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July 2020

Christiania Staff

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

www.ChristianaLutheranChurch.org

Look for the most up-to-date Christiania news:

christianialutheranchurch.org (our homepage)

<https://www.facebook.com/christianialutheran/> (our Facebook)

and by congregational email (Constant Contact-must opt in)

Christiania
Newsletter

We start with Christ in our serving, in our caring, in our growing

Join us in July for Worship and Prayer:

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. Outdoor (Cars & Chairs)
10:00 a.m. Online

Wednesday Psalm & Prayer

1:00 p.m. Online

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

(Visit Christiania's website to watch past videos.)

WORSHIP AND MEDITATION

Wednesday Midweek Pause: 1:00 p.m. Facebook Live and our website

Sunday Outdoor/Indoor Worship: 9:00 a.m. Tune your radio to FM 87.9

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. Facebook Live and our website

Closed captioning is available for our Sunday Worship videos. To enable closed captions on our website or Facebook, instructions found on page 4 for your specific device.

Youth Group: Sundays in July at 6:00 p.m. Zoom Video/Telephone Conference w/Joe Jorgensen



BIBLE STUDIES

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Tuesday Bible Study: 8:00 a.m. Zoom Video/Telephone Conference w/Pastor Jon

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30 p.m. Contact Cheryl Bahnsen at bahnc12@aol.com for a Zoom link

Thursday Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. Zoom Video/Telephone Conference w/Pastor Jon

Men's Bible Study: 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month: 8:00 a.m. Zoom Video/Telephone Conference w/Pastor Jon



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JON

Christiania partners,

This is hard.

Three months in and I'm noticing, "This is hard." March 15—I will never forget that Sunday and the days preceding it as, together, we adapted and pivoted. Sunday, March 15 was our first virtual worship service. I remember thinking how well we were adjusting. In those early days I was aware of our newfound creative energy. All things were new and it was a delight. Each week we tried new things. We got real good at experimenting; some of the experiments worked while others were abject failures. Ultimately, success or failure was secondary to the growth we experienced.

Overall, the process of growth is good. The process is also organic: try something (experiment); pay attention to what happens; keep what works—toss what doesn't. For instance, after fifteen weeks of online worship we are getting pretty good at it. What's produced has become more professional. We've tried some different things, added, subtracted, and paid attention to the details. Some have appreciated worshipping in the comfort of their home. We have grown and our worship (as it always has) helps us stay connected with God and one another each week.

Our lives have changed in so many ways as we've been distancing for over one hundred days. For some, the changes are annoyances more than anything. Basically our routines changed. We learned to distance: no hugs; no touches; no standing too close. We learned to call and to wear masks. Some of us learned to work from home; others learned new ways of working. We learned how to video conference and how to communicate. We learned how to worship. We are learning to wait. We are learning to listen.

This is hard.

For others the changes have been more than annoyances. For them, this time has been filled with substantial losses and grieving—they have lost jobs, friendships, loved ones, stability, even identity. For others, isolation has become a mental health problem.

This is hard—but we are not alone. In the midst of isolation and loss it serves us well to remember God's promise of presence and commitment to never leave us alone. Scripture is clear that life will come with trials and tribulations, with ample challenges.

This is hard—but we can remember our Lord and Savior is dependable and steadfast. God loves us. Christ is present. Continue to stay connected in calls, texts, letters, and cards. Let's continue to be people of great hospitality, grace, and love.

I'm excited, as are many of you, to be gathering together again. I've missed you all. As we move from outdoor worship in cars, then to chairs, and then to the sanctuary, it will be important to realize our days of growing and adapting are not over. Will each step be perfect or even preferable? By no means. But all can serve to connect us—with God and other.

As I'm engaging in new things I try to stay away from comparing the new thing to the old thing. I also try to avoid comparing the new thing to another's new thing. In prayer I regularly ask, "God, what are you trying to teach me/us?" I try to remember to be grateful and express my thanksgivings in prayer to God and in conversations with people. God is good.

This is hard. In the days to come I'm trying to remember that not everyone will move back together at the same rate. Perhaps some will not come back. I'm also reminding myself, over and over, that we are not going back to normal. But God is doing a new thing. Even as we gather more regularly we will continue to offer online worship. God is good.

Life is hard. The list of what's hard is endless: Life in the time of Covid-19 is hard. Life in the time of isolation is hard. Life in the time of racism is hard. Life in the time of violence and destruction is hard. Life in the time of disorder is hard. Life in the time of the breakdown of structures is hard. Life in the time of distancing and separating is hard. Life in the time of mistrust and hate is hard. Life in the time of the changing church is hard. Life is hard—but God is good! All the time, God is good!

As difficult as these past months have been with a never-ending variety of challenges, God is ever-present and continues to love us. Continue to love and trust God by loving and trusting God's people. Keep circling back and reconciling with God and one another. God is good!

I am thankful for your love and partnership in Christ, people of Christiania. ***We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing. Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.*** (2 Thessalonians 1:3-4)

God loves you and so do I!
Pastor Jon

Children, Youth & Family



All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for Youth Group.

July 5: Bonfire at the church

Middle School and High School youth are invited to a bonfire at the church on Sunday, July 5, from 6:00-8:00 pm. Attendance is limited to 9 youth for this event, so you will need pre-register. More information can be found on the church website.

July 12, 19, & 26: Zoom Games/Bible Study

We will plan to gather from 6-8 pm via Zoom. The link for these gatherings can be found on the church website at www.christianialutheranchurch.org/youth-events.



We are excited to be partnering with Camp Onomia to offer day events called "Summer Splash" to give you a bit of summer camp without staying overnight! Camp Onomia staff will come to Christiania on July 28 and August 4 to lead a day's worth of activities from 9-4 pm. Non-contact games, Bible study, Crafts, and worship will make up the day. Community and Fun will be the focus, with the study time based on our summer camp curriculum which explores God's love to us through all generations. This is open to any youth who has completed kindergarten through 11th grade.

More information about SUMMER SPLASH, including a link for registration, can be found on the church website.



We are starting to work on plans to attend the 2021 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next summer. The gathering is open to all youth who have completed 8th-12th grade. The dates are June 29-July 3, 2021. If you are interested in learning more, check out the church website or contact Joe.

Ways to continue your donations:

1. **Through Your Bank** - You can set up automatic donations through your bank. Your bank will mail a check from your account directly to Christiania. (You will need to contact your bank to make arrangements.)

2. **Mail** - Donations can be mailed directly to Christiania Lutheran Church, 26691 Pillsbury Ave., Lakeville, MN 55044.

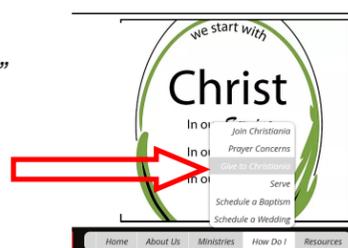
3. **Black Drop Box** - You can drop off your donation, in the black drop box located to the right of the main church doors.



4. **Vanco** - Is online electronic giving. Start the sign-up process from the front page of our website. Click on "How Do I"



next click on "Give To Christiania"



from there you can click on "Online Giving"



you will be transferred to a new page you will need to "create an online profile" then you can sign-up for a "one time donation or recurring donations."



PASTORAL CARE: COUNSELING, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS

These days of Distancing and Sheltering in Place are trying times for many. If you are feeling isolated, challenged, or generally down, Pastor Jon would welcome your calls (952.461.2283) for these or other pastoral care needs.



A MESSAGE FROM ROB METZ - COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The Executive Council met on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 and also held a special meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. At the June 9 meeting, the Council accepted Rachel Fausch's resignation from the Treasurer position and approved me as a signer on the bank accounts so that we will be able to transfer funds and conduct church business if we end up operating without a Treasurer for a bit after Rachel completes her work. At the June 17 meeting, the Council approved our COVID- 19 Response Plan which makes it possible for us to begin meeting in person again at the church. The Workshop Committee is now planning in-person worship experiences. Small groups may begin meeting in the church, providing they receive prior approval and follow all of the safety procedures described in the COVID- 19 Response Plan. Please reach out to Carri Tuma in the church office for more information about how to schedule a meeting. The church remains closed for daily, drop-in business.

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

My theme this month is working hard for God. I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge and thank Christiania's staff for their dedication and hard work on behalf of the people of Christiania during these especially trying times. Pastor Jon, Joe, Matt, Carri, Rachel, and Cliff have all been asked to do more and to carry out their work in new and creative ways. It is also clear to me that they "do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus." They have certainly risen to the occasion. Please join me in acknowledging and thanking them.

CHRISTIANIA LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER JOB OPENING

Christiania Lutheran Church is looking for an individual to fill its part-time (20 hours/month), paid Treasurer position. We are looking for someone who has an understanding of basic accounting principles and is detail oriented, conscientious, and confidential. Hours are flexible. The position will remain open until filled. Interested candidates should send their resume to Carri Tuma in the church office at office@christianialutheranchurch.org.

Job Description for Paid Treasurer Position

- Qualifications**
 - A working understanding of the Accounting Software used by Christiania Lutheran and basic accounting principles
 - The treasurer is expected to maintain the highest level of confidentiality of all financial matters
- Expectations**
 - The treasurer shall follow all policies set forth by the Financial Review Committee and the Constitution of the congregation.
 - Will report directly to the Senior Pastor.
 - Will be paid according to a 20 hours per month basis.
 - Will work closely with the Bookkeeper and Financial Secretaries to oversee all financial matters of Christiania Lutheran Church to ensure proper procedure and a timely manner in handling financial affairs.
 - Will be responsible for updating the instruction book as changes are approved by the Financial Review Committee.
 - Will be signer for the checking and restricted savings account at CLC. Signatures are required at New Market Bank and online banking passwords will be assigned once elected to office. The Treasurer will monitor all *line of credit* determined by CLC.
 - Will be responsible for three keys for the following areas: church entry (master), financial file-counting room, locked fire safe file-church office.
 - Will attend Finance Meetings, Executive Meetings, and Executive Council Meetings.
 - Other duties as assigned.



A life so beautifully lived deserves to be beautifully remembered.
Please join us as we Celebrate the Life and Love of

Trin Remme

Saturday, July 18, 2020

Gathering from 12 - 4 p.m. with a send-off at 12:30 p.m.

TRADERS MARKET
10675 East 260th St.
Elko, MN 55020

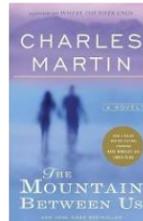
Join us in picnic style as we enjoy food truck fare
and music during our time together.
As seating will be limited, you may want to bring a
blanket or lawn chair and plan to spend the afternoon.



For instructions on how to watch a Facebook Live Video or to attend a Zoom Video/Telephone Conference, visit our website at christianialutheranchurch.org

BOOK CLUB

The book for July is *"The Mountain Between Us"* by Charles Martin. We will meet for Book Group on July 26 at 11:30 a.m. at church. We will plan to meet outside. Bring your lunch, a lawn chair, masks are encouraged and you may want gloves. If you don't have either, contact Carri in the church office and she will get you what you need. If any of this changes, Arlene Jacobson will call you.



GARDEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Welcome Linda Costa, our new garden coordinator! If you would like to help in the garden, please contact Linda Costa at lmcosta@frontiernet.net.

FOOD SHELVES

Our local food shelves are always in need of donations, and the need is especially great now. Since we are not gathering or dropping off donations, please consider these options:
1. Send or drop off your monetary donation to the church, with your check clearly marked for food shelves.
2. Make a donation directly to the food shelf of your choice.
Thank you for your generosity, as able. Food shelves have the ability to stretch our dollars farther by buying in bulk, plus their safe.



LISTEN TO A SERVICE ON THE RADIO!

SUNDAY SERVICES BY RADIO

Sunday Worship services are now broadcast by radio in our parking lot! Each Sunday service will be rebroadcast for one week, Sunday through Saturday, beginning at the top of every hour. To listen, simply stop in our parking lot and tune your car radio to 87.9 FM. Please help spread the word to family and friends who lack access to the internet and might be looking for ways to connect and worship.

CLOSED CAPTION INSTRUCTIONS

Computer - Click the video, then click settings at the bottom of the video (the cog wheel icon), then turn the captions on.



Phone/tablet - Click the video, then click the options above the video (the "... icon), then turn the captions on.

If you have any questions about enabling captions, please contact [Dr. Matt](mailto:Dr.Matt).



OUTDOOR/INDOOR SERVICES IN JULY!

After much preparation and hard work, the teams working on returning to in-person worship are pleased to announce that we are offering outdoor worship for most of July, and indoor worship beginning the end of July. How we gather for in-person services is gradually changing over time to allow everyone involved to become accustomed to the processes we will use indoors while in a safer outdoor setting. These processes will include how to make reservations, how seating will be handled, how communion will be served, and various social distancing and sanitation guidelines. At the end of June, we began worshipping the simplest and safest way possible by remaining in vehicles with a live parking lot service transmitted by radio. We will continue to offer that option throughout July, but on July 5 we will expand on it by allowing those who are comfortable leaving their vehicles to sit in chairs closer to the worship leaders. Then on July 12 we will begin serving communion outdoors (and will likely offer it during the week as well). Lastly, later in July, we will move to an indoor service.

Specific details about the format of each service will be communicated weekly on our website and Facebook, or you can call Carri in the office for updates. Reservations are required for all services and the link can be found on our website, or you can call Carri in the office to make a reservation by phone. We will continue to offer online Sunday services at 10:00 a.m. for those who wish to remain worshipping at home. If you have enjoyed the online services and are interested in participating in any capacity (greeting, reading, music, youth message, video editing, caption editing), please contact Carri or any of our staff. We look forward to spending time in meaningful worship with you in the coming month, whether online or at the church!

'CHEER CARAVANS!'

Caravans are also needed to visit more of our members in nursing homes or assisted living centers.

If you want to help, please call Becky Ruen's cell: 979-224-0141, or email Becky at: beckyruen@outlook.com Thank you!



SUMMER CAMP ONSITE SESSIONS ARE CANCELLED.

Camp Onomia is closed indefinitely due to the pandemic.

July 5, 2020. The Camp Board has decided to cancel all of our summer 2020 onsite programs. Information from the State Health Department and the local medical profession recommended that we do not offer overnight camp sessions this summer. If you were registered for one of our programs, [please click this link](#) for a refund form. Please go there and LIKE us to stay connected! Question? Drop me an email at: onomiaexe@gmail.com

Prayers for you and our world,
Jim Schmidt, Executive Director

Looking for more information on the Coronavirus? Check out the following websites:



MDH (Minnesota Department of Health): <https://www.health.state.mn.us/>

General MN Health COVID -19: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>

Reference to the size of gatherings: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/communities.html>



CDC (Centers for Disease Control): <https://www.cdc.gov/>