



CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH *THE KING'S HERALD* AUGUST 2026



END OF SUMMER / RALLY DAY PICNIC

It was such a great success last year that we wanted to do it again! We will celebrate the end of summer (summer vacation that is – we all know the season will continue for a while) and have a Rally Day kickoff of Sunday School with a picnic in the park. It will offer us a chance to have fun together and enjoy our wonderful community before the hustle and bustle of the school year begins.

We will kickoff the Sunday School year with an activity in the pavilion and then serve lunch. Drinks, hamburgers, hotdogs and popsicles will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We have reserved the large pavilion with picnic tables, but feel free to bring your own comfy chairs, if you like. Kids (and adults) can play in the splash pad to help cool off. Contact Susan Abbey, Jamie Dunevant or Lisa Lopez with questions.

Date: Sunday, August 2nd
Location: Northview Park Pavilion C
Time: Anytime after church (lunch will be served closer to 11:15/11:30)

DEADLINE FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES IS HERE!

Deadline for school supplies for our backpack distribution is Sunday, August 2nd. There is a tub in the Narthex to collect supplies. Are you interested in helping sort supplies? We will sort and fill backpacks on Saturday, August 8th at 1:00 pm. Would you like to help deliver supplies into the hands of families? We will distribute the backpacks on Sunday, August 9th after worship. Above all, thank you for assisting in this ministry.

Items needed are: *glue sticks, crayons, glue, washable markers, scissors, watercolor paints, dry erase markers, pencil pouches, pink erasers, pencil top erasers, composition books, pencils, plastic supply box, colored pencils, 1" binders, pencil sharpener, highlighters, clipboard, wide ruled notebook paper, spiral notebook, 12" ruler with centimeters, scotch tape and backpacks.*

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS, TEACHERS & STUDENTS

On August 9th, we will offer a blessing for all students, teachers and faculty as they return to school. As part of this, we will also have a blessing of backpacks, tote bags, briefcases, lunch boxes, or whatever you'd like to bring. We will also offer a blessing for the backpacks and supplies being handed out to the community after worship. This is not just for those going to school! Everyone can bring an item that represents their work for the blessing.

BIBLE PRESENTATION & MILESTONE

During worship on August 9th, we will present bibles to many of our youth who are at meaningful moments – Kindergarten, 3rd grade and 7th grade. If your child is entering these grades, please call the church office to verify your attendance. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Mike.

As part of this milestone moment, we will celebrate with the 3rd & 7th grade students (and a family member) to help them learn how to use their new bibles and explore the treasures found in God's Word. This class will be on August 16th at 11:30am in the Disciples Room.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

We will be holding a New Member Class on Sunday, August 23rd at 11:30am (after Feast & Fellowship) for anyone interested in getting more information about Christ the King. We will then receive anyone wishing to join on Sunday, August 30th, during worship. If you are interested in attending this class, please call the church office at 210-658-2254 or if you know someone who may be interested, please pass this information along.

NURSERY SUBSTITUTES

We are incredibly blessed to have Miss Rachel as our nursery attendant and she is very faithful in being here most Sundays. However, there are times when she has other obligations and can't make it. And so, we would like to formulate a list of people who are willing to serve as a substitute in the nursery during worship on those rare occasions when Rachel can't be here (for which we are notified in advance). As an FYI (and one of the reasons we are trying to have a list compiled), for the safety of our children, we prefer to have completed background checks on everyone who spends time with them in a leadership capacity. If you are willing to help out in this way, please contact Joanne Benson or Pastor Mike. Thank you!

CTK TRAVELERS

By Kathy Hanley

How about traveling next year to "Spotlight on South Dakota" (September 15-21, 2027)? I have information (brochures) on the credenza in the Narthex for the trip. I would like you to have the information before the meeting so that you can familiarize yourself with the coming trip. There are seven exciting locations on this tour. A Collette representative (Michael) will be coming to discuss details about the trip **on September 10, 2026, at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**. There will be drinks and snacks provided. Please mark your calendar for the above meeting. If you have questions, contact Kathy Hanley.

CTK BOOK CLUB

Submitted by Patsy Meyers

The CTK Book Club will meet on Monday, August 3 at 6 PM at the American Legion, Post 667 in Universal City. We will be discussing *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick, chosen by Jan Dunevant and Kim Ruder. Our book for September is *The River Is Waiting* by Wally Lamb, chosen by Sheri Boos.



DAY CAMP

Day Camp 2026 was a success. If you attended the closing worship, you were a witness to the connections our campers made with each other and their Savior. The partnership with Cross Trails Ministry enabled Christ the King Lutheran Church to serve 25 children. The focus of the week was on the Lord's Prayer. Campers explored scripture through music, art, Bible study, puppets, nature studies, games, and community building. Just a few thank yous:

- ♥ Thank you members for donating food, cash, and gift cards.
- ♥ Thank you to Maggie Boos for organizing the entire week!
- ♥ Thank you to Pearl Sauseda, Barbara Kovacich, Kathy Staley, Sally Walters, and Sheri Boos for spending the week at camp.
- ♥ Thank you to Leona Hietala for helping serve food.
- ♥ Thank you to Ray and Julie Trent for providing housing for our staff.
- ♥ Thank you to Mary Petermeier, Kathy Staley, Barbara Kovacich, Luis and Tina San Ramon, and Jonny and Joy Brown for providing evening meals for our Cross Trails ministry team.
- ♥ Thank you to Shelby, Daniella, and Isabella for being amazing high school support volunteers for our campers.
- ♥ Thank you CTK members for attending the closing worship on Friday and for providing food for the campers and staff.
- ♥ Thank you to Pearl Sauseda for unclogging toilets and a bunch of other maintenance!
- ♥ Food statistics: 12 pizzas devoured, 72 sandwiches eaten, 25 pounds of chicken strips consumed, 10 pounds of carrots, 12 cucumbers, 8 bottles of ranch, and unlimited donuts! (Just to list a few.)



WOMEN'S RETREAT

"I Am the Vine; You are the Branches"

October 9 - 11, 2026, Camp Chrysalis, Kerrville



Registration closes on August 16th! The event begins on Friday, October 9th at 5:00 pm. The registration fee covers all meals and programming. The event ends on Sunday, October 11th after brunch and worship. This year's registration fee is \$200.00. Please know you can break this up as needed. All we ask is that you bring the final payment to the retreat on Friday, October 9th. We also ask that the **first \$100 be paid by August 16th, 2026** to hold your spot as we must report our final numbers to camp. If there are special needs, please let us know. If you would like to attend on Saturday only, let us know and we can get you a price. We look forward to having you and remember, friends are welcome!

Use the link to register by August 16. If the link is not working, please reach out to Sheri Boos.

NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY

Dear Church Family: It's time for a new pictorial directory and it won't be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album. Everyone who is photographed by Universal Church Directories will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory. You'll have an opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends.



To schedule your photography appointment online, Monday through Friday only, simply go to www.ucdir.com. Click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter tx912 in the Church Code field and enter Luther in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time. If you have any questions, please contact Luis San Román.

YOU'RE INVITED to a BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Jody & Mariesa Robbins invite the congregation to a birthday party to celebrate Mariesa's 50th birthday on Saturday, August 22nd from 1:00 – 4:00 pm in the CTK fellowship hall. This birthday is a reason to gather with friends, share food, and memories. Jody and Mariesa are providing meat for the meal and those attending are asked to bring a side dish to share. Face painting, a photo booth and more fun activities are being planned. Jody and Mariesa cordially invite everyone to share this special milestone birthday and celebrate with them.

LOOKING AHEAD: BUILDING ON OUR STRENGTHS

By Jamie Dunevant, Church Council President

This spring thanks to one of our members, we had the opportunity to partner with a business professor and senior business students from the University of the Incarnate Word (UIW) as part of their Capstone Project. As the students' clients they met with members of our council and answered questions regarding our future. In turn, the students provided recommendations to help us continue growing in faithful and sustainable ways.

The students recognized many of the strengths that make Christ the King such a special place. They noted our welcoming congregation, dedicated volunteers, meaningful outreach ministries, strong sense of community, and our commitment to living out our mission, "Serving God by Loving Others." These strengths provide a solid foundation for our future.

The team also identified opportunities for growth. Their recommendations included strengthening our digital presence so more people can discover Christ the King online, improving communication with members and visitors, organizing financial information to pursue grant opportunities, and exploring new technology to better support ministry and administration.

Perhaps the greatest affirmation from the project was that Christ the King is a healthy and caring congregation with tremendous potential. Rather than suggesting major changes, the students encouraged us to build upon what we already do well while embracing practical tools that can help us reach more people and sustain our ministries for years to come.

The Church Council is already hard at work reviewing these recommendations as part of our ongoing strategic planning. Not every suggestion will be implemented, but the report provides thoughtful ideas as we continue discerning how God is calling Christ the King to serve our congregation and our community.

We are grateful to the faculty and students at the University of the Incarnate Word for their time, expertise, and partnership. Together, they have helped us envision new ways to share Christ's love and strengthen our ministry for the future.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Articles for the September 2026 Newsletter are due no later than is **Thursday, August 20th**. You may send your articles to ctkadm@ctk-uc.org or bring them by the church office.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Lisa Lopez, Leadership Team

Mark your calendars!

August 24, 2026, 6:00 pm - Annual Salad Supper and Business Meeting

Plan to bring a salad and we will share food and fellowship before our quarterly business meeting. Our guest speaker is Dave Pirtle, president of the Manna House Malawi board of directors. Come learn about Manna House Malawi. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world. Learn how Manna House Malawi supports orphans on a daily basis by providing nutritional meals, basic health care, school uniforms and school supplies. Following Dave's presentation we will conduct our quarterly business meeting.

October 9-11th - Women's Retreat at Camp Chrysalis (see page 4 for more information)

October - 16-18th - Southwestern Texas WELCA Synodical Convention at Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children

Join us at Sunshine Cottage as we gather with women from our Synod to learn, worship, experience the love of Christ and conduct the business of our Synodical Board. We have scholarships available to attend! Break out sessions include; a Sound Bath, Women's Financial Health and Giving, Project Radical Hospitality, SUMUD and more. Saturday evening we will have a banquet and dance with music from the decades. A good time is waiting for you! Please see Susan Abbey, Cindy Bonaccorsi, Dinah Halopka Ryson or Lisa Lopez.

Exciting News! We are honored to announce the establishment of the Helen Widner Memorial Educational Scholarship Fund! This fund was created to celebrate a life of faith, service, and generosity while investing in the future of women at Christ the King. The scholarships will provide financial assistance to women in our congregation pursuing educational opportunities or professional training. Recipients will be encouraged to grow in knowledge, develop their gifts and make a positive impact in our community. Application forms will be available soon! Donations to support the Educational Fund can be made to CTK WELCA, attention Scholarship Fund.

THANK YOU:

- ♥ Edward Sauseda for trimming trees and cleaning up the playground area and all the many other things he does without anyone knowing.
- ♥ Kathy Staley for ushering at a non-member funeral held here at Ctk.

From Jill Schulz: I'd like to thank my church family for your thoughts and prayers prior to my surgery. The cards and texts during my recovery were also much appreciated. I want to thank WELCA for my beautiful prayer shawl. It brought me comfort and peace every day.

RACAP NEWS ***(Randolph Area Christian Assistance Program)***

Current Needs: Cereal, Pasta, Jell-O Mix, Spaghetti Sauce, Muffin Mix



RACAP will continue to collect school supplies until 31 August.

Numbers for Randolph Area Christian Assistance Program assistance to families in need: 87 clients, 253 people, 78 pantry orders prepared, 221 people fed, 30 rent pledges, 32 utility pledges, 40 new clients, 47 repeat clients, \$4,611.08 paid in rent pledges, \$5,0101.71 paid in utility pledges, \$18,020.00 value of groceries distributed.

BACKPACKS FOR WILDER INTERMEDIATE

It's just about time for school to get back into full swing, and that means we'll be preparing backpacks of food each week Wilder Intermediate. Food items needed are cans of tuna, mac and cheese, individual snacks (cookies, crackers, etc.), and Pop Tarts. If you have any questions about this ministry, see Cindy Bonaccorsi or Kathy Hanley.



KINDNESS CUPBOARD

By Joyce Lucas

I was truly overwhelmed and deeply grateful for—the many responses to my request for volunteers to substitute for our regular KC stockers while they were on vacation.

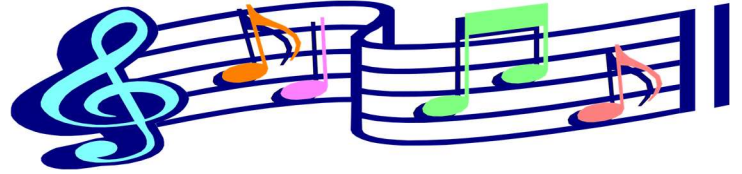
A heartfelt thank you to Paige Heineman, Luis San Roman, Louise Cruz, and the Johann Rakotoniaina family, who immediately stepped forward and graciously covered the days that were needed. Your willingness to help is greatly appreciated and is a wonderful example of our caring community.

Many people enjoy the convenience of shopping online, and we've made it even easier to support the KC while doing so. We have created an Amazon Wish List with items that are needed for the KC. If you would like to help, simply click the link below to view the wish list and purchase any items you wish to donate:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2OW2V7IXW03SE?ref_=wl_share

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Kindness Cupboard!

Musical Notes



CHOIR AND WORSHIP BAND NEWS

Sally Walters, Choir and Worship Band Director

Music ministry opportunities abound here! Whether you fancy the Choir, Handbells, our Worship Band, or all 3, there is a place for your voice to join with others. Best of all? We have no auditions, no high-pressure performances, and no perfect attendance requirements.

As Psalm 146 says: "Hallelujah! O my soul, praise God! All my life long I'll praise God, singing songs to my God as long as I live".

We invite you to embrace the joy of music on your spiritual journey—whether you're singing out loud, playing an instrument, or simply soaking in the melodious sounds that speak to your heart.

Get Involved:

- ♪ Worship Band Rehearsals: Join us every Thursday in August at 5:00 PM in the sanctuary. We always love welcoming new players and singers to the mix!
- ♪ The band will be sharing music during the service on August 16th.
- ♪ While we are still finalizing our choir dates, stay tuned! We will push out a Flocknote with the rehearsal schedule as soon as those details are set.

BELL CHOIR NEWS

Cindy Bonaccorsi, Bell Choir Director

Watch the newsletter and bulletin for more information on when bell choir rehearsals resume.

SUMMER HUMMERS

Vanessa Jackson, Pianist

🎵 **Summer Hummers** meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm.

Summer Hummers is a casual summer gathering for singing, fellowship, and making a joyful noise together. There are no performances — just a chance to sing songs you love with other folks who enjoy music. Summer Hummers will continue to meet on Wednesdays until choir rehearsals resume.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Susan Abbey, Fellowship Chair

LUTHERAN LUNCH BUNCH - We'll be journeying down Pat Booker Rd to 54th Street for lunch this month. Join us on Thursday, August 27th at 11:30 for great food and awesome fun. Please let Susan Abbey know if you'll be joining us as reservations for a large group are required.

BUNCO - We're excited to start a monthly Bunco group and would love for you to be part of the fun! To make each game night work smoothly, we need 12 regular players who can plan to join us each month. We completely understand that schedules change, and if you need to miss a night now and then, substitutes are welcome. If you're interested in sharing an evening of laughter, fellowship, and friendly competition each month, please let Susan Abbey or Lisa Lopez know. Also, please share which weeknight works best for you—almost any weeknight is possible. This event is for our adult members and friends.

FAMILY FRIENDLY GAME NIGHT – We'd love to keep Family Friendly Game Night going, but we want to plan it when it works best for our families. As school schedules fill up and weekends get busy, please let Susan Abbey know if your family would enjoy continuing this event and what day or time would be most convenient for you—a weeknight or Saturday, early evening or later. Your input will help us choose the best schedule and make game night something everyone can look forward to. For now, our next planned game night is Tuesday, August 25th at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite game or play one of ours! Tea and lemonade will be provided, and we invite you to bring a snack to share. We hope to see you there!

FAITH FORMATION

WEDNESDAY MORNING WITH PASTOR MIKE and JOANNE - 10:00AM

The Wednesday morning Bible study class has started watching Season 5 of "The Chosen" TV series. We meet at 10am to watch the episode and begin discussion afterward (approx. 10:45). You can join us each Wednesday morning in person in the Disciples Room or via Zoom. If you would like the Zoom link, please contact Pastor Mike or Joanne Benson. Bring your Bible and join the discussion. **Everyone is welcome** to join.

The
CHOSEN

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School classes start this month with the Kick-Off in the Park on August 2nd. During the month of August, classes will be held on August 9th, 16th, and 30th.

Classes will be as follows:

Pre-K through Kindergarten: Sheri Boos and Rachel Ball

1st grade through 4th grade: Jamie Dunevant and Lisa Lopez

5th grade through 8th grade: Pastor Mike and Maggie Boos

Lower grades will meet in the Sunday School rooms in Building # 3; 5th-8th will meet in Building # 3. An opening will take place every Sunday in the Fellowship Hall right after church. Classes are held from 10:45 am until 11:30 am.

WORSHIP AT THE ARMY RESIDENCE COMMUNITY

Chaplain Bruce and Teri Betker, ARC Residents

Lutheran Worship at the ARC will take place on Sunday, August 23rd at 4:00 pm in the Cheever Chapel/Friendship Room. Chaplain Bruce Betker will deliver a message based on Matthew 16:16. When Jesus asked, "Who do you say that I am?", Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God". If you are free, pop in to worship with this auxiliary community of CTK and visit with our members who are residents at the ARC. All are welcome!

FRIENDLY VISTORS/CARE MINISTRY ACTIVITY

Joyce Lucas

Friendly Visitors stay busy keeping in contact with our members who are sick, homebound, or unable to attend church regularly. In May, the following contacts were made:

Number of Cards/Letters Sent:	34
Number of Emails/Texts Sent:	16
Number of Phone Calls:	8
Number of Personal Visits:	14
Number Served Communion:	4



If you would like to become a part of this important ministry, contact Joyce Lucas.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF NEWS

Now that our local backpack program has wrapped up, it's time to support our neighbors far away with purchasing school supplies for those served through Lutheran World Relief.

The items needed for the LWR school kits are as follows:

- Crayons, box of 16 or 24 regular size
- New **unsharpened** #2 pencils with erasers (need 5 per kit)
- Pencil Sharpeners
- 2 1/2 inch erasers
- 30 centimeter ruler, may have inches on the other side
- **Blunt** scissors (No pointed scissors)
- 70 page spiral notebooks (need 4 per kit)
- Ball point pens, blue or black ink, no gel ink (need 5 per kit)

If you have any questions, contact LWR Coordinator Erika Robeson. Please place your donations in the LWR basket located in the narthex. Items will be collected until September 6th. THANK YOU!

Worship Leaders/Volunteers for August 2026

	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
Liturgist	Joyce Lucas	Lisa Lopez	OPEN	Rich Patterson	Joyce Lucas
Reader	Carol McClelland	Sheri Boos	Jill Schulz	Cindy Patterson	Dinah Ryson
Communion Assistants	Tabitha Alcala Leona Hietala	Leona Hietala Joyce Lucas	Joyce Lucas Dinah Ryson	Cathie Theis Jill Cooper	OPEN OPEN
Ushers	Patsy Meyers Dinah Ryson	Joy Brown OPEN	Ray & Julie Trent	Sissie Mirhashemi OPEN	Kathy Hanley OPEN
Media Slides	Lisa Lopez	Jill Schulz	Carol McClelland	Jill Schulz	Lisa Lopez
Acolyte	Jacob Alcala	Kyle Candaleria	Jacob Alcala	OPEN	OPEN
Children's Church	Carol McClelland	Lisa Lopez	Kathy Staley	Jamie Dunevant	Lisa Lopez
Safety Monitor	OPEN	Carol McClelland	OPEN	OPEN	James Benson
Offering Counters	Leona Hietala Kathy Staley	Joy Brown Dinah Ryson	Leonard Geyer Cindy Hatzel	Jill Schulz Glen Anderson	Susan Abbey Lisa Lopez

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Patsy Meyers	1
Connie Hunt	9
Michael Kraus	10
Thomas Kraus	10
Michael Roehrig	10
Barbara Kovacich	13
Barbara Meurin	13
Louise Cruz (80)	16
Bill Maddox	18
Mackenzie Alvarado	20
Myrna Gilbert	20
Enzo McClelland	22
Carol Bearce (80)	29
Alyssa Teteris	29
Robert Elkins (80)	30

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Joanne Bensonrs)	3
Larry & Marcia Zunker	22
Bill & Barbara Maddox	24
Edward & Pearl Sauseda	28
Rob & Jill Cooper	31



Christ the King Lutheran Church
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(210) 658-2254

Office Email: ctkadm@ctk-uc.org

Website: www.ctk-uc.org

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

Staff

Pastor--Rev. Mike Widner
Administrative Assistant--Dawn Young
Choir & Worship Band Director--Sally Walters
Bell Choir Director--Cindy Bonaccorsi
Pianist--Vanessa Jackson
Nursery--Rachel Ball
Bookkeeper--Suzanne Schroeder
Financial Secretary--Leona Hietala
Treasurer--Joy Brown
Media Team-- Thomas Hawkins, Shannon Lopez,
Ray Lopez, Dale Meyers

Church Council

President--Jamie Dunevant
Fellowship (Vice President)--Susan Abbey
Education (Secretary)--Maggie Boos
Mutual Ministry--Lisa Lopez
Finance--Dobie Garner
Property, Building, & Grounds--Edward Sauseda
Shepherding--Luis San Román
Worship--Joanne Benson

Education / Faith Formation Ministries

Sunday School—Maggie Boos
Wednesday Bible Study--Pastor Mike Widner and
Joanne Benson

All Other Ministries

Women of the ELCA – Dinah Halopka-Ryson
LWR Quilts -- Joanne Benson
LWR Kits -- Erika Robeson
Prayer Shawls -- Kathy Hanley
Bereavement -- Barbara Kovacich
Mission Endowment Fund -- Jill Schulz
Stewardship Committee -- Dinah Halopka-Ryson
HR Committee -- Susan Abbey
Care Team – Joyce Lucas
Worship Volunteers – Luis San Román

Fellowship Ministries

Fourth Sunday Breakfast--Susan Abbey
Lutheran Lunch Bunch--Susan Abbey
Book Club--Patsy Meyers

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