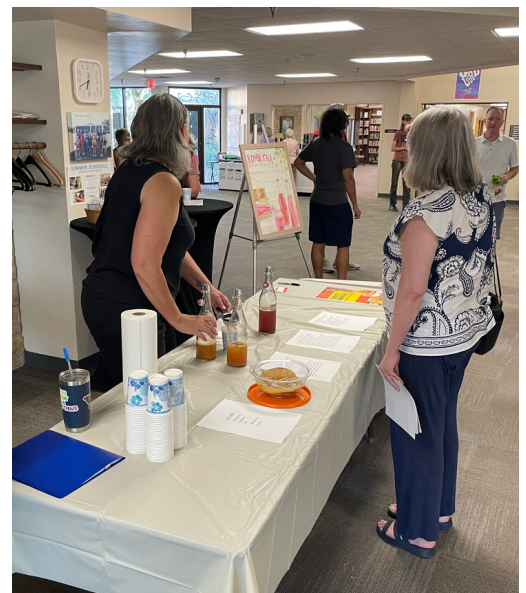


The King's Messenger

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 Joy & Celebration

- For the baptism of Jasmine Konise on August 22nd
- For the baptism of Callan Thomas Taylor, son of Brett & Morgan Taylor on August 23rd.

Prayers of Comfort

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

- For Margo Brudwick, in the death of her husband, Dean, on August 6th
- Bill Manske, Sue Serr & Harvey Serr, in the death of Barb Manske on August 18th
- Kathy Weber, her children and their families in the death of her husband, Rick Weber, on August 20th
- Lynae Grunske in the death of her mother, Ardis Grunske August 21.

Weekly Worship Times @CTK

Last Summer Sunday Worship Labor Day Weekend September 6 at 9:30AM

No Worship or Community Supper on Wednesday, September 9

Fall Schedule Starts on Sunday, September 13, 2026

Wednesdays: 6:00PM

Saturdays: 5:30PM

Sundays: 8:00AM and 10:00AM

Worship services are streamed live on Saturday and Sunday at

facebook.com/CTKChurchMankato and youtube.com/@ctkmankato/streams

Deadline for Next Issue Newsletter Articles: Monday, September 21, 2026

Please email to communications@ctkmankato.org or leave with front desk.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christ the King Lutheran Church
7/31/2026

	Jul-26	MTD Budget	Variance	YTD	YTD Budget	Variance	Jul-25	Variance	Prior YTD	Variance
Total Operational Income	\$ 54,322	\$ 74,050	\$ (19,729)	\$ 455,720	\$ 518,351	\$ (62,632)	\$ 54,244	\$ 77	\$ 54,244	\$ (401,476)
Total Operational Expenses	\$ (70,014)	\$ (73,434)	\$ 3,420	\$ (504,471)	\$ (514,040)	\$ 9,569	\$ (57,711)	\$ (12,303)	\$ (57,711)	\$ 446,760
Other Income	\$ 5,010		\$ 5,010	\$ 5,010		\$ 5,010		\$ 5,010		\$ (5,010)
Special Events Income			\$ -	\$ 265		\$ 265		\$ -		\$ (265)
Rent Income	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 24,500	\$ 24,500	\$ -	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (24,500)
Other Expenses			\$ -			\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ (7,183)	\$ 4,116	\$ (11,299)	\$ (18,976)	\$ 28,811	\$ (47,788)	\$ (3,467)	\$ (3,716)	\$ (3,467)	\$ 15,509

PRAYER CORNER

by Jorun Meierding, Prayer Room Coordinator

KING JEHOSHAPHAT'S PRAYER FOR HELP IN BATTLE **2 Chronicles 20:6-12**

King Jehoshaphat was the fourth King of Judah, reigning from 870 to 846 BCE. One day, messengers arrived at the royal palace to tell him that a “great multitude”—a coalition of powers from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir—was invading Judah and intended to come against him in battle. The king was afraid. The text says, “he set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.” [2 Chronicles 20:3]. The people of Judah came to the aid of their king; from all the towns they came to seek the Lord as one people. And in their midst, King Jehoshaphat prayed this magnificent prayer:

“O Lord, God of our ancestors, are you not God in heaven? Do you not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations? In your hand are power and might, so that no one is able to withstand you. Did you not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of your friend Abraham? They have lived in it and in it have built you a sanctuary for your name, saying, ‘If disaster comes upon us, the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and before you, for your name is in this house, and cry to you in our distress, and you will hear and save.’ See now, the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, whom you would not let Israel invade when they came from the land of Egypt and whom they avoided and did not destroy, they reward us by coming to drive us out of your possession that you have given us to inherit. O our God, will you not execute judgment upon them? For we are powerless against this great multitude that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.”

[2 Chronicles 20:6-12]. Then the spirit of the Lord came upon a man named Jahaziel, and to the king and all those assembled, Jahaziel prophesied the following:

“Thus says the Lord to you: Do not fear or be dismayed at this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God’s. Tomorrow go down against them; they will come up by the ascent of Ziz; you will find them at the end of the valley, before the wilderness of Jeruel. This battle is not for you to fight; take your position, stand still, and see the victory of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you.”

[2 Chronicles 20:15-17]. Greatly encouraged, the people rose early the next day and prepared for battle. King Jehoshaphat appointed worship leaders to go before the army, to sing and praise the Lord in “holy splendor.” As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set an ambush against the Ammonites and the Moabites and the inhabitants of Mount Seir, causing them to attack and destroy one another. The people of Judah and Jerusalem, along with their king, returned to Jerusalem with great joy, “for the Lord had enabled them to rejoice over their enemies.” [2 Chronicles 20:27].

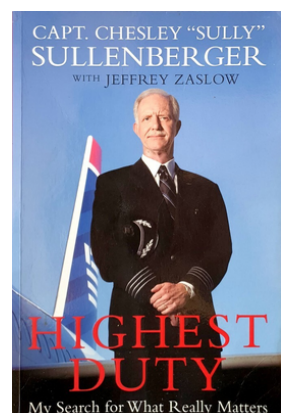
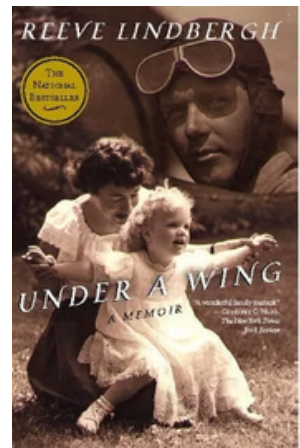
What does Jehoshaphat’s prayer—and the answer to his prayer—teach us about the nature of God? Jehoshaphat tells God that God rules over all the nations, that God is powerful and mighty, and that no one is able to withstand him. But God tells Jehoshaphat—and us—that some battles are for God alone to fight. And when God fights for us, we don’t need to do anything. Our only assignment is to stand still, be unafraid, and see God’s victory on our behalf. Judah’s army didn’t need to fight, but the worship leaders played an important role. By singing and praising God in the midst of a military battle, they demonstrated their trust in God’s promise of victory. God will always have the victory. So whenever we don’t know what to do, we can keep our eyes on God, and we can praise God for fighting our battles.

LIBRARY CORNER

SEPTEMBER has arrived reminding us of the changing of seasons. It means we must begin adjusting to shorter daylight hours; students returning to school studies and activities; our personal calendar filling with projects and events that took a hiatus during the summer.

The suggested reads this month were selected from the **Biography** section of the library. If you have never explored this area, we would encourage you to do so for some great stories.

- "Two Kisses for Maddy" by Matthew Logelin [B Log] "A tender memoir that combines the deep sadness of loss with the joys of parenthood even under incredibly trying circumstances."
- "The Boy on The Wooden Box" by Leon Leyson [B Ley] "Author takes us back in time when childhoods were stolen, to be destroyed, tortured, murdered all because they were Jewish. Oskar Schindler has taught the world that one person can make a difference. The darkest of times can unleash the worst in human nature and also the best."
- "A Three Dog Life" by Abigail Thomas [B Tho] "This memoir takes on the task of chronicling grief and guilt and the agony of learning a new way to love and live. Author describes how tragedy can bend but not break a relationship."
- "Grace (Eventually) Thoughts on Faith" by Anne Lamott [B Lam] "The world, community, the family, the human heart: these are the beautiful and complicated arenas in which our lives unfold. Wherever you look, there's trouble and wonder, pain and beauty, restoration and darkness – sometimes all at once. This story is a primer in faith, as we come to discover what it means to be fully human and alive."
- "Under A Wing (Memoir)" by Reeve Lindbergh [B Lin] "The world knew Charles Lindberg as a daring aviator, winning author and controversial isolationist in WWII and his wife Anne. In this moving, deeply affecting memoir, the youngest of the five children, Reeve, describes what it was like to grow up as a Lindbergh."
- "The Sacred Acre - Ed Thomas Story" by Mark Tabb & Thomas Family [B Tho] "After the citizens of Parkersburg, IA, survived a tornado in 2008 that nearly destroyed that entire town, they are stunned by the murder of their beloved football coach, Ed Thomas, at the hands of a former player. What happens next in this true story provides a lesson in grace and forgiveness to inspire not just people of Parkesburg, but the entire country."
- "Highest Duty – Search for What Really Matters" by Capt. "Sully" Sullenberger [B Sul] "Extraordinary life story of Capt. Sully's from his love of planes as a young boy in Texas to his years at the U.S. Air Force Academy to his 40-year career as a professional pilot to the harrowing moments aboard Flight 1549 (2009) that would make him a hero and inspiration worldwide."



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 our updated draft of a potential welcome statement. Updates were made after reviewing comments from our last straw poll vote.

Updated Welcome Statement Draft:

Christ the King Lutheran Church welcomes you to our community of faith.

We believe every person is a beloved child of God, made by God's Holy design (Jeremiah 1:5).

God designed every skin color, mental and physical ability, gender identity and gender expression, language, age, ethnicity, economic status and sexual orientation. Each brings unique gifts to enrich the full life and ministry of our church. We recognize, celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse talents each one of us brings.

We work towards healing and wholeness resulting from racism, gender-based harm and all other forms of injustice. We stand in favor of all basic human rights for every person.

You are welcome wherever you are in your faith journey and in the fullness of who you are.

We hold that discrimination is incompatible with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

You are welcome because you are a child of God.

John 13:34 says, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." This verse is a commandment from Jesus to his disciples, instructing them to love each other in the same way that he has loved them.

As a reminder, to become a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) church, we must commit to the following public commitments:

1. Clearly state a welcome to people of "all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions" or "LGBTQIA+" and name its commitment to "racial equity" or "anti-racism" in a Welcome Statement.
2. Be open to calling LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC (Black, Brown, Indigenous, Person of Color) Rostered Leaders.
3. Allow sanctuary/community space to be used for LGBTQIA+ weddings and blessings.
4. Make a meaningful contribution annual to support the national RIC program.

We will be holding another straw poll vote on the updated welcome statement above. This will take place after church on Wednesday, September 30th. We will only be conducting this vote in person; no online ballot will be available.

In anticipation of our final straw poll vote, we have worked with the Council to set a date for the official vote which will be October 28. This will also be an in-person vote only.

Copies of In Our Own Words continue to be available for pickup in the Narthex, along with other reading materials in the library. You can also see more information about our RIC journey online at <https://ctkmankato.org/learning-growing/reconciling-in-christ-ric>. We also invite you to attend the upcoming Faith Continuum sessions taking place during the month of September.

+CTK 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

+CTK Children, Youth & Family



KWIK TRIP

5 Ultimate Car Washes
at Kwik Trip for \$40



Reach out to Kirsten or Brittany to purchase car washes!

YOUTH FUNDRAISER!

2027 ELCA
Youth Gathering



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.

3rd Grade Bible Faith Labs



Bible Presentation during the 6:00 PM worship service

Class immediately following worship

Bibles & Brownies

[REGISTER NOW](#) >



Sunday, September 20

Bible Presentation during the 10:00 AM worship service

Class immediately following worship

Bibles & Bagels



CHRIST THE KING First Communion Faith Lab Sunday, October 4, 2026 Time: 11:00AM



[REGISTER HERE](#) >



UPCOMING EVENTS



GAME NIGHT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

7:00 - 9:00 PM

FIRESIDE ROOM

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN, FELLOWSHIP,
AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION!**

BRING A FAVORITE GAME TO SHARE

BRING A SNACK TO PASS

BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGE

Hosted by Congregational Life Board



TRUNK OR TREAT

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

CTK PARKING LOT

4:30-5:30PM

**WE NEED TRUNKS & TREATS
SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!**



Hosted by Children Youth & Family Board & Congregational Life Board

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Cookies & Carols

Saturday, December 5

4:00-6:00PM

Hosted by Children Youth & Family Board



SAVE THE DATE

Kids Night Out Event

Friday, January 29, 2026

- Little Kids= 3 Years- Kindergarten
- Kids=1st-6th Grade
- Youth= 7th-12th Grade

Hosted by Children Youth & Family Board



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!

Robinh@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

SEPTEMBER

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SIGN-UP

SIGN UP →



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING A SMALL GROUP?

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



PLEASE TAKE SURVEY



MEAL SERVERS



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 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, 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 with the Banff World Tour "The OSCARS of Outdoor Films" in 2025.

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," an ELCA study that seeks input and 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, & 18th – TBD
- October 25th & November 1st & 8th - Rev. Paul Meierding on Psalms
- November 15th, 22nd, 29th & December 6th – 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

Menu

SEPTEMBER 2

Hotdogs or Brat, Chips, Watermelon and Cookie

SEPTEMBER 9

No Community Supper

SEPTEMBER 16

Chicken Strips, French Fries, Coleslaw and Bread Pudding

SEPTEMBER 23

Goulash, Corn, Garlic Toast, Lettuce Salad and 7 Layer Bar

SEPTEMBER 30

Taco in a Bag with Fixings, Black Bean Corn Salad and Cinnamon Struesel Cake



OTHER MINISTRY MATTERS

BIRTHDAY CARD DONATIONS

We are in need of Birthday card donations!

You can bring them to the office

Monday-Thursday 9AM-3PM



A Thank You on behalf of Crossroads Campus Ministry

For many years, Crossroads Campus Ministry has been a faithful Lutheran presence serving students at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Through worship, fellowship, outreach programs such as Campus Cupboard and Lunch for \$1, and its commitment to providing an inclusive community where faith and love intersect, Crossroads has touched countless lives. As this ministry comes to a close, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the staff, volunteers, supporters, and congregations who have supported this important work. We are grateful for the relationships built, the students nurtured in faith, and the lasting impact Crossroads has had on our community. Crossroads will be deeply missed, and we pray God's blessings on all who have been part of its ministry.



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Mankato, MN 56001

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

Visit us online!
www.ctkmankato.org

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Mankato, MN 56001

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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