

THE

KING'S HERALD

JANUARY 2025



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

**Director of
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

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*

CAN ANYTHING GOOD COME OUT OF LEVITICUS?



If you've ever read the biblical book of Leviticus, congratulations. It's a tough read. There are a lot of laws, measurements, detailed descriptions, and ancient customs that aren't applicable to life in the 21st century.

The 25th chapter, however, contains something that caught my attention. The italicized heading in my HarperCollins Study Bible says "The Sabbatical Year." The next seven verses explain how land must be

allowed to rest one year out of every seven. People can eat whatever the land yields during that time, but they may not sow their field or prune their vineyard.

In somewhat similar fashion, the guidelines of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the ELCA suggest a seven-year cycle of work and rest. After six years in a congregation, a pastor is eligible for a 12-week time of renewal in addition to her or his other benefits. This time is called a "sabbatical."

After 30 years of ordained ministry without such a thing, 2025 is "the sabbatical year" for Pastors Caroline and Brad; we will be away from Christ the King from June 2 through September 14. During that time, there will be some rest involved; however, thanks to a grant from the Lilly Foundation, we will be doing a fair amount of travel (I'll write more about that later). We'll also focus on our generational roots by digging through three generations of sermons. (I wonder if my grandfather ever preached on Leviticus?!) Finally, at some point in August, we'll deliver our daughter Ellie to the university of her choosing and re-root ourselves for the next phase of life.

In our absence, the people of Christ the King will be well cared for. Worship every Sunday from June 8 through September 7 will be led by a pastor associated with Christ the King. Watch for a rotation between Pastor Steve Schwier, Pastor Tim Diemer, Pastors Gary and Sharon Hilfiger, Pastor Marcus Felde, and Pastor Stacey Fisher Gehring. Pastoral care will be covered by Pastor Steve Schwier (when he's in town) and Pastor Tim Diemer (when Steve is traveling the world too). In May, the CtK staff will put together a good bit of the fall schedule. Any unforeseen issues will be handled by the staff, the church council, and any number of other good-hearted folks. That's what we do around here, after all.

So that you know more about where we'll be and what we'll be doing, I'll write more as the months progress. For now, please mark your calendars for a send-off luncheon on Sunday, June 1, and for a welcome home/Rally Day picnic on Sunday, September 14.

And Christ the King, thank you. Thank you for respecting this age-old concept, for understanding the intent of this time, and for taking this journey with me. I look forward to the unexpected yield that awaits.

Peace, blessings, and love in 2025,

Pastor Caroline

ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW

Annual Meeting on January 26

The **2025 annual meeting** of Christ the King Lutheran Church will be held **Sunday, January 26**, at **12:45 pm**. The purpose of the meeting includes:

- Electing members to the Church Council
- Approving a 2025 budget
- Celebrating 2024 highlights and looking forward to 2025

This will be a hybrid meeting, held in the sanctuary and virtually. If you'd prefer to participate in the proceedings electronically, contact the church office and login information will be sent to you directly.

Please note that there will **not** be a potluck following the annual meeting this year. However, the Community Missions Committee will be serving a **thank-you breakfast** between all services.



BUILDING BEYOND UPDATE

With Gratitude for Your Generosity



THANK YOU, CtK, for your generous response to the **Building Beyond** campaign! As of December 20, we have received **159 intent cards**—exceeding our goal of 150 cards and securing our challenge gift of \$50,000! Collectively, the cards indicate a total of **\$1,578,434** toward the Building Beyond capital fund goal of \$1,285,000. This is an amazing response!

Thanks be to God, and thanks to you for your ongoing support of CtK!

LOVING & SERVING

GriefShare: New Session Begins February 18

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone.

CtK's next GriefShare session will be held **in person** at the church and will meet on **Tuesdays** from **10 am to noon**. The first meeting of the session will be on **February 18**, and the last will be on **May 13**. Please share this information with anyone you know who is struggling with grief. You can register for the upcoming session at ctkluth.com/griefshare.



LOVING & SERVING

Next RaiseRight Order Date: January 5

The Community Missions Committee will be selling **RaiseRight gift cards** on **Sunday, January 5**. Gift cards can be picked up the following Sunday (**January 12**).



Thanks to the generous orders placed throughout 2024, we raised over **\$1,700**, which will allow us to purchase gift cards for **Dismas House** for the entire year of 2025. Your support has made a meaningful impact, and we are grateful for your continued generosity.

Thank you for partnering with us in our mission to support those in need.

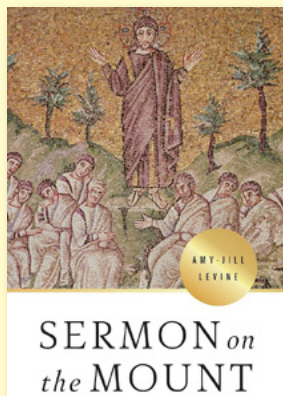
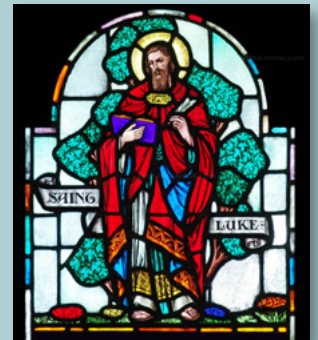
HAPPENING @ CtK

New Adult Class: Reading Luke in Context

Pastor Gary Hilfiger's Old Testament study was such a success that he's offered to lead another class! Starting **January 5**, please join us for "**Reading Luke in Context**," to be held in Room 502/504 from **10:30 to 11:10 am** on **Sunday mornings**.

The gospel of Luke does not stand alone; it is a part of the New Testament, which is part of the larger record of God's action in the world, the Bible. As far as we know, Luke never met Jesus, but he saw Jesus in the ministry of Paul and then researched for himself, talking to many people who had known Jesus. Especially evident is what Luke learned from Mary, the mother of our Lord.

Knowing this background—as well as understanding that Jesus's ministry was conducted in a largely Jewish area controlled by Rome—helps us better read Luke in context. There is a lot left unspoken! Join us on Sunday mornings to learn more.



Women's Journey: New Book Study

All women are welcome to join the **Women's Journey** discussion group, which meets on **Wednesdays at 10 am**. The first Wednesday of the month, the group volunteers at Cultivate Food Rescue. The rest of the month, they meet at CtK in Room 303.

In mid-December, the group began a new study of the book **Sermon on the Mount** by Amy-Jill Levine. It's not too late to catch up if you'd like to join us! For more information, please contact **Pastor Caroline**.

Schedule Change for Women on Wednesday



Please note that the **Women on Wednesday** study group will meet on **January 8** and **January 22** in 2025, due to the New Year's holiday. They will resume their regular schedule (first and third Wednesdays) in February. The group gathers at **3 pm** in Room 502/504 and uses the ELCA Women's magazine, *Gather*, as their discussion starter. All women are welcome!

Yarn Club Schedule Change

The Yarn Club will change their meeting dates in January to the second and fourth Fridays (**January 11** and **25**) from **2-4 pm**. They will resume their normal dates of the first and third Fridays in February.



Altar Flowers for 2025



The **2025 altar flower calendar** is now posted. If you would like to purchase flowers for a specific Sunday, please sign up on the kiosk in the narthex. The cost is \$36.50 per week.

We currently have open spots in January and need your help to fill these dates! Please help keep our altar beautiful in the new year!

Puzzle Night Is Back!

Saturday, February 8 • 6-8 pm

The Child Faith Formation Committee (in partnership with the Fellowship Committee) invites you to an **all-ages puzzle race!** Please join us on **Saturday, February 8**, for an evening of fun and friendly competition. Teams of 4-8 will each receive an identical jigsaw puzzle, then compete to see who can assemble it first. Bragging rights are on the line!

Tickets for the event will be available starting Sunday, January 12. The cost is \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$20 per family. When buying tickets, you will have the opportunity to pre-order pizza for your table for an additional fee. Beverages and other snacks will also be available for purchase during the event. Doors will open at 5:30, and the competition will begin at 6 pm.

Come ready to connect the pieces while connecting with your Ctk friends and family!



Trivia Night on February 28

Looking for a chance to show off your random knowledge and enjoy some friendly competition? Want to unplug, have a blast, and make lasting memories with your family and friends? Then don't miss **CtK Trivia Night** on **Friday, February 28!**

Event Details:

- **Doors open:** 5 pm
- **Trivia competition starts:** 6 pm
- **Tickets:** \$15 per person or \$100 for a table of 8
- **Where to buy:** Tickets will be available in the narthex on February 2, 9, 16, and 23, or you can purchase them during office hours



In addition to the trivia showdown, we'll be hosting a **Best Decorated Table/Team Contest** and other fun games throughout the night. The youth group will be selling pizza, chips, desserts, and soda—but feel free to bring your favorite snacks to share with your team!

This event is a fundraiser in partnership with the Fellowship Committee, supporting the **summer youth trip** to Gatlinburg, Tennessee. So gather your team, bring your A-game, and come have fun for a great cause!

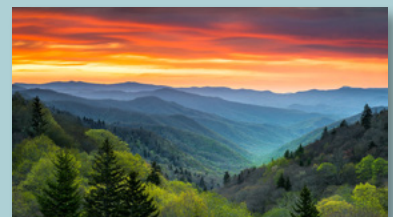
YOUTH & FAMILIES

Summer Youth Trip: Spaces Still Available!

From **June 18–22**, our junior and senior high youth will be in **Gatlinburg, Tennessee**, for an exciting week of mission work, conservation projects, and plenty of fun! It's a great opportunity for your youth to grow, serve, and create lasting memories.

Although registration forms were due in December, there's still time to sign up! If your child would like to be part of this unforgettable adventure, please reach out to **Jill Harms** at connection@ctkluth.com to secure their spot.

We can't wait to see what God has in store for this trip!



SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

Save the Date for SNL!

Middle school families: Mark your calendars for **Sunday Night Live!** This month, we will meet on **January 12** and **January 26**. As always, we'll gather from **5–6:30 pm** at CtK. See you there!

YOUTH & FAMILIES

Confirmation Camp at Lutherwald

Although Pastors Caroline and Brad will not be at camp this summer, you are still welcome! Confirmation Camp (for 6th–8th graders) and Servant Leaders Camp (for 9th–12th graders) will be held at Lutherwald during the week of **June 15–20**. CtK confirmation students will be paired with the church of PC's choosing (she'll find fun youth leaders!), and CtK will still contribute \$100/camper. Register via www.lomik.org or **Pastor Caroline**. Either way, let PC know you are attending to get the CtK benefit.



CtK FINANCIAL UPDATE

FINANCIAL GIVING STATEMENT: NOVEMBER 2024

Summary of Receipts	November	YTD
Envelopes/Loose Offering	\$ 56,786	\$ 649,364
Other Income	\$ 880	\$ 14,520
Missional Projects	\$ 4,040	\$ 57,622
Miscellaneous Funds	\$ 14,659	\$ 88,393
Total Receipts	\$ 76,365	\$ 809,940

Income and Expenses	November	YTD
Income (Envelopes/Loose & Other)	\$ 57,665	\$ 663,884
Expenditures	\$ 53,729	\$ 658,469
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 3,936	\$ 5,416

Loose Offering	November	YTD
Angel Tree	\$ 1,298	\$ 11,983
No 5th Sunday this month	\$ —	\$ 1,424

ELCA Benevolence (10% of Offering)	November	YTD
10% of Offering	\$ 5,679	\$ 64,936

*Envelopes/Loose total includes the \$1,424 (YTD) 5th Sunday offering for the General Fund.
Missional Projects total includes the \$1,298 November loose offering for the Angel Tree.*

***Please consider making a gift to Christ the King
through your estate plans.***

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.



"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.