



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

Christ's Messenger

"To know Christ and to make Him known"

CARL'S CORNER

Ma pit' om!

I could very well have exclaimed so if I were a modern Hebrew speaker.

It means, "No way!"

The occasion? Around 6 a.m. on a fateful morning in July. Half an hour earlier, fitfully sleeping through a lengthy lightning and thunder spectacle, SUDDENLY there came an ear-piercing crash that nearly tossed me from my cradled comfort.

"Wow," I nudged my snuggled companion, "That sounded close." Since the sound appeared generated to the north instead of the neighboring church sanctuary to the west, the thought of any cataclysmic event involving the church was easily dismissed and I resumed sweet slumber, only briefly to be hindered by the feint sound of sirens and then shortly thereafter the SUDDEN exclamation: "There are firemen on the roof of the church!!"

Yes, a direct lightning hit followed by a fire that has changed life for me and all of us at Christ Lutheran.

Interesting that the word for "sudden" and the word for "no way" are the same word in the Lord's language. They both communicate a disbelief as a result of an event that creates such a change in circumstances that you immediately perceive it will drastically affect the way you live out your life. The word is "pithom" from the root word "Pethah" (pronounced peh' thah). It means something that happens without warning that alters reality.

So here we are, now worshiping as diaspora at Peace in Christ Lutheran Church at the invitation and generosity of our dear sisters and brothers in the faith while we patiently begin the process of recovery. We don't know exactly when we'll be back in God's sanctuary. We'll rejoice at the time when we can worship again where we used to. We're also working diligently to use our basement for worship services. There are still some hurdles to jump and you'll be informed, of course, when we transition to the basement for worship.

Meanwhile, "yes way," our lives have changed in a changing world, but our faith is in the Changeless One, our Lord Jeshua haMachiach, Christ Jesus our Lord.

Pastor Carl

August 2018

Thursday, Aug. 2 at 12:00
 Mary Circle Picnic at the
 Hermantown Pavilion -
 5255 Maple Grove Road

Sat. August 11
 5-8 PM
 Family Game &
 Potluck Night

Thursday, August 16
 10 AM
 Women's Bible Study

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

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

**The Deadline for
submitting news for
the Sept. Messenger is
Monday, August 27.**

August 2018 Serving Schedule

August 5

Ushers: Mike & Wendy Pickar; Mike & Pam Wendling

Greeter:

August 12

Ushers: Jim & Gayle Maruska; Paul Holt; David Wood

Greeter: Laura Melander; Norma Johnson

August 19

Ushers: Gary & Carolyn Lofald

Greeter: Carol Blair; Donna Swanson

August 26

Ushers: Mike & Wendy Pickar

Greeter: Laura Melander

Dear Church Family,

We are asking each of you to prayerfully consider helping us out by signing up to be an usher or greeter. We are currently down to 12 ushers, rotating every 3 weeks and two greeters. This has been a hardship for our current ushers and greeters and we need some relief, please!

Qualifications are simple: A friendly smile and ability to show kindness to one another. We will pair you with a seasoned usher or greeter, so no need to be nervous or anxious! In the meantime, if you have questions or want to sign up, please call Carolyn at 722-8392 or Wendy at 722-6112.

Trustees:

August 5: Sandy Carlson & Sue Boder

August 12: Wendy Pickar & Ouitdee Carson

August 19: Stacy Homstad & Bill Arezzo

August 26: Grace Wells & Kim Mitchell

September 2: Sandy Carlson & Sue Boder

Coffee Servers:

August 5: Mary Circle

August 12: Luther League

August 19: Council Group 2

August 26: Esther Circle

September 2: Mary Circle

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:

Lutheran Bible Translators

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 Goeppinger

Brian MacDonald

David MacDonald

Donna Swanson

Shirley Kern

Dennis Peterson**

Dick Seseman***

Larry Kubiak***

Bill & Jane McLean**

Wayne & Jean Sundstrom

Katie Lund**

Susan Johnson**

Vi Boder

Russ & Carol Schramm

Ruth Dahl

Florence Kubiak

Leo Plewa

Mary Jenny

Marlene Stauber

*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.

Hymn for August

Ancient Words

Holy words long preserved For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart O let the ancient words impart
Words of life words of hope Give us strength help us cope
In this world where'er we roam Ancient words will guide us home

Ancient words ever true Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts O let the ancient words impart

Ancient words ever true Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts O let the ancient words impart

Holy words of our faith Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice O heed the faithful words of Christ
Holy words long preserved For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart O let the ancient words impart

Ancient words ever true Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts O let the ancient words impart

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.

The next
Hannah
Circle Food
Share will be
on August 15



Pastor Carl's last Sunday
with us will be
August 26.

We thank him for his
wonderful ministry of
shepherding Christ
Lutheran Church and
wish him all the best as
he and Joan return to
their home in Georgia.



On July 19, after almost a year of planning, the Luther League from Grace Lutheran Church in Nunda, SD and Lake Madison Lutheran Church in Rutland, SD joined our Luther League for a day of missions. There were 16 youth from SD and 8 youth from our area. We were able to stay in the dorms at UW-Superior at a really great rate! We spent the whole day on the 20th helping the Twin Ports. We started the day mixing the groups up and dividing into three teams to clean up the beaches on Park Point. Then in the afternoon we worked all together to help out the city of Superior by cleaning a section of Wisconsin Point. This turned out to be the favorite as we all got to work together as we helped restore a section of beach that had been damaged by the recent storms. There was lots of drift wood and huge logs blocking the access to the beach. We were allowed to burn the driftwood and as it turns out, with a shovel and a lot of team work, the group was able to dig out many tree stumps and logs blocking the beach. The city of Superior was very thankful for the work that was done. The next day we showed them the beauty of the area. We went to Enger Tower and took them on a Vista cruise. We went up the shore to Gooseberry Falls as well. We discussed the beauty of Gods creations and praised God for allowing us to care for such beauty. Because they had to leave early on Sunday we held a small service in the Stumpf family's garage. We sang songs, read a Bible lesson, and had a mini sermon by Andrew Virkus. Many new friends were made and the kids and adults grew closer to God. We look forward to working with them next year on our way to CO for the National Youth Conference! Thank you to Ally, Jessica, Jacqueline, Pam, and Andrew for their help in planning and execution of this awesome event as we "Bridged the Gap Through Christ."

Happy Summer Everyone! We hope you are all enjoying our warm sunny days.

We have been spending as much time as we can doing fun outdoor activities. We had another great time with Norma, A.K.A. The ice cream and cookie lady. The kids just loved frosting your delicious cookies and learning new things with you. Thank you so much for being so sweet and blessing us with your time. We are looking forward to our next fun time with you!

Our hearts are sad about the lightning strike damage at the church building. We miss our special lessons with Pastor Carl and we miss hearing the songs coming from the church when we played outside. Sometimes we would sing and some of the children would even dance when we would hear the music coming from the church. We look forward to hearing the songs again when the church is repaired. Special prayers for all of you as you await the repairs to the church.

Thank you Gwen for spending your special birthday with us. Thank you for the ice cream treats too! You are so thoughtful! We are so excited to have a comfy love seat to have story times on, thank you to Don and Priscilla Olson for donating it to us. Thank you Jim for all you do for us, too! One of the little girls was so excited when she arrived at daycare at the same time Jim did to help us with our garbage. She said "Mom I know him. His name is Jim. He mows the lawn, takes away our stinky things and he's really nice!" We think you're great! Thank you Judi for always being willing to help with questions about the computer or printer. Thank you for all you do for us and always being kind and caring! Thank you to Carolyn, Grace, and Laurie for all you do for us! We appreciate you all so very much!

Just wanted to share these cute comments from the parents...

One of the little boys told his Mom "I live with Jesus."

Another mom shared that her little boy sings *Jesus Loves Me* everywhere they go. He sings *Jesus Loves Me* in restaurants, at his relatives homes, at friends' houses, and even when he is shopping in stores. Another mom was so pleased when her two and a half year old son was reciting The Lord's Prayer at home. It's so much fun to hear these things. We have been working on learning John 3:16 and it is going really great. This month we are learning about baby Moses and Praising the Lord.

Some of our other activities will be having a week about pets. We will have a pet shop, a Vet Clinic and an animal adoption center. The kids will learn how to care for and love their pets.

At the end of the week the kids can adopt a furry faux friend to take home!

Bless you all with lots of love and happy times!

Psalm 100:3 - *Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us. We are His, we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.*

Mary Jo



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

Well, with no pun intended, we can say that the month of July was full of fireworks! Now with two lightning strikes and a fire, God is telling us that we need to pull together and make all things new!

As many of you know, we were hit by lightning at 5:27 a.m. on Thursday, July 12. The lightning bolt came in at the top of the cross, traveled down the ground wire and bolted out through the bottom where the speakers are for the carillon. It blew a hole in the roof of the cupola and started the whole cupola on fire. The bolt was so severe it broke one of the rafters under the roof and knocked out some of our ceiling over the altar. Thankfully, it was reported by a passer-by who immediately called 911. Five fire engines arrived within minutes including the hook and ladder. They pried open the east door with hardly any damage at all, ran inside, took the plastic that was covering all the altar items, pulled it all together and ran to place them in the back pew (the bible, cross, collection plates, etc). They then placed giant tarps over the altar, pulpit and podium. They covered the pianos and other items too. This must have been done before the water even started coming through the roof. I was called on my cell phone at about 5:35 and told by the police that the church was on fire and they wanted to know if anyone was in the building. They asked how quickly I could come and Gary and I were there within 10 minutes. They were still putting water on the roof, when we arrived, but the fire was out. When we were allowed to enter, one of the firemen presented me with the bible from the altar and I started to cry. There is a little tear on the top of the page that is open to the 23rd Psalm. I thanked them over and over for doing their best to care for our things. They then began instructing me on what I needed to do... Call an electrician, your insurance agent and get a fire and restoration service here as soon as possible. I started calling and lining up the help we needed. Our phone system blew out again so had to use my cell phone. I met with the adjuster on Thursday evening and had one of the Restoration people explain to our church council the restoration process. (Yes, we had a council meeting on top of it and met in the parsonage basement - Pastor's Carl's home). He shared it will take 3 to 6 months to make all the repairs needed. I called Master's Piano shop and he explained that the smoke is toxic and will ruin the strings and components on the pianos and organ. We had them removed on the 18th and they will be cleaned, checked and stored off site until we are ready to have them back. As water came into the basement through the floor above the kitchen and part of the fellowship area, those areas are now being cleaned - all the dishes are being removed from the cupboards and washed and cupboards are being washed down. All the hymnals, song books and other items have been removed from the sanctuary and ozoned. All of our audio visual equipment will be checked for damage and may need to be replaced. Demolition of the ceiling over the altar will hopefully begin next week and we can then better access the damage to the electrical at that point. Mark Youngren will be meeting with the restoration estimator to see how much structural damage has been done and how we will rebuild the cupola so we are up to code. I will be working closely with the restoration team to make sure all our items are being cared for. We hope to have services in our fellowship hall beginning on August 12. We will keep you posted. A special thanks to all of those that have offered to pitch in wherever needed. Also a thank you to Gary's BNI group that has donated \$910.00 to date to our church. This will about cover the cost of our \$1000.00 deductible. Praise God how He works! Our copier and phone will be covered by insurance also and will be replaced soon. We continue to move forward with installation of our new boiler and complete our brick and drainage project.

Please, please, have patience with us and with each other during this time. We will not be whole for a while yet. When this is over, all of the rooms in our church will be clean and organized. With God's help, we will be all shiny and new before Christmas. Continue to pray for a new Pastor to lead us and for our restoration project. Please call Carolyn at 722-8392 or Sandy at 723-1653 if you have any questions. God's blessings on us!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MINISTRIES

- ◆ Duluth Gospel Tabernacle (1515 West Superior Street) is presenting a Bluegrass Gospel concert by the Burchfield Family Saturday, August 5 at 6 PM. This family has recorded music with the Gaither Band and seeks to praise the Lord with their music.
- ◆ Family game & potluck night is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 11 from 5-8 PM.
- ◆ The next Hannah Circle Food Share will be on Sunday, August 12
- ◆ Women's Bible Study will resume on August 16 at 10 AM.
- ◆ 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.

August Mission of the Month:

Lutheran Bible Translators

Lutheran Bible Translators (LBT) has been bringing the Scriptures to people without the Bible for 50 years. An independent Lutheran mission organization, their missionary efforts are funded completely by the generous donations of churches and individuals.

Starting in Liberia and Sierra Leone, they have grown to 78 missionaries serving in 17 countries on 5 continents. LBT missionaries, working with local churches and partners, have helped translate over 30 New Testaments, making God's Word available to more than 7 million people. But there are still more than 4,000 languages in the world have no portion of the Scriptures translated into their language. This represents over 350 million people.

Translation is at the heart of what LBT does, but it is only the beginning. LBT missionaries organize and help co-ordinate literacy and Scripture Engagement programs. Those who can learn to read obviously benefit from the printed New Testament translations. For those who cannot read they develop other types of communication and media, including CD's and DVD's. LBT missionaries also encourage, promote and help develop use of local music and instruments for worship and liturgies.

As people use, study, and share Scripture, their lives are transformed through God's grace and the Holy Spirit. LBT believe all people should have the opportunity to understand God's Good News as presented in the Scriptures. No language or cultural barrier should prevent people from having access to God's Word.

Please prayerfully consider a donation to this month's chosen mission. 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."



Russell Schramm August 13

Jean Sundstrom August 20

Jane Sommerfeld August 26

Lorna McLean August 29



Dear Christ Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the beautiful quilt. I know lots of love and prayer went into it. It will keep me toasty warm. I plan on going to LSC in the fall. Thank you for all of your support over the years!

Grace DeRocher

FINANCIAL UPDATE: Annual Budget: \$241,059; Weekly \$4,636; YTD Need \$134,444

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Daycare</u>	<u>Total</u>
7/22/2018	\$2,912	\$0	\$2,332	\$5,253
YTD	\$81,883	\$5,880	\$35,791	\$123,554

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

Collection for June Mission of the Month - The Sending Place:

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

Matthew 6:21