

Christiania Newsletter



We start with Christ **in our** serving, **in our** caring, **in our** growing

Rally Day Sunday September 11

- 8:30am Non-Traditional Worship
w/ Nitty Gritty Church Band
- 9:30-9:45am Sunday School
Registration (meet in the Youth Room)
- 9:45-10:45am Meet the Animals
and Hayrides
- 10:45am Non-Traditional Worship
w/ Nitty Gritty Church Band
- 12:00 noon Meal
Pig Roast w/ all the "fixins"



JOIN US ON THIS FUN DAY!!!

Worship at Christiania

September 4—Luke 14:7-14

9:15am Traditional/Communion

September 11—Luke 15:1-10

8:30am Non-Traditional*

10:45am Non-Traditional*

RALLY DAY!!

September 18—Luke 16:1-13

8:30am Traditional/Communion

10:45am Non-Traditional/Communion*

September 25—Luke 16:19-31

8:30am Traditional

10:45am Non-Traditional*

* Service led by the Nitty Gritty Church Band



Sunday School News
Sunday begins September 11 with registration and other fun events. Meet in the Youth Room.
Classes will start on Sunday, September 18.

Bible Exploration/Bible Sunday

Third Graders will receive their Bibles on September 18 (at both services).

A class will be scheduled for October.

Watch for email with additional information.



*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And a light unto my path"*

Psalm 119:105

Crisp mornings, roaring school buses bustling around the neighborhood picking up children, Friday night football games are all signs that autumn arrived and school is back in session.

Rally Day kicks off our faith formation programs, Sunday School, Confirmation, and adult forums. Our children will sign up for classes along with other festivities as in years past.

A faith formation team met several times this summer and concluded that we would move from the Sunday School rotational model to the classroom model. The rotational model applied one Bible story for several weeks in different contexts: drama, cooking, crafts, etc. The classroom model will focus on a new Bible story every week with the same teacher. In addition, parents will receive a weekly lesson leaflet to take home to discuss as a family.

As much work as our church puts forth for children's education, the research still clearly demonstrates that family time is by far the most important influence in faith development of our young people. Most children will spend more time watching TV in a month than in Sunday School for a year so family faith time is critical.

We cannot downplay the importance of taking faith home in the leaflets. The classroom model will cost more, but we feel the benefit outweighs the cost. Another factor that is important in faith development are mentors in the faith via Sunday School teachers and helpers. If we are to win over the outside influences that take our children away from a faith life, we all must be actively engaging and integrating them into the life of discipleship.

Several teachers and interested members researched Confirmation curriculum in a parallel effort. We settled on "Colaborate." Both Sunday School and Confirmation curriculums are developed by Augsburg Sparkhouse, our Lutheran publisher.

Confirmation will engage our young people in more conversation about their faith and living it out in the world. We will spend two years on the Bible (grades 6-7) and two years on Lutheran doctrine (grades 8-9). We will model the "flip classroom" method where the young people watch a short online video with assignments to complete before attending the upcoming lesson.

Our Membership Ministry Team has sought out new ways to encourage conversation while learning about our faith. The success from our last Lenten series spurred a 3-part series on the Muslim faith to be presented early this autumn.

As we begin a new school year, I encourage you to prayerfully consider enhancing your faith through education, devotions, and worship participation.



Y O U T H

colaborate Lutheran Confirmation

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Wednesday, September 14

Confirmation Parent/Student Meeting

Please plan to attend to receive important information about the Confirmation program.

Wednesday, September 21:

- * 6th and 7th Grade Students will be going to FMSC
- * 8th and 9th Grade Students—Lesson I

Wednesday, September 28

- * 6th and 7th Grade Students—Lesson I
- * 8th and 9th Grade Students—Team Building

Children, Youth and Family Leader Update:

A hiring committee has been formed to start the process of finding a candidate for the CYF Leader position. Hiring committee members are Kim Robertson, Brian McGregor, Karen Frame, Adam Fausch, Kris Geissler, Dan Richter, Madison Coffing and Pastor Dave Mesaros.

The job opening has been posted on several websites including the ELCA Synod websites and newsletters throughout Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Iowa and western Wisconsin.

At this time we are receiving resumes and have conducted a couple of interviews. If you have questions about the process please ask any of the committee members listed above. Watch the website and announcements for further updates.

We are very excited to announce our new Confirmation Curriculum!!! Colaborate - Lutheran Confirmation



**Our 6th & 7th Graders will learn the Bible together.
The New Testament this year and the Old Testament next year.**

**Our 8th & 9th Graders will explore the Lutheran Catechism.
Lutheran Living this year and Lutheran History & Catechism next year.**

The 2016-2017 Confirmation materials were sent out to all 6th, 7th, 8th & 9th Graders. If you did not receive your materials, please contact the church office.

See the website for: Registration forms, schedules & information.



**Mark your calendars—6th and 7th Graders
Wednesday, September 21** going to FMSC
(we need to leave the church by 5:30pm)

Friday, November 11 going to the Temple of Aaron Synagogue. (No class for 6th & 7th Graders on Wednesday, November 9)

Please contact Pastor Dave if you have any questions.



Confirmation Students

Go to Sign-up Genius for assignments

6th-7th Graders: Acolyte

8th-9th Graders: Usher

6th-9th Graders: Coffee Serving



Christiania Choirs

Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir rehearsals will start on Wednesday, September 7 at 6:30pm. Performance dates are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| September 18 | February 12 |
| October 16 | March 12 |
| November 20 | April 14 (Good Friday) |
| December 11 | April 16 (Easter) |
| January 15 | May 21 |

Handbell Choirs

The Handbell Choirs will start rehearsal on Wednesday, September 28. Performance dates are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| October 23 - 8:30am | January 29 - 8:30am |
| November 27 - 10:45am | February 26 - 10:45am |
| December 18 - 10:45am | March 19 - 8:30am |
| | April 23 - 10:45am |

Handbell Directors: Debbie Lundeen blun664735@aol.com
952 469-5882 (home)
Sharon Thompson sharonthompson@frontiernet.net
952-469-2698 (home)

Chorister Choir

(Children IN Kindergarten through Grade 5)
The children will rehearse songs during the Sunday School opening each Sunday morning. Watch the Announcements and website for more information.

Youth Singers

The Youth Singers rehearsal will start Wednesday, September 28. The Youth Singer will rehearse each Wednesday that confirmation classes meet and there are no outside activities scheduled. Performance dates are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| October 9—8:30am | February 19-8:30am |
| November 27— 8:30am | April 30—10:45am |
| January 22—10:45am | |

MUSIC PROJECTION UPDATE

The response to the music projection has been very positive! Not only have we heard that the younger generation can better relate to it, many adults enjoy the benefits of looking up, praising, and singing together! Just to clarify, we will continue to keep hymnals and bulletins as options in the pews along with the possibility of the words to the songs projected in front. We could begin with the basic power point program and hope to grow into a “real” music projection program after we get the basics down well and have good support and involvement. That is where YOU come in! If you have any computer skills, you are a step ahead of me! So now, we are looking for some of you “techy” people to help us out by enhancing the slides and running the program. Please catch me on a Sunday or Wednesday; or give me a call, text, or email if you are able to help!
Juli Skillman at 952-393-8158, juliskillman@gmail.com

A Farewell Message from Tom Carlson

I would like to take this opportunity to say a final farewell to the congregation of Christiania Lutheran Church and thank each and every member for all the love and support I have felt there for the last eleven years. I realize that these final weeks will go by in a flash and I will be soon missing all the friendly faces and the passing of the peace on Sunday mornings. However much I will miss you all, I must put my wonderful wife, Roxanne before my own feelings as she struggles with her many health issues.

Special thanks to Pastor Dave Mesaros whom I consider a personal friend. Pastor Dave was always very respectful of my time and the fact that I lived 35 miles from church. I was allowed to complete the majority of my work from a home office, which worked well since space was lacking at Christiania for an office area there. I was never asked to make an unnecessary trip to church which allowed me more time to honor all the special requests from Christiania musicians (you're welcome Bruce).

Please welcome Matt Steinbron as you welcomed me in September, 2005, and help him keep the wonderful musical life you have at Christiania growing and prospering.



Tom Carlson

Welcome Matt!!!

Please join us as we welcome Matt to our staff at Christiania. Watch for more information on Matt in upcoming Newsletters.



Dinner Groups

Have you considered joining a Dinner Group! Dinner groups consist of 6 to 8 adults (not necessarily couples) who meet about 4 times a year to share a meal and fellowship. This can be in each other's homes (the hostess provides the main course, guests bring hors d'oeuvres, salad and dessert) or at a restaurant. A sign-up sheet is posted on the kiosk.

Prayers for our Congregation

Please remember the following in your prayers –

Bridget Anderson
Orville Nelson
Philip Tupa
Crisa Aasen
Brianna Streefland
Ron Petersen
Tim Krenz
Danielle Hartwell
Dorothy Kirsebom



Due to space concerns, we ask you to check our website, announcements or the prayer chain email for additional prayer concerns.

*Equal
Exchange
Fair
Trade
Coffee*



Christiania Lutheran Church Women (CLCW) support the Lutheran World Relief Coffee small farmer co-ops.

All summer at Christiania, during Fellowship Coffee Hour, Fair Trade Coffee was served. That coffee, Café Salvador, and with other flavors, are sold in the display case by the Information Desk in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have a favorite Equal Exchange Fair Trade Coffee not see in the display please let Colleen Powell know at (952) 469-2789.

Thanks for your support!!

“Our Muslim Neighbors”

Adult Forum classes—9:40am to 10:40am

Sunday, September 18

An Introduction to Islam

Sunday, September 25

Guest Speaker Ibad Jafri

Sunday, October 2

Rewind: A reflection on what we heard

The first class will be an Introduction on Islam. On Sunday, September 25, our Muslim neighbor, Ibad Jafri, will be joining us to answer questions you may have and talk about living as a Muslim in the U.S. The last class will give you a chance to review.

Join us as we explore our neighbors faith in this 3-part series.

Planned by the Membership Ministry Team -
Lonna Selkirk, Tia Smith, Norma Christianson and
Leif Johnson

Classic Car/Tractor Sunday was a great success – beautiful weather, great participation with many vehicles of all ages, shapes and sizes in our parking lot for all to enjoy, good food and great Christiania fellowship! A special **THANK YOU** to Arnie Schultz, Harold Martin, Kersten Richter and the Congregational Life Ministry Team for all their work with this event!



Christiania Lutheran Church

26691 Pillsbury Avenue Lakeville, MN 55044

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Friday

Telephone Numbers

Office 952-461-2283
Fax 952-461-4182
Email lbauer@christianialutheranchurch.org

Web Address: www.ChristianiaLutheranChurch.org

Christiania Staff

Dave Mesaros Senior Pastor
Linda Bauer Office Manager
Harold Martin Custodian
Matt Steinbron Worship/Music Coordinator
Rachel Fausch Treasurer

Other Contacts:

Andrew Wilkins Council President
Juli Skillman Care Team Coordinator
Cheryl Schindeldecker Altar Guild
Debbie Lundeen Bells Director
Joe Jorgensen Chorister Choir Director
Linda Otto Church Women (CLCW)
Bob Monio Usher Co-Coordinator
Daryl Rieck Usher Co-Coordinator

September Ministries

Lectors

Sept. 4 9:15
Sept. 11 8:30
10:45
Sept. 18 8:30
10:45
Sept. 25 8:30
10:45

Greeters

Sept. 4 Bill & Nyla Novotny
Sept. 11 Barb Bachman
Sept. 18 Larry & Vicky Thompson
Sept. 25 Merlin Leine & Karla Schrader

Offering Counters

Sept. 4 Eunice Estrem, Brad Smith
Sept. 11 Brad Smith, Judy Hanson
Sept. 18 Judy Hanson, Sue Jacobson
Sept. 25 Sue Jacobson, Bonnie Lindquist

Communion Assistants

Sept. 4 9:15 Madalyn Petersen
Sept. 18 8:30 Larry & Vicky Thompson
10:45

Coffee Servers

Sept. 11 Rally Day
Sept. 18 Bernie & Jane Ward
Sept. 25 Jack & Joan Eckdahl

Wednesday Meals

Christiania is hosting Wednesday Meals again this Confirmation season, but before we start that, I need to give out huge thanks to the people who supported it last year. In the 2015-2016 year, we served 20 weeks and fed over 700 plates of food! Thank you to everyone who cooked the main dishes and helped in the kitchen, namely the Richter & Erickson families, Amy Lindquist, Bertie Mohling, Cheryl Bahnsen, Robin Martin, Martha Donahoe, Alan Ritchie, Cheryl Schindeldecker, Juli Skillman, Louise Anderson & Jane Ward, Sara Sprosty, the Youth Committee, and our faithful dishwasher, David Anderson!

This is a wonderful ministry that provides not only a meal for people and families who have confirmation, worship band, choirs, Bible studies, and various meetings to attend Wednesday nights, but also a great fellowship for those who come out simply to enjoy a good meal with friends. My family and I love serving in this way. Our first meal this year will be September 28th, and we run throughout the Confirmation season. If you would like to cook a main dish (we provide all side dishes, desserts, and beverages), please contact me—Rachel Fausch at 612-756-0406 or rachel.fausch@hotmail.com.

Save for SEPTEMBER 2016 Calendar

GREETINGS FROM YOUR PROPERTY COMMITTEE

MOWING OF THE CHURCH LAWN – You know how tired you get of having to mow your lawn week after week. Think about LeRoy Clausen... he has diligently mowed the church lawn every week. Thank you LeRoy for your dedication.

SCOUT PROJECT – One of our member's son is going for his Eagle Scout badge. He will be refurbishing the playground - power wash, sand, stain and replace boards that need replacing, change the seats on the swing set and place edging around the mulch under the playset, all on the north side of our church. We sure raise good kids.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING - On June 20, the Property Committee met with the East and West Cemetery Committees. Discussion was held on the ten headstones at both cemeteries that need repair. Monument companies will be contacted and a quote obtained to get these fixed. A brief discussion was held on the possible future use of columbarium at both cemeteries to house burial urns. Highview Christiania recently installed one. This will be discussed more in the future. They also discussed recruiting new members to take over their responsibilities when they are unable to do so. Please talk to Gordy Thompson, Don Storlie, Jack Eckdahl, or Merlin Leine if you would like to help.

The majority of the discussion centered on free cemetery plots and who is eligible for a free plot. A policy was drafted that needs to be reviewed by the committees before it is sent to the Executive Council for approval – hopefully in September or October – but the major points are:

At the time the Executive Council approves the policy, all active members, as defined by the new constitution, will be eligible for a free cemetery plot.

After the date the policy is adopted, new members will be charged a minimal charge; inactive members and non-members will be assessed a higher charge. These charges will be set by the Executive Council when the policy is adopted.

At their July 5 meeting, the Executive Council approved the review of the Membership Roster and the removal of those members not meeting the minimum criteria set forth in the Christiania Constitution. Come to church, donate your time and talents to God's house and you will continue to be an active member.

ACOUSTIC TILE IN FELLOWSHIP – The tile is up in the Fellowship Hall and there is a noticeable improvement. Any further improvement in the sound quality would require panels on our ceiling and we do not want to cover up that beautiful wood. Thank you for your patience.

FLOORING FOR THE EDUCATION WING AND YOUTH ROOM – Discussions are still ongoing on what is best for flooring in the Education Wing and Youth Room. The Décor Advisory Committee has volunteered to assist in this project.

OUTSIDE PAINTING – Another reminder that volunteers are needed to paint the window trim on the north and east side of the church.

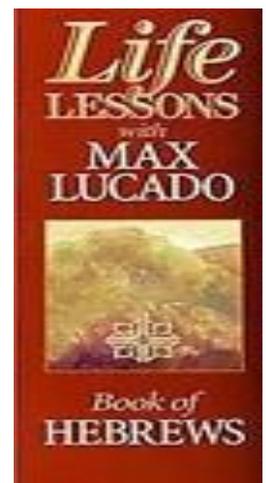
CHURCH INVENTORY – Our insurance company has requested that we do an inventory of all contents of our church. Jeff Otto volunteered to create a video of all of our rooms. He set up an Access database. When the inventory is complete, we will have a very good idea of the value of our contents in case of a disaster. Thank you Jeff.

Blessings from your Property Committee: Warren Peterson, Steve Anderson, Brad Smith,
Jeanne Nash Hoffmann, and Council Liaison Christian Donovan

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Interested in learning how your faith can affect your life?

Wednesday evening bible study may be just what you are looking for. Our focus is to learn more about the Christian faith and practical implications of following Christ. With the help of a Life Lessons study guide by Max Lucado (which can be purchased on line or at the Lifeway bookstore in Burnsville), we will be studying the book of Hebrews. Please join us Wednesday evenings 7:30-8:15! No experience necessary. For additional information or questions, call, text or email Juli Skillman 952-393-8158, juliskillman@gmail.com



Welcome to Stewardship 2017!

Is 2% a large number in your weekly budget? Eating out, we typically leave 20% in tips for the wait staff. Minnesota sales tax takes 6.88% of your purchase. Compared to those numbers 2% is pretty small.

If you give \$10,000 to Christiania every year 2% is \$200, if you give \$1000, 2% is \$20, finally \$100 equates to \$2.

Our yearly budget is \$375,000 for offering. If all members increased their giving by 2% then our budget would increase \$7500 next year.

Why do we ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your giving 2%? We have added to our staff full-time employees to enhance our local ministries in music and children, youth, and family. We believe strengthening our staff will strengthen our programming, thus strengthen the faith of our members.

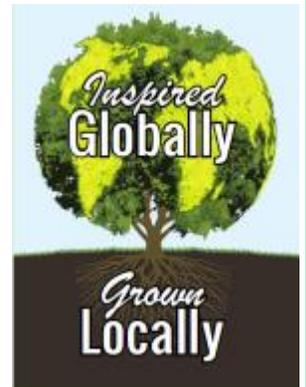
Stewardship month is approaching soon. Our theme continues to be "Grown Locally, Inspired Globally." Once again we will be collecting change so dig out your coin bank and begin setting aside your change. In honor of our theme, we will be splitting the collected change for the Sunday School Program, and providing a student scholarship for our partner congregation in Ihemi, Tanzania.

As we look forward to 2017, the coming year presents many changes and challenges for us as a congregation. We have a new Worship Coordinator/Organist, and at the time of writing are actively searching for a CYF Leader. We also have many updates to our property that will help improve the experience of worship, fellowship and growth in Christ for our members.

We have made recent improvements for the roof, eliminating moisture and odor from the Sunday school wing, and sound mitigation in the fellowship hall.

Thank you for prayerfully considering increasing your commitment to Christiania.

Thank you,
Christiania Stewardship Ministry Team



Quilt Auction: Camp Onomia's primary fundraiser is an annual Quilt Auction which will be taking place September 17th. Our CLCW creates and donates a beautiful quilt. This quilt is often one of the highest bid items of the entire event.



Big News from Camp Onomia Camp Board Initiates New Improvements to Summer Facilities!

After two years of research and development, this month the Camp Board has approved plans to remodel the aging summer dorms and kitchen at Onomia. Pending approval at a special meeting of the association called for September 11th, the camp is proposing to borrow funds to make substantive improvements to some of our summer facilities which were built over 60 years ago.

The Project, coined "*An Extreme Makeover for a New Tomorrow*" will resolve many issues with our buildings which relate directly with the quality of program which we can offer here.

We are **EXCITED** by the quality of services that these improvements will bring to both our present camper base and to new churches who may decide to experience **CAMP ONOMIA SUMMER MINISTRIES!**



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Lakeville, MN 55044

A Publication of Christiania Lutheran Church

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Worship Schedule

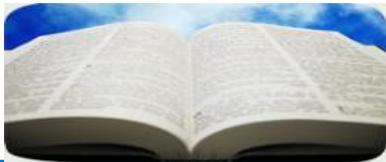
Sunday:

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Education & Fellowship
- 10:45 a.m. Non-Traditional Worship

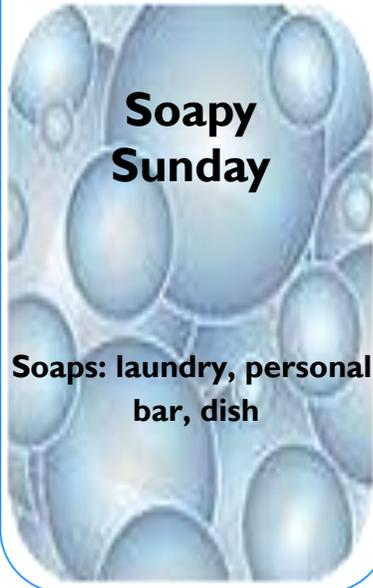
www.ChristianiaLutheranChurch.org

DATED MATERIAL

**Thursday Morning Bible Study 10:00 AM
Led by Pastor Dave**



**September Food-Shelf
Donations**



**Soapy
Sunday**

**Soaps: laundry, personal,
bar, dish**

**Book Discussion
Group**

Don't skip dessert--life is short. Reading a good book after many mediocre ones is kind of like dessert. The discussion is always good so join us at 11:30 and bring a bag lunch.

September 28th
A SPOOL OF BLUE THREAD
by Anne Tyler

October 26th
DEFENDING JACOB
by William Landay

Annual Artisan Sale

We are excited and look forward to our 3rd annual sale coming up in October. We encourage more members to become involved. All funds raised go directly to CLCW projects.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Mary at (952) 237-8063 or
Tolly at (952) 892-6306

Thanks,
Mary Ovans & Tolly Swan

Norwegian Supper

Saturday, October 29

Please see insert for important information and dates.



Deadline for the **October 2016** edition of the Christiania Newsletter is **Sept. 18**.
Email to Linda Bauer at
lbauer@christianialutheranchurch.org.