

The Viewpoint

*Our Vision:
To Know Christ
and make Him Known!*

Christ's Community Church at the Riverview Avenue Community Center

Visit the Website! www.ccchurch.co

Welcome, Rev. Mary Kruse Zambrana

Congratulations to Christ's Community Church and Rev. Bud Dryden for a sincere and blessed forty year partnership. Is this what the kids call a "mic drop"? There will have been ups and down and difficulties and backtracks, but Bud's retirement was like his ministry--planned carefully and lovingly without weird drama. Just "Wow!"

I first met the congregation and Bud in 1992, through my new seminary boyfriend, Omar Zambrana, your youth ministry intern. Omar did not necessarily indoctrinate the youth into the Christian faith but loved and enjoyed them very much. I was the intern at Yeadon Presbyterian Church and sometimes visited what was then Riverview Presbyterian Church worshipping in the big sanctuary. You were a welcoming congregation back then, too, and Bud was a kind and wise mentor to both Omar and me.

Christ's Community Church is that rare congregation that has been willing to grow and change with the times. You have died and been reborn, merged, changed names twice, committed and recommitted to a faithful and compassionate life together. The church has gone through intensive preparations for the transition of Bud's retirement and calling of a new minister. The session members, deacons and other leaders have pondered and prayed. The Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) is reviewing candidates for the position of Designated Pastor.

It is my privilege to be with you as a Transitional Minister until the Designated Pastor arrives. This could be several months to a year

or more, but you can be sure that the leaders of the congregation will continue to communicate clearly and regularly as the process unfolds. God willing, you will know in a timely way when I will be leaving and when your Designated Pastor will arrive.

This is a time for the congregation to catch your breath, grieve the loss of your well-loved Pastor and thank God for all that has been. It is time to allow yourself to consider needs and opportunities that you have not addressed before. It is hard work, to stop between things and feel what you feel, think what you think, before plunging into something new. It is hard work to be open and respectful in relationships when the framework is shifting. I hope you will allow me to get to know you and learn what it is like for you during this time. I hope that you will let me know what it is you need and don't need.

**"The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in
steadfast love.**

**The LORD is good to all, and his
compassion is over all that he has
made."**

(Psalm 145:8,9; *This is God's self-
introduction to Moses, Ex. 34:6,
reappearing throughout the
Scriptures.*)



Welcome
Glad you're here!

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The Viewpoint

September/October

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of the Presbyterian Church
USA

Website:
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The gift of prayer enables us to join with one another in consecrating our world, our lives,

and our ministries to God.

Please lift in prayer: Morgan, Madonna, Stephen, Kurt, shut-ins, victims of natural disasters, war, and hate crimes, the homeless, elderly, youth, the hungry, our nation, Presbytery of Philadelphia, General Assembly.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

YOU ARE INVITED!

September 2 and 16

October 7 and 21

9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Newcomers are welcome



Life Center Meal

Saturday, September 30



Church Mouse

September 8 and 9

October 13 and 14

9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.



The Women's Study Group will have a summer social on September 30 at 2:00 p.m. We will be making potholders and tea for beverages. All ladies are welcome.

Join the Women's Study Group on Saturday, October 21 at 9:00 a.m. as we continue our discussion on the book; "The Good and Beautiful You" by James Bryan Smith; Discovering the person Jesus created you to be. Meet us in the church Library!



The property team has been busy, even over the summer months, tackling a number of problems. We added lighting to the sign on the front lawn, which is now turned on by an optical sensor to minimize energy usage. We also fixed several interior electrical issues, most notably sockets in the Mouse and library. Further fixes have restored the light in the narthex, the drinking fountain and the AC units in the office area. New LED lighting was installed over the administrator's desk after the old fluorescent unit failed. Then, we were getting many false alarms from our fire detection system, probably from the extra heat and humidity. Several visits later and with the replacement of some portions of the system, we hopefully have fixed that issue. Finally, the sump pump in the sextant's closet died. The lumber is in-bound to replace that unit.

Property Committee: *Holton Falk, Heidi Hamilton, Woody Johnson and Sue Parker*

Restoration Committee

We have selected the vendors that will accompany us on our journey of caring for God's house. The painter will tentatively begin painting both entrances and all hallways on August 24.

The replacement windows for the office complex take about 5 weeks to receive. Once arrived they will be installed. After they are installed the painter will return and paint the 4 rooms in the office complex.

We have acquired the flooring and new toilet and vanity for the Pastor's bathroom.

The committee consists of *Heidi Hamilton, Linda Martin, Chawezi Mwantembe, and Sue Parker.*





The Session dealt with 3 main areas of work this summer: increasing the role of Linda Evans, our administrator, hiring a new sextant, and hiring a bridge pastor.

First, after much debate and prayer, we asked Linda Evans to expand her duties and her time commitment to a full time position. We committed ourselves to providing her a full living wage, including benefits. While this goes beyond our budget, we are trusting in God to provide the extra income we will need to pay for the increased wages. Note that we have taken similar steps in faith in the past and each time, God has been faithful, providing cell tower lease revenues and unexpected bequests to meet our needs.

Secondly, we searched fruitlessly for a new sextant to replace Bob Kerr in the winter time. Our next attempt to hire someone was also looking poorly when God delivered a new candidate, Ignatius Oshiomogwe, out of the blue. Ignatius is between divinity degree programs at Princeton for this next year and was a great fit. We immediately made an offer and hired him, although he will only be with us for 1 year. Ignatius is from Nigeria and has great passion in connecting to people of Islamic faith as well as being a hard worker.

Finally, we have committed to a bridge pastor. Despite all our attempts to reduce the delays in the transition of pastors, we still found ourselves needing a pastor when Bud retires until we can hire a designated pastor. Let the hallelujahs resound! Again, God provided! Our long time friend and also a Presbyterian pastor, Mary Zambrana, had just become available. We quickly reached an agreement with her and she will be joining us starting on September 1. Mary will be a full time pastor, and will provide administrative duties and spiritual counseling as well as preaching to us. We are truly a blessed congregation!

Holton Falk, *Clerk of Session*

Church Administrator Position:

The Personnel Team is pleased to announce that Linda Evans has accepted the full time Church Administrator position for Christ's Community Church. Most of you know that Linda has held the position on a part-time basis for the past 9 years.

With our need to expand the position, Linda was willing and able to increase her hours and responsibilities. We are fortunate to draw on her experience of knowing "the ins and outs" of our church community, and she will be a huge asset to us as we transition first with Mary Zambrana, our Bridge Pastor, and then further with a new minister.

With this expansion of Linda's hours and responsibilities, the Personnel Team would like to make everyone aware of the new Personnel Policy, which will help facilitate clearer and better flowing order. Within her job description, Linda will manage and respond to inquiries and requests. If outside her regular duties, she will communicate first with her supervisor, the Moderator/pastor. Linda will continue to keep the church calendar up to date, and will be able to tell you if a room/time/date is available for use.

We are grateful for Linda's acceptance of this position, and look forward to working with her on a full time basis.

Personnel Committee: Chawezi Mwantembe, Linda Martin & Bea Feddy



YOU ARE INVITED TO BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 1

8:00 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

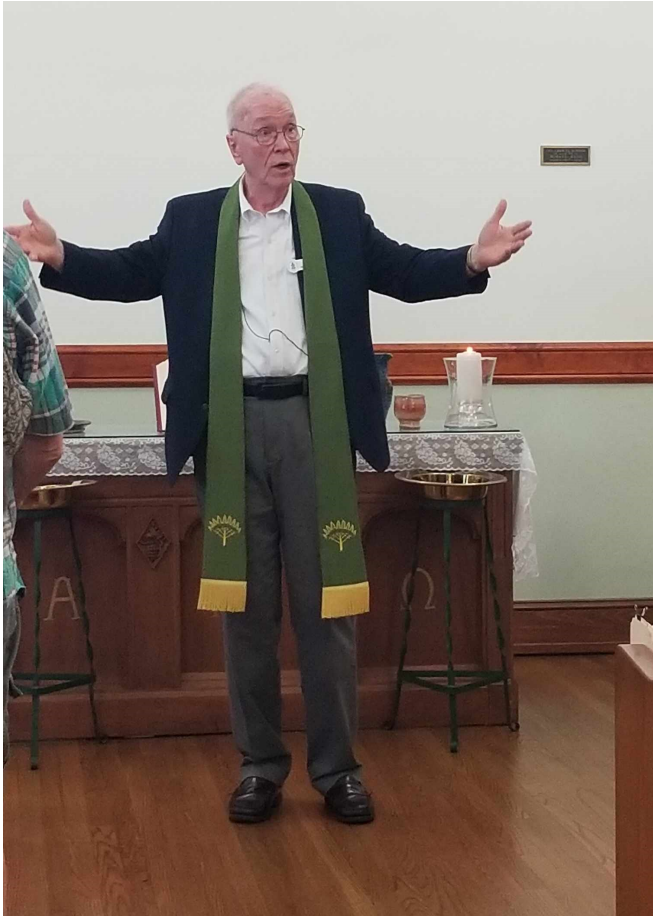
We serve until 8:50 a.m.

Bring your family and friends!

Future Dates: November 5 | December 3



*Bud's Last Worship Service with CCC & Retirement Celebration
August 27, 2023*





Folks, Paula and I thank you for your kind words, the luncheon, and gift. We gave the tithe to the Marianist Family Retreat Center in Cape May in your honor and in appreciation for the wonderful work they are doing for Christian families, saved a bit, and will use the rest to help with unexpected expenses we encountered as we prepared the house for market.

I am writing this "thank you" from the Marianist Center where I have done silent retreats off and on for a number of years now. As usual, I am gaining much from the teaching of our brothers and sisters in Christ -the same Word of God, yet from a different perspective, or another facet of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.

Again, thank you for your thoughtfulness, kindness and generosity shared with us as we celebrated our 40 years in Christ with you! The Book of Remembrance is a treasure which we will use to find comfort as we adjust to our new life apart from you. As Paul wrote to Timothy, his brother in the faith, so, I write to you, "I thank my God for every remembrance of you!"

In Christ's love,

Bud





"We are Named"

Isaiah 49:16: "Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands"

"We are ones in whom Christ dwells and delights and we live in the unshakable kingdom of God," James Bryan Smith has these words written on signs all over the lawn of the Wichita Friends University campus during the annual Apprentice Gathering. Over the years I have been mentored by James Bryan Smith, I have adopted the truism.

Now on Sunday morning, when I pin my nametag on my blouse, I remember I am one in whom Christ dwells and delights. And if I pin the nametag on any visitor or member, I repeat the words to them. As Christ dwells in us, we as members of Christ's Community Church identify and consecrate ourselves to Him in all ways including wearing nametags. We delight as we align ourselves to Christ Jesus. In Christ, we are named as one of His own. You are somebody on the Lord's side. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



Two Miracles

Ephesians 3: 20 –21, "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

A miracle! A Mary miracle! As the personnel team was seeking a bridge pastor. The pool for this kind of pastor was not yielding any candidates. Chawezi Mwantembe contacted Mary Zambrana to ask for a lead. By chance Mary had just left her pastor position with the Japanese congregation and offered to serve as our bridge pastor. The Presbytery of Philadelphia has approved. Mary has walked with the Session in recent years and she has also preached on Sundays when Bud was on study leave or vacation. Omar, Mary's husband, was a youth pastor many years ago when he was attending seminary. Mary knows our faith community. We know God has blessed us with Mary's presence during this time of transition.

A miracle! An Ignatius miracle! The personnel team has also been seeking to employ a sexton for the church following the retirement of Bob Kerr who served faithfully for at least twenty years. Ignatius is currently working toward a doctorate at Princeton. His passion is to work with refugees. A native of Nigeria, Ignatius is married with two children living in his native home. He has offered to care for the facility during as a place where God dwells.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit who was, and is, and is to come! Amen.

The Wilderness is Not a Desolate Place

Joshua 22:5 – "Take good care to observe the commandment and instruction that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to keep his commandments, and to **hold fast** to him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul."

As we move forward beyond the tenure of Bud Dryden as our shepherd, it is now easy to reflect how the Israelites must have mourned the loss of Moses who brought God's Ten Commandments to them. A man who led them through the wilderness journey beyond what had become known and comfortable. Moses heard their laments and disputes, "We are tired of manna!" "We have no water!" But Jehovah Jireh was faithful to the Israelites (God provides). And we, too, know that God is Jehovah Jireh. Mary has been given to us. She is our Joshua, the transitional leader, so to speak. And God has given us Ignatius to help us care for the place where God dwells.

Let us hold fast to what we have come to know and claim as our purpose which is "To know Christ, and make Him known." Let us remember the six traditions of faith and practice as given to us by Richard Foster in his book, "Streams of Living Water." These great historical movements or "streams," as Foster calls them, are Contemplative, Holiness, Charismatic, Social Justice, Evangelical and Incarnational. And the Abba tradition that Bud added. Let us remember that we find our identity, "in Christ" alone and that identity supersedes everything and everyone.

Let us remember the faith and good work of God's servant, Bud, with tears of sadness and tears of joy for what he has done and look forward in hope as we carry into the world the knowledge of what we hold in our hearts as he taught us in Christ.

Debbie Engell

**To know Christ and
make Him known!**

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Sunday worship

9:30 a.m.

Worship Service

In-Person and Zoom

SEPTEMBER

7 Kim Rankin
15 Melissa Price
Phoebe Johnson
23 Wayne Crawford
Darlington Yeah
24 Peter Falk
26 Linda Martin

**OCTOBER**

2 Aaron Geh
10 Wesley Cummings
15 Tracy Johnson
16 Katie Engell
18 Jannie Sirkin
22 Sheila Cummings
27 Sayce Falk

The Viewpoint is a publication of
Christ's Community Church at the
Riverview Avenue Community Center
The Rev. Mary Zambrana, Bridge Pastor
The Rev. Robert Eyre, associate pastor for
missional outreach;
Linda Evans, editor

September/October**Weekly/Monthly Meetings**

Sunday	9:30 a.m.,	Informal Worship Virtual Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.,	Al-Anon in the Parlor
	7:00 p.m.,	NA in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.,	NA in Fellowship Hall
Thursday	7:00 p.m.,	NA in Fellowship Hall
Friday	7:00 p.m.,	Cub Scouts

September

September 2, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
September 3, Sunday	8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
September 4, Monday	Labor Day Holiday—Office Closed
September 6, Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Property Team Meeting
September 8 and 9	9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Church Mouse
September 10, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
	4:00 p.m., Session Meet
September 16, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
September 17, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
	<i>September Birthday Celebration</i>
September 19, Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Finance Team Meeting
September 20, Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Property Team Meeting
September 24, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
September 30	2:00 p.m., Women's Summer Social Life Center Meal

October

October 1, Sunday	8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
October 7, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
October 8, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
	4:00 p.m., Session Meet
October 13 and 14	9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Church Mouse
October 15, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
	<i>October Birthday Celebration</i>
	November/December Viewpoints Deadline
October 21, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Women's Group Meet in the Library
	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
October 22, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
October 29, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service

Dates to Remember

November 7, Election Day

November 19, Ecclesiastical Meeting

