



“It is comfort to know that the Lord remembers, cherishes but also purifies our labor to his glory, woven for human good into the fabric things.”

Paul Hinlicky, retired professor of theology at Roanoke College

³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

*“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.*

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. Acts 8:30-40

What is the job of the church? Is it to get a little religion into people? Is it to work with God to transform the world and bring God's justice into the world? Is it to get people in the pews? Is it to save people? Or is it to be clever, innovative and make the church palatable to those who don't believe? The purpose of the church is to bear witness to Jesus Christ and to watch for God's answer to the world.

For too long the church, maybe because of its cultural strength, has found all kinds of avenues to attempt to influence the world and try to make the world Christian. The problem with such activity is that it doesn't make the world Christian and more often than not makes the church less the church and more of the world. We want – as church giving experts put it – to leave a lasting legacy. This is the danger of the church trying to chase after a culture that seems more and more to be getting on just fine without the church. Maybe it is good for the church and a proper judgment on us that more people are finally answering the question “What good is the church?”, with their feet and presence.

The church is not an institution, it is God's presence in the world and that presence is rejected and cut off from the future except by the act of God in Jesus Christ, to which we hold by faith and live in love. *God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world.* ¹ 1 John 4:16-

The world doesn't know this, the world doesn't believe it, because the world doesn't know Jesus Christ, cut off from the living, but raised from the dead. The world chases after its own versions of salvation, creating a legacy a form of "false immortality." Mark Judge writes: There's only one problem: Without God, these modern mystics are not only going to come up short, but may wind up in a bad place. Root preaches that the healthiest kind of mysticism is that preached by Martin Luther, who argued that we need God to truly deliver us from ourselves and permanently heal our sins. (By Mark Judge Published on March 15, 2024, Christian Mysticism Keeps Us Sane ; <https://stream.org/christian-mysticism-keeps-us-sane/>)

Our human problem is that we want to "leave our mark" or "[secure] a false immortality to want to leave behind an enduring legacy in honor of one's memory." *It is a human temptation which is part of what the Ethiopian eunuch seems to be wrestling. It is ultimately self-defeating. This man is literally "cut off" from securing the legacy of descendants, he looks at his service in the court of a queen as the erasure of his identity and passing on a legacy. So he asks Philip who it might be that Isaiah is speaking in the chapter 53:*

*⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.
¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.*

The church's foundation and hope is the one who was cut off and is left the tomb behind, for the Lord prospers his servant and has raised him from the death. This is the promise by which we live and to which we witness. In the world we are optimists, but optimists don't really know why they think as they do. We have a real hope and *"Hope trusts in the promises of God. Hope seeks the action of God that brings forth a new reality. Optimism stands in the current reality, wishing to make the best of each individual experience. But hope stands knee deep in the history of this reality by yearning for the action of God to bring forth a new reality in which everything in this reality is reconciled and redeemed."* — Andrew Root

“The real crisis is encountering a living God who is God. This waiting even sends the church into the world to wait with the world for God's action to save the world. *This crisis gives life.*” (Andrew Root) That is what Philip taught the eunuch and what created the desire to be baptized. God's Spirit brought to life a hope that overcame his inability to create a living legacy. Instead he received a life that cannot die and a hope that cannot be conquered.



Worship Notes for April

April 7 – Second Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1--2:2; John 20:19-31

Theme: John wrote: “We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life...” The witness of the apostles was strong enough to sustain them and bind them together even in the face of persecution and death. Their witness reminds us of the firm that which our faith and life stands as well.

April 14 – Third Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4:1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

Theme: “Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.” We are spiritual beings, made to be like God. Jesus has now made it possible to be what God intended from the beginning. In the present time we strive to live already in that hope that God will accomplish this in us.

April 21 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

Theme: We come to know love through what Jesus Christ has done. Love’s primary definition is that Jesus laid down his life for us and therefore we ought to lay down our lives for one another. This is what it means to be a member of the church and the new humanity that Jesus promises to create. Such love is the sign of his dwelling among us.

April 28 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

Theme: We are slowly leaving behind a time when we could assume that the church would survive and be renewed by having children. It is no longer true and we ought to once again take up the calling of being witnesses. Like Philip, we are called to witness to the new people gathered in Christ, not by birth, but by the new birth of God’s Word and Holy Spirit.

Adult Education

- **Women’s Bible study will resume on April 22**
 - We begin a study of **1 Samuel** on Mondays at 3:00 p.m.
- **Men’s Bible Study**
- **Luther’s Catechism and its Foundation in the Bible**
 - **On Saturdays at 8:00 a.m.**, we continue our study of **Luther’s Catechism with Explanation from Scripture**. Come and join us in seeking to understand the Christian faith through its Lutheran expression in Luther’s Small Catechism.
- **Chosen Study on 2nd Monday at 5:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday Adult Bible Studies during Sunday School**
 - We continue to meet and discuss the lectionary lessons for each Sunday.

Confirmation and 6th Grade Classes Resume Wednesday, April 3rd

Wednesday classes resume on April 3rd. We will have class on the 3rd, 10th and 24th (more a party than a class, but please come anyway).

Grief Support Organizational Meeting, Sunday, April 28 following Church Service

We have not had a grief support group here for quite a while, but it was requested that we might begin one. Toward that end, we will have a brief interest and organizational meeting on Sunday, April 28th, following the morning worship service, for anyone who might be interested in participating. Part of the meeting will be to determine when and how frequently to meet, so if you have some interest, it is important for you to connect early in the process. If you cannot come, please contact the church office or speak with Pastor Anderson about it.



Yvonne Meyer

Thank you for all the prayers during the time in the hospital and Oak Hills. Your calls, greeting cards, and concerns were very much appreciated. Also, thanks for the poinsettia and Easter lilies that brighten my days.

From the Beltz and Foster Families
Thank you for all the kind words, thoughts, gifts and support. It is truly appreciated during this time.

Thanks from Elyse Dreckman
For granting the money from the scholarship fund that I can use toward college. This means a lot because it can help me in the future.

From Lydia King
Thanks for the Scholarship gift! It will be used toward my college journey with MSU! I plan to participate in the Dental Hygiene Program.

Thank You... to all those who adorned the altar with lilies and other plants, and to those who helped tend to them!

Thank You to all the musicians, soloists, and the choir for the extra beautiful music prepared for the services during Lent season and for Holy Week. It added so much to the worship experience! It always does.

Thanks to the Project Group for filling over 1600 plastic eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt!
Thanks also to all those who donated the candy and toys and stickers to fill the eggs!

THANK YOU SO MUCH

To those who provided the delicious meals during Lent:

The Confirmation Classes and the Church Council

To those who showered members with Easter cards... Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who donated food or came to support the Douglas G. Larsen Scholarship Breakfast Fundraiser on Palm Sunday. Thanks to the students who volunteered to help prepare and serve the meal, and thanks to all the Committee members who helped with the planning, preparation, serving and clean-up.
Thanks so much to everyone!

Thanks to the David Arnoldt Family for their generous memorial contribution in honor of Tim Arnoldt.

Special thanks to those members who volunteer to help out with funeral services held here at the Church, chiefly by setting up the Fellowship Hall, serving food and drinks, and cleaning the area afterwards. It is so greatly appreciated! Anyone who would like to volunteer to help with funerals should contact the office.

In our
thoughts
and
prayers



The Arnoldt Family on the passing of Tim Arnoldt

*Anne-lise and Kurt Johnson on the passing of her mother,
Helen Hustad*

*The Foster and Beltz Families, and Sally Jennings and
Brad Jorgenson and Family on the loss of Sally Foster*

Eric Madsen as he goes through cancer treatment

Yvonne Meyer as she is recovering from illness

Carl Zeidler's sister, Becky, who is in hospice

JoAnn Huss on recovering from a fall

*Mary Andrews, Todd and Pam Andrews, and Family upon the passing of Robbie
Andrews*

Viktoría Davis as she recovers from an injury

Peg Isaacson as she continues to have chemo therapy

Let us all join in prayer and congratulations for our special *First
Communion* children: Jace, Chloe, Addison, and Jacie, and also for Bennett
Mielke upon his baptism.

Stampin' Up Cardmaking event will be held **Saturday, April 27th** from 10-noon. Sharon Brennan will be showing us how to assemble beautiful cards from Stampin' Up kits, just in time for Mother's Day! Come and enjoy some fellowship with others, make some beautiful cards! Free will offering will go toward Youth Gathering. RSVP by April 10th.



Don't forget that there are greeting cards for sale in the Narthex on the revolving racks. Every occasion from birthday's to get well, to sympathy, and thank you's! They are very reasonably priced and also there are some boxed sets for sale. Proceeds from the sale of cards go toward funding Youth Activities. Thanks for your support!



Thanks to everyone who has donated food for the Little Pantry! We continue to be a welcome service for those in need. Supplies continue to run low so any food donations, as well as diapers and paper goods, are gratefully appreciated!



Pantry Items Needed

Macaroni and Cheese
Pasta, Tuna & Cream of Mushroom Soup
Pasta & Spaghetti Sauce
Canned vegetables
Canned fruit
Canned pasta such as Ravioli or Spaghetti Os
Boxed meals such as Tuna Helper, can of tuna
Cake Mixes
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Cereal
Baby Food
Toilet paper
Paper towels
Cleaning supplies
Personal Hygiene products
Diapers & Wipes

Stewardship Creed

I believe in the gifts of God and feel gratitude for all I have been given,

These gifts are not mine to have, but mine to share.

When they are shared, my gifts will make a difference for others. And I believe the act of giving is more important than the gift itself. I will make giving a priority.

I will give to others because so much of what I have comes from others.

I will give of who I am, what I do, and what I have.

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving! It's Easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis. Authorization forms can be picked up in the office or found on Christ the King's Website - www.christtheking-newulm.org under forms.

Youth News



- April 8 - Youth Ministry Meeting 5:00pm
- April 13 – Spring Clean Up
- April 20 - Spring Fever
- May 19 – Senior Recognition, Last day of Sunday School

There will be NO Club 1515 meeting on April 17th.

Club 1515 is open to youth in 3rd-5th grade. We meet from 3:30-5:00 on Wednesdays throughout the year. There will be snacks provided, a short lesson, and games and activities. Kids shuttle over to Washington School and we walk up to church. Come and check it out!

Spring Fever at Green Lake Bible Camp Saturday, April 20th - \$40.00 Come out and spend a day learning what camp is all about! Check with Geri if you want to go.

Want to support the youth that are planning to attend the Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer? Currently there are 2 opportunities for you to do this but watch for more in the future.

*On April 13th- They will be available to help with any **Spring Clean Up** that you need done. There will be a sign up on the Youth bulletin board in the fellowship hall.*

On the youth bulletin board in the fellowship hall, there are many envelopes with various amounts on them that represent items that you can help out with. Feel free to take an envelope that matches your donation, and you can either put it in the offering plate during church or give it to Geri Groebner.

Thanks, as always, to everyone for your support!

**Congratulations to the 2024 Douglas E. Larsen
Scholarship Award Recipients**

Cohen Carpenter	SDSU or MSU, Criminal Justice and Criminology
Elyse Dreckman	Undecided (Southeast Technical College), Early Childhood Education
Noah Engel	Rochester Community & Tech, Business/Marketing
Jayda Goold	MSU, Marketing
Dominick Kamrath	Buena Vista University, Finance
Lydia King	MSU or U of M, Dental Hygienist
Joey Kotten	UW-River Falls, Finance
Kaden Larson	RCTC or South Central College, Undecided
Tallak Rakowski	Utah State University or Colorado Mesa University, Business Proprietorship



Recognition of 2024 Graduates at Christ the King

Each year we try to give recognition to those who are graduating from high school, with a display of senior pictures and some information about your plans. We want to invite you to attend worship on **May 19th** for the service of blessing for you and your classmates. You will be asked to process with Pastor Tim at the beginning of the service and participate in the blessing service, after this you will be able to sit with your family. Another part of that recognition is to have a display of pictures and plans that you may have in the coming year. **We would love to have you bring a senior picture for our display. We will send a letter in mid-April with this information and provide a sheet for you to write your plans. Please bring these items to the office so that we can prepare the display for the congregation to see. The deadline for the display items is May 12th** so that we have time to put the display together. Even if you cannot make the day, we would love to remember you in the display.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Easter Monday Office Closed	2 9:00am Staff Mtg 10:00am Worship TV Public Access 3:45pm Personnel Comm	3 5:00pm Worship TV Public Access 6:00pm Conf Meal 6:30pm Conf Class 6:45pm Choir	4 6:30pm Girl Scouts	5	6 8:00am Men's Bible Study 5:33pm Worship
7 9am Worship & FB Live	8 1:30pm Parkinson's 5:00pm Youth Ministry Mtg 5:30pm Renewal Group 7:00pm Women of Today	9 9:00am Staff Mtg 10:00am Worship TV Public Access 4:30pm United Players 5:30 New member Orientation	10 5:00pm Worship TV Public Access 6:00pm Conf Meal 6:30pm Conf Class 6:45pm Choir	11	12	13 9:00am League of Women Voters 1:00pm Piano Recital 5:33pm Worship
14 9am Worship & FB Live	15 1:30pm Prayer Shawl	16 9:00am Staff Mtg 10:00am Worship TV Public Access 6:15pm Finance Comm Mtg 6:30pm Church Council Mtg	17 4:00 Oak Hills Worship 5:00pm Worship TV Public Access 6:00pm Conf Meal 6:30pm Conf Class 6:45pm Choir	18 6:30pm Girl Scouts	19	20 8:00am Men's Bible Study 5:33pm Worship 6:30pm New Member Reception
21 9am Worship & FB Live 10:00am New Member Reception	22 3:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Adoption Mtg	23 9:00am Staff Mtg 10:00am Worship TV Public Access	24 5:00pm Worship TV Public Access 6:00pm Conf Meal 6:30pm Conf Class 6:45pm Choir	25	26 6:00pm Women of Today Painting Event	27 8:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Stampin' Up 12:00pm B'day Party 5:33pm Worship
28 9am Worship & FB Live	29 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	30 9:00am Staff Mtg 10:00am Worship TV Public Access				



CtK's Helping Hands Fund

For February

Given - \$ 756.10
Utilities - \$ 177.00
Housing - \$1,085.36
Gas Cards - \$ 0.00
Groceries - \$ 0.00
Car Repairs - \$ 700 .00

Financial Report for February

Given - \$22,528.00
Budgeted - \$30,320.06
Given YTD - \$ 46,886.57
Budgeted YTD - \$ 57,721.38

Christ the King Council Members

President:
Kurt Johnson

Vice President:
Josh Walthe

Secretary:
Patrice Luker

Treasurer:
Beth Zambino

Members:
Ron Fleischmann
Amy Johnson
Elmer Rettig
Bill Steinke
Nicole Jorgenson
Pat Novak
Lauren Buckentine

Staff

Pastor
Timothy Anderson

Finance Manager:
Jen Kapolczynski

**Administrative
Assistant:**
Mary Lammers

**Visitation Ministry
Coordinator:**
Helen Christenson

**Youth Education
& Youth Ministry
Coordinator:**
Geri Groebner

Custodian:
Cindy Fahey

**Music
Coordinator:**
Connie Jacobs

Choir Director:
Anne-Lise Johnson
(interim)

CtK's Council Minutes

Meeting – February 20, 2024

Mission Statement of our Congregation: “A Family of Christians welcoming all as we journey with God to teach, love, and serve others.”

Highlights from past month – Annual meeting had good attendance. We had day camp in January and February. Camp visit from Green Lake/cinnamon rolls. The family tubing outing went well with good weather. Spaghetti dinner was held the beginning of February.

Pastor's Report:

- **Subsplash:** We are moving ahead slowly with the uploading and transfer of information with the new company. The app is ready and you can actually find it on Google Play and Apple's app store. Use 'Christ the King New Ulm' to search for the app. The app has a lot of features that will improve communication and streamline giving.
- **Lent:** Lent started on Ash Wednesday. The theme will be “Messy Discipleship,” using the life of Jacob as the basis for the theme. We will have help from confirmation groups. We are just beginning services and meals

Youth Ministry Report: Geri Groebner--The spaghetti dinner went well and we made almost \$600. Cinnamon Roll Sunday brought in around \$500. We will have around 12 kids that will be going to Green Lake for camp this summer. We have 3 high school students that will be going to the youth convention in July. The Easter egg hunt will be March 30th.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee – Bill Steinke –Still waiting to get the front doors installed.

Personnel Committee – Pat Novak—Working on updating the handbook.

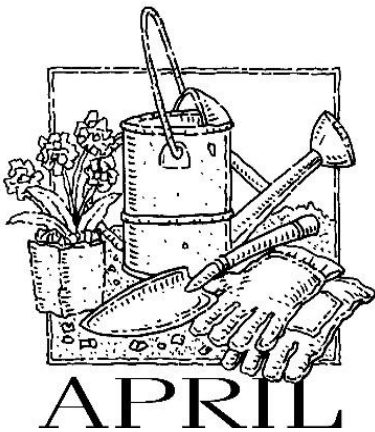
Scholarship Committee – Nicole Jorgensen—Palm Sunday breakfast is March 24th

Outreach/Social Ministry Committee – Ron Fleischmann—Going to meet this month and will talk about ways to get people involved in worship.

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***Christ the King
Lutheran Church***
1515 North Garden Street
New Ulm, MN 56073

Return Service Requested



April 2024

Worship Services ***Streamed on
Facebook Live
and
Saturday Available on
5:33pm Public Access
Television***
Sunday 9:00am ***Tuesdays 10am
Wednesdays
5pm***



**"A Family of
Christians
welcoming
as we journey with
God
to teach, love,
and serve others."**