

Christ Lutheran Church Community News

December 29, 2021

Guidelines for In-Person Worship

The ongoing surge in the Covid positivity rate has prompted the Covid-19 Working Group to recommend **changes to in-person worship services**. At its meeting last night the Council approved the following changes:

- Reduce the length of the service and the singing of hymns.
- Require vaccination of everyone attending (with the exception of children under 5).
- Require masks.
- Maintain a 6 foot distance between unrelated groups and increase ventilation by opening windows and doors as feasible.
- Administer communion to people approaching in single file and standing for distribution.
- Suspend coffee hour until the current surge subsides.

CLC Transition

BRIEF Congregational Meeting – Sunday, Jan. 9 after worship

CLC is in need of yet another boiler replacement, this time at the parsonage, which is slated for occupancy by early February. Since the cost of replacement is expected to be in the \$15,000 range, the Council requires the consent of the congregation before authorizing the expenditure. To that end, we will be holding a very brief meeting of voting members immediately after church on **Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022**. The approval of the use of funds will be the only item on the agenda.

On January 2, 2022, Pastor David Hulse officially begins his term as interim minister at Christ Lutheran Church, preaching and presiding at weekly services, meeting with the Council and WMVA, and providing pastoral care when needed.

As we enter this next stage of our process, we are urged to remember the following:
The Six Things a Church Must Do Well...No Matter What

- Vital worship
- Lifelong learning
- Spiritual formation that fits complex lifestyles
- An open leadership system
- Quality relationships
- Flexibility

Bishop Hazelwood has added to the list – a mission orientation. “I pray that you will

keep mission and outreach in the forefront of your mind as you discern a new call to a new pastor.”

The Rev. Clifford Gerber will be on-call for pastoral emergencies during the week of December 26-January 1. He can be reached via his cell phone: (508) 688-4763.

To arrange for home and hospital visits by members of the Visitation Team, contact Diane Stevens, team coordinator, at (508) 641-0021.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

Olivier Messiaen’s LA NATIVITÉ (1935) includes nine meditations for organ on the Birth of Jesus. The Prelude for January 2 2022, The Second Sunday of Christmas is meditation II, Les Bergers (The Shepherds) based on the text from Luke’s Gospel, *The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.* [Go to this url for a recording.](#)

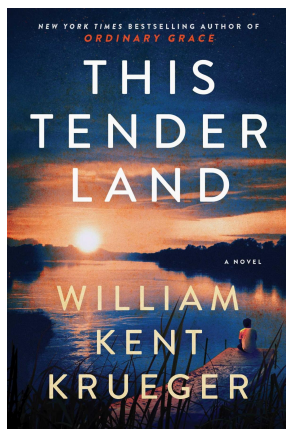


Daily Reflections will be suspended beginning in January. We are grateful for the contributions of Pastor Bourret, Pastor Hurst and the many musicians who provided “locally sourced” recorded music. I especially appreciate the substantial offerings from Anne Weaver (flute), Joan Ellersick (viola) and Jim Nail (guitar) over the past year. The Worship Music and Visual Arts committee will be considering a series of Lenten Devotions.

Adult Formation

Adult Forum

Adult Forum will not meet until the current peak of Covid cases subsides. If during the absence of the Forum and coffee hour there are people who would like to gather to chat via Zoom in breakout rooms as we did during the first half of 2020, send the office an email request and we’ll see what we can set up.



CLC Book Group, January 24, 7:30 p.m.
This Tender Land, William Kent Krueger

Over the course of one unforgettable summer, four orphan vagabonds who have fled the Lincoln Indian Training School in Minnesota journey into the unknown, crossing paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. With the feel of a modern classic, *This Tender Land* is an enthralling, bighearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole. (Goodreads)

Looking Ahead

CAMP CALUMET CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT IN 2022!

If the current Covid peak subsides in time, we hope to gather once again at Camp Calumet in West Ossipee, New Hampshire, on **February 4, 5, 6 for our annual congregation get-away**...Help us determine whether this is a viable February activity [by completing an initial registration form.](#)

There are several housing options: Staff House - \$156/adult, \$78/youth; Heated cabins: \$128/adult, \$64/youth; Conference Center: \$210/person. The rate includes two nights lodging and all meals, Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch. Children 6 and under eat and stay free. Scholarships are available for youth and adults.

Visit Camp Calumet's website for COVID updates:
<https://www.calumet.org/about/messagefromkarl>

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

January 2, 2022

First Reading
Jeremiah 31:7-14

For the Psalm
Psalm 147:12-20

Second Reading
Ephesians 1:3-14

Gospel
John 1:[1-9] 10-18



The Rev David Hulse is presiding.

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