

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

3676 Centerville Rd | 651-429-6595 | www.csclcvh.org

Pastor Jon Yurk

Encounter God | Love one another | Reach the World

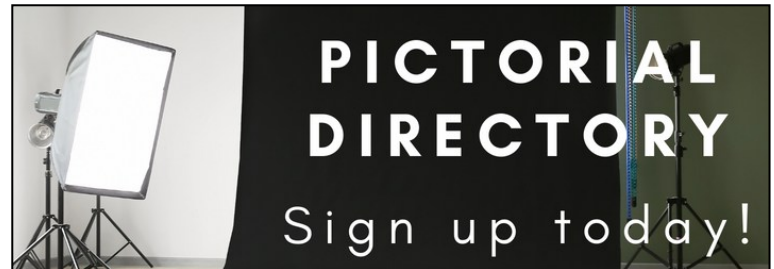
September,
2026

A Message From Bishop Justin: Planting Gardens Together

As I write this, I'm still catching my breath from the honor of being elected to serve as your next bishop. I am full of gratitude to step into this ministry and build on the work we have been doing together for the sake of the Gospel. I am grateful for the time and energy that Bishop Lull has spent over the last months to ensure a smooth transition. While this call of bishop is my call, I want to remind you that the work we do in this synod is us together. As your bishop, I envision us all finding our place and using our varied gifts to live out our calling to make sure all know Jesus loves them.

I keep returning to Jeremiah 29, which I spoke of after the election. This verse will be this year's theme as we gather for the Theological Conference, Tool Kit, Synod Assembly and other events. I am excited to see what God might do as we ask God to lead our planting and building. The prophet writes to a people in exile — displaced, disoriented, wondering if God has forgotten them — and the word that comes is not "Wait it out," but "Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce... seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." That is not a passive word. It's an invitation to root ourselves right where we are, to plant things that could take years to bear fruit, and to trust that our flourishing is bound up with our neighbor's flourishing. We are called, church, to do this work now. Together.

I believe that's exactly the posture God is calling our synod into. Not a church anxious about its own survival, but a church that plants gardens anyway — that builds houses anyway — because we trust the One who sent us into exile is also the One who will bring us home. We are being church together: congregations, mission starts and other ministry partners, each living out of the particular gifts God has given, none of us needing us to do the work alone. My hope is that my ministry among you will be less about handing down vision (we will work to find a uniting vision) and more about noticing the gifts already alive in this synod and helping to connect them. In this, I believe our welfare and our neighbors' welfare become, more and more, the same thing.



Our Photo Days are Monday & Tuesday, October 12 & 13

Photography Hours: 2:00 - 8:30 PM

Click this link to schedule your photography appointment: <https://schedule.ucdir.com/login.php> or go to Christ the Servant's website at: <https://www.csclcvh.org/> then click on: **"Click here to schedule your photo session!"** on the home page.

Login information is:

Username: **mn672**

Password: **jon**

(the username and password are case sensitive and the online scheduling may not be available on Saturdays and Sundays to allow paper sign-ups after worship)

We need **YOU** to make our church directory complete!

If you are unavailable for these dates please call the office or pick up the flyer in the narthex on how to find an alternate church to schedule a portrait session. You may also submit a photo of your own for \$15.00. If you would like to opt out of including any part of your personal information from the finished directory please notify the office.

Bishop Installation Service

September 13, 3:30 PM

At Shepherd of the Valley LC in Apple Valley

Rev. Justin Grimm is being installed as the next bishop of the Saint Paul Area Synod! The color of the day is red. A light reception will follow this celebratory worship service of Holy Communion. R.S.V.P on the St. Paul Synod website under "events" or at: <https://spas-elca.org/event/bishop-installation-service/>

News & Events

Upcoming Events:

September 5 - Women's Bible Study, 9:30 AM
September 7 - Labor Day (Office Closed)
September 10 - Chair Yoga Starts, 3:45 PM
September 13 - God's Work Our Hands Sunday
Bishop Installation Service, 3:30 PM
September 14 - Book Club, 10:30 AM
September 19 - Men's Breakfast, 8:30 AM
Project Day, 9:00 AM
Women's Bible Study, 9:30 AM

October 2 - Red Cross Blood Drive
October 4 - Blessing of the Animals
October 11 - Pumpkins Arrive, 4:00 PM

Chair Yoga Devotions Begins September 10

It is a faith based class to deepen your spirituality and enhance your physical well being. Please let us know of your interest in joining us on Thursdays at 3:45 PM. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Cost of an 8 week session is \$96.00. It begins September 10. For questions, please contact Loretta Markham at 612-669-1833 or Nancy Sacco at 651-783-2040.

October 12 - Pumpkin Patch Opens

Book Club

Do you love to read? Do you love to discuss books with others? Come and join Christ the Servant's book club. Time is at 10:30 AM on the dates below.

Upcoming book club gatherings:

September 14 Whistler by Ann Patchett
October 5 Nomadland by Jessica Brader

Almost Pumpkin Patch Time!

Pumpkins arrive on Sunday, October 11th at 4:00 PM. We will need volunteers to help unload the pumpkins. The pumpkin Patch opens on October 12th. Look for the sign up sheets in the narthex.



Serving This Month

We are in need of volunteers for September.
Please see the sign up sheets in the narthex.

Ushers:

9/6 Tigges Family
9/13 OPEN
9/20 OPEN
9/27 OPEN

Readers:

9/6 Linda W.
9/13 Regina B.
9/20 Gaye L.
9/27 Lisa JE.

Coffee Serving:

9/6 Mike & Deb G.
9/13 Judy Z., Roberta I. & Bette I.
9/20 OPEN
9/27 OPEN



Did you know that CSLC participates in a program called Simply Giving®? Simply Giving allows members to establish recurring EFT contributions simply by filling out an authorization form for a direct bank debit. The best part is there is no transaction fee to the church as we have with online giving. Simply Giving forms are on the Welcome Desk and may be turned in to Terri in the office.

Submit news and events for the October newsletter to office@cslcvh.org by Monday, September 21.



WORSHIP WITH US

Sundays @ 9:30 AM

Or join our livestream on Youtube!

Your giving to CSLC is appreciated! Scan the QR code to give through our website or stop in with your offering!

