Week of July 27- Aug 2, 2020

# PASTOR'S WORD



The story of the feeding of the 5,000 is often read as a physical miracle story. One little boy offers his meager bread and fish, and God turned it into enough for thousands! The children's song comes to mind . . . "He took my little and he made it much, he took my little and he made it much, he took my little and he made it much, he used my faith instead!" I wonder, though, if reading the story exclusively this way doesn't let us off the hook? As long as ONE person gives what they have, the rest of us can just have faith, and there will be enough for all, no need for us ALL to share. Upon reflection, I am quite sure that this is not what Jesus intended!

The fabled children's story, Stone Soup, is also a story about many people being fed. Travelers who are hungry enter a town, hoping to find a meal and place to sleep, but at house after house, the doors are closed. No one wants to share the little they have. So, the travelers hatch a plan. They make a fire in the middle of the square, where all can see. They fill a battered pot they carried with water, and place in it a couple of stones, and put it over the fire. And then, they begin to stir the pot with great enthusiasm, tasting the water at intervals, exclaiming about how good the soup is. The townspeople, curious and confused, come out and ask what is happening. The travelers explain that they are making stone soup, the best soup in the world. Intrigued, the townspeople one by one go to their homes and bring back an item for the soup—carrots, potatoes, celery, chicken—hoping for a taste of the soup in return when it is done. Eventually, the entire town is gathered in the square, the "stone soup" is finished, and there is more than enough for everyone!

I wonder if perhaps something similar may have happened in that field, where the 5,000 gathered with Jesus that day. The boy shared his fish and bread, and one by one so did everyone else, and in the end there was more than enough for thousands. However we understand it, the feeding of the 5,000 is indeed a miracle—a miracle of the spirit of generosity and community and abundant trust that God has given to all of us. When we come together as people of God, trusting in God's abundance and mercy, we hold nothing back, and there will always be more than enough for everyone.



#### IN GRATITUDE

Dear friends in Christ,

Mike and I thank you for your condolences at the passing of Dolly. We are truly comforted by your kindness as we remember her life.

Mike and Sandy Hoyer

#### Finding A Faithful Response to Racism in Our World

Join a small group from Christ Lutheran to explore the intersection of faith and race. We will meet every three weeks to discuss what we have read, and to encourage and hold one another accountable in our efforts to learn about and counter racism in ourselves and the world around us. We will begin by reading *Stand Your Ground* by Kelly Brown Douglas

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, August 18, at 8:00pm, via Zoom.

#### Stand Your Ground by Kelly Brown Douglas

A mother with a teenage son, Kelly Brown Douglas feels the shooting of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin as an immediate family danger, an all-too-familiar story in the black community. In <u>Stand Your Ground</u>, the theologian and Episcopal priest traces white exceptionalism in American history from the Massachusetts Bay Company to Manifest Destiny to the Stand Your Ground laws in Florida that protected the "watch captain" who shot Trayvon from criminal charges.

Consider purchasing the book from a local bookstore! Here is information about a few. <a href="https://www.riverfronttimes.com/stlouis/st-louis-best-bookstores-a-complete-guide/Content?">https://www.riverfronttimes.com/stlouis/st-louis-best-bookstores-a-complete-guide/Content?</a> <a href="https://oid=15037926">oid=15037926</a>

# **CLC Suggestion Box**

Have an idea for how Christ Lutheran Church can make your experience better? Submit an anonymous note at <a href="http://freesuggestionbox.com/pub/stwuunh">http://freesuggestionbox.com/pub/stwuunh</a> and we will do our best to help! You



# Fellowship at CLC

# Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday July 28th, 10:00 am

"David was a man after God's own heart."

What does it mean to be someone "after God's own heart"? David, Old Testament shepherd, king and psalmist, offers an answer in the shape of his own life.

The Tuesday morning Bible study group is using a study guide by Charles R. Swindoll, "David: A Man of Passion & Destiny." We meet at 10 am via Zoom each Tuesday. The long-time participants in this group have each received a copy of the book, and if others would like to join us for this discussion, please let us know so that additional books can be ordered. All are welcome to join us!

#### Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82643945421?pwd=V3dxdWY0YkZsRFptWkE2dDBCM3VLUT09

#### One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82643945421#,,1#,127284# US (Chicago)

**Call in From Any Phone:** 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 826 4394 5421

**Password: 127284** 

#### YOUTH GROUP COORDINATOR

Hello,

Are you looking for a way to get involved? Do I have the opportunity for you!!!

We are putting a call out for an adult to join Sharon Hornbeck and Pastor Meagan in coordinating and leading our Sunday morning youth group. As we have made the COVID shift we were meeting on Zoom every Sunday afternoon at 12:30 for a Youth Hang Out. With all the uncertainty we continued meeting twice a month this summer. Typically, we meet for about 45 minutes to an hour for a check in to talk about what is going on in their world.

As we head into the school year, we hope to find ways for the youth to come together, as we can, safely and grow in our faith, engage in the Christ Lutheran Family, and live out our faith in in the community around us. The youth are open to guest speakers, a bible study, community service projects, puppet shows, and other ideas.

Sharon Hornbeck



#### Youth Zoom Hangout, Sunday August 2 at 12:30 PM

If you have been confirmed and are interested in connecting with other youth, join us for discussion the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month at 12:30 PM.

#### Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/924665200?pwd=OWYvT0Z5MmdoVG84R3dDUmJXVXd5dz09

#### One tap mobile

+16465588656,,924665200#,,1#,271433# US (New York)

#### Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**Meeting ID:** 924 665 200 **Password:** 271433



# Stewardship & Offerings We continue to worship and reach out to people in different ways that

We continue to worship and reach out to people in different ways than we're traditionally accustomed. Staff and members are reaching out proactively to make sure everyone in our congregation is cared for, and connected, as much as possible. We are re-imagining ministry! Now more than ever, it takes all of us to make that happen.

We can continue to fund our church and the important work we're doing with a few easy clicks:

- 1. Visit <u>our donation website</u> directly or go to <u>www.christwg.org</u> and scroll down to the 'Give Now' button.
- 2. You may make a one time or recurring gift. There are NO FEES to withdraw directly from your bank account. Fees do apply for debit/credit card transactions.
- 3. Optional: set up a profile to be able to change your recurring gifts at any time or view your giving history.
- 4. Want to walk through the steps with someone? Contact Kate Hoerchler, 314-805-1751, katehoerchler@gmail.com

If you prefer to make your offering by check or cash, there are mailing envelopes included in your offering envelope package.

Joan O'Brien and Lynnae Ruff, Stewardship Chairs

# WORSHIP

Sunday, August 2, 9:30 am — Zoom Worship

**Access Online Bulletin** 

Follow the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us!

OR

Join Zoom Meeting

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,278217453#,,1#,971744# US (Chicago)

**Call in From Any Phone:** 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 278 217 453 Password: 971744



#### **Virtual Adult Forum Summary**

The Rev. Dr. Cassandra Gould, Executive Director of Missouri Faith Voices, spoke to the Adult Forum Sunday, July 26. She told us about the advocacy work of the organization, especially its efforts to pass Amendment 2, Medicaid Expansion.

Rev. Gould said the mission of Missouri Faith Voices is to change the lives of those impacted by racism and injustice by working with elected officials and voters. Besides expanding Medicaid, MO Faith Voices is working on predatory lending and criminal justice.

The Affordable Care Act provides federal funds to states who expand medicaid coverage to adults who earn up to 133% of the poverty line (\$36,156 for a family of four). The 37 states that have accepted the program receive 90% of the cost of the expansion from the federal government. In Missouri the expansion would provide care for chronic and acute conditions for people who cannot afford to see a doctor. In addition, rural hospitals and clinics in impoverished areas that rely on state funding could continue to provide care.

Rev. Gould explained that bipartisan effort in the Missouri Legislature to take advantage of medicaid expansion have been unsuccessful so that a petition drive to place a constitutional amendment on the April 4 ballot is necessary.

After Rev. Gould had to leave the meeting the conversation continued. Pastor Meagan reminded us that the Church is not instructing anyone to vote a certain way. Rather the Church's role is to provide information and to remind us of our obligation to take our Christian conscience to the ballot box. Peter Jordan, an officer with the Olivette Police Force, said that statistics that compare arrests of black and white drivers within a jurisdiction are useful but can sometimes be misleading.

### ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

#### CELEBRATING AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

#### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

08/17 Karen and Brent Wood 08/22 Sylvia and Mark Rogers 08/28 Brian & Kate Dopuch

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

08/02 Kate Dopuch

08/05 Ann Steinbrueck

08/07 Emily Knapp

08/07 Susanne Reimer-Fey

08/09 Harrison Ringkor

08/12 Janet Roock

08/13 Tammy Pryor

08/15 Bill Scholle

08/18 Cheri Fortney

08/19 Marc Horn

08/20 Alan Richter

08/21 Carol Arrington

08/22 Graham Bartek

08/24 Bob Trautmann

08/25 Jacey Joern

08/28 Jesse Helton

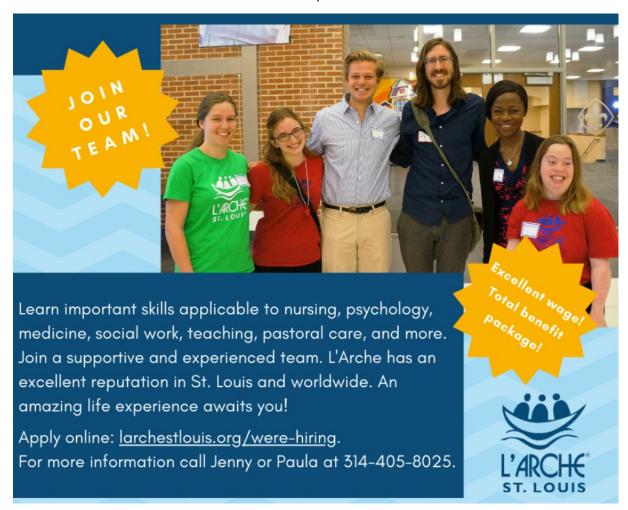
08/28 Keith Lissant

08/28 Jesse Helton

08/29 Ray McIntyre



Our apologies if we missed anybody! Please let us know if we did.



L'Arche is looking for individuals that are either taking a gap year or are in a masters program that allows them to work full time with individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. I am just asking that you pass this information on to individuals that you believe might be a good fit for us or include the flyer attached to this email in your bulletin. If anyone would like to learn more information they could visit our website at <a href="https://www.larchestlouis.org/">https://www.larchestlouis.org/</a> and if they are interested, they could apply straight through the website.

#### Dear Supporters of WRHM,

While WRHM will remain closed to the public next week (July 27-August 1), we do recognize that there are those with emergency needs that must be met immediately. If a member of your congregation is aware of such a situation, please have your pastor contact Ed Johnson at 314-961-5082 or 314-606-9852 to make arrangements to meet that need.

We hope to share more detailed plans of our reopening early next week.

Peace and good health to you and your congregation.



#### Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA 1 Selma Avenue at Lockwood Webster Groves, MO 63119-3199

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

E-MAIL: OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG

ZOOM WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAY AT 9:30 A.M.

RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE HOURS: MON-THUR 8:30-4:30 APPTS BY ARRANGEMENT

> COUNCIL PRESIDENT: KEVIN DROLLINGER

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES AND FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE: CAROLYN CROWE

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS: DIANE DROLLINGER

> ORGANIST: MARK RUFF

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: LISETTE KREITLER

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: TAMMY PRYOR

CUSTODIAN: KELLY LAKIES

WEBMASTER: PERRY YEE

## **Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement**

Deepening people's connection to Christ, Bringing meaning to daily life, and Making a difference in our community.