

Christ's Ambassador

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Preston, Minnesota



February

~2025~

Love God, Love People, Follow Jesus

Christ Lutheran Church - Preston, Minnesota

Pastor: Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid

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Website: www.christlutheranpreston.org

Church council: Bruce Hoff, Amanda Heibel, Dena Mathison,
Andy Bunge, Katie Marzolf-Harstad, Jennifer Pickett, Melissa Severson



“We are the Visible Expression of God’s Love”

Pastor Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid

The human body has 206 bones, 639 muscles, and about 6 pounds of skin, along with ligaments, cartilage, veins, arteries, blood, fat, and more. Every time we hear a sound; every time we take a step; every time we take a breath, hundreds of different parts work together so that what we experience is a single move, our minds and bodies working as one unit. (Raylynn Jay Whitley, Feasting on the Word, Year C, Volume 1.)

The imagery above helps us imagine what it means to be the body of Christ. When we imagine our body, we easily name our head, shoulders, knees and toes. However, we often find it more difficult to name where we fit into the body of the church. Baptized into the love of God, Christ Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, we all belong and are called to participate.

We belong. We feel deeply the need to belong. Corinthians speaks to our relationships, “For in the one spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit” (1Cor 12:13). This passage reminds us how different each of us are and that when we are baptized into the body of Christ, we are more than just ourselves. Every one of us is a valued part of the body of Christ. Our relationships with each other, our community, and as global citizens are defined by being one with Christ

We participate. When we are baptized – we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit, called to community to suffer and rejoice with one another. Belonging means participating. The Youth Team is excited to offer new summer ministries for grades 6-12+.

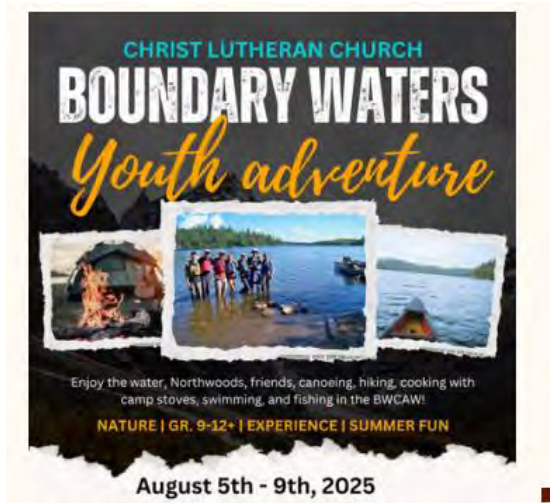
- 9-12th grades, and 2024 High School graduates, are invited to experience God’s creation in a Boundary Waters and North Shore Trip, August 5-9.
- 6-9th graders are invited to Summer Festival Camp, a high energy, creative faith-filled camp experience held at Gustavus Adolphus College, July 20-23.
- All of us are called to support these ministries through prayer, curiosity, and when possible, fundraisers. First off - they are selling caramel rolls January 22-February 2. You may remember these yummy rolls from last year. The youth are selling them before worship on February 2, or you may call the church office to place an order, with payment due by February 3.

We are the visible expression of God’s love for all people. How are you participating in the life of the church? The [Things I Like to Do Survey](#) is a valuable resource for you to consider how your gifts fit into current or new ministries. You

may find the survey in the Narthex or on our website on the serving section. If you wish to explore new ways to share your gifts, reach out! You are a beloved child of God, you belong, and God created you to participate in God's kingdom.

Pastor Kris

UPCOMING EVENTS~



Pastor Kris & Rich Kincaid are leading a 4-night trip into the BWCAW and along the North Shore. REGISTER SOON!

[Click on this link to register and for all the details.](#)

Summer Fest Camp is high energy, way fun, and offers a deep faith experience! Held Sunday afternoon July 20-Wed Noon July 23 at Gustavus Adolphus College, Pastor Kris is excited to accompany youth to this camp. Friends are welcome! **Register by March 3rd!** [Click this link to register and for all the details](#)



High School Hang Time

Wednesday, February 12

6-7:30 p.m.

Games, devotions, and bracelets! We will make bracelets for a service activity. Friends are welcome!

Save the date~

- **Lutheran Campus Ministry Sunday** - March 2nd, 2025, 9am
-music will be led by Paul Schmidt, Kari Mensink and Shelly Topness



Generous Together Sunday

Sunday, February 9

9 am Worship & 10:15 Fellowship

Thanks to all who made it to worship on Jan. 19, despite the cold. Our next Generous Together fellowship includes making Valentine's following worship. This is a service event, and confirmands are expected to attend.

Let's hope the weather cooperates!

PRAYER list

The family of Carole Bond

Elsa Bye

Dick Hellickson

Jacob Johnson

Rosalie Krips

Val Christensen

Jodi Milne Trochlil

Amy Timmerman

Jill Miller

Marilyn Bunge, who is in Mabel Care Center

Walt Hanson, who is at the Minnesota State Veterans Home

Mary Lou Hansen, who is at Harmony Care Center

Ann Ott, who is at Harmony Care Center

Arlene Bakalyar, who is at Park Lane Estates

Arnie Keene, who is at Park Lane Estates

Barb Barrett, who is at Park Lane Estates

Jim Fossum, who is at Fillmore Place

Alice Cummings, who is at Chatfield Nursing Home

Arlen Kiehne, who is at Chatfield Nursing Home

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

Hazel Knies, who is at Traditions

February Service Group

Member	E-mail	Phone #
Doug & Tona Keene, <i>Chairpersons</i>	tonakeene@gmail.com	507-696-1292
Sue Ostrom, <i>Chairperson</i>	ostroms@live.com	507-289-4002
Kevin & Joyce Every	joycekevinevery@gmail.com	507-951-1345
Nate & Stacy Every	nathanevery72@gmail.com	507-251-5405
Brenda Hahn	brendafhahn@gmail.com	507-273-9149
Kyle & Amanda Heibel	ama_heibel@yahoo.com	507-273-1770
Melissa Herron	melissa.herron11@yahoo.com	507-273-5864
Stacy Herron	herron_stacy@hotmail.com	507-273-7773
Tom & Marcia Johnson	marciajohnson62@outlook.com	507-272-8087
Cassie Keene	ckeene093@gmail.com	507-951-6635
Katie Kerns	katiekoch83@yahoo.com	507-421-1256
Cindy Kramer	cinkramer34@gmail.com	507-440-3381
Chris & Kari Mensink	kmensink75@gmail.com	507-259-1040
Jerry & Diane Olson	jolson002@gmail.com	507-696-6394
Curt & Wendy Pfremer	curtispfremmer@hotmail.com	507-259-0657
Brian & Jill Soland	soland.jill@gmail.com	507-273-8503

Worship Assistants in February

Acolytes

2 Grant Tieskotter/Jezlyn Finseth
 9 Lilianna Dempewolf/Cooper Holtegaard
 16 Turner Sprenger/Katelyn Scheevel
 23 Reese Larson/Jax Heibel

Computer

2 Josh Bakken
 9 Harper Pickett
 16 Ava Severson
 23 Taelyn Kerns

Lectors

2 Cari Ledin
 9 Jenna Pederson
 16 Darrel Olson
 23 Steve Corson



Worship Assistants in February cont....

Altar Guild.....Mary Specht/Mindy Parker/Paula Severson

Ushers.....Rich Kincaid, Jon Ebner, Amanda & Kyle Heibel, Trever & Sara Niemeyer

Communion Assistants

February 2.....Darrel Olson/Barb Mielke/Randy Hahn

February 16.....Amanda Heibel/Katie Marzolf-Harstad /Mary Glaser

Ministerial Acts in January

Baptism
 January 12 *Kelsi Elaine Lund, daughter of Michaela Lund*



Women's Fellowship

The next Women's Fellowship meeting will be held at the church on Wednesday, February 26, at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss *"Losing religion: Why is church attendance declining?"* Please join us! Note: The March Women's Fellowship meeting has been changed to Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 p.m., because of Lent.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We are looking for people willing to make prayer shawls as our current supply is running low. There is yarn available in the quilt room. If you need a pattern (knit or crochet) or have questions, please contact Diane Johnson at 507-251-6922.

On Sunday, February 23, 2025, MN Adult and Teen Challenge Men's Choir, which is made up of participants in Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge's chemical dependency treatment and recovery programs, will be at Christ Lutheran during 9am worship to perform a mix of gospel, Christian contemporary and Americana-themed songs as well as share testimonies of the faith and life in worship. We will also be taking a love offering. Please join us!



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARYS



- 2/2 Arlene Bakalyar, Stacy Herron; *Phil & Sandy Milne - Anniv*
- 2/4 Sharon Johnson
- 2/5 Morgan Pickett, Kolby Brunsvold
- 2/6 Mary Irish
- 2/7 Bonnie Hahn
- 2/8 Melanie White, Landon Sethre
- 2/10 Sheila Marzolf, Dick Hellickson
- 2/11 Carter Johnson
- 2/12 Sandy Milne
- 2/14 Travis Ristau; *Scott & Andrea Hellickson – Anniv.*
- 2/15 Anita Turck, Rich Burmeister, Dena Mathison; *Tony & Paula Severson – Anniv.*
- 2/16 *Jerry & Diane Olson – Anniv.*
- 2/17 Jackson Persons, Nolan Scheevel
- 2/18 Linda Britton, Shauna Hoff, Owen Winkels, Kody Ebner, Casey Ristau, Janice Schultz; *Travis & Tammy Gatzke – Anniv.*
- 2/19 Keith Johnson, Diane Olson
- 2/20 Marcia Specht, Gunner Benson
- 2/21 Greg Hoff, Luke Marzolf, Kelsi Lund
- 2/23 Grayson Winkels
- 2/24 Norma Vogt, Cadence Jones, Syrus Wingert
- 2/25 Alexa Wood
- 2/27 Jeff Buenger, Barb Hanning
- 2/28 *Randy & Bonnie Hahn – Anniv.*



As Valentine's Day approaches, bright red and pink cards, candy, flowers, and hearts are everywhere. This February focus on GOD'S LOVE. Send a valentine to God by devoting time to him with the simple, 5-steps of FAITH5 (Faith Acts In The Home). Share this routine with the people you love the most or just keep it between you and God. Begin with "highs and lows" the best and worst moments of your day, read the love themed verse of scripture, pray and end with a blessing, perhaps tracing a cross on the forehead and saying something like "I love you, but God loves you even more."



Every night in every home



1	Mark 12:30-31
2	Romans 12:9
3	Romans 13:10
4	1 Corinthians 13:4-7
5	1 Corinthians 13:13
6	Ephesians 4:2
7	1 Peter 4:8
8	1 John 4:7-8
9	1 John 4:18-19
10	John 15:13
11	Colossians 3:14
12	Proverbs 10:12
13	Proverbs 17:17
14	1 John 3:16-18
15	1 John 4:8
16	John 3:16
17	Psalms 18:1
18	Matthew 6:24
19	Matthew 22:37-39
20	1 Corinthians 13:8
21	Isaiah 49:15
22	Song of Solomon 8:7
23	Psalms 37:4
24	Romans 5:5
25	1 John 4:16
26	Ephesians 5:1
27	Romans 8:28
28	1 John 3:1

Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: December 11, 2024

Meeting time: 7:00 p.m. (In person); Conference Room

(X) Indicates Present for meeting

Member		Term Complete	Member		Term Complete
Rev. Kris Kincaid	X		Bruce Hoff-President	X	2025
Jennifer Pickett-Vice President	X	2026	Andy Bunge		2025
Melissa Severson-Secretary	X	2026	Darrel Olson	X	2024
Katie Marzolf-Harstad-Treasurer	X	2026	Michael Johnson		2024

Devotion Reflection—Bruce Hoff

New business:

- Approval of 2025 budget; Jennifer Picket motions to approve the budget pending the adjustment of \$1100. Seconded by Michael Johnson. All council members approve.
 - Recognition of Craft and Bake Sale Donation of \$19,000 from the 2024 Craft and Bake Sale. (See the enclosed letter from 2024 Craft and Bake Sale Committee.) We would like to send a “Thank You” to the Craft and Bake Sale Committee for their generous donation.
 - Suggested honorariums for funerals to be charged to funeral homes—Pastor Kris; Motion to approve with the changes that were presented by Jennifer Pickett. Seconded by Bruce Hoff. All council members approve.
 - Discussion on “Growing Hope Globally”—Darrel Olson. Pastor Kris has contacted Mike Swenson about the “Growing Hope Globally” ministry and they will present on May 4th Rogation Sunday. There is also \$1866.30 in the 2024 budget that has not been paid forward; Motion we donate \$1866.30 to “Growing Hope Globally” when Mike Swenson is in the church on May 4th by Michael Johnson with a second by Darrell Olson. All council members approve. Melissa will contact Amanda.
- Jennifer Picket rescinds the motion that is on the table with Darrel Olson seconding the motion; Andy Bunge motions that the money be allocated as soon as possible in the amount of \$1866.30. Michael Johnson seconds the motion. All council members approve.
- MN Teen Challenge is February 23 - Pastor Kris; Consider offering breakfast meal offered by the Youth.
 - Gideons International wants to share information during a worship service and asked if an offering may be collected. This would be sometime in the next 3 months (discussion) - Pastor Kris
 - Thrivent Fund - has \$2,373.37 that could be distributed (discussion). Who should designate how these funds should be spent? Consider adding this amount to the profit from the Craft and Bake Sale to be divided into the 4 funds they donate to. Table and council members will bring ideas to next month’s meeting.
 - WCFK (“Warm Coats for Kids”): there is an allotted fund which has not been used. Question how the need for coats for kids is communicated to ensure that this fund is being used. Michael Johnson will look into this.
 - Radio and misc in the budget. This runs in the negative in the budget - consider using memorial funds to cover per recommendation from Pam Ristau. Jennifer Picket motions to move the amount from “Projector Upgrade” of \$982.11 to the Sunday School Education Fund. Michael Johnson seconds the motion. Jennifer Picket motions to move the amount from “Handbells” of \$557.24 to the Radio fund. Michael Johnson seconds the motion. Add to the agenda for next month in regards to youth funding.

Old business:

- Property Committee: they would like to proceed with original job description for the additional janitor position.
- Bells of the church: property committee to look into the bells/chimes for church services. Table for next meeting.

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.

-Council reviewed and approved.

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

-Council reviewed and approved.

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: **February 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**

Lightning Round of Celebrations / Prayer Request

Adjourn - Close with prayer. Motion to adjourn by Darrell Olson with a second by Jennifer Pickett. All council members approve.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Melissa Severson, council secretary



Christ Lutheran Church - Annual Meeting

January 26, 2025

- ❖ Opening Prayer
- ❖ Meeting Call to Order
- ❖ Approval of 2024 Minutes. Motion to approve by Brad Leathers and 2nd by Mary Zimmerman. Motion passed.
- ❖ Team Reports - packet available for review in the office
- ❖ Review of financials. Motion to approve the reports by Randy Hahn and 2nd by Susan Grooters. Motion passed.
- ❖ Elections for 2025
 - Church Council, 7 council members - New Members: Dena Mathison, Amanda Heibel. Motion to accept their invitations by Randy Hahn and 2nd by Rick Grooters. Motion passed.
 - Audit committee: Bradley Leathers and Joel Mielke. Motion by Mike Erdman and 2nd by Jennifer Pickett. Motion passed.
 - Nominating Committee: Alison Leathers and Susan Pikula. Motion by Diane Johnson and 2nd by Rick Grooters. Motion passed.

➤ 2025 Assembly Delegates: May 30 and 31, 2025 and voting on a bishop. Bev Olson and Traci Corson. Alternate: Bradley Leathers and Carol Solberg. Motion by Bradley Leathers and 2nd by Glenn Dale. Motion passed.

❖ Comments by Pastor Kris Kincaid

- Make sure that there is a microphone ready in the basement prior to the annual meeting next year.

❖ Lord's Prayer

❖ Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by,
Melissa Severson, council Secretary



Caring Connections

Our Generous Together stewardship experience invites us to be curious about generosity and one way we share generosity is with our time. Christ Lutheran is a vibrant community of all ages and how God calls us to serve often varies at different times in our life. The Care Team at Christ Lutheran connects members with people who to offer care, support, and encouragement, while offering Christ's healing love. Members may visit people in their home, meet for a visit, phone, or even text each other.

Glenn Dale became active with the Care Team several months after he lost his wife (Merrily) after 58 years of marriage, on June 16, 2023. Glenn writes,

I could never have imagined how hard it is moving on after this major heart break. Through all the tears, prayers, and support from family and friends, I started to see the sun shining again. With encouragement from friends, they suggested I go visit church members who are homebound or in care centers and how beneficial it could be for them and me. Lo and behold, I couldn't believe how it uplifted me and made my heart sing again. Slowly I began to get my humor and laugh back again, which brings me happiness.

Glenn's story is joyful, and his visits enrich the lives of many. Might you offer your time to the Care Team Ministry? There is always a need for people who to share God's love and care by reaching out to other members of the congregation through visits and phone calls. Please contact Amanda Means, 507-765-2161 to be referred to the care team.



Women of Christ Lutheran Committee Minutes Summary

Wednesday, January 15, 2025, Christ Lutheran Church, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Darla Ebner, Janet Erdman, Mary Glaser, Sue Grooters, Joyce Hellickson, Diane Johnson, Mary Zimmerman, Pastor Kris Kincaid

- The fall 2024 benevolence letter generated \$3,890 in donations, slightly over last year's donations.
- Altar Guild- Mary Glaser reported a balance of \$717.64, generated through memorials and semi-monthly after-church coffees. They hope to purchase a new funeral banner and acolyte gown.
- Christ's Crafters-Mary Zimmerman conveyed they made fleece blankets for 13 senior graduates and will make 9 for this year's seniors.
- Women's Fellowship-Joyce Hellickson recounted the group's activities for the year that included discussions, community outreach, including a Bundles of Love promotion that resulted in over 400 items collected by the congregation for infants. Monthly offerings totaling \$977 went toward vacation bible school, postage for donated communion ware to a church in Puerto Rico, kitchen items, headphones for Fillmore Central students, and centerpieces for Fellowship Hall tables.
- 2025 budget of \$4630-approved.
- The group's guidelines were amended to include that terms end after the January budget meeting and guidelines will be reviewed annually.
- We thank outgoing chair Diane Johnson for her leadership as well as her contributions for reorganizing this group. We welcome Sue Grooters to the role of Vice Chair, replacing Janet Erdman who will become Chair.
- Next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

**Christ Lutheran Church invites
you to share in the joy of our
CLC Card Ministry**



A basket of envelopes has been placed in the Narthex, each envelope contains 1, 3, or 5 congregation members names and addresses. CLC Card Ministry asks that you send a card or a kind note to each person/family in the envelope (boxed Thinking of You cards are available for purchase in the Narthex). Let us reach out with kindness.