



### **Faith as gift, no matter the weather**

The heavy, wet snow that broke records and trees on May 18 and 19 visited the grounds of Christ Lutheran Church and left one juniper especially jolted. It appeared split in two. The careful work of Ray Edwards, Mike Laursen and Norm Pralle brought to bear a pickup truck, ropes and supports. The men re-set the tree. This old juniper, which was planted some years ago by the late Rev. Dan Monson, is being tested. Will it stay well-rooted, steady and healthy? The future will tell us.

We pray for deep roots for our trees. We pray for deep roots for our faith. In the time we spend together as congregation in community, we grow ever-mindful of God's good gardening and pruning. Rootedness in Christ is treasure and ours to share. Christ Lutheran's roots were planted here at 3260 Nationway in March 1961, when groundbreaking for this facility occurred. As a mission church begun by the United Lutheran Church in America in December 1958, sprouts took root. Storms, like the one that jolted our juniper, have come and will continue to come. We know that storms of this life do not have the last word. In the words of Danish hymn writer Nikolai FS Grundtvig (1783-1872), we and all of God's sprouting creation receive this promise:

*Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation; he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace, blessings upon them bestowing."*