

Christ's Messenger

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The American Association of Lutheran Churches



"To know Christ,
and make Him known."



September 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:
Wed. Bible Study
6:00 PM - *The Chosen*

Council Meeting
2nd Thursday at 6:30 PM

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

Esther Circle
1st Thursday at
10:00 AM

AA
Mondays at 6:30 PM

Dear Church Family,

Fall is in the air and with that comes the start of the new school year. We ask our Lord to watch over our church family, the students, teachers and their families and to keep us all safe and healthy.

We are very thankful that our deacons have been helping out with reading during our services and at times, providing the whole service for us when there is not a Pastor available. We are very thankful that we have these retired willing pastors and other pastors available to provide our services for us. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

The Call committee has not received anymore information from Dr. Larson. We keep praying that someone would be available to interview soon.

The office will be back to regular hours beginning September 11th. The secretary will be on vacation the 6th-8th. Again, we will try to have volunteers checking the phone for messages. **Please remember, if you have an urgent need, do not leave a message on the church answering machine - 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. We ask you to please call the church office or one of our deacons if you would like to have a visit and communion brought to you in your home.

Our Wednesday Night Bible Study DVD showing of "The Chosen" series has been going very well. The DVD lasts about 40 minutes and we have discussion afterwards on each episode. We have approximately 25 attending each Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm. Please join us if you are able. If you would like a ride, please contact the office. Volunteers take turns bringing treats to share and there is a sign-up sheet if you would like sign up. **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, WE WILL HAVE OUR MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY BAR-B-Q. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Meat, beverage and condiments will be provided.**

On September 17, it is also our hope to begin a regular schedule for Sunday morning Bible study. This would be for all ages - elementary students, Luther League age and adult classes. Watch for more information.

(continued on page 3)

Assisting with September Ministry

September 3

Ushers: Grace Wells; Mark Youngren

Trustees: Laurie & Jim

Scripture Reader: Dave Schreyer

September 10

Ushers: Bill & Jan Arezzo

Trustees: Bill & Grace

Scripture Reader: Jim Carlson

September 17

Ushers: Mike & Wendy Pickar

Trustees: Wendy & Carol

Scripture Reader: Gary Lofald

Communion Assistant: Jim Carlson; Gabe Wiita

September 24

Ushers: Carolyn Lofald; Jim Carlson

Trustees: Laurie & Laura

Scripture Reader: Hanna Allen

Communion Assistant: Mike Pickar; Hanna Allen

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

Coffee/Fellowship Servers

September 3: Volunteers

September 10: Esther Circle

September 17: Deacons

September 24: Esther Circle

October 1: Volunteers

October 8: Esther Circle

October 15: Volunteers

October 22: Esther Circle

October 29: Teen Challenge Sunday

Livestream Operators

September 3: Keith Lund

September 10: Volunteers

September 17: Gary Lofald

September 24: Volunteers



We are still looking for Livestream operator volunteers!

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

Food Share: Thursday, September 28 from 11:30-12:30

Packing starts at 10:30 AM

Thank you for supporting this ministry.



Financial Update

July Income: \$10,715

July Expenses: \$4,978.22

Monthly income was over expenses by \$5,736.78

YTD Income: \$65,905.55

YTD Expenses: \$81,745.41

YTD income was under expenses by \$15,839.86

July Missions

Project Manana: \$530

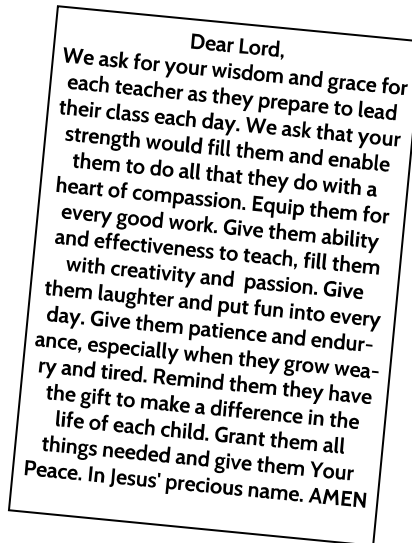
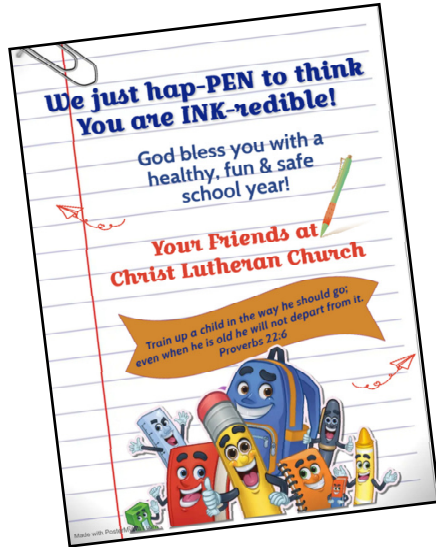
Women's Care Center: \$485

Full financial reports are available in the office upon request



We were able to give out \$15.00 gift cards from Super One and 17 bags of groceries at our last Food Share. We are hoping once the school year begins a normal routine we will have better attendance. Our next food share is scheduled for September 28. If you would like to offset some of our expenses please bring a box of cereal and place it in the barrel in the Narthex.

The Evangelism Committee will be blessing the teachers and staff of Piedmont Elementary School with rolls, muffins and coffee the morning of Friday, September 8, before school starts. We are also providing them with one of our church logo pens and a card that reads:



We have also placed a WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL slide on our sign out in front. Hoping that will be well received!

In closing, we ask you to continue to pray for Dr. Larson to provide us with candidates so our Call Committee can begin the interviewing process. We ask our Lord to continue to give our Deacons and church volunteers all things needed as they help with our church services and the needs of our shut-ins. We also ask for your prayers for the leadership of this church, that in all things we would bring glory and honor to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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

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.

Psalms 145:15-16

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His Glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

God bless each of you!

Carolyn Lofald

Sunday services are livestreamed on our Facebook page:

Christ Lutheran Church Duluth at 9:30 AM



Christ Lutheran Church Duluth



Christ Lutheran Church Duluth

September Message from the Deacons

Hoping you all have been having a fun and wonderful summer. With fall fast approaching, September brings us to another Deacon service on the 3rd. We have a Gideon speaker on the 10th, the 17th we will be blessed with Pastor Sollie, on the 24th we will have Pastor David Johnson. The 17th & 24th will be communion services.

The deacons are getting together and meeting about future Bible studies on Sunday until we receive our new Pastor. A work in progress. The band of Brothers currently meets on Wednesdays for coffee and Bible study at Caribou coffee by Cub foods at 7 AM. All men of any age are welcome. If there is a better time or location that works for others we would love to hear from you. Maybe something at the church or a different time. Open to suggestions.

Finally, we would like to give a big Thank You to our Deacons and all those involved in making our Church services a blessing for everyone. From the camera and sound people to our wonderful ushers, not to mention our wonderful music team. What a true blessing they have been, the altar preparation and communion elements always ready to serve. And, not to forget all the Pastors that have willingly and joyfully come to lead the worship. God has truly blessed us.

One more thing, Pastor Brokenshire said it best. We are all of one true faith and on the same team, God's team. So when you meet someone, tell them that -

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND! YOU DONT WANT TO MISS IT!

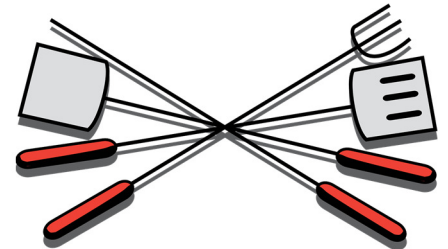
In Christ

Your Deacon Servants,

Jim Carlson, Gary Lofald, Mike Pickar, Mark Wiita, Keith Youngren

Esther Circle will be starting up on Thursday, September 7

- All ladies in the church are welcome to join us! Our meeting begins at 10 AM with refreshments, followed by our opening prayer, our current bible study by Dr. David Jeremiah with a short discussion and a business meeting to follow. We are usually done by noon. Looking forward to a wonderful time of fellowship as we grow in God's Word!
- Wednesday Night Bible Study "The Chosen" each week at 6:00 PM followed by discussion and prayer. **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, WE WILL HAVE OUR MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY BAR-B-Q. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Meat, beverage and condiments will be provided.**
- Sunday School for all ages will begin on September 17th.
- Our Church Council will be setting the date for our upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting in October. Please be praying for the leadership of our church. If you feel called to serve on our leadership team, please pray about this and visit with one of our church council members in regard to the duties and responsibilities each office involves. Thank you and God Bless you!
- Quilting begins on Tuesday, September 19th. Beginners more than welcome. Stay for whatever time you can, bring a bag lunch and beverage if you plan to stay for the day. Contact Sandy Carlson (349-2786) with any questions you have. This is a great time for some fun and fellowship.



We invite our church family to attend the annual
Teen Challenge Gala on
Thursday, October 19 from 5-9 PM!

It would be wonderful if Christ Lutheran Church could be represented at this event and have a full table of eight. If you would like to attend the cost is \$60.00 per person. Please contact Carolyn at 218-390-8357 to place your reservation.



***Please note that Teen Challenge will also be our mission of the month for October. They will be singing for us on Sunday, October 29th with a meal to follow, so mark your calendar!

September Maintenance Report

Fall is definitely in the air. The hydrangeas in our Memorial Garden are stunning! We are so blessed to have the Esther Circle Ladies and Jim caring for our church grounds and gardens. A beautiful example of Christ's love for us and His church.

Our Parking lot fund is at approximately \$13,000.00. Eleven thousand of that was put into a CD earning 5% and will mature in a couple more months with interest to add to that total. We have the sliding sign in our Fellowship Hall to keep an eye on. Our goal is to reach \$150,000.00.

Due to the busy summer all our members have had, some of our projects have been postponed until fall. Gary G., our custodian, was able to finish the staining of the playset. Gary Lofald made the repairs on the items that needed attention. We see so many little children playing, especially when siblings are playing soccer on the field. We are blessed to have that here for them. We do have signage on the playset that requests adult supervision.

We continue to have the visiting pastors stay at our parsonage. We have provided coffee, milk, cereal, fruit and other small treats for their morning breakfast. Our continued thanks to Grace Wells and Wendy Pickar for cleaning between their stays, changing out bedding and doing the laundry. The pastors and their families are sure enjoying the accommodations and some are even doing extended stays – driving up the shore or visiting canal park. We will have Duluth Basement Systems come to the parsonage and give their opinion of the drainage system that was originally installed by them in 1996 before we proceed with the flooring for the basement. We are still planning to repair the exterior retaining wall on the east side of the parsonage and fix a couple of downspouts this fall. The air conditioning units that were installed are working out well and again, they are only used when the visiting pastors need to use them. We keep the dehumidifiers running in the basement all summer and Gary G. and the ladies have been checking and keeping them emptied.

We continue to thank God for providing the resources for us to care for all He has blessed us with. We thank Him for giving our church members the gifts and abilities to repair items when needed. If you are interested in volunteering for one or more of our projects, please give me a call or visit with me at church. We welcome your questions and want to know if you have concerns. My phone number is 218-390-8357.

God's blessings,

Carolyn Lofald
Maintenance Chair

September Mission of the Month: Gideons



Members of The Gideons International share their faith because they realize how often people today need someone to come alongside them in finding their way to true salvation that is available only through the grace of God. As opportunities arise, they take time to share the Gospel message with friends and family, business acquaintances, and other people they meet who are struggling in their daily lives.

They believe distributing copies of God's Word plants powerful seeds God can use according to His own timing (I Corinthians 3:6), allows many to read the truth for themselves (John 8:32), provides a lasting witness (Hebrews 4:12), and makes it easier for those they reach to boldly spread the Good News (II Timothy 2:2).

Members of The Gideons International personally witness and distribute God's Word to police, fire, and medical personnel; prisoners; military personnel; students in the fifth grade and above; and to those with whom they interact on a daily basis. Scriptures are also placed by Gideons and Auxiliary in key locations, including hotels, motels, hospitals, convalescent homes, medical offices, domestic violence shelters, prisons, and jails. They have placed and distributed more than 2 billion Bibles and New Testaments around the world.

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."

Recipe Corner

Have you enjoyed a special treat at Wednesday night Bible study and would like the recipe? Let the office know and we'll see if we can get it.



Blueberry Delight

An easy blueberry layered dessert featuring a graham cracker pecan crust, cream cheese layer, blueberry pie filling and whipped topping. Light and fluffy dessert for a crowd!

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 8 minutes

Chill time: 2 hours

4.8 ounces graham crackers 9 crackers, 1 sleeve

1 cup pecans

1/2 cup butter melted

2 tablespoons sugar

8 oz cream cheese well softened

1 cup powdered sugar

16 ounces cool whip non-fat, 2 tubs, divided

42 ounces blueberry pie filling (2 cans)

2 tsp chopped pecans for garnish (optional)

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a food processor, blend the graham crackers and pecans until finely chopped. Stir in butter and sugar until well combined and press into the bottom of a 13x9 pan. Bake for 8 minutes and let cool completely.

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and powdered sugar until smooth. Using 1 container of whipped topping, beat in about 1 cup so there are no lumps. Fold in the remaining whipped topping from the container and spread the cream cheese mixture over crust.

Add the blueberry pie filling in an even layer. Top with remaining container of whipped topping. Garnish with chopped pecans if desired. Cover and chill for at least 2 hours or overnight.

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.*

The Call Committee
The leadership of the church
The ministry at Union Gospel Mission
Students and Teachers from pre-k to college
Our country, military & police

Pastor Yount and his ministry in Slovakia
The steadfastness of our faith
Persecuted Christians throughout the world
Mission of the Month: The Gideons

THOSE WITH HEALTH NEEDS:

Carol Johnson
Florence Kubiak
Brian McDonald
Linda Anthony
Del Sandberg
Carol Sogard
Kaylea Guddeck

Barb Hanson
Jane McLean
The Lund Family
Carol Schramm
Jean Clark
Luanne Wachula
Kelly Carson

Mary Jenny
Mark Malander
Donna Swanson
Sharon Nylander
Lynn Erickson
Tom & Marlene Stauber

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

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*

Diane Malander	September 13
Kelly Carson	September 19
Gayle Maruska	September 20
Sandy Carlson	September 24
Cindy Kent	September 29

A thank you from Project Manana for the recent donation of \$530.00.
Project Manana was one of July's Missions of the Month.

Hola!

Wow... thank you SO much for this effort. The Lord is good and knows the amount He needs. Glory to Him. We are very thankful and appreciate the investment.

Blessings!!

Brian Berman, Co-Founder & President Project Mañana International

If you would like more information about Project Manana, or would like to make a donation, visit their website: projectmanana.org

