



Welcome to the Light

DECEMBER 2011
VOLUME 54, No. 12

Worship Services
9:30 a.m. each Sunday

Education
Adult Forums
11:10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
(following Sunday worship
services and fellowship)

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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.*
Text: 1 John 1:1-7.
- 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.*
Text: Revelations 21:1-6.

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
Facilities:	Chuck Merrell
Courier:	Lynn Larson
Officers	
President:	Gene Bruss
Vice President:	Kevin Olsen
Secretary:	Jan Radloff
Treasurer:	Melody Pauling
Council	
Mission:	Brian Odlaug
Property:	Gary Gustafson
Stewardship:	open
Worship:	Erik Haaland
Education:	Rita Schoenike
Member-at-large:	Dan Mueller

Announcements

Advent Midweek Worship

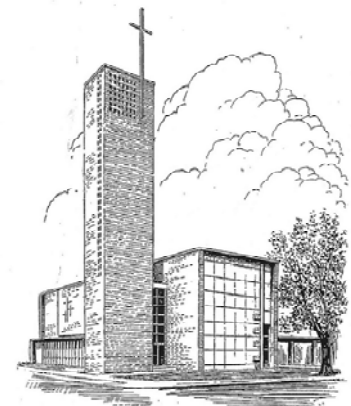
Mark your calendar for the three Advent services and meals—morning and evening—beginning Wednesday, November 30, and going through December 14. More information is provided on the front page.

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

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Date: **December 24 (Christmas Eve)**

First Lesson: Isa 9:2-7

Psalm 96

Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

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]*

Gospel: Luke 2: [1-7] 8-20 *or* John 1:1-14*

Date: **January 1, 2012**

First Lesson: Num 6:22-27 *or*

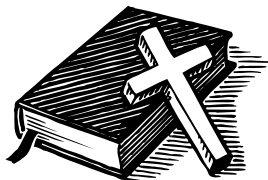
Isa 61:10—62:3*

Psalm 8 *or* 148*

Second Lesson: Gal 4:4-7 *or*

Phil 2:5-11*

Gospel: Luke 2:15-21 *or* Luke 2:22-40*



*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 |

Summary of Council Meeting Minutes from October 18, 2011

Respectfully submitted by Jan Radloff, council secretary

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

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Summary of Council Meeting Minutes continued...

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.

End of Council Minutes

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>CHRIST CHURCH LUTHERAN December 2011</p>				1 7:00 PM Choir	2	3 10:00 AM Finnish School 1:00 PM Finnish Party
4 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Bldg. Tour 11:10 AM Education	5 9:00 AM Stationery Party Meals on Wheels delivered Monday through Friday	6 7:00 PM Common Committees	7 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Lunch 6:00 PM Supper 7:00 PM Vespers	8 7:00 PM Choir	9	10
11 9:30 AM Eucharist followed by reception honoring Prs. Carlson and Seltz 11:10 AM Congregation Meeting	12	13	14 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Lunch 6:00 PM Supper 7:00 PM Vespers	15 7:00 PM Choir <i>Courier Deadline</i>	16	17 10:00 AM KidArt
18 9:30 AM Eucharist 11:10 AM Pickup Christmas Pageant	19	20 7:00 PM Executive Committee 7:30 PM Council	21 <i>Winter Begins</i>	22 7:00 PM Choir	23	24 Christmas Eve 5:15 PM Pre-Service Music 5:30 PM Carol Service
25 Christmas Day 9:30 AM Eucharist	26	27	28 11:00 AM <i>Retirees Christmas Party— Everyone is Welcome!</i>	29 6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal No Choir	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 7:00 PM Wedding

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

Date	Assisting Ministers	Acolytes	Lectors	Head Ushers	Greeters	Prayer Writers	Nursery Workers
December 4	Mary Bode	Donna Torgerson	Marni Schmidt	Dave Kutzbach	Kevin Olsen	Pat Baehler	Traci Boser
	Jason Bergquist	Phyllis Mattill		Dick Thompson	Will Stark		
December 11	Erik Haaland	Donna Gawreluk	Taylor Brorby	Gary Skrivseth	Carol Flanders	Kay Madson	Kelly Brandon
	Will Starkweather	Jan Radloff		Michael Jefferis	Juanita Burke		
December 18	Pat Baehler	Sami Hoss	Liz Gomoll	Dave Kutzbach	Howard Polsfuss	Melody Pauling	Ute Swenson
	Will Starkweather	Phyllis Mattill		Dick Thompson	Taylor Brorby		
Christmas Eve 5:15 p.m.							
December 24	Simo Sarkanen	Chuck Merrell	Simo Sarkanen	Jeanne Anderson	Jan Radloff	Will Starkweather	
				Phyllis Mattill	Kevin & Lynn Larson		
Christmas Day							
December 25	Taylor Brorby	Donna Torgerson	Ben Cherland	Gary Skrivseth	Jeanne Anderson	Erik Haaland	volunteer needed
	Phyllis Mattill	Donna Gawreluk		Michael Jefferis			
		Phyllis Mattill					
		Melody Pauling					
		Gene Bruss					
January 1	Jason Bergquist	Andy Hokkanen	Josh Messner	Dave Kutzbach	Kevin Olsen	Daniel Rinehart	to be determined
	Jan Radloff	Phyllis Mattill		Dick Thompson	Will Stark		