

Christ the King Lutheran  
Church

May 1, 2020

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

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## TABLE TALK



### PASTOR'S LETTER

I love people. Who would have guessed, since I am a pastor? I am the kind of person that starts conversations with basically anybody. My husband gets really annoyed with me when we take a stroll through our neighborhood and I stop every now and then for a quick chitchat. In my mind that takes very little time. My husband thinks I am talking for hours. The truth lies somewhere in between (and around 5-15 minutes on average).

It's one of the reasons why I love living here so much. Because people are open-minded and friendly and chatty. When the Shelter-in-place began, I noticed even more conversations across the streets in my block: neighbors checking in with each-other regularly, kids waving at each other from a safe distance. It's heart-warming.

But not so much with passing strangers - with or without masks. Of course, we all make space for each other. My kids are well trained in "jumping into the bushes" to make sure that they stay 6 feet apart. It's the one thing I have been yelling the most: "Keep your distance - 6 feet!" What astonishes me though is that with keeping their distance people stopped greeting or smiling or at least nodding at each other.

Just today, we were hiking and every 20 minutes somebody had to pass by us on this narrow trail. Everyone tried to sneak by as if they were up to something. Of course, I didn't let them and said "Hi!" Well, 2 out of 5 just kept their eyes down. I felt like I was back in Northern Germany (watch out for stereotypes), where you only talk to people

you have known for years. The others reacted surprised; they slowed down for a couple of seconds, looked at me and mumbled: "Hi!" More than nothing, I would say.

A friend of mine finally explained it to me when she admitted: "You know, I love people. But somehow, now I mostly see them as a threat. Anyone could carry around the virus. Suddenly, I am afraid of people. It makes me feel horrible."

*Pastor Tia Pelz*

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(510) 859-5672

And I get it. I do. We are all afraid. Yet, it's simple:

*"An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up." (Proverbs 12:25)*

Maybe one of our ministries can be to cheer people up. Simply by greeting them. Simply by continuing to see them as God's beloved children, not as a threat. Hi to everyone and God bless!

Your Pastor Tia!

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

We continue to celebrate worship on Sunday mornings at 10:15 am via zoom – join us for fellowship starting at 10:00 am. Please check the CTK website for the most current link: <http://ctkfremont.org>  
A recorded copy of the previous week's worship service is also on the CTK website.

## COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hard to believe that such a short time ago, I was writing about Rev. Dr. Tia Pelz accepting our call to serve as pastor for Christ The King starting on March 2 – so much has happened since then. This was not how I envisioned her first two months with us! Pastor Tia has been a wonderful and energetic leader as we continue to navigate the many challenges that keep coming.

I could not have even begun to tell you what Zoom was a month ago and now we are having our worship services, Bible studies, social ministry meetings and Council meetings via Zoom. If you haven't tried it, I strongly encourage you to reach out for assistance. It has proven to be a great tool for us to stay together in a time of isolation. Worship attendance reached a high of 62 on Easter and has averaged 53. Many thanks to the team of volunteers who have stepped up to work with Pastor Tia to make this happen – Alan Claassen, Jim Sepeda, Bob Kufeld, Patricia Bauer, Dave Dubel, Jason Tiller and many more who have spent the time and effort to learn a new technology for many of us in order to celebrate, together, as one.



Thanks also go out to our phone tree volunteers reaching out to all members of the congregation led by Barbara Allen; our mask making team organized by Laurel King and Linda Pearson; Terry Pearson for creating inspirational front yard signs; and, Melinda Kufeld for her creativity and hard work in updating our Mowry Avenue signage.

Yours in Christ,

Peggy Claassen, President

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Know someone who needs extra help during this time of shelter in place?

Please let us know by leaving a message at the office (510) 797-3724 or contacting Pastor Tia at (510) 859-5672.

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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

Operating expenses continue for **CTK** even though we are not able to worship as we are accustomed to - Please remember to mail in your donations or arrange for direct deposit.

Interested in helping to make **MASKS**? Both financial and material donations are needed. Please contact

Linda Pearson. To date, over 200 masks have been made and donated to various individuals and groups including Abode, SAVE, HERS and the Fremont Police Department. The demand for these masks exceeds the current supplies.

**Silver Barrel Donations** of goods are on pause because of shelter in place but **Tri-City Volunteers** is accepting financial donations. Please contact [www.tri-cityvolunteers.org](http://www.tri-cityvolunteers.org) or call (510) 598-4065.

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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

### (CONTINUED)

We are continuing to collect funds for the **BACKPACK PROJECT** as schools are scheduled to open in September. Lenten coins/donations will be applied to this project but additional donations are needed!!! Purchasing is anticipated to start in June.

**BETHESDA** staff has prepared a wish list of items for residents who are staying at home and not currently attending day programs. Amazon delivers the item to their home. Any purchases are appreciated.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/228N4MOTT97S7?ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_wl\\_dp\\_g73eeta4V](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/228N4MOTT97S7?ref=cm_sw_em_r_wl_dp_g73eeta4V)

### CTK STAFF

Pastor Tia Pelz, PhD  
Barney Tiller, *Music Director*  
Ina Ketcham, *Church Secretary/ Administrator*  
Christina Bauer, *Webmaster*

### 2020 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Peggy Claassen, *President*  
Bob Kufeld, *Vice-President*  
Jay Graham, *Treasurer*  
Joe Allen, *Secretary*  
Kris Adams  
Patricia Bauer  
Elena Bryant  
Laurel King, *Financial Secretary*  
Melinda Kufeld  
Terry Pearson

### UPCOMING

**Bible Study:** Join us via Zoom on Thursday mornings, 9:00 – 10:45 am.

**Devotions:** Pastors Tia, Barbara and Tim will continue to send devotional messages during the week.

**Worship:** Join us via Zoom Sunday 10:15 am.  
Zoom link at: <http://ctkfremont.org>

## IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Eli Adams, Austin Alaniz, Rose Archibald, Ruth Carpizo, Judy Castro, Randy and Sheila Cooper, Roger Fajman, Renee Johnson, Fred Kemp, Don D. Ketcham III, Melinda Kufeld, Christi Loveland, America Manspeaker, Laura McCorkle, Jacob Montoya, Clare Nielsen, Doug Sepeda, Marilyn Shaner, Bob Walter and the family of David Vis in their grief.

Godspeed for Gail and Terry Queenan on their move to El Dorado. They will be dearly missed!!!

### FIRE REPAIRS/GAS LINE REPLACEMENT UPDATE

The permit for the sanctuary repairs is ready to be issued as soon as shelter in place restrictions are relaxed and City offices are opened. The gas line repairs and related work for Carlson Hall, the Sanctuary and Kidango are 85% complete and also awaiting City inspection. Questions? Contact Peggy.

