

THE

# KING'S HERALD

JANUARY 2021



## CHRIST the KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

*As the body of Christ, we are called and sent to love and serve the world.*



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csatre@ctkluth.com

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Rev. Brad Davick  
Cell: (847) 271.1413

**Pastor Emeritus**

Rev. Loren Van Oort

**Music Ministries**

Hillary Doerries

**Office Manager**

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**Mission Coordinator**

Jill Harms

**Child & Adult Faith  
Formation Coordinator**

Sarah Felde

**Youth Formation  
Coordinator**

Faith Jordan

**Multimedia Coordinator**

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**Custodian**

Jean Schlemmer

**Choir Accompanist**

Bev Butler

**Sacred Music Intern**

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**The King's Herald  
Layout & Design**

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*The King's Herald is a monthly newsletter of Christ the King Lutheran Church. It can also be found under the "King's Herald" tab on our website:  
[www.ctkluth.com](http://www.ctkluth.com)*

***"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." — John 1:5***

Scouring my office for inspiration, I pick up a book called *Watch for the Light*. Thumbing through it, I find a short piece by Annie Dillard. Annie talks about visiting Bethlehem, the patch of planet where a cave once stabled animals, and where Mary gave birth to a son whose life would reveal the heart of God.

Annie writes as if she expected a deep religious experience in that space; she expected to encounter the divine Other in a way she couldn't in her own backyard. This was a place of pilgrimage, after all. This was a place infused with meaning. A silver star was the X that marked the spot: this is where Christianity began... where God emptied himself into man.

By that build up, you can tell where this is going. Annie was so put off by the ornateness of the place—the tasseled brocades, the censers hanging from chains, the ornate lamps, and some other decorations even I need a religious dictionary to decipher—she left feeling as if “any patch of ground anywhere smacks more of God's presence on earth, to me, than did this marble grotto.”

Although my experience at the Church of the Nativity was more positive than Annie's, I appreciate the sentiment. She didn't need to travel halfway around the world to experience the divine Other; she could very well have stayed in her own backyard. Sometimes the experiences we all long for...the sudden glimpse of more meaning, more feeling, more connection, more life, more of the divine Other... happen in the least expected places: grocery stores, classrooms, operating rooms, even parking lots.



In the coming year, if you find yourself longing for more meaning, more connection, more of the divine Other, start by looking under your own feet...or in any other ordinary place. As the Christmas story reminds us, this is where Jesus will likely be found.

“The accumulated insight of those wise about the spiritual life suggests that the reason so many of us cannot see the red X that marks the spot is because we are standing on it.” — Barbara Brown Taylor, *An Altar in the World*



**Pastor Caroline**

# ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 31

The annual meeting of the congregation will take place on Sunday, January 31, at 12:15 pm. The purpose of the meeting is as follows:

- To ratify the Constitution as approved at the special meeting on November 8
- To elect people to serve on the Church Council, the Trust Fund Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Memorial Fund Committee
- To approve a 2021 budget
- To celebrate 2020 highlights and look forward to 2021

This will be a hybrid meeting with both in-person and Zoom options. **Given our current spacing requirements due to COVID-19, we are providing the in-person option ONLY if you can't attend via Zoom.** So that we can provide a safe and effective inside meeting space, you must call the office to pre-register if you wish to attend in person.

In preparation for this meeting, annual reports will be available beginning January 24. Look for an electronic copy via the Constant Contact emails, or pick up a hard copy from the front office or after drive-in worship.

Have a question about something you read? Council members will be available via Zoom on January 27 at 7:00 pm, January 29 at 6:00 pm, and January 30 at 11:30 am to review the budget and answer other questions prior to the meeting. Links to these Zoom meetings will be sent in January via Constant Contact. Please contact the office if you cannot attend via Zoom on any of those days/times and have questions.

# MISSION GRANTS RECIPIENTS OF 2020

Six community organizations received Mission Grant Funds in 2020, totaling \$19,350. Any CtK member who is affiliated with a ministry independent of or originated within CtK can apply for a grant. Ministries outside of CtK must have a mission in line with CtK's mission statement: "As the body of Christ, we are called and sent to love and serve the world." The grant request must be for a project or capital need that has not yet taken place or for program support, supplies, and capital needs that contribute to the care of the people served by the ministry.

This year, CtK fulfilled the following six applications:

- **Clay Food Pantry, \$5,000:** Food was purchased to assist the pantry in opening an additional evening each week during the initial months of the pandemic.
- **Cultivate Culinary, \$7,500:** Cultivate Culinary is committed to providing 3,600 meals each week to local at-risk elementary students. This grant assisted in purchasing supplies for these meals.
- **Marquette Montessori PTO, \$600:** Food was purchased to stock the school's food pantry, which serves 25–30 families each week.
- **Seasons Counseling of Michiana, \$3,000:** This grant provides financial assistance to clients who are uninsured and/or unable to afford counseling services.
- **Sunbeam Boys Home, \$750:** This grant paid for school uniforms for 16 boys living at Sunbeam.
- **Swanson Traditional School, \$2,500:** Equipment was purchased to assist the music, art, and gym teachers with online instruction.

# GRIEFSHARE BEGINS NEW SESSIONS

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. You may register for GriefShare at <https://www.ctkluth.com/griefshare.html>. Meetings will be virtual. Dates and times for the next sessions are as follows:

- Tuesday, January 19, to Tuesday, April 20: Meets from 10–11 am
- Thursday, January 21, to Thursday, April 22: Meets from 7:30–8:30 pm

# THE CHURCH'S SONG WILL CARRY ON

In mid-December, Pastor Brad, Pastor Caroline, and I gathered in the sanctuary to record Worship on the Web services for Christmas Eve and our annual service of Lessons and Carols. As we played and sang classic Christmas hymnody such as "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," and "Joy to the World," I was reminded once again just how much I miss congregational singing. Although the three of us did our best to belt out these beloved melodies of the season, something was clearly missing: You—the Body of Christ, the Family of God! It was all of your voices that I so longed to hear. But as I looked out into the congregation from the organ bench, I saw the same lonely sight that I've become accustomed to over the last several months: an empty sanctuary.

During the Advent season, we as God's people journey through a period of holy waiting. As each week of Advent passes, we wait with joyful anticipation for Jesus to be born again in our hearts, our churches, our communities, and our world. But this year, our season of waiting extends far beyond our remembrance of the Incarnation. If you're like me, you're still waiting for some semblance of what we used to consider "normal" life." Personally, I await the day I can plan extended visits with family and friends. Many of us await the day we can receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Or maybe you're simply waiting to go see a movie in a theater, or have dinner in a restaurant without worrying about things like social distancing or wearing a mask. The list could, of course, go on and on.

And so, we ask: *O God, how much longer must we wait?*

+ + +

I've kept a journal on and off since college, as I've found that writing helps me process my thoughts, feelings, and experiences. Writing is also a tool for me to keep my mental health in check. As Christmas drew closer, my season of waiting also became a season of lament. Aside from singing with members of Xalt for Drive-In Worship and recording hymns and other service music for Worship on the Web, my musical life has been pretty quiet since mid-March of last year. No more regular rehearsals with the Sanctuary Choir or the Alleluia Ringers. No more preparing for Ctk's annual Hymn Festival of Healing and Hope or the festive Sights and Sounds of the Season Service of Lessons and Carols. I deeply miss making music with others on a regular basis. And I know I'm not alone in that feeling, as many of you have expressed this sentiment to me since the dawn of COVID. Perhaps I took for granted how much this kind of music-making fills my life with joy, contentment, and a sense of balance.

One particularly difficult Wednesday night in December—a night I would normally spend in rehearsal with the Sanctuary Choir—I turned once again to my writing. I had recently read an essay by church musician and theologian Don Saliers on the topic of doxology (or praise) and lament. Saliers argues that one cannot exist without the other, and that there is room in the heart of God for both. The Church has used music to express the praises and laments of her people for ages. And so, taking pen to paper, I composed a hymn text. Although only the text is included in this issue of the *King's Herald*, I have also composed a tune that I hope to share with you in the near future on Ctk's website and social media accounts.

Below you can read my attempt to express the ongoing grief I feel in the absence of group singing, as well as the hope I glean from imagining a post-COVID world where we can all safely gather again in this loving community of faith called Christ the King Lutheran Church.

## ***The Church's Song Will Carry On***

by Hillary Doerries

The Church's song will carry on  
throughout this season of our grief.  
The hymnody we hold so dear  
still brings our lonely hearts relief.  
The songs that teach us of our faith  
may seem like distant melodies;  
yet if we listen with our hearts,  
God sings to us a song of peace.

We'd like to make a joyful noise  
like Mi'riam sang beside the sea.  
We'd like to join the heavn'ly host  
in hymns of joy and mystery;  
but in the face of constant strife  
sometimes we lose our will to sing;  
yet e'en with voices soft and low,  
God heals our pain and sets us free.

*Continued on the next page*

When isolation wears us down;  
when forced to worship from our homes;  
God offers each of us a choice:  
will fear consume, or will we grow?  
For all the times we've felt alone;  
for plans and dreams that may have died;  
there still remains inside of us  
a song that beckons us to life.

The hope of Christ is this, my friends:  
that even in our unbelief,  
within the darkness shines a light  
aglow with possibility.  
So let us dream of better days  
where truth and justice will prevail;  
when all shall know the heart of God,  
whose song of love will never fail.

There is a day ahead of us  
when we will gather once again.  
We'll hear the Word, we'll bow in prayer,  
and raise our voices in a hymn.  
The pain and suff'ring of the past  
we'll lay down at the cross of Christ  
while singing hymns of praise to God,  
who brings us all from death to life.

## HAPPENING AT CtK

### Fellowship Fun

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events sponsored by the Fellowship Committee:

#### **Friday, January 29, 7–8 pm: COVID Canvas**

Get to the heart of watercolor, exploring different possibilities and techniques. Join our very own **Kristen Workman** as she leads us in an art class over Zoom. This is an event for any age or artist level. Registration is \$20 per household and the registration deadline is Friday, January 15. Signup online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090845A4AC238-ctks>

#### **Friday, February 26, 7 pm: CtK Virtual Talent Show**

Do you have a talent you want to share with your friends at CtK? We will be recording performances in January for the CtK Virtual Talent Show watch party. All recordings must be completed in January, and you can sign up for a 30-minute time slot to record at the church on the following days:

**Thursday, January 14, 5–7 pm**

**Sunday, January 17, 10:30 am–2 pm**

**Thursday, January 21, 5–7 pm**

**Sunday, January 24, 10:30 am–2 pm**

Reserve your recording time at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090845A4AC238-talent>

# HAPPENING AT CtK



## Join Us for “What Camp Are You In?: Your Theology in 66 Verses”

All are invited to join **Pastor Brad** for “What Camp Are You In?: Your Theology in 66 Verses.” In this new class series, we’ll read our way through the Bible, one book at a time. As we finish each book, we’ll select one verse in the book that best reflects the heart of our faith.

Our December sessions covered the first two books of the Bible—Genesis and Exodus—so we will kick off the new year with a discussion of Leviticus on **Sunday, January 10**, and Numbers on **Sunday, January 24**. We will gather at 11:30 am via Zoom. Log in with meeting **840 2746 8346**

and passcode **243056**, or go to <https://www.ctluth.com/zoommeetings.html> for the one-click meeting link.

New faces are welcome anytime! For more information, please contact **Pastor Brad** or **Sarah Felde**.

## Kitchen Project Construction Under Way!

Construction on the kitchen project kicked into gear the week of December 14. The general contractor, Gibson Lewis, started demolition with removal of the cabinets and wall needed to make room for the new dishwashing area, dishwasher, refrigerator/freezer, and warming oven. The next major step will be cutting open the concrete floor for underground plumbing for the new dishwasher and sinks. The overall schedule presented by the contractor indicates there will be more demolition work next, with some breaks in action over the holidays and then kicking back into gear right after New Years. Purchasing of new appliances will be in progress as well.

The kitchen project is scheduled to be complete by the end of January, pending all goes as planned with construction work and appliance deliveries. Stay tuned for further updates. Please contact Tom Jordan at [tfjordan3@comcast.net](mailto:tfjordan3@comcast.net) if you have any questions.



# HAPPENING AT CtK



Please uphold in prayer the families of Jan Straw and Barb Janus at their deaths.

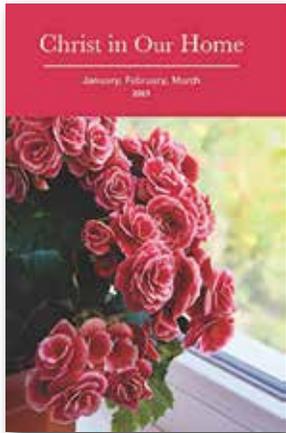
Please uphold Sara and Sean Kassen and family in prayer at the death of Sara's father, Greg Brockdorf.

Please uphold Deb Thomas in prayer at the death of Deb's mother-in-law, Charlyne Lind.

Please uphold Tom and Faith Jordan and family in prayer at the death of Tom's mother, Doris Jordan.

## Congratulations

We rejoice with Patrick and Emily Turner and big brother Theo at the birth of William Patrick Turner.



## Booklets Available

The *Christ in Our Home* booklet for January, February, and March is now available.

Copies can be found in a box in the front office vestibule or in the narthex vestibule. If you aren't able to leave your home, please contact **Geoff Layman** at (574) 302.1070 or [glayman@nd.edu](mailto:glayman@nd.edu), and he will make sure a member of "God's Army" delivers one to you.

## Online Prayer Requests

*Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. — Philippians 4:6*

Prayer requests may now be made online at [www.ctkluth.com](http://www.ctkluth.com). The names of those on our prayer list will be published (if the requester grants permission) each week in the worship folder. Names will be printed for four weeks per request.

If prayers should continue beyond four weeks, please fill out another request form on the web.

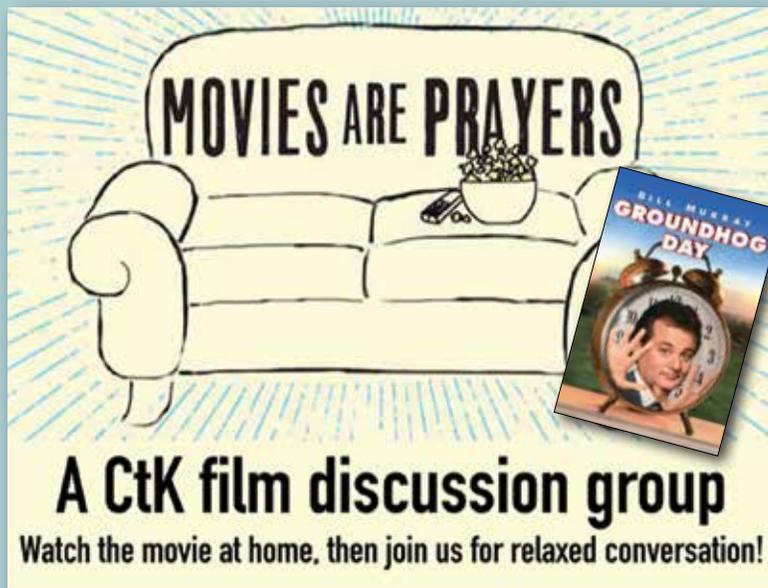


# HAPPENING AT CtK

## Parsing Scripture with Pastor Steve (PS2)

Join **Pastor Steve** for a closer look at the Scripture readings **Mondays at 7 pm**, either by using the computer for a video conference, or by calling in and participating over the phone.

Connect at [www.ctkluth.com/ps2](http://www.ctkluth.com/ps2).



## CtK Movie Club

Do you love watching (and talking about) movies? Do you want to form meaningful relationships with other CtK members through relaxed conversation? If so, join the CtK Movie Club on **Saturday, January 30, at 10 am**. The group will discuss **Groundhog Day**, which is currently streaming on Comcast Xfinity, available from local libraries, or can be borrowed from the church office.

Using film critic Josh Larsen's book *Movies Are Prayers* as a guide, the group meets monthly.

The films are not inherently religious (and some are rated R), but they all have thought-provoking messages about how we, as imperfect people, seek to find our place in the world and understand it better. More information is available on our website.

## Attention Families: Please Join Our Facebook Group!

All families with kids grade 5 and younger are invited to join our new Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ctkluthkids>.

Our goal is to use the group as a place to pass along important information, share fun ideas, and allow kids and families to stay in touch during COVID and beyond. Staff will add new content each week, but everyone is welcome to comment and/or post! Come join the conversation!

Please note that this is a closed group, so only other families from CtK will be able to see posted content. Also, all membership requests will be approved by CtK staff as an extra check to keep us safe and secure online.



# HAPPENING AT CtK



## Charlie Brown Christmas Program Highlights

Our amazing middle and high school youth pulled together, got creative, and put on a wonderful outdoor version of the “Charlie Brown Christmas” for the children and families of CtK this December. And what fun it was!

After many Zoom practices (including pre-recording the lines scene by scene), collecting and building props, and practicing movements and gestures in every scene, it all came together on December 19 in the CtK parking lot. Families came in their cars and listened to the program on their radios, much like drive-in worship. Attendees watched the youth act, dance, and even “ice skate” as they performed their version of this much-loved Christmas program. Children were also treated to Christmas goodies and hot chocolate, provided by the CFF committee and Sarah Felde.

A HUGE thank you goes out to Jill Harms, the director, and Adam Raschka, who pulled together all the audio and music for the show. And of course, thank you to all the youth who were the cast and crew!

**Charlie Brown:** Jensen Harms  
**Linus:** Tabby Kohlmeier  
**Lucy:** Addi Clark  
**Sally:** Leah Schuman  
**Snoopy:** Maryn Harms  
**Woodstock:** Ellie Satre  
**Violet:** Allison Roggow  
**Freida:** Ava Harms  
**Pig Pen:** Will Roggow  
**Schroder:** Joel Douhan

**Shermy:** Kane Copelin  
**Patty:** Ashlyn Kronewitter  
**Twins:** Kate Layman and Caroline Layman  
**Narrators:** Maryn Harms, Kate Layman, Caroline Layman, Allison Roggow, and Ellie Satre  
**Props:** Cooper Goddard and Molly Schuman  
**Costumes:** Ava Harms, Maryn Harms, Molly Schuman, and Tabby Kohlmeier  
**Sound:** Will Roggow

# SHARING OUR BLESSINGS IN UNUSUAL TIMES



In the midst of Covid-19, our natural inclination may be to “hunker down” until these unusual times pass. However, for many, the church in general and Christ the King in particular can serve to remind us that we worship a great God, even in these challenging times.

As a youngster, I used to love to ice skate. My favorite spot was a pond on my uncle’s property next door. Since I was a little pudgy, I was always aware that the thickness of the ice was of critical importance! If there was half an inch of ice, no matter how fervently I believed it was safe to skate, I was going to get wet! On the other hand, if there was 6 inches of ice, no matter how fervently I believed I was in danger, it was perfectly safe to skate out onto the ice. In a nutshell, my staying safe did not depend on the strength of my belief, but rather, it depended on the strength of the ice!

Likewise, our safety in these unusual times does not necessarily depend on the strength of our faith, but rather on the object of our faith. We are not called on to have a great faith in God, but rather, to have faith in a great God!

God’s call and our mission remain unchanged and unchanging: “We are called and sent to love and serve the world.” For CtK to fulfill our mission, we need to think about how best to share the blessings with which our great God has blessed us.

We have considered our financial resources and have completed the pledging process. At the congregational meeting on January 31, we’ll look at the budget, which is a reflection of how we will share our blessings in these unusual times. In addition to sharing our treasure, sharing our time and our talents is important. Although gatherings aren’t encouraged now, be creative in reaching out to others—to be a voice of understanding and encouragement, to be of service when needed, etc. Check out the *King’s Herald* or weekly e-news for opportunities.

We’re not on thin ice! To quote the beloved hymn “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.  
His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood;  
When all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay.

We have faithful assurance in the providence and ongoing care of our GREAT GOD.

**Jim Snodgrass**  
Stewardship of Life Committee

P.S. If you walk out on the ice this winter, be sure to first check its thickness!

# CtK BUSINESS UPDATE

## FINANCIAL GIVING STATEMENT – NOVEMBER 30, 2020

<b>Summary of Missional/Charitable Gifts</b>	<b><u>NOVEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
ELCA Mission Work	\$60	\$3,005
Community Mission	\$7,928	\$95,813
International Mission	\$1,123	\$24,779
INTO Mission Fund	\$2,535	\$7,544
Seminary Fund	\$235	\$11,924
CMG	\$10,525	\$77,297
Sunday School	\$27	\$7,719
Youth Activities	\$8	<u>\$25,002</u>
		\$253,084

**Operating Outlook** *(Monies used to pay benevolence to I/K Synod, utilities, staff salaries, and programming expenses)*

	<b><u>NOVEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
<b>Income</b>	\$49,446	\$653,070
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$50,397	\$542,890
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	(\$951)	\$110,180

	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
Trust Memorial Fund	\$5,189
Trust Endowment Fund	<u>\$121,185</u>
<b>Total</b>	\$126,374

**November Loose Offerings**

Sunbeam Boy's Home	\$896
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# CHRIST the KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

17195 Cleveland Road  
South Bend, IN 46635

*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America  
"God's Work. Our Hands."*

## Holy Communion

Bring your own to Sunday Drive-In  
Service or Worship on the Web.

## Office Hours

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Monday through Friday  
Phone: (574) 272.4306

## Seasons Counseling Center

(574) 277.0274

## Executive Director

Alexandra Sobieski

## Director of Operations

Deborah Campoli

## Business Director

Don Zerfas

*Professional counselors available by appointment.*

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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*"...[For] God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather  
a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline."*

**2 Timothy 1:7**



With the above words of holy encouragement ringing in our ears, this is how we as Christ the King will continue to proclaim God's love and grace, connect with each other in spite of "social distancing," and serve one another and the world around us. We have created a "new normal" by providing many different virtual opportunities to stay connected to CtK.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

There are two ways you can worship with fellow CtK members and guests each Sunday: Drive-in Worship in the parking lot at 9:30 a.m. or Holy Communion under the canopy at 11:15 a.m. Visit [ctkluth.com](http://ctkluth.com) for more information.

## WORSHIP ON THE WEB

We invite everyone to join us each Sunday either at their regularly scheduled worship time or any time during the day or week to celebrate worship. Visit [www.ctkluth.com/worship](http://www.ctkluth.com/worship) to find a worship video, the worship folder for Sunday's service, Taking Faith Home questions for discussion, and an online donation link to continue your tradition of giving at worship.

## WAYS TO CONNECT

Some groups and studies are meeting in person, and some continue to meet via Zoom (a free service that allows participants to "meet" through the Internet). Please visit [www.ctkluth.com](http://www.ctkluth.com) or call the church office for more information.