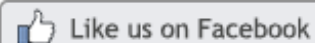


Greetings!

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
Email: office@Christnatick.org



At last week's meeting, the Congregation Council voted to accept the recommendation of an ad hoc group appointed to advise the council on the use of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan that Christ Lutheran Church received last year, and which has now been forgiven, becoming a grant.

CLC received about \$31,000 from the federal government to guard against catastrophic monetary shortfalls related to the COVID-19 pandemic. When we applied, it was with the understanding that, although CLC has enjoyed robust giving over the past several years, we did not know how the pandemic would affect us, and that, if it turned out not to be needed, we were free to distribute the funds to other worthy organizations.

The Congregation Council agreed to retain \$6100 as a hedge against a small number of expenses directly tied to COVID, and to distribute the remaining \$25,000 equally among the following organizations:

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Roxbury; Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey, El Paso; Ascentria Care Alliance; the Jehu Jones Fund supporting Black ELCA pastors whose income and pensions contributions have not met standards; and the Natick Service Council.

If, when the pandemic might be called ended, we do not require the \$6100 retained, we will revisit the distribution of those dollars as well.



All are reminded that worship this week, **August 1 at 10:00 a.m.** will be on **Zoom**, while both Pr. Bourret and Tom Berryman are on vacation. Our thanks to Pr. Amanda Gerken-Nelson, who is supplying for Pr. Bourret, and Anders Carlson, who is covering for Tom. Pr. Gerken-Nelson is Executive Director of Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries, and lives in Portland, Maine with her wife Tasha and their infant son.

Music Notes

The Prelude and Postlude music for Sunday, August 1 features music arranged by African-American composer Moses Hogan: *My Good Lord* and *Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door*. Mezzo-Soprano, Gail Weston-Roberts and I recorded these spiritual settings live in June at CLC. Moses Hogan (1957-2003), born and based in New Orleans, trained in music performance at Oberlin, Juilliard and LSU. His vocal solo and choral compositions were made especially known through his professional singing ensemble *The Moses Hogan Singers*. For a sampling of Hogan's music go [here](#)

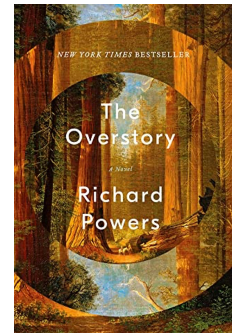
Adult Formation

CLC Book Group

The 2019 Pulitzer prize-winning book, *The Overstory*, by Richard Powers, is the August reading selection for the CLC Book Group.

"*The Overstory* is a sweeping, impassioned work of activism and resistance that is also a stunning evocation of - and paean to - the natural world" says GoodReads.

Gather online for a lively discussion on **Monday, August 30, 7:30 pm**. If you are a newcomer to the group and would like to join us, contact Marianne Swenson, mswenson10@comcast.net



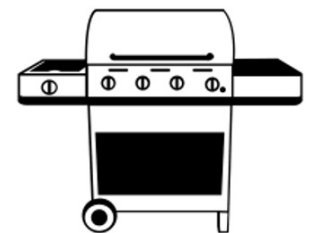
Although the adult forum is on summer hiatus, it's a good time to think about topics for the fall: Revelation or another biblical book...care of creation...ecumenical and interfaith relationships...something you're curious about?

This past year we conducted both worship and the forum on Zoom, and since music for worship on Zoom was pre-recorded, choir members who have historically been busy rehearsing during the forum were able to participate. Would you be interested in moving the forum to another time, and meeting by Zoom, to allow choir members and out-of-town folks to participate? Contact Pr. Bourret with your thoughts.

Call to Action

On **September 12**, God willing and COVID conditions still permitting, we'll celebrate the new season with **SeptemberFest**, and a potluck cookout following worship. We're looking for one Thrivent member to apply for an Action Team Grant to underwrite the cost of "mains" to grill. Contact Pr. Bourret if you're willing to do so-it's very easy!-and if you have any question about the process.

We'll also need a few folks to staff the grill. Thanks to Norman Bolles, who has already agreed to help. Contact Pr. Bourret if you can, too.



Looking Ahead

On **Sunday, August 29 at 10:00 a.m.**, we'll hold the dual anniversary celebrations with a special worship service followed by an ice cream social coffee hour. Rumor has it there's a time capsule to unearth, and, just maybe, we can bury a new one for generations to come. Mark your calendar, and **offer suggestions for items for a new time capsule** to Pr. Bourret or any member of the Worship, Music, and Visual Arts Committee. Yes, we'll include a mask!



READINGS FOR THIS WEEK
August 1, 2021

First Reading

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Psalm 78

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:1-16

Gospel

John 6:24-35

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](#)