

# 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.



## Pastor's Post

### Transitions in Our Life Together

Morgan Corona has resigned from her role as office administrator at CTK. Morgan will be returning to Tailwind Group, Inc. where she was previously employed and where she has accepted another position. During her short time with us, Morgan played a major role in oversight and management of our church software transition and has offered hospitality and support in the day-to-day workings of the CTK office. Morgan envisioned and provided leadership to "Bibles, Bagels, & Brews," a monthly gathering for women of CTK that includes a devotion, activity, food, and fellowship. She also brought the idea forward for our congregation to participate in the Minnesota Wild Family and Faith Event. Thank you, Morgan!

Beginning in February, the office will be staffed by two front-desk people, Carolyn Krause and Dede Amundson. Carolyn will be in the office Tuesday-Thursday and Dede be in the office on Mondays. Amy Olsen will return on a part-time basis, serving as a financial assistant. I feel confident that our staff team will be able to support the ongoing mission and ministry to CTK.

Thank you, CTK, for your ongoing generosity as we strive to "to know Christ & make Christ known."

## Looking Ahead at the lessons...

### February 5th

#### 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12  
Matthew 5:13-20

### February 19th

#### Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 24:12-18  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### February 26th

#### 1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

### February 12th

#### 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37

### February 22nd

#### Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21





# Parish News

## Prayers of Comfort

- For Gwen Henricksen in the death of her mother Arline Murra
- Ellen Petersen in the death of her nephew Kevin Erickson
- For Melva Lamp in the death of her husband, Jerry, on December 24th
- For Kevin Satre in the death of his mother, Marlene.

## Prayers of Joy & Thanksgiving

- For the baptism of Emerson Jane, daughter of Seth & Amanda Allan, on January 28th.

## From the Faith Continuum Coordinator

February greetings Christ's Ambassadors All,

Faith Continuum goes into the month with the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of Pastor Paul Meierding's 3 Sunday Series on "Jesus in the Movies". Information regarding this series is available as a handout in the Narthex.

We return to a look at the Islam Faith on Feb. 19th with a faith prospective from a practicing Muslim. Gustavus Physics Professor Dr. Steven Mellema will share his faith including his conversion to Islam while in the Peace Corps.

We begin the first Sunday of Lent with a return to Faith Continuum's inaugural study - "Roots of Our Faith". We commence this time of reflection with Dr. Darrell Jodock. He will lead a two Sunday Study of the Augsburg Confession. This may be the most thorough study of the "Articles" of the Lutheran Tradition you have undergone since your Confirmation days. Follow up topics on our "Roots" Lutheranism will be led by returning presenter Dr. Mark Tranvik and first time lecturer Dr. Leonard Hummel. Dr. Tranvik leads on the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; and, Dr. Hummel closes with "Luther's Theology on Consolation for the Suffering" in both theory and practice.

Please remember that Faith Continuum Sundays begins after the First Service concludes in the Fireside Room, Todd

## Special Thanks

*Ukrainian Refugee project*

The committee (Cindy Kehoe, Kathy Sallstrom, and Kathy Hedman) would like to thank all those who made donations and those who helped with loading and delivering the donations to Lutheran Social Service. We successfully gathered nearly everything the family of nine will need to furnish and live in their new home. Your efforts are deeply appreciated.





## Fellowship Opportunities

### **February 16th, 2:00 pm, Fireside Room**

*Caregivers Support Group*

For those who take care of others, whether as parents, children, or loved ones to connect and support each other.

### **February 22nd, 9am - 3pm, Fireside Room**

*Quilters*

The quilters group has an open invitation to anyone, you DO NOT need to be an accomplished quilter! You are welcome to come for part or all of the day.



### **Scout Sunday Breakfast**



### **February 12, 8:30am - 11:00am**

*Support BSA Troup 76 & Troop 8*

Menu includes - pancakes, eggs, breakfast ham and more. All proceeds go to troop campouts and activities. Adults: \$8.00, Children 3-10: \$4.00

### **1st Saturday of the month 9am - 12pm, Fireside Room**

*Bibles, Bagels & Brew*

Faith-filled, get-together for ladies of all ages includes a new theme each month. Light brunch is served, and the time is filled with meaningful conversation. February 4th is led by Kirsten Elliott and March 4th is hosted by Women's Retreat planning committee.



## Book & Bible Studies

### **February 8th, 1:00 pm, Fireside Room**

#### *Bible Study*

Join the Altar Guild for coffee, dessert and a Bible Study using the Gather Magazine. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Any questions, call Jan Meier at 507-388-5014.

### **Tuesdays, 9:00 am, Fireside Room**

#### *Coffee & Conversation*

Each week, Pastor John digs into the three lessons assigned for the coming week's worship with: conversation and coffee!

### **February 21st, 1:00 pm, Room 7**

#### *Bible Study*

Join the Ruth Circle for the September to May calendar schedule. The Study Guide is selected by attendees. New members are welcome to join at anytime for monthly meetings. If you are interested or have any questions If you are interested or have any questions, please call Ann 625-5251 or Diane 625-7766.

### **February 16th, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room**

#### *Women's Book Study*

This month's book is The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett.

## Opportunities to Serve

### **Wednesday Nights**

#### *CTK Community Dinner*

Community Dinner needs a couple of semi-regular volunteers who will work alongside weekly confirmation groups. There is a need for someone who knows (or can learn) how to run the dishwasher and someone who can help serve. Call 507-345-5056 ext 21 to volunteer or learn more.

### **March 13th - 19th**

#### *Connections Shelter*

Serve at the shelter by welcoming guests, provide food or serve the meal. Sign up at [ctkmankato.org/get-involved/volunteer](http://ctkmankato.org/get-involved/volunteer)

### **Third Sunday of the Month**

#### *Shelter Church Meal Service*

Servers meet at CTK at 3:45 to prepare the meal and transport the meal to Grace Lutheran where they serve it from 4:30-5:00. Sign up at [ctkmankato.org/get-involved/volunteer](http://ctkmankato.org/get-involved/volunteer)

### **During Worship Services**

#### *A/V Team*

Learn how to run the sound system-project the words on the screen and run the lights! See how we send our services to Facebook and YouTube. It's a great ministry for the whole family. We can use 3-4 people at each service. Talk to Al Lee or Carolyn Lee, or call 507-345-5056 ext 36



# Prayer Corner

submitted by Jorun Meierding, Prayer Room Coordinator

## Sometimes We Need to Fast

To be powerful in prayer, we must be willing to withdraw from the world and devote ourselves to God. The world constantly encourages us to indulge and treat ourselves, but doing so draws our attention away from God and eventually separates us from God. Samson was a man set apart for God, but when he rebelled and broke his vows, God withdrew his presence and power, causing Samson to lose his great strength. [Judges 16:18-20]. Likewise, God withdraws his power from anyone who is more concerned with the world and its cares than with God.

There are many ways to separate from the world and focus on God, but the most immediate is fasting. Fasting means to abstain from or go without something, usually food. We can fast from one type of food or from all food, for one meal, one day, or several days. Jesus fasted, and implied that all of his followers would also fast. [Matthew 4:1-2; Matthew 6:16-18; Matthew 9:14-15]. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote in his book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, "Jesus takes it for granted that His disciples will observe the pious custom of fasting. Strict exercise of self-control is an essential feature of the Christian life. Such customs have only one purpose — to make the disciples more ready and cheerful to accomplish those things which God would have done."

Fasting and prayer go hand in hand. When we pray, we tell God what we need and want. But when we pray and fast, we convey that the thing for which we pray is important to us, that we are focused on it, and that we are willing to sacrifice for it. If you have been praying for something for a long time but have seen no results, try adding fasting and see what happens. After fasting and prayer, many people report spiritual breakthrough, a closer relationship with God, and a greater level of self-discipline.

This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 22nd and marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 day period (excluding Sundays) prior to Easter. During this time, many Christians observe the Lenten "disciplines" of repentance, prayer, fasting and works of love. Lent is an excellent time to begin fasting, resume fasting, or continue fasting, as a way to draw closer to God. Give it a try and see what happens!

*Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting,  
with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing.  
Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.  
Joel 2:12-13*

## Sunday Morning Prayer Room Volunteers

February 5th

8:15: Lavonne Rohn

10:00: Sandy Smith

February 12th

8:15am: Dorothy Viker

10:00am: Jodie Wallschlaeger

February 19th

8:15: Ann Stewart

10:00: Chuck Dahline

February 26th

8:15am: Kris Barnes

10:00am: Linda Eisenbeis





# Library Corner

***"Noses are Red, Fingers are Blue, if you are tired of winter, Spring will come soon!"***

We have now welcomed a New Year 2023 and perhaps you settled into some favorite indoor and outdoor activities. The traditional shortest day of the year called Winter Solstice has now passed; "May you find peace in the promise of the solstice night, rejoice in the darkness, in the silence find rest, and may each day forward be abundantly blessed."

## **ADDITION OF NEW ADULT BOOKS FOR READING PLEASURE**

- **"Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven"** by David Jeremiah founder of Turning Point ministry. "This is about what the Bible says about heaven. We need to think about heaven now, while we are still alive. The reality of heaven does not just help us die more peacefully; it helps us live more joyfully and productively."
- **"Her Mother's Hope" by Francine Rivers.** Book is a sweeping and lyrical (one of two-book)\* saga that explores the depths of grace and forgiveness in one of life's fiercest bonds – the love between mother and daughter. Most of novel is purely fictional, though there are bits and pieces of author's family history woven throughout." (\*Second book, Her Daughter's Dream, not in CTK Library yet, but will be added.)

## **FEATURED BOOKS IN CHILDREN'S 'READING NOOK'**

Following are a couple new books to explore with your kids. We remind parents to check out great books to share with your kids on these snowy winter days and evenings.

- **"The Wonderful Things You Will Be"** by Emily Winfield Martin "This is the first time there's ever been you, so I wonder what wonderful things you will do? This book is a celebration of possibilities and the love parents feel for their children. Whoever and whatever they may become."
- **"Our Planet! There's No Place Like Earth"** by Stacy McAnulty "Read this book about Our Planet, written by Our Planet, while you explore ways to save – you guessed it - OUR PLANET!"

The library committee continues to make some positive changes in the library by adding an additional book shelf that will be called **"Memories of Christ the King Church"**. Several notebooks of photos, church directories, etc that were located in the fireside room have been moved to this area. The next item to be added will be the CTK Confirmation photos that will be converted to notebook format for easy viewing and updating each year. There will be additional historic church information displayed in this area as it is updated and prepared for viewing. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Ann Stewart or another committee member.

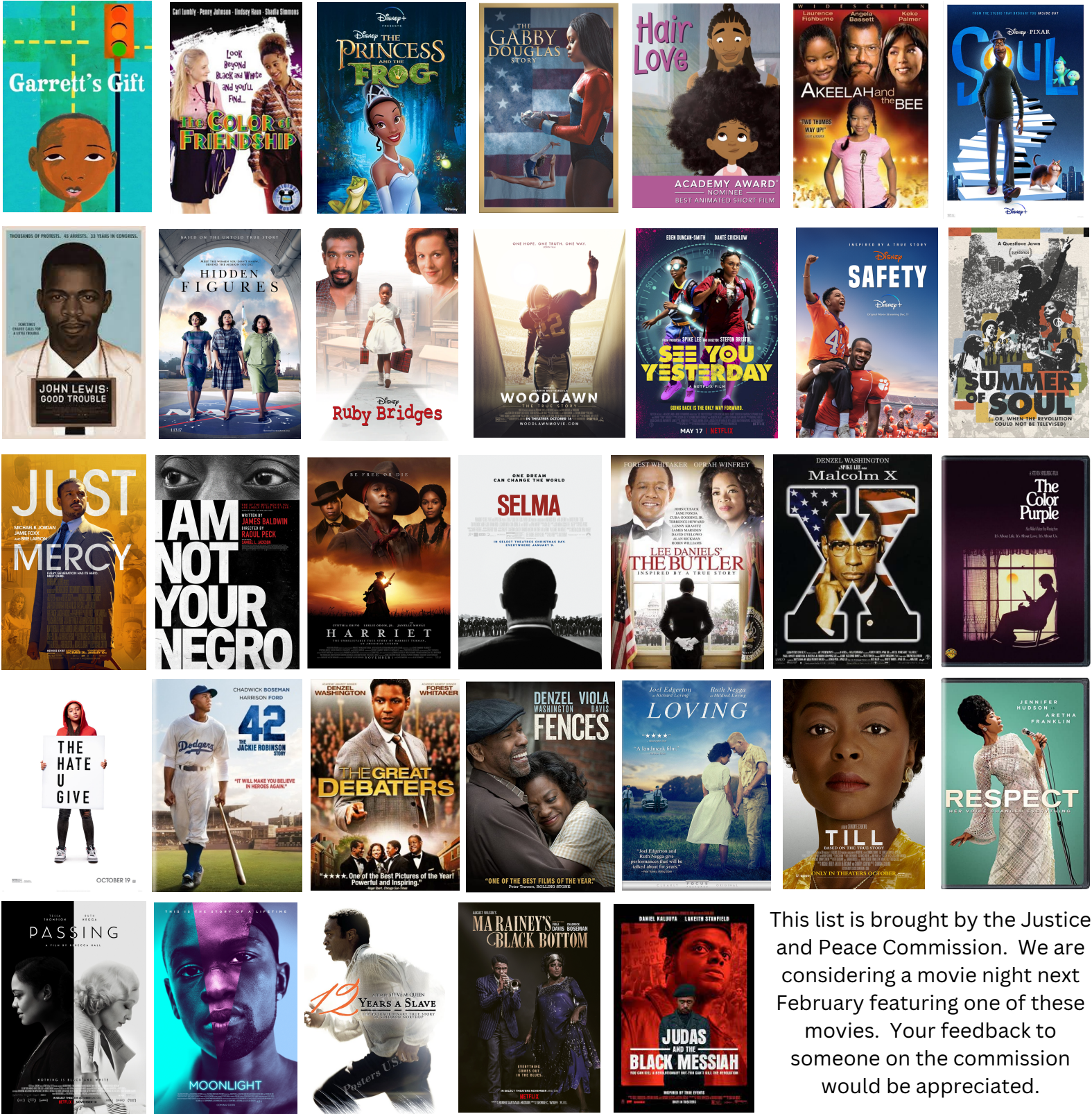
**PUZZLES AVAILABLE IN THE CTK LIBRARY:** Come enjoy setup puzzle in CTK Library or taking one home, then return, during these months ahead!

Suggestions for book/author ideas, contact a Committee Member: Kathy Bruss, Linda Eisenbeis, Emmy Geppert, Marilyn Mathiason, Kris Norland, Ellen Petersen, Ann Stewart or Dorothy Viker.



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH MOVIE NIGHT

One of the many areas that reflects the richness of Black culture is film. In documentaries, biopics, and fictional stories made about Black people, Black narratives of all kinds are front and center. They, of course, entertain—undoubtedly a critical component of cinema—but these projects also enlighten viewers by shedding light on stories that have been buried, the subject matter spilling over into dinnertime conversations and your group chats. And an incredible number of these movies also teach, whether it's by spotlighting Black creativity and resilience or by informing unfamiliar viewers about the Black experience. This February, consider making time for one or all of these 33 films. They are presented in order of rating and more information about them and how to watch is available online.



This list is brought by the Justice and Peace Commission. We are considering a movie night next February featuring one of these movies. Your feedback to someone on the commission would be appreciated.

**CTK**  
*kids*

**FEBRUARY**

**Sunday**

*0-3 year-old Class  
in the Rainbow Room*

**February 5th  
11:00-11:30AM**

- 20 minutes of free play
- Circle Time
- Story and Songs



**FIRST COMMUNION FAITH LAB**



**SUNDAY, MARCH 5TH FROM 1:00-4:00PM**

**FIRST COMMUNION  
WORSHIP SERVICE  
APRIL 6TH AT 6PM.**

**SIGN-UP  
NOW**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Date: June 19-22, 2023

Cost: \$25 per child

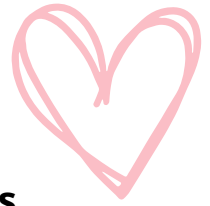
**INGHAM  
OKOBOJI**  
LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP







# Confirmation (7-8-9)



Dates: Feb. 1, 8, 15  
Class meets from 6:45-7:30 PM

### Supper Servers

2/1: The Little Big Group  
2/8: Best of the Midwest  
2/15: Boney Billieys



## High School

### Breakfast & Devotion

7:45-8:30 AM

2/7 @ Tandem

2/15 @ Coffee Hag

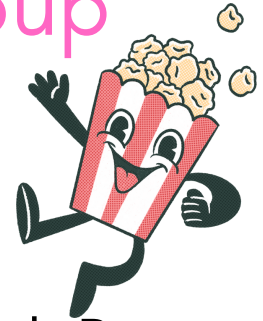


### Youth Group (10-11-12)

6:45-7:30 PM

Feb. 1, 8, 15

Meet in the Youth Room



**No programs February 22, Ash Wednesday**



# FOCP

FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES PARTNERS

## Food Packing

March 6

4 PM



## Confirmation Retreat



# SHETEK

LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

Fri, April 28 @ 4 PM to

Sat, April 29 @ 8 PM

\$50

Register by April 11



# Weekly Worship Schedule

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**Sundays:** 8:15 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.

**Wednesdays:** 6:00 P.M.

**Saturdays:** 5:30 P.M.  
.....

Worship services are broadcast on Spectrum channel 181 and  
Consolidated Communications channel 7  
Sundays at 3:00pm and Tuesdays at 10:00am

## Contact the Staff

Christ the King's Phone Number: 507-345-5056

Pastor Melanie Wallschlaeger: ext. 23

Pastor John Petersen: ext. 24

Al Lee, Technology Arts Director: ext. 36

Alyssa Herrig, Director of Youth Ministries: ext. 19

Amy Olsen, Financial Assistant

Andrea Petzel, Communications & Event Coordinator

Carl Riese, Property Manager: ext. 11

Carolyn Krause, Front-desk

Dede Amundson; Front-desk

Garrett Steinberg, Music Director: ext. 37

Jodi Maas, Faith Engagement Coordinator: ext. 25

Kirsten Elliott, Director of Children's Ministries: ext. 20

Mark Thompson, Custodian

Morgan Corona, Office Administrator

Robin Hughes, Choir Director

Todd Lundquist, Faith Continuum Coordinator: ext. 25

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

Deadline for Next Issue Newsletter Articles: Monday, February 20th

Please email to [andreap@ctkmankato.org](mailto:andreap@ctkmankato.org) or leave with front desk.