



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



March 2019

The Cornerstone

A publication of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church

Rev. Scott Burmeister, *Pastor*
Suzanne Watt, *DCE*
Carinna Corbett, *DCE Intern*
Nikki Witt, *ECC Director*
Connie Phillips, *Office Secretary*
Mary Jane Landin, *Business Adm.*
Angel Harris, *Communications Adm.*
Jacob Drengler, *Music Director*
Craig Amendt, *Choir Director*
Floyd Lemons, *Property Manager*

Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:45 AM.
Sunday School/Bible Classes: 9:30 AM
PHONE: 918/492-6451 - Web: www.ctrtulsa.org
Email: christredeemer@ctrtulsa.org
Early Childhood Center Phone: 918-492-1416

Lenten Schedule

Mid-day worship service - 11:00
Evening worship services - 6:30.
Lenten meals - 5:30-6:30
March 6 - Ash Wednesday
March 13: Baptism
March 20: The Apostles' Creed
March 27: The Lord's Prayer
April 3: The Ten Commandments
April 10: Holy Communion
April 18 - Maundy Thursday - 7:00 with Holy Communion
April 19 - Good Friday Tenebrae Worship - 7:00

Faith

Special Music during the Ordination of Pastor Chang on February 9. Pastor Chang will be ministering to the Hmong community through services at CTR.



Mission



Lutheran School/ECC Week



Youth Choir

Service

LWML MISSION PROJECT



Sunday youth made bracelets and quilts for world missions.



Leading people into a living relationship with Jesus

NOW UPLOADING VBS FOR THIS SUMMER



DATE: JUNE 10-14, 2019 TIME: 9 AM - 12 PM LOCATION: CTR

"HIS DIVINE POWER HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING WE NEED FOR A GODLY LIFE THROUGH OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIM WHO CALLED US BY HIS OWN GLORY AND GOODNESS." 2 PETER 1:3



Fellow Redeemed,


Have you ever heard the term "identity politics"? It is a buzz-word that is used to describe the political climate for our day. The definition for the term is as follows: "a tendency for people of a particular religion, race, social background, etc, to form exclusive political alliances, moving away from traditional broad-based party politics."

That sounds like our world. Today it seems we find people coming together around a myriad of issues, at the exclusion of other groups. Very often this can seep into our churches. In Galatians 3:26-29, Paul creates a new reality for identity in Christ Jesus. "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Paul is speaking of a new identity that is ours in and through faith in Christ Jesus.

The fact that we are one in Christ, does not erase ethnicity, gender, or economic position. Instead, faith in Christ, defines them and brings them into harmony with each other and us with God. The lines that used to divide us are now eradicated so that we can live in perfect unity, by and through the faith that God has created in us through, this His Word. What a blessing it is for

us to see each other in and through this new identity. When we look at another person, the first thing we should see is not, race, or gender, or economic status, but, the reality that this person is the blood bought child of God through Jesus Christ. That causes us to treat that person in a different way than we might have treated them before. They become family through this Word of God in the book of Galatians. As identity politics continues to take its place in the mainstream of our society, let us resist the temptation to join the world. Our struggle is to suppress the temptation to see people as a political ideologue and to give into the righteous endeavor of seeing people through the love of Christ.





Camp Lutherhoma Golf Tournament
April 27 - Page Belcher Golf Course

Anyone wishing to register for the tournament is encouraged to do so online or through email. The tournament is a fundraiser to help support all aspects of the ministry at camp. You can also sponsor a hole, provide a raffle prize or volunteer. For more information or questions, go to lutherhoma@lutherhoma.com or call 918-458-0704.

SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE FOR HARVEST HOUSE



Outreach is sponsoring a clothing and household item drive for Harvest House in March. Harvest House is kindly asking for clothing to be newer styles roughly 15 years or younger that are not dated. **Items must be brought in a sack which you can pickup at the donation table in the Narthex. Please do not put donations in trash bags or plastic grocery bags.**

New or Clean & Gently Used:
Coats and Jackets, Children's Clothing, Regular Size Men's and Women's Clothing, Plus Size Men's and Women's Clothing, Men's T-shirts, Jeans, Bedding, Bath Towels, Pots and Pans, Dishes, Shoes

CTR Camp Lutherhoma Rebate 2019

For Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Youth Attending Summer Camp at Camp Lutherhoma, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

1. Rebates are offered to individual campers who are actively participating (*attending worship, Bible study &/or confirmation, youth activities, etc.*) at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church.
2. We will only offer a rebate for **one camp session per person per season.**
3. You may put up to 3 campers per household on one form.
4. Remember to send your registration to Camp Lutherhoma as soon as possible. When you receive your registration confirmation **attach a copy** to this rebate form and return it to Christ the Redeemer in the Lay Ministry of Youth drawer in the Office Work Room
5. The amount of the rebate will depend on how many youth apply by May 1:
 - it will not exceed 50% of the early registration price per individual person
 - it will reflect the total price paid after camp discounts (such as family and friend discounts) per person
 - it will be no more than \$500 per family
 - and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.
6. Funds will be sent out **after May 3.** Forms submitted after May 1 will be considered with any funds that remain.

If you have any other questions please contact the Director of Christian Education, Suzanne Watt by phone 492-6451 or email suzanne.watt@ctrtulsa.org. Enjoy Camp!

Name of Camper 1:
Camp Dates Registered For:
Amount Paid to Camp Lutherhoma:
\$

Name of Camper 2:
Camp Dates Registered For:
Amount Paid to Camp Lutherhoma:
\$

Name of Camper 3:
Camp Dates Registered For:
Amount Paid to Camp Lutherhoma:
\$

Name and Address to whom Rebate is to be sent:

Total Amount Paid to Camp: \$ _____

Rebate Submission Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Please be sure to attach a copy of the registration form you receive from Camp Lutherhoma. It should show a **\$0 balance due**. Mail the completed application to the church or place in the Lay Ministry of Youth drawer in the Office Work Room:

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church
Attention: Camp Rebate
2550 E. 71st St.
Tulsa, OK 74136

<i>Office Use Below:</i>	
Reviewed by DCE:	Date:
Approved by Youth Chair:	Date
Amount of Funds Granted:	Line Item #1132



Jacob Drengler
Music Director

This article is the second in a series in which I discuss the role of the organ in worship, particularly as applied to the leading of congregational singing. Last month's article primarily focused on my process for deciding how to provide a coherent introduction to the singing of a particular hymn through the thoughtful use of varied organ registrations (combinations of organ stops) which capture the spirit of a given text. I will continue the discussion of hymn introductions this month, shifting the focus to the actual choice of notes and musical ideas in the hymn introduction.

Quite often the more familiar a hymn is to the congregation the more freedom I have to improvise during the introduction. The goal of these improvisations is never to create an exciting or flamboyant musical moment for the sake of it; rather the ideal is that the introduction paints a musical picture of the hymn text which the congregation is about to sing. This process is captured perfectly for me in the words of the great Lutheran organist and composer Paul Manz: "I work with a text and this, in turn, generates for me an image, either theological or musical. I then explore that imagery in my imagination, putting musical form to it. Then when I present this at the people's song I find they are enlivened by it and this excitement returns to me through their singing and the circle is complete."

One factor which I invariably consider when planning a hymn introduction is the historical origin of the hymn tune. For a tune which calls to mind a Renaissance dance such as FREU DICH SEHR ("Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People") or IN DIR IST FREUDE ("In Thee is Gladness") I might use reed stops to imitate the sound of a krummhorn or sackbut and use energetic rhythmic ostinatos which highlight the Renaissance characteristics of the tune. If a tune originated as a chant melody, such as DIVINUM MYSTERIUM ("Of the Father's Love Begotten") or ADORO TE DEVOTE ("Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior") I might opt for a more lyrical, meditative approach. Considering the original context in which a given tune might have been heard and sung provides limitless opportunities for musical exploration.

Occasionally a single word will be enough to spark a musical idea. If the word "trumpet" appears in a hymn, there is a good chance that the trumpet stop will make an appearance in the introduction of the hymn, whether that is through soloing-out the melody or interspersing fanfare figurations between phrases of the hymn tune. If "light" or "bells" are mentioned, I might be inclined to allow for a brief appearance by the Zimbelstern, an organ stop consisting of a set of small bells which when engaged

produce a light tinkling sound. If you have ever looked back at the organ case of the Positive division of CTR's organ and noticed a small star rotating, you have witnessed the Zimbelstern in action. The words "descending" and "ascending" often inform the direction of various patterns and figures that I use to ornament and embellish the hymn tune. While I do not vary the tune itself in all situations, the text will often inform how the accompaniment is structured.

One of my very favorite formal devices when improvising a hymn introduction is the toccata. This typically involves creating a fast-moving, repetitive series of arpeggiated chordal motifs with my hands, while my feet take over the melody in the pedal division. This is a lot of fun to do and provides a particularly uplifting introduction to great hymns of praise such as "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" and "O Morningstar, How Fair and Bright."

Next month's article will wrap up the hymn introduction and move to the organist's role during the actual singing of the hymns. Thank you for allowing me to share some information about the music we make together here at CTR!

—Jacob Drengler



CTR YOUTH MUSIC SCHEDULE

Students are asked to meet in the choir loft by 10:15.

- March 3: 3rd-5th Grades
- March 10: 6th-8th Grades
- March 17: 3rd-5th Grades
- March 24: 6th-8th Grades
- March 31: 3rd-5th Grades



LWML NEWS

NATIONAL LWML CONVENTION - June 20-23 - Mobile, Alabama Up-to-date information regarding the convention can be acquired by going to lwml.org.

The Oklahoma district of the LWML has chartered a bus for the convention. The bus will leave Oklahoma City/Tulsa on June 19 and return June 24. Passengers will spend one night on the road going and returning from the convention. The price of the bus will be \$160. Overnight accommodations will be an additional cost. There are 31 passengers confirmed and another 20-24 are needed to have a full bus.



Contact Sharon Schmidt for further details (sharonschmidt216@gmail.com or 918-296-0121)

Thank you for your support of the National Mission Grants of the LWML. We were able to send a contribution from CTR amounting to \$548.35.

CTR LWML will meet Tuesday, March 19, in the fellowship hall to assemble kits for LWR. We will begin at 10 am for a short business meeting.

Upcoming dates: March 23, 2019. Tri-Zone Spring Workshop (Miami-Ponca City-Tulsa Zones). Grace Lutheran, 2331 E. Fifth Place, Tulsa Registration/Brunch 9-10 am; Bible Study & Workshop 10 am-1 pm. Registration fee (\$10) is due 3/16. Forms are on LWML table, on the LWML page of CTR website or available from Kathy Stephen. This will be an excellent time to learn new skills concerning the use of technology for our LWML societies. Make plans to attend.

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 —12:30 pm
Bible Study/meeting in Fellowship Hall.

June 20-23, 2019 — 2019 LWML 38th Biennial Convention.

October 18-19, 2019. Oklahoma District Fall Retreat Camp Lutheroma. Theme: Treasured - based on Deuteronomy 14:2



Lutheran World Relief Workday
March 19 - 10:00

All ladies are invited to come to a Thrivent Action Team workday for LWR. They will be putting together personal care kits and sewing kits. Check out the table in the narthex for items needed for each kit. Donations are needed now and will continue to be collected through the month of April. Contact Lynne Kollok or Carol Fruehling if you have any questions. Please join them!

What brings warmth and shelter to families by becoming a bed, room divider, backpack, and at times even a home???

QUILTS

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.

Prayers for our quilt program are needed plus prayers for the recipients of our quilts. These quilts are sent all over the United States as well as the world!

- Cut Squares
 - Sew Squares
 - Tie Quilts
 - Assemble Tops
- The quilters meet very Tuesday at 10:00 in the fellowship hall.
- Join us!! We would appreciate your help!

South Tulsa Community House Awareness Sundays

On the fourth Sunday of each month, we will observe a special awareness of the needs of South Tulsa Community House by placing the grocery cart at the north entrance for your donations. Regular weekly donations will still be continued throughout each month at the collection center near the south entrance.

Donations needed include food, toiletry, and household items as well as empty prescription bottles. Let's keep filling the grocery cart, sharing God's blessings with those who are less fortunate.

FOOD DRIVE



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

MARCH

Wes & Hillary Speer	March 5	20 yrs
Rob & Kristy Ehrlich	March 19	36 yrs
Vickie & Maurice Pritz	March 21	4 yrs
John & Roseanna Kretzschmar	March 23	51 yrs
Charles & Erin Meyer	March 27	37 yrs
Kevin & Terry Brown	March 28	27 yrs
Carlisle & Ellen Mabrey	March 29	50 yrs
Glenn & Tey Jackman	March 30	41 yrs

CTR FRIENDS will meet for lunch on March 10 at noon at Houligans (48th & Yale).

BUNKO will be at the church on March 11 with hostess Jody Zscheck. There is a sign up sheet.



OWLS will meet on March 29 (Friday not Thursday) at Incredible Pizza at 11:30 for their monthly gathering. Del Dreyer will introduce as speaker, a member of the Tulsa Police Department. There is a sign up. Please join them!

CTR-U CRAFT CLASS will be held on March 20 at 5:00 (note the change of time). We're going to make an Easter centerpiece. Sign up today.

LENT: Ash Wednesday is March 6. Our meal and worship schedule is changing this year. We are going to focus on families during the evening worship service. For this reason, CTR-U will end it's first session at 6:00 so everyone can enjoy a meal together. The meal will begin at 5:30 for those who can come early and those attending CTR-U will begin their meal at 6:00. The service will follow at 6:30. There will also be an 11:00 am Lenten service each Wednesday beginning with Ash Wednesday. Please join us at whichever service fits your schedule.

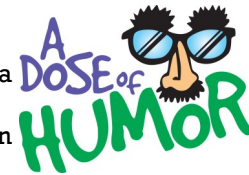
NEW BIBLE CLASS OPPORTUNITY: DCE Intern Carinna will lead a Bible study during Lent at CTR-U from 5:30-6:00 in the fellowship hall. The topics will coincide with the worship themes. All are invited to attend.

CAMP SUNDAY IS MARCH 10: Camp Lutherhoma staff will be here to sign people up and answer questions about summer camp. There will be a display in the Narthex. Join them for the opening in the Fellowship Hall for adults and kids with music at 9:30. A door offering will also be taken up for camp.

The Joke Corner....

One of the unmarried girls who works in a busy office arrived early the other morning and began passing out cigars and candy, both tied with blue ribbons. When asked what the occasion was, she proudly displayed a diamond solitaire on her third finger, left hand, and announced: "It's a boy...six feet tall and 187 pounds."

"This is an ideal spot for a picnic."
"It must be. Fifty million insects can't be wrong."



"Daddy, before you married Mommy, who told you how to drive?"



Comfort Dog Project

The offering for this quarter will go to the Comfort Dog Program. The mission of the Comfort Dog Program is to provide a ministry for sharing God's presence with those in need due to tragedy or stress while providing a bridge of compassion connecting with people throughout our community. Locally they help with school programs and classrooms, special needs classrooms, children's hospitals, nursing homes, police and fire department crisis response, funerals, etc. The Comfort Dog Program is affiliated with Lutheran Church Charities.

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

Faithful Measures

For the Month of January	2018	2019
Total Worship Attendance	1015	979
Weekly Average.....	254	245
SS/Bible Class Attendance	389	358
Weekly Average	97	90
January Giving	\$56,744	\$67,922
Monthly Budget	\$65,226	\$63,799
Year to Date Giving	\$56,744	\$67,922
Year to Date Budget	\$65,226	\$63,799
YTD Expenses.....	\$45,286	\$50,283

Building Fund Contribution:

Balance as of 12/31/18:	\$719,388
January Receipts:	\$193,839
Balance as of 1/31/19:	\$913,227



WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.



God is our _____ and _____,
an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

"Surely I am with you _____." Matthew 28:20

And the _____ of God ... will guard
your hearts and your minds in
_____. Philippians 4:7

Whoever lives in _____ lives in God,
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

_____ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

Answer: refuge, strength, always, peace, Christ Jesus, love, Perfect

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please add these individuals to your church directory or change the information that is currently printed.

Benjamin & Mamie Gobin
9210 E 39th St.
Tulsa, OK 74145



"You do not need to wallow in guilt. Wallow in the mercy of God." —St. John Vianney

"Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up." —Jesse Jackson

BIBLE QUIZ

In John 9, Jesus' disciples ask whether a certain man or his parents sinned, causing his disability. Jesus says, "Neither. ... [It was] so that God's works might be revealed in him." What was this man's disability?

- A. Deafness
- B. Lameness
- C. Blindness
- D. Epilepsy



Answer: C (See John 9:1-7)



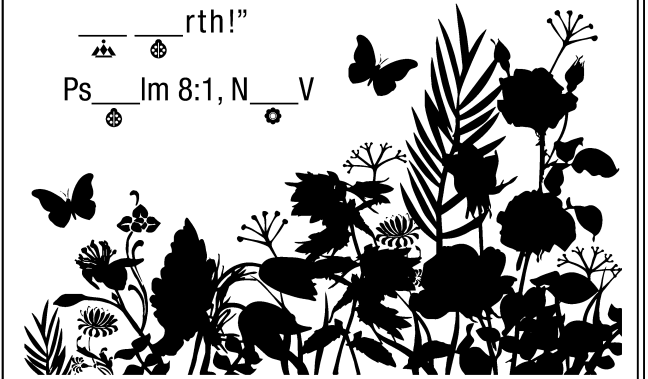
Spring's Beauty

During springtime, the beauty of God's creation emerges in many ways.

Directions: Use the vowel code below to complete Psalm 8:1, NIV.

A= ♀ E= ♂ I= ⚙ O= 🌲 U= 🌊

"L__RD, _____ r L__rd, h__ w
m__ j__ st__ c__ s__ y__ r
n__ m__ n__ ll th__
____rth!"
Ps__lm 8:1, N__V



Answer: "LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"



CTR-U Monthly Schedule

5:00-6:00 PM - Youth Band Practice— Jacob Drenkler

5:30-6:00 PM

- ◆ Faith Friends - Gym— Pastor Burmeister
- ◆ Confirmation Class - Library - DCE Suzanne
- ◆ Lent Bible Study— DCE Intern Carinna - fellowship hall
- ◆ Women's Small Group— Conference Room
- ◆ Men's Small Group - Bridal Room

5:30-6:30 PM - Lenten Meals

- ◆ March 6 - LWML (soups and sides)
- ◆ March 13 - Youth
- ◆ March 20 - Parish Life (breakfast casseroles and sides)
- ◆ March 27 - Altar Guild (sloppy joes and sides)
- ◆ April 3 - Elders (chicken & sides)
- ◆ April 10 - Property (brats/hotdogs & sides)

6:30 PM - Lenten Services begin March 6 with Ash Wednesday.
7:00 PM - Adult Choir



CTR-U CRAFT CLASS
March 20 - 5:00
Note the new time.

Our craft class will be a bunny centerpiece for Easter.

The cost is \$8.00 and limited to 12 participants.

Please note the earlier time for this craft because of the Lenten meal.



Daily Bible Reading

Week 57

Monday - Isaiah: 53:1-12
 Tuesday - Isaiah: 54:1-57:21
 Wednesday - Isaiah: 58:1-59:21
 Thursday - Isaiah: 60:1-62:12
 Friday - Isaiah: 63:1-66:24
 Saturday - Jeremiah: 1:1-2:37

Week 58

Monday - Jeremiah: 3:1-4:31
 Tuesday - Jeremiah: 5:1-6:30
 Wednesday - Jeremiah: 7:1-8:22
 Thursday - Jeremiah: 9:1-10:25
 Friday - Jeremiah: 11:1-12:17
 Saturday - Jeremiah: 13:1-14:22

Week 59

Monday - Jeremiah: 15:1-17:27
 Tuesday - Jeremiah: 18:1-19:15
 Wednesday - Jeremiah: 20:1-22:30
 Thursday - Jeremiah: 23:1-40
 Friday - Jeremiah: 24:1-25:38
 Saturday - Jeremiah: 26:1-28:17

Week 60

Monday - Jeremiah: 29:1-32
 Tuesday - Jeremiah: 30:1-32:44
 Wednesday - Jeremiah: 33:1-26
 Thursday - Jeremiah: 34:1-35:19
 Friday - Jeremiah: 36:1-37:21
 Saturday - Jeremiah: 38:1-40:16



LCMS Highlight

Soldiers of the Cross

Soldiers of the Cross has provided emergency financial support and pastoral care for Lutheran Church Missouri Synod church workers since 2004.

Today, the program stands ready to assist church workers who need short-term support and care from their Synod. Why operate Soldiers of the Cross?

Among the Synod's seven mission priorities is No. 5:

"Promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of pastors and professional church workers."



As with Veterans of the Cross, Soldiers of the Cross plays a significant role in fulfilling that mission priority.

"One of our Synod's top priorities must be helping our church workers in their time of need," said the Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, LCMS president. "Many have given a large portion of their lives to serve, very often in modest circumstances. While these are challenging times for many families, we must make every attempt to help our servants of the Church."

Demand for such help is greater than many people may realize, as affected workers endure in uncomplaining silence.

Since its inception, Soldiers of the Cross has seen the number of requests for assistance exceed the funds available each year. By God's grace, caring people in the LCMS continue to respond with compassion and generosity, even though the identity and privacy of those helped is protected.

Soldiers of the Cross depends totally on donor-designated contributions to deliver this vital care to workers and their families who are in crisis situations. If you would like to donate, visit www.lcms.org and search "Soldiers of the Cross".



IT'S A SMALL WORLD
 by Ken Eggers

A fellow Inverness Resident graciously loaned me one of her magazines – "This Week." While paging through, I came across an article that looked interesting – "A Modern Day Edison." This gentleman, Lowell Wood, now holds the USA record for number of patents issued. The record was previously held by Thomas Alva Edison.

It turns out Mr. Wood worked in the same military program I did. The media called it "Star Wars." I was on the guided missile part and he was on the warhead part of the program. Unfortunately, our paths never crossed, and I am sure he was at a much higher level of overall involvement than I was.

I was on loan to the program from Western Electric (part of the Bell System) for two years. Then it was back to my old job on the telephone side of Bell System. I often wondered what became of the program. Since it was on a Secret/Top Secret basis, it was not likely the media would know, and I had been debriefed and had no clearance.

But, in the article, Mr. Wood stated that while the program never got out of the research and development stage, it was enough of a threat to end the Cold War. Gorbachev tore down the Berlin Wall and numerous small countries returned to self-rule instead of being under Russian dominance. Star Wars did what it was designed to do.

To give my assertion more credence that it is a small world, the magazine article went on to say that Mr. Wood now works at Intellectual Ventures to solve such problems as preventing concussions in athletics, global warming, etc. This is a Bill Gates enterprise funded by Gates and other mega wealthy people to solve world-wide problems.

Another member of the elite group is Rob Horsch. Rob was in Dot's and my Sunday school class in Fullerton, California, and we were counselors of the youth group when he was president. Rob is a geneticist specializing in improving crop yields in third world countries.

It is indeed a small world after all!

DO SOMETHING GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

We're Recycling

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.

Vicarage News

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

Blessings to you as we begin the season of Lent together. I've noticed a trend recently. More and more people are exhibiting their devotion in Lent – not by giving something up – but by adopting a new positive habit. Maybe they're adopting a "think before you speak" attitude. Maybe it's a new practice of patience. Maybe it's being a better listener, engaging with their neighbors, or looking for opportunities to help someone in need. All of these are good and as we devote ourselves to the cross during Lent, our hearts should overflow with gratitude. In fact, maybe we ought to be adopting a habit of thankfulness during Lent. Find multiple opportunities each day to express your appreciation to others, especially others who don't hear "thank you" very often. (You can even start with your pastor whose schedule is jam-packed from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday.)

Historically, Lent was a season the Church used for teaching and catechesis. People interested in becoming Christian would devote themselves to learning about the faith throughout Lent (like a 40-day intensive confirmation class), culminating with a festive service of Baptism on Easter Eve. Then on Easter morning, they would join their new brothers and sisters in celebrating the joy of Christ's resurrection and the gifts of His body and blood at the Lord's Supper. It's traditional at our congregation in Edmond to revive some of the historic educational spirit of the Lenten season. This year, I will be joining the pastors in walking the congregation through the Apostles Creed (which is one of my favorite topics to teach in confirmation class.) I am excited about the chance to do more reading on this myself in preparation for our sermon series.

Teaching opportunities have been one of the best parts of vicarage. I recognized a hole in my preparation for ministry when I was leaving for vicarage. I haven't taught more than a few dozen adult Bible classes. I needed more experience, and I've had the blessing of having been asked to substitute for Dr. Jeff Kloha who leads our largest Sunday morning Bible class. Dr. Kloha was the provost of Concordia Seminary when I enrolled 2½ years ago. Now, he is the collection operations director for the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. The Museum of the Bible showcases the collection assembled by the Green family, the same family that started Hobby Lobby and Mardel. Like those two organizations, the Museum of the Bible has its headquarters in Oklahoma City, and Dr. Kloha and his family have worshipped here at Holy Trinity since accepting his new position. To make a long story short, Dr. Kloha volunteered his extensive Bible knowledge in leading our Sunday Bible classes, but his extensive travel schedule means he's sometimes out of town. I feel like a wholly inadequate stand-in for someone who can read his Greek Bible like he wrote it himself, but it has been a great opportunity to learn and grow. I may get even more opportunities to grow as Dr. Kloha has announced his family will soon be moving permanently to the Washington, D.C. area to simplify his travel schedule. We have been blessed to learn from him.

Another unique dimension to leading Bible classes at Holy Trini-

ty is the demographics of those in the class. Our church lies about 3 miles from the University of Central Oklahoma and there are multiple professors from OU who also call Holy Trinity their church home. It's intimidating to lead a class of such bright minds (and people who are used to being in front of the classroom themselves.) One of those in the class, Dr. John Grunow, approached me after my last class to offer some feedback. It was one of the most valuable conversations I've had on vicarage. We talked about redirecting people's comments back to the topic we're discussing, offering thoughtful asides to introduce additional material that goes beyond the lesson, and most importantly, prayer. Dr. Grunow is a former head elder at Holy Trinity and started a practice of opening each meeting with a time of prayer for the people and work of the congregation. He wanted to emphasize how important prayer was to any gathering of Christians, especially a Bible study. It was a great privilege to be able to learn from him and apply his wisdom to future classes.

Dealing with intimidation has been a recent theme of vicarage. Whether it's recognizing how I'm a poor substitute for a professional Bible teacher, or the humbling experience of attempting to teach other teachers. This intimidation was especially real during our latest circuit church workers' meeting. Groups of local pastors and DCEs often try to get together to pray, offer advice and support, and learn from one another. At our most recent gathering, our circuit visitor invited me to lead the day's main presentation on the topic of Church & Media. I was honored to be invited, and while I was reasonably self-assured about the topic given my years in TV, I was still apprehensive to grab the spotlight and get up in front of seasoned pastors. The pastors had lots of questions, but were very nice. I think a few of them weren't convinced of my thesis, but the majority seemed to understand and appreciate a TV-insider's perspective. Hopefully, I get the chance to refine the presentation and do it again, because I think their reactions could help me tidy up what I have to present.

It's hard to believe that I'm already nearing the end in vicarage. We don't return to St. Louis until August 1, but the wheels are already turning. Last week, I had a phone appointment with the Seminary's registrar to sign up for fall classes. We've already turned in our application to return to the Seminary's on-campus apartments and we're eagerly awaiting our housing assignment. I only have six more weeks of confirmation classes left, and it won't be long before school is out. Summer VBS will be here before we know it and then we'll be loading everything up for a journey back up the turnpike. It has been a quick year and the challenge going forward will be to keep my mind from being in two places at once.

Our family treasures knowing that we are in your prayers, both now and as we anticipate the transitions to come. Thank you!

With true gratitude,
Joshua

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

Confession

CONFESSOR

Articles from the Augsburg Confession

Article III: Of the Son of God

1) Also they teach that the Word, that is the Son of God, did assume the human nature in 2) the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, so that there are two natures, the divine and the human, inseparably enjoined in one Person, one Christ, true God and true man, who was born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and 3) buried, that He might reconcile the Father unto us, and be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of men.

4) He also descended into hell, and truly rose again the third day; afterward He ascended into heaven that He might sit on the right hand of the Father, and forever reign and have dominion over all creatures, and sanctify 5) them that believe in Him, by sending the Holy Ghost into their hearts, to rule, comfort, and quicken them and to defend them against the devil and the power of sin.

6) The same Christ shall openly come again to judge the quick and the dead, etc., according to the Apostles' Creed.

TULSA LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS NEED YOUR HELP!

CTR needs volunteers to continue their commitment to this mission. Please prayerfully consider joining our team. Additional info can be obtained by contacting Teresa Nightingale at 299-3396; tnightingale@cox.net



Are you an avid jigsaw puzzle fan? Do you have puzzles hidden away that you have worked but just can't seem to part with? We have the solution for you! Bring them to CTR-U on April 24th to swap with other puzzle fans. More details and reminders will follow.



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

- 3: by Wes & Hillary Speer in celebration of their 20th anniversary
- 3: by Mary Ann Meckfessel in memory of her mother, Alma Beth Fleske
- 10:
- 10:
- 17:
- 17:
- 24:
- 24:
- 31: by Roy Radke in celebration of Wanda's birthday
- 31:

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/ctrtulsa/>
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@ctrtulsa.org

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.



Winter VBS



**Prayer
Stations ...
Baptismal
Candles ...
Spy Traps**

The youth are busy
while at CTR-U!!!!



Music Director, Jacob, taught the kids about percussion instruments on Friday night and string instruments on Saturday as many countries have different drums and string instruments. At the end, the kids were able to try various instruments.

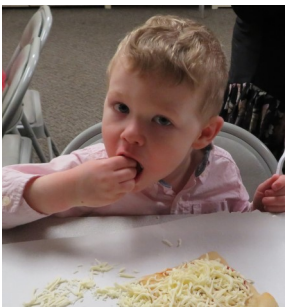
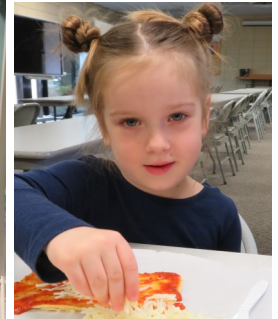
ECC



Nikki Witt, Director



Our chefs at ECC could not wait to taste-test their hand made pizzas!



Daddy - Daughter Dinner

What a great time our dads, granddads and uncles had with their special dates!! Many from CTR & ECC joined in the fun.



Laser Tag Night



The ECC kiddos exchanged valentine's goodies and put them in their handmade goodie boxes!



Down at the ECC, one of our teacher's husbands came and taught them how to make homemade pizzas!



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

Highlights from Family and Children Ministries

- Pre-Confirmation made candles of their own design to remember their baptism and learned about prayer stations
- Winter VBS was a blast, the kids especially loved making their own pinatas
- A special thanks goes to LWML who taught us about MOST Ministries. The kids made 81 bracelets which will be sent to people across the world!



DCE Suzanne Watt

CHRIST THE REDEEMER YOUTH MINISTRY

Jr. High (6-8th graders)
Sr. High (9-12th graders)

<http://www.ctrtulsa.org/youth-5-12-grade/>



"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!

NYG Group Meetings
February 20 & April 10
OK'D in Christ High School Gathering
March 29-30, 2019
Easter Breakfast
April 21, 2019
National Youth Gathering
July 10-16, 2019

YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISERS:



Celebrate the Resurrection with us on Easter Sunday!
The CTR Youth and their families invite you to an Easter Sunday breakfast.
When: April 21 from 9 AM-10:30 AM
Where: CTR Fellowship Hall
All donations will help support the youth attending the 2019 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.

All youth going to the 2019 NYG will have a breakfast prep day on Friday, April 19 beginning at 5:30 PM. Please plan to come and take home casseroles to bake as well as help decorate.

OK'D IN CHRIST is March 29-30, 2019 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Edmond, OK. Open to all current 8th



-12th grade students and friends. This year's theme is "Real.Present.God." and features speakers, music, breakout sessions and fellowship with other teens from Oklahoma. Registration is \$55 a person and includes programming and overnight hotel stay. Saturday lunch and snacks are also included. Please bring cash for dinners. We will be collecting non-perishable goods and hygiene items for a service project so please bring an item/items with you. Please turn in a registration form and your fee no later than March 6. Forms can be printed off from the youth webpage found at <http://www.ctrtulsa.org/youth-5-12-grade/>



We had 24 attend this year's junior high retreat at Camp Lutheroma. High school leaders led each of the 3 small groups throughout the weekend and assisted in music at campfire on Saturday night. The junior high youth participated in Group Initiative Training on Saturday, doing problem solving and team building activities as well as got to spend lot of time playing outside due to our warm weather weekend.

Mother-Son Bowling Date

Join us March 9th from 1:30-3:30 for:
Two hours of unlimited bowling
Shoe Rental
Pizza
Soft drinks

Cost is \$7.00 a person
We will meet at AMF Lanes
3121 S. Sheridan Rd.
Tulsa, OK 74145

Please meet at the bowling lane at 1:15 so we can set up lanes and get shoes distributed
Grandmas and aunts are invited too!

ACOLYTE TRAINING

March 10th @ 9:30 in the Sanctuary.

Students who are interested in serving as an acolyte can receive training during Sunday School hour. Students who are both confirmed and non-confirmed in 3rd-8th grade are invited for training. Even if you have been trained previously you are invited for a refresher.

Contact DCE Intern Carinna Corbett with Questions
families@ctrulsa.org
Remind "Acolyte" class code @mcarinn
918-549-0957

