



providence | south | concord | online



september/october 2021



fall 2021 SUNDAY SCHEDULE

CHRIST PROVIDENCE*

8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship 10:00 a.m. The Bridge Service 10 - 10:45 a.m. **Sunday School** 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

*FALL WORSHIP TIMES START 9.12.21 *SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS 9.19.21 4519 Providence Rd., Charlotte

CHRIST SOUTH

10 a.m. Outdoor Worship 315 Reid Dairy Rd, Waxhaw

CHRIST CONCORD

10 a.m. Multi-Generational **Modern Worship**

240 Pitts School Rd. NW, Concord



For links to live-stream services, upcoming virtual events, bulletins, ChristKidsTV and more:

christelca.org/online

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA























PASTOR SCOTT SUSKOVIC

from the Senior Pastor

WHAT COVID RESTRICTIONS MEAN FOR Kick-Off Sunday

Surely by September 12th, 2021, all will be back to normal, right? We've been saying that for 18 months. Surely by Easter, surely by 4th of July, surely by Christmas, surely by Easter (again!). I've stopped saying, "surely."

As COVID restrictions eased several months ago, we mirrored what CMS, our governor and the CDC were recommending: (1) larger gatherings were allowed; (2) masks were optional for the vaccinated; (3) masks were required for unvaccinated people, including children.

But now with this Delta variant overwhelming our hospitals and the recent votes on returning to mandated masks for indoor gatherings, we need to make another change to our protocol and continue to mirror what our local officials are mandating. I hate it, but it is the right thing to do to stop the virus and to be good citizens.

Therefore, Church Council met on August 16th, reviewed those guidelines and made the following decisions effective immediately:

- · For all people, vaccinated or not, masks will be required on all campuses for indoor activities, including worship.
- · All volunteers working with children must be vaccinated and must wear masks.
- ·All members singing in Christ Choir or SpiritSong must be vaccinated and masked.
- · All volunteers such as ushers, greeters, communion assistants and adult Sunday School leaders must be vaccinated and masked.
- ·There will be a sign posted on our front doors reflecting mask guidelines.
- •These guidelines will be reviewed each month by Council.

Nobody wants to go backwards. During the dark hours of quarantine, businesses were hurting, finances were scarce, and we saw a rise in mental illness, abuse and addiction. But with this variant, we also want to be good citizens and provide some consistency between our government, private businesses and school mandates.

In terms of our fall programming, we are not letting this virus stop us from living our lives. We are going forward with our fall worship schedule (with new worship times starting Sept. 12th at Christ Providence):

8:45 a.m. Christ Providence Traditional Worship

10:00 a.m. Christ Providence The Bridge Service

10-10:45 a.m. Christ Providence Sunday School (for all ages • begins Sept. 19th)

10:00 a.m. Christ South Outdoor Worship

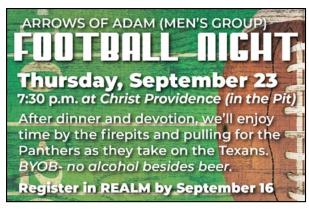
10:00 a.m. Christ Concord Multi-Generational Modern Worship

11:00 a.m. Christ Providence Contemporary Worship

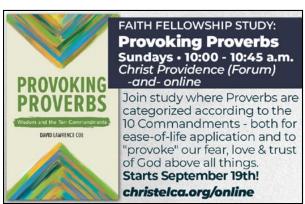
Most of our Sunday and weekly classes will offer a hybrid model of in-person and online participation. And the children's message will be extended to include 3-year-olds to 3rd graders.

We encourage you to return to worship, as fits your schedule and comfort level. The Body of Christ has been disembodied for too long. We miss you. We miss being together. We miss being together in God's House. But we want to do it safely.

Peace,
Pastor Scott











UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

COREVALUES

LIVE GENEROUSLY, FIND COMMUNITY, BUILD FAITH, REACH BEYOND

Every person, every organization has Core Values, those things that are believed deeply and establish the foundation of their identity, mission and life. Unfortunately, while these Core Values exist, they are often not explicitly articulated. They have to be defined, stated, explained and lived. Using the Parables of Jesus, this sermon series will explore the Core Values of Christ Lutheran.

September 5 • Affirm Life in Christ

Confirmation prepared for a time such as this. Now, we are called to go and be disciples. Now is the time where we respond to God's grace with service, prayer, worship, caring for our neighbors and living a life in Christ. *Romans 5:3-8; Luke 10:1-11*

September 12 • Live Generously

In the Parable of the Talents, Jesus describes how three different servants use the gifts that were entrusted to them. While two servants doubled their gifts, one buried his in the ground. How will you use your gifts? *Matthew 25:14-29; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10*

September 19 • Find Community

We were created to live in community, but how does community happen? It's not enough to be open to community. We need to be more intentional to find community, to reach out to the other, to radically include the outsider and reflect the beauty of the Body of Christ. Luke 14:15-23; Hebrews 10:23-25

September 26 • Build Faith

In the center of a pendant, my grandmother wore an encapsulated seed in a small, plastic ball. When asked about this speck, she would tell the Parable of the Mustard Seed, the smallest of all seeds, as an example of how our faith often builds from tiny beginnings to enormous proportions. The seed, however, needs to be planted, watered, cared for so that God can bring forth the growth. *Matthew 13:31-34; Romans 5:1-5*

October 3 • Reach Beyond

Jesus said that the world will know His followers by their fruit. Apples are a natural, visible result of what is found deep inside. The well-known Parable of the Good Samaritan captures the heart within to reach beyond itself in service to the one in need. Luke 10:30-37; Philippians 2:3-11

...and coming October 10... "Living Generously"

For three weeks, we will hear stories of Living Generously from our youth and stand in awe of God's ability to multiply our efforts.

October 10 • To God Be the Glory Mat. 5:14-16; Gal. 2:20-21a
October 17 • Greater Things Than These John 14:12-14; 2 Cor. 4:5-7
October 24 • And a Child Will Lead Them Matt. 18:1-5; Isaiah 11:1-6



WATCH THE SNEAK PEAK OF EACH SUNDAY'S SERMON AND READ MORE AT **christelca.org/sermon-series**



DIVERSITY . EQUITY . INCLUSION

An Awakened Faith

by THE INTEGRATION TEAM

We have heard them all our lives and we know them by heart – those Bible verses instructing us, as Christians, to "love thy neighbor" (Matt 22:39) and "feed my sheep" (John 21:15). Old and New Testaments compel us to "love the stranger" (Deut. 10:19) and "extend hospitality" to them (Romans 12:13).

We know the words. We say we believe them. We say we follow them. (Before going on, please recognize that "we" does not simply refer to the congregation of Christ Lutheran. It applies to practically every denomination and sect within Christ's Church.)

Yet, if "we" are honest with ourselves, we know that – as with so many other aspects of our faith – we fall short. Way short. We outright fail. Each week, we enter our sanctuaries for worship with the comfort and the confidence that we will find ourselves surrounded by people who – for the most part – look and act "just like us."

In April 1960, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. was being interviewed on NBC's Meet the Press, and in response to a question about church support for the emerging civil rights movement, offered a direct, critical and painfully accurate observation: "I think it is one of the tragedies of our nation, one of the shameful tragedies, that 11 o'clock on Sunday morning is one of the most segregated hour's, if not the most segregated hour in Christian America." Six decades later, we need to ask ourselves, "Has much changed?"

Christ's final instructions to his disciples (and to us) while on earth were to "go and teach all nations" (Matt. 28:19). All nations. All. Not just those who look and sound and act and feel like us. Everybody.

As the body of Christ on earth, the Church must not only be diverse, but it must actively seek diversity of race, of gender, of economic status, of disabilities, of mental illness, of sexual orientation, and the list goes on. This must begin with an attempt to understand and to discuss what the Church currently is, and what it can – and should – become.

As a first step in this process towards becoming more truly representative of the body of Christ, CLC will sponsor a speaker series starting September 19th that will be focused on improving our understanding of various aspects of diversity, and to begin conversations and actions geared toward improving equity and inclusion within our congregation.

An Awakened Faith is a lecture series inviting experts inside and outside of the congregation to talk to CLC members about some elements of diversity as it relates to our mission, both as a church and also individually as Christians. One Sunday evening each month, we will be invited to attend, to listen, to learn, and to discuss ways that we might better reach out to and serve our brothers and sisters (who may be very different from our usual Sunday morning neighbors down the pew). The hope is to "awaken our faith" to people of different races, immigrants, the homeless, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ and people struggling with mental health issues, just to name a few.

"An Awakened Faith" calls for us, the members of Christ Lutheran, to move beyond our comfortable Sunday morning worship setting and to open our minds, our hearts and our doors to everyone who is a child of God, to live up to the refrain we sing as we proclaim, "All are welcome in this place."

The speaker series will begin in September and run monthly through May. Information will be communicated in the Sunday <u>bulletins</u>, <u>Weekly E-news</u>, and included on the <u>Latest News</u> page of our website.

Our first speaker of this series is psychiatrist Dr. William Wright, a member of Christ Lutheran. On September 19th at Christ Providence (in the Forum), Dr. Wright will speak on the often-hidden disease of mental illness and how CLC can become more inclusive of individuals and families who live with this on a daily basis. Gather for dessert at 6:30 p.m. - Dr. Wright will begin about 6:45 p.m. with round table discussions to follow. Please register in REALM.

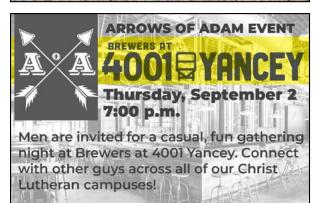
Your Legacy's Lasting Impact

Dinner & Presentation

October 3 • 5:00 p.m. at Christ Providence (Forum)

Learn about making decisions for your legacy with a presentation by Stephanie Burke, the ELCA Foundation's Regional Gift Planner for the Carolinas. She will help you think about your estate & ways in which you can maximize its impact.

RSVP in REALM by September 22









Community Bible Experience... Returns!

by PASTOR DREW

Have you ever found yourself wanting to read the Bible deeply, but did not know how or where to start? If so, the Community Bible Experience is for you. Written in four parts, each part of the Community Bible Experience is designed to help you read Scripture with other believers.

Starting mid-November, Christ Lutheran plans to read *Part Three: The Writings*, which includes books like Psalms, Proverbs, Job and Daniel. Our sermons at all three campuses from Nov. 14th through Dec. 19th will draw on CBE and many classes will use CBE for their discussion.

Now is the time to order your copy of *The Community Bible Experience Part Three: The Writings* on <u>Amazon</u> or any major bookseller. Buy your copy today!

Check <u>christelca.org/online</u> this fall for hybrid & online classes. Learn more about CBE at <u>thenivbible.com/community-bible-experience</u>.

Arrows of Adam Gatherings

by PASTOR DREW

Arrows of Adam is a men's ministry open to all guys at Christ Lutheran. We're real guys looking to the real Jesus for real change. Meet up on September 2 at Brewers at 4001 Yancey, outdoors at 7:00 p.m. for the first of many brewery nights. This will be a casual, fun gathering to connect with other guys at Christ Lutheran across all campuses.

Our 2nd planned gathering is Football in the PIT, happening September 23rd at Christ Providence. Dinner and devotion starts at 7:30 p.m. Afterwards, we'll enjoy time by the fire pits and pulling for the Panthers on their Thursday night game. BYOB- no alcohol besides beer. Please <u>register in REALM</u> by September 16.

Your Legacy's Lasting Impact

by THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Have you thought about how your estate can provide for your family and the organizations you are passionate about? Many people think estate planning is only for the wealthy, or involves significant expense to establish. But the reality is that many people will leave behind an estate from the gifts they have received from God over their lifetime. And there are many ways to ensure that the estate will have the impact you want – from caring for your family to supporting the ministries you care so deeply about.

If you would like to learn more about techniques to ensure your legacy has a lasting impact in the way you want it to, please join us for an Endowment Committee sponsored dinner and presentation on Gift Planning. On October 3rd, at Christ Providence (in the Forum), we will start at 5:00 p.m. with dinner, followed by a brief presentation from Stephanie Burke, the ELCA Foundation's Regional Gift Planner for the Carolinas. Stephanie's presentation will help you think about your estate and ways in which you can maximize the impact it has – for your family and for others in the world. This presentation is not a solicitation, but an educational opportunity to help you learn about making decisions for your legacy while also considering your current needs.

If you are interested in learning about how to maximize your legacy on October 3rd, please <u>RSVP in REALM</u> or contact Connie Kramer (<u>ckramer@christelca.org</u> or 704-366-1515) by September 22.



What's Happening at Christ South

by AIMEE TOPPING

As we move into the fall, our hope is to make the transition to a new pastor at Christ South as smooth as possible. A transition team meets to keep things on track and true to the spirit of our community. Leadership is actively searching for an interim pastor to start as soon as possible to temporarily offer pastoral care and preach on Sundays. While finding a new pastor is a process that can take several months, a call committee has been formed to begin the search. We are all committed to keeping the Christ South community thriving! A few important updates:

Sunday Worship

We've moved under the tent! Other than that, things will look very similar to before. The worship band is still rocking the house and will continue to praise God with the same songs and music style. We'll keep the same feel to our services with CLC pastors preaching on a rotating basis until an interim pastor arrives. BLAST will continue to be offered for children as well.

We are exploring ways to get us back indoors until the new worship center is built. There are many different factors to consider in finding the right fit for Christ South and to ensure that it's a consistent place to meet long term.

Teams and Staff

Campus Director - Aimee Topping will continue helping at South in whatever ways are needed! Always feel free to reach out to her with any needs, concerns or questions. Beyond her previous responsibilities, she can also help with prayer requests or pastoral needs until an interim pastor is named.

Worship Leader - Ashley Cooke has stepped in to lead our music. As a longtime band member and experienced musician, he's equipped to keep the worship style we love at South.

Tech Team - Danny Cooper is serving as our Tech Director and you'll continue to see familiar faces running our livestreams and technology.

Children's Ministry/Youth - Newly hired Youth Director, Anthony Currier and Associate Youth Director, Max Waterhouse will be working with youth in middle and high school. They are offering amazing ministry opportunities for kids at South as well as all of our Christ Lutheran campuses. Aimee Topping will continue to offer BLAST on Sunday mornings, and Stepping Stones to our children through 5th grade. Don't forget to check out the new weekly episodes of *ChristKidsTV*!

Volunteers - From hosting to communion to tech support, our volunteers make Sunday Worship possible! But we can always use more help. There are many opportunities to pitch in at South no matter what your gifts are. We are looking for help with hosting and chatting online during Facebook Live, BLAST, etc. Please reach out to Aimee at <u>atopping@christelca.org</u> if you feel called to volunteer!

The New Worship Center - This is happening! We're still tweaking some design plans and working on raising the final funds, but we're on track to have a new building in 2022. There will be a series of Town Hall meetings held to discuss the plans and how church members wish to proceed. Your support is needed!

As in any time of transition, changes can happen quickly. We'll do our best to communicate these to you at worship, on *Facebook*, and in REALM as quickly as possible. Please continue to pray for Christ South, especially leadership and staff, that we will be guided by God's hand as we move forward. Peace be with you.



Worship Center Building Update

As progress continues on the project to design a worship center for Christ South, the church council would like to schedule three town meetings giving congregational members an opportunity to ask questions and review the details before any contract is signed or ground breaking commences.

These three town meetings will be on:

Sunday, September 26 • 11:00 a.m. at Christ South Sunday, October 3 • 12:15 p.m. at Christ Providence Sunday, October 10 • 12:15 p.m. at Christ Providence

On a positive note, the total project is roughly 3 million dollars – of that, we have \$1,000,000 in the bank with an additional 168 commitments of \$1,274,499 (as of 8/23/21). Commitments are still being received and appreciated. If you haven't already, please email your commitment to Gregg Huether at *ghuether@christelca.org*.



CHRIST CONCORD FALL SCHEDULE - DATES TO KNOW September 12

KICK-OFF SUNDAY

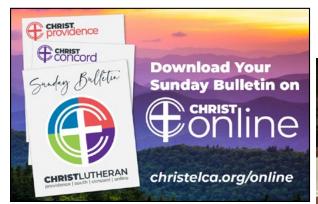
10 a.m. Multi-Generational Modern Worship
11:30 a.m. Lunch & Activities (RSVP in REALM)

September 15
WEDNESDAYS TOGETHER BEGINS

5-6 p.m. Dinner (\$6 each) 6-7 p.m. Classes (for all ages)

Watch Past Services on our YouTube Channel Featuring recent sermons, worship videos, ChristKidsTV episodes, promo videos & more!

► YouTube <a> Christ Lutheran Charlotte



BRING YOUR CANS TO CONCORD

- Serve your neighbors.
- Drop off cans of nonperishable food & paper goods.
- Place in blue bin at Christ Concord's front door.
- Donations go to food banks at Cooperative Christian Ministry (CCM).







Projects, Worship & Wednesdays Together

by PASTOR TENNY

Projects

- Interior painting continues. We will complete painting the Nursery and Fellowship Hall before Thrive Preschool begins on August 30.
- •Playground set staining and installation. We had a work day on August 21st to clean up the pieces in storage, stain them, and begin re-assembly.
- Sacristy/Storage room. Countertops, flooring and final electrical work will soon be completed. This room will give us much more space for preparing communion elements, as well as storage for technology, Thrive, Family Ministry supplies, and kitchen supplies.
- •Landscaping. Thanks to David Mauney and the Bruno family, our landscaping has never looked better!

Worship & Online Broadcasts

- ·We are already back at our pre-COVID attendance numbers for worshippers "in the house."
- · Music and musicians are different every week. Variety is our norm!
- •We have been blessed with several guests recently at worship. We will have a great group for "Set Your Roots" at our upcoming new member classes.
- •Online numbers continue to be strong, both for worship and for <u>ChristKidsTV</u>. We continue striving to reach the community, both near and far, through our <u>YouTube</u> channel and through <u>Facebook</u>. Check out our weekly virtual schedule on <u>Christ Online</u>.
- •Recently, we received a note from a family in Missouri, who discovered our <u>YouTube</u> page, and thanked us for all we are doing to build faith through social media! Pretty cool, huh?

Wednesdays Together

- ·We will resume Wednesdays Together on September 15th with classes/small groups for all ages!
- ·Dinner: 5:00-6:00 p.m.
- ·Classes/small groups: 6:00-7:00 p.m.











Adult Sunday School Classes START SEPTEMBER 19th!

CLC Book Club 10:00-10:45 a.m. at Christ Providence (Lackey Parlor) -or- Online (Zoom)

The CLC Book Club reads and discusses books of all kinds – but primarily books on faith, our relationship with God, human nature, scripture, or biographies of faith leaders. Our discussions can be lively and frank. We do not shy away from controversial topics. We thrive on competing opinions, but we expect civility and respect for one another. Even if you have not read the assigned chapter, we encourage everyone to attend. We'll catch you up and let you talk anyway! Sometimes there are donuts (when we meet in person). All are welcome. The book we are reading is *Strange Rites* by Tara Isabell Burton. *-led by Dan Hansen and Carl Edgren*

Faith Fellowship 10:00-10:45 a.m. at Christ Providence (Forum A & B) -or- Online (Zoom)

From September 12th through November 14th, Faith Fellowship will be focusing on *Provoking Proverbs: Wisdom & the Ten Commandments* by Dr. David Lawrence Coe. This study catagorizes different Proverbs according to the 10 Commandments. Each chapter focuses on one of the commandments paired with the complementary Proverb selection so that participants may easily analyze, personalize and memorize God's Word – provoking us to fear, love and trust God above all things. *-led by Barbara Burton, Milt Marin, Miriam Morrison and John Stensrud*

The Crew 10:00-10:45 a.m.

at Christ Providence (rm. W150) -or- Online (Zoom)

From September 19th through October 31st, join The Crew for weekly study and conversations about the Book of Romans. We will explore St. Paul's key themes (especially the righteousness and grace of God) that rocked the world of Martin Luther. In November, we will join the congregation in studying and discussing the 3rd part of Community Bible Experience (CBE): The Writings, which includes Psalms, Lamentations, Song of Songs, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther and Daniel. -led by David Deeds

Emerge Sundays • 10:00-10:45 a.m. at Christ Providence (Music Rm.) -or- Online (Zoom)

All are welcome as we dig deeper into the current Sermon Series, where we will discuss the scriptures that are preached on each Sunday. What questions do these passages from the Bible raise for you? How are they challenging you to follow Christ and share your faith with others? -led by Rob Stark, Alexis Williams and Pastor Drew

Women's Bible Study Sundays • 10:00-10:45 a.m. at Christ Providence (Forum C) -or- Online (Zoom)

This women's group is dedicated to the study of God's Word in a relaxed and caring atmosphere of love for one another. This fall we again delve into His Word to enrich our faith and seek answers for living in today's world. Using the Augsburg Fortress Bible Study program, we will focus on the theme of "Celebrating God" based on scripture from both the Old and New Testaments, guiding us in how to live our lives celebrating God. Come join the women of CLC as we explore deeper into God's word in an atmosphere of friendship and love. -led by Jewel Barber and Joyce Brigman

Wednesdays Together Classes START SEPTEMBER 15th!

Women Making Connections 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Christ Prov. (Worship Ctr. Parlor) -or- Online (Zoom)

Join this spirited group of ladies to discuss the weekly readings for Community Bible Experience. We will be meeting in the parlor and online on Wednesday evenings. -led by Lara Barnett and Brooke Schell

(re)Kindle Faith 6-7:30 p.m.

at Christ Providence (Forum A & B) -or- Online (Zoom)

Adults in their 20s and 30s: You grew up in the church, did all the Sunday School and Youth Group activities, and yet, as a young adult, you feel woefully inadequate about your knowledge of the Bible. You are not alone! Join Pastor Scott for an in-depth, verse-by-verse study on the Gospel of John, designed especially for those in their 20s and 30s. Who is Jesus? How did the Bible come to be? What does the Bible say about faith? Who is the Holy Spirit? And after we are done with John, we will turn our attention to the Book of Romans, the foundation of the Reformation! -led by Pastor Scott

The Gospel of Luke 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Christ Providence (Fellowship Hall) -or- Online (Zoom)

If you or someone you know wants to better understand the story of Jesus, there is no better place to begin than with Luke's Gospel. As the author Luke himself says, it is written down as an orderly account of Christ's life. But this account wants to go beyond merely telling us what Jesus of Nazareth said and did. It wants to show us how in a humble Bethlehem manger, the Prince of Peace was born. It wants to reveal through the parable of a father welcoming home a prodigal son that nobody is excluded from God's grace. It wants to convince us that Jesus rose from the dead to set our hearts on fire with faith. Come and join us for this Bible Study, and be overwhelmed by the wonder of God's love. -led by Pastor Drew



FIND ZOOM LINKS AT christelca.org/online











Growing to Give, Christ Lutheran's Community Garden, began in 2018 as a way to turn a vacant lot adjacent to Christ Providence into a garden ministry. To date, it has produced over **5,700 pounds** of fresh vegetables. Each gardener commits to give at least 50% of their yield to help nourish our neighbors who are in need of fresh vegetables. This abundant harvest has been donated to Charlotte area food pantries and to families of McClintock Middle School through our McPIE ministry.

A small group of dedicated gardeners began with the planting of spring crops in 2018. Each gardener chose what would be planted in their raised garden bed. Those spring crops gave way to summer vegetables and then to fall crops. Once or twice a week, depending on the growing season, gardeners met to harvest the vegetables ready for picking. The second year of gardening brought irrigation to each bed, enhancing the garden production.

Each season the garden expanded with more gardeners and more beds, and thus more production of fresh vegetables to share.

With the sale of the garden property in the spring of 2021, the garden is being relocated to the Christ South campus, with the same goal of providing freshly grown vegetables to our neighbors who might not otherwise have these. We invite our Christ South neighbors, both congregational and surrounding community, to join with us in our garden ministry.

In the new garden, raised beds filled with garden soil, both 4' x 8' half bed and 4' x 16' full bed with drip irrigation, are provided for an annual rent fee. Donations of any amount and at any time are welcomed to further this garden ministry.

Gardeners are responsible for purchasing their own seeds, starter plants, fertilizer, soil amendments and support structures. As this is an organic garden, no commercial pesticides, fungicides or herbicides are permitted unless the label specifically states that the product is safe for use in organic gardens.

The garden is open from sunrise to sunset Monday through Saturday. Sundays it is closed until 12:00 noon. All gardeners are expected to participate in "Pickin' Parties" to harvest the produce. Children under 18 must be accompanied by at least one parent. No pets are allowed inside the garden fence.

For more information contact one of our co-managers, Walt Roth (704-907-7080), Paul D'Albora (704-595-3444) or Dave Deeds (704-806-5083).

Concord is Joining the Garden Party!

Infrastructure is what's currently growing at our Christ Concord and Christ South community gardens... but not for long! We hope to soon see fall vegetables planted and growing in the garden beds on both campuses.

In addition to the work underway at Christ South, grading will soon begin at Christ Concord. An Eagle Scout will help build raised bed frames at Christ Concord before filling with dirt begins.

As work progresses, volunteers will be needed at both sites. Look for announcements of dates and times at both locations! There will also be opportunities for helping harvest from a local urban farm near the Christ South garden. This business will donate excess crops to the charities of the harvest helper's choice. Cool, huh?!

We are working to make our communities better places. Soon, families from the McClintock community, and people who come to the food pantries at Cooperative Christian Ministry & Loaves and Fishes will benefit from the work that our church is doing.





Check out REALM for available groups (Community>Groups>Find Groups)

Kitchen Assistant

part-time, temporary position



Christ Providence needs some temporary help in the kitchen throughout the week in preparing meals, cleanup and other duties as needed.

For more info, email Mike Wallace: mwallace@christelca.org



McClintock Partners In Education

Tuesday's Family Nights will be returning in October!

Details are still pending, but we are now recruiting volunteers.

To get involved, contact Angela: adavis@christelca.org



Before moving forward on contracts or

ground-breaking, CLC members will have the opportunity to ask questions & review details on the Worship Center plans for Christ South.

September 26 • 11:00a (at South)
October 3 • 12:15p (at Providence)
October 10 • 12:15p (at Providence)



Something big is coming! I know what you're saying... "Something else big... oh, great?!" But this is a good thing that can have a huge impact in our church, and we need your help to make it work effectively.

We have 1200 folks with a REALM login, and that's great because REALM is an awesome tool for communication and for building our church community. A new feature is going to make it even better and we need more folks to get logged in.

Everyone is now going to be able to check in using the REALM Connect app to mark themselves present. According to REALM, Mobile Check-In "provides a safe, efficient way for members, families and children to check in to groups, registration events or volunteer teams while accurately capturing in-person and virtual attendance." What's big about that you may ask? Ahhh...check this out:

- 1. Mobile Check-in will allow us to know who is present for just about everything, and during COVID, that's really important in the event we need to do contact tracing. We hope that won't be necessary, but we want to be as careful and protective of you and our children as we possibly can.
- 2. Mobile Check-in will allow parents to check their child into Nursery, Sunday School or ChristKids from home before you even get to church. You can also check yourself into an adult class. If you have younger children needing a badge for security & COVID protocols, stop by the check-in kiosk outside the Nursery or in the Lower Commons, wave your phone at the QR code reader and badges will be printed out for you and your child(ren).

How It Works:

- 1. Open the REALM Connect app on your phone.
 - a. For iPhone: Click the three dots (…) in the lower right corner for "More," then select "Mobile Check-In." Follow the prompts for each family member.
 - b. For Android: Click the three lines (≡) in the top left corner and then select "Mobile Check-In." Follow the prompts for each family member.

It takes less than 60 seconds once you've done it just once. You can check in within four hours of any event, so you can check in while having breakfast on Sunday mornings before arriving at church.

So, that's the technical stuff. But the best reason of all is this: We are a big church and it's easy to get lost or become invisible and slip out the door unnoticed. We don't always know if someone is sick or in crisis. We don't want that to happen, but the only way to know you are missing is if we know who is here. It's impossible to take attendance in worship and tedious in classes, but in less than a minute, you can help us know you (and your family) are with us and engaged in the life of the church.

As a big and growing church, we must find ways to get smaller. Mobile Check-In can help us do that...please help us!

2021 Charlotte CROP Walk! by PASTOR DREW

Save the date for November 7th - the Charlotte CROP walk is back! This year's walk will be hybrid. You can walk with others or on your own. Either way, join our church team by searching "Christ Lutheran Church" when you register! Meet up at the American Legion Memorial Stadium at 1:30 p.m. - Opening Ceremony starts at 2:00 p.m. - walking begins at 2:30 p.m.

Register, donate and learn more at charlottecropwalk.org or contact Pastor Drew for more information.

The CROP Hunger Walk is an annual walk averaging four miles that takes place nationally each fall and represents the average distance citizens of developing nations have to walk to obtain clean water. CROP exists to raise awareness and funds for malnourished communities both domestically and abroad. The Charlotte Chapter is the largest CROP Hunger Walk in the country in both the number of funds raised and the number of walkers who participate.

Family Night Sampler JOIN OUR TEAM!

Pending COVID guidelines from CMS and the Governor, McPIE is moving forward with in-person Family Night. This October, we will hold a "Family Night Sampler." These four Tuesdays will allow students and families to meet us again after a long year and a half out of the school setting, and begin building that important community between McPIE, students, families, teachers and administrators.

Each week, a meal will be served and students will have an opportunity to sample from four different clubs. These four weeks will be "all hands on deck" as volunteers will be needed for crowd control and ensuring students are in the proper places.

If you are interested in volunteering in October, please contact Angela Davis at adavis@christelca.org. Once additional details are available, updates will be sent. We are excited to be with students and families again, in-person!

The Yearbook: Reflections on **School During the Pandemic**

The CMS Foundation is the official nonprofit partner for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. The Yearbook is a special collaborative project highlighting stories on the school experience during the pandemic. The Yearbook offers a look into the journey of CMS students, educators, families and community partners navigating a school year like no other. McPIE was selected as a featured partner to tell our story of how we continued to support families and engage students through the school year! Read more about it online at cmsfoundation.org/voices/the-yearbook.

Teacher Partners

Teacher Partners remain a crucial piece of McClintock support. If you would like to have an easy way to get involved and make a difference, being a Teacher Partner is your chance. All teachers appreciate extra support in the form of motivational quotes, emails, small gifts and maybe even sending cards in the mail. If you are interested in helping support a teacher, please contact Diane at diane.gavarkavich@gmail.com.

Freedom School & Camp CMS

While this summer was unusual in the programming McPIE supported, it was an impactful one for students! Christ Providence provided space and custodial services to support Freedom School Partners and Scholars this summer. Up to 54 Scholars were on campus from June 14th – July 30th to participate in the Children's Defense Funds literacy program. Our site housed Scholars from Rama, Oakhurst and Billingsville Elementary, as well as one middle school class with Scholars from McClintock and Alexander Graham. Scholars learned they can make a difference in themselves, school, family, community and country, all while focusing on literacy.

Camp CMS was a free 6-week program provided by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS), designed to fill in academic gaps and provide support to those students who needed it. McClintock Middle School (MMS) was a Camp CMS site for students from MMS and Alexander Graham Middle. Students participated in academics, social emotional learning and engaging activities.

McPIE supported McClintock's Camp CMS program with participation incentives to fill the Bucks Bus, teacher appreciation, and moral support. McPIE staff and volunteers also continued providing bags of groceries for families on a weekly basis. To date - 7,552 bags of groceries have been distributed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to all who have supported this mission!

Called to Love: Diversity, **Equity & Inclusion Training**

by AMY DANIELS

We have been called to love. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. --John 13:35

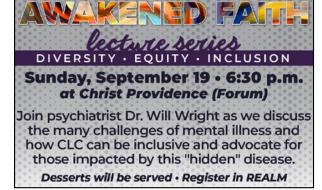
Join us for a heartfelt discussion on racial reconciliation and the disconnect between the love to which we are called and the love we offer. The Rev. Dr. Shanitria Cuthbertson will enlighten and guide our gathering.

WHEN Two Tuesdays, September 21st and 28th, 11:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. (please come for both).

WHERE Christ Providence (in the Forum) -or- online. Lunch will be provided for all who register for in person.

HOW Please <u>register in REALM</u>.











SERVING & OUTREACH

Ways to Serve

Now that businesses are opening back up and non-profits are looking for volunteers, please see the list of serving opportunities for ways to make an impact this year:

Soup Kitchen

Celeste Lupo-Hack celestelupohack@aol.com

3rd Sundays of the month. Volunteer opportunities aren't available until pandemic directives are different. Stay tuned.

One Blood Blood Drives

Dave Deeds

ddeeds@bellsouth.net

Providence - October 24 and April 2022 Concord- December and June 2022 South - February 2022

Stay tuned for dates. Looking for a coordinator for Christ South and Christ Concord.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Dawn Weisenberger dhw3465@gmail.com

Concord - September 26 and March 2022 South - November 21 and May 15, 2022 Providence - Jan. 16, 2022 and July 24, 2022

A Roof Above (formerly Room in The inn)

Randy Satterfield

randy@rpsbenefits.net

Lane Goode

lane.goode@gmail.com

December-March pending COVID guidelines, details to come.

Cooperative Christian Ministry

Karen Costea

kcostea@christelca.org

Donate non-perishable food, paper products and personal toiletry items to the blue bin, located outside the front door at Christ Concord.

Crisis Assistance - Free Store

Kate Shepherd

ckshepard71@gmail.com

2nd Tuesdays of the month.

Crisis Assistance - Donations Drop-off

Neal and Jan Mann

nealmann@bellsouth.net

Weekly deliveries of donated items to Crisis Assistance. Recruiting volunteers!

Quilters for Christ

Miriam Fisher mimfisher@carolina.rr.com

Kairos Prison Ministry

Drew Goodson

dgoodson@christelca.org

Spring 2022 is next event. Join group in REALM to learn more and participate in other events held virtually. Ministers to inmates at Foothills Correctional Institute.

Thrivent Action Teams THANK YOU!!

A REALLY BIG THANK YOU to all the Thrivent Members who have participated in the Thrivent Action Team programs so far this year. Through August, we have raised over \$10,000 for CLC Outreach Ministry projects. These funds allow us to stretch our outreach dollars so much further to help and support McClintock Middle School, Soup Kitchen, A Roof Above and MORE!

Lois Witham - Quilters

Mary Ellen Weddington - Quilters

Anna Moore - Quilters

Wilson Daniels - McPIE Food Drive Amy Daniels - Tent City, Diversity &

Inclusion Speakers Event

Melba Daniels - McPIE Food Drive

Celia Owen - McPIE Food Drive, MMS Staff Encouragement

Tal Owen - McPIE Food Drive

Jonathan Webster - McPIE Food Drive

Laura Erlenbach - McPIE Adult Classes Incentives

Jewel Barber - McPIE Food Drive

Julie Twait - McPIE Food Drive

Donna Emmans - Lutheridge/Agape Camp Support

Tom Switzer - McPIE Food Drive, MMS Campus Clean Up

Ellen Clapp - Tent City, McPIE Build a Teacher Box

Marcia Row - MMS Classroom Hygiene Kits

Toni Jones - McPIE Food Drive

Tracy McDonald - Hygiene Kits Alice McRorie - McPIE Food Drive

Mary Clark - McPIE Food Drive

Mary Lee Blackwelder - Tent City

Bill Jones - McPIE Food Drive

Linda Switzer - Hygiene Kits, Books for MMS ELA Project

Lisa Douglass - McPIE Food Drive

Kendra Seidle - McPIE Food Drive

Jennifer Bower - McPIE Food Drive

David Plonk - McPIE Food Drive

Dawn Weisenberger - Quilters

Bill Row - Soup Kitchen

Amy Saunders - Soup Kitchen

Jay Morrison - MMS School Supplies

Diana Daniels - Soup Kitchen

Jeff Switzer - Summer Programs Incentives Drive, MMS Teacher **Encouragement Lunch**

Eric Daniels - Essential Workers' Encouragement

Evelyn Jarjour - Summer Programs Incentives Drive

(COUNT 'EM) TWO **New Youth Directors!**

Please welcome new Youth Director. **Anthony Currier**

-and- new Associate Youth Director. **Max Waterhouse!**

Anthony is originally from Ohio and has been attending Toccoa Falls College as an online student. He has a bachelor's degree in Youth Ministry Studies and a minor in Business Administration. Adopted and raised in a single-

parent household with three siblings and four nieces & nephews, Anthony brings many life experiences into his role as Youth Director and we are delighted to have him!

Max grew up and was baptized in the Lutheran Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He volunteered in Omaha, Nebraska as part of LVC (Lutheran Volunteer Core) where he helped to run a local food pantry for people in need. Most recently, Max worked for Disney Cruise Line where he started as a youth counselor and then advanced to more of the entertainment side of activities on the ship. Max is very excited to be serving at Christ Lutheran to help children grow in their faith and have fun. Max will be working with middle school and high school youth, primarily at the Christ South campus.

from Anthony Currier... On behalf of myself and Max, I would like to express immense excitement and gratitude for being brought into the Christ Lutheran family. We understand the need for leadership, mentorship and discipleship in Christ Lutheran's youth ministry, and the need for change necessary for growth and development.

Our vision is to see a truly God-led and God-blessed ministry, bursting at the seams with passion for and from all involved: students, staff, volunteers and all who cheer for the lion-like spirit of Christ Lutheran's youth ministry to roar back to life.

Our mission is to bring the family of faith together to develop a new ministry dynamic that will stand the test of time and the pressures of the current climate, allowing for foundational faith to flourish within these walls and out in the world beyond.







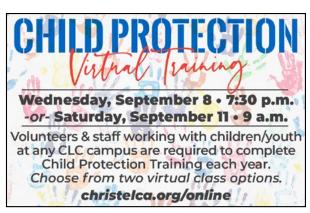
Max Waterhouse Associate Youth Director mwaterhouse@christelca.org

There will be plenty of ideas, loads of laughs, certainly a few obstacles, but all geared towards glorifying Christ, who allows us to do what we do.

It's also understood that Max and I are coming in at an unusual time in Christ Lutheran's history, considering the pandemic and other ministerial changes. Coming into the positions of Youth Director and Associate Youth Director, we aren't without questions of our own; there is still plenty Max and I have yet to learn about Christ Lutheran. Nonetheless, led by our personal experiences and education, fueled by deep love for the Kingdom of God, and inspired by Christ Lutheran's incredible passion and faith for the youths' relationship with Christ, I confidently believe that we are more than ready to take on the challenges that exist and ones that will inevitably come our way.

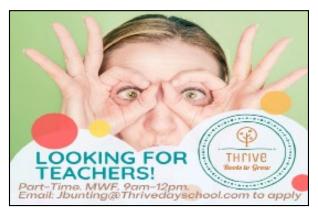
I'm personally grateful for the opportunity to help realize this ministry and equip the youth with a foundational faith and an understanding of their leadership potential. In areas where we may be stumbling, I feel we can become stronger than ever. The uncertainty of what to do next regarding COVID-19 and CDC guidelines can inspire CLC to lead the charge in safely and effectively holding worship experiences – cultural, political and social turmoil don't have to determine how we love and mentor one another. Great things are yet to come.

The challenges may be great, but the power of God is certainly much greater. Let's equip one another with the Armor of God and demonstrate the Power of God in ways we haven't witnessed before, Thanks be to God!





campuses and all services. Info: Kristen Rank (krank@christelca.org)

















ARTICLE FROM GHANA NEWS AGENCY

Pepease Presbyterian **Basic School to get Creative Art Centre**

by EUNICE TEKIE TEI (GNA)

Kwahu Pepease (E/R), July 30, GNA - Ms. Kendall Ficken, a 17-year-old senior high school student of Charlotte Christian School, North Carolina, United States of America (USA), has donated musical instruments to Pepease Presbyterian Basic School. The musical equipment worth US\$3,000 presented by the American philanthropist is to assist the basic school to commence a Creative Arts Centre.

Ms. Ficken, a violinist, who has a strong passion for music was of the view that talents in school children must be well nurtured to benefit society and the pupils. Out of passion, she established the Music for Ghana organization, a Non-Profit Organization in the USA to support music education in Ghana.

She was supported by her parents Mr. and Mrs. Ficken who later decided to establish a music school at the Pepease Presbyterian Basic School in the Kwahu East District of Eastern Region.

At a ceremony to break the grounds for the commencement of the facility, Mr. Fredrick Osafo Ntim, Chief Executive Officer of FON Group of Companies, who stood in for Ms. Ficken said the project that would be completed in 12 months would cost US\$65,000. He said all architectural designs were secured by the Kwahu East District Planning Officer.

He said the philanthropist with support from her church [Christ Lutheran], and in collaboration with the Charlotte Christian School, masterminded the project to encourage students with passion for music and gifted to practice music as their talent.

Mr. Ntim said [a] second batch of musical equipment to stock the music school had been shipped by Ms. Ficken for the project. The District Chief Executive promised that the District Assembly Engineers would take it upon themselves to supervise the project to ensure quality work.

The Pepease District Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Rev. Kennedy Twum-Barimah, through whom the music school was being established thanked the Ficken and Ntim Families for their response to his request to have ICT Centre and Music School at the Presbyterian Basic School. He also entreated all other individuals and corporate bodies to willingly support education to ensure development in the area since education was key to every developed country.

Mr. Isaac Agyapong - the Kwahu East District Chief Executive (DCE), District Director of Education Mr. Robert Andah Monney, Rev. Benard Yaw Owusu, Kwahu Presbytery Clerk and traditional authorities of Kwahu Pepease expressed their happiness for the project. A presentation of the musical equipment to the school was done after the programme.

gna.org.gh/1.21040231



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CHRIST LUTHERAN'S BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER











september/october 2021

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> TO SUBMIT A STORY OR NEWS ITEM Fill out a Communications Project Request Form, found online at form.jotform.com/80496362784165

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