



The CTK HERALD

Christ the King Lutheran Church • WILBRAHAM • Wilbraham, Massachusetts

"PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL"

FROM THE PASTOR

Our Visibility as a Congregation

The past few years have brought about the greatest change to our congregation's facilities, perhaps since the original structure was built. A long-awaited addition, new siding, and numerous landscaping projects gave our building a fresh look. Of course, nothing would compare to the loss of trees during the June 1st tornado. These changes, coupled with our Sunday Farmer's Market, have prompted countless people to remark: I didn't know there was a church back there!

Of course, we have always known that there is a church back here! We are proud to be members of this community of faith – a special group of people committed to proclaiming Christ in word and deed in our community. But at times, we forget that we are not very visible to those around us. And despite our excellent location on Wilbraham's busy Main Street, the trees eventually grow, and our presence in the community becomes shrouded and forgotten.

Suddenly, however, we find ourselves exposed to the community – what a wonderful thing! People notice us as they drive by. Visitors attend our Farmer's Market and Concert Series performances. We have even seen some new faces join us in worship. Oftentimes, churches can become inwardly focused and not care about the world outside themselves. This, however, is counter to what Jesus intended for the Church. Jesus commands his disciples to,

"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" (Matthew 28:19). We are constantly called by God to step out of our comfort zone, to welcome the world into our life as a community, and into new life in Jesus Christ.

One way in which we welcome the community into our life together is through our church sign out on Main Street. Over the years, it has taken a beating with rain, snow, and sun. Fortunately, we will soon install our newly refurbished sign, complete with a space to advertise goings on at Christ the King. This will be a wonderful opportunity to let everyone know about what is happening here, and that they are invited. Our new sign will be a great way to increase our visibility in Wilbraham and beyond.



As we increase our efforts to be visible in the wider community, we must always keep in mind why we go to such lengths in the first place: to share the good news of Jesus Christ with those who long for God's abundant grace. Inviting people to be a part of

our community of faith isn't about feeling better about increased attendance and giving – it is about proclaiming Christ and him crucified. And, of course, more so than anything else, our visibility as a congregation and as witnesses to the Gospel is all about how we live our lives and how open we are to sharing our faith with those who are curious. As you go through your day, as your talk with your neighbors and colleagues, remember that you are Christ's messenger in the world. God throws open the doors of the Church and invites everyone in – let's get out there, and point the way.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Nathaniel

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.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC NEWS

Valentine's Café – February 12, at 4:00 p.m. . . .

Back by popular demand, jazz vocalist, Aja Wilson, and her band return to Christ the King on **Sunday, February 12, at 4:00 p.m.** This casual jazz café will feature delicious refreshments, fine music, and, of course, the chance to dance with your Valentine. Be sure to wear all the red, pink and white you own, and you just might receive a prize for having the most Valentine's Day spirit!

Hand Bell Ringers Wanted . . .

Christ the King has immediate openings in their Hand Bell Ensemble. This is a group of both youth and adult ringers that meet one evening a week and perform several times throughout the year. No previous music experience needed.

Place: Christ the King Lutheran Church, Wilbraham

For information, please contact Ellen Henry:
413-657-3316 or email - thehenrys6@charter.net

A Visit Planned . . .

Pr. Alice Kerr Laird, Associate to the Bishop of the Synod, will attend our worship service **Sunday, February 19th**. Pr. Laird will be completing her six-month checkup following CTK's calling Pastor Nathaniel as pastor. She will be on hand after worship to chat with people to hear how things are going.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Update . . .

During the month of January, we have learned about prayer, including the different ways to say the Lord's Prayer and what each line of the Lord's Prayer means to us. Check out our classroom and see the students' collages of things that they are praying for. In February, our Sunday School classes in

grades pre-K through six will be learning about the story of "The Sower".

All adult members of our congregation are invited to teach. Materials are provided, and you can teach for just one lesson or all four. We have an excited group of first through sixth graders who would like to spend an hour on Sunday morning with you! Please contact Barbara Fisher if you are interested.

Souper Bowl of Caring . . .

On **February 5, 2012**, congregations across the country will participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. This will be the 10th year that Christ the King has participated in this event to support hunger-related charities. In our nine-year history of participation, CTK has collected 519 food items and \$2,893.06. Last year we were able to donate 158 food items to the Community Survival Center. Let's try to beat that number this year! On February 5th, our Sunday School students will be collecting canned goods. Please prayerfully consider what you can offer to our collection in the fight against hunger.

Sunday School Retreat At Calumet - April 27 - 29

Can you find our CTK kids in this picture from last year's retreat?



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Editor and Layout — Fran Selva

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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.**

The Rev. Nathaniel S. Anderson, Pastor—Christ the King Lutheran Church
758 Main Street—Wilbraham, MA 01095

Telephone: 413-596-3045 FAX: 413-596-9220

STEWARDSHIP NEWS



Stewardship in its most basic sense is a giving back to God of our time, talents, and resources, as a response for the many ways God has and continues to bless us. It should be a joyful response of thanksgiving for all that God has done. So, how will we, the people of Christ the King, joyfully give thanks to God?

Following worship on Sunday, January 22, Stewardship hosted a focus on Time & Talents. A light lunch was served and large sticky notes were posted around the Fellowship Hall listing specific opportunities that people could sign up to give of their time and talents. If you were unable to be at church on the 22nd, but would like to volunteer in any of the following areas, please contact the committee chair (in parenthesis beside each heading). For monthly activities, please specify the number of months you would be willing to help and which months you would prefer.

Loaves & Fishes – Meals first Wednesday of each month (Ellen Henry)

- Shoppers to purchase food to be cooked for monthly Loaves and Fishes meal
- Cooks to prepare meal to be delivered
- Drivers to deliver food that has been prepared to Springfield.

Weekly Farmer's Market –May through October (Ellen Henry)

- Members needed to serve on Market Board of Directors - Does not need to be a church member
- Church/board members to serve as a CTK representative at the market weekly on Sundays

Annual Tree Trim (Ellen Henry)

- Organize Dinner/communication to church members
- Setting up tree
- Decorating church
- Taking down of tree

Church Picnic-June (Ellen Henry)

- Organize Picnic/Communication to be sent out to church

- Set up and Clean up responsibilities

Easter Breakfast (Ellen Henry)

- Communication to be sent out to church
- Set up for breakfast and Clean up responsibilities

Caring Friends Committee (Ellen Henry)

- Coordinate meals for those that are sick, had a new baby, moved into town, etc...
- Writing of cards on behalf of church to those in need or new to town.
- Drivers to provide rides to those needing help getting to church on Sunday morning.

Quilting (Ruth Kruger)

- Volunteers to help make quilts to be distributed worldwide

Concert Series (Lee Hagon)

- Helpers to bake, set up, and cleanup for Concert Series

Sunday School Teachers/Helpers (Barbara Fisher)

- Volunteers can sign up for one or more times to teach or help in the areas of art, music, games, drama, storytelling, science, or cooking. (Please specify which area, how many times you'd be willing to teach/help, and what times of year are best for you.)

One Time Projects (Kevin Hinkamper)

- Pour Concrete Patio
- Landscaping
- Outdoor Chapel Area – Help clear and create space

Time and Talent brochures were also available to fill out with additional opportunities to share gifts and abilities. Extra brochures are available at the back of the sanctuary and on the table in the Fellowship Hall. If you have not yet filled out a brochure, please do, and return it to the church office.

Christ the King has and continues to be blessed with many talented and committed volunteers. We thank all those who give so generously to our church and its ministries!

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Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:
9:00 a.m.—noon

Tuesday: 1:00—5:00 p.m.
By appointment

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

Blog: <http://pastornanderson.blogspot.com/>

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/PastorNanderson

Fran's February Hours . . . Monday through Thursday - 9:00 a.m. to noon.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Calling All Quilters . . .

Bring those scissors and a good story to tell for the next quilting meeting to be held on **Wednesday, February 15, at 9:00 a.m.**

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

Please make note: Christ the King has new contact information. Please begin to use the following.



Pastor Nathaniel's e-mail address:
pastor@ctkwilbraham.org

Church office e-mail address:
office@ctkwilbraham.org

Christ the King Lutheran Church website:
www.ctkwilbraham.org or
www.christthekinglutheranchurch.org

CTK PEOPLE

Congratulations . . .

The following students received Honor Roll status for the First Trimester at Wilbraham Middle School:

Sara Springer, Allison Van Beaver, Jessica Robinson, and Abby Person

Congratulations to these fine young people.

“Happy Birthday to You . . .”

Happy Birthday and best wishes to all those born in February!

Ann Stoddard, Michael Fisher, JoAnn Hopkins, Walter Jordon, Lisa Person, and Richard Poulin

Thank You Notes . . .

Thanks for your support with my daughter Linda during her recovery.



Yours in God's work,
Don Cheetham

Dear people of Christ the King,

Thank you so very much for your Christmas gift. Over these six months, we have both felt so welcome and loved by you all. Thank you for your gift and for all that you do.

Pastor Nathaniel and Carolyn

Dear People of Christ the King,

Once again, thank you for your generous Christmas gift. It really is a pleasure to work with all of you during the year. I feel very blessed to be here.

Love, *Fran*

Remember in your prayers . . .

We extend our condolences to **York and Buffy Mayo**, as they mourn the death of their brother-in-law, **Ken Johnson**. Cards may be sent to them at **73 High Pine Circle, Wilbraham, MA 01095**.

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

Recipe . . .

The following recipe is from the collection of cookie recipes that Carolyn Starz bakes at Christmas time.

Swedish Caramel Creams

1 cup butter
¾ cup brown sugar
1 egg yolk
2 ½ cups flour



- Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy (about 2 minutes on medium high speed).
- Beat in yolk until combined.
- Mix in flour until dough forms a ball.
- Form into small balls (about 1 Tbsp. each), and press down with a fork.
- Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet for 8 to 10 minutes. Do not overbake.

Frosting: Brown 2 Tbsp. butter in a small skillet until it smells nutty. Remove from heat and whisk in 1 ½ cups powdered sugar, ½ tsp. vanilla, and 5 Tbsp. cream.

ELECTION OF A BISHOP



Jan./Feb. 2012 Conference Meetings of the New England Synod, ELCA To Prepare for the Election of a Bishop

The purpose of the conference meetings is to broaden the conversation begun at the congregational level about the New England Synod and its new Bishop. In addition to all rostered leaders, congregations are urged to send those who have been or may be interested in serving

as Voting Members to the June Synod Assembly to this meeting. These meetings are open to all.

There are two parts to the meeting, the first being a Bible study of passages related to leadership. The second will be to consider the four questions contained on the congregational DVD. All attending will be asked to sit with people from other congregations so that "Synod" can be experienced during the process.

The agenda for the meeting is available at <http://www.nesynod.org/events/synod-assembly/election-of-a-bishop> for those who wish to look at the passages before the meeting or for those who cannot attend and who may wish to forward their thoughts to the Ad Hoc Committee via the New England Synod office.

YOUNG ADULTS AND THE OCCUPY MOVEMENT

economic crisis God is at work doing what God always does, bringing good out of evil.

The following blog was excerpted from "Living Lutheran".

By [Brian Beckstrom](#) on January 12, 2012
4:44 AM

As the Occupy Movement, which protests the economic inequality in our society, continues to emerge across the nation, people have begun to ask me how our students feel about the cause. That's a difficult question to answer because the response seems to be so varied.

There are some students that are very sympathetic to the movement and have even participated in the demonstrations. Others are sympathetic but not directly involved and still more are oblivious or uninterested.

There is also a small group that I would characterize as hostile to such forms of civil disobedience.

Having said this there does seem to be a shifting in the attitudes of college students toward issues of economic inequality and social opportunity.

Most college students are part of the millennial generation, which is often described as idealistic and optimistic. The recent economic meltdown and instances of corporate malfeasance seem to have tempered this optimism.

Most of the students I work with are middle-class young adults that have grown up believing that if they work hard and apply themselves they can accomplish anything.

Game change?

That optimistic self-assurance has now been challenged, and college students are frustrated because it seems like the rules of the game have been changed in the middle of their turn.

There is a sense of outrage at this unfairness that has roused the consciences of this generation. Whether or not they actually participate in the Occupy Movement is another matter however.

Cynics have cited self-interest as the primary motivating factor for the millennial generation in general and the Occupy Movement in particular.

It's been argued that economic inequality and injustice have been part of our system for some time, but it's only now when the prosperity of the middle class is threatened that people have begun to react.

I think there is truth in that observation. However, I also believe that recent events have been a catalyst for an underlying social consciousness among young adults.

When I step back from the situation I find myself asking a simple question: "What is God doing" through the Occupy Movement and this upsurge in social consciousness among young adults?

It seems to me that despite the pain of this

Results of uncertainty

Young adults, many of whom come from privileged, if not affluent, backgrounds are for the first time personally experiencing the economic uncertainty that has been the constant reality for so many in our nation.

They are realizing that hard work and determination are not always enough to overcome the obstacles of economic injustice.

Our current cultural turmoil is an unusual opportunity to experience some of the economic precariousness that the poor and oppressed experience daily. But the good news in this is that there is hope.



In the person of Jesus Christ the kingdom of God has broken into our world, and this kingdom is one of justice and peace. Jesus invites us to participate in the emergence of this kingdom by working for economic and social justice for all.

Let us find hope in this good news and resolve to never forget the painful reality that we call an economic downturn but that so many of our brothers and sisters simply call life.

Brian Beckstrom is campus pastor at [Wartburg College](#), an [ELCA](#) college in Waverly, Iowa.

Secretary of State Clinton highlights the work of ELCA-related ministries

reconciling communities by welcoming refugees and working towards fair and just immigration reform," he said.

This article was excerpted from the website of the New England Synod of the ELCA.

December 7, 2011

CHICAGO (ELCA) -- Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton noted the vital work of Lutheran social ministry organizations in welcoming refugees to the United States, during her Dec. 7 address at the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugee's ministerial conference in Geneva.

In her presentation to world leaders, Clinton shared a story about Fatuma Elmi, who applied for asylum in the United States after civil war broke out in her native Somalia in 1991. Settled in Minneapolis, Elmi has worked as an employment counselor at Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota for the past 17 years. She has been able to find jobs for 79 percent of her clients this year, despite the difficult economy.

Elmi's life is "clear evidence of the wisdom of investing in women," said Clinton, adding that the United States would be delivering 28 pledges to the conference, one designed to build awareness on a major "cause of statelessness, which is discrimination against women," she said.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota is an affiliated ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), along with 285 other social ministry organizations across the country.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson said he appreciates Clinton's sharing of Elmi's story and the recognition of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, particularly "on this historic occasion of the 60th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 50th anniversary of the Statelessness Convention in a gathering of world leaders." The ministerial conference brings together more than 150 representatives from around the world. Clinton is a member of the U.S. delegation.

"In sharing Fatuma Elmi's story, Secretary Clinton has affirmed the invaluable contributions resettled refugees bring to life in American communities. In naming Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, she has also recognized the vast network of Lutheran social service organizations that are an expression of faith active in loving service to our neighbor," Hanson said.

"This is who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Many are descendants of a once immigrant people, and others of those who came as slaves. Together we are now participating in God's work of restoring and

"As individuals, congregations, Lutheran social ministry organizations and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, we know we can achieve things together on a scale and scope we could never do otherwise. As the ELCA, let us make these significant anniversaries an occasion for renewing our commitment to welcoming the new immigrant into the life of our neighborhoods and congregations."

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is one of the United States' leading agencies in welcoming and advocating for refugees and immigrants. Based in Baltimore, it works on behalf of the ELCA, The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod and the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Kim Dettmer, director of refugee services at Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, said Elmi has "dedicated her life to helping refugees find safety and stability in our community as an employment specialist. Through partnerships with employers, primarily in manufacturing and hospitality industries, many refugees have found entry-level work that has required minimal technical or English skills."

Calling this "a win-win-win situation for refugees, employers and our community," Dettmer said it takes "a community to help refugees succeed. Minnesota has a long tradition of lending a hand to refugees, and they have enhanced our quality of life in many ways. Fatuma is a great example of people from war-torn countries who have worked hard to establish new lives and have given back to the community."

Shortly after her arrival in the United States and prior to her work at Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Elmi volunteered at a Somali women's organization mentoring mothers and daughters to ensure that both understood women's roles in the U.S. and the value of an education. Her actions were effective, as five of the six girls Elmi mentored went on to receive a college education, according to Dettmer.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota is one of five resettlement organizations in Minnesota helping refugees gain self-sufficiency. Information about the service is at www.lssmn.org.

Information about Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is available at www.lirs.org.



FEBRUARY 2012

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 Noon Loaves & Fishes 7:15 Parish Choir	2 Presentation of Our Lord	3	4
5 5th Sunday after the Epiphany 8:45-9:45 Education Hour 10:00 Holy Communion 11:15 Worship & Music Super Bowl	6 6:30 Bell Choir	7	8	9 Groundhog Day	10	11
12 6th Sunday after the Epiphany 8:45-9:45 Education Hour 10:00 Holy Communion 11:30 Confirmation 4:00 Valentine's Jazz Café	13 6:30 Bell Choir	14 Valentine's Day	15 9:00 Quilting 7:15 Parish Choir	16	17	18
19 Transfiguration of Our Lord 8:45-9:45 Education Hour 10:00 Holy Communion	20 6:30 Bell Choir Presidents' Day	21	22 Ash Wednesday 7:00 Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes	23	24 St. Matthias, Apostle	25
26 First Sunday in Lent 8:45-9:45 Education Hour 10:00 Holy Communion	27 6:30 Bell Choir	28	29 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 Parish Choir			



Christ The King
Lutheran Church

758 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095

ASSISTING MINISTERS/READERS

2/5/12	Kara Fontes	Ruth Kruger-reader
2/12/12	Kayla Sturgeon	Bill Leslie-reader
2/19/12	Emma Hinkamper	Buffy Mayo-reader
2/26/12	Kevin Hinkamper	York Mayo-reader

ACOLYTES

Carly Fisher
Sarah Springer
Joshua Henry
Abbey Hinkamper

USHERS

GREETERS

2/5/12	Dave Silva
2/12/12	Fran Selva
2/19/12	The Trecker Family
2/26/12	Paula Wilke

NURSERY

Cathy Leslie, Georgea Leslie
Martha Mensing, Carly Fisher
Fran Selva, Jessica Henry
Kara Fontes, Kayla Sturgeon

ALTAR GUILD

Karen Moreau and
Melissa Springer

COFFEE HOST/HOUSTESS

2/5/12	Fran Selva
2/12/12	Kara Fontes
2/19/12	
2/26/12	Ellen Henry

COUNCIL COUNTER

PRIMARY COUNTER

Chris Caster