

# Christ's Messenger

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH The American Association of Lutheran Churches



"To know Christ,  
and make Him known."



**October 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:  
**Sunday Bible Study**  
11:00 AM - *The Chosen*

**Council Meeting**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6:30 PM

**Food Share**  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Esther Circle**  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at  
10:00 AM

**No Wed. Bible Study  
until further notice**

**AA**  
Mondays at 6:30 PM

What an absolutely beautiful time of the year! The vivid colors of the leaves in different hues of red, orange, yellow and green. The emerald green of the grass after the much needed rains. The deep blue of the sky with airy white clouds floating by. The dark blue waters reflecting the sky above. The crisp air and morning dew. God has made His creation so breath taking. We need to stop and pause and fill ourselves with the joy that all this brings. How can anyone say that this was just an accident when two cells collided - an evolutionary theory. We praise God for the works of His hands and all creation. Let us read through the events that God gave to Moses in the book of Genesis. How the heavens and the earth were created, the vegetation, all the living creatures and man in His own image.

This majesty brings to mind the words of the hymn "For the beauty of the earth"

*For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies.  
Refrain: Lord of all to Thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise. AMEN!*

We want to update you on what has been happening over the last month and what we plan for future activities. We first share that Judi is back to regular office hours: 8:30 – 12:30, Monday through Friday. **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. Also, if you would like a visit or communion brought to your home, please call and let us know. We continue to keep all of our shut-ins in our prayers.

Our Wednesday Night Bible Study DVD showing of the Chosen has currently moved to Sundays at 11:00 a.m. after coffee time. As it gets dark so early now and there are those that do not want to drive at night, we felt this was best. The deacons will decide if we will have another activity or Bible Study on Wednesday evenings again. We will keep you posted

We do have preparation in place for Sunday School and Youth Rap if we have children come to church and would like to attend. We are thankful to Trudy and Keith Youngren and Mark Wiita for stepping up to help provide that. If anyone else is interested in helping with these programs, please let us know.

(Continued on page 3)

## Assisting with October Ministry

### October 1

**Ushers:** Grace Wells; Mark Youngren

**Trustees:** Laurie & Jim

**Scripture Reader:** Keith Youngren

### October 8

**Ushers:** Bill & Jan Arezzo

**Trustees:** Bill & Grace

**Scripture Reader:** Jim Carlson

### October 15

**Ushers:** Wendy Pickar & Grace Wells

**Trustees:** Wendy & Carol

**Scripture Reader:** Jim Carlson

**Communion Assistant:** Mike Pickar; Hannah Allen

### October 22

**Ushers:** Carolyn Lofald; Jim Carlson

**Trustees:** Laurie & Laura

**Scripture Reader:** Dave Schreyer

**Communion Assistant:** Gary Lofald; Gabe Wiita

### October 29

**Ushers:** Jim & Gayle Maruska

**Trustees:** Laurie & Jim

**Scripture Reader:** Mark Wiita

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

## Financial Update

August Income: \$8,502.00

August Expenses: \$6,547.36

Monthly income was over  
expenses by \$1,954.64

YTD Income: \$72,407.55

YTD Expenses: \$88,292.77

YTD income was under  
expenses by \$13,885.22

August Mission  
Lutheran Bible Translators  
\$750.00

Full financial reports are  
available in the office  
upon request



## Coffee/Fellowsh ip Servers & Helpers

DATE	TREATS	SERVERS	TABLE WASHER
October 1	Trudy Y.	Volunteers	Karen B.
October 8	Esther Circle (Gayle M.)	Volunteers	Karen B.
October 15	Deacons	Volunteers	Volunteers
October 22	Esther Circle (Laura M. & Laviere J.)	Volunteers	Volunteers
October 29	Teen Challenge Sunday	Volunteers	Volunteers

## Livestream Operators

**October 1:** Eli A.

**October 8:** Keith L.

**October 15:** Keith L.

**October 22:** Gary L.

**October 29:** Gary L.



We are still looking for Livestream  
operator volunteers!

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

We continue to have our food Share. We give out \$15.00 gift cards from Super One and bags of groceries. We are hoping once the school year begins a normal routine we will have better attendance. Our next food share is scheduled for Thursday, October 26. 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 blessed the teachers and staff of Piedmont Elementary School with rolls, muffins and coffee the morning of Friday, September 8. We provided each of them with one of our church logo pens and a card that reads: We hapPEN to think you are INKredible. A play on words with the pen that was attached. Please see their thank you to our church.

We encourage everyone to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting which is scheduled for Sunday, October 22, immediately following the church service in the Narthex. We will be voting on the budget and we would also ask for volunteers to run for positions on our church council. We can fill the presidency, vice presidency, treasurer, trustee and deacon positions. Please, pray about this and for the current leadership of our church. **Committee Reports are due by October 16. Remember we will need beginning balances from September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2023.**

Our church council would like to continue with tradition and make Pasties and Cookies. We have scheduled pasty making on October 26 & 27. Prices will be decided soon and we will have a sign up sheet in church. You are also welcome to call the office to order. Cookies are currently planned for December 5 & 6. As always, we will need volunteers to help make this all happen! We will have a sign-up sheets for that also!



Our youth will be selling calendars again to earn money for activities. The cost is \$10.00 each. They make great gifts! If you would like to order our Church LOGO T-shirt, polo or sweatshirt, please call and speak with Sandy and she will help you with that.

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:

**Psalms 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.*

God bless each of you!

Carolyn Lofald

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**Sunday services are livestreamed on our Facebook page:**

**Christ Lutheran Church Duluth at 9:30 AM**



Christ Lutheran Church Duluth



Christ Lutheran Church Duluth

## October Maintenance Report

We have been blessed beyond measure with all the material things God has provided for our church, and to honor our Lord, we need to care for all He has given to us. Soon the Esther Circle will be putting the church gardens to bed for another year. We have so enjoyed the beauty they provided for us and our visitors.

As fall is now upon us, we will be having our annual maintenance checks for the boilers at both the church and also the parsonage to make sure they are in proper working order for the heating season. A pump will need to be replaced on the parsonage boiler system. All of our fire extinguishers are scheduled to be checked by the Fire Department and our smoke alarms and exit signs will be checked too.

We will be installing a whole house dehumidifier system at the parsonage by Basement Water Systems. (They originally placed the beaver system along the basement front wall and installed the sump pump and alarm to help with past water issues.) This dehumidifier will help with moisture control. Mold and dust mite spores have been causing a musty smell for quite some time. It will function way more effectively than the portable units that we have been trying to empty and maintain daily. The air conditioning units have now been removed from the windows for the winter, too.

The trustees have approved flooring for the basement of the parsonage and we are waiting to have some larger samples to make a final color decision. We have painted a section of the front wall with Dry Lok paint and will reinstall the paneling we had removed to confirm that we didn't have a water issue. Gary Lofald and Mike Pickar were able to work on this project. Our thanks to Bruce Wells for removing the tack strip along the perimeter of the basement in preparation for the flooring. He also took time and stretched the carpet in our fireside room at church that had a large wrinkle in it. Thank you, Bruce! Now we can have that carpet cleaned.

We are looking into replacing the driveway at the parsonage to improve drainage by sloping the driveway away from the building. The current driveway has sunk down two inches by the foundation. We will also look into widening the driveway to accommodate two cars parking side by side.

Our Church Parking lot fund is sitting at approximately \$13,000.00. The CD will be maturing soon and we will look into reinvesting that to add to our goal. Please keep an eye on the sign in our Fellowship Hall for updates. Our goal is to reach \$150,000.00.

Benson Electric will be installing a new can light over each of our office doors for better visibility and safety. These will illuminate when the narthex lights are switched on. We are hoping to get to those outside projects before the weather turns. Jim Carlson was able to trim up the front trees for better visibility of our church electronic sign. Thanks Jim! He continues to mow and trim to keep the grounds looking nice for us. Another thank you goes out to Don Olson for donating a loveseat, lamps, end tables and chairs for our parsonage. He also donated a nice bench for church.

We thank God for providing us with the resources to care for our church. We thank Him for giving our church members the gifts and abilities to repair items when needed. We welcome anyone willing to volunteer for one or more of our projects. Please call or visit with me at church if you are interested in lending a helping hand. If you note something that needs to be addressed, please bring it to our attention. We always welcome your questions and want to address any concerns you may have. My phone number is 218- 390-8357.

God's blessings,

Carolyn Lofald Maintenance Chair

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!

- Esther Circle meets October 5 at 10 AM. All ladies in the church are welcome to join us!
- Quilting on Tuesday, October 10 at 9:00 AM. Contact Sandy Carlson (349-2786) with any questions you have. This is a great time for some fun and fellowship.
- **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUN., OCT. 22 FOLLOWING THE MORNING SERVICE**
- MN Teen Challenge Choir will join us on Sunday, October 29. Brunch will be served following the service.



To Our friends across the street at Christ Lutheran Church, thank you for thinking of our entire staff during opening week at Piedmont. We appreciated the sweet treats, pens with messages and thoughtful words and wishes sent our way.



We also want to extend our gratitude in being our school safety community partner and allowing us to use your field for our safety evacuation drills

Community friends and partners who put students, families, and staff at the center of their kindness and assistance truly shine a bright light on what community is all about.  
 -Piedmont Elementary School



**OUR MISSION ...**

Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life

**OUR VISION ...**

Every Lutheran, both individually and in community, upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same

**OUR PHILOSOPHY ...**

Lutherans For Life believes that the Church is compelled by God's Word to speak and act on behalf of those who are vulnerable and defenseless. The crisis of our times is the repudiation of biblical truth manifested in the wanton destruction of innocent human life through legalized abortion-on-demand and the growing threat to the lives of others through legalized assisted suicide and euthanasia. Therefore, as Lutherans For Life, we will strive to give a Gospel-motivated witness to the Church and society on these and other related issues, such as chastity, post-abortion healing, and family living. We will call God's people to compassionate action and foster life-affirming alternatives for those facing difficult situations.

Please contact Jerry or Darrell Nelson at 218-722-9364 for more information and meeting dates.



## October Mission of the Month: MN Adult & Teen Challenge

For over 30 years Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge has been assisting teens and adults in gaining freedom from chemical addictions and other life-controlling problems by addressing their physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

Teen Challenge offers a residential program for teenage girls and boys struggling with chemical addictions, as well as behavioral problems.

For teens, there are both long and short term options. Programming is provided in a structured therapeutic community offering continuous observation and treatment by professional multidisciplinary staff members.

Additionally, they offer a long term faith-based residential recovery program for adults that assists individuals in gaining freedom from drug and alcohol addiction and the life controlling problems associated with it.

These programs are not offered cost free. Each resident is required to pay monthly room and board fees. Some fees are covered by outside agencies, but the majority of funding comes from private sources such as churches, businesses, and individuals.

In addition to your monetary support, there are several other ways you could help, job/intern opportunities, volunteering, or becoming a mentor.

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."



God Uses a Gift and a Letter to Change Lives As a 7-year-old in Mongolia, Jargalmaa (pictured left with her family) described one particular day as "unexpected." After school, her teacher invited her to a church where she received her very first gift! This Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift included, among other fun toys, stationery, and a set of hairclips. Inside, she also found a letter that said, "You are valuable and so loved by God." Jargalmaa cherished this message because her parents and grandparents had never told her that they loved her. Jargalmaa went on to

participate in "The Greatest Journey" discipleship program where she especially appreciated the lessons about God as Creator. Later in 10th grade, she accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior. Through her testimony, five of her family members and two close friends also made this life-changing decision. Now, 15 years after receiving her shoebox gift, Jargalmaa, her husband, and two young children have recently moved to a new community where they are ministering to youth in hopes of starting a church. "I would like to challenge people who are preparing shoebox gifts to also write a letter showing God's love," Jargalmaa said. "What's written there may be very simple, but those simple words could completely change somebody's life."

Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child are available in the church office along with packing instructions.

# Happy Birthday!

Lydia Wiita	October 16
Jim Carlson	October 22
Donna Swanson	October 26
Jason Allen	October 28

If you would like your birthday included in the messenger please contact the office

**PLEASE PRAY FOR....**

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:  
MN Adult and Teen Challenge

**THOSE WITH HEALTH NEEDS:**

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

Jane McLean  
The Lund Family  
Carol Schramm  
Jean Clark  
Luanne Wachula  
Kelly Carson  
Pastor Myke Main

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

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

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**October Message from the Deacons**

Trust in the name of the Lord our God. That is the message for our church as we await the arrival of our new pastor for our congregation. The Deacons have truly learned to understand what a difficult and rewarding mission it is. As a group we would like to thank everyone for their prayers and patience.

Psalm 20

Trust in the Name of the LORD Our God  
To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

- [1] *May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble!  
May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!*
- [2] *May he send you help from the sanctuary  
and give you support from Zion!*
- [3] *May he remember all your offerings  
and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! Selah*
- [4] *May he grant you your heart's desire  
and fulfill all your plans!*
- [5] *May we shout for joy over your salvation,  
and in the name of our God set up our banners!  
May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!*
- [6] *Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed;  
he will answer him from his holy heaven  
with the saving might of his right hand.*
- [7] *Some trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.*
- [8] *They collapse and fall,  
but we rise and stand upright.*
- [9] *O LORD, save the king!  
May he answer us when we call.*

Your humble Deacon servants - Jim Carlson, Gary Lofald, Mike Pickar, Mark Wiita, Keith Youngren