



Update From Your CLC Council Regarding Worship: After meeting via Zoom this week, the Council voted to **resume in-person worship on Sunday, May 31**. Please note this is subject to change. While it will be wonderful to gather in-person again as a congregation, worship will be adapted to the new realities the virus pandemic presents. We are all interested in gathering safely and protecting our most vulnerable members – so masks, social distancing, and more will become part of worship together. Although there will be several changes, know that the heart of our worshipping God at CLC will remain exactly the same! Yours in Christ, *Pastor Justin and Curt Johnson (Council President)*

CLC Voice: If you have not yet seen it, Pastor Justin's mid-week message can be found at: <https://bit.ly/CLCVoice007>

You Are Invited: Come and join a new group called "**Homebrewed Theology**" which will meet for the first time on Monday, May 11, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This will be modeled along the lines of "Pub Theology" which I have led successfully in several communities. Bring a brew – coffee, tea, or adult beverage – and join us in discussing questions about theology, life, current events, and more. If you are interested, please RSVP to pastorjustin@clcwyoming.org and I will send you an invite for Zoom. Any questions are warmly welcomed and all are welcome to attend. Hope to "see you" on May 11! *Pastor Justin*

New Staff Members! CLC would like to welcome the following people to our staff! Nicholas Hopkins will be our new Minister of Music effective June 1, and Diane DeVries will be our new Bell Choir Director effective August 1. Please take a minute to "meet" them on pages 2 and 3.

Prayer Requests:

- Prayers of strength and healing for Elizabeth Druckrey as she continues her recovery from a stroke.
- Pray for continued healing and strength for Richard Jaeschke who had successful back surgery on April 20.
- Prayers of comfort for Steve & Vicki Blubaugh and their family as they mourn the loss of Steve's mom, Jean Blubaugh, who passed away on Sunday, April 26.
- Prayers of comfort to Linda McCullough and her daughter Laurie (and her 2 adult children) who mourn the passing of Laurie's husband, Tim, on April 21.
- Prayers of comfort for Roland Rivera (Jessica Rivera-Walker's father) as he lives under hospice care in St. Paul, MN. His health is declining due to a number of health issues. Prayers of comfort and peace also for Roland's family who cannot be with him at this time.
- Prayers of healing and strength for Cindy Stauch, cousin of Cindy June, who is hospitalized with COVID-19.
- Pray for Mike and Beckie Cross (friends of the Junes) who face many hurdles at this time. Beckie is in a care facility with early onset Alzheimers. Her husband Mike is not able to see her and has now been informed that she has COVID-19. They are only in their early 60's. Pray for a return to health for Beckie and peace for Mike.

Mask Makers Wanted: Council has begun conversations around what our church services will look like once we are able to all worship together once again. In an effort to follow the guidelines by the CDC, we will be requiring masks to be worn. We are looking for talented members who would be willing to make and donate some homemade masks that will be available at the Welcome Center if members or guests come to worship and do not have a mask. If you are able and willing to begin the process of making some masks for our church, please let a member of Council or Pastor Justin know. Thank you for enabling us to stay safe!

Do You Need Anything? Now is the time where those of you that are most at risk really need to make sure you are staying away from interaction with others. But there are many of us who are able and willing to go out and pick up items for you should you need them and deliver them to your doorstep. If you are in need of groceries or any other items and are not in the position to go get them, please contact Suzanne Snider or one of the church staff (contact info listed below) and let them know so we can make arrangements to get those items to you. We are a family of faith, and you lean on family when you are in a difficult time!! Let's be that support for each other!

Your Support Is Needed: While we continue our congregational mission during this time, it is important to note that your financial gifts are both needed and welcome. During normal times, any loose quarters placed in the Sunday offering are designated to support ELCA World Hunger. Since we aren't gathering in person, there are no loose quarters. No, we don't want you to mail loose quarters to us. However, if you would like to designate a dollar or two or more for World Hunger when you mail in your offering check, please just write the amount on your envelope.

We need support for the general fund. All of our other restricted funds, except World Hunger, are well funded and don't need additional support at this time. We will let you know if that changes. As always, your offerings may be mailed to the church as the mailbox is being checked daily. This may also be a good time to consider giving through our electronic system called "Simply Giving," which provides for a regular form of stewardship. Please contact the church office and we will be happy to send you the form needed to get started.

Thank you for your continued support! Next week we will give a more extensive overall report on our finances.

Hello from Marilyn Burgard: I would like to share this link with you, as it is a very creative way to hear the Hallelujah Chorus. Enjoy! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ag6CYY0cbFc>

Hello Everyone! I trust you are all still safe and thoroughly bored by now at home. So thankful that spring is here and warmer weather is as well. I just wanted to let everyone know that at this point, all the odds and ends my hands were in as a youth leader at CLC are pretty much done, so I am officially passing the baton to Tara this week! She has done a great job in a tough time of trying to keep the youth connected and I know that she will be very successful when we are all back together like normal. In the meantime, if you have further questions about Christian Ed or Youth and Family subjects, please direct them to Tara. I am always available to help and happy to do that when I can, but I'm excited to let her shine in this opportunity!! Looking forward to worshipping with you all again soon!! Thank you for always being such an amazing support to me and the ministries I have been a part of!! *Suzanne Snider*

Word In Season (April, May, June): If you are missing this devotional booklet and would like to have one mailed to you, please let Audrey know (office@clcwyoming.org).

Stay Connected: CLC has a **YouTube Channel**. There is a link on our website, www.clcwyoming.org that you can use to subscribe, however you don't need to subscribe to see the messages. Pastor Justin and other staff members will be sharing messages, songs, stories (and who knows what else!) in an effort to stay connected with our CLC family. We also have a private Facebook page called **CLC Friends**, where you stay connected with others from CLC. Search CLC Friends and request to be a member, and we will get you connected.

Welcome New Staff Members!



Greetings Christ Lutheran,

My name is Nicholas (Nick) Hopkins. Being hired as the Minister of Music at CLC has reminded me that God is leading and guiding even in the midst of the global pandemic we are currently living through. I come to CLC from Trinity Lutheran in Grand Rapids where I have served in their worship department since 2019. Primarily, while at Trinity, I served on staff as the keyboardist/vocalist for their Rejoice service.

I have earned both a Bachelors degree in Communication and a Masters of Divinity. In 2019, I left the Christian Reformed Church after serving two congregations in Grand Rapids since 2004 in various ministerial positions. I do remain connected to the CRC as an active member of the board of All One Body.

I have led worship, directed choirs, and served as music director for a few congregations/organizations in Grand Rapids for over fifteen years. I love diverse genres of music and worship traditions, including but not limited to, traditional, modern, and gospel. I cannot wait to experience what makes CLC unique and serve however I am able.

This summer, I am looking forward to churches, and the rest of the world, reopening. I look forward to performing in two of Circle Theatre's summer concerts (Hello Sunshine and The Hits of the 80s). I am also looking forward to becoming more deeply acquainted with my new family at Christ Lutheran Church.

God go before you to lead you, God go behind you to protect you, God go beneath you to support you, God go beside you to befriend you. Do not be afraid. May the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you. Do not be afraid. Go in peace as you love and serve the Lord. Amen.

Love and blessings,
Nick



“Music ... is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.”

Martin Luther

It isn't easy to tell you who I am in a few short words, but this statement by Martin Luther speaks to one of my life's passions, the marvelous gift of music. This gift brings with it the responsibility to work, to share, and to pass it on. And that's my life.

I started my formal music studies at age 4, thanks to wonderful parents who recognized that I had been given something special and managed to convince my teachers that, although I wasn't old enough to read or write, I could learn to play the piano, and then the pipe organ, the flute, the drums... whatever I wanted to play, they made it possible. As an adult, my husband became my encourager, convincing me that, with a great deal of time and effort, I could make it through a Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate in music and music theory.

I was now ready to share the things I had learned. I worked as adjunct faculty at Grand Valley and Michigan State Universities, teaching music theory and history. I also served as director of music at Georgetown United Methodist Church for a number of years, which is where I learned about playing and conducting handbells. And now I have 20 private piano students who keep me challenged and interested in passing on that God-given gift my parents saw and nurtured so many years ago. And it's my hope that working with the bell choirs here at Christ Lutheran will allow me to continue to work, to share and to pass on that “most magnificent” present, the gift of music.

Diane DeVries

Contact Information for Christ Lutheran Church Office and Staff

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Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Email: office@clcwyo.org

Youth & Family Ministries Coordinator: Tara Williams

Office ext. 203

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Email: tara@clcwyo.org

Contact for Church Council: Curt Johnson

Email: president@clcwyo.org

Organist and Handbell Choir Director: Marilyn Burgard

Home: 616-531-4703

Email: burgardm@sbcglobal.net

Custodian: Nikki Diaz

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Minister of Music: Sara Miller

Office ext. 221 Cell: 281-639-6902

Office Hours: Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Email: sara@clcwyo.org

Junior Choir Director: Casey Huls

Email: hulscas@mail.gvsu.edu

Share Your CLC Event Pictures:

(please include a brief description – group, date, etc.)

Email: pictures@clcwyo.org