



November 2009

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Greetings and peace to you! This month is a full one both in our church lives as well as in our family lives. We have our 1st Annual Thanksgiving Day dinner to look forward to here at the church as well as family Thanksgiving celebrations to enjoy.

In fact, we have so many things going on this month I could talk about that it might be best to take a step back and stick with the simple yet enduring message of gratitude for all the blessings God gives us. Philippians 4 expresses it so well...

“Whenever you need anything ask God with a thankful heart and God’s peace which is far beyond human understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus.” God does always supply our needs when we live with a sense of gratitude to him.

As I reflect on what it looks like for us to express gratitude to God in all we do, I am reminded of the Thanksgiving I spent in Scotland when I was a senior in college. It hadn’t really occurred to me before I actually got there that British people don’t exactly celebrate Thanksgiving! Nevertheless, the week before Thanksgiving I walked the 45 minutes down to the Safeway, thrilled to take on the fun of preparing a Thanksgiving meal for my friends from England, Scotland, Germany, and Finland. I thought “What an opportunity to embrace the melting pot that is America by celebrating our gratitude in another part of the world!”

Well, that idealism disappeared when I discovered, to my dismay, that British grocery stores don’t sell canned pumpkin! Or onions for the top of green bean bake! Or packaged stuffing!

—continued on next page

PASTORAL NEWS

—continued from front page

How could I be grateful without canned pumpkin or French fried onions or Stovetop stuffing?! Forget being grateful...how could I even prepare a Thanksgiving meal?

Clearly, I wasn't being especially grateful but God managed to provide anyway in the form of my sister. She was going to be visiting me over Thanksgiving week and I quickly called her and suggested STRONGLY that she pack enough canned pumpkin, French fried onions, and Stovetop stuffing to feed 8 of us. So my sister became perhaps the first person ever to fly with half of a Thanksgiving meal. I can only imagine what airport security thought about that!

We did have a memorable meal in many ways and I had a renewed appreciation and thankfulness for a Thanksgiving meal. Indeed, I had learned an important lesson about gratitude. Being grateful for little things, for things that seem insignificant is just as important in a life of gratitude to God as is being thankful for big things.

When we give thanks to God for everything in our life, for the seemingly little things like green bean bake as well as the big things like family and friends, then we have learned to have a truly thankful heart. In that thankfulness we will receive God's peace. Out of His peace we are then able to give of ourselves, *even in the midst of the busy-ness of the holidays*, because we are so grateful we can do nothing else.

I look forward to continuing to serve the Lord with you with thankful hearts. May you and your family have a blessed Thanksgiving!

In Him,
Pastor Jenny



Worship in November

November 1: All Saints Day, Moravian Women's Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 24

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

November 8: MN Teen Challenge to lead worship

1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalms 146

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

November 15: Vic Winqvist, guest speaker

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalms 16

Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

November 22: Reign of Christ (Christ the King Sunday), Day of Giving, Church Council

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalms 93

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

November 29: First Sunday of Advent, Prison Ministry

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

[MN Teen Challenge—Nov 8](#)

Please join our worship service November 8, 2009, as we welcome the MN Teen Challenge choir. MN Teen Challenge is one of the largest and most successful drug and alcohol recovery programs in Minnesota, which offers short and long-term faith-based residential programs founded on Christian principles.

We are expecting approximately 40 students who will sing, share their stories, and explain how God has brought them out of their despair and into His light. After the service we will have fellowship with the students. *If you are able to bring soup, bread, or a dessert, please sign up on the kiosk.*

[Scrapbook / Craft—Nov 20 and 21](#)

Do you have scrapbooking or crafts you would like to catch up on? If so, please join us for a scrapbooking and crafting weekend.

The schedule is:

Friday, November 20: 5:00 pm through 10:00 pm; and

Saturday, November 21: 8:00 am through 5:00 pm.

(The Women's Fellowship will be having a Christmas Brunch Saturday at Pat Jones' home, so we'll take a break from crafting to join the party from 8:30 to 10:30 am!)

To sign up, please contact Barb Abeln at (763) 494-4466 or book62@embarqmail.com

[Pancake Breakfast—Nov 22](#)

Please join us November 22nd at 11:45 am for a delicious Pancake Breakfast, following Church Council. There will be a free will donation to raise money for church and parsonage maintenance costs. Many thanks to all those who have helped prepare these meals as well as to all of you who have come and enjoyed them!

[Women's Fellowship Christmas Brunch—Nov 21](#)



Pat Jones has offered to keep our traditional Women's Fellowship Christmas Brunch going by hosting this year's event, which we previously enjoyed for several years at the home of Irene Koski (with various appearances by special guests who strongly resembled Marvin).

Pat extends an invitation for the women to come to her home on Saturday morning, November 21st, 8:30-10:30 am. Anyone who wishes to help Pat with the brunch can contact her.

Deb Hjermstad and Marian Mortenson are planning a "Baby Shower for Jesus" as part of this year's event. In addition to a baby gift of your choice, a non-perishable food item for CROSS is also welcome for our Christmas food basket.

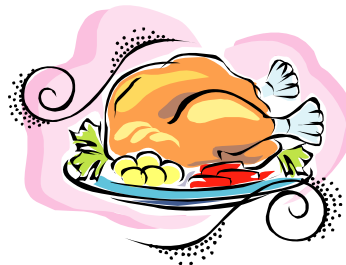
Watch for more details to come. In the meantime, please mark your calendars! This has traditionally been a very popular and joyous fellowship event you won't want to miss, as together we prepare our hearts to enter the Advent Season!

[Thanksgiving Day Dinner—Nov 26](#)

Christ's Community Church will be hosting a Thanksgiving Day Dinner on Thursday, November 26th at 2:00 pm. All are welcome!

Please come and bring a friend, family member, or anyone who needs a place to celebrate. If you plan on attending, please sign-up on the kiosk by November 15th. There is also a sign-up on the kiosk for those who

would like to donate a pie to the dinner. For any questions, please contact Wally Mortenson or John Olson. Thank you!



Community Thanksgiving Eve Service—Nov 25

Christ's Community Church will be participating in the Community Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 pm at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 18500 County Road 101 in Maple Grove. The worship leadership will be divided among pastors and lay people from area churches. Pastor Jenny will be doing the Opening Prayer and Donna Olson will be speaking. Our choir will also be singing, so choir members please arrive at Lord of Life Lutheran Church by 6:00 pm. The offering will be given to CROSS, and refreshments will follow the service.



Plymouth Playhouse—Dec 27

Here they come again! The Ladies are away in the Basement for A Church Basement Ladies Christmas! You are invited to join them at the Plymouth Playhouse on Sunday afternoon, December 27, at 2 o'clock.

Ladies, since many of us have previously enjoyed hilarious fellowship in the basement, why not share the laughter and treat your spouse or other special friend with the gift of an invitation and ticket or treat yourself! What a wonderful time to kick off your shoes, relax, and savor the joy of laughter and fellowship right after Christmas!

A sign-up sheet is posted on the Bring In Kiosk. Tickets are \$25/each for a group of 30, \$30/each if we have less than 12. ***The deadline is Sunday, December 13.*** Please make checks payable to Marian Mortenson when you sign up. If you pay the \$30 cost and our numbers exceed 12 people, \$5 per ticket will be refunded to you. Also, if prior to the deadline you need to cancel, your uncashed check will be returned to you. However, if you find you are unable to go after the final December 13 deadline, please find someone else to use your ticket(s).

If there is interest, perhaps we could talk about enjoying lunch together after church prior to the play. Remember, it's not too early to add A Church Basement Ladies Christmas tickets to your Christmas list!



Unity Prayer Watch—Dec 2

Beginning in Herrnhut, Germany in 1727, the Moravian Church has experienced spiritual renewal and strength through its covenanted "Hourly Intercession" in which prayer is being offered somewhere in the Unity 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The church has gained a great deal of strength in good times and in times of difficulty through prayer.

We have received our schedule from the Northern Provincial Office regarding the *Unity Prayer Watch for 2009*. On Wednesday, December 2, 2009, we will be sharing 24 hours of continuous prayer with Lake Auburn, Waconia, Chaska, and Northfield Moravian Churches.

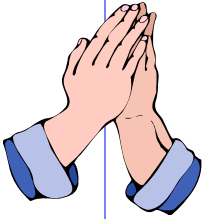
A sign-up sheet is posted on the kiosk detailing our Unity Prayer Watch opportunities. If you haven't yet, please take a moment to sign up and be a part of this blessed experience.

PASTORAL NEWS continued

C.R.O.S.S.

“Christians Reaching Out in Social Service”

Prayer Meeting



Often times we find our strongest moments of prayer in groups. If you would like to lift up our worship each Sunday in prayer, please join us on Sundays at 9:50 am in the lounge.

Please Pray For:

- Those who are dealing with health issues.
- Those who are recovering from illness.
- Those who have suffered the loss of a loved one this year.
- Our servicemen and women who are abroad and at home.
- Our country and its leaders.
- Our denomination and its leaders.

In the Hospital / Nursing Home?

If you are admitted to a hospital, be sure to call Pastor Jenny or have someone call her. Hospitals cannot notify churches that you have been admitted. Even if the stay in the hospital is short, Pastor Jenny would like to come and visit you.

Photograph Release Form

If you haven't yet filled out the Permission Slip for Photographs used by Christ's Community Church, please do so. The forms help us determine which pictures we can use on our website, newsletter, flyers, and bulletin board. If you do not have a form, please pick one up in the office.

New Church Office Hours

**The new office hours for CCC are:
Monday & Wednesday - Friday: 9:30 to 2:30 pm.**

CROSS upcoming events:

--**Sat., December 12th** - CROSS will have a breakfast fundraiser again this year at Applebees in Maple Grove. Mark your calendar for that morning, when you can enjoy a delicious breakfast and support CROSS at the same time!

--**Sun., December 13th** - A "Christmas with Cate Fierro" featuring holiday music and a silent auction will be held at the Yellow Tree Theater in Osseo with proceeds going to CROSS. If you have an item you would like to donate for the silent auction, please contact Marian Mortenson. Further details about this event will appear in the December Grapevine.

Meals on Wheels' Drivers needed:

If you are interested in volunteering as a driver for Meals on Wheels, please contact Coordinator Melissa Erickson, (H)763-551-0342 or (Cell) 763-229-8062, for details and possible ways they could use your help. The service area includes Maple Grove, Osseo and Rogers.

Holiday Food Baskets:

Please check the CROSS Ki-
osk for food items needed especially during the holidays for families who depend on the CROSS food shelf to help make their holiday meals special. Some of the items listed which you may wish to add to your grocery list include: canned sweet potatoes, creamed soups, turkey gravy packets, creamed corn, canned fruit, jello, and baking supplies such as brown sugar, etc. Monetary donations are also welcome should you wish to contribute toward the purchase of turkeys.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

CCC November Volunteers

	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
Welcome & Announcements	J. Ohrt	D. Beumer	M. Carlson	B. Steuck	J. Ohrt
Audio / Visual:	K. O'Rourke	J. Holtmeier	M. Abeln	T. Bergstrom	B. Carlson
Scriptures:	P. Jones	B. Kalland	J. Ohrt	R. Hjermstad	G. Jones
Ushers:	Swansons	K. Bergstrom / K. Giles	Donna Ol- son / John Olson	Ellingsons	Beumers
Greeters:	Steucks	Beumers	Jarvis	P. Moran	C. Holtmeier
Nursery:	D. Olson	K. Heupel	S. Weizenegger	F. Enns	S. Ellingson
Children's Church:	Commun- ion	B. Ellingson	K. Heupel	C. Steuck	B. Feller- Pickett
Snak & Yak Host:	M. Carlson	B. Ellingson	Abelns	Pancake Brkfst	V. Caple
Treats:	Jones	K. Bergstrom	L. Rosca	B. Ellingson	C. Holtmeier
Prayers of the Church:	Commun- ion	D. Olson	K. O'Rourke	B. Feller- Pickett	K. Kothrade
Children's Chat:	K. Heupel	C. Steuck	T. Bergstrom	D. Olson	B. Feller- Pickett

LOOK WHAT'S COMING UP!

CHRISTMAS SHOWCASE

December 6, 4:00 to 7:00 pm: Advent Workshop

December 18, 6:30 pm: Christmas Party at the Parsonage; Putz showing times to be determined

December 20, 10:00 Worship Service: Putz Showing

December 24, 4:30 pm: Christmas Eve Service

December 27, 2:00 pm: "A Church Basement Ladies Christmas" at the Plymouth Playhouse



TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund / Operating Account

<u>Giving</u>	<u>Beg. Bal.</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Balance</u>
June	\$ (1,539.32)	\$ 14,278.90	\$ 14,771.03	\$ (2,031.45)
July	\$ (2,031.45)	11,224.14	10,713.94	(1,521.25)
August	\$ (1,521.25)	12,443.13	11,860.07	(938.19)
September	\$ (938.19)	12,289.49	10,318.56	1,032.74
YTD	\$ 3,671.15	\$ 103,651.89	\$ 106,290.30	\$ 1,032.74

In addition to the above balance we have unpaid denominational obligations of more than \$23,000.

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November 5	Debra Hjermstad
November 6	Mary Fairbairn
November 6	Karen O'Rourke
November 11	Ruth Carlson
November 16	Pat Jones
November 22	Raymond Rieck
November 27	Benjamin Heupel
November 30	Greg Jones

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



November 25 Kelly & Karen O'Rourke

To Contact the Pastor

Pastor Jenny Moran
 14508 95th Avenue
 Maple Grove MN 55369

(763) 420-5636

pastorjenny@ccc-mg.org
 or
office@ccc-mg.org



Pastor Jenny's Office Hours: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
 Monday, Wednesday — Friday

DISTRICT NEWS

TEN Retreat

Teacher Education Committee is announcing the Fall 2009 retreat! Come and join us for great fellowship and Christian leadership! Registration forms in the Sept '09 TEN newsletter!

Date: November 13-15, 2009

Place: Mt Morris Camps and Conference Center

Theme: "On the Money" Talking Dollars and Sense to Kids and their Parents

Speakers: Director of Stewardship, Gary Marsh and Committee members

Entertainment: John and Nancy Gilliland

New Family Resource

***Loving Hearts United –
A Moravian Guide for Family Living***



The 2006 Synods of the Northern and Southern Provinces of the Moravian Church in North America passed a resolution calling for the creation of a family devotional. Loving Hearts United is the result of that mandate and is a collaborative work between the two Provinces. This Moravian Guide is designed to assist families in the spiritual development of children, to encourage ritual, and to enable each family member to be more aware of God's presence in all aspects of daily life. Interspersed throughout the book are "sidebars" that provide more information about Moravian history, customs, and practices. The Appendices contain additional information to help your family carry out the weekly options. The activities designed for each week further reflect the heart of Moravian theology. Information on ordering this devotional is available on the kiosk.

National Council of Churches/Church World Service Closing Worship and Installation Service

Thursday, November 12,

Worship 7:30pm, Reception 9pm,

St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, 519 Oak Grove St., Minneapolis

The Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC) invites the public to the closing event of the National Council of Churches' (NCC)/ Church World Service (CWS) General Assembly at which the Rev. Peg Chamberlin, executive director of the MCC, will be installed as the NCC's 25th president.

The celebrative closing worship will include a sermon by Rev. Dr. James Forbes Jr., president of the Healing of the Nations Foundation and Senior Minister Emeritus at Riverside Church in New York; Philip Brunelle directing a 70 voice choir with singers from seven downtown Minneapolis churches (the Basilica of St. Mary, Central Lutheran, Hennepin Avenue United Methodist, Plymouth Congregational, St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, St. Olaf Catholic and Westminster Presbyterian Churches). Canon Musician Raymond Johnston will be the organist and Jearlyn Steele a featured soloist. The closing worship will be followed by a reception at St. Mark's.

The worship service will be preceded by the General Assembly's closing banquet at the Park Place Double Tree Hotel. For more information on the worship service and/or the installation banquet contact Janet at 612-870-3600 or 612-320-3205 or email at

Janet.midtbo@mnnchurches.org

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

“For over 35 years, Samaritan's Purse has done our utmost to follow Christ's command by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering. We are an effective means of reaching hurting people in countries around the world with food, medicine, and other assistance in the Name of Jesus Christ. This, in turn, earns us a hearing for the Gospel, the Good News of eternal life through Jesus Christ” (www.samaritanspurse.org).

How to Pack a Shoe Box:

Use a standard sized shoe box or small plastic container. The box and top can be wrapped separately but this is not required. Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift.

Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or girl and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Mark the correct category on the label and plane on top of box.

Fill with gifts.

Include \$7.00 donation for each shoe box to help cover shipping and other project costs.

This can either be done online using the EZGIVE option or writing a check to Samaritan's Purse (with OCC on the memo line), and placing the check in an envelope on top of the gift items inside the box. If doing more than one box, one check is requested.

Gift Ideas:

TOYS: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS

toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth

OTHER

Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

A PERSONAL NOTE

In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE:

Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snowglobes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

****Please turn in the completed boxes to CCC by Sunday, November 15th. Instructional brochures and labels are located in the office.**

13250 - 93rd Avenue North
Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369
www.ccc-mg.org

Change Service Requested

