



THE TRUMPET

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

PASTOR'S CORNER

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” – Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The new school year is upon us! School supplies have been purchased and students are returning to their classes. Learning will be under way as students adjust to new classrooms and classmates. Even for those who are not returning to the classroom, September marks a fresh start. It is the beginning of the change from summer to fall, the leaves turning, and birds heading south. Even at church our rhythms change. The slower schedule of summer picks up steam as Christian education programming starts again on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. Both the choirs begin their rehearsals again, adding their weekly anthem to our worship services.

Fall can also be a season when we begin to think about our plans for the school year ahead. Here at church we are busy making plans for Christian education, ways to serve as part of God's Work, Our Hands month, and fellowship opportunities. One plan that we could think about this fall is God's plan for our lives.

The verse from Jeremiah is one that is often referenced when thinking about God's plans for our lives. Too often, however, it becomes a verse that is used to speak of God's plan singular for our lives. But if we look closely at the verse, God has planS for us. There is not a singular plan for our lives. God does not have one path for us to follow. God knows that we are human – and that we may not always make the best choices. But there are multiple ways to live out God's plans for our lives. We may take a winding path that leads us into unexpected places, but still end up following one of God's plans for our lives.

God's plans are also for our welfare. The Hebrew word that we translate as “welfare” is shalom. We



can think of God's plans for our welfare as being that for our wholeness, health, well-being, and peace. The welfare that God has plans for us our whole self, all aspects of our lives, from our physical and mental health, our aspirations and dreams, and that which brings us peace. God cares about our

whole selves and has plans for our welfare that includes that whole self.

And what are these plans for? These plans are to give us a future with hope! Too often we can get bogged down in the realities of life. There are so many challenges that surround us at all times. The news is full of war and conflict around the world. Technology continues to rapidly change, making us question the authenticity of our interactions online. Our governing bodies at the national and state level are often in conflict with one another, unable to compromise and find solutions to our shared problems. So many in our congregation and our communities are facing health issues, diagnoses, or the challenge of caregiving.

Yet God reminds us that God has plans for our welfare that will give us a future with hope. Hope is a gift from God. We trust and believe that God is actively working for good, even with the challenges that we experience right now. Hope is so much more than just wishing for a good outcome. Hope is confident and active waiting as we keep our eyes open for the signs of God breaking into our world right here and now.

I pray that we might have our eyes open for the signs of God breaking into our world this fall. Let us put our trust in the plans (plural!) that God has for our welfare, our well-being and wholeness, and our hope in the future that God has in store for us.

Peace,
Pastor Rebecca

JOIN US

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

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 7 SEPTEMBER 14 SEPTEMBER 21 SEPTEMBER 28

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1 Luke 14:25-33	Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 Luke 15:1-10	Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 Luke 16:1-13	Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Psalm 146 Luke 16:19-31
<i>We are called to contemplate the cost of discipleship as we are strengthened.</i>	<i>God seeks and saves the lost.</i>	<i>What does it mean to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have?</i>	<i>Sharing of wealth is how we avoid the snare of wealth.</i>
9am Worship Organ / Communion	9am Worship KHB / Communion	9am Worship Organ / Communion	9am Worship KHB / Communion

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 18

Women's
Bible Study

*"For Just
Such a Time as This"*

Join us to read through
the book of Esther this fall.

9:30am
in the library.

Fall Worship Overview

While September may feel like a busy time with the resumption of activities, choirs, and Christian education, our worship continues the "ordinary" time cycle of the church year. Our paraments are still green, but the Altar Guild has changed them from the brighter green to an olive green, visibly illustrating our faith deepening. The images above and on the altar change from a cross with a net symbolizing discipleship to a cross with leaves, giving us encouragement to continue to grow in our faith as disciples of Christ.

The readings we will hear read aloud in worship in September follow two separate themes. The first half will focus on the cross and how Jesus talks to the disciples about picking up their cross and following him. The second half of September has Jesus sharing parables focused on wealth. We'll be given the opportunity to consider the use of wealth, both in our lives, our congregation, and our community.

Let us be reminded this fall that "[We] are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper." (Psalm 1:3)



September

WORSHIP LEADERS



	AV	ALTAR GUILD	LAM	READER	USHERS	COMMUNION
9.7	Janelle / Michael	Lori / Lori	Lee	Bea	Carol / Howard	Julie / Bea
9.14	Craig / Joe	Connie / Peggy	Cyndi	Michael	Mike / Scott	Michele / Polly
9.21	Janelle / Michael	Kathy / Ann	Trip	Polly	Scott / Mike	Peggy / Michele
9.28	Jason / Brianna	Cathy / Stephanie	Michael	Cyndi	Peggy / Michele	Polly / Bonnie

Hospitality: Wendy & Alma Gulbraa, Patti Rund, Phil & Betsy Danielson

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

DEVOTION

A new biblical translation: the NRSVue

With great satisfaction as an adult student of scripture, I just completed my biblical Hebrew final exam. Over the last two semesters at Luther Seminary, and with dedicated effort, I learned both ancient Greek and biblical Hebrew, the two original languages of the New and Old Testaments. In researching, for my own benefit, regarding the change to the translation of my familiar NRSV bible, I came across a concise, but helpful article with great resource links from the South Carolina Synod of the ELCA, which nicely dovetailed with my recent study in seminary:

“Scholars are constantly working on Biblical translation with the goal of offering translations and updates to make the texts accessible and the most authentic and accurate as possible. The NRSVue has been compiled from multiple sources. ... The Bible widely used by ELCA congregations and members has most recently been the NRSV (New Revised Standard Version), first published in 1989 by the National Council of Churches (NCC) in collaboration with the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL). The ELCA does not require a particular version be used by congregations, but many have chosen this particular translation in recent years.

Bible translation and updates are constantly being reviewed by Biblical scholars. The NRSV was an update to the Revised Standard Version (RSV), which was an authorized revision of the American Standard Version published in 1901, which was a revision of the King James Version published in 1611. In 2017, a review of the NRSV was undertaken.

The goals of the review and update were to: 1) incorporate advances in textual criticism, 2) improve the textual notes, and 3) review the style and rendering of the translation. The NRSVue is the most closely translated version of the Bible to original texts for English language users, as it is considered to be the most literal and unbiased translation to date.”

For more information, visit:

<https://scsynod.com/news/why-is-the-elca-going-to-use-an-updated-translation-of-the-bible-called-the-nrsvue/>

My introduction to the original texts of the bible has been beyond fascinating. Seeing the words used by the original authors “way back then” has been eye-opening, and opened my mind to changes like those incorporated into the NRSVue. Context and accuracy matter. Blessings for your biblical studies!

Prayerfully in Christ,
Michael Stepan

COMING SOON

SERVICE



God's Work, Our Hands 2025

September will focus on God's Work Our Hands at CTK. Wear your gold God's Work, Our Hands shirt or a CTK shirt each Sunday as we serve together and deepen our relationships together as a community.

Hygiene Kits for Youth

During September, we'll be collecting supplies to put together hygiene kits for youth experiencing homelessness in the Twin Cities. We will put together the kits on September 28 and deliver them to a Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota service location in early October.

When purchasing hair products, you are encouraged to purchase products for texturized or Black hair in particular, such as brands like Shea Moisturize, Carol's Daughter, or Mixed Chicks.

- Reusable tote bag or shower caddy
- Full-sized deodorant
- Full-sized shampoo
- Full-sized conditioner
- Toothbrush
- Full-sized toothpaste
- Full-sized body wash
- Brush or comb (wide tooth combs, rat tail combs, or soft-bristle brushes are recommended)
- Hairstyling product
- Razor and shaving cream
- Hair bonnet

Blessing of the Bags – September 7

Celebrate the beginning of a new school year and the start of fall with a blessing of backpacks and bags. Everyone is invited to bring their bag – backpack, purse, tote bag, lunch bag, bowling bag, gym bag, or whatever kind of bag you use! – to have it blessed in worship for the start of a new school year. We'll be reminded to "Love God. Love people. The end."

Sandwich Project – September 14

Join us in the fellowship hall after worship and coffee/treats to make sandwiches for two organizations in Minneapolis. We'll put together 300 sandwiches – 200 bologna and cheese and 100 peanut butter and jelly! We need everyone's help to prepare the sandwiches.

Sandwiches will be delivered on Monday to the Walker Food Share and the Native American Community Clinic to be distributed to their clients. If you'd like to help deliver the sandwiches on Monday, September 15 to the locations in Minneapolis, please let Pastor Rebecca know.

Rally Day – September 21

Continue celebrating God's Work, Our Hands with a Rally Day potluck brunch. The Fellowship Team will provide pancakes and the fixings. Please bring your favorite breakfast/brunch food for the potluck – fruit, juice, egg bake, deviled eggs, breakfast sausage, bacon, muffins, salad, or whatever you love to eat for brunch! Let us know what to expect by filling out the sign-up sheet in the narthex on the library window.

Grandfriends Day – September 28

Grandfriends Day is celebrated annually in September and CTK will be marking it this year. Bring your grandfriend to church with you! This could be grandchildren, grandparents, or a friend of a different generation. We'll celebrate the intergenerational connections in our lives and honor grandparents and grandfriends for their contributions to our lives together. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall to put together the LSS Hygiene Kits for youth and conversation.



Fall Christian Education Opportunities

The new school year is here and the new programming year is beginning! There will be a variety of different options for growing in your faith and learning about the Bible, prayer, and other faith topics.

Sunday School

For kindergarten through fifth grade students

Sunday School will be held the first Sunday of the month. Join us for a video, Bible story, craft, and activities. This fall the Sunday School students will also be working on creating a video to be used in our Christmas program in December. We may have rehearsals on additional Sundays if families are interested and available.

Snapshots: Called into the Word *new!*

For all ages

Everyone is invited to interact with the day's Scripture reading and apply the lessons to the week ahead. A Snapshots table will be set up in the Fellowship Hall each week with instructions for interacting with the weekly Gospel reading and a short activity to do together. It will take no more than twenty minutes to complete. All ages and stages are invited to give it a try!

Confirmation

For sixth through ninth grade students

Confirmation students will gather again on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 pm to learn about the Bible and living out your faith. After Lent, families will be invited to participate in field trips to engage with faith in real life as we explore where God is present in the various stages of life.

Youth Group

For sixth through twelfth grade students

All high school and middle school students are invited to the Youth Room on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 pm. Our Director of Youth and Family Ministries Hannah Grove will lead a time of fun and connection along with exploring ways to grow in faith.

Youth Group Bible Study *new!*

For sixth through twelfth grade students

High school and middle school youth are invited to participate in Bible study twice a month (second and fourth Sundays) led by Director of Youth and Family Ministries Hannah Grove. They'll meet in the Youth Room from 10:15-11 am to explore the Bible together. More details about the Bible study to come soon!

Out of the Blue: Six Surprising Tales from Jesus' Family Tree *new!*

For all ages

This year's Christmas program will look a little different as we will be pre-recording six surprising tales from Jesus' family tree to show in worship. Three of the tales will be covered by our Sunday School class, Confirmation class, and Youth Group, but we'd love to invite a family, ministry team, or small group to consider volunteering to record a video of one of the other tales. Talk to Pastor Rebecca if you are interested in participating. Creativity is encouraged!

UPDATES

MISSIONS



Masisiwe 2025 Fundraiser Success

Thank you to all who participated in our 2025 fundraiser in July and August. Because of your generosity, it was a brilliant success, raising \$4,308.79! These funds will help complete the building of Masisiwe's 5th preaching point, Tumaini. Our two months' focus on Masisiwe also celebrated our 20 years of partnership joining together in presence, prayer and projects. It clearly highlighted the tremendous outpouring by CTK to help them grow their ministry and improve daily life. 20 years of donations for projects reached \$45,607 this year! That meant Masisiwe could build 2 houses (one for pastor, the other for evangelist) and 1 new church, greatly improve 4 churches, buy land and trees for their lumber industry and raise avocados for cash as well as purchase goats for milk and cheese. Our student sponsorship program raised \$74,657, enabling 382 scholarships for secondary school and advanced study at universities and trade schools. (To see these highlights in more detail, please stop by the large bulletin board in the hallway near the kitchen.)

Asante sana (Thank you very much!)
Bwana asafiwe! (Praise God!)



Christ in Our Home

The October / November / December issue is available on the Welcome Center in the Narthex.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Corner

Greetings!

As we move into the fall season we look forward to sharing the Core Values with the congregation.

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, such as ushers, communion servers, LAMs, readers, discipleship and property team members. If you feel called to serve at CTK, please let any Council member know.

In Christ's service,
Michele Murray

ADMIN & FINANCE

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

July Financial Report

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

01/01/25 through 7/31/25 = \$159,471

01/01/24 through 7/31/24 = \$162,845

Expenses Year-To-Date:

01/01/25 through 7/31/25 = \$169,579

01/01/24 through 7/31/24 = \$155,998

Cash account balances as of June 30, 2025

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$7,528

Savings = \$53,274

Memorial Savings = \$24,551

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$59,633

Endowment Fund = \$92,504

Mortgage Balance = \$100,965



SEPTEMBER

2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Youth Group 7-8:30pm	4 7pm Property Team	5	6 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
7 Worship 9am Blessing of the Bags Sunday School 10:15am	8 6:30pm WMA	9 7pm Admin Team	10 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Confirmation 7-8:30pm	11	12 Birch Lake PTA Bounce Back to School Event 4pm	13 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
14 Worship 9am Sandwich Project YG Bible Study 10:15am	15	16 7pm Church Council	17 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Youth Group 7-8:30pm	18  Women's Bible Study 9:30am	19	20 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
21 Worship 9am Rally Day	22  Trumpet Deadline	23  Family Shelter Meal 4:30pm	24 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Confirmation 7-8:30pm	25	26	27 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
28 Worship 9am Grandfriends Day YG Bible Study 10:15am	29	30		Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm		