As a uniquely metropolitan congregation, the people of Christ Lutheran Church are called to proclaim the Gospel, serve others, and invite all to experience God’s love and saving grace.

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

- **Wednesdays**
  - 11:00 am & 7:15 pm
- **Sunday Traditional**
  - 8:30 am & 11:00 am
- **Sunday Contemporary**
  - 8:45 am

**BIBLE STUDY**

- Wednesdays at 6:15 pm
- Fridays at 10:00 am

**PUB THEOLOGY**

- Mondays at 6:00 pm

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

**REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE RESUMES**

**RALLY DAY & MINISTRY FAIR**

- **Kick-off of our children and youth Ministries 9:45 am**
  - Ages 2 thru 5th Grade
  - Contemporary Worship Space
  - Grades 6th - 12th
  - Youth Room

**MINISTRY FAIR**

- Where is God Calling you to serve?
  - Learn about the ministries at Christ Church after each worship service in the Parlor and Coffee Hour Room.

**MINISTRY FAIR**

- Bring your backpack to worship!
  - We will bless the backpacks and those who carry them at all three worship services as our young people begin their new school year.
  - There will also be an Installation of Sunday School teachers, Youth Ministry leaders, and CLC Nursery School teachers.
Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
410-752-7179

Please call the church office...

- if you or a member of your family is admitted to the hospital so the pastors may schedule a hospital visit.
- if you have a new address, telephone number, or email address.
- when your committee or group plans a meeting or an activity—the room MUST be cleared and the church calendar noted.
- if you have any questions about baptisms, weddings, serving, or any of our programs.

Weekly Worship Schedule

Sundays
Traditional Service of Holy Communion
8:30 am

Contemporary Service of Holy Communion
8:45 am

Traditional Service of Holy Communion
11:00 am

Wednesdays
11:00 am & 7:15 pm
(beginning September 11)

In case of pastoral emergency, the pastors can be reached by their personal numbers.

Pastor Susan E. Tjornehoj 410-685-0247
Associate Pastor Patrick Ballard 919-215-0419

Christ Lutheran Church is and has been a Reconciling in Christ congregation since February 2001. To learn more, visit: www.reconcilingworks.org
Grief and Gratitude

To the saints and sojourners of Christ:

“Grief” from the Old French means to burden. And there are way too many synonyms for grief: sorrow, despair, heartache, mourning, lament. For the last few hours I have been in the presence of grief, of loss and despair. It’s the kind that comes to a family when they discover their mother/their beloved wife without breath. The daughters and husband are left without the chance to say goodbye, to let her know how much they loved her and every unanswered question is left unanswered. The grief is raw. For days, the Eritrean community had gathered around the bereaved in their community center—two grown daughters and their dad. Hundreds of women, their heads draped in swathes of white sit on one side, the men, silent, on the other. They sit for hours, days. Candles are lit, there are pictures, trays of bottled water, some small cups of coffee and injera (a kind of bread) are shared. It is quiet except for the groans of grief and the wailing that comes from deep inside. There is such a finality to it. Today they will gather at the Eritrean Orthodox Church, listen to words no one will understand (The daughters hissed, “It is in ge’ez, no one understands ge’ez anymore”) and try to release this one they have so loved. The baptismal promises and the earth will receive her, Tsercha, freedom fighter, Child of God. This is what the great cloud of witnesses looks like, the saints triumphant.

As I compose my last Harbor Lights article and begin, but will not complete, my eighth year as your pastor, the burden of grief is ever-present. Each this-is-my-body-given for you is one of the last times I will have this privilege. Unlike the suddenness of an unexpected death, we have been given the gift of these months, to ponder what thoughts need to be shared, what words need to be spoken while others are left unsaid. The coming days are sacred as we speak, uphold one another, enjoy one another’s company, tend to order and transition, love one another and give thanks for this shared ministry. After all, grief and gratitude are of one piece; grief at the separation, gratitude for what we have been able to accomplish in Christ’s name and for what is yet to come!

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has been at the center of these years, just as it always has been and always will be. Providing shelter for senior citizens, nursery school-age children, homeless women and children and in faraway places like El Salvador and Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic and Thailand remains a defining aspect of our life together. Excellence in worship, feeding the hungry, resettling refugees and partnerships with our closest neighbors at LIRS, LWR, the Delaware Maryland Synod and the ELCA are expressions of who and whose we are.

In these last years a former hospital sold, new developments developed, a parking garage went away and came back, blizzards took shingles and a building was renewed.Visions and dreams reshaped staffing patterns and mission. We hosted chili cook offs which transformed themselves into food for the hungry and new relationships with neighbors. Challenges? Absolutely. Stewardship of the mission and stewardship of this property will continue to require imagination, generosity and courage. Reading the signs of the times and predicting the future through a lens of faith will require risky boldness in Jesus’ name and the tension of fiduciary responsibility.

Since August 1, 2012 I have walked the streets of Light and Charles. If it is a half mile from my home to church and conservatively I walk it twice a day, subtracting vacation time and days when I didn’t walk, the soles of my shoes have walked 4,032 miles of this tiny piece of God’s good earth, 8,064,000 steps. Streets have been torn up, new buildings have risen, neighbors have come and gone, needles and bottles and garbage and zealous Raven’s fans make this one of the most fascinating places to be the people of God. Dave and I will remain at 1325 S. Charles St. for awhile. You have an amazing staff and excellent Interim Pastors who will serve you and the mission well. Travel, writing and serving the people of God in a new way are on the horizon, plus just rest.

One of the things taught at seminary is always love God’s people. And so it is, pastors fall in love and so it was for me, way back when I first read about you in The Lutheran magazine in 2011. It was the first phone call from a strange guy named Doug Nazarian and the first meeting in the church Parlor in February of 2012 and John Spencer’s, “Who-are-you-and-why-are-you-here?” question. Falling in love. From baptisms to cemeteries, from weddings to meetings, from El Salvador to DC marches and pride parades, the Table and Word and Font, from bedsides to “this is the Body of Christ” over and over and over again, love is at the very center of it all.

So grief and gratitude, but the greatest of these is love. “Love never ends,” scripture says. There is consolation in those words as we approach this ending, this separation, love never ends. When we began this ministry together the Bishop asked me, “Will you preach and teach in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, will you love, serve and pray for God’s people, nourish them with the Word and Holy Sacrament, leading them by your own example?” My answer was clear, “I will and I ask God to help me.” I have tried to fulfill those promises each day. And you were asked, “Will you receive this messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God and will you pray, help and honor her and strive to live together in peace and unity?” Your answer was a resounding, “We will.” On September 29, we will complete those promises to each other, knowing that love never ends.

Thank you for your love, for this opportunity to serve, to lead, to break bread, shed tears and leap for joy and the opportunity to love you.

In Christ’s name,
Pastor Tjornehoj
Music is often talked about as a universal language. It crosses borders, knows no boundaries, and is shared around the world. While not a universal language, I consider liturgy or ritual to be a common language. It guides rites of passage, communal belief, and assembly gatherings across the globe.

I was fortunate to travel in France last June and while the musical events were wonderful it was the worship services I attended that left the greatest impression. We worship in a tradition which has maintained the beauty of the Mass, a form which has its roots in the early church. Because of this tradition and stability of form, I was able to worship even though I had no understanding of the native language. It was clear when we were at the Confession and Forgiveness, the Kyrie, Gloria, Prayers of the Church, Sanctus, Words of Institution, Lord’s Prayer, Agnus Dei, etc. and I was able to actively participate in worship by saying the prayers and texts in my heart. By preserving the ritual of the Mass and its choreography of postures and gestures, our church has enabled me to have a common language in which I can worship in most places around the world.

Beyond the form and actions of the Mass, our Revised Common Lectionary allows us to read and study the scripture lessons that are appointed for upcoming Sundays. I found it most beautiful that for my first Sunday in Paris, the gospel reading was Jesus’ prayer that all might be one. I had no understanding of the language as they read the lessons that morning but I knew what they were reading thanks to the lectionary and, while being in a different culture and not knowing the language, I felt completely at one with the partners in faith around me. The second Sunday was Pentecost, with its reading from the second chapter of Acts in which all the gathered heard the gospel in their own tongue. While I didn’t hear any English in the service that morning, I knew what they were reading and understood the gospel and the service through our common language of liturgy.

We are so blessed by our Lutheran tradition which has been preserved and handed down to us from one generation to another. While many will tout the advantage of informal and flexible worship, it is the history, stability and universality of the Mass that I consider advantageous. It allows me full, active and conscious participation in worship nearly anywhere and in nearly any language.

Through changes and transitions, stability and uncertainty, good times and trials, I have the reassurance on Sunday morning of returning “home” to the comfort and familiarity of the liturgy.

There needs to be caution, though, that we do not worship the ritual and “go through the motions” without engaging the mind and heart. As stated in a favorite quote of mine from Jaroslav Pelikan, “Tradition is the living faith of the dead. Traditionalism is the dead faith of the living.” We can’t keep dead traditions just for the sake of preserving them when they no longer serve the faith of the living. In doing so we turn the church into a museum. Instead, we ought to respect and preserve those values and traditions which aid our faith and which have been passed to us by the saints who have gone before us; and this will be unique for each church.

Foremost, though, is that we evaluate these traditions to be worthy of an Almighty God. As Luther states in the Small Catechism,

I believe that God has created me together with all that exists…. In addition, God daily and abundantly provides…all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life. God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil. And all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all! For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

Our worship is a response to the abundant generosity and love given to us by God, so what we bring to worship needs to be of the highest quality and utmost praise. We do not come before the Almighty Creator with trivial gifts or a focus on ourselves. Of the traditions maintained, we must check that they are not self-serving but proclaim the extravagance of God’s mercy, our thankfulness for Christ’s redemptive act, and are always expressed in the one true universal language which is God’s love.

Soli Deo Gloria!
Daniel Aune
Hafenmusik: Music by the Harbor presents the Baltimore Children’s Choir in concert at 2:30pm on Sunday, October 13. The concert will feature a variety of repertoire ranging from Nigerian folk tunes to Native American children’s songs to African American spirituals. The Baltimore Children’s Choir is a non-profit arts organization that works with youth between 5 and 18 years old. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit Baltimore Outreach Services.

Calling All Singers!
The great church musician and teacher Paul Westermeyer has said that there are two choirs on a Sunday morning. The congregation, doing most of the singing, is the “unrehearsed choir” and those singing the more difficult music make up the “rehearsed choir.” Last year the Christ Church Choir rehearsed enough to offer a total of 70 anthems on behalf of its ministry and to the glory of God. We are always happy to welcome new members in our “rehearsed choir” family. Rehearsals are from 7:30pm – 9:15pm on Thursday evenings during the months of September to May, with a brief hiatus during the month of January. The first rehearsal of the season will be on Thursday, September 5. Please send an email to Daniel Aune (music@christinnerharbor.org) if you are interested in joining.

Calling All Ringers!
The Christ Church Handbell Choir is an ensemble in our music ministry looking for more members. This group does not rehearse every week but spends a couple weeks working up a musical selection for a particular Sunday and then takes a break until the next musical offering. If you can’t commit to a rehearsal every week, then this might be the group for you. If you are interested, please send an email to Daniel Aune (music@christinnerharbor.org).
Pastor Patrick Ballard

“The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore”
- Psalm 121:8

Country roads…take me home…to the place…I belong…John Denver’s classic hit followed us throughout the week as the young people of CLC headed out to Logan, West Virginia for a week of service, worship, and fellowship this Summer. It was another inspiring trip full of God’s good gifts and promises, the kind that enlivens your faith and reminds you of what it means to live in Christian community.

As we made our way into the Appalachian (APPA-LATCH-AN) mountains, the young people began to notice things both familiar and unfamiliar. They noticed the beauty of God’s creation, marked in this place by rolling hills and rushing streams, instead of busy harbors and sandy beaches. They noticed the diversity of God’s church, which came with more denominational names than they could count. And they noticed poverty of God’s people, which had different roots and different faces than they were used to but that grew out of the same human brokenness that we all face as God’s imperfect children.

This brokenness is what we came to acknowledge and tend to. Sometimes there were practical things we were doing: weeding a greenhouse, cleaning up a school, or leading games for a children’s day camp. But more often we were doing the harder work of the battle against sin: asking difficult questions about the root causes of poverty and sharing complete and total selfless Christian love-Agape love- with folks who we knew we would never see again.

There were moments that felt like we were right at home, such as when we discovered that the congregation we would be serving alongside was another ELCA Lutheran congregation. And there were moments that felt like we were far away, such as when we sat in worship with an Evangelical preacher who stopped just short of delivering an altar call.

We know that leaving home can be uncomfortable. It can produce anxiety, exhaustion, even fear. There is so much that is unknown. There are so many things that could go wrong and no way to prepare for everything. But we know that it also can be exciting and life-giving and expand our understanding of God and of the world around us. Our young people were a testament to this as they returned home full of joy and stories and ideas for connecting our trip to our congregational life.

If we think of Christ Church as our Spiritual home, sometimes it can feel hard to venture out as a community. There is safety and security in knowing what to expect each and every Sunday and in our various ministry programs throughout the year. But as we approach Pastor Sue’s retirement in just a few short weeks, we know that things will be changing. We will be “venturing out” from what has become nurturing and dependable over the last seven years. It will be uncomfortable and maybe even a bit frightening.

But this is just what God has done throughout history. God shakes things up, God brings God’s people into unfamiliar territory, and through it all God promises never to abandon us. So there will be both tears laughter in the days and months ahead. There will be disappointment and excitement. There will be frustration and possibility. All of this is inevitable, because we are a people that God is moving into unfamiliar territory. So let us move together, as one people of God. Let us build one another up by being champions of God’s grace, let us remember that we have been chosen by God to share Christ’s love and forgiveness with this corner of Baltimore and beyond, and let us be open to whatever God has in store next. Because we trust that it is God who will take us all home to the place we belong.

Peace,
Pastor Patrick

June 25, 2019, welcome reception for Krish Vignarajah OMara, LIRS President and CEO.
Christ Church looks forward to continuing our work with LIRS as we live out what God had called us to do!

Photos taken by Bill Kinsley
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
Grades 6-12 meet in the youth room at 9:45 am
Parents Welcome!

SEPTEMBER 20 - 21
Fall Lock-in for all confirmation and high school youth

OCTOBER 18 - 20
Northbay Adventure Camp
Middle School weekend of service projects, faith-filled discussions, and relationship-building in small groups.

NOVEMBER 8 - 10
Mar-Lu-Ridge Retreat for all confirmation and high school students.
Pastor Tjornehoj has served as Senior Pastor of Christ Lutheran Church since 2012, has provided leadership in the City of Baltimore, and served in six previous calls to ministry.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Join us for this special day of music and story telling, God’s Word and prayers for blessings, looking back and looking forward, family and friends gathered together.

10:00 AM - FESTIVE WORSHIP

11:45 AM - CELEBRATORY BANQUET AND PROGRAM

Please RSVP by September 15 at farewell@christinnerharbor.org or calling the church office at 410-752-7179.
Additional opportunities to celebrate with Pastor Susan Tjornehoj as she retires and concludes her ministry at Christ Lutheran Church

Sun., Sept. 15: Final Sunday Pastor preaches and presides at the contemporary service at 8:45 am
Pastor speaks at the Mountain of God Worship Service at 11:00 am
Legendary Duckpin Bowling at 1:00 pm
See the sign-up sheet and details at the table in the coffee hour room; hosted by the Adult Fellowship Group. All are welcome!

Sun., Sept. 22: Final Sunday Pastor preaches at both traditional services
Pastor leads the Adult Sunday School Forum at 9:45 am reflecting on her years of ministry at Christ Lutheran

Wed., Sept. 25: Final Wednesday services that Pastor leads at 11:00 am and 7:15 pm

Sat., Sept. 28: An Evening at Checkerspot with Pastors Sue and Dave beginning at 5:00 pm
Join them at their favorite neighborhood brew pub (1399 S. Sharp St.). Food will be provided (financial contributions are invited) and drinks are at your own expense. Please RSVP to pr.tjornehoj@christinnerharbor.org. or call the church office at 410-752-7179. Hosted by Pastors Sue and Dave. All are welcome!
According to:  
CARLIEN PARLETT  
Director of Christian Education

Who Is My Neighbor?

Not long ago, Christ Lutheran did a study on “What Jesus Demands from the World”. In keeping with this statement we are brought to the lawyer who asks Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?” It is apparent that the lawyer is looking for an easy answer that will support how he feels and reacts to others, but Jesus turns the table and tells the parable of the Good Samaritan. After Jesus finishes telling the parable the question is asked as to who the neighbor was. This becomes an uncomfortable situation because all of the leaders who avoid helping the man who has been beaten and robbed. The one person that would be overlooked because he is a Samaritan is the one who takes pity on the beaten man and goes the extra mile to care for him. The question then becomes not “Who is the neighbor?” but, “Who are you?”

This year in Sunday School, we will spend the entire year with our children discovering who they are in response to who their neighbors are. Parents are welcome to attend with your children and join in our Bible stories, games, songs and learning activities as we discover, as children of God, how Jesus teaches us to react to the neighbors that we have been given in this world in which we live. Rally Day will be the kick-off for our study this year.

~ Carlien

CHRIST CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL
A place where your child can let their light shine!

For more information about enrollment, contact the church office at 410-752-7179 or email carlien@christinnerharbor.org

We need Your Help!
This year we would like to help parents of our younger children, ages 3-11 years of age by having breakfast foods for each child at the beginning of Sunday School. We need your help to supply these foods for our children. We need: Go Gurts, Squeeze and Go Applesauce, Granola Bars, Cereal Bars. Please leave your donations in the container marked “Food for our Future”.  Thank you, Carlien

Proclaim and Invite:  
Jesus Calling Cards!
"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Each one of us is an evangelist. It is our invitation that can bring others to Christ. Proclaim and Invite Committee asks each church member to invite at least one new person (family, friend, acquaintance) to visit and worship with us this Fall. It can't be easier. Take a "business card" from the baskets located in the narthex and contemporary service table. Take one or more cards and hand one to someone with a smile and an invitation. Or, mail it to someone with a note on the back inviting him or her to come. There is great joy that we have plenty of Good News to share here at Christ!
An Epilogue

I love autumn. It’s my favorite season. Growing up in the mountains of Colorado and north Idaho, the fall was always a magical time of year, full of crisp and chilly mornings fading into long glowing afternoons, the shimmering gold of the aspen leaves radiating against endless blue skies. A time of refocus and potency - of the energy gained by letting go of the too-much-ness of the previous seasons, of preparing for the coming seasons, and the immediacy of this breeze, this splashing stream, this pick-up football game, this spontaneous dinner with loved ones. Each is savored for all its flavor and delight. It might be the last of its kind for a while.

Last fall you welcomed me and we embarked on this journey of a year shared together, without any of us knowing where it would lead. This fall is one of paths-diverging and leave-taking, at least for this community. As I begin the next stage of my life, I am grateful: For the welcome and hospitality this congregation has generously offered me. For the accompaniment of my internship committee and all those who have walked alongside me. For the leadership, courage, wisdom, friendship, and care- giving of Pastor Sue and Pastor Patrick. For the willingness to extend the phrase “we haven’t done that before” with the addition: “but let’s try it.” For all the stories, conversations, critiques, laughter, tears and donuts. Ah yes, the donuts. But now we enter in to something else, something new.

In times of change, it’s typical for individuals and communities to grasp hold of something stable and familiar. Very often, that “something familiar” is the past- or more truthfully, a nostalgic re-interpretation of the best parts of the past. The stable and familiar past seems stable only because we know what happened next and appears familiar because we have returned to it often. Photographs are good. Memories should be cherished. Stories are meant to be passed down. But there is no going back. We can’t return to those times.

In my final sermon, I reflected on Jesus’ words: “I have come to bring fire to the world . . . I have come to bring division” by suggesting that, yes, Jesus is the Savior of the world, but first he is the Disruptor of the world. Things have to be dramatically changed in order that they be powerfully healed. This season of change in the life of Christ Lutheran Church, in this season of fall, seems like an appropriate time to return to these words of Jesus often and ponder their meaning for us now.

My prayer for all of you who have prayed for me is that you will enter into this time of change with expectancy and joy and gratitude. Celebrate Pastor Sue and the gift she has been to us. Tell the stories of all that has happened in the past. And then honor the legacies of those who have come before by following their example of bold risks, wise leadership, adaptability, and creativity. The reason we remember what Jesus did with his life is so we will have eyes to see and hearts to recognize what he is still doing in our lives.

Dear friends, over the coming months, take time and quiet to listen well and deeply for the call of our Disrupter and Savior. Having come to know you, I am confident that in faithfulness you will say “yes” to the invitation set before to continue following Jesus in the next stage of your life together. To be the Church is not to gather for religious services, to sing songs of worship, to speak articulately about the doctrines of faith. The Church is the people who follow after Jesus in Christ-like-ness, joining him in his ongoing disruption in the world and his healing of the world. And that is who you are.

Go in peace. Serve the world. Follow the Lord. Thanks be to God.

~ Vicar Luke
“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” – Hebrews 13:16

LaSonia King, Social Ministry Coordinator
Ben Lentz, Committee Chair
Office Phone: 410.752.7179 ext.246
Email: socialministry@christlutheranharbor.org

Interested in joining the CLC Social Ministry Committee? The Social Ministry is proud to announce that Ben Lentz has accepted the role of Committee Chairman.

- Email us.
- Stop the Social Ministry Office (room 310)
- Tuesdays & Wednesdays

The community at CLC

Christ Lutheran was excited to host the fundraiser event for the documentary “It’s Not Who I Am” by Emmy Award Winning Producer, Dean Radcliffe-Lynes. The night consisted of a sneak peek of the film and a panel discussion moderated by Jayne Miller, Lead Investigative Report for WBAL.

Screen frame of the event promotional poster.

ELCA’S DAY OF SERVICE 2019

C.L.A.I.M. will be packing 25,000 meals for their God’s Work, Our Hands event on September 8.

Thank you to all those at CLC who answered the call of donating to this great cause.

It’s That Time of Year Again CLC!!

Seafarer’s Christmas at Sea 2019

Wish List Ornaments for Seafarer’s will be out starting Sunday, September 15, 2019.

All wish list items should be returned no later than Sunday, October 27, 2019 to the Coffee Hour Room or LaSonia King, Social Ministry Coordinator.

Thank You For Your Donation! For questions contact the Social Ministry at 410-752-7179 ext. 246

SUNSHOEBOXES!! CLC don’t forget to BRING IN YOUR SHOEBOXES & UNSUED TOILETRIES!

CLC was excited to host the Welcoming Reception for LIRS’s new CEO and President, Krish O’Mara Vignarajah. It was great to learn more about Mrs. Vignarajah and what she hopes for LIRS as she takes the helm of this very important organization.

Thank you to all that were able to share in this great occasion.
A Legacy of stewardship
MALAWI
ELCA.org/hunger

In the village of Chole, Shadrack Tsautautenda has been cultivating trees for two years, and the oldest are nearly ready to sell and transplant. His nursery was made possible by a small business loan from the village savings and loan group established by Evangelical Lutheran Development Services in Malawi (ELDS), supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger. In addition to funding small business plans like Shadrack’s, ELDS trains farmers on crop diversification and increasing yields through new planting methods and the use of organic fertilizer.

In Chole, as is common in many rural villages in Malawi, many trees are cleared for farming and firewood. Over time, deforestation leads to air that is less clean and soil that erodes more quickly. Having received training at the ELDS farming school, Shadrack planted the first seedlings in his nursery, which has now grown to 1,200 trees ranging from saplings to almost fully grown.

Caring for the land, coaxing life out of the soil and guiding it to maturity – this work connects Shadrack to the past, plants him firmly in the present and informs his vision for the future. And that vision, guided by his faith, is not only for his personal prosperity, but also for the prospering of his community.

“This land has been in my family for five generations,” he said. “It is meaningful to me to look after the land of my ancestors, and I want to pass this land to future generations.”

The training he received, he will pass on to others. Those who receive that training will use it to heal their own land and use the profits of increased yields to send their children to school. The land that gives Shadrack life and livelihood will one day be inherited by his three children, who will receive it in a better way than it was found.

Your gifts to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal support creative efforts that fight hunger and poverty around the world, including the United States. Just as Shadrack Tsautautenda’s tree nursery business in Malawi was made possible through the Hunger Appeal’s support to ELDS, countless other sustainment efforts are giving life to small businesses everywhere. You may make contributions by using the offering envelopes found in the kiosk in the Narthex or by properly marking them and forwarding to the church office. Thank you.

Believe in BLISS (Baltimore Living In Sustainable Simplicity)
By Sarah Berger

BLISS Meadows is the brainchild of Atiya Wells, a pediatric nurse with a passion to introduce, educate, and connect families in Baltimore, especially those of color, to local outdoor spaces. I met Atiya when we were fellow parents to young children at a Baltimore City Public School, and I watched her put her energy and talent to work as the coordinator of the school’s transformational Outdoor Committee.

BLISS Meadows is a 10-acre land reclamation project geared toward food justice and creating equitable access to green space in northeast Baltimore City. In a matter of weeks last June, Atiya and her team raised $60,000 to buy a derelict house on a 2.5-acre property in the Frankford neighborhood of Baltimore. Plans, staff and a robust organization are all in place to transform the property into a community farm with animals, native plants, food production, children’s activities, demo gardens, and environmental education. With the 2.5-acre educational farm, an adjoining 7-acre forest patch, and the farmhouse property, BLISS Meadows will preserve and protect nearly 10 acres of green space in Baltimore City.

We talk often -- yet not enough -- of insufficient tree canopies, food deserts, and “nature deficit” disorder among kids who grow up in neighborhoods blighted by a decades-old cycle of poverty, unemployment, hopelessness and violence. BLISS Meadows directly addresses all those issues, and it addresses them with the deep commitment and love-of-project on the part of Atiya and her team which can best be described, in all senses of the word, as organic.

BLISS Meadows has been raising money through foundation support and through the generous donations, even as small as $5, from individuals including a number of Christ Lutheran members. To learn more about this inspiring project, visit https://blissmeadows.wedid.it/ or visit LISSMeadowsMD on Facebook.
CLC Property Committee at Work

Committee members: Darren Anderson, Robert Anderson, Sandra Anderson, Bernie Annor, Charles Busse, Clare Cochran, Alice Eissele, Johnnie Fries, John Geist (Chair), Harold Graul, Ron Hickernell, Al Miller, Judy Ritterhoff, and Rich Walther.

Project status as of August 25, 2019

• Under the spending moratorium established by the CLC Council, no major maintenance projects have been initiated since the carper replacement job was completed in June.

• PROPERTY PROJECTS that KEEP CLC FUNCTIONING: With leadership of Property Committee members and day-in and day-out guidance from our Parish Administrator, JOHNNIE FRIES, here are examples of recent repair and maintenance projects that keep CLC ready for worship and mission:

  • new round tables for overflow area secured (RICH WALTHER) with the help of a dedicated gift ($2,000)
  • broken floor tile, stair treads and risers and safety striping in the entrance from the parking lot replaced (HAROLD GRAUL) with the help of a dedicated gift ($2,430)
  • safety striping on the exterior and interior steps in the entrance area to the sanctuary replaced (JOHNNIE FRIES) ($280)
Caring Ministries

Card Ministry and volunteers send cards to shut-ins and others to celebrate joys and acknowledge concerns as identified by the pastoral staff.

Door Knocker Ministry has been operating since October 2018. The many people who have sought assistance at the door of the church have received a bag with a nutritional snack, a bottle of water and a pamphlet highlighting where services are available to them in Baltimore City.

Eucharistic Ministers Parishioners who cannot get to church have someone visit them monthly to share the sacraments through this ministry.

Meals for People with special needs are prepared by Hope and Bill Collins based on requests from the pastors. Adrienne Grant and Bill Kinsley have volunteered to assist when needed.

Prayer Chain includes several people from our congregation who pray for others daily. Vicki Baublitz organizes and communicates any prayer requests with those who are willing to include others in their prayers. Please contact Vicki at baublitz@christinnerharbor.org or call the church office to have someone added to the prayers or to volunteer to be on the prayer chain.

Prayer Shawl Committee Calling all those who crochet and knit of any age or those with an interest in our prayer shawl ministry. We need your skills for additional shawls to be distributed to those in need. Please contact Lydia Brown at lrbrown797@gmail.com.

Stephen Ministry brings God’s love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis.

Sacrament Committee is a dedicated group of church members who prepare the sacraments for all of the services.

The Caring Ministry has many useful items available to borrow. All five of the rollators in our inventory are currently on loan. If you know someone who would like to donate a four wheel or three wheel device, ask them to consider donating them to our medical equipment loan program. Contact Vicki at the church office to borrow or donate equipment.

Christ Caring for People through People

Summertime Stress Getting You Down?

We like to think of summer as being a relaxing, enjoyable time. But hurts, struggles, crises, and problems don’t take a vacation. Many times our difficulties seem even worse during the summer because everyone else seems to be enjoying life while you are feeling down. If you are experiencing a difficult time—emotionally, spiritually, or relationally—you don’t have to suffer alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers, and women are matched with female Stephen Ministers. It’s free. It’s confidential. And it will make a difference in your life! To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Louis Straker, Barbara Kimbrel, or Paula Montgomery. Or contact Pastor Ballard.
A summary of the minutes from the Congregation Council meeting June 25, 2019:

Bishop Bill Gohl, Jr. introduced Dr. James Cobb and Pr. Judith Cobb whom he has selected as our interim pastors beginning October 1, 2019. Dr. and Pr. Cobb introduced themselves and, together with Bishop Gohl, answered questions about their roles as interim pastors. The Council approved the proposed compensation package for the interim pastors.

The financial report for May showed a net operating loss of $43,275 for the month ($10,745 more than budgeted) and a loss of $15,689 for the year to date ($43,625 less than budgeted). Total income was $8,123 (7%) less than budgeted for the month and $576 less than budgeted for the year to date. Total expenses were $4,593 (3%) less than budgeted for the month and $32,112 (5%) less than budgeted for the year to date. The year to date variance resulted from delay in the carpet replacement project and vocalists costing less than budgeted. We have collected $1.254 million and spent $2.801 million on the Capital Campaign, with an outstanding debt of $1.73 million. The nursery school had a loss of $7,241 for the month and a loss of $2,321 for the year to date. Interest expense on the loan to finance the exterior building renovations and the 2017 and 2018 net operating losses was $5,459 for the month and $23,539 for the year to date.

The Executive Committee approved bringing back the $40,000 from the capital campaign used earlier in the year to pay down the line of credit and putting the money into the operating budget to cover the current cash shortage.

Members of the Stewardship and Finance Committees and the Foundation Board will develop a plan for dealing with this year’s budget shortfall and long term budget issues.

The Youth and Family Ministry Committee has developed a mission statement, and discussed a variety of future activities.

The Chipotle fund-raiser netted the Nursery School $395.

The carpet replacement should be completed this month.

The Property Committee picked five priority projects for 2020, including fire safety.

The Finance Committee will present a different approach to developing the 2020 budget to the Council for its July meeting.

The carillon was rededicated and named for Frank Hubbard. His estate should be finalized in a few months.

Mountain of God and Christ Church have had discussions about how we can best work and live together.

A proposal to dissolve the Charles Light Parking Corporation and transfer its assets to the Church was distributed to the Council. This proposal will be discussed at the July Council meeting.

The Council approved a proposal to create a short-term Communication Working Group to come up with concrete recommendations for a wholistic communication strategy. The group will include Pastor Ballard, Vicar Warner and Michelle Gahagen and other yet to be identified lay people.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service has asked if Christ Lutheran would be willing to be a sanctuary congregation. Bernie Amor, Jennifer Doonan and Jeanette Nazarian will research what this would involve.
A summary of the minutes from the Congregation Council meeting July 23, 2019:

The financial report for June showed a net operating loss of $13,495 for the month ($29,889 more than budgeted) and a loss of $31,715 for the year to date ($13,349 less than budgeted). Total income was $24,220 (17%) less than budgeted for the month and $24,797 (3%) less than budgeted for the year to date. Total expenses were $5,669 (4%) more than budgeted for the month and $24,194 (3%) less than budgeted for the year to date. The year to date variance resulted from vocalists costing less than budgeted. We also borrowed $40,000 from our Line of Credit to cover a cash shortfall. We have collected $1.266 million and spent $2.801 million on the Capital Campaign, with an outstanding debt of $1.758 million. The nursery school had a loss of $2,792 for the month and a loss of $5,394 for the year to date. Interest expense on the loan to finance the exterior building renovations and the 2017, 2018 and 2019 net operating losses was $5,626 for the month and $34,662 for the year to date.

The Charles Light Parking Board presented the response to the Council’s January information request, including several recommendations about ongoing tax issues and the future relationship between CLP and Christ Lutheran Church.

John Geist announced that he is resigning as Chair of the CLP Board effective the end of September. Pastor Tjornehoj thanked him for all of his work and accomplishments as Chair of the Board over the past few years.

Instead of the regular August Council meeting, there will be a gathering to hear from Evangelist Jean Paul and Director of Evangelical Mission, Pastor Amsalu Geleta about Mountain of God and discuss the 2020 budget worksheet.

The Youth and Family Ministry Committee is focusing on developing a program of discussions of “tough topics.”

The theme for this year’s Vacation Bible School is “Who Is My Neighbor?”

A draft “Building Use Policy” was distributed.

A “Safety and Security Site Evaluation” handout was distributed.

Bruce Kirby will be resigning as Treasurer this fall. On behalf of the Council, Pastor Tjornehoj thanked Bruce for the tremendous job he has done over the past few years to get the congregation’s finances and management processes in order. Gary Hacker was approved as interim Treasurer for the remainder of the year after Bruce Kirby’s resignation.

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Commitment Sunday is Approaching!

On Sunday, October 20, Christ Church will hold Commitment Sunday. The Council and the Stewardship Committee invite you to prayerfully consider, and commit to, what gifts you and your family can offer to support the vital ministries of Christ Lutheran Church.

Prior to Commitment Sunday, there will be temple talks about stewardship during worship and Sunday school hour education sessions--keep your eye on the bulletin.

Finally, on September 8 at the Ministry Fair for Rally Sunday, stop by the Stewardship Committee table and learn about our work and try out our new text-to-give option for your offering!
Join us for our monthly Adult Fellowship Events. Please note that dates/times are subject to change. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the chair person of the scheduled event.

Members and friends of the congregation of all ages are invited to Adult Fellowship events. Sign-up is usually the two weeks before each event outside the coffee hour room or by contacting the coordinating persons.

Look for further details on these and future events in the weekly Christ Church email and in the Sunday worship bulletin.

Join Your Friends from Christ Lutheran Church for Legendary Duckpin Bowling!

Sunday, September 15 at 1 p.m.
Glen Burnie Bowl
6322-A Ritchie Hwy

This is our last chance to bowl with Pastor Susan Tjornehoj before her retirement.

All are welcome, families, individuals, and couples!

Pick-up a flyer for more details at the display table in the coffee hour room at church, and sign-up to reserve your place by Sunday, September 8.

Join us to explore the history of immigration in Baltimore with a free visit to the Immigration Museum and guided walking tour.

Sunday, November 10 at 2 p.m.
There will be an optional lunch at The Port Public House in Locust Point at 12:30 p.m.

All are welcome, families, individuals, and couples!

Pick-up a flyer for more details at the display table in the coffee hour room at church, and sign-up to reserve your place by Sunday, October 27.
**COMBINED WORSHIP**

CHRIST CHURCH WILL HAVE ONE SERVICE AT

10:00 AM

ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS

**September 29**
Pr. Tjornehoj’s Farewell

**October 27**
Reformation Sunday

**WELCOME OUR NEW PASTORS**

Join us as we welcome Rev. James (Jim) as the Interim Lead Pastor and Rev. Judith (Judy) Cobb as half-time Interim Associate Pastor.

Our Interim pastors will join the Pastor Patrick Ballard, the rest of the staff, Church Council and this congregation in its mission and ministry beginning October 1.

We will soon discover the breadth of their experiences, gifts and passion over the coming months. Pr. Jim Cobb, born in Hickory, North Carolina, has served in congregations in Virginia, Maryland and Michigan. He was also on staff at Gettysburg. Pr. Judy Cobb, a Baltimore native, has served congregations in Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland. They were co-pastors at Ascension Lutheran in Towson until 2014.

Pr. Jim Cobb will spend a couple of weeks with Pr. Tjornehoj in early September. They will be renting an apartment at Banner Hill as their permanent residence will remain in Williamsburg Virginia.

*Each has served well as Interim pastors and come refreshed and excited for this new opportunity!*

**ANIMAL BLESSINGS**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 - 10:00 AM**

All are welcome to bring pets, pet pictures, or stuffed animals.

**PLAN NOW! BE A PART OF CHOIRFEST!**

Before your Choir takes a break for summer – Plan to join us for this year’s ChoirFest.

**Sunday, October 27**

3:00 pm

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church
1900 St. Paul Street (21218)
(Plenty of parking in lot adjacent to church)

Groups of 2 or more are welcome to perform individually and with the group. Individuals are welcome to participate with the combined choirs.

Children and Youth Choirs encouraged to sign up.

Groups will perform individually and as a combined Inter-Congregational Choir.

Sign up now at claimbaltimore@gmail.com.

**MonEVENINGS**

**6:00 pm—7:00 pm**

**Pub Dog**
10 E. Cross Street

Join Pastor Patrick and others who want to chat about theology on Monday evenings.

We will gather at Pub Dog near Cross Street Market in a 2nd floor booth for some open and honest conversation about the joys and challenges of our collective faith.

Bring an open heart and some topics that you’d like to wrestle with in the future. Feel free to park at the church-the pub is just a seven minute walk!

*Join our Facebook Group:*

https://tinyurl.com/y7wq8r7g

**Sermons Are Online**

Missed a sermon? Did a sermon speak to your spirit and you want to hear it again? Visit our website at www.christinnerharbor.org!
In October, BOS will be 17 years old. Eight Christ Church members formed the first Board of Directors in 2002. I want to thank all of the members of Christ Church who have shared their resources with the homeless women and children that we serve. You adopt the children and moms at Thanksgiving and Christmas, prepare Sunday meals for the shelter and donate your clothes and your household goods for our shelter residents. Christ Church members are regular donors and attend the Gala each year. We are very grateful for your continued support.

It is hard to sustain the passion for a ministry over many years. It is often more exciting to do something totally new. In the fiscal year that just closed we served a record number of homeless women and children - 114 moms and 179 children. There is such need in Baltimore City and only three shelters that take children. As I walk through the shelter I see the faces of the homeless each day. Everyone we can help have a home and a job is very real and important to our staff who care deeply.

Christ Church’s history has been one of serving the poor—we built Deaton Hospital to help with the medical needs of the community and Christ Church Harbor Apartments to provide low income subsidized apartments for the poor elderly. We had the first kitchen for Meals on Wheels in Central Maryland where the shelter now exists. Every day meals went to the sick and home bound. That kitchen also served lunch one day each week to the poor in rotation with other South Baltimore Churches. Now we use our church basement to help vulnerable children and their moms have a safe place to live until they can find permanent housing.

The women we serve are in great poverty without resources. We have discovered that there are many people who really do not have a support system of people who can help them. In May two moms came to our church benevolence sessions. They shared how they had no one to help them and no place to go. At a desperate time in their lives, BOS helped them have food to eat and a place to stay and clothing for their children. Then they both took our culinary arts training program and are living in permanent housing in the community, working full time jobs and taking care of their families.

As I am writing this article, the children in the shelter are attending St. Vincent DePaul summer camp. Each day they work on their Reading and Math skills, play active games and swim. It is a wonderful camp for homeless children. Our case manager is working on enrolling all the children in school and pre-school. We will make sure that they have the school supplies and school uniforms that they need so they can be successful in school. Sometimes it is the first time that the children have had everything on their school supply lists.

Please give a donation to Baltimore Outreach Services to help these vulnerable women and children have a safe place to live and sleep safely at night out of the summer heat. Your donations will help us provide case management services to move these families to permanent housing and an employment specialist to help them find jobs. May you be blessed as you have blessed the lives of others.

Karen,  
Karen Adkins, Ph.D. Executive Director

Every summer, I ask that each family in our congregation make a contribution toward this ministry that really helps people in difficult times of their lives. We all have different means. So I ask that you give, as you are able so that we can help women and children in crisis with a safe place to live with job training in a very supportive atmosphere. May God bless you as you have blessed the lives of others. Thank you.

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Mr. Charles Busse
Robert & Mary Beth Day
Timothy & Kimberly Deinlein
Jamie Fisher
John & Darlene Lebo
Judy Merritt
Joann Offer
Carlien Parlett

New Members Received June 30, 2019

Mr. Gary Harn
Mr. Jack Moore
Ms. Debbie Izzi
Ms. Katharina Janzen
Ms. Virginia “Brantly” Stanfield

PASTORAL ACTS
“You are a child of God, sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.”

June 23
Lucy Marlyn Cougle

July 14
Ariadne Miller

August 18
Alice Grace Campbell

Mary McCloud
June 8

Chris Sieger
July 17

Agnes Kuenkler
August 18

Jenna & Mark Daniels
Celebrating 10 years on September 19

Ann & Richard Hunter
Celebrating 10 years on September 25

Karen Olson
Celebrating 25 years on September 17

Pat Railey
Celebrating 25 years on September 10

Peggy & Edgar Schick
Celebrating 60 years on September 12
Dear Christ Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of $4,000 to ELCA World Hunger. Your generous gift is enabling transformative works of love here in the United States and in 60 countries around the world, providing what is needed to end hunger and poverty: access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Together, we are creatively and courageously working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you, dear people of Christ! Your most generous gifts are truly ending hunger in communities here and across the globe.

The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Recorded as of: August 27, 2019

September 1          Luke 14:1, 7-14
September 2          Psalm 119:65-72
September 3          Titus 1:1-9
September 4          Isaiah 57:14-21
September 5          Psalm 1
September 6          Colossians 4:7-17
September 7          Deuteronomy 29:2-20
September 8          Luke 14:25-33
September 9          Psalm 101
September 10         1 Timothy 4:6-16
September 12         Psalm 51:1-10
September 13         Genesis 7:6-10; 8:1-5
September 14         John 3:13-17
September 15         Luke 15:1-10
September 16         Psalm 73
September 17         Jonah 3:1-10
September 18         Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6
September 19         Psalm 113
September 20         Romans 8:31-39
September 21         Matthew 9:9-13
September 23         Psalm 12
September 24         1 Corinthians 9:19-23
September 25         Proverbs 21:10-16
September 26         Psalm 146
September 27         Proverbs 28:3-10
September 28         Proverbs 28:11-28
September 29         Luke 16:19-31
September 30         Revelation 12:7-12
Thank you gain to all who took part in signing of 500 Mother’s Day cards for detained immigrant women! We have heard from Sister Denise LaRock and the Interfaith Welcome Coalition in San Antonio and Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest in Arizona how much the cards have meant to mothers who continue to look at them every day. And now we have heard from the Northeast Region Thrivent Member Network that this project through an Action Team has been recognized with an additional $500 grant that will go to support the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service! Your love for our neighbors continues to make such a difference!

5th Annual CASI Chili Championship

Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets, tasted chili and made donations or judged at the Maryland State CASI chili championship. We had great weather for the event, and we would not have raised more than $900 for World Hunger without the assistance of so many in the congregation. Special thanks to CLC Caring Committee (Paula Montgomery, Barbara Kimbrel, Yvonne Wilson, and Michael Wilson), judges (Lynne Mason, Ada Muñiz, Beth Robertson, Kurt Saenger-Heyl, Pastor Susan Tjornehoj, Rich Walther, Norma Woods, and Stephen Wright) and all who came out to taste chili and donated money so I could bring home the People’s Choice Award. Thank you to Nancy Rice and her team for providing another beautiful quilt to raffle, on pretty limited notice. Thanks to the church staff for all your support as well, particularly Andrew Miller. Thank you to Thrivent for their financial support through an Action Team, and most importantly, thank you to Bill Kinsley, photographer extraordinaire, and the one who helped me keep my sanity!

~ Adrienne Grant
THE CHRIST CHURCH STAFF

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call the staff at the church office at 410-752-7179 (see extensions below) or email them.

Rev. Susan E. Tjornehoj, M.Div., Pastor, ext. 212 ..............................................pr.tjornehoj@christinnerharbor.org
Rev. Patrick Ballard, M.Div, Associate Pastor, ext. 213..............................pr.ballard@christinnerharbor.org
Carlien Parlett, MCM, MREd, Christian Education Director, ext. 218 ..........carlien@christinnerharbor.org
Daniel Aune, D.M.A., Director of Music, ext. 217..............................music@christinnerharbor.org
Johnnie Fries, Parish Administrator, ext. 211 ........................................jfries@christinnerharbor.org
Vicki Baublitz, Administrative Assistant, ext. 210..............................baublitz@christinnerharbor.org
Gary Hacker, Treasurer, ext. 222 ................................................accounting@christinnerharbor.org
Michelle Gahagen, Systems Manager, ext. 221 ........................................mgahagen@christinnerharbor.org
LaSonia C. King, Social Ministry Coordinator, ext. 246...............socialministry@christinnerharbor.org
Rebecca Lindsey, Lead Contemp. Musician ..............................rebecca.lindsey2@gmail.com
Karen Adkins, Ph.D., Executive Director, BOS, ext. 219....................adkins@baltimoreoutreach.org
John R. Sabatelli, Pastor Emeritus
Robert Brown, Sexton
Andrew Miller, Jr., Sexton

Parking for Sunday and Wednesday services and other festivals in the Arrow Parking Garage at 11 E. Lee Street

You will need to bring your ticket into church and have it stamped on the "Lock Your Car" side.