

# Christ Lutheran Church

The People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ

June 2021



Dear Friends,

Happy June to all of you. I read this quote from Bruce Lee (the martial artist/actor) the other day: “If you knew you had to fight for your life tomorrow, would you change your training today?”

I would assume most people would answer “yes” to that. Few of us live with the passion and focus and drive that we would if we knew that our life, or the life of a friend, might depend upon it tomorrow. But we should, because as Jesus himself said, this very night your life could be required of you.

To ask Bruce Lee’s question a bit differently: “If you knew your friend’s life would end tomorrow, would you change your way of evangelizing him/her today?” Again, I’m pretty sure that most of us would answer that question with a resounding “yes.”

Don’t wait until it is too late to share your faith in Jesus with others. Live your witness today as if life on this earth, for you or a friend, was ending tomorrow.

Have a blessed month,  
Pastor John

**Homeless Sack Lunches:** It is time to refresh our supply of items to serve the homeless community. As you purchase items, please be mindful of the expirations dates. Items needed are:

Protein—tuna, peanut butter, protein bars

Fruit—raisins, fruit cups

Breakfast/granola bars

Chips—individual bags

Dessert—pudding, jello cups

Gum/mints

To help not have an abundance of one item, please email ([office@christaustin.org](mailto:office@christaustin.org)) or call the church (512-442-5844) to let us know what you would like to bring. We will update our needs in the announcement sheet as they arise.



**PASTOR  
JOHN  
STENNFELD**

### Special Prayers in May Worship Services

**Freddie Richter** – In hospital with infection

**Geneva Mensing** – in rehab facility following hip surgery

**Bert and Louise Steunkel** – a number of health issues

**Yolanda & Jeremy Faulkner**—at the passing away of their husband/father (respectively), Jerome

**Nancy Gustafson**—Pastor John’s aunt, going into hospice.

### Stewardship Verse

<sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, <sup>4</sup> what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? <sup>5</sup> You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. <sup>6</sup> You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: <sup>7</sup> all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, <sup>8</sup> the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

Psalm 8:3-8

### WHAT’S INSIDE

**2-3 Around the Church**

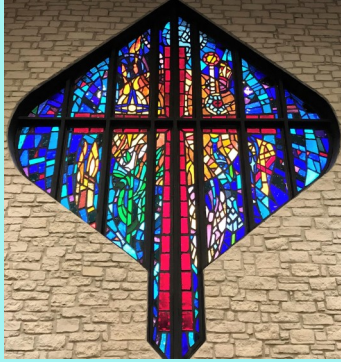
**4 Celebrations!**

**Please view back page for guidelines on returning to the sanctuary for service.**





# Letter from the President



## Mission Statement

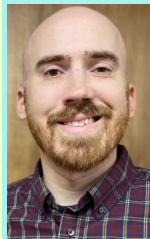
*The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to connect people to Jesus through:*

- ✚ *Inspirational Worship*
- ✚ *Loving Service*
- ✚ *Caring Fellowship*
- ✚ *Relevant Education*

*So that they may know, and grow in, his love.*

**Creative Communication and Community Connections**

**Jordan Boessling**



Just a reminder that we often take photos, and at times, video, of ministry events to put up around Church on the screen on Sundays and to post to the web that publicizes the worship, service, fellowship, and education life of Christ Lutheran.

We are now a little over a year since we resumed in person worship and it is good to see that we are starting to see a consistent number of members attending worship. We have been averaging a little over 60 members attending each week. Both the elders and council met in the month of May and decided that we want to start to reduce some of the restrictions that we had in place due to Covid 19 and try to get back to some sense of normalcy. We have removed the seating restrictions and have started using the hymnals. Even though we removed the seating restriction, we do ask members to respect the space of other members when it comes to sitting near other members. We now have ushers handing out bulletins as well as ushering for communion and out of church. We are currently looking for volunteers to serve as ushers. Also, the fellowship committee has reintroduced a fellowship time after the service. We would like to see if we can get more members involved in this fellowship hour, if you are interested in helping or providing a snack, please reach out to Kimberly Schaare at [schaarehome@gmail.com](mailto:schaarehome@gmail.com).

Also, the Council decided that we will be hosting the pumpkin patch this year. I know that it is a little early, but I wanted to get this in the mind of the members. We will need many members to volunteer to help pull this off. This is a very good outreach that we provide the community and I ask anyone that can help please consider to do so.

Please continue to keep Christ Lutheran Church in your prayers as well as Pastor John and Jordan as they continue to bring the word of God to us every Sunday. Please continue to contribute to the church so that we can continue to bring the word of God not only to the members of Christ Lutheran Church, but to those that might find our website or our YouTube channel.

David Schaare

## Children's Discipleship Class

We will resume Sunday morning discipleship classes for our children beginning on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 a.m. They will meet in the Puppet House room to begin each Sunday. Class will go from 10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. We hope to see your children there.

## Thursday Morning Bible Class

We are making plans for Fall 2021 to resume this mid-week class on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in Classroom 7 & 8. In August, we'll begin to take orders for the CPH Life Light - Selected Psalms study guide workbooks. We'll start the ten weeks of material on September 9, and complete the course on November 11.

Jordan

## Pumpkin Patch

We are moving forward with hosting a 2021 Pumpkin Patch at Christ, and we need your help in order to provide this Loving Service again for our community. We are waiting to hear back regarding if the pumpkins will be delivered on either Thursday, October 14 at 6:00 p.m., or Saturday, October 16 at 8:00 a.m. More details to follow regarding opportunities to advertise this event, decorate the patch, and help with the unloading fellowship, and to sell the pumpkins. Please contact Jordan, or Deborah Bynum, regarding this year's pumpkin patch.

## Flower Chart

Given by...

### June 6

Jeremy & Mildred Westfall

### June 13

Doug & Deborah Bynum

### June 20

Ellen & Gerald Decker

Thank God for His blessings

By Lucille Herrera

### June 27

Pam & David Hamil

Fred & Dorothy Anniversary  
By Mark Vrael & Brenda Richter





## Eunice Guild

This page is sponsored by  
the Women of the Eunice Guild.



St. Paul says in 2 Tim. 1:5, that Eunice, the mother of Timothy, was a woman of "sincere faith." She loved her Lord and Savior, and she lived her faith. It is our prayer that we may all be granted this same sincere faith. God be with you and bless you as you spend time in Meditation and in Cooking With Eunice.

### Meditation

#### "Just Outside Our Doors for 75 Years!"

Several years ago, I was sitting in our truck parked on Monroe Street in front of our church. Through open windows I heard the hum of a lawn mower, weed-eater, and leaf-blower as my husband, Bill, and brother, Nathan, worked their weekly landscaping chores. It was fun to watch. They seldom spoke, moving from one task to the next, starting and stopping equipment with an ever-changing rhythm. Every so often, there would be the tsch, tsch, tsch of a rake, or the clip, clip, clip of hedge shears. It was mesmerizing, and oddly, very relaxing. I looked forward to the times I could accompany them. This particular day was during the SXSW Music Festival, and I heard a different sound mixed into that of the lawn work. It was the sound of languages unfamiliar to me, and varying accents, being spoken by the many folks walking by on their way to South Congress Avenue venues. Later, Bill and I talked about the diverse cultures, and differing principles and beliefs, just outside our church's doors, and the challenges they present for Christian churches. It's evident by those that have left this neighborhood to follow their congregants and those of more like-minded beliefs, out to the city edges and suburbs. But we concluded it was really a privilege to have been placed here, in this time, by the Lord! He has a job for us and has kept our family of faith, most traveling many miles into the city for Sunday worship, steadfast! In a letter to the Christians scattered throughout the Roman world, Peter tells them to remain steadfast in the true faith, and to live as God's people. "Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us" (1 Peter 2:11-12). Bill knew people were watching, and hoped a church lovingly cared for, would be one way to witness to the One we worship. Maybe this would somehow be indicative of the hope, peace and joy we know in Christ. If someone watching longed for this, maybe they'd see something here that would someday help bring them to faith by the Holy Spirit. He was absolutely right. As St. Peter said, "they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us!" It occurred to me that perhaps the Holy Spirit has even worked through the COVID "distancing" by drawing us outside to our church's porch on Sunday mornings. Our laughter, handshakes, and even some sneaked in hugs must be a wonderful display of our brotherly love! Our church's first worship service was held at this property on May 5, 1946, some 75 years ago, when this was on the far south edge of Austin. My family lived in this neighborhood and first worshipped here in 1956. I know well that this was always a rather eclectic neighborhood, even by Austin standards, but with more of a visible Christian presence than now. Through the years, other churches have closed, dropped affiliations from their names, or changed their focus, and even their principles, to entice new faces. Thankfully, by God's Grace, Christ Lutheran Church has held firm to the one true faith, and pressed forward with the courage found in the One who we confess and for whom we are named. We are built on a living "precious cornerstone," Jesus Christ, "the same yesterday and today and forever!" (Heb. 13:8). St. Peter said we "are a chosen people belonging to God, that we may declare the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His wonderful light" (1 Peter 2:9)! When we come together, often, in displays of love and joy, and when we fill our church, it is absolutely a declaration of the Savior! We don't know what tomorrow may bring, but for now, the Lord has placed us here, in this time - and the whole world, just outside our doors, is watching! *With the Joy of Christ! Duannah*

#### Banana-Nut Pound Cake

Adapted from Better Homes and Gardens Dec. 2012 Grand Prize Recipe. So good and stays moist! Also freezes well.

- 3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 8-oz. pkg cream cheese, room temp
- 1/2 cup butter, room temp
- 3 cups granulated sugar
- 4 eggs, room temp
- 2 or 3 bananas, mashed (about 1 cup)
- 1/4 cup bourbon (or milk, or combination)
- 1 Tbsp vanilla
- 1 cup chopped pecans, toasted

Preheat oven to 325°. Grease & flour a 10-inch tube or Bundt pan. Combine flour, baking powder & salt. Set aside. In large bowl, beat cream cheese & butter with electric mixer until combined. Gradually add sugar, beating about 7 minutes or until light. Add eggs, one at a time, beating 1 minute after each. In separate bowl, combine bananas, bourbon & vanilla. Alternately add flour mixture and banana mixture to butter mixture, beating on low after each addition just until combined. Stir in pecans. Spread evenly in pan. Bake for 80 minutes. Toothpick inserted near center should come out clean. Cool cake in pan on rack for 10 minutes. Remove from pan and finish cooling on rack. Great just plain, or sprinkle with powdered sugar. On a hot summer day, serve with berries & whipped cream, or ice cream!





## Birthdays

Ethan Scott Castille	6/4
Pamela Herber	6/5
Juliana Ramirez	6/5
Paul LaGrone	6/6
Dale Brodbeck	6/8
Katy Herber	6/8
Liz LaGrone	6/10
Deborah Bynum	6/12
Dolores Dunn	6/17
Paul Kern	6/18
Joe Cano	6/20
Gwendy Lewis	6/20
Pamela Hamil	6/21
Rosa Williams	6/22
Lucille Herrera	6/24
Jeremy Faulkner	6/26
Clyde Crow	6/27

## Anniversaries

**Jimmy & Mildred Westfall**  
6/3/1961

**Paul & Alicia Kern**  
6/3/2005

**Jim & MaryLou Moore**  
6/7/1975

**Andy & Shelbi Hentschke**  
6/13/2009

**David & Kimberly Schaare**  
6/18/1994

**Don & Gwendy Lewis**  
6/21

**Mark & Pamela Herber**  
6/24/2000

**Freddie & Dorothy Richter**  
6/25/1960

**David & Pamela Hamil**  
6/27/1998

## Changes to Our Livestream Worship

As our congregation continues to return to the sanctuary to worship together as the body of Christ, our personnel resources will shift toward that focus also. That being said, our livestream of the worship service will now consist of a stationary camera with a wide angle view of the altar area throughout.

The weekly bulletin, and other service materials, will continue to be emailed out each week, as well as be available for download off of our website, for all those who still desire to worship from home. A closeup view of the screen will no longer be on the livestream, so those wanting to sing or read along should plan to print out the bulletin for their use at home each week.

## Sunday Morning Schedule (until further notice)

### **Worship at 9:30 am**

(For in-person attendance & streamed via Facebook Live)

### **Discipleship Classes at 10:45 am** (For in-person attendance only)

Pastor's - Fellowship Hall

Children's - Start in Tree House Room

## Lectors

June 6	Gary Lippe
June 13	Alan Werchan
June 20	Pachalin Stennfeld
June 27	Donn Trautner

## Online Giving

A word of thanks to all of you for your continued support of our ministry here at Christ Lutheran Church, and a special note of thanks to all of you who have chosen to give online through our website with the Vanco portal. In a time of less volunteerism due to Covid-19 and such, the online giving is less cumbersome and more streamlined for our Financial Secretary to manage. That being said, we would ask those of you giving through this online way to consider giving through your bank accounts (savings or checking) as opposed to using a credit/debit card. We are charged a 2.75% transaction fee whenever a credit/debit card is used, and while that may not seem like a lot for a \$25 offering (\$0.69 fee), for a \$500 offering (\$13.75 fee) those fees become quite significant. Again, we are grateful for any and all offerings and gifts to Christ Lutheran, but in order to be the best stewards of what God has entrusted to us we do kindly ask all of you credit debit card givers to consider using one of your bank accounts instead. Thank you.