



The Kings' Herald

Christ the King Lutheran Church Universal City, Texas

**FEBRUARY
2023**



NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

We will be holding an orientation session on Sunday, February 19th at 10:30 am for anyone interested in becoming a member of Christ the King or even just getting more information. We will then receive anyone wishing to join on Sunday, March 12th, during worship. If you are interested in attending this class, please call the church office by February 17th. If you know someone who may be interested, please pass this information along.

ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 22ND

Ash Wednesday begins our 40 day experience of Lent, which leads us to Holy Week and Easter. Marking our foreheads with ash is a way of remembering the cross that was traced there at our baptism while also acknowledging our own inevitable death and return to the earth.

- Ashes to Go (drive thru) will be distributed in the parking lot from 12 – 1pm.
- Worship with ash distribution and communion will be at 7pm, in the sanctuary and live streamed.

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP WITH FELLOWSHIP MEAL

We will once again be offering mid-week worship services during Lent and a meal beforehand. Take some time in the middle of your busy week to slow down and attend to your spiritual well-being in this season of reflection. We will have meals beginning at 5:30 p.m. offered by different church groups.

After the meal, come to the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. to worship. During worship, we will be exploring the land of Narnia as presented by C.S. Lewis in "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe". For over 70 years, C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia* have delighted millions of readers all over the world. People love the magical land of Narnia and the lion Aslan, the Christ-figure in the story. Rowan Williams (Former Archbishop of Canterbury) says, "these are stories which try to get us to think anew about the Christian faith – by reimagining the whole story in a different world, a completely different framework. They help us re-discover the richness of our Christian faith as if hearing it for the first time." Each week, we will explore some element in the story that will also help us understand the love God has given us in Jesus.



MOVIE - "THE LION, THE WITCH & THE WARDROBE"

Join us for two opportunities to watch the movie which our mid-week worship will be focused on. For those who are unfamiliar with "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" (and even those who love it dearly), you may want to watch the movie before Lent - although it is NOT necessary in order to still have a worshipful experience on Wednesdays.

Sunday, February 19th - approximately 11:30am (after the New Member's Orientation)

Tuesday, February 21st, 6pm (we'll have a Fat Tuesday party)

It is also available on Disney+ if you have access to that streaming service and want to watch it on your own. FYI, the movie is 2 hours 23 minutes long.

For those who like to read, you may want to read the book, as well as watch the movie.



A friend of mine was facing a snowstorm awhile back that would force them to stay inside for a couple days. She posted a story from author, Elena Bernabe on her Facebook page and stated, "This puts into words beautifully why a couple snow days are not a bad thing but a gift for our souls."

Unnamed story by Elena Bernabe

"Grandma, I'm tired. So tired of this life..."

"Take your tiredness, my child, and wrap it around yourself. Like a blanket in the cold winter months. Tiredness comes to make you a nest, to bring you to wear comfortable clothes, to make you sink into its warm embrace. I invite you to stay within yourself. Without strength, without thoughts, without actions. Like the snow that covers everything to soften the world, to make it muffled, to protect it from noise. Accept the flakes of your tiredness and let yourself be completely covered by them."

"I could die buried under there..."

"You will be reborn instead. Like the seed in the ground. Do not resist your weariness, do not reject it with a thousand actions, a thousand intentions, a thousand feelings of guilt. It just wants to take you by the hand and lead you to sink into the void. Right there, where the source of every inner strength lies. They taught us to be strong by resisting. But it is in surrendering that the true heroes emerge."

"I'm afraid, grandmother. What if fatigue will annihilate me?"

"My child, you are not afraid of tiredness but of losing control of yourself. The time has come for you to give yourself to life. And to generate together with it the most wonderful children: the fruits of your soul!"

I continue to hear from people who are exhausted by all the tasks on their to do lists and events in their schedules. We CANNOT continue to burn the candle at both ends and push to continually DO more and more, without ramifications. God created us in a way that requires rest and renewal. This rest helps us to be at our best - physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

God created winter as a time for all of creation to rest – just like the story from Elena Bernabe points out. We have had some beautiful weather this last week, but we're heading into the time of year that typically offers our coldest temperatures. So, how do you wrap yourself in a warm blanket of comfort to reclaim a sense of your "self"? Since we don't have "snow days" like more northern climates, what "forces" you to take some time to restoke the creative fires within you? How can you take some time away from your regular schedule and activity to find some opportunities to propagate the "fruits of your soul"?

John 12:24 says, "unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." What tasks and activities might need to "die" in order for something better or more fruitful to be produced?

Remember, you have permission to take care of yourself!

Shalom y'all,
Pastor Mike

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

As in years past, we will be providing devotional options to help guide you through the season. All devotionals will be on the credenza in the church lobby/narthex or in the magazine rack by the mailboxes.

Confirmation Workshop will meet on February 26 from 11:30—2:30. We will be discussing “Why am I a Lutheran?” Be there and remember to bring a lunch.



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY



Join us for a Paint night February 10 from 6—9 pm. Cost is \$10 a person to cover supplies. This is open to everyone who is interested. Bring your friends!!



On February 12, we will be celebrating Scout Sunday. If you are in Boy Scouts or in Girl Scouts, we invite you to wear your uniform to church that Sunday.

Youth Preschool—4th Grade will have an afternoon of games and Valentine’s fun on February 12 from 11:30—2:00. We will have sandwiches and veggies and fruit.



February 17—19, High School Youth will be attending High School Retreat at Camp Chrysalis. We will leave after school and travel to Chrysalis where we will spend the weekend learning, serving and playing. If you have any questions, please talk to Mariesa.

Glow Summer Ministries

Art Camp (4th—9th grade)

June 12 thru June 16, 10 am—3pm Cost is \$30

Glow VBS (Preschool—5th grade)

July 9—July 13, 5:30—8:00

Art Camp (Preschool— 5th grade)

July 17—21, 8:00—Noon Cost is \$30

Family Art Camp

July 31—August 4, 5:30—7:30 PM

Cost is \$5 a person per day.



FLOWER PRICE INCREASE

The Worship Committee has been informed of a price increase for altar flowers. Karen's House of Flowers will increase prices by \$5.00 effective February 1st. The new cost per vase is \$25.00 (\$50.00 for both). Please be assured that Karen's House of Flowers has made every effort to keep this increase to a minimum. This is still the best price and option for altar flowers.



AARP TAX PREPARATION

AARP will again provide free tax preparation services here at Christ the King. The service will be provided on Wednesdays, beginning February 1st and continue until April 12th. Time is 9:00 am until 2:00 pm, by appointment only. Appointments must be made online by going to <https://aarp.info/TaxAideLocator>. If you know someone that needs this service, please let them know that appointments are required and they must make the appointment online. Appointments will not be scheduled by phone.

VIA DE CRISTO REUNION GROUP

Via de Cristo Reunion Groups are small groups of men or women who meet regularly to study, pray, share, and help one another in their quest for spiritual development. Participating in a reunion group plays an important part in the fourth-day walk with Christ. A Reunion Group meets regularly at Christ the King for such strengthening and building one another up. The group meets on the third Thursday at CTK for bible study and will meet on the fourth Thursday at a local restaurant for a social gathering. If you have attended a Via de Cristo, Walk to Emmaus, or ACTS Retreat and would like to join this fourth-day Reunion Group, see Dinah Ryson or Dawn Young for more details.



FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The next Fellowship Breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 19th after the 9:15 am worship service. Everyone is invited to stay for good food and good fellowship.

BUNCO NIGHT!

The **Bunco Group** will meet February 20th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you have never played Bunco, it is not hard to learn. Counting is the most complicated skill needed. Bring a snack to share and your own beverage.



CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES

Last call for updates! Dawn is planning to print an updated church directory. If you have recent changes to your address, email, or phone numbers, please let her know as soon as possible by calling the church office at 210-658-2254 or emailing her at ctkadm@ctk-uc.org. **The new print date is mid-February.** There's still time to get your correct contact information to her. On February 5th and 12th, a copy will also be available on the credenza in the Narthex for you to check your information and leave corrections.

MUSICAL NOTES

The rehearsal schedule for February is listed below. If you have questions about choir, hand bells, or the worship band, see Sally Walters.

Rehearsal Schedule: Wednesdays

February 1, 8 and 15
Handbells at 5:15 pm
Choir at 7:00 pm

February 22 (Ash Wednesday)
Handbells at 5:15
No choir rehearsal

Thursdays

February 2, 9, 16, 23
Worship Band at 7:00 pm



40 CANS FOR LENT

The Shepherding Committee is sponsoring the 40 Cans for Lent, which represents the 40 days and nights that Christ spent in the desert without food or water. We will start collecting cans and non-perishable items starting on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, and will continue the collection through Easter Sunday, April 9th. The 40 cans and non-perishable items will help support RACAP. When you are at HEB, Walmart, Sam's, Costco, or at the commissary, add a can of beans, tuna, canned vegetables, or other non-perishable items to your basket for RACAP. Also, don't forget our 4 legged friends - dog and cat food (wet or dry) is also appreciated. If you want to buy one item for each day in Lent, please do, but any amount will help. Please bring what you can. Thank you!

FLOCKNOTE

A few years ago, CTK adopted a new and improved communication method that makes getting the information you want from us much simpler. Many of you are already a part of this. **Flocknote** is free to use; you don't have to download anything or create a password to participate. You just take a few minutes to sign up, and it lets you receive email or text messages from the groups and ministries you choose. It even allows you to reply directly to those messages so we can get feedback and efficiently hear from you. Your info is kept private; again, it lets you choose precisely which groups and ministries you want to get email and text messages from here at CTK.

If you are not already using Flocknote at CTK, **text CTKHELLO to 84576 to sign up.**

Once you send that in, Flocknote will text you a confirmation message AND another message with a link you'll need to complete the process. If you can't complete this on your mobile phone, please go online to christthekinglutheran.flocknote.com. If you are having trouble, please talk to Mariesa Robbins, Pastor Mike or Katherine Barden. We'd be happy to help!



ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Adult faith formation is just as important as when we were children. **These are open to everyone! So come join the discussion of your choice and bring a friend!**



SUNDAY MORNING OPTIONS - 10:30AM (for all groups)

Sacred Listening

Incline your ear and come to me; listen so that you may live. Isaiah 55:3

"Currently, a primary weakness in the body of Christ is a lack of spiritual formation that equips people to hear, reflect, discern, and respond." This is a quote from the book, *Incline Your Ear-Cultivating Spiritual Awakening in Congregations* by Chad R. Abbott and Teresa Blythe. This resource describes numerous spiritual practices some of which we began introducing in January. Come, listen, and reflect with us.

Ladies Bible Study

All women are invited to join us for Bible study and discussion on Sundays in the Peace Room (aka The Freezer Room). Bible Study resumes for the new year on Sunday, January 8th and the group is continuing its discussion on Max Lucado's book, "How Happiness Happens". Contact Carmen Hawkins with questions.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday morning with Pastor Mike

We will continue our study of Isaiah until finished (hopefully right before Lent). Then we will begin something that ties in with our Lenten theme for mid-week worship services.

So bring your Bible and join the discussion. We meet in person in the Disciples' room and offer the online Zoom option as well. If you would like the Zoom link, please contact Pastor Mike. **Everyone is welcome** to join us and enjoy the lively conversations. **We will NOT meet on February 8th!** And **we will NOT meet on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22nd** (due to the noontime drive through ash distribution).

Thursday Evening Bible Study by Zoom with Thomas

Thomas Hawkins leads a Bible Study every Thursday at 6:15 pm. Bible Study resumes on January 5th. The current study is looking at popular, well-known hymns and the stories behind them. If you are interested, please reach out to Thomas Hawkins at thomashawkins2003@yahoo.com or (512) 797-2752 for more details. **All are welcome!**

You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

Deuteronomy 11:18-21

It's a new year and a new leadership team has been installed to begin 2023! The Women of the ELCA met on January 23rd and adopted a budget (\$10,858.58) that will be used for various ministries in the church, the society and the world! The women's group is always looking for new challenges. If you have ideas for fundraisers or events, come to the next meeting on April 24 at 6:45 pm in the Peace Room in the fellowship hall.

Cheers to 2023! From your WELCA leadership team—Cindy Bonaccorsi, Kathy Hanley, Lisa Lopez, and Margaret Vogt.

Upcoming events:

- March 5th **Bold Women's Day**—observed the first Sunday of March— celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers. Other women are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out our baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ.
- April 22nd Cibolo Creek Conference Event, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Canyon Lake, Texas. Theme: God is our Potter. Guest Speaker: Rachel Norris, a potter from Bryan, Texas who will make a pottery item as she gives her testimony. Worship Leader: Rev. Judi Miller. Registration Fee: \$20 in advance, \$25 day of the event. Breakfast at 8:30 am and closing at 2:30 pm.
- May 7th Rachel's Day. What is Rachel's Day. The original focus and still is shining a light on gun violence against children.

LIVING LUTHERAN

Living Lutheran is the official publication of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is your source for news, reflections and stories from the ELCA and its local and global companions. It covers religious news and social issues, congregational life, global and domestic mission, family matters, spiritual practices and resources, and lots more. Copies are available in the Narthex. Pick one up today!

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2023 are available in your church mailbox. They can be picked up any time during office hours, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm, or on Wednesday from 9:00 am until noon.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Articles for the March 2023 Newsletter are due

NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 20th

and may be sent to ctkadm@CTK-UC.ORG or brought to the church office.

MEDIA PERSONNEL FOR LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES	Media / Sound Person
Ash Wednesday, February 22; 7:00 pm	Chloe Kriegel
Wednesday, March 1; 6:30 pm	Avre Boos
Wednesday, March 8; 6:30 pm	Thomas Hawkins
Wednesday, March 15; 6:30 pm	Chloe Kriegel
Wednesday, March 22; 6:30 pm	Avre Boos
Wednesday, March 29; 6:30 pm	Thomas Hawkins
Maundy Thursday, April 6; 7:00 pm	Chloe Kriegel
Good Friday, April 7; 7:00 pm	Chloe Kriegel

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR FEBRUARY 2023

DATE	LITURGIST	READER	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	USHERS	OFFERING COUNTERS
Feb 5	Carmen Hawkins	Susan Abbey	Susan Abbey Sissie Mirhashemi	Dale & Patsy Meyers	Susan Abbey Lisa Lopez
Feb 12	Carmen Hawkins	Cindy Patterson	Barbara Kovacich Kathy Staley	Don & Margaret Vogt	Leona Hietala Kathy Staley
Feb 19	Joyce Lucas	Margaret Vogt	Al Boos Bruce Lemire	Leonard Geyer Tim Walters	Joy Brown Dinah Ryson
Feb 26	Al Boos, IV	Susan Abbey	Susan Abbey Sissie Mirhashemi	Don & Margaret Vogt	Glen Anderson Jill Schulz

NEW CHURCH EMAIL
ctkadm@ctk-uc.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Richard Cabacungan	1	Merikay Comptom	10	Kaysen Mattison	22
Doug McCort	1	Hector Alvarado	14	Dale Meyers	24
Erika Robeson	1	Brian Donlea	15	Tim Walters	24
Gwendolyn Agrella	3	William Hale	17	Glen Anderson	25
Julie Faulkner	4	Pat Ramirez	17	Maggie Boos	25
Jared Rode	4	Violet Widner	17	Jonny Brown	26
Rob Cooper	5	Dale Barden	18	Olivia Lopez	26
Ann Krahn	5	Richard Grooms	18	Bruce Lemire	27
Joshua Faulkner-Ayers	7	Evelyn Lewis	18	Cindy Patterson	27
Avery Luebbers	9	Patricia Raybin	18	Cheryl Bequette	28

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



Paul & Peggy Hines

3

Grant & Amy Lopez

20

COMMUNION KITS ON THE ALTAR

You may have noticed that there are some portable communion kits and the individual serving packs on the altar during worship. As part of worship, they are being blessed and therefore are ready to be taken out to those who may not be able to make it to church for worship. Please feel free to take one of these to someone who would like to receive communion as well as have a visit with you. Please write down your name and who you are going to visit on the list by the kits, so we can know who has received communion and who may not be getting it. If you take one of the kits, please keep the vial of wine in the refrigerator. (This is not necessary for the individual serving packs.) Once you have visited whomever you intended, please return the kit to worship on Sunday or the church office during the week. Thank you!

ATTENTION ALL WHO WANT TO HELP WITH WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship volunteers are always needed. Do you enjoy speaking in front of an audience? Liturgists and readers do just exactly that. Do you like to meet and greet? Ushers are needed every Sunday to meet folks as they arrive, distribute bulletins, collect the offering and direct traffic during communion. Think you would like to help with setting up communion and taking care of other worship aspects in the sanctuary? Then maybe altar guild is for you! If you have questions, need more information, or want to sign up, just find Joyce Lucas, Katharine Barden or Pastor Mike and they will be happy to help you.

FEBRUARY 2023

Boy Scouts—Bldg 2
 Girl Scouts-Bldg 3
 Phoenix NA—Bldg 3
 Hermann Sons Life—Bldg 2
 DAV / DAVA—Bldg 3

Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
 Band Practice—Sanctuary
 Bell Practice—Disciples Room
 Adult Bible Study—Disciples Room

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:15am Worship (GREEN) 10:30am Congregational Meeting in Sanctuary and by Zoom 10:30am Faith Formation 8:00pm Phoenix NA	30 <i>Pastor's/Mariesa's Day Off</i>	31	1 9:00am AARP Income Tax Preparation 10:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:15pm Girl Scouts, Bldg 3 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Bldg 2 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	2 6:15pm Bible Study/Zoom 7:00pm Bold Cafe Dinner WELCA 7:00pm Hermann Sons Life 7:00pm Worship Band	3	4
5 9:15am Worship (GREEN) 10:30am Faith Formation 8:00pm Phoenix NA	6 <i>Pastor's/Mariesa's Day Off</i> 6:00pm Book Club	7 Pastor Mike - Deanery Retreat 6:00pm 60th Anniv. Planning Committee, Disciples Room	8 Pastor Mike - Deanery Retreat 9:00am AARP Income Tax Preparation 10:30am Bible Study 1:00pm LWR Quilting, # 3 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:15pm Girl Scouts, Bldg 3 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Bldg 2 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9 Pastor Mike - Deanery Retreat 6:15pm Bible Study/Zoom 7:00pm DAV/DAVA 7:00pm Worship Band	10	11
12 SCOUT SUNDAY 9:15am Worship (GREEN) 10:30am Faith Formation 8:00pm Phoenix NA	13 <i>Pastor's/Mariesa's Day Off</i>	14 Valentine's Day 6:30pm Worship Committee by Zoom	15 7:30am Men's Group 9:00am AARP Income Tax Preparation 10:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:15pm Girl Scouts, Bldg 3 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Bldg 2 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	16 5:30pm Via de Cristo Reunion Group Bible Study 6:15pm Bible Study/Zoom 7:00pm Worship Band	17 High School Retreat at Chrysalis	18 High School Retreat at Chrysalis
19 High School Retreat at Chrysalis 9:15am Worship (WHITE) Transfiguration Sunday 10:30am Faith Formation 8:00pm Phoenix NA	20 <i>Pastor's/Mariesa's Day Off</i> Presidents' Day 6:45pm Buncol	21	22 Ash Wednesday 9:00am AARP Income Tax Preparation 12:00pm Distribution of Ashes 1:00pm LWR Quilting, # 3 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:15pm Girl Scouts, Bldg 3 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Bldg 2	23 5:30pm Via de Cristo Fellowship 6:15pm Bible Study/Zoom 7:00pm Worship Band	24	25
26 9:15am Worship (Lent 1/PURPLE) 10:30am Faith Formation 11:30am Confirmation Workshop 8:00pm Phoenix NA	27 <i>Pastor's/Mariesa's Day Off</i>	28 6:30pm Council	1 9:00am AARP Income Tax Preparation 10:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:15pm Girl Scouts, Bldg 3 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Bldg 2 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	2 6:15pm Bible Study/Zoom 7:00pm Bold Cafe Dinner WELCA 7:00pm Hermann Sons Life 7:00pm Worship Band	3 World Day of Prayer	4

Christ the King Lutheran Church
 1129 Pat Booker Road
 Universal City, TX 78148

(210) 658-2254
 Office email: ctkadm@ctk-uc.org
 www.ctk-uc.org

DATED MATERIAL
 PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

Staff, Church Council and Ministry Team Leaders

Staff

Pastor..... Rev. Mike Widner
 Director of Youth Ministries /
 Parish Administrator..... Mariesa Robbins
 Administrative Assistant.....Dawn Young
 Pianist/Choir Accompanist Vanessa Jackson
 Choir & Worship Band Director Sally Walters
 Nursery.....Rachel Ball
 Custodians.....Reinaldo & Irene Diaz
 Bookkeeper.....Suzanne Schroeder
 Financial Secretary Leona Hietala
 Treasurer Dale Meyers
 Media Team.....Avre Boos & Chloe Kriegel

Church Council

President.....Rich Patterson
 Vice President/Mutual Ministry.....Dinah Ryson
 Secretary
 Education/Faith Formattion.....Elizabeth Key
 Fellowship.....Jamie Dunevant
 Finance..... Tyler Wilburn
 Property, Building, & Grounds..... Edward Sauseda
 ShepherdingSissie Mirhashemi
 Worship..... Katharine Barden

Ministry Team Leaders

Education / Faith Formation Ministries

Sunday School.....Sheri Boos & Cindy Patterson
 Wednesday Bible Study.....Pastor Mike
 Thursday Bible Study..... Thomas Hawkins
 Via de Cristo Reunion Group Dinah Ryson
 Ladies Bible Study Carmen Hawkins
 Sacred Listening.....Joyce Lucas

All Other Ministries

Men's Group.....Don Vogt
 Women of the ELCA.....Cindy Bonaccorsi
 LWR Kits/Quilts.....Erika Robeson
 Prayer Shawls.....Kathy Hanley
 Bereavement Barbara Kovacich

Mission Endowment FundJohan Rakotoniaina

Fellowship Ministries

Bunco Lisa Lopez
 Dominoes Leona Hietala
 Friday Night Fellowship.....
 Second Sunday Breakfast.....