



# CHRIST THE KING

LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Herald

## April 2021

As this newsletter reaches your inbox or your mailbox, we are about to enter into the most holy week of the year for us as Christians. We tell some terrible and dramatic stories during this week - recalling Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, his last supper with his friends, the ugliness of betrayal and the injustice of the justice system which sentenced him to death, his crucifixion, and finally, his burial and the emptiness that followed his death. Why do we call stories of such violence and betrayal the most holy?

These stories - and this holy week - remind us that God's love is not purely or simply sentimental. It's not about warm fuzzies or feel-good stories. God's love is most definitely not about saving ourselves. God's love is about the thriving of all of God's people and all of creation - whatever it takes. Throughout his life, and in his death, Jesus shows us the way to God's Kingdom here on earth. Jesus shows us that love is not afraid of suffering or even death - an important promise in the midst of pandemic, inequitable worldwide vaccine distribution, the trial here in Minneapolis, and the ongoing hate crimes committed by white supremacists around the country.

I pray this holy week will, again, ground us in these promises so that we might faithfully follow Jesus. And, as our holy week culminates in the promise of resurrection this Easter, I pray we remember that God's love will always prevail. Let us not diminish God's promise as sentimental, but live into it through our continued work towards justice and liberation for all of God's people and all of creation.

~ Pastor Maria

## **Worship and Gatherings in the Easter Season**

Dear siblings in Christ,

At our council meeting in March, we talked with excitement about the new possibilities that the vaccines and the weather are providing for our community to meet. We decided to change our COVID precautions in two ways.

First, we decided to increase the capacity for groups that are meeting in the CTK building from 10 to 15 people. Masks and social distancing will still be required.

Second, we talked about wanting to offer an in-person worship experience every week. We were already planning in-person drive-in services for Palm Sunday and Easter. On April 11<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday after Easter, we'll join with the entire Minneapolis Area Synod for digital worship one last time. Then, on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, we will begin the practice of offering drive-in worship every single Sunday at 9:30am. This drive-in worship service will include weekly Holy Communion and will also be streamed online for any of our homebound members or anyone else who can't make it out.

We decided against holding indoors Sunday worship at this time for two reasons. The first is that while many people are getting vaccinated, many of the church staff have not yet been eligible to receive it.

(continued from front page)

We want to keep our staff, and everyone who might come to worship, safe. The second is that we want to have a worship service where we don't need to make reservations or turn anyone away because of capacity limits. Our outdoor drive-in service offers us a way to be able to welcome any and everyone who might need in-person worship on any given week.

There is light at the end of this COVID tunnel. Let's stay safe and vigilant to make sure that we keep our faith community as healthy as possible for just a little bit longer. We'll get through this together.

Sincerely,  
Mike Haddox, council president

## Birthday Greetings

to our homebound and semi-homebound members celebrating April birthdays:



- Mary Thompson 4/8
- Glenn Edberg 4/14

## April Worship at CTK

- 4/4 - Easter Sunday Drive-In Worship
- 4/11 - Online worship with Mpls Synod
- 4/18 - Drive-In Worship
- 4/25 - Drive-In Worship

Drive-In worship will start at 9:30am and will take place in the CTK parking lot. Come rain or shine!! There will continue to be an online worship component for those who cannot safely attend.

## Make a Meal with Molly

### Cheesy, Chicken, White Bean, Tomato Dish



This virtual cooking event will be held at 11:00am on Saturday, April 17th. You will receive the ingredients to make an easy low cost meal that can be easily adapted to your dietary preferences. **We will deliver ingredients free of charge to the first 20 households that sign up.** Others are encouraged to sign up for the event, but will be given the list of ingredients to have on hand to purchase on

their own. Sign up here using [this link](#) or go to our website at <https://www.ctkb.org/events/make-a-meal-with-molly/2021-04-17>

### Care Card Ministers for April

Bev Larson, Joy Morris

### May Newsletter Deadline Thursday, April 15

Please email newsletter articles to [jvevea@ctkb.org](mailto:jvevea@ctkb.org) or leave a hard copy in the church office.

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## Maundy Thursday (virtual) Worship:

Join Pr. Maria and Pr. Rory in our very own kitchens for a worship service complete with handwashing, scripture, Holy Communion, the stripping of the altar, and... cooking tutorials! Our service will be pre-recorded so that you will have the opportunity to cook/worship on the timeline that works best for your household. Together, we will make unleavened bread and a simple soup while we hear the stories told on this important night and then gather around the table to eat. An ingredient list for the recipes are provided below.

### Unleavened Bread Recipe

(makes 4 8oz. loaves)

2 c whole wheat flour

1 c white flour

1 & 1/4 tsp baking powder

1 & 1/4 tsp salt

4 tsp oil

3/4 cup + 2 Tbsp very hot water  
(minimum of 180 degrees F)

3 Tbsp honey

3 Tbsp molasses



### Red Lentil Soup Recipe (serves 4)

3 tablespoons olive oil, more for drizzling

1 large onion, chopped

2 garlic cloves, minced

1 tablespoon tomato paste

1 teaspoon ground cumin

1/4 teaspoon kosher salt, more to taste

1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

Pinch of ground chili powder or cayenne, more to taste

1 quart chicken or vegetable broth

2 cups water

1 cup red lentils

1 large carrot, peeled and diced

Juice of 1/2 lemon, more to taste

3 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro for serving (optional)

Sour cream of plain yogurt for serving (optional)

## Good Friday Pilgrimage

Good Friday is a day that holds profound power and mystery. This year, we're inviting you to mark this holy day with a special pilgrimage. This pilgrimage will take you through Jesus' last moments before death, and will explore how God's story of suffering love ties into our local past and present stories of love and suffering here in Minnesota. It will be a self-led devotional experience that will begin in the Christ the King sanctuary, but will then take you to different sites around Bloomington and Minneapolis.

The most impactful way to experience this pilgrimage will be to spend 2-3 hours traveling in your car and with your feet to seven places of prayer and reflection. We encourage you to travel this pilgrimage individually, with your household, or with one or two dear friends. Addresses for these places of prayer, music, and meditations will be available on our CTK smartphone app (in the "Sermon Notes" section) to accompany and direct you during your pilgrimage.

For those who are not able to make the physical journey, you are invited to either participate in a virtual 1 hour version of the pilgrimage which we'll post on our website, or visit the sanctuary on Good Friday and pray through a silent paper version of the seven meditations.

### How to View & Download the CTK App:

Click the link below on your mobile phone to download the Christ the King app. Follow the link or go to the App Store to download the **Tithe.ly Church App**. When you open it for the first time, it will either automatically open up to our church's app or allow you to search for "Christ the King Lutheran Church". <https://tithely.app.link/christ-the-king-lutheran-church>

## Easter Vigil 4/3 at 7:30pm

At CTK this year, we look forward to gathering for this casual, outdoor service as it is one way all ages can come together to remember and rejoice, to share the hope that Easter brings. Preaching and holy communion will be saved for the drive-in and online services Easter Sunday, but this special and unique vigil service will bridge the sadness and terror of Good Friday with the blinding brilliance of Easter dawn, preparing those who participate in it for the deep "joy that comes in the morning." Please join us in the courtyard at **7:30pm on Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>** and renew yourselves on this special night.

## CTK Foundation News

The next quarterly meeting of the Foundation is Tuesday, April 13th. Do you have a grant request you would like us to consider? You can find the form at; <https://www.ctkb.org/ministries/chk.foundation>

### Reminder:

The scholarship deadline is coming up on May 15th to apply to any ELCA college or university. Visit the website to apply. We will need both the application and recommendation forms.

## CTK Foundation Memorials

**In Memory of Dale Peterson:** Jim & Chris Scanlon

**In Memory of Dave Schmidt:** Jim & Chris Scanlon

**In Memory of Dorothy Springer:** John & Marilyn Akimoto, Adeline Pedersen

**Thrivent Choice Dollars:** John & Gail Hill

Dear friends,

It is almost a year since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of lockdowns and other measures by most countries in the world to curb the spread of the virus.

Globally, as of 10:15am CET, 26 February 2021, there were 112,456,453 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 2,497,514 deaths, reported to the World Health Organization (WHO). South Africa has reported about 1.5 million infections and over 50,000 related deaths.

Several coronavirus vaccines have been developed and approved for use but access, cost and distribution are matters of deep concern. In an open letter to the leaders of the G7 countries The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) General Secretary Rev. Dr Martin Junge noted: "Wealthy countries have secured their doses, sometimes in more quantities than they need, while other countries and their populations have inadequate or no access at all."

The ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response has responded to appeals from companion churches in Southern Africa to support several programs during the first and now second wave of the pandemic. Activities include distributing relevant information about the pandemic, Personal Protective Equipment and food hampers to vulnerable communities. Lockdowns and restrictions on the numbers of people allowed at funerals and church services have also affected the pastoral, financial and evangelism work of the churches.

In a recent email ELCM Bishop Joseph Bvumbwe wrote: "Kindly please convey our appreciation to the Global Mission office in Chicago and the ELCA members who always support our efforts for the sake of the mission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Thank you for your prayers, support and your participation in God's mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully,

Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson

ELCA Regional Representative - Southern Africa Johannesburg, February 26, 2021

## People of Faith Virtual SD50 In-District Meeting Thursday, April 8th, 6-7:30pm

Join people of faith, both Christian and Muslim, from our senate district as we share our stories and our values with our local senators and representatives. Rep. Carlson, Rep. Howard, and Sen. Wiklund have all agreed to be present to hear about our priorities - a moral budget that prioritizes those who have been most impacted by the pandemic, a democracy in which all have the ability to participate, policies that support caregivers, and the need to address climate change. This meeting has been organized through ISAIAH and will take place over Zoom. All the storytellers have been identified ahead of time, so you are invited to share your support with your presence, to be a part of and to witness the powerful coalition of people of faith in our community! If you have further questions or would like more information, contact Pr. Maria.

## Exercising Imagination - A Spring Discipleship Group

In the book *From What Is to What If*, Rob Hopkins clearly outlines the crisis of imagination we are experiencing globally and the impact it is having on our ability to address the issues we face - namely climate change. As people of faith, we ground ourselves in unimaginable stories: virgin birth, resurrection, Jonah being eaten by a whale?! Therefore, we also have a lot to offer our communities as we seek to live faithfully and think imaginatively. Join Pr. Maria for a 5-week study of imagination and the biblical characters who lead us by their own examples. We'll gather on **Mondays from 4-5:30pm** for scripture study, imagination exercises, learnings from Rob Hopkins' book, and plenty of fun!

**Gatherings will either take place via zoom or outside on the CTK lawn with masks and distancing, weather permitting. We will meet the following dates April 12th, 19th, 26th and May 10th and 17th.** It is not necessary to purchase the book to participate, but if you would like to, you are more than welcome to do so!

## April Gift of Love

### Beacon/Families Moving Forward Sheltering Program

Congregations host families who are experiencing homelessness, extending hospitality and a warm, safe place to rest. Dedicated volunteers from more than 90 congregations throughout the Twin Cities metro area (including CTK) make hot meals, lead activities, and set up comfortable spaces to sleep as they host families overnight for a week at a time. However, due to Covid-19 safety precautions, families are currently being sheltered in a hotel in Chaska. Congregations continue to provide evening meals for the families at the hotel, and drop off food for breakfast and lunch at the Beacon Program Center.

During the day, families work with FMF case managers based on their unique needs, finding support as they transition from temporary shelter to an established home. At the Beacon Program Center in Chaska, parents may search for a new home, do laundry, go to work or search for a new job, while their children play or go to school. Through the entire experience, FMF staff foster an environment of dignity and resilience.

Christ the King has supported FMF for over 40 years! Our prayers and financial gifts are needed even more now, to help cover the additional costs of sheltering families in hotels, rather than with congregations. Your prayers and financial gift of love are greatly appreciated!

## HYMN OF THE SEASON: Christ Is Living / Cristo vive

As we enter the fifty days of Easter, we will be learning, proclaiming, and singing that "Christ is living!" Augsburg Fortress has recently published a supplement to our ELW hymnal. [All Creation Sings](#) is a new resource complimenting and expanding upon our hymnal, giving congregations even more ways to musically theologize about the care of creation, the human family, about both grief and hope. As we rise up into our redeemed and resurrected life in Jesus, a hymn from this new resource will accompany us in this Easter season. Christ Is Living, ACS # 934 sings boldly and defiantly: *Christ is living, gone with sorrow! Tears and terror, be no more! / Death and grave, you now are nothing; Christ is free of every power. / Why then seek the living Savior in the haunts of death and fear? / Christ is risen! Shout the good news so that all the world may hear.*

This hymn comes to us from Argentina, and the original Spanish text is from the pen of Nicolás Martínez (1917-1972), a native of Buenos Aires who experienced his conversion to Christianity at the age of 18, later trained for the ministry, and served as a Disciples of Christ pastor in Argentina and Paraguay. He was active in ecumenical work, and served on an editing committee for a new hymnal. During a this work he composed this text and gave it to a young musician. Pablo Sosa (1933-2020) was a musician who grew up and was educated in Argentina, and also studied in the U.S, and Germany. Sosa recalls the origins of the hymn: "I was at that time searching for 'my own voice' as a Latin American Christian composer, a process which temporarily inhibited my creativity. Writing that tune meant an important step forward in that process, especially since it was warmly welcomed by the committee..."

Nicolás Martínez had approached me with an enticing smile and a small handwritten sheet of paper in his hand, showing a poem, evidently the fruit of a night's work...Such was the invitation to write a tune for 'Cristo vive.'"

In later years, Sosa himself pastored a large Methodist congregation in Buenos Aires, while composing songs, leading choirs, and teaching at a seminary. But during his country's "dirty war," (the name used by the military dictatorship for the period of U.S.-backed state terrorism in Argentina,) two young women from his church disappeared, possibly for working among the poor. As Catholic and Protestant churches hesitated whether to speak out, remain silent, or support the government, many people lost faith. Economic meltdown after the war plunged many middle-class Argentinians into poverty. Sosa's growing social awareness widened his vision for "lifting up hope with a song." He described worship as "the fiesta of the faithful," where all are welcome and all music is seen as "part of the 'song of the earth,' which answers the psalmist's call 'Sing joyfully to God, all the earth!'"

According to many, Pablo Sosa did more than perhaps any other person to foster the composition of Spanish-language hymnody, and his creative output of songs like "Christ Is Living," remind us of the biblical connection between justice and worship.

For if Christ is raised, and we are raised with him, we are to live out that risen life not some vague time after our own death, but starting today - to live that life of the new heavens and the new earth, where righteousness is at home... living this eternal life both "then," and "now," the risen life of joy and justice, and to bring hope and mercy to all around us, fruitful produce of Christ the Root, Seed, and Vine: *Death is swallowed up in victory; sin has lost its poison sting. / Life will blossom from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring. / For the sureness of salvation let us sing, "Thanks be to God!" / Christ is risen! We are living! Spread the word of grace abroad.*

Amen. Alleluia! -- Bjorn Gustafson

# Children, Youth and Family News



## Spring Plant Sale!

Orders and money are due **April 18th** with plants available for pick up the **evening of Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**. You can pick up a form outside of the office, or have it mailed. It is also on our website under upcoming events. You can mail in your order, drop it off in the office, call Rachel Bernier at 612-208-5874 or email her [johnsonrachela@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonrachela@gmail.com). Thank you!

## Spring in Confirmation

This Spring, Brittany will be leading confirmation! We will start our time together over zoom but once the evenings warm-up, we will move outdoors! We will be focusing on Holy Troublemakers and how we go about our lives as Christians. **We will meet from 5:30-6:30 pm on Wednesdays starting April 7<sup>th</sup>.**

## Spring in CROWD

This Spring, Crowd will reconvene over Zoom at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays. Pastor Rory will be leading for part of it so don't miss out!! **Our first Spring date is Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.**



## April Family Fun Event!

On Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, we will have another family fun event opportunity. This will be in the afternoon but details and activity are still in the works! Look out for more information to come out soon!

## Spring in WOW

This Spring we will begin our WOW-at-Home Take-Home kits. Be on the lookout for a kit to come your way soon! We will also be sharing resources and lessons on Youtube to go along with them!

## Garden Boxes & Community Garden



We are in the process of building 10 more boxes for the Community Garden. We are looking for people to help build our boxes during the months of March and April. **Please call Dan to schedule.** He or somebody will be made available to assist you along with an instructional video. Follow COVID-19 safe protocols and come in with a couple friends or your family. **We also need people to help tear down the boxes we are replacing and repairing the remaining old boxes. This will happen on April 10th and 11th.**

If you want to rent a garden box this summer. Cost is \$20.00 a season for the new larger boxes and \$10.00 for the old smaller boxes. Click on the [link](#), stop by the office for a form or go to our website <https://www.ctkb.org/news/bryant-park-community-garden>.

Good Day ~

Today was our first back to school in a year! Hard to believe it has been that long since we had students learning in our building. I thought to myself today about all the people, organizations and faith communities that have been there for our families this past year and Christ the King was in my forefront. I am incredibly grateful and touched by the action taken to supply us with financial support and gift cards during this past year. Our students and families have been so appreciative and many have shared stories of gratitude. I am so very grateful to have Christ the King as a "Partner" in serving our economically vulnerable families at Kennedy.

Warm Regards, Melissa Riebel  
School & Community Engagement Coordinator

### An Ode to our CCC

**They rolled up the carpet  
They scrapped off the glue  
They broke up the bricks of the fireplace too**

**They hung sheets of rock  
Worked harder and harder with nary a stop  
They sanded and painted and painted again  
With a this and a that and an additional AMEN**

**When it's safe for us to gather  
There's no place we'd rather  
Lounge in a new lounge when we all come back  
Let's tip our hats to Denny, Jan, Curtis and Jack!**

### Treasurer's Report for February 2021

February 2021 actual income was \$44,492.12 and disbursements were \$50,836.99 making us behind for the month by \$6,344.99. Year to date, actual income is \$122,871.91 and disbursements are \$95,322.89 making us ahead by \$27,549.02. We are so grateful for your continued support of God's work. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!

If you have any questions regarding the financials, please feel free to contact CTKB Treasurer, Suzan Pederson [susan.pederson@gmail.com](mailto:susan.pederson@gmail.com) or Jane Bishop, Financial & Property Administrator. Be Safe ... Be Well!

	Feb. Budget	Feb. Actual	YTD Actual
Income	\$ 48,046.25	\$ 44,492.12	\$ 122,871.91
Disbursements	\$ 52,699.05	\$ 50,836.99	\$ 95,322.89
Margin (Deficit)	\$ -4,542.80	\$ -6,344.87	\$ 27,549.02