



The Cornerstone

January 2021

A publication of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church

Rev. Scott Burmeister
Pastor

Suzanne Watt
Dir. of Christian Education

Nikki Witt
ECC Director

Connie Phillips
Office Administrator

Deva Beebe
Business Administrator

Jacob Drengler
Music Director

Craig Amendt
Assistant Music 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



KEEP SEEKING HIM

The Magi's Story - and Ours

The story of the Magi is our story. God has used his supernatural means to draw us unto himself. ... On one glorious day, when we were exhausted and wearied in our sin, God led us to gaze upon Jesus just as the Magi did. We see the glory of God manifested through Jesus Christ in the internal work of the Holy Spirit. We see our utter sinfulness and God's abounding grace offered in the Messiah. We are filled with joy as this grace sinks into our hearts.

We fall down on our knees and confess our need of this Messiah. We worship him and offer up our lives as our greatest offering to him. Then we continue on in our lives, carrying the truth about the Messiah.

--Travis Cunningham, tverzsouezs.net

Pastor's COLUMN

Fellow Redeemed,

Repent is not a bad word. When you think about it deeply, and theologically, the word repent is an absolute blessing, meaning that is by God, of God, through God and a gift from God. When the messengers of God come to humankind with the message of repentance, they are making a proclamation from God Himself. That Word then creates the very condition that is necessary for the command to be fulfilled. We would not know that repentance was even necessary, had it not been for the Word from God that calls us into it. Then God gifts us, through His Word, the right path and way in which He wants us to walk, which is called His Will. That is not all. Then God reconciles us to Himself by the blood of His Son, who is the perfect sacrifice for our sins. God does not stop there, no, He then gives us the Holy Spirit who creates in us clean hearts, so that we can walk the path that God has directed. Therefore, repentance is a wonderful blessing from God.

*Create in me a
clean heart,*



Psalms 51:10, ESV

It is often the case, that when a person repents, they will leave an old way, or will, behind. Sin functions in the confines of relationships, always has and always will. What can tend to happen is that a person will watch someone they used to sin with, repent and then move slowly, or quickly away from them. If you are a person who has watched a "loved-one" walk away from you and move closer to God, then the messengers from God might be calling you as well. Who would ever begrudge a person for finding salvation in God, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit? Only those who reject the very repentance that God offers to all. You can repent as well, but only by God, through God and only from God.

This new year is a wonderful opportunity for us all to repent. But what do we need to repent of? First, we need to tell the truth, regarding 2020. It was a year that was full of God's favor. Do not curse the year, as the world would tempt you to do. Instead, thank God for all the blessings that He bestowed through it. God was with us this past year. Could you imagine what the world would have looked like if God had abandoned us last year? Thanks be to God that He did NOT abandon us but was with this world and held the world close to His heart and saved this world through His Son, Jesus Christ. I love the call to repentance in my life. It is a pure gift of God. It is God doing everything in His power to show me His goodness and mercy and love. May God bless you, as you repent and watch God work miracle after miracle in your life and relationships. Amen.



President:	Brad Young
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Past President:	Tom Kirby
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Director-at-Large:	Kyle Stein
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ECC:	Chris Carson
Education:	Scott Chesher
Elders:	Jim Holt
Evangelism:	Steve Short
Family & Children:	Katie Michaels-Johnson
Finance:	Brenda Flasch
Outreach:	Patti Ross
Parish Life:	Danita Cockrell
Property:	Floyd Lemons
Stewardship:	Nancy Kirby
Strategic Planning:	Tim Kuehnert
Worship:	Cherry Volberding
Youth:	Amber Carson
Endowment Fund:	Rob Koch

LWML OKLAHOMA DISTRICT SHOE COLLECTION

November 1 - February 1

- Men's, Women's, Children's shoes
- Dress, athletic, sandals, flipflops, boots, etc.
- No roller skates or ice skates
- Shoes should be clean and in good condition
- Shoes should be paired, banded together or tied with laces together

Contact Sharon Schmidt for more information (918-296-0121 or 405-605-9518). A collection box will be located near the narthex.



1 John 3:17-18

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Tulsa Saints Foundation

Blessings to all of the Christ Redeemer Lutheran Church. As the calendar year winds down and 2020 goes to the wayside, I can't but think about what a great year it was. You may be asking yourself how I can say this. Let me try to explain.

When the world was in its most desperate times, brutal deposits ruled the world, God sent his son, The Messiah, Jesus to save us from ourselves (John 3:16). But this is not the only time God has been there for us. His word has been with us always and as **Psalm 46:1-3** says, ***God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.***

Has not this year been a year when we needed to reach out and pray...be a Daniel in these times and pray without ceasing. Has this not been a year when we, as God's children, have grown closer to him? Is this not how we wish we all had been all these years we have been on this earth. This fleeting time before we come to him forever?

He tells us not to fear. Over 360 times in the Bible, and I am sure there are more; **Isaiah 41:10** says, ***So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*** I praise God for being there for all of us during this time and what a blessing to know him better this year and the mighty deeds and miracles he does for us.

We of the Tulsa Saints walk without fear each Friday night on the streets of Tulsa helping those most in need. During the tribulations of this year, we found that those on the streets were the ones truly suffering and in need. All the clothes, hats, socks, beautiful coats, blankets, undergarments, and other items donated by the congregation of CTR has truly been a blessing. In the three years we have been doing this, the donations have helped hundreds of people on the streets. We have provided more with CTR's help than all the years before. I want to thank whomever made the hats...they were much needed and a homerun.



Remember, Philippians 4:6, *Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Messiah Jesus.*

Thank you all, God bless you and keep you safe.

Michael W. Bryan, Director

A COLORFUL body

Melt crayons to show how the body of Christ works together.



What you need:

- Crayons
- Metal baking sheet
- Adult help
- Metal gingerbread man cookie cutter

What you do:

1. Remove labels and break crayons into 1-inch pieces.
2. Scatter pieces on the baking sheet, about two layers thick.
3. Bake for 10 minutes at 350 degrees until melted. Allow to cool 15 minutes.
4. When melted crayons are the consistency of playdough, press the cookie cutter through them (while still on pan).
5. Cool the pan in freezer for 15 minutes until crayons are hardened.
6. Remove from pan and break apart the shapes.






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

Lonnie & Janet Jamison	January 5	30 years
Scott & Amy Merrill	January 13	20 years
Don & Vernice Bersche	January 17	51 years
Greg & Julie Littleton	January 30	33 years
Sam & Suzanne Romine	January 30	11 years

The OWLS will not meet until we are comfortable with the safety issues for everyone involved. We look forward to our fellowship luncheons in the near future.





MILITARY COUPONS

Until further notice, the collection of coupons for military families overseas is going to be put on hold. I wish to thank CTR members for their generous support of this program over the past several years.

– Deb Drain

“What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven’t even happened yet.”
--Anne Frank

“Learn to light a candle in the darkest moments of someone’s life. Be the light that helps others see.”
--Roy T. Bennett



You can now sign up online to receive the CTR E-blast! This gives you access to the weekly news and events email as well as special announcements. Sign up today at <http://www.ctrtulsa.org/email-signup/> to receive it if you have not done so already.



January Altar Flowers

Sign up to provide altar flowers, which you may take home following the late service. On the sign-up sheet write your name by the date and the special occasion for the flowers. With your \$50 check to CTR, include AL-

TAR FLOWERS on the memo line.

Keep up with coming events, announcements, and updates:

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ChristTheRedeemerLutheranChurch
www.facebook.com/groups/ctrtulsa/

Instagram:

www.instagram.com/ctrtulsa/

Twitter:

@PastorBe_CTR



Stay in Touch

3: by Deb Drain in honor and thanksgiving for Kristopher's birthday

3:
10:
10:
17:
17:
24:
24:
31:
31:



Sunday School Classes For Children and Youth



Beginning in January some of your favorite VBS Bible Buddies and music are BACK as part of the Simply Loved Sunday School series. Join us each Sunday for music, videos, skits, games, activities and more as we learn about Joseph, the Exodus and Moses and talk about Jesus! All kids in preschool through 5th grade are invited to attend!

Unit 1: Joseph's Story

1/3 Lesson 1: Joseph Annoys His Brothers

1/10 Lesson 2: Joseph Goes to Jail

1/17 Lesson 3: God Helps Joseph Interpret Dreams

1/24 Lesson 4: Joseph Forgives His Brothers

Unit 2: The Exodus

1/31 Lesson 5: Moses is Rescued by Pharaoh's Daughter

2/7 Lesson 6: Moses Talks to God at a Burning Bush

2/14 Special Valentine's Day Lesson

2/21 Lesson 7: God Spares the Israelites at Passover

2/28 Lesson 8: The Israelites Cross the Red Sea

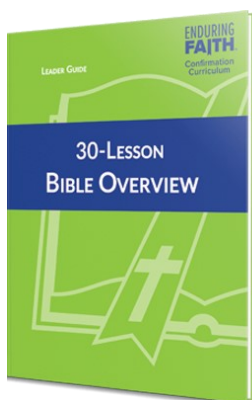
Unit 3: Never Fear, Jesus Is Here!

3/7 Lesson 9: Jesus Is Born

3/14 Lesson 10: Jesus Calms a Storm

3/21 Lesson 11: Jesus Forgives the Thief on the Cross

3/28 Lesson 12: Jesus Comes Back to Life



Jr High/Confirmation (6th-8th Grade)

Confirmation students have 2 choices for classes this fall:

- Sunday School from 9:30-10:30 am for 6th grade - 8th grade
- At home with monthly Check-In Nights from 3:00-5:00 PM for 6th grade and up

The Sunday School class, a 30-Lesson Bible Overview is also open to non-confirmation students. If necessary, we will continue to Zoom Sunday School classes for the participation of those staying at home. Classes are led by DCE Suzanne in the CTR Library.



High School Youth (9th-12th Grade)

Led by David Ross and Tim Kuehnert in the Church Office. This class looks at a wide variety of topics including Church History, Denominational Differences and Contemporary Culture and our Beliefs.




For the Month of November 2019 2020

November Giving.....	\$60,261	\$66,258
Monthly Budget	\$63,800	\$81,788
Year to Date Giving	\$757,008	\$742,587
Year to Date Budget	\$749,649	\$785,168
YTD Expenses.....	\$699,781	\$700,060

Building Fund Contribution:

November Receipts: \$197,775.14
CTR Building Fund Balance: \$2,021,564.07



**Church Directory
UPDATE**

Colleen Bail
39434 N 4000 Road
Collinsville, OK 74021

Marge Braun
2450 N Stone Ridge Dr #204
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Chris Matthies
6938 S Utica Place
Tulsa, OK 74136

Michael & Christine Bryan
8670 N 110 Road
Beggs, OK 74421



**In-Person Service
Announcement**

We resumed in-person worship on July 26 at 8:15 and 10:45. We WILL livestream the 8:15 service. Beginning September 13, all Sunday school classes will resume as well.

Masks will be required at CTR. This will facilitate a two fold purpose; first so that we can serve one another by keeping the spread of germs to a minimum, and second so that we can sing all of the hymns and liturgy. Wear your masks while you sing and praise God as He serves us through Worship with His Word and Sacraments. Masks are available in the narthex.

Communion will be distributed in a walk through manner, maintaining social distancing.



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!



Truth + Love

I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become reality. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.



the Skit Guys



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



Camp Lutherhoma - January 15-17, 2021

Open to youth and their friends age 14-18 in high school. Registration cost is \$110 each for retreat cabins (those serving on the committee pay \$100). Retreat cabins include bedding and towels. Due by December 31, then add-ons can be done as space allows. After January 8 the price is \$170 a person if there is space. Cost includes transportation, meals and housing for the weekend as well as all programming and a t-shirt.

You should be at church no later than 6:30 PM on the 15th. Please eat dinner prior or bring a sack meal with you! We will return on the 17th at approximately 1:00 PM.

Register now for Journey in January High School Retreat by completing a form and returning your registration payment to DCE Suzanne. Forms can be found by clicking on the button below or visiting the Youth page of the CTR website.

We will also need a new 2021 CTR Medical and Permission form for each attendee filled out in early January to reflect changes in medical insurance as well as update medications and permissions.



Camp Lutherhoma - February 5-7, 2021

Open to youth and their friends in 6th-8th grade. Registration is \$75 each for retreat cabins. This includes bedding and towels.

Due by January 15, then add-ons can be done as space allows. After the 15th you will not be guaranteed a t-shirt. You should be at the church no later than 6:15 pm on the 5th.

Please eat dinner prior or bring a sack meal with you! More details on programming and Sunday return time to come.

Forms can be found by clicking on the button below or visiting the Youth page of the CTR website. We will also need a new 2021 CTR Medical and Permission form for each attendee filled out in early January to reflect changes

in medical insurance as well as update medications and permissions.



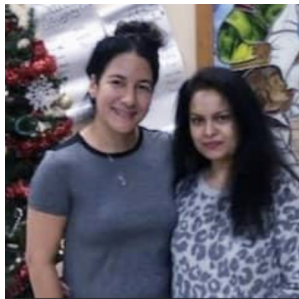
January 15-17, 2021– Journey in January High School Retreat @ Camp Lutherhoma

February 5-7, 2021– CTR Jr High Retreat @ Camp Lutherhoma

February 25-28, 2020- YouthLead! Training in St. Louis for High School Students

April 9-11, 2021– CTR High School Retreat @ Camp Lutherhoma

ECC

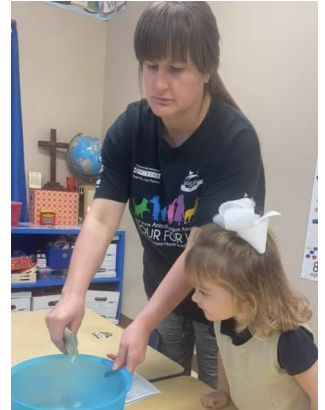


We have loved caring for children at the ECC serving the community and ministering to families for 40 years at CTR. We are incredibly blessed to have interacted with so many families over the years. Many of the families return every year for VBS, get baptized at CTR, attend events, and join the church. This ministry has been a blessing to many families and we have touched the lives and shared the ministry with hundreds of children in the Tulsa area over the years.

My family actually joined the church after attending the ECC 19 years ago. My personal experience has been amazing and I will miss seeing all those sweet faces every day. It is with a broken heart that we say goodbye to all our ECC families. -- With much love, Nikki Witt



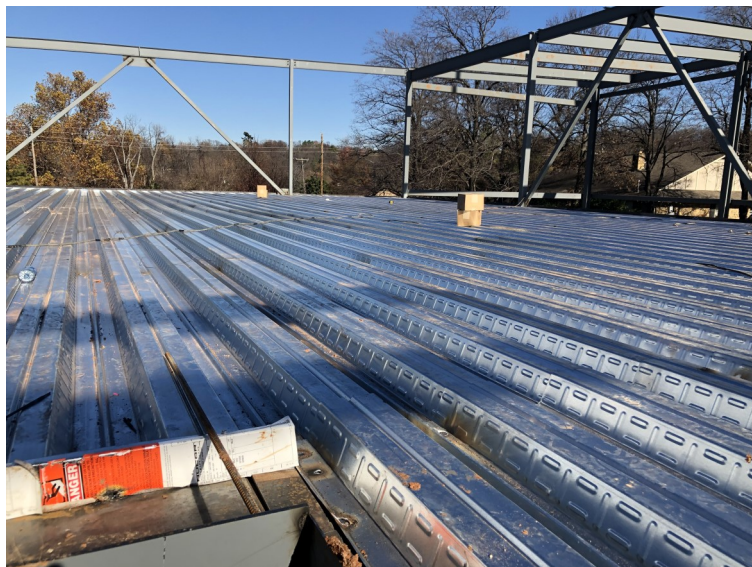
Nikki Witt, Director



CURRENT ECC STAFF

Brenda Begitsche - 4 years
Heather Bradshaw - 4 months
Pattye Brown PT - 8 years
Jessica Oshmuwwe PT - 1 year
Emma Donohue - 4 years
Janee Jones - 6 years
Lindsey Espinosa - 5 years
Mary Rainbolt - 3 years
Dailenis Sanchez - 5 months
Bernie Zanter - 3 years
Tania Zoha - 19 years
Timya Winn PT - 1.5 years
Sarah Ross PT - 3 years
Nikki Witt-14.5 years at CTR
(2.5 years as Director of
Children & Family Ministry)





Reminder

Now that construction has begun, church activities are confined to Sundays only with limited room access. If you or your group wish to use the church facilities, please fill out the forms that are located in the narthex or contact Floyd Lemons. Floyd will confirm the date and location and get back to you with that confirmation.



On Sunday, December 20 several of our children and youth participated in the Family Christmas Program. They led the congregation in readings and singing while also acting out the nativity story and sharing the Biblical narrative. Those are the CUTEST sheep we've ever seen!

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, January 2021

CTR 6th-12th grade Youth met at the Broken Arrow Ice Rink for ice skating and a Christmas gift exchange on Sunday, December 6. The youth had a great time enjoying each other's company as well as indulging in some hot cocoa and homemade cookies!



S
NEW
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Greetings from St. Louis Seminary!

Thank you for helping all of us Seminar-ians make it through school. What a blessing it is to have the support of the LWML and all our friends at CTR. Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow!

Campus is like a ghost town right now. We have had all of our classes online since Thanksgiving break. Most of the single guys that were living in the dorms have moved back home. We are like the Seminar-ians in Diaspora. I had no idea that we would have to be so technologically savvy to make it through our classes.

Part of the Seminary experience is going to a congregation to engage in what they call field work. I have been working with a congregation that is part of our cross-cultural module. The congregation is called Chai v' Shalom. The pastor is Rev. Kevin Parviz, who is a Jewish convert to LCMS. Chai v' Shalom is an outreach ministry congregation that gathers in Jewish converts to Christianity. Pastor Kevin refers to his congregation as Jewthran. Their worship service is a mixture of Lutheran Service Book and liturgy in Hebrew. There is already a lot of Hebrew liturgy in our hymnal, but you might not recognize it as such. You can watch it at http://www.chaivshalom.com/Chai_vShalom/Welcome.html or on their Facebook page.

I wrote an exegetical paper on Romans 3:27-31, part of this section establishes that the God of the Jews is also the God of the Gentiles (us) that became Christians. The

big question at that time was "What do Gentiles have to do to become Christian?" Now we ask, "What do Jewish people have to give up in order to become Christians?" Paul, in Romans 3 replies that our God is one God, which references a prayer that is said in synagogues called the Shema and is found in Deut. 6:4-9. This is what it looks like in Hebrew with the English transliteration and translation.

Sh'ma (Dt. 6:4-9, 11:13-21; Nu. 15:37-41)

שמע ישראל, יהוה אלהינו, יהוה אחד. ברוך שם כבוד מלכותו לעולם ועד

All: Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai eloheinu, Adonai echad. Baruch shem k'vod mal'chuto, l'olam vaed.
(Translating the Hebrew, we announce:)

All: Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One. Blessed be His name, whose glorious kingdom is forever and ever.

Last week we celebrated Hanukkah for the first time. Deb made some of the traditional food and I won a lot of gelt spinning the dreidel. Next week we have Christmas caroling with bagpipes. Definitely not a Jewish activity but it should be a lot of fun.

Have a Blessed New Year! We hope to get back to Tulsa in January if they lift some of the travel restrictions.

Deon and Debra Hull
14 Founders Way
St. Louis MO 63105

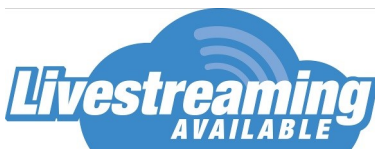
Worship Online

through the CTR Facebook page
and website

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/ChristTheRedeemerLutheranChurch)

ChristTheRedeemerLutheranChurch

www.ctrtulsa.org/media



Online Giving Options

www.ctrtulsa.org/on-line-giving

GivePlus Church mobile app



Please submit
your tithes &
offerings

ONLINE

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



May all kings
fall down
before him,
all nations
serve him!

PSALM 72:11, ESV

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, January 2021

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

Thus reads the preamble to the poem *God Knows*, written in 1908 by British poet, missionary, and academic Minnie Louise Haskins. I first became acquainted with this text through *The Gate of the Year*, an anthem that the Chancel Choir of the Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian in Cary, North Carolina, would sing each year on the first Sunday of a new calendar year. I greatly enjoyed accompanying this piece and it always seemed to me to be a fitting way to begin a new year.

The preamble to *God Knows* gained widespread public attention in 1939 when King George VI quoted a portion of it in his annual Christmas radio broadcast to the British Empire. Lovely though the language of the well-known preamble is, the rest of the poem, too, is well worth reading and considering as we enter into the year 2021:

So heart be still
What need our little life
Our human life to know,
If God hath comprehension?
In all the dizzy strife
Of things both high and low,
God hideth His intention.

God knows. His will
Is best. The stretch of years
Which wind ahead, so dim
To our imperfect vision,
Are clear to God. Our fears
Are premature; In Him,
All time hath full provision.

Then rest: until
God moves to lift the veil
From our impatient eyes,
When, as the sweeter features
Of Life's stern face we hail,
Fair beyond all surmise
God's thought around His creatures
Our mind shall fill.

The sentiments expressed in this poem bring to mind the words of two chorales with deep roots in the Lutheran hymnic tradition; *If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee* and *What God Ordains is Always Good*. These hymns remind us that while we cannot see what the future holds, we live in the sure and certain hope that the One who created the universe holds our past, our present, and our future in His hands.

If thou but trust in God to guide thee
And hope in Him through all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
And bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the rock that naught can move.
(*If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee*, LSB 750, text by Georg Neumark)

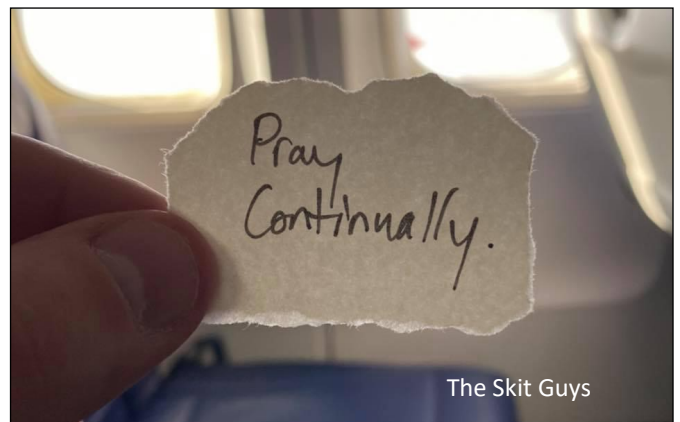
What God ordains is always good:
This truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm,
For with His arm He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.
(*What God Ordains is Always Good*, LSB 760, text by Samuel Rodigast)

In closing, here is a Collect that is often prayed during times of travel. In this new year may these words remind you of the comfort and hope that are ours in the saving, redemptive works of Jesus Christ.

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Jacob Drengler
Music Director



The Skit Guys

Outreach News

Our missionaries in Prague, Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kasters, reported that they were in the States to meet and baptize their two new grandchildren at Thanksgiving. After a month in the U.S., they returned to Prague and, at the time of this report, were preparing for Christmas services there. Please remember them and those they minister to in your prayers.

Thank you to all who shared with the elderly clients of South Tulsa Community House by supporting the "Senior Stars" Christmas collection. STCH has 209 older clients that they provide food and services for. Many live in the apartments in Inhofe Plaza. They provided as many as possible with \$35 gift cards this Christmas. Your aid is greatly appreciated.

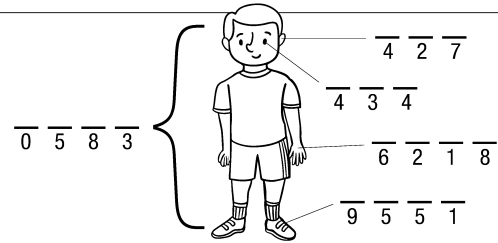
Contact Patti Ross at 918-691-5328
with questions and suggestions
for the Outreach Ministry.



WORKING IN UNISON

Just as body parts work in unison, the church – the body of Christ – is to work together for God's purposes.

Directions: Fill in the letters for each body part. Add up each part's number total, and use those totals to complete the Bible passage.



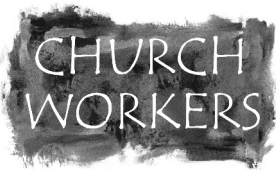
Now if the $\frac{20}{20}$ should say, "Because I am not a $\frac{17}{17}$, I do not belong to the $\frac{16}{16}$," ... And if the $\frac{13}{13}$ should say, "Because I am not an $\frac{11}{11}$, I do not belong to the $\frac{16}{16}$," it would not for that reason stop being part of the $\frac{16}{16}$. If the whole $\frac{16}{16}$ were an $\frac{11}{11}$, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole $\frac{16}{16}$ were an $\frac{13}{13}$, where would the sense of smell be? ... As it is, there are many parts, but one $\frac{16}{16}$.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:15-17, 20, NIV

Answer: body = 16, eye = 11, ear = 13, hand = 17, foot = 20

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.



ries 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.

– Jim Holt, Elder Chair

Light to See

"Your eye is the lamp of our body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light." --Luke 11:34-36

Father, when my physical vision is murky, when I can't clearly see even my hand in front of my face, life will be hard. The same is true of spiritual sight. When I can't perceive Your truth, life will be difficult. I pray for clear spiritual vision, Father, for eyes to see Your truth. With healthy vision, my whole being is full of life-giving light. Amen.



Taken from 3-Minute Prayers for Women

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, January 2021

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the LWML Christmas party this year because of COVID. Hopefully next year we will get to celebrate the Christmas season.



For our January 17 meeting, please bring your favorite cookie or dessert and a recipe to share. We will still try this even though our party was cancelled. I will also bring the supplies to make our craft project. There may be enough for everyone to make two snowmen. Each project is \$3.

Sharon is still collecting shoes until February. Look for the big box in the entry hallway. Please bring a pair of shoes tied together, either with a rubber band or the strings tied together. We cannot accept roller blades or roller skates. Anything else is acceptable as long as they are clean and please make sure you include a pair of shoes, not singles.



Don't forget about the Mite Box. The first Sunday of the month is still Mite Box Sunday.

Starting January 17, we will meet the third Sunday of the month at 1:00.

At our February 21st meeting, Sharon will help us make mission bracelets.

Even through the Pandemic of COVID 19, the mission work of the LWML continues. Please continue to support the many missions of LWML with your prayers and offerings.

LWML.ORG has lots of ways to support and learn more about mission grants. For the Oklahoma district go to OKLWML.ORG.

Thank you for your support and please be flexible as we figure ways for our group to meet together to fulfill our outreach and missions.

Yours in Service,
Daphnee Brian, President



Lutheran
Women
in Mission

President's Update

Merry Christmas fellow members!

Great things continue happening at CTR. Our congregation is so blessed to have such a dedicated pastor and staff and so many committed congregation members. I never fail to be impressed by all of you and the things we are able to accomplish together.

The construction project is moving forward at a rapid pace. With the erection of the majority of the steel framework completed, the contractor was able to pour the second floor concrete last Thursday morning while the weather was so favorable. This will allow framing of the second floor to be started and perhaps part of the roof structure and decking on the new addition by the end of this week. It is exciting to walk thru the new building and imagine the activities that will be able to occur in that space. The large open meeting area is going to be so great for us to have available.

In case you missed the announcement at last weeks service, it is anticipated that the phase 1 construction that is occurring on the east side of our building will be completed *by the end of May* allowing CTR to move the office and classrooms into the new space (including the elevator).

Then, the west wing of our building can be gutted and remodeled, and the courtyard enclosed and incorporated into our fellowship hall and connected to the new kitchen. We learned this week that this final phase should be completed *sometime in October. Subject to change by any*

weather delays.

Just think how different Christmas at CTR next December will look like! How exciting!

A sad but necessary moment will occur this Friday, December 18th, with the final day of ECC being open. Pray for the ECC staff as one door closes, and new doors open for them. Floyd Lemons is taking inventory of the ECC equipment with Nikki's assistance and will see to it be moving back to CTR sometime after the first of the year for storage.

The Family Ministry Exploratory Committee chaired by John Meinders has been meeting and assessing the possibilities of filling the Family Ministry position. Expect more information at the January 24th voters' meeting.

The 2021 budget was finalized by the BOD last night and it was exciting to be discussing possibilities of what things may be able to occur post COVID in 2021 and following. It was also exciting to learn that our PPP loan that was taken out this spring has officially been forgiven.

Also, we learned from the Building Finance Committee that giving to the building fund is over 18% ahead of schedule. Thanks to all of you that are making this possible. Keep it up!


Again, Merry Christmas and God Bless,

Respectfully,
Brad Young, President



January

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Judges 10 Psalm 1 Acts 15:22-35	Judges 11:1-27 Psalm 2 Acts 15:36-16:10
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Judges 11:28-12:7 Psalm 3 Acts 16:11-24	Judges 12:8-13:8 Psalm 4 Acts 16:25-40	Judges 13:9-25 Psalm 5 Acts 17:1-9	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72 Eph. 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12	Judges 14 Psalm 6 Acts 17:10-21	Judges 15 Psalm 7 Acts 17:22-34	Judges 16:1-14 Psalm 8 Acts 18:1-17
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Judges 16:15-31 Psalm 9 Acts 18:18-28	Judges 17 Psalm 10 Acts 19:1-10	Judges 18:1-17 Psalm 11 Acts 19:11-20	Judges 18:18-31 Psalm 12 Acts 19:21-41	Judges 19 Psalm 13 Acts 20:1-16	Judges 20:1-25 Psalm 14 Acts 20:17-38	Judges 20:26-48 Psalm 15 Acts 21:1-16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Judges 21 Psalm 16 Acts 21:17-26	Ruth 1 Psalm 17 Acts 21:27-36	Ruth 2:1-16 Psalm 18:1-15 Acts 21:37-22:5	Ruth 2:17-3:6 Psalm 18:16-30 Acts 22:6-21	Ruth 3:7-4:4 Psalm 19 Acts 22:22-29	Ruth 4:5-22 Psalm 20 Acts 22:30-23:11	1 Samuel 1:1-20 Psalm 21 Acts 23:12-22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1 Samuel 1:21-2:11 Psalm 22 Acts 23:23-35	1 Samuel 2:12-26 Psalm 23 Acts 24:1-27	1 Samuel 2:27-3:21 Psalm 24 Acts 25:1-12	1 Samuel 4 Psalm 25 Acts 25:13-27	1 Samuel 5 Psalm 26 Acts 26:1-11	1 Sam. 6:1-7:1 Palm 27 Acts 26:12-32	1 Samuel 7:2-17 Psalm 28 Acts 27:1-12
31						
1 Samuel 8 Psalm 29 Acts 27:13-38						

?? Bible Quiz ??

In the story of the Magi, what word is used to give a sense of Jesus' age when the wise men visited? What does it tell us?

- A. "baby"; Jesus was still a newborn in a manger
- B. "child"; when the wise men visited, Jesus had grown past infancy
- C. "youth"; Jesus was probably between 10 and 14
- D. No word is used to suggest Jesus' age at the time of the wise men's visit.



Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1-12.)



COLLEGE ADDRESSES

Please contact the church office with updated addresses for all college students.

Eyeglass Collection

MOST Ministries collects eyeglasses and distributes them to people all over the world. A collection box is located at the south entrance. For more information go to www.mostministries.org.





Christ the Redeemer

Lutheran Church

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EPIPHANY EPIPHANIES

Sometimes brief words of ancient wisdom can spark an “aha!” moment — a revelation of new insight about God or faith. Here are some epiphanies for the *season* of Epiphany.

“If we approach with faith, we too will see Jesus ... for the Eucharistic table takes the place of the crib. Here, the Body of the Lord is present, wrapped not in swaddling clothes but in the rays of the Holy Spirit.”

—St. John Chrysostom (347-407)

“So that we might also have the means to go, the one we were longing to go to came here from there. And what did he make? A wooden raft for us to cross the sea on. For no one can cross the sea of this world unless carried over it on the cross of Christ.”

—St. Augustine (354-430)

“You wish to see; listen. Hearing is a step toward vision.”

—St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)