



# CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN

## NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

### BIRTHDAYS

Brenda Beaudette	11/1
Ron Hall	11/6
Charlie Skoglund	11/6
Rich Jaeger	11/12
Richard Hillrichs	11/15
Julie Freese	11/17
Donna Young	11/21
Jerry Beaudette	11/22
Wanda Muhs	11/22
Dallas Puls	11/22
Micheyla Anderson	11/24
Dennis Miller	11/25
Joan Falke	11/26
Riley Petersen	11/27
Heather Quaid	11/27

### ANNIVERSARIES

Rich & Deb Olson	11/6
Doug & Pat Witte	11/27
Bill Thoendel & Lu Carter	11/30

“Clank the Cans” will be passed in the pews on Sunday, Nov. 4, to pay for LWR quilts to be sent to Minneapolis.

**Thank-offering collection** will be received on the Sundays of Nov. 18 and Nov. 25.

### CARD OF THANKS

We would like to thank **Christ the Servant** for hosting a diaper and wipe drive. Diapers and wipes are such a high need for children and families we serve. This year we totaled over 6,000 diapers and 75 packs of wipes. This would not have been possible without you. Thank you so much for your support! *Bright Horizons*

## Fall Worship

The month of November concludes our church calendar year as the new church calendar year begins on December 2. For the past year we have been reading through the gospel of Mark. Luke will be our gospel in the coming year. Join us as we listen to Mark's account of Jesus as He approaches Jerusalem and we hail Jesus as the King of kings!

### November 4 – (John 11:32-44) **All Saints Sunday**

The raising of Lazarus

Special candle lighting service to remember those who have died in the Lord

### November 11 – (Mark 12:38-44) **Pentecost 25**

A widow's generosity

A look at stewardship and generous giving

### November 18 – (Mark 13:1-8) **Pentecost 26**

The end and the coming of the Son

Women of CTS Thank-offerings received

### November 25 – (John 18:33-37) **Christ is King Sunday**

The kingdom of Christ

Women of CTS Thank-offerings received

## **Congregational Meeting**

Sunday, November 18  
Proposed 2019 Budget

On Sunday, November 18, immediately following worship, there will be a congregational meeting to pass a budget for 2019. The Congregation Council has been working diligently the past two months to present a balanced budget for 2019 based on our giving in 2018. As a result we have had some significant changes in the budget to reflect a more realistic budget. The 2019 proposed budget will be placed in each member's church mailbox on November 4 (for those who do not pick them up, the proposed budget will be mailed). On Sunday, November 11, after worship, there will be an informal meeting to discuss the budget with the congregation where the Congregation Council will explain the changes they have made and a time for questions and discussion. On Sunday, November 18, the congregation will have its official meeting to adopt a budget for 2019. Your attendance and input is important as we move forward in our mission, ministry, and outreach.

## **Thanksgiving Eve Service**

Wednesday, November 21

On the evening before Thanksgiving Day, November 21, you are invited to gather for a time of thanksgiving, worship, and fellowship. Our service will begin at 7:00 p.m. with the theme from Psalm 107:1 – “Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.” The psalmist reminds us to tell our stories of God's unfailing love and faithfulness and tell of his wonderful deed for humankind. Our worship will be full of praise, promise, and prayer. We celebrate God's sign of his love and faithfulness as we share the Lord's Supper together. After worship you are invited into the fellowship hall to share with Pastor Steve and his family their traditional pumpkin bars as a time for them to thank you for your partnership and faithfulness in sharing and living out the gospel in your lives.

## **Midweek Family Advent Worship**

Wednesdays (November 28, December 5, 12, 19)

Our midweek Advent worship will begin on Wednesday, November 28, and continue each Wednesday through December 19. We will begin with a free-will offering meal which will be served between 6:00 and 6:45 p.m. We will continue with a short worship at 7:00 p.m., followed by a family craft project and discussion questions for conversation with coffee and desserts. Our theme will be “God with Us” with a weekly theme from the book of Isaiah and family project.

Week 1: “Our Potter (Isaiah 64:8-9)” – project: air-dried clay to make a Christmas ornament.

Week 2: “Our Shepherd (Isaiah 40:10-11)” – project: paper and cotton sheep.

Week 3: “Our Living Branch (Isaiah 11:1-2)” – project: grow a little Bethlehem field from grass seed.

Week 4: “Our Guide (Isaiah 2:3, 5)” – project: Bible bookmarks.

# My Letter to the Congregation

## “Let the Redeemed of the Lord Tell Their Story”

The writer of Psalm 107 begins with these words: “Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story – those he redeemed from the hand of the foe.” (Psalm 107:1-2) November is the month in which we celebrate a family holiday called Thanksgiving. It is a time when families gather for a special meal, give thanks to God for His many blessings, and enjoy conversation around the table with others. Of all the holidays we celebrate, Thanksgiving is my favorite because it is a 4-day weekend where rest and visiting is the main purpose. It is not about activity or opening presents or running from place to place. It is the one time EVERYONE sits down for a meal together where we give thanks for our family members God has placed into our lives. While Thanksgiving changes year to year due to absent family members, either by death and distance, it is still a day when we pause, reflect on God’s unfailing love, and give Him our thanks and praise.

The people of Israel often recalled the redemptive acts of God in their lives with festivals and meals. Israel understood the unchanging character of God – His redemption. In this psalm (I would encourage you to read Psalm 107 this month) the psalmist mentions four scenarios where people wandered away from God’s love and mercy. In verse 4, “some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle”; in verse 10, “some sat in darkness, in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in iron chains, because they rebelled against God’s commands”; in verse 17, “some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities”; and in verse 23, “some went out to sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters.” Each of these paths led people in each scenario where “they cried out to the LORD in their trouble” (verses 6, 13, 19, and 28) and in each case God “delivered” and “saved them from their distress” (same verses). As a result of God’s “enduring love” they “gave thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deed for mankind” (verses 8, 15, 21, and 31).

More importantly than their deliverance from their peril and distress is the fact that in each scenario the “redeemed” told their story. As you gather this Thanksgiving, all of us have experienced similar perils and distresses (wandering in a desert place, sitting in darkness as a result of a personal sin, being foolish by living without God in our daily life, or such busy lives that we neglect time with God). Regardless of our situation, I am sure you have cried out to God in one form or another. For many, you have experienced the unfailing love of God in some tough and hard situations. If you have experienced such a redeeming love of God, share that story around your table. If, however, you feel like you are in the midst of one of those scenarios and feel like God is not near, silent, doesn’t seem to care, or are questioning His love for us, read this Psalm 107 over and over again. God is more present than you will ever know. He knows your situation more than you can ever imagine. His unfailing love is watching over you and working in ways you are not even aware. How do I know that? Because I know God’s character and His character never changes. His love for you is always constant and unfailing. I know that psalmist speaks from personal experience and in the stories he has heard from others. Listen to his confidence in God’s unfailing love.

*(continued)*

“He turned the desert into pools of water and parched land into flowing springs; there he brought the hungry to live, and they founded a city where they could settle. They sowed fields and planted vineyards that yielded a fruitful harvest; he blessed them, their numbers greatly increased, and he did not let their herds diminish.” (Psalm 107:35-38)

Hear these words of promise. God has promised to take our “desert” emotions, our “parched” lives, our “hungry” and our longing hearts and bring us back to life again with His life-giving “water,” His “flowing springs” of new life, and His ability to help us “live” again. The psalmist concludes his psalm with these words: ‘Let the one who is wise heed these things and ponder the loving deeds of the LORD.’ (verse 43)

As you gather around your table of food, family and fellowship, I encourage each of you to read aloud Psalm 107 and become “wise” as you together “ponder” the loving deeds of the LORD. And then let the redeemed of the LORD (those gathered around your table) begin to share their own stories of how the unfailing love of the LORD was experienced in their lives this past year. And then be AMAZED at the unfailing love of God upon your family. HIS LOVES **ENDURES** FOREVER!

Anxiously waiting to share and hear the wonderful stories of God's unfailing love!

*Pastor Steve*

## October 15, 2018, Council Meeting Minutes

Present: Pastor Steve Lund, Steve Jessen, Emily Svitak, Doug Witte, Al Boelman, Steve Freese, Jan Puls, Steve Morton, Richard Hillrichs; Absent: Deb Olson, Warren Bennett

Emily Svitak opened with prayer and a devotion about prayer from "My Utmost for His Highest" by Oswald Chambers.

Approval of agenda items: Steve Freese moved to approve the agenda items with the addition of the audit report to new business. Jan seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of September 17 Congregational minutes: Doug Witte moved to add in wording to show that the number of the deficit is in regard to the total church deficit. Doug moved to approve the minutes with this correction. Al Boelman seconded. Motion passed.

Sunday School Report – Amanda Cyboron: Amanda has been teaching Sunday school for four years. Each year has had different curriculum, trying to find a good fit. Amanda has been developing her own curriculum based on what she has learned works for the children. She is starting from the beginning and working through the Bible from start to the end. She is seeking to create a foundation of the Old Testament in order to let the New Testament and its deep truths be built upon of that. All ages are together, and are benefiting because of the examples they see of each other. Rally day had 14 children attending, however on a typical Sunday, the numbers run around eight to 10 children.

Pastor Steve suggested that council members come and sit in on a class. It is hoped that involvement of any adults in the Sunday school class will cultivate relationship between different generations and families.

Pastor Steve shared about confirmation class. They too, are also taking their time going through the Bible and seeing God's plan and constancy through the Bible.

Financial Report: No report was given/prepared for this meeting.

Bank balances: General Account = \$11, 353.46; Savings Account = \$11,143.48; Endowment = \$7,150.60

Bill for approval: Renner's Cleaning Service for \$675.28 for carpet cleaning in sanctuary. Steve Freese moved to pay the bill. Steve Morton seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: The dedication of the dry walling project did not happen on Oct. 14, but will happen when it works for Susan Thompson and her family.

LCMC in Des Moines went well and Pastor Steve is continuing to process through what was learned in order to bring it to the congregation.

"Who Broke My Church?" is a book that Pastor Steve has been reading through. A major theme in it is making disciples... NOT church members. He is hoping to use this as a tool within the council and the church.

Budget: Council members discussed the budget and places for possible cuts in order to meet the lessened projected income/giving of 2019.

Doug suggested that we have another special council meeting to go over the updated budget again before the Nov. 4 projected date of budget handout to the congregation. This will perhaps give a better understanding of where income to date is. Oct. 29 at 6:30 p.m. will be this special meeting. Emily Svitak will meet with Kathy to put together this updated budget.

Business for Discussion at Next Meeting: Audit report and discussion will be moved to the Oct. 29 meeting. Service on Nov. 25 will be a lay service. More decisions as to how/who are yet to be made.

Jan Puls closed the meeting with prayer. The next special meeting will be Oct. 29 at 6:30 p.m. The next regular council meeting will be Nov. 19.

<b>2018 Income &amp; Expenses</b>		
	<b>September</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Member Offerings	12,941.02	124,264.19
Non Member Offering	325.00	2,310.00
Coffee Hour Donations	34.10	336.24
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)	20.00	2,135.04
Designated Church Property	500.00	5,255.26
Designated Memorials	205.00	2,560.00
Designated Day Camp	40.00	550.00
Designated Missions	25.00	2,217.00
Designated A Cyboron	70.00	510.00
Designated B Cyboron	50.00	450.00
Designated Weich	20.00	110.00
Designated Rystrom	-	50.00
Designated Day Care/income	3,660.48	42,152.97
Designated Good Samaritan	50.00	450.00
Designated Tanzania & Travel	-	5,246.00
Total	17,940.60	188,596.70
Interest Income	3.98	22.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,944.58</b>	<b>188,619.26</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration	8,367.13	81,342.92
Church Building	1,559.02	29,900.50
Parsonage	510.93	3,762.58
Discipleship	46.85	5,328.99
Fellowship/Evangelism	78.79	1,941.44
Church Mission Giving	1,200.00	11,555.00
Local Benevolence	319.42	3,399.74
Stewardship		183.64
Worship		1,960.50
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)		722.36
Day Care	5,122.93	52,750.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,205.07</b>	<b>192,848.08</b>
<b>Income Statement</b>		
General Income	13,324.10	129,068.03
Less General Expenses	12,082.14	140,097.67
Church General Income	1,241.96	(11,029.64)
Day Care Income	3,660.48	42,152.97
Less Day Care Expenses	5,122.93	52,750.41
Net Day care Income	(1,462.45)	(10,597.44)
<b>Net Church Total Income</b>	<b>(220.49)</b>	<b>(21,627.08)</b>



# November 2018



**Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat**

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p><b>MARK YOUR CALENDARS</b>  <b>November 18</b>  <b>Congregation meeting</b>  <b>2019 proposed budget</b></p> </div>		<p><b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE</b>            5:30 Confirmation            6:15 meal            7:00 worship or activity followed by communion</p>		1  9:00 Quilting	2  5:30 Girl Scouts	3  Daycare Halloween party, 2-4 p.m.
4 <i>All Saints</i> 9 Sunday school 10 worship 11 fellowship <i>Honey Sunday</i>	5  10:00 Women of CTS meeting	6 <b>Election Day</b>  5:30 Childcare meeting	7  <b>WNA</b>	8  9:00 Agape	9	10
11 <i>Pentecost 25</i> 9 Sunday school 10 worship 11 potluck Youth group	12  5:00 Hospitality 7:00 Ultreya	13  4:30 Stewardship committee	14  <b>WNA</b>	15  2:00 card club 6:45 MOPS	16  <i>Newsletter deadline</i> 5:30 Girl Scouts	17
18 <i>Pentecost 26</i> 9 Sunday school 10 worship 11 fellowship Mission & Ministry <b>Congregational meeting</b>	19  6:30 council meeting	20	21  <b>7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve service</b>	22 <b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>Office &amp; daycare closed</b> <b>Fellowship hall reserved</b>	23	24
25 <i>Christ is King</i> 9 Sunday school 10 worship 11 fellowship Youth group	26  6:00 Ultreya	27  7:00 worship committee 7:00 kitchen remodel meeting	28  5:30 Confirmation 6-6:45 meal 7:00 midweek Advent worship, family craft project	29	30	

Altar Guild: Linda Miller, Jo Roberts

Communion bread: Kathy Rogers

Membership Care Team: Deb Olson, Marsha Burke

Sunday, Nov. 4—Clank the Cans/quilts on display

Sunday, Nov. 11—Baptism of Rand Luther Petersen

Sunday, Nov. 18 and Nov. 25—Thank-offerings accepted