

Give
Thanks!



Christ's Messenger

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The American Association of Lutheran

NOVEMBER 2024

**Christ Lutheran
Church**

Sunday Worship
9:30 AM

2415 Ensign St
Duluth MN 55811
clcduluth.org

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

Pastor Mark Raitz
313-268-0319

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:
**3rd Thur. of the
month** (Thanksgiving
date change)
11:30 AM -12:30 PM

Esther Circle
1st Thur. at 10:00 AM

Band of Brothers
meets 7AM every Wed.
at Caribou Coffee

AA
Mondays at 6:30 PM

Philippians 4:6 – **“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”**

Psalm 136:1 – **“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
for His steadfast love endures forever.”**

Being thankful is a trait that we should all express everyday. Being thankful for a brand new day; for the sunrise and sunset; the air we breathe; the beauty of God's creation here on earth; family, friends, church family. The list of things and people we are thankful for is endless. There is so much for us to be thankful for, but are we? Do we forget that we are to be thankful, and it should be a part of our prayers to God each day?

In our humanness we do forget, it is much easier to complain about life than it is to be thankful for life. It is much easier to be mad at God and one another, than it is to be thankful TO God and TO each other. Paul tells the Philippians IN EVERYTHING give thanks to God and let our requests be made known to Him. The psalmist tells us to give thanks to the Lord, because He is good and His love is with us each day.

God's creation shines in the beauty surrounding us; God's love is declared in Christ Jesus who He sent for us, to die and rise again for our salvation; God gives His Holy Spirit who works in our hearts, sanctifying our lives as we live and give witness to our great God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Let us be thankful, giving praise to ALL the blessings we are given by our great God! Let us prepare our hearts as we hear in the Sunday readings about being ready for Christ's second return, and prepare as we enter into a new church year for the season of Advent.

Lord God, heavenly Father, your mercy is everlasting and your truth endures to all generations. We thank you for your mercy and grace and for forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin. You have given us life, and it is your friendship and favor that sustains it. You have protected us from all harm and danger. Your compassions are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness. Let our mouths be filled with your praise and your honor every day. Forgive us all our sins, and let your grace and mercy abound in us. Teach us the way we are to live, and lead us in the right paths to the way everlasting. Preserve us in your truth, save your people, and grant peace to this world, especially to your church. For all these mercies we praise your holy name now and forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Blessed Thanksgiving to each of you and your families! Give thanks to the Lord!!

Pastor Raitz

UPCOMING MINISTRIES AND EVENTS

- **Pasty Making!** We will be making pasties again on November 7 beginning at 9 AM. If you would like to volunteer, please call the office or sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall. We need a few volunteers to help peel vegetables on November 6 at 5 PM. We are taking orders - amounts are limited - Please call the office or Carolyn by Sunday November 3rd. Thank You!
- Esther Circle meets on the first Thursday of the month at 10 AM at church. Listen for upcoming announcement for the annual Esther Circle tree trimming event.
- Band of Brothers meets every Wednesday at 7 AM at Caribou Coffee by Cub Foods.
- Esther Circle is still collecting hats, mittens, & scarves for Piedmont Elementary School.

Support Denfeld Girls' Basketball!

The Denfeld Girls Basketball Team, under the coaching of Pastor Erik Reinertsen, is gearing up for their new season. They are so thankful to those that donated last year. For the past three years the positive IMPACT this program has had on the girls, not only as players but as people that IMPACT their school and community has been amazing. Many of the students at Denfeld come from low income or single parent families. When the girls join the basketball team, they become a family. They didn't win many games, but they accomplished their mission - grades and attendance improved, diplomas were earned, friends were made, laughs and tears were shared. They had a place to belong, to be themselves, to try and fail and to try and succeed and most of all to be loved and cared for. That's what team is all about!



Your gift will help offset the costs of basketball shoes, team photos, team clothing, bus rides to games, meals after the games, end of year party and activities. If you are able to give by November 17th, you will be listed on the sponsors banner that is proudly displayed at each of the home games. If you are interested in a sponsorship, the levels are as follows:

Full Court-\$1000.00 Half Court-\$500.00 Three pointer-\$250.00 Free Throw-\$100.00 Lay-Up-\$50.00
Check can be made out to:

Denfeld Girls Hoops Club
2305 W. 3rd St.
Duluth, MN 55806

Any amount is appreciated. Call Carolyn if you have any questions - 218-390-8357

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*

Mark Wiita	November 9
Ilya Miner	November 12
Betty Roseen	November 14
Abigail Curtis	November 15
Elijah Allen	November 18
Susie Decker	November 18
Laurie Wiita	November 20

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

NOVEMBER 2024 MAINTENANCE REPORT

The gardens have officially been put to bed and our bushes have been trimmed back. A big thank you to the Esther Circle ladies, Jim Carlson, and Bruce Wells for their efforts! They may transplant one of the lilac bushes up front into the rock garden to make room for the air conditioner that was approved at our annual meeting for Pastor's office. This may be done yet this fall or in the spring! All the flower pots are safely stored away in the garage.

Our parsonage driveway was repaved on Monday, October 14. Our Sunshine Bakers had provided the \$3000.00 downpayment. Total cost was \$8,625.00. A couple wheelbarrows of excess blacktop was provided at the end of the paving job and was tamped into a few of the potholes in the church lot. We are doing our best to patch what we can, but our lot is wearing away – the last estimate to repave our lot came in at over \$150,000.00. We currently have \$22,000.00 in a CD earning interest and another \$550.00 in savings. The money the dental office donates to park in our lot each month also goes into that fund.

Mike, Gary, and I rolled up our sleeves on October 17, and gave our garage a good cleaning and re-organizing. So thankful we had warm weather!! Some of the items were able to find a new home and Jim was able to haul a few things away for us. Our custodian Gary G. was able to help us in the morning for a while, too!

The new blinds that we ordered for the master bedroom of the parsonage arrived and were installed on 10/24/24. We have just a couple little things to finish there for them. It sounds like they are almost all unpacked, settling in and making it their home. A new water meter was installed at the parsonage by the City of Duluth on October 8.

Our Fire extinguishers in the church and parsonage are due for their inspection. This is scheduled for October 28. Our church annual boiler inspection is scheduled for December 11. Cost is \$198.00, barring no repairs are needed. This is performed through ASP. The Parsonage boiler is due for its annual inspection in January through Krause.

Gutters and downspouts were repaired on the parsonage, church, and garage at a cost of \$269.29. We may run some drain tile in the spring and reroute the water on the east side of the church. This will be done on either side of the parsonage also to help in the back yard as it stays so wet there.

We are working with MN Power to add another flood light that will be placed on the pole in the lot to illuminate the lower parking lot and towards the soccer shed.

The air hockey table was repaired and placed in the Blue Sunday School room for the youth and the foosball table was placed in the balcony office for the youth – it was proposed that could be their new hang out space!

We thank our church family for their faithfulness with their donations. Through those gifts we are able to provide the means to keep our lights on, maintain our properties inside and out, and provide for Pastor and staff salaries. Praise our Lord for all He has granted to us! We continue to pray for new members to grow our church family.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Lofald – Vice President/Maintenance Chair



The Youth will be selling 2025 scripture wall calendars again this year.

The calendars cost \$10.00 each.

Proceeds support our youth attending the
2025 Estes Park Youth Convention

Dear Christ Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent donation to Lakeview Christian Academy! Your contribution has directly impacted nearly 100 students that are able to attend middle and high school at LCA this year.

Because of supporters like you, Christian education continues to be an option for families in the Northland. Please join us in praying for the future of our school so that we are able to spread the gospel to future generations for another 45 years and beyond!

Thank you again for your gift. Your partnership is greatly appreciated as we partner with you to offer education rooted in excellence and the foundation of Christ.

Sincerely,

Birdie Miner, Grade 11

*Thank
you!*

Dear Christ Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Duluth Public Schools, we wish to thank you for your donation to the Piedmont Elementary Kindergarten classroom.

The entire staff at the Duluth Public Schools works to inspire every student to achieve their potential, and prepare students to lead productive, fulfilling lives as citizens of Duluth and the wider world. Your thoughtfulness will help us in our efforts to provide the highest quality of education to our students. Thank you again for your generosity. It is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,

John Magas

Jill Lofald

Superintendent

School Board Chair

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$707.50 to Women's Care Center.

You are such a gift to this mission. Last year, because of you 158 babies are expected in our community. Many of these babies might not be here today, but for your love and support.

One of the moms you helped us serve last year was Anne. She says, "I didn't want to go through with an abortion, but I didn't know what else to do. I was afraid all I would have to offer my baby was life in a homeless shelter with no promise of his next diaper. Women's Care Center completely changed my life." And you helped Anne well beyond her decision for life to become the nurturing and self-sufficient mom that she is today. She says, "The donors are the reason we made it. There are a lot of great moms who depend on this place."

I hope you know what an impact you are making. Thank you for your generous support of our moms and babies.

With my prayers and gratitude,

Deb Ellingsen

Executive Director

*Women's
Care Center?*



DONATIONS NEEDED

We are still collecting boxes of cereal for the monthly food share.

Cash donations are always appreciated!

Food Share: Thursday, November 21 from 11:30-12:30

Thank you for supporting this ministry.

Assisting with November Ministry

If you have a conflict with these dates, please contact Jim Carlson

November 3

Ushers: Bill & Jan A., Carolyn L., Jim C.

Trustees: Grace & Bill

Scripture Reader: Dave S.

Communion Assistant: Keith Y., Birdie M.

November 10

Usher: Mark Y., Grace W.

Trustees: Wendy & Carol

Scripture Reader: Sandy C.

November 17

Ushers: Keith Y., Mark Y., Wendy P., Jim C.

Trustees: Laurie & Laura

Scripture Reader: Aaron M.

Communion Assistant: Mike P., Birdie M.

November 24

Ushers: Grace W., Carolyn L.

Trustees: Laurie & Jim

Scripture Reader: Keith Y.

November 26 (Thanksgiving Service)

Ushers: Gary & Carolyn L.

Trustees: Laurie & Jim

Financial Update

September Income: \$20,311.00

September Expenses: \$10,367.88

Monthly income was over expenses by \$9,943.12

YTD Income: \$97,291.00

YTD Expenses: \$86,499.59

YTD income was over expenses by \$10,791.41

September Mission

Gideons International: \$1,534.00

Full financial reports are available in the office upon request



Coffee/Fellowship Servers

November 3 Birthday Donuts/Council

November 10 Esther Circle

November 17 Youth/Volunteers

November 24 Esther Circle

Livestream Operators

November 3 Gary L.

November 10 Keith L.

November 17 Keith L.

November 24 Gary L.

PLEASE PRAY FOR....

The leadership of the church
Dr. Cary Larson & the AALC
The ministry at UGM
All Students and Teachers

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:
Youth for Christ

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
Norma Johnson

Mary Jenny
Mark Malander
Kaylea Guddeck
Michael Wilson
Janice Spindler
David Wood

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