



Table of Contents

2-4	News & Events
5	Youth & Children
6-7	Music & Devotional
8	Prayers & Anniversaries



STARTING AGAIN

At the end of this month, I will mark one year since arriving here as your pastor. As with most such milestones, it feels both very far away and not far at all. I got off to a fast and busy start last year, on one hand, but on the other hand, I only finished organizing my books in August. Partly that is because, at the beginning of this month, I will have served as long here under the pandemic circumstances as I did before the virus hit. You have seen me on a screen for more Sundays than you saw me in person, and I've preached to a camera lens more times than I've preached to your faces.

As I've had many occasions to say, in many ways, over these almost six months, I am deeply moved by the commitment and faithfulness of this community through this very dark and difficult season. And I'm grateful for the work of God that has gone on among us despite, and sometimes because of, all that disruption. All the same, I do miss that very brief taste of congregational life I

experienced here before: the quiet bustle of the sanctuary before church, the choir rehearsing, the adult education room packed to standing room for a particular topic or speaker, the delight at seeing a new person or family in worship for the second or third time and really learning their names.

This won't last forever. We've already gathered a few times outdoors for Holy Communion. We'll keep finding ways to worship that keep us connected and allow us to be together in safe and responsible ways. But it's worth thinking now about how things will be different in the future, however, and whenever the pandemic tapers down.

The church is always being born anew through time. Having been knocked off course, we have the opportunity and the obligation to discern where the Holy Spirit is moving among us and around us now. We have a new Youth and Family minister off and running, looking at ways to renovate our programs and emphases. We've discussed deepening our partnership with Mount Olive and through them with South Dallas. I'm getting ready to meet virtually with our Confirmation students to hear about their experience of worship, of serving in worship, and how they would like to do that in the future.

And there is a freedom in having to start again. I've prayed regularly for this affliction to pass, and I've sought God's mind—in my own thoughts and prayers and out loud in preaching and teaching—on what we are to learn from what seems at times like a chastisement. But as we begin our second year together, our foremost task will be finding those new ways to be faithful that the moment requires of us. I'm grateful to be doing that here with you.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Ben

FINANCIAL UPDATE: JAN - JULY 2020

Fund	General	Building
Total Income	\$371,200.67	\$58,903.17
Total Expense	\$332,509.89	\$49,413.00
Net	\$38,690.78	\$9,490.17

Thank you for your support of Christ's mission!

ONLINE DONATIONS: If you would rather give online, visit clcdallas.org and on the Homepage, click "Donation" or use the Give Plus Mobile application. You can download it [here](#) for iOS and [here](#) for Android. For instructions on how to give on GivePlus Mobile [Click Here](#). If you've lost income because of the closures and cancellations, [please let us know how we can help!](#)

NEWS AND EVENTS

SUNDAYS: Join us for worship at clcdallas.org with one service at 9:30 AM (viewable later at any time if you miss it live).

ADULT EDUCATION will be back on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM starting on September 9. We'll be reading C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters* together ([available at Half Price Books](#) or your favorite bookseller). This insightful and wickedly funny book imagines the messages of a senior demon to a junior demon attempting to win the soul of a young man, making profound observations about human psychology, society, and the power of faith from the perspective of an enemy. [Join here](#) (on the Chrome or Edge web browsers, or by the free Microsoft Teams app).

HOLY COMMUNION OUTDOORS IS COMING BACK: We're bringing back our outdoor celebration of Holy Communion on Sundays at 10:45 AM starting September 13. Masks and distance between households are strictly required. As a reminder, I wear a mask throughout and gloves for handling the host (though it may help to remember that the virus is respiratory and there's [no evidence that it is transmitted by eating](#)). We'll look for safe ways to reintroduce the chalice but Communion in one form is always perfectly valid.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST will not be meeting in September.

MT. OLIVE FOOD PANTRY DRIVE: Due to the CLC building being closed, you can make monetary donations so that the Pantry can buy in bulk at a discount. Checks can be made out to CLC and annotated 'Mt. Olive Food Pantry' or make an online donation at the following link ([Click Here](#)) or use the GivePlus Mobile application. You can download it [here](#) for iOS and [here](#) for Android. For instructions on how to give on GivePlus Mobile [Click Here](#).

THE BOOK CLUB will meet on Monday, September 14, at 7 PM. Pat Rowland will be the hostess and we will be discussing "The Giver of Stars" AND "The Book Women of Troublesome Creek", two books about the Kentucky horse librarians during the Great Depression. Location of the meeting to be decided.

CLC BOOK CLUB HOSTESSES for 2020-2021

- OCTOBER - Mary. "Oil and Marble: A Novel" of Leonardo and Michelangelo
- NOVEMBER - Virginia. "Mission at Nuremberg: An Allied Army Chaplain and the Trial of the Nazis"
- DECEMBER - Jan. "Snow Flower and The Secret Fan"
- JANUARY - Savannah. "Nerves of Steel: How I Followed My Dreams, Earned My Wings and Faced My Greatest Challenge"
- FEBRUARY - Madge. "Valentine"
- MARCH - Carlene. "The Dutch House: A Novel"
- APRIL - Ginger. "The Season: A Social History of the Debutante"
- MAY - Trisha. "A Long Petal of the Sea: A Novel"

*All meetings are the first Monday of the month at 7:00 except September 14 due to the Labor Day Holiday.

FRIENDS AT CHRIST: Juris and Carolyn will host a Zoom meeting on Sunday, September 20, at 6:30 PM. More information will be sent later.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

For many years Cheryl has served as Youth Chime Choir Director at Christ Lutheran. Her dedicated leadership has provided us with many wonderful Sundays of beautiful music skillfully performed by our young people.

This past spring Cheryl announced that she was stepping down as choir director. Upon resumption of regular worship services and similar indoor activities, she has offered to mentor whoever becomes her successor depending on their level of experience.

We wish to sincerely thank Cheryl for her many years of fulfilling this role as director as well as her other many contributions to Christ Lutheran.

CROSS WALL: As we enter Christ Lutheran, our beautiful wall of crosses greet us! These have been given/shared by many of our congregants and many of them have "a story" to tell.

It has been several years since the wall was created and at that time we have received new members who we hope might like to share across. And if any of our longer-term

members have not had the opportunity to give one, now is the time!

Please prayerfully consider adding your cross to the wall along with your name and anything special you would like to add as we plan to pair pictures of each cross with names and comments in a book!

Hopefully, we will be worshiping with each other soon and will have a large basket by the kiosk in the narthex for you to leave your cross... Or you may give them to Mary, Ginger, Cheryl, or Lisa.

Blessings,
Your Design Committee



75TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER – Since we are still not able to meet in person in large groups in September, we will be postponing the Anniversary Dinner planned for September 12. We will celebrate our church’s anniversary during the rest of this year by sharing interesting stories of our history from longtime members, and we will make a new plan to gather in person for a big celebration in 2021!

CLC LIBRARY AT THE CROSSROADS

Do you like books? Do you use the CLC library? Any library? Do you have any ideas about what our library should be like? Do you have any experience working in a library? Do you know anything about databases? Do you have at least an hour a month to help out in the library?

If you answered yes to ANY of these questions, could you talk with me a bit, or consider attending an online brainstorming session about the future of our library? If so, please contact me. Hope to hear from you! ~ Becky

CLC CELEBRATES 75 YEARS: REFLECTIONS FROM LONG-TIME MEMBERS In Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Christ Lutheran Church, we have asked some of the long-time members to reflect on their experience at the church. This month we also look at one of the outreach ministries of the church.

Reaching Out to Change Lives – Our History Aiding Displaced Persons

The Latvian Story

Following World War II, millions of displaced persons feared to return to their homelands and were seeking sanctuary in the United States. The Lutheran Resettlement Service was formed to assist European Lutherans to find homes, jobs, and future life in the United States. Rev. Frank accepted the responsibility for resettling Lutherans in the Dallas area with his characteristic zeal. It was not a simple problem with a simple solution. Displaced persons had to be guaranteed jobs, a place to stay, and certain expenses had to be provided.

Through this program, Rev. Frank came to know an engaging young Norwegian journalist named Kai Mossin, an avowed anti-Communist, whose consuming dedication was the resettlement of Estonians and Latvians to America.

Some reminiscences from church members tell the tale vividly.

“In 1941,” writes Mirdza, “the Communists murdered or deported 35,000 Latvians, but the record now stands at thousands and thousands more.”

Alma was asked to recall what happened in those years. Here is her report:

“After World War II a big chunk of Eastern Europe was given to the Soviet Union. Among other countries, the once free Baltic states – Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania – were overrun and ruled with an iron fist by the Soviets. There was a mass exodus from Eastern Europe to the west. Freedom-loving and God-abiding peoples fled from their homelands to escape the Soviet tyranny in 1944. In 1945, after the war, the Western Allies protected those people who had fled and a vast relief organization was founded. First, it was called the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). Later it became the International Refugee Organization (IRO).

“Under their auspices, many welfare organizations and churches offered their help to relocate the homeless people, and so it happened that Christ Lutheran Church of Dallas got involved.

“A former UNRRA officer, Kai (a Norwegian) had been in contact with some Latvian displaced persons. He happened to come to Dallas and met Pastor Frank. So, a resettlement action began.

“Pastor Frank contacted many people who were willing to sponsor a refugee (guaranteeing housing and a job for a year), and quite a number of Latvians found their way to

Dallas. Having lost their homes, their native country

(many of them not even speaking English), the people were quite desperate, and they tried to keep in contact with each other to brave the new circumstances together.

“It was not easy for a former farmer and landowner from a northern country (on the Baltic Sea) to suddenly become a farmhand on a Texas ranch, or for a former educator to become a dishwasher in some institution or perform the duties of a servant in a private home. Physically, the burden was not so heavy to carry as it was mentally.

“From this aspect the role of UNDERSTANDING is important. The group of Latvians who were destined to find new homes in Dallas found a very compassionate friend in the Pastor of Christ Lutheran Church.

“In 1950 Pastor Frank had a new parish (a small church building without the comforts of air conditioning), but he went all out to comfort those who needed spiritual strength to go on living through these times of resettling.

“The good pastor understood how important it was for the displaced foreigners to be able to pray to God in their own native tongue. Many people do not and cannot understand that each ethnic group has its own cultural heritage and customs which are part of their souls. Pastor Frank understood. He took the time to hold services for his Latvian group.

“He worked out the customary Latvian service, saying the liturgy in English, and the worshippers would respond in their native language. The hymns were also sung in their native tongues. Generally, most people speak to their God in their mother’s tongue. Compassion is what the pastor of Christ Lutheran gave to the people. And this is the true Christian spirit.

“With the consent of Christ Lutheran Church, a Latvian pastor, Rev. Karlis of Oklahoma City, visited the church monthly to hold Sunday afternoon services so that the older people, who had not yet mastered the English language, could follow the service and enjoy a sermon. Pastor Frank tended not only to the spiritual needs of his parishioners, but he was also a friend in the truest meaning of the word.”

During the 1950s, sixty-one Latvian refugees were resettled and became part of the Christ Lutheran Church’s ministry.

Excerpted from “Christ Lutheran Church, The First Thirty Years 1945-1975” as printed in the bulletin for the 30th anniversary



Juris: A Journey from Latvia to Christ Lutheran Church

Can you imagine leaving your home with only the possessions you could carry in a couple of suitcases? Could you leave everything behind and not even know where you might end up? This is what happened to Juris’s family in 1944.

To understand why a family with a young child would do this, it might be helpful to know a bit about Latvia’s difficult history. First, it was invaded, occupied, and annexed by the USSR in 1940. The first year of soviet occupation was known as “a year of terror.” The Soviets deported about 35,000 Latvians, especially the intelligentsia, to prison camps in the Soviet Union. Then, in 1941, Nazi Germany invaded the USSR and occupied Latvia. During the Nazi occupation, approximately 90,000 Latvians were killed. Most of those killed were Jewish, some were gypsies, and some were Soviet sympathizers. Then in 1944, the USSR’s Red Army pushed the Germans out and reoccupied Latvia. Before the soviet forces arrived, approximately 100,000 Latvians fled their country, most to Sweden or Germany. This is why the Laivins gathered up their baby, Juris, grabbed a few possessions, and left their home behind.

Once the Laivins arrived in the American-controlled sector of Germany, they, with other displaced persons, were housed in abandoned military bases. All of these people began the process of applying for entry to other countries which all had various quotas. Although the Laivins applied to several countries, they either got no response or were not selected. For six years, the Laivins moved (or were moved) from one base to another in Germany. During this time, Juris’s brother, Uldis, was born. His parents asked another Latvian woman, Alma, to be the brother’s Godmother. Alma played a crucial role in the Laivins’s future.

In 1950, Christ Lutheran Church sponsored the relocation to Dallas of a large group of Latvians, approximately 30

to 40 people. The Laivins were *not* part of that group. However, Alma, the Godmother was. She spoke to Pastor Frank and told him there was another family that needed to be brought to the US. Through Alma's and Pastor Frank's efforts, the Laivins were sponsored and relocated to Dallas in 1951. Juris was now 7 years old and his brother was 5. Although both of Juris's parents were deaf, his father was a tool and die maker so he had a skill that led to employment. Good health and employability were important criteria for relocation.

Thus began a long and enduring relationship between the Laivins family and Christ Lutheran Church. The Laivins attended Christ Lutheran Church regularly. The congregation was so willing to help, so friendly and approachable, that a strong bond was created. Pastor Frank provided Juris's parents with a print out of the full service, which was not how the bulletin was prepared in those days. Since the parents were deaf, he wanted to give them a way to follow along with the service.

Juris and his brother were confirmed at CLC after taking classes taught by Pastor Frank. Later on, Juris and Carolyn were married at CLC and both of their children were baptized and confirmed there. Juris describes Christ Lutheran as caring and inclusive, like a small town versus a big city environment. He recalls getting a card from a church member welcoming him home when he returned from college. In all these years, he has not forgotten that personal connection.

Today, Juris still loves the sense of family and community at Christ Lutheran Church. He appreciates that the congregation is open to adjusting itself to new situations and notes that we have been fortunate to have Pastors that were good leaders. It's clear Juris knows something about adjusting to new situations!



(The Laivins Family. Alma, Godmother to Uldis, is in the middle holding Uldis. Juris at far right. Mom and Dad are the other 2 adults in the picture.)



(Latvian children at CLC. Juris is in the second row on the far left side and his brother Uldis is in the center of the 1st row.)

YOUTH & CHILDREN

Howdy CLC!

It has been an honor and a privilege to be welcomed into your community this summer. The hospitality you've shown to me has been unmatched and I am indebted to each of you as we find our way through these strange times together. Thank you for the warm welcome!

On Wednesday, September 9, at 7 PM, I will be hosting an online informational meeting for those of you interested in the Fall Confirmation class. Consider this an opportunity to participate in an open dialogue regarding the nature and expectations of Confirmation. I hope to see you there!

Attention families of children ages 3 through 5th grade! Sunday School will be beginning again on Sunday, September 13! Instead of having a live digital meeting, we will be providing pre-recorded materials for you to participate in at your home! Please stop by the CLC patio to greet our teachers and pick up student learning packets before or after outdoor communion on the 13th at 10:30 to 10:45 AM, or 11:15 to 11:45 AM. We will be starting a virtual class as of Sunday, September 20. If you are not able to stop by, packets will be mailed to you. Please contact [Sergio](#) if you need to update any of your contact information, including mobile numbers, e-mail addresses, and home/ mailing address.

I will be sending out updates and further information regarding each of these as we continue to prepare for the Fall. In the meantime, know that each of you is in my prayers!

In Christ,

Marcus Hatcher
Youth and Family Minister
mhatcher@clcdallas.org

CHRIST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Serving Children and Families in a Community of Faith

Our new school year is well underway. Teachers and children are getting to know one another. We have moved some of the classrooms to accommodate changes in class sizes, as we are now grouping children in classes according to the year they will enter Kindergarten. Our PreK classroom is now located in what was previously the nursery, and our infants have been moved to two classrooms in the main preschool area.

We have been blessed and are grateful for the protection God has provided to our staff and families as we provide early education and care during this most unusual start to our school year amidst the coronavirus pandemic. We appreciate the cooperation of our families, staff, and children in following required protocols, including hand-washing, wearing masks, and keeping appropriate distances. It does not stop us from enjoying our time together!

Our protocols recommended by the CDC still include restrictions on who can enter the building and under what conditions. Temperature checks are required of anyone entering the building during preschool hours. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we take the necessary precautions to protect our CLC/CLP community. We look forward to the time when we can invite members of the Congregation to visit with us once again.

Though we cannot gather in the Sanctuary at this time, we still participate in daily chapel. It is a wonderful time when we can all pray together at the same time—although we remain in separate classrooms, we have the school-wide sound system that allows us to sing and pray as a school community. This month our chapel themes focus on the creation and the wonderful gifts God has given us in our world. We have the opportunity to enjoy the gifts of the sun, land and water, and vegetation as we spend time in our outdoor classroom.

As our Bible verse for this month from the book of Genesis reminds us “God saw that it was good.” Let us all remember the good things that we have been given and give thanks to God for His goodness and love.

Stay well,

Joanne Osterland
CLP Executive Director



MUSIC MINISTRY

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
Troubled times continue. Although the crisis seems to be more under control in some countries, nothing is certain and there are still many areas that struggle with high infection numbers. All we can do is try to stay healthy and pray for one another. We have seen some improvement in numbers locally and that is good news. Hopefully, it will keep getting better and better!

Since the music ministry online gathering in June was a great success, I decided to organize another one in August. The Music Ministry met again at Google Meet on August 20th. The purpose of our online get-together is to stay connected, check on how we are doing and enjoy musical performances by our members. It was wonderful to see everybody and we had a great music program. Different songs were performed by Betsy, Laura, Keith, Fred, Scott, and Kermit the Frog. Many thanks to our performers for their outstanding performances! I have decided to start hosting our online get-togethers monthly and our next event on Google Meet is scheduled for September 17 at 7 PM. We will gather around 7 PM and the music program starts at 7:30 PM. The format of our gathering is informal: members are welcome to come and go whenever, share music or other forms of art, or simply enjoy some fellowship. If you are not connected to music ministry but are interested in joining us, you are more than welcome to do so! Just send me an email - hando.nahkur@gmail.com - and I will add you to our group.



(August get-together)

CLC soloists are continually doing a great job with worship leading and we are working on improving the sound quality of the services every week! Soon there will be some serious improvements also in the visual part of the services. All services continue to be streamed at the CLC website and Facebook page. Bulletins are available at our website and in the weekly newsletter. Recordings of the past services are archived and available at the CLC website and CLC YouTube channel.

Many thanks to Betsy, Don, Julia, Emily, and Ashley for their beautiful musical offerings in August! Special thanks to Dan, Gary, and J.J. for everything they do in order to provide you the best streaming quality possible! God Gets the Glory!

"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us." (Martin Luther)

Stay safe and I hope to see you soon!

Dr. Hando Nahkur
Director of Music
www.HandoNahkur.com



MONTHLY DEVOTIONAL

Covid-19 and the Sparrow

²⁹ *Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.*
³⁰ *But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.*
³¹ *Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.* (Matthew 10:29-31 ESV)



Three (3) weeks ago my 83-year old brother-in-law who lives with his family in a suburban town north of Manila tested positive for COVID-19.

Previously he had been losing his appetite, been lethargic, and been staying in bed most of the time. His initial diagnosis as an outpatient was pneumonia but when he was admitted to the hospital the swab test showed he was positive for COVID-19.

My sister's entire household was stressed. They self-quarantined, wore face masks while inside the house, segregated dining ware, etc. They contacted the pastor of their home Lutheran Church and church members have joined in prayer for him and his family.

Each day when I take my routine morning walk around the village I hear birds chirping as they flit from tree to tree, perhaps in their own routine of searching for breakfast. As I think about my brother-in-law and his family and hear the birds I am reminded of Jesus as He talked about God caring for the birds and their needs.

– ²⁶ **Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?** (Matt. 6:26 ESV)

The lyrics of the hymn "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" (music by Charles H. Gabriel) were written by Civilla D. Martin. She and her husband met and befriended a couple whose situation seemed almost hopeless. The wife was bed-ridden for more than 20 years; the husband had to go to work each day using a wheelchair. And yet their joy and hope have inspired people who knew them. When Civilla asked them what their secret was the wife answered, "His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me."

As of this writing, my brother-in-law has been discharged from the hospital and returned home. God had been at work as the doctors, nurses and medicines did their job of attending to him. But he is not out of the woods yet. He still has to fully recover and regain his strength.

With all the health and economic challenges that the pandemic has brought we may feel overwhelmed and forget that God knows what we are going through. But through our faith in Christ and His sacrifice on the cross, God has made us His children. Therefore with God watching over us, we can face the uncertain future with hope.

*Heavenly Father, we thank You for loving us and caring even for the details of our lives. Lead us as we walk through these days of uncertainty. In Christ's Name.
Amen.*

Emmanuel



Lee & Melissa
Scott & Gail
Kris & Robert
Suzanne & Marc

Joe & Becky
Dana & Erin
Stephanie & Joshua
Cheryl & Peter



Kelli
Wilhelm
Maria
Kurt
Joshua
Stratton

Ann
Natalie
Edward
Burke
Dan
Thomas



Kyle
Steven
Terri
Hunt
Carolyn
Alicia
Katherine
Matthew
Cindy
Nicholas
Alice
Samantha
Raghu

Patricia
Jacob
Steve
Gunnar
Annika
Kathy
Mary
John
Emmanuel
Jason
Emma
Charles
Eve

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

<u>For Healing</u>	<u>Relationship</u>
Rwanda	Daughter of Virginia
Doris	Rev. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Dallas
Janine	Congregation Member
Rocky	Friend of the Dunkelberg's
Chester	Congregation Member
Rick	Congregation Member
Abby	Congregation Member
Morris	Congregation Member
Joanne	Director of CLP
John & Frieda	Parents of Laura

To those who grieve
Peter & Family

At the death of Kathy, friend of Scott

CONTACT US

Pastor:

Ben Dueholm - pastorben@clcdallas.org

Youth and Family Minister:

Marc Hatcher - mhatcher@clcdallas.org

Music Director:

Hando Nahkur - hando.nahkur@gmail.com

Communication Coordinator:

Sergio Peña - spena@clcdallas.org

Congregation Council

President:

C. Uhri - cuhri@clcdallas.org

Vice President:

G. Hagens - ghagens@clcdallas.org

Secretary:

S. Karol - skarol@clcdallas.org

Treasurer:

D. Marshall - dmarshall@clcdallas.org

Administration:

G. Hagens - ghagens@clcdallas.org

Preschool Board:

D. Rowlands - drowland@clcdallas.org

Community Life:

B. Parsons - bparsons@clcdallas.org
L. Palafox - lpalafox@clcdallas.org

Congregational Life:

G. Rolseth - grolseth@clcdallas.org

Communications:

D. Eggebrecht - deggebrecht@clcdallas.org
A. Mahon - amahon@clcdallas.org
I. Molina - imolina@clcdallas.org

Finance:

G. Nelson - gnelson@clcdallas.org

Spiritual Life:

S. Kludt - skludt@clcdallas.org

Youth & Family:

A. Carden - acarden@clcdallas.org