

Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

Aloha Kakou,

I commend this pastoral letter from our National Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton.
God's peace,
Pr Keith

CHICAGO (Jan. 30, 2017) – The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), has issued a pastoral message addressing President Trump's executive order to restrict entry by refugees and visitors into the United States from seven predominately Muslim countries.

Eaton's message follows.

January 30, 2017

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Yesterday, we heard these words in the Gospel reading from Matthew 5:1-12, the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. In the Beatitudes, Jesus lays out a vision for life in God's realm, characterized by seeing those who are often most disregarded, including the meek, the mourning and the peacemaker, as bearers of God's blessing. Over the coming weeks, we will continue to hear this Gospel, including Jesus' call for his disciples to be carriers of God's light and hope and reconciliation to a world deeply in need of them.

In this spirit, earlier last week I communicated with the Trump administration asking that it not stop the U.S. refugee admissions program or stop resettlement from any country for any period of time. The Bible calls us to welcome the stranger and treat the sojourner as we would our own citizens. I agree with the importance of keeping our country secure as the administration stated in its executive order last Friday, but I am convinced that temporarily banning vulnerable refugees will not enhance our safety nor does it reflect our values as Christians. Instead, it will cause immediate harm by separating families, disrupting lives, and denying safety and hope to brothers and sisters who are already suffering.

(Continued on pg . 2)

Letter from Bishop Eaton (continued from pg. 1)

Refugees being resettled in the United States have fled persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, political views and/or associations. They wait for years for the chance to go home. But sometimes, there is no home for them to go back to. We know from our partners at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) that only 1 percent of all refugees are chosen for resettlement.

People of faith helped start and still sustain the refugee resettlement program in the United States following World War II. As Lutherans, many of our ancestors faced the pain of having to flee their homes and the joy of being welcomed in new communities across the United States. As we have done throughout history, millions of Lutherans across the country honor our shared biblical values as well as the best of our nation's traditions by offering refuge to those most in need. We are committed to continuing ministries of welcome that support and build communities around the country and stand firmly against any policies that result in scaling back the refugee resettlement program.

We must offer safety to people fleeing religious persecution regardless of their faith tradition. Christians and other religious minorities suffer persecution and rightly deserve protection, but including additional criteria based on religion could have discriminatory effects that would go against our nation's fundamental values related to freedom of religion.

I invite ELCA congregations into learning, prayer and action on behalf of those who seek refuge on our shores. The ELCA ["Social Message on Immigration," AMMPARO strategy](#) and [LIRS resources](#) are good places to start. You can also make a donation to [Lutheran Disaster Response](#). Those who have been part of resettling refugees or have their own immigration experience have important stories to share with their communities and testimony to make. I also encourage you to consider adding your voice by calling your members of Congress to share your support for refugees and using online advocacy opportunities through current alerts at [ELCA Advocacy](#) and [LIRS](#).

In Matthew 25:35, Jesus said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Our Lord not only commanded us to welcome the stranger, Jesus made it clear that when we welcome the stranger into our homes and our hearts – we welcome him.

God's peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop

Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

01 Bill Thompson
01 Dan Nelson
02 Russ Larson (in memory)
02 Keanu Laabs
05 Bill Belcher
11 Ethan Chong
11 Verna Morgan
11 Tri Pham
12 Steve Fulton
13 Emily Lee Stanford
14 Karen Paulus
14 Brian Santos
15 Sally Kino
20 Noah McMann
24 Doug Maginot
28 Barb Burke

Keeping in our Prayers

- Prayers of healing are requested for Nick and peace for his family.
- Healing for Nanay Reyes and her family.

Baptismal Anniversaries

02 Ellie Stanford
05 Lizzy Gustafson
11 Marissa Wiedemann
19 Alexander Kriese
25 Jeffery King

Wedding Anniversaries

10 Russ & Sally Kino
28 Jason & Joanna Forbes

CLC Annual Variety Show

Get Your Act Together and join the fun at the CLC Annual Variety Show...skits, sing, dance, act, instrumentals. Saturday, February 25 beginning with a finger food potluck at 6:30 p.m. and the show starting at 7:00 pm. Look for registration papers on the sign up table. Contact the church office for more information. **FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!**

Bible Study

**Midweek Bible Studies
with Pastor Keith
Wednesdays at CLC
7 - 8 PM**

Please join us for Bible Study with Responsive Prayer. We'll be reflecting on the Gospel readings read during preceding Sundays. We meet in the sanctuary and use the "lectio divina" approach that we used during our Advent studies. Bring your Bibles & hope to see you there!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

California Lutheran
UNIVERSITY

BIG Dream

June 28 – July 2, 2017



Phone: 805-493-3936

Email: info@wsyg.com

Web: www.wsyg.com

*WSYG is for high school youth (grades 9-12) in ELCA congregations from Regions 1, 2, 3 and 4. WSYG occurs every three years. There will be mass gatherings with great speakers and musicians; learning and small group experiences; worship that takes you in new directions; and much more! Registration up to March 2nd is \$460. Airline tickets approx. \$650 with our group. Need to know if you are interested **by Feb. 28th**. For scholarship information contact Pastor Keith.*



Strengthening Communities Changing Lives

Thrivent Choice is a charitable grant program that gives eligible Thrivent Financial members the power to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable funds each year, by choosing from thousands of enrolled 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.

Giving back has always been important to Thrivent and our members. Thrivent has provided more than \$330 million to help churches, educational institutions and other nonprofit organizations through the Thrivent Choice charitable grant program since its 2010 introduction.

Thanks to Thrivent and its members, Christ Lutheran Church has already received \$2215 in Thrivent Choice program funding in 2016. Help make a difference today. Learn more at Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Or call 1-800-847-4836.



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AmazonSmile Foundation Gives Back

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com.

The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

If you are shopping on Amazon anyway, why not support CLC.



Check out [Goodshop.com](https://www.goodshop.com)


Best shopping deals at thousands of stores on the internet, and they will make a donation to the nonprofit of your choice for almost every purchase you make.

Effortless Giving. You Shop. You Save. They Give.

Go to: <https://www.goodsearch.com/give>

You can find **Christ Lutheran Church** on the [pick a cause](#) page.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>February</h1>			1 7pm Mid-week Bible Study Matthew 5:1-12	2 7pm Hand-bells	3	4 I.H.S. Day Serving Homeless
5 7am Contemplative, Communion, Service 10:45am Communion, Service	6	7	8 7pm Mid-week Bible Study Matthew 5:13-20	9 7pm Hand-bells	10	11
12 7am Contemplative, Communion, Healing Service 9:30am PBJ's 10:45am Communion, Healing Service	13	14 	15 7pm Mid-week Bible Study Matthew 5:21-37	16 7pm Hand-bells	17	18
19 7am Contemplative, Communion Service 9:30am PBJ's 10:45am Communion Worship Service	20 Office Closed Presidents' Day	21	22 7pm Mid-week Bible Study Matthew 5:38-48	23 7pm Hand-bells	24 Newsletter Deadline	25 10am OPOH @ Maluhia 6:30pm Variety Show
26 7am Contemplative, Communion Service 9:30am PBJ's 10:45am Communion Worship Service	27	28	March 1 Ash Wed. 7pm Imposition of Ashes @ CLC	Wednesdays starting March 8th Lenten Soup Suppers at 6:00 pm Followed by Bible Study & Responsive Prayer (just like last year) Come when you can!		

2017



Christ Lutheran Church
95-1361 Meheula Parkway
Mililani, HI 96789



Sunday Worship

7:00 a.m.

Contemplative Communion Service

9:30 a.m.

PBJ's Puppet Team

10:45 a.m.

Service of Holy Communion
With Children's Message and
Healing Prayers with Anointing
Professional Keiki care
Provided

Healing Service - 2nd Sundays

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