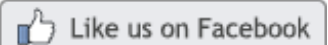


## Greetings!

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

113 Union Street  
Natick, MA 01760

Phone: 508-315-3170  
[www.Christnatick.org](http://www.Christnatick.org)  
Email: [office@Christnatick.org](mailto:office@Christnatick.org)



Comlanvi, Zourfahou, and their sons Hosni (age three) and Haris (age 8 months) have experienced a heartfelt welcome, thanks to so many! Dinners, coordinated each night by Cathy Gallagher, arrive each evening between 5:30 and 6:00. The boys may well be the best-dressed little ones in Natick, with an abundance of new and gently-used clothes gathered by Gretchen Rowley. Comlanvi and Zourfahou, both already multi-lingual, will quickly gain greater English proficiency with English Language Learning (ELL) coordinated by partners from the Unitarian Universalist Area Congregation of Sherborn and Peace Lutheran Church in Wayland.

The legal process toward asylum statutes is underway, thanks to connections with Brandeis University's The Right to Immigrate Institute (TRII) made by Martha Cronin and Ascentria Care Alliance through Jeff Kinney. A visit with Pr. Miriam Szedro (Resurrection Lutheran Church, Roxbury), a native of Ghana whose father is Togolese and a trip to a Caribbean market with familiar foods helped the family feel at home. Soon, we hope, the family will be moving into a more permanent home, as Pamela Bathen lends her real estate expertise and Dorothy Nail coordinates furnishings. (As with the boys' clothing, the outpouring has been tremendous. Thank you!) A Steering Committee with representation from five of the coalition congregation has formed, and each will shortly assume leadership for different aspects of the family's journey toward self-sufficiency. Coming soon are a training resource for those who will interact with the family, and Sign Up Genius with opportunities to assist with various tasks and items to be collected.

Spinning all of the plates has been Rolf Larson, without whose passion, commitment, and dogged pursuit of understanding and problem-solving we could not undertake this ministry of accompaniment.

## Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

The Hymn of the Day on **Sunday, May 2**, Easter V comes from the Tanzanian tradition: *Mfurahini, haleluya* "Christ has arisen, Alleluia." Gail Weston-Roberts will add some percussion to the singing, led by our CLC voices. The Prelude and Postlude music features settings of familiar Easter season

## Adult Formation

### Adult Forum



We'll wrap up our discussion of "Characteristics of White Supremacy Culture" this Sunday in the adult forum, then move on to examining "White Savior Complex," an important conversation to have as we begin accompanying a family seeking asylum. Join us Sunday mornings at 9:00, one hour before worship. The same Zoom link gets you into the forum.

### CLC Book Group, May 24, 7:00 p.m. (note new starting time)



Local author Jennifer DeLeon will join us via Zoom to discuss her Young Adult novel, *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From*. Goodreads' description: "First-generation American LatinX Liliana Cruz does what it takes to fit in at her new nearly all-white school. But when family secrets spill out and racism at school ramps up, she must decide what she believes in and take a stand." Set in the fictionalized community of "Westburg", the novel describes the experiences of Liliana who is half-Guatemalan, half-Salvadoran as she participates in METCO, the actual Boston program that buses students from the city to the affluent suburbs of the Metrowest.

The novel is a timely read in this current era of racial consciousness as we learn the complex effects of racism in our culture.

## Call to Action



JOIN US THIS SPRING FOR OUR  
**WALK FOR CHANGE (May 1/2)**  
**& RAFFLE FOR CHANGE**

[www.familypromisemetrowest.org](http://www.familypromisemetrowest.org)

This weekend is 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>

**Today at 4:00!** Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service offers a webinar regarding the Biden administration's actions on admissions of refugees: *Our Call to Care: Restoring Welcome through Refugee Resettlement*. Register here:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_zb8MaMsmTsSz7oMEyrob9Q](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zb8MaMsmTsSz7oMEyrob9Q)

Soon, we hope, "our" family from Togo will be moving into more permanent housing. Do you have a truck available? A pair of strong arms and legs? Let Rolf Larson or Pr. Bourret know if you can serve on a moving crew.



## Looking Ahead



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

May 2, 2021

**First Reading**  
Acts 8:26-40

**Psalm**  
Psalm 22

**Second Reading**  
1 John 4:7-21

**Gospel**  
John 15:1-8

## 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.

---

**STAY CONNECTED:**



[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward to a Friend](#)