



# ONE IN CHRIST

Week of July 4 - July 10, 2022

## Pastors Word



As citizens of the United States, we remember on Independence Day the whole of our nation's history, and learn that being a patriot is not blindly celebrating a country for its own sake. Being a patriot is telling truth regardless of consequences, demanding the best of our nation and its leaders, seeking justice for all of its inhabitants.

Above all else, especially this weekend, we cannot forget who and whose we are as Christians, as children of God. We are above all else followers of Jesus. We remember that the great commission given to us by Christ calls us to be citizens not of a particular nation, but of the world God created. Christ sends us as he sent the disciples, to carry the love, justice, and shalom of God that knows no borders.

As we remember the complicated, hopeful, broken, healing, diverse community that is the United States and claim the God-given beauty and dignity of every person, I offer this short passage from the poetry of Amanda Gorman, grounded in scripture and reaching for the ideals we are called to as people of faith.

**The Hill We Climb**     *2021 Inaugural Poem by Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman*  
When day comes we ask ourselves, where can we find light in this never-ending shade?  
The loss we carry, a sea we must wade.  
We've braved the belly of the beast, We've learned that quiet isn't always peace,  
and the norms and notions of what just is isn't always just-ice.  
And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it. Somehow we do it.  
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed a nation that isn't broken, but simply unfinished.

But that doesn't mean we are striving to form a union that is perfect.  
We are striving to forge a union with purpose,  
to compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters and conditions of man.  
And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us, but what stands before us.  
We close the divide because we know, to put our future first, we must first put our differences aside.  
We lay down our arms so we can reach out our arms to one another.  
We seek harm to none and harmony for all.

Scripture tells us to envision that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree  
and no one shall make them afraid.  
If we're to live up to our own time, then victory won't lie in the blade.  
But in all the bridges we've made, that is the promise to glade, the hill we climb.  
If only we dare.

So let us leave behind a country better than the one we were left with.  
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest, we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one.  
We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west.  
We will rise from the windswept northeast, where our forefathers first realized revolution.  
We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the midwestern states. We will rise from the sunbaked south.  
We will rebuild, reconcile and recover.  
And every known nook of our nation and every corner called our country,  
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge, battered and beautiful.  
When day comes we step out of the shade, aflame and unafraid, the new dawn blooms as we free it.

For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it.  
If only we're brave enough to be it.



# WORSHIP

## Sunday, July 10, 9:30 am Worship

### Access Online Bulletin

Join us for Worship in the Sanctuary. Childcare available in the nursery at 8:30am.

### **OR**

You may also attend virtually using the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us!

### Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453?pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09)

[pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453?pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09)

### **One tap mobile**

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

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

Meeting ID: 278 217 453

Password: 971744



## **Staff Vacation**

Mark Ruff will be out of office through Sunday August 7, and we will have pre-recorded organ, Roger Ruff as guest organist, Jesse Helton on guitar, and one service without music during that time.

Carolyn Crowe will be gone July 13-18 and August 4-7.

Pastor Meagan will be with the youth at Camp Tomah Shinga July 23-27, and on vacation July 4-6 and July 31-August 6. Pastor Karen Scherer will preside July 24, and Pastor Jim Bennett will preside and Jon Heerboth will preach July 31 Contact Carolyn Crowe for Pastoral needs, she will reach out to on call pastor as needed. Contact Lisette for any other needs.

Lisette will be on vacation July 25-29 (Sarah Bender will cover essential duties), and August 15-17.

As of Friday, June 3, 2022, the CDC changed the Community Level for St Louis County to High, and advises wearing masks indoors. **See the CDC site here for more information.** [COVID-19 by County | CDC](#)

Please plan to wear masks when you are inside our building until the Community Level has returned to Medium.

Masks will be available at entrances if needed. If you feel unwell, please care for yourself and others by staying home, and we will be happy to see you when you return. Thank you for your commitment to caring for one another!

# Stewardship & Offerings

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

1. Visit [our donation website](#) directly or go to [www.christwg.org](http://www.christwg.org) 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.

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



## Join the new Justice Group forming at CLC!

We've been reading and discussing issues of diversity, equity and inclusion at Christ Lutheran, now let's get a solid group together to affect change! The main goal of the committee will be to focus on areas where we can make Christ Lutheran a more welcoming space and affect change in our community. Duties would include reaching out to council and other committees on issues of justice in the church, brainstorming ways to be more active in local justice issues, selecting books for congregation wide book studies, etc. Please reach out to Kate Hoerchler (314-805-1751, [katehoerchler@gmail.com](mailto:katehoerchler@gmail.com)) if you would like to join this group.

## Vigil For Black Lives

**Every Friday from 6:00-6:30, congregations on Lockwood join together to stand for black lives**, in our community and beyond. We take a short half an hour each week to be visible on Lockwood with signs of solidarity with our black siblings. It is a small way for us to make it known that we stand against racism in all the ways it impacts all of us. Please join us!



## CLC Summer Get-together

Sunday, July 10th, 2pm

Tilles park in Ladue

playground, splashpad, tennis, games

Please join us this coming weekend on Sunday July 10th, 2 pm at Tilles park in Ladue on the corner of Litzsinger Road and McKnight Road. We can let the kids play on the playground (they have a nice one for kids under 5 and a big one for kids over 5), jump around in the splash pad, play some tennis (I'll supply the rackets and balls), and run around the park. We will provide some snacks and drinks too.

## BOOK GROUP

Join the race book group on July 12th, 8pm to discuss through chapter 4 of our latest book, *Baptized in Tear Gas: From White Moderate to Abolitionist* by Elle Dowd.

Dowd is a bisexual faith leader in Chicago, an ELCA candidate for ministry, and an activist. Her experience protesting in Ferguson in 2014 greatly shaped her work, and this book is an account of that inspiring others to act.

Her unique experience in St. Louis provides us a good connection.

Additionally, Pastor Megan is in contact with her to potentially speak to us at the end of reading the book.

Please contact Kate Hoerchler with any questions,

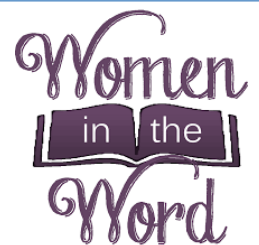
[katehoerchler@gmail.com](mailto:katehoerchler@gmail.com).



## Women's Group

The women of Christ Lutheran are invited to join our meetings taking place the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. More details to come!

Any questions? Reach out to Becca Jordan at [beccajedwards@gmail.com](mailto:beccajedwards@gmail.com).



## In Blessed Memory of Flo Saeger

Florence Ruth Saeger (née Schaal) died at the age of 84 in her Laclede Groves home in Webster Groves, MO on July 2.

Flo was born on January 11, 1938, in San Antonio, TX to Frederick and Renata Schaal (née Kieschnick). She graduated from Brackenridge High School in San Antonio and attended Concordia Teachers' College in Seward, NE, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Education in 1960. In 1990, she earned her Master of Science degree in Management from National-Louis University.

Flo was married to her husband, Vic, for nearly 58 years, and together they raised two children, Deborah (now of Madison, WI) and Steven (now of Boulder, CO) in Kirkwood, MO. Flo taught elementary school prior to starting a family, then volunteered in a variety of roles while raising her children. She returned to full-time employment at BJC Healthcare, first as a trainer, and subsequently as an organizational specialist.

Flo gave generously of her time and talents, serving on the boards of the Great Rivers and Central State Synods, and assuming leadership roles at Luther Memorial Church, Christ Lutheran Church, Metro-St. Louis Lutheran Coalition, International Partners in Mission (IPM), and the Laclede Oaks Community Association. She and Vic also delivered Meals on Wheels for 25 years. After her retirement, she also traveled extensively with Vic, visiting five of the seven continents with memorable trips to China, Kenya, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Nepal, many European countries, and multiple trips to Australia to visit relatives. Many of these were not purely sight-seeing trips, but opportunities for Flo to foster the more compassionate, equitable, just, and peaceful world that she believed in so strongly.

Prior to moving to Laclede Groves Senior Living Community, Flo could often be found in her garden, which she tended with the same care and love she devoted to her family. Her celebrated homegrown tomatoes were shared widely, and her homemade applesauce and Christmas cookies were particularly popular with her children and grandson. She brought her garage sale prowess to Laclede Groves, where she enjoyed volunteering in the Wise Buys re-sale shop (and occasionally finding bargains of her own). Flo was a voracious reader of mysteries and historical fiction until the end of her life and was an avid viewer of the PBS News Hour, Late Night with Stephen Colbert, and Masterpiece Theater in equal measure.

Flo is survived by her daughter Deb (Chris), son Steve, grandson Sam, sisters Rose and Linda (Carl), brother-in-law Rich (Sandy), many nephews and nieces, and countless others who knew her kindness, compassion, and love. She was preceded in death by her husband Vic, her parents, brothers-in-law Jack, Ron, John, Keith, and Donnie, and sisters-in-law Charlotte and Lorraine. A memorial service will be held at Christ Lutheran Church - Webster Groves on September 24 at 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions in Flo's memory to Christ Lutheran Church (<https://www.christwg.org/>), the Missouri Botanical Garden (<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/>), the St. Louis Food Bank (<https://stlfoodbank.org/>), or Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri (<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-st-louis-region-southwest-missouri>)



## In Blessed Memory of Ethelda Bertram

And so, on June 25 in Minneapolis, passed Ethelda Alma Vera (Koch) Bertram. Child of God. Daughter of Emma and Charles. Granddaughter of Sophia and Louisa. Wife of Robert. Mother of Susan, Kathleen, Timothy, Sarah, John and Michael.

Elegant even in saddle shoes and a cooking apron. Left behind 15' of hanging clothes — many with sequins and bold colors — and nine drawers of costume jewelry. She of the glossy brown hair falling in soft waves around her face ... back when. Of course, her music was classical piano, especially Chopin nocturnes, and she mastered the genre herself on her Baldwin concert grand. She brought the same focus and precision to her library work and to playing bridge — or to 3-point basketball shots and ping pong. One martini a day was important and, on occasion, butter pecan ice cream. Or pistachios.

Theld perfected The Look. Picture a Jack Benny deadpan. When she eventually became bed-bound, one of her daughters kissed her good night and whispered, "Sleep tight, Mom." Theld, with The Look, replied, "Well, yeah."

She could teach a master class on stretching a budget. Asked why she saved three candy corns in the freezer from one Halloween to the next, she answered, "How do you think I got so rich?" (Not.)

The same parsimony led her to coin several code phrases. No point in wasting words. "This is nice" indicated the highest praise. "I wouldn't like that" meant "Forget about it." When challenged to take on a complex task, Theld's reply was sometimes, "Why not." That's "Why not," period. Not "Why not," question mark. 'Nuf said.

An intensely private feminist, she nevertheless chose as husband Robert, a gregarious and charismatic man with the nerve to call her "Theldy-bug." Together they populated Chicago, northwest Indiana, Munich and St. Louis with their bunch of children, and bound to themselves countless beloved people as friends, students and colleagues.

Want to know more? Please consult <https://www.legacy.com/link.asp?i=OB35399574>. A celebration of Theld's 100+ years will be held Sat., Nov. 5, at 1pm at Christ Lutheran Church, 1 Selma Ave., Webster Groves, MO. Please wear a mask.



## Wrestling with Tough Topics in Light of Our Faith

We've all heard the adage that if we are going to get along, we should avoid talking about religion and politics, right? We live in a society that has become very divided along many different lines, and it has become more and more difficult to address topics that cause controversy or division. And yet, Jesus models for us the importance of facing head on the tough issues of his day, speaking truth wherever possible, and dismantling the walls that threaten to divide children of God from one another.

The ELCA has tools to help us practice having conversations on tough issues, and help us learn and reflect on important issues of dignity and justice in the light of our faith. The social statements on a variety of issues, including racism, abortion, gun violence, climate change, and more, allow us to come together as community to wrestle with these issues.

If you would like to take time to study one of the ELCA's social statements, join Pastor Meagan to pick a topic to study and reflect on together. Contact Pastor Meagan to let her know if you are interested, or if you have questions.



## TECH TEAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you have any interest in joining the Tech team to help set up Sunday Zoom worship we are in need of additional volunteers. Training will be provided and the average time commitment is approximately one Sunday worship a month. Please contact Pastor Meagan if interested.



In person Adult Forum will be held in the Fellowship Hall and will also be available on Zoom. If you choose Zoom just stay connected after the Sunday morning service. We anticipate a 10-15 minute break between the end of the postlude and the beginning of Adult Forum.

There will be no Adult Forums this summer but sessions will resume after Labor Day.

## Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible study group will take a summer break until September.

When we resume, anyone is welcome to join us at any time. Just have one or more of your favorite Bibles with you, and prepare to enjoy our time together.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include the following people in your prayer life during this week.

**ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS:** Those who are suffering from chronic pain & diseases, Shelly Madden, Linda Armstrong, Gege Brightman, Christine Austin, Kate and Brian Bates (John Hoffmann's sister and brother-in-law), Evan Deck, Helga Hayes, John Hoffmann, Bev & Al Marcus (friend of John Hoffmann), Michael McMullen (Greg McMullen's brother), Christy Monson ( Step-daughter of Carolyn Lange), Donna Munger, Betsy Nielson (Nancy Lissant's sister), Doris & Harry Rahlfs (Karen Wood's parents), Joyce Traxler (Friend of Susan DeBusk), Shirley Wolf, Mary Stough (Sharon Hornbeck's aunt), and Wayne Wellman (Susanne Reimer-Fey's brother).



**IN BLESSED MEMORY:** For all of those who have died especially Timothy Tanner (Lynnae Ruff's father), Thelda Bertram, Flo Saeger and all of those who grieve, that they may know the presence of God who grieves with us.

**IN MILITARY SERVICE:** Josh Duncan, Chris Hudson, Jesse Proctor, Scott Warr.

## CLC Suggestion Box

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





# ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

## LET'S CELEBRATE JULY ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

Congratulations and Best Wishes! Christ Lutheran family wants to celebrate you!

### ANNIVERSARIES:

07/03 Erin & Dave Eftink, Jr.  
07/13 Luke & Karen Bruns  
07/21 Alena & Kersten Horn  
07/22 Matt & Katie Ciorba  
07/30 James & Leslie Bennett  
07/30 Jon & Chris Heerboth

### BIRTHDAYS:

07/01 Steve Donaubauer  
07/03 Leslie Bennett  
07/04 Taimika Askew-Sunkara  
07/04 Gregory McMullen  
07/06 Susan DeBusk  
07/08 Lisette Kreidler  
07/12 Lis Erickson Meyer  
07/12 Stephanie Lenhart  
07/12 Mike Wagner  
07/13 Carolyn Crowe  
07/13 Matthew Hoyer  
07/13 Phil Doeschot  
07/14 Dane Stole  
07/16 Dianne Drollinger  
07/16 Lauren Bennett  
07/17 Luke Dopuch  
07/18 Kim Joern  
07/21 Maggie Ringkor  
07/23 Jason Kuziel  
07/27 Megan Eftink  
07/27 Kahlie McCarty  
07/28 Thomas Allen  
07/28 Roger Rose  
07/29 Scott Glascock  
07/30 Sherry Mitchler  
07/30 Rev. Kenneth Haugk  
07/31 August Bennett  
07/31 Matt Ciorba  
07/31 Steven McCarty

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



# July 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30a Worship	4  10a WG Parade 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4pm Fitness group	5	6	7 4p Fitness group	8	9
10 9:30a Worship 2pm Tilles Park CLC outing	11 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4pm Fitness group	12	13 7p Worship team meeting	14 4p Fitness group	15	16
17 9:30a Worship	18 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4pm Fitness group	19 7p Church Council meeting in Conference room	20	21 4p Fitness group	22	23
24/31 9:30a Worship	25 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4pm Fitness group	26	27	28 4p Fitness group	29	30



**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**

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

**RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN  
MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE  
HOURS: MON-WED, FRI 8:30-  
4:30  
APPTS BY  
ARRANGEMENT**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT:  
JESSICA GUNTHER**

**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**

**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.**