

Christ's Ambassador

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Preston, Minnesota



Love God, Love People, Follow Jesus

Christ Lutheran Church - Preston, Minnesota

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Church council: Bruce Hoff, Darrel Olson, Michael Johnson,
Andy Bunge, Katie Marzolf-Harstad, Jennifer Pickett, Melissa Severson



Ordinary Time: An Invitation to Read and Reflect on God's Presence

Pastor Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid

How is your summer looking, people of God of Christ Lutheran? Are you getting a break from the busyness of the school year? Are you part of our agricultural community working more hours in the summertime than wintertime? Have you made it a priority to get outdoors, or spend time with family or friends? Or are you moving with the flow of life, finding it enough to process one day or week at a time? Like our secular lives, the church year is divided into seasons. The two central cycles of Christmas and Easter focus on the person and work of Christ. Now we are in Ordinary Time, and despite this title our lectionary lessons are far from ordinary. We have returned to the gospel readings from Mark, and his writings urge us to discern how God is calling us and then proclaim, bear witness to, and live out God's ongoing will for the world God so deeply loves.

This summer I invite you to join me in discovering God's presence and taking a deeper look into this season of the church year through the lens of *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* by preacher and author Barbara Brown Taylor. In this book, Taylor shares how she learned to find God beyond the church walls by embracing the sacred as a natural part of everyday life. She also shows us how to discover altars everywhere we go and in nearly everything we do as we learn to live with purpose, pay attention, slow down, and revere the world we live in (Amazon.com).

Summer Invitations with An Altar in the World

Book Read, *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. (USA: Harper One), 2009. (Please borrow or buy this book on your own.)

Worship: Lessons and Hymns, Sunday, August 18, 9:00 am Worship.

Scripture readings, hymns, and reflections inspired by *An Altar in the World* and will be the focus of our worship service.

Book Discussion: Wednesday, August 23, Time and Location TBD.

Interested in wondering together about Brown's reflections on where and how we may find God's presence in the world? Let's meet for conversation and fellowship!

Taylor writes, "The whole world is the house of God." How do we recognize God's presence, and how do the facets of our ministry reflect God's call to Christ Lutheran at this particular time? I hope you will join me in this book read, worship service, and/or discussion to explore the many ways God is present.

Sending for ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans - Sunday, July 14 – 9 am Worship-

Worship will include a sending and blessing for Maggie Dempewolf, Cooper Picket, Grant and Jillian Tieskotter, and Pastor Kris, who travel with Greenfield Lutheran Church July 15-20 to participate in the Youth Gathering. Following worship, the youth will serve coffee and cookies, part of their appreciation to the congregation for your generous support of this ministry.



Sharing by ELCA Youth Gathering Group Sunday – Sunday, July 21 – 9 am Worship –

“Created to Be”, based on Psalm 139, is the theme for the Gathering. The worship service will include music, prayer, and praise experienced in New Orleans. Come and learn!

Holy Outdoors - "Forest Bathing" - A Guided Walk in Nature with Sara Holger Program Coordinator - Project Get Outdoors, Inc. – Monday, July 29, 6-8 pm, Trailhead Park, Preston

Join certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide, Sara Holger, to experience the healing power of nature. Sara will lead a gentle walk adapted to our location and tailor it to participants' abilities. Plus, *this walk will meet the Walk with Ease standards of the Arthritis Foundation.*



What will you experience? Shinrin-yoku, also known as forest bathing, is a Japanese mindfulness practice of using one's senses to immerse in nature. During this walk, we will explore and observe nature using all of our senses. All abilities and ages are welcome! Help spread the word; this event is for the community!



July Service Group

Member	E-mail	Phone #
Andy & Gail Bunge, Chairpersons	majabunge@hotmail.com	507-259-1444
Brad & Alison Leathers, Chairpersons	alisonbleathers@gmail.com	507-251-8049
Chuck & Vonnie Aug	chucka@fmcommunity.com	507-251-2179
Ryan Berg		507-765-3751
Tami Christianson	tami.j.christianson@gmail.com	507-251-6496
Christy Gildner	cbakken@live.com	507-421-3199
Carol Gosi	carolgosi@frontier.com	507-268-4411
Rick & Sue Grooters	dutch55965@gmail.com	507-951-0081
Linda Marzolf	ldmarzolf@gmail.com	507-765-2435
LaVerne & Denise Paulson	lcpaulson_7@hotmail.com	507-251-4952
Marvin & Brenda Ristau	brenda.ristau@isd2198.k12.mn.us	507-421-6724
Justin & Emilee Ristau	ejristau50@gmail.com	507-226-7580
Cheryl Severson		507-884-1702
Dan & Penny Solberg	psolberg842@gmail.com	507-251-9862
James Specht	jimspecht1212@gmail.com	507-250-4691
Tris & Pat Tollefson	patriciatollefson@gmail.com	507-421-1961
Scott Wilson	W55965@yahoo.com	507-440-7109

Scheduled events: First Sunday Cookies, July 7

Worship Assistants in July

Acolytes

7 Cooper Pickett/Melony Wingert
14 Cooper Holtegaard/Jackson Fischer
21 Ava Severson/Maggie Wingert
28 Reese Larson /Josh Bakken

Computer

7 Lexi Engen
14 Taelyn Kerns
21 Grant Tieskotter
28 Lilianna Dempewolf

Lectors

7 Bev Olson
14 Mary Glaser
21 Gail Bunge
28 Traci Corson

Greeters

7 Glenn Dale
14 Brad & Alison Leathers and family
21 Sara Niemeyer
28 LaVerne & Denise Paulson

Altar Guild.....Mary Irish/Gail Bunge/Vicki Kruegel

Ushers.....Jon Ebner/Michael Johnson/Darrel Olson/_____

Communion Assistants

July 7.....

July 21.....





Val Christensen
Amy Timmerman
Axel Heller
Bo Bakke
Bridget Case
Steve Kling
Carole Engen
Barb Barrett
Rosalie Krips
Richard Johnson
Marilyn Bunge, who is in Mabel Care Center
Walt Hanson, who is at the Minnesota State Veterans Home
Adie Milne, who is at Harmony Care Center
Ann Ott, who is at Harmony Care Center
Betty Riehl, who is at Harmony Care Center
Arlene Bakalyar, who is at Park Lane Estates
Helen Haugen, who is at Park Lane Estates
Jim Fossum, who is at The Fillmore Place
Alice Cummings, who is at Chatfield Nursing Home
Arlen Kiehne, who is at Chatfield Nursing Home
Lew Randall, who is at Traditions
Irene Aarre, who is at Traditions
Averlene Marzolf, who is at Traditions
Helen Haugerud, who is at Traditions
Linda Hahn Smith, who is at Traditions
Jan Milne, who is at Brookdale Senior Living
DeWayne Vogt, who is at Luther Oaks Skilled Nursing Care

Upcoming Dates in July:

July 14 – 9 am, Sending of Youth and Coffee Fellowship following worship

July 14 – 6 pm, Meal and 6:30 pm, Outdoor Intergenerational Worship.
God's Love Creates! Bring your own chair

July 21 – 9 am, Hear from youth about their experiences at the Youth Gathering

July 29 – 6-8 pm, Holy Outdoors, Forest Bathing and guided nature hike with Sara Holger. Meet at Trailhead Park, Preston

Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: June 12, 2024

Meeting time: 6:00 p.m. (In person); Conference Room

(X) Indicates Present for meeting

Member		Term Complete	Member		Term Complete
Pastor Kris Kincaid	X		Bruce Hoff /President	X	2025
Michael Johnson	X	2024	Melissa Severson/Secretary	X	2026
Andy Bunge	X	2025	Darrel Olson	X	2024
Jen Pickett/VP		2026	Katie Harstad/Treasurer	X	2026

Devotion Reflection-Pastor Kris

New business:

1) Use of Facilities—discussion

Damage deposit for members, non-members and non-profit organizations along with fee increase for non-members. Other - Do we need to have a small nominal fee to church members to assist with replenishing supplies in the kitchen (such as garbage bags). Having an individual in the church during events that is in charge of the sound/video system. This would be for a non-member only. Michael Johnson made a motion that both members and non-members will pay a \$200 damage deposit with a 30 day return window after the event if the church is without damage. The motion also included that the rental fees would be increased by double for non-members and if they want to use the tech system (more than just sound), there will be an additional charge for a tech individual, which would be about \$50/hour. Second by Darrell Olson.

2) Ammparo—June 16—Kathy Chatelaine, Asst to Bishop Hassanally.

Local & global Missions. Service group is serving root beer floats

3) June 23 "Blessing of the Bikes"--discussion on how this is going to be organized. Bike, helmet or lock can be brought. Individuals who will have bikes will be asked to park in the back of the church for blessing before the bike ride. Andy Bunge has not called Lanesboro to see if the park is available.

4) 2024 Synod Assembly giving report—Pastor Kris.

Email from the Bishop that they met their goal and exceeded it. Donation from our church: Pastor Kris will ask Amanda what the total was.

5) Update on Vacation Bible School (VBS)—Pastor Kris

34 children registered. They had 26 last night. Attendance has been good.

6) Pastor's Discretionary Fund—is this something we need to establish? This would be a fund to address needs among the congregation and community members. Payments for food, rent, utilities and medical bill for those in need are typical uses of the fund. Amanda has Preston Bucks that she has provided individuals in the past, however she currently does not have any available. In the past there was a discretionary fund or memorial funds have been used to purchase Preston Bucks.

7) Budget Review—Katie Marzolf-Harstad

Bills from Preston Foods for kitchen items such as paper products for events. This was previously paid by WELCA. Add line item: supplies under the general fund. Katie Marzolf-Harstad will discuss this with Pam Ristau.

8) The expenses of the boiler checks are being reviewed. Excessive Property Committee would like to hire a custodian that would check the boiler along with completing additional maintenance in the church. Will request that Pam Ristau continue to provide percentages of cost.

- 9) Memorial gifts/funds:
- 10) AED: replaced for 5 years; Previous was expired.
- 11) Pastor Kris: "Forest Bathing" - \$250, however she would also take a donation for mileage in place of this fee. Monday July 29, 6-8 pm. Provided by Project Get Outdoors, it is a cleansing outdoor activity. This could be hosted at the Trail Head in Preston to use the bike trail and park area. Andy Bunge motions that we use \$250 from the memorial fund towards "Forest Bathing." Second by: Bruce Hoff.

Old business:

- 1) Property Team recommends that we hire a full-time custodian like we had before. Discussion. Darrell Olson: keep Robert for cleaning but have another individual to do other maintenance at the church. Consider FT or PT position. Property Team will review the description of both positions and see specifically what the property team is looking for in this position. Information placed in the bulletin to see if there are members interested in helping with minor maintenance/custodian tasks that are currently not being completed. Michael Johnson sent email to Amanda.
- 2) Extension of the duct work in the basement for better air exchange (see Property Team Report). It would cost ~\$13,000. Consider budget for next year versus using the money remaining from the ramp fund. Property team to get additional quotes. Table until August.
- 3) Evangelism: Pastor Kris and Jennifer Pickett will meet to discuss how we can reach out to members to provide their gifts to the church for "Things they like to do or how they can help serve the church." They plan to meet in June.

All reports and next meeting's agenda will be emailed one week prior to our meeting. Please have all items for the agenda to me a week in advance.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports will be e-mailed for review and approved by consensus during monthly meeting.

-Motion to approve by Michael Johnson; Second by Darrell Olson.

Secretary's Report: Minutes will be e-mailed for review and approved by consensus during monthly meeting.

-Motion to approve by Michael Johnson; Second by Katie Marzolf-Harstad.

Team meeting reports submitted by:

Evangelism (Jennifer Pickett)

Stewardship (Andy Bunge)

Property (Darrel Olson)

Worship and Music (Katie Marzolf-Harstad)

Youth (Melissa Severson)

Education (Michael Johnson)

Approval of reports (by consensus)

Next Council meeting scheduled: **August 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**

Lightning Round of Celebrations / Prayer Request

Adjourn – Close with prayer.

Motion to adjourn Melissa Severson; seconded by Michael Johnson.

2024 Craft & Bake Sale
Saturday Dec. 7, 2024
9 am - 2 pm
Fellowship Hall (basement)



Save the date! Calling all crafters, Bakers, sewers, woodworkers and more!

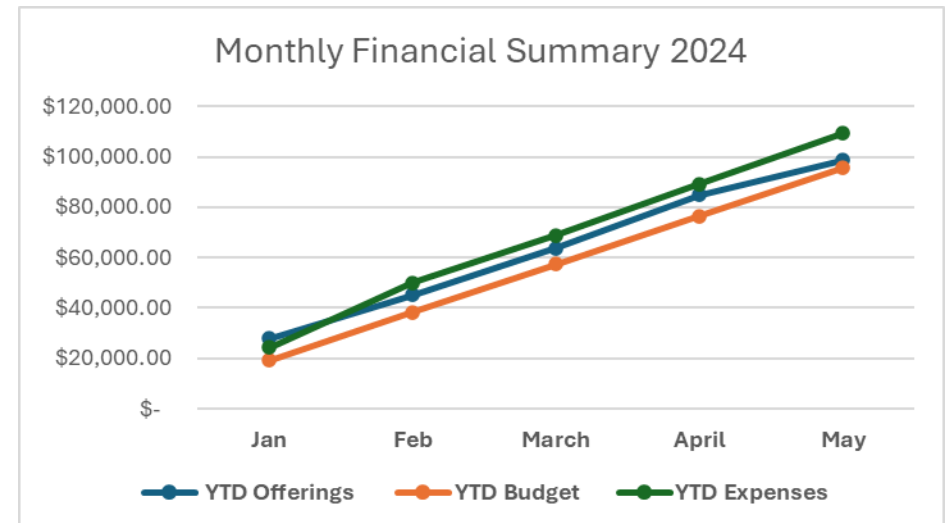
Everyone's help is needed for our upcoming craft & bake sale so please put on your creative hats and start planning how you can help make our 2024 sale a huge success!

This event is our only fundraiser to support the church and our missions. Therefore we really need your help in crafting, creating, and baking. We really need:

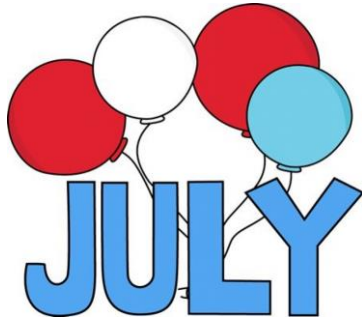
- Norwegian baked goods
- More caramels, fudge, truffles & cake balls
- Mug rugs
- Cat & dog toys/items
- Stocking stuffers

Back this year are the raffle and Gnome Cafe. Please think how you and your family can donate your time and talents to these efforts. Even if you are unable to craft or bake, please consider making a monetary donation for our event which we will use toward supplies, crafts, et al.

Co-chairs this year are Janet Erdman, Alison Leathers, Susan Pikula, Teresa Hoff and Gail Bunge. Kayla Peterson and Lori Winkels are the chairs of the Gnome Cafe. Please contact any of us if you have additional ideas or questions.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARYS



7/1 Ramona Moger, Mike Erdman
 7/2 Jon Ebner
 7/3 Joey Ristau; **Lynn & Kim Ristau – Anniv.**
 7/4 Lori Winkels
 7/5 Cheryl Schumacher
 7/6 Jeanette Serfling, Mary Lou Hansen; **Walt & Mary Lou Hansen – Anniv.**
 7/7 Theodore Parker, Chuck Aug
 7/8 Travis Gatzke, Kassidy Broadwater; Kaylee Hernandez; **Andy & Gail Bunge – Anniv.; Jason & Amanda Sethre – Anniv.**
 7/9 Alice Cummings
 7/10 Marissa Topness, Sara Kling-Punt, Jackson Serfoss; **Rick & Sue Grooters – Anniv.**
 7/11 Keanna Weedman
 7/13 Devan Schmidt; **Travis & Cara Ristau – Anniv.**
 7/14 Trent Pikula, Logan Runtsch, Kayla Soland; **Larry & Dawn Ristau – Anniv.**
 7/15 Judi Underbakke, Jennifer DeSilvey (Quanrud)
 7/17 Jade Grabau
 7/18 Arlene Brekke, Griffin Holtegaard
 7/20 Cal Larson; **Dale & Rebecca Grabau – Anniv.**
 7/21 Lisa Baker, Anna Hyland (Schreier)
 7/22 Darrel Olson
 7/24 Ryan Schroeder
 7/26 Adam Reicks, Carol Gosi
 7/27 Jezlyn Finseth
 7/28 Christine Olson; **Dave & Cynthia Hokenson – Anniv.**
 7/29 Kamryn Pederson, Vivian Ristau
 7/30 Sawyer Johnson, Ellen Schwartz
 7/31 Linda Trende

The good news is that God goes with us. So this summer while you're pitching a tent or catching a plane, splashing on the beach or climbing a mountain, take along the simple steps of FAITH5 (Faith Acts In The Home) as you travel. Be reminded at the end of each July day (no matter where you'll be sleeping!) of God's presence in your life and that you are called to spread God's great love. Share this routine with your family or just keep it between you and God. Begin with "highs and lows" the best and worst moments of your day, read the travel themed verses below, pray and end by blessing each other, with a cross traced on the forehead and words like "May you know God's great big love is with you wherever you go."



Every night in every home



1	Psalm 121:8
2	Isaiah 6:8
3	Genesis 12:1-2
4	Genesis 41:46-57
5	Mark 6:1-6
6	Mark 6:7-13
7	Ezekiel 2:1-5
8	Proverbs 16:9
9	Luke 10:30-37
10	Exodus 13:21
11	Ezra 2:1-2
12	Isaiah 43:2
13	Psalm 85:8-13
14	Ruth 1:16
15	Psalm 119:105
16	Mark 1:39
17	Isaiah 55:12
18	Mark 6:30-34
19	Mark 6:53-56
20	Psalm 23:1-6
21	Mark 8:27
22	Luke 8:1
23	Matthew 10:16
24	Matthew 2:9-12
25	Matthew 2:13-15
26	Luke 2:41-52
27	Psalm 139:9-10
28	Luke 24:13-15
29	Acts 8:26-40
30	Deuteronomy 31:8
31	Mark 16:15



Sharing Faith Stories

Pastor Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid

As I serve Christ Lutheran, I continue to be inspired by the generosity of our community. Generosity is part of our faith stories, and these stories engage us and create connections in a compassionate setting. Dr. Andrew Root, a professor of mine at Luther Seminary notes, writes, “We come to know who we are as people of faith by understanding the story of God and Jesus through the experiences of other people.”

We need you! Share your faith stories with us.

In the coming months, the people of God of Christ Lutheran are invited to share stories about why you give your time, talent, and financial resources to support the ministries of Christ Lutheran. Watch for articles in the Ambassador, Temple Talks in Worship, and social media posts. With the Youth Gathering this month, we are sharing Alison Leathers' reflection on why she donated to these fundraisers. Thank you for your reflection, Alison.

“Growing up, I was fortunate enough to witness the adults in my life donate their financial resources, their precious time, and their passions and talents to help accomplish a shared goal. Through seeing the examples of how the people around me give, I become motivated to find ways to give as well. I was recently moved to give a financial gift to our youth to help them cover their expenses to travel to the ELCA Youth Gathering. I was moved to do this because I witnessed them working so hard to raise funds, and I was fortunate enough to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Atlanta, GA, when I was in high school. I remembered that others helped pay for my way to Atlanta, and I was ready to give back with my gift. The ELCA Youth Gathering is a fun, uplifting, and memorable experience in the development of our young people and their lives in faith and understanding how they play a part in their communities. I am excited to hear from our youth upon their return from New Orleans, and I can bet one day they will remember the gifts from others and find ways to give back too.” -- Alison Leathers