



**Being human,
Being love**

225 East Exchange Street
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456

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www.christ-community.net

Christ Community Church is an open and affirming spiritual community. We are grateful to have you with us today. We invite you to introduce yourself to a staff member or Ministry Council host. Welcome!

Ian Lawton
*Executive Minister, Teaching and
Theological Inquiry*

Bob Kleinheksel
Minister of Care and Social Justice

Ted Poulton
Director of Administration

Allison Rockey
Communications and Outreach Ministry

Brad Vander Ark
Audio/Visual and Online Ministry

Andrea Dumbrell
Office Manager

Roger Schuring
Facility Maintenance

Jacqueline Rose Fisher
Director of Fine Arts

Kim Bazy
Children's Ministry

Chad Beyer
Youth Ministry

Barb Kelly
Nursery Care

Brian Drabczyk
Sound Technician

Office Reception Hours
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Building Hours
Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Raising Community Consciousness

Sunday, August 2, 2009

Christ Community Church

Prelude

In the Groove

SL Village Musicians

Robert Vandall

Welcome and news of the community

Musical inspiration

Hamba Nathi

traditional South African tune, arr. Anders Nyberg

Hamba nathi mkululu wethu.

Come, walk with us, the journey is long.

Listen to us, our story is great.

Come talk with us, give meaning to life.

Come eat with us, and share in our bread.

Come sing with us, for love is around.

Come, walk with us, the journey is long.

The journey, the journey, the journey is long.

Sweet Harmony

Gathered in community

Are we religious? Are we spiritual? Does it matter if by using the word religious, we as community and individuals mean to bind together what is broken, to heal divisions, to work toward the functioning of the body, the entire workings of the universe? Like a *lig*-ament, *re-lig*-ion and religious communities bring together what is separate; they work toward healthy functioning and unity. Being spiritual and religious are two facets or two descriptions of identity that get at essential work, essential joy, essential relating, being and living. Be spiritual. Be religious. Call it what you want. Wake up to live in vital and life-giving ways!

One: Within community, we gather with great variety and diversity of thoughts, beliefs and perspectives

All: **To celebrate each's orientation, use of language and ability to make wise choices.**

One: We gather for intellectual intrigue, opportunities to serve, a sense of awe and a yearning for community connection

All: **To celebrate our unity, agreements and tensions and our ability to move and grow together.**

One: We gather with respect and openness to what each brings to this gathering time

All: **To celebrate our particularities as well as the universal edges and values that drive us toward greater love, justice, transformation and freedom for all.**

Participants:

Teacher

Bob Kleinheksel

Liturgist

Allison Rockey

Organist

Jacqueline Rose Fisher

Musicians

Sweet Harmony:

Vickie Clock, Jackie Fisher, Cathy Forrest,
Karen Frederiksen, Eileen Grostic, and Bev
Schroeder

SL Village Musicians:

Jackie Fisher, Karen Frederiksen, and Betty
VanTill

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Sound booth

Brian Drabczyk

Video cameras

Garrett Borns

Ushers

Wayne Johnson, captain

Debbie Gianetti

Marji Juhl

Scott Keller

Alice Lyons

Joe Miller

Lindy Postma

Dave Regester

Jean Regester

The red team ushers next Sunday.

C3 Kids news

This morning kids are invited downstairs
for our Summer Kids program beginning at
10:00 a.m. Children should be picked up
by 11:30 a.m.

*Congregational hymn

Our Kindred Fellowships

*As tranquil streams that meet and merge
And flow as one to seek the sea,
Our kindred fellowships unite
To build a church that shall be free.*

*Free from the bonds that bind the mind
To narrow thought and lifeless creed;
Free from a social code that fails
To serve the cause of human need.*

*A freedom that reveres the past,
But trusts the dawning future more;
And bids the soul, in search of truth,
Adventure boldly and explore.*

*Prophetic church, the future waits
The liberating ministry;
Go forward in the power of love,
Proclaim the truth that makes us free.*

Text: Marion Franklin Ham, Tune: Winchester New

Readings

Cindy Anderson

Everyone was amazed by the many works and wonders of the apostles. All the early followers of Jesus often met together, and they shared in everything. They would sell property and possessions and give money to whoever needed it. Day after day they met together in the temple. They broke bread together in different homes and shared their food happily and freely while giving thanks to God and gaining favor from all people.

— Acts 2:43-47

At the heart of my politics has always been the value of community, the belief that we are not merely individuals struggling in isolation from each other, but members of a community who depend on each other, who benefit from each other's help, who owe obligations to each other. From that everything stems: solidarity, social justice, equality, freedom.

— Tony Blair

Prayer

Allison Rockey

Musical inspiration

We Are Dancing Sarah's Circle

*We are dancing Sarah's circle,
Sisters, brothers, all.*

*Here we seek and find our history . . .
We will all do our own naming . . .
Every round a generation . . .
On and on the circle's moving . . .*

*We are dancing Sarah's circle,
Sisters, brothers, all.*

Sweet Harmony

African American Spiritual Carol A. Etzler

Sermon

Community at Work: Including, Transcending, Becoming

Bob Kleinheksel

Offertory

Blue Threesome

SL Village Musicians

*Congregational hymn

O Life That Maketh All Things New

***O Life that maketh all things new
From heart to heart the bright hope glows
The wide horizon's grander view
The seekers of the light are one.***

***One in the freedom of the truth
One in the joy of paths untrod
One in the soul's perennial youth
One in the larger thought of God.***

*Blessing

Be ours a religion which, like
Sunshine, goes everywhere.
Its temple, all space;
Its community, intimate relationships
Its shrine, the good heart;
Its creed, all truth;
Its ritual, works of love;
Its profession of faith, divine living.
Go in peace.

— Theodore Parker

*Postlude

The Village Musicians

SL Village Musicians

Wolfgang Mozart, adapted M. E. Clark

Offering

This is a community-led organization that relies primarily on the support of individuals. Donation envelopes are available in the pews. For your convenience, we invite you to join the vast majority of our members who give regularly via automatic checking withdrawal, credit card, and online donations. Indicate your interest on a white pew card and place it in the offering plate and our office will contact you. Your generosity makes the work of this community possible.

Upcoming events and gatherings

Sunday, August 9

9:00 a.m. — Coffee and Conversation

9:00 a.m. — Awakenings gathering

10:00 a.m. — Gathering

11:30 a.m. — Power of Breath Workshop

4:00 p.m. — Here II Here Concert

10:00 a.m. Gathering: Bob Kleinheksel will build upon the theme of community, exploring how a progressive community of warm heart and open mind works with all who are active and involved. Come prepared to be inspired, encouraged and renewed in your orientation to this distinct spiritual community.

Music will be provided by Miami band, Here II Here, formerly known as Inner Voices, featuring lead singer Ashley Ruiz, formerly with Menudo.

Sunday, August 16

9:00 a.m. — Coffee and Conversation

9:00 a.m. — Awakenings gathering

10:00 a.m. — Gathering

11:15 a.m. — Sermon talk-back

10:00 a.m. Gathering: Ian Lawton will be speaking this morning about the body/mind connection. The wellness of the individual comes from a healthy balance between body and mind.

SAVE THE DATE LISA'S FAREWELL PARTY:

Thurs., August 20 – 5-7p.m. at Jack's in SL

Christ Community is an alternative to church as usual.

We live together in awe of Life,
connected by a sense of mystery that many call God.

Inclusive grace moves us to embrace all
with unconditional love and gracious acceptance,
celebrating ethnicity, gender, age, and sexual orientation.

Christ Community is a diverse, creative community
in background,
in faith perspective,
in public expression;
a blending of all the great spiritual traditions.

Christ Community finds a window to God in the face of Jesus
and also in the quest and insight of other faiths;
seeking dialogue and mutual enrichment in our pluralistic world.

We strive for greater justice and peace in the world
inspired by Jesus and social activists through the centuries
who challenged the status quo,

We seek to be the change we wish to see in the world,
respecting earth's patterns, and honoring wellness in its many forms.

Christ Community is a community of open mind and warm heart,
valuing the progressive unfolding of theology,
where all are encouraged
to honor their minds,
live their questions,
and embrace inner peace.

We invite all to join us in this exciting adventure of humanity.



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