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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](http://www.ctrtulsa.org)  
Email: [christredeemer@ctrtulsa.org](mailto:christredeemer@ctrtulsa.org)  
Early Childhood Center Phone: 918-492-1416

**Lenten and Holy Week Schedule**  
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

**Easter Sunday**  
Sunrise Worship - 7:00  
Early Service - 8:15  
Easter Breakfast - 9:00-10:30/Family Event - 9:30  
Late Service - 10:45

# 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



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.

The annual Easter egg hunt will take place on April 21st at 10:15. Please bring your own basket or bucket. Families are invited to join us at 9:30 to play minute to win it games in the gym before the Easter egg hunt.

Contact DCE Intern Carinna Corbett with questions: [families@ctrtulsa.org](mailto:families@ctrtulsa.org) or 918-548-0957



Fellow Redeemed,

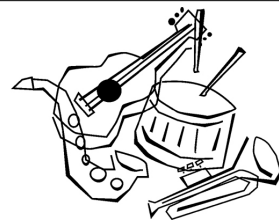
Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This article could end right there and be just perfect. Grace from God is the heart of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the foundation for the forgiveness of sins. Grace

alone is the cornerstone of the Christian faith and of Lutheran doctrine. Ephesians 2:8-9, "By grace you are saved, through faith, and this is not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works." Romans 4:16, "Therefore it is of faith that it might be by grace." Acts 20:24 calls it "the Gospel of the grace of God." God is the one who declares you righteous and saves you without the Law, that is without good works on your part. He does this by and through grace, for Christ's sake. Romans 1:16 states that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation of everyone who believes. To be saved by faith means to be saved without works. It is by God's grace alone that we are saved and have the gift of salvation and are called by God, sons and daughters, heirs of the heavenly kingdom. So then, what reality does the Law have for us? In the same way that the Ark of the Covenant is the house for the Ten Commandments, Aaron's rod and a

pot of manna, so now Christ Jesus is the Covenant and in Him is the fulfillment of the Law, a perfect staff with which to guide and His very Body and Blood that is now the new manna from heaven. All the Law is bound in the crucified body of Jesus. God looks upon us through the crucifixion of His Son and accepts His sacrifice on our behalf and then God Himself proclaims us righteous.

This is the freedom that we enjoy through God's grace. Free to now rise each morning as God's baptized children and go forth to enjoy the vocation to which He has called us. Through this vocation God provides you with everything that is needed to support your life. He also gives opportunities, through your vocation, to spread the very grace of God that you enjoy, when you forgive and serve others. So, I will say it again, grace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

# Calendar



### South City Winds Concert April 25 - 7:00 pm

The South City Winds, a Tulsa area community band invite members and the public to attend a free concert at First Baptist Church, 403 S Cincinnati Ave. in downtown Tulsa. The concert is Thursday, April 25, at 7:00 pm and will feature our Music Director, Jacob Drengler, performing a variety of secular and sacred music arranged for organ and wind band. Jacob will also perform a selection from his recent master's recital. The South City Winds are directed by Jeremy Parker, Director of Bands at Bixby and Craig Amendt, Choir and Handbell Director at Christ the Redeemer and Director of Bands at Sapulpa. We look forward to seeing you there!



### CTR TENNIS CLUB

The Tennis Club will be meeting on Sundays at 4:00 at the Jenks East Intermediate Tennis Courts beginning April 7 through August.

For more information, please contact Pastor Burmeister.



### Christ Has Triumphed!

Tomb, thou shalt not hold him longer;  
Death is strong, but life is stronger.  
Stronger than the dark, the light;  
Stronger than the wrong, the right.  
Faith and hope triumphant say,  
Christ will rise on Easter day.  
--Phillips Brooks





**Jacob Drengler**  
Music Director

This is the third in a series of articles discussing the organ's role in leading congregational singing. The first two articles focused on the hymn introduction as a means to establish the tune about to be sung, as well as giving a sense of the spirit of the text of the hymn through the use of carefully chosen registrations (combinations of organ stops) and the use of various musical devices to paint a picture of the text. This article will shift focus from the introduction to the singing of the hymn to the singing of the hymn itself.

Following the conclusion of the introduction, it is the congregation's turn to join the organ in song. In leading congregational singing from the organ console, I endeavor to use the full tonal resources of the organ. I approach the process of selecting organ registrations for hymn stanzas in the same way that I approach the introduction; it always starts with reading the hymn text. I seek to capture the spirit of each stanza of the hymn through the judicious selection and combination of various organ stops. This means that I will typically change registrations on each stanza of a given hymn. If the text calls for it, I may even change registration during the course of a stanza. These registration changes need not always be drastic or dramatic (unless the text suggests such). The goal is always to highlight the text and support the congregation's singing, not provide a kaleidoscopic tonal demonstration of the organ. One of the delights of the organ is that it is able to evoke both the quietest prayer of lament and the loudest song of praise. I tend not to use both dynamic extremes on every hymn, but when a particularly evocative hymn text calls for it, it is certainly nice to have that option. To illustrate this process, here is a hymn text (We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God, LSB 941), followed by a plan for how I might vary the registration for each stanza.

**We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord, the Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.**  
**To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing, the cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:**  
**"O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;**  
**Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!"**

**Verse One:** "The heavens sing" This stanza suggests a full sound. I would tend to begin with most of the foundation, reed, and mixture stops engaged, perhaps adding an additional stop or two at "O holy, holy, holy" to highlight the power of the moment when we join in the song of the Church in heaven.

**The band of the apostles in glory sings Your praise; the fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise. The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng, sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:**  
**"O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son, and Holy Spirit, Comforter. Forever Three in One!"**

**Verse Two:** "Sing with the holy Church" Again, this stanza highlights the continuity of our song with the song of the whole Church on earth and in heaven. To highlight this unity of song, I would solo the melody line out on the rather telling Trompette en dehors stop, while playing the harmony voices on a full, warm combination of reed and foundation stops.

**You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son, yet You with boundless love, sought to rescue everyone: You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin's womb, were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb; Then by Your resurrection, You won for us reprieve and opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.**

**Verse Three:** This stanza touches upon several mysteries of the faith; the Incarnation, Christ's Passion and Crucifixion, and the Resurrection. This is a rare instance where I would change registrations on almost every phrase in order to create a musical exegesis of the text. I would begin with a fairly full combination of foundation and reed stops to highlight the idea of Christ as "King of glory, the everlasting Son." For the next phrase, I would subtract all of the reed stops in order to create a less bombastic sound. At "You laid aside Your glory" I would further decrease the dynamic level by removing any higher pitched foundations sounds. The quietest moment would come when the congregation sings "Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb." The final phrases would be supported by a sudden return to a full, triumphant sound when the text speaks of the Resurrection. By this point the registration would be nearly at full organ, reserving a few of the higher mixture stops and powerful pedal reeds for the final stanza.

**You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand, upholding earth and heaven by forces You command. We know that You will come as our Judge that final day, so help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray; May we with saints be numbered where praises never end, in glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, Amen!**

**Verse Four:** "Splendid glory," "Praises never end." This stanza seems a most appropriate moment to unleash the full organ sound, omitting only those quieter stops which would cause tuning problems rather than add to the aural excitement. I envision the Church Triumphant singing before the throne of God. For the final "Amen" I would add the horizontal Trompette en dehors stop to the full ensemble; an effect which if used too often is overbearing, but in this case, seems almost necessary to capture the grandeur of the text.

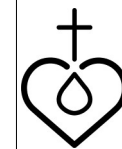
Next month's article will focus on reharmonizations of hymns in order to reflect the hymn text, as well as the use of interludes between stanzas of hymns.



# 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](http://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.



**Lutheran Women in Mission** Contact Sharon Schmidt for further details ([sharonschmidt216@gmail.com](mailto:sharonschmidt216@gmail.com) or 918-296-0121)

**Upcoming dates:** 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:** Donations for sewing and personal care kits will continue to be collected through April. The display in the narthex has lists of items needed. Contact Lynne Kollock or Carol Fruehling if you have any questions.



## What Easter Does...

Jesus' resurrection from the dead is life-changing and life-giving for his followers. But, as Henry Knox Sherrill notes, Easter's "joyful news ... does not change the contemporary world." On earth, we still must deal with sin, pain, death and brokenness. And "still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice," Sherrill adds. What Easter does, though, is provide Christians with "the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline and make the sacrifice."

By defeating the grave, Jesus empowers us to bear out worldly troubles with joy, peace and hope. His resurrection assures us that trials, tears and suffering are only temporary, while eternal victory and life with Jesus are permanent.

*"The resurrection ... was only the beginning of a great, grand and vast outreach that has never ended and will not end until our Lord Jesus Christ comes back gain."*  
—A.W. Tozer

*"Easter is the soul's first taste of spring."* —Richelle Goodrich

**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** Tie Quilts  
**Sew Squares** Assemble Tops  
**Join us !!** We would appreciate your help!

The quilters meet very Tuesday at 10:00 in the fellowship hall.

**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!*

|                            |          |          |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Judy & Jack Holliday       | April 2  | 1 year   |
| Deon & Debra Hull          | April 5  | 31 years |
| John & Lori Meinders       | April 6  | 28 years |
| Suzanne & Joey Watt        | April 13 | 7 years  |
| Kasey & Laura Simpson      | April 15 | 24 years |
| Gene & Betty Kuhlmann      | April 18 | 49 years |
| Del & Jan Dreyer           | April 20 | 56 years |
| Bob & Jean Paulsen         | April 21 | 63 years |
| Steve & Jody Zscheck       | April 23 | 36 years |
| Don & Marie Vavra          | April 24 | 48 years |
| Les & Nancy Austin         | April 26 | 11 years |
| Stephen & Kristie Ferguson | April 30 | 12 years |



### Sunday School Offering Hmong Ministry

The offering for this quarter will go to the Hmong Ministry. Supporting this ministry will help them as they look toward the funds for a rental property.

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

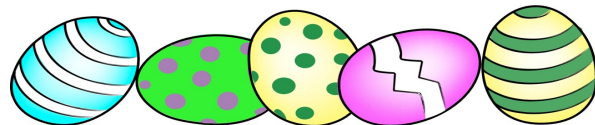
**BUNKO** will be on April 9 at the home of Sandy Moeller (13234 S 68th E. Ave., Bixby). There is a sign up sheet.



**OWLS** will meet on April 25 at Incredible Pizza at 11:30 for their monthly gathering. No speaker information at this time. There is a sign up. Please join them!

**CTR-U CRAFT CLASS** will not be held in April. Our last class of the season will be May 1. It will be a flip-flop wreath.

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** will be May 5. Parish Life will host a reception for the confirmands at 9:30. All are invited to attend. There will be a basket for cards.



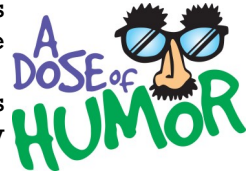
## The Joke Corner....

"I'm really worried."  
"Why?"  
"Well, my wife read *The Tale of Two Cities* and we had twins. Later she read *The Three Musketeers* and we had triplets. Now she's reading *Birth of a Nation!*"

Bad news: Your new sports car just drove off the ridge into the Grand Canyon.

Good news: It got 49 miles to the gallon on the way down.

It was so hot the other day that the cows were giving evaporated milk.



### CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES

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

Brad and Jennifer Teegardin  
1440 E 33rd St.  
Tulsa, OK 74105

Don Perry  
Garden Nursing Center  
1165 Brenner Rd. Rm 101  
Sapulpa, OK 74066



## Faithful Measures

|                                  |             |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| For the <b>Month of February</b> | <b>2018</b> | <b>2019</b> |
| Total Worship Attendance .....   | 964         | 1001        |
| Weekly Average.....              | 241         | 250         |
| SS/Bible Class Attendance .....  | 495         | 200         |
| Weekly Average .....             | 124         | 50          |
| February Giving .....            | \$62,687    | \$71,942    |
| Monthly Budget .....             | \$63,788    | \$63,800    |
| Year to Date Giving .....        | \$133,158   | \$139,864   |
| Year to Date Budget .....        | \$143,523   | \$127,600   |
| YTD Expenses.....                | \$105,994   | \$125,253   |

#### Building Fund Contribution:

January Balance: \$913,227  
February receipts: \$11,126  
Final balance: \$924,353

## LCMS Highlight

### Global Mission Fund

Gifts designated for LCMS Global Mission (the Global Mission Fund) are a streamlined and cost-effective way to bring people into contact with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word (witness) and deeds (mercy).

Our Synod sends missionaries, responds to catastrophic disasters, cares for the weak, champions the marginalized, strengthens LCMS congregations, supports Lutheran partner churches around the world as they are established and mature, and much more.

- Mercy and witness activities are no longer separated; they are carried out in close proximity to one another by one global team, boldly proclaiming Jesus Christ as Savior and showing His love for all under the banner of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

- Gifts for Global Mission are simple, agile and effective. Each gift is put to use wherever the opportunities are greatest at the time it is received. Global Mission gifts are put to work funding witness and mercy efforts here in the United States (**National Mission**) and in other countries (**International Mission**).

- They bolster work to proclaim Jesus in Word (**Witness**, carrying on the work of LCMS World Mission) and in deed (**Mercy**, or human care in the same vein as LCMS World Relief and Human Care). Global Mission gifts also fund **Life Together** work, those activities intended to enhance, orchestrate and focus the tremendous capabilities spread across the entire LCMS in service to our Lord's Great Commission. In fact the only thing Global Mission gifts cannot and do not fund is the administration of the LCMS as a corporation.

- Because of the way Global Mission gifts are put to work, the cost to faithfully manage and oversee these gifts runs 4.6% less than other, more tightly restricted types of donations. In fact the only type of gift with a lower true administrative cost is an unrestricted donation to the LCMS (called a "Together As Synod" gift).

- For donors not yet ready to entrust to the LCMS an unrestricted gift and yet desirous of seeing their gifts put to real mission efforts as effectively and efficiently as possible, the Global Mission Fund is an outstanding choice.

**Ways to Give:** As the Lord allows, please consider joining the ranks of LCMS Global Mission donors and sharing Jesus with the entire world in Word and deeds today.

## Mission News Update

### We Thank the Lord for Good News!

Suzanne's skin cancer surgery went very smoothly. While it did take awhile to get the procedure done, all went very well. The doctor gave us the good news that it was a melanoma *in situ*, which is the same as saying it was a Stage 0. Suzanne did have to stay so that the doctor might follow up on her incision, but she has now made it safely back to Prague and is doing fine. We thank all of you for your prayers on her behalf.

### Getting Things Organized

Now that we are back in Prague, we have a lot of things to organize. We have to set up Czech language classes, we have to work on our long-term visas and we have to do all the things that one has to do when one has moved to a new location. We will be traveling to Berlin for a meeting on March 13 with the Czech embassy there so that we will be able to secure our long-term visas. We ask for your prayers for our journeys and that the visa process will proceed smoothly.

### Installations for Church Offices

On Sunday, March 3, our congregation in Prague celebrated a big day. First, Dale was installed as pastor of St. Michael the Archangel congregation. That installation will involve both the Eurasia Regional Director, Rev. James Krikava, and the Bishop of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Czech Republic (ECAV v ČR), Rev. Marián Čop, who serves as the pastor of the Slovak congregation meeting in the same building. Then secondly, we installed Martin Damašek as a deacon, to serve the ECAV v ČR as well as to study for office of pastor under the tutelage of Dale. Martin has already begun to help Dale, serving as a translator for us and the other two parishes that meet in the building (Slovak and Czech congregations).

We commend you to Christ!  
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster  
*Your Missionaries to the Czech Republic*

**Our address in Prague:**  
**Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster**  
**Bubenečská 365/41**  
**Praha 6 160 00**  
**Czech Republic**

**The church address in Prague:**  
**St. Michael's Lutheran Church**  
**V Jircháraich 14/152**  
**Praha 1 110 00**  
**Czech Republic**



**Pray for us as we begin Czech language lessons.**  
**Please pray for our trip to Berlin for our long-term visas.**

**You can read Rev. Kaster's full newsletter that is posted at the south entrance near the church office.**





# CTR-U Monthly Schedule

**No CTR-U April 17**

**5:00-6:00 PM** - Youth Band Practice- Jacob Dregler

**5:30-6:00 PM (5:30-6:30 on April 24)**

- ◆ Faith Friends - Gym- Pastor Burmeister
- ◆ Confirmation Class - Library - DCE Suzanne
- ◆ Lent Bible Study- DCE Intern Carinna - Fellowship Hall through April 10
- ◆ Women's Small Group- Conference Room
- ◆ Men's Small Group - Bridal Room

**5:30-6:30 PM - Lenten Meals (6:00-7:00 on April 24 & May 1)**

- ◆ April 3 - Elders (chicken & sides)
- ◆ April 10 - Property (hamburgs/hotdogs & sides)
- ◆ April 24 - Subs, salad bar, dessert
- ◆ May 1 - Tacos, salad bar, dessert

**6:30 PM - Lenten Services begin March 6 with Ash Wednesday.**

**7:00 PM - Adult Choir (resumes at 8:00 beginning April 24)**

## NO CTR-U CRAFT CLASS for APRIL



**FINAL CLASS - May 1 - 5:30**

We will be making a flip-flop wreath. The cost is \$8.00 and limited to 12 participants.

## Puzzle Swap

Are you a jigsaw puzzle fanatic? Do you have puzzles that you have worked but haven't passed on yet? Would you like to trade those puzzles for some new ones? We have the perfect solution for you! Come to CTR-U on April 24<sup>th</sup> at the south entrance from 5:30-6:30 for a jigsaw puzzle exchange! Adult puzzles and children's puzzles are welcome! Unclaimed puzzles will be donated to the Assistance League for sale at Bargains. Contact Teresa Nightingale at 918-299-3396 or [tnightingale@cox.net](mailto:tnightingale@cox.net) if you have questions.

## 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.

## Daily Bible Reading

### Week 61

Monday - Jeremiah: 41:1-43:13  
 Tuesday - Jeremiah: 44:1-45:5  
 Wednesday - Jeremiah: 46:1-49:39  
 Thursday - Jeremiah: 50:1-51:64  
 Friday - Jeremiah: 52:1-34  
 Saturday - Lamentations: 1:1-22

### Week 62

Monday - Lamentations: 2:1-3:66  
 Tuesday - Lamentations: 4:1-5:22  
 Wednesday - Ezekiel: 1:1-2:10  
 Thursday - Ezekiel: 3:1-5:17  
 Friday - Ezekiel: 6:1-7:27  
 Saturday - Ezekiel: 8:1-9:11

### Week 63

Monday - Ezekiel: 10:1-11:25  
 Tuesday - Ezekiel: 12:1-13:23  
 Wednesday - Ezekiel: 14:1-15:8  
 Thursday - Ezekiel: 16:1-17:24  
 Friday - Ezekiel: 18:1-19:14  
 Saturday - Ezekiel: 20:1-21:32

### Week 64

Monday - Ezekiel: 22:1-23:49  
 Tuesday - Ezekiel: 24:1-27  
 Wednesday - Ezekiel: 25:1-27:36  
 Thursday - Ezekiel: 28:1-26  
 Friday - Ezekiel: 29:1-32:32  
 Saturday - Ezekiel: 33:1-34:31

### Week 65

Monday - Ezekiel: 35:1-36:38  
 Tuesday - Ezekiel: 37:1-39:29  
 Wednesday - Ezekiel: 40:1-42:20  
 Thursday - Ezekiel: 43:1-27  
 Friday - Ezekiel: 44:1-31  
 Saturday - Ezekiel: 45:1-46:24

## SOME HISTORY OF THE ONE DOLLAR BILL

by Ken Eggers - courtesy of the internet

Often referred to as paper money, the one dollar and all other bill denominations are in fact fabric – not paper. They consist of a blend of cotton and linen with minute fibers of red and blue silk running through them.

The present one dollar bill was first printed in 1957. A special secret blend of ink is used. It is overprinted with symbols, then starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look and feel.

On the front of the bill, is the seal of the United States Treasury. In the top of the seal are the scales for a balanced budget. In the center is a carpenter's T – square which is a tool used to make even cuts. Underneath the T – square is a key to the U.S. Treasury. On the back of the bill are two circles. Both circles together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a seal. It took them 4 years to accomplish this task (a typical design by committee – but it worked) and another 2 years to get it approved.

The left hand circle has a pyramid with its face lighted. The left or Western side is dark. When this country was just in its infancy, we had not yet begun to explore the West or know what could be done with it. The pyramid is uncapped, signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the pyramid capstone is the all-seeing eye – an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man could not do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God could do anything. IN GOD WE TRUST is on the currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT OEPTIS, means "God has favored our undertaking". The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means "a new order has begun". At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1778.

The right hand circle is prominent at every National Cemetery in the USA. It is also the centerpiece of most hero's monuments. Slightly modified, it is also the Seal of the President of the United States and is always visible at all his speeches. The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons. First, it is not afraid of a storm, it is strong and smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, it wears no material crown. We had just broken away from the King of England. Also, the shield is unsupported signifying this country can now stand on its own. At the top of the shield, is a white bar indicating Congress as a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. The Eagles beak holds a banner proclaiming the Latin phrase E PLURIBUS UNUM, meaning "one nation many people". Above the Eagle are the 13 stars representing the original 13 colonies, and that any clouds of misunderstanding are being rolled away. Again, we were coming together as one. In the Eagle's talons, is an olive branch and a group of arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve it. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in times of war, its gaze turns toward the arrows.

The number 13 is universally considered to be unlucky. But think about this: There are 13 original colonies, 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the pyramid, 13 letters in the Latin in the Eagle's beak, 13 letters in the Latin above the pyramid, 13 stars above the eagle, 13 plumes of feathers on each span of the Eagle's wing, 13 bars on the shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch and 13 arrows as well as the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment.



## STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT FUND

Pursuing a career in service to the Lord through the church is a fulfilling opportunity, but it is not an inexpensive choice. Those who pursue professional church work many times incur educational debt, just like anyone else may do. Repayment of educational debt is often made more difficult by the more modest salaries of church workers, compared to other professions. In order to encourage and retain our professional church workers here at Christ the Redeemer, several years ago the congregation established a fund to assist our Pastors, DCEs and other synodically-trained church workers in repaying their student loans. This fund relies on the donations of our members here at CTR. The fund is currently in need of additional funds. Please prayerfully consider a designated donation to this cause. You may place your gift in the weekly offering with a designation of "Student Loan Fund" or you may give your gift directly to one of the Elders and we will ensure that it is deposited in the correct fund. Thank you for your past generosity and for ongoing support. – John Meinders, Elder Chair

## 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](mailto:lutherhoma@lutherhoma.com) or call 918-458-0704.



# Vicarage News

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

It was great to see so many friends on our recent visit to Tulsa. Worshiping with our CTR family is always a joy and spending time with you on a Sunday morning is a rare treat. We are glad we got to share the exciting things happening at CTR and in your lives. Catching up in person is always better than just communicating by newsletter article, but there were many people who we wish we had the chance to spend more time with. Please forgive us, and accept this heartfelt letter as a poor substitute for being with you face-to-face, at least until we are together again.

Along with making a trip to Tulsa, in the past month our family was treated to a visit by Jan & Del Dreyer and Diane & Ed Fager. Both families have been incredibly kind to us over the years in too many ways to mention. Diane and Ed have supported and encouraged Suzy in her career and Del helped shepherd me through my term on CTR's Board of Directors. We were honored to hear they'd be joining us for worship at Holy Trinity on a Sunday when I was preaching. It added a little extra pressure, but also made the day extra special. They also generously shared a meal with us, which afforded an opportunity to catch up with each others' lives. As we head back to St. Louis this summer – and as ministry takes us to parts unknown down the road – we hope we can stay as connected as possible to the lifelong friends Christ has given us through our CTR family.

Things only seem to get busier for our family. Suzy's work has continued at its brisk pace. At the same time, she has picked up extra volunteer duties at church. Last month, Suzy began helping with Holy Trinity's media team, projecting slides during our 9:30 Sunday worship service. Suzy also has a lot of singing on her calendar as her adult choir will be doing a lot for the upcoming Holy Week and Easter services. Graham is busy too, adding molar, new words and phrases, and stubbornness. He loves reading books and has started filling in words when you pause during some of his favorites. Graham is looking forward to springtime opportunities to spend more time outside; he's definitely a kid who appreciates the outdoors.

I have a busy stretch ahead, too. I will be preaching on both Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. I'll also get my first chance to plan a Sunday worship service from scratch. Traditionally at Holy Trinity, the vicar gets to organize the Easter sunrise service, selecting the readings, the hymns and theme for the day. They try to hold the service outdoors beneath our church's bell tower unless the weather interferes. I haven't begun any worship planning, but for the sake of the others who will be involved in the service, I know I need to get started to give them plenty of time to prepare. I've gotten a small amount of worship planning experience on vicarage through our school chapel services. About once a month, I'm in charge of planning the 40-minute chapel service. That includes writing a skit, prepping a message, selecting songs and preparing PowerPoint slides so the kids can follow along. I also serve as regular chapel pianist. Preparing

chapel worship has been one of the most challenging parts of vicarage and I can imagine the Easter sunrise service will seem even more daunting.

To lead into the excitement of Holy Week, Holy Trinity throws a community Easter festival on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. They call it their "Easter Eggstravaganza." Along with the obligatory Easter egg hunts, the vicar is in charge of sharing the Easter story to the children and families who attend. I'm looking forward to participating in another of Holy Trinity's beloved traditions. To get Lent started, our congregation held a "Farewell to Alleluia" music festival on Mardi Gras. Typically, we reserve our joyful "alleluias" during Lent, so we said goodbye with a musical flourish. The next day, almost 500 people joined us for Ash Wednesday worship. The evening service was perhaps the most moving Ash Wednesday service I've ever attended. I'm glad so many people were there to share it.

It's coincidental that at the same time ministry responsibilities here are increasing for the Easter season, the Seminary starts preparing vicars to return to campus for the Fall Semester. I seem to get weekly emails about housing applications, financial aid paperwork, and enrollment procedures. Last month, I had a 20-minute phone conference with the Seminary registrar's office. We talked about my course preferences for my final year in the classroom. I'll be taking elective courses for the first time in the Fall, which is pretty typical. You usually take a bunch of classes you need to have before vicarage, and when you return, you get to begin choosing classes that suit your interest. For the Fall, I'm hoping to get into classes on Athanasius and teaching Confirmation. In the Spring, I'm praying to be able to take a class on the Sermon on the Mount from Dr. Jeff Gibbs. He is the Synod's foremost authority on the book of Matthew. He's authored a 3-volume commentary that serves as a benchmark for Biblical scholarship. Plus, he's simply a joy. He has a quick wit and a soft heart. (He's also given me the worst grade I've earned in a Seminary class so far.) I would gladly take a far worse grade to be able to have another opportunity to learn from him.

One final task a 3rd-year Seminarian has to complete is an outreach project. I have been working with a small task force of folks from across the Oklahoma District to prepare some digital outreach training for congregations. This is a project that was underway before we moved back to Oklahoma, but I am happy to jump on board and lend whatever help I can to the effort. We have been meeting, assembling resources, tip sheets, and training materials. I can't wait to see what comes of it!

We have expectant hearts fueled by the promise of Easter to come. Join us in joyful anticipation of the victory that awaits us all in Christ.

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



# Confession

## ORNER

### Articles from the Augsburg Confession

#### Article IV: Of Justification

1] Also they teach that men cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works, but are freely justified to 2] Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor, and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake who, by His death, has made satisfaction for our sins. 3] This faith God imputes for righteousness in His sight. Romans 3 and 4

### God Said No!!

**I asked God to take away my habit.**  
*God said, "No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up."*

**I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.**  
*God said, "No. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary."*

**I asked God to grant me patience.**  
*God said, "No. Patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned."*

**I asked God to give me happiness.**  
*God said, "No. I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you."*

**I asked God to spare me pain.**  
*God said, "No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me."*

**I asked God to make my spirit grow.**  
*God said, "No. You must grow on your own but I will prune you to make you fruitful."*

**I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life.**  
*God said, "No. I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things."*

**I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me.**  
*God said, "...Ahhh, finally you have the idea."*



### 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



## 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 \$50 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

**7:** by Kathi Lohse in memory of Art

**14:** by Del & Jan Dreyer in celebration of their anniversary

**14:** by Bob & Jean Paulsen in celebration of their anniversary

**21:** by Steve & Jody Zscheck in celebration of their anniversary

**21:** by Micky Flasch in memory of Don

**28:** by Sally Neas in celebration of John's birthday

**28:**

### 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>



Stay in Touch

The private group is at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ctrtulsa/>  
For the Twitter account use: @PastorBe\_CTR

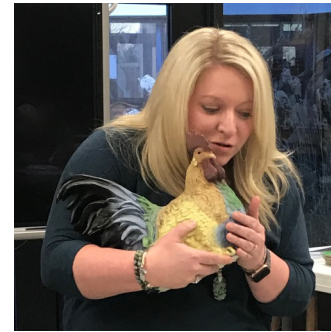
To join the private group, click Join Group in the top right hand corner of the page or contact James Morgan via e-mail: [communications@ctrtulsa.org](mailto:communications@ctrtulsa.org)

**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.





**Chili Cook-off**  
 We all had a great time at the chili cook-off. We raised over \$700 for our homeless vets!! And the winner of the cook-off was Lisa Bellmard. Congrats!!




Youth perform at the Chili cook-off!

**CTR YOUTH MUSIC SCHEDULE**

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

- April 7: 6th-8th Grades
- April 14: 3rd-5th Grades
- April 21: Easter Sunday
- April 28: 6th-8th Grades




Sixteen LWML ladies met for a Thrivent Action Team project where they put together 48 fabric kits and 44 personal care kits. Many thanks to everyone who donated items for the kits. Collection of items will continue through April.



# ECC



Playground Fun!!!

Nikki Witt, Director



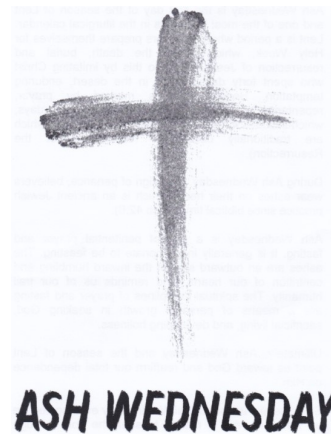
One of the grandparents brought their service dog to ECC to visit with the children. The dog is an emotional support dog from Halo Service Dog Program.



Birthday Celebration donuts!



The children at ECC celebrate Ash Wednesday!



ASH WEDNESDAY



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

### Mark your Calendars

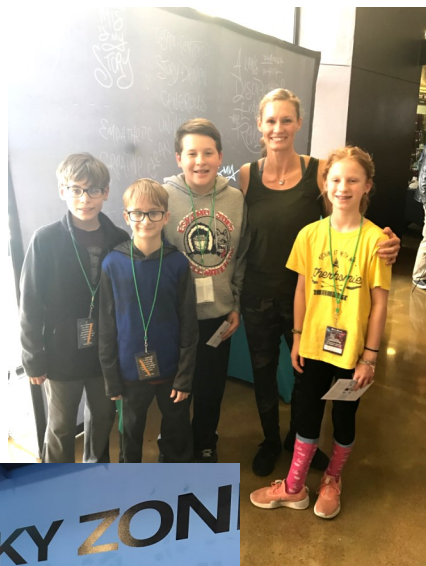
**April 6:** Connect night at Los Cabos 5:00-8:00, daycare provide at the church.

**April 21:** Easter Minute to Win It games in the gym at 9:30, followed by an Easter egg hunt at 10:15. Please bring your own basket or bucket.

**May 4:** Family Gathering Place outing 11:00-1:00. Please bring a sack lunch and join us at the Gathering Place for fellowship and fun. Families can feel free to stay as long as they wish.



Club 345 students had the chance to meet a real American Ninja warrior!



Faith Friends had their very own snow party!



Mother Son bowling was a blast in March!



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/>



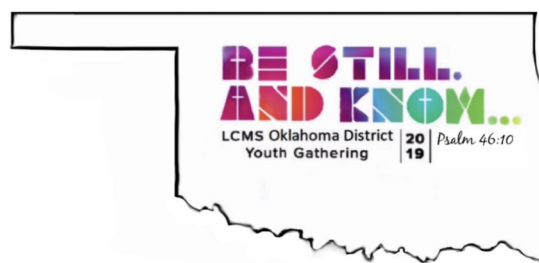
*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8*

## Save the Date!

- OK'D in Christ High School Gathering March 29-30, 2019
- Easter Breakfast April 21, 2019
- Lutherhoma Golf Bag "Stuffing" April 24, 2019
- National Youth Gathering July 10-16, 2019

### CAMP LUTHERHOMA NEEDS HELP!

Come up to church on Wednesday, April 24 at 5:30 PM to help stuff bags that will be given out at the Camp Lutherhoma Golf Tournament on Saturday, April 27. Please sign up to volunteer on the youth table in the Narthex. This activity can be signed off on for school/organizational service hours.

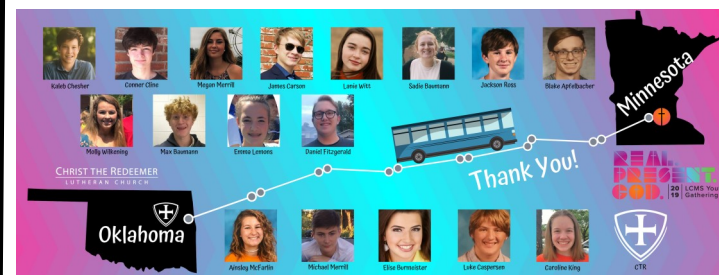


**OK'D IN CHRIST** participants will leave from CTR on Friday, March 29 at 6 pm. We should return to CTR for pick up on Saturday, March 30, in the evening at 8:30 PM after eating dinner. We will be collecting non-perishable goods and hygiene items so please remember to bring your donations with you.

**VBS WORK WEEK** is June 3-7. There will be items needed to be done daily. Sign up with DCE Suzanne to help!

## National Youth Gathering Envelope Fundraiser

1. Visit the Envelope Wall by the South church entrance on the glass windows.
2. Pick your white envelope. The number on the outside reflects the amount you will donate. (For example Envelope 57 = \$57)
3. Inside you will find a letter, blue envelope and yellow Donor Information Card.
4. Keep the letter inside the white envelope from one of the youth attending NYG and pray for that youth before, during and after the trip.
5. Return your donation in the blue envelope along with the Donor Information Card to CTR. All checks should be make payable to "Christ the Redeemer" with "NYG Fundraiser" in the memo line
6. During the Gathering July 11-15 expect a special surprise from your youth!



### NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING MEETINGS:

- Wednesday, April 10 from 6:00-6:30 PM
  - We will meet to finalize plans for the Easter breakfast and discuss hotel plans.
- Friday, April 19 from 5:30-7:00 PM
  - We will met to prep the Easter breakfast casseroles for service on Easter Sunday
- Sunday, April 21 from 8:00-10:30 AM
  - We will be prepping, serving and cleaning up the Easter breakfast