

# February 2021 Scribe Newsletter

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# February 2021—Pastor Tim's Thoughts

## I Miss Being a Pastor. . .

A few weeks ago, I woke up with a sudden and sad thought: I miss being a pastor.

Oh, sure, I've been preaching online for a while. But it's nowhere near the same as being in a room together with real people, being able to see smiles and nodding heads. For the most part these days, I just hope that my sermon makes coherent sense. I miss being a pastor.

And, yes, we've been able to conduct meetings and the business of the church through the wonder of Zoom; but I don't feel nearly as productive, and I don't feel like our conversations have the energy and flexibility that comes when we're able to talk quickly or even over one another. I miss being a pastor.

And, true, worship has not really stopped since we went online. But I have to admit that worshipping at home has lost its earlier novelty; and now I stress about production value, and technology woes; and what to do about all of those people who cannot or will not navigate an online church world. I miss being a pastor.

And, I have to admit, the phone does work in a pinch to connect with people. As does email. Or socially-distanced visits. But it's nowhere near the same as sitting in someone's living room and holding their hand as they grieve. I miss being a pastor.

I don't have a solution to all of this yet. And I don't mean for this article to get you down. But I want to let you know that you're not alone in your exhaustion from all that has happened in this past year. Nor are you alone in your eager desire to return to something resembling normal. Please know we're working on it. We're getting things ready, and getting plans in place for us to be able to start resuming things in as safe a way as possible. And we will keep you posted on those plans as soon as they are actionable.

Until then, know that I'm praying for you from afar for your health, your safety, and your peace of mind. That, at least, is one thing that this pastor can still do!

Peace,  
Pastor Tim

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# February 2021—By the Numbers

***Please note:** CtK contribution statements are emailed quarterly from [fin.sec@ctkdurango.org](mailto:fin.sec@ctkdurango.org). Email [churchadmin@ctkdurango.org](mailto:churchadmin@ctkdurango.org) with questions, corrections or if you need a paper statement mailed.*

## December 2020 Financials

Our Gifts Blessing Others	December	YTD 2020
Synod	\$ 1,499	\$ 19,296
World Hunger	\$ 425	\$ 8,142
Social Ministry	\$ 1,743	\$ 30,940
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$ 3,667</b>	<b>\$ 58,379</b>

## Financial Update

Gifts Received	\$ 25,275	\$ 321,905
Facility Donations	---	\$ 300
Rental Income	833	5,000
Expenses	\$ 25,722	\$ 297,930
Net Operating Income	\$ 386	\$ 29,274
Endowment Fund Balance		\$ 189,402

## January 2021 Attendance (all worship via Zoom unless otherwise noted)

Date	Wed. 6:00 PM	Sun. 9:15 AM	Total
<b>January 3</b>		53	53
<b>January 6</b>	3		3
<b>January 10</b>	* Trinity Lutheran, Farmington joined in	108 *	108
<b>January 13</b>	6		6
<b>January 17</b>		66	66
<b>January 20</b>	2		2
<b>January 24</b>		70	70
<b>January 27</b>	4		4
<b>January 31</b>		Not available	---
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>312</b>

**Note:** These numbers reflect the number of DEVICES signed into Zoom, NOT the number of PEOPLE (since more than one person can watch service on a single device).

## February 2021 Worship Assistant Schedule

<b>Worship Assistants</b>	<b>Sundays at 9:15 AM</b>
<b>February 7</b>	John Condie
<b>February 14</b>	Eryn Orłowski
<b>February 21</b>	Molly Bodewes
<b>February 28</b>	Amy Wendland

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# February 2021—Faith Formation

Thank you!

My own words utterly fail to express my gratitude for CtK calling me as a Deacon. I'm humbled and proud all at once. We've worked toward this goal for a long time, you and I. All of your inquiries, prayers, mentorships, brainstorming sessions, smiles, and kind words have helped get us here together.

I love you all.

## *Psalm 111*

**1Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.**

2Great are your works, O Lord,  
pondered by all who delight in them.

3Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness endures forever.

4You cause your wonders to be remembered;  
you are gracious and full of compassion.

5You give food to those who fear you,  
remembering forever your covenant.

6You have shown your people the power of your works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.

7The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all of your precepts are sure.

8They stand fast forever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.

9You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is your name.

10The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding. **God's praise endures forever.**

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# February 2021—CtK Youth

## February Fundraisers

**Trivia Night – February 14th at 6pm on Zoom.** Our Youth have written the questions and want to test your knowledge on a variety of subjects! Plus you'll get to know them a bit better as they will each host the category they wrote. You'll need one device (like your phone) to answer the questions and another with which to Zoom (like your computer). Fabulous prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Suggested donation to play: \$5

**Silent Auction – February 14th at 9pm through February 21st at 12pm.** Our Youth are putting together baskets of awesomeness from local businesses for you to bid on! They chose local to support our community; our Trivent members gave them money to spend so we didn't have to ask for donations during this uncertain time for small businesses. I'm very proud of the thoughtfulness of our Youth and thankful for the generosity of our congregation!

**All Zoom links, payment links, bidding process, and everything else you need to know to support our Youth in these two fundraising endeavors can be found at <https://www.ctkdurango.org/youth-events/>, with links updated closer to the week of February 14th.**

Thanks for playing!

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## February 2021—Social Ministry News

### Thanks for Supporting CtK's Guatemala Hurricane Relief Fund

We wanted to thank the congregation for your wonderful response for our special giving for one of our partner missions, the church in Zacaleu, Guatemala. Both Guatemala and Nicaragua were hit hard in the late fall by two hurricanes. Significant damage was done to vast areas of the country, including the village where Pastor Tim and CtK members have visited several times. Property, crops, and infrastructure were damaged, and the recovery effort was hampered by these challenges. CtK donated \$3500 during November and December. Pastor Karin and the whole ELCA church in Guatemala thanks you all for your compassion and generosity. Please keep all in your ongoing prayers.

Jigger Staby  
Social Ministry Team

### Focus on CtK's Love Fund and ELCA World Hunger

February is a short and busy month for Social Ministry. First, it is the month for Valentine's Day. In honor of this day of courtly love, we stretch it a bit and try to remind everyone of Christ the King's Love Fund. This fund was established 10 years, no, 15, well many years ago to provide emergency monetary support for congregation members and frequent attendees who find themselves in temporary financial hardship. We can help with rent or mortgage, car repair, medical expenses, or almost anything else that is causing temporary cash flow problems. If you, or someone in the congregation you know is in such a position, let Pastor Tim know. It will be handled confidentially. There is no expectation of payback; it is an expression of Christ's love from our church. If, on the other hand, you find yourself enjoying God's blessings in abundance, consider donating to the Love Fund. Simply make out a check and put "Love Fund" in the memo.

(continued on next page→)

The second thing that happens in February is the beginning of Lent. This year, as we have for 10 years, no, 15, well many years, we are raising money for ELCA World Hunger. We have set a goal for our congregation of \$5000, a goal we met easily last year despite the intervention of the plague. Here from the ELCA World Hunger Website:

More than 820 million people – that’s about 11 percent of people in our world today – are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work--working with and through our congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, **ELCA World Hunger** is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Hunger facts

- 821 million people around the world – that’s more than 1 in 10 – can’t access the food they need to live active, healthy lives.
- According to the most recent estimates, 736 million people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day. That’s 10% of the world’s population.
- At some point in 2017 (the most recent year available), more than 40 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from.
- 39.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2017. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$25,094.

Please help us support this cause. Download the 40 Days of Giving 2021: Lenten calendar at <https://www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-World-Hunger>.

John Condie  
Social Ministry Team

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## February 2021—Bible Studies

### Circle of Contemplative Prayer

The Circle of Contemplative Prayer meets each Monday from 5:30pm-7:00pm. Meetings are currently being held via Zoom. A silent meditation and prayers are then followed by a book discussion. Their current study book is “The Sacred Enneagram: Finding Your Unique Path to Spiritual Growth” by Christopher Heuertz. For the Zoom link and other pertinent information, please text Sharyn Butler at 970-759-6355. Thank you.

## Great Ol' Broads of God (GoBoGs)

GoBoGs invites you to join them in study and fellowship each Monday from 4:00-5:30 pm. Share the Care, GoBoGs' outreach mission, is addressed upon requests. They are currently studying "White Fragility" by Robin Diangelo. NOTE: During the health crisis, they are conferencing via Zoom at 592-847-8387; the password for this meeting is Testify. The Zoom meeting ID is 966-5642-4190. Please join them for study sessions that are deeply rewarding. For more information, contact Kayla Hefner at 970-759-1636.

## Midweek Bible Study led by Pastor Tim

Bible Study class meetings on Thursdays from 12:00-1:15 PM have resumed as of January 28, 2021!! Invite others to join us if you'd like! The link to access these meetings via Zoom is located below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83113251991>

If you ever misplace this link, you can also find it on our website at <https://www.ctkdurang.org/worship>. You will need the password 1964 to access the meeting.

Shortly before we began our unexpected hiatus, we started a study on the Petrine Epistles (1 & 2 Peter). We are currently reading the first chapter of 1 Peter.

I can't wait to see you all!!!

## Khuvara ("Circle of Friends")

The Khuvara Women's Group is starting a new book for discussion entitled, "Everyone's Normal till You Get to Know Them" by John Ortberg. All women are welcome, and we gladly invite new members to join us. For meeting time/place during Covid, please call Stella at 970-903-9327.

## Spiritual Study Group (SSG)

Currently, the Spiritual Study Group meetings are suspended until further notice due to Covid-19. For more information, contact Aurora Rose.

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# February 2021—Fellowship Groups

## CtK Piecemaker Quilters

The Piecemaker Quilters continue to meet regularly on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 10 am until 2 pm. Everyone is welcomed to join us. For more meeting information, please call Stella Welcher at 970-903-9327. We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

## CtK Book Club

The CtK Book Club currently meets on the second Thursday of each month at 3PM via Zoom.

We will be welcoming the New Year with our first meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2021 with a discussion of "Running With Sherman" by Christopher McDougall. For Thursday, February 11th, "Dear Edward" by Ann Napolitana will be our focus. We will discuss a book by Victoria Schade, "Who Rescued Who," on Thursday, March 11th. Then on Thursday, April 8th, we will discuss "The Vanishing Half" by Britt Bennett. During our May 13th meeting, we'll discuss "The Lost and Found Bookshop" by Susan Wiggs. Our last book discussion for this season will be a book by Charlotte McConaghy, "Migrations," on Thursday, June 10th. We will take a break for the summer months and return to meet again in September, 2021.

We hope you will join us -- anyone can attend one or more book discussions. If you are interested in attending, please *call Stella Welcher at 970-903-9327 to get the Zoom link information.*

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## February 2021—In Other News. . .

### To Our CtK Family



Dear CtK Family,

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the generous love offering gifts you have given to us this year. You are so kind, and we thank God for you and for making us feel so special and loved. What an honor it is for us to serve you. Thank you!

God's peace be with you always,  
Your CtK Staff

## Communion Sign-Up

Keeping in line with the La Plata County Health Department Covid recommendations, we have discontinued our option for INDOOR Communion services until further notice. However, we still have the OUTDOOR DRIVE-IN Communion service at 1:00pm. Please click [HERE](#) to sign up so we can ensure we have adequate communion supplies on hand.

For the 1:00pm OUTDOOR DRIVE-IN Communion Service:

- Participants are to remain in their cars for the duration of the service.
- For convenience, please write down any prayer requests you have on a piece of paper. These will be collected once you arrive at the church parking lot.
- Sound for the communion service will be transmitted to your car radio on 96.5 FM.
- The communion elements will be brought to you in your car.

Thank you for your help in making this a safe experience for all. If you have any questions, please contact [Pastor Tim](#).



## Save the Dates—February

*CtK's designee for Noisy Offering donations collected during the month of February will be our mission partners in Guatemala.*

*Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day* ❤️

*Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> — Trivia Night Youth Fundraiser at 6pm on Zoom. \**

*Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9pm -- February 21<sup>st</sup> at 12pm — Silent Auction Youth Fundraiser \**

*\* All Zoom links, payment links, bidding process, and everything else you need to know to support our Youth in these two fundraising endeavors can be found at <https://www.ctkdurango.org/youth-events/>, with links updated closer to the week of February 14<sup>th</sup>.*

*Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday (Details TBA)*

## Looking Ahead

*Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday*

*Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> – Maundy Thursday*

*Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Good Friday*

*Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Easter Eve*

*Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday*

*For all events and activities, please check the [CtK website](#) for updates.*

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## February 2021—In Our Prayers

### Military Prayer Requests

**Please keep the following Military men and women in your prayers...**

*(To add or remove names from this list, please [contact Linda](#))*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Mitch Bugaj stationed in Germany—Nephew of Ronnie Zaday
- Major Ryan Bankhead—Brother of Eryn Orłowski
- Sgt. John Dee—Son in-law of Wendy Krull
- Sgt. Chris Gomez—Nephew of BJ and Danny Pierce
- Staff Sergeant (SSgt.) Airman Paul Herr—Nephew of Gary & Carol Orłowski
- Hugh Jones, Jr. Sailor—Son of Rick & Janeann Jones
- Sgt. Brandon Minser —Son in-law of Wendy Krull
- LCDR Andy Schaaf—Son of Merilee and Mark Fleming
- Major Clayton Stransky—Nephew of Kip and Laura Stransky
- Master Sargent Stephen Van Dover—Nephew of Nancy Van Dover

### CtK family & friends in need of prayer...

*(To add or remove names from this list, please [contact Linda](#))*

- Shawn Johnston
- The Family of Mary Southworth
- The Family of Larry Rardin
- The Family of Beverly Dittmer
- Mary Ann Craig
- Carol Orłowski
- Bonnie Jung
- Roger Landgren
- Julie Williams
- Laura Stransky
- Darlene Warring

- Bonnie Rossmiller
- LuLu Mae Hess
- Bev Brown
- Lori Lachelt
- Kayla Hefner
- Carol Gunderson
- Deacon Mandy Gardner as she begins her new call and ministries at CtK.
- CtK's ministry and partnership with both the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Rock Point, AZ and San Juan Bautista Lutheran Church in Zaculeu, Guatemala.
- CtK's Homebound Ministry and all those who serve our homebound members through this ministry.
- All those battling mental illness and addictions.
- Each person in our CtK church family.
- All the front-line workers striving to keep Durango and our surrounding communities safe, healthy, fed, educated, and mentally and spiritually fulfilled during the Covid-19 crisis. May God bless and protect EVERYONE!

*To add or remove names from this list, email [Linda](#) in the Church office or call: 970-247-5310.*

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