

1301 Mowry Ave.  
Fremont, CA 94538  
(510) 797-3724

[ctkfremont@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ctkfremont@sbcglobal.net)

## TABLE TALK



### PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear “poked” and soon to be “poked” Saints,

In the past couple of weeks, I have been hearing the following conversation many times. A friend will share about how they got their vaccine. And the bystanders will enthusiastically shout out “Congratulations!”. There is so much joy around those announcements. So much relief. So much hope. And we congratulate people who got their shots. Even though all they had to do was being smart/ fast/ techy enough to get an appointment. And being brave enough for a needle to be poked into their arm or thigh.

It's probably the most passive thing we can accomplish in our adult life and still have people congratulate us. It feels a little bit like being a toddler again when everything one did was reason for praise. “Ohhh, you ate your banana, awesome. Look at you, you didn't spill your water, wonderful.” Now, I don't want to diminish the great steps toddlers make. Of course, they deserve every praise on earth. Still, as we all know, as an adult, it's rather hard to get praised anymore without working hard for it. Table manners usually aren't enough anymore.

The vaccine has changed that. Now, it's enough to show up and receive it. It's very much like God's grace. It just happens to us, one at a time. It's free for everyone in this country. It's life changing, freeing. And it's worth to be celebrated, to be named and claimed. Congratulations to all

who have been vaccinated. Enjoy your new freedoms. Congratulations to all who will be vaccinated soon. It's just a little longer. Easter is close.

Hallelujah!

Your joyful *Pastor Tia!*



---

## Council President's Corner

It is the beginning of Spring, and the Easter Season. This is a time of change and hope. The major change for our congregation is the hiring of our Office Administrator, Dana Brambley. You can learn more about Dana elsewhere in the newsletter. Many thanks to Patricia Bauer for pinch hitting so effectively while the search for the new OA went on (and on, and on).

With God's grace, we will see the end of the pandemic and soon should be able to celebrate the reopening of our church building after our fire rebuild, and the relaxing of shelter in place mandates. The Worship and Music Committee will be looking at recommendations from the County, and the Synod in order to facilitate the return to in person services once the damage repairs have been completed. The most obvious change necessitated by the fire repairs will be the new carpet, and all new furniture in the office area, and library. Thank you to Peggy Claassen and her committee for overseeing that process. In the meantime, we will continue to Zoom along.

Yours in Christ,

**Jim Sepeda**, Council President

[jrsepeda@comcast.net](mailto:jrsepeda@comcast.net)

---

## *Holy Week Services*

### Maundy Thursday, April 1:

**7:00 pm:** You are invited to our "dinner church" via CTK Zoom. Pastor Barbara Caine, from Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, will be preaching (yeah!). We will celebrate communion as part of our dinner, share stories, pray and listen. We will care for our hands that have been washed a Million times this past year and maybe, just maybe, find new meaning in this last meal Jesus shared with his friends. Come, join us. (It's ok to turn your camera off when eating, or during any other time :)

### Good Friday, April 2:

**4:00-5:00 pm:** Fourteen (14) interactive stations of the cross will be awaiting you on Good Friday at CTK. Together, with many volunteers, we have prepared spaces for you to rethink the passion story and connect it anew with your life.

There will be time for walking a small labyrinth, prayers, questions, learning, meditation, singing and listening. Bring your mask, keep your distance and enjoy. The stations will be open from 4 to 5 pm. In-person, drop-in at CTK patio, 1301 Mowry Avenue, Fremont.



**7:00 pm:** Join Holy Redeemer Good Friday Worship Service via HR Zoom (not CTK) using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5107931911?pwd=VWxuSVZkdk51ZkQ5Y3FGSHFQTjNtQT09>



**Easter, Sunday, April 4:**

**10:15 am:** Celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord via CTK Zoom. Christ the Lord has risen! He is risen indeed!

---

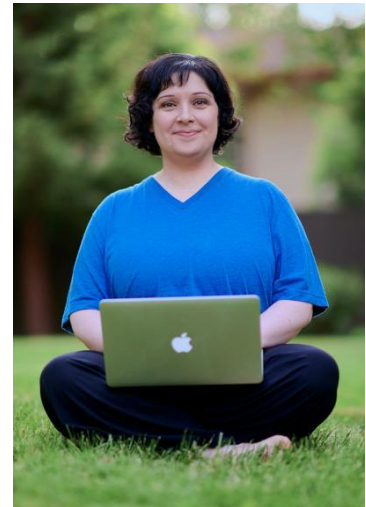
## *Church Secretary/Office Administrator*

The selection committee (Jim Sepeda, Pastor Tia, Patricia Bauer and Peggy Claassen), are pleased to announce the appointment of **Dana Brambley** to the position of Church Secretary/Office Administrator for CTK. There was a lot of interest in this position – Dana was selected from over 115 applicants! We feel she will be an excellent fit for our congregation. Dana, a graduate of Northwestern University, has a variety of office administrative experience and comes to us highly recommended. Her first day of work was March 29<sup>th</sup>. Dana will be working Monday thru Thursday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

More from Dana:

I grew up in the suburbs of Philadelphia, PA, but have resided in Sunnyvale, CA with my husband, Brian, for the last 20 years. Our little family includes two cats: Caribou and Corduroy.

I love and have a background in music and theater. Most recently I have worked as the front desk coordinator of a yoga studio in Sunnyvale. I also love spending time in nature and am a bit of a book nerd, so when I read on the CTK website: “We like music, we like books, we care about our neighbors and we have a holistic approach to health,” I knew CTK was my kind of place! With CTK’s vision and all of the wonderful projects CTK is involved in, I knew I wanted to help. I am so excited to support such a beautiful community. It is an honor and a joy to help in any way I can. – *Dana Brambley*



---

## *Sanctuary/Office Repairs - Update*

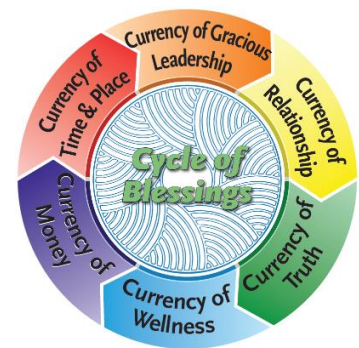
April 1 is upon us and I am sad to report: repairs are not complete. Progress has been a little like watching snail races on a dry day. The contractor is still having issues with the City about the mechanical work, the special order for the door has been delayed – currently estimated to arrive end of April but no later than

May 6<sup>th</sup>, and the flooring materials have been ordered. Hopefully, none of the materials had to go through the Suez Canal. No new pictures for this Table Talk. They say patience is a virtue... - *Peggy Claassen*

---

## ***A New Look at Stewardship, Currency of Time and Place***

The Currency of Time and Place seems obvious to most members of Christ the King. 1) Paid and volunteer time that leaders, members, and non-members offer to the ministry. 2) Property from which a ministry operates and other physical or virtual (online) properties owned or can be accessed by the ministry. However, there is much more to the Currency of Time and Place than one first thinks.



Much of our members' time and interaction with the community is beyond that spent at church or doing the work of CTK ministries. Similar to many churches, the primary use of our property (pre-Covid) is once a week when we come together for Sunday services. While some members gather weekly or meet occasionally and community groups utilize our facilities on a regular basis, much of the property owned by CTK is used infrequently.

- ✚ What ways can we build upon our present Currency of Time and Place?
- ✚ How can we make the Cycle of Blessings of the Holy Currencies flow better and further into our community?

The first step is to complete a series of inventories to determine 1) how CTK members and employees use their time at church or toward CTK ministries and time away from church and 2) who uses our property, then when and how.

- ✚ What gifts and interests do members have to share with other members or our neighbors?
- ✚ Who in the community do members know that may lead to opportunities to build new relationships with our neighbors, establish trust to reveal their needs (truth) and new ways to serve our community?
- ✚ What spaces at CTK are available and when are they unoccupied?
- ✚ Who in our community could use space at CTK when we aren't using it?
- ✚ What can we exchange for our Currency of Time and Place?

The following is an example from Eric Law's blog, *The Sustainist*, of how a church put into action their Stewardship365 learnings by using their parking lot to connect with the community.

Church leaders realized while completing an inventory of the church property that the parking lot occupied the largest percentage of space. Through a year-long Holy Currencies workshop, they had learned about the Currency of Time and Place and began to explore how they could further use the parking lot. They wanted to exchange it for the Currencies of Relationship with neighbors and Money because they knew the roof of their church needed to be repaired soon.

They decided to offer their parking lot to food trucks one night a week in exchange for a 10% donation of each food truck owner's proceeds to the church's roof fund. Once a month they held a themed food truck event to reach more members of the community. Church members set up tables and chairs for people to eat then stayed to meet and listen to people in the neighborhood. While doing so, they built trusting relationships and discovered the truth about the needs and concerns of the community.

Church members responded to the needs and concerns by investing other currencies to provide wellness programs to create a more sustainable community. With donations from food truck owners *and neighbors* the church roof was repaired sooner than expected.

Your Stewardship committee is excited about the many ideas we've already noted to expand the use of CTK's Currency of Time and Place, the opportunities that will be revealed from the completed inventories and achieve our goal of becoming more relevant to our community!

*Stay tuned and be well, your Stewardship Committee*

*Melinda Kufeld (Chair), Kris Adams, Cam Bauer, Alan Claassen, Linda Paschal, Pr. Pelz, and Debbie Pollak*

---

## SOCIAL JUSTICE HAPPENINGS

The City of Fremont, like many other public agencies, is exploring options to help ease the homelessness crisis. One of those options is partnering with faith-based agencies to explore opportunities that may alleviate the situation. Safe parking for unhoused neighbors living in cars is one such program under development. Join the next **Social Justice Ministry meeting on April 7th at 10 am via Zoom** to learn more about these efforts. -*Social Justice Ministry Chair, Bunny Dubel* - [dbdubel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbdubel@sbcglobal.net)

---

## EAGLE SCOUTS

CTK sponsors BSA Troops 447 and 2447 in supporting our community. Recently, Emily Kamalnathan and Bhavesh Kumar shared their respective scouting journeys to the role of Eagle during a Temple Talk as part of CTK's Sunday worship service. Their Eagle projects are shown below. Emily's Eagle Project is a pergola for Moreau Catholic High School to be used for gatherings. Bhavesh taught other scouts coding and they created an app for an audio tour and improved signage for the Mission Creek Trail between Driscoll Road and Palm Avenue in Fremont.



Nitin Srinivasa (Troop 447) also recently achieved this prestigious level in scouting. Nitin writes:

**"We must change boys from a 'what can I get' to a 'what can I give' attitude."** -*Robert Baden Powell.*

I joined Boy Scouts of America when I was in fifth grade. I had no idea what I was getting myself into and decided to go for it to meet new people. Some of the struggles I faced were spending my first week alone in camp, progressing through ranks, but now I am much more experienced and when I turn eighteen, I would like to become an adult leader in my home troop.

Some of the struggles I faced were spending the first week in summer camp. I was not accustomed to camp life. During camp we would need to roam around in many places while maintaining our proper mental and physical health. This was something I was not used to doing in a span of one week. Also, there were many hikes and I also got very dehydrated due to the hot sun

Another struggle I faced was progressing through ranks. In the first three stages or ranks of scouting, the ranks required scouts to learn and many, many skills and apply them while going on campouts. Some of these skills ranged from going on campouts to tying knots. Some of the knots were very difficult to learn and caused rank advancement to take longer. Also, when going for star, life, and eagle, we were required to be active for six months and earn lots of merit badges. This was difficult as when I got to high school, I had a lot of work and studying and this interfered with going to meetings and outings.

Furthermore, I struggled in planning and executing a service project, which is one of the hardest and most important requirements in becoming eagle. I had spent months reaching out to many people around my community and most of them were not having a project I can do. I looked all over the web to find some idea about a project I could perform and was not getting any idea about this. After multiple calls and emails to nonprofit organizations, I decided to send an email to a museum director asking if she had some project, she needed help with. The next morning, she invited me to the tule ponds and showed me many woodworking projects. I was very hesitant on my woodworking skills and was not sure whether the projects she suggested were something I can plan. I decided to build a retaining wall near a tractor path. The purpose of this wall was to block off floods and keep children safe on the trail. I had spent months planning and getting approved by the troop and district. I had finally gotten my approvals after few months. Then I needed to start collecting donations, calling hardware shops, and asking whether they would be willing to provide discounts for a service project.

Trail with Retaining Wall – Tule Ponds



I reached out to Home Depot and the manager was extremely kind to give me a donation, and help me with materials I needed. I had bought everything I needed except the wooden boards as they were not available the day I went to the shop. I had called around and a Lowe's in Union City had what I was looking for. I had notified my Assistant Scoutmaster Mr. Gonzales and he had helped me in buying the wood and bringing it to my house. I was also extremely grateful as he had given me the wood as a donation.

My next challenge was transporting the materials to Tule Ponds. I called adult leaders in my troop and one of the adults, Mr. Byard, had a truck. He was willing to help me transport all my materials to the project site.

My final challenge was getting enough scouts and adults to help me on the workdays due to COVID-19. I had spoken to all my neighbors and adult leaders once again. My neighbor and assistant scoutmaster, Mr. Connors had both helped me on the assembly and with everyone's effort, we had finished the project as planned. Additionally, my project details are available at:

[https://msnucleus.org/watersheds/tule/eagle/Nitin\\_Srinivasa.htm](https://msnucleus.org/watersheds/tule/eagle/Nitin_Srinivasa.htm)

In my next stages of scouting, I would need to wait till I am eighteen years of age. I would like to become an assistant scoutmaster in my own troop. I would like to help the scouts that are younger than me have a fun and progressing journey in scouting. I would also like to take more leadership and lead the troop along with my fellow adult leaders. Eventually I would like to volunteer my time as one of the board members on the council or district to provide service to all scouts and troops.

All in all, scouting has affected me in my own personal life. It has helped me gain the idea of responsibility and maturity which I would not have gotten without scouting. It has also helped me gain many experiences such as camping outside and hiking which I would also not have gotten outside of scouting. - *Nitin Srinivasa*

---

## UPCOMING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BACKPACK PROJECT:** Social Ministry continues to work with Compassion Network to identify needs where CTK can help in this extraordinary year of coronavirus and distance learning. Financial donations will be needed throughout the year. Please send checks to CTK 1301 Mowry, Fremont, CA 94538. We hope to have an online donation option soon.

**BETHESDA GET TOGETHER AND DEVOTIONS:** Join on Zoom **Fridays from 2:30 – 3:00 pm.** for a lively half an hour. We continue to have a lot of fun on Fridays with our members and friends who live at Bethesda. Catch up with our friends, sing, dance, listen to a biblical story and pray. All are welcome! Pastor Tia to facilitate.

**BOOK CLUB: Thursdays, 10:00 am – 11:30 pm via Zoom.** The current book is a 2009 NY Times bestseller, “An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith,” by Barbara Brown Taylor. Taylor shares how she found God beyond church walls, in everyday life: live with purpose, pay attention, slow down and revere the world we live in. If you have any questions about the Book Club or would like to be added to the email distribution, please contact Pastor Tia or Debbie Pollak, 510-825-4816 or [bartpollak@gmail.com](mailto:bartpollak@gmail.com).

**CTK COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, April 13th at 7:15 pm** via Zoom.

**DEVOTIONS:** Pastor Tia, Pastor Barbara (Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, Newark), Pastor Tim (Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Fremont) and Vicar Anand (Good Shepherd, Fremont) will continue sharing devotional messages on Tuesdays and Thursdays via e-mail.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:00-5:00 pm, in-person socially distanced at CTK patio for Stations of the Cross. 7:00 pm Holy Redeemer Zoom service with Pastor Barbara Caine.

**EASTER SERVICE:** Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10:15 am via Zoom.

**LUNCH BUNCH:** Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 pm via Zoom. BYOLB! (Bring your own lunch and beverage!). This is a nice event to reconnect during these times.

**SEWING BEES:** Donations of material, money and volunteers are still needed and welcome as the demands for masks continues. Our Social Ministry's Sewing Bees continue to buzz along. There are about six active folks sewing at this time. Incredibly, as of 3/16, we have reached **6,500 masks** made and delivered during this past year. We are blessed. Bee well and Wear your mask! - *Linda Pearson*

**SOCIAL HOUR:** Bring your own beverage of choice, snacks or dinner, sign in to Zoom and join us for a relaxing social hour in your own home on **Wednesdays at 7:15 pm**. All are welcome!

**SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY MEETING:** Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am via Zoom. Contact Bunny Dubel if you have questions.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING:** Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm via Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Bonnie Immeker.

**SYNOD ASSEMBLY:** May 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Tia, Jay Graham and Elena Bryant will be voting members for CTK this year. Thank you, Jay and Elena, for volunteering!

**TRI-CITY VOLUNTEERS FOOD BANK:** Tuesday – Friday, 9:00–3:00 pm, drop-off times for urgently needed brown paper grocery bags used for food distribution., and the following items: **cereal, fruit cups, small applesauce, packaged cupcakes and individually wrapped snack food** (not expired) @ 37350 Joseph Street, Fremont. No canned goods are needed at this time. Financial donations always welcome! For more information: <http://tri-cityvolunteers.org>

**ZOOM MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES:** Joint services with the local ELCA congregations were very well attended: an average of **45** people on Wednesday evenings through Lent. Thanks to Vicar Anand for hosting and all who participated in the planning to make this year's services so meaningful. It was a great opportunity to interact with members from all four congregations: Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Good Shepherd and CTK.

**ZOOM SUNDAY WORSHIP:** Total attendance for the respective **Sundays** in February were: **40, 36, 42, and 42** attendees. Zoom service will continue to be **10:15 am on Sundays**. Reach out to friends and neighbors as a safe and easy way to share in worship, separate but together.

### Table Talk Articles – Contributor Deadlines

The Table Talk Newsletter will continue to be published and distributed on the first of every month via e-mail. If you have an article or information that you would like to have included in the Table Talk, please send it directly to me no later than **two days** prior to the end of the month. Pictures are welcome as well!

*Peggy Claassen* [pclaassen@aol.com](mailto:pclaassen@aol.com)



---

## IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Eli Adams, Austin Alaniz, Rose Archibald, Roxie Banks, Ruth Carpizo, Judy Castro, **Lindsay Coe** (granddaughter of Roseanne and Bob Lawrence recovering from being thrown from a horse), Randy and Sheila Cooper, Hank Cote, Bob Dubel (brother of Dave recovering from surgery), Cori, Roger Fajman, Hank & Sylvia Hanson, the Huff family, Renee Johnson, Fred Kemp, Jan Kerbel, Don D. Ketcham III, Bob Lawrence, Christi Loveland, America Manspeaker, Jacob Montoya, Clare Nielsen, Doug Sepeda and Richard Wightman.

Continued prayers for all victims of Covid-19 and of natural disasters as well as victims of violence, hatred and oppression throughout the world.

---

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/02 Patricia Bauer      4/17 John Nelson      4/22 Theo Pelz  
4/09 Roseanne Lawrence      4/20 Sarah Ward



---

## 2021 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Jim Sepeda, President  
Peggy Claassen, Vice-President  
Patricia Bauer, Secretary  
Jay Graham, Treasurer  
Kris Adams  
Joe Allen  
Laurel King, *Financial Secretary*  
Terry Pearson  
Debbie Ward

## CTK STAFF

Rev. Dr. Tia Pelz (510) 859-5672  
[pelztia@gmail.com](mailto:pelztia@gmail.com)

Barney Tiller, *Music Director*  
Dana Brambley, *Church Secretary/Office Administrator*  
Christina Bauer, *Webmaster/Designer*  
Tori Valcarcel, *Ministry in Context*

## CTK OFFICE HOURS:

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

## CTK WEB-SITE:

[ctkfremont.squarespace.com](http://ctkfremont.squarespace.com)