
The Bridge

January 15, 2021



Inspiring Thoughts by Silke Pyrlik, Spiritual Director

Simplicity versus Complexity - Finding peace in a complicated and complex life

As I am sitting here, literally in the middle of packed boxes and a disarray of stuff, my mind gets confused by the complexity of the task to be accomplished.

Reducing the contents of a 3-person 3,000 sqft house to fit into a 1,000 sqft apartment for one person (and a cat:-).

There is stuff that needs be stored (pieces I am not ready to part with yet), stuff that can go to charity, stuff that can be sold, a vast amount to be trashed, and then lastly the things I really need.

My goal is to rid myself of the complexity of owning a lot of stuff, caring for it, fixing it, insuring it, dusting it off, polishing it, storing it.

Why do I own 6 pans, 15 pots, and about 100 glasses? Why do I have more dishes than I can ever use at one table setting?

Why do I have 4 sofas and about 15 chairs in my house?

And that list is just a very short exert of the vast amount of stuff there is...

Life in the 21 century is complex, more complex than ever before. Not much seems to be as it truly is....daily news are confusing. There is truth, half truth, alternative facts, conspiracies, opinions, diversion.

Can we ever be certain of anything? My mind is reeling reading the news every day (I gave up cable TV over a year ago). There is so much information.

Then there is a global pandemic, raging among us with mind boggling numbers of infections and deaths.

There is political turmoil. There are fights, among political parties, friends, families, church members. Where is the peace we all crave so much?

We used to be able to find peace in church, while sitting among fellow believers...now there is danger of getting deathly ill if we would do so.

There is a ministry job that is fairly complex with a seemingly constant changing context, daily little problems, and new (often positive) challenges every week.

What my soul craves is a reconnection to simplicity! I need true north, the guiding compass that always steers me toward truth.

My faith should point me toward true north. Often it does, but I have to admit, every year I travel this faith journey further into more depths and wisdom, it confuses me anew. Things I thought I knew I now question. There is a reason it is called a journey. Even in faith, on this journey, there is no certainty. The only thing I know for sure is that I am loved, even beyond death.
(If you feel the same, join CONNECTED on Wednesday nights, that's our topic this season. The journey of living the questions that often do not have one certain answer.)

The thought of coming home to a small apartment, where I have all I need and not one iota more, where clean up is fast, and possible repairs are (hopefully:-) done by my landlord, a place I neither need to spend a lot of time nor money on, fills me with peace.

I dream of spending my off time with the things that matter most to me, my health, my son, my family and friends, offering spiritual direction, travel, reading, studying, keep on furthering my bliss, my deepest soul cravings. Spending time listening to God, deeply listening within. Loving and being. The journey within, seeing my true self, getting to know my soul child, demolishing my ego, figuring out who the God-made person is under that protective ego wall.

In this complex world, that even the most educated, studied and wisest people have difficulties to grasp, my solution is to live as simple as I can.

What is helping you to navigate the complexity of the 21 century?

May the peace be with you always!

Silke



SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
JANUARY 17, 2021

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

*We are Disciples of Jesus.
Growing in Faith, Serving our Community and Connecting Others to Christ.*

1

[Click below:](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85691010897?pwd=TXhoZTgrWVlGaFFteXMrOEtPSkNmdz09>

Meeting ID: 856 9101 0897

**Christ Lutheran
Church Zoom
Worship
Sunday,
January 17, 2021**

**2nd Sunday of
Epiphany/
The Baptism
of our Lord**

**10 AM
Join Zoom Meeting**

You will need the password to access every Zoom meeting.

Church Services are held 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.

[Click Here for Today's Bulletin](#)

We welcome Pastor Glenn Palmer

Pastor Glenn Palmer recently retired after 24 1/2 years of military service as an active duty US Army Chaplain with the rank of Lt. Col. For the past 3 years he served as the Chief of the Training Development Division at the US Army Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson.

He served units at Ft. Riley, KS, Seoul, South Korea, Fort Carson CO, Fort Bliss TX and Camp Atterbury, IN. Among his military awards are the Bronze Star, The Combat Action Badge for coming under direct fire and The Legion of Merit.

He is currently doing a 1 year Clinical Pastoral Education residency at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center in Augusta, GA.

Prior to coming on active duty he served as the pastor of Nativity Lutheran Church, Rockland, Maine for 7 years. He is a graduate of the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Gettysburg, PA. Class of 1995 with Honors in Biblical Languages and Studies.

He has been married to Pamela for 31 years. They are both natives of the great state of Maine and have 3 grown children and one grandson. Glenn enjoys reading, working out, mountain biking and all Boston sports teams.

Your Church Deployed - Even During a Time Between Pastors - Joe Etter, Council President

Currently we are between Pastors. Pastor Mary has ended her Interim Pastor tenure and we are awaiting our new permanent pastor, Pastor June Wilkins whose first day will be Monday, February 8, 2021. You might think that as a church we are on "hold" until Pastor June's arrival. In fact your church is fully deployed and moving forward during this "interim" period.

Our ministries are fully operational, helping those in our community in need. The need for our help hasn't slowed and neither have our ministries to support those in need.

Our church services, via Zoom are happening as regularly scheduled. Both our Sunday service and our Connected services. We have two supply Pastors helping in our Sunday services: Pastor Bruce Booher and Pastor Glenn Palmer.

Your church office continues to function helping handle all of the administrative needs of the church and requests for assistance from our members.

Your church Preschool is operating well utilizing Covid protocol.

Your church council continues to operate as it prepares to seat a new council and new church officers.

The church renovation continues to progress and is picking up speed for an on-time completion.

Pastor June, is on schedule to begin her term as our new Pastor. Pastor June has sold her home in Columbus and has found short term housing here. She and her family will be packing up and will start the process of relocating here at the end of this month. She is anxiously awaiting her first day with us on February 8. We look forward to welcoming her.

Now how can you help us ? Volunteer for one of our ministries by contacting Silke Prylik, Joe Etter or Susan Fidler. Also, please communicate with our church office if you know of someone that could use contact or is in need so that we might offer the appropriate support.

Note, while we may be between Pastors, your church is active and moving forward. This is who we are at Christ Lutheran. We are deployed to continue to serve God.

January 14 - 19, 2021
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An Online Program in Honor of **MLK**

Ready to get into some Good Trouble?

The Hilton Head MLK Committee for Justice, in partnership with numerous community luminaries and activists, is pleased to present an online program in honor of The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This program will be presented on January 14 - 19, 2021 and will consist of online sessions, celebrations, religious ceremonies and musical performances - along with a driving parade on MLK Day.

PLEASE NOTE:
Due to COVID-19, this is an online program (other than the cemetery cleanup and driving parade). Links will be shared on the Hilton Head MLK Committee for Justice Facebook page, or please visit the Hilton Head MLK Committee for Justice YouTube channel on January 14 - 19.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14
6:00 p.m. - *Ecumenical Service* (music, speakers, words of worship)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15
6:30 p.m. - *Shabbat Service* (streamed live from Congregation Beth Yam)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - *Service Project: In-person Cleanup of Historic Gullah Cemeteries* (Jenkins Island, Amelia White and Spanish Wells Cemeteries*) (registration required through Eventbrite; please wear a mask and stay six feet apart; event will be preceded by a drive-thru breakfast at All Saints Episcopal Church at 8:00 a.m.)

1:00 p.m. - *"Alex Brown, Ward 1 Councilman and His Plans for Good Trouble"*
- Alex Brown, Hilton Head Island Town Council


2:00 p.m. - *"You Must Raise Your Voice To Be Heard"*
- Cathy McClellan, retired attorney and Co-chair of Lowcountry Diversity Council

3:00 p.m. - *"Landmark Civil Rights Legislation"* - Judge Wynn

4:00 p.m. - *"Civic Engagement - Get Involved!"*
- Dr. Patricia Felton-Montgomery, President of the League of Women Voters (Hilton Head and Bluffton) and Director for Racial Justice for the South Carolina League of Women Voters

5:00 p.m. - *"Voting Rights Education"* - Nathan Campbell, May River High School

7:00 p.m. - *"Preparing for and Succeeding in College"*
- Desiree Bailey, Deahn Holmes, Chynna Sneed and Walter Wheeler (roundtable moderated by Isabella Miller and Andrina Jean)



Honor MLK Jr.'s Legacy on Hilton Head Island January 14-19!

This year, online and adapted in-person events will honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy on Hilton Head Island with celebration, education and fellowship from January 14-19, 2021. The annual program has been modified to keep participants safe during the coronavirus pandemic.

January 18 is the
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

[Click here to access the On Line
Program Schedule](#)

Have you missed Pastor Bruce's "Star of Bethlehem" presentation?

Here is a link: click [here](#) Please use this password to access the video : jSI*\$a=4

GOOD NEWS from the CLC COVID Task Force:

The Covid-19 vaccine is now available for persons in Phase 1A according to SCDHEC.

Phase 1A includes People 70 years and older. We encourage you to make an appointment ASAP.

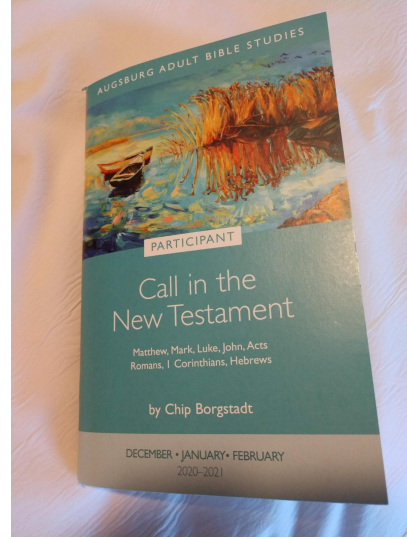
To schedule an appointment, visit www.hiltonheadregional.com and click on the Drive-Thru Testing & Vaccination Information link at <https://www.hiltonheadregional.com/our-response-to-covid-19/contact-us> to complete the form needed.

More details at scdhec.gov/COVID19, or call the DHEC Care Line at 1-855-472-3432. (The phone lines have been overwhelmed, so be patient and call back if you need to).

Call in the New Testament Bible Study

Our weekly Zoom Bible Study is beginning a new series, "Call in the New Testament". The Old Testament stories of being called by God carry a bit a drama - Moses and the burning bush, the call of young Samuel in Eli's house in the middle of the night and Isaiah's call in the temple that resulted in his saying, "Here I am, send me." But these are not the

only ways that God calls people. Jesus taught his disciples that everyone brings something to the table when it comes to bringing God's realm to everyday life. God provides what is needed through ordinary people like you and me. We each have our own unique calls to bring the good news of God's love to our friends, families, and neighbors. As we hear the call of these New Testament people, we gain insight into the call God has for each of us. We will meet via Zoom on Wednesdays, beginning Wednesday, January 20, 2021, at 11am. Study Guides are available in the church office. Contact Kathy Mork at klmork@yahoo.com if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.



Back Pack Buddies is back at Christ Lutheran.

For the first part of the school year all packing for Back Pack Buddies was being done at Hilton Head Community Church. With the kids back in school 5 days a week, starting in January, we are again packing bags at Christ Lutheran for distribution at Hilton Head Elementary. On January 7, we packed and delivered 180 bags to the school. Because of Covid-19, we are using very few volunteers to be able to socially distance and be safe while we are working. Hopefully in the future we will be able to use more of our loyal volunteers. Thank you all for supporting this program and our important ministry in ensuring that kids have food for the weekend.
Doris Stickel



Sarah DeMaria's mother, Leora Horst
Our nation living with many blessings and much strife
Connie Simon, Bill Putrino
All that are ill with COVID-19 and their caregivers.

Our sympathy to Kirk Taylor and family on the death of Kirk's brother, Kent, from COVID 19.



RENOVATION UPDATE

Things continue to move right along with our Renovation. Wiring began this week in the sanctuary and our front portico entrance continues to make progress.



Working on the wiring to feed the new lighting system in the sanctuary.



Work continues on the portico at our front entrance. Notice the new drive through at the front of the church.

Finance UPDATES

This challenging year has finally drawn to a close with the promise of a bright new year ahead. December General Fund giving was down 62% from last year. This closes the year down 24% from giving in 2019. Our income of \$391,000 coupled with expenses of \$394,000 resulted in a \$2,900 deficit. Our budget for 2020 projected a deficit of \$92,000, so we did much better than expected. The Lord did provide for Christ Lutheran. We must have faith that he will provide again in 2021 with your help. Ron Julseth, Treasurer

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

Pastor Mary's Preschool Scholarship Fund Update

Thank you, thank you, thank you, to all who have contributed to our Preschool Scholarship fund in memory of Pastor Mary. Our total donated so far totals \$4,604. This will go a long way in helping a well deserving child an opportunity to attend our Preschool who otherwise could not afford it.

We are keeping this fund open for donations. If you haven't yet been able to donate there is still time. You can donate by dropping off or mailing a check to our church office or you can donate online via our website at clchhi.org

Thank you for helping us honor Pastor Mary and supporting our Preschool.

The giving envelopes for 2021 are available for pickup in the Church Office. Please stop by and pick yours up!

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Sunday, January 17--2nd Sunday of Epiphany

10:00 am Zoom Worship Service with Pastor Palmer

Tuesday, January 19

10 am Staff Meeting

6:00 pm Church Council Meeting, via Zoom

Wednesday, January 20

9:30 am Preschool Chapel, Heinrich's Hall

3:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Heinrich's Hall

6:00 pm Connected via Zoom

Thursday, January 21

12:00 pm Lunch Break program

4:30 pm Confirmation Classes, Heinrich's Hall

If you are needing to come to the Church Office, please call ahead of time (843-785-5560), to make sure someone is here. During this time of transition, it is always good to check before you come!

Thank You for your understanding.

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 4 pm

843-785-5560