

# September 2019 Scribe Newsletter

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# Pastor Tim's Thoughts—September 2019

## “The Unique Gifts of the ELCA”

When Bishop Gonia visited our congregation last year, he led an activity called “Claiming Our Gifts.” This activity was designed to open our eyes to the many unique gifts that we can celebrate as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Some of them were theological in nature: grace; paradox; the theology of the cross. Some of them were practical: ministry of all the baptized; word and sacrament as means of grace. Still others celebrated our unique church structure as “Glocal,” ecumenical, and interdependent. The last grouping celebrated the ELCA’s legacy, our history. In this category, Bishop Gonia placed the Lutheran Reformation – a gift of the church that continues more than 500 years later – and the multitude of church mergers that have happened over the years to bring about the ELCA as it is today. Lastly, Bishop Gonia referred to our legacy as being a church shaped by an immigrant history.

Those who participated in my Bible study on Lutheranism a few years ago will remember the way that Lutheranism in America grew primarily from immigrants primarily from Germany, Denmark, and the Scandinavian countries. These people came seeking opportunity and freedom from religious persecution. When they came to their new country, they found (or founded) a church that welcomed them, provided them with a community, and nourished them with God’s grace.

That work continues today through an organization called Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS). This organization has been in existence for 80 years, working alongside other organizations like Catholic Social Services and the U.S. Federal government to provide help for those in the often-complicated immigration or refugee process. This is one of the few ministries with which the ELCA still finds a welcome partner with the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod! To me, that just highlights this organization’s amazing role in bringing people together for an important and needed ministry.

Immigration has been a hot topic in the news lately, and usually not in a good way. Illegal immigration is, indeed, a problem for our country that needs to be addressed. Meanwhile, there are still people all around the world who are seeking to find opportunity, flee persecution, and avoid starvation, violence and war. Nearly 71 million people were forcibly displaced from their homes in 2018. That’s a staggering number! So, for those who are looking to enter the asylum process as a refugee, or for those who are looking to enter our immigration system, LIRS still is there offering their help. But while the need increases around the world, the funds to provide such ministries dwindle.

You may recall that earlier this year, CtK received \$46,000 as the settlement for the property easement sale. The Church Council decided to do a 10% tithe: 5% for Synod Benevolence and 5% to be decided by the Social Ministry team. Given the need, the Social Ministry Team at CtK

has designated their portion of this “gift” (\$2,300) to support this ministry in their work of supporting, walking alongside of, and providing assistance to those who are navigating our complicated immigration system. To be clear, this is a long-standing, reputable organization that seeks to help those who want to follow the asylum or immigration process in a legal way. At a time when the need for such organizations and ministries is sharply increasing, the social ministry team felt that this was a compassionate and just response.

If you have questions about LIRS, or if you’d like to talk about this contribution, please see me. I’d be happy to have a conversation with you about it.

Peace,  
Pastor Tim

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## By the Numbers—September 2019

### [July 2019 Financials](#)

Our Gifts Blessing Others	July	YTD 2019
Synod	\$ 1,238	\$11,850
World Hunger	\$ 515	\$ 7,358
Social Ministry	\$ 4,084	\$11,258
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$ 5,837</b>	<b>\$30,466</b>

### Financial Update

Gifts Received	\$ 24,769	\$190,434
Facility Donations	\$ 300	\$ 1,470
Expenses	\$ 27,635	\$199,767
Net Operating Income	\$ (2,566)	\$ (7,863)
Endowment Fund Balance		\$165,452

### [August, 2019 Attendance](#)

Date	Behold 5:26 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Total
<b>7/31—8/4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>8/7—8/11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>8/14—8/18</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>8/21—8/25</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>8/28-9/1</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>

September, 2019 Worship Assistant Schedule

<b>DATE</b>	<b>September 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>September 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>September 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>September 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>September 29<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Ushers</b>					
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Ken & Linda Hartlein	Jeff & Donn Wince	Roger & Cora Landgren	Pete & Judy Olson	Larry & Margaret Hjermstad
<b>10:30 AM</b>	Dominique Holling	Dominique Holling	TBA	David Smith	Richard Gjere
<b>Lay Assistants</b>					
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Dianne Milarch	Lynn Mitzlaff	Dale Wingeleth	Holly Landgren	Amy Wendland
<b>10:30 AM</b>	Barbara Wirsching	Carol Orlowski	TBA	Barbara Wirsching	Eryn Orlowski
<b>Communion Assistants</b>					
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Denise Dey, Jo & Dianne Milarch	Wendy & David Gonzales, Lynn Mitzlaff	Sue Mages, Gary Rollstin, Dale Wingeleth	Brigitte Cunningham, Cora Landgren, Holly Landgren	Brigitte Cunningham, Gary Rollstin, Amy Wendland
<b>10:30 AM</b>	Carol Orlowski	David Smith	Dominique Holling	Dominique Holling	Carol Orlowski, David Smith
<b>Sound Board</b>					
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Bruce Wongstrom	Dave Mitzlaff	Dave Mitzlaff	Bruce Wongstrom	Bruce Wongstrom
<b>10:30 AM</b>	Charlie Hakes	TBA	Charlie Hakes	TBA	Charlie Hakes

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# Faith Formation News—September 2019

We are church. We are Lutheran. We are church together.  
We are church for the sake of the world.

We're going to try something new this school year: intergenerational faith formation! Since we as humans and Lutherans never stop forming our faith, asking questions, and looking for ways to care for the people and world around us, we're going to focus on exactly that.

On Sundays between services, join Pastor Tim and the 2020 confirmation class as they do a deep dive into our Church in Society. Why do we as ELCA Lutherans have a duty to call for justice? Is it because we identify ourselves as a community that lives from and for the gospel? What does it mean that the church is 'in' but not 'from' the world?

We need YOU! The only way this can be intergenerational is if the class is comprised of people from different age groups. We need your perspective! We need your insights! Come and talk to our new class of confirmands and learn from their experiences, too. We're also going to throw in a "party" each month, and you won't want to miss those.

All ages and stages are welcome - Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the Community Hall.  
If you are interested in helping to plan the monthly special event parties, please talk with [Mandy](#) or [Pastor Tim](#).

## Faith Formation Event Calendar –

Sundays at 9:30am in the Community Hall (unless otherwise noted)

Sept 8	<b>Rally Day:</b> learn from all of CtK's M-Teams how you can get involved
Sept 15 – Oct 6	<b>Study: Church in Society</b>
Oct 13	<b>Party:</b> Generosity
Oct 20 – 27	<b>Study: Church in Society</b>
Nov 3	<b>Party:</b> Art Gala "afterparty" and award ceremony.
Nov 10	No class – Annual Meeting – one worship service at 9:30am followed by meeting
Nov 17 – Dec 15	<b>Study: Church in Society</b>
Dec 22	<b>Party:</b> Live Nativity costume and prep for performance at 10:30am Worship Service. (W6/7) Bring your dogs! Costumes provided.

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# CtK Youth Group News—September 2019

CtK Youth Group began their weekly meetings on Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup>. They will continue to meet throughout the school year from 4-5:30pm in the Youth Room and Community Hall. Several activities and projects are in the works – everything from Xbox to weekly service projects--like working at Manna's Garden Project on Thursdays and/or cooking at Manna on Wednesdays. Of course, there is also Bible Study and Confirmation. On those Sundays when there is no Confirmation class, Youth Bible Study will join with the Intergenerational Sunday School classes at 9:30am in the Community Hall. Everyone will discuss the "ELCA Social Statement."

Youth Group would appreciate any chaperones that might be available on any Friday from 3:30pm-4:00pm so youth could come to the church directly after school to play Xbox. Christina is unable to get here from her day job earlier than 4:00pm. So please prayerfully consider volunteering for this important ministry – the youth would be SO grateful!! Thank you!

For more info and details, contact Christina Cummins, [Director of Youth Ministry](#).

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## Social Ministry News—September 2019

### [Bread for the World Offering of Letters—October 20th](#)

We will be doing our annual Offering of Letters on Sunday, October 20th. This year's focus is on global nutrition. Here is a synopsis of the current situation:

"Today, nearly 821 million people in the world—11 percent of the world's population—remain hungry. One in 4 of the world's children are affected by stunting, resulting in irreversible life consequences. Countries in Central America, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa are disproportionately affected. Almost half of all child deaths worldwide are linked to malnutrition."

We delayed our weekend of lifting up our voices so we can have members back from summer vacations and have more information on the current efforts underway which affect this issue.

We will be writing letters (or sending e-mails) to our three Members of Congress supporting H. Resolution 189 and increasing global nutrition funding to \$250 million in the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations bill.

So bring your pen or your device and lift your voice in support of those across the world suffering from hunger and poverty.

# Bible Studies—September 2019

## September's Bible Studies

### **Circle of Contemplative Prayer**

The Circle of Contemplative Prayer meets on Mondays from 5:30-7:15pm in the Chapel. We are currently studying through “personal reflections.” For more information, contact Sharyn Butler.

### **Great Ol' Broads of God (GoBoGs)**

GoBoGs invites you to join them in study and fellowship. They meet at CtK in the classrooms W6/W7 each Monday from 4:00-5:30 pm. (The first Monday of each month is dedicated to Share The Care, GoBoGs' outreach mission.) They are currently studying “An Altar in the World” by Barbara Brown Taylor. Please join them for study sessions that are deeply rewarding. For more information, contact Lynda Morris.

### **Midweek Bible Study led by Pastor Tim**

You are invited to join us each Thursday from Noon-1:15 PM in the CtK Community Hall for our Midweek Bible Study. We are currently studying “*The Disputed Letters of Paul*,” specifically the *Letter to the Ephesians*. Please join us and bring your lunch if you wish. Our discussions are engaging and span a variety of topics. For more information, call the church office at 247-5310.

### **Khuvara (“Circle of Friends”)**

The Khuvara Women's Group are currently reading the book “Love Wins” by Rob Bell. All women are welcome, and we gladly invite new members to join us. We meet each Thursday at 1:30 pm in the CtK Library. For more information, contact Stella Welcher.

### **Spiritual Study Group (SSG)**

Currently the Spiritual Study Group is reading and discussing “Love Without Limits” *Jesus' Radical Vision for Love with No Exceptions* written by author, Jacqueline A. Bussie. Please join us for lively, enriching discussions! The Spiritual Study Group meets weekly on Thursdays at 3:00 pm in the Welcome Center. For more information, contact Aurora Rose.

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# Fellowship Groups—September 2019

## Fellowship Group News

### **CtK Piecemaker Quilters**

The Piecemaker Quilters would like to invite all those interested in quilting (or wanting to learn how to quilt) to join us. You'll find us a warm and accepting group who makes quilts for baptisms, the sick and elderly, as well as for various mission projects for those in need here at home and abroad. If you would like more information, please give Judy Danielson a call at the

Durango Quilt Company: 970-247-2582. The Piecemakers regularly meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 9:30 am until 2:00 pm in the CtK Community Hall. We look forward to seeing you!

### **CtK Book Club**

The CtK Book Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 3:00 pm in the CtK Library. Our next meeting is on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> when we'll discuss "Where Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens. Our book discussion for October 10<sup>th</sup> will be "Light on Snow" by Anita Shreve; and on November 14<sup>th</sup> we'll focus on a book by Tara Westover entitled, "Educated." *On December 12th, we'll skip our regularly scheduled meeting to participate in our annual Holiday Luncheon.* We'll begin the new year on Thursday, January 9th, 2020, when we discuss the book, "The Color Purple," by Alice Walker.

*You are invited to drop in at any time and join us* for some lively and enriching literary discussions—new members are always warmly welcomed! For more information about any of our reads or activities, please contact Stella Welcher at 970-903-9327.

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## **In Other News. . . , September 2019**

### **CtK's Rally Day**

Your 2019-2020 Church Council invites you to join us for "Rally Day" on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:15am—10:30am in the Community Hall. Come and meet the council members as we share with the whole congregation CtK's upcoming events, fellowship and study opportunities; you can also learn about the many ways **YOU** can get involved at CtK and become an integral member of our various ministries. We look forward to seeing you on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Peace,  
Holly Landgren  
Council President

### **CtK's New Messaging Service**

CtK has a new messaging service so that you can get pertinent and timely information sent to your phone via text message! This service will enable our church office to send out text messages to help remind you of important events and CtK news. Recent trends have helped us to see that email is becoming less and less effective as a means of distributing timely information. So, we hope that you will enjoy the convenience that this service will provide.

**To sign up, simply text "ctk" to 64600.**

If you need some help with this and/or would like more info., contact the church office at 970-247-5310.

*(More "In Other News. . ." continued on the next page →)*



## Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission (NELM) News



It's back to school time, and the children in the school at Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission (NELM) in Rock Point, AZ are benefitting from a support project though CtK. Art Meyer and Judy Roy kindly volunteered to deliver 45 hygiene kits to the NELM school a few weeks ago. The kits included items such as a towel, tooth paste and brushes, shampoo, soap, a comb, etc. Many of the children come to school from a distance, and the kits are a huge benefit to help them meet basic needs and be fresh and ready for learning. Art and Judy also delivered new clothing items for young children – items purchased with a \$250 grant from Thrivent. Thank you Art and Judy and to all who participated in this meaningful project for the children at NELM.

## Post-card Greetings from Kip & Laura



The photo above was taken by Laura Stransky this Summer--it's "Kip's Summer Garden." Kip & Laura wanted to share this picture with their CtK family to give honor and thanks to the wonderful blessings of our heavenly Father despite the challenges of the flood damage their home and property sustained earlier in the year. God is indeed good; even in the face of adversity!

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# Prayer Requests—September 2019

## In Our Prayers

Please keep the following Military men and women in your prayers...

*To add or remove names from this list, please contact Janeann Jones*

- Major Ryan Bankhead—Brother of Eryn Orłowski
- Sgt. John Dee—Son in-law of Wendy Krull
- Sgt. Chris Gomez—Nephew of BJ and Danny Pierce
- Staff Sergeant (SSgt.) Airman Paul Herr—Nephew of Gary & Carol Orłowski
- Hugh Jones, Jr. Sailor—Son of Rick & Janeann Jones
- Sgt. Brandon Minser —Son in-law of Wendy Krull
- LCDR Andy Schaaf—Son of Merilee and Mark Fleming
- Major Clayton Stransky—Nephew of Kip and Laura Stransky
- Staff Sgt. Stephen Van Dover—Nephew of Nancy Van Dover

## CtK family & friends in need of prayer...

- The family of Frederick Steinbach (father of Gary Steinbach)
- Matthew Burnett, son of Tom & Marna Burnett
- The family of Ethel Goehring
- The family of Kent Herath
- The family of Merlwyn Clausen
- Mandy & Maggie Gardner
- Larry & Lauren Rardin
- Beverly and Paul Dittmer
- Mary Southworth
- Darlene Warring
- Bonnie Rossmiller
- Shirley Buslee
- LuLu Mae Hess
- Lucille Ball
- Paul Schnackenberg (brother of Carroll Groeger)
- Bev Brown
- Lori Lachelt
- Kayla Hefner
- Carol Gunderson
- CtK's ministry and partnership with both the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Rock Point, AZ and San Juan Bautista Lutheran Church in Zaculeu, Guatemala.

*(More "Prayer Request" continued on the next page →)*

- CtK's Homebound Ministry and all those who serve our homebound members through this ministry.
- Mandy Gardner, CtK's Director of Faith Formation. She was approved by the RMS ELCA for Endorsement in March.
- All those battling mental illness and addictions.
- Each person in our CtK church family.

*To add or remove names from this list, please contact Linda in the church office.*

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