PASTOR'S WORD

People of Christ Lutheran, as response to the attempted coup continues, and we move forward in transition of leadership in our country, we as people of faith are called to a Spirit-led response to the brokenness, sin, violence and division we are witnessing. We need God's guidance as we acknowledge our own complicity, and seek a path forward that leads us to Christ. We need healing, love, courage, and hope in the midst of our fear, anger, despair, grief.

As you pray, as you seek guidance, as you prepare for action, the writings below may be helpful to you. Peace to you, and to our nation, in these days. Pastor Meagan

Excerpt From A Letter from Local Eastern MO Conference ELCA Clergy to our Congregations After years of stoking the flames of prejudice and systemic injustice, chaos broke out in the seat of our democracy. Furthermore, we have heard and held the pain and trauma of colleagues and friends of color who know just how differently this would have turned out if the attempted coup had been led by black folks, and we are deeply aware of the sin of white supremacy that impacts us all. As communities of faith, we might rightly ask: Where is God in this? What is the church's role in the public square at this flashpoint?

At this moment of national reckoning, we remember that we are all of us both saint and sinner, with great capacity for good and for harm. Because we are captive to systemic sin, we are all in thrall to the sins of racism, nationalism, and unhealthy division. Though we are all complicit, those entrusted with positions of greater power hold increased capacity to do harm through their misuse of that public trust. We have seen that capacity exercised in the halls of power this week.

As we are taught in *Luther's Small Catechism with African Descent Reflections*, "understanding and acknowledging sin is the best way to be restored to right relationship," with God and with our neighbors. This understanding and acknowledgement is the necessary first step in transforming the material reality that keeps so many ensnared and dehumanized within unjust systems. This is especially important in moments of crisis such as those we have experienced this week, when the forces of domination have made their most brazen stand.

Confession and Forgiveness

Holy God,

you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.

We renounce evil and all the forces that defy God, including white supremacy and terrorism.

We reject abuse of power that incites harm and violence.

We renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God.

We reject leadership based in mistrust and fear.

We renounce the ways of sin that draw us from God.

We reject all these things as antithetical to Christ as his ways.

Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

PASTOR'S WORD



Prayer from ELCA Churchwide

Rise up and come to our help, merciful God, for we are in need. Our spirits are weighed down with fear; our bodies feel as fragile as the dust from which we came. All that we have trusted seems hidden from sight. Although this moment has come upon our nation, you have not forgotten us. We do not trust in our own power or strength, but in your steadfast love in every generation. Show us your face in this time of trial, remind us of your faithfulness, and save us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessed Are You Who Bear the Light

Blessed are you who bear the light in unbearable times, who testify to its endurance amid the unendurable, who bear witness to its persistence when everything seems in shadow and grief. Blessed are you in whom the light lives, in whom the brightness blazes— your heart a chapel, an altar where in the deepest night can be seen the fire that shines forth in you in unaccountable faith, in stubborn hope, in love that illumines every broken thing it finds. —Jan Richardson, from Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons



Youth Zoom Hangout, Sunday January 17 at 12:30 PM

If you have been confirmed and are interested in connecting with other youth, join us for discussion during our normal time on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 12:30 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 924 665 200 Password: 271433

One tap mobile

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

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



Stewardship & Offerings

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:

- re
- 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

Volunteer needed to help with remote worship services

We need someone to join the rotation, every 3 weeks, to help with Sunday zoom services. Some proficiency with Zoom required. Please reach out to Pastor Meagan, Becca Jordan or Mike Wagner if interested.

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! You



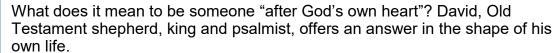
Altar Flowers

The 2021 sign-up for flowers is shown below. If you wish to underwrite the cost of the altar flowers for a particular week, please inform Lisette of the date you would like, two families may share the cost for one date. Please send your payment to the office, the cost is \$40 per arrangement. Until we meet in person, the flowers will be available to deliver to the homebound or sick.

1	
January 17, 2021	
January 24, 2021	
January 31, 2021	
February 7, 2021	
February 14, 2021	
February 21, 2021	Lent - no flowers
February 28, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 7, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 14, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 21, 2021	Lent - no flowers
March 28, 2021	Palm Sunday - palms
April 4, 2021	Easter - lilies
April 11, 2021	Lilies
April 18, 2021	
April 25, 2021	

Fellowship at CLC

Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday January 12th, 10:00 am "David was a man after God's own heart."





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/i/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

Finding a Faithful Response to Racism in our World

The Anti-Racism and Faith group will continue their journey in 2021. All are welcome to join us!

Up Next: Me and White Supremacy by Layla F. Saad

Me and White Supremacy started as a 28 day twitter challenge. After going viral Layla F. Saad turned the challenge into a published book. Each day presents a short reading followed by a few journaling questions to help you digest and respond to the material. While this book can be completed in an intense 28 days, this group will complete 1 week of the book for each meeting spaced 3 weeks apart.

You will need: a copy of Me and White Supremacy and some way to journal (a notebook, word processing program, stone tablet...)

Next Zoom Meeting: January 26, 2021 at 8pm - We will be discussing the introduction (p 1- 26) and the first week of work (p 31 - 74)

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84020544259?pwd=dFhjaHVTdWVUcWdUM0U1NG9JcVkyQT09

Meeting ID: 840 2054 4259

Passcode: 536541

Dial in

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

WORSHIP

Sunday, January 17, 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



ADULT FORUM

Dr. Phillip Mudd and Nurse Practitioner Dianne Deck will be with us January 17 to give us an update on their work with COVID-19 patients. They will answer questions about the disease, the vaccines, and CLC's efforts to reduce the virus spreading among us. If you want to submit questions ahead of the session send them to Harriet Scholle at hscholle3@gmail.com.



STEPHEN MINISTRY MEETING

The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 28 at 10 am via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85220553706?pwd=U05qM1licDhCQ080RVBMS1FackdjZz09

Meeting ID: 852 2055 3706

Passcode: 909193

Dial in

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



CLC Congregation,

We have several openings for the 2021 Church Council, which will begin meeting in late January. We would love for you to consider being a part of this special group! Each chair serves a two-year term and meets once a month with the rest of Council (currently via Zoom) to discuss important church issues. Below is a description of all the positions that are open. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net, or Becca Jordan at beccajedwards@gmail.com.



Property Chair: The property Chair coordinates all property-related projects and schedules repair services as needed. The Property Chair also prepares Council Reports that detail any property-related issues.

Out-Reach Chair: The Out-reach chair is responsible for helping promote Christ Lutheran Church in the local community, raising awareness and piquing interest with potential new members/the community in CLC services, events, etc. While each Outreach chair is empowered to work with their committee to determine a plan, a few primary responsibilities include assisting with the promotion of CLC Easter and Christmas services, as well as special events. Also determining / planning / promoting events such as "Views & Brews" Speaker Series, Trivia night, CLC's 120th anniversary community celebration, promotion of Lady Grey's holiday boutique, etc.

In-Reach Chair: The In-reach chairperson is responsible for ensuring a complete experience for existing parishioners. In-reach solicits feedback from parishioners that can accomplish that goal. In -reach also provides support to the other committees as needed. They also recognize and celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, new members, and other special events.

Christian Education Chair: The Christian Education Chair is the liaison between the adult/youth Christian Ed. programs and the Council. The Christian Ed. chair communicates all youth and adult education activities to the council and approves spending requests, including those for Sunday School and Confirmation curriculum and activities, VBS, Adult Forum, and any other Christian Ed. expenses.

Christian Service Chair: Christian Service helps organize and coordinate donation drives that help local non-profits such as Webster Groves – Rock Hill Ministries. In addition, the chair helps plan congregational activities that bring people together to serve the local community. The Christian Service chair is also responsible for working with the Treasurer and Council to determine which organizations and non-profits receive donations (benevolences) from Christ Lutheran Church.

Worship Chair: The Worship Committee meets monthly to work with Pastor and musicians to help plan worship. The committee administers a budget to support worship. At Christmas the committee members plan to put up Christmas decorations in the nave and decorate the Christmas trees at the altar. They take them down after Epiphany. The committee also schedules the volunteers who assist with worship services on Sunday mornings. The chair attends Council meetings, writes monthly reports to Council, and creates a report for the annual meeting.

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

CELEBRATING JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

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

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

ANNIVERSARIES:

1/13 Kim & Dave Donermeyer 1/19 Jadee & Steve Lauer

BIRTHDAYS:

1/05 Sharon Hornbeck

1/08 Brian Hornbeck

1/11 Flo Saeger

1/13 Nancy Lissant

1/15 Deanne Bussler

1/15 Carson Glascock

1/15 James Knapp

1/15 Alex Lindquist

1/18 Isaac Helton

1/19 Kate Drollinger

1/20 Christine Heerboth

1/28 Alex Bennett

1/29 Sloane Bartek



Fall and Winter In Community

As the weather turns and opportunities for outdoor gatherings are reduced, we want to invite us all to be creative about how we can stay connected and continue to be in community through the winter months. If you would like to be matched with another household or two to be in intentional connection, if you have ideas for online activities, if you have ideas for outdoor winter activities, or any other thoughts about how we can stay connected, let Pastor Meagan or Council know!



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

Lutheran School of Theology St Louis is pleased to announce two one-session zoom classes in Epiphany 2021. With **Dr. Clint McCann**, Evangelical Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Eden Seminary as the instructor for each one, the emphasis will be on theological and biblical interpretation of two critical issues for the church living out its faithful witness today. Beyond exploring the needs, each class will deal with practical means for equipping the church to respond.

Caring for Creation as a Christian Calling will take place on Saturday, January 16, 2021, 9:00-11:00 am. Cost: \$20, register by Jan 12 to receive class information.

"I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food" (Matthew 25:35): Addressing Hunger and Food Insecurity in the USA and the World on Saturday, January 23, 2021, 9:00-11:00 am. Cost: \$20, register by Jan. 19 to receive class information.

Both classes are available for \$35. To sign up electronically and for more information, see www.lststl.org/courses. Checks may be sent to Lutheran School of Theology, 475 East Lockwood, St. Louis, MO 63119, with registrant's name, address, email address for zoom invitation, home church, phone number and name of class unless taking both classes. Contact Stephanie Doeschot at registran@lststl.org for more information.

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

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