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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)

CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

We want to hear from you! Our committees are putting together a survey to better understand our congregation's ideas and comfort levels on various topics. We are tentatively sending the survey out by post/email the week of August 10. We appreciate your time in filling it out and look forward to seeing your responses.

Christiania
Newsletter

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

Join us in AUGUST for Worship and Prayer:

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. Indoor Worship (Communion served August 2, 16 & 30)

10:00 a.m. Online Worship

6:00 p.m. Outdoor Worship (August 9)

Wednesday Psalm, Prayer & Communion

1:00 p.m. Online Midweek Pause

1:30 p.m. Curbside Communion (August 5 & 19)

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

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

WORSHIP AND MEDITATION

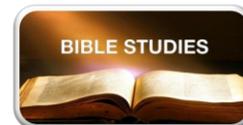
Wednesday Midweek Pause: 1:00 p.m. Facebook Live and our website

Sunday Indoor Worship: 9:00 a.m. Register to come in or listen to your radio in the parking lot FM 87.9

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

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 August at 6:00 p.m. Zoom Video/Telephone Conference w/Joe Jorgensen



BIBLE STUDIES

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

“I...beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:1-3)

God is love. From the very beginning of creation, God’s actions in creating this amazing world and everything in it show God’s great capacity for love. In the provision and gift to this world of God’s son, Jesus Christ, God shows his commitment to love (remember John 3:16 *For God so loved the world...*).

In the ministry and life of Christ and in his death and resurrection we see God’s commitment to love. The gospel of Matthew (22:37-40) shares Jesus’ staking everything on love; we call it the great commandment: *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.*

Love God. Love People. Everything, my friends, is about loving God and loving people. How are you doing in loving God and loving people? I’ll have to admit, at times I come up short in loving both God and people. Regarding God: at times I’m really aware of God and how important it is to be connected to God in prayer and worship; other times I’m distracted and less than diligent about conversing with God and making sure he knows how much I love him. Regarding people: I’m often aware of them and cognizant of their needs; other times I’m clueless; still other times I find myself outright dismissing the other.

The Apostle Paul in one of his letters to the Corinthians suggests that nothing else but love matters. Paraphrasing the first three verses of 1 Corinthians 13, Paul suggests that without love words mean nothing, without love actions mean nothing, and without love nothing can be gained: *“If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.”*

Paul leads us toward God’s complete, agape love as he explains what love is, what it is not, what love does, and what love does not do: *“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)*

To paraphrase:
Love is not: envious; boastful; arrogant; rude; irritable or resentful.
Love does not: insist on its own way; or rejoice in wrongdoing.

Love is: patient; and kind.
What love does: rejoices in the truth; bears all things; believes all things; hopes all things; and endures all things.

Curious, some of those things love does—I do not. Some of those things love doesn’t do—I do. Am I really following Christ’s command to love God and love people if I come up so short in very visible ways? Truth be told, when I’m not patient or not kind I’m unable to share God’s love with the world. I know this because when someone’s impatient with me it feels like they’re angry - - not loving. Same with these less than positive traits (envious, boastful, arrogant, rude, irritable or resentful) none of them help me know the other loves me. In them we cannot show God’s love. In my hurts and wounds I often lash out at others in less than loving ways. My own emotions so easily prevent me from what I would say is most important to me: loving God and loving people.

I’m challenged by how insisting on my own way is not loving. In the past years I’ve been really working hard to listen to others (especially those I disagree with) to better understand their point of view. I’ve been working hard to be more accepting of positions and ideas that are different than my own positions and ideas. To hear and to really deeply listen to the other is to risk being changed by them—an action of loving them. Recognizing my own shortcomings has also helped me recognize how much I need others. 1 Corinthians 13 shows how Christ-like love is powerful and special. This kind of love assumes no wrong, accepts imperfections (both ours and others), and forgives over and over again.

As challenging as the past six months have been, one of the great joys has been seeing the fullness of faith and trust in the body of Christ. Despite a diversity of beliefs and ideas, our leadership team is constantly exhibiting the “give and take” of mutuality and relationship. We come together, share our many ideas, then compromise on a plan to move forward. This is clearly an act of love. In Christ there is no division (*...no Greek nor Jew...no slave nor free...no man nor woman...*). It doesn’t mean we don’t disagree but it does mean we move together.

Loving others is challenging. Being mutual in relationship is tough. The golden rule isn’t “love others because they love you,” rather, *“In everything do to others as you would have them do to you.”* (Matthew 7:12) Treat each other as you want to be treated. I want others to assume the best about me and my intentions. Why wouldn’t I afford others the same opportunity? Why would I be so reluctant to share grace with others? When the world revolves around me and my feelings/ideas/intentions/ ways it doesn’t allow me/us to revolve around God—we just revolve around ourselves.

God is love. Join me this month in focusing on how our words and actions exhibit God’s love - - or not. I challenge you to catch yourself when you jump to conclusions about the other or make assumptions about their intentions. Please know I’ll be working to catch myself. I’ll also be praying and working toward self-discipline to interpret and understand the other in the best possible light. Praying that my words and actions will be seen as God’s love in the world.

God loves you and so do I! Pastor Jon

AUGUST 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 a.m. Indoor Worship/ Communion 10:00 a.m. Online Worship/ Facebook Live 6:00 p.m. H.S. Youth Group/ Zoom	3 3:00 p.m. Staff Meeting/Zoom 6:30 p.m. Re- Opening Meeting	4 8:00 a.m. Bible Study/ Zoom 9:00 a.m. Summer Splash	5 9:30 a.m. Quilters 1:00 p.m. Midweek Pause/Zoom 1:30 p.m. Curbside Communion 6:30 p.m. Worship Band Recording 7:30 p.m. Bible Study/ Zoom	6 10:00 a.m. Bible Study/Zoom	7 1:00 p.m. Worship Recording	8 8:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study
9 Car & Tractor Sunday 9:00 a.m. Indoor Worship 10:00 a.m. Online Worship/ Facebook Live 6:00 p.m. Outdoor Worship/ Hymn Sing	10 3:00 p.m. Staff Meeting/Zoom	11 8:00 a.m. Bible Study/ Zoom 6:00 p.m. Exec. Council	12 1:00 p.m. Midweek Pause/Zoom 7:30 p.m. Bible Study/ Zoom	13 10:00 a.m. Bible Study/Zoom 5:30 p.m. Ministry Board Meeting	14 1:00 p.m. Worship Recording 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive	15
16 9:00 a.m. Indoor Worship/ Communion 10:00 a.m. Online Worship/ Facebook Live 6:00 a.m. H.S. Youth Group/ Zoom	17 3:00 p.m. Staff Meeting/Zoom 6:30 p.m. Re- Opening Meeting	18 Newsletter Articles Due 8:00 a.m. Bible Study/ Zoom	19 9:30 a.m. CLCW 1:00 p.m. Midweek Pause/Zoom 1:30 p.m. Curbside Communion 6:30 p.m. Worship Band Recording 7:30 p.m. Bible Study/ Zoom	20 10:00 a.m. Bible Study/Zoom	21 1:00 p.m. Worship Recording	22 8:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study
23 9:00 a.m. Indoor Worship 10:00 a.m. Online Worship/ Facebook Live 6:00 p.m. H.S. Youth Group/ Zoom	24 3:00 p.m. Staff Meeting/Zoom	25 8:00 a.m. Bible Study/ Zoom	26 11:30 a.m. Book Club 1:00 p.m. Midweek Pause/Zoom 7:30 p.m. Bible Study/ Zoom	27 10:00 a.m. Bible Study/Zoom	28 1:00 p.m. Worship Recording	29
30 9:00 a.m. Indoor Worship/ Communion 10:00 a.m. Online Worship/ Facebook Live 6:00 p.m. H.S. Youth Group/ Zoom	31 3:00 p.m. Staff Meeting/Zoom 6:30 p.m. Re- Opening Meeting					

Children & Youth

YOUTH GROUP

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

Aug. 2, 16, 23, & 30: 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.

Aug. 9: Parking Lot Hymn-Sing

Weather-permitting, there will be a special Sunday evening service of music in the church parking lot at 6 pm. This will be a great opportunity to be together.

NEW Friday Devotional

Check out our Instagram or Christiania Youth Facebook page each Friday afternoon in August. Joe will be streaming a little music, scripture, reflection, and prayer.

Sunday School & Confirmation

Wed., Sept. 16: 6th/7th Grade Orientation
Sunday, Sept. 20: 1st day of Sunday School
Wed., Sept. 23: 8th/9th Grade Orientation

The CYF Ministry Team is working hard on plans for safely resuming our Christian Education programs in-person, online, and/or in a hybrid model. Look for more details soon.

ONOMIA Summer Splash

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 came to Christiania on July 28 to lead activities for some of our elementary-aged youth, and will come again on August 4 to do the same for our middle/high school-aged youth. The day runs 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. Cost is \$40 per person. Financial assistance is available by request.

More information about SUMMER SPLASH, including a link for registration, can be found on the church website. Contact Joe if you have any questions.

2021 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING boundless GOD BEYOND MEASURE

Due to concerns about the continued prevalence of COVID-19, the 2021 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis has been pushed back to the summer of 2022. We will share further details as they become available.



A MESSAGE FROM ROB METZ - COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The Executive Council met on Tuesday, July 14, 2020. The Council met in person at the church for the first time since February. At the July 14 meeting, the Council heard a presentation from the committee that has been studying possible revisions to the church constitution. Council members will discuss these suggested changes at their August Executive Council meeting. The Executive Council also voted to make a slight change to the COVID-19 Response Plan. This change allowed for adjustments to be made in the process for safely entering the church building.

Proverbs 16:9

The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

I am writing this message after returning from our first in-building, socially distanced, Sunday worship service. It was great to be back in church on a Sunday morning. As I was driving home, I was thinking of the members of the Executive Council and how much I appreciate them. I remember when I asked some of them to join the Council this year. I told them that they would only have one meeting per month. Ha! I was a little off on that one. Then I realized that God was planning the steps, not me. Each of these folks ended up on the Executive Council for a reason. God knew that they each had a special gift that our church needed this year and put them in a place where they could share that gift with others. The same can be said for all of Christiania's committees, working groups, staff, and individual members. I am going to pray that God will continue to "establish the steps" for the rest of us to take as we work together to gradually and safely reopen the church during the COVID-19 pandemic.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IS IN NEED OF BLOOD DONATIONS

Christiania will be hosting a special blood drive on August 14 from 2:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Go to redcrossblood.org to book your appointment.



Here's how the Red Cross is keeping donors safe:

The top priority of the Red Cross is the safety of our donors, volunteers, employees and blood recipients, and we are committed to transparency with the American public during this evolving public health emergency. There are no data or evidence that this coronavirus can be transmissible by blood transfusion, and there have been no reported cases worldwide of transmissions for any respiratory virus including this coronavirus.

Donating blood products is essential to community health and eligible donors are strongly urged to donate [blood](#), [platelets](#), or [AB Elite plasma](#). The Red Cross only collects blood from individuals who are healthy and feeling well at the time of donation – and who meet other [eligibility requirements](#).

At each blood drive or donation center, Red Cross employees follow thorough safety protocols, including:

- Wearing gloves and changing them often
- Wiping down donor-touched areas after every collection
- Using sterile collection sets for every donation
- Preparing the arm for donation with aseptic scrub
- Conducting donor mini-physicals to ensure donors are healthy and well on day of donation

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR WORSHIP

We had our first indoor service on July 19 and will continue them during August! The service lasts approximately 30 minutes and reservations are strongly encouraged since seating is limited due to social distancing. There is a quick, hands-free check-in to verify everyone entering the building is symptom free to the best of their knowledge, and to make sure we have your phone number in case we need to give you a courtesy call if someone in attendance indicates they tested positive for Covid at a later date. If you want to make a reservation, please visit our website or contact Carri in the office. Christiania's guidelines for indoor gatherings are available on our website along with a welcome video that will let you know what to expect when you arrive. Masks are required as long as the state mandate is in effect. If you want to listen to the indoor services but do not wish to enter the building, the services will be broadcast live by radio in our parking lot. Simply park anywhere in the lot and tune your radio to 87.9 FM.

We will also offer periodic outdoor services in addition to the indoor services and online services. The first outdoor service is Sunday, August 9 at 6:00 p.m. Feel free to bring lawn chairs to sit near the worship area (observing social distance). There will be plenty of shade at this time of day. You can also remain in your vehicle and listen to the service by radio (87.9 FM). More dates/times for outdoor services will be announced at a later time.

Our online services will continue to be offered for those who prefer to continue worshipping at home. Thank you to all committee members and staff who have spent countless hours making all of this possible. We look forward to seeing you Sundays, whether online or in person.

SUNDAY SERVICES BY RADIO

Our Sunday Worship services are broadcast by radio in our parking lot! To listen, simply stop in our parking lot anytime and tune your radio to 87.9 FM. The 9:00 a.m. indoor services are broadcast live each Sunday. Each 10:00 a.m. online service will be rebroadcast for one week, Sunday through Saturday, beginning at the top of every hour. 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.

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

WE HAVE A YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

We have started posting our worship videos on YouTube as well as Facebook. Look for "Christiania Lutheran Church ELCA" and subscribe to our channel. Starting in September, all videos will be posted exclusively on YouTube and links to those videos will be posted on Facebook,



QUILT TYING

The quilters meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Area. All are welcome to come join. For questions please call, Sharon Buckley at 612-581-5739.

CHRISTIANIA LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

CLCW next meeting is **Wednesday, August 19 at 9:30 a.m.** Please bring your own snack. We will begin at 9:30 a.m., Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. and continue with the business meeting at 11:00 a.m. or shortly thereafter. Come join us for the Bible Study or the whole morning. Our Bible Study is taken from the "Gather" magazine. To subscribe to this magazine go to www.gathermagazine.org and follow the prompts to Augsburg Fortress where you will fill in the necessary information, or call 844-409-0576. The cost is \$19.95 for one year (10 issues). For questions please call, Linda Otto at 652-469-8561.



BOOK CLUB

The book for August is "If You Only Knew" by Kristan Higgins. We will meet for Book Group on August 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.



STRETCH YOUR DONATION



FOOD SHELVES

Our local food shelves are always in need of donations, and the need is especially great now. In addition to restarting Indoor Worship service, we will be accepting food donations. Please place your donation in the baskets located at either entrance. Thank you!

'CHEER CARAVANS!'

Caravans are 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: beckyrue@outlook.com Thank you!

CAR AND TRACTOR SUNDAY: AUGUST 9

Following worship, take some time to linger in the parking lot to check out all the classic cars and the tractors (old & new).



What is a classic? Is it defined by year? Does it have to fit a certain criteria of features? Is it always sporty or speedy? The answer is NO. If you have something with wheels that you want to share with others, then bring it on Classic Car & Tractor Sunday. It doesn't have to be large enough for a person to ride in. If you collect car or farm implement models, we would like to see them. If you have a radio controlled vehicle and want to show it, we have room. Tables can be set up for your model collection. If it is a classic to you, then it is a classic to us. A 2019 is just as good of a classic as a 1921.



Dear Friends of Camp Onomia, As you know, our board of directors recently made the difficult decision to cancel 2020 Summer Camp overnight programming due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, state regulations do not allow for any overnight resident camps to operate, and they do not know when that may change with the current trends in the pandemic.

In an effort to stay connected with our youth and families, and to offer a safe Camp Onomia experience this summer that is compliant with state regulations, we are offering daylong "Summer Splash" events hosted at your church or at Camp (visit camponomia.org for details).

Our summer camp counselors, many of whom are returning from last year, are eager to provide meaningful, faith building experiences for our youth and families during this difficult and uncertain time. When they're not busy hosting day camps, summer staff will tackle maintenance projects around Camp and delve into personal development and leadership training.

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



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 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/>

Our board of directors is committed to employing these dedicated servants of Christ for the remainder of their summer contracts. While we have always worked diligently to maintain a strong financial position, the reality is that lack of income from our usual summer programming (and potentially fall retreats) will deeply affect Camp Onomia's financial situation.

We are asking our camp families and member congregations to prayerfully consider making a gift, as you are able, to support Camp Onomia during this financial dry period.

Outlined in the form below are several gift levels that will support specific needs during this time. Our immediate goal is to raise \$25,000 to help cover the salaries of our camp staff through the summer. As always, we are grateful for gifts of any size!

Questions? Email onomiaexec@gmail.com (best) or call 320-532-3767. Until we are again able to gather and worship our awesome God along the shores of Shakopee Lake, peace be with you.

Jim Schmidt, Executive Director
Rev. Kari Pancoast, Board President

Camp Onomia is important to me. I want to make a special gift to support Camp during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sample donations.

- ___ \$1500 – Sponsor a camp counselor for a month
- ___ \$500 – Sponsor a camp counselor for a week
- ___ \$250 – Sponsor a camp maintenance project
- ___ \$100 – Sponsor a camp counselor for a day
- ___ \$50 – Sponsor a day of "Summer Splash" day camp
- ___ \$_____ - Other amount

Please mail with your gift to:
CAMP ONOMIA
14202 Shakopee Lake Road
Onamia, MN 56359

Alternatively, you may make a secure gift online at: camponomia.campbraingiving.com
THANK YOU! Your generosity to Camp Onomia is deeply appreciated.