



# Christ's Messenger

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The American Association of Lutheran Churches

**MARCH 2024**

**Christ Lutheran  
Church**

2415 Ensign St  
Duluth MN 55811  
clcduluth.org

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

**Interim Pastor**  
Pastor Scott Strohkirch  
307-228-3203

**President**  
Mike Pickar  
651-338-4171

**Deacon Chair**  
Jim Carlson  
218-343-6755

Every Month:  
**Sunday Bible Study**  
11:00 AM

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

**Food Share:**  
4<sup>th</sup> Thur. of the month  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

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

**AA**  
Mondays at 6:30 PM

*From the Office of Pastor Strohkirch ☩*

Grace and Peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ,

As I write this memo, we here at Christ Lutheran Church as well as the whole Western Church are entering our third week in Lent. However, Holy Week will be upon us by the end of the month of March with the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection on March 31<sup>st</sup>, Easter Sunday.

On March 10, we need to make sure we turn our clocks forward as we begin Daylight Saving time. It's a must if we are to gather for worship on time that morning.

We have some special things coming to us during the Holy Week festivities. On Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> we will be treated to a Cantata by our music department. Practices for this will be Sunday mornings at 8:00. We will also have a Pancake Breakfast following our Palm Sunday service.

I need readers for our Good Friday Tenebrae service. There are 7 total readings that cover the Crucifixion of our Lord. If you are interested text me at 307-228-3203, or email me at scottstrohkirch@gmail.com. Please let me know no later than Palm Sunday so that I can give you your reading to read and practice before Good Friday service.

I know some people don't like the Good Friday service because it is like a funeral, but it's really not. It's a service of observation of our Lord's death that is continued on Easter Sunday with Jesus' resurrection from that grave. It is a solemn occasion, but it's not the "end." Even if you don't volunteer to read, I pray that you will consider attending this service as we remember what our Lord did for us by giving himself up as the final sacrifice to forgive our sins. It all begins on Holy Thursday where we celebrate the Lord's Supper just as he did with His disciples in the upper room. At the beginning of the service you will hear the traditional "Invocation: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." This is the only time in our Holy Week that this will be spoken. The Benediction will not be spoken until Easter Sunday at the end of the Service. These three days are a continuation of one another and is the one time during the Church year that we do something like this.

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**March 3**

**Ushers:** Mark Y., Jim & Gayle M.  
**Trustees:** Grace & Bill  
**Scripture Reader:** Jim C.  
**Communion Assistant:** Jim C., Gabe W.

**March 6 (Lenten Service)**

**Ushers:** Volunteers  
**Scripture Reader:** Dave S.

**March 10**

**Usher:** Aaron & Danielle M.  
**Trustees:** Laurie & Laura  
**Scripture Reader:** Keith Y.

**March 13 (Lenten Service)**

**Ushers:** Volunteers  
**Scripture Reader:** Jim C.

**March 17**

**Ushers:** Bill & Jan A., Mark Y., Grace W.  
**Trustees:** Laurie & Jim  
**Scripture Reader:** Mark W.  
**Communion Assistant:** Jim C., Hannah A.

**March 20 (Lenten Service)**

**Ushers:** Volunteers  
**Scripture Reader:** Sandy C.

**March 24 (Palm Sunday)**

**Ushers:** Gayle M., Grace W.  
**Trustees:** Grace & Bill  
**Scripture Reader:** Dave S.

**March 28 (Maundy Thursday)**

**Ushers:** Volunteers  
**Scripture Reader:** Gary L.

**March 29 (Good Friday)**

**Ushers:** Gary & Carolyn L.  
**Scripture Reader:** Volunteers

**March 31 (7 AM Service)**

**Ushers:** Jim C. & Gary L.  
**Scripture Reader:** Jim C. & Gary L.

**March 31 (9:30 AM Service)**

**Ushers:** Bill & Jan A., Gary & Carolyn L.  
**Trustees:** Grace & Bill  
**Scripture Reader:** Dave S., Keith Y., Jim C.  
**Communion Assistant:** Keith Y., Gabe W.

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

**Financial Update**

January Income: \$10,024  
 January Expenses: \$8,706.42

Monthly income was over  
 expenses by \$1,473.58

January Mission  
 Father Daughter Ball: \$1,380

Full financial reports are  
 available in the office  
 upon request



**Coffee/Fellowship Servers & Helpers**

DATE	TREATS
March 3	Volunteers
March 10	Volunteers
March 17	Volunteers
March 24	Esther Circle
March 31	Volunteers

**Livestream Operators**

- March 3:** Keith L.
- March 10:** Keith L.
- March 17:** Gary L.
- March 24:** Volunteers
- March 31:** Volunteers

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I would also like to invite anyone interested to come and watch Mel Gibson's **"The Passion of The Christ"** on **Holy Saturday morning at 10:00**. We will watch it in the Fireside Room unless we get too many people and then we will set it up in the main fellowship room. Please join me for this. It is probably one of the best productions I have viewed in my lifetime and I'd like to share it with you. We will have a small discussion after the film if anyone is interested.

In Christ,

Pastor Scott L. Strohkirch

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Esther Circle meets the first Thursday of the month at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to join.
- Band of Brothers meets every Wednesday at 7 AM at Caribou Coffee by Cub Foods. All men are welcome to join this time of fellowship and devotions.
- Quilting on Tuesday, March 12 at 9:00 AM. Contact Sandy Carlson (349-2786) with any questions you have. This is a great time for some fun and fellowship.



### Join us for Lenten and Holy Week Services

Supper 5:15 PM

Service 6:30 PM

March 6, March 13, & March 20

Maundy Thursday Service & Communion - Thursday, March 28 at 6:30 PM

Tenebrae Service - Friday, March 28 at 6:30 PM

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,  
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

*John 3:16*

## Our 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Father Daughter Ball!!!



We celebrated our 28<sup>th</sup> year on Saturday, February 10 and again on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in the Lake Superior Ballroom of the DECC. We had 548 guests for the first evening and 560 guests the second evening. Many of our attendees were there for the first time.

We offered our guests the ability to reserve a table when they ordered six or more tickets. Open seating was also available. We were able to keep our ticket cost at \$30.00 per person. Gary Lofald was our emcee both evenings. Erick Hermanson – Executive Director of Head of the Lake's Youth for Christ was our speaker the first evening and Pastor Erik Reinertsen of the Water's Edge Community Church and who is also the Denfeld High School girls basketball coach was our speaker on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Derrick Ellis, of Skyline Entertainment was our DJ for both evenings.

We blessed two dads from MN Adult and Teen Challenge on February 10 with tickets to the ball to enjoy with their daughters. We thank those that contributed to our Father Daughter Ball Mission of the Month – the total collected from our congregation was \$1380.00.

We offered three entrée's this year, champagne chicken, cheese manicotti, and chicken tenders for the younger ladies. We also served ice cream for dessert. We offered a pop, lemonade, and juice station for the purchase of cold refreshments. Coffee is no longer included with the meal and costs \$40.00 per gallon – we had eight gallons each night.



Our theme this year was white roses and butterflies as a tribute to our dear Debbie DeRocher who passed away in May. White roses were her favorite. We also had a tribute in the evening program with her picture which Gary read. We gifted each attendee a custom wildflower seed packet and encouraged our attendees to plant them in the spring in Debbie's honor and as a memory of their evening at our Ball. We used white table cloths with forest green napkins. A 9" glass cylinder vase held the silk white roses, baby's breath and eucalyptus and was placed on a square mirror tile in the center of each table. Three white votive candles were

around each vase. Hershey kisses were sprinkled on the mirrors. Northland Special Events provided room decorations. White lights were hung from the ceiling under white tulle and greenery. The backdrop was done on silver draping with white lights and greenery. Our Banners were hung on either side with up lighting from the floor to accentuate them. On each side of the DJ table were two white columns, donated by Will & Rachel DeRocher, with vases full of eucalyptus and flowers. The rest of the room had alternating uplighting in subtle colors of green, pink, purple and white. Butterflies were projected onto the walls to go with our theme. Please check out our [fatherdaughterballduluth.org](http://fatherdaughterballduluth.org) website and Facebook page to view our pictures.

Lynette's Portrait Design was there to take pictures. Ken Pogin, the owner of Duluth Event Lighting provided our accent lighting at no charge to us. It is well over a \$1000.00 value. He does such a

wonderful job for us each year. Our secretary Judi created our programs and tickets. We printed our tickets in house and ShelDon printed our programs for us.

We are so thankful for our monetary contributors to offset our overhead costs. Arrowhead Orthodontics donated \$1000.00, CLC Sunshine Bakers \$900.00, Ogston's Body and Paint \$500.00, Lynnette's \$400.00, Piedmont Dental \$250.00 and discoverpc.net \$100.00. Our Esther Circle donated six tickets for our Teen Challenge families. We were blessed to receive gift certificates from Applebee's, Black Woods, Sky Zone Trampoline Park, Skyline Social and Games, Glensheen, Great Lakes Aquarium, Outback Steakhouse, Perkins, Sammy's Pizza, Valentini's, North Shore Scenic Railroad, Pickwick, Va' Bene, Duluth Grill, and Bonnie Jacobson Famers Ins., gave 15 books.

We had stuffed animals as giveaways - purchased by Debbie last year at a discount from Walgreens. This was our dear Debbie's passion and she will be greatly missed.



Our Volunteers: Jim & Sandy Carlson, Grace Wells, Mike & Wendy Pickar, Gary Lofald, Gary Glad, Rachel & Will DeRocher, Rosa DeRocher-Cook, Grace DeRocher-Fitzgerald, Kim Kirkland, Brody Bruns, Jerolyn Bruns, Julie Fairchild, Aaron, Birdie, Ilya and Elliott Miner, along with our committee members. Our coatroom leader was Julie Guddeck. She always makes things fun with her dishes of candy for the girls. **Without all of our volunteers, this event would not happen!**

A nonrefundable deposit of \$1000,00 per night will secure next year's dates of 1/25 & 2/22 of 2025. We are honored to be able to bring this event to our community for the last 28 years.

In Christ, Your Father Daughter Ball Committee:

Kolleen Carlson, Joanna Danielson, Kristine Holt,  
Carolyn Lofald, Laurie Wiita, and the late Debbie DeRocher



### **DONATIONS NEEDED**

**Please bring a box of cereal for the monthly food share**

**Cash donations are always appreciated!**

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

Packing starts at 10:00 AM

Thank you for supporting this ministry.



## March Mission of the Month: KDNW—Life 97.3 Radio

Life 97.3 promises to always be family friendly and play positive and uplifting music that helps you connect with God. Life 97.3 exists to lead people to Christ and nurture believers in their spiritual growth through Christ-centered media.

Life 97.3 is a part of the Northwestern Media Network, from The University of Northwestern in Saint Paul, MN. They provide the transmitter for our area to receive Christian broadcasts from Northwestern college which includes broadcasting on 90.5 Faith Radio. Today, Northwestern Media operates 14 listener-supported Christian radio stations throughout the Midwest.

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

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### MARCH MAINTENANCE REPORT

The church council will meet in March to discuss the estimates from DADS Electronics. We will review the information we received on our sound system equipment which is in need of an upgrade. We are on the calendar to have the additional outlets installed in the balcony for our livestream equipment.

Other work that has been completed/scheduled:

- The small hot water heater in the upstairs bathroom of the church started leaking, so it has been removed. It will be replaced in March. The new small hot water heaters are now all plug-in style, they are no longer hardwired so we will have that box turned into an outlet.
- We had a small leak where the blue room addition meets the building. That has been addressed and fixed by Perrault.
- We replaced a valve on one of the urinals in the men's washroom.
- We have replaced the hinges on the bifold doors on the janitor's closet downstairs. We are looking into replacing those doors.
- We have had the boiler system flushed at the parsonage. All of those components are now working well.

Just a reminder, we have placed Styrofoam pieces in the kitchen overhead exhaust fan. **If you need to use the kitchen fan, please call, so the Styrofoam can be removed.**

We are so thankful to those that volunteer to help when needed. Also, thankful we have not had to pay for snowplowing, we are saving on expenses there! If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to call. My phone number is 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.*

The Call Committee  
The leadership of the church  
Dr. Cary Larson & the AALC  
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: KDNW Radio

**THOSE WITH HEALTH NEEDS:**

Carol Johnson  
Florence Kubiak  
Brian McDonald  
Linda Anthony  
Del Sandberg  
Carol Sogard  
Janice Spindler

Jane McLean  
The Lund Family  
Carol Schramm  
Jean Clark  
Luanne Wachula  
Kelly Carson  
Tammie Strohkirch

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.*

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# 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*

Carol Sogard	March 25
Laviere Johnson	March 26
Olivia Allen	March 28
Lowaine Morris	March 29
Florence Kubiak	March 30

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

