

THE TRUMPET

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

PASTOR'S CORNER

*“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice
and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?” – Micah 6:8*

Dear Siblings in Christ,

There's a saying – “May you live in interesting times.” It's meant to be ironic, as a way to understate the turmoil of the current time. That statement feels especially true over the past few months in Minnesota have been “interesting” in the truest meaning of the word.

In the midst of the turmoil we see in our communities, prayer and lament are the starting point for our Christian response. As Christians, we can ground ourselves in our faith and call out to God in anger, in grief, and in lament. Prayer gives us the strength to carry on and love our neighbors as ourselves.

As we take in all that has been happening in Minnesota, I invite you into a prayer of lament and grief adapted from the Women of the ELCA. You can also add your own petitions to as well to name the places of grief and lament that you are experiencing:

For a nurse murdered, for a mother shot, for a toddler detained, for families torn apart, for all unjustly detained, for children afraid to go to school or outside, God we lament. After grief, give us the strength to love.

Lament is essential to faith and justice. Theologian Walter Brueggemann argues that lament is the language of people who refuse to accept the world as it is and dare to voice their pain, grief, and protest before God. By offering lament to God, we resist silence and passivity, opening ourselves up to God's new possibilities.

But we cannot stop with lament. After voicing our laments, we can take action to make things right.

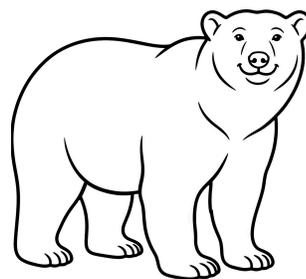
As we prayed earlier, after grief, we ask for the strength to love. Let us put our love in action and love our neighbor in tangible ways.

I reached out to Julian Stanke, the principal of Birch Lake Elementary School, asking for ways that we could support the school at this moment in time. He shared information from the Bear Solidarity Network, a grassroots, volunteer-led mutual aid effort committed to safely sharing resources and coordinating support for neighbors in the 624 area. They offered links to resources in three areas:

- Donate: bit.ly/3LMO1qw
- Volunteer: bit.ly/3NIBD1e
- Educate: Resources for supporting students, families, and our community: bit.ly/4sAeKXQ

I invite you to consider how you might be able to put your love for your neighbor into action in a tangible way. Can you offer to volunteer? Can you donate? Can you learn more to support our community? When we put our love into action, we are participating in God's work of making all things new. We too can do what the verse from Micah 6:8 calls us to do – do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God – as we do our part to live into God's call to love our neighbor.

Peace,
Pastor Rebecca



**BEAR
SOLIDARITY
NETWORK**

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.

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 1

Fourth Sunday
after Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
Matthew 5:1-12

*Who are
the blessed
ones of God?*

9am Worship
Organ / Communion

FEBRUARY 8

Fifth Sunday
after Epiphany

1 Corinthians 2:1-12
Psalm 112:1-9
Matthew 5:13-20

*Jesus calls his followers
to let the light of their
good works shine before
others.*

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

FEBRUARY 15

Transfiguration
of Our Lord

2 Peter 1:16-21
Psalm 99
Matthew 17:1-9

*Jesus
is revealed as
God's Beloved Son.*

9am Worship
Organ / Communion

FEBRUARY 18

Ash
Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Psalm 51:1-17
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

*Going all in on the
culturally unpopular idea
that repentance brings us
back to God.*

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

FEBRUARY 22

First Sunday
in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Matthew 4:1-11

*Being all in for creation
begins with acknowledging
that we are part of it.*

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12

Women's
Bible Study

*"Now Let Us Pray:
Praying with the body
of the Earth"*

9:30am
in the library.



February

WORSHIP LEADERS

	AV	ALTAR GUILD	LAM	READER	USHERS	COMMUNION
2.1	Janelle / Michael	Kathy Felix	Michele	Polly	Peggy / Carol	Julie / Bonnie
2.8	Trip / Michael	Cathy / Stephanie	Cyndi	Peggy	Scott / Mike	Michele / Howard
2.15	Janelle / Michael	Lori / Lori	Lee	Howard	Wendy / Howard	Peggy / Karen
2.18	N/A	All	N/A	Michael	Wendy / Mike	Bonnie / Peggy
2.22	Jason / Julia	Karen / Becky	Julie	Trip	Mike / Scott	Hannah / Thomas
2.25	N/A	Karen / Becky	N/A	Peggy	Wendy /	N/A

Hospitality: Kathy Felix, Linda Larson, Erin Simunds

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

WORSHIP



Have you ever decided to go all in for something?

Maybe it was when you chose a profession or a partner. Perhaps you made the exciting but terrifying decision to become a homeowner. Maybe it was when you joined CTK.

When it comes to our faith, Jesus shows what it is like to be all in for the reign of God. It means being fully invested, deeply committed. There are no backup options. Everything is on the line.

Before we can go all in, though, God shows us the way. God knows that going all in for this beautiful broken world is a challenge, so God goes all in on our behalf first, revealing what it is like to bet it all on love.

In Jesus, God pours out every last drop of love, all of it for the sake of a world that may never fully understand.

This Lent, God is all in for us. Let's go all in for God's love too.

MIDWEEK WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday

February 18
Service 7:00pm

Midweek Lenten Worship

February 25,
March 4, 11, 18 & 25

Soup Supper 5:45pm
Services 7:00pm

Sign up to bring soup on
Wednesday nights starting
February 25.

COMING SOON

YOUTH & FAMILY



Youth Group

Wednesday, February 4th from 7:00-8:30pm

Hello youth families! February will be a short month for youth group. We only meet once (Wednesday, February 4th from 7:00-8:30pm).

At this session we will talk some more about spiritual gifts and our call to discipleship which will be our theme for the remainder of the year.

If you're looking for something to do during Lent, join us on Sundays for our bible study Crafts and Conversation. (open to all ages).



Please join us this Lent for Crafts and Conversation!

All are welcome to join us Sunday mornings from 10:15-11am for a craft and some conversations about the Bible. We will meet every Sunday in Lent except for Palm Sunday.

Interested? Please see our schedule and topics below!

- February 22nd - Lenten practices
- March 1st - Jesus's arrival in Jerusalem
- March 8th - The Last Supper
- March 15th - The Crucifixion
- March 22nd - The Easter miracle

Have questions or want to help out?
Email Hannah at hannahgrove@ctkwbl.org

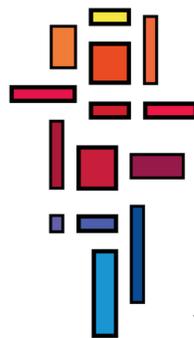


Wilderness Canoe Base: Congregational Camp: Summer 2026 Informational Meeting

February 8, 10:15 am | Conference Room

Join Pastor Rebecca to discuss dates and learn more about a congregational camp trip to Wilderness Canoe Base in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of Minnesota this summer.

The trip will run Thursday through Sunday and offer a variety of staff led programs and self-guided opportunities including paddling across the lake, hiking around the islands, or tackling a crafting challenge. You can also unwind in the sauna, take a refreshing lake jump, or sing up for a BCWA day trip to one of the 101 islands on Seagull Lake. In the evenings, enjoy a campfire and vespers service.



A big Thank You to all who have already donated to the sanctuary project. We are expecting to receive quotes

from new contractors on the re-build portion of the project. We have raised sufficient funds to

cover the cost of the mold remediation, but still need more funds to cover the rebuild. Please prayerfully consider a contribution. Every donation is greatly appreciated.

DEVOTION

Faith and Wisdom in Challenging Times

There is much tribulation in our world today – spanning the spectrum from the global level to our own neighborhoods, as recent days demonstrate by the killing not far away, leaving a widow and a child, and the rest of us stunned. And then the following Saturday came and another life was shockingly taken, more hearts broken and more dreams oppressed.

During these challenging times, the Psalmist reminds us that we are not alone: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” (Psalm 46:1) The prophet Micah calls us to justice, love, and mercy, and simply asks, “what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8) Jesus carried this theme forward pristinely when he said, “you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:30-31)

God loves all Creation—including each human being—there are no exceptions. As Genesis tells us, God created us in God’s “image” and “likeness.” (Gen. 1:26) I invite you to ponder that for a moment: we are all made in the image of God.... God was very pleased with us and Creation and “it was very good.” (Gen. 1:31) Indeed, Paul assures us that, through baptism, we are “the body of Christ.” (Eph. 4:12) Especially in these challenging times, we hold fast in baptismal hope, as a faithful body of Christ, dedicated to God and one another.

*Let us pray.
God of Creation, grant us the love,
faith, kindness, and courage to live out our
baptismal covenant to engage with our church
community, participate in worship and the
sacraments, share faith with others, engage in
acts of service and justice, and to advocate for
social justice and peace. We pray this in the
name of Christ Jesus.
Amen.*

Prayerfully in Christ,
Michael Stepan

MISSIONS

Greetings from Masisiwe

*We received this email from Pastor Nziku after
Christmas in response to our email Christmas
greeting:*

Halo all Christ the King members. I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we are approaching the Christmas celebration I would like to say, "Merry Christmas".

Thank you so much for the collaboration we received in 2025. You made us feel warm and alive. In 2025 we sent 20 youth to school through your scholarship, we also have 17 TEE students, and we have just confirmed 42 confirmation students this year.

We have received your Christmas letter with Christmas greetings. Thank you so much. I also thank you for the funds which the BKB office informed us that you sent in October. Our plan is to accomplish the Tumaini church building by plastering, making and fixing doors and windows, then painting. By so doing the building will be nice, once we get pews or chairs it will be ready for use.

I wish you a blessed Merry Christmas and Happy New Year of 2026.

Idan Nziku, Parish pastor.

You are welcome to visit Masisiwe.



A HUGE Thank you from all of us and our full bellies for all the wonderful meals (including meal gift cards) that were dropped off to our front porch in November and December. We were humbled by the outpouring of support through cards, messages, food and prayers during my chemotherapy treatments. Your kindness and generosity will never be forgotten. Our congregation is truly a village! A special thank you to Elida and Alvina for coordinating the meal train and sign up sheet.

The Jonell family –
Ann, David, Alex and Caroline

UPDATES

CHURCH COUNCIL

The new CTK Church Council roster for 2026 is:

Erin Simunds, President
Jason Clapper, President-Elect
Howard Juni, Treasurer
Janelle Van Sloun, Secretary
Connie Carlson, At-Large member
Craig Carlson, At-Large member
Kathy Felix, At-Large member
Julie Ramer, At-Large member
Tom Sandhei, At-Large member

These are the individuals who will be working to make decisions at CTK in 2026. If you have thoughts, ideas, or suggestions, please feel free to contact any of these individuals. Church council meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm and are open for congregation members to attend. Please pray for all of our Council leaders and ask for God's wisdom and guidance in their decision making.

ADMIN & FINANCE

December Financial Report

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

01/01/25 through 12/31/25 = \$284,901

01/01/24 through 12/31/24 = \$277,559

Expenses Year-To-Date:

01/01/25 through 12/31/25 = \$294,415

01/01/24 through 12/31/24 = \$274,794

Cash account balances as of November 30, 2025

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$14,152

Savings = \$33,344

Memorial Savings = \$26,199

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$62,055

Endowment Fund = \$91,943

Mortgage Balance = \$93,476

CONGREGATION

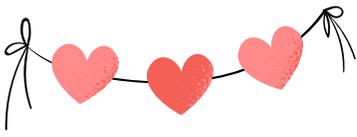
Seeds for Ukraine Dinner & Update

Thank you to all who came out for the Seeds for Ukraine dinner and update in January. We are so grateful for all who supplied soup, bread, dessert, and more along with those who helped with set-up and clean-up. Thanks to Betsy for playing the piano and Tom Sandhei for setting up the sound system.

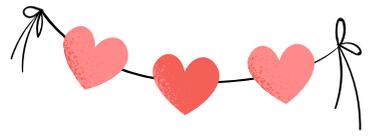
We are especially grateful to Bill Hughes and Janet Getchell for bringing Vitalyi and his family to CTK to share about the important ministry they are doing in Ukraine and the impact of the seeds on the villages.

Vitalyi reminded us not to say no to ministry opportunities and that it only takes a small seed for a large impact to be felt.





FEBRUARY



2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p> <p>Worship 9am</p> <p>Sunday School 10:15am</p> <p>Immigration Conversation 10:15am</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30pm WMA</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm</p> <p>Youth Group 7-8:30pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7pm Property Team</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7am Bread Ministry</p> <p>KHB 9am</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Worship 9am</p> <p>Congregational Camp: Summer 2026 Informational Meeting 10:15am</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7pm Admin Team</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm</p> <p>Confirmation 7-8:30pm</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>Women's Bible Study 9:30am</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7am Bread Ministry</p> <p>KHB 9am</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>Worship 9am</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7pm Church Council</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00pm</p> <p>Choir 8:00pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7am Bread Ministry</p> <p>KHB 9am</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Worship 9am</p> <p>Crafts & Conversation 10:15am</p>	 <p>Trumpet Deadline</p>	 <p>Family Shelter Meal 4:30pm</p>	<p>Soup Supper 5:45pm</p> <p>Lenten Worship 7:00pm</p> <p>Choir 7:45pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7am Bread Ministry</p> <p>KHB 9am</p>
<div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 10px; border-radius: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p>Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm</p> </div>						