



The Bridge

October 16, 2020

Please support our preschool's paper towel drive!

From Pastor Mary

Dear Church,

Blessings and greetings as we approach our sabbath time of rest and worship this weekend. Even though we feel in this time of measured isolation that our lives have slowed, our travels to other places eliminated, and relationships interrupted; we still need sabbath time to take a break from COVID. Maybe you need to take a sabbath break from monitoring the news. Maybe you need to take a break from describing your life always as "crazy", "stressed", "depressing" or "lonely". You might want to do what our ancestors did on Sundays - nothing but worship, rest, and visiting your neighbors. It was blissful, even in my childhood, that no one worked at their jobs, didn't do the laundry, didn't do yardwork, didn't go to the grocery store (they weren't allowed to be open, anyway). I remember when as Sunday came to a close, my little family gathered around the TV to watch Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom followed by The Wonderful World of Disney. The best of memories!



Yes, it's true that everything was closed and that made it more difficult to be busy with the tasks of life. There weren't scheduled events by schools, community organizations or sport leagues. The government greatly "cooperated" in helping Christians keep Sunday in the South as a day of rest. That's no longer the case. But that's no excuse for working 24/7.

I realized this when I lived in the Chicago area in a neighborhood with a high population of Orthodox Jews as well as others who were a little less orthodox. These Jews were strict observers of the Sabbath, not Sunday but the day from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday. For Christians this is the beginning of the weekend aka "party time". The Jews around me had little support for their sabbath time from the government or the culture. And yet, they were very observant. How?

Well, it was a part of their identity. They planned for it and just did it. Because the sabbath forbids driving a car (that is work), Orthodox Jews are very strategic in locating a home for their family. They always seek a house that is close enough to walk to the synagogue. They cook their meals before the sabbath, turn off all electronic devices and some will not flip a light switch. Life for them comes to a halt even while people of a different faith or no faith swirl all around them on their holy day.

This observance that involves deep identity and strategic planning is something Christians could learn from as they seek to be better at sabbath-keeping, taking time apart, and physical and spiritual rest. God knows it is good for us in many ways and has taught us many times to follow this holy advice (Footnote: The Third Commandment).

Next week, I'll be taking some time apart with our bishop and my colleagues in ministry up in the NC mountains at Camp Lutheridge. We do this every year in October although with a much fuller program than we will have this year. For all the gifts that Zoom gives us in our work, it also tempts us to never stop working. While I've been scheduled to be away this week for a long time, I told my book group last month that I would still try to host our group via Zoom on Monday. I told our Council a while back that I could probably still Zoom in for our meeting on Tuesday. I promised all this knowing that I would barely have access to Wifi. As guilty as I felt doing it, I have decided to step away from both. I'll catch up later because that is very possible and both groups will be just fine without me being with them.

I encourage you to make your own plans for sabbath-keeping. Step by step, add a little piece each week. If you feel like you are living a pretty slow and bored life right now, due to age, COVID, illness or all three; find a way to take a break from your uninteresting routine by doing something different. If you normally eat dinner in front of the TV, for a sabbath day, set the table, light a candle and pick some flowers for the table. If you've let table prayer go by the wayside, speak a prayer out loud even if it's just you and Jesus in the room.

Sabbath, like any discipline, doesn't just happen. You have to plan it. You have to believe it's important for your spiritual and emotional life. I encourage you to believe it even as I'm working at it myself.

Peace. Shalom. Be blessed.

Pastor Mary

Christ Lutheran Church Zoom Worship
Sunday, October 18, 2020
10 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

Click below:

[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 the Sunday Bulletin: [Sunday, Oct 18, 2020](#)

**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.**

BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

RECOGNIZE YOUR NEED TO GIVE

It is a fundamental spiritual and psychological principle that life and its gifts are to be used and shared. Life cannot be hoarded, or it turns in upon itself and you lose it. "Whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. (Matthew 16:25) We each have a deep inherent need to give. To give is to live!

But unfortunately, instead of focusing on our own need to give, all too often we center on the need of the church to receive. The church does seek our support, but we must remember it is God's Church and it will prosper and flourish in God's own good time whether we give to it or not. The wonder of it all is what God invites us to be a part of--God's church and to experience the joy and blessing of generously supporting and extending its mission.



Just as a coin, Christian giving has two sides. For too long, we centered mostly on the side entitled "The Need of the Church". We need to begin concentrating on the side headed "My Need to Give" for giving is an integral part of spiritual life and growth. We are now halfway through our Stewardship Campaign for 2021. On Sunday November 1st each of us will be asked to return a Statement of Intent to Christ Lutheran Church in which we identify our planned financial gifts to our church for next year. Yes, Christ Lutheran Church has significant financial needs. Yes, we have a church building to maintain and renovate, a pastor and other staff to pay, worship services to conduct, faith formation programs to execute, and outreach ministries to support along with other obligations. Without argument all of these "Needs of the

Church" are very deserving of our financial generosity. But as each of us, prayerfully and thoughtfully consider completing our Statement of Intent Card for 2021, each of us also needs to remember the other side of the coin, namely "My Need to Give". For "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21).

Our response on Sunday November 1st will be truly generous if we remember that the "coins" that we offer that Sunday to God's Church and its Mission have "two sides". And as such, our response needs to address both "Needs" - "The Need of the Church" and "My Need to Give". It is something to think and pray about.

Yours in Christ.

Joyce and John Prange

2020 Stewardship Appeal Co-Chairs

Holy Conversation for October 26th at 7pm

As our congregation focuses more deeply in October on "Creating a Culture of Generosity", we will have this time to come together to reflect on God's abundance and generosity. And we'll have opportunity to inspire each other with our experiences of seeing abundance and generosity in our own lives.



- Paper towel drive -

News from the Preschool

Some of you may remember that last year during our Stewardship Campaign the Preschool children wheeled in paper towels and built a tower to show everyone how many paper towels we use at the Preschool. The next week we had "Paper Towel Sunday" to collect rolls of paper towels for the school....and the response was overwhelming! We had enough to last us throughout the rest of the school year!

This year due to COVID-19 we are missing our "Helping Hands" box that so many of you contributed to, and we cannot have Paper Towel Sunday at church. But you can still help! Next week we would like to have "Paper Towel Drop Off". Members can drop off paper towels either at the Preschool entrance under the covered walkway, or at the church office. The Preschool has a limited number of children this year, and we need your help more than ever. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE OCTOBER 13, 2020

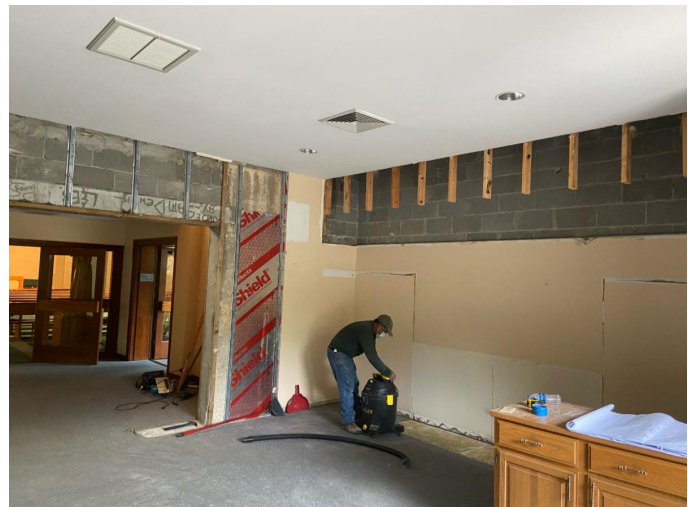
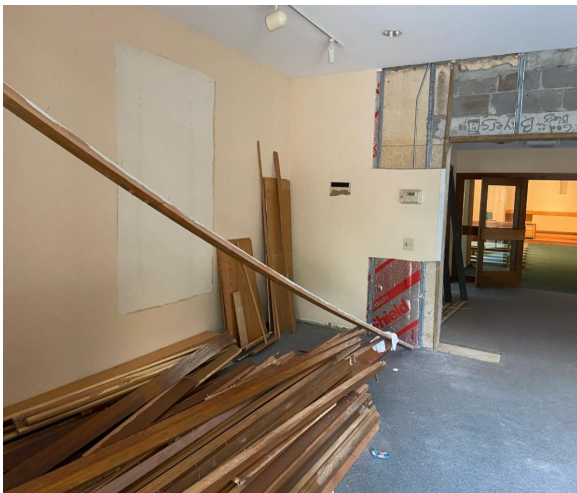
The Call Committee completed the Ministry Site profile in late August after meeting most every Saturday from June through August. The MSP was approved and posted by the ELCA and the SC Synod in early September. Candidates were reviewed and interviews were scheduled after a preliminary meeting with the Bishop. We continue in the interview phase of the process and remain on schedule. The committee is working well together and is dedicated to completing the process with the best candidate possible.

The Call Committee is comprised of Carol Benton, Sarah DeMaria, Joe Etter, Wayne Sebulsky, Doris Stickel and Marajeane Zodtner. They deserve your support as they have put in numerous hours in the execution of this process.

Respectfully Submitted.

Wayne Sebulsky, Chair

Demolition has begun!

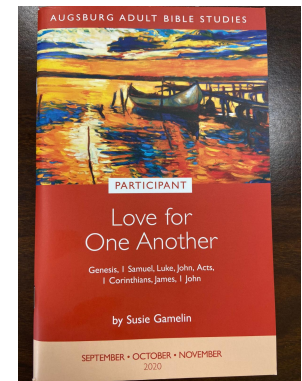




LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER BIBLE STUDY

Weekly Bible Study Resumes via Zoom on October 21.

It seems harder and harder these days to remember Jesus' command to "Love one another." It just isn't easy to love some people. "Love for One Another", an Augsburg Adult Bible Study, gives us an opportunity to explore how loving one another can be life-giving, especially when we begin to love people who are difficult for us to love. Old Testament stories, Jesus, Paul and the writer of Acts will speak to our questions about loving one another. Join us as we experience the joy and peacefulness that comes from loving God and one another, no matter what.



We will meet via Zoom on Wednesdays at 11am, beginning October 14. Study Guides are available in the church office. Contact [Kathy Mork](#) if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.

CONNECTED NEWS

CONNECTED is helping a refugee and you can too!

THANKS TO ALL who have already contributed to help Mango to get his education at the jTech Institute! He has started his studies and is very proud about his chosen path of education. In this picture you see Mango proudly sporting his uniform with his mom and little brother.

About Mango:

Mango Kabobo was born in a refugee camp in Zambia, Africa where he lived for 13 years before he and his family were admitted to the USA. They have been in Jacksonville, FL for 5 years now where Mango graduated from Terry Parker High School.



With the support and help from his designated mentor from LSS he has researched, evaluated and applied to the "jtech INSTITUTE" to persue an Automotive Technology Operational Associates degree and was accepted.

Mango will have to give up his night time job at UPS to be able to concentrate on his studies but has identified a day time job to support his studies and his family.

He is short about \$220 for tuition every month.

His education started September 21, 2020 and will run for 21 months.

LSS is supporting Mango as best as they can!

Any funds we can raise to support Mango will go through our church books as a tax deductible donation and will then go to LSS Jacksonville, FL. LSS will be responsible for distributing needed funds to Mango.

If you would like to help, please make your check out to CLC, subject matter "Mango refugee support".



More information:

[jTech-Institute](#)

or contact Silke at [Silke at CLC](#)

ZOOM-CONNECTED is working out great for everyone and we have meaningful, deep, educational and faith based conversations!

We will meet on October 21.

We are tackling the topic of "Racism in the USA" once again (historically, nowadays, and in the context of biblical interpretation).

A CONNECTED invite will be sent to everyone on Mondays with the request to let us know if you plan to participate! Even though we don't have to plan a meal, we have to plan small groups (break-out groups via Zoom).



Please help us by sending a RSVP to our CONNECTED invite or to Silke at CLC.

Here the log-in:

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87636299009?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87636299009?pwd=ZnIDNUN5YzZVOHlydXdrV2Ewa1c5dz09)

[pwd=ZnIDNUN5YzZVOHlydXdrV2Ewa1c5dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87636299009?pwd=ZnIDNUN5YzZVOHlydXdrV2Ewa1c5dz09)

Meeting ID: 876 3629 9009

Passcode: CONNECTED

6+1 Sacred Time small groups have been formed

If you have signed up you will have received an email with information about your group.

Please contact Silke at CLC if you want to be part of this group.



THANK YOU FROM THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

Thank you once again for hosting another successful Red Cross blood drive last week!

The goal was 55 and we collected 64 pints!!

You helped us save up to 192 lives yesterday, wow! We could not do it with your support!!

What an amazing asset you are to the Hilton Head Community and our sick patients.

The next blood drive is December 3.



Sarah DeMaria's mother, Leora Horst
Susie Fidler's friend, Brian Tandler
Steve Bassford
Victims of recent wildfires and hurricanes
Our nation living with many blessings and much strife
Nan Stafford
Nancy McCleskey's sister, Cyndie

Gary & Kathy Reynolds new address in Florida:
P O Box 1676
Ponte Vedra, FL 32004

CLC YOUTH CAMPFIRE AND S'MORES GATHERING
"VENT & PRAY" IN COVID-19 TIMES





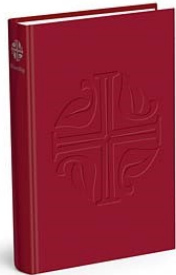
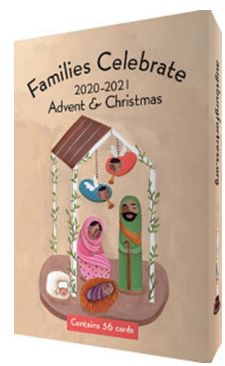
Since we're still doing "home church" for now and since learning the faith and living the faith have always been a home activity, we want to help you have some resources in your home. So here's a little Fall Book Fair

for us at CLC. If you let us know that you would like to order one or more of these items (remember them as possible Christmas gifts, too) by October 23rd, we'll put in the order and let you know when they are here. Please email or call Linda in the church office to order. When they arrive, you will need to pick them up and give a check to the church to cover the costs.

Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas 2020-21

Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas is a colorful deck of cards that is full of rituals, prayers and reflections. Endlessly flexible for busy schedules, you can create a new after-meal ritual, use them as decorations, or carry them on the go. Explore the entire season from Advent to Christmas through Epiphany. These make a great gift for families in your congregation!

\$9.99



Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Pew Edition

This is our ELCA Worship Book and Hymnal. It has many resources to support congregational and home worship life.

\$24.50

Living Lutheran

Living Lutheran, the new magazine of the ELCA, offers news and stories that illuminate Christ's presence in the world. This is our denominational magazine and is a great way to stay connected to other congregations and the churchwide expression.

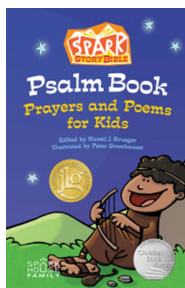
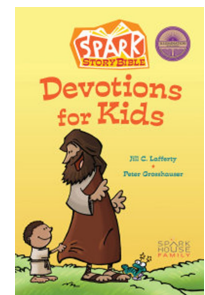
\$19.95 per year



Spark Story Bible Devotions for Kids

Spark Story Bible Devotions for Kids takes kids on a journey through 100 of the most well-known Bible stories with questions for reflection, key verses, prayers, and family activity ideas.

\$14.99



Spark Story Bible Psalm Book: Prayers and Poems for Kids

In The Spark Story Bible Psalm Book, fifty beloved psalms are rewritten in child-friendly language, accompanied by the classic artwork of Peter Grosshauer, illustrator of The Spark Story Bible.

\$14.99

Spark Story Bible: Sunday School Edition

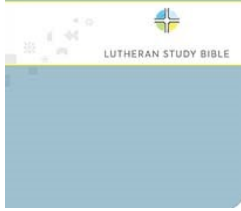
The Spark Story Bible brings God's Word to life through colorful art and rich retelling of 150 of the most popular Bible stories.

\$21.49



Lutheran Study Bible (Paperback)

Lutheran Study Bible features the NRSV translation as well as introductions, notes, and articles written by over sixty Lutheran pastors and teaching...
\$24.99



Note: Some of these resources are available as gift editions, hardbacks, and e-books. If you want to shop on your own, please google search for 1517 Media and take a look!

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Saturday, October 17 | 1 pm Handbell Polishing Party |
| Sunday, October 18 | 10:00 am Service of the Word and Meal (via Zoom)
Followed by "Coffee Hour" conversation |
| Wednesday, October 21 | 6:00 pm CONNECTED |
| Thursday, October 22 | 4:30 pm Confirmation |

Monday-Thursday Pastor Mary at Rostered Leaders' Convocation at Lutheridge

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
843-785-5560**