

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

THE PATHFINDER

VOLUME 41 ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2025

Dear Members and Friends of Christ the Servant,

As most of you probably have heard, I am planning on retiring. The date I have set for my last day is December 31, 2026. Our council has started the process of seeking my replacement. The survey and dinners were just two things that will help us during this transition time. Normally, a congregation would wait until I was gone to begin the process. That would mean getting an interim from the NW Synod for a year or so as a guide to help us with the process. However, the Synod does not have an interim available for us, so I have agreed to be that person. In other words, I will stay and

and help you through the process to the best of my ability while still being your spiritual leader. I hope that this will be a comfort for you to know that all things will remain the same until a new pastor is on the scene.

The ELCA uses the Ministry Site Profile where the survey that we did can be used. This profile tells prospective candidates who we are and where we think we need to go and grow. When this profile is completed, which will take a few months for the council to do, it will be given to you to approve. Then it goes on to the NW Synod Bishop. After his approval, it will be put on-line so others

(CONTINUES ON PAGE 5)



ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP.

9:30 AM | Sunday Worship

10:30 AM | Coffee & Fellowship

Christians Serving God by Serving Others.



PASTOR'S OCTOBER OFFICE HOURS

MONDAYS: 1 – 4 PM
WEDNESDAYS: 2 – 5:00 PM

NO OFFICE HOURS
NOVEMBER 24TH AND 26TH .

PASTOR WILL BE ON
VACATION NOVEMBER 20-27.



MENS GROUP

Men's Group will meet over coffee and pastry on Thursday November 13th at 8 AM. We will be studying the Book of Acts. Please see Scott Carpenter or Pastor for a book.



WELCA

The women's quilting group meets every Tuesday from 10 AM – 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome to join.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Christ the Servant opens the church to our community.

AA uses the church building for meetings on Tuesday and Friday evenings.

Limberg Counseling uses the building on Thursday and Friday for counseling appointments during the day. They use the room across from the church office and the room off of Fellowship Hall.

The community's Farmer Market sets up in the parking lot every Wednesday from May until October.

We are blessed to be able to support our community.



A LIFETIME ADVENTURE

Following Jesus is a lifetime adventure. It requires risk and experimentation. Courage is necessary to increase our faith, hope, and love along the journey. We don't know what life will bring to us – surprises that both overwhelm us with joy and sorrow.

So how do we know the way? A long time ago, I heard a story that I've contemplated many times in my life when I didn't know where the path I was on would lead. The story goes as I remember it, like this: One night, a father decided that his daughter was old enough to go to the barn and feed the horses on her own. But she was afraid.

So, the father took his daughter out to the front porch of the house and lit a lantern, holding it up and asking her how far she could see by its light. She said that she could see halfway down the path to the barn. "Good!" her father responded. "Now carry this lantern halfway down the path."

The young girl did as she was told, and when she reached her destination, her father called out to her, "Now, how far can you see by the lantern's light?" His daughter responded that she could see all the way to the gate. "Great!" her father responded. "Now walk to the gate."

Once again, the girl did as she was told, and when she reached the gate, her father asked,

"Now, how far can you see?" She responded that she could see the barn.

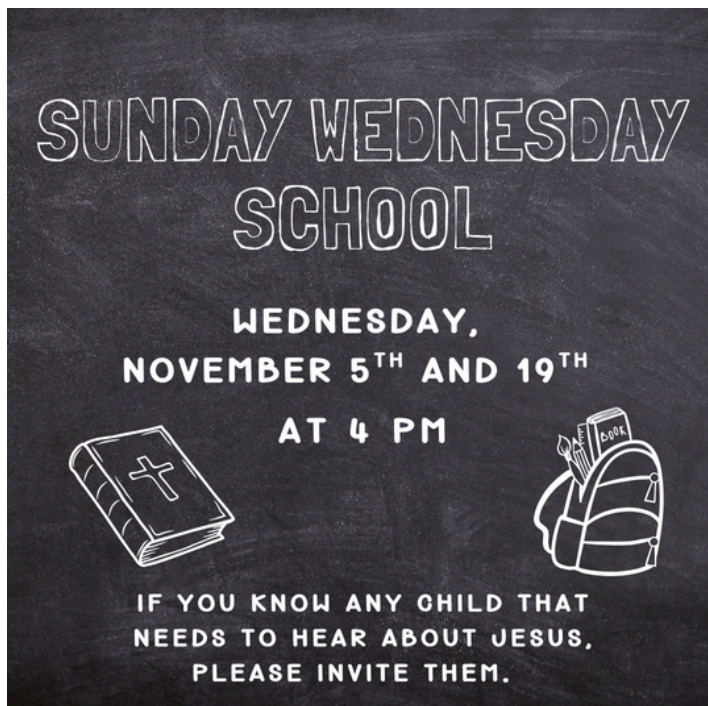
"Wonderful!" her father replied. "Now walk to the barn and open the door."

The girl did just as her father told her, and finally she shouted back that she was at the barn and could see the horses. "Excellent!" her father called. "Now feed the horses." And he stepped back into the house.

God is like the father who gives us light for now and for the next step. God's light doesn't illuminate the whole journey, just one step at a time. The girl trusted her father to get her safely to the barn; and we, too, must trust God to get us safely to the next destination, decision, turning point, opportunity, or experience along our path.

When you are uncertain of the path ahead, how do you trust to take the next steps?

~ By Sally Dyck. Taken from "A Faithful Heart: Daily Guide for Joyful Living"



happy
Thanksgiving

the Bible is our compass

NOVEMBER 2ND – ALL SAINTS DAY

FIRST LESSON: DANIEL 7:1-3, 15-18

PSALM: 149

SECOND LESSON: EPHESIANS 1:11-23

GOSPEL: LUKE 6:20-30

NOVEMBER 9TH – 22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FIRST LESSON: JOB 19:23-27A

PSALM: 17:1-9

SECOND LESSON: 2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-5, 13-17

GOSPEL: LUKE 20:27-38

NOVEMBER 16TH – 23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FIRST LESSON: MALACHI 4:1-2A

PSALM: 98

SECOND LESSON: 2 THESSALONIANS 3:6-13

GOSPEL: LUKE 21:5-19

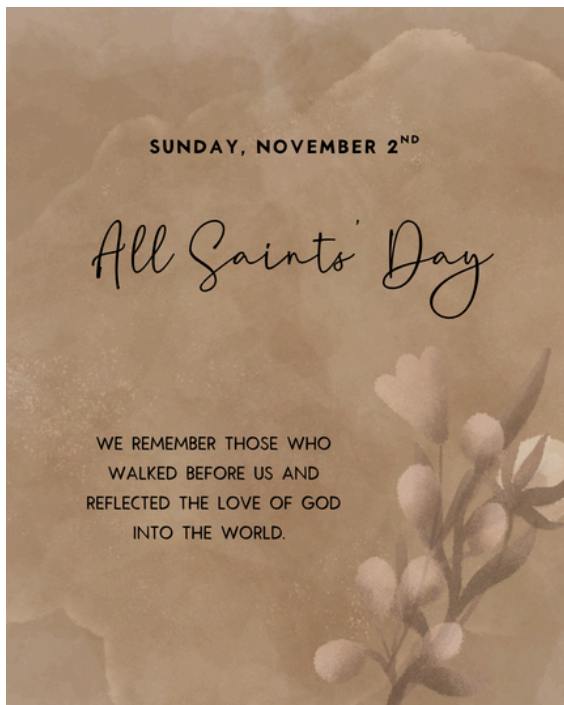
NOVEMBER 23RD – CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

FIRST LESSON: JEREMIAH 23:1-6

PSALM: 46

SECOND LESSON: COLOSSIANS 1:11-20

GOSPEL: LUKE 23:33-43



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

NO KIDS SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

Sleep in Heavenly Peace has been a wonderful and needed ministry in the area. They continue to need donations for new pillows, beds in a bag, quilts, and sheet sets. They are all twin size beds. Youth from age 4-17 receive the beds. Any donations can be dropped off in the church office.



Pictured above is RB and Beth Melvold delivering a bed to a child in the area. If you are interested in helping in a future build or would like to make a donation, please see the chapter president, RB Melvold.

There is no cost to receive a bed. The bed comes with a mattress, bedding and a pillow.

If you know of a child that needs their own bed, please pass on the website and information to apply for a bed. The website for the Park Falls Chapter is <https://shpbeds.org/chapter/wi-park-falls>

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in the ELCA that are searching for a new call can read all about CTS. When there is interest by a pastor, they will contact our designee and we will be able to see the profile they have on-line. We go from there to interviewing, listening to their sermons, and even a possible meeting in person for the congregation. If we find the right person, the call committee, that you select, will ask for a vote by the congregation to issue a letter of call or not. This whole process may take a few months or a few years.

After a candidate has accepted our letter of call, they have 30 days to make the move to Park Falls. It will be at that time that I clean out my office and leave CTS. So, know that if God brings you your new pastor prior to Dec 31, 2026, I will follow His lead and be OK with retiring early. On the other hand, if it takes a year or two after Dec 31, 2026, I will stay as your pastor until the right person is found. Of course, it would be dependent on my health and the situation of my family. This is what the Synod is now calling a Seamless Transition. Rev Randy Olson, the synod mobility person, has already approved us doing the transition this way. It is very out of the ordinary, but he has ever confidence that this process will work for us.

And I am very confident that together, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to find Christ the Servant Congregation a new pastor that will lead you well into the future.

Transition is always a difficult time, but it can also be a time of great blessing. I pray that we will have a seamless transition with less stress and angst among our members, so that this will be a wonderful experience for us all.

God's Peace,

Pastor Gwen

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

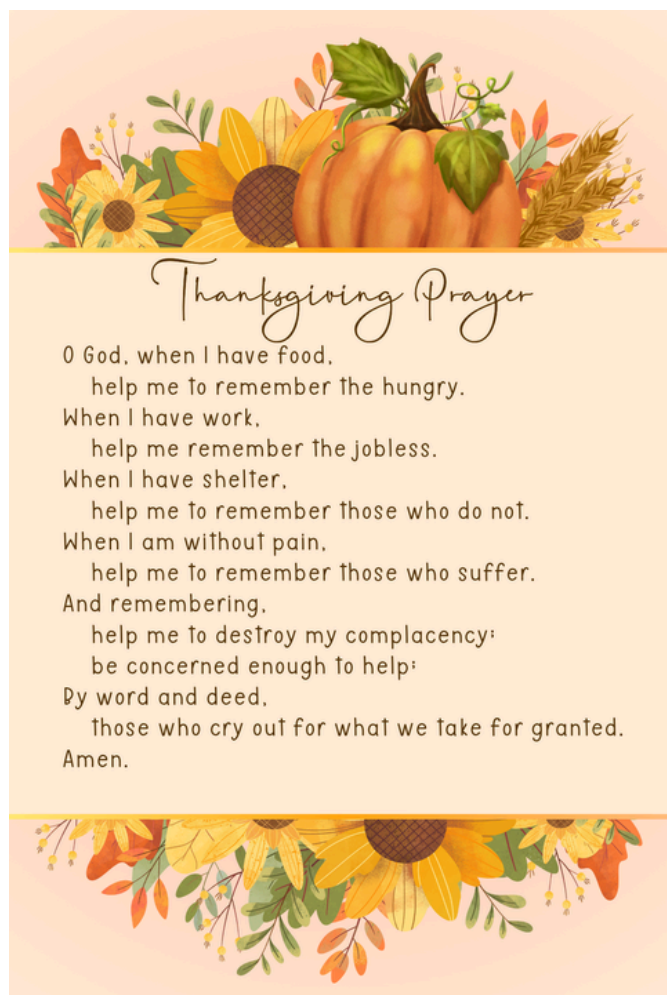


BIBLE STUDY

Come and join us as we learn what scripture tells us about daily living. Bible study is after coffee ½ hour. We will be meeting on November 2nd and 16th.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Advent begins on November 30th this year which will start our Advent Bible Study. As we wait for the birth of our Savior, our Bible study we be from a study called "Our Dear CHRIST Enters In". Worship lessons, Bible study and a devotional book will all follow along with the topics of Family Tree, Home Hurts, Baby Names and Company Comes during Advent. Please consider joining us on Sundays for worship at 9:30 AM, the Bible study following coffee ½ hour and read the Devotional.



Prayer Requests

Health Requests: Olivia, Stephanie, Carrie, Meg, Autumn, Joan, Ann, Jack, Paul, Lynn, Brian, Kathy, Leigh, and Melanie

Military: Anton, Brittany, Ryan, Josh and Natalie

Groups: CTS Church Council, WELCA, Quilting Ministry, Adult Bible Studies, CTS Youth, AIDS Orphans in Malawi, Hunger and Poverty in the World, Ukrainian People, and Sleep In Heavenly Peace Ministry.







VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2025 AND JANUARY 2026

DATE	ASSISTING MINISTER	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	USHERS
NOV 2ND	LIZ CARPENTER		LIZ CARPENTER	FRED & CAROL MATSON
NOV 9TH	JANN CLARK		PAUL & NANCY MILLER	PAUL & NANCY MILLER
NOV 16TH	KURT WOLFF		LIZ CARPENTER	
NOV 23RD				
NOV 30TH				
DEC 7TH				
DEC 14TH				
DEC 21ST				
DEC 24TH				
DEC 28TH				
JAN 4TH				
JAN 11TH				
JAN 18TH				
JAN 25TH				

