

Welcome 2021!

How I, like many, have longed to say those words. To put 2020 behind us and begin again. 2020 was a partially a whirlwind of change, disappointment and confusion. But that's not all. As people whose hope comes from Jesus, who came down to us in human form to live among us and show us how to love and to live. As people who know the rest of the story--- Jesus is the light of the world, bringing grace upon grace. Jesus came to redeem us ---so that we might have abundant life. Emmanuel, God IS with us, even in 2020!

In and through the newborn King, 2020 is transformed into a year of blessing and Epiphanies. I've learned much from 2020, how about you? I've learned more about my personality type, and did some self-work with a therapist this year to increase my resilience and self-awareness. I learned to let things go and that it is not all about me...it is about God's working through me and acting out of love of neighbor and for the common good. I can even refrain from hugging, or being physically close to someone and still connect and hold them in care over a phone call or zoom. Take some time to reflect ----what God has revealed to you about yourself this year?

God has also revealed much about our society and community. Like---slowing down wasn't all that bad---families and couples had more time together. Our elders and the vulnerable truly are important to society (enough for us to wear masks in public). Members of CTK care for and reach out to one another in both old and creative ways. CTK has adapted through a strong on-line worship presence, enabling the vulnerable and the outsiders to feel welcome to worship. What has God revealed to you about your neighbors and your CTK community?

Lastly, God has revealed that God is ever-present and faithful. Dear ones, it was 2020 when you called me to CTK as your new pastor and invited me into your loving, gifted, and connected community. I am so very blessed!!!! Thank you for the way you opened your arms to me and support our ministry together. I look forward to our sharing the good news of Jesus together in 2021! As God's Spirit strengthens us and gives us hope that 2021 will be blessed, too!