



# CHRIST THE REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## Having a Life Filled With Prayer

### See to Please

Shift your prayer life from "Please, God" to Please God." Take the comma out of those two words when you pray, and transition your praying from asking God for things to asking God for the pleasure of God's pleasure. --Homiletics

### A Powerful Weapon

Satan dreads nothing but prayer. His one concern is to keep the saints from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayer-less work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, he mocks our wisdom, but he trembles when we pray. --Samuel Chadwick

### A Word From Matthew Henry

Seventeenth-century Bible scholar Matthew Henry had great insight into God's will when he proclaimed, "When God intends great mercies for His people, He first of all sets them a'praying."

Did you ever consider that when you feel the urge to engage in deep meaningful prayer, it might be God's preparation for "great mercies"?

### Hard Faith

According to author Stephen King, "What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work."

Similarly, what separates the doubt-filled Christian from the Christian in good spiritual health is hard faith, working and praying diligently - and often - to build one's faith.

### Faith and Health

Dr. Herbert Benson of Harvard Medical School made a study of the effect praying can have upon those who pray. He discovered those who pray 10 to 20 minutes daily can lower their blood pressure, heart rate, breathing and metabolic rates. Prayer can work wonders. --Proclaim, Nov. 1, 1998

### Prayer Helps

A man was seen praying in a church and was approached by a fairly officious person in clerical garb. Said this person: "May I help you?" The response came clearly, "No thank you. I *am* being helped!" -- Anonymous

THE  
**POWER**  
OF PRAYER



April 2018

# The Cornerstone

A publication of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Rev. Scott Burmeister  
Pastor

Suzanne Watt  
Director of Christian Education

Myrthe Harkenrider  
DCE Intern

Nikki Witt  
ECC Director

Connie Phillips  
Office Secretary

Mary Jane Landin  
Business Administrator

Norma Muller  
Organist

Craig Amendt  
Choir Director

Norm Zaner  
Property Manager

"Leading people into a living  
relationship with Jesus Christ"

Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:45  
AM. Sunday School and Bible  
Classes for all ages begin at  
9:30 AM.

PHONE: 918/492-6451  
FAX: 918/492-3524  
Web: www.crtlusa.org

Email:  
christredeemer@ctrlusa.org

Early Childhood Center Phone:  
918-492-1416



Couples Shower

## ECC AUCTION

April 20  
6-10 pm

Campbell  
Hotel  
Tickets:  
\$25/person  
\$40/couple



Christ the Redeemer's

# Pack the HOUSE!

SUNDAY  
APRIL 15

Our mission is to have  
**100% attendance!**

Whether its been 1 week  
or 100 weeks, we care  
about seeing you.  
Church services start at  
8:15 and 10:45.

**Pack the House is a Sunday in which we bring together every member of Christ the Redeemer's amazing church family. Please come on April 15th. If you regularly attend worship, say a warm welcome to familiar faces. If you haven't come in while, we want to celebrate you coming to worship with warmth and compassion.**

The congregation is invited to a combined graduation reception honoring DCE Intern Myrthe and shower reception in honor of Myrthe and Jordan Flaseh who will be married June 4 in a ceremony for family members in Florida. The reception is April 22 following the late service. A light luncheon will be served. If you wish to give a gift, they request gift cards from Amazon, Lowes or Visa or you can access their registry by using the following link and clicking on the registry tab: <https://www.theknot.com/us/mordan-a-wedding>.



Confirmation  
Sunday  
April 29

Those being  
confirmed:

Adrienne Schadel - Hannah Haddad  
Kaleb Cheshier - Camden Knutson  
Please join us at 9:30 for a  
reception in honor of these  
confirmants at 9:30 in the  
fellowship hall.





Fellow Redeemed,  
  
Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

It was the first day of the week, Sunday, when the two Marys go to the tomb. The walk that morning was dark, as the sun had not yet risen. They were going to the tomb. Everything had changed for them. They had so hoped that none of this was really happening. They just could not believe that He was gone, their beloved Jesus. It seemed like only yesterday that He was teaching them, eating with them, and explaining the Kingdom of God to them. How could He be gone? It just did not seem real. That's when it happened. The ground began to shake and tremble. They were beside themselves, trying to make sense of what was going on. Was there an animal? Were the trees going to fall on them? Why is the earth shaking? It was an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, he had rolled away the stone from the entrance of the tomb (Matthew 28:2). Then they hear it. The voice of the angel saying, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay."

Pure joy! The women's pain, heartache and mourning are turned to joy in an absolute instant. Fear, mingled with joy, sends the women off quickly to tell the disciples. That's when it happens. They see Jesus face to face. They hear the voice of the living Christ, in the flesh, say, "Greetings". Jesus tells them to not be afraid, but to go and tell the disciples to go to Galilee, where they will see Him.

Pure joy grows into joy untold, as the women go. That is the message of the risen, resurrected Jesus. Go! Our Easter joy is not meant to be held onto. Our Easter joy is meant to be shared. Go! The empty tomb is not meant to

be kept as a secret. The news of this empty tomb is meant to be shared. Go! Jesus is not dead. Jesus is alive. Go! Jesus is not found out in the world. Jesus is found in God's Word and Sacraments. Go! You know people who need Jesus. Don't let another day go by, wherein you don't tell them of the Good News of God. Go!


Matthew 28:18-20 "And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **Go** therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Ready? You don't need to be ready. God will be with you and will give you the words to speak.

Set? You can never be set for this kind of mission. God has set all things into place and everything is ready.

**Go!** Go...go...go... God moves us down paths of righteousness for His name's sake. So we go. We tell. We invite. We speak the Gospel with joy. We live it, breathe it, and move by it. May God move us this Easter with the reality that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!





**Recycling Drive**

**DO SOMETHING GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

**INK CARTRIDGES:** The LWML will recycle all the following items for you: empty inkjet and laser printer cartridges (NO Epson cartridges or remanufactured cartridges). Boxes are located at the collection center at the south entrance of the church.

**MOST Ministries** collects eyeglasses and distributes them to people all over the world. A collection box is located at the collection center. For more information go to [www.mostministries.org](http://www.mostministries.org).

**PAPER & OTHER RECYCLING:** You can recycle all your mail/newspapers, etc. as well as cardboard, metal cans and plastic containers (no glass items) in the collection bin in the southeast corner of the parking lot.

Join us for our  
2018 VBS  
AMPED  
June 11-15, 2018  
9:00 AM- 12:00 PM  
Ages 3 (and Potty-trained)  
through 5th grade

Participants can register  
online by visiting  
<https://goo.gl/forms/jr5xoSZlI3mWPam03>

Invite your friends, family  
and neighbors to attend!  
Our VBS is free to attend  
and we will collect a daily  
offering for our mission  
project 410 Bridge.


Volunteers can register  
online by visiting  
<https://goo.gl/forms/9L2PyyXjLrq1H4052>



**VBS Registration  
is now  
OPEN**




Join us for a packed week of fun, fellowship and Bible study as we learn what it means to LIVE FULLY ALIVE! Together we will learn about the lives of Joseph, Esther, Jesus and Paul. We will also learn about the Early Church. Jesus told us, "I have come so that they may have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way. (John 10:19b)" Through large and small group time, games, snacks, crafts, mission and music we will learn to live like God is with us, live like God has a plan for us, live like Jesus is alive, live like people matter and live like we are part of a bigger story.



**Sunday School Offering**

The second quarter Sunday School offerings will benefit the Community Block Party which will be held at Johnson Park on **August 11, 2018**. Last year with the help of Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian and the South Tulsa Community House, the residents of Savanna Landing (61<sup>st</sup> & Peoria) held the first "Ignite the Change" block party on November 1, 2017. This year the block party "Ignite the Change through Education" will be the theme. Plans are being made to have schools and non-profits participate in the event with the help of partner churches. Funds are needed for activities, food and school supplies for the local schools, Marshall and McClure Elementary as well as Memorial Junior and Senior High Schools. Volunteers are needed also. If you are interested in helping, a Community Block Party meeting will be held on **April 9, 2018** at the South Tulsa Community House at 3:30 PM.

Please give generously to this quarter's recipient of our Sunday school offering.







## CTR-U Monthly Schedule

### 5:00-5:30 PM

- ♦ Children's Chimes Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- ♦ Youth Band Practice- Pastor Burmeister

### 5:30-6:30 PM

- ♦ Faith Friends - Gym- DCE Intern Myrthe
- ♦ Confirmation Class - Library - DCE Suzanne
- ♦ Youth Ministry Bible Study- Youth Room- Pastor Burmeister
- ♦ Women's Small Group- Conference Room
- ♦ Men's Small Group - Bridal Room

### 6:00-7:00 PM - Come & Go Dinner Menu

- ♦ April 4 - Pizza, salad bar, dessert
- ♦ April 11 - Subs, salad bar, dessert
- ♦ April 18 - Chicken strips, salad bar, dessert
- ♦ April 25 - Tomato soup/chicken potpie, salad bar, dessert

### 7:00-8:00 PM

- ♦ Choir Practice
- ♦ Men's Small Group continues
- ♦ Youth Group (Jr/Sr High 6th-12th grade) DCE Suzanne-outside/gym
- ♦ Pre-Confirmation (4th-5th grade) DCE Intern Myrthe - youth room
- ♦ Adult Bible Study - Pastor Burmeister - fellowship hall

### CREATIVE CORNER



### Craft Ideas

For those who attended the first craft class, where we made the canvas painting using painter's tape to create the design, you can use the same method on a piece of wood.

Paint or stain the wood. After removing the painter's tape, add several coat hooks and you've made a piece of home décor where you can hang coats, sweaters, backpacks and the like.



## RESURRECTION HOPE

Romans 6:5 reveals the hope we have because Jesus rose from the dead on Easter.

*Directions: First solve the math problems. Then put the corresponding words in the blanks; for example, the word next to the answer "1" goes in the first blank, the word next to the answer "2" goes in the second blank, and so on.*

2+2 = ___ united	2x3 = ___ death	7+6 = ___ resurrection
3x3 = ___ certainly	18-16 = ___ have	4-1 = ___ been
0+1 = ___ if	2x4 = ___ we	13-1 = ___ him
2+3 = ___ in	20-6 = ___ like	2+5 = ___ his
2x5 = ___ be	8+3 = ___ with	

"For \_\_\_ we \_\_\_ with him \_\_\_ a \_\_\_ like \_\_\_ , \_\_\_ will \_\_\_ also \_\_\_ united \_\_\_ in a \_\_\_ his." Romans 6:5, NIV

Answer: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:5, NIV

### CTR-U April Craft Class

The class will be a wooden wall hanging which you can hang seasonal décor, children's artwork, greeting card, etc. on. We will offer several options of spring décor to paint as well as two plaque options.

April 11 - 5:30

Cost \$5.00 - Limited to 12 participants.



### ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

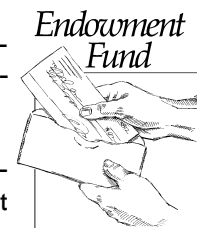
As of the latest statements, the Morningstar account balance was \$599,106.95, and the brokerage account balance was \$36,476.47, for a total Endowment Fund balance of \$635,583.42. The Dupuis Trust account balance was \$236,424.09.

The Endowment Fund provides a means for us, as Christian stewards, to express in a tangible way, our deep gratitude for God's many gifts and blessings. A gift to the Endowment Fund is a reflection of our faith and Christian love over and above our normal regular support for the ongoing mission and ministry of our church.

The trustees continue to encourage all members to consider charitable gifts to the Endowment Fund as part of their long term financial and estate planning.

Also, consider memorial gifts to the Endowment Fund in memory of a friend or loved one, as well as gifts in honor of friends and loved ones on special occasions such as anniversaries, birthdays and graduations.

The Endowment Fund trustees truly appreciate the gifts the Endowment Fund has received in past years.



Questions can be directed to any of the trustees: Scott Mabrey, Brad Young, Janet Jamison, or Rob Koch.

### Join CTR on Facebook & Twitter!

Keep up with coming events, announcements, and updates about recent events including pictures. The public events page is at: <http://www.facebook.com/ChristTheRedeemerLutheranChurch>  
The private group is at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ctrulsa/>  
For the Twitter account use: @PastorBe\_CTR

To join the private group, click Join Group in the top right hand corner of the page or contact James Morgan via e-mail: [communications@ctrulsa.org](mailto:communications@ctrulsa.org)



Stay in Touch



Dear Friends in Christ, Thank you for all the prayers before, during and after my recent heart surgery, as well as the many cards, the personal notes, the calls to Carolyn, the offers of help and the minimum of visits as requested. You are a blessing for which we give our Heavenly Father thanks and praise. -- Pastor Virgil & Carolyn Bening

## QUILTS



An LWR quilt is special! It brings warmth and shelter to families by becoming a bed, room divider, backpack to carry belongings, and at times even a home.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP??** We need help in purchasing the fabric to make the quilt tops. Each quilt costs approximately \$25 to make. Donations marked "LWML quilts" can be dropped in the mite box or put in the offering plate. Filler material of new/used blankets as well as flat sheets in twin size or larger are also needed (no other filler fabric can be used). Prayers for our quilt program are needed plus prayers for the recipients of our quilts.

The quilters meet every Tuesday at 10:00 in the fellowship hall. You can cut squares, sew squares, assemble the filler and tops, tie the quilts - anything you are interested in doing! Join us - we would appreciate your help!



### WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KITS

Items for the personal care kits include:

- ♦ 1 bath-size towel (approx. 52x27) dark color
- ♦ 2 bath-size bars (4-5 oz) or soap - original wrapping
- ♦ 1 adult-size toothbrush - original packaging (multi-packs can also be used)
- ♦ 1 sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ♦ 1 metal nail clippers, remove packaging

CTR will be collecting these items during the month of April. You can collect individual items or enough to complete one or more kits. With the worldwide disasters that have occurred in the past several months, the need for these items is extremely great.

Collection boxes will be located near the south entrance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lynne Kollock at 918-298-0717; [mrsk75@hotmail.com](mailto:mrsk75@hotmail.com)







*Congratulations and God's  
richest blessings  
to all of our couples  
as they celebrate their  
wedding anniversary!*

Scott & Cathy McKinzie	April 4	9 yrs
Deon & Debra Hull	April 5	30 yrs
John & Lori Meinders	April 6	27 yrs
Suzanne & Joey Watt	April 13	6 yrs
Kasey & Laura Simpson	April 15	23 yrs
James & Stacey Curtis	April 17	14 yrs
Gene & Betty Kuhlmann	April 18	48 yrs
Del & Jan Dreyer	April 20	55 yrs
Bob & Jean Paulsen	April 21	62 yrs
Steve & Jody Zscheck	April 23	35 yrs
Don & Marie Vavra	April 24	47 yrs
Les & Nancy Austin	April 26	10 yrs

## Faithful Measures

For the Month of February	2017	2018
Total Worship Attendance .....	964	1001
Weekly Average.....	241	250
SS/Bible Class Attendance .....	495	200
Weekly Average .....	124	50
February Giving .....	\$62,687	\$69,163
Monthly Budget .....	\$63,788	\$65,226
Year to Date Giving .....	\$133,158	\$125,908
Year to Date Budget .....	\$143,523	\$130,453
YTD Expenses.....	\$105,994	\$126,478

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Colossians 3:23-24



### April

#### Altar Flowers

The sign-up chart is available at the information center. Write your name on the date and share the special reason for the flowers. Simply drop your \$35 check (put ALTAR FLOWERS on the memo line) in the offering plate the week before or that Sunday! You

may take the arrangement home following the late service.

#### Flowers for the Altar

- 1: by Roy Radke in celebration of Wanda's birthday
- 1: by Kathi Lohse in memory of Art
- 8: by Joey & Suzanne Watt in celebration of their 6th anniversary
- 8: by Norm & Bernie Zanter in celebration of Zoe Losacco's birthday
- 15: by Norm & Bernie Zanter in celebration of Rocco Losacco's birthday
- 15: by Wes & Hillary Speer in celebration of Greg's 11th and Eric's 8th birthday
- 22: by Micky Flasch in memory of Don
- 22: by Kasey Simpson in celebration of Kirsta's birthday
- 29: by Sally Neas in celebration of John's birthday



#### News From Our Board President

Many of you know that, along with about a dozen or so other men in the congregation, I brew beer and share the fruit of that labor on Wednesday nights at CTR-U. We call the group "Pub Theology" because in addition to the good drink, we have good and deep conversation on topics of theology and everyday life.

Right now, we're working through the excellent "The Spirituality of the Cross" by Dr. Gene Veith. In the chapter on vocation, the author really opened up for me the sense of what "good work" is in light of the gospel. He writes:

"In the Lord's Prayer, we ask that God give us our daily bread, which He does... through the work of farmers, truck drivers, bakers, retailers, and many more... God heals the sick... through the work of doctors, nurses, and other medical vocations. God protects us from evil... by means of the vocations of police officers, attorneys, judges, and the military. God teaches through teachers, orders society through governments, and creates beauty through artists.

Luther pointed out that God could have decided to populate the earth by creating each individual and each generation separately, from the dust. Instead, He invented families. God ordained that new life come into the world through the work of a man and a woman who come together into a family. Husband, wife, father, mother are vocations through which God extends His creation and exercises His love." (92-3)

How easy it can be to miss the gift of divine affection and provision from these myriad sources in the business of our daily lives. How difficult it can be to trust in God's goodness when the messiness and frailty of these means are exposed for the humans they all are. Yet in this intermingling of divine gifts and human means that is the core of what we believe - Jesus of Nazareth, God in the Flesh, chosen king and sacrifice.

As we reach the pinnacle of our Lenten devotions and worship, my prayer is that we might all experience and commit ourselves to revealing the goodness of God by the open testimony of our becoming the means for the Gospel to reach and serve our neighbor.

It is with this sense of working with God for our neighbor's good that I ask for your continued intercession for our church staff, ministry boards, and servant leaders. Many significant and profoundly impactful decisions will be considered and made in the coming months on the matters of staffing, expansion, finances, etc. I am convinced that God is seeking to work among us and through us, as individuals and as a community, in both the process and outcomes of these decisions. What is more, I believe that it will be because of our common petitions to the throne of Heaven that we find the accomplished fruit of our labor in the end.

It is with this in view that I continue as your servant and brother in faith,

James

#### What One Volunteer Accomplished

by: Ken Eggers

One of our CTR members, Ken Eggers, writes regularly for the newsletter that is created for the community that he lives in. We are sharing one of his articles:

The article in the October 2017 Village Voice by Mary Emma Bristow about volunteering at the Smithsonian and elsewhere, reminded me of my wife Dot and I volunteering at our church's Braille Work Center. This volunteer work is unique because of the way it started and what it is today.

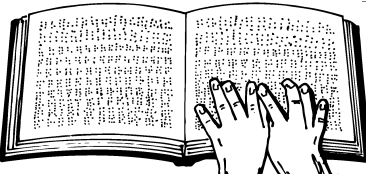
In 1941 a ministry student, here in the USA, lost his eye sight in an industrial accident. Being blind, he learned how to read Braille. In his ministry, he was interested in the German language, but discovered that all Braille Bibles in the German language in Germany had been destroyed before and during World War 2.

Realizing that there were some Lutherans here in the USA familiar with the German language, he placed a notice in the church's monthly magazine asking for volunteers to help him. He wanted to transcribe the Books of the Bible into the German Braille language. He knew it was an undertaking that required more than one person to accomplish. The ministry student advised that he would help the volunteers learn what was needed by correspondence.

One of the volunteers was Helene Loewe. After a few years, Helene became proficient in transcribing Books of the Bible and other Christian literature into German Braille. She became aware that there was a scarcity of any kind of Christian literature or Bibles in Braille and there are an estimated 60 million blind and sight impaired people in the world.

As numerous requests for the Braille materials poured in, Helene enlisted the help of lady friends at her church. The requests for the Braille grew to such an extent that other churches were contacted to help out. Impressed by Helene's enthusiasm others were willing to help her. Now, 76 years later, are some 3,000 volunteers (men and women) at 120 Lutheran Church Braille Work Centers producing Books of the Bible and other Christian literature in Braille and large print in 8 different languages and sent to 130 different countries. From the beginning, all materials are provided free of charge. There are no postal fees for Braille or large print materials. All expenses are covered by donations. Some Third World non-Christian countries use the Braille and large print Bibles to teach history and English in their schools.

What started out as one person willing to help a ministry student achieve his goal, has resulted into a permanent staff of 15 in a large facility in Yucaipa, California, and thousands of volunteers helping the blind and sight impaired world-wide. Don't hesitate to volunteer. Like Mary Emma said "it makes you feel good." As a volunteer, you are often doing something useful by helping others through their problems.





Raise Money While You Shop & Browse the Web



To support Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, shop at **Amazon Smile**. The products, shopping experience, and even your login and password are the same as on amazon.com. They donate 0.5% of your purchase to your charity. You can also shop at hundreds of sites through **GoodShop** and **Gumdrop**. Use **GoodSearch** when you browse the web and support the LWML at the same time. The percentage donated depends on where you shop.



**\$24,010 has been raised so far through these sources for LWML!**

Recycling

The **Oklahoma District LWML** has been recycling printer cartridges and other items since 2001. The funds collected are dispersed in three ways: 25% of the funds go to national LWML Mites, 10% go to our OK District Special Gifts Fund and the remaining 65% are used within our district to help with leader training efforts. To date, we have been blessed to collect **over \$61,000**. It has also kept these many items out of the landfills, thus helping our environment.



**CTR LWML** participates in this effort by collecting:  
• **Ink-Jet Cartridges:** Canon, HP and Lexmark  
• **Laser-Jet Cartridges:** Brother, Canon, Dell, HP, Lexmark, Panasonic, Samsung and Xerox.  
*Epson cartridges, those marked “remanufactured” or toner tubes.*

**Please leave your donation at the collection area in the back hall at CTR.** This year we were also able to recycle cartridges at Staples that the District LWML couldn’t take. We received **\$60 in store credits** we used for purchase of school supplies!

LWML WEBSITE UPDATES

LWML has a new webpage on the CTR website! We will post upcoming events, pictures of LWML at work and play, and links to a variety of resources. You can check it out at [ctrltulsa.org/lwml](http://ctrltulsa.org/lwml). The LWML Oklahoma District has updated their website at [oklwml.org](http://oklwml.org) with all of the district happenings, regular updates on our mission goals, an archive of The Voice of Service newsletters, Young Women, Forms & Resources and more. As always, you can find up-to-date information on LWML at the national level at [lwml.org](http://lwml.org).

Supporting our Seminary Students

Recently the church office received a letter from the St. Louis Seminary outlining the expenses for residential students. The following is a portion of that letter:

*With the steady rise in the cost of higher education, we are committed to doing all that we can to help our future pastors to graduate with as little student debt as possible - thus, helping to ensure that they may focus on their first calls without the worry of making debt payments. We are excited to announce that for the 2018-19 academic year, each residential student who applies for financial aid will not pay out of pocket for any portion of his tuition expenses...*

*We are only able to offer this grant to our students because of the generous support received from donors, districts and congregations. The success of this initiative, and our ability to greatly reduce the debt of all ministerial formation students, is directly dependent on the continued support from these partners.*

*Congregations often have questions concerning the cost of seminary education as they contemplate how they might assist their students at Concordia Seminary. Please see below the average expected expenses for residential students for the 2018-19 academic year:*

- Regular tuition: \$26,640      Vicarage tuition: \$13,320
- Room/Board (single): \$8,500      Books/Supplies: \$2,100
- Campus Housing (married): \$10,250
- Health Insurance (single): \$3,276

If you would like to contribute directly to CTR’s seminary student, Joshua Brakhage, you can do so by placing your check in one of the miscellaneous giving envelopes that are located in each pew. Mark “designated offering” on the envelope and also write “elder seminary fund” . Your donation to Joshua’s education will be sent to the seminary along with those of other members.

**South Tulsa Community House Awareness Sundays**

On the fourth Sunday of each month, the grocery cart will be placed at the north entrance. We encourage you to continue regular weekly donations at the collection center near the south entrance. Donations of food, toiletry, and household items are welcome. Let’s keep filling the grocery cart, sharing God’s blessings with those who are less fortunate.

**FOOD DRIVE**



It is almost Easter! To me, it is the most joyful day of the year because Jesus had accomplished all that was needed for our salvation by rising from the dead on Easter Sunday. Our hope for eternal life in heaven (and all that entails) is secure because God’s plan for our salvation is complete. Gathering in corporate worship on Sundays is always a blessing and joyfully worshipping on Easter is a glimpse of heaven.

Let’s take a look at some interesting facts about the dates of Easter. Of course, my resource is our hymnal Lutheran Service Book. On page xxiii (near the front of the book) is the heading “Dates of Easter” which charts the dates of Easter through the year 2050. Above those dates you will find the explanation of how those dates are determined. I will tell you that Easter Day cannot be earlier than March 22 or later than April 25. Look up the “why” to that by reading the two paragraphs above the list of dates.

Now turn the page to xxiv where you find the “Glossary”. OK. I confess that I still like to read the dictionary. And for those of you who get into words this way, you will enjoy perusing these two pages which explain words found in the liturgies. For example, the word “rubrics” are the instructions for the liturgies. The rubrics are printed in the color red. Note the words “Sit” and “Stand”. Two other examples I’d like to share are on pages 175 and 181. The red printed paragraph under the heading “Prayer of the Church” includes these instructions: “Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as

a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3). The word “may” is very important and is deliberate to instruct that this is an option. Now look at page 181 where you will NOT find the word “may” in the instructions. This directs the congregation to follow these directions consistently such as “During Lent, ‘Thank the Lord’ is not sung.” That is not an option. Now page through the liturgies, reading the rubrics (remember they are in red) and look for the optional “may” OR the obvious direct instruction. But guess what? On Easter Day, we will be singing “Thank the Lord” and “Alleluia” again. And it is all the more joyful because we did experience the penitential season of Lent.

As we complete this year’s Holy Week in preparation for the joyful Easter worship services, may you grow in faith and thanksgiving for all that our God has done and is doing in us.

Norma Muller, Organist



**Camp Lutherhoma**

**Register Soon - Camp Will Fill Up!**

Get your child registered for camp online at [www.lutherhoma.com](http://www.lutherhoma.com).

Get ready to...swim, learn about God, make friends, hike, sing crazy songs, eat good food, learn archery, hang out with cool counselors and staff, ride bikes, play rumble ball, make crafts, buy cool t-shirts, make smores, laugh, explore God's creation, read cool Bible stories, play huge field games, listen to devotions, guess counselors nick names, watch the sunset, build a campfire, go rafting or kayaking, learn about wildlife, go rock climbing, play sports, grow on the challenge course, eat snacks, enjoy air conditioned cabins, hear funny stories, be in the weekly video, bring a friend.

**Mommy-Daddy And Me Weekend**

A Camp Lutherhoma favorite summer weekend event is our Mommy/Daddy and Me

Weekend, June 22-24. Come as a family, or just a parent and child, or even a grandparent and grandchild. All are welcome. The campers are of preschool age, and the parents or grandparents come as their guests. The weekend is full of fun family camp activities, and time with the summer staff leading you in Bible studies, games, crafts, campfire and much more. Tell a friend to bring their young campers to this super fun weekend! Register online today! [www.lutherhoma.com](http://www.lutherhoma.com)

**Upcoming Golf Tournament**  
**April 28 - Page Belcher Course in Tulsa**

Registration now open on our website. Sign up as an individual or sign up your team. Other ways to serve: volunteer, make a donation, provide a raffle prize. Please join us - you don’t have to be a good golfer to enjoy the fellowship and support Camp Lutherhoma!



# News from the Seminary

To friends dearly loved by the Brakhages and by our Lord Jesus Christ:

What a way to begin a new month: with a celebration that highlights the eternal life we have now and the hope of the resurrection we have to come! Easter comes with its traditional flourishes, but at the heart of this festival is the living truth of Christ's triumph over death. There's a song in heavy rotation on the radio here that features the lyric, "if You left the grave behind You, so will I." I admit I get choked up every time I hear it. Embrace this season with the confident hope that by faith, Jesus' Easter victory is yours. Your life is hidden with Christ in God. No matter the challenges or struggles facing you today, He is coming to raise you to eternal glory with Him. (Col. 3:1-4) This is the sure and certain reality of Easter. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

I was excited to see the promotion for the upcoming 100% Sunday. Our family will be longing to be there with you to push the total all the way up to 100%, but distance and obligations here will keep us in St. Louis. Nevertheless, we know that Sunday we will be one with our CTR family in the One who unites us in one body, one Spirit, one living hope. (Eph. 4:4-6) Though we will be far away, our voices will be joining yours to confess one common faith, and our hearts will be united with yours in prayer to our Father who art in heaven. We will be praying that the unity you share on 100% Sunday will carry on Monday, Tuesday, through the next Sunday and beyond.

We are spending this Easter holiday in Alabama with my mother. She is very excited to see her growing grandson. Graham is now 10 ½ months old and still growing like crazy. He has one (very sharp) tooth and another that looks ready to pierce through his gums any moment. He still maintains a cheerful attitude almost constantly. He can pull up on the furniture to a standing position and loves exploring our apartment. He'll also hold your hands and take you for a walk. We'll see if he's any good at hunting for Easter eggs.

Our family also had a busy spring break. I preached for two Lenten services at our church in St. Louis, and we attended a banquet hosted by the national LWML organization. I asked in advance whether I could have the privilege of introducing the guest of honor, President Patti Ross. We also took a quick trip to Kansas City to see family. We stayed with Suzy's elder sister and her family. She has four children who love to dote on Graham. There are 12 cousins on Suzy's side of the family. Of those 12, Graham is the youngest. The cousins live in Kansas, Ohio, Texas and Australia. We hope that wherever ministry takes us, we will be relatively(!) close to family who will be able to watch Graham grow and be a part of his life.

While away from family in St. Louis, the Seminary community has stepped in to fill that familial void. We love our neighbors and friends on campus. We quite possibly have the two most considerate sets of neighbors in our apartment building. They never make any noise and they're willing to drop everything to help you (even some impromptu babysitting!) We've also grown quite attached to the family across the street. They are missionaries who are leaving the mission field and returning to domes-

tic ministry back here in America. The couple has 8 kids; Suzy sees three of them in our home for speech therapy and the rest seem to find their way to our apartment to hang out with Graham. They have been a very constant, very present, very meaningful part of our family's life, especially for Graham. We waited with them while they anticipated the call that would reveal where they'd be serving the Lord and His people next. The call came, and our friends left campus during Holy Week. Goodbyes are always hard, but this was especially emotional due to how precious this family has become.

This goodbye is just a small sample of the bittersweet feeling that I anticipate will come with discovering our vicarage placement. If you'll indulge me, I'd like to be totally raw and emotionally transparent with you. While most of my classmates are eager to hear where they'll be headed later this month, the whole process has me feeling a bit melancholy. Sure, we're looking forward to vicarage. But we're not looking forward to the requisite goodbyes that come with it. As we head off to our vicarage destination, 4<sup>th</sup> year families we've come to love will be headed to their first calls. 1<sup>st</sup> year families who have been with us through virtually every minute of Graham's life will be leaving for their own vicarages as we're getting back to St. Louis. I know we live in a small world, and it's possible that we'll see some of these friends again, even serve with them. But it's also possible that we'll never see some of these friends again as they follow their own paths in the Lord's service.

You can join us for the vicarage placement service. The service will be streamed online and you will be able to watch it live from anywhere in the world. It begins at 3pm on April 24. You can find a link to the live stream at [callday.csl.edu](http://callday.csl.edu). I will be sitting through that service eagerly awaiting to hear where our family and our friends are headed. But at the same time, I will be equally hesitant and heartbroken to hear them read destinations far and wide that make the distance between us more imminent and more real. This is when the constancy of our CTR church family means the most; please pray with us for our family's encouragement through this season of goodbyes.

As I wrap up, I wanted to share a brainstorm I had the other day. I was sitting in the waiting room of the doctor's office. As I scanned the room, I saw people fidgeting with their phones and wrangling their kids. But I also saw people who seemed nervous, even scared. Some of these people seemed to try to hide their nerves and fear behind a magazine. You know, those 2-year-old magazines that are in every waiting room? How I wanted to talk to each of them about the love of Jesus for them, even in this time of fear. I wondered to myself, "what if their magazine could?" That's when it clicked. What if instead of an old, ragged copy of *People* or *Sports Illustrated*, waiting room visitors could grab the *Lutheran Witness*? So the next time I went to the doctor's, I brought my copy of the *Witness* and I left it behind in the stack of waiting room magazines. Maybe one person will pick it up and find Christ waiting for them inside when they need Him most. What are you doing with your old *Lutheran Witness*?

With Christian brotherhood,  
Joshua  
[joshua411@gmail.com](mailto:joshua411@gmail.com)  
(918) 706-1632 (Joshua's mobile)  
(785) 393-3117 (Suzy's mobile)  
2 Founders Way, Unit A, St. Louis, MO 63105

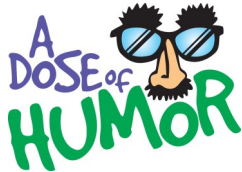
# The Joke Corner....

My golf is improving. Now I miss the ball much closer than I used to.

Is it true that a financial dilemma could be called a bill pickle?

Annoyed wife to husband: "Can't you just say we've been married 24 years instead of 'almost a quarter of a century?'"

Doctor: "Nurse, how is that little boy who swallowed a quarter yesterday?"  
Nurse: "No change yet."



## LWML OKLAHOMA DISTRICT CONVENTION


Hilton Garden Inn,  
Lawton, Oklahoma  
April 13-14

Celebrating our 90th  
Anniversary!

Bible Study leader: Cindy Steinbeck  
Mission Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Brent Smith - Mission Central  
Keynote Speakers: Linda Reiser  
Virginia Von Seggern

For more information,  
contact CTR's LWML President Carol Fruehling



**DON'T TRASH THOSE COUPONS!**  
Military personnel and their families stationed at major overseas bases in Europe and Asia can use those manufacturer's coupons up to six months after they have expired. A box marked "Coupons for the Troops" is located at the south entrance.

## Daily Bible Reading

### Week 13

Monday - Numbers 22:1-25:18  
Tuesday - Numbers 26:1-27:23  
Wednesday - Numbers 28:1-30:16  
Thursday - Numbers 31:1-54  
Friday - Numbers 32:1-34:29  
Saturday - Numbers 35:1-36:13

### Week 14

Monday - Deut. 1:1-46  
Tuesday - Deut. 2:1-37  
Wednesday - Deut. 3:1-29  
Thursday - Deut. 4:1-49  
Friday - Deut. 5:1-33  
Saturday - Deut. 6:1-25

### Week 15

Monday - Deut. 7:1-26  
Tuesday - Deut. 8:1-20  
Wednesday - Deut. 9:1-10:22  
Thursday - Deut. 11:1-12:32  
Friday - Deut. 13:1-18  
Saturday - Deut. 14:1-15:23

### Week 16

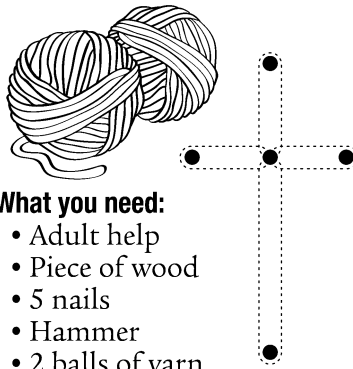
Monday - Deut. 16:1-17:20  
Tuesday - Deut. 18:1-19:21  
Wednesday - Deut. 20:1-21:23  
Thursday - Deut. 22:1-23:25  
Friday - Deut. 24:1-22  
Saturday - Deut. 25:1-26:19





# CROSS CRAFT

Make this special cross as a reminder of Jesus' death and resurrection.



## What you do:

1. Hammer the nails into the wood to form a cross shape (see example).
2. Tie the blue yarn to the bottom nail. Wrap it up and around the top nail and back down to the bottom nail. Then wrap it around the middle nail and around the side nails. Repeat until the yarn is wrapped about halfway up the exposed nails.
3. Repeat step two with the yellow yarn. Wrap it around the nails until only the heads are visible.



Parish Life hosted an appreciation reception in honor of DCE Suzanne in February as well as their annual chili cook-off. The theme for both events was Harry Potter. The youth band performed at the cook-off. Faris Jackson won the chili trophy.




## A MESSAGE FROM TAKE H.E.A.R.T. Let's Make Spring and Summer Healthy

Take this opportunity to celebrate spring and summer in a healthy way! Grab copies of this handout for yourself and your kids, grandkids, God children, nieces, nephews, etc. at the table in the Narthex. God gave us spring and summer so let's make the most out of it.

These handouts have healthy ideas for both the young and young at heart.



# ECC



**ECC AUCTION**  
**April 20**  
**6-10 pm -**  
**Campbell Hotel**  
**Tickets:**  
**\$25/person**  
**\$40/couple**



## STAFF

**H** My name is Lori Dorshaw and I have been in childcare for over 20 years. I have worked at ECC off and on since June of 2014. I am a mom to three wonderful children: Carter (10), Baylor (9), and Delaney (5) who all attend Jenks West Elementary. I graduated from Oklahoma State University and have my Bachelor's Degree in Family Relations and Child Development. I love working with children and getting to watch them learn and grow. I also feel like it is very rewarding to get to develop relationships with each of the families. I attend Lifechurch in Bixby. I love spending time with my family and friends, going to the lake in the summer, and watching my children play sports. I am very excited to be back at ECC as the Assistant Director and can't wait to work with Nikki and the rest of the staff to make our preschool even better than it already is.



**Help support ECC by shopping on Amazon Smile. Simply select Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church and .5% of your purchase will be given back to the ECC.**





# FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



DCE Intern  
Myrthe  
Harkenrider

For more information about any upcoming activities, please contact families@ctrtulsa.org

## Save the Date!

- ⇒ April 6-8, 2018: Club 345 Retreat to Camp Lutherhoma\*
- ⇒ April 14, 2018: Reconnect Night
- ⇒ May 5, 2018: Connect Night
- ⇒ May 12, 2018: Club 345 Silly String and Water War

\*Make sure to check out the library window and church bulletin to find out how you can serve at these events!

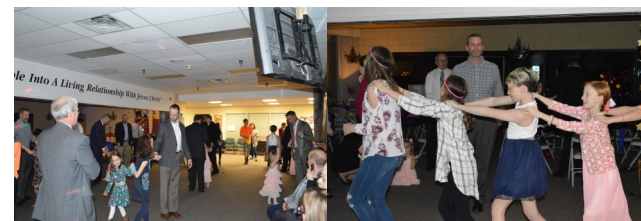
**Reconnect** will meet on April 14th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. to make and decorate cookies! This event is for families young and old to *reconnect* with each other while also having fun with our church family! We will have a dinner provided and games for while the cookies are baking!



## Sunday School Teacher Feature

*Brenda Flasch: 3 Years to Kindergarten*

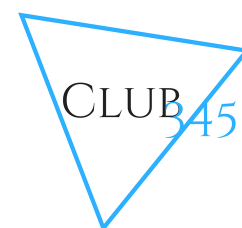
I am blessed to be able to share God's word with our youth. I have found teaching the CTR youth to be such a rewarding experience. Each week it reinforces for me the importance of sharing Christ's love with others.



The Father Daughter Dance was a great time for everyone! We had 10 couples from the church and 5 couples from the ECC. The dance's theme was Girls Rule, so the kiddos had fun rocking out with their blow up guitars! It was great to see all the positive male role models that these little girls have in their lives!



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO THIS YEAR'S EASTER EGG-XPRIENCE! We were thrilled to see the amount of donations from eggs to candy to egg cartons! Each and every one of you truly made this morning a success!



## Club 345 to heading to Camp Lutherhoma

on April 6th-8th. This is open to all third, fourth, fifth grade and their friends. Please turn in the Registration Form, Medical Release Form and \$70 non-refundable registration price. We are excited to

have our first retreat with this age group! High Schoolers, along with adult chaperons will be taking the third, fourth and fifth graders around Camp Lutherhoma doing Bible Studies, games, crafts and archery! If you are interested in participating, or know a third, fourth or fifth grader who is, please contact DCE intern Myrthe immediately!



## CHRIST THE REDEEMER YOUTH MINISTRY

**Jr. High (6-8th graders)**

**Sr. High (9-12th graders)**



DCE Suzanne Watt

*"8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*  
Acts 1:8



## Save the Date!

**DCE Intern Placement Watch Party is tentatively set for April 8, 2018 from 12 PM-2:30 PM. Watch for more information.**

**Tulsa LCMS Youth Servant Event is April 22, 2018 more details and time TBD**

**VBS Volunteer Training is May 6, 2018 following late service, pizza will be served**

**VBS Set up dates June 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8**

**VBS is June 11-15, 2018 please sign up online today to volunteer**

## Wednesday Night Confirmation

5:30-6:30 in the Library

as part of the CTR-U schedule and are open to students in 6th grade and up. Class meets on 4/4, 4/11, 4/18 and 4/25 then we break for summer. Please speak to DCE Suzanne if you have any questions regarding Confirmation requirements or remaining classes needed to complete.

Confirmation Sunday is April 29.



## When and where is the next gathering?

The next LCMS Youth Gathering will be July 11-15, 2019 in Minneapolis, MN.

## Who can attend?

The LCMS Youth Gathering's primary focus is for youth participants between the ages of 14 to 19. To register for the 2019 Gathering, youth participants must meet ONE of the two following eligibility requirements:

– Must be 14 years old at the time of the Gathering (July 2019) OR

– Entering his or her ninth grade year at the time of the Gathering. (August 2019)

While we do allow students from the ages of 14 to 20 to attend, please keep in mind that some of the program content may not be relevant to older youth participants.

## Who can chaperone?

Participants who are 21 years or older by the time of the Gathering are able to attend the Gathering as an Adult Leader. Registration for the 2019 Gathering will begin in the fall of 2018. Please begin speaking with your family now if you want to go and mark your calendar! A registration fee estimated at \$300 a person will be required to save your spot. After registration the remainder of the cost will be fundraised. Any money not fundraised by the time of the Gathering will be the responsibility of the participant.

**Sunday Night Schedule! Fall 2017-Spring 2018** we will have youth events 2 Sundays a month! You will have the option of participating in a Confirmation class or a Small Group Bible Study followed by a light snack and games. Other weeks we will have weekend retreats or special events.



- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| April 8  | Special Event– DCE Intern Placement Day 12 PM after late service– Pizza lunch! |
| April 22 | District Youth Service Project Day– Time and Location TBD                      |
| May 6    | VBS Volunteer Training–12PM after late service– Pizza lunch!                   |



Celebrate the Resurrection with us on Easter Sunday! The CTR Youth and their families invite you to an Easter Sunday breakfast.

**When: April 1 from 9 AM-10:30 AM**

**Where: CTR Fellowship Hall**

**All donations will help support the youth attending the 2018 Summer Mission Trip to Florida and the 2019 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.**