

TABLE TALK

SEPTEMBER, 2022

Christ the King Lutheran Church
1301 Mowry Ave.
Fremont, CA 94538
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Saints of CTK,

Barack Obama once said:

“Hope is that thing inside us that insists, despite all the evidence to the contrary, that something better awaits us if we have the courage to reach for it and to work for it and to fight for it.”

I am sure that some of us may have been dispirited by Pastor Tia leaving us so suddenly. But, we are also the same congregation that persevered through a 3+ year call process, a fire in our church building, and a pandemic. In many ways all of those things made us stronger. They certainly did not slow down our community missions. No, we ramped them up with our Sewing Bees, Back Packs, and Safe Parking initiatives. We have shown we are willing to work.

We are also willing to reach out, not just to our neighbors and community, but also our sister congregations at Holy Redeemer and Holy Trinity. The council is working both internally and with the Synod to identify a new pastoral leader for us, and we hope to have news to share soon.

So, don't give up hope. Fight along with us. Continue to do the work that Jesus calls us to do.

Yours in Christ,

Jim Sepeda

Council President

AUGUST SAFE PARKING WRAPS UP

For August Christ the King again hosted Safe Parking. The participants continue to be very appreciative of the safe environment we provide. We again handed out snacks and drinks and some volunteers provided morning coffee, always a favorite. Jesus & Justice Collective representatives provided food one evening, including lots of fruits and vegetables.

Thanks to your donations (!) we were able to hand out a round of Grocery Outlet cards. Thanks to a CTK family we distributed packing blankets which the participants use to keep their vehicles a little less chilly at night.

There were more participants than in June. August started and ended with 10 vehicles and 12 participants. Twice there were 12 vehicles and 15 participants, the highest numbers, and 8 times there were 13 or more participants (10 to 12 vehicles). Over the course of the month, cumulatively, there were 15 vehicles and 18 participants, 6 of whom were new to CTK. As for volunteers, Fremont Lutherans covered most of the shifts but there were more non-Lutherans this month.

The bumps were less significant than in June, partly because we did more to keep things locked. Early in the month, during the day, someone stole a fire extinguisher and portable toilet lock. Late in the month, twice, someone stole one of the two toilet locks while they were unlocked at night. There were zero problems with the participants.

Christ the King's next turn to host the program will be in December. If you have questions about the program, please contact Alan, Jim or Bunny.

Thanks to everyone involved!

The Stewardship Committee: Alan, Cam, Debbie P., Kris, Linda P., Melinda

City of Fremont liaisons: Jim, Alan

Site coordinators, in order through the month: Alan, Jim, Bunny

Check-in/check-out volunteers: Bunny, Cam, Debbie P., Jan H., Kris & Steve, Linda & Bob, Rene & Neal (part of us, from Holy Trinity!), Alan, plus non-CTK people coordinated by CityServe's Compassion Network

NEW READING FOR BOOK CLUB

On Thursday, September 1, we will finish reading [Biblical Womanhood](#). On September 8, we will start our new book: [Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories: Reflections on the Life of Christ](#) by Debie Thomas. This

link is to Amazon, but books can be purchased anywhere. If financial assistance is needed, please contact Patricia Bauer. CTK is here to help!

“He was a disrupter and a peacemaker, a rebel and a rabbi. His friends were the riff raff, and his enemies the religious elite. He was the wounded man who healed the sick, the homeless man who fed the hungry, the convicted criminal who released the captives, and the dead man who conquered the grave. The stories he told were scandalous, and the stories he lived changed the world. To reflect on the Jesus of the Gospels is to reflect on paradox, mystery, wonder, and messiness. It is to find God in the shadows, the tensions, and the ambiguities of life on earth as it is. These essays on the stories of Jesus are invitations to faith in all its complexity and untidiness. The Jesus who emerges here is not the sanitized Christ of piety and platitude, but the Christ of complicated joys and transcendent sorrows. The Christ who weeps, wonders, loses, learns, and seeks. These are the stories of the Incarnate God who finds and loves us in the messiness of our lives.”

Have we piqued your interest? Please join us each Thursday from 10:00-11:00 AM for an open, honest and lively discussion via our CTK Zoom link. Join us when you can. If you have any questions, let me know.

Patricia Bauer

CARDS AND CALENDARS FOR ABODE

Abode would appreciate any spare calendars and greeting cards you have. Residents of Sunrise Village Shelter and other Abode Housing sites enjoy being able to give a card to their family and friends. You may leave your items on the table in the narthex or give them to me.

Thank you!

Bonnie Immeker

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Now that CTK has wrapped up the summertime Safe Parking program, the Stewardship committee is looking towards consecration Sunday. The tentative date is Sunday Oct 10. The Estimate of Giving request will look about the same as last year. Look for that email around the 3rd of October. It should be returned by email or USPS on or before October 10. The “Gifts to Give” survey will not be repeated this fall, but the information collected last year will be looked at again. As the Old Hundredth says:

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Circling Earth so all may grow,
Vanquishing fear so all may give,
Widening Grace so all may live*

Pastoral Support

For the Sundays in September, we will have the following pastoral support. We would like to thank Pastors Bowman, Theiss and Armand for leading us in worship this month while we are in transition.

September 4th	Pastor Raymond Waespi
September 11th	Lay service with Jim Sepeda
September 18th	Pastor Adisa Armand
September 25th	Pastor Adisa Armand

Backpacks 2022 Project Report

Thank you for your generous donations and support for our Backpack Project! After the service on Sunday, July 17th, 22 people joined us in Carlson Hall to fill 95 backpacks with school supplies. The backpacks, a check for \$1,000 and two \$25 Target Gift Cards were given to Connecting for Education. They will use the money and gift cards to purchase more backpacks and school supplies. Please see the attached letter of thanks from Jessica, Founder and President of Connecting for Education.

Bonnie Immeker

In our Thoughts and Prayers

Rose Archibald, Pastor Jim Brun and his wife, Cheryl, Judy Castro, Ellie David, Roger Fajman, Gary Gardner, Debbie Haigler, Hank & Sylvia Hanson, Rich Irli's family (husband of Bonnie Immeker's cousin, Barb), Renee Johnson, Chuck and Shirley Keller (former CTK members), Bill Kemp, Fred Kemp, Jan Kerbel, Don D. Ketcham III, Bob Lawrence, Christi Loveland, Gail & John Nelson, family and friends of Barbara Norman (friend of Becky Shaffer), Chris O'Halloran, Terry Pearson, Debbie Pollak and her family, Emma Kate Rinker, Angelica Ruiz, Marge Sanford (friend of Debbie Ward), Doug Sepeda, Mark Sullivan, **Debbie Ward**, Betty Wargo

August & September Anniversaries

Gail and John Nelson (56)

Barbara and Joe Allen (61)

Bunny and Dave Dubel (58)

Sharon and Bill Kemp (44)

Katherine and Gabriel Gutierrez (4)

August & September Birthdays

Janet Holbrook – Aug 14th

Joan Noland – Aug 21st

Judy Castro – Aug 24th

Steve Adams – Sep 2nd

Karla Cooper – Sep 8th

Fred Tuleen – Sep 16th

Aaron Meyer – Sep 18th

Chris O'Halloran – Sep 18th

Marilyn Moore – Sep 22nd

Debbie Pollak – Sep 26th

Other Upcoming Events / Announcements

SOCIAL JUSTICE MEETING Wednesday, September 7th at 10AM via CTK Zoom

JESUS & JUSTICE COLLECTIVE MEETING Sunday, September 18st at 6PM at CTK. Watch and discuss though-provoking TED Talk by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, "[The Danger of a Single Story](#)." See the attached flyer and [register here](#).

SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING Monday, September 19st at 6PM via CTK Zoom

LUNCH BUNCH Wednesday, September 14th @ 1PM at Frodo Joe's Petite Cafe in the Raleys shopping center, 39286 Paseo Padre Pkwy. Please bring cash. Help us celebrate our August/September birthdays and have **cake!** Call Kris Adams for RSVP, 510-468-8709, [via e-mail](#).

TRI-CITY VOLUNTEERS FOOD BANK Tuesday – Friday, 9:30AM to 3PM drop-off times @ 37350 Joseph Street, Fremont, for urgently needed items:

- Bottled Water (16.9 oz. or Smaller)
- Individually Wrapped Beef Sticks/Jerky
- Canned goods and packaged foods (No dented cans and no items past their expiration date)
- **No frozen food**
- Brown Paper Grocery Bags used for food distribution

CTK BOOK CLUB *via* Zoom Thursdays, 10-11AM. We will be starting our new book Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories: Reflections on the Life of Christ. If you need financial help getting the book, please reach out to Dana or Patricia.

Reminder about e-mail addresses and your contacts list

Remember to double check the e-mail address of any mail you want to send. You may have deleted or changed an e-mail address in your Contacts List but old e-mail addresses can still pop up when you are sending e-mails. If you want to verify a CTK member's address, please contact Dana.

2022 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Jim Sepeda, President
Peggy Claassen, Vice-President
Chris O'Halloran, Secretary
Jay Graham, Treasurer
Kris Adams
Bunny Dubel
Laurel King
Terry Pearson
Debbie Ward

CTK STAFF

Barney Tiller, *Music Director*
Dana Brambley, *Church Secretary / Office Admin*
Debbie Pollak, *Financial Secretary*
Christina Bauer, *Webmaster / Designer*

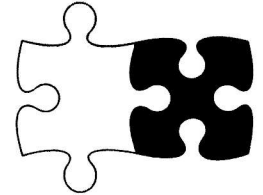
Table Talk editor: Jason Tiller, jason@starnull.net

Church office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9AM to 1PM

Website: ctkfremont.squarespace.com

Attachments:

1. *Backpack appreciation: "Thank You from Connecting for Education.pdf"*
2. *Jesus and Justice Collective: "J & J Event Flyer - The Danger of a Single Story v2.pdf"*



7.17.2022

Dear CTK,

On behalf of our entire team here at Connecting for Education, I would like to show our enormous appreciation for the donation of both backpacks and cash to support our efforts to bring together the community and help out local students in need.

As a small student-run nonprofit, much of what we are able to accomplish is dependent on the support of local organizations like your church. Thanks to the generous contribution, we will be able to reach and impact over 500 local elementary school students as they head back to school this fall, and potentially even more.

We are extremely grateful to have CTK's support in our project this summer, especially after an amazing experience working together last year on the drive. Special thanks to Melinda, Bonnie, and everyone else involved in the coordination of countless fundraisers, shopping runs, and much more. And of course, to all the CTK members, we thank you for your support of this project — it truly means a lot to us.

A donation receipt has been attached, and once again, we really appreciate everything!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Cheng", written over a horizontal line.

Jessica Cheng

Founder & President

Connecting for Education

jessica@connectingforeducation.org



**JESUS & JUSTICE
COLLECTIVE**

invites you to a viewing and discussion of:



**"THE DANGER OF A SINGLE STORY"
TED TALK**

CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH FROM 2 - 3:30PM!

**CLICK HERE
TO
REGISTER!**

Location:

**Christ the King Lutheran Church
1301 Mowry Ave.
Fremont, CA 94538**

Contact us with any questions at
jesusandjusticecollective@gmail.com