



CHRIST THE REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

2550 East 71st Street
Tulsa, OK 74136

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TULSA, OKLA.
PERMIT NO. 176

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Help us eliminate expensive postal fees by notifying us of your change of address.

Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

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



August 2018

The Cornerstone

Church Staff

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church is a member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Rev. Scott Burmeister
Pastor

Suzanne Watt
Director of Christian Education

Carinna Corbett
DCE Intern

Nikki Witt
ECC Director

Connie Phillips
Office Secretary

Mary Jane Landin
Business Administrator

Angel Harris
Communications Administrator

Jacob Drengler
Music Director

Craig Amendt
Choir Director

Norm Zanter
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
eb: www.ctrtulsa.org
You can view this newsletter online!

Email: christredeemer@ctrtulsa.org
Early Childhood Center Phone: 918-492-1416

A publication of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY August 26, 2018

Join us as we celebrate a new year in Christian Education at Christ the Redeemer centered around our REAL and PRESENT GOD!
At the 8:15 and 10:45 AM services that morning we will have a BACKPACK BLESSING for all students (so don't forget your bag) plus we are encouraging students to wear a



"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

shirt reflecting their school. During the 9:30 AM education hour we will have breakfast served and encourage families to pick up their FAITH STEPPING STONES home library books as well as explore the Christian Education opportunities CTR offers for all ages. It will be a morning of fun and fellowship so don't miss it!



CTR-U Returns September 5
Check out the details and schedule on page 12.

Bible Study
Confirmation classes
Choir/Chimes Practice
Faith Friends - Youth Band
Men's & Women's Small Groups
JR & SR High Youth Group



CHURCH PICNIC August 26

Our picnic will follow the late service on Education Sunday. Hamburgs, hot dogs, beverage and ice cream sundaes will be provided. Each family is asked to bring a side dish. Bounce houses will be set up for the kids. Join us as we kick off a new school year!



Fellow Redeemed,

I would like to lift up two very important doctrines that are formulated in God's Word: Law and Gospel. C. F. W. Walther, in his book *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel*, formulates a proper application for these doctrines. His first thesis states, "The doctrinal contents of the entire Holy Scriptures, both of the Old and New Testament, are made up of two doctrines differing fundamentally from each other, viz., the Law and the Gospel." Walther begins his first thesis by stating what Law and Gospel are not.

- It is not the case that the Gospel is divine, and the Law is a merely human doctrine. No, both are contained in the Scriptures.
- It is not the case that only the Gospel is necessary. Without the Law the Gospel is not understood; without the Gospel the Law benefits us nothing.
- It is not the case that the Law is the teaching of the Old Testament while the Gospel is the teaching of the New Testament. Both Law and Gospel are found in both the Old and New Testaments.
- It is not the case that the Law and Gospel differ with regards to their final aim, as though the Gospel aimed at man's salvation, while the Law aimed at man's condemnation. No, both Law and Gospel have their final aim in man's salvation. The Law can only prepare us for the Gospel.
- It is not the case that the Law and Gospel contradict each other, rather the Law and Gospel are in perfect harmony with regards to their mode and function. Law and Gospel work together.

The true points of difference between the Law and Gospel are these:

- Law and Gospel differ as regards the manner of their being revealed to man.
- Law and Gospel differ as regards their contents.
- Law and Gospel differ as regards the promises held out by either doctrine.
- Law and Gospel differ as regards their threatening.
- Law and Gospel differ as regards the function and the effect of either doctrine.
- Law and Gospel differ as regards the persons to whom either of the one or the other doctrine must be preached.

During the month of August we will be tackling much of these distinctions and how Law and Gospel are rightly and wrongly distinguished. The book that we are reading is heavy on the side of the Gospel and compels us to take a balanced approach to mitigating harm when Law and Gospel are not properly distinguished. This task of distinguishing between the two is the most difficult task in the human life. So, we will bear patiently with each other and tread lightly with one another as we allow God to mold us through this endeavor. I am confident that when we finish this study, we will be have a deeper understanding of Law and Gospel, and be equipped to better distinguish between the two.

May the God of all Grace and Mercy move us to a deeper faith during this next month as we continue to carry out our mission of leading people into a living relationship with Jesus Christ. Amen.

DOES GOD EXIST
 WHAT ABOUT EVOLUTION WAS
 DARWIN RIGHT HOW CAN A LOVING GOD
 ALLOW SUFFERING AND DEATH WHAT ABOUT THE
 AGE OF THE EARTH DO DATING METHODS PROVE THE
 EARTH IS MILLIONS OF YEARS OLD WHO WAS CAIN'S WIFE
 HOW DID NOAH FIT ALL THE ANIMALS ON THE ARK WAS THERE
 REALLY A WORLD WIDE FLOOD DOES ANY REAL SCIENTIST
 BELIEVE IN CREATION ARE THERE REALLY MISSING
 LINKS CAN'T A DAY MEAN MILLIONS OF YEARS
 WHAT ABOUT NATURAL SELECTION WHERE DID
 THE RACES COME FROM WHAT ABOUT DISTANT
 STARLIGHT ARE UFOS REAL DID GOD USE
 EVOLUTION WHAT ABOUT THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN
 MONKEY AND HUMAN DNA
 WHAT ABOUT THE ICE AGE WERE
 ADAM AND EVE REAL PEOPLE
 WHO CARES WHAT I BELIEVE
 ABOUT ORIGINS DON'T
 FOSSILS TAKE MANY
 MILLIONS OF YEARS
 TO FORM WHAT ABOUT
 DINOSAURS



ARE YOU READY

WITH ANSWERS?

Sunday August 12, 2018

6:00pm Creation: Impacting Our Culture

Joel Tay - CMI speaker

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church

2550 E 71st St, Tulsa, OK 74136



Creation resources available
 CREATION.com

CMI-US • PO BOX 350 • POWDER SPRINGS GA 30127 • 800-616-1264

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.

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.

Mission Sunday September 9

Special Speaker, Rev. Dale Kaster
Missionary in Prague, Czech Republic

Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster serve the Lord as career missionaries through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Prague, Czech Republic. In this role, Dale trains men from the country to serve as pastors of the Lutheran Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Czech Republic (ECAVvČR). He will also serve as the pastor of an English language Lutheran Church in Prague, which serves our OIM Eurasia office staff and many English-speaking expats living in Prague. In addition to this, Pastor Kaster will assist in the regional chaplaincy position for those missionaries working in Silesia, Czech Republic. Through the relationships that are formed, Dale and Suzanne seek to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with the people of the Czech Republic.

Dale was born in Stephenville, Newfoundland, Canada. His home congregation is Celebration Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, Florida. He graduated from Concordia College, Bronxville, New York, with a bachelor's degree in Judeo-Christian Heritage. He received his Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri. Before becoming a career missionary, Dale served as a pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Point Pleasant, New Jersey (1989-1994); Celebration Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, Florida. (1994-2010); Martin Luther Chapel, Pennsauken, New Jersey (2010-2013). Before serving in Prague, Dale was Theological Educator/Missionary-at-Large in Tamale, Ghana (2014-2018). He also served on short-term mission trips to the Ntshongweni Village in South Africa (2007-2011). Dale's hobbies include cooking, skeet shooting, reading, and Civil War history.

Suzanne was born in LaGrange, Illinois, and her home congregation is also Celebration Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, Florida. She attended Concordia College, River Forest, Illinois. Suzanne's hobbies include cross-stitching, reading, and working on genealogy. Please, pray for Dale and Suzanne as they serve in Prague, Czech Republic.

Please ask God to daily give Dale the strength and knowledge as he mentors men for the ministry and serves the congregation in Prague. Pray that the Holy Spirit leads and guides him as he serves in the chaplaincy. Please also pray for the men who receive Dale's instruction that their hearts and minds are open to what God wants them to learn. Ask God to help each student to grow to become faithful and compassionate under-shepherds serving His flock. In addition, please pray for all people of the Czech Republic who will learn of the Good News of Jesus Christ through the missionary work that is being done in this country.

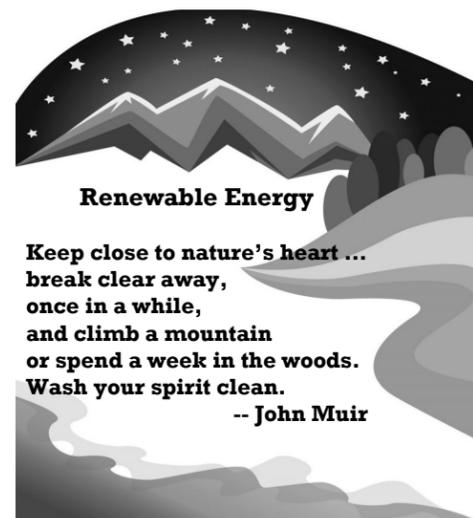


Join CTR on Facebook & Twitter!

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/ctrltusa/>
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@ctrltusa.org

LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS NEEDS YOU

2018 marks the 75th year of service that Lutheran Braille Workers has provided Bibles to the blind and visually impaired. Tulsa is fortunate to have a site at Our Savior Lutheran church where books of the bible are printed in a variety of languages. CTR has been a part of this ministry for many years and we need fresh faces to replace some of our faithful volunteers who are no longer able to help with this ministry. CTR's scheduled time is from 9:00-12:00 on the second Monday of each month from September through May and we get the summers off! There are a variety of "jobs" that are available, some of which require standing and some of which allow you to be seated. This is a great opportunity to enter the mission field as an individual, as a couple, or with a friend!

Can you spare three hours a month for nine months? That is slightly more than a full day out of 365 for the year! The year kicks off on September 10th. Please prayerfully consider making a commitment to this ministry that truly helps people see the light of Christ Jesus.

Contact Teresa Nightingale at 918-299-3396 or tnightingale@cox.net for questions or to sign up.



ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

As of the June 30, 2018 statements, the Morningstar account balance was \$615,916 and the brokerage account balance was \$11,113 for a total Endowment Fund balance of \$627,029. The Dupuis Trust account balance was \$234,842.

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.

We would like to thank outgoing trustee Scott Mabrey for his service and welcome Ed Fager as the newest trustee.

Questions can be directed to any of the trustees: Chairman Brad Young, Janet Jamison, Rob Koch or Ed Fager.



 **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!**

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 ctrltusa.org/lwml. The LWML Oklahoma District has updated their website at 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.

QUILTS

An LWR quilt is special! It brings warmth and shelter to families by becoming a bed, room divider, backpack, 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!



Faithful Measures

	2017	2018
For the Month of May		
Total Worship Attendance	962	980
Weekly Average.....	241	245
SS/Bible Class Attendance	387	289
Weekly Average	97	72
May Giving	\$51,307	\$68,121
Monthly Budget	\$63,788	\$65,226
Year to Date Giving	\$355,215	\$340,091
Year to Date Budget	\$350,834	\$342,438
YTD Expenses.....	\$269,505	\$351,099

	2017	2018
For the Month of June		
Total Worship Attendance	899	946
Weekly Average.....	225	237
SS/Bible Class Attendance	328	247
Weekly Average	82	62
June Giving	\$79,246	\$82,590
Monthly Budget	\$63,788	\$65,226
Year to Date Giving	\$434,461	\$422,681
Year to Date Budget	\$414,622	\$434,461
YTD Expenses.....	\$361,376	\$428,306



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

Greg & Deena Braun	August 1	37 yrs
Rob & Teena Newton	August 1	37 yrs
James & Rachel Morgan	August 2	15 yrs
David & Sarah Ross	August 4	17 yrs
Tracy & Sean Dickson	August 5	22 yrs
John & Donna Decker	August 6	41 yrs
Ken & Eva Heim	August 9	65 yrs
Ron & Connie Phillips	August 11	45 yrs
Terry & Valarie Kolkman	August 15	48 yrs
David & Marion Penka	August 15	48 yrs
Robby & Emily Walter	August 16	10 yrs
Johnny & Lois Barfield	August 17	61 yrs
Richard & Debbie Burling	August 19	46 yrs
Kara & Clint Howard	August 21	14 yrs
Jonathan & Jennifer Caspersen	August 22	20 yrs
Virgil & Carolyn Bening	August 23	49 yrs
Dennis & Pat Morris	August 26	51 yrs
Bruce & Edie Cottrell	August 29	48 yrs
Tom & Judy Kuehnert	August 30	55 yrs
Richard & Courtney Nightingale	August 31	16 yrs

The Joke Corner...

A man answered his doorbell and a friend walked in, followed by a very large dog. As they began talking, the dog knocked over a lamp, jumped up on the sofa with his muddy feet and began chewing on one of the pillows. The outraged homeowner, unable to contain himself any longer, burst out, "Don't you think you should train your dog better?"

"My dog!" exclaimed the friend, surprised. "I thought it was your dog."



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.

Be a Missionary

Be a missionary, near or far.
Tell other people how glad you are
To know Jesus Christ, your Savior dear
Who is to you so very near.



He saved you from the Tempter's power,
He's guarding you this very hour.
Tell them how glad you are to be
His own dear child, and then they'll see
That Jesus died for you and me.
--Wendy Linbemann,
Hope on the Beach Lutheran Church

Oaks Indian Mission

The offering for this quarter will go to Oaks Indian Mission, a Lutheran ministry, that serves children from ages 4-18 from a multitude of tribal backgrounds. Please give generously to this quarter's recipient of our Sunday school offering.



A Message from Take H.E.A.R.T.-Oh My Aching Back!

Back pain is one of the most common reasons people go to the doctor. Fortunately, you can take measures to prevent or relieve most back pain episodes. If prevention fails, simple home treatment and proper body mechanics often will heal your back within a few weeks and keep it functional for the long haul. Surgery is rarely needed to treat back pain.

Risk factors

- **Age.** Back pain is more common as you get older, starting around age 30 or 40.
- **Lack of exercise.** Weak, unused muscles in your back might lead to back pain.
- **Excess weight.** Carrying too much weight puts extra stress on your back.
- **Diseases.** Some types of arthritis and cancer can contribute to back pain.
- **Improper lifting.** Using your back instead of your legs can lead to back pain.
- **Psychological conditions.** People prone to depression and anxiety appear to have a greater risk of back pain.
- **Smoking.** This can keep your body from delivering enough nutrients to the disks in your back.

Prevention

To keep your back healthy and strong:

- **Exercise.** Regular low-impact aerobic activities — those that don't strain or jolt your back — can increase strength and endurance and allow your muscles to function better. Walking and swimming are good choices.
- **Build muscle strength and flexibility.** Abdominal and back muscle exercises (core-strengthening exercises) help condition these muscles so that they work together like a natural corset for your back. Flexibility in your hips and upper legs aligns your pelvic bones to improve how your back feels. Your doctor or physical therapist can tell which exercises are right for you.
- **Maintain a healthy weight.** Being overweight strains back muscles. If you're overweight, trimming down can prevent back pain.
- **Use proper body mechanics: Stand smart.** If you must stand for long periods, place one foot on a low footstool to take some of the load off your lower back. Alternate feet. Good posture can reduce the stress on back muscles. **Sit smart.** Choose a seat with good lower back support, armrests and a swivel base. Consider placing a pillow or rolled towel in the small of your back to maintain its normal curve. Keep your knees and hips level. Change your position frequently. **Lift smart.** Avoid heavy lifting, if possible, but if you must lift something heavy, let your legs do the work. Keep your back straight — no twisting — and bend only at the knees. Hold the load close to your body. Find a lifting partner if the object is heavy or awkward.

Low Back Pain Exercises



Copyright ©2014 McKesson Corporation and/or one of its subsidiaries. All rights reserved.

BUNKO will be at church on August 14 with hostess, Jody Zscheck, at 7:00. There is a sign-up sheet.



OWLS will meet August 23 at 11:30 at Incredible Pizza for lunch and program. Cost of the buffet is \$8. A sign up sheet is posted at the south entrance. The presenter will be Terry Bartley. Pat and Terry are former CTR members who now attend King of Kings.

CTR PRAYER CHAIN is being reactivated at CTR. There will be a telephone chain and an e-mail chain. If you would like to be one of our pray-ers please contact Donna Boggs, at 918-258-5201 or bogcat6@yahoo.com

EDUCATION SUNDAY is August 26. Students will be moved up to their new classes. At 9:30 you are invited to a breakfast and other events. A picnic lunch will be served at noon. Check out the cover page for more details.

CREATION MINISTRIES will be making a presentation on August 12. Check out the back page for more information and join us.



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 Carinna
- ◆ 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

- ◆ Sept. 5 - Pizza, salad bar, dessert
- ◆ Sept. 12 - Subs, salad bar, dessert
- ◆ Sept. 19 - Chicken strips, salad bar, dessert
- ◆ Sept. 26 - Tomato soup, salad bar, dessert

6:45-8:00 PM

- ◆ Pre-Confirmation (4th-5th grade) DCE Intern Carinna - youth room

7:00-8:00 PM

- ◆ Choir Practice
- ◆ Men's Small Group continues
- ◆ Youth Group (Jr/Sr High 6th-12th grade) DCE Suzanne- outside/gym
- ◆ Lutheranism 101 - Pastor Burmeister - fellowship hall



Craft Class

September 12 - 5:30

Crafts We will be making a wooden initial plaque with fall floral decorations. The cost is \$12. It is imperative that you sign up so the proper initial can be purchased. You will have the option to paint or stain your plaque and initial. The class is limited to 11 participants.



This is such a fun class to be a part of. Come join us!



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

5: by James & Rachel Morgan in celebration of their anniversary
5: by Greg & Deena Braun in celebration of their anniversary
5: by Ken & Eva Heim in celebration of their 65th anniversary
12: by Bob & Jean Paulsen in celebration of their family's birthdays
12: by Wanda Radke in celebration of Roy's birthday
19: by James & Ann Holt in celebration of Christeline's birthday
19:
26: by Mitch & Danita Cockrell in celebration of their grandson, Carter's first birthday
26:

Pearls of Wisdom

"A man begins cutting his wisdom teeth the first time he bites off more than he can chew," said Herb Caen. Though his tongue may have been planted firmly in his cheek, right next to said wisdom teeth, we do indeed learn from our mistakes - including the mistake of thinking we can handle more than we can, or that we know more than we do, or that we don't need anyone's help (including God's).

The
FEAR
of the LORD
is the beginning
KNOWLEDGE.
PROVERBS 1:7

As far back as the Old Testament times, people collected "wisdom sayings" into books from which we can still learn. Foundational to the book of Proverbs, attributed to King Solomon, is this first nugget of wisdom: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (1:7).

May we cut the "wisdom teeth" of our lives not by foolishly overestimating ourselves but by following God.

Organist Tales

Around 1989, Zion Lutheran Church in Guthrie celebrated their 100 year anniversary, and invited all former organists to return to join the festivities. All of us, just like the organists at CTR, had been dedicated to making the congregational worship services more meaningful and pleasing to the Lord. However, sometimes things do happen, and at the anniversary dinner, we were asked what the funniest incident we had in our days of playing the organ. My uncle was one of the earliest organists at Zion, and said that during one service some of his music fell on the floor (the organ was at the front of the church). When he leaned over to pick it up, it was farther away than he thought. He stretched some more to reach it, and fell off the bench.

I asked some of the past organists at CTR about their experiences, and here they are. When Sarah Jensen was organist at a church in Memphis, she "hopped up" to sit on the organ bench, not knowing that someone had sprayed the bench and the organ keys with Pledge. She slid right to the end of the bench, and was only saved by a pole at the end of the bench. The keys were slippery, too, and it was hard to hit the right notes without sliding to the next key. She had to get a rubber mat to sit on until the Pledge wore off.

Leon Boggs once subbed at a church where the organ was near the edge of a balcony. Someone turned on a fan, and sheet music sailed down on the congregation sitting below. It was a scramble to get the music he was playing reorganized quickly.

Norma Muller was asked to play for the wedding of the daughter of the president of St. John's college, so she was especially eager to have everything go smoothly. The pastor of the church where the wedding was held asked Norma to play pre-service

music until he, the groom and groomsmen came out in front of the altar. Only then should she begin the processional. Norma played and played and played some more, until finally (about 10 minutes late), the pastor and groom, etc, appeared. The pastor had forgotten his instructions to Norma, and he and the wedding party were waiting until she finished the pre-service music and began the processional to come out. All was well after that, though.

My tale was at a church in St. Louis, at a sunrise service on Easter morning. I left the house in plenty of time, but on the way my car stopped and I couldn't get it restarted. So, dressed in my Easter finery, I gathered my music, organ shoes, and purse and began the 1 1/2 mile walk to the church. This was on an access road to I-270, so I thought surely someone would come by to give me a ride, or that someone would call my home, and then come to get me (this was before cell phones). However, no one drove by, and when they called home, Marty said that I had already left (no one asked how long ago). I arrived at the church 10 minutes after the service was to have begun, and the church was full of people just sitting there, quietly waiting for me. I just knew they all thought I overslept. As soon as I caught my breath, we began the service.

Unfortunately, I was unable to reach Dodee Brockhoff to hear some of her stories. I know all of us have been blessed to be able to serve the Lord through music in the worship service. To God be the glory!

Rosalie Weber



What Spills Out?

Rev. Henry Wingblade once compared the Christian personality to the unseen soup in a bowl carried high over a waiter's head. No one knows what's inside - unless the waiter is bumped or trips. If Jesus is truly living inside us, Wingblade said, what spills out should be the fruit of the Spirit: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**



When you falter, what do people see? How can your "spillage" better reflect the Holy Spirit, who lives in you?

"To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart."
 --Eleanor Roosevelt

Thank You! CTR hosted a youth mission team in July. The following is a thank you sent to the church:

Thank you for opening your church facilities to our mission team. Your kindness has been a blessing to our team and has helped us fulfill our mission. May God bless you as you continue to witness through your kindness and generosity.

-- Mexico Mission Team 2018
 Immanuel Lutheran, Brookfield Wisconsin

Lord, thank you for touching my heart. Make me sensitive to see those in my life who need your touch. Use me to reach them for you. Amen

Dear God, thank you for the living stream that flows in me straight from your throne. Lord, cause my life to bless others because they see you in me. Amen.

Vicarage News

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

It feels so good to be back in Oklahoma! I am writing this update from my office at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Edmond. It is a beautiful church filled with warm, welcoming children of God. I cannot wait to share our family's adventures with you as we spend the upcoming school year back in the state I call home. I also hope that being back in Oklahoma means we get the chance to see a few members of our dear CTR family throughout the year. If you're ever in the Oklahoma City area on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening, please join us for worship. And shoot me a text or email if you feel like stopping by at some other point during the week. You are always welcome.

Since we wrote to you last, we have found a place to live. We are renting a house just 3 blocks north of the church. That should make it easy for me to get back and forth between all the activities at church and the excitement at home with Suzy and Graham. We got a taste of the character of our new congregation when we pulled up to our new home in our Uhaul. There were 25 members of the congregation waiting there for us. They helped unload our truck and assemble furniture. Our house went from completely empty to totally livable in just over an hour. It was an amazing welcome. The current vicar at Holy Trinity even brought supper: BBQ from Billy Sims. The entire evening was a true taste of Oklahoma hospitality.

Suzy and Graham have taken the lead in making our house a home. Books are on shelves and there is art on the walls. And we've already been able to invite people over for dinner, so we consider ourselves "settled in." Suzy is still weighing options for work next year, and we are looking at child care options for Graham. Last year, we had a virtually perfect setup where Suzy stayed home with Graham while I was in class, and I was able to be with him while Suzy worked in the evenings. Things won't be quite so tidy this year, so please pray that we would find the best possible situation that assures Graham is cared for when his parents are both working.

It is funny how similar being in Edmond feels to living in Tulsa. Even the house we are renting feels vaguely familiar, similar to the home we owned in Tulsa. So far at church, my vicarage duties mirror some of the ways I was honored to serve at CTR. For example, for VBS I was assigned to lead the daily Bible stories for the ECC children (something I had the chance to do in Tulsa for 5 years.) My first official assignment was to contribute to a daily devotional booklet published by the congregation, very similar to the Advent devotion we compiled each year at CTR. This morning, I received the roster for my 7th grade confirmation class. It's crazy that the 7th graders I had in confirmation at CTR are on the doorstep of graduation!!

What is abundantly clear is that the opportunities I was given to serve while at CTR were preparing me for this vicarage experience and ultimately for the work of pastoral ministry. For that, I can only say thank you. Thank you for believing in and investing in me, even before any of us knew that this Seminary adventure would be a reality. Thank you for your trust and constant sup-

port.

It's cool to think that the next future pastor from CTR might already be in your congregation. Maybe he's teaching Bible class or leading a vital ministry. Maybe he's a little younger, still sitting in Sunday school or confirmation class. Or maybe he's just faithfully in the pews on Sunday morning, waiting for someone to invite him to serve. I wouldn't have had the experiences at CTR that prepared me for vicarage if someone hadn't invited me. So invite, invite, invite. Offer people places to get involved. And *keep inviting them*, offering them other opportunities until they find the right fit for them. And to those who are already serving, *encourage them*; let them know you stand behind them and support them with your words, publicly and privately. Who knows how you will impact their life, and potentially the lives of the people they touch down the road.

As for my vicarage year, there are myriad responsibilities on the horizon. I will be teaching 6th grade religion class each morning at the church's grade school and leading a men's Bible study at a downtown diner each Tuesday morning. I will be in the rotation to preach and lead worship, and potentially lead Sunday morning adult Bible classes. I will have the opportunity to present afternoon worship services at a nearby Lutheran retirement community. And I was asked last night whether I could play keyboards for our weekly contemporary worship service. I also hope to get the chance to assist with funerals, weddings, evangelism and small group ministry. If one thing is certain, it is that the upcoming year will be a full one.

Something unique about my vicarage situation in Edmond is that the "old" vicar is still here and will be for several weeks. In most cases, one vicar leaves before the next vicar arrives. But here, they intentionally overlap the two vicars. The departing vicar trains the incoming vicar, showing him the ropes and passing the baton. I am being trained by Vicar Alex Lahue, a St. Louis native who is excited about heading back home soon. Vicar Alex and his wife Erin have one son, Jax, who was Graham's age when their family arrived last summer. Vicar Alex is a beloved member of the church family here, and I know everyone will be sad to see their family go. He has been an invaluable part of my first few days at Holy Trinity, eager to share his time and answer all my questions (and I used to ask questions for a living, so that's no easy task!) The way the congregation has embraced Alex, Erin and Jax makes me hopeful that Suzy, Graham and I will have the same positive experience during our 13 months in Edmond.

I cannot wait to hear from you – whether via Facebook, text, email or otherwise – about all that is happening in Tulsa. We keep you in our hearts and prayers. Hope to see you soon!

With anticipation,
Joshua
joshua411@gmail.com
(918) 706-1632 (Joshua's mobile)
(785) 393-3117 (Suzy's mobile)
2605 Greenfield Dr.
Edmond, OK 73012

OOPS! (taken from *The Village Voice* by: Ken Eggers)

One Friday my next door neighbor called and asked me if I would help him with a special project on Saturday. I said sure, what do you have in mind? He said he had read an article in the Orange County, California, newspaper that a city in the southern part of the County had purchased land for a new school. The purchased land was an orange grove. They were offering, free-of-charge, the trees to be cut down for firewood. The article included detailed instructions how to get to the grove from the Santa Ana Freeway.

My neighbor had rented a chain saw and since he had a pick up truck, he was ready to go. He realized though that a lot of others would also be interested in free firewood. So, with me and my ax to cut off the limbs, we could operate faster to get as much firewood as the truck would hold. Sounds like a good plan.

Early the next morning we followed the directions given in the paper and found the grove with no problem. There were already 4 or 5 other 2-man teams busy cutting down trees near the street. we went to the back of the grove to have access to more trees.

We were operating smoothly as a team when we were rudely interrupted by 3 sheriffs each in a car with flashing lights and screaming sirens. One had a bull horn yelling "stop cutting, you are in the wrong grove". Unfortunately, by that time, all trees had been cut down. The sheriffs realizing they arrived too late, allowed all of us to finish the job of getting firewood. They said the actual grove to be cut down was 3 or 4 miles further south on the same street. We showed them the instructions given in the paper. We all realized then that the paper assumed all wood cutters would approach the grove from the south. We approached it from the north. Both groves were on the east side of the same street. We felt badly about the mistake.

Sunday's paper had huge headlines about the wrong orange grove being cut down and that the owner was real upset since he was expecting a bumper crop of oranges because the rain came at the right time that year. Now, we really felt bad.

A few days later, another article appeared in the paper stating that the grove owner found out his insurance would pay for the lost bumper crop. Then he really got a nice surprise. Due to all the publicity, a housing developer made him an "offer he couldn't refuse" for the land. Now, we felt much better.

"All's well that ends well." I 'll think long and hard before cutting down any more trees.

**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

Daily Bible Reading

Week 29

Monday - 2 Samuel 23:1-39
Tuesday - 2 Samuel 24:1-25
Wednesday - 1 Kings 1:1-2:46
Thursday - 1 Kings 3:1-4:34
Friday - 1 Kings 5:1-7:51
Saturday - 1 Kings 8:1-66

Week 30

Monday - 1 Kings 9:1-10:29
Tuesday - 1 Kings 11:1-43
Wednesday - 1 Kings 12:1-33
Thursday - 1 Kings 13:1-14:31
Friday - 1 Kings 15:1-16:34
Saturday - 1 Kings 17:1-18:46

Week 31

Monday - 1 Kings 19:1-21
Tuesday - 1 Kings 20:1-43
Wednesday - 1 Kings 21:1-22:53
Thursday - 2 Kings 1:1-2:25
Friday - 2 Kings 3:1-4:44
Saturday - 2 Kings 5:1-27

Week 32

Monday - 2 Kings 6:1-7:20
Tuesday - 2 Kings 8:1-29
Wednesday - 2 Kings 9:1-10:36
Thursday - 2 Kings 11:1-12:21
Friday - 2 Kings 13:1-14:29
Saturday - 2 Kings 15:1-16:20



WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS: In July and August, we will gather donations for school kits. There are cards at the display in the narthex with the items needed. You can do complete kits or individual items. Check out the LWR website for more information: <https://lwr.org/get-involved/build-kits-of-care/school-kits>. Monetary donations can also be made and Lynne Kollock will buy the items for you. Simply mark LWR on the memo line or give the money to her. If you have any questions, please contact her.

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, August 2018

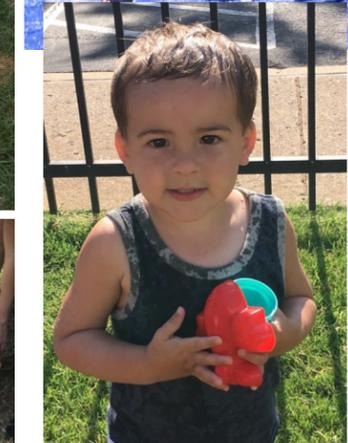
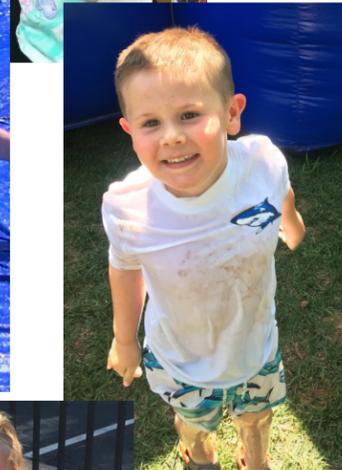
Hope on the Beach Summer Mission Trip

16 youth and 5 adults from CTR hosted a mission VBS, participated in a water bottle evangelism ministry and did service projects for an elderly member of Hope Lutheran Church in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida. They had an AMAZING impact on this community and had a little fun while doing it all!



ECC

Donuts for Dads!



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.





CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

CONTACT INFORMATION:
FAMILIES@CTRTULSA.ORG
918-549-0957



DCE INTERN CARINNA CORBETT

Happy summer to the families at CTR! It has been a very busy month getting myself settled in Tulsa! I am loving it here so far, with such a wonderful welcome from the congregation! We have a lot going on as we prepare for Sunday School this fall, CTR-U, Pre-Confirmation, family events, and more! Suzanne and I attended great conference July 8-11th, which gave me lots of inspiration as we prepare for the fall!

Thank you to those who have been helping me learn the ropes with Sunday School, including those who stepped outside of their comfort zone to teach!

We have some upcoming events this fall that I want to bring to your attention!

Family Reconnect Night
Let's talk about family time at home during a busy school year with games, food, and more!
September 15th
6:00-7:30

Family and Children's Ministry invites you to
FAMILY FUN DAY
Come out for water slides, bounce houses, pizza, and fun!
JULY 28 • 12:00-4:00 PM
The Front Lawn of Christ the Redeemer
2550 E. 71st St., Tulsa, Oklahoma
IF IT RAINS, WE WILL HAVE BOUNCE HOUSES SET UP IN THE GYM!

Fall Fest!
OCTOBER 7TH
5:00-8:00 P.M.
More Information coming Soon!

Back to School Book Recommendations:
"Oh the Places You'll Go!"
"Milk Goes to School"
"Splat the Cat: Back to School"



DCE Suzanne Watt

CHRIST THE REDEEMER YOUTH MINISTRY Jr. High (6-8th graders)



"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

UPDATED INFORMATION

Registration for the 2019 Gathering will begin in August 2018 to be submitted by October 7, 2018 with full or partial (\$200) non-refundable registration payment. A non-refundable registration fee totaling \$365 will be required and due in full by December 31, 2018 for each student. After registration the remainder of the cost to attend NYG will be fundraised.



Any money not fundraised by the time of the Gathering will be the responsibility of the participant.

A gathering planning meeting will be held for all youth and their parents who intend to go on Sunday, August 5 from 4:00-5:30 PM. At least one parent MUST attend per household. Please look for more information regarding this meeting to me mailed to you by July.

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)

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. CTR will need a ratio of 1 adult per every 5 youth attending.

How much does it cost?

\$365 Registration fee

\$Travel

\$Hotel

\$Meals

\$District Event

\$CTR Activities

Approx. Total per person: \$1200

Save the Date!

National Youth Gathering Meeting Aug 5, 2018
National Youth Gathering Commitment Aug 22, 2018
National Youth Gathering Meeting Sept 19, 2018
NYG Registration DUE Oct 7, 2018
Joy Jr High Gathering Oct 12-14, 2018
C.L.A.S.S. Student Leadership Conference Oct 18-20, 2018

OCT
SAVE THE DATE
12-14
JOY JR HIGH DISTRICT GATHERING

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY- NEBRASKA & THE OKLAHOMA DISTRICT- LCMS PRESENT THE FIRST ANNUAL
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY OKLAHOMA DISTRICT YOUTH MINISTRY
2018 C.L.A.S.S. STUDENT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
OCTOBER 18, 19 & 20, 2018
Sent to Serve
TO EQUIP & DISCIPLE STUDENTS & HELP THEM DEVELOP AS CHRISTIAN SERVANT LEADERS IN YOUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY
OPEN TO STUDENTS AGE 14 OR IN 8TH GRADE THROUGH AGE 18 OR IN 12TH GRADE BY OCTOBER 1
\$40 REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES PROGRAM, MEALS & T-SHIRT
SEE THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS ATTEND CHAPEL LED BY UNIVERSITY STAFF & GUESTS