



The Messenger is a monthly newsletter written by the members of Christ Lutheran Church—a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.

**CHRIST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

By Renata Eustis

My feelings about—and attitude toward—Christmas shopping have varied greatly over the years. I remember the first time I bought gifts for my parents and sisters and how grown-up that made me feel. I also remember one Christmas during college when I made dough ornaments for everyone because I couldn't stand the idea of going to a mall. I love finding a gift that I know the receiver will love—and I hate feeling pressure around giving gifts. The realities of being a pastor and a mother have meant that my Christmas shopping is now almost completely focused on my immediate family.

I would certainly agree with anyone who argued that gifts are not really what Christmas is about. But, I do think that *giving* is central. We celebrate the hard-to-understand generosity of a God who would give us a Child—to share completely in our human life and to transform us in the process. Receiving this gift changes us. Sometimes in big ways and sometimes in small ways, we begin to give a little more like the Gift we have received—like Christ.

This year, I am so thankful for a new kind of Christmas shopping, thanks to our Reverse Advent Calendar. We have a basket on our dining room table and a list of items for our Food Pantry, one for each day of Advent. I asked Clare and May if they would like to contribute and each of them is getting some of the items. Each week I'll add the others to my shopping list. Sarah's job is to put those in the basket. All of us pray for the families who will receive this food and for a world where everyone has enough to eat.

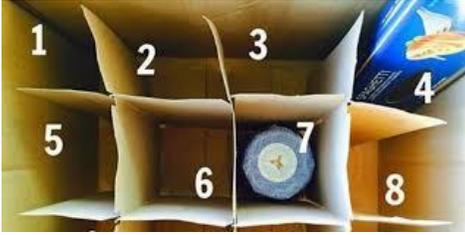
I don't have any mixed feelings about this Christmas shopping—just 100% joy!



MITTEN AND SOCK TREE

By Joanne Noll

A "mitten & sock" Advent tree has been set up in the narthex. Please use the colorful clothes pins to clip your gifts of mittens, socks and hats to the tree all during Advent. Any size is appropriate. Let's fill up the tree by December 18 when all items will be gifted to LSS for their refugee program. Help keep our neighbors warm this winter!



SUPPORT FAMILIES IN NEED: ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR

By Kendall Bentz

We're all familiar with Advent calendars – each day you open a new window to find chocolate or candy in the countdown to Christmas. This Advent, try a twist on this old tradition and join CLC members by participating in an Advent Giving Calendar.

Here's how it works: First set up a large box or basket at home, perhaps next to your Christmas tree. Every day of Advent, put a new food pantry item into the box (helpful suggestions are below). On each Sunday, bring the box of goods to church so CLCers can prepare them for delivery to local families. Then, do it again! It's a great way to prepare our hearts and minds for Christ's coming as we share our blessings with families in need.

	1 st Week of Advent	2 nd Week of Advent	3 rd Week of Advent	4 th Week of Advent
Sunday	Toothbrush	Peanut Butter	Laundry Detergent	Canned Veggies
Monday	Pasta	Mac & Cheese	Dryer Sheets	Jelly
Tuesday	Pasta Sauce	Stuffing Mix	Hand Soap	Canned Fruit
Wednesday	BandAids	\$25 Gift Card	All Purpose Cleaner	Tuna/Canned Meat
Thursday	Canned Veggies	Canned Fruit	Paper Towel Roll	Sponges
Friday	Snack Bars	Toilet Paper	Feminine Products	Toothpaste
Saturday	Mittens for CLC Mitten Tree	Hat for CLC Mitten Tree	Warm Socks for CLC Mitten Tree	Mittens for CLC Mitten Tree



ADVENT EVENING PRAYER

By Katherine Chatelaine-Samsen

Throughout Advent, you are invited to join us in the Chapel on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. for Holden Evening Prayer, a service of sung evening prayer that welcomes the coming Light. All are welcome, so please feel free to bring friends! Please see Vicar Katherine with questions, and talk with Joy if you would like to help lead the music.



FROM OUR VICAR

By Katherine Chatelaine-Samsen

I first want to share some good news with everyone: In mid-November, I traveled to Minnesota to meet with my Synod's candidacy committee for my approval interview. I'm happy to say that I've been approved for ordained ministry! In the coming months, I will learn more about where I will be serving as a pastor and will share that news at it becomes available. In the meantime, I look forward to continuing to serve here as your Vicar. I'm deeply grateful for the support, prayers, and encouragement that I have received from many of you throughout my candidacy process!

Second, I want to invite you all to join me for a monthly series of workshops focusing on creative and contemplative prayer. Prayer is a central part of our relationship with God: it's how we talk to God, it gives us the hearts and ears to listen to God's voice as it speaks to us, and it keeps us centered on God. We can pray in many different ways, whether it's together as a church community gathered in worship, at home by ourselves or with our families, silently as we commute to work, or more.

The prayer workshops will introduce you to different forms of prayer that will deepen and enrich your own prayer practices. In each workshop, we'll learn about the form of prayer together and then you'll be given time to experiment with it on your own. We'll finish by coming back together as a group to talk about the experience. You'll leave with a new or renewed way to pray for the rest of the month.

The workshops will happen once a month, starting in January. The schedule and topics are below. Feel free to come to any or all of them!

Wednesday, January 11, 7:00-8:30pm: Coloring Prayer

Saturday, February 18, 9:00-10:30am: Lectio Divina (Prayer with Scripture)

Saturday, March 18, 9:00-10:30am: Walking Prayer

Wednesday, April 12, 7:00-8:30pm: Prayer Beads

Please let me know if you're interested in participating, or if you have any questions. I hope to see you there!



MUSICAL HAPPENINGS

By Joy-Leilani Garbutt

Sunday Choir

We will meet on Sunday, December 4 at 9:15am in the organ loft. No additional rehearsals necessary. If you love to sing, please come join us! We'll be learning a communion anthem to sing in the service as well as looking ahead to something for Christmas Eve.

GMC Christmas Concert, December 10th at 8 pm

Christmas is just around the corner, and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC is performing their annual Christmas Concert, titled *Naughty or Nice* over two weekends in December. We are organizing a group from CLC to go to one of the shows on Saturday, December 10th at 8 pm. Mark Rohrbaugh sings in the Chorus, and May McLaughlin sings in the GenOut Chorus, which is the DC area's first-ever ensemble for LGBTQ youth and their allies!

The holiday show is always fun and entertaining! The tickets for the show are \$25.00 for balcony seats, the concert is at the Lincoln Theatre at 1215 U Street NW. If you would like to join the group, please let David Lippe (lippedk@aol.com) or Joy-Leilani Garbutt (clcdcmusic@icloud.com) know ASAP, and be sure to give them the money for the number of seats you would like. Since the concert is just around the corner, we would ask that you let us know no later than Saturday, December 3rd so we have time to get the tickets and get them to you!

Christmas Eve Music

This Christmas Eve our musical prelude will feature excerpts from Handel's Messiah relating to the Christmas story. Soloists Ashley Cunningham, Erin Feng, and Joshua DesPortes will be joined by a string quartet, trumpet, and the CLC Choir. The Children's Choir will also be singing a special song at the close of the prelude to lead us into our worship service at 7:30pm.

Concerts at Christ, Spring Season

After a wonderful fall with concerts by organist Jeremy Filsell, The Barclay Brass Sextet, and Melville Moses Andradé & Marquita Richardson, we have even more great music planned for 2017. Please tell your friends, invite your neighbors, and let them know that every dollar donated goes directly to our Food Pantry! Our upcoming concerts are: February 26 - The Atlantic Reed Consort, April 23 - organist Erik Wm. Suter, and May 21 - our very own CLC Choir.



PASSING THE BATON

By Phil Hecht

Every Council on which I have served, and every Council with which I have worked, has had challenges. But the challenges this Council faced over the last two years have been especially daunting.

Our first Council meeting in 2015 began with a task list that included reviewing personnel policies and employee benefits, exploring participation in the Community Purchasing Alliance, revising building usage guidelines and fees, developing policies for substantial bequests, and raising members' awareness of financial issues.

We began our first Council meeting in 2016 having accomplished some of the items on the 2015 list, but with an expanded task list that included leading congregation-wide mission planning, prioritizing future facility needs and expenditures, and reviewing our staff salary structure.

As we reach the end of 2016, I concede we still haven't gotten through all of those tasks. But from my perspective, the 2017 Council is positioned to move forward with confidence and optimism that we are on the right track.

Here are some of the challenges we faced over the last two years: We had significant and almost simultaneous turn-over in our staff – our office administrator Karen Christian left in March 2015 and our Director of Music Gerry Coleman left in April 2015. Our FY15 operating budget included an ever-increasing amount for pension and benefits provided by the ELCA's Portico program – an amount that was rapidly approaching \$100,000 annually. Pennie Noll's premature death in 2015 left us without a bookkeeper, and Bob Sylwester's health concerns have deprived us, for the time being, of an encyclopedia of knowledge and know-how.

How did we respond? Well, God sent us a few rams. (See Genesis 22:13.) Lee Schray stepped into the church office in March 2015 and never left. Joy Leilani Garbutt took over the organ bench and director's baton. Bookkeeper Marisa Carter wrestled our numbers to the ground and continues to keep them straight and clear.

We re-committed to the provisions of our Personnel Manual and got our pension and benefit costs under control so that they are now less than half of what they would have been if we had done



nothing. And we substantially raised our staff salaries to bring them in line with Synodical norms.

We also have had other blessings for which the Council cannot take credit. My first place award goes to the babies that fill the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall with joyful noises we haven't heard for many years. Second place goes to the visioning process, led by Susy Cheston, which will establish the broad paths for our future. Third place goes to sainted Herb Turvey, whose magnificent bequest will encourage us to do things we could never have imagined.

Challenges remain: In my view we must cultivate new leaders among us to spearhead the initiatives and programs we are visioning for the future. We can take heart that the 2016 Yard Sale saw many newer (and younger) faces, but we need to divide the responsibility for taking care of our facilities among able and willing members.

Yet I am hopeful. In 1991, as we were planning events for our 100th anniversary, one of our members stated emphatically that we were a dying church, and he doubted we would last another ten years. Twenty-five years later, as we look forward next year to our 125th anniversary (and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation), we're still going strong.

Thanks be to God!



DON'T MISS THE SILENT AUCTION

By Joanne Noll

Sunday, December 4 is the final day of the Silent Auction. During Coffee Hour, members and friends bid on items and services that are donated by other members and friends. Funds received through the Silent Auction go towards building repairs outside of the budget. You can bid on items like: baked goods, concert tickets, weekend getaways, knitting lessons, baseball cards, yard work, babysitting, music, jewelry, exotic fabrics and much more! We can all take part by giving and bidding! Hope to see you around the bidding tables on Sunday!



CONVERSATIONS ON FAITH AND LIFE DECEMBER 7

By Katherine Chatelaine-Samsen

Join us for a conversation on faith and life as we discuss the OnBeing podcast, "Is America Possible?" featuring the late civil rights leader and religious scholar Vincent Harding. We'll start with a light meal of soup and bread from 6:45-7:15p.m., and will then move into a time of small group conversation on the podcast's themes until 8:15 p.m.

You can download and listen to the podcast or read the transcript ahead of time by visiting :

http://www.onbeing.org/program/vincent-harding-is-america-possible/transcript/9037#main_content. You are welcome even if you are not able to listen to the podcast! Please let Vicar Katherine know if you have any questions and if you plan to attend.



DECK THE TREE WITH CHRISMONS

By Marty Jewett

To get more Christ into Christmas we use chrismons to decorate the CLC Christmas tree. The Ladies Guild made a set of these ornaments that depict Christian symbols decades ago. Now many are in need of extensive repair. At the silent auction you can buy one or more new chrismons for \$6 each. Keep the chrismon for your tree or make a donation of an ornament to the church's tree. Marty Jewett's niece, Alison Schroeder, is a wonderful artist who cut the new chrismons out of core board and decorated them. You'll find the chrismons along with an explanation of what they mean in the Fellowship Hall at the Silent Auction. Marty already paid Alison \$10 each for these 37, so all the money you donate goes to the church. If you need more than we have, Alison would love to make more -- just leave your order with Marty.



COUNCIL KUDOS

By Phil Hecht, Council President 2015 – 2016

As reported to the Congregation Meeting on November 13, 2016, the Nominating Committee, consisting of Howard Bell and Artie Harris, proposed the following slate of candidates for the 2017 Council :

President:	Kendall Bentz (term ends 2018)
Vice President:	Mark Rohrbaugh (term ends 2018)
Treasurer:	Artie Harris (term ends 2018)
Secretary:	Debbie Jones (term ends 2017)
Financial Secretary:	Ann Marie Nelson (term ends 2017)
Member-at-Large:	SarahJo Albertson (term ends 2018)
Member-at-Large:	David George (term ends 2018)
Member-at-Large:	Sharon Senghor (until 2/17)
	Karin Klingman (beginning 2/17)
	(term ends 2018)
Member-at-Large:	Paul Sieving (term ends 2017)

The Congregation voted unanimously to elect the slate of candidates.

We recognize and thank those Council members whose terms end on December 31, 2016:

- Marilee Rist, Vice President
- David Blakemore, Treasurer
- Lisa Fitzpatrick, Member-at-large

We bid an early farewell to Member-at-large Sharon Senghor, who will leave her Council position in February 2017 when she moves to Costa Rica to serve in the Peace Corps.

All old and new Council members deserve our gratitude for their service and dedication to the congregation.

PLANS FOR 125TH ANNIVERSARY

By Phil Hecht

Planning for our 125th anniversary in 2017 is well underway, and we want your ideas. Please talk with one of the current members of the planning committee – Cheryl Beversdorf, Phil Hecht, Mack Ott, Marilee Rist and Mark Rohrbaugh – if you want to be part of the process for celebrating this important milestone, which coincides with the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.



CLC PROVIDES NEARLY \$25,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

As a result of another very successful Yard Sale, our congregation was pleased to distribute \$24,500 in grants to ten local and international organizations in November. Grants from the Yard Sale ranged from \$1,000 to \$3,750 per organization. While several of this year's grantee organizations have been close CLC partners for many years, we were pleased to welcome a couple new organizations into the mix in 2016, as well. Here's a list of this year's beneficiary organizations. Visit their websites to learn more about the important work they do:

Housing Up:

<http://housingup.org/>

Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area:

<http://www.lssnca.org>

Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington:

<http://www.samaritanministry.org>

The Rwanda School Project:

<http://www.rwandaschoolproject.org>

Centro Infantil San Pablo:

<http://www.centroinfantilsanpablo.org>

Court Watch Montgomery:

<http://www.courtwatchmontgomery.org>

EduCare Support Services, Inc.:

<http://www.educaresupportservices.org>

Healthy Babies Bright Futures:

<http://www.hbbf.org>

Project Future Institute:

<http://www.projfutr.org>

United States Veterans Initiative:

<http://www.usvetsinc.org>



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

By Anne Dwiggin

The Food Pantry team extends its appreciation to all who went the extra mile with donations for the Food Pantry in November. Thanks to you we were able to make our monthly delivery on Saturday, November 19th, with bags containing not only regular pantry items, but also special items for Thanksgiving. Extras in our bags included cranberry sauce, stuffing, a foil baking pan, and a \$25 Giant or Safeway gift certificate (for purchase of turkey or other groceries of the recipient's choice). Twelve families received the November deliveries.

We are especially thankful to young folks Oliver Pattison and Julian Daross, who helped the Pantry team pack and deliver on November 19th. Any age can help out with the Food Pantry!

Now . . . turning to December! Our next Pantry delivery to Partner Arms families will take place on Saturday, December 17. Check out Kendall's article about the Advent Giving Calendar for items needed this month. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Checks or cash may be placed in the offering plate, labeled for "Food Pantry."

JOINT CATHOLIC-LUTHERAN COMMEMORATION OF THE REFORMATION

On 31 October 2016, The Lutheran World Federation and the Catholic Church held a joint commemoration of the Reformation in a service of common prayer in the Lund Cathedral in Sweden under the theme "From Conflict to Communion – Together in Hope". Those present included Pope Francis; the President of the Lutheran World Federation, Bishop Munib Younan, and General Secretary Martin Junge; Archbishop Antje Jackelén and Sweden's Catholic bishop Anders Arborelius.

There was also a celebration in Malmo, Sweden. The links for the live stream services are:

<http://www.lund2016.net/media/livestream/>

<https://www.lutheranworld.org/lund2016/livestream>



ADVENT, CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY EVENTS

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER

Thursday nights at 7:00 PM in the chapel

Prepare the way for Jesus in your hearts through this service of evening prayer that welcomes the coming Light.

COMMUNITY POTLUCK AND CAROLING

Saturday, December 17 at 5 PM

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall to share a meal, then move out into the neighborhood for caroling.

GREENING THE SANCTUARY AND SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

Wednesday, December 21 at 6 PM

Help us deck the halls, trim the tree and prepare our worship space for Christmas. We'll provide a light supper in the narthex and Christmas music to inspire one and all. After we finish decorating on this shortest day, we'll go outside for a brief prayer service and welcome back the light.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Saturday, December 24, Prelude at 7:10 PM, Worship at 7:30 PM

Join us for a Festival Celebration of the birth of Jesus including holy communion and music from Handel's Messiah.

EPIPHANY PAGEANT

Sunday, January 8 at 10:30 AM

See and hear the story of Jesus' birth and the coming of the wise men as told by the children of our community. The children's choir and community orchestra will lead us in singing. (Practice for children will take place Saturday, January 7)

LIGHTING UP THE SANCTUARY FOR EPIPHANY

Tuesday, January 3 at 6:30 PM

You're invited to a community potluck at 6:30 PM. We'll move into the sanctuary at 7:00 PM to de-green and set out new lights for Epiphany. We'll also be making stars in remembrance of the star the wise men followed to Bethlehem.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Alice Meyer

PAUL DARNAUER

Paul was born on June 22, 1932 to Pastor Fred and Grace Darnauer in Lakota, Iowa. He had three brothers and one sister; his sister and one brother are still alive and live in California. Their life was essentially "Iowa". World War II made family change for all over the globe via military, Lutheran foreign activity, travel, etc. It was a complete life – ask Paul if you want to know more!



Paul's life: After high school Paul completed a BA at Wartburg College, a Master of Social Work at the University of Nebraska before becoming a second lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps, US Army as a social work officer. He worked for the Army Medical Service Corps for 30 years. He earned his doctorate in social work in 1970 at the School of Social Work at USC and in 1973 became the social work consultant for the Army Surgeon General from 1973-79. After that he was with Tressler Lutheran Services (now Diakon LSS) in PA where he became VP for services to children and family services at LSS.

For a change of pace, upon retirement, he was the co-owner with his wife of the Golden Stage Country Inn In Cavendish, VT for 4 years. Paul is now fully retired and recently transferred from two ½ years at Epiphany Lutheran Church, Burtonsville, MD. He now has moved to his new location (Knollwood), "a wonderful place where I expect to remain until God "relocates" me".

Paul's family: Paul's wife, Micki Smith-Darnauer now lives with her son and daughter-in-law in VA. The older daughter Becky, husband John and their two daughters are in Rockville. The second daughter Kathy, husband Brian and their two daughters are in Luray, VA. His son Eric, wife Trish, and their two daughters are in Houston, Texas.

There are six granddaughters, but no grandsons.
businesses and organizations with qualified human capital.



SARAH CLINE

Sarah Cline became a member in November 2016. She lives in Silver Spring with her husband Siwa and daughter Eloise. She works for the U.S. Department of the Interior and enjoys running and spending time with family and friends in her free time. (And, of course, if you know anyone who might like to rent a large sunny one bedroom or purchase a relatively new Honda Fit with ridiculously low mileage, please let me know.)

KRISTIN BOWERS

Kristin Bowers is the concert master with the Concert Band of the United States Air Force Band here in Washington D.C. A native of Downers Grove, Illinois, she joined the Air Force and moved to DC in 2011. Kristin graduated from Indiana University (Go Hoosiers!) with a Bachelor of Music degree in clarinet performance in 2006 and earned a Master of Music degree in 2008 from Northwestern University.

Since moving to DC, she has discovered her love of knitting--and was taught by our own CLC member Laura Shoun! She started knitting because her husband Ben bought her a coffee cozy kit. Kristin loves the outdoors and especially loves to backpack in the Dollysods of West Virginia.



LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

Today we hold our heads high, proud of the 99 years LSS/NCA has served children and families in need. We have accomplished so much together, building a community that is responsive to the needs of others beyond one's self.

Every donor, congregation, community partner, staff member, and volunteer has played an integral role in restoring hope and dignity. Nothing about that changes. Together, we will continue to bring love and compassion to those we touch. It is because of you that LSS/NCA will continue to do the remarkable work it has done over the past century.

With respect to the results of the 2016 U.S. presidential election, LSS/NCA, along with our community partners and affiliate LIRS, affirm our commitment to uphold the United States' long tradition of protecting and welcoming refugees. Historically our refugee program has benefited from bipartisan support and at a time when the world is facing the largest global refugee crisis since World War II, LSS/NCA will work closely with LIRS, lawmakers, and local partners to sustain policies that support refugees.

When others retreat and retrench, we advance and answer. Like yesterday, today, and for our many tomorrows together, we will stand by those who need a hand to hold and voice to speak for them. If you would like to help and show your support, please volunteer or donate.

Christine P. Connell
Chief Executive Officer



LSSNCA SETTLES MORE REFUGEES

Mehrdad and his family fled from Iran where they were persecuted for their political beliefs. For the next five years, his children's lives were threatened; they lived in poor conditions at a refugee camp, and they constantly feared what the future might hold.

At long last the family moved to the United States and settled in Virginia. The transition wasn't easy. Mehrdad's family faced an

entirely new culture, a different language and different customs. Fortunately Mehrdad and his family had help.

Two of LSS/NCA's partner churches—Immanuel Presbyterian Church and Lewinsville Presbyterian Church—saw the family's need for guidance and support during the transition to their new home in America. The congregation members provided food when the family ran low, offered leads on possible employment, gave direction in American customs and language, and, most importantly, extended their friendship.

Thanks to the help of these two congregations, the family is now thriving. The children are making new friends at school and Mehrdad has found a job that allows him to provide for his family.

Partnerships like this are vital to the success of refugees rebuilding their lives in our community. We work to connect refugees with community partners, congregations, and individual mentors to smooth the transition to life in America.

However, we need to expand this service to meet the needs of growing numbers of refugees. By supporting LSS/NCA, you can help us make these transformational experiences possible through our volunteer and community awareness program that engages neighbors in compassionate service and internships.



HOUSING UP NEWS

Housing Up announced that during a post-Election Day press conference, Mayor Bowser and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) announced 13 projects that will produce or preserve more than 1,200 affordable housing units in the District.

Housing Up received two funding awards: 1) funding for a major renovation to preserve affordable housing at our Partner Arms 2 property in Northwest Washington, DC and 2) as co-developer with Hines/Urban Atlantic for the Abrams Hall building on the Walter Reed campus. The project will accommodate senior housing as well as Housing Up's future office space.



SAMARITAN MINISTRY STANDS WITH CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

On November 12th one of Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington's partner parishes and satellite sites – Church of Our Saviour, Silver Spring – was desecrated by an act of hate. Scrawled on a sign for the church's Sunday service in Spanish and on a wall of the church's memorial garden were the words: "Trump Nation. Whites Only." As a result, the faith community, led by Episcopal Bishop Marianne Edgar Budde, and several other clergy leaders including the Rev. David B. Wolf, Samaritan Ministry's Executive Director, stood in solidarity with their Latino brothers and sisters at Our Saviour at their Sunday afternoon mass. Inspired by words from Fr. Francesco Valle and Bishop Marianne Budde that, as Christians, our response to hate is love – they graphically conveyed their response in chalk on sidewalks and signs outside the church: "We love you! Love wins!"



"We at Samaritan Ministry – a community of communities representing almost 60 congregations and schools – serve as a beacon for ALL our vulnerable neighbors in the greater Washington area who are in need of a hand up, regardless of ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation," said the Rev. David B. Wolf. "We stand together with Bishop Budde and the leaders of Our Saviour in calling upon the President-elect Trump to clearly distance himself from those who have committed acts of hate in his name, and to continue calling for an end to such acts. These are hate crimes which have no place in true communities of love, compassion and justice, and are certainly at odds with our mission to empower all who are vulnerable and in need of a hand up. What's more, such acts do not reflect the values of our partner providers throughout the region and the values we hold dear as Americans. We will continue to stand for – and be empowerment for our vulnerable brothers and sisters who find themselves in the ditches of life – where we as Good Samaritans meet them."