



Christ's Messenger

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The American Association of Lutheran Churches



"To know Christ,
and make Him known."



July 2023

Christ Lutheran
Church

2415 Ensign St
Duluth MN 55811
clcduluth.org

Church Office
218-722-7537
church@clcduluth.org

Acting President
Carolyn Lofald
218-390-8357

Deacon Chair
Jim Carlson
218-343-6755

Every Month:
No Esther Circle
July or August

Wed. Summer Study
6:00 PM - *The Chosen*
No Study July 5

No Council Meeting
in July

Food Share
4th Thursday
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

AA
Mondays at 6:30 PM

Dear Church Family,

We hope you are enjoying your summer and your time spent with loved ones and family celebrations. We ask our Lord to watch over our church family and keep everyone safe and healthy. Our Lord has blessed us abundantly with more than we will ever need. We are so thankful. Please keep those in our church family with health needs and those that have lost their loved ones in your prayers.

We have seven volunteers serving on our Call Committee: Gayle Maruska, Cindy Kent, Karen Blakesley, Don Olson, Bill Arezzo, Mark Youngren, and Mike Pickar as the Chair. I am sitting in on all the meetings as the acting president of the church, but I have no vote. As I was on the last call committee, I am able to lend advice and provide input. We have had two meetings as of this writing and have reviewed, completed and turned in most of the necessary paperwork to begin the Call process. We were required to get references from three businesses in our area or vendors that have worked with us, and we are waiting for those to come back to complete the process. Dr. Cary Larson, in turn, will select candidates based on the information we provided. All of the information we have turned in to date is available in our church office to review during office hours if you would like to read what we have submitted to date. Please ask any one of us if you have questions about the process. We ask that you please continue to keep this Call process in your prayers; asking that God would give wisdom to the Call Committee when they begin their interviewing process and that He would provide us with a wonderful man to shepherd us. We trust He already has a man in place for us.

Please keep our Deacons in your prayers. With summer being a busy time, it has been a little harder to secure pastors to provide our church services. In turn, the Deacons may have to do more of our services for us. Also, due to our short summers, we are needing to look for pianists to play at our services. Cindy Kent is able to help on some Sundays and Carol Blair has come out of retirement to help, too. Thankful, that Carol's cousin, Sharon Nylander is also available to play for us.

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Assisting with July Ministry

July 2

Ushers: Carolyn Lofald; Bill Arezzo

Trustees: Laurie & Laura

Scripture Reader: Sandy Carlson

July 9

Ushers: Mark Youngren; Keith Youngren

Trustees: Jim & Laurie

Scripture Reader: Jim Carlson

Communion Assistant: Mike Pickar

July 16

Ushers: Bill & Jan Arezzo

Trustees: Bill & Grace

Scripture Reader: Keith Youngren

July 23

Ushers: Wendy Pickar; Grace Wells

Trustees: Wendy & Carol

Scripture Reader: Gary Lofald

July 30

Ushers: Jim Carlson; Mark Youngren

Trustees: Laurie & Laura

Scripture Reader: Jim Carlson

*If you have a conflict with these dates,
please contact Jim Carlson at 218-343-6755*

Financial Update

May Income: \$8,587.00

May Expenses: \$21,358.77

*Monthly income was over
expenses by \$under 12,771.77*

YTD Income: 47,269.55

YTD Expenses: 65,123.64

*YTD income was under
expenses by \$17,854.09*

May Mission:

Fellowship of Christian Athletes:

\$730.00

Full financial reports are
available in the office
upon request



Coffee/Fellowship Servers

July 2: Esther Circle

July 9: Deacons

July 16: Lowaine M.

July 23: Esther Circle

July 30: Lowaine M.

August 6: Lowaine M.

August 13: Esther Circle

August 20: Lowaine M.

August 27: Esther Circle

Livestream Operators

July 2: Eli A.

July 9: Keith L.

July 16: Gary L.

July 23: Eli A.

July 30: Keith L.



*We are still looking for Livestream
operator volunteers!*

*If you are interested in serving
in this ministry,
we are willing to train!*

Our church secretary, Judi, has requested summer hours. The summer office hours will be Monday-Thursday, 8:30 to 1:30 and she will have Fridays off. We are blessed to have Judi as our secretary. She is doing a wonderful job putting the service bulletin together for us and preparing the power-point for our screens.

We will try to have volunteers checking the phone for messages over the long weekends. **If you have an urgent need, please do not leave a message.** Please, reach out and give one of us a call – Carolyn at 218-390-8357, our Deacon Chair, Jim Carlson at 218-343-6755, Mike Pickar – 651-338-4171, Keith Youngren – 218-491-3668, Mark Wiita – 218-391-2003 or Gary Lofald – 218-590-8217 and we will do our best to help however we can. Please pass this information along to family members too.

We also ask that you keep our church council members in your prayers. We have been serving you for many years and doing our best to keep our church running smoothly. Again, reach out to any one of us if you have questions, needs or concerns. We want to keep our lines of communication open. We ask for your patience and to extend to us your grace and your prayers as we continue to move forward under God's hand.

Some verses to encourage & remind us of God's provision:

Psalm 145:15-16: *The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.*

Philippians 4:19: *And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His Glory in Christ Jesus.*

A Happy and Safe 4th of July to All!
God's blessings!
Carolyn Lofald



Food Share: Thursday, July 27 from 11:30 - 12:30

Packing starts at 10:30 AM

Thank you for supporting this ministry.

Sunday services are livestreamed on our Facebook page:

Christ Lutheran Church Duluth at 9:30 AM

You can also log onto our website clcduluth.org



Christ Lutheran Church Duluth



Christ Lutheran Church Duluth

FOOD SHARE UPDATE

We continue to provide a grocery bag full of non-perishable food items to those in need. We send a note out to the Duluth Schools which in turn sends messages to the families in our area. We distribute these bags from our church basement on the fourth Thursday of each month. Our grocery bags consist of three different meals, i.e.,: breakfast cereal, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti noodles and sauce, canned vegetables, canned fruit, and a \$15.00 gift card so that they can purchase meat from our Super One store. We try to change up our menu every month. We also have activity bags that we hand out to those with young children. Those include a small coloring book that we make in-house, crayons or water color paint, a small craft, and a treat. We also provide a "Birthday Bag" which consists of a cake mix, a can of 7-up with a recipe attached to make the cake with, a can of frosting, candles, a birthday napkin and a Birthday Blessings Card. These have been well received by those that stop for food. We are also in the process of working with Chum to get some fresh produce and protein supplies from them.

If you would like to volunteer to help pack bags, please arrive at 10:30 in the morning the day of the event. If you would like to help distribute bags into vehicles, please arrive by 11:15 as our guests start coming at 11:30. The event goes through 12:30.

If you are unable to give a monetary donation, but would like to help in some way, please bring a box of Honey Nut Cheerios or a can or two of whole kernel corn or green beans and place them in the barrel in the Narthex entrance. This will help offset our purchases of these items.

We give thanks to our congregation for their prayers and support of our Food Share. The recipients are very grateful!

BLESS YOU!

July Missions of the Month: Project Manana & Women's Care Center



Project Mañana in the Dominican Republic (Gary Lofald's recent mission trip) is a charitable organization dedicated to sharing the gospel and breaking the cycle of poverty by investing in impoverished children, their families and communities through clean water, nutrition, education, and discipling projects.

They achieve their goals through charitable donations and child sponsorship, which unites children in need with individual sponsors who wish to address the children's immediate and basic needs. Sponsorship gives poor children the tools and opportunities necessary for success by providing benefits and supporting programs for each child - primarily in the areas of education and nutrition.

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER



The Women's Care Center provides free, confidential counseling, support, and education to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

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."

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Esther Circle will not meet in July or August. Join us again in September.
- *The Chosen* Wednesdays at 6:00 PM.
 - **THERE WILL BE NO BIBLE STUDY ON JULY 5TH**
 - The second week in July the movie will be shown on Tuesday, July 11 at 6:00 PM
 - BBQ on July 11. Meat is provided, please bring a side dish to share.
- No Council meeting in July

THEIR OFF!!!!

Eli, Hannah and Gabe, along with their sponsors Sue and Mark will be heading to Estes Park Colorado for the AALC Youth Convention on July 8 and returning July 15. We pray for their safe travels by van to Estes Park, praying that the Holy Spirit will fill them and draw them closer in their walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Heavenly Father, we come before you in thanksgiving that you care for all your children. Thank you for providing the opportunity for these young people to gather in your holy name at The AALC National Youth Gathering. Draw them closer to your Son. Prepare their hearts for your message. Keep them safe in their travel, as well as the adult sponsors who travel with them. Strengthen their faith through the teaching and fellowship of this convention. Finally, prepare our congregation to support our children and the maturing of their faith. Grant to us the means to guard and protect the tender faith of our beloved young people. We pray this in the Holy name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

Lynn Erickson has been moved to Bayshore. She may need to be there for a couple of months as she is not able to bear any weight on her ankle. Her stitches have been removed and she is in a cast. Lynn would welcome your visit, cards and phone calls. Please keep her in your prayers.

Lynn Erickson

Bayshore Residence and Rehabilitation

1601 St Louis Ave Room 146-2

Duluth, MN 55802

Bayshore Phone Number: 218-727-8651 (have her room number)

*Thank
you!*

*Thank you all at Christ Lutheran Church for the thoughtful
and fun parting gifts...camping stuff and "Chosen" stuff...so special!*

We love and appreciate you all!

Blessings,

Sue and Pastor Gary

July Maintenance Report

We are enjoying the flowers in our gardens that the Esther Circle has planted for us! We thank them for all their efforts in beautifying our church. They welcome volunteers to help with watering! Please see an Esther Circle member to sign up on the watering schedule.

We thank Jim Carlson for mowing and fertilizing and taking care of the grounds for us. We also thank him for all the other little odds and ends he fixes when they come up. We still need to redo some of the retaining wall blocks at the church and replace the edging along the sidewalk that holds in the rock. We thank Mike and Gary for getting the dirt and grass seed to fill in the bare spots that were by the dumpster and along the parsonage driveway. This was a hard winter.

We had Sinnott Blacktop come and fill in the potholes for us to help maintain the parking lot. It was their suggestion not to put anymore money into the lot as it needs to be redone in the foreseeable future. The current cost of removing the old blacktop, regrading and replacing with new and striping is \$152,000.00 at today's prices. We have started a parking lot fund to help build up money towards that.

Benson Electric came and made the repairs to the lines coming into our church. They went through a process called re-jacketing. Thankful to MN Power for bringing that to our attention. Brian Maruska, our electrical inspector, helped make a decision on the most economical way to make that repair. Our thanks to Brian and Chris from Benson Electric for their help!

Gary G., our custodian, has been working hard to keep the church looking nice for us. He has been outside giving the playset a coat of stain. We will replace one of the glider handles on the playset and need to replace a board and a plastic ring on the yellow slide. It has been getting a lot of use from area children!

A big thank you to Mike Pickar for removing the remaining carpeting from the basement floors in the parsonage! As you recall, when the sump pump failed, we had water damage to the carpeting. Removing that carpeting has helped significantly with the musty smell that was there. We are looking into a vinyl flooring that can be removed and relayed in the event we have another water issue. That may run over \$10,000.00 as there is quite a bit of square footage to cover with the rec room and two bedrooms. Mike was also able to get the air conditioners set up and installed in the bedroom and dining room windows for our guests. The parsonage has been working very well for our visiting pastors, their spouses and families when they come to provide services for us. Thank you to Grace Wells and Wendy Pickar for cleaning between stays, changing out bedding and doing the laundry!

Again, we plan to repair the retaining wall on the east side of the parsonage. We ask that if you note something that needs to be repaired that you would bring it to our attention. We are in need of volunteers to help with items that need to be repaired, so please reach out if you are able to help. Many hands make for a lighter load!!

We are so thankful that God has given us the resources to take care of all that He has blessed us with and also for our church members that have been given the gifts and ability to repair items when needed. If you have questions or concerns, please notify me at 218-390-8357.

God's blessings,
Carolyn Lofald
Maintenance Chair

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
Hebrews 4:16*

The leadership of the church
Call Committee
The ministry at Union Gospel Mission
All of our students from pre-school to college
Our country, military & police
The teachers and students at all schools
Pastor Yount and his ministry in Slovakia

The steadfastness of our faith
Mission of the Month:
Project Manana
& Women's Care Center
Persecuted Christians throughout the world
Lutheran Vicar Mwavu Ronald and his
two churches in Uganda

THOSE WITH HEALTH NEEDS:

Carol Johnson	Luanne Wachula	Mary Jenny	Carol Sogard
Florence Kubiak	Jane McLean	Mark Malander	Maggie Kaptonak
Brian McDonald	The Lund Family	Donna Swanson	Tom & Marlene Stauber
Linda Anthony	Carol Schramm	Carol Schneeberger	
Del Sandberg	Jean Clark	Lynn Erickson	

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



The funeral for Carol Jackson will be held at Christ Lutheran on July 13. Please remember her family in your prayers.

Our sympathies to the family of Barbara Hanson who passed away on June 11, 2023.

The funeral service was held at Christ Lutheran Church on Friday, June 16.

Please remember Barbara's family and friends in your prayers.

Happy Birthday!

*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!
Psalm 139:16,17*

Janice Spindler	July 6
Carol Blair	July 14
Carolyn Lofald	July 24
Zach Carson	July 24