



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN

OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Fall Worship

The month of October

During our weekly worship we continue to follow Jesus in the 10th chapter in the gospel of Mark. Jesus continues to teach about marriage, riches and wealth, and how to live as disciples. On the last Sunday of the month, we celebrate the Reformation and how the truth of Jesus sets us free. Join us as we gather weekly to worship with the family of God at Christ the Servant and join in caring conversations.

Oct. 7 (Mark 10:2-16) **Pentecost 20**

Teachings on marriage

Prayers of LCMC National Gathering in Des Moines, Iowa (Oct 7-10)

Oct. 14 (Mark 10:17-31) **Pentecost 21**

Teaching on wealth and reward

"Stewardship Sunday" (understanding biblical stewardship)

Oct. 21 (Mark 10:35-45) **Pentecost 22**

Warnings to ambitious disciples

Guest preacher: Ade Pederson

Oct. 28 (John 8:31-36) **Reformation Sunday**

Jesus says, "Continue in my word and you will know the truth."

Truth is a person, not a concept.

The Truth Project

Begins October 7

Pastor Steve will begin a new Sunday school class for adults starting October 7. The class involves listening to 13 one-hour DVD presentations by Dr. Del Tackett (which will be shown in shorter segments). Each week the class will listen to a portion of the lecture by Dr. Tackett (recorded live within a college class). After listening to his

presentation, the class will discuss and share with each other using a study guide for each participant. The class is designed to take you on a guided worldview tour, following the points of the "worldview compass." This compass will direct our thinking on four fundamental issues: truth, God, man, and the social order. Along the way, we will learn how to organize and evaluate various opposing ideas that all claim to be truth. But our ultimate goal is not simply to gain knowledge. It is to "look upon the face of God"—and to be transformed in the process. This is an excellent course that will cause us to think in a worldview that matches God's design for us. Come, expecting to marvel at the world in which God has designed us to live. If you miss a Sunday, all the lectures can be seen on YouTube.

23rd Annual Holiday Boutique

Saturday, October 27 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

The time is drawing near and we need your participation and involvement. On Saturday, October 27, several crafters will be present to help us observe our 23rd Annual Holiday Boutique. The fellowship hall will be decorated for the festivities with homemade soups, bread, and pies. Sign-up sheets will be circulating during worship where you can sign up to provide food items as well as help on the day of the boutique. The success of the day depends on YOU. Please spread the word, invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Pick up some flyers and distribute them in your neighborhood and workplace. The community has come to enjoy our meal and crafters. If you have any questions, please contact either Mary Lund or Margaret Svitak.

Opportunities to Help Grow Your Faith

Where is the Spirit leading you this year?

Wednesday Night Alive – Wednesday nights (begins at 6:15 p.m.)

WNA is designed to be a cross + generational event where the entire congregation comes together in the middle of the week to share a meal and participate in the Four Keys of Vibrant Faith: (1) Caring Conversations, (2) Devotions, (3) Service, and (4) Rituals and Traditions. The evening will begin with a free-will offering meal at 6:15 p.m. (*we need volunteers to help prepare and serve the meal*), followed by either an informal worship or devotion/message/testimony or interactive activity.

Personal Study and Devotions
(Alone or with 2-3 others)

There are ample resources to use to grow in faith with others. Faith development is done best in groups versus alone. Find a resource on your own and invite 2-3 others to gather with you and begin meeting. If you are having difficulty finding a study, contact Pastor Steve for suggestions.

Kitchen Remodel Fundraiser News

Village Piemaker pies will be available for ordering Oct. 1-31. If you wish to order pies for the Holiday Boutique, they will be available for pickup after church Sunday, Oct. 21. All other orders will be available to pick up after church on Nov. 11. Our cost has remained the same so pies will be sold at \$12.50 each. Order sign-up sheets are on the cart.

Help is needed at our booth before, during, and after the Holiday Boutique on Oct. 27. Cookie bakers are still needed for the cookie fundraiser.

Please keep our fundraiser in your prayers.

Card of Thanks

Thank you so very much for all your thoughts and prayers during my Mom's long battle with Alzheimer's. God bless you all.

Chuck & Jeanne Nicholson

Thank you to my CTS family for their visits and cards while I was hospitalized. I am blessed with caring friends. I am also blessed with the gift of life and I thank God with all praise and thanksgiving.

A special thank you to Warren and Wanda for their efforts in providing a step and rail so it is easier for me to get up to the organ. I plan on trying it out soon. What a joy that will be.

Cherlyn Hillrichs

October Birthdays

Danita Broders	10/1
Steve Morton	10/2
Dorothy Schiermeier	10/4
Nick Koeppe	10/10
Wendell Muhs	10/11
Kay Jaeger	10/12
Delilah Broders	10/16
Mary Ann Knee	10/16
Cherlyn Hillrichs	10/17
Dylan Hall	10/18
Pastor Steve	10/20
Pat Witte	10/20
Ethan Olson	10/22
Hailey Roberts	10/29
Justin Jones	10/31
Jerry Shaffer	10/31

October Anniversaries

Steve & Julie Freese	10/2
Jeff & Connie Petersen	10/5
Steve Morton & Jo Roberts	10/12
Nevin & Tara Peters	10/17
Dean & Doris Hoffart (65 th)	10/24
Orlin & Carol Olson (60 th)	10/25
Ron & Korrie Hall	10/26
Jeremy & Sharel Olson	10/26

My Letter to the Congregation

"How to Apply the Teachings of Jesus" (7 Golden Rules of Learning)

Have you ever wondered how Jesus was able to instill His teachings into His disciples, especially with all the gospel references that they were "slow of faith to believe" and "did not understand what He was often saying"? If I had been Jesus I would have had a major concern heading into the final weeks of my life on earth with them. Three times Jesus had told them plainly what was going to happen to Him in Jerusalem. The Son of Man was going to suffer, be betrayed, be rejected, die on a cross and rise from the dead in three days. After each passion prediction (look them up in Mark's gospel – Mark 8:31; Mark 9:31, and Mark 10:33), notice how the disciples responded and acted. In the first passion prediction, Peter "rebukes" Jesus; in the second passion prediction, the disciples did not understand what Jesus meant and were afraid to ask Him about it (they were arguing among themselves who was the greatest); and in the third and final passion prediction, they want to sit at the places of honor next to Jesus. Interestingly, Mark brackets these three passion predictions with two healings stories of people who were blind (Mark 8:22-26 and Mark 10:46-52). In a very real sense Mark is asking us who the blind really are – those who can literally see but cannot "see" Jesus as the Messiah who will die and rise again or those who could not literally see but were able to "see" Jesus for who He is once Jesus opens their eyes. Which begs the question, are you "seeing" Jesus for who He is in your life or has your understanding been "blinded" from fully realizing the significance of Jesus in your daily life?

As an educator and having been raised in a family of educators, I began to reflect on how learning happens best. What factors are important so that any student not only learns the material but is able to understand its importance and apply it to their daily lives? As any good educator knows, a person learns in a variety of ways. Jesus, the master teacher, applied all of these and more. He knew the disciples would come to realize who He truly was and after the passion and resurrection would become true ambassadors and disciples who would "deny self, pick up a cross, and follow Jesus to the ends of the earth." So how can you and I learn from Jesus in such a way that it will not only "stick" but change the way we live as servants in God's Kingdom? I have [7 Golden Rules for Learning](#) which I believe can apply in your learnings from Jesus.

Rule 1: People learn by doing. Think about that for a moment. How many times did the disciples learn simply by watching Jesus? As they traveled with Jesus, Jesus would ask them to do the same thing. As each incident occurred, the disciples would learn a little more about who Jesus is, His character, His power, His compassion, etc. Are you learning by watching what others do? (I can still remember how to pray aloud by listening to fellow college students do it while I was in their presence.)

Rule 2: Learning is social. Learning always happens best in groups where you can interact with others. Faith development is not done in isolation. It happens with others walking alongside you. Jesus did not hold lectures with His disciples, He entered into daily conversation with them.

(continued)

Rule 3: People remember stories. People love stories and remember the characters in stories. In order to make learning stick, Jesus told everyday stories of life, presented case studies and gave examples ("The Kingdom of God is like a . . . "). Often after telling a parable, Jesus would take His disciples aside and ask them the meaning of the parable.

Rule 4: Small bits of learning are most effective. Our brains have a limited capacity to perceive and process information. Breaking learning into smaller bits enhance comprehension and retention of knowledge and skills. Again, Jesus was constantly breaking life lessons into smaller segments.

Rule 5: Learning is strengthened within a strong and caring community. Think about this one for a moment. Jesus spent three full years with His 12 disciples. How and with whom are you learning together? One process I have discovered is VantagePoint3 which is doing the exact same thing. Year One: The Journey; Year Two: A Way of Life; Year Three: Walking with Others.

Rule 6: Learners need intelligent feedback. Jesus often asked the disciples question to gather input to see what they were learning. In such an environment, Jesus was able to correct wrong thinking and attitudes, challenge growth to new insights, and reward them when they understood. As a follower of Jesus, where are you getting your feedback?

Rule 7: Learning takes more than one intervention. People will not develop a new skill from one lecture, one reading, or one sermon. Learning is an ongoing, lifelong process. Learning always circles back to what was previously taught where ample opportunities are given to practice new skills and understandings. Learning never stops. We cannot continue to be disciples if our faith has not grown since confirmation days. Seek to be a lifelong learner!

Jesus understood these principles and applied them to His disciples to the point that when He ascended into heaven, He knew He had prepared His disciples how to disciple others. So I end this month's newsletter article with a challenge: "How are you being disciplined? How are you seeking to apply the above principles in your desire to be a disciple of Jesus? And as you seek to become a disciple, are you looking for others to walk alongside and disciple?" As you can tell, discipleship is meant to be an ongoing, endless cycle, beginning with sitting at Jesus' feet with others and inviting others into the learning process.

Seeking to learn more and more every day,

Pastor Steve

PASTORAL ACTS: Sept. 10, 2018--Phyllis Raschke funeral at Forest Lawn Funeral Home in Omaha.

Congratulations to Jeff and Connie Petersen on the birth of their son, Rand Luther, on August 24. He joins siblings Lucas, Riley, Tate and Dagny.

Christ the Servant Council Meeting
August 20, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Pastor Steve, Steve Jessen, Deb Olson, Warren Bennett, Al Boelman, Emily Svitak, Doug Witte, Richard Hillrichs, Jan Puls, Steve Freese, Doris Hoffart

Absent: Steve Morton

Steve Jessen called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve offered a devotion from *All the Saints* about Nicodemus and the Holy Spirit's leading. Pastor opened with prayer. (Pastor Steve's hope and prayer is that the council as a group is more prayerful in meetings and decision making.)

Doug raised the question on the process of approval/paying of bills. It was suggested that each month there will be a detailed report of expenditures to be approved at each meeting. The report would have the claims to be paid and categories/accounts in the budget from which they would come. Steve Jessen will talk to Greg Moen about putting a report of the monthly claims to be approved each meeting.

Doug Witte moved to approve the agenda as presented. Al Boelman seconded. Motion carried.

Last month's minutes were amended concerning the \$300 day camp deposit. Doug moved to approve the minutes with the correction made. Deb seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Jan gave the balance report. Bank balance on July 31, 2018 was \$15,610.96. Bank checking balance as of August 14, 2018 (after bills were paid) was \$8,862.41. Savings account balance as of August 14 was \$11,149.46. (Numbers are according to report passed out to council members.)

Steve Jessen commented that the deficit for the daycare is because the state payment for the last three months has not been received. The deficit would be roughly \$3,000 with all the state payments received.

Jan brought the suggestion (from Greg) of bringing the lawn mower payment out of the property fund rather than the general fund to give more room. Discussion followed about budgeting and how to approach how bills are paid with the offerings being down.

Pastor Steve suggested that the congregation needs to be informed about the current budget situation, and that administration and missions are what will suffer. Opportunity needs to be given to the church to give and 'step up'. This information could be given in the newsletter, a separate/special letter, or during service.

Richard Hillrichs moved that three avenues would be taken. Letters would be sent out, giving statements would be put in the bulletin and given during worship service, and announcements would be given in parish newsletters. Al Boelman raised the question of whether we include the daycare. Al Boelman seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Steve Jessen and Doug Witte offered to work together on writing the letter that will be brought before the council to be approved. Letter will be aimed to be sent out by September 1. Steve Jessen suggested that Greg Moen be included in the collaboration.

Doug Witte moved to approve financial reports as received. Steve Freese seconded. Motion was passed.

Ministry Teams/Liaison

Pastor Steve suggested that the liaisons be in charge of putting together a budget for 2019 for each team. Proposals need to be sent in by September 10th in order to be brought forward for next month's meeting. Liaisons also need to come back with the description and responsibilities of the team to be put in the bylaws. (also to be sent in by September 10th.)

Old Business:

Dry Wall Project--Date for the project to begin is yet to be determined. Wanda Muhs has called to see when it will begin, but has not had any response yet. Help will be needed to move speakers, blinds, and wiring, etc.

Warren has an estimate for a painter. The estimation is \$5,539 for the painting of the sanctuary walls and ceiling, as well as the fellowship hall. Steve Jessen and Doug are going to look for at least two other bids for the job.

Warren presented a possible warranty for the lawn mower. The warranty was decided against.

New Business:

Pastor Steve's requested time away from congregation. Doug asked about how much time Steve is allowed away. It was suggested that the Vice President should be in charge of 'keeping track' of this time. (Six Sundays and Twenty Days allowed).

Pastor posed the question of Charlie Skoglund being 'approved' to give communion when Pastor is gone. (Suggestion to be discussed at a later date.)

Decision on whether to bring in another pastor for the dates Pastor Steve is gone will be made next meeting in September.

Steve Freese moved to accept pastor's requested time off. Jan Puls seconded. Motion carried.

Upcoming Events:

Richard asked about the blessing of the backpacks. This will be done on Rally Day on September 9th. The suggestion to invite the surrounding neighbors to it and the potluck was made. Fellowship/Hospitality will be organizing the potluck, which will happen after church around noon. They will also seek to organize the outreach to the surrounding neighborhoods. Steve Jessen and the youth will take information out on September 5th.

Richard Hillrichs closed with prayer. Next meeting is September 17, 2018. Steve Jessen moved to adjourn the meeting, Doug Witte seconded. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Christ the Servant Council Meeting September 17, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Pastor Steve Lund, Warren Bennett, Emily Svitak, Steve Morton, Doug Witte, Al Boelman, Deb Olson, Steve Jessen

Absent: Jan Puls, Richard Hillrichs, Steve Freese

Pastor Steve opened the meeting with a devotion from *Who Broke My Church?* and prayer.

Approval of agenda items was brought forward. Doug suggested adding the setting of dates for the yearly meeting in November. Steve Morton moved to accept adding the discussion for date for November meeting. Deb seconded and motion carried. Doug moved to approve agenda, Warren seconded and motion was carried.

Warren moved to accept the minutes of the August 20th meeting. Steve Morton seconded and motion was carried.

Financial Report

Doug will be meeting with Danita this week to go over reimbursements and accounts. Even with all the reimbursements, the daycare will still be in a deficit.

At the moment, the total congregation deficit is around \$21,400.

The question was raised about what is used as a fiscal agent. Do we continue to use Christensen? Shepherd's Staff? Steve Morton will take a look at whether Shepherd's Staff in order eliminate the cost of a fiscal agent.

Bills for approval process: Bills are paid twice a month. Steve Morton moved that bills that are fixed and typical each month such as salaries, monthly bills, administration, and missions do not need to be brought before the council. All other bills that are outside of these fixed amounts are to be brought before the council for approval each month. Warren seconded. The motion carried.

Greg's financial report was received and will be looked over more in meetings to come.

Pastor Steve presented a bill to be paid for confirmation supplies. Steve Morton moved to approve the reimbursement. Doug Witte seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Steve shared about books he is using in confirmation. Adult Bible Study will be starting the Truth Project. He encouraged each member of the council to come to a WNA and a Sunday school time to engage with the different areas. Youth will be meeting on 2nd and 4th Sundays after worship and on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Old Business

2019 Proposed Budget: Kathy is working on compiling all of the proposed committee budgets. Liaisons need to get those to Kathy if they have not done so yet.

It was suggested that a special meeting be held to look over budget in order to have it prepared in time. The annual congregation meeting is November 18. The budget needs to be published by November 4th and in mailboxes. November 11th would be a preliminary meeting with congregation to answer any questions before the approval. Monday October 1st will be a proposed budget meeting at 6:30pm to start putting together a preliminary budget. October 15th council meeting will be a time to finalize.

New Business

Update on dry walling: Painting is in progress. Carpet will be shampooed next week. Worship will be in fellowship hall for one more week. Steve Jessen proposed that once the painting of the sanctuary is done, we hold off on the finishing of the fellowship hall. Pastor Steve will be calling Susan Thompson to ask about the possibility of helping to finish the sanctuary instead of continuing with the fellowship hall.

Decision on guest speaker for October 21st. Doug moved that Ade Pederson come. Al Boelman seconded. Motion was carried.

Life Line Screening Request at CTS in March. It will be held in the fellowship hall. All members were agreed with letting the screening be held here. Pastor Steve will call and make arrangements.

Upcoming Events

October 7-10: LCMC Gathering in Des Moines (Pastor Steve gone)
October 17-21: VantagePoint3 Gathering/ Vacation at Estes Park (Pastor Steve gone)
October 27: 23rd Annual Holiday Boutique
November 24: Thanksgiving Eve Service
December 2: Advent begins

Next regular council meeting will be held October 15th at 6:30 p.m.
The special budget meeting will be October 1st at 6:30 p.m.

Emily Svitak closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

2018 Income & Expenses		
	August	YTD
Income		
Member Offerings	11,845.81	111,323.17
Non Member Offering	125.00	1,985.00
Coffee Hour Donations	23.00	302.14
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)	-	2,115.04
Designated Church Property	600.00	4,755.26
Designated Memorials	-	2,355.00
Designated Day Camp	-	510.00
Designated Missions	75.00	2,192.00
Designated A Cyboron	50.00	440.00
Designated B Cyboron	50.00	400.00
Designated Weich	50.00	90.00
Designated Rystrom	-	50.00
Designated Day Care/income	6,717.01	38,492.49
Designated Good Samaritan	50.00	400.00
Designated Tanzania & Travel	100.00	5,246.00
Total	19,685.82	170,656.10
Interest Income	0.91	18.58
Total	19,686.73	170,674.68
Expenses		
Administration	11,584.33	72,975.79
Church Building	1,890.38	28,341.48
Parsonage	557.48	3,251.65
Discipleship	612.76	5,282.14
Fellowship/Evangelism	213.10	1,862.65
Church Mission Giving	1,200.00	10,355.00
Local Benevolence	308.64	3,080.32
Stewardship		183.64
Worship	52.77	1,960.50
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)		722.36
Day Care	7,602.50	47,627.48
Total	24,021.96	175,643.01
Income Statement		
General Income	11,994.72	115,743.93
Less General Expenses	16,419.46	128,015.53
Church General Income	(4,424.74)	(12,271.60)
Day Care Income	6,717.01	38,492.49
Less Day Care Expenses	7,602.50	47,627.48
Net Day care Income	(885.49)	(9,134.99)
Net Church Total Income	(5,310.23)	(21,406.59)

Women of Christ the Servant meeting minutes

September 6, 2018

Present: Linda Sheppard, Tammy Buckendahl, Margaret Svitak

Margaret opened the meeting with devotion from The Utmost Highest by Oswald Chambers and led the group in prayer. Minutes from the Annual gathering on June 9th were read. Margaret made the motion to approve the minutes, Tammy seconded. Motion carried.

Old business—Plans were finalized for the Quarterly Gathering on September 8, 2018. Margaret will decorate. She will also do the devotion and prayer. Margaret will also do presentation on the women of Tanzania and fund raising to provide them with sewing machines. Linda and Margaret signed a signature card for the checking account. Linda will return it to the bank.

New business--Discussion was held on how to incorporate our Bible verse into the year for the women's group.

Margaret's next crafting weekend will be October 5-6. She will present that the proceeds be donated for the sewing machines for the Tanzanian women's group.

Meeting adjourned.

Quarterly Gathering, September 8, 2018

The meeting was opened with prayer by Margaret followed by light snacks served by the board.

Old business was presented by Linda Sheppard. Since we have no Secretary for this year that volunteered, Shirley and Linda went before the church board and they approved for the 2018-2019 year we appoint a secretary at each meeting.

Margaret led a devotion discussion on the September 6 devotional from the Utmost Highest. What obstacles do we have in our lives. If we keep our eyes on the Source, eventually we will overcome the obstacle. Never allow anything to come between you and Jesus Christ.

Mary Weich asked if the women would be willing to donate the batting for the quilt that she will be raffling. She will donate proceeds for the sewing machines to the Tanzanian women's group. Michelle A. made motion to approve, Linda C. seconded. Motion carried.

Margaret then did a presentation on their trip to Tanzania. She presented the idea of donating the money from the crafting weekend towards the sewing machines. Goal would be to set the amount of \$1,000 to be given and the WCTS would make up the difference to that amount. This was approved by all present. The crafting weekend will be October 5 and 6. She presented a treasurer's report of \$1,674.71

Our Bible verse was handed out and everyone was given a magnet and a bottle cap from Africa. Margaret asked that we display it in a prominent place to remind us of it daily. She handed everybody a rough rock and a smooth rock tying into the devotion. The rough rock represents our obstacles and the smooth rock representing how we would like to be defined after overcoming them.

Linda handed out the forms for the Secret prayer Sisters. We will be placing this on a table in back of the church and making an announcement. We would like to have these turned in by the first week of October to get them assigned.

Meeting was adjourned.

Card of Thanks



Thank you for always remembering the riders at S.M.I.L.E. I thank God for all the helping hands He finds to keep His program going. Very grateful!

Patty Prauner

Thank you for your donation of \$239.42 to Mercy Meals. Your kindness will feed almost 2,000 people. May God bless you.

Rhonda Wrenholt, director

OCTOBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE 5:30 Confirmation 6:15 Meal 7:00 Worship or Activity (alternates weekly)	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 Council proposed 2019 budget meeting	2 9:30 Steward- ship 5:30 Childcare oversight	3 WNA	4 9:00 quilting 6:30 MOPS steering	5 1-10pm CTS crafting week- end 5:30 Girl Scouts	6 8A-8P CTS crafting week- end
7 <i>Pentecost 20</i> 9:00 Sunday school 10:00 worship 11:00 Fellowship Mission/Ministry team meeting	8 5:00 Hospitality 7:00 Ultreya	9 4:00 Women's board meeting	10 WNA	11 9:00 Agape	12	13
Pastor Steve at LCMC gathering in Des Moines, Oct. 7-10						
14 <i>Pentecost 21</i> <u>Stewardship Sunday</u> 9:00 Sunday school 10:00 worship 11:00 Potluck Youth group	15 6:30 council meeting	16	17 WNA 7:30 youth group	18 2:00 card club 6:45 MOPS	19 <i>Kathy (vacation)</i> <i>newsletter deadline</i> 5:30 Girl Scouts	20 PASTOR STEVE'S BIRTHDAY
Pastor Steve at VantagePoint3 in Estes Park, Oct. 17 thru 21						
21 <i>Pentecost 22</i> 9:00 Sunday school 10:00 worship 11:00 Fellowship Ade Pederson, guest preacher	22 6:00 Ultreya	23 7:00 worship committee	24 WNA	25	26 <i>Set up for Holiday Boutique</i>	27 Holiday Boutique 10 a.m.--2 p.m.
28 <u>Reformation</u> 9:00 Sunday school 10:00 worship 11:00 Fellowship Youth group	29	30	31 Happy Halloween <i>(no Confirmation or WNA)</i>			

Youth Group meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays at noon
and the 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.