



Vicar's Voice – November 2021 - By Vicar Sena Norton

As we continue to celebrate the roots of the Lutheran Church and those who have gone before us during All Saint's Sunday, I can't help but think about our own congregation and how we are living between our own reformation and the grief of what was. We have been so long gone from what we knew, we have lost things we never imagined we would lose, and now we are coming back to a "something" that we don't recognize, at least not yet. It isn't what was nor is it what will be, that is why I call it the **messy middle**. It just is what it is and it's very messy. Thank God for our Lutheran reformation heritage and our understanding of grace upon grace upon grace!

November also finds us working our way towards a new church year with Advent beginning on the 28th. The time of holy waiting has begun at the same time we are returning to the physical building...again! Three thoughts have been rattling around in my head during all of this: the meaning of reformation for us today, the significance of worship in our lives and how change is a paradox in and of itself.

To begin reformation means more than its root word *reform*. It also means *adaptation, renewal, holy wondering* and *holy retooling*. Martin Luther showed the church these understandings, and we as Lutherans are his namesake, but Jesus was the first reformer. During his earthly ministry Jesus walked around asking the question "oh really...could it be otherwise"? Martin asked similar questions in the 16th century. He, like Jesus, dared to say that human beings have inside of them the yearning and ability to be in relationship with God. That relationship is what matters to you, to me and to all of creation and it is the gift we receive repeatedly through our faith life. This relationship is what I hope each of us can return to as we welcome each other back to the space we have made sacred for this community.

We understand, especially post-pandemic, that worship isn't the physical church alone, we have been doing church even separated from each other. But *ohhhhhhhh* how much church together can feel connective, life giving and sacred in its own right. The sacred space of the sanctuary, the act of being in the same air, exchanging our energy, hearing each other live and in person – these are the pieces we have been lamenting for these long months away. These are the pieces we want back and what our continued attention to keeping each other as safe as possible will allow. It is my prayer that in this act of coming back together you will be reformed through the renewal of community worship and faith formation.

Reformation through adaptation and retooling is trickier and that my siblings in Christ is where we are more broadly as a community. Do you feel that too? The paradox of needs and grief of the way it was into the way it is now - that is adaptation. The gift of adaptation and retooling is that we can dream into a future moment and be a church of a new reformation. Let's be brave together and step boldly into these adaptations and retooling moments. We have the Rock of Jesus to steady our feet.

Change has come and as Lutherans that is our history. We are our best selves in that space - we are the ones who constantly say this is not *just the way it is*. I like that thought - it renews in me a sense of being connected to the real world. Maybe that is why I love that Bruce Hornsby song "The Way It Is" - take a listen and see what you think. We will continue to hear the world and others say "but that's just the way it is" - no says Bruce, no says Martin, and no says Jesus. As we move from reformation red to advent blue let's live into

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Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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One of the churches of the Oregon Synod Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America



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Worship with us on Zoom.

Sundays at 10 AM

Zoom meeting ID: 837 6115 9516

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www.christthegoodshep.org

Find us on Facebook: @christthegoodshep

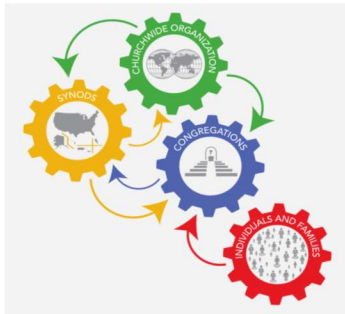
WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO?

This will be part of a series highlighting the impact of offering. See the full list at:

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/WDMOG_Infographic_8x11.pdf

ELCA members in more than 9,300 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately \$1.75 billion in regular offering to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide. When members give through their congregations, a percentage of that money is then shared with the local synod and the national churchwide organization.

This unrestricted giving, called Mission Support, gives us both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world and a portion of the gifts circle back to support ministries in synods and local congregations. Of these unrestricted gifts, the churchwide organization receives around 2.6 percent. This represents the largest portion of the ELCA churchwide organization's operating budget.



Support and develop current and future leaders in the ELCA



9,900

Recruit, prepare and implement a system for the assignment of 9,900 rostered ministers.

- Support the work of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.
- Identify, connect and provide ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.
- Offer events and leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.

2021-2022 Council

President - Gwen Carr

Vice President - Heidi Dupuis

Secretary - Chuck Palmquist

Treasurer - Virginia Mohr

Financial Secretary - Laura Drager

Council Members

Kathy Moredock Ron Mohr

Dean Hatzenbihler

Inez Ambrosek Wendy Smith

Marc Clemens Willie Dolan

Treasurer's Report by Virginia Mohr

Budgeted General Offering thru September \$119,637

Actual General Offering Sept. YTD \$108,639

(\$10,998)

General Offerings for September were very low with extra expenses coming due in October for insurance and benevolence. As of this writing, October giving has improved and we want to thank you. We are still far below our approved budget numbers for the year. ~Virginia Mohr, Treasurer

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what Christ the Good Shepherd is being born back into. Let's be a community together – long timers, middlers, newbies and folks still on their journey to us.

My heart reaches out to each of you, and I can't wait to welcome all of us back together. I will see you in that sacred space we have all been missing and let's reconnect our hearts to each other, to the world and to the ONE who holds this all together. Thanks be to God!

2 Bruce Hornsby "The Way It Is" <https://youtu.be/cOeKidp-iWo>

THE UPGRADES CONTINUE...at the Christ House.

Ron Mohr is nearly finished painting every wall in the downstairs part of the Christ House. In the kitchen,

Tuesday Crew removed the outdated wallpaper border at the top of the room, and the old-fashioned window treatments have been removed, leaving behind nice looking blinds. Every drawer and cabinet in the Christ House kitchen has been sorted through by Gwen Carr and Inez Ambrosek. All of the work and supplies for all of these projects has been provided by donors and volunteers.



Sena worked with St. Mark and got some really interesting artwork to hang on the walls. Come take a look! We will cycle out these pieces periodically to keep things fresh.

Mike Kohn has successfully cleared out all of the dead trees at the southeast corner of the property. This has been a project that has taken many months of constant work. Special thanks to Virgil for use of the truck to haul off the wood and debris, and Peke Kramyer for his assistance.



Please be sure to visit the giveaway tables in the Gathering Room. These tables are along the southwestern corner of the Gathering Room, and everything must go! There is yarn, books, crafting and sewing supplies, lots of vases, and other miscellaneous items. Anything not removed after the 11/7/2021 service will be taken to the UGM donation center.

Helpful Resources for November 2021

Coming from Reformation Weekend, here are a few resources specific for Lutherans.

Seeds Monthly: The resource email of the ELCA. Each issue contains articles that provide congregational leaders with insights, ideas and tools to assist them in a variety of ministries including worship, Christian education, stewardship, evangelism, youth ministries, social ministries, leadership and more. Sign up here: <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Seeds-Monthly>

Living Lutheran Magazine: Living Lutheran is a monthly publication, and individuals can subscribe for \$19.99 per year. Each month's copy is also available on their website here: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

Lutheran Homeschool Marketplace & Press has a page full of resources intended for homeschooling parents, but has resources for EVERYONE to enjoy.

<https://www.lutheranhomeschool.com/free-lutheran-educational-resources/>

(To have a helpful group or organization featured in a future article, please contact the office.)

Our Lil' Free Library is popular!

Please donate new and gently used children's books, Bibles, and Spanish language items, and other gently used books. Contact the office or a member of council about drop off or pick up.

Drive-Thru



Pick up from **NORTH SIDE** of church porch on
Four Corners School parking lot

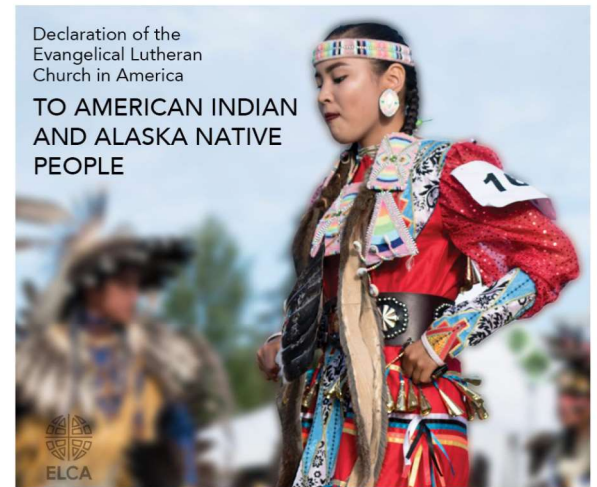
Lord's Cupboard is
OPEN!
Saturdays 1 to 3:30 PM
Trinity United
Methodist
590 Elma Ave SE

ELCA issues declaration to American Indian and Alaska Native people

Excerpted from Seeds Monthly October 2021

As the United States paused on Oct. 11 to honor and celebrate the Indigenous people who first settled on the land thousands of years ago, the ELCA released “A Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to American Indian and Alaska Native People.” The declaration is a direct result of the social policy resolution “Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery,” which was passed by the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Included in the statement is a confession to American Indian and Alaskan Native communities in the ELCA and in the United States. Among other things, it confesses to treating these communities as a minority group rather than as sovereign nations and failing to do more to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery after the formal repudiation was passed. (See links to the declaration in the email.)



It is once again time to express our appreciation hard work Staff Appreciation Gifts. This special giving expresses our thanksgiving for the hard work our staff does and acts as a holiday bonus.



Envelopes will be available from ushers and on the welcome desk beginning 10/31/2021. Online giving and mailed checks can be designated “Staff Appreciation Gifts.” Thank you for continuing to show our staff your love and appreciation.

Kits and Alerts by Heidi Dupuis

As believers in Christ, we are called to serve our neighbors. Being prepared for emergencies allows us to be ready to served others. As the seasons change we shift from the emergency concerns of summer – wildfire – to those of winter – flooding, snow and ice. Now is a good time to sign -up for emergency alerts and refresh your emergency kit.

Emergency Alerts – After signing up for emergency alerts, you will receive critical information on severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons, and evacuations by your choice of text, phone or email.

Link for Marion/Polk County alert system - <https://member.everbridge.net/892807736721950/login>

State link for other counties: <https://oralert.gov/>

Emergency Kit <https://www.ready.gov/kit>

Recommended items:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Food (at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable food) | Flashlight and extra batteries |
| Battery or hand crank powered radio | Dust Mask (filter contaminated air) |
| Whistle (to signal for help) | Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities) |
| Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place) | Local maps |
| Manual can opener | Medications for up to two weeks |
| Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery | Cash |
| List of financial accounts and contacts | Matches |
| Paper and pencil | Pet food |
| Books, games, puzzles | |
| Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation) | |
| Mess Kits, paper plates, cups, towels, and plastic utensils | |
| Water (1 gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation) | |



Thanksgiving is my favorite regular holiday. I think it's amazing that our nation has created a holiday that is entirely about giving thanks to our Creator for the many wonderful blessings in our lives. I wish you and your families the greatest of blessings for the holiday season and all the many seasons to come.

I am delighted that we finally have really fast internet in our building. This is important for us for the future. With a strong internet connection in the church, we can livestream our services, enhance worship in new and interesting ways, and will allow this congregation, and our building users and visitors, to have safe, reliable internet.

I am looking for contributors to the Lifewire. I think this newsletter should reflect all of you and what you do. I am looking for individuals who would like to write an article about something they enjoy - it could be the activities of the church, or the activities of members outside of church. It can be a sports/hunting/fishing report, a journal of group activities, a monthly book or movie review. Tell us about your travels or your hobbies. Whatever you write about and if you are interested in contributing one-time or every month, please contact me!

The office will be closed for two working days this month - Nov 11th for Veteran's Day, and Sena and I will be taking the day before Thanksgiving as a day off.

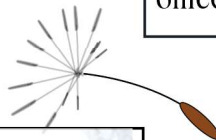
Rose



Cris Hatzenbihler	November 1
Dallas Groshans	November 5
Heidi Pramuk	November 14
Cindy Spicer	November 25
Theodore Biggs	November 26
Molli Holmes	November 27
Bruce Spicer	November 29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
TO
TIM & ANN
MARIE PRIDDY
NOVEMBER 10,
2001

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO YOU!**



UGM and Simonka
House Collections
Winter Gear &
Personal Items



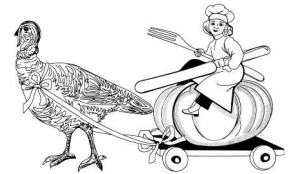
We are kicking off our collection efforts early this year! Winter socks, gloves, scarves and warm items are being collected in the barrel in the Gathering Room.

For men: socks and underwear, razors, deodorants, & shaving cream.

Simonka house: undergarments & women's hygiene items.

**We are collecting funds now!
2021 Thanksgiving Gift Cards**

We will be distributing 10 gift cards to member referrals this year. Please have your friends and family contact the office by November 11. Cards to be distributed November 15 and 16.



503-363-3726 or
office@christthegoodshep.org with questions.

We occasionally publish photos of our events and services on our website and social media. If you would prefer to be excluded, please contact the office.



Winter Coats for Kids 2021!

It's time for our annual winter clothes drive for kids!
We are supporting kids at Four Corners Elementary.

Most Wanted: Coats, shirts, underwear and pants or leggings, new or gently used. Extra warm clothing like coats, hats, gloves & mittens, are always welcome!

(Small kids sizes are especially desired.)

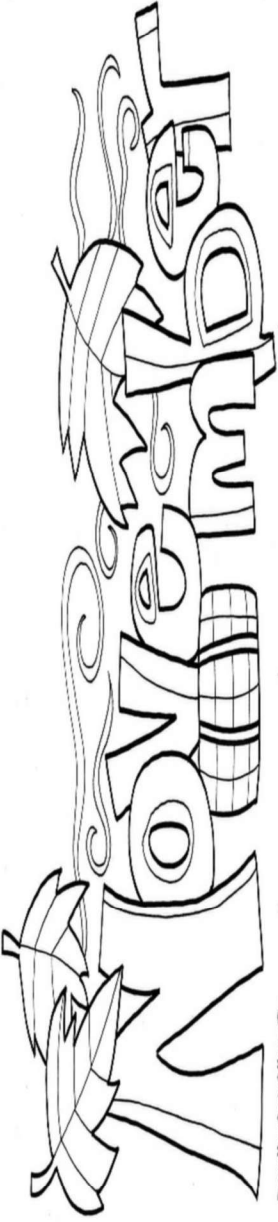


October 2021



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

December 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1



Doodle Art Alley ©

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 November Birthdays/Anniversaries	2 Election Day 9:00 AM Tuesday Crew	3	4	5 7:00 PM Manantial Rehearsals	6 10:00 AM Outreach Group (Zoom)
7 9:30 AM Backpack Buddies Packing (Gathering Room) 10:00 AM In Person Worship - All Saints Day 1:00 PM Manantial Worship	8	9 9:00 AM Tuesday Crew 6:00 PM Executive Council	10	11 	12 7:00 PM Manantial Bible Study	13
14 10:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Manantial Worship	15 Thanksgiving Card Giveaway	16 Thanksgiving Card Giveaway 9:00 AM Tuesday Crew 6:00 PM Council Meeting	17	18 12:30 PM Prayer Shawls	19 7:00 PM Manantial Bible Study	20
21 9:30 AM Backpack Buddies Packing (Gathering Room) 10:00 AM Worship - Christ the King Sunday 1:00 PM Manantial Worship	22	23 9:00 AM Tuesday Crew 7:00 PM U-Matters (Virgil & Twila Anderson Home)	24 Rose Vacation Day		26 7:00 PM Manantial Bible Study	27
28 10:00 AM Worship First Sunday of Advent 1:00 PM Manantial Worship	29	30 9:00 AM Tuesday Crew	1	2	3	4