

July  
2018



## **Christ's Messenger**

**"To know Christ and to make Him known"**



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
The American Association of Lutheran Churches  
A fortress of safety in a post-Christian frontier.

### **CARL'S CORNER**

#### Upcoming Ministries

Wednesdays 6-8  
Youth Nights at Church

Saturday, July 14  
5-8 PM  
Family Game &  
Potluck Night

Sunday, July 15  
Hannah Circle  
Food Share

#### **Christ Lutheran Church**

2415 Ensign St.  
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone:  
218-722-7537

website:  
clcduluth.org

email:  
church@clcduluth.org

Facebook:  
Christ Lutheran Church  
Duluth

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of Patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of Man and citizens. The mere Politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity" President George Washington

"The great pillars of all government...[are] virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible." Thomas Paine

"In my opinion, the present constitution is the standard to which we are to cling.... Let an association be formed to be denominated 'The Christian Constitutional Society,' its object to be first: The support of the Christian religion. Second: The support of the United States." Alexander Hamilton

"We have no government armed in power capable of contending in human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other." President John Adams

So much for separation of church and state!

The Founders were concerned about the Federal Government embracing the Church of England as the state church of all of the colonies just as it was in England. Although the state of Virginia had indeed adopted the Church of England as its official church and had taxed its citizens to support it, other colonies were not so disposed and made sure that Virginia's plan was not made mandatory for the other states.

And although, just as in any society, there were anti-church and anti-faith citizens and politicians, the overwhelming majority of representatives were people of faith who wished to preserve religious freedom and promote faith among the people.

On this Fourth of July, pray that the pernicious idea of separation of citizens from their faith will be exposed for the fraud that it has become. We are now a secularized nation with less than 50 percent of our people involved in their faith. Pray that people will return to faith in God through Christ our Lord who is the true ruler of all nations and the hearts of all people.

A blessed Fourth,

Pastor Carl



Interim Pastor: Carl Bengtson  
Cell phone: 770-828-5937

Church Office: Juliana Morgan  
church@clcduluth.org  
218-722-7537

Vice-President: Carolyn Lofald

Treasurer: Laurie Wiita  
treasurer@clcduluth.org

Youth coordinator: Chris Stumpf  
clcyouth\_duluth@yahoo.com

Church Website: www.clcduluth.org

### **Sunday Worship**

Praise Time—9:15AM

Worship—9:30AM

Sunday School - 11AM (Sept.-May)

Adult Bible Study—11:00 AM

### **MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:**

**Mary Circle 1st Thur. 9:30 AM**

**Esther Circle 1st Thur. 6:30 PM**

**Dorcas Circle 2nd Mon. 1:00 PM**

**Hannah Circle 2nd Sat. 1:00 PM**

**Women's Bible Study -  
3rd Thursday 10 AM**

**Lutherans for Life -  
2nd Sunday 6:30PM**

**Council Meeting-2nd Thursday**

### **FACT Televised Services**

#### **Duluth:**

Charter Ch. 180

Sat. @ 9AM & 9PM;

Sun. @ 7AM

#### **Superior:**

SCMC 180

Wed. @ 6:00pm

Sun. @ 10:00am

#### **Hermantown:**

Sun. @ 8 AM

Thur. @ 2 PM

Sat. 8 @ AM

## **July 2018 Serving Schedule**

### **July 1**

***Ushers:*** Mike & Wendy Pickar; Mike & Pam Wendling

***Greeter:*** Kay Dahl

### **July 8**

***Ushers:*** Gary & Carolyn Lofald; Paul Holt; David Wood

***Greeter:***

### **July 15**

***Ushers:*** Jim & Gayle Maruska; Mike & Wendy Pickar

***Greeter:*** Grace Wells

### **July 22**

***Ushers:*** Mike & Pam Wendling; Paul Holt; David Wood

***Greeter:***

### **July 29**

***Ushers:*** Gary & Carolyn Lofald; Jim & Gayle Maruska

***Greeter:*** Kay Dahl

### **August 5**

***Ushers:*** Mike & Wendy Pickar; Mike & Pam Wendling

***Greeters:*** Grace Wells

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### **Trustees:**

***July 1:*** Grace Wells & Kim Mitchell

***July 8:*** Sandy Carlson & Sue Boder

***July 15:*** Wendy Pickar & Ouitdee Carson

***July 22:*** Stacy Homstad & Bill Arezzo

***July 29:*** Grace Wells & Kim Mitchell

***August 5:*** Sandy Carlson & Sue Boder

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### **Coffee Servers:**

***July 1:***

***July 8:*** Luther League

***July 15:*** Dorcas Circle

***July 22:*** Council Group 1

***July 29:*** Library

***August 5:*** Mary Circle

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### **July Mission of the Month: Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry**

Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry brings the good news of Christ's perfect life, his death in the place of sinful people, and his role as the one who promises eternal life and hope to the college and University campuses in the Columbia, Missouri area. Central to this work is having a pastor often present on campus, ready to talk, and, more important, ready to listen. Having a pastor means you have someone who can help you find that hope. You have someone who will pray for your specific troubles, meaningfully and confidentially. You have someone who will walk with you through your trials, not judging you, but bringing God's words of guidance, guarding your confidentiality, and treating you with respect. When you realize you need God's forgiveness, the pastor reminds you that Jesus came to earth, suffered, and died for all your failings and that he lives to bring you eternal forgiveness. Through individual and small group Bible studies we can explore the riches of God's Word together. Occasionally we have larger gatherings, either in local churches or on campus, for celebrations of historic worship.

Please prayerfully consider a donation to this month's chosen missions. You may make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Thank you for your continued support in our mission "To know Christ and to make Him known."

**Please Pray for...**

**The Leadership of the Church**

**The Call Committee**

**Youth Group Kids & Leaders**

**Sunday School Kids & Leaders**

**Open Arms Daycare**

**Mission of the Month:**

Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry

**Pray for each other**

**Pray for our Country,  
Troops & Police**

**Pray for Persecuted**

**Christians throughout the World**

**Those with Health Needs:**

Gerald & Aletha Bartels

Shirley & Sig Randa

Bryan Goepfinger

Brian MacDonald\*

David MacDonald

Donna Swanson\*

Shirley Kern\*

Dennis Peterson\*\*

Dick Seseman\*\*\*

Larry Kubiak\*\*\*

Wayne\* & Jean Sundstrom

Bill & Jane McLean\*\*

Katie Lund\*\*

Susan Johnson\*\*

Vi Boder

Russ & Carol Schramm

Ruth Dahl

Leo Plewa

Mary Jenny

*GWEN NELSON  
JULY 11*

*CAROL BLAIR  
JULY 14*

*CAROLYN LOFALD  
JULY 24*

*ZACH CARSON  
JULY 24*

*DON JOHNSON  
JULY 27*

*BOB JOHNSON  
JULY 31*

*All the days ordained for me  
were written in  
your book before one of  
them came to be.*

*How precious to me are  
your thoughts,  
O God! How vast is the  
sum of them!*

*Psalms 139:16,17*

\*in the hospital, recently released,  
or anticipating surgery

\*\*receiving therapy or ongoing medical care

\*\*\*in hospice care

*If there are any people who have been accidentally overlooked, please contact the church office. We apologize for any oversights.*

**FINANCIAL UPDATE: Annual Budget: \$241,059; Weekly \$4,636; YTD Need \$115,900**

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Daycare</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>6/24/2018</b>	\$2,229	\$ 0	\$2,354	\$4,583
<b>YTD</b>	\$72,468	\$4,570	\$31,298	\$108,336

Full Financial reports are posted in the Narthex after each council meeting

**Collection for May Mission of the Month:**

**Project Timothy: \$626.00**

**World Gospel Mission: \$586.00**

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

*Matthew 6:21*



We will be hosting the Luther League from Lake Madison, South Dakota on July 19-22. We will be doing out reach mission projects together along with other events and Bible fellowship.

August 7th is National Night Out and the youth have been working with Piedmont Dental again this year to have a fishing pond and face paint at their event. We are looking forward to reaching out to the neighborhood at this event.

Any questions, please contact Chris Stumpf at 218-310-2747

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*How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word.  
With my whole heart I seek you;  
let me not wander from your commandments!  
I have stored up your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.  
Blessed are you, O LORD;  
teach me your statutes!*

*Psalm 119:9-12*



Sunny day wishes to everyone!

We are having a great time at daycare enjoying the summer weather. We hope you are too! The children have been working on learning the Lord's Prayer. They love learning new things. I often hear them singing Jesus loves me during play time. It is so heart warming to hear Adam tell the other children "Jesus loves you!" Some of the parents have commented on how much they appreciate their children learning about Jesus at daycare and the church visits with Pastor Carl.

Little Cora and her mom attended Christ Lutheran one Sunday a few weeks ago. Cora wanted to give her mom a tour of the church like the Pastor has with the children.

Precious lunch time prayers...

"Dear Jesus thank you for mommy and daddy and daycare."

"Dear Jesus thank you for loving me and my friends."

"Dear Lord Jesus thank you for my baby brother and mommy and daddy."

"Dear God thank you for mommy and daddy and my fun toys."

"Dear Jesus thank you for my friends and for pizza and cookies."

Our littlest ones are now taking part in prayer time too by saying "Amen, Amen."

One of the mom's shared recently that when she put her daughter to bed and told her she loved her, her daughter popped up in bed and said "Mommy Jesus loves me too". So precious!

It is such a blessing to be able to care for these wonderful children as they learn about our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him Psalm 127:3 NLT

We are learning new stories from the Bible and making coordinating crafts and snacks. If you would like to share a favorite craft or activity with the children please let us know. We are looking forward to our next visit with Norma. We had fun making ice cream sundaes with her. Thanks again Norma! The kids have been referring to you as the ice cream lady.

Many thanks to all of you who pray for us! We really appreciate it.

We will have two openings in the fall for preschool age children. Evan has graduated from preschool and will be attending Kindergarten in the fall. We would love to have some fun new children join us.

May God richly bless all of you today and always!

Mary Jo

# Special Congregational Meeting to be held - July 11 at 6:30 PM to be held in the Fellowship Hall

## Purpose of the meeting:

To vote on proposed expenditures to replace our boiler and make repairs to brickwork on the exterior of the building.

Our current boiler is 16 years old. Life expectancy for a boiler of this type is between 15 and 20 years. This boiler has been problematic mostly due to venting and exhaust issues and CLC has spent \$18,000.00+ over the past 3 years for boiler repairs/maintenance. Our boiler technicians have recommended additional repairs that will cost over \$10,000.00. Due to the age of the unit and additional costs, it has been recommended that we replace the system. The council is reviewing bids; current bids are between \$32-50,000.

Many of you may have noticed the deteriorating brick on the outside of our building. Some brick faces are falling off. There are drainage issue causing some of the problems and that also needs to be addressed. We will be replacing brick in some areas, tuckpointing areas where it is needed and recaulking the expansion joints. Estimates for this work are running about \$15,000.

The proposed boiler replacement must be voted on as any expenditures over \$25,000 must be approved by the congregation per the CLC Constitution/Bylaws.

We need your input in a timely manner, so these issues can be addressed before the next heating season. The exterior repairs will only become more expensive and widespread the longer they are delayed.

We are working to get several bids for both projects.

Also of note, The building was probably hit by lightening in a recent storm. This caused many electrical issues in the building that are still being sorted out including: our phone system which was fried (we currently have temporary equipment), damage to office computer and copying machine in basement, several cables were fried. An insurance claim will be filed once we have a comprehensive list of equipment that was affected.

We are blessed with having money in our investment account to cover the projected costs. The council is asking members to prayerfully consider additional giving for these projects (place in a separate envelope and label Building Fund, envelopes are in the pews).

Please pray for wisdom and guidance,

CLC Church Council

## *UPCOMING EVENTS AND MINISTRIES*

- ◆ Family game & potluck night is Saturday, July 14 from 5-8 PM.
- ◆ The annual Mary Circle Enger Tower Picnic will be on August 2 at 12:00. Please see Carol Sogard to place your order for a KFC lunch of either white or dark meat.
- ◆ Don't forget! The first Sunday of each month is FOOD SHELF SUNDAY! Please bring an item or two to help those in need. Cash donations are also appreciated.

Dear Christ Lutheran Church Family,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord!

We have had many changes over the month of June in our church and feel it best to inform everyone through our Messenger Newsletter. You should all be made aware that the leadership of Christ Lutheran Church has experienced some great losses. Your leaders give countless hours of their time and talents. It has been stressful, no doubt, however, actions and words have consequences. It is not necessarily one event or comment but a culmination of attitudes and actions over time that has resulted in resignations. Our Council President, Jim Carlson has stepped down from his position as the President of our church and Chair of the Call Committee. Bob Halvorson also left the Call Committee. Others of us are praying that God will give us direction and provide healing. In turn, the Call Committee was not able to focus on the Call process. The Call Committee did meet June 14 with the petition authors and resolution was agreed upon. The Church Council was then updated by Mark Wiita. To be clear, per our constitution, everyone has the right to call a special meeting with 25 or more signatures. To those of you that signed a paper in regard to one of our candidates a couple of weeks ago, this was actually a petition to call a special meeting and you should be receiving an explanation of that process very soon. If you do not receive a personal notice within a week or two, please contact me. For those of you that did not sign, but are wondering what is going on – a copy of the explanation is also printed in this Messenger. We are working through this in a Christ-like manner. The Call Committee has resumed the Call process. Moving forward, as a reminder, we encourage anyone with questions regarding the Call process to please speak directly to one of our Call Committee members. Mark Wiita is the chair, other members are Mike Pickar, Lillian Fontaine, Kim Matuseski, Kim Mitchell, Keith Youngren, and Carolyn Lofald. Thank you for your understanding. We ask you to support this whole process with prayer. The Call Committee will be contacting another candidate and setting up an interview very soon. As we have in the past, we will keep you updated as to our future decisions. Pastor Cooper has been contacted and is continuing to pray about the position, he is still a viable candidate for consideration.

Our church motto is: “To know Christ and to Make Him Known”. We come to Church on Sunday to Worship our Lord and Savior and we glorify Him through our words and actions. So, as way to keep our Sunday’s sacred and be in good fellowship with one another, we would like to “Proclaim” that every Sunday at Church be “Our Father’s Day”! Come with a thankful heart and Worship our Heavenly Father and spend time loving and encouraging your neighbor; not grumbling and being negative. Speak to each other as if you are speaking directly to Christ himself. Ephesians 4:32 reads: *Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

During our announcements on Sunday mornings, we will give you as much information as is available at the time to keep you updated of the Process. If you have a concern about something, we ask that you give a Council Member or Call Committee member a phone call during the week. We would be happy to discuss the issue or give you direction on whom to speak with. Again, let us keep Sundays as a day of Worship, a day to catch up with our church family and a day to Love one another!

It is our hope to have a Prayer Meeting every Wednesday evening as we keep our Church and the Call Process in Prayer. Please check with our church office for times. Please pray for healing for those who are hurting, and be praying for wisdom for our leaders and the Call Committee of this church, for God to guide and direct all of our words and actions, to place a new Shepherd into our flock and for brotherly love and unity to abound in Christ Lutheran Church.

In His Service,

Carolyn Lofald (Vice President) & the Executive Board

Please read: Acts 2:42-47

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This is what I would like to say to those who signed the petition:

I just wanted to let you know that we are not going forward with the petition that was signed on June 3. Those of us who brought the petition forward did not have the full understanding of the call procedure and should not have started a petition. We sincerely regret any confusion this caused and ask that you forgive us. We did not mean to cause any misgivings, cause confusion, or hurt anyone in anyway. Please pray for the call committee as they complete the duty they were called to do in finding a pastor for the church. Pray for patience as this is a longer process than I think most of us realized. Pray for healing of those that were hurt emotionally. And pray for forgiveness for all involved. Thank you for your understanding.

Mike Stumpf, Chris Stumpf, Les Johnson