



The Bridge

July 17, 2020

Please join us for online Church Services each Sunday at 10:00 am via Zoom technology.

Go to our website: www.clchhi.org to view recordings of each Sunday's worship services.

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,

Happy Friday! What a beautiful (but hot) week we've had on the island. Thanks to a gift from one of you, I have a healthy tomato plant on my patio and got to enjoy my first ripe tomato this week still warm from the sun. When my Columbia book group zoomed together this week, we asked each other, "Where are you finding joy?" There are several college professors in this group, a few pastors, a nurse, and a woman in business. Nearly everybody said they were finding joy in vegetables from their gardens. They described how their harvests were placed on their dinner plates.

Several married couples said they were finding joy spending more quiet time with each other. I hope that when we "get back to normal" we will not forget the sheer joy of God's simple gifts.

This coming week will focus Christ Lutheran more significantly on our partnership with our sister congregations around the ELCA South Carolina Synod. First, your continuing contributions to the Abundancia Appeal are needed by July 21st. Bishop Yoos wants to be able to announce the number of congregations who are contributing and how much has been contributed at the assembly meeting on Saturday. We have and are receiving gifts to support the building of the new sanctuary for our largest Latino congregation, Cristo Rey in West Columbia. A portion of the 1.1 million being raised will be dedicated to grow other Latino ministries around the synod. There are currently 80,000 unchurched Latinos in SC. We will announce the amount of our contribution and the total amount given in The Bridge at the end of July. Gracias!

On Saturday, July 25th, our SC Synod Assembly will be meeting together for its annual assembly. Due to COVID-19, we will be meeting virtually. Our CLC voting members are myself as a rostered leader, Kathy Reynolds and Rita Hungate. We will gather around our computers for this all-day meeting. A majority piece of "Spirit business" will be the election of a new bishop. Bishop Yoos is retiring this summer after serving for 12 years in this office. We will also send a separate announcement to you at the end of the assembly to announce the name and give information about our new bishop.

Our mission here on HHI is alive and well. Though isolated from each other, we continue as church together for the sake of the world. Thank you for your prayers, volunteer efforts, brainstorming new ways to serve, and for your financial contributions.

Stay strong. Remain prayerful. Christ is with us!
Pastor Mary

Christ Lutheran Church Zoom Worship
Sunday July 19, 2020
10 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85691010897?
pwd=TXhoZTgrWVlGaFFteXMrOEtPSkNmdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85691010897?pwd=TXhoZTgrWVlGaFFteXMrOEtPSkNmdz09)

Meeting ID: 856 9101 0897
Password: loveCLCHHI

You will need the password to access every Zoom meeting.

[Click here for Sunday Bulletin](#)



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
A SERVICE OF WORD AND MEAL
JULY 19, 2020
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC



Encouraging thoughts from Silke Pyrlik, Spiritual Director

"Let your light shine!" - Sometimes easier said than done

This upcoming Sunday (7/19) our closing song at the end of worship will be "Go light your candle" that encourages us to "go and light our world". That song is also the "fight song" of our Monday morning CLC prayer warrior team (please contact Silke if you feel called to join).

I think as mature Christians we naturally feel called to "let our light shine", to "light our world", to brighten the lives of those not as fortunate as us. We rarely lack desire to do so...but often the energy or a concrete plan to do so.

I don't know about you but lately I often feel like just shutting the door and wanting to be left alone, not for lack of things to do, but because of the seemingly overwhelming demands life is asserting on me. We all have our challenges, our tasks, our chores,... I do not believe that my life is much different than many others.

My directees in spiritual direction often tell me that they have the hardest time

sitting quietly in prayer and meditation, not because they can't sit still but because the mind refuses to be still, it's racing with thoughts at 100 mi/h. What to do? Where to start? What does God want from me? Where should I serve? How can I even start to ease so much need? What should I serve for dinner? Does the dog need to go out? Do I need a haircut? And on and on and on are the thoughts attacking us, a never ending stream.

Oh, how I can emphasize! Life is challenging, especially in COVID times and demands and worries have our busy minds in overtime. How can we go and shine a light for others if we can't seem to find the peace and quiet to even contemplate where our calling might be or, even if we know, to organize our lives in a way that we can do what we are called to do?

I strongly believe that every action starts with contemplation first. First our heart, mind and soul need to be in the right place to be able to focus on loving our neighbor (and if it just with a warm smile) or an action plan and to execute that plan well.

COVID-19 and its resulting chaos has wreaked havoc on our minds. There is so much to worry about, an endless stream of awful, hopeless news is filling our inboxes and newspapers and unless we make a very conscious effort to remove ourselves from this negative influx it will intensify the unrest of our mind.

So what do we do? How can we become focused enough to be able to let our light shine?

Here a few suggestions:

1. Remove yourself consciously from the influx of bad news! Instead, read a good inspiring book, go on an early morning or evening walk (way too hot at daytime :-), or work on an (art) project.
2. That means stop the doom scrolling on social media!
3. Do not try to force yourself to quiet your mind. It won't work. Not everyone does well sitting still and waiting for nirvana to miraculously appear. I myself do a lot better in quieting my mind while walking. I need to be physically active to come down if I am in an aggravated state.
4. Do any kind of sport.
5. If you do well sitting quietly, listen to a guided mediation or inspiring talk. That should distract your racing thoughts and help you to focus on the topic.
6. Pray! Even if your thoughts are still racing, ask God to help you to quiet your mind; ask for the peace that passes all understanding.
7. Be kind to yourself! Give yourself some slack! It is ok to not always be able to be perfect. Love yourself the way you are because God loves you exactly the way you are!
8. Find a spiritual director/friend to help you to "un-race" your thoughts and focus your mind and heart on God.

May the Peace be with you, always!
Silke

***Holy Conversations at CLC
join us via Zoom on either
July 22nd at 10:00 am***



CLC HHI Zoom Leader is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Holy Conversation July 22

Time: Jul 22, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88969081672?
pwd=NGZsNVo0MGFkcHQva04zZkFyOEZGUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88969081672?pwd=NGZsNVo0MGFkcHQva04zZkFyOEZGUT09)

Meeting ID: 889 6908 1672

Password: 899299



***We pray for all those in difficult situations.**

***Patricia Bassford's uncle**

***Prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of Carol Benton's grandson, Owen William Benton on July 14th. Rusty, Anne, and Owen Benton live in Phoenix, AZ.**

***We pray for our new Thursday Lunch Break Program and especially for all on the island who need this assistance.**

***Sarah DeMaria's mom**

***John Prange**

***All medical personnel**

***Essential workers supporting us all**

***All suffering from loneliness, depression or anxiety**

***All out of work and financially stressed**

***We pray for all police officers and fire fighters who are in harm's way**

FINANCIAL UPDATE



God Bless each and everyone for your continued financial support of Christ Lutheran Church! Your faithful contributions keep our ministries going strong!

Remember, you can send your contributions to us by any of these three ways:

- By US Mail to:

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

- Donate online at our website clchhi.org by using the "Give" button.
- Donate via Vanco at vancopayments.com

UPCOMING CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Friday, July 17	Office Closed
Monday, July 20	8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Church Office open
Tuesday, July 21	8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Church Office open 6:00 p.m. Church Council Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, July 22	7 p.m. Holy Conversations (see above)
Thursday, July 23	8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Church Office open 11:00 a.m. to 12:30pm Lunch Break Meal
Service	
Friday, July 24	Office Closed

Office Hours (During the Pandemic):
Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Phone: 843-785-5560

