THE TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION OF
Christ the King Lutheran Church
1660 Birch Lake Avenue
White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110

May 2022



As I write for this month's newsletter, I'm reminded of how I arrived at Christ the King during Lent. A beautiful season for sure, but one that's marked with deep reflections and grief. We walked through this somber time together, and then we crossed over the threshold to Easter. And wow…what an experience that was to celebrate with you! To live in the aftermath of a resurrection!

As I sat in my office that morning, I heard the church wake up…it came alive and breathed. The organ started, dusting off its bellows. A guitar strummed. I heard a solitary voice, and then two, and then so many I couldn't distinguish between them. Friends were greeting friends, welcoming home snowbirds and newcomers. Families were reunited. Children in new dresses and sparkly shoes beamed with excitement, pleased to have found an Easter basket waiting for them at church.

The sanctuary was transformed! The sun poured into the room and it just glowed. Colorful banners had been carefully hung, and the sweet perfume of the flowers spread throughout the room. A lot of hands were behind this transformation, and for that, I am grateful!

I wish grief could be that predictable, that we could count on when we would be able to celebrate again. To say to ourselves, hold on, Easter is coming. But living in sadness is tough work. There is still much that we grieve in our world. So I wonder, how has the resurrection changed things for us? What does it look like to live in the aftermath of resurrection? Even when we have sorrow?

Perhaps it means continuing to celebrate growth, as our confirmands affirm their faith this month. Perhaps it means welcoming two new staff persons, our bookkeeper Becky Juni and our office administrator, Linda Stasieluk. (Look for more information about them to come!). Perhaps it's in the remembering while we gather to celebrate Pastor Boyce's life and ministry among us. Perhaps it's in service by attending the synod assembly. Perhaps it's in celebrating Pastor Laurel's gifts as she prepares for where God is calling her to next. I think living in the resurrection looks like holding our past tenderly, living and serving in the present, and reaching towards a future that is yet to come. May we all find ways to live into the promise we've been given, the promise of new life! Alleluia!

Blessings,
Pastor Susie

WORSHIP & EDUCATION

Pastoral Acts:

Baptism of Alexander William Sandell on 4/3/22.
Parents: Alan & Sarah Sandell.
Sponsors: Amy Lonsky and Bridget & Steve Johnson

Alexander Johnson, son of Erica & Chris Johnson celebrated his first communion on Maundy Thursday (4/14/22)

Thank You Pastor Laurel

Pastor Laurel has submitted her resignation and will be accepting a position at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stillwater. Her last Sunday at CTK will be May 22.

In her resignation letter Pastor Laurel says: "these last few years with you have been one blessing and joy". We are planning a thank you Sunday at which time congregation members can bid her a fond farewell.

She has been an integral part of worship and teaching at CTK and for that and her daily service we are so very grateful. Thank you Pastor Laurel for your time with us.





Easter Greetings from Masisiwe!

We received this email in April from Pastor Kisava, the senior pastor at our partner congregation in Masisiwe, Tanzania. So wonderful to be in direct contact! He wrote:

"We thanks GOD for you for your agape love of remembering us , caring us and helping church development by your great contribution. Jesus Christ bless you so much.

The work of construction of the pastor house it continue well and we hope to finish soon. The Christians (at Masisiwe) have great happy and they are praying and thanks God for you. God bless your rural and cities and your basket of kneading the bread may be blessed.

Weather in our area is good and rain is decrease. We continue well preparing for the feast of the Passover and Easter. We wish you grateful feast and Easter. Greet all Christians over there. We love you.

Rev . Redyphaty Kissava.

May Worship Volunteers

Ushers:	LAMS:	AV:	Altar Guild:
1st: Scott & Beth Tradup	1st: Bea Jones	1: Craig/Mike	1: Connie Carlson & Peggy Keohn
8th: Michele Murray & Mike Wallace	8th: Mike Stepan	8: Janelle/Joe	8: Ann Jonell & Isabel Karon
15th: Ann Jonell & Howard Juni	15th: Lee Wood	15: Craig/Janelle	15: Cathy Carlson & Stephanie Clapper
22nd: Sandy Serier & Sterling Hintz	22nd: Pastor Laurel	22: Jason/Joe	22: Lori Fredericks & Lori Willis
29th: Peggy Keohen & Mike Wallace	29th: Janet Getchell	29: Craig/Mike	29: Karen Eian & Becky Thompson

Hospitality: Cyndi & Brian Frankel, Sharon Burback, Sandy Serier & Sterling Hintz

MISSION & SERVICE

Masisiwe Sunday 2022

May 15th will be our yearly Masisiwe Sunday celebrating our partnership with Masisiwe Lutheran Church in Tanzania and beginning our yearly fundraiser. Included in the service will be a video update of our partnership and the impact your donations make. Our fundraiser goal will be $1500. The monies raised go to building and improving their churches and enriching their ministry and daily life. Please prayerfully consider giving this year. Any amounts (cash or check) are welcome given during the service or online through the month of May.

Contact Bea Jones with any questions. Asante Sana!



CTK WOMEN

WOMEN'S MINISTRY
RUMMAGE, PLANT and BAKE SALE
Thursday, June 2 – Friday, June 3

Stuff weighing you down? Let us help you "lighten up" by bringing your clean, reusable items to CTK Room 134. The NW door will be open from 2 – 4 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesdays until the week of the sale. Please no electronics (TV's, computers, etc.) no car seats or other outdated baby equipment. Starting Monday, May 30th, and throughout the week of the sale workers are needed from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and throughout the entire week of the sale. We especially need bagging help at noon on Friday, June 3rd. A sign-up sheet will be posted but come and help any time. **Only shift workers can pre-sale shop.** Grocery bags with handles (Festival or Cub of equal size) can be used for Friday's bag sale. Baked goods, homemade preserves and potted plants can be brought on Wednesday, June 1st. Thanks to all CTK members who help with this FUN fundraising event!

President's Ponderings

WOW, Easter Sunday was so uplifting with an impactful service accompanied by beautiful music. A special thanks to Pastor Susie, Pastor Laurel and all the musicians and altar guild members for their contributions. Not being musically inclined, I continue to marvel at all the musical talent, vocal and instrumental, among our congregation members. Walking into church and seeing the sun shining through the stained glass windows together with the banners and flowers was inspiring.

I always knew we had a congregation of dedicated servants but as president and during the time of transition, it has become even more apparent to me. If I were to list all those who need a thank you it would pretty much be our entire membership. Some roles are more visible and obvious, but many are behind the scenes yet just as vital to the functioning of CTK.

The Council during its April meeting discussed options for us to move back to a communion distribution more like pre COVID. We concluded that with some precautions that could occur. Servers will wear masks and gloves and we will ask congregation members to respect a 6-foot spacing between family units when in line for communion. Our COVID task force has been involved in recommendations for communion as well as other functions at church. Masking remains optional but we continue to respect and encourage individual congregation members to continue wearing a mask based on personal preference.

As we approach the time to form our call committee, we would like to give congregation members an opportunity to provide input for the next phase in the life of CTK. I encourage you to contact me or any council member with your ideas and suggestions. We are also planning for some Sunday post service listening/discussion sessions for you to ask questions and share ideas.

In Christ's Service
Howard Juni

Fools For Christ

presents the

Fools Gala

Come celebrate and support our return to Live Drama Ministry in our 30th year!

- **Saturday, May 7, 2022**
- **St. Stephen Lutheran Church**
  1965 Co Rd E East, White Bear Lake, MN
- **6:00 – 8:30 pm**
  - **Appetizers and Entertainment**
  - **Large Silent Auction from WBL Area Businesses**
  - **Reunite with friends IN PERSON!**

Fools For Christ

Ordinary People Spreading an Extraordinary message

www.foolsdrama.com

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

GIVING AS WORSHIP: A UNIQUE MORTGAGE REDUCTION OPPORTUNITY

As noted in the ELCA publication, Stewards of God's Love, p. 25: "Money is a powerful force in our lives. Jesus says that what we do with our money has the ability to take our heart with it (Luke 12:34). God cares about what we do with 100 percent of our money, not just the fraction that we give to the church. How do we steward all of our money and make sure that the ways we use money aligns with our values?" Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell highlights the holiness of the act of giving: "Every day of the week, God blesses us.… We can always worship God. We can always give thanks to God for being so good to us. … [T]here is no better way to give thanks than with a gift. When someone does something nice we often give them a gift to say thank you. When you love someone, you want to give them things—gifts that say, 'I love you.'" Indeed, we're invited to think of giving in a holy way, as worship.

Our congregation currently has 10+ years remaining on a 15-year 3.875% adjustable-rate mortgage, with a balance of about $188,000. Our interest rate is adjusted every five years, with the next change on September 1st. Forecasts predict that interest rates are expected to increase several times this year, with further increases probable next year.

To counter these expected interest rate increases, church leadership has been negotiating with our lender, the ELCA Mission Investment Fund (M.I.F.), to lock-in our interest rate at the current 3.875% level, for five years. Preliminary terms are agreed upon and pending approval by the M.I.F. loan committee and payment of a small processing fee—already paid by a generous donor—our rate would be fixed until 2027.

As part of this agreement—and an additional focus of this article—we have been offered the opportunity to also "buy down" a portion of our mortgage and adjust our payment schedule, if we prepay at least $15,000 of the mortgage principal, which could have an immediate benefit by reducing the monthly mortgage payment or have a long-term benefit of shortening the remaining 10 years of the mortgage term.

And so, you are invited to show your support in taking advantage of a unique giving opportunity that has presented itself, to the direct benefit of our congregation at Christ the King, e.g., which could lower our monthly mortgage payment, and perhaps shorten our mortgage term, if we make a substantial prepayment before August 1st.

To pursue this unique opportunity, the Council has approved proceeding with this fundraising campaign. Quite simply, we are asking for your generous donations, between May 10th and July 15th, to help the congregation raise the $15,000 needed to pay down a portion of the mortgage.

We have all been given such a great gift in being a part of this congregation and, just like God's love for us, the only appropriate response is gratitude. Please keep up your loving work in caring for one another at Christ the King: "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." 1 John 3:16-18.

The chance to build on this life-giving work continues to present itself to us - via this unique opportunity to essentially make it easier to service our mortgage debt for our beautiful worship space and facilities. Just think about what we can accomplish together along these lines … in honoring God, His work, and each other!

To ensure accurate accounting, for checks or in-person cash donations, please write "Mortgage buy down" on the memo line of your check and in the Special Gift designation area of your donation envelope; for online giving, please send an email confirmation to finance@ctkwbl.org with the amount of your designated gift, and with " Mortgage buy down" on the subject line.

PLEASE GIVE PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION TO THIS OPPORTUNITY & DONATE BY JULY 15TH

Prayerfully in Christ, Michael Nollan, CTK Treasurer, with Michael Stepan

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Giving to CTK

In addition to using offering envelopes and automatic electronic giving, you may now give to CTK online through our website at www.ctkwbl.org. Click on the "Give" tab on the front page. You may also use Amazon Smile: simply go to smile.amazon.com before you shop at Amazon, choose CTK as your charity of choice, and 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases will be donated to CTK.

Here is the CTK financial report for March 2022. CTK is so blessed by your generosity!

Envelope and online offerings monthly comparison:
3/01/2022 through 3/31/2022 = $23,415
3/01/2021 through 3/31/2021 = $20,066

Envelope and online offerings Year-To-Date comparison:
1/01/2022 through 3/31/2022 = $55,848
1/01/2021 through 3/31/2021 = $56,967

Expenses Year-To-Date:
1/01/2022 through 3/31/2022 = $66,646
1/01/2021 through 3/31/2021 = $66,728

Cash account balances as of March 31: North Star Bank: Checking = $7,862, Savings = $43,874, Memorial Savings = $31,013, and Online Giving = $20. Mission Investment Fund demand account = $41,807. The amount of temporarily restricted funds, including memorials, is $87,722 and are not available to be used for day-to-day operational expenses. The mortgage balance as of March 31 = $188,224.

A Message from the COVID Team

This is a friendly reminder that COVID-19 is still with us. The COVID risk level determined by CDC remains low for our surrounding counties, however, new COVID cases have been increasing recently. Even as worship precautions at CTK have eased we offer the following advice to help you and those you care about stay well:

- Stay up to date with vaccines and boosters.
- Get tested if you have symptoms..
- You may choose to wear a mask at any time. Wear a mask in public if you have been exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID.
- Stay at home and take advantage of online worship if you feel sick.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Social distancing is an effective preventive measure. Try to keep a safe distance from others.



Meet Linda Stasieluk!

Linda is excited to be joining the Christ the King team as the Office Administrator. She and her husband, John moved to White Bear Lake not long ago and are thrilled to be part of this community. Linda brings her background in Graphic Design and Administrative Support, and is looking forward to using her varied talents to support our congregation. In her spare time, she enjoys lake life, gardening, cooking, playing guitar and working from her home studio as a freelance Voice Over Artist.

Her anticipated start date is **May 3rd**. Please be sure to give her a warm welcome!



Memorial Service for Pastor Bruce Boyce
May 7th at 11 am
Christ the King Lutheran Church

Join us as we honor the life and ministry of our beloved Pastor Boyce. The choir will raise their voice in song, and members will share their memories.

The family invites you to join them after the service for a light reception of coffee and rolls.

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 CONFIRMATION 9 am In-person & Livestream Worship w/ Organ & Communion 10:15 am SS	2 **WMA 6:30P**	3 Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm	4 Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm Bells 6:30 pm Kings Choir 7:45 pm	5 **Property 7 P**	6	7 Bread Min. 7A King's House Band 9A Boyce Memorial 11 am
8 Mother's Day 9 am In-person & Livestream Worship w/ King's House Band 10:15 am SS	9	10 Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm **Admin 7P**	11 Adult Bible Study 10 A Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm Bells 6:30 pm Kings Choir 7:45 pm	12	13	14 Bread Min. 7A King's House Band 9A
15 9 am In-person & Livestream Worship w/ Organ & Communion 10:15 am SS	16	17 Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm **Church Council 7P**	18 Adult Bible Study 10 A Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm Bells 6:30 pm Kings Choir 7:45 pm	19  **Trumpet Deadline**	20	21 Bread Min. 7A King's House Band 9A
22 9 am In-person & Livestream Worship w/ King's House Band 10:15 am SS	23 Girl Scouts 5:30 pm	24 Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm  Family Shelter Meal	25 Women's Study 10 A Rummage Sale Drop-Off 2-4 pm Bells 6:30 pm Kings Choir 7:45 pm	26	27	28 Bread Min. 7A King's House Band 9A
29 9 am In-person & Livestream Worship w/ Organ, King's House Band, Communion 10:15 am SS	30 Memorial Day	31		**Office Hours** **Variable during a time of transition** **Please call ahead** **Thank you for your patience!**		

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1660 Birch Lake Avenue
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Address Service Requested

May 2022

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Interim Pastoral Associate
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Kristen Jackelen

Children's Choir
Elida Olson