellowship in the atrium and enjoy the activities fair, where you can learn about the many small-group ministries at Christ Church.

Wedding
Matthew Kretzmann and Bethany Friedow were married by Pastor Carlson on 10 August. Matthew is the grandson of Jeanette and Norman Kretzmann.

Baptisms
Pastor Carlson officiated at two baptisms in August: Eero Morseth Foat, son of Kaja Foat and Aaron Brand, on 11 August; and Cora Elizabeth Selden, daughter of Dave and Sarah (Bode) Selden on 12 August. Sarah’s uncle, Pastor John Manz, also participated in Cora’s baptism.

Submissions
Want to write an article for The Courier or submit photos or other content? Contact Josh Messner at jmessner001@luthersem.edu.
Finances Update

The finance committee is working to provide you with the most current information about our congregation’s finances. In addition to other communications, we will provide a quick report on the state of our operating budget in each issue of *The Courier*. As of July 30, we have made up some ground on “envelope” (member) giving and now are showing a small operating surplus due to expenses being lower than budgeted. Keep up the good work, Christ Church givers! This is exciting news!!! (Yes, all three exclamation points were approved by the editor of this publication.)

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Choosing to Be Generous

As a community and as individuals we are blessed with abundant gifts. Christ Church’s stewardship campaign—Choosing to Be Generous—will provide an opportunity to explore the choices we make, collectively and individually, to share our abundance.

As a church, we are choosing to invest in additional staff and programming to nurture our growing community as well as support local and world missions. Christ Church will flourish as a place of Christian love and community when we choose to share from our abundance.

For six weeks in September and October, the stewardship campaign will invite you to embrace the Choosing to Be Generous theme. We will hear from some of our members about why they support our church and its mission. And we will ask you to share your abundant gifts and experience the joy of giving.

For information about the stewardship campaign or to get involved more directly, please contact Kevin Reuther at 612-210-0211.

Helping Hands

September/October

Jeff Adams & Denise Morelock
Darrell & Jeanne Anderson
Mary Bode
Ben Cherland
Gary & Stephanie Gustafson
Wynn & Marilyn Johnston
Jeannette Kretzmann
Donna Lindberg
Josh & Sally Messner
Dan & Sharon Mueller
MariLu Peters
Dick Thompson
Marion Williams

If you are named in the September helping hands chart, please donate a helping hand with Sunday morning coffee fellowship in the form of set up, clean up, or treats. Your helping hand is appreciated.

Contact Michael Jefferis for details.

September Birthdays

9/2 Julie Parkos
9/4 Scott Schoenike
9/5 Zachary Swanson
9/11 Tyler Larson
9/12 Tim Brandon
9/14 Prince Faulk
9/17 Dori Brandon
9/18 Dorothy Koop
9/19 Molly Starkweather
9/20 Cynthia Neubecker, Brian Woestehoff
9/24 Amanda Gregg, Kathleen Rong
9/26 Kevin Olsen

3
Making All Things New

The banners hanging over the worship space at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Pittsburgh August 12–17 proclaimed these words from Revelation 21: “Behold, I am making all things new.” Pastor Carlson and I observed the spirit of newness firsthand. The 952 voting members in attendance made key decisions to embrace new ventures in the church’s mission even as they celebrated well the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ELCA.

• They elected Elizabeth Eaton, bishop of the ELCA Northeastern Ohio Synod, as ELCA presiding bishop—the first woman in this role. The current presiding bishop, Mark Hanson, will step down after twelve years of remarkable service during the most challenging years of the ELCA’s life. Also among the four finalists were Bishop Anne Svennungsen of our Minneapolis Area Synod and Bishop Jessica Crist of the Montana Synod, home synod of CCL member Erik Haaland.

• They elected the Rev. Wm. Chris Boerger as ELCA secretary. Boerger previously served two terms as bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod. He attended Christ Seminary-Seminex with Pastor Farlee and me.

• They adopted the social statement “The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries.” The statement calls ELCA congregations and members to ministry and compassion with all in the criminal justice system, including a commitment to visit and care for the prisoner and to work for criminal justice reform. (In our Longfellow community the restorative justice initiative is an example of a grass-roots effort toward such reform.)

• They approved a proposal for a five-year fundraising campaign, “Always Being Made New,” for mission initiatives both at home and globally; approved budget plans; elected people to serve on the national Church Council and other boards and committees; and considered a host of resolutions ranging from worship practices to immigration reform.

• Together with up to one thousand visitors and volunteers, they celebrated Holy Communion at the center of each day using an incredibly broad range of musical gifts and at least a dozen different languages. Our pastor, Kristine Carlson, was one of five (out of over 15,000 ELCA pastors!) selected to proclaim God’s word in this assembly. She preached the gospel for the day of Mary, Mother of Our Lord, on Thursday, August 15. And Mary’s song, the Magnificat, soared...
anew! As part of the worship staff for this event, I received so many comments from folks who pointed to this as one of the highlights in worship for the week.

The icon in our Christ Church worship space also proclaims, “Behold, I make all things new.” We are part of a wider, broader church that, in my observation, went forth from this assembly energized for new ventures in our life of faith and witness together.

Check out elca.org for more news from this assembly and search “galleries” for more photos.

—Pastor Martin Seltz

For a time, Pastor Carlson’s sermon can be viewed online: http://new.livestream.com/elcacwa/events/2317290/videos/27374192

Welcome New Members!

On Sunday 29 September during worship, we will welcome new members. Pictured here are Aaron, Colin, Hillary, and Jodie in the courtyard during coffee, getting to know each other.
Go for a Walk

Sometimes I like to pretend I like exercising. Like I’m that guy at the gym who looks small but can lift a lot of weight. But I’m not. Sometimes I believe that I am a fast swimmer, but I put my trunks on and realize I only give sixty-five year-old men competition. Then there are those times that I go walking and realize that, “Ah, yes, this is where the action is.”

Walking isn’t something new; it’s nothing very pretty; and it won’t allow you to stare at the other young men lifting weights in the gym. Walking simply gets you moving, and that’s something important.

For millennia we people have been standing erect and moving; or if you prefer, we’ve been controlling our falling. (If you watch any baby who starts walking you know what I mean.)

Socrates held class while walking through ancient Athens, Kierkegaard stumbled through Copenhagen as he contemplated the religious life, and Emerson and Thoreau would take a jaunt through the Concord woods, only to come home to Mrs. Emerson’s fine cooking. Walking simply gets us out of the house, cleans the film off of our brains, and lets us explore our imaginations.

I go walking to talk with my friends. I’ve come to find that many people are shy, even the extroverts. What do I mean? I mean that, when I’m having a friend over for beer and asking what’s really on her mind she’ll tend to be vague; she, in some way, will avoid the topic. But while walking, while conducting a mild form of distraction, this friend will simply share the matters of her heart.

Not far from where I live in Minnesota is a Benedictine abbey. For generations there was a notable monk, Godfrey Diekmann, who was an important player in Vatican II, and who was responsible for getting the mass out of Latin and putting it into the vernacular. Certainly, that was remarkable—but many alumni and students found this more remarkable: Godfrey, unbeknownst to many of them, had a particular panache for getting to the heart of the matter with people. He simply took them out in the forests of midland Minnesota to pick mushrooms.

In the scope of human history we used to walk more. Homo sapiens were designed to easily walk between 15--20 miles a day, now Americans walk an average of 2.5 miles a day (compared to their Swiss and Aussie friends who walk about 5 miles).

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In her rich book Wanderlust: A History of Walking, Rebecca Solnit documents our species’ main mode of transportation. In her chapter “The Mind at Three Miles an Hour,” Solnit examines the effects of walking on the famous philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau, including this wonderful quotation from the Genevan thinker: “I can only meditate when I am walking. When I stop, I cease to think; my mind only works with my legs.”

In a world of gadgets and gizmos, we tend to speed up rather than slow down. Walking gets us toward a different type of pleasure, though, it helps us see our creativity. Another creative type, Friederich Nietzsche, put it this way, “All truly great thoughts are conceived while walking.”

You’ve experienced it: those times walking in the mountains when your next book idea came along; the time, while walking on the beach, when you realized why your grandmother’s death affected you so greatly; and there was that one time when you didn’t want to stop walking with your daughter because the conversation was that good.

Walking frees us from our flaws and foibles to get us closer to the working of our minds. Instead of sitting, which can lead to anxiousness and worry, walking helps get our hearts pumping and it helps awaken our senses.

I’m not Socrates, I’m not Kierkegaard, nor am I Nietzsche. But I am a person usually think of walking as taking more time, and it certainly does, but that doesn’t mean it’s an inconvenience. In her rich book Wanderlust: A History of Walking, Rebecca Solnit documents our species’ main mode of transportation. In her chapter “The Mind at Three Miles an Hour,” Solnit examines the effects of walking on the famous philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau, including this wonderful quotation from the Genevan thinker: “I can only meditate when I am walking. When I stop, I cease to think; my mind only works with my legs.”

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I’m not Socrates, I’m not Kierkegaard, nor am I Nietzsche. But I am a person

Continued on page 10
Motet Sunday I
Sunday 15 September • 9:30am
The Elm Ensemble
& the Christ Church Choir
Hear two lovely Baroque classics performed during Sunday morning worship at Christ Church Lutheran—Bach’s motet Lobet den Herrn alle Heiden and Schütz’s Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt.

The Land of Three Faiths
Sunday 20 October • 4:00pm
The Rose Ensemble
The result of years of intensive research and training, Land of Three Faiths is at once sacred, secular, folk, and classical, embarking on a fascinating exploration of language, spirituality, and cultural exchange. This entertaining and enlightening program is steeped in the rich history of the Abrahamic faiths, achieving a perfect balance of edgy improvisation, exotic vocal styles, and ancient traditions. Learn more about the context for the music at the pre-concert conversation at 3:15pm in the sanctuary.

This is the only performance of the Land of Three Faiths program in the metro area this season. Don’t miss this remarkable opportunity. Tickets are $20 and are available through the Christ Church Lutheran office—612.721.6611

Vespers in Remembrance
Sunday 10 November • 4:30pm
The Elm Ensemble
Gary Wolfman, guest conductor
Bach’s hauntingly beautiful Cantata 106 was written early in his life while the great master was still working through the grief of losing both of his parents as a boy and then a series of other family members as well. Gary Wolfman conducts this intimate work as part of a larger commemoration of the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the beginning of the Holocaust.

Presentation Vespers
Sunday 2 February • 4:30pm
The Christ Church Choir
Paul Boehnke, guest conductor
The Christ Church Lutheran Choir is joined by members of the Elm Ensemble and a chamber orchestra of the finest early-music players in the region to perform Bach’s Cantata 161. Paul Boehnke, artistic director of the Bach Society of Minnesota, conducts this lovely cantata that is often used for the festival of the Presentation of Our Lord.

Motet Sunday II
Sunday 6 April • 9:30am
The Elm Ensemble
Experience Bach’s stunningly unique and epic motet Jesu, meine Freude performed during Sunday morning worship at Christ Church Lutheran.
Christ Church Lutheran will have an outreach presence 8am–1pm September 21 at the Midtown Farmers Market (not to be confused with the Midtown Global Market). The market is located at 2225 East Lake Street, between the Midtown YWCA and the Lake Street/Midtown light rail station. This is the first year that Christ Church Lutheran is sponsoring the popular South Minneapolis market, which has been a leader in providing access to fresh, local, ecologically sustainable food to all people in South Minneapolis.

Christ Church Lutheran will have a table that we will share with the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran and with Accordo. Please come and support both Christ Church Lutheran and the Midtown Farmers Market on Saturday September 21. To help out that day, please contact Gerry Tyrrell at 612-722-7444.

For more information about the Midtown Farmers Market, go to www.midtownfarmersmarket.org.

Call Committee Update

Christ Church Lutheran has begun the process of calling an associate pastor. A call committee has been selected and they have already been quite busy! Committee members are Jason Bergquist, Dick Bruesehoff (chair), Gene Bruss, Sally Messner, Rita Schoenike, and Clayton Smith.

Still in the early stages of their work together, they have dedicated time at each meeting to team building—getting to know each other a little better and discussing the gifts they each bring to the table. They have also spent time reviewing the seven key responsibilities of the associate pastor outlined in the staffing task force’s report and recommendations. Committee members went through
Join the Christ Church Choir!

Our church choir is recruiting for the fall season. We rehearse Thursday nights starting at 7:00pm, and rehearsals typically are just over an hour long. The first rehearsal of the season is Thursday 5 September. Occasionally, the choir is given a Sunday off. This fall, there is no rehearsal on Thursday 28 November (Happy Thanksgiving!), and the choir will not sing (as a choir) on Sunday 1 December (Happy Advent!).

We are a fun and talented group, and we love to welcome new singers. On the first Thursday of each month, beginning on 5 September, we will head to the atrium after rehearsal for snacks, drinks, and some social time together.

If you can't sing with us regularly, consider joining us for some special projects—Motet Sunday I (9/15), Presentation Vespers (2/2), and Motet Sunday II (4/6). See below for details. You also could join the choir for the Advent season, with rehearsal/worship commitments on December 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 24, and 25.

Learn more about the church choir at our display at the Welcome Sunday activities fair or by talking to any choir member or one of our cantors. An added perk this year: anyone joining the church choir gets a free private voice lesson with Sally Messner, who teaches right here at church.

Special Opportunities to Sing with the Choir

**September 15 | Motet Sunday I**
Repertoire: Schütz’s *Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt*
Required Rehearsals: Thursday 5 September, Thursday 12 September

**February 2 | Presentation Vespers**
Repertoire: Bach’s Cantata 161, guest conductor Paul Boehnke
Required Rehearsals: Thursday 16 January, Thursday 23 January, Thursday 30 January, Saturday 1 February

**April 6 | Motet Sunday II**
Repertoire: Bach’s *Jesu, meine Freude* (selected passages with the Elm Ensemble)
Required Rehearsals: TBA
who goes walking, which links me to these great thinkers. I go walking to reconnect with my neighborhood, the nature around me, and my community. Walking literally brings me closer to, and allows me to move through, these parts of my life. In the web of connectivity, walking lets us feel the texture of mud, gravel, cement, and grass. It lets me know that all I have to do is put one foot in front of the other.

—Taylor Brorby

Lectionary Readings
September 2013

Sunday 1 September
Jeremiah 2:4-13
Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sunday 8 September
Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1:1-21
Luke 14:25-33

Sunday 15 September
Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

Sunday 22 September
Jeremiah 8:18—9:1
Psalm 79:1-9
1 Timothy 2:1-7

Sunday 29 September
Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

Upcoming Educational Forums
Sundays 11:15am

8 September
Welcome Sunday
& Activities Fair
Much of our fall programming begins today or this week. After worship, come to coffee fellowship in the atrium and enjoy the activities fair, where you can learn about the many small-group ministries at Christ Church. To get a display table for your committee, group, or organization, contact Rita Schoenike.

15 September
Christ Church Goes to Leipzig
Cantor Farlee and Pastor Carlson
In June, Pastor Kristine Carlson and Cantor Robert Farlee, representing Christ Church Lutheran, traveled to Leipzig as part of the Minneapolis Area Synod’s delegation to the German Lutheran church. They have many stories to tell and new relationships to share with us.

22 September
Sabbath: A Gift for Twenty-First-Century Christians
Dick Bruesehoff
Sabbath-keeping is deep in the tradition for both Jews and Christians. What lies at the heart of the ancient Sabbath tradition and how can this be a gift to people of faith today?

29 September
Christ Church’s Endowment Fund
Donna Lindberg and the Endowment Committee
What is the Century Society and how do you become a member? Find out how designating the endowment fund in your will, insurance policy, or memorial gift can help Christ Church’s mission continue to grow abundantly and can help multiply our gifts for future generations.

Brighter Greener Higher Campaign a Success!
Raise $50,000 in just over two months? Sounds difficult. But the Brighter Greener Higher Fund Drive will meet that goal, an astounding feat. Many thanks to all the members and friends of the congregation who gave gifts. Each gift was essential for the success of the fund drive.

Thanks also to the Friends of Christ Church for a generous gift of $10,000. We are most fortunate to have such a partner walking beside us as we seek to be stewards of this beautiful building. Finally, thanks to the other members of the BGH task force: Mary Bode, Gene Bruss, Birgitte Christianson, Roger Gomoll, and Karen Westhoff. Well done, one and all.

—Bob Victorin-Vangerud, Congregation President
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<td>Motet Sunday I</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>9:30 AM Eucharist with New Member Welcome</td>
<td>1:00 PM Tai Chi Chih</td>
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<td>6:00 PM Preservation Alliance of MN Gala</td>
<td>10:00 AM New Member Class</td>
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Christ Church Lutheran—September 2013
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<td>Pat Baehler</td>
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<td>Samantha and Chloe Rice</td>
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Volunteer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services (9:30 a.m.)