

# Christ Lutheran Church Community News

January 5, 2022

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## CLC Transition

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We welcome into our midst the Rev. David Hulse who led us in the first worship service of the new year on Sunday, January 2. Pastor Hulse has been appointed interim minister to accompany us in the coming months as we discern what God is calling us to do at this time and in this place.

Pr. Hulse, who serves as a full-time hospital chaplain in Lowell, will lead us in worship, meet with the Congregation Council and the Worship, Music, and Visual Arts Committee as it plans for the months ahead, and will provide emergency pastoral care as needed. He compares himself to a relief pitcher in a baseball game, charged by the team manager to “keep the game moving”.

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## Transition Team Appointments

Congratulations and thanks to the following people who have accepted nomination to the Transition Team: George Hall, Phil Roberts, Lisa Eck, Russ Pollard, Amy Lousararian and Cathy Gallagher. The team will be working under the direction of our incoming Transition Coach, Pastor Elizabeth Nees; their work together is slated to commence sometime in the next few weeks.

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## Welcome Back, Family Promise!

As many of you are aware, Family Promise recently vacated their premises on Mulligan Street in Natick. Renovations that will allow shelter families to remain on-site in the evenings are under way and are expected to take at least 6 months to complete.

At Christ Lutheran, we are so pleased to offer use of our building, not as bedrooms this time but as meeting space for FPM staff. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, starting in mid-January, Family Promise will have full access to the All Saints room for staff meetings, small groups consultations, and as a simple place to gather while they, too, are in transition.

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## Music Notes

**Tom Berryman, Music Director**

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Pastor Hulse reminded us last Sunday that Christmas is celebrated for twelve days, and here we are on the final day with the twelve pipers piping, as the song goes. I can think of no finer way to conclude this season than watching *Love Divine*, the [St. Olaf College Christmas Festival 2021](#). See and hear a magnificent testimony to the birth of the Savior, to light shining in darkness and to God's generous gift of divine love in Jesus Christ. "...in him was life and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." *John 1:4-5*.

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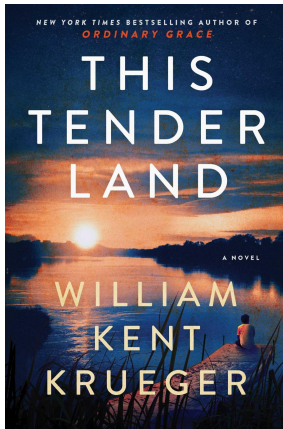
## Adult Formation

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### 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.

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**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)

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## Looking Ahead

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### MARK YOUR CALENDARS for two important congregational meetings this month:

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**Sunday, January 9, immediately following 10 a.m. worship. In-person attendance required.** The boiler in the parsonage needs replacement prior to rental. The estimated cost in the \$15,000 range requires the consent of the congregation. The approval of the expenditure is the only agenda item.

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**Semi-annual Meeting I – Sunday, January [30?], 2022, following 10 a.m. Voting members in-person attendance required.** Financial reports of fiscal year 2021 and the proposed budget for 2022 are the principal components of this congregational meeting. Voting members will also elect two delegates to the June New England Synod assembly. The Council president will name the members of the nominating committee for Semi-annual Meeting II elections in the spring.

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## Call to Action

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On December 30, the Marshall Fire ignited in Boulder County, Colorado. Over 6,200 acres burned quickly, forcing the evacuations of 35,000 people and destroying hundreds of homes. **Lutheran Disaster Response** is engaging with the Rocky Mountain Synod and Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains to respond to the impact of the fires. They anticipate that immediate needs will include emotional and spiritual care, temporary shelters, food and other necessities. With local partners, Lutheran Disaster Response will continue to accompany survivors throughout the years of long-term recovery. Your gifts will support wildfire survivors. Gifts to "U.S. wildfires" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires, until the response is complete. <https://community.elca.org/lutherandisasterresponse>

We have also learned that Margie (Clark) Hayes, a former daughter of the congregation, and her family have lost their home to the fire. A GoFundMe page has been established to assist them in rebuilding their lives.

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/hayes-family-colorado-wildfire-relief?utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+share-sheet&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=customer-andr](https://www.gofundme.com/f/hayes-family-colorado-wildfire-relief?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=email&utm_source=customer-andr)

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## READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

January 9, 2022

First Reading  
*Isaiah 43:1-7*

For the Psalm  
*Psalm 29*

Second Reading  
*Acts 8:14-17*

Gospel  
*Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*



*The Rev David Hulse is presiding.*

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