



# CHRIST THE KING

## Herald

## May 2023

In this digital age of texting, tweeting, FaceTime, Zoom, virtual reality, on-line worship—why do church-people talk so much about *calling*? God *calls* us to do this, we are *called* to do that. What do we mean when we use the word *call*? Are we using it for a reason or are we just out of touch with the way the world works these days? I mean, does anybody actually *call* anybody anymore?

It's a funny word, *call*. And it's a word we church-people use to represent an even funnier word: *vocation*. One of the many gifts Martin Luther gave the world back in the day was his expansion of the meaning of *vocation*. Historically, *vocation* had been used to describe God's *calling* of people to a life of devotion to the church. Martin Luther (along with some others) believed that whatever job you might have, God has *called* you to do it in such a way that glorifies God and betters the life of your neighbor.

But he didn't stop there.

He also believed that our *vocation* extends beyond the ol' 9 to 5. Luther understood our *vocation* to be made up of many "offices" which include our occupation but also our many other roles in life: child, parent, sibling, spouse, friend, neighbor, citizen, etc. Our *vocation* isn't only about what we *do* but also about who we *are*.

Our *vocation*—our *calling*—is to live in *relationship*. In the waters of baptism, God seeks to be in relationship with us when we are named and claimed as a beloved child of God. And, from that moment on, we are *called* to extend that same love in *relationship* with one another. And it is in our *relationships*—both with God and one another—that we find true meaning, great satisfaction, endless wonder, and profound joy.

*Calling. Vocation. Relationship.* These are funny words. Funny words that describe some serious and holy and messy and rewarding work. This work of loving God and one another is the work we have to do. And we can do it! After all, it's the job we were born to do.

Your co-worker,  
-Pastor Per

## Birthday Greetings

to our homebound and semi-homebound members celebrating May birthdays:

- **Steve Olson 5/5**



## Usher Schedule for May

May 7 - Team K - Roger Olson, Captain

May 14 & 21—Team F - Jack Carlson & Jay Stanley, Co-Captains

May 28 - Team I - David Tillotson, Captain

**CTK—Roger Stenson's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday is on May 20—please wish him a happy birthday!**

## Volunteer - Greeting at CTK

Would you be interested in being a greeter on Sunday mornings? We want CTK to be welcoming to those who come in - especially for those who are new and don't know where to go. You can greet on your own, with someone or as a family. All that is required is to arrive by 9:10am and have a smile! If you are interested in greeting, please call the office 952-881-8600 or email Jane V. at [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org). Thank you!

## Thank you!

A thank you for the Valentine & Easter cards sent from the WOW kids. I really appreciate them! ~ Phyllis Berg

## Volunteers for May

If you would like to greet, read, serve/prep communion or serve coffee:

**Readers 5/7, 5/14, and 5/28**

**Communion servers 5/7, 5/14 & 5/28**

**Communion prep on 5/14, 5/21 & 5/28**

**Coffee servers needed on 5/14 & 5/21.**

**Please call the office 952-881-8600 or email Jane V at [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org).**

**Save the date!**  
**CTK Congregational Picnic**  
**Sunday, June 4th**  
**Food, Fellowship & Fun!**  
**Watch for more details & sign-up.**



## CTK Staff

### Pastors

**Rory Philstrom**, Lead Pastor [rphilstrom@ctkb.org](mailto:rphilstrom@ctkb.org)

**Per Halaas**, Pastor of Community Care [phalaas@ctkb.org](mailto:phalaas@ctkb.org)

### Program Staff

**Jane VeVea**, Congregational Coordinator [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org)

**Kristina Elder**, Children's Ministry Director [kelder@ctkb.org](mailto:kelder@ctkb.org)

### Music Staff

**Bjorn Gustafson**, Director of Music [bgustafson@ctkb.org](mailto:bgustafson@ctkb.org)

**Darin Tysdal**, Asst. Music Director [mahlerii@aol.com](mailto:mahlerii@aol.com)

### Administrative

**Jane Bishop**, Financial/Property Administrator [jbishop@ctkb.org](mailto:jbishop@ctkb.org)

### Maintenance

**Dan Lenort**, Custodian [dlenort@ctkb.org](mailto:dlenort@ctkb.org)

## Care Card Minister May

Bev Larson

## June Newsletter Deadline Monday, May 15

Please email newsletter articles to [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org) or leave a hard copy in the church office.

The King's Herald is published monthly by Christ the King Lutheran Church  
Jane VeVea, Editor & Publisher  
[jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org) 952-881-8600

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

The Health cabinet invites you to join us during education hour on **May 7<sup>th</sup>** to learn about QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer).

During this presentation you will learn how to:

- Recognize the warning signs of suicide
- Know how to offer hope
- Know how to get help and save a life

This is available to anyone over the age of 16.

This presentation is provided by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Please sign up on the google form (link below) or contact the church office.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeS9w0hZbs8TIZktr3wgJEQ463W8XYEnc4NWGAQpyOcp_yVaA/viewform)

[e/1FAIpQLSeS9w0hZbs8TIZktr3wgJEQ463W8XYEnc4NWGAQpyOcp\\_yVaA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeS9w0hZbs8TIZktr3wgJEQ463W8XYEnc4NWGAQpyOcp_yVaA/viewform)

There is a limited amount of space so please sign-up if you want to go. The deadline to sign-up is Friday, May 5th. A light snack will be provided.



## Bryant Park Community Garden



There are 35 tall & large boxes (5.5 ft. x 3 ft. x 2 ft.) to rent for **\$20 each** for the season. We will limit rentals to one box per household and if there are any left to rent as of June 1st, we will open them up to those who already have a box.

Go to our website at <https://www.ctkb.org/pages/bryant-park-community-garden--12>

**You can start planting your garden the second full weekend in May.** If you have any questions please call the office, 952-881-8600.

## Affirmation Sunday - May 21 at 9:30am worship

Please join us in celebrating our students getting confirmed on **May 21<sup>st</sup>** during worship. There will be fellowship and treats in the social hall immediately following worship.



## May Open Forums

**May 7** QPR Suicide Prevention with Kay King from MN Dept. of Health

**May 14** Mother's Day - The Sacredness in Each of Us - Biblical grounding for extravagant welcome & RIC Welcome Statement Discussion with Pastor Rory Philstrom

**May 21** Confirmation Sunday—Confirmation Reception



## CHRIST THE KING READS: News from the Library

As I write this just after Easter, the snow in my yard is disappearing and it is a change I take pleasure in. There are a lot of changes happening, with COVID hopefully disappearing. I see people at CTK coming back and gathering, enjoying each other. The Library team would like to remind everyone that we invite you to stop by, browse the shelves for that book you would like to read and check it out.

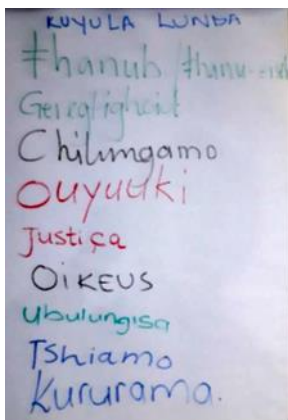
Recently I was pleased to have two books recommended by a Doctor and Pastor Carolyn a chaplain in the hospital. *BEING MORTAL: Medicine and What Matters in the End* and *THE OTHER SIDE OF SADNESS: What the New Science of Bereavement tells Us* about life after loss. Both books are excellent with sound research, on how to make the best of life, taking care of ourselves and our loved ones. These are topics we want to learn about and discuss with our families. These two topics matter. The books are on the shelf.

**INVITATION:** Anyone who likes books and would like to join the Library Team is welcome. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00am in the library. We would like to meet you. Come join us. Any questions call me. Mary Peterson. 952-888-7572.

Dear Friends,

Recently I participated in the annual Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA) Christian Education Coordinators Consultation held in Johannesburg. The theme for the consultation was "Justice for Life" based on Micah 6:8. A central objective of the consultation was to reflect on the theme of justice through the "Reformation lens," of justification by grace through faith, and how this shapes the way we hear, read, teach, worship and live out the Gospel in our respective churches and communities in the LUCSA region. Participants reflected on the concept of "intersectional justice" which looks at the ways in which systems of inequality based on gender, ethnicity, racism, poverty,

disability and class "intersect" reinforcing discrimination and injustice. The African concept of "ubuntu," which means "a person is a person through other persons," was also seen as central to achieving justice. There were devotions, Bible studies, presentations and discussions on Justice and Reconciliation, Child Rights in Church and Society, Economic and Climate Justice, Culture, Ethnicity and Gender Justice and Worship and Justice. Participants shared updates from their respective churches in the Southern Africa region and worked on plans and strategies for the coming year.



*Words for Justice in several languages used in the region*

Thank you for your prayers, support and participation in God's Mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully,

Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson

ELCA Regional Representative - Southern Africa

April 21, 2023

My blog page address is: <https://southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com/>

Please visit my fundraising page. (Note: This fundraising page is set up for individuals' gifts only.)

If you are donating on behalf of a congregation or organization, please visit [ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving](https://www.elca.org/MissionaryGiving) for online giving.

## **Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative/Families Moving Forward**

Through our partnership with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, the Families Moving Forward (FMF) shelter program has been an important part of Christ the King's work in the community for many years. We are so grateful for the many volunteers who have supported and sustained this program for years. Clearly, supporting FMF through time, energy, and faithful generosity has been a way our CTK community has lived out our values and supported our neighbors experiencing homelessness. FMF has been one of the primary ways we as a congregation participated in the Beacon collaborative. However, we have been living with a level of uncertainty around the future of FMF, both in the Hennepin program which closed early in the pandemic, and in Scott and Carver counties which has shifted to hosting families in hotels rather than in congregations.

Beacon has recently announced the decision to transition FMF to His House Foundation-Abundance (HHF), a new provider that will take over by July 1, 2023. The FMF program has been an essential community service for families experiencing homelessness, and the success and stability of current and future families participating in the program was a top priority in deciding to transition the program. Beacon believes that HHF is a great option to support families and meet community needs, and it has confidence in HHF's ability to provide quality care for families. The success of the FMF program has been built on intensive case management, small caseloads, individualized goal plans, and linkage to permanent housing, and HHF has agreed to continue with this approach for at least one year as it assesses how to best provide ongoing services. The transition represents a shift for Beacon away from direct service delivery, allowing the organization to direct its focus and resources toward affordable housing development, sustaining supportive housing services, and impacting public policy to ensure everyone has a home.

Christ the King has long served as a host site for Families Moving Forward, housing and feeding families multiple times throughout the year in our building. Since the pandemic we have continued supporting this program by providing meals to families housed in hotels, even as the program transitioned out of our county. In June, we will provide meals for the last time. With the permanent transition of this program out of our area, we will be reassessing and seeking out new ways to provide direct service and hospitality to our neighbors in times of need.



## Meet a Musician

In this final installment of our program year-long series of Meet a Musician interviews, we meet Elizabeth Olson, longtime member of the Trinity Choir!



*Tell us, Elizabeth, when did you first start doing music...what is your first musical memory?*

I first started singing when I was in elementary school at my church. I was in a kids' choir and I can remember getting all dressed up on Easter and Christmas and singing in front of everyone in church. I grew up Quaker and Congregationalist and both churches were in South Minneapolis: *Minneapolis Friends Meeting* and *Plymouth Congregational Church* on LaSalle Avenue. I began singing in elementary school at Plymouth Congregational with other young kids. That is my first music memory!

*What are the choirs you have sung in over the years?*

As I got older, I was in various choruses in school. In high school I was in "select choir" because the director, Gordon Griegenow, happened to be in my church choir and so was my dad. Since my dad knew Mr. G. (as he was called), from church, he persuaded him to let me join the "select choir" at St. Louis Park High School. Those years were the most fun I have had musically. We sang some great music, one of which is "There Shall a Star" (by Felix Mendelssohn) which is still one of my favorites today.

*I know you love that piece by how enthusiastic you were when Trinity Choir sang it a couple Christmases ago!*

*Which musical ensembles outside of CTK have you been part of?*

For two years Steve and I were members of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville where we sang in the choir there. Then when we moved to Bloomington and joined CTK, we both wanted to join another choir. After several years, Steve dropped out, but I stayed on. There have been a few great memories of being in the CTK choir. One being the shock of when I walked in one night for practice and there was Ralph Johnson. Ralph and I knew each other from singing in the choir at St. Louis Park Senior High. Another joy of being in Trinity Choir was the friends I made and still have today. And most of the music has also been really fun to sing!

*What sort of music do you listen to?*

I mostly enjoy listening to music of the '50s and '60s.

*How does doing music influence your faith and religious life?*

While I really don't have a favorite hymn, I respond to and like quite a lot of them. I like songs that are lively, bright and happy.

*Well said Liz! Even on a gloomy day, a bright hymn of praise can really change one's outlook!*



# Children, Youth and Family

thankyou

Thank you to the Christ the King Foundation for sponsoring the Easter Egg hunt. There were at least 30 children that participated in finding over 800 eggs. Easter brunch served over 160 people. Shout out to Becca Schmitz for being the Easter Brunch director. Thank you, Bartimaeus, for the beautiful centerpieces. Thank you, Abbey Rivers and Zach Marotz, for leading the youth. Thank you to all the youth and their families. Thank you all for participating and helping with the many parts of Easter Fun! Thank you all for celebrating Easter with us at Christ The King!

**Youth Event  
May 7th - Brunch  
with Abbey & Zach  
after worship service**

## Dates in May

**May 10th - Last Wednesday of W.O.W. and Confirmation programs until fall**  
**May 14th - Children singing in Worship**  
**May 21st - Confirmation Sunday**



## Spring Plant Sale Pick-Up - May 15

Plants and gift cards will be ready for pick up on **Monday, May 15 from 4:00-6:00 PM** at CTK in the courtyard by the gazebo. Please let us know if you will be unable to pick up your plants and/or need delivery help. If you have questions about pick up or delivery, please contact: Sarah Marotz, [sarah@ceramicbytes.com](mailto:sarah@ceramicbytes.com)



## VBS (Vacation Bible School)

**Save the Date! June 12-15**

**5:00pm-8:00pm**

This year's theme is "Food Truck Party"!

**Watch for the registration link and more information!**

**If you would like to Volunteer for VBS, we would love your help.**

**Please email me: at [kelder@ctkb.com](mailto:kelder@ctkb.com)**

## May's GIFT of LOVE

### VEAP ... Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People

VEAP has been helping our neighbors in need for 49 years and is an important partner of Christ the King. They focus on pathways to stability for families, children and the elderly through programs that promote access to healthy foods, stable housing and other supportive services. VEAP is able to leverage buying power through a number of programs ... purchasing healthy foods at a reduced cost means we they can meet more needs and make a larger impact. Because of this, VEAP can feed an individual for as little as \$1.00 for 3 days. Christ the King and VEAP have been partners for a very long time and together we can continue to care for our neighbors. Please consider making a financial donation in May. Imagine the difference your generosity can make! **Many Many Thanks!**

### From the Minneapolis Area Synod – a THANK YOU

We received a letter from our local synod, thanking us for our congregation's contribution to our local synod, and missionaries. They write: "On behalf of the Synod Council and the entire Minneapolis Area Synod, thank you for your generosity and support of God's work in this place and across the globe. In 2002, the people of our synod gave nearly \$100 million in offerings to their congregations, and over \$2.7 million of those funds were shared as mission support." Fifty cents of every dollar is sent on to the ELCA churchwide organization. "Our church's three institutional expressions (congregation, synod, and churchwide) work together in God's mission of creative and redeeming love."

Mission support helps the ministry of our synod in many ways. 30% goes toward such things as summer youth programs, working with call committees and congregations through pastoral transitions, investing in ethnic and culturally specific and multicultural congregations. 37% goes to caring for and equipping leaders including pastors, deacons and elected leaders. About a third goes toward campus ministries, Luther Seminary, partnering with the Minnesota Council of churches including truth-telling and reparations work, and global partnerships with Nigeria and Germany. Our congregation also contributes to the support of two missionaries.

### Treasurer's Report for March

March 2023 total income was \$56,561.13 and disbursements were \$60,215.28 making us behind for the month by \$3,654.15. Year to date, our actual income is \$166,468.67 with expenses being \$178,696.71 This puts us behind for the year by \$12,228.04. We are grateful for your financial support and for all the many ways you tend to our life together and to the work God calls us to do. If you have any questions regarding the financials, please feel free to contact CTKB Treasurer, Don Perlich at [dperlich@yahoo.com](mailto:dperlich@yahoo.com) or Jane Bishop, Financial & Property Administrator. Grace & Peace!

*thankful*

	March Budget	March Actual	YTD Actual
Income	\$ 59,690.15	\$ 56,561.13	\$166,468.67
Disbursements	\$ 60,035.49	\$ 60,215.28	\$178,696.71
Margin (Deficit)	\$ -345.34	\$ -3,654.15	\$ -12,228.04





# May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting-SH  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 5:00p Chronic Cond	2 10:00a Staff Meeting  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Chapel Ringers 6:30p Yoga 7:00p AWB	3 8:30a Bible Study 10:00a Library Team  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal <b>6:00p Worship</b> 6:00p WOW-#36 6:45p Confirm-#10 7:00p Trinity Choir	4	5 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	6
7 8:30a KCC-WC <b>9:30a Worship</b> 10:30a Maranatha-LL 10:45a - Adult Forum 10:45a Youth Brunch w/Abbey & Zach	8 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting-SH  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 5:00p Chronic Cond	9 10:00a Staff Meeting  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:00p Chapel Ringers 6:30p Yoga 7:30p Emotions Anonymous-110	10 8:30a Bible Study  4:30p Bartimaeus-LG 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal <b>6:00p Worship</b> 6:00p WOW-#36 6:45p Confirm-#10 7:00p Trinity Choir 7:30p Health Cabinet	11	12 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	13
14 <b>Happy Mother's Day</b> <b>9:30a Worship</b> 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Adult Forum - SH	15 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting-SH  4:00p Plant Pick-up 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 5:00p Chronic Cond	16 10:00a Staff Meeting  Noon Judean Circle - LG  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:30p Yoga 7:00p Council-LG	17 8:30a Bible Study  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal <b>6:00p Worship</b> 6:45p Chapel Ringers 7:30p Trinity Choir	18	19 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	20 3:00p Anthem Academy of Music Recital
21 <b>Affirmation of Baptism</b> 8:30a KCC-WC <b>9:30a Worship</b> 10:30a Maranatha-LG 10:45a Food & Fellowship with Confirmands	22 8:30a Church Chore Crew (CCC) 9:00a Quilting-SH  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 5:00p Chronic Cond	23 10:00a Staff Meeting  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:30p Yoga 7:30p Emotions Anonymous-110	24 8:30a Bible Study  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal <b>6:00p Worship</b> 6:45p Chapel Ringers 7:30p Trinity Choir	25	26 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal	27
28 <b>Pentecost</b> <b>9:30a Worship</b> 10:30a Maranatha-LG	29 <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office/Building Closed</b>	30 10:00a Staff Meeting  5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal 6:30p Yoga	31 8:30a Bible Study 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Take out meal <b>6:00p Worship</b> 6:45p Chapel Ringers			