

CHRIST'S MESSENGER

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

1930 DIFFLEY ROAD. EAGAN, MINNESOTA, 55122.

AUGUST 2025

**Whoever believes in me,
as the Scripture has said,
'Out of his heart will flow
rivers of living water.'**

JOHN 7:38

REGRET.

PASTOR JARED COOKSEY

"Regrets, I have had a few..." a certain Frank Sinatra once sang.

But what about you? Are they too few to mention or are they numerous in the extreme?

Perhaps the better question is this:

"Do you regret every sin you have committed?"

Do you really feel remorse for the curse word uttered while watching a tense game of football or that lusty look at the handsome actor or attractive actress on the television?

Or do we only feel guilty and culpable when it is a "bigger" sin we have done? As you ponder that, remember what is written in James 2:10:

"For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it."

Again, dear friends, do you have any regrets?

Every time we slip away from the Word of God we get ourselves into trouble. What might seem okay - especially if no-one is looking - is still an affront to the Lord.

While we could refer to something as a "minor indiscretion" and

GET IN TOUCH

Telephone

Interim Phone Number:
(651) 219-5303

Regular Phone Number (to be
restored in September):
(651) 454-4091

Facebook

@Christlutheraneagan

YouTube

@christlutheraneagan

Prayer
REQUEST?



SCAN ME



TEMPORARY OFFICE PHONE NUMBER

CLC is in the process of changing phone service providers. In the course of this process, we will have a temporary office phone number for the interim system. When the permanent system is installed in September, we will revert to our regular office phone number. The temporary phone number is: **651-219-5303**. Watch for updates in September.

CLC STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Jared Cooksey

Music Director

Alex Mezeritski

Office Manager

Cherie Shelton

certainly not as bad as a “big” sin like murder, for example, the truth is this.

A sin is a sin. And regardless of how we look at it and package it - we should regret every single negative thing we do that goes against what our Lord commands and expects.

Our response, therefore, should be one of acknowledgement and repentance. We have to own up and say that we have slipped up and need to get firmly back on track. It can be tough to admit we have done wrong, but it is necessary that we do so because every deviation and lapse only separates us from our Creator.

What Satan wants is for the wedge between us and the Lord to grow. He wants us to feel comfortable in our transgressions and for us to say that they are no big deal and that nobody really cares. Remember, his ultimate goal is to separate us, permanently, from God. But we must not take that lying down.

Friends, we simply cannot allow his efforts to be successful. Our relationships with the Triune God must be sincere. Our focus should be on the forgiveness we receive through Christ. That the events of Good Friday and Easter Sunday are vital to remember in the middle of those daily battles we face between good and evil.

Following the right path is not always easy, of course. But it is a battle not faced alone. We can draw on the support of loved ones and a church community that is determined and dedicated to be there in times of tribulation as well as contentment.

May we not regret our actions and intentions this August. May we, instead, go to our Lord in contrition, prayer, and praise.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jared Cooksey".

pastorjared.clc@outlook.com
(651) 454-4091

SANCTUARY RENEWAL UPDATE

Planning and scheduling continue on track for Altar wall painting and recarpeting of the Sanctuary to begin Monday, August 4th. With the outdoor Polka Service scheduled for Sunday, August 10th, we have a nice window of opportunity to complete the work without impacting Sunday Worship Services. Please join us in prayer that The Lord will bless this work as we continue to renew and restore His Holy House.

In Prayer This Month

Pr. Merle Lebahn;
Shirley Eilola;
Mary Lou Adelman;
Janet Linkert;
Margaret Wilkins;
Elizabeth Marlow;
The Feil Family; Tim Faast;
David Marlow; Linda Wolf;
Fred Yacono; Steve Nelson;
Wanda Leiding;
Darlene Lemke; Bill Dent;
Richard Heggemeyer;
Nyjibi Kwot and Family;
Anna Cooksey;
Nickolas Mezeritski;
Marilyn Campobasso;
Rose Svoboda;
Janelle Bachrodt;
Nanu Ajack; Louise Neil;
Luann Bork; Marjwok Ogio;
Antonina Kopcheva;
Tatyana Mezeritski.

CLC Housebound

Bette Briest; Lore Rother;
Shirley Eilola; Wes Isaak;
Marian Neujahr;
Jim and Judy Herman;
Lorraine Shingledecker;
Tom Gustafson;
Marcella Schindledecker.

The Incarcerated

Troy Mitteness

NOW WHAT?

Dear friends, after church on Sunday 6 July, I announced that Christ Lutheran Generations Preschool would not be moving forward. Despite much prayer and effort by a dedicated board under the leadership of Ginger Hasche - it is clear we must now proceed with a different plan.

I am certainly aware that the preschool was a hot topic at this church and its demise may be viewed in different ways. However, let me, again, thank the board and, especially, Wendy Ashbridge who was a delight to work with. She will be sorely missed around here!

I am genuinely sorry that the story ends in such a fashion but under my guidance I felt it necessary to close this chapter effective immediately. When I was first called to Christ, the prospect of reopening the preschool was something that excited me, so the decision taken at our last meeting was tough and emotional - but it was the right one, nevertheless.

Friends, we are at a critical juncture. Because the question has to be this: "Now what?" What do we want to do moving forward? What kinds of ministries should we get wholeheartedly behind here at Christ Lutheran?

The answer - I can tell you - is not nothing. The answer - I can tell you - is not to close our eyes and settle on some rose tinted memory from years ago. We are in 2025 in a world that is hostile to the message we love and want to share. Satan wants to stifle us, and he will sow in seeds of doubt and discord as he always has done. To him we must say - "On Christ the solid rock we stand."

So, now what?

This is a vital moment, dear brothers and sisters. But it is one filled with great opportunity and even excitement. So go to our Lord in prayer and ask Him - now what? Because it is vital that we serve Him and His Church today and for many years to come!

So pray, pray, and pray some more and be on the lookout in the coming weeks for opportunities to share ideas with your fellow brothers and sisters here at Christ.

In service to the Lord,
Pastor Jared Cooksey

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Stewarding Everything

“Stewardship in the Bible has to do with understanding that your life is not your own. Your life is on loan from God—regardless if you acknowledge this or not—and God calls you to steward everything about your life for His glory and the good of others.” Author Unknown

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and **stewards of the mysteries of God**. Moreover, it is required of **stewards that they be found trustworthy**. 1 Cor 4:1-2.

For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but **if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship**.
1 Corinthians 9:17

...assuming that you have heard of the **stewardship of God's grace** that was given to me for you... Ephesians 3:2

...for the sake of His body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the **stewardship from God that was given to me for you** Colossians 1:24b-25a

For an overseer, **as God's steward, must be above reproach**. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined.
Titus 1:7

As each has received a gift, use it to **serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace**... 1 Peter 4:10

FAITHFUL GIVING

*THERE ARE THREE WAYS YOU CAN GIVE FINANCIALLY TO
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH.*

Mailed in tithes and offerings can be sent to:
Christ Lutheran Church, 1930 Diffley Road, Eagan, Minnesota, 55122.

Give Plus Online financial giving via our website
(www.christlutheraneagan.org)

Please note that credit card fees will apply. Fees can be avoided, though,
by choosing the direct checking or savings account withdrawal options.

Joyful Response - no fees.



Experience the **HOLY LAND**

Hosted by
Pastor Jacob & Michelle Gillard

Traveling
NOVEMBER 19 - DECEMBER 1, 2026

Departures
\$5,499 FROM MINNEAPOLIS, MN

PRICE INCLUDES
US & Intl. departure taxes/fuel & gratuities

EARLY BIRD SAVINGS
off the total trip cost with your
initial deposit of \$500.00!

Walk Where Jesus Walked in the Holy Land with Pastor Jake & Michelle Gillard.

Jake Gillard, a longtime friend of church members Steve & Becky Thorson, is an LCMS pastor at Faith Community Lutheran Church in Zimmerman, MN. Jake and his wife Michelle are hosting 10 FULL DAYS in-country (13-day itinerary): Depart US on Nov 19 and return Dec 1, 2026. ✚ This spiritual pilgrimage will forever change how you read and understand the Bible. Walk from the Temple Mount in the Old City of Jerusalem across the Kidron Valley to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives under a full moon and pray where He prayed in deep anguish. Walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel to the pool of Siloam. Cruise the Sea of Galilee, wade in the River Jordan, and float in the Dead Sea. Bethlehem. Jericho. Wilderness of Judah. Nazareth. Capernaum. SO MUCH MORE! ✚ Tourism in Israel has picked up. Call/text Pastor Jake Gillard at 612-567-0059 for more info. It's easy to register online at <https://registernow.ittworld.com/?TourCode=Gillard26> See brochure with more details posted on the bulletin board. If the political situation requires cancellation, the company will keep the funds for another trip in the future. Travel insurance is recommended to cover cancellation for any reason.

SUNDAY SERVERS

Sunday, August 3rd

Elders

Ken Ische & Dave Hasche

Reader

Abby Rios

Altar Guild

Kathy Nasr

Monitor Technician

Kelly Callahan

Greeters

Merle Lebahn & Sandi Hansen

Sunday, August 10th

Elders

Steve Ivanca & Daniel Wing

Reader

Don Roemhildt

Altar Guild

Karen Wild & Mary Gangelhoff

Greeter

Jim Struck

Sunday, August 17th

Elders

Dave Kaner & Ken Ische

Reader

Kathy Anderson

Altar Guild

Mary Lou Adelman

Monitor Technician

Stephen Thorson

Greeter

Carol Miller

Sunday, August 24th

Elders

Dave Hasche & Steve Ivanca

Reader

Melissa Fulton

Altar Guild

Melissa Fulton

Monitor Technician

Judy Kaner

Greeter

Marlene Burkhalter

Sunday, August 31st
Elders
Dave Kaner & Daniel Wing
Reader
Sharonlee Strohkirch
Altar Guild
Karen Wild & Mary Gangelhoff
Monitor Technician
Judy Landis
Greeter
Armond Krech



July Attendance
Total
313
Average
78

MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS

	JULY 2025
ENVELOPE / PLATE OFFERING	\$10,826
JOYFUL RESPONSE / GIVE PLUS	\$1,392
TOTAL	\$12,218



Christ Lutheran Budget/Monthly Reporting

	June 2025	YTD
Total Expenses	\$22,015	\$145,209
Total Operating Income	\$24,838	\$152,528
Net	\$2,823	\$7,319

News from Belize - Pastor Jason Groth

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ for the joyful work He is doing in Belize!

On June 29th, during the worship service at El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church in Valley of Peace, my family and I were officially recognized as a new mission family in Belize. I was also publicly acknowledged as having been installed as a missionary pastor serving El Buen Pastor and the broader mission field in Belize. I had already been hard at work learning the ins and outs of Belizean life and the mission, but it is always good to recognize new beginnings in the church. We give thanks to God for His faithfulness and ask for your prayers as we continue this work.

We're also excited to share the launch of a new mercy outreach: the Mobile Mercy House, a collaborative ministry between El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church and the Inspiration Center in Belize City. Through this partnership, six children with disabilities are now receiving regular physical therapy close to home—bringing care, dignity, and the love of Christ right into their community. Each monthly visit includes the proclamation of the Gospel and a time of prayer with a pastor or church member. Between Mercy House days, families continue to receive care through ongoing in-home visits from Pastor Flores or another mission pastor.

In Seine Bight, nearly 100 children came to hear about Jesus at a joyful Vacation Bible School, led by a team from the Belize Mission Society. Through songs, crafts, laughter, and Gospel storytelling, we pray that the seeds of faith were sown deeply in young hearts. We give thanks to God for the connections being made to Christ Lutheran Church in the village. We are deeply grateful for their joyful service and Gospel-centered presence.

Please continue to pray for the mission in Belize as we work to plant Lutheran churches, show Christ's mercy, and proclaim the Gospel to all.

Soli Deo Gloria!
Rev. Jason Groth
Missionary Pastor to Belize – LCMS Office of
International Mission



Mission Minute

Our next Mission Minute will be on **Sunday, August 24th**, when a representative from Lutherans for Life will share their ministry. This Gospel-motivated organization has been instrumental in equipping our very own CLC Life Team. We praise God for their obedience to God's Word and their ability to provide resources to Lutheran churches.





Go, Gather, Give

For the month of August, we will be supporting **Trinity First School** with school supplies. They have indicated they could use the following items to kick-start the school year:

Glue Sticks

24-count Crayola Crayons

Crayola Markers

Expo Dry-erase Markers

Paint sets

Scissors

Your generosity is greatly appreciated in supporting this Christian school and their ministry. Please have these items to the church lobby by **Sunday, August 24th**, so that we can deliver them to the school before classes start.

Anuak Uganda Mission

Members of Christ Lutheran Church, the funds raised for the agriculture Anuak Uganda mission have been delivered and distributed to 78 heads of families on June 12th, 2025. The total number of beneficiaries is 317 individuals. This mission project came to fruition because of your prayers, support, and most importantly your generosity. The money will be used to buy seeds, manure (fertilizer), and farming tools to prepare for the next rainy season planting in the coming September.

Please keep these refugee families in your prayers, as they face the uncertainty of dwindling services from the United Nations, which have been scaled down drastically.

The full report from Nakivale Refugee camp in Uganda will be presented to the congregation in the next two weeks. Again, thank you for your unwavering support and generosity.



Outdoor Polka Service



The Outdoor Polka Service is set for Sunday, August 10th at 10:00 A.M. The music for the service will be arranged on an old-time genre, and following the service we'll have coffee, donuts, and hot dogs.

Membership Directory

Our Membership Directory is now online through Church Center. This platform has the ability for you to keep your contact information up-to-date and also gives you the ability to share your photo with our fellow CLC members. Many of our members have embraced this new tool and you don't want to miss out!

One of the benefits of utilizing Church Center is we now have a LIVE calendar online. Our Office Manager, Cherie Shelton, will be keeping it up-to-date so that our members can be informed of events coming up or if there are changes in schedules. Please contact the office if you want to add something to the calendar or need to edit a recurring event. It's all about keeping our members informed!

If you have not received an email invite to join the CLC Directory, it may be because we do not have an accurate email address for you. Please connect with Cherie in the office, and she can make sure it is updated. Once you receive an invite, there are steps you will need to take to set up your profile. Copies of the Instructions for setting up your profile are available at the Welcome Center. Also, Kathy Ivanca will be available after the worship service on Sunday, August 24th to answer any questions you may have and to take your photo if you would like.

Here's a tip for this month:

If you are part of a Group in Church Center, it is important that you edit your visible information in that Group. This will give members of that Group the ability to have your contact information. Also, there is a Chat function to connect with all of the members of the Group listed. It's a quick easy way to communicate!

Follow these steps:

1. Click on the Group you are in
2. Click on Members
3. Click on Edit Visible Info (under your name)
4. Click on Include Photo, Your Email Address, and Your Phone Number

Share your photo:

- Click on your photo in the top right corner
- Click on "My Profile and Settings"
- Click on "Directory Profile"
- Select "Include Profile Photo"



MARKET RECAP

Thanks to all who volunteered and donated to make our Summertime Market event a success!



Paid Vendors: 37
Funds Raised for Sanctuary
Renewal: \$3,879.70



LIBRARY LATEST

CLC Library

August is the month that we seek out activities that will wrap up our MN summer, like art festivals, the State Fair, and we can't forget CLC's very own Polka Service! As you enjoy some of these outdoor events, hopefully you can take some time to check out CLC's library to find a good book to help you unwind and relax.

Child of Grace by Lori Copeland (Fiction)

After years of hiding behind a successful career, E.J. finds her comfortable world threatened by a tragic event. Facing one of the hardest decisions of her life, E.J. heads home to Cullen's Corner to sort things out. As the warm arms of the town reach out to embrace her, she finds the courage and strength she needs to make a life-changing decision that will impact her family forever.

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis (Non-fiction)

This book brings together C.S. Lewis' legendary broadcast talks of the war years, talks in which he set out simply to "explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times". Rejecting the boundaries that divide Christianity's many denominations, Lewis provides an unequaled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear a powerful, rational case for the Christian faith.

CLC LIFE TEAM



LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE

The CLC Life Team met on July 21st and went through an exercise to log ideas on how we can provide opportunities for our church to support life affirming activities. Many ideas were generated from the group in the categories of Older-Adult Ministry, The Family Unit, Children/Teens/Young Adults, and Cross-Cultural ministries. The idea list will be used to plan future events, provide additional life-affirming resources, and enhance what we may already be doing in our church and community.

Our Mission is to equip our church to be Gospel-motivated voices for Life from fertilization to forever. Watch for more information on upcoming events and/or information on what you can do as a member of Christ Lutheran Church to uphold Life. **The Team's next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 27th at 3:30 pm.**

Life Thought: Proclaiming and practicing the Word of the Lord doesn't always make people glad (Luke 12:51-52). Discomfort and persecution come with speaking truth and showing love (Hebrews 11:36-38). But Almighty God's insistence on the sanctity of every human life, though occasionally unpopular, always brings precisely the community, fellowship, and belonging that we all need (Hebrews 12:1-2). – LFL LifeDate Summer 2025 Issue

THE ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

Coming in September

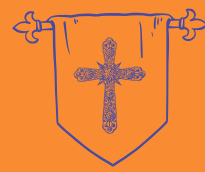
The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will be starting The Engagement Project video series by Dr. Del Tackett (creator of the Truth Project). Per Dr. Tackett, “It is all about relationships. All the diverse pieces and parts of the entire universe are found and bound up in some form of relationship. That is why Jesus emphasized the Unity of the Body of Christ. He wants us to be bound together. As the world and Satan, not to mention the negative use of technology, continue to try to isolate us, and even as we may be “connected” through social media and smart phones, we are still increasing lonely.”

The Engagement Project is a 10 week course that will take us on a marvelous quest of seeking the face of God and His nature in the hope of deeply transforming the Body of Christ. It will lead us to understand where we are in God’s Meta-Narrative, the incredible vision He has granted us as His representatives on earth. It will show us that He has entrusted the primary work of the Kingdom to the common, everyday Christian. It will change each of our lives, radically transform our families, and, by God’s grace, turn the world around us right side up.

Watch for the start date announcement in the upcoming Bulletins/Newsletter. For more information, contact Mark Bonewell.



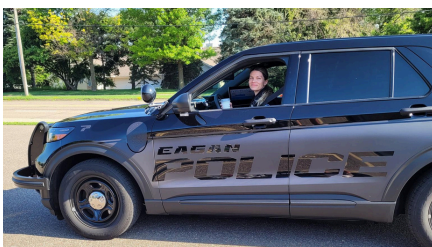
VBS



We had 21 students attend VBS, and we had 13 volunteers. The theme was Here I Stand, a medieval theme. The children learned of creation, old Adam, new Adam, and the holy Trinity. The older children even learned of Martin Luther. There were crafts, snacks and games. We raised \$342.00 for the Anuak farming mission. We all had a great time! Thanks to all that made this a great VBS!!!!



DRIVE-THRU PRAYER



Our Free Coffee, Donuts, and Prayer event was held on Wednesday, July 23rd. We were able to pray with 14 people this time and are truly blessed to provide this ministry right from our parking lot. Mark your calendar for our next Drive-Thru Prayer event on Wednesday, August 27th, 8:30-9:30 am. Invite your neighbors, friends, and family to stop by.





HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

SERENITY BENT
AUGUST 7

JOANN NIKLAUS
AUGUST 20

TONY & MELISSA FULTON
AUGUST 3

CAMERON STELLJES
AUGUST 8

HELEN GRASS
AUGUST 21

DAVID & BONNIE HOGLUND
AUGUST 6

MERLE LEBAHN
AUGUST 11

ALIETA GUSTAFSON
AUGUST 21

MERLIN & WANDA LEIDING
AUGUST 6

KATELYN LINDEMANN
AUGUST 11

KEN ISCHE
AUGUST 23

DONALD & JUVA WOLF
AUGUST 17

DARLENE LEMKE
AUGUST 12

DIANE ZAHNOW
AUGUST 26

DREW & JESSIE CHENEVERT
AUGUST 18

MELISSA BUNTJER
AUGUST 15

MIKE PETERSON
AUGUST 27

HAROLD & DONNA FUTHEY
AUGUST 19

MARIAN NEUJAHR
AUGUST 16

LORE ROTHER
AUGUST 29

DONALD & RUTH JOHNSON
AUGUST 20

SCOTT CALLAHAN
AUGUST 17

SHARON MOMANYI
AUGUST 31

CLARK & MARNA NORDEEN
AUGUST 30

DIANE HEGGEMEYER
AUGUST 20













LET'S
CELEBRATE



AUGUST @ CHRIST



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27TH SERVICE @ 10.00 A.M. ANUAK @ 2.30 P.M. 	28TH	29TH	30TH	31ST	1ST	2ND
3RD L.S. SERVICE @ 10.00 A.M. L.S. ANUAK @ 2.30 P.M. 	4TH PAINTING AND RECARPETING BEGIN  BOARD OF EVANGELISM @ 10:00 A.M.	5TH BOARD OF WORSHIP @ 12:00 P.M. BOARD OF ELDERS @ 6:30 P.M.	6TH	7TH LIFE GROUP PARABLES STUDY @ 6:00 PM 	8TH	9TH
10TH OUTDOOR POLKA SERVICE @ 10.00 A.M.  	11TH	12TH EAGAN POINTE SERVICE @ 10.00 A.M. CHURCH COUNCIL @ 6.30 P.M.	13TH NEW PERSPECTIVE @ 10.00 A.M.	14TH	15TH	16TH
17TH L.S. SERVICE @ 10.00 A.M. L.S. ANUAK @ 2.30 P.M. 	18TH STAFF/LEADERSHIP @ 10.00 A.M.	19TH	20TH	21ST	22ND	23RD
24TH SERVICE @ 10.00 A.M. ANUAK SERVICE @ 2.30 P.M. 	25TH	26TH EAGAN POINTE SERVICE @ 10.00 A.M. BOARD OF TRUSTEES @ 6:00 P.M.	27TH DRIVE-THRU PRAYER @ 8:30 A.M.  NEW PERSPECTIVE @ 10.00 A.M. CLC LIFE TEAM MEETING @ 3:30 P.M. 	28TH	29TH	30TH
31ST L.S. SERVICE @ 10.00 a.m. L.S. ANUAK @ 2.30 p.m.						

KEEP CHRIST IN YOUR LIFE!