

THE

KING'S HERALD

APRIL 2024



CHRIST the KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

As the body of Christ, we are called and sent to love and serve the world.



Senior Pastor

Rev. Caroline Satre
csatre@ctkluth.com

Pastor

Rev. Brad Davick
Cell: (847) 271.1413

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Loren Van Oort

Music Ministries

Hillary Doerries

Office Manager

Peggy Sudrovehc

Business Manager

Jeff Eleff

Bookkeeper

Jeanine Larson

Mission Coordinator

Jill Harms

**Child & Adult Faith
Formation Coordinator**

Sarah Felde

Multimedia Coordinator

Kristen Franklin

Custodian

Jean Schlemmer

Choir Accompanist

Bev Butler

**The King's Herald
Design**

Shawn Freehling and
Sarah Felde

The King's Herald is a
monthly newsletter of
Christ the King Lutheran
Church. It can also be
found on our website:
ctkluth.com/kingsherald

THE LION, THE LAMB, AND THE GROWING SEASON

As I write this article, March is doing its usual dance between the lion and the lamb. Earlier in the month it seemed as if the lamb would declare an early victory, but the lion (and my winter coat) resurfaced just in time for spring. Yet, at this time of year...as we head toward the Easter feast of the Lamb...it won't last long.

For the most part, that's how it's been all winter long. Except for a cold snap in January, the lion didn't have much clout this year. (February was the warmest on record for North America and Europe!) Despite the milder climes, however, I still find myself rejoicing in the longer and warmer days. I still find my mood lifting with each moment of sunshine. I, for one, am ready for spring.

As April comes upon us...and bits of green start sticking up out of last year's mulch...and summer's magnetism begins pulling us in its direction, the Bible readings on Sunday morning also take an agrarian turn. At the end of the month, we'll focus on the pastoral image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. The following Sunday we'll hear Jesus say, "I am the vine, you are the branches." Then, as the growing season really gets underway, Jesus says "You did not choose me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last..."

Perhaps, then, it's not only the earth that is ripe for a new beginning.

Be With Me in My Unfolding*

*It is spring, Lord,
and the land is coming up green again,
unfolding
outside my well-drawn boundaries
and urgent schedules.
And there is the mystery
and the smile of it.
The willows are dripping honey color into the rivers,
And the mother birds are busy in manger nests...
Even the city seems to be rubbing its eyes
from a long sleep;
and there is a promise in the season
I know no name for
except life.*

*It is spring, Lord,
and something stirs in me,
reaching, stretching,
groping for words,
peeking through my defenses,
beckoning in my laughter,
riding on past my fears,
pulsing in my music.*

(continued on page 3)

THE LION, THE LAMB, AND THE GROWING SEASON

(continued from page 2)



*And there is the mystery
and the smile of it.
Be with me in my reaching
so I will touch or be touched
this time
by a grace, a warmth, a light,
to unfold my life to a new beginning,
a fresh budding,
a spring within as well as around me.
O Lord, you have sketched the lines of spring.
Be with me in my unfolding.*

Perhaps this prayer for a spring within as well as a spring around will be meaningful as the growing season gets underway. Happy Easter, happy spring, and happy growing!

—Pastor Caroline

MATTHEW 25 PROJECT

Thank You, CtK!

Thank you, CtK, for your involvement and generosity throughout the Matthew 25 Project. Here's just a sampling of the many ways we loved and served our community this Lent:

- Together, we donated over 150 sticks of **deodorant** that were included in welcome kits distributed to people served by the Center for the Homeless, Dismas House, Hope Ministries, Our Lady of the Road, St. Margaret's House, Upper Room Recovery Community, and YWCA. Thanks to all who donated and/or volunteered with bag assembly and distribution!
- With your help, we filled 200 **Easter baskets** for children at LaSalle Park Homes, El Campito, and Hope for the Hungry. Thank you to everyone who brought in items, donated cash, and/or helped sort donations and decorate crayon boxes!
- Again this year, CtK was a partner in the **Spring Break Food Packs** initiative conducted in conjunction with Clay Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone who brought in food or gave cash to purchase milk and eggs. Your generosity helped fill dozens of bags for families throughout Michiana!
- Thank you to all who volunteered at **Cultivate Food Rescue** this Lent, whether as part of the Women's Journey group, through the Matthew 25 family service event, or on your own. Your hard work helped fill thousands of bellies in our community!
- Many thanks to everyone who participated in **"Soup & Art"** and **Holden Evening Prayer** services throughout the Lenten season. Your gifts of food, service, discussion, prayer, and song helped nourish our bodies and our souls.



Raclin Murphy Museum Tour

Thursday, April 18 • 5:30 pm

Save the date for a special outing to the new **Raclin Murphy Museum of Art** at Notre Dame! All are welcome to join Pastor Caroline and others from Ctk for a tour of the museum on **Thursday, April 18**.

The tour will be led by Emily Normand, a fellow for Religion and Spirituality and the Visual Arts at the museum. Our primary focus will be the pieces discussed at our “Soup & Art” evenings throughout Lent. All are welcome, even if you weren’t able to attend “Soup & Art.”

The tour begins at **5:30 pm**. Meet us at the museum, but please let us know you are coming by signing up in the narthex or filling out the online form at ctkluth.com/events.



It's Youth Flower Sale Time!

Spring is finally here! Time to start thinking about sprucing up your yards and patios with beautiful flowers!



Our annual **Youth Flower Sale** is a great way to order your annuals, patio pots, and hanging baskets in time for Mother’s Day, while also supporting the Urban Plunge Youth Trip to New York City and Washington, DC.

For more information about the flower sale, including an order form with a price list, please visit ctkluth.com/youthflowers. You can also pick up an order form in the narthex or church office.

All order forms and payment must be submitted by **Wednesday, April 24**. Flowers will be available for pickup at Ctk on **Friday, May 10**, from **6–8 pm**. Delivery is also available upon request.

If you have any questions, please contact Faith Jordan at tfjordan3@comcast.net.

Farewell Blessing for the Wendlings

Sunday, April 7

After more than five decades at Christ the King, **Merl and Karen Wendling** are moving to Albuquerque to be closer to family.

Ctk will send the Wendlings off with a blessing during the **9:30 am** service on **Sunday, April 7**, followed by donut holes and juice in the narthex. Please join us to share your well wishes and thanks!



Whodunit Mystery and Dinner

Round up the crew and join us for an unforgettable night! The theme of this year's whodunit is an all-class reunion for Indiana Polytech University, home of the Possums. This Fellowship Committee event has something for everyone: food, fun, and intrigue. Plus, the proceeds will support this summer's Urban Plunge Youth Trip!



When:

Saturday, April 27,
6 pm (doors open at 5:45 pm)

Where:

Van Oort Hall

Cost:

Tickets are \$25 per person or \$175 for a table of 8. Tickets will be on sale April 7 through April 21. **Payment must be received by April 21 to guarantee your reservation.** You may drop off payment at the registration table in the narthex or at the church office.

How to Register:

Please complete the registration for you and anyone you'd like to sit with using the online registration form available via ctkluth.com/events. You may also register in person in the narthex. The Fellowship Committee will be available to help you complete your registration form when you buy your ticket.

How to Get Involved:

- **Submit pictures from your time in high school or college.** You may drop them off in Jill Harms' mailbox. Please write your name on the back of your photos so that we may return them to you.
- **Help raise additional funds for our youth by purchasing a mocktail or participating in games** like "Guess the Graduate" (using the photos you've submitted), "Guess the Victim," and "Guess the Mascot."
- **Don your blue and white and catch-up with some of PU's most famous alumni:**
 - **Dr. Phineas T. Bluster:** Plastic surgeon to the stars and host of his own reality TV show on TLC
 - **Lana (Langley) Bluster:** Former cheerleader, beauty queen, and wife of Dr. Phineas T. Bluster
 - **Claudia Clifford:** Number-two best-selling horror author who is looking for content for her next book
 - **Dr. Milton Covina:** Host of the weekly call-in radio show "I'm Fine and You're Okay"
 - **Gloria Dowd:** Police department staffer and host of the podcast "Dowd You Do It? Tales of True Crime"
 - **Peggy Garfinkle:** One-time actress and cheerleader who now works as a librarian
 - **Frankie McCall:** Retired Air Force Master Sergeant and NASA test pilot
 - **Molly (Buford) Salem:** Former student body president and reunion planner extraordinaire



Second Half Adventurers

Wednesday, April 10 • 11:30 am–1 pm

Join the **Second Half Adventurers** on **Wednesday, April 10**, at the Clay Church Firehouse Campus. We'll share lunch and fellowship, then enjoy a performance by the New Horizons Band of Elkhart. Lunch is included in the cost of the event (\$10), and pre-registration is required. Sign up at ctkluth.com/events.

Mental Health Awareness Sunday

Sunday, May 5 • 8:15, 9:30, & 11:15 Worship

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month. At Christ the King, we welcome all people, including people living with mental illness, their caregivers, and their loved ones.

People living with a mental health challenge are ordinary people just like me and you: called and sent to love and serve the world within a faith community where all of God's people belong.

In the 15th chapter of John's gospel, Jesus says:

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

On Sunday, May 5, please join us to discover how the gift of Christian friendship can be life-giving to people living with mental illness, and therefore, lifegiving to Christ's church.

Grace and peace,
Dr. Hillary Doerries

Director of Music Ministries
Fresh Hope for Mental Health, *facilitator*



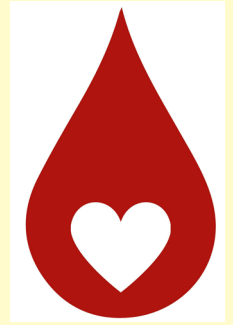
LOVING & SERVING

South Bend Medical Foundation Blood Drive

Sunday, April 14 • 8 am–12 pm

Did you know there is currently a national blood shortage? To help fill the need for blood and blood products, CtK is hosting a **blood drive** on **Sunday, April 14**, from **8 am to noon**. To register, go to ctkluth.com/events. Blood donations will occur in the South Bend Medical Foundation bloodmobile, parked outside the church.

Future CtK blood drive dates are June 9, August 4, September 29, and November 24.



"Big Check" Presentation and Guest Speaker

Sunday, April 21



In 2023, CtK provided **Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana-Kentucky (LOMIK)** with a \$2,880 grant to hire a consulting firm for staff training on sustainability and post-COVID relevance.

On **Sunday, April 21**, Rev. Stephen Flynn, the LOMIK executive director, will receive a symbolic "big check" in this amount at each service. He will also share more about LOMIK from **10:30–11:10 am** in **Room 502/504**. Please join us to learn more about the opportunities LOMIK provides!

Christ Child Society Mother's Day Diaper Drop

Once again, CtK will be collecting diapers for the **Christ Child Society** of South Bend's annual **Mother's Day Diaper Drop**. Collection begins on **Sunday, April 14**, and continues through **Sunday, May 5**.

All collected diapers will be distributed to local child-serving agencies, including the Center for the Homeless, El Campito, the Foster Hope Program of Christ Child Society, La Casa de Amistad, Northeast Neighborhood Food Pantry, St. Margaret's House, St. Vincent dePaul Society, the YWCA, and the Salvation Army Kroc Center.



2024 Rummage Sale: Important Dates

Rummage season is coming soon! Please mark your calendars for the following rummage-related dates, and look in future *King's Herald*s for more detailed information on this year's sale.



- **Wednesday, June 20, 5:30–6:30 pm:** Rummage Drop Off
- **Wednesday, July 18, 5:30–6:30 pm:** Rummage Drop Off
- **Friday, August 23, & Saturday, August 24:** Rummage Sale

Attention CtK Musicians!

Here is some end-of-the-season information for your calendars, along with several save-the-dates to keep in mind as you plan for the upcoming 2024-2025 season.

End-of-the-Season Rehearsal Schedule

Wednesdays, May 1, 8, 15, and 22

Sanctuary Choir rehearsal: 7–8:30 pm

Last Sunday to sing in worship: May 26 + Holy Trinity Sunday

Thursdays, May 2, 9, and 16

Alleluia Ringers rehearsal: 6–7:30 pm

Last Sunday to ring in worship: May 19 + Pentecost Sunday

Thursdays, May 2, 9, and 16

Xalt! rehearsal: 7:30–8:45 pm

Please note that beginning on Thursday, May 23, we will go back to a 7 pm rehearsal start time for the summer months.

Fall/Winter Worship and Music Save-the-Dates

Sunday, September 8, 2024

God's Work. Our Hands and Rally Day

First Sunday for Sanctuary Choir to sing in worship (11:15 am)

Sunday, September 29, 2024

First Sunday for handbells to ring in worship (8:15 and 11:15 am)

Friday, October 11, 2024

Annual Hymn Festival of Healing and Hope

In celebration of 50 years of SEASONS Counseling

7 pm

Sunday, October 27, 2024

Reformation Sunday

Sanctuary Choir sings (8:15 and 11:15 am)

Sunday, December 15, 2024

Sights & Sounds of the Season: A Service of Lessons and Carols

4 pm (**Note the later date!**)

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve Worship

4 pm Traditional Family Worship | Music led by Xalt!

6 pm Traditional Worship | Music led by the Sanctuary Choir

8 pm Traditional Worship | Music led by the Alleluia Ringers



YOUTH AND FAMILIES

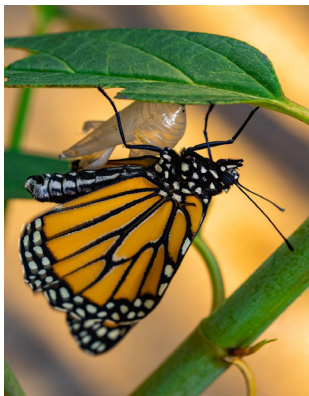
First Communion Congratulations

On Thursday, March 14, eight families gathered at CtK for First Communion instruction with Pastor Caroline and Pastor Brad. Kids and their parents learned about the sacrament, practiced receiving the elements, and even made Communion bread themselves (always a highlight!).

Congratulations to these children who completed the class and will be receiving their First Communion during worship this month: Tate Kosac, Bill Mospan, Ben Schopmeyer, Calvin Tonk, Kate Tonk, Bennett Weinhold, Jack Weinhold, Annaleigh Zartman, and Charleigh Zartman. Welcome to the Lord's table!



Sunday School Update



Many thanks to everyone who participated in intergenerational learning activity on Palm Sunday! Together, we made dozens of folded paper butterflies that not only reminded us of the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, but also made the narthex beautiful on Easter morning.

Please note that Sunday school for children from age 2 through grade 5 will **not** be held on Easter Sunday or on Sunday, April 7, as many families will be busy with Easter festivities and/or Spring Break travel. Classes will resume on Sunday, April 14, and continue through Pentecost Sunday (May 19).

Save the Date for VBS Night!

Wednesday, June 5

Families: We know that your summer calendar is filling up fast! When making your plans, please be sure to include VBS!

This year's **VBS night** will be held on **Wednesday, June 5**. We'll share dinner together, then enjoy skits, crafts, and games and all the usual fun. Stay tuned for more details in the weeks ahead!



YOUTH AND FAMILIES



Youth Church Clean Up

Sunday, April 21 • 2:30 pm

Calling all youth! We will be doing some spring cleaning both inside and outside the church building on **Sunday, April 21**, beginning at **2:30 pm**. Come get your hands dirty and have some fun while making a difference around CtK.

Dinner will be served before the start of that evening's SNL.

Graduation Recognition

Sunday, June 2

Attention all upcoming high school and college graduates: We at CtK would like to recognize those of you who are graduating this year!

On **Sunday, June 2**, we will have a special blessing for all of our grads. If you would like your student to be recognized, please submit a graduation recognition form by May 19. The form can be accessed on the CtK website by clicking "Ministries," then "Youth", then "Graduation Recognition Forms." Paper copies of the form will also be available in the narthex in the coming weeks. For more information, please contact Jill Harms.



CtK Youth: Save the Date!

Youth families: Please mark your calendars and watch your email for more information on each of these upcoming events.



- **April 21:** Youth spring cleanup and SNL
- **April 27:** Whodunit mystery and dinner (youth fundraiser; youth are needed to help serve)
- **May 5:** SNL
- **May 10:** Flower sale distribution and pickup
- **May 19:** SNL
- **June 2:** Graduation recognition
- **June 5:** VBS night (youth volunteers welcome!)
- **June 9-14:** Confirmation Camp and Servant Leader Camp at Lutherwald
- **July 31-August 6:** Urban Plunge youth trip to New York City and Washington, DC

CtK FINANCIAL UPDATE

FINANCIAL GIVING STATEMENT: FEBRUARY 2024

Summary of Receipts	February	YTD
Envelopes/Loose Offering	\$ 48,785	\$ 129,345
Other Income	\$ 1,201	\$ 3,130
Missional Projects	\$ 4,231	\$ 7,602
Miscellaneous Funds	\$ 3,665	\$ 13,791
Total Receipts	\$ 57,883	\$ 153,869

Income and Expenses	February	YTD
Income (Envelopes/Loose & Other)	\$ 49,987	\$ 132,476
Expenditures	\$ 60,823	\$ 116,132
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (10,836)	\$ 16,343

Loose Offering	February	YTD
IN-KY Synod Disaster Relief	\$ 1,236	\$ 2,006
No 5th Sunday This Month	\$ -	\$ -

ELCA Benevolence (10% of Offering)	February	YTD
10% of Offering	\$ 4,879	\$ 12,935

Missional Projects total includes the \$1,236 February loose offering for IN-KY Synod Disaster Relief.



CHRIST the KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

17195 Cleveland Road
South Bend, IN 46635

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America
"God's Work. Our Hands."*

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is part of every
Sunday morning worship service.
Distribution varies as described below.

Office Hours

10 am - 4 pm
Monday through Friday
Phone: (574) 272.4306

Seasons Counseling Center

(574) 277.0274

Executive Director

Alexandra Sobieski

Director of Operations

Deborah Campoli

Business Director

Don Zerfas

Professional counselors available by appointment.

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"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

Isaiah 43:19a



WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sundays at 8:15 am: Traditional worship led by organ and/or piano, including the Sanctuary Choir or Alleluia! Ringers, and Holy Communion distributed around the altar with bread and wine (gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available).

Sundays at 9:30 am: Contemporary worship led by Xalt!, this service is family-friendly but speaks to people of all ages. Holy Communion is celebrated by station with bread and wine (gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available).

Sundays at 11:15 am: Traditional worship led by organ and/or piano, including the Sanctuary Choir or Alleluia! Ringers, a Young People's Message, and Holy Communion distributed around the altar with bread and wine (gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available).

Worship on the Web: Join us each Sunday at 11:15 am for the livestream, or access the recorded 11:15 am worship service any time during the week. Visit www.ctkluth.com/worship to find a worship video, the worship folder for Sunday's service, and an online donation link to continue your tradition of giving at worship.