

# **Christ the King Lutheran Church**

**New Ulm, Minnesota**



## **2025 Annual Report**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

1515 North Garden  
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(507) 354-4672

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[www.christtheking-newulm.org](http://www.christtheking-newulm.org)

### Ministers

All the baptized members of Christ the King

### Pastor

Timothy Anderson  
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### Finance Manager

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### Education/Youth Coordinator

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### Administrative Assistant

Mary Lammers  
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### Visitation Ministry Coordinator

Helen Christenson  
507-354-2755  
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### Music Coordinator

Connie Jacobs  
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### Choir Director

Anne-Lise Johnson  
507-276-2099  
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### Custodian

Cindy Fahey  
507-626-8360

### 2025 Council Members

**President**—Kurt Johnson **Vice President**—Josh Walth **Secretary**— Amy Johnson  
**Treasurer** – Beth Zambino,  
Pat Novak, Lauren Buckentine, Elmer Rettig, Bill Steinke, Miriam Waldner, Ryan Meyer

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### 2025 Membership Summary

#### Members Received:

By Baptism - 3  
By Transfer - 4  
Affirmation - 0

#### Members Removed:

By Transfer - 4  
By Other – 108

Members Confirmed in 2025 – 13  
Total Membership December 31, 2025 – 711

**Annual Meeting Agenda**  
**January 25, 2026**  
**10:15 a.m.**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Approval of Minutes from January 26, 2025 Annual Meeting
3. Church Council Elections
4. Pastor's Report
5. Staff Reports (printed)
6. Committee Reports (printed)
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Adjourn and Lord's Prayer

Kurt Johnson (President), Josh Walth (Vice President), Amy Johnson (Secretary), Beth Zambino (Treasurer), Miriam Waldner, Ryan Meyer, Bill Steinke, Lauren Buckentine, Pat Novak, Elmer Rettig

Minutes from January 26, 2025

Annual Congregational Meeting

Christ the King Lutheran

New Ulm, MN

Quorum for the meeting (25): 45 people in attendance

Meeting called to order at the end of service by President Kurt Johnson

Opening prayer by Pastor Tim Anderson

Minutes approved from January 28, 2024 annual meeting with a motion by Katherine Davis and seconded by Beth Zambino. Motion carried.

Elections:

Nicole Jorgensen and Patrice Luker have fulfilled their terms on the church council. Bill Steinke moved to elect Miriam Hoffman and Ryan Meyer as new members for the church council and seconded by Pat Novak. Motion carried and Kurt thanked Nicole and Patrice for their service.

Kurt thanked the property committee for their service, acknowledged Geri Groebner for her work with the youth, and thanked Elmer Rettig for taking down the trees. Elmer removed 5 out of 8 trees. Kurt shared that we need volunteers to help make our services run.

Pastor Tim talked about putting a directory together for our church because our current directory is outdated (8 years). Lauren Buckentine has volunteered to put together the directory. Kathy Born asked for cell phone numbers to be shared in the directory. Pastor Tim encouraged people to sign up on the CtK app through Subsplash and shared that services will eventually be streamed through the app.

Staff reports are printed in the bulletin.

Committee reports are printed in the bulletin.

Beth Zambino presented the Treasurer's report. At the end of December, we are at \$21,187 in our checkbook. We currently owe \$165,373.12 in our mortgage. The balances for the other funds will be updated the end of January. Helping Hand distributed \$15,452.48 to families in need this past year. The budget is maintained at \$330,000 with some increases and decreases. There will be a dip in Pastor Tim's medical insurance as he is now eligible for Medicare. A 2.5% increase was given to all staff. Geri's salary was increased as she moved from part time to full time. There were changes in the budget that included decreasing the adult education budget and dropping the coffee and lemonade funds. Thrivent members can use their annual cards to donate to the coffee fund. There was an increase made in the budget for building repairs due to the age of building, including 7 different furnaces (35+ years old). A question was asked about the scholarship fund as the fund gained \$35,000 this year and distributed \$4500 in scholarships. Anna-Lise Johnson explained how the amount is decided through the scholarship committee and then recommended it through the council. She also explained the process of applying for and receiving a scholarship. Carl Zeidler motioned to approve the Treasurer's report and seconded by Bill Steinke.

Old Business—no old business

New Business—Kurt talked about communion as we now offer communion every Sunday and the need for volunteers if we continue to offer it every Sunday. It was recommended that we offer training to do various jobs such as communion and kitchen duties. The families who have had their children assist with offering were acknowledged and it was suggested some volunteers come through confirmation, Sunday School and/or Fellowship Rings. Someone acknowledged the vibrancy of their Fellowship Ring group by gathering together regularly. The food shelf needs volunteers one Wednesday a month. Feedback was asked about how often we do communion—some members requested we do it weekly and others shared how less often makes it less special. Pastor Tim suggested we try weekly communion for a year and then return after a year. Anne-Lisa Johnson made a motion for the council to develop a committee to address the shortages of volunteers and seconded by Duane Witt. Motion carried. Kurt talked about revising the Christ the King constitution to make it align with the synod's and shared that we have a committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 with the Lord's Prayer.

## **A Message from your Council President**

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as your Church Council President this past year.

We have a dedicated group of members serving on the Council, all of whom have the best interest of the Church in mind. 2025 has been a challenging year for the council.

The Property Committee has been particularly busy with trees and landscape issues, painting, and furnaces. Our Sanctuary is 30? years old and continues to have issues needing attention.

In an effort to address a couple of new issues, we formed a Gift Committee and a Constitution Committee. Further on I have added some commentary regarding these two projects. We are also working to re-energize the Scholarship Committee.

We have a great staff! Mary handles the office, Cindy keeps everything clean, Helen cares for the congregation, Geri has really gotten our youth and family ministry going, Connie coordinates quality music and the choir adds so much to worship.

Pastor Tim preaches and teaches and ministers to us with great care and integrity. It has been my pleasure to work with him.

There are two real issues the Council struggles with: the budget and finding volunteers. Christ the King is YOUR Church. Just like your home, you have bills to pay and jobs to do. This is true with our Church. We need your money to pay the bills and your time and talents to do the various jobs. Please give what you can and volunteer if you are able. It is rewarding and often fun! Thank you!

Kurt Johnson  
Council President

## **Gift Policy**

Our congregation is getting older. We are beginning to get gifts from members and their Estates. We have never had a policy or procedure to accept these gifts. The Church Council decided that we needed some written guidelines not only to encourage people to give gifts but how to handle those gifts that Christ the King Lutheran Church receives.

The committee that worked on the policy included Missy Dreckmann, Elmer Rettig, Bob Wise, DuWayne Witt and myself. As a Committee, we met, reviewed other

Congregation's gift guidelines and received a good amount of support from the SWMN Synod. With that information we put together CtK's Gift Policy.

The Church Council reviewed that document and adopted it. You can find the Gift Policy on our website at <https://christtheking-newulm.org/> or find a copy in the Church office. Gifts will be considered by the Gift Committee, and the Committee will determine if the gift will be accepted, and how or when it will be used. For example, members wanted to give trees to replace the trees we had lost to Emerald Ash Borer disease. The Gift Committee, in conjunction with the Property Committee, determined type and placement of those trees. We encourage you to include Christ the King Lutheran Church in your estate plans or give a gift to the Church at any time. We welcome all gifts to Christ the King Lutheran Church to further our Ministry.

## **Constitution Committee**

Christ the King Lutheran Church is a member Congregation of the SW MN Synod of the ELCA. Our constitution needed updating to remain in compliance with ELCA.

A Committee including Wendy Bertrang, Pat Novak, Mike Oetken, Denny Schmidt and myself was formed to accomplish this task. We met on numerous occasions, and talked to Synod representatives who counseled and advised us regarding this work.

We didn't *change* our Constitution. We merely added the clauses adopted at recent Synod Conventions over the last 10 years or more in an effort to bring our Constitution up to date and consistent with the language of the Synod Constitution.

The Church Council has approved the Committee's additions to the Christ the King Lutheran Church Constitution. We now need to have the Christ the King Congregation adopt this revised version of its Constitution.

This document is very long so we did not copy it for all members to review. In the alternative the document can be found and reviewed on the CtK website, <https://christtheking-newulm.org/>. The revisions are indicated in blue colored ink.

We will call a special Congregational meeting to adopt this revised Constitution in a month. In the meantime, you may review the document online and direct your questions to any Committee member.

Kurt Johnson, Council President

# 2025

## Staff Reports



### Pastor Anderson's 2025 Report to the Congregation

We are saying goodbye to 2025 and we enter our 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in 2026. It seems a bit frightening to me that I will have been here for 18 of those years in October. Time flies when you are having fun. We will have much to do to celebrate and work together in this year, but right now we celebrate the year that was and is now behind us.

One of the few members who was part of the original organizational meetings of Christ the King, Paul Wojahn, left us at the end of this year. He loved Christ the King and was one of its biggest boosters. Until late in his life he served us as an usher, choir member and example. Our second oldest member, Roger Cherrinton, also died at 100 this past year; he was active in the church's life and was the one who gave us our railings by the sidewalks. The railings remind us that our gifts and talents are often not obvious, but can serve others even when we are no longer here. I picked them because they were our oldest members but can do so with many both older and younger. The "ownership" of the church is not the pastor's responsibility, but it is yours. You are the church, being built by God, yours is the faith that is being created by God's Word and Spirit. It is my job to encourage you to be the church and serve the world, that is why we gather, so that we don't forget who and whose we are. That is why when you leave you are encouraged to go in peace and serve the Lord. My job is to serve and help you to do this work.

We are served by wonderful office and ministry staff, paid and unpaid.

Youth leader: Geri Groebner

Office manager: Mary Lammers

Financial Secretary: Jen Kapolczynski

Visitation coordinator: Helen Christenson

Music coordinator: Connie Jacobs

Custodian: Cindy Fahey

Choir Director: Anne-Lise Johnson

Volunteers abound at Christ the King as we are thankful for their efforts: Sunday School teachers, office helpers, worship volunteers for reading, serving communion and singing. We also have choir, offering counters, confirmation guides and project group members. The reason we were able to complete our pictorial directory this year was the result of volunteers, like Pam Anderson who took the pictures and several people who helped keep track of picture times and information.

During the past year our council and committees have updated our constitution, our policy manual for both gifts and bequests and our personnel policies. We thank them and their volunteer help for that hidden work as well.

We have had a larger number of people attending Bible Studies and our Helping Hand fund has served many members of the community who were caught up in difficult circumstances. We thank you all for your support and help, for your service and ministry to our community and may you find God's continued blessings in your lives.

I pray that 2026, will be a good year for serving our Lord and celebrating our 45 years as a congregation.

## **Helen Christenson**

### **Visitation Ministry Coordinator**

Thank you to the staff, church council, and you as members and friends of Christ the King for all your support and prayers throughout the year. Your prayers have provided strength for all those who have lost loved ones, are dealing with cancer, and other illnesses. Those who are unemployed, those dealing with mental illness and chemical dependency, and the many needs our members and friends and their families may experience. God continues to guide us in the contacts that are made with you as members and friends of Christ the King for various reasons during the year. Thank you for the privilege to be able to rejoice with you and also share in your sorrow in the ministry of Christ.

The prayer shawls continue to be an instrument inspired through prayer that has given strength to over 300 people in the last eighteen years. Twelve were given out this past year and twelve blessed in worship this year. The pocket prayer squares have been a blessing to those who receive them as well. If you would like a prayer pocket, just stop at the church office or they are in a basket on the welcome table. The prayer shawls and squares are blessed in the worship services when there is a fifth week end of the month and we also have a Healing Service at that time. We especially thank the women who so faithfully meet twice a month at the church, and those who knit or crochet the prayer shawls and squares in their homes. If you know of someone who would be blessed to receive a prayer shawl or prayer pocket just let us know and you can pick one out or have us deliver it. We are very grateful to you who inform us of any needs and hospitalizations. We also appreciate the prayer requests for the prayer chain and worship services.

We have two members, Darrel Wilson and Renee Osberg residing at Oak Hills Living Center along with Carol Green in the Ast Living. Doris Bratsch and Arden Olsen are at Ridgeway on Twenty Third, Ruby Dettman resides at Woodstone Memory Unit, Bonnie Hubert and Gayle O'Connor at Ridgeway on German, and Chalotte Klocke resides at Valley View Nursing Home in Lamberton now. Lisa Turbes is the only one to receive visits at a group home living facility, as well as those who are home bound. Every one of these members receives a personal visit with Holy Communion each month. Many phone calls were made and greeting cards sent for special occasions also the past year. We thank the many members who sent greeting cards and made phone calls during the holidays again this year. This was appreciated by all those on the care list. We always have an updated care list for anyone to send greetings to those members on the list.

Many of my responsibilities involve the Outreach Ministry which includes Hearthstone meals, New Member Orientation, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and the many projects the Project Group has completed this past year. You can read about these ministries in more detail in the Outreach Ministry Annual Report. We thank everyone who donated food to our local food pantry and also for the fourteen Christmas baskets we prepared for members & non members in need. The contributions to the Helping Hand Fund are very much appreciated in the Outreach Ministry of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

The ministry of sending a series of four booklets throughout the year to one hundred and ninety grieving families has also been well received the past twelve years. Eighteen families received these booklets this past year. Twenty one cards were also sent at Christmas this year to these families to let them know we are praying for them at this time. Twenty five cards were sent to those on the care list at Thanksgiving and Christmas as well.

If you have any questions or suggestions about any of these areas please let me know.

May God continue to guide us, bless us with His strength, peace, and love as we abide in Him.

*-Helen Christenson*

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11*



## **Connie Jacobs**

### **Music Coordinator**

#### Music Coordinator's Report 2025 – Connie Jacobs

As Music Coordinator, my primary focus has been to support congregational worship, enhance services through meaningful music and encourage participation from musicians of all ages. Music selections were chosen prayerfully to align with sermon themes, the church calendar, and the spiritual needs of the congregation.

To provide a plan to fill the need for worship accompanists in 2025, the general rotation of accompanists as follows: Connie Jacobs is the accompanist for the first weekend of the month; Jon Thoreson is the accompanist for the second weekend; JoAnn Huss accompanies the third weekend; and Bob Eveslage plus other musicians accompany the fourth Saturday and Connie Jacobs accompanies the fourth Sunday service. When there is a fifth weekend, Connie Jacobs and/or other musicians accompany a healing service. If anyone is interested in joining any of the musical groups either as an accompanist, singer or musician, they may contact any person listed here or the church office at 507-354-4672. We invite and welcome everyone to be a part of providing music for our worship services.

During the Sunday School hour, we have a Music Time for two different age groups: Three year olds, Preschool and Kindergarten classes at 10:30 AM and then a time for the older students, 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades at 10:45 AM. Our Sunday School children sang in worship on Palm Sunday April 13, May 18, and October 12. On Sunday December 14 the Sunday School presented a musical Christmas program – “The Greatest Gift of All.”

The Senior Choir is directed by Anne-Lise Johnson. Connie Jacobs is the accompanist. The choir generally sings in worship on the first and fourth Sundays September through May. The willingness of our choir members to serve in providing anthems at our services has been a blessing to the church community. In 2025, for the Good Friday and Thanksgiving Eve joint services with Our Savior's Lutheran Church, the combined choirs sang anthems at these services. Anyone interested in becoming a choir member would be most welcome and is invited to join. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary at 6:45 to 7:45 PM and 8:30 AM on the Sunday mornings when anthems are sung or at other times as needed.

At Christ the King, there are many varied styles of worship music provided by our musicians and it is our prayer that our music will always give glory and honor to our Lord and provide meaningful worship experiences for our members and visitors. We are grateful for the dedication of all musicians, singers, and volunteers who faithfully served this year. Their commitment and heart for worship have made a meaningful impact on our church.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Connie Jacobs

Music Coordinator

## **Geri Groebner**

### **Youth Coordinator and Sunday School Coordinator**

This year, we continued working to identify ways to grow our youth ministries and are hopeful that we are beginning to establish a new culture at Christ the King. We continue to have Sunday School, Club 1515, youth group and Confirmation youth ministries available to youth. The Youth group occurred throughout Jan.-May of 2025. The youth group is open to youth in 6th grade to high school. We have had an average of 8 kids that come each time. The majority of the youth are 6th graders, but there are a few that are older. We have been having a meal and devotion, service activities, and enjoyed fun fellowship activities. Sunday School continues to be on Sunday for Pre-K-5th grade and the 6th graders met on Wednesday nights for the 2024-25 school year, but has moved back to Sunday mornings for the 2025-26 school year. On Sundays, we have been having a consistent 30 kids attending Sunday School. Club 1515 was offered again this year for kids 3rd-6th grade. We have had an average of 5 kids that have attended each week. During our time together we have a snack, devotion, and then have been working to do more outreach projects in the community. We have been going to Prairie Senior Cottages about 2 times per month to interact with the residents there as well as putting together the Operation Christmas Child boxes and sending cards to homebound members.

Events offered throughout the year:

**January** - Movie Night with 20 kids, youth group with 8 youth,

**February** - Junior High/ High School Lock in, First Communion lessons, Cinnamon Roll Sunday fundraiser and Movie night

**March/April** - Youth group, Palm Sunday Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunts for younger children and families and one for Jr. High youth

**May/June** - Graduation Sunday - we had 14 seniors graduate, Vacation Bible School with 26 children participating and 8-10 youth helpers, Summer Camp with 10 children attending

**July** - Mission Trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin with 8 youth attending and 2 adults chaperones

**August/September** - Blessing of the Backpacks, Mission Trip presentation, Kindness Rock and Roll

**October** - Day Camp with 8 children attending, Pancake Breakfast, Trunk or Treat

**November/December** - Junior High Youth Gathering with 8 youth attending and Christmas Brunch and Christmas Program

I continue to have a Youth Ministry Team that helps me with brainstorming, coordinating, and implementing the activities that we do. The members are Allie Staley, Lauren Buckentine, Anna Fleischmann, Krystle Weymann and Amy Johnson.

-Geri Groebner, Youth Coordinator

# 2025 Committee Reports

## 2025 Worship Committee Report

Worship Committee members are Jon Thoreson, Elmer Rettig, Bonnie Lantz, Anne-Lise Johnson and Connie Jacobs.

The worship committee wishes to report that worship continues to happen at church. We are streaming our services and they are on television, but we love to have you here with us, since church is the people of God gathered around the Word of God and the Sacraments. We want to thank Jon Thoreson, Connie Jacobs, Bob Eveslage and JoAnn Huss for accompanying our services, our singers and Anne-Lise Johnson for taking over the choir as our interim director. The choir is looking for more singers but has been very faithful to their task.

- These are some of things to note for 2025
  - Our Lenten series was based on the a book called Plenty Good Room which introduced us to spirituals of African American slaves as testaments to faith and the difficult trials of life. We sing them as an invaluable gift of faith and witness of those whose lives were lived in suffering and who were often seen as invisible and dispensable. During Lent we hope to hear these songs as a part of our call to repentance and a renewal of our commitment to living in the light of God's kingdom which seeks to create one humanity where we seek to divide.
  - March 16 was the First Communion service for our third graders.
  - For Good Friday services with OSLC were hosted by Christ the King
  - May 18 was the last day of Sunday School and Graduate recognition Sunday for our high school graduates.
  - October 5, we had a Pet Blessing service and the 3 year olds received their Bibles during church
  - October 12 the third graders received their Bibles in our service.
  - Our Confirmation service was October 26
  - A joint service of Thanksgiving was held at OSLC on November 26. The combined choirs presented an anthem.
  - For Christmas Eve worship, we had two services, 4:00 and 8:00.
  - We have a bid on various items but are trying to determine what items are necessary and which are not. Some of the items we thought needed seem to have become less a problem. We hope before the end of next year to be streaming to our website and possibly our church app. At the moment we have one regular helper with streaming, Luke Simonson, any others may talk with Pastor Tim if you can help out.

-This Worship Committee Report was prepared by Pastor Tim Anderson and Connie Jacobs.

## Outreach Ministry Annual Report

***"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power forever and ever Amen." I Pet 4:10,11.***

Thanks go to the members of the Outreach Ministry for their support, guidance, and dedication over the past year with all of the projects. They include Pr. Tim, Lanis Curtis, Miriam Waldner council representative, David Sellnow, Diane Simonson, and Helen Christenson. Also, to all the members who have participated in the following areas of ministry:

**New Member Orientation and Reception:** This year we decided we would accept new members with a brief orientation whenever they are ready to join. We were blessed to receive nine new members in 2025. Please check the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for pictures and names then introduce yourself to make them feel welcome to CTK.

**Caregiving Ministry:**

A new support group was started in March for those who are doing caregiving for family members. It meets the first and third Thursdays at 1:00. Lutheran Social Services leads the third Thursday with discussion on different topics each time. We have had several guest speakers including the funeral home director, a lawyer with so much helpful information, and a representative from Home Health Care. The ministry is open to the community and has been well attended by both members and non members.

There is also a [grieving support group](#) at Christ the King. If you have any questions about the support groups please call the church office, 507-354-4672.

**Hearthstone Ministries:** Eighteen meals were delivered this past year for members recuperating from surgery, have been ill or hospitalized, or families with a new baby. Thank you to all the members who have so willingly delivered these meals the past twenty two years. If you know of someone who would benefit from this ministry please contact me or the church office at 354-4672. Our church is not notified if someone is hospitalized or in need, so please notify us if you know of a need for someone. If you would like to be part of this ministry we would gladly welcome you!

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Thanks to all the loving women who meet the first and third Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the church to knit or crochet the prayer shawls every month. Twelve were blessed in worship this fall. Twelve people were blessed to receive a prayer shawl to give them comfort and strengthen their faith in 2025. The pocket prayer square is another option for people to carry with them for their different needs. Anyone is welcome to join this group for fellowship and prayer while you knit or crochet the shawls or squares. You can also pick up yarn if you would like to do the project at home at your convenience.

**Welcome Table:** Is set up to provide information for members and visitors under the welcome sign next to the water fountain in the narthex. We are always open to suggestions and ideas that we could use in this area.

**Baked Bread in a Jar:** We began this outreach ministry in 2019, offering baked bread in a jar for those visiting Christ the King. Banana, Banana Nut and Zucchini Nut breads have been appreciated by over fifty people worshipping and seeking a new church home in the last six years. If you notice someone in church that you have not seen here before, introduce yourself, see if they are visiting and let me know so we can get bread to the new visitors. If you are interested in helping bake bread please let me know. The mission of the church is to reach others through the gospel, and we are so blessed to have others visit so we can share this saving gospel!

**Holiday Baskets:** Fourteen Holiday Baskets were prepared for members and non-members in need during the holidays and was deeply appreciated by all of them. Thank you to everyone who donated to this project, the Helping Hand Fund, and to the church food pantry throughout the year. When needs arise, lists are posted in the church bulletins and newsletter for items that are needed for the pantry. This ministry is appreciated by many.

**Project Group:** Thanks to the many men and women who volunteered at different times to help complete the many projects during the year. There was an Easter Egg Hunt last spring with over 1000 eggs filled with candy & stickers. The project group decorates the church and takes down the decorations for Christmas. Also, the tables in the fellowship hall are decorated according to the season. This is a big job and we are grateful they are willing to serve in this manner. They help with the upkeep of the twenty five Bible Story Quiet Bags for the worship service. The children use these every week end when we have worship services. The group is always willing to help with the many small projects that need attending during the year. Anyone is welcome to help with these projects and we are always open for new ideas for projects to do.

**Greeting Cards:** Thank you to JoAnn Schmidt and Jane Steinke for sending the greeting cards from Christ the King to those people listed on the prayer chain. Also thank you to all the members who send greeting cards to those on the care list. They are appreciated so much by all those who receive them.

**Grieving Booklets:** "Journeying through Grief" is a set of four short books for grieving people during the first year after the loss of a loved one. The response has been well received from the one hundred and ninety family units that have received these booklets the past twelve years, with twenty families this past year. We appreciate your comments on this ministry.

**Advertisement:** The Outreach Ministry is responsible to update the church brochures that are placed at the Chamber of Commerce. We provide ads in the yellow pages of the telephone book and special ads at Christmas and Easter for The Journal. David Sellnow also writes an inspiring summary of the sermon from the week end worship for the Christ the King Ministry on Face Book. If you have other suggestions to expand this ministry please let us know.

If you have any questions, suggestions, concerns, or would like to join this fulfilling ministry, please contact any of the members of the Outreach Ministry Team. Thank you for your support of prayers.

May God Bless you richly,

- Submitted by Helen Christenson, Outreach and Visitation Coordinator

## **Scholarship**

Scholarship Committee Members: Anne-Lise Johnson, Nicole Jorgensen, Geri Groebner, Laura Gaylord, Amanda Zimanski, Kim Horning, and Dawn and Brian Kloos

We continue to be grateful to the congregation for your continued support of the Douglas G. Larsen Scholarship Fund through your offerings and by attending our fundraisers and donating items to our fundraisers. Because of your generosity, we were able to grant \$500 scholarships to 10 graduating seniors.

The scholarship committee is in need of some revitalization, so a small group of people (current members and founding members of the committee) met to discuss the eligibility criteria of the scholarship as well as the possible increase in the amount given to graduating seniors. We have also been seeking new members of the committee and we have found some members who have expressed interest in participating on the committee.

Changes that are being made to the criteria are highlighted below.

### Criteria

1. The scholarship is for graduating high school seniors that are members of Christ the King Church.
2. An applicant must be a member of Christ the King for the two years prior to application, and has been actively participating in fundraising events throughout their years in high school.
3. Allocation of funds is for the 2nd semester of post-secondary education (college or trade school). The scholarship check will be sent directly to the school. Any exceptions should be discussed with the committee and approved by the committee.

4. Applications will be taken in the winter of each year. Graduating seniors are mailed a letter with an application in December and it will be available online. It is up to the applicant to return the completed application by the appointed deadline.
5. Scholarships will either be \$500 or \$1,000 awarded based on the strength of each applicant's submission and their participation in fundraising events. Applicants are encouraged to participate in a minimum of three fundraising events over the course of their high school years.
6. Funds raised from the Fall Pancake Breakfast, Palm Sunday Breakfast and scholarship bake sale will be put toward the Scholarship Fund.
7. The Scholarship Committee will meet in February to make decisions on the scholarships. (Some Lutheran colleges provide matching funds, so it is important that recipients/schools are notified as early as possible.)
8. A letter will be sent to each recipient notifying them of the amount they will be awarded and when to notify the church office/committee of their 2nd semester registration.
9. The church council will be notified of the scholarship recipients and the total amount of scholarships given.
10. Print the scholarship recipients in the church newsletter after letters have gone out to the recipients.
11. Send a follow-up letter to recipients in November. It is up to the recipient to contact the church office to verify his or her registration for the 2nd semester at the post secondary institution.

We are grateful that we can support our students in this way. We look forward to your continued support of the young people of our congregation and would welcome any new members to our committee. We will plan to meet bi-monthly in order to keep the group functioning well and to help work on the fundraiser planning. Our next event is the Palm Sunday Breakfast on March 29th, 2026.

-Submitted by Geri Groebner

## **Personnel**

The Personnel Committee is comprised of members Pat Novak (Church Council representative), Pastor Tim Anderson, Dennis Carlson, Carl Zeidler, and JoAnn Schmidt.

The Personnel Committee supports the needs of the church staff, participates in the recruitment of personnel when necessary to fill vacancies, develops, maintains, and updates personnel policies and staff job descriptions as required, makes recommendations regarding hiring, discipline, and staff development activities, and makes recommendations to the Church Council regarding compensation and benefits.

In 2025 the Personnel Committee:

- Held staff conversations and made recommendations to the Church Council regarding compensation and benefit recommendations for all staff per the CPI.
- Reviewed the 'Protecting against sexual abuse policy and training' in order to align with the SW Minnesota synod and with the church insurance policy.
- Discussed the church insurance policy which will cover the youth coordinator.

The Personnel Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month as needed.

-Submitted by Joanne Schmidt

## **Property Committee**

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2025:

- Carpet cleaned in the Office/Sunday School wing by R & S Cleaning
- Removed remaining dead ash trees - Elmer Rettig
- 5 new trees planted - by River Creek Nursery
- Painted weathered areas of siding and trim - Glaser Painting
- Replaced 2 - 36 year old furnaces serving the sanctuary - by GSM
- Cleaned out storage shed
- Water damage/Drywall repair in Sunday School wing

Thanks again to Elmer Rettig for removing the ash trees and to Denny and Mary Carlson for their efforts to keep the lawn and garden areas looking good. Thank you to Denny and Joann Schmidt for their work and leadership on the pollinator garden and to Avery Wills and Cindy Fahey for many 'behind the scenes' maintenance projects.

Projects planned for 2026:

1. Ongoing outside trim repair and painting
2. Replace and enlarge back patio
3. Re-stripe parking lot (Increasing handicap parking places)

The committee members are: Du Wayne Witt, Denny Schmidt, Elmer Rettig, Dennis Carlson, Avery Wills, Ryan Meyer and Bill Steinke. Custodian is Cindy Fahey. The property committee is an active and efficient committee and we welcome and encourage additional members who have an interest in the care and maintenance of the church property. We meet every other month on the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30pm.

Submitted by Bill Steinke  
Property Committee Chair

## **Finance**

Members: Bob Wise – Council Representative - Lauren Buckentine -- Church Treasurer - Beth Zambino and Finance Secretary -- Jennifer Kapolczynski

The Finance Committee meets monthly to review and audit the church financial summary of accounts, account balances and transactions. It also tracks our church giving in comparison to budget projections and historical trends, as well as assisting in preparation of the annual budget.

The treasurer audits all monthly expenditures, attends church council meeting to present monthly financial reports and attends the annual meeting to review annual financial reports and present the annual proposed budget.

The Finance Committee meets prior to the church council meeting on the third Tuesday of each month. New members are welcome and should contact the church office if interested in participating.

-Submitted by Beth Zambino

## **Youth Committee**

The youth committee continues to meet on the first Monday of each month at 5 pm. Committee members are Geri Groebner, Lauren Buckentine, Krystle Weymann, Anna Fleischmann, Allie Staley and Amy Johnson (council representative). The committee supports Geri in her role as the education and youth coordinator as she provides quality programming for the youth and family of our church. Please refer to Geri's report of the events, activities, educational opportunities and ministries that have been offered to youth throughout 2025.

The youth committee has continued to focus on bridging generations to create and maintain connections between generations. Youth are sustained spiritually when they feel welcome, supported, guided and a part of the congregational community. An Easter egg hunt along with activities was held in April and well attended with children, parents and grandparents. Sunday School kicked off with a Kindness Rocks! activity where members of all ages could paint rocks with positive messages to be distributed in the community. In December, Glory and Goodies highlighted a brunch potluck along with family crafts and music. Events are already being planned for 2026 and any new (or old) ideas are welcome.

-Submitted by Amy Johnson



# 2025

## Financial Report

### General Checking

Beginning Balance 1/1/25	\$21,187.17
Deposits	\$416,627.65
Payments	\$434,761.27
Ending Balance 12/31/25	\$3,053.55

### Building Loan

Beginning Balance 1/1/25	\$165,525.29
Principal paid	\$19,830.99
Ending Balance 12/31/25	\$145,694.30
Interest Paid	\$6,353.01
Monthly Payments - Scheduled (4.1%, 10-year, Maturity Date 5/15/2032)	\$2,182.00

Other Accounts		Balance as of	Balance as of
Account Name	Type	1/1/2025	12/31/2025
CtK CD	CD	\$20,468.71	\$21,528.60
Compaion Savings	Savings	\$10,386.93	\$5,756.90
CtK Building	Investment	\$15,103.63	\$15,179.18
Contingency	Investment	\$26,556.28	\$26,715.52
CtK Helping Hand Fund	Checking	\$9,325.32	\$7,982.59
CtK Kitchen	Checking	\$298.99	\$298.99
CtK Kitchen	Savings	\$5,277.87	\$5,056.32
Ministry Leadership	Investment	\$13,288.15	\$13,341.27
CtK Scholarship	Investment	\$163,213.70	\$195,269.97
Ann Sundell-Baker	Investment	\$14,462.14	\$14,504.11

# Christ the King Lutheran Church

## 2025 Income & Expense

### 2026 Budget

General Income	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
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General		\$296,205.29	
Charitable Accounts		\$57,872.11	
Grain Donations		\$11,712.92	
Benevolence		\$6,625.33	
Building		\$5,807.34	
Interest		\$1.62	
<b>Total General Income</b>	<b>\$330,000.00</b>	<b>\$378,224.61</b>	<b>\$350,000.00</b>

Our World Mission	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
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SW Synod	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$26,600.00
Congregational Benevolence	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$4,000.00
Lutheran Social Service	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,750.00
Green Lake Ministries	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,750.00
Synod Assembly Offering	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
<b>Total World Mission</b>	<b>\$33,500.00</b>	<b>\$33,500.00</b>	<b>\$35,500.00</b>

Our Staff Ministry	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
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#### PASTORAL STAFF

##### Pastor Tim Anderson

Salary	\$57,765.12	\$57,765.12	\$59,209.24
Paid Family Leave			\$130.26
Housing	\$26,282.80	\$26,282.85	\$26,939.87
Social Security Allowance	\$6,429.67	\$6,429.64	\$6,590.41
Pension	\$9,047.76	\$9,463.38	\$9,273.95

Med/Dental	\$12,893.36	\$12,393.14	\$12,230.40
Book & Continuing Education	\$1,200.00	\$1,420.49	\$1,200.00
Professional Fund	\$900.00	\$585.23	\$900.00
Mileage Reimbursement	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<b>\$114,818.71</b>	<b>\$114,339.85</b>	<b>\$116,474.13</b>

## PROGRAM STAFF

### EducationYouth Coordinator - Geri Groebner (35 Hours)

Salary	\$36,947.56	\$26,005.08	\$33,131.28
Social Security	\$2,826.49	\$2,670.28	\$2,534.54
Retirement Benefit	\$2,216.85	\$1,987.31	\$1,987.88
Med/Dental	\$11,291.76	\$11,028.67	\$10,728.00
Paid Family Leave			\$72.89
Continuing Education	\$500.00	\$71.72	\$300.00
Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Mileage	\$300.00	\$317.10	\$0.00
<b>Total Youth Coordinator</b>	<b>\$54,282.66</b>	<b>\$42,080.16</b>	<b>\$49,054.59</b>

## SUPPORT STAFF

### Finance Manager -Jennifer Kapolczynski (10 hours)

Salary	\$12,037.27	\$9,418.37	\$10,281.84
Paid Family Leave			\$22.62
Social Security	\$920.85	\$703.74	\$786.56
<b>Total Finance &amp; Office Manager</b>	<b>\$12,958.12</b>	<b>\$10,122.11</b>	<b>\$11,091.02</b>

### Communication Secretary - Mary Lammers (36 Hours)

Salary	\$38,107.37	\$38,276.80	\$39,060.05
Paid Family Leave			\$85.93
Social Security	\$2,915.21	\$2,924.81	\$2,988.09
<b>Total Communication Secretary</b>	<b>\$41,022.58</b>	<b>\$41,201.61</b>	<b>\$42,134.07</b>

### Visitation Coordinator - Helen Christenson (10.5 Hours)

Salary	\$9,200.65	\$12,241.56	\$9,430.10
Social Security	\$703.85	\$954.07	\$721.40
Paid Family Leave			\$20.75
Mileage	\$200.00	\$484.54	\$0.00
<b>Total Visitation Coordinator</b>	<b>\$10,104.50</b>	<b>\$13,680.17</b>	<b>\$10,172.25</b>

**Music Coordinator - Connie Jacobs (9 Hours)**

Salary	\$7,146.46	\$8,997.12	\$8,240.77
Paid Family Leave			\$18.13
Social Security	\$546.70	\$719.16	\$630.42
<b>Total Music Coordinator</b>	<b>\$7,693.16</b>	<b>\$9,716.28</b>	<b>\$8,889.32</b>

**Choir Coordinator - (48 Rehearsals & Services)**

Salary	\$7,724.40	\$6,759.06	\$7,917.76
Paid Family Leave			\$17.42
Social Security	\$590.92	\$478.93	\$605.71
<b>Total Choir Coordinator</b>	<b>\$8,315.32</b>	<b>\$7,237.99</b>	<b>\$8,540.89</b>

**Custodian - Cindy Fahey (6 Hours)**

Salary	\$6,720.06	\$3,548.98	\$5,166.05
Paid Family Leave			\$11.37
Social Security	\$514.08	\$279.98	\$395.20
<b>Total Custodian</b>	<b>\$7,234.14</b>	<b>\$3,828.96</b>	<b>\$5,572.62</b>

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Conferences & Travel	\$300.00	\$72.60	\$300.00
Workers Compensation	\$1,300.00	\$1,260.74	\$1,300.00
Staff Mileage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Supply Pastors	\$1,200.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,200.00
Synod Assembly	\$725.00	\$0.00	\$725.00
Marriage Preparation	\$300.00	\$188.78	\$200.00
<b>Total Staff Support</b>	<b>\$3,825.00</b>	<b>\$3,322.12</b>	<b>\$4,625.00</b>

**Total Our Staff Ministry**

<b>\$260,254.19</b>	<b>\$245,529.25</b>	<b>\$256,553.89</b>
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<b>Our Worship &amp; Service</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>2025 Actual</b>	<b>2026 Budget</b>
<b>Worship</b>			
Supplies	\$1,750.00	\$2,523.24	\$1,750.00
Licensing Fees	\$1,200.00	\$1,982.96	\$1,650.00
Choral Music	\$300.00	\$596.94	\$300.00
Music Library	\$300.00	\$427.00	\$300.00
Banner	\$200.00	\$187.46	\$200.00
Devotional Booklets	\$300.00	\$361.40	\$300.00
Musical Maintenance	\$500.00	\$269.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>\$4,550.00</b>	<b>\$6,348.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>

**Education Ministries**

Sunday School	\$2,000.00	\$1,801.73	\$2,000.00
Confirmation	\$800.00	\$632.63	\$500.00
Adult Education	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Bibles	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00

<b>Total Education Ministries</b>	<b>\$3,650.00</b>	<b>\$2,734.36</b>	<b>\$3,350.00</b>
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**Office**

Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$3,594.40	\$3,000.00
SubSplash	\$4,000.00	\$2,858.68	\$4,000.00
Postage-Bulk	\$1,500.00	\$1,174.00	\$1,500.00
Postage-Stamps	\$750.00	\$477.99	\$600.00
Telephone/Internet	\$4,400.00	\$5,046.34	\$5,000.00
Office Machines	\$1,400.00		
Maintenance		\$1,651.53	\$1,700.00
Software Updates	\$1,950.00	\$1,537.80	\$1,500.00
Cell Phone	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

<b>Total Office</b>	<b>\$18,000.00</b>	<b>\$17,340.74</b>	<b>\$18,300.00</b>
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**Outreach Committee**

Outreach Misc.	\$200.00	\$187.54	\$200.00
Advertising	\$600.00	\$276.00	\$300.00

<b>Total Outreach</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>\$463.54</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
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**Stewardship**

Offering Envelopes	\$300.00	\$291.08	\$300.00
ACH Expense	\$1,000.00	\$865.35	\$1,000.00

<b>Total Stewardship</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>	<b>\$1,156.43</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>
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<b>Total Worship &amp; Service</b>	<b>\$28,300.00</b>	<b>\$28,043.07</b>	<b>\$28,450.00</b>
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<b>Our Church Home</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>2025 Actual</b>	<b>2026 Budget</b>
Mortgage	\$26,184.00	\$26,184.00	\$26,184.00
Utilities	\$11,500.00	\$10,031.22	\$10,000.00
Kitchen Supplies	\$600.00	\$467.65	\$600.00
Insurance	\$11,900.00	\$12,269.00	\$14,200.00
Building/Grounds Maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$12,122.52	\$10,000.00
Lawn Care	\$1,500.00	\$3,599.73	\$1,500.00
Snow Removal	\$5,000.00	\$2,400.29	\$5,000.00

Cleaning Supplies	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Sanitation	\$960.00	\$925.96	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Church Home</b>	<b>\$67,744.00</b>	<b>\$68,000.37</b>	<b>\$68,584.00</b>
<b>Total Expense Funds</b>	<b>\$389,798.19</b>	<b>\$375,072.69</b>	<b>\$389,087.89</b>
<b>Net Income/Expense</b>	<b>-\$59,798.19</b>	<b>\$3,151.92</b>	<b>-\$39,087.89</b>