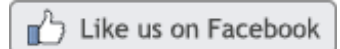


## Greetings!

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)

After living with the Corona Virus for fourteen months, our uber-cautious measures have become a way of life - and now, suddenly, it seems - the need for that caution may be easing significantly. The CDC has announced that it is safe for vaccinated people to gather without masks in most settings, and Governor will rescind the emergency order requiring masks as of May 29.



For the past year, CLC has benefitted from the wise and thoughtful counsel of our COVID-19 working group (Phil Roberts, Joyce Simon, Lana Peta, John Whitlock, Chair, and Pr. Bourret, *ex officio*). That group will convene again next week to take these new developments into consideration as we look to a reopening of the building for worship and other activities.

We pray that the rate of vaccinations will continue to grow, and the rates of exposure, infection, hospitalization, severe illness and death will continue to drop.



As many of you know, the welcoming of the asylum-seeking family from Togo came together rather quickly. In a matter of days, the family we were to accompany was identified and plane tickets were purchased. In preparation, we needed supplies and gear for a toddler and baby - what's a church whose youngest members are all out of diapers to do?

Gretchen, our administrative assistant, put a call out to her '**Natick Mom Group**' on Facebook. The outpouring of support was tremendous AND swift! Within hours, mothers and guardians all over Natick were rallying to provide car seats, pack-n-plays, clothing for the children, and all manner of things to keep the family warm and comfortable. 'Love thy Neighbor' had taken on new meaning. Not only were the women interested in helping another parent, but each family had members helping to load vehicles, offering to drop things off at CLC, and often asking for lists of the family's needs. But most of all - these community members wanted the family to feel welcomed, to feel wanted, to feel at home. As an immigration ministry, we have the opportunity to foster the enthusiasm and participation of organizations like the Natick Mom Group and thus grow our community building efforts. At a minimum, for now, we can offer them a big thank you!

Lots of music for **Sunday, May 23, Pentecost!** For the Prelude, Anne Weaver, flute and I will play William Pasch's arrangement of *Cantilene* by J. M. Neale. The CLC Choir offers *Hallelujah, wind from heaven* for the Psalm. The Hymn of the Day is *God of tempest, God of whirlwind*, ELW 400 to the Welsh hymn tune *Cwm Rhondda*. I'll be playing the exuberant Bach Prelude in G Major for the Postlude.

The CLC Choir concludes our regular rehearsal season this Thursday at 7:30 pm with **Hymn Sing and Great Anthems from the Past Year**, *open to all!* Join us for an hour's worth of robust (though remote!) singing from an impressive archive of recordings we've made during 2020-21.

Here's the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88558380211?pwd=cWU1ekVmb1ZTdFh5MUNWSURjSnNGUT09>

Meeting ID: 885 5838 0211

Passcode: 456796

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## Adult Formation

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### Adult Forum

**It surely feels good to help our neighbors** in need! Could there be an ugly underbelly? At the Sunday forum we continue to discuss "White Savior Complex." What does it mean? How is it a problem? What can we do about it? Join us at 9:00, by logging in to Zoom worship an hour earlier.

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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.

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## Call to Action

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**LIRS**

80 Years  
of Welcome

**When we speak of the movement toward God's justice for all**, it's helpful to think of our call in three ways: to tend to immediate needs (feeding the hungry), empowering people (teaching a person to fish), and working to change structures that create and perpetuate injustice, most often at the level of seeking to

influence legislation.

Recently, yielding to pressure to raise the historically low cap on the number of refugees permitted to enter the US, the Biden administration raised the number from 15,000 to 62,500—a significant increase, but still leaving the number somewhat below the historic average. Our partner in immigration justice, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, urges us to take action to support the GRACE Act: The Guaranteed Refugee Admissions Ceiling Enhancement Act, which would protect and restore the U.S. resettlement program by setting a minimum refugee admissions goal of **125,000** and increasing congressional oversight over the administration's operations of the resettlement program. To contact your legislators, click [here](#).

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## Looking Ahead

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**This Sunday, May 23 is Pentecost Sunday. Wear red!**

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**Semi-annual meeting June 6**, following worship: Congregational leaders will review this topsy-turvy past year, and look ahead to one that, we hope, will find us gathering much more often in person, taking with us new ideas and insights. Plan to stay after worship.



**Thanks to Dave Ripp**, who came and gave our lawn a much-needed mowing, sparing a little patch of buttercups! While the Finance and Property looks to hire a service to (we hope) both mow the lawn and take care of snow removal, is there someone else willing to cut the grass in another week or two? Contact Pr. Bourret or the church office.

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**Christ Lutheran Church**  
**Jazz Sunday**  
**June 13th, 10am**  
**an outdoor service**

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## READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

May 23, 2021

### First Reading

Acts 2:1-21

### Psalm

*Hallelujah, wind from  
heaven*

### Second Reading

Romans 8:22-27

### Gospel

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

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## 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.

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### 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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