



Welcome to the Light

FEBRUARY 2011
VOLUME 54, No. 2

Worship Services
9:30 a.m. each Sunday

Education
Adult forums begin at
11:10 a.m., following
Sunday worship
services

Life Together by Pastor Carlson

Dear Friends in Christ,

It's February! Many years at this time, we're hurrying to get ready for Lent, but not this year. This year, the liturgical calendar gives us a sweet gift: a long series of Sundays after Epiphany—all the Sundays of February and one more in March. Easter is just about as late as it can be, so we get the gift of time now—extra time like we will have this entire month.

And so the question for February is, "What shall we do with this extra Epiphany time?"

Epiphany is about *theophany*; that is, "God showing." God is shown to the Magi, who follow a star and find the Christ child. In the time after Epiphany, we celebrate the ways God is shown to us, too, and to all people, and the ways God shines in us, so that others might see God in us.

Inside this Issue

Contacts	2
Announcements	2
Readings	3
Adult Forums	3
Reaching 100 Years of Age	3
Retirees	4
Parish News	4
Birthday List	4
Helping Hands	4
Youth Corner	5
100 th Anniversary Celebrations	5
Council Mtg. Minutes	6
Calendar	7
Volunteer Schedule	8


I have a friend who recently entered the monastery at St. John's University. He is a very talented organist with a graduate degree in organ performance from a prestigious university. Up to this point, my friend has lived a pretty focused life—it's been music, music, music—and God has shined in this extraordinary musical gift of his. But as a novitiate in the monastery, my friend is now doing many other things that are part of the community life there. He's cleaning floors and toilets, learning to work the large Hobart dishwasher in the kitchen, helping to bake bread, and shoveling the snow that keeps falling this winter. My guess is that some of these tasks are difficult for my extraordinarily talented organist friend to submit to.

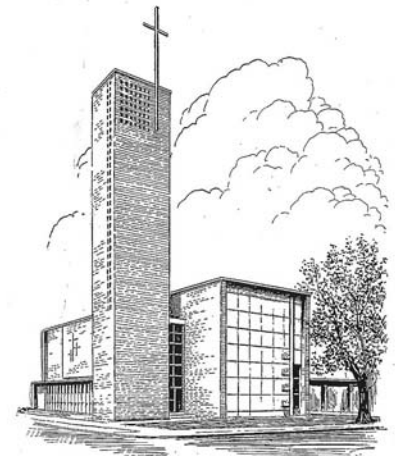
It's fascinating to me that my friend has taken a new name as a monk—Brother Theophane, meaning Brother *God Showing*. I haven't talked with him about why he chose this particular name, but I wonder if my friend didn't choose this name in hope that God, indeed, would shine in and through him. I wonder if he didn't take this name, too, to remind himself, as he is cleaning and shoveling and doin' the dishes, that God is revealed in these ordinary everyday tasks of service, just as God is revealed in extraordinary music-making.

Maybe this February, with the extra time we are given, we can all take on a new name, Theophane. As Theophanes, we can celebrate that God chooses even people like us in which to be revealed. We can also celebrate that God is revealed in the ordinary everyday things we do, as well as the extraordinary things that we are gifted for. It's all about God—God in us. With this extra time, we can be about letting the light of Christ shine in us—in the ordinary and in the extraordinary—for all to see, and know the love of God.

~ Pastor Kristine (Theophane Carlson)

Contacts and Information

 <p>CHRIST CHURCH LUTHERAN</p> <p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p>	3244 34 th 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:	Dan Mueller	
Property:	Gary Gustafson	
Stewardship:	<i>Open</i>	
Worship:	Yi-Ru Chen-Sarkanen	
Education:	Rita Schoenike	
Elders' Board		
Ute Swenson, Bob Swenson and Paul Hanson		



Announcements

Courier Deadline

The next submission deadline is February 15 (for the March *Courier*). E-mail Jan Radloff at: jan.radloff@mpls.k12.mn.us or submit content to the church office.



Readings and Psalms

Date: **February 6**

First Lesson: Isa 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Psalm: 112:1-9 [10]

Second Lesson: 1 Cor 2:1-12 [13-16]

Gospel: Matt 5:13-20

Date: **February 13**

First Lesson: Deut 30:15-20 or
Sir 15:15-20*

Psalm: 119:1-8

Second Lesson: 1 Cor 3:1-9

Gospel: Matt 5:21-37

Date: **February 20**

First Lesson: Lev 19:1-2, 9-18

Psalm: 119:33-40

Second Lesson: 1 Cor 3:10-11, 16-23

Gospel: Matt 5:38-48

Date: **February 27**

First Lesson: Isa 49:8-16a

Psalm: 131

Second Lesson: 1 Cor 4:1-5

Gospel: Matt 6:24-34

Date: **March 6**

Transfiguration of Our Lord

First Lesson: Exod 24:12-18

Psalm: 2 or Ps 99*

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Gospel: Matt 17:1-9

Date: **Wednesday, March 9**

Ash Wednesday

First Lesson: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or
Isa 58:1-12*

Psalm: 51:1-17

Second Lesson: 2 Cor 5:20b-6:10

Gospel: Matt 6:1-6, 16-21



**Contact the church office about which option will be used.*

Adult Forum Schedule

February 6, 13 and 20

Dr. Gary Simpson, who teaches Systematic Theology at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, will be with us for three Sundays to discuss faith and politics in America. This is a favorite topic of Dr. Simpson's and a timely issue for us to consider. Come, learn and engage in conversation about this topic and its particular and peculiar manifestations in our nation.

February 27

Come to a 100th anniversary celebration in honor of our outreach ministries: Meals on Wheels, Salvation Army Minnehaha Area Pantry, Our Saviour's Shelter and Plymouth Christian Youth Center. For more information, refer to the *100th Anniversary Celebrations* article on page 5.

Reaching 100 Years of Age

As Christ Church celebrates 100 years, we could draw comparisons between our congregation and people who have reached age 100. Consider the following.

Between 2001 and 2009, the University of Georgia studied 244 individuals who were at least 100 years old. Researchers found that centenarians' feelings about their own health, well-being and support systems, rather than measures such as blood pressure and blood sugar, are stronger predictors of survival. Personality also determined how well the centenarians reacted to life stress and change, and, therefore, whether they were as happy in their old age as they were when young. Healthy 100-year-olds had personalities described as open and conscientious.

Do you see the similarities to Christ Church? Longevity is possible when there is positive energy and people willing to support the church community. We have an open, welcoming congregation that helps bring new members to our midst. We have withstood stressful times, such as budget challenges, and many changes over the years, such as shifting neighborhood demographics. Nevertheless, our commitment and perseverance has endured. We have much to celebrate.

Retirees

There will be no meeting in February and March. Please plan to attend Wednesday afternoon Lenten services, followed by soup lunches.

– Bill and Phyllis Dunstone

Parish News

Baptisms

On January 9, we welcomed into Holy Baptism:

- Matias Toivo Chen Sarkanen, born August 7, 2010, to Simo Sarkanen and Yi-ru Chen-Sarkanen
- Sebastien Tristan Edwin Lewis, son of Norman Lewis and Laurence Davin, born April 7, 2000

Mary Bode is the baptismal sponsor for Matias and Simo Sarkanen for Sebastien.

Marriage

Susannah Kristine Carlson and Brian Lawrence Odlaug were married on December 30, 2010.

Deaths

Donald Weydt passed away on January 2. His funeral was held at Morris Nilson Chapel on January 5.

Myrtie Trudeau passed away on January 3. Her funeral was held January 13 at Christ Church Lutheran.

Happy Birthday to You!

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

2/3 Alan Ebel, Saige Wyatt
2/4 Amy Sampson, Cathy Polsfuss
2/7 Lee Schuett
2/8 Don Walmann
2/11 Doris Gliem, Sharon Mueller
2/14 David Kutzbach
2/15 Gary Gustafson
2/16 Leonard Rabe
2/17 Sylvia Bunting
2/18 Jane Buckley Farlee
2/22 Henry Painter, Elizabeth Pinske
2/23 Robert Buckley Farlee
2/28 Eileen Fjeldstad

Valentine's Day Tidbit

Only the U.S., Canada, Mexico, France, Australia and the U.K. celebrate Valentine's Day (according to the website www.corsinet.com).

Helping Hands

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

January and February 2011

John & Virginia Buegel
Bob Farlee
Carol Flanders
Roger & Liz Gomoll
Paul Hanson
Lynn Larson

Kay & Greg Madson
Kathy & Terry Rong
Larry & Marni Schmidt
and family
Rita & Ken Schoenike
Cathy Sieving



Youth Corner

by Luann Skrivseth

Senior Youth Group

Souper Bowl of Caring
Sunday, February 6
(after the worship service)

After the "souper" collection, we will choose our charity and go to buy food, followed by lunch at 5-8 Club!



Junior and Senior Youth Groups

Youth Performance Company presents:
"Mean"
Sunday, February 27, 12:00 p.m.

Bring a bag lunch and \$5.00.
Scholarship money is available.

*"I know God won't give me
anything I can't handle. I just
wish He didn't trust me so
much."*

- Mother Teresa

100th Anniversary Celebrations

by Mary Bode

Bearing the Name of Christ One Hundred Years + 2011

By the grace of God, we celebrate 100 years of ministry at Christ Church Lutheran.

We are thankful to you for your commitment to the ministry of Christ Church past, present and future. After worship on January 30, we will celebrate our congregation's life of ministry and those who have served in the ministry of Christ Church Lutheran. We will focus on the following groups and committees: council, budget/finance, property, elders, stationery and more. Please come to the Luther Lounge for a reception.

On Sunday, February 27, we will celebrate our outreach ministries, which our Mission Committee oversees: Meals on Wheels, Salvation Army Minnehaha Area Pantry, Our Saviour's Shelter and the Plymouth Christian Youth Center. If you have ever participated in one of these ministries, you know the rewards of serving and how involvement leads to understanding of mission. We will share the current needs of these ministries and how, in our next century, we as a congregation can continue to serve these ministries. All are invited to a reception in the Luther Lounge following worship.

Also mark your calendar for the following upcoming receptions:

- March 27 – Worship and Music Ministry
- May 15 – Education Ministry

100th Anniversary Committee:

Pastor Carlson, Bob Farlee, Martin Seltz,
Karen Woestehoff and Mary Bode

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from December 14, 2010

Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary

Education: Organizing things for Sunday's pick-up Christmas pageant; are planning a longer program this year. Sunday school is going well—one teacher/one student.

Mission: "Time and Talent" sheet needs to be more widely distributed. Being over budget, the only ad placed for the CCL Christmas services was in the *Nokomis/ Longfellow Messenger*. Mission board will have a new chair next year; Dan Mueller will become a member-at-large on the council.

Stewardship: Pledges are fewer than last year concerning the number of households and amount pledged. Marilu Peters is following up with some of the people who have not pledged. One-third of the people have signed up for Simply Giving. Would like to get more/new members for the Stewardship committee.

Treasurer's Report: No update at this time.

Pastor Carlson's Report: Highlights of the last month include:

- Celebrating our 99th anniversary on Christ the King Sunday; welcoming six new members: Susannah Carlson, Brian Odlaug, Erik Haaland, Daniel Holmgren, Ben Cherland and Ken Koense.
- Beginning our 100th year in ministry and mission. Our 100th Anniversary Committee is planning events and commissions that will mark this milestone. Our theme for the year will be "Bearing the Name of Christ."
- Preaching at the ordination of a woman whom I supervised during her internship in my previous congregation.
- Attending the funeral of Pastor John Bucka, along with other members of Christ Church.
- Numerous pastoral counseling and visitation sessions with members, with people interested in membership and with couples preparing for marriage.
- Entering into the season of Advent, with our Advent wreath once again hung from our balcony and with the high altar draped in blue.
- Making history with a huge snowstorm/blizzard over the weekend of December 12. We continued the tradition of never canceling worship at Christ Church, holding worship held in the chapel; Pr. Farlee presided and provided musical leadership and nine people came.
- Meeting with the Strategic Planning Committee that is working to develop a strategic plan for our congregation in 2011.

Motion by Dan Mueller; second by Rita Schoenike that the council recommends approval of the application of a woman wanting to do an internship at CCL next year. Motion passed.

Old Business

Fundraiser – no report

Organ Update – no report

100th Anniversary Committee: Mary Bode attended the meeting and provided information regarding the 100th Anniversary Committee's request for funding from the endowment interest account. Council will revisit this request in January.

Thrivent Line of Credit: Forms have been completed.

New Business

Strategic Planning Committee has been formed and is meeting.

Congregation Meeting/Annual Reports: Congregation meeting has been rescheduled for January 23, combining the election of officers and budget meeting with the annual meeting.

Announcement: Erik Haaland will be the chair of the Worship Board; Brian Odlaug will chair the Mission Board. Both will be attending council meetings.

February 2011

Christ Church Lutheran

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00 PM Stewardship 7:00 PM Common Committees	2	3 6:30 PM Longfellow Parish Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	4	5 10:00 AM Finnish Language School
6 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Bldg. Tour 11:10 AM Education	7	8 7:00 PM Executive Committee 7:30 PM Council	9 9:00 AM Stationery 10:15 AM Preschool Chapel 5:30 PM Visioning Committee	10 6:30 PM Longfellow Parish Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	11	12
13 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Education	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 	15 <i>Courier Deadline</i>	16	17 6:30 PM Longfellow Parish Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	18 No Preschool	19 10:00 AM Finnish Language School
20 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Education	21 <i>Presidents' Day</i> Office Closed No Preschool	22 7:00 PM FCCL Board Meeting	23 7:00 PM Communic. Committee 8:00 PM 100th Anniv. Committee	24 6:30 PM Longfellow Parish Basketball 7:00 PM Choir	25	26 1:00 PM Wedding— Amanda Jenkins & Ted Buegel
27 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Education 12:00 PM Youth Groups — Theater	28	<p><i>Super Bowl of Caring</i></p> <p>The Senior Youth Group will be collecting after the worship service on February 6. Funds raised through this offering will help feed the hungry in our area. Bring your generous contributions!</p>				

**Christ Church Lutheran
Volunteer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services (9:30 a.m.)**

Date	Assisting Ministers	Acolytes	Lectors	Head Ushers	Greeters	Prayer Writers	Nursery Workers
February 6	Kris Stedje	Donna Torgerson	Lynn Larson	Dave Kutzbach	Kevin Olsen		Marni Schmidt
	Pat Baehler	Donna Gawreluk		Dick Thompson	Will Stark	As of the <i>Courier</i> deadline, prayer writers were not yet identified.	
February 13	Simo Sarkanen	Kelly Brandon	Paul Hanson	Michael Jefferis	Carol Flanders		Samantha Rice
	Jeannette Bidne	Donna Gawreluk		Fred Bentz	Juanita Burke		
February 20	Jeannette Bidne	Sami Hoss	Mary Lou Doll	Gary Skrivseth	Bob Swenson		Luann Skrivseth
	Jason Bergquist	Jan Radloff			Ute Swenson		
February 27	Jason Bergquist	Donna Torgerson	Simo Sarkanen	Dave Kutzbach	Howard Polsfuss		Karen Woestehoff
	Kris Stedje	Lucille Buelow		Dick Thompson	Robert Swanson		
March 6	Grace Duddy	Donna Gawreluk	Marni Schmidt	Gary Skrivseth	Carol Flanders		Traci Boser
	Rachel Mann	Jan Radloff		Michael Jefferis	Juanita Burke		