



## LIVING PICTURES

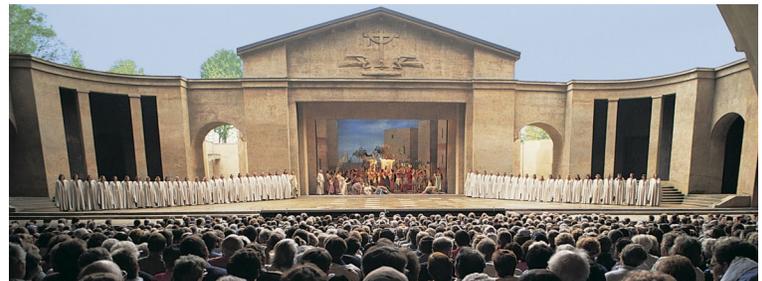
During my recent trip to Germany, I saw a performance of the Passion Play in Oberammergau. The play began with a vow – a vow to perform the passion of Christ every ten years if the dying would stop from the Black Plague. This vow was made in 1633 and the dying did indeed stop. The first Passion Play was performed in 1634 and has been performed every ten years since, with a few exceptions due to war or disease. It was cancelled only twice: in 1770 when Elector Maximilian III Joseph banned all passion plays in Bavaria, and in 1940 during World War II.

The play itself is staged by the people of the village. In order to participate, whether as an actor, singer, instrumentalist, set builder, ticket taker, etc., you must have been born or have lived in Oberammergau for at least 20 years. Men are required to grow their hair out beginning on Ash Wednesday the year before the play begins. This year's performance had 1,800 people participating – about one-third of the population of the town. The theater itself, constructed in 1900, can hold 4,700 people for each performance. The play sells out years in advance.

Musical interludes with an orchestra, choir, and soloists are mixed in among sections of acting, including "living pictures" depicting Old Testament scenes displayed on stage. I was glad I brought along my binoculars so that I could see the amount of detail in the living pictures up close. The play is performed in German, but I was provided a text book to follow along with the English translation. There were many moments where live animals were brought onto the stage – goats, sheep, birds, horses – even camels.

While I know the story well, this production helped me to see it from a different lens. It was definitely a memorable experience – one that I will remember the rest of my life.

*Deacon Laura*



Volume 30 / Issue 9

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Christ Lutheran  
WHERE FAITH MAKES FAMILY

## Welcome Home to Christ Lutheran

On Sunday, September 25, Christ Lutheran will be receiving new members at both worship services. If you are ready to make Christ Lutheran Church your church home, notify Pastor Twila or Craig Carlson by Tuesday, September 20.

## Newcomers' Orientation and Luncheon

Have you been visiting Christ Lutheran recently and have some questions? Join us for our next Newcomers' Orientation and Luncheon on Sunday, September 25, at 11:45 a.m. (after the late service). This is your opportunity to learn about our ministries, ask questions, and enjoy some luncheon fellowship. An important reminder: no obligation whatsoever to join!



**NEWCOMERS  
LUNCHEON &  
ORIENTATION  
SEPTEMBER 25**

# MEF Fund Supports Scholarship and Agencies

The Mission Endowment Fund Committee recently awarded \$8,718.79 in scholarships to the following CLC college and university students:

- Anna Campbell
- Jordan Rindels
- Abby Topham
- Emma Topham

The committee also awarded just over \$13,073 to the following agencies dedicated to helping make Christ known:

ELCA Global Church Sponsorship	\$1,500
Rockford Literacy Council	\$1,000
LSSI	\$3,000
Mercyhealth Development Foundation	\$1,000
MOSAIC	\$3,000
One Body Collaboratives	\$1,000
RALM	\$1,073
Rock House Kids	\$1,000
Stateline Youth for Christ	\$ 500

# ed.u.ca.tion

/ noun

*the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction; an enlightening experience.*

## Godly Play

Begins September 11. We are still looking for a few more volunteers to help with being a story teller or a door person. If you are interested in learning more about what those roles entail, please contact Deacon Laura or Sally Wonder.

## First Communion Class

Saturday, October 15 from 9 am - noon. If you are interested in having your child attend, please let Deacon Laura know.

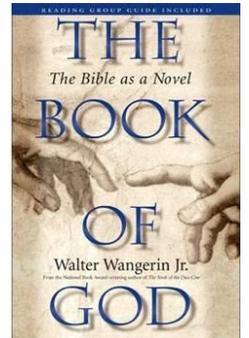
## Adult Forum

A six-week study of the prophets begins September 11. The prophet's job was to show people when they had turned away from God. Don't miss this opportunity to dive into the books of the prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, and the twelve minor prophets. Join us Sunday mornings at 10:30.

## Pastor's Pic: Check it Out!

Have you ever tried reading the Bible from front to back and failed miserably? Well, join the club! But, take heart!

Here is the story of the Bible from beginning to end as you've never read it before, retold with exciting detail and passionate energy by master storyteller Walter Wangerin Jr. *The Book of God* reads like a storybook, dramatizing the sweep of biblical events, making the people of the ancient world come alive in vivid detail and dialogue. From Abraham wandering in the desert to Jesus teaching the multitudes on a Judean hillside, this book follows the biblical story in chronological order.



If you want to read this book parallel to the real Bible, speak to Pastor Twila and she will help you make the connections!

## Rally Day Celebration Sunday, August 28



9:30 am    Worship  
10:30 am    Ministry Information  
11:00 am    Picnic

### September 4, 2022

Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Psalm 1  
Philemon 1-21  
Luke 14:25-33

### September 11, 2022

Exodus 32:7-14  
Psalm 51:1-10  
1 Timothy 1:12-17  
Luke 15:1-10

### September 18, 2022

Amos 8:4-7  
Psalm 113  
1 Timothy 2:1-7  
Luke 16:1-13

### September 25, 2022

Amos 6:1a, 4-7  
Psalm 146  
1 Timothy 6:6-19  
Luke 16:19-31

## Service and Outreach

### House Shower Thanks

Thank you to all who contributed to the house shower for Antoinette and her family during the summer months. Look for more information soon about the next focus for the Service & Outreach committee!



### Blood Drive

Did you know that there are real cardiovascular benefits in giving blood? Why not improve your own heart health while saving a life? Consider donating blood, food, or your time for our next blood drive, **August 30**. Sign up in the gathering space.



### Young Adults

Join us for an afternoon of fall fun at Edwards Apple Orchard in Poplar Grove. We'll gather together around 2 pm on **Saturday, September 17**. If you have questions, connect with Allie Carlson.

### How Can You Keep from Singing?

Singing is a great gift from God. It will be a joy to welcome back our faithful choir members, and we would love to have some new voices join us. The Spirit Singers work hard, enjoy our time together, and are blessed as we sing for worship.

Give us a try on Rally Day, August 28. We will rehearse at 8:45 am and sing for worship at 9:30. You are also invited to come and get to know us at the Ringers/Singers potluck on Wednesday, August 31 at 6:00 p.m. More information on the potluck and rehearsals can be found below.

Please consider adding your voice to the SPIRIT SINGERS! Contact any choir member or Dagny Brandt for more information (815.541.1063 or [dagny@makingChristknown.org](mailto:dagny@makingChristknown.org)).

### Spirit Singers and Spirit Ringers Kick-off Potluck

Join us for a kick-off potluck and social for the Spirit Singers and Spirit Ringers (and those interested in joining).

#### Wednesday, August 31 / 6:00 - 8:00 pm at CLC

The main dish, beverages, and tableware will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to join one of the choirs.

**Rehearsals:** We look forward to a great year with weekly rehearsals beginning Wednesday, September 7. All are welcome!

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Spirit Ringers  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Spirit Singers

### Christ in Literature

Christ in Literature begins its new lineup of great reads with *Maiden Voyages* by Siân Evans. The story is a fascinating account of the Golden Age of ocean liners and the women who traveled and worked aboard them. Join our discussion on Monday, September 12 at 3:00 pm.

Join us again October 3 as we discuss *River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey* by Candice Millard.

Christ in Literature meets the first Monday of most months, beginning at 3:00 pm in the Conference Room. Questions can be directed to Sally Rode.

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# Christ Lutheran

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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Our Council

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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

## I'M IN!! (Are you?)

"I'm In!" is the theme of this year's three-fold stewardship emphasis of spiritual, time-and-talent, and generosity growth. I'm INcluded! I'm INVited! I'm INtegrated! Are you?!

Join us, on **Rally Sunday, August 28**, as we celebrate your INtegration INto our community of faith! Worship begins at 9:30 am. An "INtroduction to New Ministries" follows in the gathering space at 10:30 am along with recognition of volunteers! This is followed by a congregational picnic on the labyrinth (weather-permitting) at 11:00. (If you want to help, sign up in the gathering space to bring your favorite salad! All of the other goodies – including dessert – will be provided.)

How can you participate? Complete your Time and Talent form to register for fun prizes! Sign up for CLC's Facebook page and texting program to win symphony tickets! Wager your bet on who will be dunked in the CLC dunk tank! And bring your kids, grandkids, neighbor kids, kid goats, ANY kids!! There are fun games and prizes for all!

This day is both a commitment to ministry as well as a celebration of our rich community!



You're *invited*

