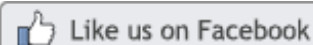


Greetings!

Welcome to Christ Lutheran e-news, a weekly electronic newsletter which highlights programs and activities of our congregation. Feel free to [share with family and friends](#).



Christ Lutheran Church

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Family News

God's timing doesn't always jibe with ours! Early Thursday morning, several weeks ahead of when we thought we'd be as ready as we could be, Comlanvi (dad, aka Germaine), Zourfahou (mom, aka Nadia), and their three-year-old and eight-month-old (adorable) little boys, arrived at Logan Airport.

While Pamela Bathen, Dorothy Nail, and Rolf Larson have been on the hunt for long-term housing, the family has been comfortably decompressing from a very long and arduous journey at the Framingham Residence Inn. We're grateful to a couple of folks, including Sandy Smith, who have contributed Marriott points to minimize the cost.

In these early days, the focus has been on insuring compliance with immigration requirements, food, health, and housing, but English Language Learning (ELL) will begin soon. (Both parents are fluent in French, the official language of Togo, Ewe, their tribal language, and Portuguese. Comlanvi is quite capable of communicating in English, and Zourfahou will not be far behind.)

A number of people from our congregation have already made generous contributions toward the monetary commitment of accompaniment, approximately \$50,000 for each of the first two years, of which CLC has pledged half. If you would like to make a contribution, there are several options:

You may make a one-time or annual gift; You may make a monthly pledge; You may commit to covering a certain expense, for example, cell phone service for a period of time, or providing a pre-loaded Charlie Card, or a gift card for a grocery store, or Kohl's or Target, or Amazon, etc.

Comlanvi and Zourfahou have expressed their gratitude over and over again, and often offer a benediction, "God bless you." God has indeed blessed us in this remarkable family.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday," with appointed texts that include Psalm 23 and the Gospel reading from John 10, "I am the Good Shepherd." Gail Weston-Roberts sings *My shepherd, you supply my need* (ELW 782) as the Prelude and Bobby McFerrin's setting of Psalm 23 for the Psalm on Sunday.

Our CLC voices and flutist, Anne Weaver will be performing Bob Weaver and William Pasch's original hymn *What can it mean that Jesus is arisen* for the Postlude on Sunday. The text is based on Mark 9:24, 16:1-8. Bob and Bill weave the Easter hymn *O sons and daughters* into their setting.

Have you tuned in to the Easter season videos of our CLC singer, player and guest performances? <https://christnatick.org/clc-music/>

Adult Formation

ULS Symposium on Race, Gender and Equity - Monday, April 26 at 10 a.m.

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at United Lutheran Seminary will host a virtual symposium *"Living Our Faith Through Action," A Conversation on Race, Gender and Equity*. Participants include ULS President Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin; ULS Dean, Rev. Dr. J. Jayakiran Sebastian; Rev. Dr. Quintin Robertson, director of the Urban Theological Institute; Rev. Marcia L. Williams; and W.R. Randolph and Sarah Moore, Student Council representatives. Click [here](#) or on the logo for more information.



Adult Forum

In the adult forum we continue the discussion of **"Characteristics of White Supremacy Culture,"** including some self-examination of experiences and practices at CLC. What are we doing well? Where might we be limiting the participation and power-sharing of people of color? How can we do better? Join the conversation Sunday mornings at 9:00, using the same Zoom link as for worship.

Call to Action



JOIN US THIS SPRING FOR OUR
WALK FOR CHANGE (May 1/2)
& RAFFLE FOR CHANGE
www.familypromisemetrowest.org

We are less than two weeks from Family Promise's Walk for Change. It's not too late to join the CLC Walkers team and walk with us on May 1st or walk independently the **weekend of May 1 and 2**. CLC Walkers is currently in second for fundraising, at almost 80% of our goal! If you'd like to walk or donate, please visit our team page.

<https://familypromisemetrowest.salsalabs.org/walkforchange/t/clcwalkerschristlutheranchurch/index.html>



Earth Day, April 22 - Natick celebrates its Earth Day, April 26 on the Common

CLC member Carol Virshbo shares this information on ways to care for the earth:

Do you want to know if an item can be recycled? Type in the item and find out. This recycling link can be used anywhere in Massachusetts: <https://recyclesmartma.org/>

Natick Sustainability link: <https://www.natickma.gov/964/Sustainability>

Carol, who has attended several events for sustainability in Natick, finds the coordinator, Jillian Watson Martin, extremely approachable and helpful. You can request to be on the sustainability email link by contacting her.

This is the curbside composting program currently available in Natick, Black Earth: <https://www.natickma.gov/1302/Curbside-Composting>. If you live outside Natick, Black Earth is gathering interested folks in neighboring towns to begin pickups. The website for Black Earth Composting for other cities: <https://blackearthcompost.com/>

Looking Ahead



Gardening Day Saturday, April 24

It's spring clean-up time, and this time, it's a triple opportunity: come Saturday, April 24, anytime between 8:30 and noon, and get some exercise while soaking up Vitamin D; see live people, in person, and just maybe, take home some plantings from CLC for your own gardens. Rumor has it there may be goodies, to boot!

After more than a year without in-person worship services, on **Sunday, May 9, at 5:00 p.m., an outdoor service of Evening Prayer** is planned. The Worship, Music and Visual Arts Committee will be planning additional outdoor services for the warm-weather months, including services of Holy Communion. Watch for more information.



READINGS FOR THIS WEEK
April 25, 2021

First Reading
Acts 4:5-12

Psalm
Psalm 23

Second Reading
1 John 3:16-24

Gospel
John 10:11-18

Sing For Joy

Enhance your understanding of the weekly scripture readings by listening to [Sing For Joy](#) from St. Olaf College. The Sing For Joy radio program, produced by St. Olaf College, has a simple mission: to explore the weekly themes of Christian worship by providing the best in sacred choral music and thoughtful commentary. The musical performances eloquently "do the talking," while the concise remarks from host Pastor Bruce Benson illuminate the meaning of the texts.

Do you have information for our weekly e-news?
Please be in touch by [email](#) if you have news to include.

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