



# CHRIST THE KING Evangelical Lutheran Church

Green Bay, Wisconsin

Rev. S. Piet Van Kampen, Pastor

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**OUR MISSION:** *Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church gives all praise and thanks to the Triune God for His grace received through Word and Sacrament by sharing the saving Gospel of Christ with the people of this community and the world.*

## AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

### **“Am I Doing God’s Will?”** *by Rev. Piet Van Kampen*

*Reprint from August 2015 CTK Newsletter*

A man divorces his wife. Why? He believed that being married to this person was not God’s will; he’s supposed to marry someone else. “After all,” he says, “doesn’t God want me to be happy?”

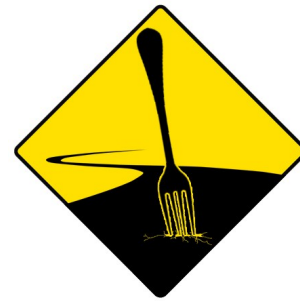
A woman receives an offer to work for a competing company. The offer includes better benefits and more family time. Yet she just can’t decide. She wants to be sure that she is doing God’s will, but cannot figure out what God’s will is.

These two people couldn’t be more different from each other. Yet there’s a common thread between them: trying to discern God’s will. Maybe you yourself have been asking, “Am I doing God’s will?” We all would like to know that what we’re doing is in line with God’s will for our lives.

So how does a person discern the will of God? Look no further than the pages of Scripture! The Bible is God’s revealed will. God’s will is His Law: “‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself’” (Luke 10:27). And yet His will is also His Gospel! God “wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4). He gave His only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, so that all who believe in Him shall have eternal life (John 3:16). In short, **God’s will for your life is that you be saved and brought to faith in Jesus Christ, living every day in that faith and in the love that faith in Christ inspires until the day He takes you to be with Him in heaven.**

But what about choosing a job or finding “the right person”? Surely God’s will is involved in those things too, however, they are part of God’s *hidden will*. God has His own thoughts and plans which He chooses not to reveal. They are not for us to know. In fact, trying to figure out God’s hidden will is a sin. (Remember King Saul’s visit to the medium at Endor? It didn’t end well! Read 1 Samuel 28.)

When it comes to decisions about the future, we make them according to God’s Word. So, should a man divorce his wife because he’s not happy? No! The Bible clearly



teaches that, “What God has joined together, let man not separate” (Matt. 19:6). However, in decisions where neither choice is forbidden by God, we have the freedom to choose. If given the choice between one college and another, one career and another, one potential spouse or another, provided that you’ve considered the options according to God’s revealed will (thinking of the good of others as well as your own good, for example), you are free to decide.

This is not an excuse for making poor decisions without having “done your homework”. However, if you’re struggling over a decision, know that no matter what you decide to do, God carries out His will. And that will – the will of God – is always good and gracious. He promises to work all things for the good of those who love Him and keep His commands (Ro 8:28).

We won’t always make the right decisions because our judgment is ever clouded by sin. Yet even if you make the “wrong” decision, God’s forgiveness in Christ is always there, and His love – which none of us deserve, by the way – will make it work for your ultimate, most important good: the future which God has planned for us, our eternal future with Him in Christ (Jer. 29:11).

## News & Notes



### VACANCY PASTOR

**Rev. Roger C. Holtz**

rogholtz@gmail.com

(920-759-7424)

Pastor Roger Holtz was called to be our vacancy pastor beginning August 1, 2023, following Pastor S. Piet Van Kampen accepting a call to Madison, WI.

Pastor Holtz is a Wisconsin native. He grew up on a dairy farm near Mukwonago, WI, and then entered Northwestern, a WELS preparatory school. He then earned both teaching and principal degrees from DLMC in New Ulm, MN, serving schools in Beatrice, NE, Kennewick, WA, and an ELS school in East Grand Forks, MN. It was there that Pastor decided on the ministry, enrolling in the ELS Synod in Mankato, MN, graduating in 1994.

Since then he has served congregations of the ELS in Bloomer, Clintonville and Omro. He also has served as the vacancy pastor in Marinette and Kaukauna, and served as director of Trinity Preschool in Kaukauna. He has had a very busy and varied career!

We are very privileged and happy to have Pastor Holtz, a friend of this congregation, guide and serve us throughout this vacancy.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need several people to handle the livestream for our weekly worship service. Training will be provided. A schedule would be set up once training is complete. With enough volunteers, it would require only one Sunday a month (or less depending on the number of volunteers).

Please speak with Julie Busse if you are interested.



### CONGREGATIONAL CALL MEETING

- ◆ A Congregational Call Meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2023. The meeting time is tentatively set for 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ Pastor Otto and Pastor Kluge will monitor the meeting.
- ◆ All members are encouraged to attend to participate in calling a pastor.
- ◆ Please mark it on your calendar.

### **WE'RE LIVE!**

Worship Services streamed live every week on our website!  
Visit us at [christthekinggb.org](http://christthekinggb.org) for more information!

### CARRY YOUR BOOKS?

A Joyful'toon by Mike Waters



Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

-1 PETER 5:7 KJV

## August Birthdays!

9 Landen Saliger  
14 Solomon Uhlig  
15 Wayne Kelm  
23 Thea Saliger  
24 Rayne Saliger  
26 Joseph Massie  
31 Barbara Hartwig

CHRIST THE KING EVANGELICAL CHURCH  
2nd Quarter Congregation Meeting Minutes  
July 16, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:27 a.m. by President Paul Koch.

Pastor Van Kampen opened the meeting with reading from Psalm 145:13-21 and prayer.

The agenda was reviewed. Two additional points were added to New Business, C Vacancy Pastor and D Attaining CDs. **Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as amended.**

Minutes for the 1st Quarter Congregational meeting was reviewed. **Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes.**

Voting Members Present: Dennis Barlament, Ben Brodhagen, Brian Busse, David Diestler, Jason Diestler, John Greenwood, Edward Groth, Charles Hartwig, Phil Heuser, Paul Koch, Daniel Lindquist, Rod Meves, Rick Schnese, Pastor Van Kampen.

Pastor's Report – Second quarter average weekly attendance including Sunday and Monday, was 58. Second quarter attendance was improved over first quarter. Two special services, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, averaged 41. There was one change to membership, peaceful release to Jonah Kirchner who is transferring to a Missouri Synod church in Montana. Abigail Steinke was confirmed but is a member of St. Mark Lutheran Church. Private wedding was held for James Van Kampen and Moriah Griesbach.

Vacation Bible School is July 24-26 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. for pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grades plus a special Bible study for teens and adults. After accepting the call to Holy Cross, Pastor contacted Pastor Roger Holtz about being the vacancy pastor. He has agreed and this will be discussed further later in the meeting.

Barb Schnese has been administrative assistant since this past February. You should contact Barb if you have an announcement for the bulletin or questions. Her email address is secretary@christthekinggb.org. **Motion was made and seconded to approve Pastor's report.**

#### REVIEW OF COMMITTEE REPORTS A-I

Eileen VanderStappen resigned as Church Historian/Archivist. This vacancy will be discussed at future meetings. There was no other discussion on the re-

ports. **Motion was made and seconded to approve all committee, Board of Elders and Council reports and pass on to the voters' meeting.**

Convention Delegates Report – **Motion was made and seconded to approve the Delegates Reports.**

Board of Elders Report – Several items were highlighted: 1) Recommend peaceful release to Jonah Kirchner to a Missouri Synod church in Montana, 2) Recommend that we extend a divine call to Pastor Roger Holtz as our Vacancy Pastor, and 3) Recommend that we suspend Monday night services during the vacancy.

Council Report – One correction was noted under the Treasurer's Report, item 18 should be 19. Brian Busse negotiated with Spectrum to lower monthly charge for one year.

**Motion was made and seconded to approve Board of Elders Reports and Council Reports.**

Treasurer's Report – Expenses were 47% of budget. This is highlight of line items over budget:

Line 9 – Lutheran Sentinel and My Devotions

Line 14 – Fill-in for organist

Line 19 – Brian Busse negotiated with Spectrum to lower monthly charge for one year.

Line 21 – Covers Feb thru March for snow removal.

Line 25 – Annual copier contract. Brian Busse negotiated a lower annual charge as we are nonprofit.

Line 30 – Pastor's registration and mileage to Great Lakes Pastoral Conference.

First quarter offerings cover expenditures. End-of-quarter checkbook balance after offerings and other deposits was \$106,511.91. General savings balance at end of quarter is \$1,579.59. Organ fund review – Val picked up electric piano book to review. He will schedule time in the next weeks to program communication between electric piano and organ and also provide additional training to Organist Deb Meyer.

**Motion was made and seconded to approve Treasurer's reports and pass on to the voters' meeting.**

Old Business – None

New Business

1. Scholarship Application – Erik Van Kampen submitted application for Christian education assistance to Bethany College. Recommend approval to send money. **Motion was made and seconded to approve \$4K Christian education assistance to Erik Van Kampen for Bethany.**
2. Budget Adjustment – Line items 1-7 when combined will not exceed the 2023 budgeted amount. **Motion was made and seconded that while we have a vacancy pastor, line items 1-7 when combined will not exceed the 2023 budgeted amount.**
3. Vacancy Pastor – Elder Rod Meves read letter that will be sent to Pastor Roger Holtz. During vacancy, Monday night worship service will be suspended. **Motion was made and seconded to extend call to Pastor Holtz as vacancy pastor and suspend Monday night worship service during the vacancy.**
4. Attaining CDS – Christ the King Lutheran Church authorizes the Treasurer and/or Trustees (currently Brian Busse, John Greenwood, and Joseph Massie) to open or close Certificates of Deposit or any financial transactions in the best interest of the church up to \$50,000. **Motion was made and seconded to authorize this change for attaining CDs.**

Charles Hartwig mentioned the Marinette congregation and Pastor Stubenvoll loaned our congregation \$20,000, no interest, to purchase 5 acres of land for our church building. We repaid this over 8 years, \$2,500 per year. Our congregation was blessed through this donation and in many other ways. With the amount of money our congregation has, we should consider helping another congregation in need if it arises.

The congregational meeting was adjourned and the voters meeting opened.



Items for the Voters' Meeting:

- A. Approve Pastor's/board/committee reports/Delegates reports.
- B. Approve membership changes (refer to Board of Elders Report).
- C. Approve education assistance to Erik Van Kampen.
- D. Approve budget adjustment as noted under New Business.
- E. Approve attaining CDs as noted under New Business.
- F. Approve extending divine call to Pastor Roger C. Holtz as vacancy pastor and suspending Monday night services during vacancy.

**All items were approved by voting members. Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.** The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara K Schnese/Secretary





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**ALTAR GUILD FOR AUGUST:**  
Julie Busse & Sandra VanderHeyden

# August 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Rev. Roger Holtz starts as Vacancy	2	3	4	5
6 9:00 Divine Service w/Holy Comm. 10:05 Fellowship	7	8 2:30 Brookview Meadows Service	9	10 4:00 Emerald Bay Service	11	12
USHERS: Group 4						
13 :00 Divine Service 10:05 Fellowship	14	15	16	17 4:00 Emerald Bay Service	18	19
USHERS: Group 1						
20 9:00 Divine Service w/Holy Comm. 10:05 Fellowship	21	22 2:30 Brookview Meadows Service	23	24 4:00 Emerald Bay Service	25	26
USHERS: Group 2						
27 :00 Divine Service 10:05 Fellowship	28	29	30	31 4:00 Emerald Bay Service		
3:15 Congregational Call Mtg.						
USHERS: Group 3						

## YEAR AT A GLANCE

- 9/10 - Rally for Christian Education (First Day of Sun. School & Bible Class)
- 10/4-6 - ELS General Pastoral Conference
- 10/15 - 3rd Quarter Cong. & Voters Meetings
- 10/31 - Reformation Day, Trunk or Treat
- 11/22 - Thanksgiving Eve Service
- 12/6, 12/13, 12/20 - Midweek Advent Services
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- 12/25 - Christmas Day Festival Service
- 12/31 - New Year's Eve Service





**Join us for worship!**  
***Sunday at 9:00 a.m.***