



Pastor Pam's Pennings

**November 2021
Volume 65, Issue 11**

Be still, and know that I am God! Psalm 46:10

“Be still!” I wonder how many times my mom said that to me when I was a child. I was always high energy – and being still was such a hardship. I wanted to talk, play, interact with my world in a physical way. Stillness was hard!

“Be still!” I’ve thought a lot about the stillness that was forced on us last year when the pandemic hit us full-force and we stayed in our homes unsure of how this moment/day/week/month/year was going to play itself out. We are not through the pandemic, yet it seems that we have figured out some key practices to keep our families and ourselves safer.

Be still! I had the privilege of participating in some very deep discussions examining whiteness in the ELCA last year. Those of us who identified as white were asked to sit still and listen to people who are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) tell their stories and share their experiences of living in this country. As I listened, my heart was broken to hear how human beings treat other human beings – even (especially?) when those human beings are part of our denomination!

It’s hard to unpack how ingrained our understanding of race is in our country, and thereby in our church. As I was reading the book, *Big Friendship* this month, I was reminded of this reality as I read these words: *Racism is structural. There is a complex system by which*

racism is developed, maintained, and protected. It's not just a term that applies to those who personally hate people of other races. It's baked into our political system, our art and culture, our financial structures, our ideas about value and communication. Which means that it affects everyone, no matter their personal views on race happen to be. No matter what their closest friends look like. It's in everyday experiences and fleeting moments. It's everywhere¹.

Let's talk together in November (7, 14 & 21) about whiteness and racism after worship, and after you have had time to chat at the coffee cart, at 11am in the Social Hall (or Conference Room if there are just a few of us). I'll be using several texts to cover this topic and I have no intention of solving all of the issues that are part of the system in three weeks. only a step, and a baby step at that. Yet, it is a step!

Be still, right now as you read this article. I invite you to be still, take a deep breath, and breathe in deep gratitude for all that we have been given and know how very much God loves ALL of us!

I invite you, wherever and however you gather on Thanksgiving Day, to be still for just a moment and to give thanks to God for the amazing diversity of your Thanksgiving table, and of all those who are gathered with you, and all of the diversity of flora and fauna that makes our planet such a great place in which to live!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Pam

¹ *Big Friendship: How We Keep Each Other Close.* By Sow, Aminatou and Friedman, Ann. Simon and Schuster. 2020.



Greetings!

It is that time of the season when we remember those who have passed on while giving thanks for the wonderful memories of those very same loved ones, as well as those who are still with us. I wish each and every one of you a blessed Thanksgiving!

As I am writing this article, we have yet to have our Reformation celebration. I will give you my feedback next month...as for now, I hope you enjoyed the celebration!



The music groups will spend the month of November beginning preparations for the Advent season; it will be wonderful having everyone together this season.

I have been looking into cost-efficient ways to upgrade our current sound and video format...both live-streaming and in-person. The first thing is replacing our screen in the choir loft, which has seen better days.

As we move to one service permanently, I need to figure out the most aesthetically-pleasing way to continue live-streaming while keeping the in-person congregants happy! Thank you for your patience throughout this process.

Once again, thank you for your time, talents, and treasures...as well as your love and support.

Your humble Director,

Brian Madigan



Preschool News

October was a wonderful month at CLP. We had picture days on October 20 & 21. We were closed on Friday, October 15 for a staff development day. The staff was able to attend a workshop on Conscious Discipline. We learned a lot of useful information to use in the classrooms.

We had our annual Trunk-or-Treating on Friday, the 29th to celebrate Halloween. The children dressed up and each class took turns going trunk to trunk in the parking lot to collect treats. They also enjoyed special activities in their classrooms. Thank you to everyone that participated in our Trunk-or-Treating! The trunks looked great and the children had a lot of fun.



In November, we will be joining the Church in a canned food drive to support New Life Beginnings. We will ask each child to bring in a canned good on November 10th. November 24th we will celebrate Thanksgiving, most likely with individual classroom celebrations. Each classroom will make placemats and centerpieces to decorate and will sing a song and say a prayer before eating. We will be closed on November 25 & 26 for the Thanksgiving holiday.



Blessings for a beautiful month!
Lisa Clinton



“Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy.”

+ Psalm 98

By the time you read this in our November Newsletter, our Stewardship program “Together for Joy” will be in full swing. As we prayerfully consider what we can pledge toward the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church for 2022, let’s also consider what CLC pledges toward the ministries that have become near and dear to our hearts over the years. To highlight just a few, we are blessed to have speakers for three consecutive Sundays this month - Chris Untiet from Habitat for Humanity, Rev. Sampson Chauhan from Lutheran Maritime Ministry, and Rebecca Younger from New Life Beginnings.

Commitment Sunday will be November 21st. As in years past, we will be laying our pledges in a basket on the Altar. After services that day, we will celebrate the gifts of God with a “Taco Bus” lunch and a Ministry Faire on our patio. This should prove to be a CLC fellowship event unlike we’ve had for quite some time! So, please bring your pledges and please bring your appetite!

Sincerely,
Matt Green, Stewardship Chair



**Members at Home or
in Care Centers:** Justin
Bartlow, Judy Haenn,

Ione Marchael, Carol Price, Frances Willms.

Those struggling with illness or other concerns:
Deb Albrecht, Daniel Howard, Bary & Janice
Schlieder, Gary & Linda Zimmerman.

Family & Friends: Alberta, Marylyn, Terry, Gladi
Adams, Jeri Cooper Alacano, Cheryl, Lori,
Marilyn Armstrong, Zach Burkard, Kathy
Buskirk, Byron, Clara & John Caldwell, Dick &
Nancy Challis, Charlie and David Corm, Mary
and Max Croes, Kevin & family, Manuel John
Duarte, John Daly, Becky Dave, Rosemary
Dougherty, Tamra Fitzgerald, Christy & Karl,
Brechtin Flournoy, Alberta Gray, Cindy Gray, Evie
Holdhusen, Bobbie Hoenig, Kylie & Crystal
Huber, JoDee Irwin, Victoria Johnson, Doris
Jung, Linda Kuhn, Barb Korsmo, Katrina Lahr,
Shirley Latner, Peggy Miller, Barb Ontiveros,
Paul Perencevic, Mike Rainey, Kristina & Scott
Randolph, Debbie Reighard, Bob Schlaf,
JayeAnna & Ethan, Casey and Mark Smith, Katie
Swartz, Viktor, the Tovo-Gritz family, Anna
Watt-Morse, Ed Weston, Steve and Jenny West.

We pray for the ongoing work of:

- + Linda Gawthorne among the Kogi
people of Colombia
- + First responders who provide
safety, security, and care
- + Those serving in our nation's
military, especially: Jason Arellano,
Samuel Brown, Michael Cote, Aaron
Crayton, William Eaton, Damian Ellsworth,
Chandler Hoover, John Lambertson,
Brittany Graham-Karsten, Davis
McElwain, Morgan Llewellyn,
Haley Fessenden, Johnny Luna,
Shawn McRae, Emily Merritt,

Brina Navarro, Steven Andrew
Navarro, Michael Joseph Navarro,
Jim Reeder, Sophie Schade,
Douglas Steelhammer, Dominic
Vancini, Jonah Westcott & Collin
White.



11/2 Amanda and Derek Johnson
11/20 Janice and Bary Schlieder

11/1 Casey Knight
11/1 Andy Trost
11/1 Doris Weinert
11/6 Brianna Nieves
11/6 Janice Schlieder
11/7 Ann Williams
11/9 Amy Weisel Altair
11/9 Mike Maricle
11/10 Addison Benoit
11/10 Jake Treat
11/11 Justin Randig
11/15 Deborah Otterson
11/16 Ruth Barnes
11/16 Mike Freligh
11/17 Adriana Alfonso
11/18 Dawn Hass
11/20 Phil Peterson
11/22 Barbi Darnauer
11/23 Jeremy Rodrigues
11/25 Adam Elliott
11/25 Rick Panos
11/27 Beverly Nieves
11/28 Paige Mills



OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans) will meet on Thursday, November 4 at 12:00 noon in the Social Hall. Bring a side dish to share.

Daytimer's LunchBunch will meet again on Tuesday, November 30 at 11:30am at Hof's Hut on Bellflower Blvd in Los Altos.



We are hosting a canned food drive to benefit New Life Beginnings (NLB).

It starts the first of November and ends on Sunday, Nov. 21st. Rebecca Younger from NLB will be a guest speaker in worship and we will present her with the food that morning.

Continuing a long time, CLC tradition, we will be collecting new pajamas for all aged youth and new or gently used books. These are distributed by Lutheran Social Services (LSS) at a community Christmas party in Long Beach. Please bring these items on Sunday, November 28th or December 5.



"STRANDED AT SEA WITH THE CARGO", unvaccinated crew growing desperate to get off ships.

This is the front page headline in the LA TIMES on Sunday, October 17th.



The plight of the international seafarers was characterized prominently with stories of individuals stranded on the commercial cargo ships we see off our Long Beach and Orange County coasts.

Rev. Samson Chauhan, our Lutheran Maritime Ministry chaplain, is quoted, "It's like the seafarers are stuck in a prison. All they see every day is steel and containers and other crew members. And what happens, sometimes they collide with each other! There are many concerns about their emotional wellbeing. Some crew members are having suicidal thoughts." The TIMES notes that, "Chauhan and others have been summoned to provide spiritual and emotional counsel from other trauma."

The article discloses how the Seafarers Center and Ports have been assisting with getting seafarers vaccinated.

When contacted about this article, Chaplain Chauhan was at Best Buy in Lakewood getting items for those he was visiting that day. He will be worshipping with us on Sunday, November 14th.

Lutheran Maritime Ministry is a "mission" of Southwest CA Synod supported by Christ Lutheran, other local churches and individual donations.

--prepared by Ron Nelson, LMM Board of Directors



During November we will be accepting filled, gift bags for these sailors. See the enclosed flier for details of what is needed and greatly appreciated by these, mostly men, who are far from home and possibly stuck on board their ship for the foreseeable future.



If you are a Ralph's Shopper, please add Christ Lutheran to the Community Programs partnership attached to your Ralph's card. We received a donation for **\$91.67** from just **16** households for March through May.

We also receive contributions from **Amazon Smile** if you designate Christ Lutheran as the charity of choice for eligible purchases. We have received **\$502.29** since we began participating in this program. Thanks so much!



Eligible clients with membership can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds. These recommendations are shared by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches. CLC has received **\$2298.00 so far in 2021**. Thank you to church members who have selected CLC to receive these charitable gifts. Ask your Thrivent rep for details.

Help Still Needed

SUNDAY EDUCATION NEEDS YOUR HELP!!In order to provide you with a variety of Sunday Educational classes, we need leaders. If you have a special talent or expertise on a particular subject that you think would be of interest,, or if you would be willing to lead a class after church on Sunday, please let us know. You can contact the church office via email or phone. officemanager@christlutheranlb.com 562 598-2433

*Thank you for considering this.
Deborah Otterson, Church Council Education*

SHARE THE GIFT OF LIFE.



love, give, live.

Sunday, December 5th between 830am and 230pm in the Social Hall. Once again we are having a Red Cross Blood Drive to end out the year. This will be the most precious gift you give this Christmas season. Your blood will also be the most precious gift someone receives this season!

Go to redcrossblood.org/CLCLB to sign up or call Kim in the church office for an appointment.



**American
Red Cross**

Together, we can save a life



CHRISTMAS MARKET

It will be on Saturday, December 4 from 10am to 2pm in the parking lot. Some of the vendors will be Fair Trade Long Beach members, 10,000 Villages and African Team Ministries handcrafts.

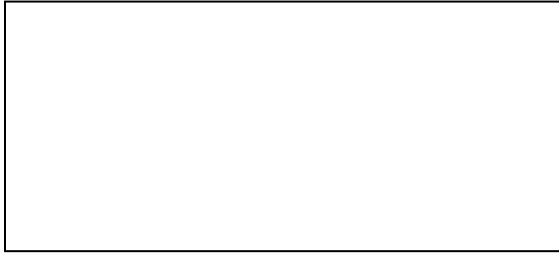
There will be jewelry, gift items, pottery, succulents, kids activity area with crafts, games and an inflatable of some sort.

This is our first market that is open to the community so we are hoping that we do well and that this can continue to be an event we offer every year.

The church is not using this as a fundraiser of any sort just an outreach to the community. If you know of other home based businesses that might like to participate please provide them with the church contact information.

Christ Lutheran Church
6500 Stearns Street
Long Beach, CA 90815-3497

Return service Requested



Mission Statement:
 Christ Is Alive!

Vision Statement:

Christ Lutheran Church is a community of believers committed to praising our Savior Jesus Christ. With His love, we reach out to those in need and welcome all with open hearts. Our worship dynamically combines word, song and prayer to share God's incredible message. Having faith in this, we go forth knowing that with God and the power of the Holy Spirit, anything is possible.

December NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
November 15

Life In Christ
 Is the newsletter of

Christ Lutheran Church
6500 Stearns Street
Long Beach, CA 90815-3497
562.598.2433

Preschool 562.594.6117

www.christlutheranlb.com

email:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com

Please join us for Sunday Worship
830am or 1030am



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[christlutheranchurchLB](https://www.facebook.com/christlutheranchurchLB) (Youth Page)

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