



CHRIST THE REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

2550 East 71st Street
Tulsa, OK 74136

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PALM SUNDAY 8:15 Service Live-streamed on Facebook
Sunday, March 28- 8:15 & 10:45 AM Services
Palm Processional at both services

MAUNDY THURSDAY Service Live-streamed on Facebook
Thursday, April 1- 7:00 PM
Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY Service Live-streamed on Facebook
Friday, April 2- 7:00 PM
Tenebrae Service

Join us for our Easter Service

Sunday, April 4 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion at Both Services

8:15 Service Live-streamed on Facebook

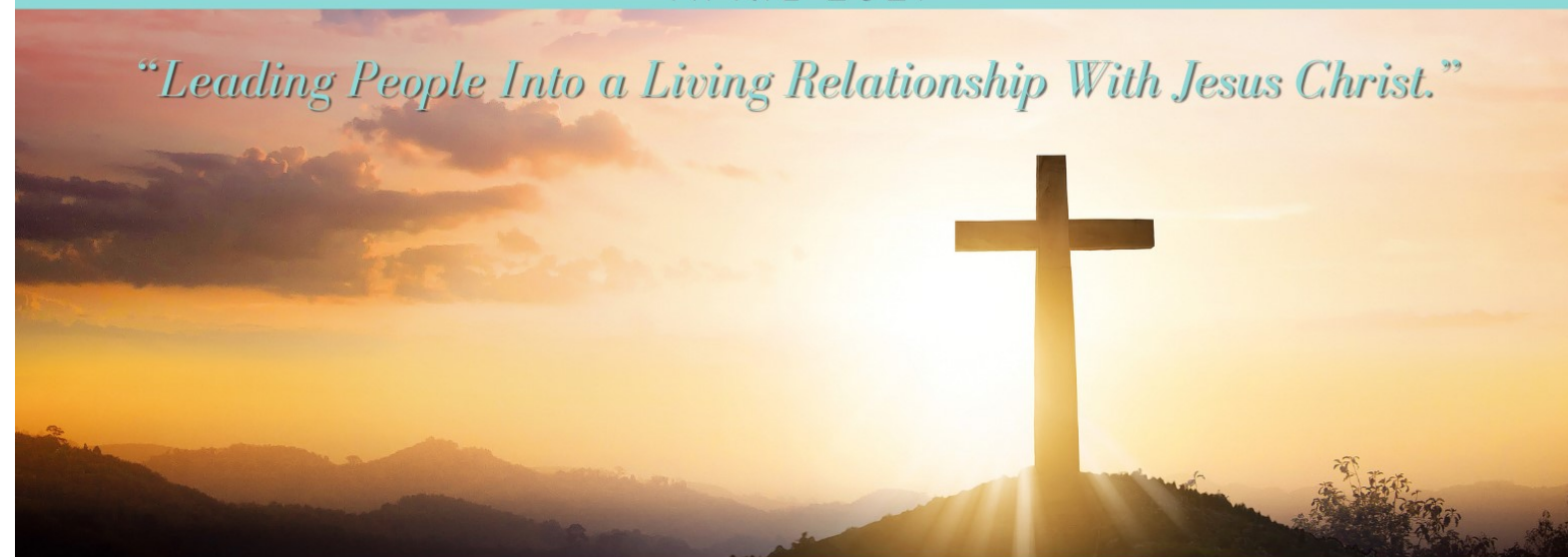


CHRIST THE REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

CORNERSTONE

APRIL 2021

“Leading People Into a Living Relationship With Jesus Christ.”



A Letter From The Pastor

BY REV. SCOTT BURMEISTER

Fellow Redeemed,

Mark 16:1-8 “When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when then sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.”

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia! Well, that escalated quickly! That must have been one of the thoughts that the women had that first Easter morning. Step one: buy the spices, step two: wake up early and go to the tomb, step three: prepare Jesus’ body. The women would not make it past step two. The stone had been rolled back and Jesus was not there. A young man, dressed in a white robe, greeted them with the Good News; Jesus is not here, He is risen and has gone to Galilee. Go there and meet Him! The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith, hope and love. Jesus has now defeated death. Death no longer has the same type of mastery over us that it had formerly. We are free from death. Because of the sacrificial death, and now this resurrection, we are God’s chosen, His children, and God’s love for us is now realized in an empty tomb. What a joyous celebration this is! We are “empty tomb” people, and this celebration will extend all the way into the glory of heaven. May the joy of Easter fill every corner of your life, and give resurrection meaning to every relationship you enjoy. Let the words echo from morning, to noon, and to night, “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Rev. Scott Burmeister
Pastor

Suzanne Watt
Dir. of Christian Education

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

Outreach News

Join a Czech Republic Bible Study or Worship Service!

Our missionaries, Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster in Prague, Czech Republic, have invited you to attend via the internet their Bible study and worship service! Rev. Kastor, "One good thing that has come about because of the pandemic is an online Bible study. We are still few in numbers. But we also have a very devoted group. If you would like to join us, simply go to our Facebook group and join. Then, go to "Rooms," and join the Bible study. We meet on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. local/12:30 p.m. Central Standard Time. The class is taught in English, so you will have no problem participating. (You will have to use a browser other than Firefox, because it does not support this function)." "You can find the video of our worship service led from home due to the pandemic restrictions in the Czech Republic on our Facebook group's page. We start at 11:00 a.m. our time (which means 4:00 a.m. CST.) But when it is over, the video remains. You are always welcome! We pray you all stay well and commend you to the care of Christ." Rev. Dale Kaster

CTR sends funds to support the Kastors in the Czech Republic and Anton Lutz in Papua New Guinea. Please pray for their ministries and those they serve.

South Tulsa Community House Thank You!

For the members of CTR from Lisa at STCH. "Thanks to Christ the Redeemer, we were saving up the laundry soap you had been donating to give to our seniors. We were able to have enough to distribute last Friday. The seniors were shocked and excited about the present. I had one senior almost cry when she told me, she hadn't been able to do any laundry for the last few weeks because she was scared to go to the grocery store since she had been sick for a while. We were able to give her enough food, hygiene items and the laundry detergent so she didn't have to go to the grocery store for a little while longer. Our seniors are so vulnerable and every little thing we can do for them makes our hearts swell--but of course we can't do it without your help. Thanks!" Current wish list from STCH. Please put items in the grocery cart in the south hallway. Thank you! Laundry detergent, bar soap, shampoo, coffee, all-purpose cleaner, dish soap, men's razors.

Second Quarter Sunday School Offering Recipient

Your Sunday School offerings during April, May and June will be sent to Lutheran Braille Workers for their "Driving the Gospel Home" campaign to purchase a new work van: Have you ever tried to carry 20,000 pages of paper at a time? How long would it take you to manually carry 250 boxes of books between a warehouse, post office, or church? Have you ever thought how a work van can be used to carry and share the Gospel message? For over 20 years, LBW's workhorse van has transported hundreds of pounds of paper, cardboard boxes, and books between our warehouse, local Ministry Production Centers, and the Post Office. This machine has transported thousands of volumes of the Bible and other Christian materials but is nearing

the end of it's life cycle. In the past month, this van has begun to break down more often, costing our ministry quite a bit in expenses to keep it running.



Current Van
Think for a second how many thousands of people throughout the world have benefitted from the hard work this vehicle has performed for the past two decades.

Your support of this new van is ultimately helping to support the Spread of the Gospel. Please make your gift today so the production and distribution of the Bible will continue without interruption or slow down! Production will soon start up again at Our Savior Lutheran Church on Braille materials as pandemic restrictions are lessened. You can help by volunteering to work with a group from CTR which meets the second Monday of each month at 9 am until around noon, producing books of the Bible in Braille. Please consider joining this group of "friendly, laid-back" volunteers from CTR and King of Kings, Glenpool, as we joyfully put the Word of God in Braille and see it sent to over 41 different countries! Contact Teresa Nightingale for more information! www.lbwloveworks.org

Patti Ross, Outreach Ministry



Judy and Jack Holliday	April 2	3 years
Deon and Debra Hull	April 5	33 years
John and Lori Meinders	April 6	30 years
Suzanne and Joseph Watt	April 13	9 years
Robin and Gregory Sanders	April 14	38 years
Kasey and Laura Simpson	April 15	26 years
Gene and Betty Kuhlmann	April 18	51 years
Del and Jan Dreyer	April 20	58 years
Bob and Jean Paulsen	April 21	65 years
Amy and Eric Mock	April 24	11 years
Don and Marie Vavra	April 24	50 years
Les and Nancy Austin	April 26	13 years
Sandra and Scott Hughes	April 28	31 years
Stephen and Kristie Ferguson	April 30	14 years

EDUCATION MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND ADULTS

CONTACT DCE SUZANNE WATT FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER TO TEACH



PRE3-5TH GRADE KIDS

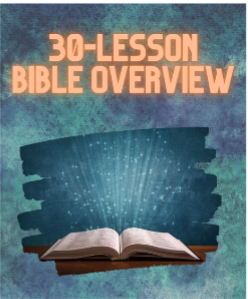


Your favorite VBS Bible Buddies and music are BACK as part of the "Simply Loved" Sunday school series. Join us each Sunday for music, videos, skits, games, activities and more as we learn about Israel's Wanderings and Wonderings in Exodus and talk about Jesus! All kids in preschool 3 through 5th grade are invited to attend!

- April 4 Easter Event
- April 11 God Send Manna and Quail From Heaven
- April 18 God Gives the Ten Commandments
- April 25 God's People Worship a Golden Calf
- May 2 God Tells His People How to Build a Tabernacle

In this month's unit we'll focus in on how God guides us!

6TH-8TH GRADE YOUTH



- Confirmation students have two choices for classes:
- Sunday School from 9:30-10:30 am for 6th grade - 8th grade
 - At home with monthly Check-In from 12:30-2:00 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



Led by David Ross and Tim Kuehnert in the church office. This class, titled Vantage, looks at a wide variety of topics. A change in perspective changes everything. In the same way that a microscope reveals the tiniest moving parts and a mountain view makes skyscrapers fade, God's grace transforms the way we see and understand our world forever. Vantage is a yearlong curriculum that shows how God's grace changes the way that we see ourselves and our world. Students will examine the issues that confuse and divide our world by digging into what God has already said through his Word. From his vantage point, they will see that God isn't just here to tell us what we can or can't do, he's seeking to redeem the world.

ADULT CLASS

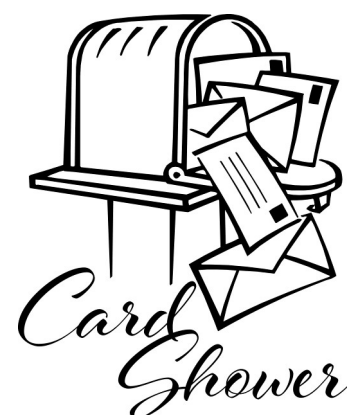


Adult Sunday School is led by Pastor B in the Sanctuary. This month's topic is Popular Biblical Narratives. Join us as we take a deeper dive into the familiar narratives and people of the Scriptures. As we transition into the East addition this summer, look for that addition of more adult education classes!





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				Ex. 12:1-14; Ps 116 1 Cor. 11:23-32 John 13:1-17	Is 53; Ps 22 Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9 John 19:17-30	2 Sam. 17:15-18:7 Ps 85 Titus 2:1-15
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Is 65:17-25; Ps 16 1 Cor. 15:19-26 Luke 24:1-12	2 Sam. 18:8-33 Ps 86 Titus 3:1-15	2 Sam. 19:1-23 Ps 87 Philemon 1-25	2 Sam. 19:24-43 Ps 88 Heb. 1:1-7	2 Sam. 20 Ps 89 Heb. 1:8-14	2 Sam. 21 Ps 90 Heb. 2:1-9	2 Sam. 22:1-25 Ps 91 Heb. 2:10-18
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
2 Sam. 22:26-51 Ps 92 Heb. 3:1-11	2 Sam. 23:1-12 Ps 93 Heb. 3:12-19	2 Sam. 23:13-38 Ps 94 Heb. 4:1-13	2 Sam. 24 Ps 95 Heb. 4:14-5:10	Prov. 1:1-19 Ps 96 Heb. 5:11-6:8	Prov. 1:20-33 Ps 97 Heb. 6:9-20	Prov. 2 Ps 98 Heb. 7:1-10
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Prov. 3:1-18 Ps 99 Heb. 7:11-28	Prov. 3:19-35 Ps 100 Heb. 8:1-13	Prov 4 Ps 101 Heb. 9:1-10	Prov. 5 Ps 102 Heb. 9:11-28	Prov. 6:1-19 Ps 103 Heb. 10:1-10	Prov. 6:20-35 Ps 104 Heb. 10:11-18	Prov. 7 Ps 105 Heb. 10:19-31
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Prov. 8:1-21 Ps 106 Heb. 10:32-39	Prov. 8:22-36 Ps 107 Heb. 11:1-12	Prov. 9 Ps 108 Heb. 11:13-28	Prov. 10:1-17 Ps 109 Heb. 11:29-40	Prov. 10:18-32 Ps 110 Heb. 12:1-6	Prov. 11:1-15 Ps 111 Heb. 12:7-17	



Card Shower organized by
Jaime Bowlin for :

Don and Marie Vavra

Married 50 years on April 24

4321 South Dogwood Ave.
Broken Arrow, OK 74011



Congregational President's Update



March 15, 2021

A sunny and windy hello fellow members,

As you may have noticed yesterday the tape closing off every other row of pews has been removed. This marks another step in returning to normal services. Masks continue to be required and we trust that everyone can make their own decisions regarding social distancing. Overall infection rates have declined significantly, and we pray that vaccinations and other things we have learned in the last year will allow this pandemic to fade into memory. Thanks be to God! Things have picked up speed regarding the construction with the higher temps and much improved weather. The roof over the new area is 75% complete, the HVAC roof top units should be set this week, the exterior window frames will start being installed in the next week or so, all of which will allow even more of the interior work to be completed.

We continue to receive great budget news as our financials through the end of February are completed and it shows our offerings were over \$43,000 more than budgeted through the first two months of 2021. Expenses are \$35,000 below budget. Overall offerings exceeded expenses by \$62.8K at end of February. Your continued support of CTR and its many ministries is so helpful. The remainder of the ECC equipment is scheduled to be moved back to CTR from Good Shepherd this Wednesday (3/17) as the southeast ECC rooms have been completed so that the equipment can be stored in those rooms for the time being.

Work continues putting the second DCE call committee together. Stay tuned for developments.

John Meinders and the nominating committee will soon be reaching out to members so if you're asked to serve please prayerfully consider saying yes!

Respectfully,
Brad Young
President



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We have resumed in-person worship at 8:15 and 10:45. We WILL livestream the 8:15 service. Children's, Youth and Pastor's adult Sunday school class have resumed as well. Masks are 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 continue to be distributed in a walk through manner, maintaining social distancing.

CTR BOARD MEMBERS

President: Brad Young
President-Elect: John Meinders
Past President: Tom Kirby
Secretary: Connie Thomas
Treasurer: Jennie Gard
Director-at-Large: Cheryl Davison
Director-at-Large: Kyle Stein
Director-at-Large: John Campbell
Director-at-Large: Sam Woodard
Personnel Committee: Ed Fager
Communications: James Morgan
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





MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIR & HANDBELLS FOR YOUTH & ADULTS
BY JACOB DRENGLER

The Church’s song encompasses the words and melodies of believers of all times and places. The song which we raise together as a body of believers is not confined only to our own time; nor is it limited exclusively to that which was sung by those who came before us. Sometimes old words are joined to new tunes, while at other times new texts are set to existing melodies. In this, we find that through the efforts of poets, hymnists, and composers of both the past and the present, the Church’s song is constantly engaged in a process of creation and recreation, enlivening our worship and aiding in the proclamation of the Gospel.

In the Five Mystical Songs from the pen of English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), we find a particularly fine example of a work of sacred music utilizing texts that had originated centuries earlier than the composer lived. The five songs in this collection, though they draw inspiration from poems written in the 17th century, are nevertheless set firmly within Vaughan William’s own distinctive early 20th-century musical idiom. The Five Mystical Songs are based on poems by the English priest George Herbert (1593-1633). Herbert’s poems often possess introspective, devotional qualities which have made them popular with composers and hymnal committees alike, particularly within the Anglican tradition. As we enter into the Easter season, the text of the first verse drawn from the first of the Mystical Songs, “Easter,” which will be presented as a musical offering in worship here at CTR during the season of Easter, bears closer examination.

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing His praise without delays,
Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise with Him mayst rise:
That, as His death calcined thee to dust, His life may make thee
gold, and much more, just.

Herbert’s poem draws upon the familiar language of Roman 6; “We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” Herbert’s words affirm the sure and certain hope by which we live that just as Christ is risen, so we too shall rise.

Not all the language which Herbert employed is so familiar to our modern ears, however. Calcined is certainly a word which one is unlikely to encounter on a regular basis. Calcination, during the period in which Herbert lived, was one stage in the process of alchemy. Alchemy was a method by which it was believed to be possible to turn base materials into gold. Through calcination, that base matter would have been heated in order to remove impurities. In her reflection on this poem, the Lutheran hymnist Susan Palo Cherwien describes calcination in the context of this poem as the times “when things fall apart, a necessary stage in becoming. Calcination is the dark night of the soul. Separation. Anxiety. Fear. Everything stripped of external distraction down to the essence.” I suspect that most of us are able to identify those periods of calcination in our own journeys. Even (perhaps especially) through those times, we rest secure in the knowledge that the risen, glorified Christ takes us by the hand so that we may share in His resurrection. In Christ’s sacrificial death on the cross and glorious resurrection we, who were dead in our sins, are made alive with Him. Therefore, we sing His praise without delays.

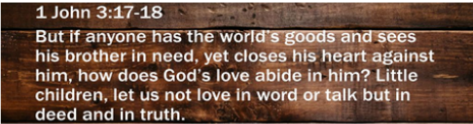
As we consider the Resurrection story during this Easter season it should become readily apparent that we truly do have much to sing about! Indeed, in light of the marvelous, redeeming works of God, how can we keep silent? In the Lutheran tradition, the music which is offered up to God in worship, whether vocal or instrumental, is no mere accessory to the liturgy. Liturgical music is not some aesthetic decoration added as an afterthought to beautify the service or to provide a gentle, soothing aural backdrop for some other action taking place during the service. Nor it is simply an opportunity to get together with friends to sing a few of our favorite songs to engender a sense of warm, fuzzy, vaguely churchy-feeling nostalgia. Rather music is a living, vital component of worship through which Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and ascended is proclaimed as Lord. Indeed, Luther wrote of music as the “living voice of the Gospel.” In many ways, our faith is shaped, formed, and nurtured by the songs that we sing. Through the Church’s song, if we are being well served by those called to lead and facilitate that song, we engage in the entire story of salvation in all its richness and complexity. May the songs we sing always point to the One to whom they are addressed.

Lord, thy servants who minister in thy temple. Grant that
what we sing with our lips, we may believe in our hearts,
and what we believe in our hearts, we may show forth in
our lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
(The Choristers Prayer)



Tulsa Saints Foundation

3.15.2021
Michael W Bryan -Director
CTR Newsletter



Blessings to all of the Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church. As the winter breaks and the promise of spring approaches, we have this moment to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us. Many are beginning to gather again in church (I see many more seats being filled again myself) and fellowship in the Love of Christ, who saved us from our sins by offering himself as the Passover Lamb to wash us in his blood and make us white as snow (Psalm 51-7). I remember this everyday as our team works to help provide food, clothes, sleeping bags, blankets, and other basic survival supplies for the homeless in Tulsa.

When times are tough and doubt creeps in, James, the earthly brother of Jesus comes out clear in his writings to us, **James 1 1-4: Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.** The minor trials we encounter each week are small in comparison to what the homeless individuals endure; cold and hot temperature, rain, thirst, unwashed, pestilence, lack of good food and water, filthy clothes, no place to sleep, and in many cases unloved by family and the community, yet they endure.

James comes stronger to the point when we show partiality. **James 2 1-7: My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism. For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, “You sit here in a good place,” and you say to the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,” have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives? Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court? Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called.**



Toby, one of the many who come through our line every week had a birthday, so one of the ladies made him and others in the line birthday cupcakes to share. Toby like so many others is looking for someone to hear their story, talk about their day, and show a kind smile to them as they go through their daily struggle of whatever ailments this world has brought to them.

We see individuals who are cast off, forgotten, no chances given, no kindness shown; the poor man in dirty clothes. What can be done? **James 2 14-17: What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.** Do we strive to help our brothers and sisters and give a means to lift them up to a better circumstance than yesterday?

The homeless need **blankets, sleeping bags, spring/summer t-shirts, tarps, and tents** for those who are living on the streets. Any help you may be able to provide is greatly appreciated.

As always, if you wish to come out and help we meet at Fridays 5:15 on 4th Street between Denver and Cheyenne in front of the Metro Bus Station (near the BOK). We hand out food and supplies until we run out. Thank you all, God bless you and keep you safe.



QUILTS

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

HOW CAN YOU HELP??
We need help in purchasing the fabric to make the quilt tops. Each quilt costs approximately \$25 to make. Donations marked “LWML quilts” can be dropped in the mite box or put in the offering plate.

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!



Kind hearts are the gardens.
Kind thoughts are the roots.
Kind words are the flowers.
Kind deeds are the fruits.

Take care of your garden
and keep out the weeds.
Fill it with sunshine,
kind words and kind deeds.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

For the Month of February	2020	2021
February Giving.....	\$73,478	\$75,468
Monthly Budget	\$65,431	\$66,065
Year to Date Giving	\$837,386	\$174,971
Year to Date Budget	\$850,599	\$137,211
YTD Expenses.....	\$822,075	\$112,455
Building Fund Contribution:		
February Receipts:	\$39,213.00	
Balance:	\$2,288,441.89	

Three
WAYS TO
GIVE
AT CTR

Questions about E-Giving? Stop by the Church Office and speak to Deva Beebe or email her at dbeebe@ctrtulsa.org to learn more.

Online Giving

You can visit www.ctrtulsa.org/on-line-giving to sign up through Vanco for one time or ongoing offering or donations. This allows you to set up weekly, bi-weekly or monthly offering. Setting up an account is easy, all you need is an email address to get started. You choose your own login information. When you create an account, you can also securely and conveniently store debit/credit card or bank account information, manage donations and review your giving history.

Mobile Giving

For our smartphone users, you can contribute through GivePlus Church, our mobile giving app. It's a convenient solution whenever you have a smart phone. You can give anytime, anywhere, any day. Go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find the app and download it for free. You can easily make donations anytime, or create an account to schedule recurring weekly or monthly offerings. When you create an account, you can also securely and conveniently store debit/credit card or bank account information, manage donations and review your giving history. You choose how you prefer to login- Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password.

Drop Off In-Person

Visit our church office during the week or use the offering basket during worship services.

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.

- Jim Holt, Elder Chair



Seminary News



Spring is in full bloom at the Seminary. The flower beds display the glory of God's great creation, the trees are blooming. The breeze is warm, and the sun is bright in the sky! April is a big month at Seminary. The Second- Year guys will be getting their vicarage assignments. The Fourth- year students will be getting their first Call. No one knows where they are going until it is revealed at a special church service. How exciting that is! At the same time, it can also be nerve- wracking. Perhaps it is a good way to start your ministry, by trusting entirely in God.

The last half of the Spring Semester has started. I have two new classes this half of the Semester. One is on the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke), and the other is "Jesus and the Forces of Death in the Gospels". I think that would make a great name for a movie. The two classes that continue on for the rest of the Semester are Homiletics I (how to prepare and deliver a sermon) and Creeds and Confessions. The class on Creeds and Confessions is very interesting in that you would think that it would be about what we believe, teach, and confess as a church. It is that, but more than that, it covers what we reject, and what we reject has done much to define us.

I am awaiting with much fear and trepidation my grade on the midterm test for this class. There was an entire section devoted to essay questions and I hope that I didn't write something that could be construed as a new heresy (errant teaching). The combination of my classes started me thinking about how much conflict there has been over heresy. Jesus fought against the errant teachings of the Pharisees, Scribes, and other teachers as recorded in the Gospels. Paul had to deal with the Judaizers and the Gnostics as well as some ill- defined teachings that were contrary to the Gospel.

It isn't necessary for most people in the church to know all this stuff, as cool as it is. The reason is that the problems that arose in the time of Jesus and Paul are handled in the Bible. The three Creeds, (Apostle's, Nicene, and Athanasian) handle the disputes in the early church. We say one of the first two in church each Sunday, and the last is reserved mostly for Trinity Sunday. The Confessions,

found in the Book of Concord, are the documents drafted to deal with teaching errors in the time around the life of Martin Luther. That is where you will find the Small Catechism and, yes, the Large Catechism. Most Lutherans that don't attend CTR are not aware there is a Large Catechism. If you have the opportunity you might read it. It answers a lot of questions and is helpful for parents whose kids will be going through the Confirmation program.

Why am I going on about all of this? Well, for one thing, it seems to be popular to shed denominations in favor of "non-denominational" churches, as if denominations were inferior to churches that don't have a well thought out documentation of what they believe, teach, confess, and reject. It is a gift to us that has cost a lot of blood and tears. People used to protest in the streets over theological issues. Could you imagine that today?

In family news, we went to Kansas to see William off as he heads to a temporary duty station in Poland for nine months. We plan on going to Dover, DE to see Steven, who is in the Air Force, as soon as classes are finished at the end of the Semester. Hopefully, we will be able to make it back to Tulsa for a visit before I have to start Summer Hebrew.

Thank you again for all of your support! We covet your prayers.

In the name of Jesus the Resurrected Christ!

Deon and Debra Hull

SIGN UP FOR THE E-BLAST

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.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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

Instagram:
www.instagram.com/ctrtulsa/

Youtube:
Search "Scott Burmeister" and click on the CTR logo

Twitter:
[@PastorBe_CTR](https://twitter.com/PastorBe_CTR)

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE WONDERFUL CARDS, LETTERS, PHONE CALLS AND PRAYERS DURING MOTHER'S RECENT HOSPITAL AND REHAB STAYS. WE ARE TRULY BLESSED BY ALL THE KINDNESS AND LOVE SHOWN TO HER BY OUR CHRIST THE REDEEMER MEMBERS. SHE IS DOING MUCH BETTER AND WOULD WELCOME A VISIT.

CHERYL AND DALE DAVISON, JAMIE BREWSTER AND PHYLLIS MCKAY

THANK YOU!

THE CTR STAFF THANKS EVERYONE FOR THE KIND CARDS AND GENEROUS GIFTS GIVEN FOR STAFF APPRECIATION!



YOUTH MINISTRY

Jr High 6th-8th Grade High School 9th-12th Grade

CONTACT DCE SUZANNE WATT TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION

CTR High School Retreat

April 9-11, 2021 at Camp Lutherhoma

Help plan the retreat in High School Sunday School! Decide what activities we do and more! This trip is only for CTR youth and we will be the only group at Camp. Cost is \$75 per youth to attend. Get your registration forms from DCE Suzanne. Due by 3/28/21.

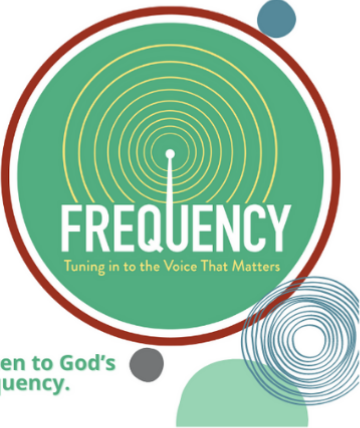
April 9-11, 2021 at Camp Lutherhoma

High School Retreat

God is constantly communicating with us.

God is constantly communicating with us, but in a world full of noise and distraction, it's easy to miss what he's saying. Sometimes, God speaks in predictable ways, like through Scripture, other believers, and the Holy Spirit. Other times, he uses the unexpected to get his message across. He even speaks through silence. That means hearing him is less about getting him to speak in the ways we want him to and more about opening up to the many ways he chooses to speak to us.

We just need to learn how to listen to God's voice—how to tune in to his frequency. When God speaks, he calls.



Game Night

High School Students! Join other Tulsa area LCMS youth at Immanuel-BA on Wednesday, April 28 from 5-8:30 PM! Friends invited & prizes!!

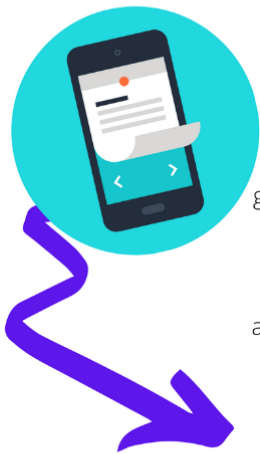
Come early from 5-6 to enjoy air hockey, pool, rumble ball pit, 9 square in the air and more! Starting at 6 we'll have dinner, devotions, games and more sponsored by Concordia University- Nebraska! Lori Johnson, an admissions rep, will also be there with info if you want to know more about CUNE. Sign up with DCE Suzanne by 4/26.

6TH-8TH GRADE

CAMP NIGHT

Junior High School Students! Join other Tulsa area LCMS youth at Immanuel-BA on Wednesday, April 21 from 5-8:30 PM!

Come early from 5-6 to enjoy air hockey, pool, rumble ball pit, 9 square in the air and more! Starting at 6 we'll have dinner, devotions, games and more sponsored by Camp Lutherhoma. Campfire with Red Sky and Tahle! Sign up with DCE Suzanne by 4/19.



REMIND!

Parents and Families, Join one of our CTR Remind! groups to get text updates on upcoming children's and youth events as well as important updates during activities and trips. This is very important for families in Jr High and High School Youth Ministry groups.

To join this group/class:	Text this:	To:
CTR Confirmation Class	@ctrconf	81010
CTR Jr High Youth	@ctrj	81010
CTR High School Youth	@ctrh	81010



CAMP REBATES NOW AVAILABLE!

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. You may put up to 3 campers per household on one form. We will only offer a rebate for one camp session per person per season. Remember to send your registration to Camp Lutherhoma as soon as possible. When you receive your registration confirmation attach a copy to the rebate form and return it to CTR in the Lay Ministry of Youth drawer in the Office Work Room

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. Funds will be sent out after May 6. Forms submitted after May 1 will be considered with any funds that remain.



We continue to meet the third Sunday of the month in the fellowship hall at 1:00. At our March meeting we will put together mission bracelets. For our April Meeting, I have all the supplies to make coasters from tiles. If you have a craft you would like to try or coordinate, please let me know. Our gathering of diapers for February went very well! Thank you to all that brought diapers to MEND! We collected 24 boxes of diapers - 1,566 diapers - also 2 large multipacks of wipes, 7 baby blankets and 14 sleepers and onesies. Thank you, Kathy, for coordinating this effort. For Valentine's Day, Patti coordinated a gift sack for our 12 shut-ins. This included a devotion booklet, a bag of tea and hot chocolate, a coaster and some chocolates. They all enjoyed it very much. Thank you, Patti. During March, we have been collecting eye glasses for MOST ministries. So far over 20 pair of glasses have been donated! Nancy Kirby sent me an email that stated Amazon Prime had donated \$48.05 to Mites. Keep ordering from Amazon and select a donation be made to Mites.

Connecting Hearts and Hands Spring Fling 2021 is April 10 at Grace Lutheran. Show faithful love and compassion to one another, Zechariah 7:9b. In our current world of COVID-19 and social distancing, followers of Christ may wonder how to share God's love with those around them. God is not limited by viruses or our fear of them. He has plans that cannot be thwarted and a love that cannot be kept at a distance. Connecting Hearts and Hands, the 2021 Spring Fling Bible Study with its accompanying activities, will help each LWML woman connect God's compassionate heart and actions to her own. Due to the pandemic, the Spring Fling will be uniquely presented at the zone level. Stay tuned for more details from your zone president.

We are HIS: Held by His Word; Inspired to share His Gospel; Surrounded by His grace. A primary focus of this new campaign is that each woman of the LCMS is the Heart of LWML. Learn more at LWML.org. Remember to feed your Mite Box. The first Sunday of the month is still Mite Box Sunday. If you can't make it to church, you can mail a check to church for LWML with Mites in the memo line. 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 www.lwml.org/oklahoma-district. There are also Bible Studies, devotions, and Lutheran Women's Quarterly. Make sure you also check out LWML page on the CTR web site. I try to keep it updated also. Thank you for your support.

Yours in Service – Daphnee Brian



SUNRISE SURPRISE

The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center — just like Jesus' empty tomb!





SECOND DCE CALL COMMITTEE: The Call Committee for a Second DCE has begun to accumulate names for possible candidates. If you know anyone who you think would be interested or any current DCE that you would recommend, please contact John Meinders at jhmeinders@cox.net 918-625-5983 or Tim Kuehnert at tk@tulsadirectmail.com 918-906-2651. Based on the work of the DCE Exploratory Committee, we want candidates to be certified DCEs within the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Also, if you would like to serve on the Call Committee, please contact John or Tim.

Encourage wonder

For a new perspective on Bible accounts you've heard over and over, play "I Wonder" with children and adults alike. Similar to "I Spy," it encourages a deeper dive into familiar passages. Simply explore ideas that aren't detailed in the Bible, starting with the phrase "I wonder." For example:

- I wonder if any Roman soldier was standing in the back not mocking Jesus (Matthew 27:27-31). If so, what was he thinking as others threw about insults?
- I wonder how long it took Joseph of Arimathea to cut his own tomb out of the rock (Matthew 27:57-60). What did he think about as he worked?
- The day after Jesus' ascension, I wonder which disciple spoke first at breakfast — and what he said.

Scholars may have chimed in on some of these ponderings, but there's likely no right answer. Playing "I Wonder" can help you slow down to really pay attention and experience more of a Bible passage — especially one you seem to know by rote.

Add meaning to this year's Easter celebration by letting your wonder wander during Holy Week. Then continue the practice whenever you're eager to gain new insights on the "old, old story ... of Jesus and his love."

—Janna Firestone



Volunteers needed to
help hide eggs!
Please contact Katie
Michaels-Johnson to
assist on Easter
morning.

Puzzle!

Use the code to uncover the angel's message in Matthew 28:7 (NIV).

“ “ H

Answer: "He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him."



CTR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT



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. Please note that the West side of the building will only be in use through spring and then all activities will transition to the new East side wing as renovations move to the Fellowship Hall and existing offices. As those dates become available we will let everyone know.



This Month's Updates & Progress

- Roof is 95% complete
- Interior framing is 95% complete
- Backing being installed for millwork, TV's, and restrooms
- Plumbers roughing in walls
- HVAC continuing to rough in duct work
- Electricians roughing in walls.
- Exterior stucco and masonry work to begin next week.
- Working to begin drywall in the next 10 days.

Check out the construction site online tour on our Facebook page and on the CTR website for an inside look at what is going on!



KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL

EACH WEEK THE TEACHERS AND KIDS ARE HAVING A BLAST AT SUNDAY SCHOOL!
JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL!



Mr. Carri and Ms. Melissa leading lessons with us.

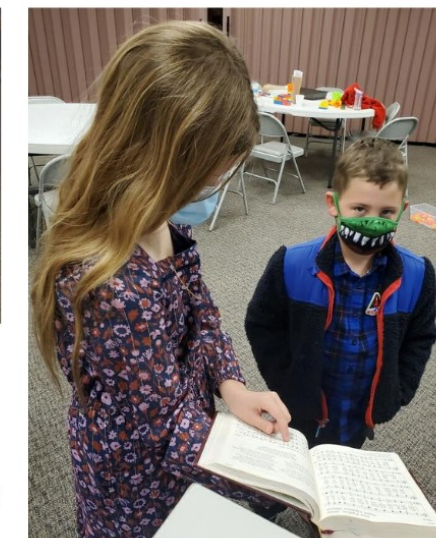


Learning new music with Mr. Jacob. He also showed up the inside of the piano and how to write a song!



Rex and Jaime show off their crafts from our "Jesus is Born" lesson.

WE START A BRAND NEW QUARTER ON APRIL 11!
CHECK OUT THE EDUCATION MINISTRY PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Arden and JC are looking in the hymnal together.

LWR update of all the donations made during 2020.
The goal for Masks was actually exceeded – Goal was 75,000, 118,360 were received!
Thanks to the ladies from CTR that contributed to this cause!

In 2020 you reached...

616,210

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

IN

23

COUNTRIES

WITH

\$11.1 million

WORTH OF
QUILTS, CARE KITS
AND MASKS



264,585

QUILTS



12,960

BLANKETS



174,055

SCHOOL KITS



71,900

PERSONAL CARE KITS



12,300

FABRIC KITS



52,860

BABY CARE KITS



40,750

FACE MASKS



Christian symbol

LILY—The lily that blooms around Easter is a symbol of Christ's resurrection because it rises from a seemingly lifeless bulb decaying in the ground. It is also used as a symbol of Christ himself. The lily, a symbol of purity, is often used to represent the Virgin Mary.