



THE TRUMPET

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

PASTOR'S CORNER

*"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away;
look, new things have come into being!"*
– 2 Corinthians 5:17

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome back! September is here again and brings with it the start of a new school year, Confirmation class, Youth Group meetings, King's Choir and Bell Choir rehearsals, and excitement about all the possibilities of a fresh start.

I am especially excited for this fall as we spend two weeks focusing on God's Work, Our Hands beginning with our Rally Day on September 13 and sharing of milestones from the summer. We'll share milestones in worship again. Bring your large and small milestones to share with the congregation as we grow in community and connection. September 20 will focus on service and being God's hands in the world as we make sandwiches for three different feeding ministries. This year we will make 500 sandwiches – 100 PB&J and 400 meat and cheese. Make sure to wear your gold God's Work, Our Hands shirt or other CTK swag!

As we move further into September, the weather begins to be more fall-like and we will shift our focus to celebrating the Season of Creation. For four weeks in September and October, we will focus on God's creation. Each Sunday will focus on a different theme in nature and we will have an activity after worship to engage us. You are invited to engage with all of them – joining in creative activities, going for a nature walk, or learning about the congregational camp experience at Wilderness Canoe Base.

This new beginning is a great time to engage with the church and grow in faith and community. I encourage you to invite a friend or family member to come with you this fall. Do you know someone who loves to serve and might enjoy making sandwiches after worship? Invite them to come on September 20. Have

a friend who loves the outdoors? Bring them along for one of the worship services during our Season of Creation. Your invitation truly makes the difference in connecting new people with CTK. Consider trying something outside of your comfort zone and invite a friend. Remember, it is the work of the Holy Spirit in their response.

Individuals are craving community and connection these days. I am heartened by the fact that twenty-one people (!!) came to our Ice Cream & Jesus gathering at Cup & Cone last month. While I know they are the number one ice cream shop in the United States, I believe it was the desire for community that brought us together to share highs and where we saw God this summer. You are an important part of the CTK community; I am so grateful you are a part of this congregation. We don't want to keep all that goes on here a secret – so invite a friend or family member. Encourage your neighbor to check out our God's Work, Our Hands service Sunday. Remember, in Christ new things are coming into being!

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 SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 6 SEPTEMBER 13 SEPTEMBER 20 SEPTEMBER 27

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Ezekiel 33:7-11
Psalm 119:33-40
Matthew 18:14-20

Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:8-13
Matthew 18:21-35

Jonah 3:10 - 4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Matthew 20:1-16

Genesis 2:4b-22
Psalm 96:1-13
John 3:1-16

Jesus offers advice on restoring relationships when one member has sinned against one another.

God's word Forgiveness ought to mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

The landowner pays the workers the same no matter when they began work, demonstrating God's generosity.

*Forrest and Tree Sunday
Now Let All Things Now Living*

9am Outdoor Worship
Piano / Communion

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

9am Worship
Organ / Communion

9am Worship
KHB / Communion

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10

Women's Bible Study

Bold Faith on an
Unexpected Journey

Session One:
Encountering God in the
Wilderness

9:30am
in the library.



September 6

We will have a Blessing of the Animals during outdoor worship. Dogs, cats, hamsters, photos, or stuffed animals are all welcome. Bring a friend or neighbor! Remember to bring your lawn chair, wear sunscreen, and have temperature appropriate clothing!

September

WORSHIP LEADERS

	AV	ALTAR GUILD	LAM	READER	USHERS	COMMUNION
9.6	NA	Cathy / Stephanie	Julie	Howard	Howard / Billie	Julie
9.13	Joe / Craig	Lori / Lori	Trip	Polly	Mike / Scott	Peggy / Polly
9.20	Jason / Brianna	Karen / Becky	Cyndi	Peggy	Howard /	Peggy / Julie
9.27	Joe / Janelle	Connie / Peggy		Michele	Mike / Scott	Peggy / Karen

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

Empowered Ministry

“For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.” - Romans 12:4-8.

What gifts do you share in ministry and daily life?

From earliest memories shared by my late father, I knew more about Job than Abraham, Sarah, Moses, or David and Solomon, but I felt like I had something to offer others, even before I appreciated Paul’s words above. Perhaps it wasn’t yet a call to ministry, but simply something to share with others. And perhaps it was the fact that my family survived the so-called “farm crisis” of the 1980s. In my Old Testament course this summer, I looked back over my early faith formation, having somewhat reluctantly embraced the paradigm that we need to have faith in and trust in the Lord, just like Job,

especially when things are tough. This was evident when I wanted that favorite candy bar or the new, in-fashion athletic shoes, but my family simply couldn’t afford it.

My early understanding was not far from the mark: Job was sad that bad things were happening to him, but God believed in Job’s blamelessness, contrasted with sinlessness, especially because Job never gave up trusting God. I think it’s the proverbial response to the question why bad things happen to good people. Despite sin and badness in our lives and our imperfection, it is only through God that we are made whole or complete through our faith and trust in God, especially through our humble service to our neighbor. The Holy Spirit works with us to find our vocation, our ministry, based both on our talents and our circumstances.

Let us pray in the name of Jesus. Heavenly Mother/Father God, you grant us gifts empowered by your Holy Spirit. Despite hardships and setbacks, may we always use our gifts and talents for your greater glory, especially in service to neighbors and strangers, as the Body of Christ. Amen.

Prayerfully in Christ
Michael Stepan

COMING SOON

SERVICE



God's Work, Our Hands

September 13 – Rally Sunday

We'll kick off a new program year by recognizing milestones in worship and a potluck brunch to follow. Share how your hands have been doing God's work this summer as we recognize the big and small milestones of life.

September 20 – Service Day

We continue to celebrate God's Work, Our Hands by making 500 sandwiches for food shelves and ministries in St. Paul and Minneapolis. We'll make 400 meat and cheese sandwiches and 100 peanut butter and jelly. Many hands make light work as we serve God together. Join us after worship to help with the sandwich making.

MUSIC

Choir & Bells

Rehearsals will resume on September 9th

with Bells at 6:30pm and Choir at 7:45pm. We will meet weekly throughout the schoolyear. Interested in learning more about musical opportunities at CTK? Contact Lyn Campbell, Choir Director.

WORSHIP



Season of Creation

This fall we will spend four weeks engaging with God's creation as our themes for worship. Each Sunday will include an activity after worship to focus engage us in the theme of creation.

September 27 – Forest & Tree Sunday

Activity: Creating a tree theme banner

October 4 – Land & Prairie Sunday

Activity: Nature walk

October 11 – Wilderness Sunday

Activity: Sharing about Wilderness Canoe Base congregational camp in the Boundary Waters

October 18 – River & Stream Sunday

Activity: Painting river rocks



Shobi's Table – The Daring Table: From Scratch Benefit

Interested in supporting Shobi's Table and enjoying a night with great food and connection? Trip Sullivan is putting together a CTK table to attend The Daring Table on Thursday, September 24 from 4:30-8 pm at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church (1669 Arcade Street, St. Paul). He can share information on how to register. Contact Trip with any questions.

YOUTH & FAMILY

Youth Group is Back!

Calling all youth in sixth grade through twelfth grade! Join us on Wednesday nights as we focus on a new theme for the year: Imagine More.

We'll meet in the Youth Room beginning in September for games, Bible study, deepening in community, and fun.

We meet on alternating Wednesdays in the Youth Room from 7-8:30 pm.

September 16: Welcome Back & Games

September 30: Imagine More Love

Confirmation

Confirmation begins meeting in the Education wing on alternate Wednesdays from 7-8:30 pm.

September 9: What is Worship

September 23: Elements of Worship

2027 Youth Gathering Information Session – September 13



Are you a youth who will be in 8th-12th grade during the 2026-27 school year? Would you be interested in spending time with 30,000 Lutheran youth next summer?

The 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering will be in Minneapolis June 28-July 2 and we want to bring a group of youth from CTK. Join Pastor Rebecca on Sunday, September 13 at 11 am to learn more about the event, a timeline for registration and fundraising, and decide if you want to participate in the Gathering. Consider inviting a friend to participate too!

Synod Lock-In

October 2-3 | 8 pm – 7 am

Roseville Lutheran Church, Roseville

Youth in 8th-12th grade are also invited to sign-up for a Lock-In at Roseville Lutheran Church. The lock-in is for all youth, especially those interested in attending the ELCA Youth Gathering and will bring together youth from across the Twin Cities metro. Cost is \$20 per youth and registration will be available soon. There is an option to leave at 12 midnight instead of staying overnight. Let Pastor Rebecca know if you need a registration form.



Children/Youth Registration & Permission Slip

All children and youth participating in programming at CTK need to fill out a registration and permission slip. This allows us to have emergency contact information and provide programming that meets your children and youth's needs. Please fill it out today: <https://forms.gle/jBG6k5rAMCahhv8x7>

UPDATES

ADMIN & FINANCE

July Financial Report

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:

01/01/26 through 07/31/26 = \$150,663

01/01/25 through 07/31/25 = \$153,113

Expenses Year-To-Date:

01/01/26 through 07/31/26 = \$171,833

01/01/25 through 07/31/25 = \$169,552

Cash account balances as of July 31, 2026

North Star Bank:

Checking = \$6,785

Savings = \$32,431

Memorial Savings = \$26,294

ELCA Mission Investment Fund = \$64,695

Endowment Fund = \$94,142

Mortgage Balance = \$82,882

Staffing Update

Our Office Administrator Linda Stasieluk's last day in the office will be September 9. Please sign the card for her in the Fellowship Hall to thank her for her years of service at CTK. We are grateful for all the work she has done for CTK in putting together bulletins, PowerPoints, and newsletters!

We are in the process of interviewing candidates for the position and hope to have the position filled later in September. Pastor Rebecca will be filling in during the gap with the communication pieces. Anyone who wants to help with prepping bulletins and worship folders for Sundays please let Pastor Rebecca know.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council Newsletter August 2026

The Christ the King Council continues to lean into our mission of community partnership and practical stewardship. Following our July recess, the Council reconvened on August 18 to finalize a draft Use Agreement with the Church of the Good Shepherd. A special thanks goes to Scott Tradup and the Admin & Finance team for their diligent work in crafting this contract.

On Sunday, August 23, we held a Congregational Meeting to review the partnership's mutual operational expectations and its financial benefits to our General Fund (via a new "Rental Income" budget line). We are thrilled to share that the congregation voted to approve the one-year agreement, which begins August 31, 2026! The final motion passed with a meaningful amendment from the floor: adding Exhibit E to establish collaborative procedures for our shared sound system. The Church of the Good Shepherd is already preparing dedicated point persons to ensure our guidelines will be followed.

In other wonderful news:

- **Sanctuary Project:** We are incredibly grateful to announce that this internal project is now fully funded! Thank you for the congregational support to mitigate the mold and refresh our worship space.
- **Fools for Christ:** The Council successfully updated our memorandum of understanding regarding their space allocation.
- **Global Mission:** We look forward to hosting a fundraiser for El Amor de Patricia in the Fellowship Hall later this month.

We remain deeply grateful for the ongoing dedication of our ministry teams and the collective insight of our congregation as we guide CTK forward.

In Christ's service,
Erin Simunds



SEPTEMBER



2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Office Hours By Appointment Only		1	2	3	4	5
				7pm Property Team		7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
6 Outdoor Worship 9am Blessing of the Animals	7 ★★★★★ LABOR DAY ★★★★★	8 7pm Admin	9 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Confirmation 7-8:30pm	10 Women's Bible Study 9:30am	11	12 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
13 Rally Day Worship 9am Potluck after worship	14 6:30pm WMA	15 7pm Council	16 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Youth Group 7-8:30pm	17	18	19 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
20 Worship 9am God's Work, Our Hands sandwich making after worship	21	22 Trumpet Deadline	23 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Confirmation 7-8:30pm	24	25	26 7am Bread Ministry KHB 9am
27 Worship 9am Season of Creation activities after worship	28 7pm Fellowship	29	30 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:45pm Youth Group 7-8:30pm			