We Remember the Saints Who Have Gone Before Us: Images from All Saints Day 2020

We remember the following people who have died:

Norma Aamodt-Nelson
Robert K. Anderson
Jeannie Boyd
Jeff Braun
Marjorie Carlson
Delores Chupka
Michael Doll
Louis Dorn
George Floyd
Nina Fortin
Carol Gaehler
Ruth Bader Ginsburg
Gerald Girard
Kathleen Goddard
Jim Goetze
David J. Haakenson
Geraldine Hendrickson Hanson
Scott Holmgren
Diane James
Gretchen Jensen
Dorothy Lace
Donald Ladwig
Mirabelle “Mimi” Lee
John Lewis
Robert Leistico
Barbara Mattill
Eugene Moen
Eb Revsbeck
Marie Roeker
Tom Schiff
Candy Stevens
Breonna Taylor
Karen Tucker
Marjorie Victorin
Thelma Watkins
Bob Youngren

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November
Birthdays
11/1 Michael Jefferis
11/4 Peter Merrill
11/7 Rachel Slater
11/7 Viivi Bodurtha
11/12 Kevin Reuther
11/17 Lucille Buelow
11/26 Bob Anderson
11/27 Samantha Rice, Darrell Anderson
11/28 Gary Skrivseth

Pastoral Acts
(August 29: Pastor Haaland presided at the wedding of Rachel Johnson & Michael Bly)

(September 26: Pastor Haaland presided at the wedding of Anna Murphy & Ian Thackray)

(October 7: Pastor Haaland presided at the funeral of Eb Revsbeck)

November calendar
Nov. 1 All Saints Day, At-Home Worship, Daylight Savings Time begins!
Nov. 3 Election Day, Committees
Nov. 7 Knitters & Crocheters
Nov. 8 At-Home Worship, Confirmation
Nov. 11 Race & Faith in Recent Film
Nov. 12 Executive Committee
Nov. 15 At-Home Worship, Congregation Zoom Meeting
Nov. 17 Council
Nov. 20 Shelter Meal
Nov. 22 At-Home Worship, Confirmation
Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 29 At-Home Worship

Special Congregation Meeting on November 15
The Council of Christ Church Lutheran will convene a special congregation meeting on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our meeting will be held remotely, via Zoom online with a call-in option. The business of the meeting will be limited to considering whether to approve the Call Committee’s recommended candidate to be called as our new Lead Pastor.

Over the last year, the Call Committee has worked prayerfully and diligently to determine the needs of our congregation and to select this new Lead Pastor candidate. Now, they will present to us the candidate they have chosen to serve the pastoral needs of Christ Church Lutheran.

If there are any questions in advance, email president@christchurchluth.org or to call the church office at 612-721-6611. Your participation is valued and crucial to the life and ministry of Christ Church Lutheran.
Christ Church Council Update for April

Kate Haugen shared a reflection on the challenges of change and the value of support networks, especially those we find in our faith community. She read a passage from the book To Bless the Space Between Us, by John O’Donohue.

The Council approved paying $1,211.81 from the Furnishings Trust (#3026) to pay for carpet to complete restoration of the Women’s Lounge in the sanctuary’s lower level. The Friends of Christ Church Lutheran, our nonprofit preservation partner, generously contributed $11,000 (90% of total costs) to pay for the restoration project.

We received several updates: 1) The Stewardship Campaign is underway, and the committee scheduled “stewardship talks” from Council and the Racial Justice Task Force representatives, which will be recorded and delivered during Sunday worship-at-home times; 2) We reviewed pledge data from 2018-2020; 3) members of the Executive Committee are recruiting individuals to serve on the COVID-19 Response Team, which was approved at our August meeting, to develop policies and plans to re-open the church safely when the time is right. We are hoping that members of the congregation with personal or professional experience, in particular, will contribute to our work—even if they may not able to attend or participate in all the team’s meetings.

The Call Committee reported that it is in the final stages of selecting a new Lead Pastor candidate. We discussed the committee’s charge to conduct a confidential search process leading up to a congregation meeting when we would vote on the committee’s recommendation. We were reminded that the confidential process means that the congregation will not have an opportunity to meet the candidate in advance. However, the Call Committee will provide all the important background and supporting information about the process and the candidate during the meeting when the congregation would be asked to vote.

The Children’s Ministry team reported that Pastor Andrea Roske-Metcalfe has started in her new position as the part-time Children’s Ministry Director. Pastor Andrea was introduced at the Zoom coffee hour on Sunday, October 18. Pastor Haaland and Elena shared that the Confirmation Class has been a joy and delight to plan and be a part of, the first in over a decade at Christ Church. There are eight students participating in the program, including two from outside of the congregation.

On October 27, we convened a special, priority meeting with the Call Committee. The committee has selected a final candidate to present for consideration by the congregation. Council approved calling a Special Congregation Meeting for Sunday, November 15 at 11:00 a.m. Notice of the meeting will be mailed to voting members, as required by our Constitution.

We adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Call Committee Update

The Christ Church Call Committee has had a busy few months and is pleased with the progress of the call process. We are excited to share news of a potential lead pastor soon. The prayers and support of the congregation have been meaningful, and we are honored to have been given your trust. Be sure to watch for a letter announcing a special congregational meeting!

Happy Thanksgiving!
**This month’s Closeup features Pastor Robert Farlee, who has been a member of Christ Church Lutheran for 39 years.**

**When did you start attending Christ Church Lutheran and what brought you here?**

In 1981. After being ordained in 1980, my wife Jane and I moved to Minneapolis. I was serving as part-time music and youth director at a church in Plymouth. The previous Christ Church music director, Larry Young, resigned, and the associate pastor, Art Meyer, knew me and asked if I’d like to apply for the position. I did, the congregation chose me, and I’ve been here ever since.

**Do you live in the neighborhood?**

I live two blocks away, on 32nd Avenue. I usually walk to church. Once or twice, I skied there. At times I have been the only pastor able to make it there after a big storm. Longfellow has been a great place to live!

**What about our church keeps you coming back?**

They pay me to do it. (Ha!) No, I truly love this congregation. The combination of liturgical yet creative worship, the genuine welcome from and to all, the deeply gifted colleagues on the staff, the willingness to take risks, and most of all, the continuous focus on all of us—whoever and whatever we are—being forgiven and accepted through Christ makes it a place I can’t imagine living without.

**Do you have any stories to tell about your time here or about events or activities you have been involved in?**

Baptisms, weddings, dear ones who have died and are still missed. Sundays when my son Micah was young, he would draw pictures in church and try to sell them to the choir in the balcony. One Christmas Eve when I was playing for worship, I looked down, and saw my other son Noah walking around the big Christmas tree. I’ve always enjoyed my relatively infrequent opportunities to preach and, especially, preside at communion, seeing the faces and outstretched hand of those who come forward. But leading the church’s song continues to be my greatest joy.

**What do you do when you’re not in church?**

A couple of years ago, I retired from Augsburg Fortress (1517 Media) where I worked full-time as an editor, much of it working on the ELCA’s main worship resource, Evangelical Lutheran Worship. I still do quite a bit of composing, usually at church. I enjoy biking in the summer. I love to travel the country and the world, and look forward to resuming that. (Our last family trip was to Peru just before the pandemic hit.) I’m the household cook, and I love it. I read and garden. And spending time with our sons is a high point.

**What can you tell us about yourself that we may not have known?**

I was an extra in the movie “Hello, Dolly” with Barbra Streisand and Walter Matthau. I grew up in L.A. and was home from college when that was being filmed. They needed “extra” extras for the big parade scene, so for two days I got to stand in the back of a big crowd watching the stars parade past. And I got paid for it! My wife Jane is rarely seen at Christ Church because she is senior pastor of Trinity Lutheran Congregation in Cedar-Riverside.

**Do you have anything else to share?**

Just gratitude to this wonderful congregation for its generosity, support, and shared ministry over all these years!

“Closeup” is a Courier feature to help us get better acquainted with our fellow members. If you would like to share your story in “Closeup,” call Donna Lindberg at 651/552-8499.

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**News in the Body of Christ**

Ben Cherland, former Christ Church member, was ordained in the courtyard by Bishop Ann Svennungsen on Saturday, September 19. He will be serving at a congregation in Montana.

Eleanor Uglum, longtime member of Christ Church, turned 100 on October 27. We hope you had a magnificent birthday, Eleanor!
Treasurer’s Update

Treasurer’s Report - through September 2020:

Our financial position through the 3rd Quarter (September) 2020 remains good, but it does reflect the uncertainties of our times. Our member giving was lower than budget in September and is down YTD, but we know this was impacted, in part, due to a system change by our payments partner that prevented one-time gifts from being accepted in August and September; however, that functionality was restored in October. Other income streams continue to reflect the impact of much less use of our building by tenants and other groups, yet our expenses are similarly less than budget. As shown in the table, we show a net deficit through September 30 of just under $9500; but with your continued support and our careful management of expenses, we continue to offer vital ministry and programs in response to the needs of our community and the wider world as God calls and empowers us.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradford C. Hubert, Treasurer

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<tr>
<th>Christ Church Lutheran Finances - thru Sep 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(VTD thru September 2020)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member Giving/Envelopes</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td>Total Income*</td>
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<td>Total Expenses*</td>
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<td>Total Surplus (or Deficit)</td>
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* Totals for Income & Expense include transfers/payments due and pending as of September 30, 2020

Online Giving is Easy!

Christ Church Lutheran is well-served by online giving, and if you have questions or concerns about its ease of use or security, rest assured that it is both! To access Vanco, the online giving service that many churches use, start at the Christ Church website (or hover your cell phone camera over the Q.R. code at the bottom of this article, then follow the prompts).

1. Click on “Giving,” then “Stewardship,” then “Donate”
2. Click on “Sign In/Sign Up”
3. Click on “Create your GivePlus account” at the bottom of the page and follow the email and password creation prompts
4. Click on “OK” and then sign in with your email and password
5. Click on the “Give Now” header and choose the fund you will give to (the General Fund is what supports the church operations). Choose your preferred frequency of giving, then enter the amount you would like to give (no period needed), then click “Next”
6. You will have the choice to give by credit card or checking/savings account; Christ Church prefers the bank account option, as fewer fees are incurred.
7. Click “Next”, then “Donate Now.” You will receive a confirmation number
8. On the top left of the screen, click on the three horizontal bars, which will take you to Logout. Clicking on that won’t close the screen, but logout has occurred.

Thank you for your generous giving!

Stationery Group

Volunteers have been busy crafting beautiful, tatted and cut-fabric cards. As the holidays approach and people begin to think about gifting family and friends this year, sales have skyrocketed. In the past three weeks, we’ve sold nearly 300 cards! Gifting an entire package of cards makes an ideal gift. Order yours, today! Contact Stephanie Gustafson at 612-724-6206 or stephsaddress@att.net.

The church courtyard yews in the fall
**“The Gift”**  
A Poem by Mary Oliver

Be still, my soul, and steadfast.  
Earth and heaven both are still watching  
though time is draining from the clock  
and your walk, that was confident and quick,  
has become slow.

So, be slow if you must, but let  
the heart still play its true part.  
Love still as once you loved, deeply  
and without patience. Let God and the world  
know you are grateful.  
That the gift has been given.

Special thanks to Pat Baehler for the All Saints photography,  
and to Ann Davis for the altar flower bouquet

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**Two recent Sunday Forums worth (re)watching**

On October 11 and 25 we were treated to two outstanding Sunday Forums, and you can re-watch them, or see them for the first time, via the links provided below.

**The October 11 forum** was hosted by Dr. Anthony Bateza, Professor of Religion at St. Olaf, on “Loving your Political Neighbor: Lessons from Luther for Today.”  
[https://youtu.be/ZqchCPWMX1w](https://youtu.be/ZqchCPWMX1w)

**The October 25 forum** was hosted by Austen Hartke, graduate of Luther Seminary’s Master of Arts program in Old Testament/Hebrew Bible Studies, and author of “Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians.” Austen spoke on “Seeing Gender Diversity in Scripture.”  
[https://youtu.be/jH6wHGkDiho](https://youtu.be/jH6wHGkDiho)

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**Advent Devotion Booklets**

The first Sunday in Advent is on November 29, and on that day we will read our first devotion of the season, and of the new church year. The beautiful booklets are titled Our Home and Expectation: Devotions for Advent & Christmas 2020-2021, and they are published by Augsburg Fortress. On November 23 they can be found in the silver mailbox in the courtyard for you to pick up at your convenience. If you would like a large-print copy, please contact the church office by November 8 so Laurel can submit an order.

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**Baptism Birthdays**

Eli, Zander and Tatum have all been baptized in the month of November. You are God’s beloved children forever! If your child has a baptism birthday in November and is not in the list above, send Pastor Andrea an email at [childrens-ministry@christchurchluth.org](mailto:childrens-ministry@christchurchluth.org), so she can add them to her records.
Confirmation Crew update

This last month we spent time studying the stories of Creation and Noah’s Ark. We also made cards for Eleanor Uglum’s 100th birthday—the kids thought it was interesting that Noah was over 600–so Eleanor is still very young! We enjoyed celebrating upcoming All Hallow’s Eve and loved scooter racing and basketball in the gym.

Elena Hilding, Confirmation Director

Children’s Ministry update

Hello, Christ Church Community!

What a strange time this has been to start in a new position at a new place; nevertheless, what heart-warming and joyful time it has been for me. I so appreciated the time you gave me during the Zoom coffee hour on October 18, to get to know me a little better, and to name some of your hopes and questions for the future of children’s ministry at Christ Church.

I’ve spent the bulk of my time in October organizing one-on-one Zoom calls with families of young children, and I have come away from every single one feeling filled up. Over the course of these conversations, it has become clear to me just how important this congregational connection is for young families, and just how hard it is now to be apart.

“Who do you miss the most?” I ask, and I’m willing to bet that every single member and friend of CCL has been named at least once, if not more, and often through tears.

Do you hear that? You are missed. You are loved. There are people waiting with great anticipation to see your face again.

I’m preparing packets of materials to allow the kids to connect more from home, so stay tuned in the coming weeks and months for more on that.

With gratitude,
Pastor Andrea Roske-Metcalfe
Interim Director of Children’s Ministry

Jesus said, “Let the children come!”
At Christ Church Lutheran, we welcome children and their families to the font, to the table, and to worship.
Christ Church Lutheran Ladies’ Lounge Restored!
*By Jennifer Komar Olivarez, Friends of Christ Church Lutheran Board Member*

When congregation members and architecture buffs return to Christ Church Lutheran, a restored Ladies’ Lounge will be pleasant surprise. This project, funded by the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran through donations, was overseen by Christ Church Lutheran member Tim Hagen, who is on the church’s Preservation Committee as well as a Friends board member. Strangely, the Covid-19 pandemic provided an uninterrupted opportunity for the work to be done while the church is closed.

Visitors and church members regularly used the Ladies’ Lounge, in the lower level of the Sanctuary, but it had not been a high priority for restoration. As a result, it looked a bit neglected, with old carpet, tobacco-and-coffee-stained wood paneling with significant mildew and water damage, and furniture in desperate need of repair.

Aside from the orange carpet and the paneling, the room had a third priority—restoring the furniture, found on the 1962 schedule that included the Eero Saarinen-designed Sunday School wing. Four pieces designed by fellow Finn Alvar Aalto, namely an occasional table, a vanity, a chair, and a stool, needed cleaning, refinishing, and joint tightening. A chair and settee by Jens Risom for American furniture company Knoll needed new upholstery. Tim arranged for Danish Teak Classics, previously entrusted with restoring furniture for the Luther Lounge, to conduct this work, including replacing the synthetic leather of the Risom pieces with what they discovered to be the original Jens Risom-designed fabric Armadillo, now available through Camira. Not knowing the original colorway, the Board followed Tim’s recommendation for a calming light green.

Tim connected with Fresh Air Finishers, a St. Paul firm that has conducted wood refinishing for the American Swedish Institute, the Alexander Ramsey House, and the Union Depot in St. Paul. They brought the room back to life by carefully cleaning the wood, addressing the water damage, and touching up old scratches. Then a coat of lacquer and two coats of carnauba wax were applied, following the 1949 original church construction specifications. This brought back the original luster and beauty and protected the walls from any future damage. Tim reports the paneling looks great, and this served as a kind of test room for the future restoration of the sanctuary, a long-term preservation goal.

The Lounge’s flooring was not as easy to solve. The 1949 specifications for the room and the adjacent restroom were bare concrete with a coat of tinted wax. Church members speculate that there may not have been funds to complete these rooms, or perhaps the intent was to keep them like the rest of the lower level. It was decided by the Preservation Committee that until there is a master plan for the entire area such as the future columbarium and choir room that FLOR carpet tiles would be put down. This way the room can be complete and be enjoyed.

The Preservation Committee will add some finishing touches to the space now that everything is back in place. This includes lamps, artwork, and accessories, but most importantly, signage detailing the work completed and welcoming all to visit. What used to be a closed-door women’s smoking lounge will now be an open and accommodating space. If a nursing mother needs a quiet place to go, or parents of young children need a place for a timeout, or someone who lost a loved one needs quiet repose when visiting the future columbarium, we hope the Ladies’ Lounge will meet those needs.

This project was supported by $10,855 from the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran. The Friends thank all members for donations making this discrete but visible project possible. When we are all able to gather in the church again, the Friends welcome you to the refreshed Ladies’ Lounge. Thanks especially to Tim Hagen for all his (sometimes dirty & dusty) efforts with this project at an opportune time!