



THE TRUMPET

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

PASTOR'S CORNER

*“Equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
until all of us come to the unity of the faith.”*

– Ephesians 4:12-13a

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The Church Council began reading *Invite Welcome Connect* in March. The book comes from the Episcopal Church and focuses on developing a church culture of inviting individuals to church, welcoming the new people, and connecting the new people with ministry opportunities. I am hopeful that it will help us reflect how we as a congregation are doing in all of these areas and consider how we might grow in our invitation, welcome, and connection.

If the conversations that I have had about the introductory chapter are any indicator, “invitation” will be the first growth area to consider. As we discuss the introduction to the book, it became clear that most Council members felt that we did a good job of welcoming people at CTK and that opportunities for connection were abundant. But invitation was not something anyone seemed to be willing to try out with any regularity.

One of the critical jobs that I have as your pastor is to equip the saints for the work of ministry. Inviting others into the church is one of those important works of ministry – you all live and do your daily activities in White Bear Lake. You encounter the church’s neighbors all the time. Can you invite someone to worship at CTK? Perhaps you might want to consider a special worship service – a holiday like Easter or All Saints or a summer outdoor worship service. Or on a day when we are having a service project after worship like God’s Work, Our Hands in September. Another way to ask someone to come to church is to invite them to

an event that is not specifically church related – invite a friend to help clean up Otter Lake Road or to join in the annual Bingo night.

Invite Welcome Connect makes it clear that we, as Christians and members of CTK, need to do the work of inviting others to church. However, what happens next is not up to us; the Holy Spirit gets to work after we extend the invitation. Our invitation might lead to someone coming to CTK, going to a completely different church, or not taking any action. The invitation that you extend plants seeds – and what happens onto the seeds is through the work of the Holy Spirit. We extend the invitation and trust that God will handle what happens next.

I will ask you to extend an invitation – just one single invitation – to someone that you know to come to CTK in 2026. For many, this will mean getting out of our comfort zone and trying something new. But this is the work of ministry and a way to build up the body of Christ! We can’t keep doing what we’ve always done before and expect a different result. Let 2026 be a year when you try something new and extend an invitation to come to CTK to a friend or neighbor. Trust me, the Holy Spirit will surprise you when you least expect it!

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.

APRIL SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

APRIL 5

Easter
Sunday

Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Matthew 28:1-10

*Embracing resurrection
frees us to embrace the
good news that no part
of life or death is out of
God's life-giving reach.*

9am Worship
Organ / Communion

APRIL 12

Second Sunday
of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
John 20:19-31

*The risen Christ
appears to the disciples
and offers them
the gift of
peace.*

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

APRIL 19

Third Sunday
of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Luke 24:13-35

*The
story of Emmaus
becomes the pattern
of our worship each
Lord's dy.*

9am Worship
Organ / Communion

APRIL 26

Fourth Sunday
of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
John 10:1-10

*The
risen Christ
opens the way
to abundant
life.*

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

THURSDAY
APRIL 16
Women's
Bible Study

I AM: God's Holy
Name and Promise

Session TWO:
Gate and
Shepherd

9:30am
in the library.



HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday Worship & Meal 6:00pm

Good Friday Worship 7:00pm

Easter Sunday Worship 9:00am



WORSHIP LEADERS

	AV	ALTAR GUILD	LAM	READER	USHERS	COMMUNION
4.2	N/A	All Altar Guild	N/A	Beth	Mike	N/A
4.3	N/A	All Altar Guild	N/A	Cyndi / Trip	Howard	N/A
4.5	Craig / Jason	Connie / Peggy	Michael	Polly	Mike / Scott	Peggy / Bonnie
4.12	Janelle / Michael	Kathy / Ann	Hannah	Wayne	Scott / Michele	Karen / Howard
4.19	Craig / Joe	Cathy / Stephanie	Cyndi	Peggy	Mike / Michele	Wayne / Michael
4.26	Janelle / Michael	Lori / Lori	Michele	Polly	Scott / Howard	Peggy / Julie

Hospitality: Sue Kohler, Craig & Cathy Carlson, Howard & Billie Juni

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

DEVOTION

Glory to God!

Recently someone asked me what Easter means to me. My response was swift, saying it's the whole reason I'm a Christian. Then I reflected a bit deeper and I realized it sounded like a somewhat terse statement of faith. It made me think about what my own creed of faith might sound like.

I was especially reminded of our last few months together: about our anticipatory journey during Advent, our Savior's humble birth, which we celebrate at Christmas; the soul-searching character of the season of Lent, which starts with the stark reminder of Ash Wednesday; followed by those special weeks of fellowship and reflection, how Jesus taught us and equipped us with the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Christian community created; and then beloved Holy Week: how we become one in the Body of Christ in Holy Communion as disciples by the blessed meal instituted on Maundy Thursday, how we can fail in our faith, e.g., the betrayal of Judas and Peter's denial, our Lord's brutal suffering and his

ultimate sacrifice on Good Friday, culminating in the utter redemptive glory through Christ Jesus on Easter in forgiveness of our sins.... It's a lot to take in – over just a few months!

As I reflected on our recent journey together, I look forward with gratitude and hope-filled expectation - toward our upcoming time together in witnessing to and spreading the good news as servant disciples of Christ. My prayer for us begins with the praise of the angel and heavenly host at Christmas in Luke 2:14: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" My prayer culminates with the words of the angel to the women in Matthew 28:5-7, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he [promised]. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." Glory be to God, indeed! Amen.

Prayerfully in Christ,
Michael Stepan

COMING SOON

YOUTH & FAMILY



Youth Group

Welcome back from Lent!

Youth group will meet again on schedule.
This month we meet on

Wednesday, April 8th

(we will play some games) and on

Wednesday, April 22nd

(Earth Day related service project TBD).

We will continue to meet at our usual time
from 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

Keep on the lookout
for more youth news to come!

Hannah



Wilderness Canoe Base: Congregational Camp:

Thursday, August 13 – Sunday, August 16

Spend a long weekend at Wilderness Canoe Base at the end of the Gunflint Trail in northern Minnesota near the entry point to the Boundary Waters. We will spend four days and three nights on Fishhook Island with a variety of programming options. Housing will be in cabins or yurt cabins in bunk beds or tent pads. Meals are provided.

Cost is \$330 for adults, \$300 for youth (11-17), \$200 for children (4-10) and free for under 4. Do not let money be a barrier; scholarships are available.

Registration is now open!

<https://1wlbci.com/wcbctk-wblcong-intergen2026>

Families and individuals register themselves online. An initial deposit is required and final payment is due two weeks prior to the congregational camp.

See the Welcome Center for a handout with more information and an interest survey.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Annual Women's Luncheon
Saturday, May 2, 11 a.m.

Featured presentation:
Gina Humphrey Kieger on "Urban Flower Farming". Invite family and friends.
\$10 at the door.

Please signup on the library window.

Annual Rummage Sale
May 28-29

A room will be available after May 18 to bring your sale items. Set up Tuesday- Wednesday May 26-27, sale Thursday - Friday May 28-29.



New Member Class
Wednesday, April 22, 7-8:30pm

Discover your place at Christ the King! Join Pastor Rebecca for a new member class to learn about CTK's mission, beliefs, and opportunities to connect, serve, and grow in faith. We will meet in the Conference Room. New members will be received in worship on a date TBD.

Civic Life and Faith Study

Join Pastor Rebecca in a six-week study of the ELCA Social Statement “Faith and Civic Life.” You are encouraged to sign-up so the correct number of materials can be produced. You can attend one or all of the sessions to learn more about the ELCA’s social statement, how we can utilize it to explore hard topics as a community of moral discernment, and address the needs of the world around us. We’ll gather at 10:15 am in the Library.

April 19 – Session 1: Foundational Teaching: God Acts for the Well-being of All Through Civic Life

God’s work happens in both the church and in civic life – complicated in both by sin and in different ways. We come closer to God’s intention for well-being when we repent of sin that divides and open ourselves to serving our neighbors.

April 26 – Session 2: God Calls All People to Robust Civic Participation

By virtue of our baptism, all Christians are called into the vocation of discipleship, and active participation in civic life is a key element of that vocation. The call to active civic life is supported in faith communities formed by worship and word.

May 3 – Session 3: Assessing the U.S. Constitutional Form of Government

No earthly political system even comes close to being like the reign of God. At the same time, God expects human power to be used for the well-being of all. We can engage in efforts toward achieving the ideals of the Constitution and in this way serve God’s purpose toward the well-being of all.

May 10 – Session 4: Religion and the First Amendment

The Establishment and Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment work together to promote and protect religious diversity and freedom. They do not prohibit individuals of faith from participating in public life; neither do they allow the exercise of one religion to impede the rights of others.

May 17 – Session 5: Constructive Relationships Between Religious Organizations and Political Authority

This church affirms working “with” government authorities, while maintaining institutional separation in a critical functional interaction. Our church believes this enables us to be a better voice proclaiming and working toward God’s expectations for the well-being of society. The ELCA encourages healthy patriotism and repudiates Christian nationalism as it inappropriately

fuses a selective and imagined concept of a Christian nation with a false vision of God’s favoritism for Christian people in the USA.

May 24 – Session 6: Selected Contemporary Concerns in Civic Life

Being rooted in our own identity as created in God’s image and acknowledging that truth for all people enable us to address a number of contemporary concerns in civic life – especially hyper partisanship and the just and proper use of media.

MISSIONS



Support for Birch Lake Elementary School & Local Law Enforcement

Our community has been under considerable stress due to recent immigration authorities’ action. We are wanting to offer our support to our neighbors, particularly teachers, staff, and family at Birch Lake Elementary School (BLES) and our local law enforcement. You can help our community by considering the following actions:

- Write a card of encouragement to BLES staff and local law enforcement. A rack of blank cards is in the fellowship hall with instructions and examples along with bins for completed cards. CTK volunteers will bring cards to the school and local law enforcement offices as they accumulate.
- Offer support for the BLES staff caring for students and families experiencing trauma by bringing in baked goods (no nuts), snacks, treats, soda, sparkling water, etc. for the staff lounge. We will collect items five times during the school year to bring over to the school office and a sign-up will be located on the library window.
- Support families by supplying necessities for the White Bear Solidarity Network. The items most needed are: pasta, dried or canned beans, lentils, cereal, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry detergent, toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, baby wipes and diapers.

Note: The card ministry will continue throughout the beginning of June. Donations of blank greeting cards are much appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity and care for our neighbors!

UPDATES

ADMIN & FINANCE

February Financial Report

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

01/01/26 through 02/28/26 = \$37,691

01/01/25 through 02/28/25 = \$38,991

Expenses Year-To-Date:

01/01/26 through 02/28/26 = \$48,863

01/01/25 through 02/28/25 = \$49,269

Cash account balances as of February 28, 2026

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$9,940

Savings = \$43,344

Memorial Savings = \$26,219

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$62,180

Endowment Fund = \$91,947

Mortgage Balance = \$90,443

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Christ the King Council continues to lean into our mission with a focus on both spiritual growth and practical stewardship. At our March meeting, we began a new devotional study of Invite Welcome Connect, led by Pastor Rebecca, to help us further enhance the warm culture of hospitality that already defines our congregation. Our agenda included vital updates on the next steps for the Sanctuary Project and ongoing property improvements, such as thermostat and safety signage updates. We are also in the process of rescheduling our Council Retreat—likely for late April or early May—to accommodate the spring storm we experienced several weeks ago. As we look toward the Easter season, we remain committed to listening to member input on important community discussions and ensuring our ministry teams are fully supported. We are honored to serve you and look forward to the work ahead.

In Christ's service,
Erin Simunds

Meet the Pre-Identified Candidates for Bishop

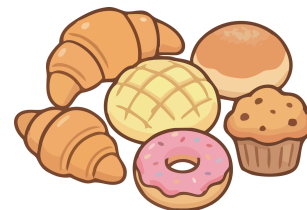
Sunday, April 12 - 2pm
Roseville Lutheran Church, Roseville

You are invited to learn more about the pre-identified candidates for Saint Paul Area Synod bishop! Each candidate will be offered three opportunities to speak, each responding to the same set of prompts. Those in attendance will be invited to submit questions for the candidates to address during their speaking opportunities at the Synod Assembly in May. No registration is necessary; just show up! There are five pre-identified candidates: Rev. Brad Froslee, Rev. Justin Grimm, Rev. Jill Rode, Rev. Bradley Schmeling and Rev. Patrick Shebeck.

Sanctuary Project Update

Greiner Construction has sourced the appropriate materials and will be starting the rebuild of the sanctuary wall beginning the week of April 6. They anticipate the work taking one to two weeks.

Thanks to your generous contributions we were able to completely pay off the initial mold remediation phase of the project with funds leftover for the rebuild phase. The cost to rebuild is about sixteen thousand dollars and we have already raised over three thousand dollars in 2026. Please prayerfully consider if you might be able to contribute to this final phase of the project. No gift is too small! Thank you to all who have contributed!



Help Needed

The Bread Ministry team could use more volunteers to pick bread up from Cub and set up in the entry at Christ the King on Saturday mornings.

If interested, contact Mike Wallace or David Probst.

APRIL

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm		1 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm	2 Maundy Thursday Dinner Church 6:00pm	3 Good Friday Worship 7:00pm	4 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
5 Easter Sunday Worship 9am 	6	7	8 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Youth Group 7-8:30pm	9 7pm Property Team	10	11 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
12 Worship 9am	13	14 Funeral Joan Macheledt Visitation 10am Service 11am Luncheon to follow 7pm Admin Team	15 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Confirmation 7-8:30pm	16  Women's Bible Study 9:30am	17	18 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
19 Worship 9am Civic Life & Faith Study 10:15am	20	21 7pm Church Council	22 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Youth Group 7-8:30pm New Member Class 7-8:30pm	23  Trumpet Deadline	24	25 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
26 Worship 9am Civic Life & Faith Study 10:15am	27	28  Family Shelter Meal 4:30pm	29 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Confirmation 7-8:30pm	30		