

Christiania Newsletter

May 2023

*We start with Christ
in our serving, in our caring,
and in our growing*

SENIOR PASTOR JON RHODES



Do you not perceive it, friends?

Can't you see it?

As God has done so often before, over the course of all human history, God is doing a new thing—doing many new things. Here at Christiania: all the discussion, planning, prepping, committing, and waiting are behind us—they are now considered *former* and *things of old*. It is now time for our sanctuary to be refreshed. May has arrived and now the work of the Refresh Project “*springs forth*.” What an excellent time this is in the history of Christiania; and change is ahead.

In order to Refresh our sanctuary and our building, we will experience change. Our leaders are thinking about good ways to provide intentional communication as we begin the actual work of the project. For the coming five months, between May 1 and Oct 1, we'll be moving our worship space, adjusting our Vacation Bible School (VBS) schedule, and changing our midweek worship practices. The Fellowship area will become our primary worship space through July. In August and September, we expect to worship at the New Market Township Hall.

Some of what is to come will be familiar while some of what is to come will be different. Dr. Matt, Pastor Jon, the Prayground, Pews, Altar Table, and Pulpit are all likely to be familiar but facing east windows, in a slightly different format, with everything printed in the bulletin (no projected screen), in our Fellowship Area will be different. In the weeks ahead we may need to enter and exit church via different doors or sit in a different space.

Nick Clark (Interim Youth Minister), Sue Megrund (Interim Communications), and Pete Erickson (assisting with Discovery Team), are all doing a new thing with us. Partnering with Christiania, the good folks from InterServe Ministries are helping us move from the former things to the new things God is doing. They have pulled multiple teams together for the discussion, preparation, and planning. I expect they will also make space for many of your voices to join in the conversation as we consider the new things here at Christiania—especially regarding future staffing needs and communicating more effectively.

Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

(Isaiah 43:18-19)

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A WORD FROM PASTOR (continued from page 1)

In the weeks and months ahead our staff and leaders will be seeking to proactively communicate what is to come and are prepared to field any questions and concerns you have. Christiania's homepage www.christianialutheranchurch.org and Facebook page are likely to be the most up-to-date sources of information. For those of you regularly worshipping online, please know this: we will continue to provide streaming worship for our services.

Holy Scripture reminds us that children are a sure sign of God's blessing. The gospel of Mark (chapter 10) reports on Jesus' interaction as "*People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them* (v. 13)." They wanted to receive Jesus' blessing but the disciples, thinking they were protecting the savior, tried to steer these people and their kids away, "*...and the disciples spoke sternly to them* (v. 10b). Jesus, however, makes clear (as reported in verse 14) they are not only welcome but necessary, "But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, '*Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.*'" Jesus then challenges, "*Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it* (v. 15)." Jesus then blessed them: "*And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them* (v. 16)." We too share Christ's blessing with young people and their families when we welcome them and bless them. Our worship and ministries provide wonderful opportunities to do Christ's work and bless children and their families.

God's people desire to bless children. The past months have provided ample opportunity to be blessed with all the sights and sounds of little beings in our midst. I take delight in the wonderful gift God is providing. The kids come to church with their moms and dads and their grandparents. Our faith and future are found in these relationships. Story time in worship and our Playground space in Christiania's sanctuary provide two examples of blessing children.

How can we participate in the new things God is doing? Show up. Be present. Thank parents and grandparents for bringing their littles to church. Thank you's can be spoken directly or sent in a card or letter. Friends, remember Jesus "*...took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.*" Paul reminds us, *So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!* (2 Corinthians 5:17). Let us, the people of Christiania, be like Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 12 and *be blessed to be a blessing* for the sake of God's world.

God loves you and so do I!
Pastor Jon

Come & Worship

All Worship Services are offered in person as well as online via YouTube unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, May 3: 6:30 pm Midweek Worship with Communion

Sunday, May 7: 9:00 am Worship with Communion

Wednesday, May 10: 6:30 pm Midweek Worship with Communion

Sunday, May 14: 9:00 am Worship

Wednesday, May 17: 6:30 pm Midweek Worship

Sunday, May 21: 9:00 am Worship with Communion

Wednesday, May 24: 6:30 pm Midweek Worship with Communion

Sunday, May 28: 9:00 am Worship

Wednesday, May 31: No Midweek Worship

For these of our congregation:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Gordy Thompson | Eunice Ott |
| Ken Beske | Jeff Otto |
| Denny Carey | Colleen Powell |
| Susie Stiehl | Sharon Syverson |
| Ken Maxa | Karen Erickson |
| Sierra Hansen | Bonnie Lindquist |
| Lynn Dale | Lyle Kuehn |
| Lois Haglund | Don Eide |
| Don Storlie | |

For those who mourn:

Arnie Karlsen and Family: children: Tricia (Richard) and Erik (Deb); grandchildren: CJ, Michaela, Sheridan, Tyson, Becca, Michael, and Toni, great grandchild Maddox; and several foster children, as they mourn the loss of Candy Karlsen. Candy passed away on April 15. A Celebration of Life will be held later this summer.

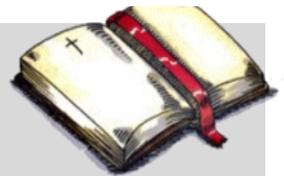
Scott Tempel and his family as they mourn the loss of Scott's mother, Dianne Rudoll Tempel who passed away on Sunday, March 26.

Julie & Peter Johnson as they mourn the loss of their niece, Chelsea Lawrence.

In the Military:

- Nick, *nephew of John, Mariann & Don Storlie*
- Rachel Estrem, *servicing in the National Guard*
- Courtney Johnston, *niece of Denise Kanfield*
- Andrew Johnston, *nephew of Denise Kanfield*
- Matthew Johnston, *nephew of Denise Kanfield*
- Brenden Rogers, *nephew of Mark & Lori Rogers*
- Josh Dennehey, *son of John Dennehey*
- Christian Weidling, *nephew of Sherri & Mike Mohn*
- Max Baker, *grandson of Sandy Cross*
- Miguel Nuno, *nephew of Arcadio & Tania Gutierrez*
- John Rogers, *son of Mark & Lori Rogers*

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



TO SIGN UP, VISIT OUR WEBSITE, AND CLICK ON “HOW DO I” AND THEN ON “SERVE.”

We're looking for volunteers to serve in a variety of ways. No experience is necessary:

GREETERS

Welcome members and visitors on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings before worship.

LECTORS

Read the assigned scripture passage.

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Help lead prayers and other portions of worship.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Help distribute bread and wine during communion.

VIDEO OPERATORS

Streaming worship needs video operators. Ideally, a small team of individuals can rotate every Sunday (similar to ushers and other volunteers). We will provide training; it will be easier to run than your smart phones! Ages from high school and up are welcome to participate in this exciting outreach opportunity! Please contact Dr. Matt if interested.

COFFEE HOUR HELPERS

We need help serving coffee and cleaning up on Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the board located in the Fellowship Area.

WEDNESDAY MEAL COORDINATOR(S)

Volunteers are needed to help coordinate our Wednesday evening meals. If interested in helping with this important ministry, please contact Lucy Hurrle at 507-581-0019.

Meals are served from 5:30 - 6:15 pm.

April Worship Attendance			
Sunday		11:30 am	6:30 pm
Palm Sunday - April 2: O: 54 I: 158	Maundy Thursday - April 6:	O: 38 I: 31	38
Easter Sunday - April 9: O: 82 I: 261 & 73	Good Friday - April 7:	O: 54 I: 29	64
April 16: O: 60 I: 116	Wednesday, April 12:	O: 24	I: 25
April 23: O: * I: 139	Wednesday, April 19:	O: *	I: 29
April 30: O: * I: *	Wednesday, April 26:	O: *	I: *
O=Online, I=In-person			
*online data is calculated by counting the number of views over a 7-day period and doubling it			

Executive Council

President: Bill Kanfield

Vice-President: Greg Silus

Secretary: Greg Silus (A)

At-Large Members: Jane Ward

George Silverness Warren Peterson

Terry Laschinger Tia Burnham

Treasurer: Linda Heine

Senior Pastor: Jon Rhodes

Ministry Board

Sue Jacobson

Joel Ruen

Lucy Hurrle

Tania Drexler

Becky Ruen

Pastor Jon Rhodes

CYF

Nick Clark

Tia Burnham

Jackie DuLac

Becky Ruen

Susie Stiehl

Congregational Life

Lucy Hurrle

Julie Booth

Needed

Membership

Anne Schindeldecker

Kelly Ronn

Bob Monio

Missions

Cindy Hildreth

Scott Tempel

Daron DuLac

Sue Jacobson

Property

Brad Smith

Dave Mohling

Jeanne Nash

Bruce Mohn

Worship

Robin Martin

Tania Drexler

Jane Ward

Joan Eckdahl

Dr. Matt Steinbron

Pastor Jon Rhodes

Stewardship

Joel Ruen

Lori Clausen

Needed

Evangelism

Tia Burnham

Needed

Needed

Christiania Lutheran Church

26691 Pillsbury Avenue

Lakeville, MN 55044

Office Hours

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Monday-Friday

General Contact Information

Office Phone 952-461-2283

Email: office@christianialutheranchurch.org

Website: www.ChristianiaLutheranChurch.org

Christiania Staff

Pastor Jon Rhodes

Senior Pastor

Office: 952-461-1236

Cell: 612-743-5725

pastor@christianialutheranchurch.org

Dr. Matt Steinbron

Music Minister

Office: 952-461-1237

worship@christianialutheranchurch.org

Carri Tuma

Office Manager

Office: 952-461-1235

office@christianialutheranchurch.org

Nick Clark

Interim Youth Minister

Office: 952-461-1239

cyfleader@christianialutheranchurch.org

Linda Heine

Treasurer

Office: 952-461-2283

treasurer@christianialutheranchurch.org

Cliff Martin

Custodian

Office: 952-461-2283

Sue Megrund

Interim Communications

communications@christianialutheranchurch.org

Other Contacts

Bill Kanfield

Council President

Becky Ruen

Sunday School Superintendent

Jane Ward

Altar Guild Chair

Debbie Lundeen

Bells Director

Linda Otto

Church Women (CLCW) Chair

Bob Monio

Usher Co-Coordinator

Daryl Rieck

Usher Co-Coordinator

CEMETERY NEWS

Members of the East and West Cemeteries met on March 28.

Winter Burials – Members realize the importance of winter burials when a loved one has died. However, the committees discussed the difficulty of getting to the grave site in harsh winters and the damage caused by getting equipment to the site. Starting with winter 2023-2024, there will be no winter burials of non-members at either cemetery. All efforts will be made for burial of caskets of members.

Using a Licensed Grave Digger – As of May 1, 2023, **all graves MUST be dug by a licensed grave digger. This refers to coffins and urns for cremains.** Funeral Homes and the Cemetery Committee members have a list of licensed grave diggers.

Grave Markers/Stones that Need Repair – We hopefully have found a local company that repairs grave stones. Most of the grave stones at the West Cemetery were repaired before COVID hit. The East Cemetery has many in desperate need of repair. Hopefully this lead will pay off.

Recruitment of Additional Cemetery

Committee Members - In recent years, many of our active members have retired. Don Storlie recently retired after many many years as a member of the West Cemetery. Gordy and Sharon Thompson retired about two years ago, Merlin Leine and Karla Schrader retired several years earlier. We are losing our historical knowledge. Each Cemetery now has only three members. It is imperative that we get more people involved in activities of the Cemetery. The committees established April 29 as a “Clean Up Day” at the Cemeteries. Help is needed in clean up after the winter months. PLEASE think about joining. You can talk to any member during coffee fellowship to get more information. It’s a very rewarding experience.

Respectfully submitted: Joan and Jack Eckdahl, Bruce and Debbie Lundeen, Jason Estrem, and Brad Smith. Your name could be here!

“THE CHOSEN” SERIES



If you are interested in watching “The Chosen” as a group, please contact Becky or Joel Ruen at 979-224-0141.

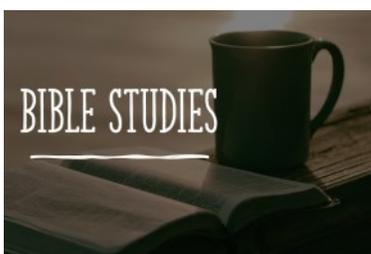
Interested participants will be divided into groups. Groups will collectively decide where to meet and which night of the week works best for viewing.

In order to relieve the host/hostess of an added burden, we recommend that no meal is served for these viewing groups. Discussion of the episodes is highly encouraged!

Thanks, and we will see you soon!

Becky Ruen, Education Committee chair

The first group met on Tuesday, April 18 at Sharon Buckley’s home. We hope you are ready to host one of your own.



Tuesday, 8:00 am May 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 — <i>Meets via Zoom</i>
Tuesday, 9:30 am (Women’s) May 9 & 23 — <i>Meets at church</i>
Wednesday, 10:00 am Christiania Lutheran Church Women (CLCW) May 17 — <i>Meets at church</i>
Thursday, 10:00 am May 4, 11, 18, & 25 — <i>Meets via Zoom</i>
Saturday (2nd & 4th), 8:00 am (Men’s) May 13 & 27 — <i>Meets via Zoom</i>

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	
	<p>1 9:30 am Prayer Shawl Meeting 7:00 pm Troop 325 Meeting</p>	<p>2 8:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm FRC Meeting 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting</p>	<p>3 6:30 am La B 9:30 am Qu 12:00 pm Ar 5:00 pm N 5:30 pm Su 6:30 pm M w/ 6:30 pm Co</p>
<p>7 9:00 am Worship with Communion/ Baptisms of Savannah Kline, Brock Bolton and Beau Bolton 10:00 am Coffee Hour 10:15 am Sunday School</p>	<p>8 7:00 pm Troop 325 Meeting</p>	<p>9 8:00 am Bible Study 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Christiania Council 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting</p>	<p>10 11:30 am W B 12:00 pm A 5:00 pm N 5:30 pm S 6:30 pm M w 6:30 pm C</p>
<p>14 Mother's Day 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee Hour 10:00 am Worship Team Meeting 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am New Member Meeting 11:00 am CYF Meeting</p>	<p>15 7:00 pm Troop 325 Meeting</p>	<p>16 8:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Singles Dinner 6:30 pm CLC Foundation</p>	<p>17 9:30 am C 12:00 pm A 5:00 pm C 5:30 pm S 6:30 pm M 6:30 pm C</p>
<p>21 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:00 am Coffee Hour/Pancake Breakfast</p>	<p>22 7:00 pm Troop 325 Meeting</p>	<p>23 8:00 am Bible Study 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting</p>	<p>24 12:00 pm A 2:00 pm E 5:00 pm N 5:30 pm S 6:30 pm M w 6:30 pm C C</p>
<p>28 9:00 am Worship/Baptism of Harlan Hoff Riess 10:00 am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>29 Memorial Day Office Closed Memorial Day Services 8:25 am Christiania West Cemetery 10:55 am Christiania East Cemetery</p>	<p>30 8:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Staff Meeting</p>	<p>31 11:30 am B 12:00 pm A</p>

2023

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Keville Prayer Breakfast Quilters Announcements Due GCB Upper Midweek Worship Communion Confirmation</p>	<p>4 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Tiger Den Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 7:45 am Boy Scouts</p>
<p>Women's Lunch Lunch Announcements Due GCB Upper Midweek Worship /Communion Confirmation</p>	<p>11 10:00 am Bible Study 4:30 pm Missions Team Meeting 6:30 pm Ministry Board Meeting 6:30 pm Tiger Den Meeting</p>	<p>12 5-8 pm Plant Pick-up 5-9 pm All - Synod Worship, Mission Fair and Reception</p>	<p>13 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 9 am-12 pm Plant Pick-up 9 am - 3 pm 2023 Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly</p>
<p>LCW Announcements Due Chancel Choir Upper Midweek Worship Confirmation</p>	<p>18 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline 6:30 pm Tiger Den Meeting</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>Announcements Due Blood Drive GCB Upper Midweek Worship /Communion Confirmation Celebration</p>	<p>25 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Tiger Den Meeting</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 8:00 am Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>Book Club Announcements Due</p>			

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Shawl
Ministry



PRAYER SHAWL MEETING

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on **Monday, May 1, August 7, and November 6 at 9:30 a.m.** Bring a project you are working on or start a new one. All are welcome to join us. If you have questions, contact Lori Clausen at 952-461-2333.



QUILT TYING:

The quilters meet on **Wednesday, May 3 at 9:30 am.**

All are welcome to come join in the fun! For questions, please call Sharon Buckley at 612-581-5739.

CHRISTIANA
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

of the
Women ELCA 

WOMEN (CLCW)

The next meeting is, **Wednesday, May 17 at 9:30 a.m.** We begin our morning with fellowship at 9:30 a.m., Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., and continue with the business meeting at 11:00 a.m. Join us for just the Bible Study or stay for the whole morning.



CLCW will be holding election of officers on Wed. May 17 following our Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. The business meeting starts at 11:00 and will be followed by a Tea Party. Members are encouraged to wear hats and other appropriate wear for the party.

If you would like to be an officer or have questions about CLCW, contact Linda Otto at 952-469-8561, Karen Frame at 952-461-2909, Vonnie Laddusaw at 952-891-4321.

WOMEN'S LUNCH BUNCH

Women's Lunch Bunch will meet at on **Wednesday, May 10 at 11:30 am** at Boonies

Bar & Grill 3301 Millersburg Blvd. Faribault, MN 55021 (507) 645-6424. If you have questions, please call Carol Garant at 651-334-3286 or Sandy Cross at 952-607-8211.



BOOK CLUB

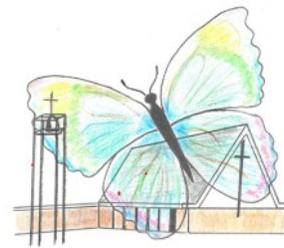
We will be reading TBD and will be meeting on **May 31, at 11:30 am** Bring a bag lunch and something to drink, coffee will be provided. For more information about book club, call Arlene Jacobson at 952-461-2229.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Red Cross Blood Drive

May 24 from 2:00 - 8:00 pm.
Sign up at Redcross.org



The Sanctuary Refresh is starting now and the existing pews will need to find new home! If you would like one or a few of them or would like the wood to make projects, please contact David Frame at 952-461-2909 or email cherylmohn1@gmail.com. If you are interested in helping market them, contact us as well!

SINGLES GROUP EVENT

Christiania's "Singles" group welcomes all to meet for dinner, friendship and fun lively conversation. The group gathers at different local restaurants each month. The next gathering is at Legends Club Grill in Prior Lake on **Tuesday, May 16 @ 5:30 pm**. Please call Carri in the church office, Cindy Hildreth or



May 14th - New Member Informational Session!

Attention – Next New Member Informational Session will be on **Sunday, May 14 at 10:15 am in the Chapel area** of the Church. Please join us if you are interested in becoming a member of Christiania!

We will also be holding another session on **June 4th** at the same time – we look forward to seeing anyone interested in joining Christiania!

New Members!

New Member Informational Sessions for those Interested in Joining Christiania!

Do you know someone who has visited Christiania in the past or is interested in becoming part of our Congregation? If you do, please have them join one of our bi-annual New Member Informational Sessions and let a member of the Membership team know of their interest. You can have them contact Bob Monio (Robert.monio@gmail.com) or Pastor Jon (pastor@christianialutheranchurch.org) and we will get back to them with details on the session(s) and answer any questions. The first bi-annual session will be held on **Sunday, June 4 at 10:15 am in the Chapel Area!**



MISSION GARDEN

The Mission Garden produces thousands of pounds of fresh produce for our local food shelves each summer.

However, it takes the care of many workers to maintain this wonderful community service. We are in dire need of volunteers to help with tilling, planting, watering, weeding, harvesting, delivering food, winterizing the garden, and coordinating helpers throughout the summer.

If you are willing to help, please contact Sue Jacobson (952-758-3438), Bertie Mohling (952-393-8367) or Linda Costa (612-812-4945).

Thank you!



Children, Youth, & Family



Christiania Lutheran Church Youth Fundraiser



Plants that were ordered will be available for pickup at Christiania on **Friday, May 12 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm** and **Saturday, May 13 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**.

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Laschinger, 952-200-1807 or email laschinger621@aol.com



NEW! NEW! NEW!! NEW!!

DAY CAMP DAYS!

Wanna experience Camp Onomia but aren't up to staying overnight just yet? This summer we will be offering **DAY CAMP DAYS** on site at Camp Onomia. SIX hours of fun and games, swimming and crafts, camp songs and Bible stories... all led by our wonderful staff. **LUNCH** is included!

DAY CAMP DAYS

June 15 & 29

July 13 & 27

August 10

9:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Parents are welcome to drop and run or stay and refresh at no charge (your meal is on us!)

Sign up for one day or take in them all.



Children, Youth, & Family



Students in preschool thru grade 5 are welcome to join us on Sundays through May 14 at 10:15 am for Sunday School.



Our 6-9 grade students wrap up Confirmation for this school year with a celebration on Wednesday, May 24.



VBS Time Change

Due to several transitional events here at Christiania, the time of VBS this summer has been changed. The dates are still **Mon., June 19 – Thurs., June 22**, but time is now **5-7 pm**. Construction will have begun by then, so the safety of the children and helpers is first and foremost.

Transitioning to a shorter time frame is beneficial in three ways:

1. Creates a safer environment
2. Enables volunteers who have daytime jobs to help
3. Allows Nick Clark (Interim Director of HS Ministries) to focus on the goals set through our partnership with InterServe.

*****Adult and youth volunteers are vital to the success of our VBS experience. If you are interested in helping this summer, please contact Nick or Becky.**



26691 Pillsbury Avenue
Lakeville, MN 55044

Phone: 952-461-2283

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Find us online:
www.ChristianaLutheranChurch.org
www.facebook.com/christianialutheran

DATED MATERIAL

May's Food Shelf:



We are collecting **Baking Mixes, Muffin, biscuits, Jello, etc.**, for the food shelf this month. Donations can be placed in the basket or on the table at the main entrance. Thank you for your contributions!

The newsletter is published monthly as a ministry of Christiania Lutheran Church of Lakeville, Minnesota. Articles are due by the 18th of each month. Got questions, suggestions, or items to include in the next edition? Contact Carri in the church office at office@christianialutheranchurch.org 952-461-2283.