

Christ's Messenger

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The American Association of Lutheran Churches



OCTOBER 2024

**Christ Lutheran
Church**

2415 Ensign St
Duluth MN 55811
clcduluth.org

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

Pastor Mark Raitz
218-727-2076

President
Mike Pickar
651-338-4171

Deacon Chair
Gary Lofald
218-590-8217

Every Month:
Sunday Bible Study
11:00 AM

Council Meeting
2nd Thursday at
6:30 PM

Food Share:
4th Thur. of the
month
11:30 AM -12:30 PM

Esther Circle
1st Thur. at 10:00 AM

AA
Mondays at 6:30 PM

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice”

Philippians 4:4

It is with much rejoicing that I begin a new chapter in the life of this congregation, Christ Lutheran Church. I am truly humbled and honored to be serving you as your new Pastor. You will be getting to know me over time as well as I will be getting to know all of you, so in this newsletter, here is a brief introduction of my life.

I was born and raised in the city of Detroit, Michigan, my father was a lithographer, and my mother was a seamstress. My parents enrolled me into the Lutheran schools in Detroit, and I was raised within the Christian education system. My college years were at Concordia College, Ann Arbor, where I majored in vocal music performance and conducting, and minored in religious studies. After college I was hired as a High School teacher in Detroit Lutheran High Schools where I taught Old and New Testament, as well as directed choirs. A few years later I studied at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, Indiana and was ordained in 1995.

I have served two congregations in Michigan; spent 22 years as a Chaplain for several hospice organizations, and the last year at a senior living campus.

The Lord blessed me with my wonderful bride, Marianne, who teaches in the Minnesota Public School System. I am a big sports fan – hockey (Red Wings, and I will become a Wild fan); baseball (Tigers) and football (Lions). I love studying Civil War history and everyday history of how people lived in the past. I lift weights to stay in shape and have lifted for many years.

I love preaching and teaching God’s Holy Word, and am very excited to bring all of you this precious Word of God for our daily lives and witness. I am here for YOU, all of YOU, so please keep myself and Marianne in your daily prayers. I look forward in serving this wonderful flock of Christ Jesus.

Pastor Mark Raitz

Assisting with October Ministry

October 6

Ushers: Grace W., Carolyn L., Keith Y., Mark Y.

Trustees: Grace & Bill

Scripture Reader: Gary L.

Communion Assistant: Jim C.

October 13

Usher: Carolyn L., Jim C.

Trustees: Wendy & Carol

Scripture Reader: Aaron M.

October 20

Ushers: Grace W., Carolyn L., Jim C., Mark Y.

Trustees: Laurie & Laura

Scripture Reader: Dave S.

Communion Assistant: Gary L.

October 27

Ushers: Jim & Gayle M.

Trustees: Laurie & Jim

Scripture Reader: Mark W.

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

Financial Update

August Income: \$9,214.00

August Expenses: \$7,261.00

Monthly income was over
expenses by \$1,953.00

YTD Income: \$76,949.00

YTD Expenses: \$76,131.71

YTD income was over
expenses by \$817.29

August Mission

Lutheran Bible Translators: \$965.00

Full financial reports are available
in the office upon request



Coffee/Fellowship Servers & Helpers

October 6 Birthday Donuts/Council

October 13 Esther Circle

October 20 Volunteers/Youth

October 27 Esther Circle

Livestream Operators

October 6 Gary L.

October 13 Gary L.

October 20 Keith L.

October 27 Keith L.

Altar flowers and plants

All are welcome to place fresh flowers or floral plants on the church altar for a Sunday service. It can be for a memorial, tribute, celebration, or just because. We need to know at least 2 weeks before you would like to place them -unless they are from a funeral. Please call the church office to get more information. Thank you!



UPCOMING MINISTRIES AND EVETS

- The Installation service for Pastor Raitz will be on October 6. There will be a meal following the service.
- Join us on Sunday, October 27 at 9:30 AM for the MN Adult and Teen challenge Choir. Esther Circle will be providing a meal following the service.
- Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, October 20 at 10:45 AM
- Esther Circle meets on the first Thursday of the month at 10 AM at church.
- Band of Brothers meets every Wednesday at 7 AM at Caribou Coffee by Cub Foods.
- Esther Circle is starting their hat, mitten, & scarf collection early! Piedmont School needs these items as soon as it gets cold. A “Harvest of Blessing” basket will be in the narthex to collect your donations.

Dear CLC Family,

We have six of our youth who would like to attend the youth convention in Estes Park Colorado next July. They will be doing some fundraising here at church soon with the sale of 2025 scripture calendars and possibly some other items. We will keep you updated! The Youth Commission is looking to help offset the costs for our youth to attend, so if you would like to help in that way, please pick up a flyer from the narthex with a list of ideas to help offset the costs

The Youth Commission invites you to be part of what God will do at this conference. Here are some ways you can be involved:

- Lift up the conference in prayer. Unless the Lord is at work in the conference, we who labor, labor invain. Jesus changes lives!
- Encourage the youth in the church to attend. Being in God’s creation, surrounded by Christian youth and being served by adults who love your youth will leave a lasting mark.
- Invite kids from surrounding churches. Many churches aren’t big enough to organize a trip like this.
- Invest in the conference monetarily. The cost of running the conference is fargreater than what participants can be charged without it becoming prohibitive. Below are some of the ways you could help financially. There are flyers in the narthex with more information, or contact the office.

PRAYER	FREE!
WRISTBAND	\$10
TWO CONFERENCE SHIRTS	\$25
MEALS FOR A DAY	\$50
OUTREACH	\$75
LANYARDS/NAMETAGS	\$100
MEALS FOR THE WEEK	\$250
REGISTRATION COST PER ATTENDEE	\$500
HOUSING FOR FIVE	\$800
PROGRAM STAFF	\$1,000
NEXT YEAR’S DEPOSIT (OF \$8,000)	\$2,000

The average cost of the last three conferences is between \$60k-\$80k.

We are thankful for your prayers, support, and contributions!

OCTOBER MAINTENANCE REPORT

Fall is now officially here. We're so thankful for these nice warm days we have had. The hydrangeas out in the front garden are absolutely beautiful. Gayle, our Altar Guild volunteer, has been cutting bouquets of them and placing them to adorn our altar. Thank you, Esther Circle ladies, for all your efforts in keeping the church gardens looking so nice! The Esther Circle will be meeting on the 3rd to decide when to put the gardens to bed and store away all the pots and outdoor items.

Our focus has been on preparing the parsonage for Pastor Mark and Marianne to move in. Some long overdue improvements are being made in the way of painting, repairs and cleaning. A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR CUSTODIAN GARY GLAD. Gary has been a tremendous help in painting and helping with repairs. So thankful for him. He even took a day off from his other job to help us be timely here. What a beautiful servant heart! God bless him! We thank Aaron and Ilya Miner for coming to help with cleaning, painting and moving some furniture items for us at the parsonage, too. So thankful to Mike P. and Gary L. for their God given gifts – they have spent countless hours getting things ready. Jim C., Grace W., and Wendy P. have been helping, too. Judi has been helping to clean Pastor's office, so it will be ready for his arrival. So nice to have helping hands! We could not have done this without them. God was giving us some extra time as the Raitz's moving van with all their belongings was pushed out to the 27th/30th of September. We hope this will be a smooth transition for them. We look forward to having them with us and settled in to their new home.

Our To-Do list is still waiting for volunteers.

- Basement Janitor closet doors
- Retaining wall at parsonage
- Base repair in Fellowship Hall
- Grout repair in upstairs bathroom floor tile
- Clean outside windows and screens at parsonage and church
- Gutter work & cleaning out at parsonage and church
- Cleaning out and organizing the big garage

The new timer for our air handler system at the church is now installed – thank you Chris from Benson Electric.

Our elevator had its inspection. We are due to have our load test performed so that will be scheduled and documented.

A new battery for the sump pump alarm was installed. We will put that on a yearly replacement schedule so it will sound if we have a failure.

We are obtaining bids on air conditioning for our church and also the parsonage. Our trustees are working on the best route to take. We went ahead and had the electrical work done at the parsonage to accommodate for this as we needed to have Benson come and address a couple of other wiring issues. We have also enlisted a plumber to look at a couple of items at the parsonage.

The new blacktop at the parsonage will be laid the first week of October. We hope to patch a couple of the holes in the church parking lot at the same time.

If you are able to help with any of these projects, please, call my cell phone number at 218-390-8357. All that we have is a gift from God and we thank Him for his provision and the means to take care of our church home and our parsonage.

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
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: MN Teen Challenge

Please Pray for Those with Health Needs:

Jean Clark
Vi Boder
Florence Kubiak
Jane McLean
Luanne Wachula
Bryan White

Carol Sogard
Donna Swanson
The Lund Family
Laura Cruz
Brian MacDonald

Mary Jenny
Mark Malander
Linda Anthony
Michael Wilson
Janice Spindler
David Wood

If there are any people who have been accidentally overlooked, please contact the church office.



Our sympathy to the family and friends of Tom and Marlene Stauber who passed away together on July 12, 2024. Services were held at Christ Lutheran Church on August 24, 2024.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Carol Johnson who passed away Tuesday, September 10. The service was held at Christ Lutheran Church on September 20, 2024.

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

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!

Elliot Miner	October 10
Fred Pianfetti	October 10
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