

The King's Messenger

Christ the King Lutheran Church is a caring community committed to empower all people to know Christ and to make Christ known.



PARISH NEWS

Prayers of Comfort

Our prayers and deepest sympathy are extended to the following families:

- Mark Kraus in the death of his wife, Carolynn Elizabeth Kraus, on July 1.
- Paul and Jennifer Svien and family in the death of their nephew/cousin, Gavin Svien, on July 9th.
- Pam and Mike Bartelt and family in the death of their son-in-law, Adam Johnson, on July 17.

Weekly Worship Times @CTK

Wednesdays: 6:00PM- Faith & Fellowship (see schedule)

Saturdays: 5:30PM

Sundays: 9:30AM

Worship services are streamed live on Saturday and Sunday at facebook.com/CTKChurchMankato and youtube.com/@ctkmankato/streams

Deadline for Next Issue Newsletter Articles: Thursday, August 20, 2026
Please email to communications@ctkmankato.org or leave with front desk.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christ the King Lutheran Church
6/30/2026

	Jun-26	MTD Budget	Variance	YTD	YTD Budget	Variance	Jun-25	Variance	Prior YTD	Variance
Total Operational Income	\$ 54,719	\$ 74,050	\$ (19,332)	\$ 401,398	\$ 444,301	\$ (42,903)	\$ 61,430	\$ (6,711)	\$ 883,178	\$ 481,780
Total Operational Expenses	\$ (65,190)	\$ (73,434)	\$ 8,244	\$ (434,238)	\$ (440,606)	\$ 6,368	\$ (49,611)	\$ (15,579)	\$ (754,691)	\$ (320,453)
Other Income			\$ -			\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Special Events Income			\$ -	\$ 265		\$ 265		\$ -		\$ (265)
Rent Income	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000	\$ -	\$ 905	\$ 2,595	\$ 905	\$ (20,095)
Other Expenses			\$ -	\$ (600)		\$ (600)	\$ (6,700)	\$ 6,700		\$ 600
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ (6,972)	\$ 4,116	\$ (11,087)	\$ (12,175)	\$ 24,695	\$ (36,870)	\$ 6,024	\$ (12,996)	\$ 129,392	\$ 141,567

PRAYER CORNER

by Jorun Meierding, Prayer Room Coordinator

KING HEZEKIAH'S PRAYER FOR HEALING 2 Kings 20 and Isaiah 38

Hezekiah was the 13th king of Judah, reigning from approximately 715 to 686 BCE. He was a good king. The Bible says that he "did what was right in the sight of the Lord, just like his ancestor David had done," and that, "The Lord was with him; wherever he went, he prospered." [2 Kings 18:3 and 18:7]. About halfway through his reign, King Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death, apparently the result of a boil on his skin. [2 Kings 20:1 and 20:7]. The prophet Isaiah came to Hezekiah and said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover.'" [2 Kings 20:1]. But Hezekiah did not want to die, so he prayed this simple prayer:

Remember now, O Lord, I implore you, how I have walked before you in faithfulness with a whole heart and have done what is good in your sight. [2 Kings 20:3].

And Hezekiah also wept bitterly. That must have been a swift and powerful prayer, because God stopped Isaiah before he had even left the royal courtyard, turned him around, and sent him back to speak these words to King Hezekiah:

Thus says the Lord, the God of your ancestor David: I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; indeed, I will heal you; on the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord. I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; I will defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David's sake. [2 Kings 20:5-6].

This promise from God was so amazing that Hezekiah wanted to be sure he had heard correctly. He asked Isaiah for a sign that these things would come to pass. The sign they agreed upon was that the "shadow would retreat ten intervals" [2 Kings 20:10], most likely referring to a sundial that measured time by the position of the sun. For the shadow on the sundial to retreat—or go backwards—would defy the natural order, and serve to confirm God's promise to Hezekiah. Isaiah cried out to the Lord for this sign, and the Lord answered by reversing time, and bringing the shadow back the ten intervals by which the sun had declined. [2 Kings 20:11]. Needless to say, Hezekiah recovered from his boil and lived another fifteen years as God had promised.

What does this story teach us about God's nature? SO MANY THINGS!

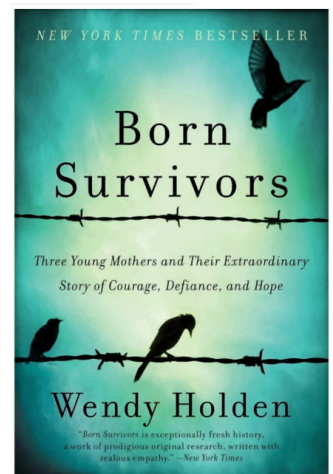
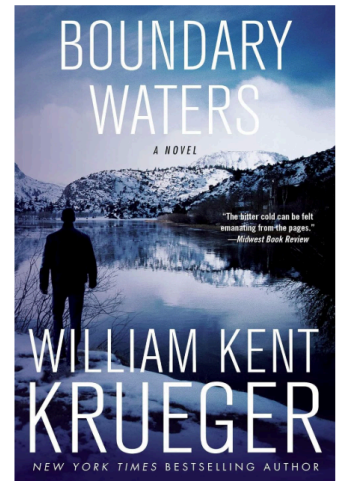
- Although God's nature does not change, God can be persuaded to change his mind through the prayers of his faithful people;
- God is a healer and has power to preserve and restore life and health.
- God has power to intervene in our lives in miraculous ways;
- God controls the natural order, including the movement of time;
- God controls political and historical events, asserting authority to change the course of nations and leaders according to his will;
- God can reverse the course of events.

*Blessed be the name of God from age to age, for wisdom and power are his.
He changes times and seasons, deposes kings and sets up kings;
he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.
~Daniel 2:20-21~*

LIBRARY CORNER

August reminds us that summer is going by much too quickly but there is still much to be enjoyed! Family gatherings, cookouts, sporting events, travel, county & MN state Fair and even getting children ready for school or college. We hope you will continue to make time to enjoy a good book. The **New Books** displayed in CTK Library will continue to be featured again this month.

- **"The Book of Gutsy Women"** by Hilary Rodham Clinton & Chelsea Clinton [920.7 Cli] "Favorite Stories of Courage and Resilience."
- **"Boundary Waters"** by William Kent Krueger [F KRU] "As expedition ventures deep into wilderness, strangers descend on Aurora, threatening to spill blood on the town's snowy streets."
- **"The World's Fair Quilt"** by Jennifer Chiaverini [F CHI ELM23] "An outstanding novel about a fascinating craft that allows us to explore human relationships in all their complexity."
- **"The Lost Girls of Paris"** by Pam Jenoff [F JEN] "Based on true WWII events and brings us three courageous, determined women who braved constant danger to survive this fascinating, little-known part of the war."
- **"Born Survivors"** by Wendy Holden [920 HOL] "An engrossing, intense and highly descriptive narrative of the ghastly conditions three pregnant women suffered through at the hands of the Nazis. Meet these three baby survivors born April 1945 and their actually reunion and future."
- **"The Paris Library"** by Janet Skeslien Charles [FCHA SKE] "A wonderful tale about a library that provides a beacon of hope in darkness and despair of war. Heartbreaking & heart lifting in turn."
- **"The Women in the Library"** by Sulari Gentill [F GEN] "The library setting, the conceit of four strangers at a table and twisty story-within-a-story make novel unputdownable. Book is a treat for readers who love books and mysteries."
- **"Proof of Heaven"** by Eben Alexander, M.D. [248.8 ALE] "A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife and believes true health can be achieved only when we realize God and the soul are real and death is not the end of personal existence but only a transition."
- **"The Good Life"** by Robert Waldinger, MD & Marc Schulz, PhD [248 WAL] "Good relationships keep us healthier and happier, contribute to our resilience and provide meaning in our lives."
- **"Undomesticating GOD"** by Jennifer O'Sullivan [248 OSU], **"When GOD Doesn't Fix It"** by Laura Story [248.86 STO], **"War Room Prayer is a Powerful Weapon"** novel by Chris Fabry [F FAB], **"Battlefield of the Mind"** Devotional by Joyce Meyer [242 MEY], **"The Daily Bible"** [R 220 SMI] In Chronological Order – 365 Daily Readings.



Library Committee: Kathy Bruss, Linda Eisenbeis, Emmy Geppert, Denise Kuehner, Ellen Petersen, Ann Stewart, Tara Thompson, Kathy Wenner and Jeannine Wills.

RIC TASK FORCE

From the Reconciling in Christ Task Force (RIC)



The Reconciling In Christ task force is excited to share an updated version of "In Our Own Words" in which our members have shared their personal experiences. These will be available for pick up in the narthex beginning on Sunday, July 26th. This is an ongoing project so please continue to submit stories to liz.reedstrom@gmail.com, the church office, or one of our pastors. Please use the subject line as "In Our Own Words."

There are also books related to LGBTQI topics available in the library such as Unclobber by Colby Martin and Reconciling Scripture for Lutherans by Austen Hartke and Emmy Kegler among others. Please plan to join us in the adult forums between church services in September as more topics relating to Reconciling in Christ will be presented and discussed!

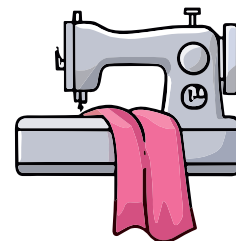
Look for our updated Welcome Statement in the September Messenger. As always, please contact one of the RIC members or our pastors regarding any questions.

Task Force Members are: Liz Zaruba, Jodi Wallschlaeger, Becky Menk, Kris Barnes, Kari Fletcher, and Julie Hatleli

QUILTERS GROUP UPDATE

Time to share a 2026 "production" gifting report for CTK Quilters Ministry Program to-date.

- Senior Recognition Event (20-quilts)
- MSU International Students (12-quilts)
- Lutheran World Relief (38-Quilts)
- CADA Mankato (3-quilts)
- Church Camp Quilt Auction Events (7-quilts)
- BECO Foster Children Care Program (10-quilts)



Quilters meet 4th Wednesday of month (plus 5th Wednesday) in Fireside Room (9 a.m. -3 p.m.) There are currently (15) quilters that work (15 days per year at church) and average making (100) quilts per year. If you might be interested in joining group please contact one of the quilters or the church office. There is work and fun conversation for anyone even if you do not use a sewing machine!

Children, Youth & Family **2026-2027 Programs**

"You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world."

— Matthew 5:13-14

Rally Days

Sunday, September 13

Wednesday, September 16

Activities after worship both days

Confirmation Meeting Wednesday, September 23 at 6:45PM



CHILDREN

Wednesday Evenings

6:45–7:30 PM

- Rainbow Room (Ages 3–Kindergarten)
- Faith Formation (Grades 1–6)

Sunday Mornings

During 10:00 AM Worship

- Rainbow Room (Ages 3–Kindergarten)
- Faith Formation (Grades 1–6)

0–3 Class

9:00–10:00 AM

First Sunday of each month (October–May)

Plus: Kids Night Out activities, special events, and more throughout the year!

Kirsten Elliott

Director of Children's Ministry
kirstene@ctkmankato.org

YOUTH

Wednesday Evenings

6:45–7:30 PM

- Confirmation (Grades 7–8)



- Youth Group (Grades 9–12)



Throughout the Year

- Retreats, service projects, fellowship events, and special activities for students in Grades 7–12.

Come grow in faith, build lasting friendships, and connect with other youth in a fun and welcoming environment!

Pastor Melanie

melaniew@ctkmankato.org

Pastor Brittany

brittanym@ctkmankato.org

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

Summer Musical → LIFE IS GOOD

Join us as 25 students from grades 3rd-9th take the stage for a memorable performance.

Performance Dates:

August 15 at 5:30PM and August 16 at 9:30AM

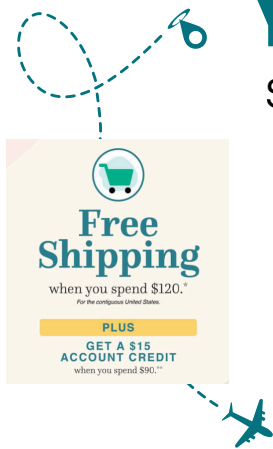
Directed by: Chuck Hoogland and Jim Hatleli

YOUTH TRIP FUNDRAISER

Support our youth trips in 2027 by ordering your favorite kitchen items from our Pampered Chef Party!

Join us August 19 at Faith & Fellowship- Farmers Market Night for a live demonstration of products!

FIRST 3 ORDERS
GET A FREE GIFT!



KWIK TRIP

5 Ultimate Car Washes
at Kwik Trip for \$40



Reach out to Kirsten or Brittany to purchase car washes!



YOUTH FUNDRAISER!

Support CTK Youth by purchasing Scrip gift cards! Contact Kirsten or Brittany to purchase gift cards, or stop by the church office Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Proceeds from your gift card purchases help support CTK Youth trips and ministry opportunities. Payment may be made by scanning the QR code or by cash or check.



2027 ELCA
Youth Gathering



GET INVOLVED

CTK WORSHIP CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGIN SOON!

Do you enjoy singing and want to be part of a joyful community?
The CTK Worship Choir invites adults and high school students to join us as we
kick off a new season!

- **First Rehearsal:** Wednesday,
- **Date:** September 2nd
- **Time:** 6:45–7:45 p.m. (weekly)
- **Sings in worship:** Twice per month

No audition is required—just a love for worship and music!

ALL ARE WELCOME.

If you'd like to join or learn more, please contact Robin Hughes.
Come and make a joyful noise with us!

Robin.h@ctkmankato.org

Choirgirl724@gmail.com

507-382-8666



Seeking Ringer for Open Bell Position

Have you rung in a bell choir before? We'd love to have you join us!

We are looking for **experienced** ringers who can
read music and ring both Treble and Bass Bells.

Rehearsals are held Wednesdays from 5:15–5:50 p.m.,
with performances once a month during Sunday worship
and at the Annual Christmas Cantata.

The choir resumes on September 2, 2026.

Interested? Contact:

Robin Hughes — robinh@ctkmankato.org

Ann Stewart — acstewart40@outlook.com  



GET INVOLVED

AUGUST

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SIGN-UP

SIGN UP →



FAITH & FELLOWSHIP MEAL SERVERS



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING A SMALL GROUP?

Small Groups are intentional
gatherings for Bible study, prayer,
support and community



PLEASE TAKE SURVEY



DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT OR SING?

Please consider participating
in the CTK Worship Band!



FAITH CONTINUUM FALL 2026

Faith Continuum will resume on Sunday, September 13th at 9am.

In September, we will also be welcoming National Parks Traveler, Mikah Meyer; former CTK staff member, Pastor Trish Reedstrom (for a special Wednesday forum); and Dr Cameron Howard.

Whether you are a newcomer, curious, or have been steeped in adult education opportunities and study, know you are always welcome.

World Record National Parks Traveler, **Mikah Meyer**, is an award-winning filmmaker who weaves his Lutheran faith into his outdoor adventures (think Rick Steves' Europe, but for National Parks).

On Sunday Sep. 13th, Faith Formation will be hosting a movie-event showing his short film "Canyon Chorus," that toured to all 7 continents in 2025 with the Banff World Tour "The OSCARS of Outdoor Films" as one of the best outdoor films of the year.

Don't miss this journey through America's National Park Service!

Pastor Trish Reedstrom will lead a one-time Faith Continuum on Wednesday, September 23rd.

She will introduce, "Conscience & Conversation," designed to seek input and feedback from ELCA congregations. The study delves into what we hold in common in our understanding of human sexuality amid differing viewpoints. As well, Pastor Trish will help us name the grief associated with members in 2010. How does that fear and grief affect us today?

How we think about scripture with Dr. Cameron Howard during Faith Continuum on September 20th & 27th. Have you ever wondered what role scripture has in our life beyond worship? How do we use it as a source of wisdom as we navigate questions about ethical practices and apply scripture to our lives today? Dr. Howard is an Old Testament professor from Luther Seminary who will guide us in conversation about how we read scripture, while recognizing the time and context in which it was written.

Bring your Bibles and your questions!

September Schedule:

- September 13th (Rally Sunday) –Mikah Meyer "Canyon Chorus" film and conversation
- September 20th – "Dr. Cameron Howard "How we think about Scripture"
- September 23rd - (Wednesday) - Pastor Trish Reedstrom "Conscience & Conversation" study guide
- September 27th – Dr. Cameron Howard "How we think about Scripture"

Looking Ahead:

- October 4th, 11th, & 19th – TBD
- October 25th & November 1st & 8th - Rev. Paul Meierding on Psalms
- November 15th, 22nd, 29th & December 9th – Rev. Gerry Giese on the Wellness Wheel

As always, if you have suggestions or feedback regarding adult education offerings, please reach out to one of the members of the Adult Education Board:

Naomi Baker, Gerry Giese, Dick Norland, Kris Norland, Marlin Spangrud, or Pastor Melanie

SUMMER SCHEDULE

July Faith & Fellowship Supper Menu

August 5

Mexican Pasta Salad with Chicken,
Dorito Chips, Carrots, and Cookies

August 12

Pulled Pork, Coleslaw, Fresh Fruit,
Cornbread with Honey, and Banana Pudding

August 19

Hamburgers and Cheeseburgers with Fixings, French
Fries, Sweet Corn, Watermelon, and Ice Cream Treat

August 26

No Community Supper Scheduled.



August 5 McGowan Farm

August 12 Bullypulpit Bluegrass Band (at CTK)

August 19 Farmer's Market Night (at CTK)

August 26 Javens Family Vineyard & Winery

September 2 Backpack Blessing (at CTK)



222 Pfau Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Phone: 507-345-5056
Fax: 507-345-6115

Visit us online!
www.ctkmankato.org

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 252

Mankato, MN 56001

Christ the King Staff

CTK Main Phone Number: 507-345-5056

Pastor Melanie Wallschlaeger, Senior Pastor: ext. 23, melaniew@ctkmankato.org

Pastor Brittany Maillue, Associate Pastor; ext 37, brittany@ctkmankato.org

Pam Bartelt, Office Administrator: communications@ctkmankato.org

Al Lee, Technology Arts Director: all@ctkmankato.org

Amy Olsen, Financial Assistant: amyo@ctkmankato.org

Ariac Cruz, Custodial & Property Staff

Bri Bergstrom, Contemporary Music Coordinator: brib@ctkmankato.org

Kirsten Elliott, Director of Children's Ministries: ext. 20, kirstene@ctkmankato.org

Kristi Regnier, Chef: kristir@ctkmankato.org

Mark Thompson, Custodian: ext.11, markt@ctkmankato.org

Robin Hughes, Choir and Hand Bell Director: robinh@ctkmankato.org

Office Hours: 9:00am - 3:00pm M - TH, or by appt