

# THE TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION OF CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1660 BIRCH LAKE AVENUE, WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110

## PASTOR'S CORNER

*"Then Jonah prayed to God from the belly of the fish, saying,  
I called to God out of my distress, and God answered me."* – *Jonah 2:1-2*

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I'm enjoying Sing! Play! Summer!, the devotion booklet that is available for anyone to pick up and read through this summer. It is a fun way to engage with scripture, prayer, and wide range of ideas for summer activities.

In particular, I was drawn to week two of the devotion booklet, which focuses on the story of Jonah and the whale. The story of Jonah is one that is quick to read – just four chapters long! – and can help us see how persistent God's love can be. Jonah tries to avoid God's call at first, but he eventually gives in and preaches a very short sermon of repentance to the people of Nineveh. Despite Jonah's reluctance, the people of Nineveh heed Jonah's warning and embrace God's love, changing their lives for the better. The story of Jonah helps us see how God's love is at work in and through our lives, sometimes in obvious ways and other times in hidden ways, but that God's love and mercy knows no bounds.

The book of Jonah also has a lot of sea life and maritime imagery in it. A giant fish swallows up Jonah and he spends three days and three nights in its belly. While on vacation in June, I visited the Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium in Omaha, Nebraska, the number one zoo in America. Because it was such a hot day when we visited the zoo, we saved the indoor buildings for the afternoon to help us cool off. One of my favorites was the aquarium building, which housed the puffins, penguins, and a wide variety of fish. My favorite tank to spend time looking at is the jellyfish. Their slow movement up and down the tank is



hypnotizing and I love looking at the colors and the fluid movement that their bodies and tentacles make. Going to the zoo and aquarium was a way to experience all of God's amazing creation. From watching the rockhopper penguin zoom underwater, flying through the water to seeing the rhinoceroses grazing on hay, God's creation is on display at a zoo. But the zoo and aquarium are not the only places to see all that God has created. I'd encourage you to look around your home and your neighborhood, paying attention to natural elements, people, and small things you may have overlooked. God has created all of this, from the giant oak trees to the weeds growing in between the cracks of the sidewalk.

Jonah learns about how much God loves God's creation while on his journey. He tries to outrun God's call, only to end up spending three days in the belly of great fish. During those three days, he prays to God and learns that you can't outrun God's love. God's love is persistent and extends even into the belly of a fish! After Jonah is spat out onto the shore, he reluctantly does what God is asking for him: asking the people of

Nineveh to repent from their sinful ways. Despite his reluctance, the people of Nineveh trust in Jonah and seek to change their ways, repenting of their behavior. May we learn from Jonah that God's love is persistent and seek to emulate the people of Nineveh and be open to changing our ways this summer. I pray that we too might immerse ourselves in God's wonderful creation this summer, finding something good to wonder over ourselves.

Peace,  
Pastor Rebecca

# JOIN US

PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON, WATCH US VIAL LIVESTREAM OR WATCH A RECORDING LATER AT [CTKWBL.ONLINE.CHURCH](http://CTKWBL.ONLINE.CHURCH). YOU CAN ACCESS THE BULLETIN BY CLICKING AT THE TOP OF THE LIVESTREAM PAGE.

## JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### JULY 6

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14  
Psalm 66:1-9  
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

*Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and offer peace and healing.*

**9am Worship**  
Organ / Communion

### JULY 13

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14  
Psalm 25:1-10  
Luke 10:25-37

*What is involved in obeying the greatest commandment?*

**9am Outdoor Worship**  
Piano / Communion

### JULY 20

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-10a  
Psalm 15  
Luke 10:38-42

*Mary and Martha - What distracts us from abiding in the presence of God?*

**9am Worship**  
KHB / Communion

### JULY 27

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32  
Psalm 138  
Luke 11:1-13

*Persistence in prayer.*

**9am Worship**  
Organ / Communion

THURSDAY

### JULY 17 Women's Bible Study

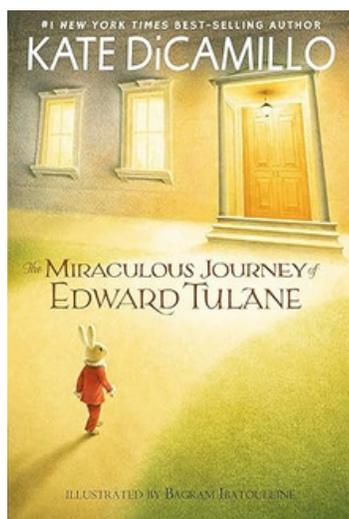
July's Study is titled:

*"Where two or more are gathered: Flourishing in relationships.*

*Relationships that sustain us"*

**9:30am**  
in the library.

## ONE BOOK, ONE CTK



This summer we're encouraging all members of CTK to read *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo. The book follows the miraculous journey of a china rabbit named Edward Tulane as he learns how to love and experiences the highs and lows that loving can bring. The theme of transformation and love will connect with a variety of Bible stories, including Paul/Saul and Jesus' emphasis on loving God and loving your neighbor. Read the book in June or July so you can plan to join in a book discussion in late July or early August! Copies of the book can be found at a local public library.

#### Discussion Dates:

Sunday, July 20, 10:30 am and Wednesday, August 6, 6:30 pm

# July



## WORSHIP LEADERS

	AV	ALTAR GUILD	LAM	READER	USHERS	COMMUNION	SET UP
7.6	Joe / Michael	Connie / Peggy	Julie	Howard	Michele / Mike	Peggy / Polly	N/A
7.13	N/A	Kathy / Ann	Cyndi	Michael	Michele / Scott	Julie / Howard	
7.20	Janelle/Michael	Cathy / Stephanie	Michele	Polly	Scott / Mike	Julie / Ann	N/A
7.27	Joe / Michael	Lori / Lori	Lee	Beth	Michele / Howard	Sally / Billie	N/A

**Hospitality:** Mary Fernandez, Ron & Sharon Nelson, Connie Carlson

*If you are faced with a conflict, please attempt to trade with one another and let the office know. Thank you!*

## DEVOTION

### The Nicene Creed turns 1700 in 2025

On June 19, 325, in the city of Nicaea (now Iznik, Turkey), the first world-wide “ecumenical” council of the early church adopted a version of the present-day Nicene Creed we now confess as Lutherans. Over Winter Term at Luther Seminary, in this Nicaean Jubilee year, I had the privilege of taking the seminary course entitled Worship: Leadership in Word and Sacrament, where we studied the centuries-long refinement of the Nicene Creed into a truly ecumenical, modern-day confession of faith shared by most Christians. On January 20, 2025, our professor, Dr. Dirk Lang shared some beautiful reflections on the Nicene Creed, to “re-engage with the Trinitarian faith that sustains all our life and our work. The reflections this [Jubilee] year ... focused on John 11:17-27 and Jesus’ question to Martha: ‘Do you believe this?’ Written by the ecumenical community of Bose, the introductory reflection states, ‘the first generations of Christians could not remain indifferent or passive when the words of Jesus touched and searched their hearts...’ Is that not true for us today as well? How can we remain silent knowing God’s good intent, God’s plan of life for all humanity and all creation? ‘I am the Resurrection and the life’, Jesus says. Jesus’ question to Martha, ‘Do you believe this?’

is also addressed to us. Our response is initially an individual response of faith, but it cannot only be individual. Our response is communal, liturgical, confessional. Together, as community, we respond with the words of the ... Nicene Creed: ‘We believe...’.

We believe that God is the source and giver of life, that God has defeated death. Today, death takes on many forms, not just our earthly, physical death. Death is present in the arrogance of war that disrespect human life, death is present in the suffering caused by violence of all sorts, in the hatred towards migrants and refugees, towards all those who do not look or act or think ‘like us’. ... Confronted with the death of Lazarus, Jesus asks us: Do you believe this? This question calls forth a confession. ... Confessing today points to the Gospel .... Confessing today directs us to God’s act of continually reclaiming and reconciling the world, humankind and creation. Through our confession, we discover that unity that God alone creates and offers us.”\*

Prayerfully in Christ,  
Michael Stepan

\* My professor, Rev. Prof. Dr. Dirk Lange is the Lutheran World Federation Assistant General Secretary for Ecumenical Relations, in Geneva, Switzerland. The LWF is a “global communion of churches in the Lutheran tradition, living and working together for a just, peaceful, and reconciled world.” The ELCA is a member of the LWF. See [Week of Prayer: Journey into the sources of our faith | The Lutheran World Federation](#) See also, Pr. Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton, An Ancient Creed is Relevant (Living Lutheran, Spring 2025).

# COMING SOON

## MISSIONS



### Masisiwe Fundraiser 2025

Our 2025 Fundraiser for Masisiwe will be during Sundays in July & August this year. Please prayerfully consider helping build their ministry. During the services, we'll share fun facts and a special update from Kirsten Levorson, who is visiting Masisiwe on our behalf on August 17th. In the meantime, collect your coins for noisy offerings.

## PRAYER WALKS



Join in a prayer walk around the CTK neighborhood. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall for instructions and go for a 30-40 minute walk in the neighborhood around CTK. The Prayer Walks will be in pairs or small groups as we focus on seeing what God might be asking us to pay attention to in our neighborhood and offering prayers silently or aloud in the neighborhood. We'll plan to meet at Cup and Cone for a sweet treat and debriefing when we've finished our walks. Attend one or all of the Prayer Walks!

- Tuesday, July 22 | 6:30 pm
- Monday, August 18 | 7 pm
- Sunday, August 24 | 10:30 am

## 2025 MISSION TRIP



Want to grow in faith, deepen relationships, and serve in Duluth? CTK is heading north to spend time at Amnicon Camp and serving in the Duluth/Superior communities. All ages are encouraged to join in the trip.

Date: Saturday, July 26 – Tuesday, July 29

Cost: Full trip: \$375

Two Days (Sat-Sun or Mon-Tues): \$175

We could do service on Saturday afternoon in Duluth on our way up to Amnicon. We will also meet with Sara, the Service Learning Camps Duluth coordinator, on Sunday to have an orientation to the Duluth region and learn more about why our service is needed in this community. Saturday and Sunday will also include time for team building and connection, outdoor relaxation, and meal preparations. Monday and Tuesday we will serve at a variety of organizations in the Duluth area, working at one site in the morning, breaking for lunch, and serving in the afternoon at a different site.

If you would like to help support the Mission Trip, we would welcome applications for a couple **Thrivent Action Grant** to help cover our food costs. If you are a Thrivent member and are interested in applying for a grant, let Pastor Rebecca know and she can walk you through the application process.

Watch the midweek for an upcoming meeting to go over final details for the trip.

# FELLOWSHIP

## Feed My Staving Children

We had a great group of diligent workers at the Coon Rapids Feed My Starving Children facility in June. That day, the CTK crew, along with other volunteers packed 16,200 meals! These life-saving meals will be sent to children around the world, to those who need it the most. Thank you to all who made a difference in the lives of so many.



# WORSHIP

## NSRVue Bible Translation

Starting in July, we will be using a newly updated translation of the Bible called the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NSRVue) in worship. It reflects discoveries of ancient texts and new insights made in the 30 years since the NSRV was last revised. This newly-updated translation offers clearer, more direct, and inclusive language, and increased cultural sensitivity absent of the unintended biases of prior versions. Friendship Press, the publisher of this edition, is “pleased to present what we can in full confidence call the world’s most meticulously researched, rigorously reviewed, and faithfully accurate English-language Bible translation.”

Many passages will have either minimal or no changes compared to the NSRV, while others will have more recognizable changes, such as this passage from Genesis 1:1-2:

“In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.” (NSRV)

“When God began to create the heavens and the earth, 2the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.” (NSRVue)

Augsburg Fortress, our denomination’s publishing company, has produced an updated version of the Lutheran Study Bible using the NSRVue. If you would be interested in purchasing a copy, let Pastor Rebecca know. If we purchase over 10 copies of either the paperback or hardcover study Bible, we can receive a discounted price.



# UPDATES

## CHURCH COUNCIL

### Council Corner

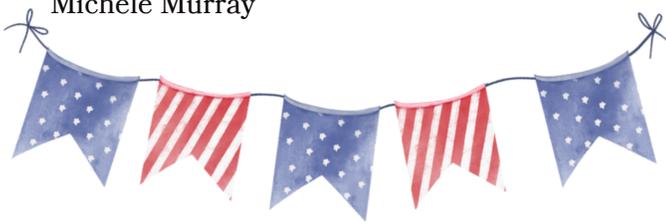
Greetings! The council continues reading Faithful Innovation: Following God into a Hopeful Future. Chapter 3 focuses on Acting as God is calling us to do. As a church do we feel more comfortable extending or receiving hospitality?

In June we continued our work defining the core values of Christ the King as well as ways to share this information with the congregation. Our goal is to begin sharing them this fall.

The team continues to work on the best system for streaming our services. The council voted to replace the computer that is used streaming / recording the services.

As always the CTK Council welcomes feedback and input from congregation members. Please feel free to share your thoughts with me or any other Council members. We are also always looking for leaders to serve at CTK in a variety of capacities. If you feel called to serve at CTK, please let any Council member know.

In Christ's service,  
Michele Murray



## LIVESTREAMING

As you may know, we have been having trouble livestreaming our services on Sundays. If you are interested in watching previously recorded services, they are now on YouTube. It is located at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCR15mA01eM>

## ADMIN & FINANCE

Envelope and online offerings  
monthly comparison:

### Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

01/01/25 through 5/31/25 = \$111,714

01/01/24 through 5/31/24 = \$118,255

### Expenses Year-To-Date:

01/01/25 through 5/31/25 = \$121,088

01/01/24 through 5/31/24 = \$118,356

### Cash account balances as of May 31, 2025

#### North Star Bank:

Checking = \$8,312

Savings = \$52,717

Memorial Savings = \$24,551

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$58,456

Endowment Fund = \$92,501

Mortgage Balance = \$103,938



Pick up your copy of **Sing! Play! Summer!** Celebrate the summer through the twin delights of faith and music, tapping your toes and singing along to the bluegrass-and-gospel sounds of internationally-acclaimed house band, **Butterflyfish!** Enjoy 50 summertime activity ideas all arranged around six Butterflyfish songs.

Each song brings a biblical story or theological idea to life, making it a springboard for activities the whole family can enjoy. So kick off your shoes, lay under the stars, or gather round the campfire: music is one of God's greatest gifts, and this summer is the perfect time to savor it.


**JULY**  
 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 7pm Property Team	4 	5 7am Bread Ministry
6 Worship 9am	7	8	9	10	11	12 7am Bread Ministry
13 Outdoor Worship 9am	14	15	16	17  Women's Bible Study 9:30am	18	19 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
20 Worship 9am  Book Discussion "Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane" 10:30am	21	22  Family Shelter Meal 4:30pm  Prayer Walk 6:30pm	23	24  Trumpet Deadline	25	26 7am Bread Ministry  Duluth Mission Trip
27 Worship 9am  Duluth Mission Trip	28  Duluth Mission Trip	29  Duluth Mission Trip	30	31	