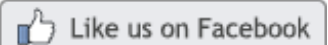


## Greetings!

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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Natick, MA 01760

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After a one-Sunday return to Zoom worship, we are now back to worshipping in person, with services livestreamed on YouTube Live, and later posted to our YouTube channel, "Christ Lutheran Natick." While you can expect to receive the link to the livestream via "CLC everyone" email, you may also access the livestream by going to YouTube.com and entering "Christ Lutheran Natick" in the search bar. While you're there, consider subscribing to our channel, and viewing any of our videos, including the weekday reflections.

Meanwhile, know that our congregation's leaders are mindful of the changing COVID landscape, and watching for indications that we may need, once again, to alter our protocols.

## Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director



Our Land and Seasons ensemble has been busy this summer! We return this Sunday, August 15 for our third in person service featuring the Appalachian tunes from *Of the Land and Seasons* liturgy by Stephen and Beth Folkemer. This paraphrase of the holy communion service reminds us of our connection to the

land and our Creator. Many thanks to Jim Nail, Anders, Anna and Scott Carlson, Gail Weston-Roberts and Frank Miller for their musical leadership.

**Sunday, August 15** is observed in the Lutheran and Episcopal Church as a lesser festival, *Mary, Mother of Our Lord*. In the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, August 15 is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, a major day in their liturgical calendars. Musically, we will "salute" Mary in our Hymn of the Day, "Canticle of the Turning" (ELW 723) and in the Offertory Music, "A Christmas Carol" from the musical show *Songs for a New World*(1995) by Jason Robert Brown, sung by Anna Carlson. The song concludes:

And I will be like Mother Mary  
With the power in my veins  
To believe in all the things  
I've yet to be  
And I will be like Mother Mary  
And I'll suffer any pains  
For the future of the world  
Inside of me

Jason Robert Brown composed the music and lyrics for *Songs for a New World* at the age of 25 and *The Last Five Years*, *The Bridges of Madison County* and *Parade*.

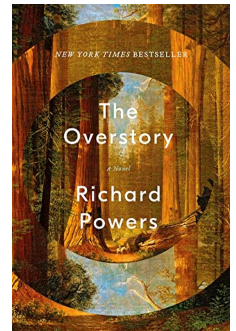
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## Adult Formation

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CLC Book Group, Monday, August 30, 7:30 p.m.

With the release of the United Nations report this week on global warming there could not be a more timely read than *The Overstory* by Richard Powers. A sobering, sweeping novel that tells the stories of nine main characters and their encounters with trees--lots of trees--*The Overstory* engages the reader in the complex, emerging understanding of the interconnectedness of trees and our human connectedness with them. Building on the revelations of Peter Wohlleben's *The Hidden Life of Trees*, this gripping novel draws on Powers' rich imagination to tell a story that involves us all.



**The New England Synod's School of Lay Ministry is currently accepting applications for the fall. The school is organized as a two-year commitment of study.**

focuses on Lutheran theology and confessional heritage, church history, world religions and current ministry issues. The other year of studies includes the Old and New Testaments, biblical studies, leadership and the arts of ministry. Each year begins and ends with a mandatory retreat. The time between retreats is spent in geographical study groups. Each group will view courses from ELCA Select Learning, and videos from ELCA *Mosaic* and PBS which are related to the curriculum while engaging in reflection and sharing on each topic. Reading related to each topic is completed in the time between study group sessions. For more information and registration information, please click [here](#).

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## Call to Action

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As we hear news of the pace of climate warming, we also have an opportunity to act: Lutherans Restoring Creation will host *A Call to Advocate for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gases for the Health of All* on August 17 at 8 pm.

Make sure you are on our Good Green News [email list \(register here\)](#) to receive the Zoom link the day before!

Join us as we discuss the development of a template Memorial to go to Churchwide Assembly 2022 asking our ELCA Advocacy office to specifically advocate for government leaders and public servants to prioritize a reduction of greenhouse gases by 50% no later than 2030. We will hear from [Pastor Jonathan Barker](#) (Grace Lutheran, Kenosha WI, author of [Jesus Would Demand a Green New Deal](#)) and review the template and thoughts on how to motivate action in the context of your next Synod Assembly.



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## Looking Ahead

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On Sunday, August 22, at 3:30 p.m., in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Natick Clergy Association will offer an Interfaith Prayer Service of Lament, Thanksgiving at Hope at Fisk United Methodist Church, 106 Walnut Street, Natick. The service will be held outdoors. Come and join in prayerful observance with our neighbors.



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## READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

August 15, 2021

**First Reading**  
Proverbs 9:1-6

**Psalm 34**

**Second Reading**  
Ephesians 5:15-20

**Gospel**  
John 6:51-58

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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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