

Christ the King Herald

Volume 53

January 2012

Issue 1

We are called by God to be a caring partner, serving our neighbors by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, compassion and opportunities for growth



From the Pastor

This is the time of “New Beginnings” and starting with a clean slate. Throughout our lives there are changes, some good, some that

may take some time for us to assimilate into our lives. For some of us looking at being another year older is not as exciting as it was when we were younger!

I feel this is a good time to look back and celebrate our accomplishments, share the good memories as well as acknowledge some of the things that we would do differently if we had it to do again.

One of the ‘constants’ throughout our lives is that God has always been there with us – through the times we celebrate and during our darkest, most challenging times.

Looking at the beginning of the New Year is looking at a fresh piece of paper or a completely clean blackboard (White board). All is fresh and clean! We may have new opportunities; new adventures; new challenges; possibly even some life changing events.

The constant through all of this is that God is with us through all of the new – good and not-so-good – of all that comes our way.

I love to look back to all that has taken place in the year that is ending. It is a time to celebrate all that has taken place. Counting our blessings is the most important piece. I encourage you to spend some time with your family and friends to either verbally or visually go through what has transpired for you during the past year. Sometimes the negative things seem to loom more dominant than the positive, but the fact that one has made it through the challenges assures us that there is much that can be counted as blessings!

We who express and grow in our faith are truly blessed. I cannot help but share the passage that comes to my mind in God’s Word, from Matthew 28: 19 – 20: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. **And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.**”

I pray that you can look back and count your blessings, and be ready with hands and arms outstretched to gather in all the new blessings that come to us each day. **Happy and Blessed New Year!**

Pastor Merlyn





January Birthdays

| | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 2 | Pat Masoner |
| 3 | Michael McCartney |
| 4 | Frank Brown Bob Holmes |
| 5 | Laura Hunter |
| 6 | Brandon Rupert |
| 7 | Loraine Margheim Doris Petersen |
| 11 | Jenna Scudder |
| 14 | Mary Ann Evancheck |
| 15 | John Reynolds |
| 18 | Coralyn Hunter |
| 21 | Kurt Mader |
| 22 | Grace Mayer |
| 23 | Norma Oswald |
| 26 | Brooke Benninghoven |
| 29 | Irene Dietz Morgan Pohl |
| 31 | Ray Hitchens Henrietta Riedel |

Thank You. . . .

to everyone who helped make our Christmas Eve services so special. Thanks to the Tafoya family for putting out all of the luminaries. Thanks to Carole Hedrick, our music director, and all of the members of our Kyrie Choir for their special music. Thanks to Ella Parsons and the Altar Guild for decorating the church, purchasing poinsettias and preparing communion for the services. And a special thank you to Leo Lampman for building a shelf for our nativity set.



*Everyone
Welcome!*

The "Grand Sweep" studies

during Adult Forum (10:30 a.m. Sunday mornings) will continue into the New Year.

Below is the Adult Forum schedule and the list of the readings to be studied during the Epiphany season:

January 8: Colossians and 1 & 2 Thessalonians

January 15: 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon

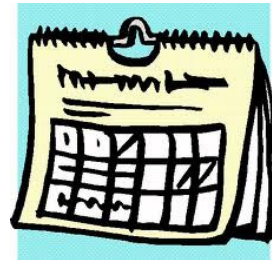
January 22: Budget Meeting

January 29: Annual Meeting

February 5: Hebrews

February 12: 1 & 2 Peter

February 19: 1,2 & 3 John and Jude



Mark Your Calendar

Budget Briefing

Sunday, January 22, 2012

Following worship in Fellowship Hall

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 2012

Following worship in Fellowship Hall

Approval of Budget

Election of Council Members

NEEDED: CTK COUNCIL PRESIDENT & OTHER POSITIONS

Leaders are needed for the following council positions (all 2-year terms):

Council President--with a new Pastor being called this is a particularly important position to fill.
Youth and Education Representative
Nominating committee—two people
Synod Assembly Representatives (Thursday, April 24- Saturday, April 26 in Colorado Springs.)
 one male, one female and one alternate

Please prayerfully consider these opportunities to serve our congregation. You may contact Dick Brundige to submit your name. The vote will take place at the annual meeting on Sunday, January 29 after worship. Please pray for leadership for our congregation.



Nordic Choir to Perform Two Concerts in Denver

Luther College Nordic Choir, one of the top

college choirs in the nation, will present two concerts in the Denver area: Monday, January 30, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 East Alameda Avenue, Denver; and Tuesday, January 31, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 East Hampden Avenue, Cherry Hills Village. The choir is conducted by Dr. Allen Hightower, and will perform sacred choral works. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 Seniors and \$10 students. Tickets may be purchased by visiting their website at www.luthertickets.com or by calling 1-800-4-LUTHER.



Thank You to everyone who supported LFS on **Colorado Gives Day!** Your generosity was overwhelming. They received 301 individual donations for more than \$84,000. Your gifts will help them reach more vulnerable children and families in our community.

Save the Date for a **Rainforest Rendezvous** with Lutheran Family Services of Colorado at the Wildlife Experience on Saturday, April 21, 2012. Join them for an evening of cocktails, an adventurous auction, incredible feast and overall WILD time! Proceeds from the annual gala will benefit their programs.

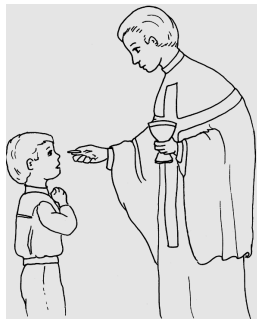
Care Management Solutions (CMS) is a program of Lutheran Family Services of Colorado and serves individuals over the age of 55 and their families. CMS' services are specifically designed to support older adults and their families as they wrestle with aging related issues. This month, Care Management Solutions is lifting up the value of counseling services for seniors and their families. Many people believe that feeling "blue" or "nervous" is a regular part of aging. It is not. CMS has trained and licensed clinical social workers to help you sort out feelings and help you feel better. We accept Medicare and many other insurance plans and have a sliding scale fee rate to make the service affordable to all. Call 303-922-3433 to talk with their counselors.



Contemplative Prayer Group

Meets the fourth Monday of each month at 6:00pm at Christ The King. This group will gather to share prayer

together using different Contemplative prayer styles such as Centering Prayer, Lectio Divina, or a Labyrinth Prayer Walk. Come and join us as we focus, pray and listen.



Holy Communion class to be offered

A preparation class for Holy Communion will be offered after the first of the year for anyone interested in instruction about Communion and wanting to take First Communion.

Please contact Bonnie Brundige or Pastor Merlyn as soon as possible if you or your child are interested.



ELCA Good Gifts

The Church in Society committee wishes to thank everyone who purchased alternative gifts. They received \$1200. This enabled them to purchase three alpacas, seven pigs, five goats, five chicks, seven ducks, one mosquito net

and one set of children's textbooks!

Christmas Gifts to Community Ministry

THANK YOU to everyone who donated Christmas gifts for 30 children at Community Ministry. This year they were able to give gifts to 488 children.



Wrapping helpers @ Community Ministry



Shelves full of gifts



Jan & Angel Ruiz' truck full of gifts from CTK



Community Ministry is pleased to announce that Colorado Gives Day was a huge success. They received donations of \$6,390 (not including matching funds). This is almost three times the amount they received in 2010.

Our food items for January are **dried pinto beans** and **canned soup**. The canned soup is in preparation for "Souper" Bowl Sunday, February 5. Please place your soup on the special collection table in the narthex or in the shopping cart outside of Fellowship Hall. During November, CTK donated 155 lbs. of food (137 boxes of jello and 18 boxes of dream whip), valued at \$303.80. In addition, we delivered numerous coats, jackets and heavy sweatshirts for children and adults. Thank you especially to Lisa Parsons who donated 48 pairs of new gloves.

Don't forget the monthly pizza fundraiser at CiCi's Pizza in the Bear Valley Shopping Center. A portion of the proceeds from meals sold on the first Tuesday of the month benefit Community Ministry. Just place your receipt in the marked container at the cash register. Each month, Community Ministry receives from \$40-\$50 from this promotion. The next day is Tuesday, January 3.

Community Ministry needs drivers to pick up food from various locations, including Food Bank of the Rockies and area schools. If you have a truck, SUV or van, they need you. Call them at 303-935-3428.

Please continue to bring the unclipped coupon inserts from the Sunday newspaper. We are one of their best donators. Keep it up! The collection basket is above the coat rack outside of Fellowship Hall. The coupon clippers service a company who gives Community Ministry 5% of the value of the coupon. This is a free and easy

way we can all help. In 2010, they raised over \$7,000.

Community Ministry has a children's area where the kids can play, read a book or watch a movie while their parents are doing paperwork or choosing their food. They let each child take home a book from this area and are now running low on books. If you have extra children's books, consider donating them to Community Ministry.

Also as you travel, collect any toiletries from hotels. They can use toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo and toilet paper to help them make up small hygiene kits.

Council Corner



CTK Financial Update

January 1 to November 30, 2011

| | Actual | Budget | Difference |
|-------------------|---------|---------|------------|
| Income | 143,478 | 154,619 | (11,141) |
| Expenses | 152,481 | 158,899 | 6,418 |
| Net Income (Loss) | | | (4,723) |

The following motions were approved at the December 13 church council meeting:

- To provide bulletin board space in the narthex for the Sunday school children.
- To transfer \$500.00 from memorial funds to the 2011 youth budget.
- To transfer \$233.88 from memorial funds to the Pastor's emergency fund.

Complete minutes of the council meetings, along with committee and financial reports are available in the rack in the narthex or from the church office.



IT IS NOT OVER

(A Poem from Ann Weams)

It is not over,
 this birthing.
 There are always newer skies
 into which
 God can throw stars.
 When we begin to think
 that we can predict the Advent of God,
 that we can box the Christ
 in a stable in Bethlehem,
 that's just the time
 that God will be born
 in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.
 Those who wait for God
 watch with their hearts and not their eyes,
 listen
 always listening
 for angel words.

May we enter into this year with listening ears
 for God's word to us.
 May we enter into this year with open eyes
 to see God among us.
 May we enter into this year with our hearts open
 to receive all that God has for us.
 May we enter into this year ready to do God's work
 in new and amazing ways.

Blessings on your New Year.

With you in Growth and Ministry

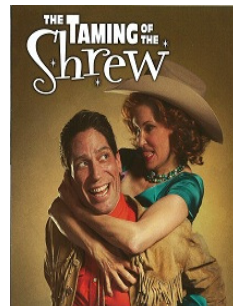
Kim Williams



Two Things You Don't Talk about at Dinner

Performance date:
 February 7, 2012
Reservation deadline:
 January 15, 2012

Myriam's annual Passover Seder, a multicultural mix of family and friends, threatens to explode as politics and religion hijack the conversation, severely testing the ties that bind. Is peace possible — even at the dinner table?



Taming of the Shrew

Performance date:
 February 21, 2012
Reservation deadline:
 January 29, 2012

Hilarity ensues when ladies-man Petruchio takes on the challenge of transforming the wild and stubborn Kate into his loving bride, putting her through a set of physical and mental hoops that grow more and more absurd. Once the dust has settled, could what emerges be called a marriage of true minds?

Tickets: \$30 each.

Performances are at 6:30 p.m.

For more information about any of the plays, visit the DCPA website at

www.denvercenter.org. To purchase tickets for any play, make your checks payable to "Rocky Mountain Synod" and give to Pat Sandstedt or Lynette in the church office.

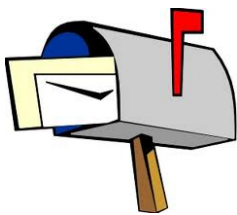


Denver-Feed a Family

On Saturday, November 19, twenty members of CTK helped distribute Thanksgiving meals to the needy.

Did You Know?

- Rev. John and Dorothy Refsell are currently living in Arizona. Their new address is 303 N. Lindsay Rd., Lot T27, Mesa, Arizona 85213-8582.
- The piano CTK had for sale was sold to Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Colorado Springs.



Address Change:

Mary Ann Valentine
1110 Guy Ct. N.W.
Palm Bay, FL 32907

Thank you

I would like to thank the people of Christ the King for their prayers and expressions of sympathy following the recent passing of my mother, Virginia Williams, in Spokane, Washington.

Kim Williams

Why Go To Church?

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this.. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"
When you are DOWN to nothing...God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!



Signs of our faithfulness

(October 23 – November 13, 2011)

| Date | Number at Worship | Number Communing | Financial Offerings |
|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11/20/11 | 87 | 83 | \$1,509.37 |
| 11/23/11 | 69 | 64 | Incl w/11/27 |
| 11/27/11 | 85 | 81 | \$1,964.10 |
| 11/30/11 | 27 | | \$ 15.00* |
| 12/4/11 | 77 | 74 | \$6,155.00 |
| 12/7/11 | 15 | | \$ 3.00* |
| 12/11/11 | 87 | 82 | \$2,191.10 |

*Advent Offering for Seeds of Hope-Madagascar



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 Music Coordinator/Organist..... Carole Hedrick
 Sunday School Choir Director..... Marianne Law

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 Treasurer..... Marianne Law
 Financial Secretary..... Marilyn Naper
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 Church in Society Jan Ruiz
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