



**Christ the King Lutheran Church**  
**4383 Durston Road - Bozeman, Montana - 59718**



## A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON

Dear friends in Christ,

This year has been a challenging one! The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the church and society. We have had to shift the ways we engage in ministry from a focus on in-person worship and meetings to livestream worship, virtual meetings and gatherings in the parking lot. We have had to shift to teaching children at home and working from home. We have not been able to travel to see friends or relatives or to celebrate life events. This has also been a time to address economic and social justice issues, to shift our thinking and our way of life.

In times such as this, our baptism in Christ makes a difference and makes us different. Like Christians before us, we recall that God is faithful to God's promises and God's people. We see that God enables us to connect with one another even when we are separated. Shifts in the world invite us to be innovative in how we do God's work and reach out to all ages in making disciples. We see that God is at work not only in our buildings but beyond them as well. We have found new ways to serve our neighbors and reach those in need.

As we experience this time of uncertainty, we sense something new emerging. In many places there are new strategies and renewed energy for ministry, often generated by emerging leaders. We have developed a framework to build on, and now is the time to engage in hard work together. As you do in your congregation, we want our collaborative efforts to be both faithfully thoughtful and sustainable. We want to build up the body of Christ today and for the future.

Looking across the church, I am grateful for your generous giving of time, talents and resources. Yes, God does continue to bless us! God will provide both relief from life's struggles and hope for a stronger church, God's church. We do not need to know how the future will unfold. As members in the body of Christ, we need only trust that God is with us and will provide.

Building up the body of Christ together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton".

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." —Ephesians 4:11-16*

In the early verses of Ephesians 4, the apostle Paul writes to the Christians in Ephesus, a city on the Aegean Sea at the mouth of a river and at the intersection of three trading routes. The letter was written about ten years after the church had started. During the early years of this congregation, Jews and Gentiles from several ethnicities and nationalities had come together to form “one body.” Paul was aware that they had done well and commended them for their faith and love.

The word “one” appears more than seven times in the first four verses. This reflects the importance Paul gave to being called into the “unity of Christ.” He wanted to note that, although many of the church members came from far off, there is “one Lord, one faith, one baptism.” This oneness reflects God’s gift of reconciliation in Christ.

A second emphasis from Paul was that, as believers, they were to “bear with one another in love.” This would require humility, gentleness and patience as each of them practiced their faith. It would require tolerance to “maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

A third emphasis was that each person had been given gifts by God and that these gifts were given to increase the whole. Because the Ephesian church was a young congregation and its members were just beginning in their faith journey, their understandings were often tossed to and fro. But as they grew in faith, each person contributed to building up the body of Christ.

The fourth and final emphasis was that by “speaking the truth in love,” each person must grow into Christ. This means taking time to learn about one another and their gifts. Knowing these gifts, we can do God’s work both within and beyond the faith community. When there are decisions to make or relationships to reconcile, we know to begin with prayer and reflection, always desiring to speak the truth in love — not for our own benefit but for God’s glory, that we might become more complete.

As our members and friends gather today, whether face-to-face or online, we are reminded of our calling into “unity in Christ.” We come from many places and work in many contexts, and yet we recognize “one Lord, one faith, one baptism.”

Whether new to a worshipping community or further along the journey, we realize that humility, gentleness and patience are required both in the good times and especially in times of uncertainty and struggle. God wants us to be more complete through our work. Christ provides the way. The Holy Spirit is with us for guidance and courage. Each of us has been given the gifts to be complete, and through our faithfulness we will grow stronger and work together as one body.

**LET US PRAY: LORD, LET THE WORDS OF THE APOSTLE PAUL DWELL IN US DEEPLY. MAY WE EMBRACE THE RECONCILING POWER OF ONENESS WITH CHRIST. MAY THIS ONENESS GUIDE OUR CONGREGATION AS WE LIVE INTO THE NEW REALITIES OF THESE TIMES. AS WE MEET NEW PARTNERS IN MINISTRY, MAY WE TAKE TIME TO GET TO KNOW THEM WITH PATIENCE, HUMILITY AND LOVE. HELP US TO SEE HOW SHARING OUR GIFTS WILL MAKE YOUR WORK EASIER AND MORE FULFILLING WHILE BRINGING ALL OF US CLOSER TO CHRIST. MAY THE BLESSINGS YOU GIVE EACH DAY STRENGTHEN US TO A LIVING, DARING CONFIDENCE IN YOUR GRACE. AMEN.**



**Montana Synod**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

“...the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the...shadow of death, light has dawned.”  
Matthew 4:16

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The season of Epiphany – the revelation of God’s light into the world – has come. And with it also come annual meetings for you in your congregations.

It’s been a wild and crazy year, hasn’t it? Last year at this time, we were meeting in person, preparing budgets, voting for new council members and getting ready for the new year; yet we were still in the dark about what was heading our way. Now a year later, Covid-19 hasn’t disappeared as we wished; things haven’t gone back to normal. Instead, hundreds of thousands have died, we’re exhausted, and we’re still disagreeing about masks.

But there is also a light dawning on the horizon. Vaccines have been developed through the God-given talents of doctors and scientists and, if all goes well, we will be able to gather again for worship, faith formation, fellowship and service sometime this summer if not sooner.

Over the past year, we as your synod staff have been honored to travel with you and your congregation on this difficult journey. While we weren’t able to “fix” things or make it all go away, we hope that the guidance, support, resources, encouragement, and love helped you to do the work of the gospel in the dark days as well as the bright ones. We too have been exhausted by the realities we as a church were facing, but it was and continues to be a joy to equip you in the ministry Christ has called you to in your community.

“Synod” means “walking together on the way.” And in spite of everything that has happened, all of us -- whether congregations or ministries, synod staff or synod council, WELCA or ecumenical friends, members or affiliates – we in the Montana Synod have walked on the Way of Jesus Christ together this past year, equipping one another to do things we hadn’t thought possible before the pandemic. Even though it was hard to see sometimes, the light of Christ was there calling us forward into the ministry of the gospel and we followed it in beautiful ways. Thank you for all you have been doing to share God’s love during these difficult days!

But we’re not to the end of the tunnel yet. We may be able to see the light, but we still have some distance to go. Events and activities will continue to be affected over the next months by our need to love and protect one another from the virus. This includes the Synod Assembly, which for the first time ever will go virtual. Though it will still be held during the first weekend in June, it will look and feel much different than past years. Thankfully, we will not be the first to conduct our assembly digitally. This past fall, several synods held their assemblies online, including having bishops’ elections. If they can do it, so can we!

More detailed information about the 2021 MT Synod Assembly will be coming in January about what your delegates will need to do to prepare. But one thing you can do at your annual meeting is to find and elect delegates who have some comfortability with the technology of computers or people who are willing to learn. While this may seem rather daunting right now (I know I’m feeling the pressure of leading my very first assembly online), by June we’ll be as ready as we can be to let the Spirit guide us into the new possibilities this digital assembly will open for us now and into the future.

No, we’re not where we want to be yet. But that’s okay. We can make it. In the Spirit’s power, we will come out on the other side more resilient and equipped as followers of Christ because now we know how important the church that equips us to grow in faith, love and hope is and we are being called to find new and more effective ways of being church together.

As you make your plans for the year 2021, please do your best to keep the Epiphany light of Christ in your sights rather than getting stuck in the gloom of the past year. Remember what Jesus says to us in Matthew 28: “I am with you always until the end of the age!” Christ is with us and, when we follow his light, amazing opportunities will open as God does new things in our ministry.

May the light of Christ bless you and your congregation in the year 2021!

In Christ’s Love,

Rev. Laurie Jungling  
Bishop, Montana Synod, ELCA

## President's Letter

Grace and peace to all CtK members and friends! 2020 has been a year to remember, and it has been my pleasure to serve as your Council President. Great thanks and recognition are deserving to all church staff and council members while navigating the memorable and unprecedented year of 2020.

I remember a few years ago when I was sitting in a pew at CtK during a service and really grasping what it means to do 'God's Work' with 'Our Hands.' Our time and talents in the physical church building as well as our day-to-day life truly provide us the opportunity to do God's Work with Our own Hands on a daily basis. Pastor Lindean has said many times, "Church isn't just a building." This year provided us a chance to live out TRANSFORMATION boldly with our building sitting quietly while we learned to navigate online worship, physically distant services, Zoom small groups and connecting in creative ways. Members deserve praise for their GRACE and patience as we rolled with it and did our best with to navigate the every changing situations.



2020 started strong with the solar panel installation (CREATION CARE) and a successful 'Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change' community training. In March, things changed quickly as the unknown COVID-19 became commonplace in our lives. We quickly shifted to phone calls, emails and Zoom meetings to try to stay connected in RELATIONSHIP, since we could not gather in person. As it became obvious COVID-19 was here to stay for a while, our staff learned new technology skills to create well-received online worship options. Members and non-members near and far were able to participate! Outdoor worship this summer and fall provided a chance to use our outdoor space more often, perhaps a new tradition post-COVID.

CtK collaborated with the non-profit, The Rock, to provide space for the Raptor Rock to serve our new neighbors, the students of Gallatin High School. While the Raptor Rock was not as successful as planned due to the modified school schedules and COVID, our INVITATION to partner with the Rock continues.

CtK members demonstrated their commitment to GENEROSITY by organizing the Haiti Packathon and participating in the Help Center Run for Your Life fundraiser. Whenever community needs were identified, members took swift action to meet them like the CASA and Meadowlark Elementary School Christmas gifts in December.

2020 also brought a renewed focus on racial inequities in our country. This past fall, Pastor Grant was able to share with colleagues that members of his congregation are not being silent. Members have engaged in tough conversations, listening, learning and taking action. He was proud, and so I am. Change starts from within; keep listening to our neighbors, asking the tough questions, having tough conversations and keep racial equality in the forefront as they align with our core values of DIVERSITY and RESPECT.

What makes CtK great? Our members. Friendly faces, caring hearts and a variety of talents come together to offer a community who is focusing on 'God's Work with 'Our Hands.' We proved to ourselves even COVID can't stop us from connecting! Considering spending 2021 connecting in a new way – try a new small group, join a Kindle Cluster or contact a staff member if you'd like a suggestion to get connected.

Joyfully in Christ,  
Megan Vincent

## Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Christ the King Lutheran Church Council, "Thank you" to all members of CtK for your support in 2020. Your giving enabled CtK to continue to offer our many ministries, for both adults and children and youth, complete our Solar Panel Project and offer our Sunday Services to those unable to attend "Live" services, to view them online.

The challenges of 2020 did not hinder CtK from meeting our Mission Support and Benevolence goals approved at the Annual Meeting. We were able to support Family Promise, HDRC, Lutheran Campus Ministry and Christikon Bible Camp just to name a few. We also completed the installation of Solar Panels on the building in early 2020, which will allow CtK to cut our Energy costs as well as follow one of our Core Values, Creation Care.

### Income

Designated Funds Received	\$ 112,959.85*
Facility Use/Lease Income	\$ 11,950.00
Offering	\$ 327,516.55
Other Revenue	\$ 277.15
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 452,703.55</b>

### Expenses

Administrative	\$ 12,688.29
Building & Grounds/Property	\$ 18,831.57
Compensation	\$ 263,953.83
Faith Formation/Education	\$ 11,726.85
Mission Support/Benevolence	\$ 23,846.11
Operations	\$ 15,426.78
Service & Fellowship	\$ 698.33
Worship	\$ 3,205.70
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 387,362.20</b>

\*Designated Funds includes:

Solar Panel Grant from Northwestern Energy	\$ 38,000.00
PPE COVID Funds-Federal	\$ 59,500.00
State of Montana COVID Relief Funds	\$ 5,093.60

Once again, thanks to all of you for your continued support of CtK. Because of you, Christ the King Lutheran Church will continue to Worship, Learn and Serve.

## Report of the Nominating Committee

**Council (3-year terms):** Jeff Benson, Libby Ellwood, Kristin Harney

**President:** George Polansky

**Vice President:** Robin Johnson

**Christikon Delegates:** Ginger and Joby Dynneson

**Audit Committee (3-year term):** Ric Rasmussen

**Montana Synod Assembly Voting Members:** George and Marsha Polansky

**2021 Nominating Committee:** Patsy Olmstead, Heather DeGraw, Stefanie Lohse, Tim McNicholas, George Polansky

## Congregational Statistics

### Baptisms

#### **March 1**

Emmet McGrath (Garrett and Julia)

Declan McGrath (Garrett and Julia)

Elsie Shepard (Eric and Joyce)

### Weddings

#### **January 26**

Alice Morley and Larry Hildebrandt

#### **June 20**

Erin Rasmussen and Andrew Pedersen

### New Members Received

#### **January 26, 2020**

Crystal Beckman

Jeffrey and Karen Brewer

Jason Hole

Garrett and Julia McGrath, Riley

Shawna Pratt

Bob and Kay Roseen

Tom and Sharla Rae Stuber-Kuka

### **MEMBERSHIP/QUORUM NUMBERS**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Bapt.</u>	<u>Conf.</u>	<u>Quorum</u>
2020	381	293	73
2019	369	285	71
2018	352	271	67
2017	330	259	64
2016	305	240	60
2015	296	239	60

### Members Removed by Transfer/Request

Bob and Bonnie Eichenberger

Doris Henson

## Report from Pastor Lindean Barnett Christenson

I thank God for you, Christ the King Lutheran Church. As I reflect on 2020, its challenges and hardships, the “unprecedented” experiences we all had due to the pandemic, I recognize there were quite a few gifts, as well.

In the first couple months of 2020, “pre-covid,” we hosted Estate Planning workshops, the Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples event with the Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association, a Montana Synod stewardship workshop, Rabbi Ed Stafman as a guest speaker for our Adult Forum, and the Casper Children’s Choir in worship. Our solar panels were installed and plugged in, we had a Souper Bowl of Caring offering and food drive, Bible studies and small groups were ticking along, new conversations (about a columbarium and the church’s call to work for justice, for example) were beginning. And then: Covid.



Yes, many of our usual routines were interrupted; patterns and events were tweaked, postponed, or canceled. In the midst of it, we discovered we’re actually pretty flexible and have tremendous capacity for creatively meeting challenges. CtK staff and leaders strove to help folks keep practicing discipleship at home and stay connected with one another with, Covid-appropriate “social distance.” Along the way, some great things happened: online worship provided opportunities for participation when we couldn’t be in the building, small groups and meetings gathered via Zoom, our online “reach” extends across the country (and around the world, actually – a third cousin of mine in Norway joins sometimes!). We sent middle and high school youth to Christikon and had “Virtual Bible School.” Summertime worship meant Holden Evening Prayer on the lawn and then outdoor Sunday morning services – and a pet blessing on St. Francis’s Day.

We opened our doors to the American Red Cross to serve as a base of operations during the Bridger Foothills Fire in early September. We hosted the launch of the “Raptor Rock” – a gathering place for students at the brand new Gallatin High School. (With the blended instruction model, the Rock suspended activities in the fall. We’re hoping that as high school students return to a closer-to-normal schedule we’ll be able to welcome them back.) In October we packed more than 24,000 lunches in the first ever Gallatin Valley Packathon with Future Forward for Haiti. We sponsored the Help Center’s Run For Your Life run – and had our own 5k and kids’ fun run complete with a costume parade on Halloween.

Advent Holden Evening Prayer services were livestreamed from our sanctuary and we stepped outside our norms for Christmas Eve – a “DIY” service for households, a recorded service which included a virtual Christmas pageant, and a first for me: a “Snowsuit Service” outside. And we still served our neighbors with Angel Trees, quilts,



prayer shawls, and support of the Fork and Spoon and so many other organizations and ministries that care for our community and world.

Was 2020 the year we planned for or expected? Nope. Was it hard? Yes – and the ripples of the griefs, losses, and struggles will be with us for a long time. Were there gifts in the midst of the hard stuff? Absolutely. In all of it, we hold on to the promise that Jesus is with us always and offer our thanks to God.

As I conclude, I want to offer my sincere thanks also to the whole congregation for praying, serving, giving, trying new things, learning and connecting in 2020. A special “thank you” to

- the CtK Council, who prayed more than any of CtK’s councils, I’m guessing, for their leadership, discernment, candor, and flexibility as we journeyed together through the last year;
- the CtK staff, who learned how to do all kinds of new things and shifted a lot of congregational life online on the fly, and did it with grace;
- our musicians, who recorded from home as well as from the sanctuary, always willing to try something new, and sometimes at the last minute, for sharing their gifts;
- all who recorded something for worship, seeing each other’s faces – even in a worship video – helped us feel connected to one another;
- the stewards who gave faithfully, sharing what God entrusted to them;
- the folks who reached out to other members of the congregation, building up the body of Christ.

We don’t know what 2021 will bring. I trust that the Holy Spirit will guide us and together we will continue to grow in faith and friendship. We are a Christian community practicing discipleship as we worship, learn, and serve (whether we’re at home, “gathered” online, or face to face in person).

Glad to be on the journey with you,  
Pastor Lindean

### **Report from Pastor Grant Barnett Christenson**

This past year was our first experience with a global pandemic. It profoundly changed how we gathered as a Christian community of faith. It affected how we saw each other and cared for each other.

The first two and a half months of 2020 seem like a decade ago. We continued to lead worship at the Bozeman Lodge on the third and fourth Sundays of the month, with either myself or Lay Pastoral Associate John Sheppard leading worship on those Sundays. Then Covid-19 came to Montana in early March. Bozeman Lodge went into a total lockdown and we were unable to lead worship in person for the remainder of the year.

We had established a good rapport with many of the residents who attended worship on a regular basis, and it was heartbreaking not to be able to be with them. We learned later that their activities director was broadcasting our on-line worship services to the residents. We look forward to the day when Covid-19 visitor restrictions lift, and we can once again gather in the chapel at Bozeman Lodge on the third and fourth Sundays of the month for worship.

In February I attended Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) at the invitation of CtK member Captain Jim Anderson, of the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Department. The weeklong training was held at MSU Bobcat Stadium. CIT is designed to help law enforcement, mental health professionals, and other concerned community members learn best practices in identifying and helping individuals who are going through a mental health crisis. It was a humbling experience to be learning alongside law enforcement officers and community mental health professionals. Individuals who come to Christ the King Lutheran Church seeking assistance often wrestle with mental health issues. CIT provided invaluable training for me to better handle some of the situations that

come our way. It was also a great way to show support for our law enforcement community by learning what they go through every day in keeping the public safe in crisis situations.

After President Trump and Governor Bullock declared a state of emergency, in March we moved to on-line worship for the remainder of Lent, Holy Week, Easter, the season of Easter, Pentecost, and much of the season after Pentecost. I got a crash course in learning how to record worship on a digital camera and with my iPhone, in my home, in the backyard, and at CtK. These video productions were a group effort. I could have not done it without the help of Pastor Lindean, JP Carlson, Dawn Byrd, Heidi Hornung, and our video editor Tana Malmo. Many members made themselves available to record various elements of the worship service, everything from reading lessons, musical numbers, professing the Apostles' Creed, and sharing "God's peace."

In August we moved to worshipping in person outside on the lawn. It was a steep learning curve on how to set up the portable sound system, keeping socially distant, and not singing too loud wearing our face masks. Communion distribution was also a challenge. I was never taught to serve communion wafers with long metal serving tongs.

With the weather getting colder, we moved worship inside. We learned to have a "live worship service" in person while streaming it on-line to folks who chose not to attend in person. That lasted until November.

We recorded services for on-line streaming until the end of the year. We were however able to hold a live Christmas Eve service in the parking lot. It was so wonderful to see so many members and friends I had not seen in person since March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Covid-19 forced a change in how we saw people and cared for them. Because we were not able to see members and friends of CtK before, during, and after worship, church council members took on the task to call members of the congregation for three months. In the summer, a team of six members took over that task.

JP Carlson and I, as hospital chaplains, were able to see church members who were hospitalized or undergoing surgery, after Covid-19 forced Bozeman Health to severely restrict visitors. We visited church members from other Lutheran congregations as well after their pastors were unable to visit their members at the hospital.

Many of you have been good to inform me when a member has experienced a change in health or emotional well-being. Many of you have been good to reach out on your own to express Christian care and empathy. Remember, this is our first pandemic. We are all learning new communication skills as we muddle along.

I want to share a humorous story, which illustrates the "unusual year" we just experienced. A member needed a copy of their giving statement. At the time, there was a run-on toilet paper at local grocery and big box stores. I asked the member if they needed toilet paper. They answered in the affirmative. I took a copy of their giving statement and six rolls of toilet paper to their home immediately. In all my years of ministry, that was the most unique pastoral care visit I have ever made. "Here's your giving statement for 2019 and here's six rolls of toilet paper. God bless you."

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Grant



## Report from JP Carlson, Director of Children's, Youth, and Family Ministries

What a year! Or was it a decade? Or maybe it was a dream? Or...I don't know...I'm drawing a blank. Let's just say it happened. That's it. 2020 happened. End of report.

Actually, a lot of good happened while 2020 was happening. The following are a few famous highlights from the infamous year:



- Whether via Zoom or in person, our middle and high school youth remained engaged in youth group events with an average of 15-18 participants each Wednesday.

- The young adult group, aka, EAT, met regularly via Zoom and in person discussing the Hebrew Scriptures and a podcast entitled, "Learning How to See," among other topics.

- VBS went online and became "Virtual Bible School." The participants enjoyed daily Zoom sessions, storytelling via the CtK News Team, and music videos put together by an array of talented CtK musicians.

- Sunday School took on more forms than I previously thought possible. In person inside, in person outside, Zoom, kits mailed to homes, digital family packets, and I'm probably forgetting one or two.

- Summer camp at Christikon for confirmation students and adventurous high schoolers was an oasis of community amid the social distancing desert. Only a handful of youth from CtK attended each week, but it was well worth it.

- We raised money for Family Promise, donated food and other items to the BHS & GHS Shelf, collected food for the Gallatin Valley Food Bank, assembled and delivered gift baskets to First Responders, and thanked our healthcare workers.

I could add quite a few more bullet points to this list, but I'd like to use the rest of the space on this page recognizing and thanking those who served alongside me throughout the year, sharing both in the joy and struggle that was ministry and life in general during 2020.



Special thanks to: Linda Gale, Marsha Polansky, Josh Keehr, Barry Jeide, Heather Degraw, Joe Green, Renee Schon, Carolyn Gilbertson, Matt Porter, Whitney Hamand, Megan Vincent, Kris Olsen, Allison Olsen, Matthew Olmstead, Elayne Harter, Kristin Harney, Holly Jeide, Libby Ellwood, Dave Hughes, Natalie Benson, Jake Ulgenes, Kat Ulgenes, Ryan DeGraw, Ginger Dynneson, & all who have supported children's and youth ministry in one way or another this past year.

You continue to show me what it means to be the body of Christ for one another and our community.

To 2021!

Yours in Christ, JP

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Bozeman, Montana, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Meeting Called to Order: 12:09 pm

Voting Members Signed in: 72 Voting Members required for quorum: 71

Prayer: Marc Beck

Opening Devotion: Marc Beck

Appreciation: Marc Beck

Thank you to the outgoing council members; delegates to the Montana Synod, ELCA Churchwide Assembly and Christikon; Stefanie Lohse for stepping in to complete Teresa's council term.

Opening Liturgy: "*God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind*"

Litany found in 2019 annual report

Pr. Lindean Barnett Christenson's Comments:

\*Comments moved to after ministry reports

Pastor's Update:

Pastor Lindean

- Moderator of Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association
- Campus ministry
- Christikon Board
- Taking classes at MSU
- Held a service funeral at the warming center.
  - Thanks to CtK's generosity, HRDC has asked our pastors to officiate for clients of the warming center when needed.
- What we do really matters, and it is possible because of you. Thank you.

Pastor Grant:

- Leading worship at Bozeman Lodge: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month with LPA John Shepard
- Fostering connections with Pastor Molly, Mosaic Chapel.
  - Connected Pastor Molly with Pentecostal residents at Bozeman Lodge.
- Grief support group
- Divorce support group
  - Looking for a co-leader for this. Working with Methodist
- Serving the Montana Synod, taught classes on pastoral care across Montana
  - March 14<sup>th</sup> invited to Helena to offer another chance for LPAs to take classes on pastoral care.
- Behind the scenes congregational care team reforming.
- Grateful to serve CtK and the community at large through our generous support.

Minutes from 2019 Annual Meeting: Joe Green

Discussion: None Corrections: None

Motion to approve the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Congregation. -MSC

Treasurer's Report: Ric Rasmussen

Discussion; The \$60,000 gain is because of special projects, unpaid until 2020. When you subtract those out, we ended 2019 in the red. Total giving for 2019 was \$447,744. 2019's spending plan was for \$445,000. We have the ability to raise the money. To continue operations we had to borrow from other accounts, those funds need to be replenished. We encourage everyone to consider increasing their giving and consider what it means to be a member of Christ's Body.

Motion to receive the 2019 treasurer's report. -MSC

## Ministry Reports:

Comments: Dr. Jerry Johnson: We waste a lot of food in our country. The average Lutheran gives 2 or 3 pennies a week to fight hunger. Just a dime a week would raise more than a million for hunger.

## Pr. Lindean Barnett Christenson's Comments:

This past year council set our focus to emphasize service and outreach.

- Super Hero for the day at the Fork and Spoon
- CtK's generous support of the Gallatin High Shelf
- We serve in our community, what we do outside our congregation matters
- CtK sponsored Run for Your Life 5K, we were the only church to sponsor

Our focus this year emphasizes Leadership development.

- Lay Pastor Associates of the Montana Synod
  - LPAs can fill gaps in ministry or serve longer term ministries all over Montana.
  - If you or you know someone that may be interested in education in scripture, ministering to people contact John Shepard and Lindean.
- Kindle Clusters
  - 4 Units: Cultivating Faith, Cultivating Health, Cultivating Others, and Cultivating Groups.
  - Adult classes with daily bible reading and reflection to develop leadership skills within our congregation.
- Becoming an inclusive congregation
  - We will begin a series of conversations for drafting our statement.
- Columbarium
  - Creating a space to intern ashes at CtK, honoring and walking with those who are grieving the loss of loved ones.
- The Women's ELCA gathering in Phoenix Arizona.

## **New Business:**

### 2020 spending plan presentation and discussion:

Motion to approve the 2020 fiscal year spending plan.

-MSC

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members: Sharon Beehler, Julian Gaub, Joe Green

## **Nominating Committee Report and Elections:**

2019 Nominating Committee members: Dr. Sharon Beehler, Dr. Leah Anderson, Mike Dorrence, Joe Green

### Nominations for 2020 are:

Council: (affirmation): Stefanie Lohse  
Council: (3-yr terms): Katherine Martini, Amy Yovich, Natalie Benson  
President (affirmation): Megan Vincent  
Vice President: George Polansky  
Christikon Delegate (3 year term): Joby Dynneson  
Audit Committee (3 year term): Tom Kuka  
Montana Synod Assembly Voting Members: George and Marsha Polansky  
Endowment Committee: Jane Mangold, Phyllis Lewis

2020 Nominating Committee: Wes Schon, Laura Holte, Marc Beck, Megan Vincent, Ric Rasmussen

Discussion:

Motion to approve council member Stefani Lohse

-MSC

Motion to affirm, as council members, by acclamation Katherine Martini, Amy Yovich, and Natalie Benson.  
-MSC

Motion to affirm by acclamation: council president, Megan Vincent; council vice president, George Polansky; Christikon Delegate, Joby Dynneson; Audit Committee, Tom Kuka; Montana Synod Assembly Voting Members, George and Marsha Polansky; Endowment Committee, Jane Mangold, Phyllis Lewis; 2020 Nominating Committee, Wes Schon, Laura Holte, Marc Beck, Megan Vincent, Ric Rasmussen  
-MSC

**Passing of the Gavel:** Introduction 2020 Council President, Megan Vincent

**Closing Remarks and Prayer:** Megan Vincent

**Adjournment: 12:55 pm**

-MSC

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Green, 2019 congregation council secretary