# **Note from Our Council**

Why wouldn't someone want the vaccine?

If you're like the Drollingers, you may have spent countless hours recently listening to news updates, scouring the web, and hearing your doctor's staff say, "darned if we know when we'll have it". It's been a priority for Diane and me ever since the vaccine received FDA approval. Heck, I even remember taking the polio vaccine as a child and feeling like it gave me superpowers. We've been looking for the 2021 version of the superpower potion.

So, you might imagine my joy when I found out that some of the folks served by my employer, Provident, were in line to receive the first injection in late January. All the older ladies at the Mary Ryder home were designated to receive the vaccine, along with the Provident staff that work there. Clearly great news. A few days closer to the vaccination date, I began to hear commentary from some of the staff members at the home that they weren't going to get the vaccine. I'd already checked with human resource gurus and some fellow nonprofit leaders; all confirmed that while we could highly encourage the vaccine, we couldn't mandate it at this time.

To make it more perplexing, those who were declining the vaccine were all black.

As a person of privilege, I've had great medical care throughout my lifetime along with substantial resources to handle stress. Given my frame of reference, I found it difficult to understand why someone would refuse the vaccine. After all, we're now close to 500,000 deaths in the US from COVID, and to me that seems to be a compelling reason to take it.

But, consistent with our spiritual teachings and the culture of inclusion that's central to our church, I worked hard to suspend my judgement about the no-vaccine decision and learn more about it instead. I was aware of the mistrust of public health was prevalent for some, especially for minorities. And as I read more, I was reminded of the deep and pervasive legacy of neglect and medical maltreatment experienced by African Americans. I discovered a particularly well-written article in the January 12, 2021 online issue of USA Today. It's titled "America's Health System betrays Black people like me. But I got the COVID vaccine anyway." It was written by Adom Cooper, who is the nephew of a cardiologist and an operations planning specialist at the US Department of State. It's worth a google and hopefully will provoke some thought in you as it did in me.

Our faith encourages us to grow and understand. It seems only fitting during Black History Month that I was given one more opportunity to be reminded that even at my "ripe old age" I still have a LOT to learn. Thanks for reading.

Kevin Drollinger



# 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:

- 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

# **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





#### Wednesday, February 24

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

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Wednesday, March 3

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

Wednesday, March 10

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</a>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

Wednesday, March 17

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

Wednesday, March 24

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

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Wednesday, March 31

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

Information about Good Friday, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday will be published soon.

## **Upcoming Fellowship Events**

Mark your calendars for 2021 Fellowship events!

- Friday, March 19 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, May 22 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, August 28 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Friday, October 1 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, October 30 Trunk or Treat!



We will focus on virtual game nights at this time, but (maybe, hopefully) we can look into other types of Fellowship options for the later dates. Hoping to give us all something to look forward to!

### **Black History Month: Movie Discussion Invitation**

February is Black History month! There are many movies and books that share stories of black lives in the US, some more serious providing insight into the impacts of racism in our country, and some sharing everyday life with its joys and challenges. We challenge you to take time this month to learn about black history and culture.

Here is one opportunity! We invite you to watch the movie Drumline. Everyone is invited to stay on after Evening Prayer **Wednesday**, **February 24 at 8pm**, same Zoom link, and then join us for a discussion of the movie. We hope you will join us!

**Drumline** is a 2002 American coming-of-age teen drama film directed by Charles Stone III. The screenplay, which was inspired by the Southwest Dekalb High School Drumline, was written by Tina Gordon Chism and Shawn Schepps. The film follows a young drummer from New York, played by Nick Cannon, who enters the fictional Atlanta A&T University and bumps heads with the leader of his new school's drum section. Zoe Saldana, Leonard Roberts and Orlando Jones also co-star.

# Youth Zoom Hangout, March 7 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 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

**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)



# WORSHIP

# <u>Sunday, February 28, 9:30 am — Zoom Worship</u> <u>Access Online Bulletin</u>

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



## Remembering Cletus Romay, Zoom Visitation

Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00am, we will have a Zoom Visitation for Cletus. All are welcome to join us to remember and share stories about Cletus.

#### Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84880276634?pwd=RW1CRk11R1ZLTG5hc3B6TG9sdHBUQT09

Meeting ID: 848 8027 6634

**Passcode**: 982050

Dial by location: +13126266799 (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Please keep Cletus, his daughter Cathy and son Ron, family and friends, and all who grieve at a distance, in your prayers.

# **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!

#### **HOW DO I GET VACCINATED?**

#### You must be eligible.

In Missouri, health care workers, emergency responders, people 65 and older and those under 65 with specific underlying health conditions are eligible for vaccination.

# If you're eligible, pre-register at several of the local health systems, as well as with

St. Louis County: stlcorona.com/covid19-vaccines

St. Louis City: stlouis-mo.gov/covid-19

Statewide Missouri Vaccine Navigator: covidvaccine.mo.gov

or MOStopsCovid.com



# For those who are unable to pre-register electronically, the following phone numbers could be helpful:

Missouri Vaccine Navigator: 1-877-435-8411

St. Louis County: 314-615-2660 St. Louis City: 314-612-5100

KWMU (local NPR station) Vaccine Hotline: 314-516-6430

SSM Health System is scheduling vaccine appointments by phone for those who are 75 and

**older:** 314-955-9600

Members are invited to confidentially let Pastor Meagan or Carolyn Crowe know if you have received the vaccine or need assistance with pre-registering, to help aid efforts to return to in person worship.

If you have any questions please contact faith community nurse, Carolyn Crowe: 314-277-2164

ccrowe@sbcglobal.net

Or Jessica Gunther:

jessicalgunther@gmail.com

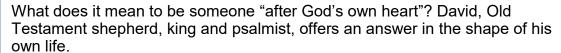
#### **Creation Care**

Last year in anticipation of Earth Day 2020 the Creation Care team was collecting pill bottles. Unfortunately like so many things in 2020, this project was placed on hold due to COVID. The bottles are reused for mission trips by an organization called Matthew 25: Ministries. Our role will be to sort, organize and prepare the pill bottles to be sent to their offices in Ohio. We are hopeful that there will be an opportunity to gather in person to work on preparing the pill bottles to be sent to Matthew 25: Ministries. However, we will wait until closer to Earth Day 2021 - April 22nd to make any definite plans. In the meantime please either continue or start collecting used pill bottles that can be reused for mission trips. They can be either prescription medication bottles or over the counter medication bottles. If you can remove the labels from the prescription bottles that will assist in preparing them and also ensure privacy about any medications prescriped for individuals. There is a basket in the fellowship hall to place the bottles in, or we will have a set day closer to April to request the bottles to be brought to church. Please contact me by email if you have any questions. Thank You on behalf of the Creation Care Team. Sherry Mitchler-s.mitchler@sbcglobal.net

Thanks, Sherry

# Fellowship at CLC

# Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday February 23<sup>th</sup>, 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



Join the interfaith community for four conversations on the ways systemic racism permeates our city and region. We will learn background from topic experts, hear stories of people directly impacted and learn two wavs we can take action.

Each session begins at noon and will last an hour.

All are welcome to stay for 30 minutes after for Q&A and discussion.

#### Topics:

March 10th - Healthcare

April 14th - Environmental Justice

May 12th - Court Systems

#### **Register Here:**

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYqc-CuqDgjG9Rgj-4-EJMWk8SDWcr2SHjB

#### **Adult Forum**

March 7—Ben Scholle—Filming the impact of gun violence in St. Louis

**March 21**—*Dr. Fred Niedner*—Portrayal of Christ Passion and Resurrection in the Gospels

On Sunday, February 21, John Hoffmann, Mark Ruff, and Pastor Meagan provided history, insight, and suggestions to help us observe Lent in a more meaningful way.



Mark talked about how the traditional Lutheran Lenten hymns were plentiful and dour. Two reasons for that: One was Lutheran Theology emphasized Law and Gospel and the Theology of the Cross so that hymns of the penitential season of Lent centered on suffering. The other reason was many were written in seventeenth century Germany—a time and place of war, pestilence and famine. Suffering was endemic then and the hymnody reflected it.

Since the 1970's hymnals have been edited to correspond with the current emphasis of Lent as a time to prepare for Easter. Less grief more anticipation.

Mark said that the hymns each Sunday are chosen to complement the theme of the day. While the preludes and postludes draw on dark themes but offer some light and hope.

John explained how Lent has 40 days even though the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter is 47 days. Traditionally the Sundays in Lent were considered outside of the penitential season and Lent ended at sundown on Holy Saturday. Hence 40 days.

Lent built up to Easter, the first and greatest festival of early church that was celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Easter Vigils continue to be celebrated in many Christian traditions including Lutheranism. The Vigil is a long service of scripture readings, Baptisms, music and light which culminates in Holy Communion.

John said that Lent is anticipatory of Holy Week when we go through the passion of Christ and celebrate the Resurrection.

Pastor Meagan said the theme of Lent at Christ Lutheran this year is "Called to Truth." Lent is traditionally when Christians prepared for Baptism and a time for those who had strayed from the faith to be reconciled to it

We observe it by confessing brokenness, asking forgiveness, reading scripture, praying for guidance and affirming our trust in God. The seeds that were part of the Lenten packet are to remind us that life comes out of death; part of ourself must die for us to be born a child of God.

Pastor Meagan gave us concrete things to help us enhance our relationship with God during Lent. They are prayer, seeking life out of pain, service, and participating in the Lenten Service on Wednesday evenings.

She gave us a list of ways to pray based on our Myers-Briggs profile. She encouraged us to try to pray in a way that's outside our comfort zone. She will provide the list by email if you ask her.

# **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.



# ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

## **CELEBRATING FEBRUARY** ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

#### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

2/14 Joan & Robert Rivas 2/14 Mari & Travis Roberts

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

2/01 Calvin Ciorba

Shirley Wolf 2/01

2/02 Julia Bruns

2/02 Helga Hayes

2/03 Kevin Drollinger

Sarah Ely 2/03

2/03 Larry Hill

2/04 Aishlyn McCarty

2/06 Kathy Kuziel

Sarah Keifer 2/07

2/08 Amy Chelgreen

2/09 Shaun Chelgreen

2/09 Carol Brockelmeyer

2/09 Patty Hopper

2/10 Hanna Lauer

2/10 Mark Roock

2/13 Julia Wood

2/13 Sylvia Rogers

2/19 Christine Austin 2/19 Henry Knapp

2/20 Robert Crowe

2/20 Elisabeth Long

2/23 **Bob Brockelmever** 

2/25 Caitlin McMullen

2/28 Sally Wachtman

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



#### **LENTEN APPEAL**

The Lutheran Convalescent Home Auxiliary is currently conducting its Annual Lenten Benefactor Appeal. The Benefactor Fund assists those residents whose financial resources have been depleted. With spiraling health care costs, the aim of this fundraiser is to contribute to the growing gap between the amount Medicaid pays the Convalescent Home for eligible residents and the actual cost of their care. One hundred percent of your gifts go directly to this Lenten Appeal." Checks should be made payable to: LCH Benefactor Fund and mailed to 723 S. Laclede Station Rd., Webster Groves, MO 63119.

Thank you. Sincerely,

**Grace Truemper** 

Kirk Mattes President Benefactor Fund Chairman



The St. Louis Primary is Tuesday, March 2nd. There is an important Mayoral race in the city of St. Louis. This is also the first time voters across the city will be voting with a non-partisan ballot. Proposition D passed in the city for approval voting. The Mayoral race is an extremely important race for many reasons and we will be engaging with voters in the STL region to inform them of the election and provide any resources needed as far as the Approval voting information to ensure that they are comfortable when casting their ballots on or before the election.

April 6th is the general election for the state. In the county there are many school board elections happening and in the city, there are all the odd wards, school board, the runoff for the top 2 in the Mayoral election and the comptroller for the city government.



### 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.