

THE PATHFINDER

Website: www.ctslutheran.net

E-Mail: ctslutheranpf@gmail.com

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 40 Issue 8 August 2024

THE ROSE THAT WANTED TO BE A LILY

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful garden. The master gardener had carefully laid out every detail of the garden, interspersing different types of flowers and colors to create a magnificent, year-round display of breathtaking wonder that testified to his wisdom and care. The garden had roses and lilies and baby's breath and daisies and so much more—too many flowers to name. And the gardener took care of each plant perfectly.

Now, the plants didn't always like being taken care of. They didn't like when the gardener pruned them. It hurt! They didn't understand that they needed pruned in order to grow bigger and stronger.

Petal was one flower in this garden—a rose to be exact. She'd grown strong and sturdy under the gardener's wise care. She was planted where she had to endure the heat of the sunlight all day. Unbeknownst to her, that's what made her grow so strong and bear such sweet flowers.

But one day, Petal noticed another flower that grew in the shade. *Why do I have to endure all this heat while that flower doesn't?* she wondered. Petal didn't understand that different flowers need different amounts of sunlight to grow, but the gardener knew all that. Rather than trusting him, though, Petal managed to pull up her roots and move herself to a different part of the garden where she could hide in the shade too. *Ah, this is nice!* she thought. Yet soon she began wilting, and her leaves turned yellow. She wasn't designed for the shade. The gardener lovingly picked her up and put her back in a sunny spot.

"Ah, my dear Petal," he said as he moved her. "I need you to bloom where I put you. Won't you trust me? I know just the pruning and conditions each of my plants need."

Another time Petal noticed a small lily growing near her. *Such beautiful flowers that lily has*, she thought to herself. *I wish my petals looked more like hers. And she doesn't have any thorns...and she's so dainty! I'm not dainty at all.* Petal began trying to shrink her large branches to be more like the lily's and started opening up her flowers earlier, hoping they'd look more like a lily's.

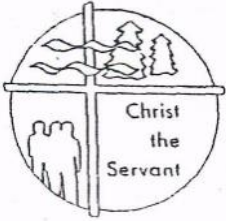
Petal didn't realize that her attempts to look more like a lily meant she was no longer filling the role in the garden she'd been planted to fill. The gardener had placed her in the garden to grow tall and strong and form an elegant backdrop for the smaller plants, but instead she was cowering and shedding her beautiful petals early.

"Ah, my dear Petal," the gardener said as he straightened back up her branches. "Each flower is different and special for a reason. Won't you trust me?"

BY KATE HANNON



~Christians Serving God By Serving Others~



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Pastor Gwen's August Office Hours:

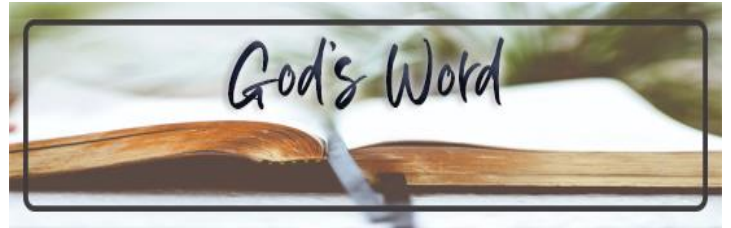
Monday 1-4 PM
Wednesday 2-5:30 PM



Woman's Group meets every
Tuesday from 10AM -2PM.



Men's Group will meet
Saturday, August 10th at 8AM.



August Bible Readings

August 4, 2024 – 11th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29	
Second Lesson	Ephesians 4:1-6
Gospel Reading	John 6:24-35

August 11, 2024 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

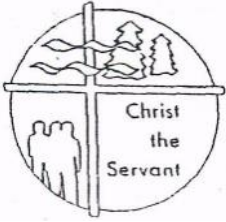
First Lesson	1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8	
Second Lesson	Ephesians 4:25-5:2
Gospel Reading	John 6:35, 41-51

August 18, 2024 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson	Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14	
Second Lesson	Ephesians 5:15-20
Gospel Reading	John 6:51-58

August 25, 2024 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson	Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22	
Second Lesson	Ephesians 6:10-20
Gospel Reading	John 6:59-69



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PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE AND REQUESTS IN YOUR PRAYERS.

I PRAY FOR THEM.
I AM NOT PRAYING FOR
THE WORLD, BUT FOR THOSE
YOU HAVE GIVEN ME,
FOR THEY ARE YOURS.

JOHN 17:16

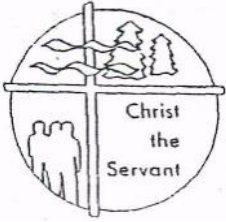
Health/Concerns: Olivia, Stephanie, Carrie, Meg, Betty, Tom, Nancy, Bob, Carol, Lori, Mary Jo, Debra, Carl, Autumn, Shirley, Jere and Joe.

Military : Anton, Autumn, and Natalie.

Groups: CTS Church Council, Quilting Ministry, Adult Bible Studies, CTS Youth, those who are struggling with hunger and injustice in the world and the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Ministry.



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COUNCIL WILL PROVIDE THE MEAT.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

END OF Summer

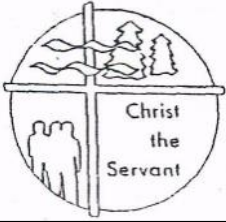
POTLUCK PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25TH
FOLLOWING SERVICE

1ST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH WILL BE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP AND PICNIC.

BRING A FAVORITE FAMILY DISH TO PASS

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Bible Study: We will be working on a study of the Holy Spirit for the summer. No homework. Come and join the Spirit.

Men's Group: Men's group will be meeting over coffee and pastry on August 10th at 8 AM. The topic of study will be on Philip Yancey's *What's So Amazing about Grace*. See Scott Carpenter for a book. All men are welcome to and encouraged to come!

Sleep In Heavenly Peace: This ministry in Park Falls continues to need donations of pillows, beds in a bag, quilts, and sheet sets. They are all twin size beds for youth, age 4 through 17, in our community with no bed of their own. To volunteer in the ministry, please see the Melvolds. To donate money, see Beth Melvold. Bedding can be dropped off any time in the church office.

The Lord's Cupboard: The pantry could use more volunteers to work once a month on a Saturday morning from 8:30 - 11:00 AM. You must be able to lift 35 pounds and work on your weekend! See Pastor Gwen if you are interested.

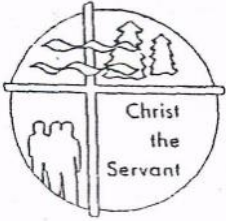
Thank you!

To all who helped with the selection, moving, and organizing of the quilting room, counseling room, Fellowship Hall, and Kitchen.

The space is so beautiful...make sure to take a look.

To the landscape committee with designing and picking the design for our entry. It looks amazing.

The Trex bench was free for collecting 1000 pounds of plastic. We are continuing to collect another 1000 pounds so we can add a bench to the other side.



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Volunteer Schedule August, September, & October 2024

Date	Assisting Minister	Altar Guild	Coffee Hour	Ushers
August 4th	Barb Schindhelm		Lauren & Jen BeBeau	
August 11th	Beth Melvold		Pastor Gwen	
August 18th			Herb & Joan Seifert	Herb & Joan Seifert
August 25th	Beth Melvold		PICNIC	
September 1st				
September 8th				
September 15th				
September 22nd				
September 29th				
October 6th				
October 13th				
October 20th				
October 27th				

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