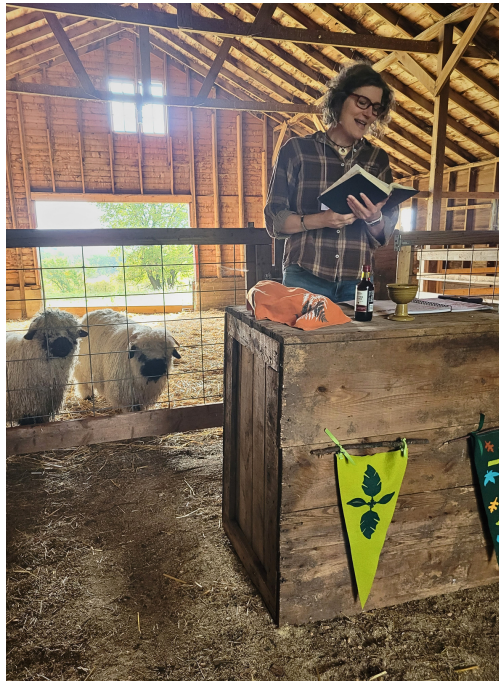# The King's Messenger

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

Message from Pastor Melanie

Sharing the Load

It's been wonderful to see and hear kids read scripture during Wednesday worship; teenagers find joy in sharing music, and hear enthusiasm from newcomers who want to make CTK their faith home. In all these things, I give thanks. As I listened to faith stories of this year's confirmands at a recent retreat, I was reminded of how joyful it is when people find their place to serve God with their gifts. Several of the confirmands remarked how they feel close to God when they share their gifts at CTK. It is my hope and prayer as a pastor that this is the beginning of that discovery for their life, not the end.

As a faith community, we believe that each person has gifts to share and that our discipleship is marked by service to God and neighbor. While this is our core belief, it is still difficult for me to ask people to serve the church because I don't ever want people to feel like what they do is more important than who they are as God's beloved. Yet, at the same time, we are gathered by the Holy Spirit to nurture and share God's love with one another and the wider community. That can only happen when we are all working together and sharing our gifts and talents in a way that build up the body of Christ.

As commissions look to what CTK needs in its next chapter, it's becoming clear that our programming and activity level is limited and challenged by the numbers of people who are willing to serve in various capacities. One area where we need additional people to serve is on Wednesday nights. Each week, we find we need additional people to help with Wednesday Night Suppers as supper hosts and Wednesday Night Worship Assistants (namely ushers, communion servers).

One of the things we often hear from people who are hesitant to serve is, "I'm afraid that if I say yes this time, I'll be asked to do it all the time." We are going to try putting up a board on Wednesday nights and ask on a week-by-week basis for people to step up to serve. It is not our intention to ask the same people all the time, but to share the responsibility among the number of people who attend worship. Together, it is my hope we can share the load of responsibility in a way that no one person or family feels overextended or as if they are called upon all the time.

Looking ahead at the lessons

October 1st 18th Sunday after Pentecost	October 8th 19th Sunday after Pentecost	October 15th 20th Sunday after Pentecost	October 22nd 21st Sunday after Pentecost	October 29th 22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	Isaiah 5:1-7	Isaiah 25:1-9	Isaiah 45:1-7	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Philippians 2:1-13	Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 4:1-9	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 21:23-32	Matthew 21:33-46	Matthew 22:1-14	Matthew 22:15-22	Matthew 22:34-46

Pray for Laborers for Strength

Jesus is the best teacher when it comes to prayer. Through both his words and his example, Jesus offers us many lessons in the school of prayer. There are only a few times in the Bible where Jesus instructs his followers to pray for something specific. This month we will look at Jesus' warning, found in Luke Chapter 21, concerning a worldwide shaking. Jesus said these signs would precede this event:

false teachers coming in his name (vs. 8), wars and insurrections (vs. 9), nation rising against nation, and kingdom against kingdom (vs 10), earthquakes, famines and plagues (vs 11), dreadful portents and signs from heaven (vs 11, 25), arrests and persecutions (vs 12), betrayal by friends and family members (vs 16), days of vengeance and distress on the earth (vs. 22-23, 25), and fear and foreboding at the shaking of the heavens (vs. 26).

Was Jesus foretelling the destruction of Jerusalem and of the Temple, which occurred in 70 C.E.? Or was he talking about end times? Or, is it possible that he was talking about our current situation? Because it sure sounds like he was describing what is going on in our world right now! Jesus told his disciples that when they saw these things taking place, they would know that the kingdom of God was near (vs. 31). He also said this:

Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, **praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things** that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man. [Luke 21:34-36].

There it is—Jesus' admonition to pray for the strength to endure. Jesus knew that his disciples were weak-minded humans who did not have enough strength to survive what was coming. The same can be said for us. Therefore, we too must pray for the strength to live through today, tomorrow, and whatever is coming next. Our God is faithful and will surely answer our prayers!

But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one.
~2 Thessalonians 3:3 (NRSV)

God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.
So we will not fear when earthquakes come and the mountains crumble into the sea.
Let the oceans roar and foam. Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge!
~Psalm 46:1-3 (NLT)

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER ROOM VOLUNTEERS

October 1st	October 8th	October 15th	October 22nd	October 29th
8:15am	8:15am	8:15am	8:15am	8:15am
Margo Brudwick	Tammy Fienen	Lonnie Reemer	Phyllis Spangrud	Mary Lou Haldorson
10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Kathy Sallstrom	Jerry & Kathy Bodelson	Becky Moe	Chuck Dahline	Linda Eisenbeis

New Member Week

October 11, 14, & 15, 2023

If you are interested in becoming a new member, please go to ctkmankato.org/worship and click on the button at the bottom of the page, or speak with Pastor Melanie.
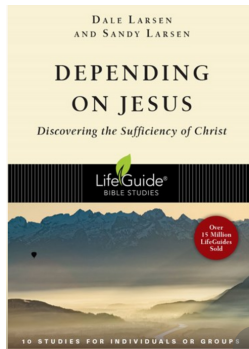
WELCOME

Women's Bible Study

4th Monday of each month
6:30pm in the Fireside Room

Begins October 23rd

DALE LARSEN AND SANDY LARSEN

DEPENDING ON JESUS

Discovering the Sufficiency of Christ

LifeGuide BIBLE STUDIES

Over 15 Million LifeGuides Sold

10 STUDIES FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

SIGN UP BY OCTOBER 17TH
ctkmankato.org/get-involed/adults

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING

October 29th after 10am Worship

FOR CONSIDERING THE DRAFT REVISION PROPOSAL OF OUR CTK CONSTITUTION

Join the Choir!

All are welcome!

Rehearsals on Wednesdays from 6:45-7:45pm. Choir typically sings twice per month.

Contact Robin Hughes at robinh@ctkmankato.org

Nursery Available during rehearsal

Bibles, Bagels & Brew

Women's Faith Group

Schedule

Saturday, October 14, 2023
Saturday, November 18, 2023
Saturday, December 9, 2023
Saturday, January 13, 2024
Saturday, February 10, 2024
Saturday, March 16, 2024
Saturday, April 13, 2024
Saturday, May 18, 2024

faith

to move mountains
MATTHEW 17:20

9:00am
Fireside Room

Save the Date to Serve

Watch the Weekly Welcome and your email for a link to sign up!

November 6 - 12th
January 1 - 7th
March 4 - 10th

Fellowship Opportunities

October 17th
10:30pm: Loss of Spouse Grief Group
1:00pm: Ruth Circle Bible Study

October 19th
7:00pm: Women's Book Study
"Great Circle" by Maggie Shipstead, pick up a copy in the church office.

October 25th
9:00am-3:00pm Quilters
no experience needed

Tuesdays
9:00am Coffee & Conversation
10:30am Book Study

Learn More:
ctkmankato.org/get-involved/adults
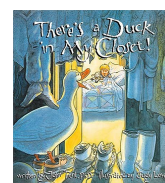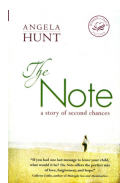
Reflections on the season, now that **October** has arrived, means it is the time of year that some call Autumn and others call it Fall. During this time, temperatures will start to drop and daylight times will become shorter. We continue to enjoy many outdoor activities. As we watch leaves fluttering to the ground, we are reminded that nature's cycles are mirrored in our lives.

ADULT GOOD READ BOOKS [Use Code: Letters to find books on Shelf]

- "The Note" by Angela Hunt. "A story of second chances! If you had one last message to leave your child, what would it be? A reporter covers one of nation's worst air disasters and acquires a plastic bag with the following note inside. T – I love you. All is forgiven. – Dad! The goal is to find the recipient for this message. " (CODE: F HUN)
- "Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate. "The author takes an almost unthinkable chapter in our nation's history and weaves a tale of enduring power. A director and her Tennessee Children's Home Society could actually have existed, unraveling the lives of countless children. A heartbreaking story & heart mending – tale of family, of sisters, of secrets kept and secrets shared." (CODE:F WIN)
- "Good Hope Road" by Lisa Wingate."In a time of crisis, two women come together and set off down a road of hope. A young girl does not imagine any good could come out of a tornado that ripped through the farmland but she takes action to rescue her elderly neighbor trapped in her cellar." (CODE:F WIN)
- "The Language of Sycamores" by Lisa Wingate. "When a woman's life falls apart, she finds refuge in the home she left behind. She has been hiding from the big questions of her life regarding her marriage, inability to have children, bout with cancer. " (CODE:F WIN)

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN   [Use Code: Letters to find books]

- "Have You Seen The Wind?" by Kathleen Crawford. "One night when everybody was tucked in bed, a strong wind blows. The tabby cat sets out to explore taking creatures she meets along the way. This is a story about GOD, who understands everything." (Code: EC)
- "There's a Duck in My Closet!" by John Trent. "A little boy is afraid of his closet at night until he discovers that a variety of animals live in it and come out at night to play". (Code: ET)
- "A Dog Called Jack" by Ivy Pembroke. "An abandoned dog finds a new family like the residents of Christmas Street, a group of people who just might need Jack as much as he needs them! Happiness comes in taking time to connect with one another. " (Code: F PEM)

We hope that you will pay a visit and enjoy exploring the books available for your education and enjoyment! You can also research the library resources by visiting Church website. CTKmankato.org – (click on) Discover, then Library & Explore Titles.

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.
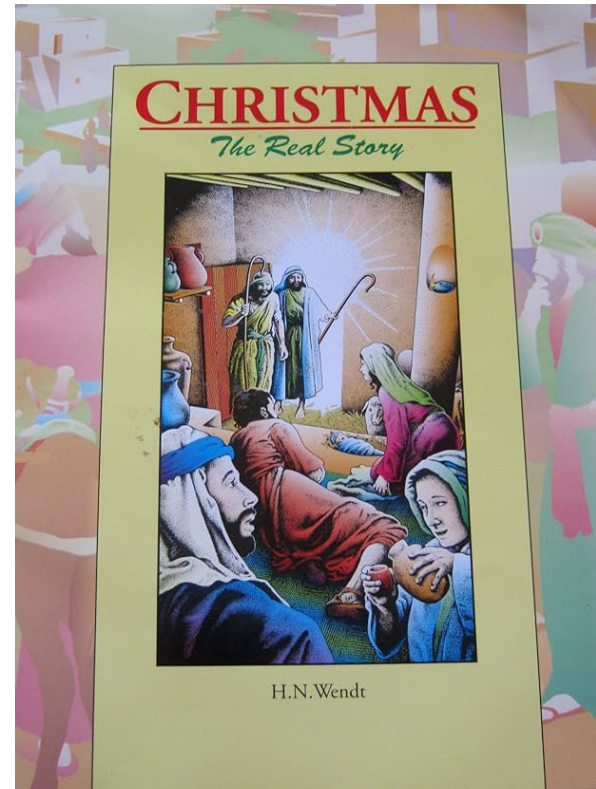
Greetings everyone,

We move closer to Advent and the following celebration of the coming of the "Light of the world" with every sunlight shortened day. In line with this anticipated new Church Season, Faith Continuum presents on every November Sunday (except the 26th) and the first two Sundays in December - "Christmas, the Real Story". CtK member and retired Pastor, Gerry Giese leads us. We know that the Nativity event did not randomly pop up one day in historical isolation. In this series, Gerry takes us back from our vantage point and looks at the extraordinary time of Jesus birth through the nature of the Messianic kingdom and what it means to "live expectantly".

We have a thoughtful array of presentations this month. The schedule can be viewed in the September Messenger, signs posted on entrances to CTK or in the hand outs available at the temporary front desk.

I look forward to seeing all in the Fireside Room each Sunday of October after the first Service, Todd

Christians Against Christian Nationalism

"As Christians, we must speak in one voice condemning Christian nationalism as a distortion of the gospel of Jesus and a threat to American democracy."

This is a quote from the 2019 ELCA statement against Christian nationalism. You can read the full statement here. In the United States, we have seen an alarming rise in hate speech and violence against religious and ethnic minorities, along with an increase in polarization among us, even in our church.

In August of this year, Bishop Eaton addressed Christian nationalism in a video titled "Why I am against Christian Nationalism." The Justice & Peace commission encourages each of you to take a few minutes and watch the full video, which can be found at https://www.gcsynod.org/news/bishop-eaton-why-i-am-against-christian-nationalism.

We all must take a stand against Christian nationalism. More information can be found online at christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org.

Submitted by the Justice & Peace Commission

Thank you from Crossroads

Fall term at MSU-Mankato is in full swing! We are blessed to have Christ the King Lutheran Church and your volunteers as partners in our ministry to feed hungry MSU students through our Lunch For-a-Buck program. Faithful servants, Jim Hatleli, Armin Schull, Jerry Bodelson, and Dean Brudwick served a delicious lunch of sloppy joes, Spanish rice with black beans & cheese, German potato salad, chips, coleslaw, and homemade bars to 56 hungry lunch-goers during Lunch For-a-Buck on Tuesday, September 12. They also collected $54.31 in donations that will be used to purchase the lettuce, fixings, beverages, paper plates, dinnerware, and other supplies for future lunches. God bless you for your generosity and supporting the students and our ministry at Crossroads.

Crossroads Campus Ministry

Endowment Fund News

The objective of the Christ the King Endowment Fund is to support the growth and distribution of investment income for Christian mission and endeavors now and in the future. In September the Endowment Fund distributed funds to support:

$3000 to Crossroads Campus Ministry

$3000 to CADA House

Take a few minutes to click those links to learn about these important organizations.

If you are considering estate planning or would like to give input on a potential recipient, please reach out to Matt Norland or Pastor Melanie.

Endowment Fund Committee

Treasurer's Report

07/31/2023

	July 2023		MTD Budget		Variance		YTD		YTD Budget		Variance		July 2022		Variance		Prior Year		Variance
Total Operational Income	$	83,407	$	73,830	$	9,577	$	83,407	$	73,830	$	9,577	$	65,753	$	17,654	$	65,753	$	17,654
Total Operational Expenses	$	(66,212)	$	(73,830)	$	7,618	$	(66,212)	$	(73,830)	$	7,618	$	-	$	(66,212)	$	-	$	(66,212)
Other Income	$	7,313	$	-	$	7,313	$	7,313	$	-	$	7,313	$	7,768	$	(455)	$	7,768	$	(455)
Other Expenses			$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-
Endowment Income	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	8	$	(8)	$	8	$	(8)
Net Income/(Loss)	$	24,508	$	-	$	24,508	$	24,508	$	-	$	24,508	$	73,529	$	(49,021)	$	73,529	$	(49,021)

08/31/2023

	August 2023		MTD Budget		Variance		YTD		YTD Budget		Variance		August 2022		Variance		Prior YTD		Variance
Total Operational Income	$	48,486	$	73,330	$	(24,844)	$	131,893	$	146,660	$	(14,767)	$	61,309	$	(12,823)	$	119,294	$	12,599
Total Operational Expenses	$	(70,499)	$	(73,830)	$	3,331	$	(136,711)	$	(147,660)	$	10,949	$	(64,525)	$	(5,974)	$	(146,387)	$	9,676
Other Income	$	-	$	500	$	(500)	$	7,313	$	1,000	$	6,313	$	-	$	-	$	7,768	$	(455)
Other Expenses			$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-
Endowment Income	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	-	$	8	$	(8)
Net Income/(Loss)	$	(22,013)	$	-	$	(22,013)	$	2,495	$	-	$	2,495	$	(3,216)	$	(18,797)	$	(19,317)	$	21,812

Submitted by CTK Treasurer, David Krause

CTK kids OCTOBER

First Communion Faith Lab

Sunday, October 8, 2023
1:00-3:00PM

- Paint a chalice and paten
- Baking Bread
- Grape Stomp
- Making wine

Register Here

Sunday

November 5, 2023

at 9:00AM

Join us for our

0-3 year old class

in the Rainbow Room

Lesson: Noah

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

Register Here

FAITH FORMATION
VolunteERS needed

Sign up

CTK CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
STRAIGHT OUTTA BETHLEHEM

Sunday, December 17th and
Wednesday, December 20th

Sign up

YOUTH

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED TO BE
the tAble
BE
MYLE
Young Adult Gathering

JULY 16-20

8TH-12TH GRADERS

Scan for more info

Confirmation
7-8-9

Class: October 4, 11, 25

Time: 6:45-7:30 PM

Supper Servers

10/4	Best of the Midwest (9)
10/11	Rubber Duckies (9)
10/25	Dino Nuggets (7)

Worship Response Form, Supper Serving Schedule, Small Group Guide Sign-Up, Handbook:
ctkmankato.org/get-involved/youth

10th Grade
Affirmation of Baptism Worship

Sunday, October 29

1 PM

Confirmands should arrive to the CTK Sanctuary at 12 Noon for pictures.

Youth Group
10-11-12

Meets: October 4, 11, 25

Time: 6:45-7:30 PM

Breakfast & Devotion

Meets: October 18

Time: 7:30-8:30 AM

Location: Weggy's

Weekly Worship Schedule

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 Brinkman, Contemporary Music Coordinator
Andrea Petzel, Communications & Event Coordinator
Carl Riese, Property Manager: ext. 11
Carolyn Krause, Front-desk
Dede Amundson; Front-desk
Jodi Maas, Faith Engagement Coordinator: ext. 25
Kirsten Elliott, Director of Children's Ministries: ext. 20
Mark Thompson, Custodian
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, October 23rd.
Please email to andreap@ctkmankato.org or leave with front desk.