

# CHRIST THE KING'S MESSENGER

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations  
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Pastor Tim Johnson

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## Downsizing & Exchanges

It's probably not the best season to talk about downsizing... or is it? I mean, the Christmas season isn't exactly associated with downsizing. It's the opposite where we eat too much and buy more things. Granted, most of what we buy at Christmas isn't for us, but we also receive quite a few new things. In most cases during this season, our bodies don't exactly downsize nor do our belongings.

However, Christmas is, at its very essence, about downsizing. John 1:1, 14 say, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.* Did you catch it? Jesus, the Word, was God who became flesh. Maybe you have heard the phrase, "God put skin on?" I would call that a downsize.

By taking on flesh, Jesus was opening Himself up to sickness, disease, pain, hurt, hunger and even death. That's a definite downsize. In fact, Philippians 2:7-8 add, *instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross.*

The Omnipresent One (everywhere present) downsized to the confines of a human womb. The Omnipotent One (all-powerful) became a helpless baby that had to be fed, nursed, burped and changed. The Omniscient One (all knowing) had to learn reading, writing, and arithmetic. He emptied Himself and became nothing so that we could become something.

So, Christmas is about downsizing, but it is also about exchanges. The customer service counters of retail stores are probably busier right after Christmas than they are all the rest of the year. People need to exchange clothing that doesn't fit or duplicate gifts or gifts they just don't like. Hopefully, the retail store has a simple exchange policy.

Jesus offered the world an unbelievable exchange with the greatest exchange policy ever conceived. Second Corinthians 5:21 says, "He who knew no sin became sin for us so that we could become the righteousness of God." In other words, Jesus says, "Give me all of your sin and I'll give you all of my righteousness." That's like being able to exchange the ugliest, cheesiest outfit ever made for a prepaid credit card with an unlimited dollar amount. Okay, even that pales in comparison to Jesus' offered exchange.

How about the exchange described in John 3:16, *For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.* The exchange is sin for perfect righteousness and eternal death for eternal life. I'm really liking Jesus' version of downsizing and exchanges. He downsized just so He could offer us the greatest exchange policy ever known.

How do we receive such an exchange? Through believing in Jesus as our Savior. No wonder the angels sang, *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!* Doesn't it make your heart start singing,

"Glo . . . ri . a, In Excelsis deo?"

Have A Blessed Christmas Season! Pastor Tim



## Purposeful Parables

December 4    *The Murdered Son*

Luke 20:9-19

Pastor Tim

### *Christmas Series*



December 11    *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*    Colossians 1:19-23

December 18    Sunday Christmas Program & Youth Sunday

Christmas Eve:    *God Most Nigh*

Matthew 1:18-25

December 25    *The Message of Carols*

Ephesians 5:19

January 1        Elders' Sunday

children's  
program



Youth Sunday  
&

Sunday School Program

Sunday, December 18

During the worship service 9:30 AM

# Christmas Events

A decorative graphic with a green and red floral border. The words "Christmas Events" are written in a large, stylized, red font with a green outline. Below the text are green and red floral decorations, including a red bird and a green holly leaf.

### *Christmas Eve Service*



Please join us as we  
celebrate Christ's birth  
during our Christmas Eve  
Worship service, Saturday  
December 24 at 5:00 PM

Cash Basis  
Balance Sheet

# Christ the King Free Lutheran Church

## Financial Report

### As of October 31, 2022

Revenue  
Expenditures

	<u>Oct 31, 22</u>		<u>Oct 22</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>Revenue</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		<b>Building and Grounds</b>	405.00
<b>Bank Total</b>		<b>General Revenue</b>	23,445.37
<b>Building</b>		<b>Outreach Revenue</b>	6,178.14
Altar Guild	250.00	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>30,028.51</u>
Building Fund Account	4,751.09	<b>Expenditures</b>	
<b>Total Building</b>	<u>5,001.09</u>	<b>Building &amp; Grounds</b>	1,046.92
<b>General Total</b>		<b>Discipleship Expenditures</b>	323.41
General	52,576.92	<b>Family Events</b>	23.05
Truth Help	298.42	<b>Misc.</b>	996.62
<b>Total General Total</b>	<u>52,875.34</u>	<b>Office</b>	296.26
<b>Outreach</b>		<b>Outreach Disbursement</b>	
20% Offering	5,540.00	20 %Outreach	3,977.20
Children's Mission Offering	163.14	Samaritan's Purse	106.65
Thrivent	1,432.41	<b>Total Outreach Disbursement</b>	<u>4,083.85</u>
<b>Total Outreach</b>	<u>7,135.55</u>	<b>Payroll Expenditures</b>	10,953.59
Share And Care	640.70	<b>Share And Care</b>	366.85
<b>Special Accounts</b>		<b>Youth</b>	531.87
Internship Fund	800.00	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>18,622.42</u>
Local Outreach Ministry	7,323.71	<b>Net Revenue</b>	<u><u>11,406.09</u></u>
Church Missions	1,493.74		
Marriage Ministry	307.98		
Scholarship	322.26		
Youth	10,253.93		
<b>Total Special Accounts</b>	<u>20,501.62</u>		
<b>Total Bank Total</b>	<u>86,154.30</u>		
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u><u>86,154.30</u></u>		

**Present:** Dave Sutherland, Marcine Olsen, Gene Bouw, Jim Gawerecki, Brandie Hulstein, Morgan McNickle, Heather De Wilde, Laurie Bruns    **Absent:** Jim Otter

**Also Present** Pastor Tim Johnson, Collene Landgren, Mike Morgan

**President David Sutherland** called the meeting to order.

**Devotions** were led by Heather DeWilde reading from a devotional titled Block of Marble based on Psalm 39:14. Sculpted the statue David from marble. He said the statue was already in the stone, he just had to remove what was not part of the statue. God looks at us as a work of art and He is the sculptor accomplishing a masterpiece. We need to see the finished work that is in us. We see the rough edges that need sanding and polishing. Heather D. opened in prayer. Morgan McNickle will lead devotions in December.

**The Treasurer's report** for October was presented. Heather D. moved to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Jim G. Motion carried.

**The Payment of bills,** Marcine O. moved to approve the bills, seconded by Morgan M. Motion carried.

**Ankeny Church Plant:** The October report for the residency program was given.

**Outreach:** Marcine O. moved to approve outreach, seconded by Jim G. Motion carried.

AFLC \$ 740.00    Food Shelf \$ 100.    Pastor Wold \$ 200.  
CRU-Jeff \$ 500.    CRU-Paul \$ 500.    CRU- Steele \$ 100.  
Brazil Student \$ 100.    Alpha Center \$ 300.    Abel \$ 100.  
Kvale's(Wycliffe) \$ 500.    Atlas for Life \$ 200.  
Children's Life \$ 200.    Intern Account \$ 100.  
PAS Wellness Room \$ 100.    Ankeny Church Plant \$ 500.  
Lake Benton Food Shelf \$ 100.    Miriam Home \$ 200.  
2023 AFLC Annual Conference \$ 1,000.00

**The secretary's report** from the October 13, 2022 meeting was presented. Laurie B. moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Heather D. Motion carried.

**Elders' Consultation:** Pastor Tim reported for the Elders. They met and evaluated the Sunday morning schedule. Discussed the winter small group studies.

**Youth Ministry and Family Ministry Reports:**

**Youth Ministry:** Youth Sunday will be December 18, Pastor Tim reported he is considering a few dramas for the youth to present. Brunch Blessing will be held on December 18. There will not be Sunday School on December 25 or January 1. . Wednesday night Aftershock has been sporadic so Pastor Tim will rework how they will meet. Aftershock will be twice a month for all grades, 7 - 12. FLY is July 3 - 8, will start promoting attending.

**Family Ministry:** Family ministry has been temporarily put on hold.

**Pastors' Report:**

**Pastor Tim:** Submitted a report for his activities for the last month. Pastor Tim reported Year 3 confirmation is going well and is meeting the first and third Sundays for 1.5 hours. He requested vacation from December 27 to January 2. Morgan M. moved to approve, seconded by Brandie H. motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**North door in sanctuary:** doors have been measured by Viking Glass.

**Railing on steps by piano:** Working on it. Jim O

**Landscaping by entry:** Ginger M is organized a landscaping time and will complete it in the spring. Thank you for all the time spent planning and for planting.

**Cross on entry:** Jim O. has the cross made and will do the finish work when possible.

**Search Committee:** The congregational meeting was held on October 9 to inform the congregation on the progress. A letter of offer and compensation package will be sent to the candidate.

**Sign Changes:** The sign has been updated. Thanks Marcine.

**RightNow Media:** Pastor Tim will try to contact to see what the usage has been.

**Ice Skating Rink:** Marcine will contact Rod Altena about making and maintaining the rink. For now, they will not be setting up lights.

**New Business:**

**Annual Meeting Date:** The annual meeting will be January 22, 2023 and will be held during the Sunday School time.

**Budget meeting:** Budget meeting will be December 8, 2022 at 6 PM, followed by the regular Trustee meeting.

**Summer team request:** Brandie H. will check about organizing VBS and not requesting a team.

**Building use information:** Collene L. submitted information from the insurance provider that can be used. Tabled for the trustees to review and update to be added to policy.

**Nominating Committee:** The nominating committee are: Denis Parsley, Morgan McNickle, Seth Forness, Scott Thomson, Judy Steuck

**FLY:** The FLY dates for July 3-8 2023 in Estes Park, Colorado. The trustees would like to present ideas for some fund raisers for the youth to be used for various camps and FLY.

Dave S. adjourned the meeting and Pastor Tim closed in prayer.

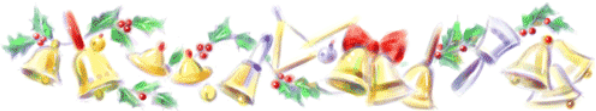
Collene Landgren, recording secretary {Draft subject to approval by the trustees}



Dear Pastor Tim and the Congregation of Christ the King,  
 I want to say a Big Thank You for all of your prayers and all of your help.  
 It is so great to have so many friends.  
 God Bless you all: From the William DeZeeuw Jr Family  
 Delilah, Amos, Willian Andrew, Curt, Earl, and families.

Dear Friends  
 Each day when we walk in the doors of Alpha Center, we are not alone. We work as a team, encouraging & supporting each other as we seek to serve those who need us most. You are part of this team, this family. Your support is not just counted in physical gifts, but in the simple fact that you are a vital part of the encouraging, supportive atmosphere that define who we are at Alpha Center. Thank you for playing an integral role in our life-transforming worth.  
 God Bless, Alpha Center Staff

Christ the King Church,  
 Mae Beth and I thank you for your prayerful and financial support. Without friends like you, this ministry would not be possible. You are impacting farm more people than you know by supporting this ministry. Whatever I teach gets multiplied to others. God uses my students to further bless the churches. Most of my students are pastors and teachers. Thus they eagerly pass along whatever they learn. So we than you one again. May God richly bless you. Thank you so much for your gift. It was truly needed.  
 Your servants in Christ, Dave & Mae Beth Wold



**Christ the King serves  
 January 5, 2023 2-5 PM  
 at the Pipestone Food Shelf.**

They are requesting 2-4 people  
 Contact Diana Uilk or the church  
 office at 507-825-5958



if you are willing to help.  
 Thank you!



**SMALL GROUP STUDY**  
 The Elders are discussing various options for the small group study. Details will be shared as they become available. Please watch the bulletin and January Messenger for more information.





# December BIRTHDAYS



Notice: Check Facebook, KLOH or KNWC for cancellations or changes due to the weather

- 1 Luke Landgren
- 3 Bailey De Wilde
- 6 Doug DeRuyter
- 7 Morgan McNickle
- 9 Corrie Thomson
- 11 Tad Woelber
- 11 Trevin De Wilde
- 11 Kristie Lindquist
- 13 Laurie Westerbur
- 13 Karen Halbersma
- 15 David Nelson
- 16 Sandy Swanson
- 16 Isaac Berg
- 18 Kathleen Keller
- 18 Julie Manzey
- 19 Carter Holt
- 23 Philip Berg
- 23 Bentley Feske
- 23 Sheila Westfield
- 24 Steve Blaue
- 26 Pat Haag
- 29 Mavis Remund

Chatter-sewers  
(Quilting)  
Will NOT meet  
In December



Thursday,  
December 8  
6:00 PM



TRUSTEE  
MEETING  
Thursday,  
Dec. 8 @ 7 PM



FOR  
GEE  
Meets  
December 11



Elders & Wives  
Meet Dec. 15 @  
7:00 PM



News Letter  
DEADLINES  
December 18



Pastor Tim & Cindy will be on  
Vacation after Christmas  
December 27-January 2

If there are any needs  
during this time,  
please contact one of the Elders.



Brunch Blessing will be  
December 18 following the  
Youth Service  
Bring a dish to pass!



YOUTH

# Christmas Service

December 18- Mark your calendars!! Christ the King Youth Sunday is December 18, 2022 during the worship service. This will include youth of all ages! If your child/youth will not be able to participate please

let Pastor Tim know as soon as possible. Parts/tasks are being assigned. December 14 will be practice for the service.

Christmas Party: Wednesday December 21 @ 6:30 for a Christmas event. There will be Christmas music, games! Invite a friend!  
This will be a combined for all youth grades 7 - 12



# NERF WARS

## NERF Wars Event

Sunday, January 23

Grades 5-12. Check-in will begin at 6:00 PM.

6 - 9 PM: all youth grades 5 - 12;

9 PM - Midnight: Youth grades 9 - 12

Invite your friends! More details will be available later.

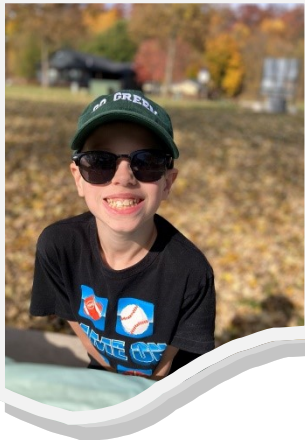


- December 11 Forge Meets
- December 18 Youth Sunday & SS Program
- December 21 Youth Group Christmas Party
- December 28 NO Youth Group
- January 23 Nerf Wars
- February 3-5 Winter Retreat





Malachi is doing well. He continues to have good reports from the ophthalmologist (eye doctor). Jeremy is staying busy. He always appreciates prayer for safety in flying and good flying weather.



Things tend to break down more in the winter too. Haha

**Blessings, Jeremy & Lacey, Malachi Crowell**

**The Crowells included these pictures.**

*Aviation Ministries*

Pastor/Pilot Jeremy Crowell, serving with wife Lacey, provides valuable aviation service for the Alaska Mission.

In addition to being a 2010 graduate of AFLTS, Jeremy is a flight instructor and aircraft mechanic. He also holds seaplane, instrument, and multi-engine ratings.

The Crowell's will be working closely with Pastor Jeff Swanson and Pastor Bob Lee.



Here are some prayer needs:

- \*Safety in flying and good flying weather
- \*Someone to feel called to the pastoral position for Hilltop Christian Fellowship
- \*Pastor Jeff Swanson's health
- \*Margaret Lee's health
- \*Ministry opportunities
- \*The sick in our community and comfort those who have lost loved ones.

Pastor Jeremy and Lacey bring with them ministry skills and a servant's heart that has great potential for expanding the Alaska outreach. They originally surveyed the AK ministry for six months of their seminary internship in 2009. God confirmed His direction and in Spring 2010

they accepted a call from AFLC Home Missions and FLAPS to serve as full time pastor/pilot for the remote areas of Alaska, beginning in August 2010.



**Children's  
Offering**

**Hot Meals for a Child**

Children who go to school with growling stomachs have trouble focusing on their lessons. But they are at risk of more than a poor education. Chronic hunger causes near-

ly half of all deaths among children under 5. Samaritan's Purse partners with local churches and Christian ministries to provide hearty school lunches to children in poor communities. For many of them, it is the only full meal they will eat all day. For \$7, you can help provide a week of hot meals for a child, and demonstrate the love of Jesus, who said, "I am the living bread that came down from Heaven" (John 6:51, ESV).







**Luke 2:1-3 (CSB)**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole empire should be registered. This first registration took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So everyone went to be registered, each to his own town. ...

Altar Guild

Cindy Johnson

Acolytes

- December 4: Caden Bruns
- December 11: Lauren Steuck
- December 18: Grayson Lindquist
- Christmas Eve: Keegan Otter
- December 25: Makenley DeWilde

Family of the Week / Greeters

- December 4: Cole & Ashley Maly
- December 11: Bryan & Kennedy Manzey; Finnick, Kyo
- December 18: Julie Manzey; Brynn
- Christmas Eve: Family & Friends of Christ the King
- December 25: Nathan & Nancy McConnell; Trinity

Nursery

- December 4: Amy Steuck
- December 11: Ashley Hoheisel
- December 18: Marcine Olsen
- Christmas Eve: Alyssa Steuck
- December 25:



**"I WILL RAISE  
UP YOUR  
OFFSPRING  
AFTER YOU ...  
AND I WILL  
ESTABLISH  
HIS KINGDOM."  
2 SAMUEL 7:12. NRSV**

Ushers

- Jim Woelber
- Tad Woelber
- Gene Bouw

Money Counters/  
Trustees

- Laurie Bruns
- Jim Gawerecki

Sound Tech

- December 4: Kyle DeWilde
- December 11: Dave Sutherland
- December 18: Alan Warner
- Christmas Eve: Kyle DeWilde
- December 25: Kyle DeWilde

Worship Leaders

- December 4: Matthew Amdahl, Jane Smith, Janelle Brockberg, Judy Steuck
- December 11: Praise Band - Sheila Westfield, leading
- December 18: Bill Steuck, Irene Warner, Dawn Sutherland, Judy Steuck
- Christmas Eve: Denis Parsley, Laurel Berg, Charlie Hoffman, Susan Parsley
- December 25: Matthew Amdahl, Jane Smith, Janelle Brockberg, Susan Parsley





# December



Sunday

Monday



Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Service            10:30 AM Fellowship Brunch            10:45 AM Sunday School / Confirmation            6:30 PM Year 3 Confirmation</p>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Service            10:30 AM Fellowship Brunch            10:45 AM Sunday School / Confirmation            11:45 AM Forge</p>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Youth-Led Service            10:30 AM Fellowship Brunch            10:45 AM Sunday School / Confirmation            6:30 PM Year 3 Confirmation  <b>Messenger Articles Due</b></p>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>NO Sunday School</b>            9:30 AM Worship Service</p> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p><i>New Year's Eve</i></p>	<p>Jan 2</p>	<p>Dec 27</p>	<p>Dec 27</p>	<p>Dec 27</p>	<p>Dec 27</p>



5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

