

# THIS WEEK AT CTK

July 24, 2020



## **“No One has the Right....”**

“No one has the right to destroy the unity of Christ.” I wish I were able to say who said this first, but it remains a true statement. Unity in Christ is a gift that Jesus gave to us all. Anyone who takes it away, is a thief. And yet, it happens.

Conflict is not unheard of. It comes from when our interests bump into another with other interests. Usually we can find a way of getting through these without destroying the bonds that hold us together. Gretchen is thinking of Mexican food, my mouth is watering over a really good burger. But we find a way to make it work for both of us. This happens most of the time in Congregations as well. We find a way to live in peace, even if one side loses an argument. When we stay together, perhaps that side will win the day the next time.

Christ the King Lutheran has not had a lot of conflict. But unfortunately, when it has appeared, the forces at work have been overwhelming. This has hurt the unity of Christ in this place, and destroyed the sense of peace that God would have us live in. This has never been far from my mind since my early days here, as well as the more important question of what I can do about it while I am here.

We will be starting on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, a seven week series of sermons, all taken from the 18<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Matthew. I have seen many classes and workshops and seminars in Conflict resolution, but the context is usually a bit strained. In Matthew, we find Jesus’ words directed at the community of Christ, those in the pews, as it were, even though we are now seated in our own homes. This will not mean that conflict will never occur again, but perhaps if enough of you remember a few of Jesus’ teachings about this, you all will find a way through.

When we are done, we’ll cut and paste the sermons together, or re-record the sermons in a setting better suited to teaching, or even both. Perhaps in spite of myself, something might be planted that will remain as a benefit and gift to you all, long after I have left and a new Pastor is in place. That is my hope, for you are an amazing group of people whom I have come to love. May all your energy be spent in being the Church that God needs you to be in this place, and not in pursuits that destroy the unity of Jesus Christ.

See you “in Church.” Blessings to you all.

Pastor Doug Stensby



After almost four years with CtK, my last day will be Friday, July 31st. I have accepted a position with The Everett Clinic which will offer me experience in my field of study and great benefits for my girls and me. With that being said, during my time here I have not only learned the ins and outs of a church office, but have been blessed in becoming part of the most amazing community and getting to know the greatest staff ever - whom I will always call friends. It's tough to move on but CtK will always be a bright spot in my journey. Thank you for embracing me, welcoming me, and being such a loving community. I didn't grow up part of a church community and CtK has been a perfect example of what that looks like and I am grateful for every one of you. I look forward to coming to worship with all of you when that becomes an option again. Blessings to each one of you.

Lovingly,  
Kerri



"I always appreciated Kerri's warm and authentic smile, and her willingness to take on any task that was new to her with a positive attitude.

Pastor Doug Stensby"

A note from Michael:

Working with Kerri has been a true joy and blessing, and she will be missed. The first time we met I noticed that she was a "light." Since then, she has brightened the church on a daily basis though her friendly smile that always begins in her eyes, her heartfelt concern for others, her laughter, her quick wit, and her good-natured sense of humor. She has been a great partner in ministry to all of us. Much of her work has been behind the scenes and she's gone far beyond the call of duty time and time again. We've worked together on a number of projects and through it all we've shared many wonderful conversations about life, about faith, about the workings of the church, and about how God has a special calling for each of us. While I am sad to see her go, I am excited for her because this next step on her journey is leading her to where she has been working to be and is directly in line with God's calling on her life. I am grateful for her friendship and know that she might be moving on, but she won't be far away. Plus, among sisters and brothers in Christ, there's no such a thing as "good bye," just "until we meet again..."

I have too many fond memories of Kerri to share them all here. She's not only a great co-worker, but a friend. I could always count on her for help, support and encouragement, even when we were faced with challenges. She's helped me assemble furniture, paint rooms, cook "staff dinners," hang multiple banners in the wet grass, and assist with many other projects that weren't really part of her job, and she has a way of making even seemingly mundane work fun. Most importantly, though, she has always been there to support me, be a sounding board, and a set of listening ears. She's the first to offer help even when she is already busy. When I broke my toe at church, she got me ice and was like a nurse to me. I know Kerri's absence will be felt at church, but I wish her all the best as she embarks on this new adventure.

Melissa



## From the Call Committee

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*"Oh, what a wonderful God we have! How great are his wisdom and knowledge and riches! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his methods!" Romans 11:33*

Here are some updates and requests:

- Met up with Pastor Andy Yee on Wed., July 15
- Finalized the MSP and received Council approval July 23
- Submitting the MSP to the Bishop's office and they will have 30 days to prepare a slate of candidates for us
- Making preparations to receive the slate
- Determine with the Holy Spirit's guidance which (if any) candidates to interview
- Keep up daily prayers for the call process!!!
- Contact Randy Hamlin 206-910-8821 or Penny Lefavour 206-300-4991 with your questions

God's blessings,

Your Call Committee

Know a wonderful pastor? You can submit names of potential pastors to the synod office using their [Nomination Form](#)



### **Monthly Financial status**

For the Month of **June**, contributions totaled \$26,039 and the total expenses were \$40,644. \$19,442 of the forgivable SBA loan was applied to the payroll expenses.

For the month of **July**, contributions are approx \$20,431 and expenses are approx \$28,139. \$10,044 of the forgivable SBA loan has been applied to the payroll expenses.

The average monthly contributions needed to meet the approved 2020 budget is \$33,640.



### Host Family Needed for French Student attending Snohomish High School

"Hope for Youth International" is a Christian outreach ministry based in the Puget Sound area that works with placing international high school students with host families. They currently need a host family this year for a 15-year-old student from France who will be attending SHS. Hosts provide housing, meals, and make the student a part of their family while they are here.

Students take care of all their own incidental needs and they also have their own medical insurance. The student currently in need of a host family is Ulysse. He is 15-years-old and described as curious, friendly, independent, mature, motivated, organized, respectful, sociable, sensitive to others. He lives in a small village by the Alps. Did a cycling trip around the world with his family. Father is in technical sales and mother is a pediatrician. Has 2 older brothers. Speaks French, Spanish, and English. Likes bicycling, rock climbing, downhill skiing computers, scouting, piano. Though he has no faith background, he would attend with host family. Ulysse will arrive end of August and will be here through mid June. If you are interested and would like more information, contact Tony Barnett at 206-407-8696 or email [tonybarnett1964@gmail.com](mailto:tonybarnett1964@gmail.com).

### LWR Mask Project

Several people are making masks for Lutheran World Relief! We can always use more if you are inclined to help. The deadline for getting all finished masks to Penelope Guntermann is Sept 15. She will be shipping them on the 16th. Her email is [Penelope.guntermann@gmail.com](mailto:Penelope.guntermann@gmail.com) and phone 425-478-7727.

The Nominating committee will be looking for four individuals to serve on the Council for 2021. The positions are a Facilities position, a Worship position, an At Large position, and a President-Elect position. Please be in prayer that God will tap the right people on the shoulder about these important places. It might be you.

### CtK Garden Maintenance

#### Flowerbed Weeders Welcome

If you have a free morning or afternoon, you are welcome to come weed one of our flower beds at the church. If you're outdoors and can practice safe distancing, no mask is required! Al Butler and his crew continue to keep the grass mowed and grounds looking spiffy, but we'd love some weeders to join us in keeping our flower beds looking good.

### Quilters

We are continuing to make quilt tops and tie quilts during this time of quarantine. Two tops have been finished and two quilts have been tied! Thanks to Sue Butler, Joann Wilson, Linda Knight, Mariann Ostbye and others who continue this beautiful ministry. If you are interested in joining in on the fun, contact Joann or Sue.

### Bible Studies

Our Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom at 8 am on Saturday mornings. To join this study, contact Bruce Olsen. Our Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study meets on Thursday mornings via Zoom at 9:30 am. To join this study, contact Michelle Wicks Cypher. Both groups are studying Max Lucado's book, "Unshakable Hope."

### Visitation Team

Our Visitation Team continues to be in contact with many of our CtK members - - through phonecalls, emails, texts and cards via the old fashioned United States Postal Service. Our Visitation Team includes Daren & Joann Barstad, Kevin Bye, Micki Engel, Beth Hamlin, Colleen Jacobsen, Sharon Johnson, and Dee Zachariason. If you know someone who would benefit from a personal contact, please get in touch with Beth or Micki.

### Prayer Concerns

If you have a prayer concern, please contact Pastor Doug.



*Contributions to the Newsletter: We welcome your information and updates! If you have something you would like included in the newsletter, email it to [christtheking@ctksnohomish.org](mailto:christtheking@ctksnohomish.org). And please feel free to print of a copy of this newsletter to share with a friend. If you know of someone who would like our newsletter mailed to them, contact the church office.*