



# The CTK HERALD

Christ the King Lutheran Church

October 2013

Wilbraham, Massachusetts

"PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL"

## FROM THE PASTOR

### *What is membership, anyway?*

In congregations, when someone has been a "visitor" for long enough, pastors are expected to "pop the question". That question, of course, is this: "Are you interested in joining our congregation?". I've popped the question a few times here at CTK, and each time I had an unexpected level of difficulty responding to the follow up: "What is membership, anyway?". For all of my years studying theology, Christian Ethics, and Biblical Hebrew and Greek, I struggled to come up with a succinct response. What is membership, anyway?

It's a difficult question to answer (and I think this is a good thing), because we don't distinguish much between who is a member of Christ the King and who isn't. Once upon a time in many congregations, you had to join if you wanted to do pretty much anything. Since that is no longer the case, one might wonder why we still have membership at all. I've often described membership as the difference between dating and being married. It's an intentional commitment to stick it out "until moving out of the area do us part".

Alright, so it's a commitment, but a commitment to what? To get the most black and white answer possible, I consulted our congregation's constitution. Now, I know you all have this memorized front to back (sure...). But as boring as the constitution may at first appear, it actually has a great summary of what being a member of this congregation means. Here's the excerpt from chapter 8, paragraph 4:

"It shall be the privilege and duty of members of this congregation to:

- a. Make regular use of the means of grace, both Word and sacraments;
- b. Live a Christian life in accordance with the Word of God and the teachings of the Lutheran church; and
- c. Support the work of this congregation and of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through contributions of their time, abilities, and financial support as biblical stewards."

What is membership? Membership is about being a part of this worshiping community on Sunday, following Christ each day of the week, and making a tangible contribution both financially and with our time to the ministry we share. As members, we make a commitment to be a part of this congregation in these very tangible ways.



But as great a description the constitution provides, I think the heart of the matter is in this one simple word: privilege. Being a part of this congregation and doing ministry together in this place is our holy privilege. How fortunate we are to have this place where the Gospel is proclaimed, where we are fed and nourished, where we support one another in our journey of faith, and work together to share God's love with the whole world. Membership is about commitment, but it is also a celebration.

On **October 20<sup>th</sup>**, we'll welcome new members into our congregation. (See next page for more information.) As we celebrate our new members, let's also take an opportunity to celebrate our own membership in this community. Christ has called us together and dwells among us. That can be a bit intimidating and demanding at times, but my goodness, what a holy privilege.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Nathaniel

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*We strive to be a congregation so empowered by the Gospel message and our unity in Christ that we work together to minister to those in need and proclaim the Good News to all.*

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**Christ the King Council officers are:**

President - Kevin Hinkamaper, Vice-President - Catherine Olson  
Treasurer - Peter Van Beaver, Financial Secretary - Melissa Springer



**Other Council members:**

Tom Henry, Martha Mensing, and Jessica Henry (youth representative)

## PASTOR NATHANIEL'S OFFICE HOURS

Please note a change in Pastor Nathaniel's office hours that began in September. Please feel free to stop by. They are as follows.

**Monday: 9:00 a.m. - noon at CTK**

**Tuesday: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at CTK**

**Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to noon at The Village Store,  
462 Main Street, Wilbraham**

Please call the church office, as Pastor Nathaniel from time to time will have specially scheduled events or pastoral emergencies.

In addition to the above listing, Pastor Nathaniel will hold office hours **Monday, October 7th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., at McLadden's Irish Publick House, 546 Main Street, Hampden.**

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## NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

On **Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**, Christ the King will welcome new members during our regularly scheduled worship service. A reception will follow. Please join us to celebrate the ministry we all share together at Christ the King.



If you are interested in learning more about membership, please contact Pastor Nathaniel.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rally Day was a new "intergenerational day" for us at CTK, as we gathered and grew in our faith together for the first time this school year. Our lesson for the day was on growing in our faith. To demonstrate our lesson, we created "Son-flowers" together. Just as sunflowers turn their faces to the sun, we grow in faith when we turn our face to the Son of God. We turn to Jesus when we obey his command to love God, love and serve our neighbor, and care for the earth and all things.



We began our lesson with a discussion of where we each felt we were on our own personal spiritual journey. We learned that young and old, we were all on a journey of faith - not perfect and still, always, learning. The first step of creating our Son-flowers was to write our names in the center of the flower followed by a statement describing our spiritual journey. We heard things like "work in progress" and "questioning" and "still learning".

Next, we discussed two questions: What makes you grow? What makes you grow in faith? We grow with food, exercise, sleep, and taking care of our bodies. We need to avoid things that are not healthy, such as smoking, junk food, etc. Our faith needs the same

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Continues . . .

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The CTK Herald is distributed on the last Sunday of the month by Christ the King Lutheran Church. All articles for publication should be given to Fran Selva by the **10th of the month prior to publication.**

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758 Main Street—Wilbraham, MA 01095

Telephone: 413-596-3045

FAX: 413-596-9220

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Continued . . .

types of things—the food of God’s Word, exercising our faith by following God’s commandments, and avoiding temptations of this world. These are things that help us grow in faith. Just by coming to Rally Day, our participants were growing in faith, through hearing the God’s word, worshipping together, and talking about what growing in faith is all about. As a group, we came up with several ways that we can grow in our faith, and we wrote those things that were meaningful to us on the petals of our Son-

flowers. Here are some of the ideas we shared:

- Ask questions*
- Question our faith*
- Show kindness and respect*
- Pray*
- Come to worship*
- Attend Sunday school*
- Read the Bible*
- Read a devotional*
- Invite others to church*
- Invite friends to Sunday school*
- Sing in choir*
- Be kind to everyone at school*
- Recycle papers and cans*
- Only speak well of others*
- Tell others about Jesus*

- Play fairly in games*
- Help around the house*
- Treat colleagues with respect*
- Volunteer at \_\_\_\_\_*

- Give financially to church or other charities*
- Support a mission*
- Share*

If you couldn't join us for Rally Day, we invite you to consider making your own Son-flower. You will find your supplies in the classroom, where you will see our Son-flowers up on the bulletin board.

Please join us as we grow together in faith.



## 2013-2014 EDUCATION SCHEDULE

**\*LESSON DAYS** – EVERYONE IN INDIVIDUAL CLASSROOMS, GROUPED BY AGE, JUST AS WE DID LAST YEAR.

**\*INTERGENERATIONAL DAYS** - Large group activity including all ages, grade 1 to adult (pre-k will remain in their own separate classroom unless specified).

**\*FAMILY DAYS** – Family Activities, pre-k and elementary kids with their parents. (Adult Forum will meet separately for study).

**\*\*NOTE:** Some activities meet AFTER church. On these days, the ages involved in the activity DO NOT meet for class before church.

(Included in the next column is the schedule for the next two months.)

### OCTOBER

- 6 LESSON DAY – HUNGER**
- 13 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR ADULT FORUM**
- 20 Family Day – CROP Walk FOLLOWING WORSHIP - all ages welcome.) (See article on page 4.)**
- 27 LESSON DAY – HUNGER**

### NOVEMBER

- 3 Intergenerational Day – Church scavenger hunt FOLLOWING WORSHIP**
- 17 LESSON DAY – CHRISTMAS**
- 24 Family Day – Christmas, making Advent wreaths/calendars**

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#### **Pastor’s Office Hours:**

Monday: 9:00 a.m. - noon at CTK  
 Tuesday: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at CTK  
 Wednesday: 9 a.m. to noon at The Village Store, Main St., Wilb.

Please call the church office, as Pastor Nathaniel from time to time will have specially scheduled events or pastoral emergencies.

#### **Pastor Nathaniel’s online tools:**

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PastorNanderson](http://www.twitter.com/PastorNanderson)  
 Blog: <http://pastornanderson.blogspot.com/>  
 Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/PastorNanderson](http://www.facebook.com/PastorNanderson)

**Fran’s Hours** . . . Monday through Thursday - 9:00 a.m. to noon.

## CROP WALK



This year's date for the annual Wilbraham/Hampden CROP Walk to help fight hunger is **Sunday, October 20, beginning at 2:00 p.m.**

The walk will begin at the block in front of the YMCA on Boston Road and wrap around in front of the Wilbraham Post Office. Water, snacks, and facilities will be available. As you may know, the suggested walk is five miles, ten times around!

This is a *Family Day* activity for the Sunday School, so all ages are welcome to participate.

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## LOAVES AND FISHES

Thank you to all who have volunteered to shop or cook for the meal sent the first Wednesday every month to Loaves and Fishes in Springfield. A copy of the menu is available in the "warming room". If anyone else would like to help, or if there are any questions, please contact Ellen Henry at thehenrys6@charter.net.

**October 1 Cook/October 2 Food Delivery**  
**Shopper:** Buffy Mayo  
**Cooks:** Linda Van Beaver/Melissa Springer

**November 5 Cook/November 6 Food Delivery**  
**Shopper:** Fran Johnson  
**Cooks:** Martha Mensing/Fran Selva

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## CALLING ALL QUILTERS

The next session for assembling quilts for Lutheran World Relief is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 16, at 9:00 a.m.** No sewing experience is necessary.

### *Why LWR Mission Quilts?*

When you make and send a quilt, you are not only comforting someone you have never met,



but providing an object that is useful in ways you probably never imagined. In addition to being a cozy, clean new bed cover, it can be:

- ◆ a baby carrier, tied around a mother's back;
- ◆ a market display, spread on the ground and piled with vegetables;
- ◆ a sack for transporting those goods to market;
- ◆ a sunshade;
- ◆ a shawl; and most importantly
- ◆ a constant reminder that someone, far away, cares a lot.

*(This information was taken from the LWR website.)*

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## FAITH ON TAP

*Faith on Tap* is a monthly gathering of Christians, seekers and everyone in between. We share a couple pints and a lot of laughs as we explore our faith and what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century.



**Everyone 21+ is welcome!** Join us for our next event: **Sunday, October 13, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.** at McLadden's Irish Publick House, 546 Main Street, Hampden. Childcare is available at CTK. Drop your children off starting at 3:15 p.m.

This month's topic is "Faith and Money".

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## PICTORIAL DIRECTORY - PHOTO SESSIONS

Christ the King is putting together a pictorial directory. Please look for a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Also, Tom Henry will be available after church on Sundays for photo sessions.

Prints will also be available at a nominal cost. Sign up today!

## CTK PEOPLE

Remember in your prayers . . .



A complete prayer listing is available through the Prayer Chain. If you wish to be added, please e-mail Fran at [office@ctkwilbraham.org](mailto:office@ctkwilbraham.org), or call 596-3045.

## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

All Thrivent Choice dollars designated to churches during October and November of 2013 will be doubled. Yes, that's correct, DOUBLED. This is a great opportunity for Thrivent members to maximize their Thrivent Choice dollars and support Christ the King Lutheran Church.

Please consider designating your Choice Dollars to Christ the King during October or November by accessing your account online, calling Thrivent home office (800)847-4836 and asking for Thrivent Choice Dollars at the prompt, or calling the local Thrivent office toll free at (866)525-9165 for assistance.

## THE NEW ENGLAND WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WHAT: *"Gathering for Justice"*  
(Awareness Advocacy Action)  
*Do justice love kindness walk humbly*

DATE: **Saturday, October 5, 2013**

TIME: **8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

WHERE: **Trinity Lutheran Church,  
73 Lancaster Street, Worcester, MA**

REGISTRATION: **\$25**

For additional information contact:

O'B Rock, tel: 508-431-2598,

email: [obrock@comcast.net](mailto:obrock@comcast.net)

or

Sarah Okerlund, tel: 508-854-4725,

email: [sdokerlund@msn.com](mailto:sdokerlund@msn.com)

*Keynote Speaker and Worship Leader:*

**Inez Torres Davis, Churchwide Women of the  
ELCA Director for Justice**

*Worship Leaders:* **Pastor Sandra D'Amico,  
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Attleboro, MA  
and Pastor Kathleen Mills, Hamden, CT**

September 16, 2013

## U.S. Flooding: Colorado



an-affiliated social ministries, we are working together to help serve those most affected.

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

Record rainfall in September has produced major flooding in Colorado. According to news reports, hundreds of people remain unaccounted for or are missing and as many as seven people are feared dead.

Three ELCA church buildings have sustained damage. More than 18,000 homes and businesses have been destroyed or impacted. Some areas continue to experience mudslides, damaged roads, and downed

power lines. Your help is needed to make a difference in affected areas.

**Gifts designated to "U.S. Floods" will be used in full -- 100 percent -- to help disaster survivors clean-up, rebuild, and recover.**

Your generous offerings of prayer and financial support will help those affected in Colorado and other areas on the long road to recovery.

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Through congregations, pastors, and Luther-

Please join me in praying for all who are affected by floods in Colorado.

In service,

The Rev. Daniel Rift  
Director, ELCA World Hunger and  
Disaster Appeal

**U.S. FLOODING Continues . . .**

## U.S. FLOODING Continued . . .



From the early stages of the conflict in Syria, the ELCA has been committed to standing with our companions affected.

P.S. Lutheran Disaster Response is responding to the needs of people in the U.S. and around the world.

## Ways to Give

Checks or money orders should be sent to:

**Lutheran Disaster Response  
39330 Treasury Center  
Chicago, IL 60694-9300**

Write "U.S. Flooding" on your check memo line.

Give by phone at 800-638-3522.

## WILBRAHAM & MONSON ACADEMY HOMESTAY PROGRAM



The following is a request from Gayle Hsiao, who works with the international students at Wilbraham & Monson Academy, located on Main Street in Wilbraham.

Because of increased interest expressed by our international students and their parents to 'stay local' during school breaks, it has become necessary to seek more host families willing to take one or more of our international students for break time. We currently have approximately 140 students from over 30 countries at WMA. Below is information about the program.

### **What is HOMESTAY?**

A HOMESTAY is an opportunity for a WMA international student to live in an American home with a host family. Although a small fee is paid to the family to participate, the experience is one of building a relationship, not just renting a room. HOMESTAY host families are carefully selected for their kind and caring personalities and their desire and willingness to open their home and share

their family lives and customs with the students.

Students who live in a HOMESTAY discover that their English improves through conversation and daily interaction with their families. They are exposed to a variety of cultural learning activities like family activities, holiday celebrations, religious practices, and sporting events among other things. The greatest reward for the students and the families both might be the deep, lasting friendship between them.

The HOMESTAY host family will provide:

- A safe, clean, and comfortable home
- A kind, caring family
- An English-speaking environment
- A private furnished bedroom with study area
- Linen/towels
- Healthy meals
- Access to laundry facilities, including detergent
- Television and Internet access

Please consider becoming involved this year...last Thanksgiving 17 students stayed with 11 families, and everyone had a positive experience.

The dates for this year's program are:

### *FALL VACATION -*

Tuesday, November 26, at noon through Sunday, December 1. Classes resume on Monday, December 2.

### *WINTER VACATION -*

Friday, December 20, at noon through Monday, January 6. Classes resume Tuesday, January 7.

### *WINTER LONG WEEKEND -*

Thursday, January 30, at 3:00 p.m. through Monday, February 3. Classes resume on Tuesday, February 4.

### *SPRING VACATION -*

Friday, March 7, after student's last obligation through Tuesday, March 25. Classes resume on Wednesday, March 26.

For each break, the host family receives a stipend. Please contact Gayle for the stipend amounts, or any questions, including how everything worked in the past. She can be reached at ghsiao@wma.us or at 413-364-3808.

# October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 6:00-7:30 Cooking for Loaves & Fishes	<b>2</b> Noon Loaves & Fishes 7:00 Parish Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 20th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45-9:45 Education Hour* 10:00 Holy Communion.	<b>7</b> 5:00-7:00 Pr. Office Hours at McLadden's 7:00 Wilbraham Commun. Chorus	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 21st Sunday after Pentecost 8:45-9:45 NO Education Hour* 10:00 Holy Communion 3:30-5:30 Faith on Tap-McLadden's	<b>14</b> Day of Thanksgiving (Canada) 7:00 Wilbraham Commun. Chorus Columbus Day (observed)	<b>15</b> 7:00 Council	<b>16</b> 9:00 Quilting 7:00 Parish Choir National Boss Day	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Luke, Evangelist	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 22nd Sunday after Pentecost NEW MEMBER SUNDAY 8:45-9:45 Adult Forum ONLY* 10:00 Holy Communion 2:00 CROP Walk-Family Day*	<b>21</b> 7:00 Wilbraham Commun. Chorus	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus and Martyr	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Reformation Sunday 8:45-9:45 Education Hour* 10:00 Holy Communion	<b>28</b> Simon and Jude, Apostles (Pr. at Bishop's Convocation) 7:00 Wilbraham Commun. Chorus	<b>29</b> (Pr. at Bishop's Convocation)	<b>30</b> (Pr. at Bishop's Convocation) 7:00 Parish Choir	<b>31</b> Reformation Day	<b>*See page 3 in newsletter for planned event for the day.</b>	<i>Pastor Nathaniel's Office Hours:</i> Mon: 9:00 a.m.-Noon at CTK Tues: 1:00-4:00 p.m. at CTK Wed: 9:00 to Noon at The Village Store, Main St., Wilb.



Christ The King  
Lutheran Church

758 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095

**ASSISTING MINISTERS/READERS**

10/6	Bill Leslie	Linda Van Beaver-reader
10/13	Dan Roy	Dave Silva-reader
10/20	Don Sienkiewicz	Sarah Springer-reader
10/27	Sara Trecker	Carolyn Starz-reader

**ACOLYTES**

**USHERS**

Dick Oswald  
Peter Van Beaver  
Bill Leslie  
Bill Leslie

**GREETERS**

10/6 Chris & Martha Mensing  
10/13 Paula Wilke  
10/20 Chris Caster  
10/27

**NURSERY**

**ALTAR GUILD**

Karen Moreau, Melissa Springer

**COFFEE HOST/HOUSTESS**

10/6 Buffy Mayo  
10/13 Fran Johnson  
10/20 Fran Selva  
10/27 Kelly Comeau

**COUNTER for September**

**ASSISTANT COUNTER**

10/6 Bill Leslie  
10/13 Dan Roy  
10/20 Don Sienkiewicz  
10/27 Sara Trecker

