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TABLE TALK



PASTOR'S LETTER

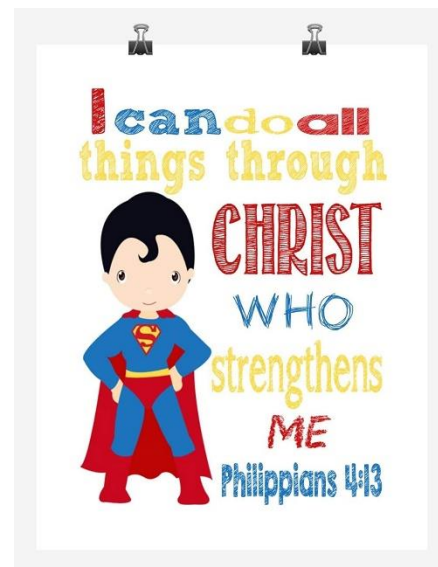
Dear spiritually filled Saints!

It's the season of the Holy Spirit. Well, the Holy Trinity, but since we most often ignore the Holy Spirit in our teachings and prayers, it's basically the season of the year when we are reminded that we worship a triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Or, as many of you learned, Holy Ghost. Which in any kid's opinion sounds much more exciting and spooky.

And it's true. The Holy Spirit is a most exciting force. Blowing our minds with her wits and her life-giving breath. Challenging us, teaching us, shoving us a little bit to move out of our comfort zone. And into the adventure of God's ways.

During the past months, I felt the Spirit move very clearly in and around me, pushing me to do new things and to learn more. First, during our Synod Assembly (I preached on that, see link below!). Second, during the Lutheran Lobby Day in Sacramento via Zoom. Where we prayed with politicians, shared our stories and love for God's people and connected with other Christians across the state. And third, during a first meeting with other local churches on how to become a "Jesus and Justice Collective". Because, if you say Jesus, you have to say Justice. And if you say Justice, you have to say Jesus. That is not my own wisdom, but what I learned from listening to

"Wrestling with Race: Stories for American Anti-Racists from the South African Struggle" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aROY9MpZyLk>). During that meeting one of the other attendees said: "You have to find your superpower. And then use it to work for what is right." Amen to that.



May the Spirit unleash our superpower.

Wishing you a Spirit-filled summer!

Pastor Tía!

Council President's Corner

The State of California and our congregation have passed some important milestones in our COVID-19 journey. For the state, businesses are opening, and masks will not be required for the fully vaccinated in mid-June. For CTK, we saw the Choir and Praise Ensemble perform as groups on May 16th and May 23rd. That may not seem like a comparable achievement, but as a member of both groups, I can tell you we all felt it was. We all hope you will get to hear us again in the coming weeks.

The other achievement in May, was the start of our migration to Breeze. All of our members are now loaded into their system and more information will be forthcoming. Kevin Bauer has volunteered to head up the migration process with Dana Brambley as the main day to day administrator.

Jim Sepeda, Council President



Safe Parking - Update

On May 13, 2021, the City's Planning Commission considered an ordinance to allow safe parking at private host sites, such as religious facilities and community non-profits as was discussed in last month's Table Talk. The proposed text amendments would create a ministerial permitting process through which community-based organizations and religious facilities could provide overnight safe parking at their owned or leased property for up to 20 vehicles.

The **Fremont City Council** is expected to consider the ordinance at their **June 1, 2021 meeting at 7 p.m.** The meeting agenda, which includes the draft ordinance, and instructions for public participation are available below:

- [June 1 City Council Meeting Agenda \(Scheduled Item 5B\)](#)
- [Instructions to Attend/Participate](#)

Report from the Synod Assembly:

Habemus Papam - After three intense days of Synod Assembly meetings on May 6th through May 8th the Reverend Dr. Megan Rohrer was elected as our new bishop starting July 1, 2021. Details about the Assembly and Bishop Rohrer were included in my May 9th sermon which can be viewed on the CTK web-site:

<http://ctkfremont.squarespace.com/pr-tia-blog/habemus-papam>



Reverend Megan (41) is a wonderful theologian, a great chaplain, a strong ally for social justice, a parent of two young children, and an experienced community organizer. And they are the very first openly transgender person ever to be elected bishop!

For more information about Reverend Dr. Megan Rohrer, here is a link to the video shared during my sermon:

https://www.cosmopolitan.com/lifestyle/a14106086/reverend-meghan-rohrer-video/?fbclid=IwAR3wuV3rv4M_xPTZP3AMjSljsi0i6TPk2v5vpzF4qc5MqSJM5e4aqOsfb3U

Also, here are two links to recent articles about them:

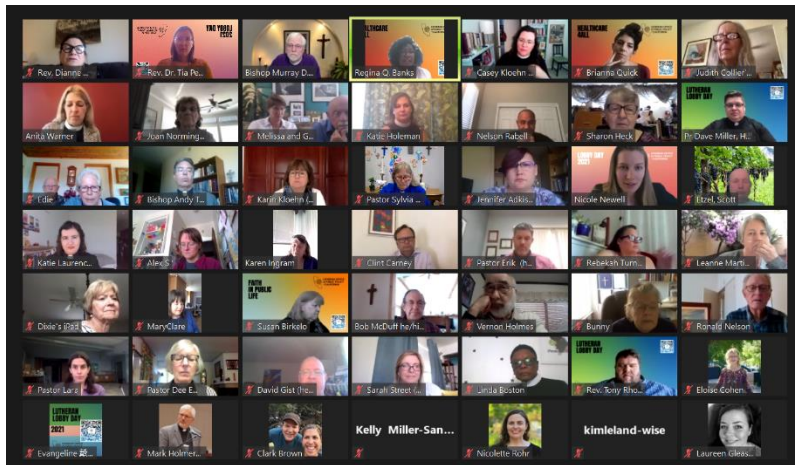
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/10/us/megan-rohrer-transgender-bishop.html>

<https://www.kqed.org/news/11872900/sfs-megan-rohrer-elected-as-1st-openly-transgender-bishop-in-u-s-lutheran-church>

THANK YOU, Elena and Jay, for your time and presence during these days as our lay voting members! If you have questions regarding the Assembly, please feel free to ask Elena, Jay or myself. – *Pastor Tia*

Lutheran Lobby Day

The Lutheran Office for Public Policy (<https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/>) invites Lutherans from all over California once a year to come to Sacramento and lobby from the bottom of our faith for policies that mirror what we believe. This year, it was an online meeting with about 100 people: pastors and lay members alike.



Four of us from CTK were able to attend that day. Thank you to Roseanne, Bob and Bunny for taking the time! And it was amazing. Filled with the Spirit of Truth and Love, encouraged by the incredible Rev. Cornell William Brooks.

We learned how to advocate within 30 minutes (can't be that hard, right?), how to share stories and how to celebrate our voices. I had the honor to talk to Assembly Member Wicks and a staff from

Senator Skinner's office. Two meaningful and moving encounters with mutual story sharing (since we basically agreed on the importance of the bills anyways). **Update:** As of Thursday, May 20, 2021, 3 of our 4 active bills passed out of appropriations to the floor of their respective houses. AB 221: Emergency Food4All, SB 464: Food4All, and AB 937: The VISION Act (No ICE transfers) have the opportunity to continue to move forward in the legislative process. – *Pastor Tia*

Jesus and Justice Collective

A few months ago, Jessica Minter from the Bridges Community Church in Fremont reached out to us. She had learned about our efforts in working for a just world and starting conversations about racial justice and how to be anti-racist in word and deed. She wrote in an email: “We were very impressed with the steps Christ the King Lutheran Church has made toward racial reconciliation. Do you think your church would be interested in hosting joint educational sessions (virtually) to align more hearts with what God desires for us in this broken world?”

Needless to say, that I felt like this was an answer to my prayers: to connect more with other churches around concrete topics, and to work towards racial justice in our city and country.

They call their efforts the “Jesus and Justice Collective” (I love the name and am a little jealous that I didn't come up with it 😊). Their hope is that the church, we as Christians, can take the lead in creating the much-needed change towards a just world.

On Monday, May 24th, Jessica brought together members from 9 local churches together (2 mainline, 7 non-denominational) to share our journey and our hopes. It was a true Pentecost to my heart. Christians, who could probably fight over quite some topics theologically, speaking the same language when it comes to justice that is grounded in our faith. Also, I learned that there are Evangelicals who are progressive Christians while loving their roots. Check out this podcast, that really blew my mind and made me

reconsider what I know about Evangelicals: <https://www.holypost.com/> Also, I learned about a nationwide effort to dismantle racism as people of faith: <https://www.faithandprejudice.com/> Also, if you are looking for a book study on “Building a Multiethnic Church. A Gospel Vision of Love, Grace and Reconciliation in a Divided World”, Cornerstone Fellowship in Hayward will host a study starting June 17th on Thursdays at 7 – 8.30 pm for 5 weeks. (<http://www.livingfreetoday.org/index.html>) AND NO, I am not looking to send you off to other churches. But I do believe in shared learning and building relationships.

The idea is to share study material and host listening circles across our churches to strengthen our connections, faith and love for Jesus and Justice. To unleash our very own superhero powers. To make a change in our communities. – Pastor Tia



FUNDRAISER FOR BACKPACK PROJECT!!!!

On **Tuesday, June 15, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.** we will have a fundraiser for our Backpack Project at the **Panera, 2650 Mowry Ave., Fremont 94538** location. We will receive 20% of the value of our food orders which will be used to purchase backpacks and school supplies for tri-city children in need. If you order online at www.panerabread.com you must enter code **PRFUND** at checkout in order for CTK to get the funds. You can also bring the attached flyer or show a digital version to the cashier when ordering at the café to ensure that CTK gets a portion of the proceeds.

A NEW LOOK AT STEWARDSHIP, CTK Leadership Mini-Series / Building Connections

Your Stewardship committee has completed the training series with our Kaleidoscope Institute mentor and has begun sharing our learnings with CTK leaders in a three-part mini-series. During the first session in April, we provided an overview of the Stewardship365 program and delved deeper in the Holy Currency of Gracious Leadership. Last week, we met again to learn more about the Currencies of Relationship, Truth and Wellness. The mini-series wraps up later in June when we focus on the Currencies of Time & Place and Money.



Once the mini-series is completed the committee and CTK leaders will begin evaluating the current state of each currency. The committee will continue discussions about next steps, new opportunities to develop each Holy Currency and the format in which members will learn more about each currency.

In the meantime, we'd like to share an activity you can do as we begin to resume life as we knew it pre-Covid.

1. List ...
 - a. ... a few people in church you want to get to know better.
 - b. ... a few people outside our church that you want to establish a relationship.
 - c. ... two people you know who might benefit from getting to know each other.
2. Jot down ideas you have for achieving the above.

3. Make plans to...
 - a. ... get to know a few people in church you want to get to know better.
 - b. ... get to know a few people outside our church that you want to establish a relationship.
 - c. ... connect the two people you know who might benefit from getting to know each other.
4. Reflect on your experience of connecting with people.
5. What did you learn that we as a church can use to build relationships with our sister ELCA churches and in our community?
6. Consider sharing your learnings with the Stewardship Committee!

Happy connecting!

Your Stewardship Committee

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

OTHER 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. In addition to the Panera Fundraiser, you can also donate through the CTK website or send checks to CTK: 1301 Mowry, Fremont, CA 94538.

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.

BIBLE STUDY/BOOK CLUB: The Bible Study/Book Club will be on hiatus until September. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **September 9th** to discuss “**The United States of Grace, A Memoir of Homelessness, Addiction, Incarceration, and Hope,**” by Lenny Duncan, your summer reading assignment.

Please e-mail Debbie Pollak at bartpollak@gmail.com for any questions or if you would like to be added to the email distribution. You can also reach Debbie at 510-825-4816.

CTK COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, May 11th 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 via e-mail.

LUNCH BUNCH: Wednesday, June 9th, at 1:00 pm at **El Patio Restaurant**, 37311 Fremont Blvd. All are welcome, many invite their friends. Plan for at least a 2-hour lunch, as it takes more time with a group. Best to bring cash, as separate checks are not always doable. Please RSVP to Roseanne Lawrence.

SEWING BEES COMMUNITY OUTREACH MASK PROJECT: Sewing Bees continue to sew, with a focus on having masks available for school children this fall. During these past 14 months of the pandemic, we've completed 7,684 masks for the community. As things start winding down, we'll likely be doing the same. Until then, about eight of us will be buzzing along. 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 7:00 pm**. All are welcome!

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY MEETING: **Wednesday, June 2nd, at 10:00 am** via Zoom. Contact Bunny Dubel if you have questions or would like to be added to the distribution list.

SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING: **Monday, June 7th, at 6:00 pm** via Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Bonnie Immeker.

STEWARDSHIP365 LEADERS MINI-SERIES: Tuesday, June 22nd, at 7:15 pm via Zoom. The topic for this month is the **Holy Currencies of Time & Place and Money**. Please contact Melinda Kufeld if you have questions.

TRI-CITY VOLUNTEERS FOOD BANK: **Tuesday – Friday, 9:00–3:00 pm**, drop-off times @ 37350 Joseph Street, Fremont, for urgently needed items:

- Bottled Water (16.9 oz. or Smaller)
- Individually Wrapped Beef Sticks/Jerky
- brown paper grocery bags used for food distribution

No canned goods are needed at this time. Financial donations always welcome! For more information: <http://tri-cityvolunteers.org>

ZOOM SUNDAY WORSHIP: Total attendance for the respective **Sundays** in May were: **38, 42, 41, 44, and 36** 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.

Note: Pastor Tia will be on vacation from **June 28 through August 8**.

Pastor Barbara (Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church) and Pastor Tim (Holy Trinity Lutheran Church) will be available in case of emergency.

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Eli Adams, Austin Alaniz, Rose Archibald, **Dennis Ash** (recovering at Niles Acute Care), Roxie Banks, Ruth Carpizo, Judy Castro, Randy and Sheila Cooper, Hank Cote, Roger Fajman, **Rebecca Baker** and family on the passing of her mother, **Muriel Gove**; Hank & Sylvia Hanson, Renee Johnson, Fred Kemp, Jan Kerbel, Don D. Ketcham III, Bob Lawrence, Christi Loveland, Carol Lowe (recovering from surgery), America Manspeaker, Linda Mathre, Jacob Montoya, Clare Nielsen, **Lenore Olivas-Gee** (friend of Peggy Claassen recovering from surgery), Doug Sepeda, Betty Wargo and Richard Wightman.

Prayers for **Tori Valcarel**, our Ministry in Context Student, as she begins her summer break and moves to Berkeley. Tori will be rejoining us in September.

Congratulations to **Kris & Steve Adams** on the birth of their grand-daughter, **Natalie**, daughter of **Julie & Rick**, born on May 12th. And also, to **Debbie & Doug Ward**, grandparents to newborn **Axel**, son of **Katherine & Gabriel**.



BIRTHDAYS

6/03 Melinda Kufeld
6/11 Bonnie Immeker
6/15 Elena Bryant
6/28 Doug Ward

ANNIVERSARIES

6/03 Linda & Robert Paschal (43)
6/09 Becky & Don Shaffer (31)
6/13 Roseanne & Bob Lawrence (51)
6/14 Gail & Terry Queenan (52)
6/17 Peggy & Alan Claassen (43)
6/18 Tom & Debra Curfman (33)
6/21 Debbie & Michael Pollak (41)
6/27 Linda & Terry Pearson (51)
6/28 Melinda & Bob Kufeld (41)

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

CTK OFFICE HOURS:

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

CTK WEB-SITE:

ctkfremont.squarespace.com

Sanctuary & Office Repairs

Progress continues at a slow pace while still awaiting arrival of the HVAC dampers. The exterior door has been installed; interior lighting is almost completed; ceiling tiles are near completion; some bookshelves and cupboards have been installed; the carpet is scheduled to arrive at the installers June 9th. Questions? Ask Peggy Claassen.
Stay tuned...



Panera
FUNDRAISING

HELP SUPPORT

BACKPACK PROJECT CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

WHERE 2650 Mowry Avenue, Fremont, CA 94538

WHEN Tues, Jun 15th

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Order online at panerabread.com and enter code **PRFUND** at checkout.
You can also bring this flyer or show a digital version to the cashier when ordering at the cafe to ensure your organization gets a portion of the proceeds.

WE'RE COMMITTED TO YOUR SAFETY.

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In Cafe

*20% of total net sales from your designated fundraising event will be donated to your organization. Gift card, catering, kiosk and orders placed on third party delivery sites are excluded and will not count towards the event. Other restrictions apply. For complete details, visit: <http://fundraising.panerabread.com/terms-conditions/>

Learn more at Fundraising.PaneraBread.com

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