Christ's Ambassador

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH Preston, Minnesota





~2025~

Love God, Love People, Follow Jesus

Christ Lutheran Church - Preston, Minnesota

Pastor: Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid **Cell phone:** 507-330-1824

Email: revkris.christlutheranpreston@gmail.com Church Administrator: Amanda Means Office Telephone: (507)765-2161

Church Email: office@christlutheranpreston.org **Website:** www.christlutheranpreston.org

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



"Let's Practice Resurrection!"

Pastor Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid

Christ is risen! Alleluia! We call every Sunday of the year "mini-Easter" as we celebrate resurrection and the living Christ, while the liturgical season of Easter lasts 50 days. This year the last day of Easter, Pentecost Sunday is June 8. During this season, we hear stories of people who directly witnessed the risen Christ, and these scriptures often tell of experiences where people see Christ, but do not fully believe. For early Christians and for us, within the joy and puzzlement the resurrection focuses on hope and new life in our lives. Learning how to recognize God's presence comes with practice.

Have you practiced today? Does this question bring hope to you, or memories of feeling interrupted when you were reminded to practice an instrument, a speech, or a sport? We know the importance of practicing to improve our skills. Just as we spend time practicing skill development, practicing faith helps us know God and recognize God at work in our lives. This Easter season, I invite you to intentionally look for signs of hope and new life in your life by "practicing resurrection." Practicing resurrection by using your five senses is one way to recognize God.

How do you see, hear, taste, touch, and smell God's presence? Take a walk in your neighborhood and notice the new life around you: see the tulips blooming, hear the birds chirping, taste rain drops on your tongue, touch the new life of a baby calf, or smell grass growing. This season brings new life, and it reminds us that resurrection doesn't happen overnight. Life always comes from death.

We are welcoming May; Sunday School and Confirmation are holding end-of-the year parties, and we will soon be celebrating our graduating seniors. As we move into summer ministries, we practice resurrection as we try new and enjoy familiar ministries. Several committees and teams are reforming, and they are bringing hope and new life to Christ Lutheran, too. I invite you to consider how you might share your time and talents with us as our summer unfolds. If we've already started working on something and it looks interesting to you – know that you are welcome to join in helping! If you haven't filled out our Things I Like to Do Survey, please do! It's online at www.christlutheranpreston.org and available in the Narthex.

As Psalm 96 proclaims, "We are God's creation, and we are beautiful - just the way God made us to be." Practice resurrection! Pay attention to God's creation, filled with hope and new life.

Pastor Kris

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

<u>Sunday May 4 - Rogation Sunday Worship -</u>

Pastor Mark Swanson from Growing Hope Globally will provide information on their ministries. Through their unique Growing Project model, U.S. farmers work with their churches and surrounding communities to become part of the solution to end world hunger.





Graduating High School seniors will be celebrated in worship on Sunday, May 18th during the 9am worship service. Christ Crafters will share a personalized blanket with each of them, parents and seniors will receive a blessing and everyone is invited to enjoy coffee and treats following worship. Come and share a prayer as they transition into new adventures. We are excited to extend our congratulations to Laiten Engen, Annika Mensink, Annika Nelson, Nathan Pfremmer, Joey Ristau, Myleigh Scheevel, Landon Sethre, Tyson Sprenger, Jillian Tieskotter, Claytin Wingert, Kiley Wingert, and Delaney Yoder. Watch for "Senior Spotlights" honoring each senior on Facebook and Instagram, too!

BIBLIOPHILOS with Pastor Kris

Where: B&B Bowling Alley

When: Friday, May 23rd, Friday, June 13th,

and Friday, June 27th at 9am



What is bibliophilos? For us, it is a time to gather in God's presence for learning and friendship. In Greek, Biblio is a word-forming element meaning book, or sometimes Bible. Philos is an adjective for beloved, is related to the Greek verb "phileó", and is used to express a type of love characterized by friendship, thus bibliophilos! On these mornings we will "practice resurrection", opening space for hope and new life in our faith journey. On the first Friday, May 23, I will lead a devotion. As we meet, we will discern how to use this time. Come as you are able! Stay as you can! Are you new to Christ Lutheran ministries? Come and see! There is a place for you here. Reach out if you have questions.

Sunday, June 8th, 9:00 am - Pentecost Sunday-Outdoor Worship & Blessing of the Bikes



The Holy Spirit is the living energy of God (which is love) in us. When we love, that's God doing God's thing. On this Pentecost Sunday, come and celebrate the energy of God's love spark a fire in us! Bring/ride your bike for a Blessing of the Bikes. Following worship, we will enjoy Mathison's ice cream and send off youth in grades 7-12, who are biking to the Old Barn for a fun afternoon of swimming (see information in Summer Youth Ministries). BYOC (chair) or there will be folding chairs available.



SUMMER YOUTH MINISTRIES – COME FOR THE FUN – STAY FOR YOUR FAITH!

Fun, faith, friends. This summer we are ALL IN, and the youth team invites you to explore faith and life together. Want to invite a friend? Awesome, they are always welcome. Parental permission is needed for CLC youth and friends.

Information and an online registration will be posted on www.christlutheranpreston.org and our church Facebook page and group.

See you this summer!

- Sunday, June 8th, 9 am, Outdoor Worship with Blessing of the Bikes;
 10 am, Bike/Swim at Old Barn Following worship there will be ice cream for all. Then we will bike ride to Old Barn to swim. Kids are to bring their own sack lunch and water bottle. Lunches and gear will be transported by Pastor Kris in her vehicle. We will bike back to church by 3 pm. Register online, preferably by Friday, June 6. In case of rain alternate indoor activities will be offered.
- Wednesday, July 16th, 7-8:30 pm, Kickball, Conversation, and a
 Campfirel Come and connect with friends. We'll have "Kickball, Conversation,
 and a Campfirel" If it's raining, we will bring the fun inside. If it's really hot,
 we'll cool off with some water games, too! Friends are welcome! Treats s'mores around the campfire. Register online by Wednesday, July 16th
- Sunday, August 10th, 9 am Worship;10 am, Summer Stretch Day of Service and Fun We will stretch our faith with a service project, come back to Christ Lutheran for a meal (provided), and head to Old Barn for river tubing. Adult volunteer drivers are needed. Back by 3 pm Register online, preferably by Friday, August 8 for supplies and meal count. In case of rain alternate indoor activities will be offered.



Dena Mathison, Jessica Bradt and Pastor Kris are planning VBS for this summer. The theme and dates will be announced soon! Do you wish to help with this meaningful ministry? Let Pastor Kris know!

<u>High School Hangtime – May 7th – TO BE</u>
RESHEDULED!!



Hazel Knies

Elsa Bye **Brad Leathers** Jacob Johnson Rosalie Krips Val Christensen Jodi Milne Trochlil Amy Timmerman Jill Miller Pastor Mark Woodward 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 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



The choir will be singing again on June 15th, Father's Day, so please consider joining us...all ages are welcome!!!

Rehearsals begin May 18th at 8:15 a.m. and will continue weekly through June 15th.

May Service Group

Member	E-mail	Phone #	
Jarod & Jonie Keune, Chairpersons	jkeune2010@gmail.com	507-272-4338	
Nick & Kayla Peterson, Chairpersons	peterson.kayla@hotmail.com	507-259-1504	
Kari Bacon	baconkari@gmail.com	507-951-9348	
Gary & Joyce Hellickson	joyce_helli@hotmail.com	507-951-5700	
Matt & Abbey Hellickson	ajhellickson@hotmail.com	507-421-1208	
John Kiehne		507-765-2379	
Susan Kiehne	sjkbb999@gmail.com	507-990-4114	
Kasey & Kayla Koch	kaylabiel2018@gmail.com	507-316-8366	
Jessie LaBonne	jeslabonne@gmail.com	507-226-3195	
Joel & Barb Mielke	barbamielke@gmail.com	651-283-1312	
Aaron & Barbara Nelson	barbara.aaron.04@gmail.com	507-421-1560	
Lyle & Sheryl Schultz		507-867-3442	
Bonnie Tammel	btammel@hotmail.com	507-937-3000	
Eliot & Lisa Tienter		507-251-9857	
Linda Trende	jltrende@gmail.com	507-273-2696	
Richard & Linda Wolfe	lwolfe609@gmail.com	952-807-5214	

Worship Assistants in May

Acolytes

- 4 Harper Pickett/Cooper Holtegaard
- **11** Maggie Wingert/Melony Wingert
- **18** Jackson Fischer/Lexi Engen
- 25 Braelynn Dierkes/Kaylee Hernandez

Computer

- **4** Lily Ledin
- **11** Lilianna Dempewolf
- **18** Turner Sprenger
- **25** Reese Larson

Worship Assistants in May cont....

Lectors

- 4 Michael Johnson
- **11** Bev Olson
- 18 Mary Glaser
- 25 Andy Bunge

Greeters

- 4 Rick & Sue Grooters
- 11 Diane Johnson & Pam Mensink
- 18 Kyle & Amanda Heibel
- 25 Ron Laughlin & Sandy Amundson

Communion Assistants

May 4.....Amanda Heibel/Jen Pickett/Darrel Olson May 18....Susan Hager/Amanda Heibel/Mary Glaser

Ministerial Acts in April

Baptisms

April 6 Isaiah Lawrence Torres, son of Lindsey Larson and Cesar Torres

Hudson Alan Larson, son of Lindsey Larson and Andrew Larson

BUNDLES OF LOVE REMINDER

The Women's Fellowship group continues to collect baby items for Bundles of Love. Be on the lookout for items when you go to garage sales, etc. All collected items will be donated to the local Bundles of Love group in Chatfield. They work with Social Services in Fillmore, Houston, and Winona Counties to distribute bundles where needed. All clothes should be Size Preemie to 6 months. Clothing can be gently used provided it is clean and in like-new condition. They also accept handmade items such as baby quilts, knit or crocheted items (i.e., hats, booties, sweaters). They make many of the items included in the bundles so can also use fabric (cotton, polar fleece, flannel, cotton, cotton blend knit), serger thread, and washable yarn of all weights (no wool/mohair). A complete list of needed items can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office. Donations can be left in the church office. If you would like patterns to make items at home (or if you have questions), contact Diane Johnson at (507)251-6922.





Every night in every home







about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows



for one another's highs and lows



1	Matthew 3:16-17
2	John 3:6-8
3	John 15:1-8
4	Romans 8:26
5	John 14:26
6	Galatians 5:22-23
7	Acts 2:38
8	1 Corinthians 6:19
9	John 14:15-17
10	Isaiah 11:2
11	2 Corinthians 2:13
12	Romans 15:13
13	Acts 10:38
14	Ezekiel 36:26-27
15	Acts 4:31
16	Romans 5:3-5
17	Luke 4:1
18	John 20:21-23
19	Luke 4:18
20	Psalm 51:11
21	Matthew 10:20
22	Job 33:4

23 Ezekiel 37:1-14
24 Acts 2:1-11
25 Romans 8:22-27
26 John 15:26-27
27 John 16:12-15

28 Acts 1:8 29 Acts 19:1-6 30 Galatians 4:6

31 Romans 8:11-17

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Women's Fellowship

The May Women's Fellowship meeting will be held at the church on Wednesday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m. The topic of our conversation will be racism. Please join us!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARYS



5/1 Arnie Benson, Sue Grooters, Dawn Hellickson, Jacob Johnson, Kim

Ristau

5/2 Annika Mensink; Jonathon and Lori Winkels - Anniv.

5/4 Jimmer Harstad

5/5 Kari Broadwater, Emry Peterson; Phil & Vicki Kruegel - Anniv.

5/6 Rusty Schroeder, Tami Sprenger

5/7 Logan Hahn; Joel & Barb Mielke - Anniv.

5/8 Payton Markowski, Madeline Olstad

5/9 Eliot Tienter, Christian Collett

5/10 Paul Johnson, Kevin Every

5/11 Collin Bennett, Susan Pikula, Kim Wingert

5/12 Amy Grabau

5/13 Jenna Pederson

5/14 Erlyn Marzolf, Kade Koch

5/15 Matthew Rowe, Megan Rowe

5/16 Shari Markowski

5/17 Weston Benson, Dilynn Ristau

5/18 Elsa Bye, Glenn Dale

5/20 Dick Irish, Jeff Knies, Marilyn Schreier

5/22 Neil Britton, Stuart Quanrud, Ryan Baker, Jordan Aug

5/23 Helen Haugerud, Haley Ostrom

5/25 Kinley Pederson, Rachel Aug

5/26 Eric Scheevel, Janet Woellert; Joe & Marcia Specht - Anniv.

5/28 Steve Carr, Darla Ebner, Rosalie Krips, Carter Rindels

5/29 Jenna Tieskotter, Linda Wolfe

5/30 Erin Gossman, Brandi Olson, Don Solberg; Gary & Mindy Parker - Anniv.

5/31 Connor Keene, Lydia Scheevel



March Food Share Month Giving Update - Christ Lutheran Church donated 105 pounds of food in March and gave \$3,664.00 in donations, which is matched by the state of Minnesota! What a wonderful demonstration of support for our community. Thank you!



ONE YEAR TO LIVE MEN'S RETREAT

Held at Good Earth Village in collaboration with Lutheran Men in Mission Friday, May 16 - Sunday, May 18, 2025

Registration Cost: \$175 (includes lodging and meals)
Deadline to Register ends Monday, May 12, 2025
https://goodearthvillage.org/oneyeartolive

REGISTER EARLY- SPACE IS LIMITED!

Good Earth Village, in collaboration with Lutheran Men in Mission, is excited to host for the first time on our site, One Year to Live Men's Retreat. It is an Experience that meets men wherever they are in their lives. It can be impactful for the man who thinks he needs it the most, and the man who thinks he needs it the least.

CUMMEDCAMD

Register online now at goodearthvillage.org. or grab a registration form from the narthex. Camp provides a place for youth of all ages to experience the love of Jesus Christ in a natural setting with their peers. It's an experience like no other. Your church family knows that it takes commitment and money to be able to send a child to camp - thanks to some of the groups at Christ Lutheran, your child can have the camp experience that will last them a lifetime for less than 1/2 the cost.

How to register for Summer Camp at Good Earth Village-

- 1) Review the Good Earth Village 2025 registration information sheet (available from Amanda).
- 2) Go to the Good Earth Village website for a complete session description, choose the session/s and register https://goodearthvillage.org
- 3) Enter this summer's code, CLCPRES2025 when registering.
- 4) Do not pay anything online. Pay Christ Lutheran Church the member cost listed on info sheet.
- 5) Christ Lutheran makes one payment to GEV at the end of the summer. THANK YOU!

Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 9, 2025

Meeting Time: 7:15(following Lenten Service) Conference Room

(X) Indicates Present for meeting

Member		Term Complete	Member		Term Complete
Rev. Kris Kincaid	Χ		Melissa Severson	Х	2026
Bruce Hoff	Х	2025	Katie Marzolf-Harstad	Х	2026
Andy Bunge	Х	2025	Dena Mathison	Х	2027
Jennifer Pickett	Х	2026	Amanda Heibel	Х	2027

Devotion Reflection - attend the Lenton Service

Approval of Previous Council Meeting Minutes: emailed out prior to the meeting and in packet.

-Bruce Hoff motioned to approve with the change of "agenda" in the title to "minutes" with a second by Amanda Heibel. All members approve.

Approval of Treasure's Report: emailed out prior to the meeting and highlights in the packet - Katie to highlight any items of interest

- Katie will bring a list of business that are adjusted to automatic bill pay. She will work with Amanda in regard to what bills come in and which can be signed up for automatic payment.
- Graph update for website/bulletin.
- Benevolence/general fund update for finding on the budget report.
- Benevolence: set-up and approved at the annual meeting and comes out of the general fund and posted as benevolence. Craft and Bake Sale: reported in/out of Craft and Bake Sale line.
- Motion to approve the treasures report by Bruce Hoff with the expectation that council members review and present questions prior to the next meeting with a second by Dena Mathison. All members approve.

New Business:

1. Property Committee Recommendation - approve hiring Hebl Cleaning and Restoration to shampoo the carpets in the narthex and coat rooms, the hallways around the sanctuary and the main carpet down the center of the sanctuary. - Cost \$1485. Motion to approve by Bruce Hoff with a second by Amanda Heibel. All members approve.

Old Business:

- 1. Consider/approve Sunday after Christmas off, a potential on going request going forward. Tabled for next meeting after a review of Pastor Kris's contract. Then an amendment to the contract can be considered.
- 2. Looking at new software for the church to use Currently using: Shephard's Staff. Current software can no longer be updated so it would be beneficial to have a new working software. Options: Breeze Church Management and Tithely (there are currently 14 who use Vanco). Breeze Church Management is a database and Tithely is a payment system that will be combined with Breeze. Tabled for next month.
- **3.** First communion- could we expand from "just 5th grade" to 5th grade and anyone that feels ready? Tabled for next month.
- **4.** Permanent name tags Pastor Kris has follow up information

Church 1:

- a. Set up a magnetic board (and 2 baskets on the wall) and set out both clip on and magnetic name tags from amazon.
- b. each week people could reuse nametag and new people could make one.
- c. You just need to keep an eye on the guests and clear those ones out every now and then.

Church 2:

- a. The office makes the nametags and if you want one you write your name on a list.
- b. we also have a spot for guests to make one for the day.
- c. Evangelism Community will discuss at their upcoming meeting and report back to the council. Tabled for next month.

Discussion:

- 1. Calendar review/idea PMC-template did anyone review this. Thoughts on making a Master Calendar to help maintain going forward?
- 2. Updates: confirm that these are happening or do we need to talk about???
- a. Repurposed Kids Bibles -start with a basket with a sign that individuals can look at during church or to take home.
- b. cards for electronic giving for putting in the offering plate and envelopes for those that don't currently have any. -There are now envelopes available for individuals to use for cash offering.
- 3. March 2024 was discussed updating committee descriptions and was not completed.
- a. This should be completed this year, potential restructuring???
- "Faith Formation"
- Add to agenda in May to set a date for a meeting to discuss editing of bylaws and committee descriptions.

Team Meeting Reports Submitted by: Approval of Reports (by consensus)

Education: Dena Mathison **Evangelism:** Amanda Heibel

Worship and Music: Katie Marzolf-Harstad

Property: Bruce Hoff **Stewardship:** Andy Bunge **Youth:** Melissa Severson

Motion to approve committee reports by Bruce Hoff with a second by Melissa Severson. All members approve.

Notations:

1. Next Council Meeting Scheduled: May 14 @ 5:30.

Lightning Round of Celebrations/Prayer Requests

Adjourn - Close with prayer

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Severson.



by Pastor Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid

Thrivent Action Grant

Have you heard of Thrivent Financial? If not, you have seen their generosity enriching and benefiting our congregation and community. Thrivent is a holistic financial services company that puts generosity at the heart of saving and investing.

Thrivent Generosity in Action at CLC

One of Thrivent's streams of generosity is Thrivent Acton Grants. You have witnessed these grants in action at Christ Lutheran in many ministries. You, a family member, or friend may have received a card from someone at Christ Lutheran, 2024 high school graduates got a care package from CLC youth and some elementary school children were given winter clothing or boots. These are a few of the many ways a Thrivent Action Grant has been accessed through members of Christ Lutheran to help us live generously in community. Action grants are made possible when Thrivent clients apply for grants for up to \$250 to host a fundraiser, educational event, or service activity.

Thrivent clients receive grants for up to \$250 to host a fundraiser, educational event or service activity each year.

How does one become a team member?

- Thrivent offers an Associate Membership for \$19.95 per year for people to become members without a relationship to Thrivent life, health or annuity products. These clients may access one Thrivent Action Grant for up to \$250 per year.
- Thrivent Members who have purchased a Thrivent life, health or annuity product may qualify for up to two Thrivent Action Grants, each up to \$250, per year.

Information on how to become a Thrivent member or associate member is listed on their website. www.thrivent.com/ The steps for applying for a grant are simple and the application is online. Your application will briefly describe the scope and mission of your project. In addition to \$250 in seed money, Thrivent offers T-shirts, nametags, thank you cards and other helpful resources.

Long-time Thrivent member Gail Bunge observes, "The impact of generosity is profound. In being generous, we shift away from the mindset of "me" and become a part of something much bigger than ourselves. Each of us can offer generosity of heart, generosity of love, generosity of soul, generosity of spirit. In being generous, we gladly give acts of charity without expecting anything in return. We can offer and share in selflessly giving of our time, our resources, our energy, our skills, our talents, our experience and knowledge." Recently, the financial generosity of Thrivent has provided money for the following ministries at CLC:

- * Hat & Mitten Tree
- * Christmas in Fillmore County
- * Women's Shelter
- * Bundles of Love
- * Vacation Bible School
- * Food Shelf
- * Card Outreach
- * Supplies/Crafts for Christ's Kids
- * Care packages sent to 2024 HS Graduates as they began college or vo-tech
- * 'Warm Clothes For Kids' winter clothing, boots given to local school
- * Child Care Center (supplies, toys, books)
- * Christ Lutheran Craft and Bake Sale
- * Garage Sale Fundraiser
- *Happy Birthday Jesus (cake mix, frosting, candles)
- *Caramel Roll Fundraiser

Bunge also notes, "The power of giving and volunteering are acts of generosity which can help us to build connections, create trust, bonds and relationships. Acts of generosity have the power and ability to transform lives, to make a significant difference. Both the giver and recipient are enriched, often yielding happiness, positivity and a sense of community and hope." As a community, we are called to live our "faith active in love." The legacy of Thrivent's generosity programs lives through the people of God of Christ Lutheran and those for whom we care.

I invite you to look into an associate membership or Thrivent financial product depending on your needs. It is amazing how the Thrivent Action Grant monies allow us to be creative, have fun, and lean into our call to love God and serve others. For more information, you may contact Gail Bunge 507-421-1444 or Carol Solberg 507-421-5901.

We thank Thrivent for their dedication to infusing financial services with generosity. This has been an integral part of the company's 120+ year legacy. In 2024 alone, Thrivent and its clients raised and donated \$331 million through the organization's generosity programs and volunteered 15 million hours toward community service.



MAY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
•	•	•	-	1	2	3
				11:30am Exercise 1pm Christ's Crafters		
4 Rogation Sunday 9am Worship/Communio	5	6	7	8 9am Men's Fellowship	9	10
10am Coffee/Fellowship		11:30am Exercise		11:30am Exercise		
	Carpets being cleaned	6:30pm VBS meetin	g			
11	12	13 9am RR Pastors Con	14	15	16	17
9am Worship	11:30am Exerc			11:30am Exercise 1pm Christ's Crafters		
	5pm Worship Team	6:30pm Stewardship	5:30pm Council			
18 <i>Graduate Recognition</i> 8:15am Choir practice	19	20	21 9am Traditions	22	23 9am Bibliophilos	24
9am Worship/Communior 10am Graduate Reception		11:30am Exercise	10:30am Park Lane	11:30am Exercise	with Pastor Kris @ B&B	
Pasto	r Kris gone at Grief retreat					
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:15am Choir practice 9am Worship	9am Veterans Program -Office Closed-	11:30am Exercise		11:30am Exercise	Synod Assemb	Nathan Pfremmer Grad Party ly in Mankato