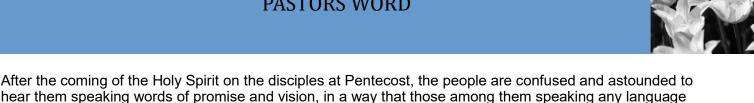
PASTORS WORD



could understand. And their first reaction is, understandably, fear. How could this be happening? What does it mean? How might what is happening change them, change their world?

Peter then speaks words that both comfort and challenge, I think. No, they are not drunk. Yes, this is really happening. Yes, everything is about to change!

Acts 2:14-21

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares,

that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,

and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

and your young men shall see visions.

and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women,

in those days I will pour out my Spirit;

and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,

blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness

and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

In these days of fall 2021, as we begin our new program year and experience some re-imagining and re-creating of our own ministries, and envision where God is leading us, we are invited to notice the Spirit among us. To trust that God is at work, in our ministries and our lives. To throw open the doors, step out of the familiar, and see what the Spirit is doing. And do it, as the disciples did, together.

Where do you see the Spirit at work at Christ Lutheran in these days?

What frightens or intimidates you? What brings you excitement and joy?

Where are you called to enter into what God is doing to bring the kin-dom of love, grace, and justice, to this world?

PASTORS WORD

A Pastoral Reflection on Mental Illness

Many of you are probably aware that two young people died by suicide in the last couple of weeks on the St. Louis University Campus. The students, faculty, and staff are reeling from grief, anxiety, and fear, and struggling to find resources for all who need mental health care in the midst of this crisis. In addition, another young person from St Louis who was a student at Ellon died by suicide this week.

Please keep these communities, families, and leaders providing care in your prayers, and offer support and love to those you know who are part of those communities. Here are a few important reminders, in light of the reality of mental illness.

Depression, anxiety, and other mental illnesses are **NOT** moral failings. They are illnesses, just like cancer, or heart disease. Like cancer or heart disease, mental illnesses often can be successfully treated. And sometimes, like with other illnesses, it can be very serious and even fatal, despite the best efforts of all involved.

The trauma, stress, and isolation of the pandemic has added to mental health challenges. It has exacerbated mental illnesses that were well-managed and cared for, and some have recognized challenges that didn't impact their lives before. If you are experiencing depression, anxiety, or other symptoms that feel surprising, you are not alone.

The God who created you loves you without condition. No judgement or criticism, just unconditional mercy and love. God knows all your thoughts, struggles, joys, and pain, and is with you even when you feel alone.

We as a community of faith strive to hold in prayer and love all who live with mental illnesses, knowing that we will do so imperfectly. We are not mental health professionals and cannot counsel, but can listen and remind you of God's love for you when it's hard or impossible to see it for yourself. We hope you will find here a safe place to share your journey and find support, if that would be helpful for you.

If you or a loved one are living with mental illness and need help finding resources or just a listening ear, please reach out to Pastor Meagan or Faith Community Nurse Carolyn.

St Louis Provident Crisis Line 314-647-4357 is available 24/7 for anyone experiencing a mental or emotional crisis, to listen and help you discover resources and next steps to overcoming your challenges.

You don't have to walk alone.



WORSHIP

Blessings of the Animals

Join us this weekend for a blessing of the animals. Bring your pet to Saturday outdoor worship at 5pm or bring a picture of your pet to worship Sunday morning at 9:30am.



Sunday, October 3, 9:30 am, Worship Access Online Bulletin

Bring a picture of your pet for Blessing of the Animals at Worship in the Sanctuary.

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? 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



Saturday Evening Service

Saturday Evenings in October, 5:00 PM, on the Christ Lutheran front lawn, weather permitting. **This Saturday bring your pet for a blessing!**

Dinner will be provided!

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to the front yard of the church. The services will be geared more towards families, but all are welcomed to attend! The service itself will feel familiar in some places but different in others - we are excited to reimagine prayer, offering, and especially communion. In fact, communion will be a shared meal that we will provide.

Please let Jess Gunther know if you plan to attend so we can order enough food (jessicalgunther@gmail.com).

We plan to make this a weekly service starting in October until it gets too cold outside.

Pastor Meagan, Alena, Kate H., and Jesse

Pastor Meagan's Sabbath Day

Going forward, Pastor Meagan will be taking Thursdays as her regular Sabbath Day. If you need something on Thursdays, please contact Lisette and she can assist you. Pastor Meagan will not be checking e-mail on Thursdays, so if you have an emergency that requires Pastor's immediate attention, please call or text her and she will respond when she can.

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

COMMUNITY BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR ANITA TRAUTMANN AND GEGE BRIGHTMAN

A week from today (Monday, October 4), we will celebrate Anita's and Gege's 90+ birthdays with a community birthday party in the Multipurpose Room at Laclede Groves. We'll meet for lunch, from Porter's Fried Chicken, and special birthday cakes at noon. Visitors need to check in at the desk in the 723 Building, and someone will be there to direct you to the party room.

If you're able to join us, RSVP to the church office or to Carolyn Crowe by this Thursday.

ccrowe@sbcglobal.net 314-277-2164 (Carolyn's cell)



What: Celebration of Life Service for Irene Kalnins

When: Sunday, October 10, 2021 at 1p.m.

Where: Christ Lutheran Church; Map; Masks required

Questions: Please call Karen at 314-327-1405
Virtual Participation: Zoom Access Link
Meeting ID: 828 9215 5436
Passcode: 424324

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82892155436#,,,,*424324# US (Chicago)

In leiu of flowers please consider donating to your favorite 501c (3) in Irene's honor.





Memorial Service for Helen Hedderig

Please join us in remembrance of Helen, for a memorial service at Christ Lutheran Church on October 23, 2021 at 1 pm in the Sanctuary.

Tuesday Bible Study

The Tuesday morning bible study will resume October 12th.



Upcoming Fellowship Events

Mark your calendars for the future 2021 Fellowship events!



Wurstfest, Friday, October 8, 6:00pm

Larson Park (523 W Kirkham Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119)

Bring your own drinks, chairs, and a side dish or dessert to share. Bratwursts, hot dogs, and s'mores ingredients will be provided.

If planning to attend, RSVP to Becca at 314-580-0277 to ensure we have plenty of food and socially distant seats.

Trunk or Treat, Saturday, October 30, 6:00pm

Christ Lutheran parking lot

Bring candy to pass out to trick or treaters, decorate your trunk, wear a costume, invite friends, and wear your mask!

Christ Lutheran Church will host its first-ever Halloween concert at 7pm. It will directly follow the Trunk or Treat taking place on the church parking lot.

Featured musicians will be Mark Ruff (piano), Liz Drollinger (voice) and Kirsten Santos-Rutschmann (organ). Works will include the Bach Toccata and Fugue in D Minor for organ, Bela Bartok's suite, Out of Doors, William Balcom's, Three Ghost Rags, and vocal selections from Kurt Weill and others.

Please come dressed in Halloween garb, including masks!

If you have any questions or would like to help with any fellowship events, please reach out to Becca Jordan at 314-580-0277 or beccajedwards@gmail.com.



CROP Walk 2021

CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk events held in cities and towns across the USA - raising funds to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised are returned to the host community to support local hunger-fighting efforts.



Crop Walk 2021 Info

The 2021 CROP Hunger Walk in St. Louis will take place Sunday, October 24th, and be a hybrid event. Money raised will support Circle of Concern and Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Those who feel safe gathering in-person to walk together can meet at Eden Seminary, 475 E. Lockwood Ave. in Webster Groves 63119 — check-in at 4:30 pm and Walk at 5:00. However, participants may also register for the Walk and choose to walk wherever and whenever they want, individually or in small groups. There will also be a concert that follows at 7:00 pm in the Wehrli Chapel at Eden Seminary.

If you are interested, you can register for the walk as an individual, or there is a local team called Churches Together for Justice WG that you are welcome to check out and support. For more details on how to register, join a team, raise funds, and/or donate, please go to the following websites:

https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/page/about-the-walk (General Walk Info)

https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/peace-ucc-wg (Churches Together for Justice WG Team Info)



In person Adult Forum returns October 3 and will also be available on Zoom. The "live" group will be held in the Fellowship Hall, get a cup of coffee and have a seat at one of the tables. 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.

Up Coming Forums:

October 3 Dr Philip Mudd, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at Washington University Medical School, will update us on COVID and answer questions. Dr. Mudd heads the COVID Team at Christ Lutheran and throughout the pandemic he has offered medical insights to help us cope. However, since we last heard from him in June, the delta variant emerged, cases have surged, and there's talk of booster shots. He will help us understand what's happening now.

October 10 Sarah Unsicker, Missouri State Representative from the 91st district, will speak to us on legislative possibilities. Representative Unsicker is a member of Gethsemane Lutheran.

October 17 TBA

October 24 Welcome new members

October 31 TBA



Hello! The Christian Service Committee is looking for new members to add to our group. If you are interested in helping plan donation and volunteer events that aid our local community, we would love to have you onboard! Please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net if you are interested. Thank you!

Women's Group

The women of Christ Lutheran are invited to join our virtual meetings taking place the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. We will catch up with each other and jump into some Bible study. Hope to see you there!

Zoom meeting information:

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86806779211?

pwd=UTBDZG1EcjJtL3NUTmxBa1Z1ZG9ydz09

Meeting ID: 868 0677 9211

Passcode: 989376

Any questions? Reach out to Becca Jordan at beccajedwards@gmail.com.

Stephen Ministry Support (www.stephenministries.org)

The Stephen Ministers of Christ Lutheran Church provide individual, confidential support to congregation members during difficult times. And these are particularly difficult times. Symptoms of depression and anxiety have significantly increased during the coronavirus pandemic. Isolation has led to feelings of loneliness, sadness, hopelessness, stress, anger, and loss of employment and income. Additionally, the challenges of life



such as chronic illness, loss and grief, and family and/or marital problems are always present. Stephen Ministers listen, encourage, and offer emotional and spiritual care to people experiencing such difficulties. If you could benefit from the one-to-one confidential support of a Stephen Minister, contact Stephen Leaders Linda Griffith (314-504-1274) or Carolyn Crowe (314-277-2164).

Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator!



CLC is planning to hire a Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator, to start as soon as the hire process is complete! We wanted you to be the first to know. The Job Summary is below. Internal and external candidates will be joyfully considered. To apply E-mail Resume and Cover Letter to Lisette Kreitler office@christwg.org, and contact Lisette via e-mail or phone 314-962-6011 with questions.

Do you know someone who would support Sunday School and Youth volunteers, and minister well with children, youth, and families? Pass this on to them or let us know!

Hire Team

Pastor Meagan, Kate Dopuch, Katie Ciorba, Kate Hoerchler, Danielle Uy, Jesse Helton

Job Summary

Minister alongside and provide administrative, programmatic, and spiritual support for volunteers ministering with children and youth.

Position Status

Works alongside volunteer leaders ministering with children and youth. This position is an average of 10-12 hours per week as needed, non-exempt. Comp time or overtime pay provided for special events or youth trips with prior approval from supervisor. Background check and boundaries training required.

Choir Practice

All who love to sing are welcome at church every Wednesday evening in October at 7:30 pm. You must be fully vaccinated and two weeks past your final vaccine to participate. For questions, I can be contacted at dianedrollinger@gmail.com. Thanks!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd. A DAY TO REMEMBER OUR COMPANION CHURCH IN RUSSIA

Would your congregation become a sponsor congregation for Pastor Alexander Lapochenko for one month of the year?

Following a companion synod visitation to Russia in 2013, the Central States Synod committed to providing financial support for one of only two ordained Pastors in the Russian Far East, Pastor Alexander Lapochenko. Our Synod's financial support for Pastor Lapochenko is as important as ever, however, contributions for his support have lagged over the past year and the companion synod team is looking for a more organized way of funding his support than just depending on random contributions.



Rev. Alexander Lapochenko on the right with Pastor Jon Brudvig, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend during the 2017 visitation by a group from the Synod.

We are looking for 12 congregations or church groups to commit to providing one month of support for Pastor Lapochenko each year. That amounts to \$500 for one month or \$6000.00 per year. For more information about Pastor Lapochenko and his ministry, please click on the following link and view the zoom conversation that you will find there. https://www.css-elca.org/russia.

The Central States Synod has been in a Companion Church relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East (ELSUSFE) with a special focus on the Far East since the early 90s. The 9 congregations in the Russian Far East as well as all across Russia have been slowly reemerging following decades of persecution and suppression by the Soviet government. Since that time there have been numerous visits both to Russia as well as visits from our Russian "Cousin Christians" to the Central States Synod. Our Christian partners in Russia find our visits to be a source of great encouragement, and visitors to Russia find their generous hospitality and examples of faithfulness and resourcefulness as they live out their faith and engage in ministry to be very inspiring.

The Central States Synod is the only synod in the ELCA who is partnering with the Lutheran Church in Asian Russia and our continued support is critically important. Please visit the Companion Synod page on the Synod Website for more information. And....

<u>Please pray for Bishop Alexander</u> Scheiermann, Missionary Bradn Buerkle, all of the people of the Lutheran Churches in Russia and especially Pastor Vitaly Mohr newly installed as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Vladivostok as the successor to long time Pastor, Manfred Brockmann.

<u>Consider making a contribution</u> toward the ministry of the Russian Far East or becoming a sponsor congregation for Pastor Alexander Lapochenko serving in the Russia Far East.

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!

"Dear Church" Book Study!

Part 2, Group 1 Discussion

Please join us to discuss part 2 of *Dear Church* on September 30 at 8pm. Contact Kate Hoerchler with any questions: katehoerchler@gmail.com,

314-805-1751.

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83917148053?
pwd=NFNCc084bURNZTIzbFBIOWpqUmpaQT09

Meeting ID: 839 1714 8053

Passcode: 639669



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), Edith Cooper, Michael Cooper (Edith Cooper's grandson), Evan Deck, Helga Hayes, John Hoffmann, Elsie Johnson, Gerri Mac (Sharon Hornbeck's aunt), Bev & Al Marcus (friend of John Hoffmann), Doris & Harry Rahlfs (Karen Wood's parents), Edward Ruebeck (Roocks' grand-nephew), Ken Ruppar (friend of Mark Roock), Flo Saeger, Sherri Swanson, Shirley Wolf, Mary Stough (Sharon Hornbeck's aunt), and Wayne Wellman (Susanne Reimer-Fey's brother).

<u>IN BLESSED MEMORY:</u> For all of those who have died, especially Mertha Bishop (Gale Nunn's mom), Helen Hedderig, Gwen Hickman, Dolly Hoyer, Susan Hunt, Irene Kalnins, Ed Mansour, David Notley, Sr. (Roger Rose's brother-in-law), Gloria Richardson, Vic Saeger, Alex Sakonyi (Dianne Deck's uncle), Mary Lou Sakonyi (Dianne Deck's mother), Cletus Romay, Judy Wessler, Sheila Rose, Genie Owens (Sarah Ringkor's mother) and all of those who grieve at a distance in this time.

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 OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

10/01 Jim & Sally Wachtman

10/4 Ted Christner & Claudia

Trautmann

10/11 Kelley & Tim Truss

10/15 Philip & Kate Hoerchler

10/17 Matt & Sarah Bender

10/22 Hannah & Curtis Borden

10/27 Tom & Megan Holmes

10/27 Dianne Deck & Thomas Palazzolo

10/28 Martin & Melissa Allen

10/29 Steve & Sherry Mitchler

BIRTHDAYS:

10/01 Annika Bartek

10/03 Ted Christner

10/06 Ayanna Askew-Sunkara

10/09 James Bennett

10/09 Maleyah Hassler

10/10 Leah Eftink

10/11 Linda Armstrong

10/11 Isabella Blaser

10/14 Sybil Meadows

10/15 Mae Lenhart

10/17 Robert O'Brien

10/17 Karen Wood

10/17 Shalom Yee

10/18 Mark Lewis

10/23 Tim Truss

10/23 Henry Hoyer

10/25 Jim Wachtman

10/29 Jadee Lauer

10/30 Peter Jordan

10/30 John Uy

10/31 Kelly Lakies

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



October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 5p Outdoor Worship
Blessing of the Animals 9:30a Worship, Adult forum after service 10:45a Coffee Fellowship	4 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness Group	5	6 7:30p Choir practice	7 4p Fitness Group 7p Women's Group on Zoom	8 6p – Wurstfest, Larson Park	9 5p Outdoor Worship
9:30a Worship, Adult forum after service 10:45a Coffee Fellowship 1p Irene Kalnins memorial Service	11 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness Group	12 10a Bible Study – Fellowship Hall	13 7p Worship team meeting 7:30p Choir practice	14 4p Fitness Group	15	16 5p Outdoor Worship
9:30a Worship, Celebrate Communion Students, Adult forum after service 10:45a Coffee Fellowship	18 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness Group	19 10a Bible Study – Fellowship Hall 7p Church Council meeting	20 7:30p Choir practice	21 4p Fitness Group	22	23 1p Helen Hedderig's memorial Service 5p Outdoor Worship
9:30a Worship, Welcome New Members, Adult forum after service 10:45a Coffee Fellowship 31 Reformation Sunday 9:30a Worship, Adult forum after service	25 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness Group	26 10a Bible Study – Fellowship Hall	27 7:30p Choir practice	28 4p Fitness Group	29	30 5p Outdoor Worship 6p Trunk or Treat CLC Parking lot



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: 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.