



**Christ the King
Lutheran Church**
"Where We Are
About God's Grace
For God's People"

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We encourage you to read through this newsletter and get caught up on the happenings at Christ the King. Check out how we will proceed to begin worshiping safely. Looking forward to being together again.

The King's Herald

August 2020

Great News! Worship Begins Sunday, Aug. 9th

After a time of prayer, planning and preparation, Christ the King Lutheran Church will again begin on-site church services. Services will begin Sunday, August 9th at 10:30 a.m. You are encouraged to attend but, certainly, do not feel obligated to attend. Various churches, including Lutheran churches, have radio and on-line services that you can utilize until you feel safe to attend services again at Christ the King.

The Church Council has approved the following opening schedule along with the safety re-open guidelines which are included with this newsletter. The council has decided to begin with one weekend service led by lay individuals for the first two weeks and follow up on the third weekend with clergy led services including Holy Communion on Saturday and Sunday.

Times and Schedules—August 2020:

Sunday, August 9—10:30 a.m. service led by Roland Jacobson/no communion

Saturday/Sunday, August 15/16—5:00 p.m. & 10:30 a.m. service lay led/no communion

Saturday/Sunday, August 22/23—Communion services at their normal times

Saturday/Sunday, August 29/30—Communion services at their normal times

Please call the office if you have any questions regarding the times/schedule for church services. Thank you for your patience during the past six months and for all of your prayers and support given to Christ the King. Also, read the guidelines for re-opening which are included with this newsletter and note that masks and social distancing are required.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear People of Christ the King Lutheran Church,

The relationship between a pastor and the congregation is often described as a partnership, even a marriage. The health of the partnership, particularly between the pastor and the council, who acts on behalf of the congregation, is important to the health and well-being of all.

For the past several weeks, both pastor and council have been in consultation with Bishop Katherine Finegan and Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Jim Duehring. Both pastor and council have strived to do what is best for the congregation of Christ the King and for Pastor Bethany. However, it has become clear to both pastor and council that this partnership is not working as all had hoped it would.

It is with deep regret that Pastor Bethany Rutten-Kempees and the Council of Christ the King announce the end of Pastor Rutten-Kempees' time of service. After weeks of conversation and prayerful deliberation, Pastor Rutten-Kempees has resigned from her position as pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church and will accept four weeks of paid leave plus two weeks of earned vacation to transition out of this call.

Pastor Bethany Rutten-Kempees will lead her last Sunday worship service at Christ the King on August 2, 2020. Her call will officially end on August 3, 2020. The Council prays for God's blessings upon her future and Pastor Bethany commends the future of Christ the King to the Holy Spirit who will guide the church through these challenging times.

Please direct any questions or concerns you may have to any council member listed below.

In Christ,

Pastor Bethany Rutten-Kempees and
the Council of Christ the King Lutheran Church, Escanaba.

Jim Bonifas	bonifasjim@yahoo.com
Roland Jacobson	roljacobson@chartermi.net
Nancy Norberg	nanny2256@gmail.com
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Greetings from Pastor Keith Kolstad, Interim Pastor

I was honored to be asked by Bishop Katherine Finegan and Assistant to the Bishop, Jim Duehring, and affirmed by your Council, to serve you as your interim pastor. Some of you may be familiar with me. I have been a part of this synod and its predecessor body during my whole 35 years of ministry. When I served in Skandia and Trenary, I regularly visited Christ the King when I gathered with area pastors. Most recently, my wife, Karen, and I worshipped with you when David Hendrickson was ordained. I served on Synod Council with Roland Jacobson. So, we've had a couple of connections over the years. I'm presently the pastor of Zion Lutheran in Marinette. At the end of this month I will have been their pastor for 22 years. If you are interested in seeing me lead worship services, Zion has been broadcasting live on Facebook since late 2017. Zion's Facebook page is: Zion Lutheran Church – ELCA – Marinette.

Karen and I have two children, both of which are married and live away from us. We have been blessed with two grandchildren that we don't get to see often enough, especially during this pandemic. I enjoy gardening and home repairs/projects when I have the time. Karen and I love to do inland lake fishing.

Certainly, I feel some of the grief you feel with the resignation of Pastor Bethany. Pastor and congregation alike have dreams as to how their joint ministry will unfold. With the resignation comes the end of those dreams for all involved and it is never an easy thing. Broken dreams are painful, and as a person who has also had broken dreams, I share in your grief.

As your interim pastor, you won't see me on Sunday mornings, but I will be present for Council meetings, funerals, hospital visits, etc. Of course, exactly how all of this will unfold is complicated by the pandemic, but we will figure it out together. Please don't hesitate to call. My cell number is 715-587-7898. You are also welcome to call Zion's office number: 715-735-7898.

Transitions are never easy, particularly under these circumstances. As such, it is critical for us to remember that we do not do this alone. Christ is with us, and nothing can separate us from the love God in Christ Jesus our Lord. NOTHING! (*Romans 8:38-39*) Christ will guide us. Christ will offer healing. Christ will give new life. Thanks be to God who gives us this hope and the new life that comes with it.

With you in Christ.

Pastor Keith

A Message From the Church Council President

Hi to All the Members and Friends of CTK,

We had some rough waters and weathered them fairly well. Now it's time to move forward to calmer waters. That being said we are in need of many volunteers. First off we will need council members. I would like to bring our number back to the original 12, so we will need 5 new members. We can appoint them right now and vote them in at the annual meeting.

Being a council member is not difficult. They meet once a month usually the third Thursday of each month. I like to keep meetings short and to the point, an hour should be enough to get our business taken care of. So please consider joining us by volunteering! While speaking of volunteers we will need 9 people to fill a Call Committee.

Some of the things recently handled was the resurfacing and stripping of the churches parking lot. We also hired a new cleaning service to give the building a good cleaning each week.

I would like to thank our loyal members who have been keeping up with their giving or we would not be able to keep the wheels on the bus. I would like to thank Arlene, my wife Linda, Roland and the Church Council for hanging in there to keep things running.

Please contact the church office (M-Th, 10-2 p.m.) or any council member if you would like to volunteer for council or call committee. With your help we will have a safe church opening. Please follow the rules and we will be safe.

Thank you for your support and patience during difficult times.

Jim Bonifas

Offerings Through July

General Fund

Year-To-Date Income: \$75,595.47

Year-To-Date Needed: \$98,555.70

Difference: - \$22,960.23

Debt Retirement Loan Balance:

\$10,434.13

Thank You

Family & Friends from Christ the King,

Thank you for the gas card. It was so thoughtful for you to think of me.

Love, Mackenzie Jensen

In The Parish Family

Pray for those in need—Keep *Dave Salminen, Steve Tufnell, Becky Lehman & Lori Stasewich* in your prayers as they continue to heal from either a surgery or procedure. Heavenly Father, you know every concern and challenge that faces these individuals. Bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies and soul. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of your love. Please keep the office informed of any prayer requests and more importantly of any illnesses or upcoming surgeries.

Take Heart

As I was preparing the bulletin for our first service back on August 9th the worship guide "Sundays & Seasons" had the following message for this week. It felt appropriate for what we are currently going through and what some of us are feeling. It reads...

Take Heart

We who gather for worship each week know what it is like to feel terrified. We may not be on a literal boat being tossed by the waves, as are the disciples in the gospel story today, but our lives are often rocked by the circumstances we experience. Sometimes the howling wind that buffets our boat is a terrifying health diagnosis. The waves that batter us about might be financial ruin, marital struggles, the demands of caregiving, or a myriad of other issues. We are not strangers to feeling out of control or scared.

Some of us barely made it here today. We are out of energy and exhausted by living in fear. Jesus meets us in the midst of our worry and says, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid" (Matt. 14:27). He sings it to us in the hymns of our faith, speaks it to us in scripture, and feeds us with it in the meal.

As we turn to a hymn and open our weary lips to sing, Jesus is present in the words and melodies that God's people have been singing for a very long time. We sing these hymns in the chapters of our lives when the seas are calm, and when we are certain we are about to capsized.

When someone stands to read a piece of scripture we have heard dozens of times, Jesus comes to us afresh as we hear that word with troubled or peaceful hearts. Christ meets us in the ancient texts that never get old, offering us stability when our little boats seem dwarfed by the raging sea.

We approach the table, steady or perhaps trembling; when we feel beloved and when we are deeply aware of our captivity to sin. Each time, we reach out with our cupped beggar hands, and Jesus offers himself to us: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Let Us Pray For Those Celebrating Birthdays On:

August 1: Tom Raeder
 August 3: Skylar Moore, Jenny Savard
 August 4: Alice Hintsala
 August 5: Sandy Peterson
 August 8: Ashton Moran
 August 10: Aydin Christensen, Wendy Mattson
 August 11: Clara Braun, Taylor Way
 August 12: Reid Christensen, Leslie Leisner
 August 14: Patty Parlato
 August 15: Jerry Eis
 August 17: Mary Leisner
 August 18: Isla Kenneally
 August 19: Chloe Carter, Wally Slade
 August 20: Brandon Eis, Caitlin Smith
 August 21: Bob Jensen, Julie Smith
 August 23: Mike Anderson, Pat Kempf
 August 24: Larry Dimock
 August 26: Ken Robitaille
 August 27: Lynsey Rodgers
 August 31: Derek Lindstrom



August Scripture Readings

Aug. 2—The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 55:1-5, Ps. 145:8-9, 14-21, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

Aug. 9—The 10th Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:9-18, Ps. 85:8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

Aug. 16—The 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Ps. 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:10-28

Aug. 23—The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 51:1-6, Ps. 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

Aug. 30—The 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 15:15-21, Ps. 26:1-8, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28



2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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2	3	4	5	6	7		8
9 10:30 Service of the Word	10	11	12	13	14		15 5:00 Service of the Word
16 10:30 Service of the Word	17	18	19	20 6:15 Church Council	21		22 5:00 Communion Service
23 10:30 Communion Service	24	25	26	27	28		29 5:00 Communion Service
30 10:30 Communion Service	31						

Christ the King Lutheran
Church

1230 North 18th Street
Escanaba, Michigan 49829

We're on the Web!
www.ctk-escanaba.org

KING'S HERALD August 2020

CHURCH OFFICE786-7400

INTERIM PASTOR

Rev. Keith Kolstad(715) 735-7898

e-mail address: kkolstad001@luthersem.edu

CHURCH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Arlene Cody.....786-5949

e-mail address: c.lutheran@att.net Website: www.ctk-escanaba.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Saturday—5:00 p.m. Worship

Sunday— 10:30 Worship

Holy Communion is celebrated at every Saturday and Sunday service beginning on August 22/23.
