



CHRIST THE REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

CORNERSTONE

JUNE & JULY 2021

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

A Letter From The Pastor

BY REV. SCOTT BURMEISTER

Fellow Redeemed,

Grace to you and Peace from God our Father, and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. For this June edition of the Cornerstone, I will be referencing a book written by Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller, published by Concordia Publishing House entitled, “Has American Christianity Failed?”. In it the author attacks some of the prevalent teachings throughout the years, here in our own back yard. I want to go through some of them very quickly. There are four pillars to American Christianity, and it must be said right off that “American Christianity” is focused completely on the Christian and rarely, if ever, focuses on the Christ. The four pillars are:

Revivalism – teaches that the Christian life begins with a personal decision to accept Jesus Christ. This flies in the face of how we understand the third Article of the Apostles’ Creed.

Pietism – teaches that the Christian life is chiefly marked by a growth in good works. Very often pietism springs from a desire to “be” better, “do” better, and to grow yourself into good works.

Mysticism – teaches that we can have direct, unmediated access to God. This would deny Jesus Christ, and His words, when He says, “No one comes to the father, except through me”.

Enthusiasm – teaches that the spiritual life happens inside of us.

Each one of these pillars of American Christianity steal away the doctrine of Grace by faith alone, which is the Gospel. They tempt the Christian to focus in on themselves. God causes us, through His Word and Sacraments, to focus on Him, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God’s Grace is always outside of us, and by the Word and through the sacraments God works salvation in us. This “in us” is not to be focused upon, rather, God causes in us the response that is praise, honor, and glory to Him. God is the cause of “good works”, God is the cause of any growth in us. We look only to God and not to ourselves as we are caused by God, to lead people into a living relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ.

The pillars of American Christianity, which focuses on the Christian, is doomed to fail, because God’s Grace alone will not share any focus. God causes our eyes and our faith to be firmly fixed on Himself as the author, creator, and perfecter of faith, by His Word, and through the gifts of His sacraments.

Amen.

Rev. Scott Burmeister
Pastor

Suzanne Watt
Dir. of Christian Education

Deva Beebe
Business Administrator

Jacob Drenkler
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
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Email:
christredeemer@ctrtulsa.org



Outreach News

Please continue to collect food and other items for South Tulsa Community House and Tulsa Saints. There are lists of needed items in the south hallway on the shopping cart for STCH and the basket for TS. With school coming to a close, children need healthy snacks and the homeless need special items. Thank you for your participation in caring for God's children.

Outreach would like to add to our missionary support through LCMS Mission Central by supporting Rev. Christian Tiews in his missionary work in Germany. Please remember him and his family in your prayers, especially in his learning Farsi.

Eyeglasses—any prescription, readers, adult, children or any sunglasses are being collected to take to the LWML convention June 24th in Lexington, KY for MOST Ministries Eyeglass Clinic mission trips. There's a box on the LWML table for them. Thank you!



400 bags of food were filled at South Tulsa Community House on Thursday, May 6, to be distributed in two apartment complexes in the area. Diane Fager and Cherry Volberding were there to help the staff of STCH fill them.



We pray all our youth attending Camp Lutherhoma have an amazing time this summer! Parents, if you get any pictures, please share them for the August newsletter.



John & Lisa Baumann - Jun 1 - 30 yrs
Tom & Nancy Kirby - Jun 2 - 48 yrs
Tyler & Amber Kollock - Jun 2 - 9 yrs
Josh & Kim Davis - Jun 3 - 15 yrs
Nathaneal & Lindsay Rake - Jun 4 - 5 yrs
Dale & Cheryl Davison - Jun 5 - 50 yrs
Jim & Teri King - Jun 6 - 23 yrs
Jerrold & Brandi Johnson - Jun 8 - 14 yrs
Justin & Carri Cline - Jun 9 - 20 yrs
John & Sally Neas - Jun 10 - 55 yrs
Eric & Jenny Wendelbo - Jun 10 - 32 yrs
Cameron & Darbi Newman - Jun 14 - 24 yrs
Patti & Bill Ross - Jun 14 - 47 yrs
Jon & Sherry Weaver - Jun 19 - 28 yrs
Dale & Cyndy Malwick - Jun 21 - 24 yrs
Dick & Linda Hamilton - Jun 26 - 50 yrs
John & Sharon Campbell - Jun 27 - 29 yrs



Kristofer & Korie Drain - Jul 1 - 2 yrs
Shaun & Melissa James - Jul 3 - 17 yrs
Norman & Bernie Zanter - Jul 3 - 56 yrs
Greg & Connie Schadel - Jul 7 - 31 yrs
Bob & Gayle Wagner - Jul 7 - 14 yrs
Rob & Carmen Koch - Jul 11 - 34 yrs
Floyd & Angela Lemons - Jul 16 - 27 yrs
Bob & Marilyn Rains - Jul 17 - 28 yrs
Larry & Lisa Bellmard - Jul 20 - 25 yrs
Harold & Colene France - Jul 24 - 56 yrs
Tim & Kayla Kuehnert - Jul 24 - 22 yrs
Ryan & Melanie McVey - Jul 29 - 15 yrs



Congregational President's Update



May 16, 2021

Dear fellow members,

It does not seem possible but my term as president of the congregation is nearing its conclusion at the end of June. What a packed year it was for our congregation as we dealt with Covid-19, our construction project, office staff changes and ECC closure. What a blessing it has been having Pastor, Suzanne, Jacob, and Craig providing such leadership, stability, and flexibility during so many challenges.

Construction Status News:

The exterior window installation has begun and should be complete within the next 2 weeks, the 2nd floor is being painted, tile installed in the restrooms, ceiling grid installed, permanent lights installed, the exterior stucco installation almost complete, installation of the elevator has begun. The sidewalks and parking area concrete will most likely be completed by month's end. As soon as the windows are completed the HVAC system can be activated and soon thereafter the flooring, millwork and interior doors can be installed. The speed of completion of phase 1 is accelerating at an impressive pace.

We continue taking small groups through the new building on Sunday mornings after early service so if you are interested let Floyd Lemons or I know, and we will be happy to take you through the project.

Budget:

Our financials through the end of April are completed and it shows our offerings continue to be strong through the first four months of 2021. April offerings were more normalized than the previous three months. Expenses are still well below budget but are expected to increase as improving Covid-19 conditions allow more church activities and as we move into our new phase 1 facility.

In conclusion I would like to say that I have genuinely appreciated all the support you have given me and the rest of our church leadership during this challenging year. You have been great. God has truly blessed our congregation and set us up to better help spread the Gospel in our community and the world.

Respectfully,
Brad Young
Soon to be Past President

CTR BOARD MEMBERS



President: Brad Young
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John Meinders
Past President: Tom Kirby
Secretary: Connie Thomas
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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





MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIR & HANDBELLS FOR YOUTH & ADULTS

BY JACOB DREGLER

Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? (Exodus 15:11)

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe. (Hebrews 12:28)

Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place. Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love and praise. (Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, LSB 700)

Christian worship has at its core a profound sense of the holy. This holiness is not of our own making, rather it is an intrinsic quality of the One to whom our prayer and praises are addressed. Indeed, the very fact that we are gathered together for worship each week is a gift of the Holy Spirit. We as a community of believers are called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified only through the redemptive works of God and the gracious indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The act of worship flows from the radical, unmerited grace of God, which means that it is not about us or what we do but about what the Lord does for us and through us.

Having said that, we also do well to heed the words of the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews and “offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe” (Hebrews 12:28b). When the Holy Spirit assembles us for corporate worship in the name of the Triune God, we gather before the Lord who laid the foundations of the earth and set the stars ablaze. Those who approach the Creator of the universe do well not to do so lightly. In Scripture, we find that those who stood in the holy presence of divinity did so with a sense of wonder, awe, and reverence—even, at times, with fear and trembling.

Why is it then that wonder, awe, and reverence are so often lacking when we Christians are joined together as a family of believers to give thanks and praise to Almighty God? After all, each week we hear again of the wondrous, enlivening, redemptive works which God has done. We declare the Good News that through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. We are reminded that we have been set free from those sins to live lives of love and service to God and to our neighbors. We are cleansed in the holy flood of Baptism. We join for a brief moment in the unending hymn of angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven. We share in a foretaste of the marriage feast of the Lamb in His eternal kingdom. How then are we so often not, to quote a hymn by the eminent hymnist Charles Wesley, “lost in wonder, love, and praise?”

Perhaps we instead find ourselves lost in the strain, stress, and general busyness of everyday life. It may be that the shared act of worship has become just another part of our weekly routine, just one more box to check in our daily planners. It may be that we find that when we gather around Word, Font, and Table with our fellow believers, the distractions which mark our daily lives are still present, clamoring for our attention even during those moments when we seek to hear the still, small voice of God. During times like these, to paraphrase the words of the theologian and songwriter Michael Card, it can be all too easy to offer God “a once a week observance when we coldly mouth His words.”

In moments like this how are we to regain a sense of wonder, reverence, and awe? How do we recapture a sense of the numinous in those times when we are more worried than wondering, more restless than reverent?

In her reflection “Rise heart, thy Lord is Risen,” Lutheran hymnwriter Susan Palo Cherwien relates the story of the French artist Henri Matisse who, when he was painting outside, would draw a circle on the ground around his feet. He did this so that “he could again find the perspective from which he had been painting. To remind himself where he stood.” This artistic method brings to mind the words which adorn the ark containing the Torah scrolls in Jewish houses of worship that I shared in last month’s article: *Da Lifnei Mi Attah Omed*, “Know before whom you stand.” We know before whom we stand when we gather to worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. We know that we stand on holy ground when we enter into the sacred time and space of corporate worship. Perhaps, like Matisse, what we need is simply a reminder.

Perhaps if we are to recapture the sense of awe and reverence which is so much a part of the Biblical pattern of worship, we need look no further than the words of the liturgy which we sing and speak together each Sunday. The liturgy (literally, “the work of the people”) is the order and structure of a service of corporate worship, and it, like Matisse’s circle, reminds us where we stand. Every moment of the Divine Service in the Lutheran tradition, from the Invocation (Matthew 28:19) to the Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26), is saturated in God’s holy Word. In worship, we confess that Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and ascended, is the Son of the Living God. We rejoice in the victory won for us through His redemptive suffering, death, and resurrection. If we truly believe in our hearts the words which our lips confess each time we join together for worship, then surely awe and reverence are the only ways that we can respond to all that God has done for us.

When we, as a people gathered in the presence of God, engage in the act of communal worship, we are engaged in an intrinsically holy act. The rhythm and cadence of worship, guided by the form of the liturgy, are shaped and molded by the words that we hear and speak and the songs that we sing. May we continue to offer up our worship to the One who is worthy of all “wonder, love, and praise.”



Seminary News

BY DEON HULL



Greetings from St. Louis:

It is really hard to believe that the first year is over. Well, as I type this, I am in the last week but have 3 weeks- worth of work to do to finish it out. Sounds familiar? Well, I am sure that I will survive it, I just might be a little sleep deprived. But that is okay. I have time to rest up before we take on the next classes.

These are my reflections from the first year.

1. God is so good to me. I was sure that I would never be able to attend Seminary, yet here I am. Not because of who I am or what I am. It is purely a blessing of God. He has provided for Deb and me through the whole first year. Thank you to all who have sent us support directly or through the school. We can not express how grateful we are.

2. "Jesus loves you and me." is what it is all about. Jesus continually set a child as an example of the faith that He wanted His hearers to emulate. No matter how sophisticated our understanding of the workings of God becomes, the bottom-line answer is always "Jesus". Sometimes we make life too complicated.

3. Seminary hasn't made me a better Lutheran, Christian, or person. God's transformative Word has made any changes in me. I am more conscious of my inadequacies as a result of this year. He is working on me the way He works on you. When we are in the Word, He promises that His Word does not come back empty but does exactly what God intends in us and in our lives.

4. Pastors don't just work on Sunday. Who knew?

5. God is a God of forgiveness and reconciliation. The Gospel promises must predominate in a church.

6. If my young classmates are any indication, the Lord is going to do some great things in our churches in the near future. I am humbled to be included in this group of men and women. The Pastors and Deaconesses that are being trained here have a heart for the world and the Lord. These folks are great servants of the Word. I am grateful that they have accepted me in their ranks and allowed me to be part of the conversation about the future of the church.

7. Seminarians need professional support from mentors in the field. I have the best in Pastor B. I am blessed to be able to sit at his feet and learn what it means to be a Pastor. I have been in ministry for 30 years but not as a Pastor. This is completely new to me. I have listened to many sermons and know the congregational responses to all of the worship settings in the hymnal. It is a completely different world on the other side. Thank you, Pastor Burmeister!

There is so much else to talk about, but since the number '7' is the number of completion, I will leave it at this list. It is a list full of faith, hope, and love, as it should be.

We are taking a trip to see Steven in Delaware when I finish classes and then we have some time before we start up Summer Hebrew. Hopefully, we can get back to Tulsa sometime this summer. It would be good to see everyone and take some time there.

We continue to praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

Deon and Deb Hull

14 Founders Way- St. Louis, MO 63105



Scott and Betty Gesell
2923 E 134th St So
Bixby, OK 74008



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.

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Instagram:

www.instagram.com/ctrtulsa/



Youtube:

Search "Scott Burmeister" and click on the CTR logo



Twitter:

@PastorBe_CTR



Thank you for the cards and good wishes on our 50th anniversary. We are truly blessed to be part of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Thanks to all of our dear friends. Our day was very special, celebrating with family.

Blessings,

Don and Marie Vavra

Cornerstone 5

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

CONTACT DCE SUZANNE WATT TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION



"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



What is the theme for the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering?

The theme for the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering is "In All Things" and is centered around Colossians 1:15-20.

When and Where is the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering?

The next LCMS Youth Gathering will be July 9-13, 2022 in Houston, TX.

What Are the Age Requirements for Participants?

The LCMS Youth Gathering's primary focus is for youth participants between the ages of 14 to 19. To register for the 2022 Gathering, youth participants must meet ONE of the two following eligibility requirements:

- Must be 14 years old at the time of the Gathering

OR

- Entering his or her ninth-grade year at the time of the Gathering.

While we do allow students from the ages of 14 to 20 to attend, please keep in mind that some of the program content may not be relevant to the youngest and older youth participants as it is geared to high school students.

When Does Gathering Registration Open?

Registration for the Gathering opens in October 2021.

How Much Does it Cost?

The Gathering registration fee is \$395 per participant. This fee covers all Gathering program and Office of National Mission Youth Ministry administrative costs and secondary insurance for all participants. Hotel, travel and meal costs are not included in the registration fee.

As in the past, CTR asks youth who want to attend to pay the registration fee, which is generally 1/3 of the total cost. The cost of travel, meals, hotel, District activities, t-shirts etc. will all be supported by fundraising and donations.

It seems unreal that the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering is almost here! As a youth ministry we need to begin preparing for this awesome event despite it being over a year away. Youth interested in attending should contact DCE Suzanne to let her know you would like to go. Please put the dates on your calendar NOW so you don't plan any camps or family vacations during that time in 2022. Please leave at least 2 days on each end of the Gathering for possible travel time and group activities.

We have a meeting for all interested youth and parents on Sunday, May 23 following services. Parents interested in being a chaperone should also attend to understand what happens on the trip and expectations of that role. Our next meeting will then be August 8, 2021 to review registration forms which will be due in September 2021 for inputting online. If you have any questions, please contact DCE Suzanne and she will be happy to answer them for you.

Save the date

August 8- 2022 Youth Gathering
Meeting for Registration

September 8- CTR-U Begins!!

October 1-3- Joy Jr High District
Youth Gathering at Camp
Lutherhoma for 6th-8th graders

October 29-30- CLASS at
Concordia- Nebraska for 8th-12th
grade students

YOUTH SUMMER
FLORIDA TRIP
June 19-27, 2021

Please keep our youth and
chaperones in your prayers as
we travel to Florida this
summer!

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Preschool- 5th Grade



CONTACT DCE SUZANNE WATT OR KATIE MICHAELS-JOHNSON FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER.



Christ the Redeemer is again offering a Church Nursery and childcare from 8AM-12PM during worship services and Sunday School. This care for our youngest will be provided by professional, caring staff and is open to infants through age 4/5. The Nursery will be in the Church Fellowship Hall (east side) near the Sanctuary. For more information, please contact the Church Office.

Summer Faith FAMILY BUCKET LIST

Pick yours up NOW before all the fun runs out! 1 bucket per family and each bucket has enough activities for 4 children, so invite your friends or family over to join in the fun if you have extra! We hope the tools in the bucket will help you have a great summer that is filled with faith-shaping adventures to fill your Summer Faith Bucket List as a family. Each bucket includes various activities, a devotional and more!



Summer Bible Buddy READING PROGRAM



Befriend a Summer Bible Buddy! Choose a Buddy from the table in the narthex and bring him or her home along with a Basic Care guide. (One per person and no exchanges, please.) Your Buddy does not need a lot of things except: Love and Time! Your Buddy's favorite thing to do is read God's Word with YOU! Use the Basic Care guide to know what to read with your Buddy each day.



Make a sunflower, which turns its head to follow the sun.

What you need:

- Paper plate
- Yellow marker
- Scissors
- Yarn (black and brown)



What you do:

1. Color the entire plate yellow.
2. Around the edge, cut out an odd number of triangles. Evenly space the cuts to form flower petals.
3. Poke a hole in the plate's center. String black yarn through the hole and over one triangle cut. Tie a knot at the back of the plate.
4. Continue looping yarn through the hole and over the remaining cuts. Secure the end. The flower should look like a wagon wheel with black spokes.
5. Tie the brown yarn to a black "spoke." Weave the brown yarn over and under the spokes in a circle. Continue until the sunflower has a large center. Then tie the end.
6. Display your craft as a reminder to follow the Son, Jesus!

SHARE PICS OF YOU AND/OR YOUR FAMILY COMPLETING EACH SUMMER PROGRAM TO SUZANNE.WATT@CTRTULSA.ORG



We know that many members have questions about the project and some that have developed as the project has progressed.

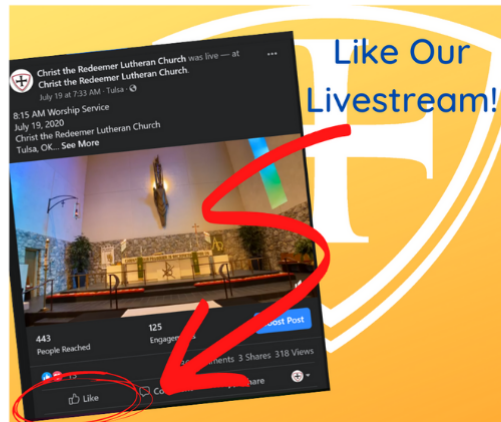
Here are a few answers to common questions we have heard.

LIKE & SHARE CTR!

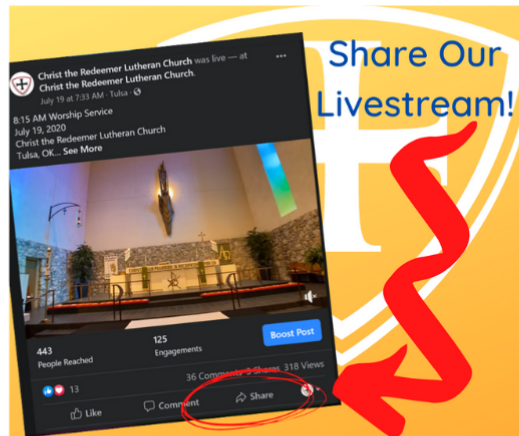


WHILE MANY CONSIDER VIEWS AND VIEWERS AS IMPORTANT, DON'T FORGET THE "LIKES" AND "SHARES."

Did you know that through the likes and shares of CTR updates and live-stream videos from congregation members who already attend our church, our content is made available in the feed of your friends and family? **Your interaction with our Facebook page is a form of evangelism**, you are sharing our church culture with people who might be open to learning more.



Facebook events are another stellar way to raise awareness of the ministry happenings at CTR. Not only can we invite everyone in the church, but **you** can invite others, too. We should be taking advantage of every tool at our disposal to reach people where they are, and there may be no greater tool available than social media. For instance you can share pictures of events or information on things going on at CTR like Sunday School and the Construction Project.



Every time a Facebook viewer like you shares our message, CTR is launched into your network of people who may not be part of our church or any church! **In essence, a share of the video is like an invitation to attend church!** This is where feeding the flock online can become outreach. **EVERYONE** with a Facebook account in the pews or watching can share! It can be done on a computer, smartphone or tablet. There are a lot of people out there right now looking for the comfort and message of hope that only Christ through His Church can bring. Let's all reach out and share the Good News of the Gospel in as many ways as we can each day!



KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL



IN JUNE OUR UNIT COVERS FOUR STORIES THAT SHOW JESUS IS GOD'S PROMISED SON.

Look in your mail just before the start of each month for a special packet from CTR. In it you'll find a poster to hang of the month's Bible Buddy, a sticker and information on each week's lesson that your mom and dad can review.



BE A TEACHER!

With more families and children returning to in-person attendance we would love to have some new Sunday School teachers! We currently have all elementary students in one class; however, we would like to divide into 2 classes: lower elementary (PK/K/1/2 and upper elementary (3rd,4th,5th). If you are interested in finding out more about being a Sunday School teacher, please contact DCE Suzanne.



Cornerstone 9

CLUB 345 EVENT

On May 5 the Club 345 students enjoyed an evening of Tacos and Tie-dye up at the church!



Maximus Baumann
Elise Burmeister
Aiden Hanson
Caroline King
Megan Merrill
Adrienne Schadel
Molly Wilkening

CONFIRMATION

On May 2 we celebrated Confirmation Sunday at CTR. This spring's confirmands were Camden Edwards, Greg Speer and Logan Cline.





We changed our meeting in May to Tuesday since we are able to have meetings during the week now. There won't be a meeting in June because several ladies will be at National Convention and others will be on vacation.

During April and May, we collected items to be taken to Kentucky for the convention. You can still give items until June 10. Please see the poster at the LWML table. We are still collecting eye glasses for MOST ministries that will be taken to Kentucky.

On the LWML web site, they have posted some free workshops. Check it out and see if you might be interested in some of them. Some titles are "Eager Conversationalists" and "The Spiritual Conversation Curve".

LWML will be collecting stamps once again. Please watch for more information. These go to support missions in the Oklahoma District.

Remember to feed your Mite Box. The first Sunday of the month is 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.

Thank you for your support.

Yours in Service – Daphnee Brian, President

MOST Ministries provides vision testing and recycled prescription eyeglasses to impoverished people living in developing nations around the world. This eyeglass ministry allows team members to reach out with Christ's love and engage in sharing the Gospel. Donations of your used eyeglasses will support this mission outreach.



Subscribe to the Oklahoma District e-newsletter at www.oklahomalutherans.org

Join Our Mailing List for District Updates

Oklahoma Lutherans: District Updates

Your Name

Your Email Address



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!

BIBLE QUIZ

COMPLETE THIS PROVERB: "LIKE SNOW IN _____ OR RAIN IN HARVEST, SO HONOR IS NOT FITTING FOR A FOOL"

- A. SPRINGTIME
- B. SUMMER
- C. SEEDTIME
- D. AUTUMN

ANSWER: B (SEE PROVERBS 26:1, ESV)



Cornerstone 11



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

Our third unit is Jesus Shows He's God's Promised Son and the focus because Jesus is God's Son he is able to do amazing things. Our lessons will come from the books of Matthew, Luke and John.

June 6 John the Baptist Tells About Jesus

June 13 Jesus is Baptized

June 20 Men Bring Their Friend to Jesus for Healing

June 27 Jesus Brings Lazarus Back to Life

6TH-8TH GRADE YOUTH



The Sunday school class, led by DCE Suzanne meets in the CTR Library. We are studying fun Biblical topics and theology questions the youth submitted that they desired to know more about.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH



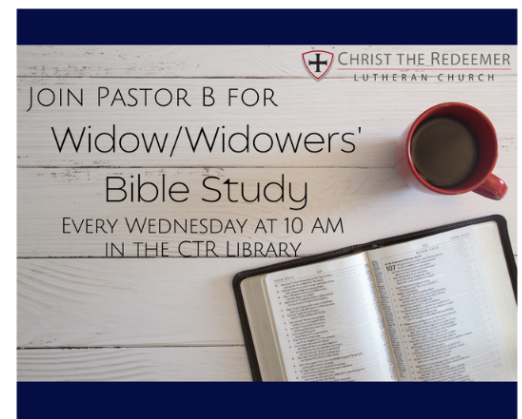
Led by David Ross and Tim Kuehnert in the church office. This class, titled Vantage, looks at a wide variety of topics. A change in perspective changes everything. In the same way that a microscope reveals the tiniest moving parts and a mountain view makes skyscrapers fade, God's grace transforms the 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!



Fellow CTR Members,

June 2021

This is the latest status report on our Endowment Trust at CTR.

As of the last available month end statements on April 30th, the Endowment Trust had a balance of \$1,098,407. At the end of 2020 we reached a milestone of having \$1,000,000 in our Trust.



The CTR Endowment Trust Fund was established in 1991 with the primary purpose of providing funds for repairs, renovations, and maintenance of existing church facilities but it also allows for other purposes in certain situations. An approval this year of \$14,000 for a Phase 1 upgrade of Wi-Fi equipment, licenses and installation for the new building is just one example.

The Endowment Trust provides a means for us, as Christian stewards, to demonstrate and express in a tangible way, our gratitude to our Creator for the many blessings and gifts he has bestowed on us. A gift to the Endowment Trust Fund is reflection of our faith and love over and above our normal giving for the ongoing mission and ministry of our Church.

There are several ways in which you can participate in the Endowment Trust Fund's activities, depending on your desires and financial resources. Often gifts to a charitable trust not only benefit the trust, in this case Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, but are meaningful ways to achieve reductions in taxes on income or estate values levied by the federal/state government. Gifts can include but are not limited to: Remembrance Gifts – gifts made in memory of loved ones and friends, in honor of anniversaries, birthdays, baptisms, or other special events. So far during 2021 gifts to the Trust were made by Del and Jan Dreyer, Ed and Diane Fager, Kathy Piersall, and Mark Williams.

Gift of Property – a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate or personal property during your lifetime.

Bequest of Property through a Trust or a Will – a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate, or personal property can be provided for in a personal trust or will.

Life Insurance Bequest – the Endowment Trust can be named as a beneficiary in a life insurance policy for which premiums are paid by the donor, or you may gift a policy to the Endowment Trust.

Gift Annuity – a gift of money or marketable securities that pays the donor income for the rest of his or her life. Upon the donor's death remaining annuity funds go to the Endowment Trust.

We ask that you consider remembrance gifts to the Endowment Trust during 2021 to honor a loved one and/or include in your estate planning Will or Trust a bequest to our current Endowment Trust Fund.

If you have any questions about the Trust or gifts to the Trust, please contact one of our current Trustees listed below:

Rob Koch

Ed Fager

Frank Thomas

Angela Tipton

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

5.15.2021

Michael W Bryan -Director
CTR Newsletter

Blessings to all of the Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church. As I was going about last week, trying to get my taxes done, field work and planting, and meetings for work, I felt a bit overwhelmed and forgot for a moment the blessings the Father has freely given me. My family is blessed with much, yet sometimes my faith can be challenged when I feel I cannot get to everything. When I have days like this I remember those who don't have these blessings, and the struggles they go through each and every day. It is a blessing to glorify the Father and help his lost sheep every day.

What do you do with your blessings and talents? Messiah told us this parable and it reminds me each day when I sometimes forget my blessings and the struggles others are having living on the streets. I pray daily to the Father and thank him for sending his son to save us and giving me another day to glorify his name and be a servant to those around me.

Matthew 25: ¹⁴ "For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. ¹⁶ Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same manner the one who had received the two talents gained two more. ¹⁸ But he who received the one talent went away, and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²² Also the one who had received the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴ And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. ²⁵ And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master answered and said to him, 'you wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. ²⁷ Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my money back with interest. ²⁸ Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.' ²⁹ For to everyone who has, more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. ³⁰ Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

We are all given gifts. When Paul wrote to Timothy, he reminded him of his gifts from the Father; **Timothy 4:** ¹⁴ do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. ¹⁵ Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress will be evident to all. ¹⁶ Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you. God gave us our gifts, talents, to be used to glorify his name in all things.



This week Chuck, who we help and is working to get off the streets had a rough week. He had interview at QT this week with some clothing donated by members of Christ the Redeemer. Unfortunately, while he was there all his items were stolen. He showed up on Friday needing everything, which we tried to give from our limited supplies. These are the stories and people on the streets of Tulsa. Lost to the sin of the world and trying to get back to the Father through Jesus Christ, everyone's only salvation. Please pray for Chuck and the homeless this week.

The homeless need prayers, hope, food, blankets, sleeping bags, spring/summer t-shirts, tarps, walking shoes, tents, and to know someone loves them. 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.



STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| For the Month of April | 2020 | 2021 |
| April Giving..... | \$58,363 | \$69,322 |
| Monthly Budget | \$65,431 | \$66,065 |
| Year to Date Giving | \$260,743 | \$308,879 |
| Year to Date Budget | \$286,326 | \$294,506 |
| YTD Expenses..... | \$246,790 | \$232,374 |
| Building Fund Contribution: | | |
| April Receipts: | \$46,816.45 | |
| Balance: | \$2,354,273.84 | |

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

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Early service ushers

Late service greeters

Occasional office help





CHRIST THE REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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As sweet as honey



Honey is both a sweetener and a medicine.
How can our words be used in the same ways?



Directions: Use the hexagon key to fill in the missing vowels and complete Proverbs 16:24, NIV.



Grocooos words

oro o honooocomb,

swoot to tho sooo

ond hooolong



to tho bonos.



PROVERBS 16:24, NIV

Answer: Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 16:24, NIV