



How do we ELECT A BISHOP?

This past week, a new bishop was elected. The Rev. Stacie Fidlar, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Rock Island, was elected on the fifth ballot.

Electing a bishop is one of the most important responsibilities in the life of a synod and a key responsibility of the Synod Assembly. Choosing a bishop is both an election and a call process.

As an election, it is a process governed by the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions of the synod. As a call process, it involves discernment on the part of potential nominees as well as the synod as a whole. Thus, prayerful reflection and seeking the Spirit's guidance are essential.

The first ballot is called an ecclesiastical ballot, meaning that any pastor can be nominated. The results of this ballot usually list several dozen clergy whose names have been lifted up. At this time, clergy are given the option of removing their names from the ballot. Many do, as they do not feel called to the role of bishop. The remaining candidates prepare biographies for the assembly attendees to consider.

The second ballot includes the clergy who have allowed their names to go forward. If no nominee receives 75% of the vote on this ballot, the top seven nominees go on to a third ballot. At this point, the remaining seven participate in a nominees forum, in which they answer several questions about church leadership.

Two-thirds of the votes cast are needed to elect a bishop on the third ballot. If no nominee receives 2/3 of the votes, the three nominees with the most votes go on to the fourth ballot. These three nominees are interviewed in great detail in the presence of the assembly.

Sixty percent of the votes cast are needed to elect a bishop on the fourth ballot. If no nominee receives 60% of the vote, the top two nominees go on to the fifth ballot.

Fifty percent plus one of the votes cast are needed to elect a bishop on the fifth ballot. If there is no tie, the nominee with 50%-plus-one of the votes cast is declared elected.

We rejoice in the election of Bishop-elect Fidlar. I, personally, feel convinced that she brings many gifts to lead the church forward in this time. Please keep Bishop-elect Fidlar in your prayers as she prepares to take the role of key leader in our synod.

Peace,

P. Fidler



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In the CLC Family

Welcome to Auden and Evelyn Blackburn, children of Drew and Sarah Blackburn, who received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on May 29 . . .



Congratulations to Maggie Blackburn who recently received her masters degree in Educational Technology . . .



Congratulations to Arlene and Allen Paskus who celebrated 40 years of marriage and their 80th birthday years last month . . .

Welcome to John and Eileen Herring, who joined Christ Lutheran on Sunday, June 26.



Service and Outreach

Habitat for Humanity:

Christ Lutheran is hosting a house shower for a Habitat for Humanity client. Help us bless Antoinette and her family as they move into their new home. Grab a tag off of the display in the gathering space and bring the item to CLC by the end of August. Any questions can be directed to Deacon Laura.

PATHWAYS Presents: Art and Spirituality Workshop July 23

Have you ever wondered what it's like to be an artist? Find out first hand by participating in this engaging and fun workshop. A great opportunity for all! Register at seekthepath.org.

THANK YOU

We would like to extend our heartfelt thank you to the congregation for all the cards, prayers, love and support shown to us during our time of sadness. You have been a great comfort and blessing to all of us.
- the family of Merlin Frank

A big thank you to everyone for sharing our birthdays and anniversary. We are so grateful for your warm wishes, gifts and cards and fellowship with us. We wish joy and happiness for all. Thank you.
- Arlene and Allen Paskus



Outdoor Worship: A New Creation

Join us Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. on the labyrinth for "A New Creation" worship. In July, we will lift up doves, lambs, stars, and sparrows. Grab your lawn chair and a friend. Join us!

MEF Applications Due! A reminder that agency and scholarship grant applications are due in the CLC office by June 30 at 12:00 noon. Applications may be picked up in the CLC Gathering Space, or visit www.makingChristknown.org for online applications.

SATURDAY
JULY 23

ART AND
SPIRITUALITY
WORKSHOP
9 AM - 2:30 PM

RESTING IN THE LIGHT

Featured artist Kari Lindholm-Johnson guides our workshop with an emphasis on peace, centering, and listening through the creative process.

learn about painting as a spiritual discipline

create your own paint and custom piece of art

nourish your mind and body

\$30 fee covers lunch and materials. Register at seekthepath.org.

PATHWAYS
A CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

an offering of PATHWAYS, a ministry of CLC



July 3, 2022

Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10, 2022

Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 17, 2022

Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 24, 2022

Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]
Luke 11:1-13

July 31, 2022

Eccles 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

Education

VBS Recap: What a great week we had at Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School! Each day was filled with fun songs, cool sciencey things, exciting Bible adventures, awesome games, yummy snacks, and building relationships! Check out the pictures on CLC's Facebook page. I especially want to express my gratitude for all of the volunteers who helped to make it such a fun week! To those who helped to set up and decorate, served as station leaders and crew leaders, led activities, built relationships with the kids daily, and helped to tear down and clean up from a great week: THANK YOU! VBS would not have been the same without your time and dedication to this ministry. *Deacon Laura*



Pastor's Pic of the Month

Check out this both moving and entertaining read from the PATHWAYS library.

What if the annoying person you try to avoid is actually seconds away from becoming an accidental saint in your life? What if, even in our persistent failings, holy moments are waiting to happen? In [Accidental Saints](#), New York Times bestselling author Nadia Bolz-Weber takes us inside the House for All Sinners and Saints, her congregation in Denver. Tattooed, angry, profane—an altogether unlikely cleric—this former standup comic stubbornly, sometimes hilariously, resists the God she feels called to serve. Yet we watch as, in her doubts and her disasters, she keeps “stumbling into holy moments” which break through her resistance and sweep her up in transforming relationships where giving, receiving, even embodying grace becomes a way of life.

As her dramatic stories unfold, we begin to sense that just such holy moments are waiting for each of us. In a time when many have rightly become disillusioned with Christianity, *Accidental Saints* demonstrates what happens when ordinary people meet to share bread and wine, struggle with scripture, and tell the truth about their real lives. Their faltering steps toward wholeness will ring true for believer and skeptic alike. As one reviewer writes, “This is a book for everyone who yearns to be made new.” Told in Nadia's trademark confessional style, *Accidental Saints* is a stunning next work from one of today's most important religious voices.

(Description credit: *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People*)

Evangelism

Cubs Game: August 7

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to attend our bus trip to the Chicago Cubs game at Wrigley Field (1:20 p.m.). If you have yet to submit your payment, please do so today.

Important information: Attendees, we will leave CLC very shortly after worship that day (about 10:45 a.m.). The bus will drop riders off approximately 0.4 miles from the ballpark for an 8-10 minute walk to Wrigley. If unable to make the walk, ADA Bus Passes are an option for drop off and pick up closer to the park. Please let Katie Belinson know if you need a pass (katie@makingChristknown.org).

Men of Christ

Save the date / Maxson Riverboat Ride Returns

Mark August 19 on your calendar. Men of Christ are hosting their second annual riverboat and dinner cruise at the Maxson Riverside Restaurant and Paddlewheel Inn. This “Pride of Oregon” features 102 feet of real river charm. Built as a replica of the famous Rosie O'Shea paddlewheel in 1989, her festive exterior and graciously



appointed interior provide a relaxing atmosphere for a memory-making cruise. Save the date! Invite a friend! More information to follow.



Christ Lutheran

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 facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere

Also on Facebook, search:
Pathways: A Center for Spiritual Renewal

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Our Council

Al Francik	President
Lee Blackburn	Vice President
Diane Peters	Treasurer
Sue Hunter	Secretary
Jenny Campbell	Council Member
Ken Erboe	Council Member
Tari Flack	Council Member
Jim Hanson	Council Member
Syd Nolan	Council Member
Denise Rindels	Council Member
David Swanson	Council Member
Shari Warmoth	Council Member

Our Staff

Pastor Twila Schock	Senior Minister
Deacon Laura Gorton	Associate Minister
Deacon Jennifer Fox	Minister for Worship & Music
Katie Belinson	Dir. of Outreach & Communications
Michelle Nelson	Finance & Office Administrator
Dagny Brandt	Church Musician
Craig Carlson	Church Musician
Chris Parkinson	Church Musician

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SUMMER SINGERS



Did you miss singing during the pandemic? Do you love to sing? Did you sing in a choir in the past? Does your work schedule not allow you to sing full time with the Spirit Singers? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you are invited to try the Summer Singers. Sing with us once or all four scheduled Sundays – no long term commitment needed.

We will rehearse from 8:45-9:15 a.m., and then sing at 9:30 a.m. worship on the following dates:

July 3
July 17
August 14
August 28

Choral singing benefits your body, your spiritual growth, and builds community. You are encouraged to step outside of your comfort zone or make room in your busy schedule, and give us a try! No need to RSVP; just show up!

Please contact Dagny Brandt with any questions (815.541.1063 or dagny@makingChristknown.org).