



## The Bridge

March 27, 2020

**All Worship Services, including Lenten Services and CONNECTED, are cancelled at Christ Lutheran. The Campus buildings are closed for use by local organizations except the American Red Cross. We will let you know when things are up and running again!**



**From Pastor Mary**

Dear Church, Dear Families:

We are on a unique journey together. This journey will change us in the short-term and in the long-term. We see the short-term, we don't have a clue as to the long-term. In this and all circumstances, God's powerful presence is our sure defense. For this we give our thanks and praise.

At our church, we are discovering new ways to communicate and are seeking to increase the ways we communicate with all our members and friends. Having ways to gather in worship while we are apart from each other is evolving as you will see here. We are also increasing our communications with those who do not use technology beyond a landline phone or flip phone. We don't want anyone to be left out of the information loop nor do we want anyone to feel that their congregation has forgotten about them. It will take all of us to do this.

Three weeks ago, we had a wonderful gathering of CLC folks (about 16 of us) who expressed an interest in becoming members or associate members as well as those who just wanted to ask some questions and discuss the church's present and its vision for the future. Our plan was to receive new members and recognize associate members on Palm Sunday. That can't happen, but I will be in touch with those attendees and we will make a new plan.

We are making worship plans for Holy Week and Easter. We'll have more information about the specifics of these plans next week. In the meantime, take care of yourselves - physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We cannot underestimate the toll this time of isolation will take on all parts of ourselves and our life together. And so, let this be our prayer:

O God, you know that we come before you, standing in the need of prayer and standing in need of hope and healing. Send your healing touch upon our world. Give wisdom to our leaders in government and medicine. As spiritual, emotional and mental health challenges increase in our community and in our church, may we be blessed to be a blessing. Thank you for all who lead us in difficult days in many and various ways. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Stay strong. Stay faithful. God is good all the time!  
Pastor Mary

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## **JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAY**

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**Welcome to Worship!**  
**Join Us via Zoom at 10:00 am**  
**The Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 29, 2020**

We're excited to offer the Zoom platform as a way for us to worship together during these weeks of social distancing as we all do our part to stop the pandemic among us.

You can join us LIVE following the instructions below or you can watch a recording of this service that will be posted on our website by Sunday afternoon.

We are obviously using this for the first time (though we have practiced a couple of times) and so expect a few challenges this first week. If you can't get on, plan to watch the recording later. You can also go to this site to find help: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>. We will plan to use Zoom both Live and as a recording for the near future.

To Join Us Live!

You should go to this link <https://zoom.us/j/276574240> at 9:45 AM just to make sure you are connected to the meeting and are ready to go. You can join the worship via a web browser or the Zoom app on your mobile device. Prior to the service you may want to download the Zoom app to your computer or mobile device. Here are specific instructions for connecting.

Via a web browser on your computer

1. Go to the worship link or click this
2. You will be prompted to download the Zoom app. The app will give you a better user experience but is not mandatory. If you don't want to use the app, cancel the popup window and then click on the "start from browser" link.
3. Select how you want to connect to audio. If you select "Join Audio by Computer", you will hear the worship service through your computer speakers. Otherwise you can dial into the worship from your phone. See the number below. You may be prompted to enter the meeting number after you dial in.

On your mobile device

1. Download the Zoom app from whichever app provider you use (Apple or Google)
2. Start the app
3. Enter the meeting number (276 574 240)

Initially everyone will be unmuted but you can mute yourself and even turn off your camera so people can't see you. When the service begins, everyone will be muted. If you are on your computer or tablet, you will have options to either "see" everyone or to see only the person speaking. You can make your own choice. On a mobile phone you will only be able to see the person speaking.

CLCHHI Sunday Worship

Time: Mar 29, 2020 10:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Sun, until May 10, 2020, 7 occurrence(s)

To Join the Worship, click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/276574240>

Meeting ID: 276 574 240

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,276574240# US (Chicago)

Join Us for Coffee Hour

That's right! Following the closing song on Sunday, we will have a brief time to wave to each other and hopefully chat a little. Of course, you can also log off anytime. But we would love for you to grab a cup of coffee at home and chat with each other for a bit. Just a friendly reminder, be fully dressed! You never know

when the technology might suddenly make your image the only one on the screen. That's not our plan, but let's be prepared. No hats and gloves, necessary, but pants, please.

### Give Your Feedback

We know that congregations across the ELCA and across the country are doing a variety of things to communicate with their parishes. We're all doing what we can as we can. Many congregations already had great video and audio capabilities and were able to just ramp up their existing technology. At CLC we didn't start with much, but we are working hard to evaluate what is best for us, what we can do with the monies we have and with the personnel we have. Let us know how you are experiencing what we are attempting to do. We miss you and want to stay connected. Many thanks to David and Tami Kuhlmann, and Silke Prylik for helping us use this Zoom platform.

## Encouragement from Silke Prylik, Spiritual Director



Blessings to you all from the home front!

It has been a very busy week. Your staff has been working hard to catch up on the front of technology to bring a meaningful worship experience to your homes.

Additionally, Tami Kuhlmann and I have been recording a preschool chapel so that our kids can still enjoy virtual chapel with us.



I admit that I originally thought this working from home will grant more time for contemplation. That has not yet proven true in my household but I do hope it is true for you all.

I still believe this is a blessed time where we are forced to take time off, to be with ourselves, to recalibrate our priorities, to re-discover what is truly important in life.

The term "spiritual director" (SD) can be somewhat misleading because the meaning of the word "director" is mostly occupied with giving direction, managing things, getting things done (like in "Director of Christian Life"). In reality the phrases "spiritual friend", "spiritual companion", "deep listener" are more accurately describing what a spiritual director does.

Have you ever experienced deep listening? Has someone really, really listened to you? To your story, your worries, your joys? God is a deep listener. Are you taking time to share with God all of your day? Are you telling our Creator your life story, your daily highs and lows?

It can be a very reassuring exercise to do so; especially knowing that there is no judgment, only love, a deep, deep love for you.

More and more people are seeking this kind of deep listening in a relationship with a spiritual director or friend. While this listening is happening there is always a third person invited into the

space. That is the Holy Spirit! Spiritual direction always starts with calling upon the Holy Spirit; the Holy Spirit is the true director of the session. From personal experience I can say that the hour of spiritual direction is sacred space; space where healing can take place, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I am in my third year of SD myself and I cannot even start to describe what the deep listening and the trustful relationship with my spiritual director mean to me. It has helped me so much through the horrible cancer journey and the loss of my husband and the father of my Benjamin.

During this unprecedented time of quarantine I would like to encourage you to find someone who can deeply listen to you. If it can't be a SD right now, maybe you have a really good friend, partner, neighbor, family member. It is healing to speak out loud your worries, anxieties and joys and to pray about them with someone.

And do not forget to give praise in all things!

Let me share with you a beautiful poem written by a fellow spiritual director, Christine Valters Paintner.

### **Praise Song for the Pandemic**

Praise be the nurses and doctors, every medical staff bent over flesh to offer care, for lives saved and lives lost, for showing up either way,

Praise for the farmers, tilling soil, planting seeds so food can grow, an act of hope if ever there was,

Praise be the janitors and garbage collectors, the grocery store clerks, and the truck drivers barreling through long quiet nights,

Give thanks for bus drivers, delivery persons, postal workers, and all those keeping an eye on water, gas, and electricity,

Blessings on our leaders, making hard choices for the common good, offering words of assurance,

Celebrate the scientists, working away to understand the thing that plagues us, to find an antidote, all the medicine makers, praise be the journalists keeping us informed,

Praise be the teachers, finding new ways to educate children from afar, and blessings on parents holding it together for them,

Blessed are the elderly and those with weakened immune systems, all those who worry for their health, praise for those who stay at home to protect them,

Blessed are the domestic violence victims, on lock down with abusers, the homeless and refugees,

Praise for the poets and artists, the singers and storytellers, all those who nourish with words and sound and color,

Blessed are the ministers and therapists of every kind, bringing words of comfort,

Blessed are the ones whose jobs are lost, who have no savings, who feel fear of the unknown gnawing,

Blessed are those in grief, especially who mourn alone, blessed are those who have passed into the

Great Night,

Praise for police and firefighters, paramedics, and all who work to keep us safe, praise for all the workers and caregivers of every kind,

Praise for the sound of notifications, messages from friends reaching across the distance, give thanks for laughter and kindness,

Praise be our four-footed companions, with no forethought or anxiety, responding only in love,

Praise for the seas and rivers, forests and stones who teach us to endure,

Give thanks for your ancestors, for the wars and plagues they endured and survived, their resilience is in your bones, your blood,

Blessed is the water that flows over our hands and the soap that helps keep them clean, each time a baptism,

Praise every moment of stillness and silence, so new voices can be heard, praise the chance at slowness,

Praise be the birds who continue to sing the sky awake each day, praise for the primrose poking yellow petals from dark earth, blessed is the air clearing overhead so one day we can breathe deeply again.

And when this has passed may we say that love spread more quickly than any virus ever could, may we say this was not just an ending but also a place to begin.

-Christine Valters Paintner, Abbey of the Arts

## CLC IN WEEKLY PRAYER



**We are still offering a contemplative prayer time every Monday at 9:30 a.m. If you would like to be included in the prayer session, please text Silke at 843-298-2823 and she will add you to the group text.**



**God provides answers to our prayers. Please pray for:**

- Steve Bassford
- Emily Caudle
- Bob Harding
- Donna Putrino
- Lois Rockefeller
- Sandy Heins
- Ron (friend of David & Tami Kuhlmann)

**Please send prayer requests to Susan Fidler at [kssid@hotmail.com](mailto:kssid@hotmail.com)**



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## CONGRATULATIONS IN APRIL!

### BIRTHDAYS

**A Special Shout Out to Silke! She celebrates 50 years of life on March 31! Virtual Hugs to Silke**

4/1 Elizabeth Murray  
4/2 Sandra Heins, Pastor Mary  
4/3 Janet Garnjost  
4/6 Ron Schrotberger  
4/8 Linda Kondor  
4/10 Chris Madison  
4/13 Jennifer Bayer  
4/15 Edie Marth  
4/18 Joyce Keller  
4/19 Ed Davis  
4/20 Ben Eddy  
4/23 Cherie Taylor



### ANNIVERSARIES

4/14 John & Janet Garnjost (47 yrs)  
4/14 Gary & Kathy Reynolds (47 yrs)  
4/19 Dick & Edie Marth (67 yrs)  
4/19 Doug & Ann Hamnes (34 yrs) 4/28 Alan & Deanna Coyne (47 yrs)

If your information is incorrect or not included, please email the Church Office at [info@clchhi.com](mailto:info@clchhi.com) with any corrections.

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### BLOOD DRIVE

Our church will host a blood drive in our parking lot on Thursday, April 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Red Cross is in jeopardy and we have a shortage of blood.

There will be an American Red Cross bus in our parking lot that day, similar to our inside setup. All the precautions as usual will be taken.

As always thank you for your support!



## FINANCIAL UPDATE



As we monitor our financial position in these uncertain times there are three metrics that are being watched carefully:

- Working Capital - Our current balance is \$37,000
- General Fund offerings - Through February we are down 20% to last year.
- Expenses - We are consistent with last year through the first two months.

In addition to your faithful giving we have many things to be thankful for:

- Thank you to Paula Stefanik for answering the call for funds to pay for the website updates.
- Thank you to the Sundeen family for naming Christ Lutheran Church as the remainder beneficiary of the Robert W and Joyce E Sundeen Trust.
- Thank you to all of you for continuing to support Christ Lutheran Church with your weekly offering. Remember there are three ways to make your contribution:
  - By US Mail to:

Christ Lutheran Church  
829 William Hilton Pkwy.,  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

- Donate online at our website [clchhi.org](http://clchhi.org) by using the "Give" button.
- Donate via Vanco at [vancopayments.com](http://vancopayments.com)

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## COUNCIL CORNER

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Dear Fellow Disciples,

Your Church Council met on Tuesday evening for our regularly scheduled Council Meeting at 6:00pm via conference call. Following is a summary of items we discussed:

- Nancy Conder, CLC Preschool Director reported that due to mandated school closings in the state of South Carolina, the Preschool will not be receiving income from tuitions for the month of April. This will put a strain on the Preschool's budget and we will continue to monitor the financial situation.
- Silke and Tami are recording chapel messages for the Preschool that will be posted on [clchhi.org](http://clchhi.org).



- There was a long conversation about keeping in touch with our congregation. We'll be using and exploring these tools to keep you informed.
  - Our website has been updated and will be kept up to date with the latest information, video recordings and notifications. Please check the site regularly so that you will be "in the know".
  - We will be using Zoom to broadcast service on Sunday morning, as well as other communications as we become more proficient with this online resource. We will also record the service and post on the website.
  - The Bridge will be published two times each week, on Friday and Tuesday mornings. Look for this email in your inbox.
  - We will explore using a service called "Dial My Calls" to be able to send voice and text messages to our entire contact list at the same time. Stay tuned for more information.
  - For those who do not use email or have the capability of visiting the website, our Parish Administrator, Linda Sheetz, will mail copies of weekly communications. If you would like to receive information via US mail, please contact Linda at [info@clchhi.com](mailto:info@clchhi.com) and ask her to add your name to the list.
  - We are exploring setting up a "telephone ministry" that will make regular calls to those who may need a word of encouragement.
- The American Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive on our campus on April 9. Please be assured that we will take necessary precautions to sanitize the area after the drive.
- Pastor Mary introduced an opportunity for our Congregation to respond to the South Carolina Synod's Abundancia Appeal to support the Cristo Rey Latino ministry in our state. Council will research the details of the Appeal and report their recommendation.
- Tami Kuhlmann reported that the Adult Faith Formation Augsburg Class will be without a leader after Kathy and Steve Mork return to Minnesota in April. The class could be led by two people to lessen the weekly commitment. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Tami at [drkuhl83@gmail.com](mailto:drkuhl83@gmail.com). Our sincere thanks to Kathy for stepping up to lead the class and we look forward to seeing you in 2021!
- In the event that we don't have service on Easter Sunday we will not be using the Easter Lilies that have been purchased to adorn our chancel. The lilies have been purchased and are scheduled for delivery. As we get closer to Easter, we will provide information on how these plants can be picked up by those who ordered lilies.

As we continue to shelter in place the Executive Team will be in touch with each other two times a week and the Council will participate in a conference call once each week.

God's peace to you and your families!  
Kathy Reynolds  
Council President

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The Congregational Care team wants you!! We want you to help us to reach out to all members of our church community and beyond. Please refer anyone you know how could use a get-well wish to Ann and Doug Hamnes at [dlhamnes@gmail.com](mailto:dlhamnes@gmail.com).

Tom and Sandy Martin welcome all prayer requests at [tomm42@netzero.net](mailto:tomm42@netzero.net) or at 843-707-1939.

It has recently come to our attention that Bob Harding is at the Savannah Regional Hospital. Please keep Bob and Vermelle in your prayers through this difficult time. Mel is unable to go with him or to be in the hospital at all due to COVID-19.

In order to keep in touch with our friends in Christ, I will be working on a "geographic phone chain" which will divide our members into small groups so that we may keep in touch. It is our hope that we can keep in contact through these "clusters" so that we may know how we can be of help when needed, even if it is just a phone call.

Please feel free to phone me at 908-451-9063 or email at [kshfid@hotmail.com](mailto:kshfid@hotmail.com) at anytime! God Bless and keep each and every one of you safe from harm.

Susie

## SERVICE MINISTRY

### Our Little Free Pantry has arrived!!

Thank you to friends of Christ Lutheran Church Bruce Zimmerman and Michael Salera for building this beautiful pantry! In the coming days we will paint and stock the pantry with food and other items needed by those in our community who may be hungry or homeless.



If you are fighting "cabin fever" by taking a drive, please stop by the Church to check out the pantry. If you would like to contribute, please leave only cans with pop tops, boxed items, or paper products such as individual rolls of toilet paper or paper towels.

## Your Community At Work At Deep Well

### A Note from Elsa Felten



I have a regular morning shift at the Deep Well, answering phones and recording people's requests. As you might expect, we are receiving many food requests and we are beginning to get calls for help with rent. In these uncertain times, people are desperate to find an anchor to be there for them. Deep Well has proven over its 40+ years that it is just that for the community. For people who call in, five bags of food is packed for them to be picked up the following day. Through various sources Deep Well is able to provide not only canned goods and paper products, but fresh produce, meat, milk, eggs and bread. Our community is heavily dependent on the hospitality industry and so many now suddenly find themselves without work.

The response from the community has been very gratifying. Many have stepped up by bringing food and paper products, gift cards and cash to buy food. Deep Well is able to buy food at discounted prices so cash is very welcome. The food to be handed out is packed into double-bagged paper grocery bags. Clean paper bags in good condition are also a welcome donation. Heavy plastic bags, such as Walmart bags, are also used. Deep Well is grateful for the support that Christ Lutheran gives to help meet the needs of those in need.

## Facilities Update

**Help us keep an eye on our buildings during the closing mandate!**

If you are out and about (while social distancing of course) and have a chance to drive by the Church, please use your eagle eyes to see if there is anything that may need attention. If it's something that can easily be remedied, like picking up a small bit of trash, please consider taking care of that.

If there is something that needs attention that is beyond a simple task, please contact me either via email or by phone.

Your help is very much appreciated.

Blessings,  
Gary Reynolds  
garyreynolds.rdg@gmail.com  
678-907-7060

## CLC PRESCHOOL

**Just like the rest of the state CLP is not in session. While we may not be in school, the teachers are working at staying connected with their students and providing lessons and resource material for parents. Things are still happening at CLP even without us. We finally have observed two horseshoe**

**crabs in our tank. After the eggs hatched in the summer, the tank has appeared lifeless. But underneath the sand there were a few horseshoe crabs bent on surviving!**

**In compliance with Governor Henry McMaster's Executive Order on March 25, 2020 to close all schools, Christ Lutheran Preschool is closed until April 30.**

