

Christ Church **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

THE CHRONICLES SEPTEMBER 2020

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PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Church,

This August I had military duty in North Dakota for the first time since the pandemic began. From the moment I returned to Grand Forks Air Force Base, I realized things would be different than they were last year. I did not love all the changes that took place, but I know they were made to keep me and the other personnel on base safe. Throughout the summer we have been exploring scriptures that have to deal with the theme of return or emergence in the Bible. During the pandemic, these passages have helped shape our imagination, tempered our expectations, and perhaps framed our understanding of what has happened in the world around us.

This August we explored a variety of themes during worship. Noah and his family in the book of Genesis showed us what it was like to step onto dry land after the Great Flood. We explored the Prophet Isaiah's words about the Israelite peoples' return "home" after decades of exile in Babylon. We journeyed with the first disciples in the four canonical gospels as they returned to the empty tomb. These faithful followers of Christ gave us a range of emotional responses to what they experienced. We witnessed the shattered expectations and upset hopes of onlookers during Jesus' Palm Sunday procession to Jerusalem.

This September our sermon series will continue to expand on the themes of emergence and return. The hope of these scriptures is that we can recognize how the ancestors of our faith stand in solidarity with us as we struggle, try to make meaning, wrestle with, and find ourselves wanting and wishing things to be like they were back in February and early March. As we continue to emerge from our current circumstances and face a rapidly developing "new normal" – these scriptures provide insight, comfort, and hope for our future.

Although COVID disrupted all our regular summer events, it has opened doors for several new ministry opportunities for our church. I do not know if you are aware or not, but we have a covenant with several churches on the south side of Milwaukee. We began serving meals with our neighboring churches outside on the sidewalk in front of the Christ Church back in June. At first only two or three diners came when we served the meals.

However, it was not long after that we began to run out of food and needed more. You have helped feed hungry people this summer.

This September will be different than September's past. We generally would have a Rally Day celebration and church picnic in the park. The point of Rally Day is to get people to come home to church, but during this time we must exercise restraint and caution. During this time there will not be a celebratory picnic or food like we have had in the past. It will be a first in our church's history.

This fall also offers unique learning opportunities for our students. Many if not all students that attend Christ Church will be doing virtual or remote learning during the fall semester. To help protect our teachers and children, we will not resume in person children's church until it is safe to do so. This will be historic for our church.

I wanted to share this news with you because as people continue to emerge from their current situations and return to places and spaces, it is up to us to creatively and responsibly listen to the spirit of God and how God calls us to serve as a church. The pandemic has been the most challenging experience that has occurred during my five-year tenure at Christ Church, and perhaps most significant challenge in the Church in modern Christian history. It has been hard on us as a congregation and in each of our individual lives.

Many of us are grieving the loss of something in our lives right now. For some of us, we lost a lot on the front-end of the pandemic. On the other hand, some of us have just recently experienced losses – as we have returned to spaces and places that are important to us and have begun to see how different things are. Maybe you feel this way about church. Your sadness, anger, and anxiety are all connected to grief. When you bring these emotions to church, it is my hope that you bring them to God. I am hopeful you will not direct them at the staff, volunteers, and anyone who has helped make our return to worship in person possible. They have sacrificed a lot for us to be where we are on this journey.

Ever since March, the staff and I have worked in concert with the church council, property, and other appropriate committees at the church to get us back to worship in person without incident. Achieving our return to worship in person took many people, countless hours of research, policy writing, implementation, as well as training and manhours from volunteers. Virtually every change and adjustment that has taken place in the last 6 months have been “firsts” for our church (and our society). Did we do everything perfectly? Of course not, but the fact that we have been able physically convene when over half of the churches in Wisconsin have not is a historical win in my book.

It is my prayer that you can sit with some of the scriptures we have explored for our sermon series over the past two months. Who might you identify with? Which character or story relates to you in your life right now? Which scripture speaks to you or your family during this time? As we continue to emerge and return to places and spaces we long to be, may God bless you and keep you.

With gratitude,

Pastor Dan



PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

I really enjoy reading profound quotes from clever people. Some of the quotes are so steeped in truth and honesty it brings a smile to my face. I love this one by Albert Einstein "The only difference between genius and insanity is that genius has its limits." Good one, huh? Here's one from Margaret Thatcher "Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you are, you aren't." I think everyone gets that message. If you have to tell someone what you are they obviously can't see it for themselves so you need to tell them or they wouldn't know.

You have to live a little to fully appreciate the truths that these quotes contain. In my personal experience I have found that usually honest basic truths can be communicated this way, in very few words and right to the point. It's when we start to stray from basic truths that's where many words are needed and the communication then tends to stray into a kind of editorial or statement expressing someone's views rather than a simple truth.

You can tell a lot about what a person values, or at least what impacted them the most by listening to them. For example, if a group of people go to restaurant you may hear comments like "the food was good" or "the service was lousy" or "the atmosphere was pleasant". Each comment gives insight into what thoughts that person carried away from their restaurant visit.

When we leave worship, whether online or in person, what are we thinking about? Are we letting the scripture reading roll around in our mind or we thinking that the music choice was bad, or the video camera angle was great, or that maybe you don't really need to worship anymore because it's really not "church" when it's on the computer. We should always have our priorities straight and that means worshipping our Lord is our highest priority. Whether that can be done in person, online, in another church, or simply by yourself in prayer. The next highest priority is to love your neighbor after you've worshipped your Creator. We should constantly make these commandments our goals and minimize our distractions on other things like the way someone is dressed or what their political views are.

Oh yeah, before I forget to tie in my comments about profound quotes. How about this quote? "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me". (John 14:6 NIV). How about this one? "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you". (John 14:20 NIV)

As children of God and family members of Christ Church we all have our likes and dislikes, our own preferences, and peculiarities. let's not be distracted by those and concentrate only on those profound words from Jesus and the eternity that is promised to each of us. Let's not have to tell someone we are Christians.

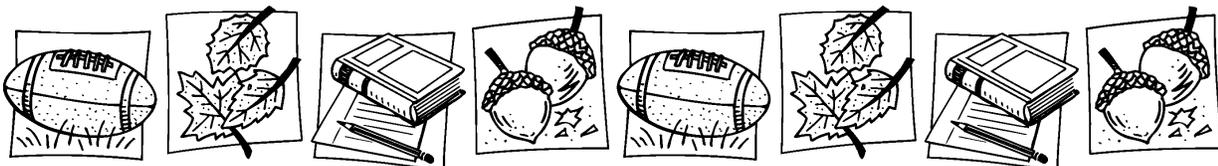
Dean

ONLINE GIVING IN LIGHT OF THE CORONOVIRUS

Online giving is essential during this time! You can pay with an existing PayPal account. For first time users just go to the church website and click on the donate button and you can donate with a credit card. Feel free to contact Pastor Dan pastor@uccmke.org or contact the church for assistance at 414-481-3530 or office@uccmke.org. Thank You!

SIGN UP: WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

If you're interested in receiving the *Christ Church Weekly*, please contact Debbie the Church Administrator (office@uccmke.org) to be added to the list (414-481-3530).



ATTENDING WORSHIP DURING COVID 19

(A recording of the Sunday service will be posted online late afternoon or early evening as possible.)

*Welcome! Please **enter using the Lenox St. door only**. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early.

***Sanitize** your hands upon entry either at the stairway or landing of the Lenox St. entrance.

*Have your **temperature taken** (must be below 100 degrees to attend worship).

*If your temperature is 100 or over you will be asked to return home to care for yourself

***Put on a mask** (You can bring your own or a disposable one will be provided)

***Register** with the usher. Provide your name and contact information.

*Using the **6ft social distancing** markers make your way towards the Sanctuary.

*If you need to use the rest room please sanitize the room according to the posted instructions.

***An usher will escort you to a seat**, (large print bulletins and hearing devices will be made available to those in need of them)

***Offerings** and envelopes can be placed in the offering trays on your way in or out of the sanctuary.

*On Communion Sundays you will be invited to take a **disposable wafer and cup** as you enter the sanctuary.

*After worship, the **ushers will direct you out of the sanctuary** using the Lenox St. exit.

*Please use the **hand sanitizer as you exit the Sanctuary**.

*An **outdoor informal coffee** hour will be held outside of the Lenox st. entrance following worship.

Additional Information

*Video Screens will be used for worship.

*Collection plates will not be passed. Donations should be placed in the trays upon entering or leaving the Sanctuary.

*Communion trays will not be passed. Disposable elements can be picked up prior to entering the Sanctuary.

*Prayer requests will be announced by the Pastor. Please submit them to Pastor Dan or Debbie during the week by phone or email.

*At this time there will not be any childcare or nursery care available.

*The only rooms currently open for use on Sunday mornings are the Sanctuary and restrooms.

*The Chapel will only be opened by an usher for seating if all seating is utilized in the Sanctuary.

CLASSES AND MEETINGS DURING COVID 19

If your group/class would like to return to meeting at the church building, please do the following so we can properly sanitize and prepare the room.

*Contact the church office to reserve a room for your desired meeting date.

*You will be assigned a room that will fit the size of your group for proper social distancing.

*Upon entering the building please wear a mask and use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. entrance.

*Sign the attendance sheet on the clipboard that will be found in your room.

*When your meeting is completed please clean all door handles, tables, chairs, and surfaces that were used or contacted during your meeting. Each room has a caddy equipped with wipes/spray, gloves and paper towels.

*Initial the attendance sheet that the room has been sanitized.

*Prior to exiting the building, once again, please use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. door.

NEED: BVCC FOOD & INFANT FORMULA PANTRY

You can still donate to the pantry as the Food pantry at the BVCC remains open.

All other activities and classes have been cancelled for the time being.

They are in desperate need of the following: Macaroni & Cheese, Chicken Noodle & Tomato Soups, Peanut Butter, Jams & Jellies.

You can bring your food donations directly to the BVCC @ 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave.:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm.



DO YOU NEED FOOD ASSISTANCE? THE BVCC FOOD PANTRY IS HERE FOR YOU!

Typically, if you live in the following zip codes: 53207, 53215 (you must live south of Becher, East of 27th St., and your address must be 2000 and up), 53221, and 53235 you may come to the Food Pantry with a photo ID from someone in your household to receive food.

NEED: SHARING OUR SUPPERS (SOS) VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Every Friday thru November 20th, our church is the food distribution site for 40 restaurant prepared meals, bottled water, and 40 bag lunches. Those who come for food are homeless or referred to us from Bay View Community Center. Since the pandemic, Divine Intervention has been unable to provide face to face services for the homeless in Bay View. Pastor Karen from Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church has coordinated this meal distribution through a variety of church contacts and organizations. The restaurant meals are provided through Meals Matter Movement and the lunches are prepared by individuals from churches in the support group for Divine Intervention.

How can you help?

Be the Christ Church building representative. Responsibilities include: set up of the outside serving table, signage and cones for distancing; bring up the water from the refrigerator and coolers for keeping food cold/warm; assist with meal drop off and distribution; Return coolers, signage, table, to the basement and sanitize the areas used before leaving the church. The time required is 4:45 PM to approximately 6:15 PM on a Friday night of your choosing.

Donate heavy duty disposable plastic forks and knives. Please drop them off at church during office hours or on a Sunday. They can be left outside of the church office.

If you would like more information please contact Jim or Randene Wick, 414-614-2622, wickrl.51@gmail.com.

MUSIC NEWS

I send you greetings from all of the faithful members of our choir and praise team! We miss all of you and we certainly miss being a part of the music ministry at Christ Church. Our singers have been dedicated musicians for many years and feel a real void in their lives at this time. Group singing, such as singing in choirs and small groups, has been strongly discouraged by health experts. We are fortunate to have a number of soloists who have come forward to offer their talents and we thank them for their gifts of time and talent.

This time of year has always brought feelings of excitement and anticipation. The choir is usually busy preparing for Rally Sunday and our praise team is happy to start our September rehearsals. Dean and I host our annual music party and we all share a great meal together and catch up on all the summertime news.

While we truly miss our traditions of singing and fellowshiping together, we look forward to the time when we can worship and sing praises to God together, as one. One voice, one family, in Christ.

Blessings to you and yours,
Pam Kothrade



UPDATE: CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

We would like to have every reader able to enjoy our book club discussions. We are going to see how the reopening at church proceeds and also small group meetings. While we all miss our time together for now the book club will take a break. When we do resume we will give you enough notice so you can have time to read the book. Stay safe and healthy!

Carol Dohoney, Debbie Hansen and Mary Ann Mowery

SCHEDULES FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP, EVENTS MEETINGS

Pastor on military duty in North Dakota

Friday September 4th: DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30p. Building Reps.: The Wicks

Sunday September 6th: In person worship with communion 9:30am. Outdoor coffee hour 10:30am.

Monday September 7th: Happy Labor Day!

Tuesday September 8th: Quilters 10:00am

Friday September 11th: DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30p. Building Reps.: The Wicks

Sunday September 13th: In person worship 9:30am. Outdoor coffee hour 10:30am.

Monday September 14th: Possible Property Committee Meeting 7:00pm.

Tuesday September 15th: Possible Council meeting viz zoom.

Friday September 18th: October Chronicles newsletter submissions by 10:00am please,
DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30p. Building Rep.: Volunteer(s) needed.

Saturday September 19th: Crochet Class 10:00am

Saturday September 19th-Wednesday September 30th: Pastor Dan in Grand Forks for Military Duty.

Sunday September 20th: In person worship with communion 9:30am. Outdoor coffee hour 10:30am.

Tuesday September 22nd: Annual Document submissions due, Quilters 10:00am.

Friday September 25th: DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30pm. Building Rep.:
Volunteer(s) needed.

Sunday September 27th: In person worship 9:30am. Possible Outdoor coffee hour 10:30am.

QUILTERS

The Piece and Plenty Quilters will meet at church on Tuesdays at 10:00am on September 8th & September 22nd. Randene Wick, Gloria Konkel, Julie Oren and Joyce Zieman.

CROCHETERS

Crochet class will be held Saturday September 19th at 10:00am in the music room. For information please contact Ken Klockow.

SE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 10TH

This meeting will still be held at Christ Church. Anyone who volunteered to help will still be needed for the October 10th date.

USHER SCHEDULE

9/6 Ben Clark Chelsea Clark Chuck Terlinden Volunteer Needed	9/13 Mary Ann Mowery Chuck Terlinden Randene Wick Volunteer Needed	9/20 Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	9/27 Mary Ann Mowery Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed
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LITURGIST SCHEDULE

9/6	9/13 Jim Wick	9/20	9/27 Randene Wick
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WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

9/6	Exodus 12:1-14 and Psalm 149	Ezekiel 33:7-11 and Psalm 119:33-40	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
9/13	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21	Genesis 50:15-21 and Psalm 103: (1-7), 8-13	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
9/20	Exodus 16:2-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45	John 3:10-4:11 and Psalm 145:1-8	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16
9/27	Exodus 17:1-7 and Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 and Psalm 25:1-9	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THESE WONDERFUL FOLKS!

SEPTEMBER 3

Rebecca Berger
Brad Bingheim
Ryan Gaeth
Lynn Schmeling

SEPTEMBER 6

Ella Malecki

SEPTEMBER 9

Tiffany Buell

SEPTEMBER 11

Charlotte Stark

SEPTEMBER 13

Marian Witter

SEPTEMBER 15

David Hansen

SEPTEMBER 17

Jack Tremarello

SEPTEMBER 19

Jill Unglaub

SEPTEMBER 20

Pat Popp

SEPTEMBER 21

Brad Boyle
Melissa Wells-Nyklewicz

SEPTEMBER 22

Bob Fine
Elias Franco

SEPTEMBER 23

Jean Flynn
Madeline Norton



PRAYERS

Hear Our Prayers, O God...

For health & healing: *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* Ps. 147:3

We pray for:

- ~Traci, daughter of Nancy Kaye who needs a liver transplant and is in critical condition in the ICU.
- ~Christ Church member Leone Krueger who is receiving therapy for arthritis and spasms in her back.
- ~Jean, mother of Klockows son in law Karl, as she has stage 4 inoperable brain cancer.
- ~Jeff and wife Mary, friends of Andy Oren as Jeff had heart surgery this past Thursday. Prayers for a speedy recovery.
- ~Emily, daughter of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba, as she received positive MRI results and awaits her future treatment plan.
- ~Dawn, daughter in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, as she deals with many medical issues involving complications of Diabetes.
- ~Linda who resides in Connecticut, daughter of Jackie Struck who was able to return home from rehab last week. Prayers for continued healing.
- ~The members of First Congregational UCC Cedar Rapids, IA as they are in the midst of disaster relief efforts to their neighborhood from the damaging storm several weeks back. Prayers that God would bless their work with resources and volunteers to meet the challenges of this work. From Paul Mayeshiba

~Sue Klockow's brother and Ken's sister who were both hospitalized and both have now been moved to rehab.

~Duane Wielepski, father, and father in-law of Ryan & Jamie Wielepski as his cancer has returned and will be treated with chemo.

~The family of Ken and Sue who live in California close to where the fires are happening.

~Mackenzie, 3-year-old granddaughter of Pam Kothrade's good friend, who has been diagnosed with a brain defect that affects the flow of spinal fluid from the brain to the spinal column. We are asking for prayers for Mackenzie and her entire family.

~Lou Ann and her brother Herb, friend of Jill Unglaub, as he copes with Stage 4 lung cancer.

~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck as Joe continues to recuperate at home after several months in the hospital and rehab center.

~Julene Flanagan's nephew who is dealing with Bipolar disorder and now out of the hospital struggling to get into a healthy daily routine.

~Jan Breitzman, Debbie Hansen's best friend Pam's mother who is resting at home after completing her 1st round of chemo. She will receive another next week.

~Greg, son of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba who continues to travel the state with the National Guard now thru the rest of the year assisting in setting up test sites long term and short term.

~Nick, Brad and Nancy Charles nephew, who is battling heroin addiction, is out of prison and now in halfway house placement. Prayers for his family as well.

~Julene Flanagan's husbands uncle from Alaska who is suffering from Kidney Disease and is now in assisted living and for his son who is going thru health issues as well.

~Newborn preemie siblings Millie and Margot, nieces of a friend of Sonia Stark born at 28 weeks, as they grow and make gains at home.

~Cooper, Pastor Dan's family dog, who is recovering from pancreatitis. "He is 13 but we're not quite ready to say goodbye yet. He seems to be responding well to his treatment plan." From the Pastor Dan.

~All frontline workers in our families, communities and around the globe.

JOY

~Christopher, the Mayeshiba's daughter in-law's brother has been released from the hospital after a 111 day stay. Thank you for all of your prayers!

THANK YOU

~"Thank you, Pastor Dan, for the wonderful ceremony last Saturday at the marriage of our granddaughter Abigail Simons to Dr. Sam Kortes. It was a special occasion and even more so that you were there to officiate. We appreciate your kind words and the fact that you could put up with the "silliness" of our family. Blessings, Jon & Noelle Simons."

~Thanks for all of the prayers for our daughter in-law's brother Christopher, who is now at home after a 111 day stay in the hospital. We thank you for all of your prayers.
From Paul & Doris Mayeshiba.

~We accept with gratitude appreciation a memorial gift in memory of Fritz Jorgenson from Gloria Konkel. "Our sympathy to everyone who was counted among friends of Fritz. A profound loss of not only Fritz's proficiency but for his friendship."

~We accept with gratitude and appreciation a memorial donation in memory of "Fritz" Jorgenson from long time coworker at Delco Electronics Ken Nelson and Christ Church member Jackie Struck .

Puzzle!

Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below to discover what Jesus says about his friends.



" Y

JOHN 15:14, NIV

Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV



Just for KIDS

Bugs in the Bible



Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs! Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible. 

Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse. Circle them in the puzzle below.

Proverbs 6:6 _____	Exodus 16:20 _____
Psalms 78:45 _____	1 Sam. 24:14 _____
Matt. 23:24 _____	Isaiah 50:9 _____
Judges 14:8 _____	Isaiah 59:5 _____
Acts 12:23 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	
Deuteronomy 7:20 _____	

M	O	T	H	S	G	N	A	T	B	H
A	N	T	A	L	L	C	H	P	E	O
G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R
G	F	C	R	I	C	K	E	T	S	N
O	L	S	P	I	D	E	R	S	B	E
T	E	C	L	O	C	U	S	T	D	T
S	A	E	F	K	A	T	Y	D	I	D
G	F	L	I	E	S	W	O	R	M	S

Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet, maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket

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THE CHRONICLES

SEPTEMBER 2020



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Name: _____

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(Please submit this information to the church office)

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