

CORNERSTONE

AUGUST 2025



Leading People Into a Living Relationship With Jesus Christ.

BY PASTOR BURMEISTER

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Strengthening the saved, saving the lost.

Fellow Redeemed,

As August rolls in and the familiar rhythm of backpacks, packed lunches, and school bells returns, families everywhere begin adjusting to a new routine. The return to school is a natural time of transition—a fresh start for students, teachers, and parents alike. In this season of reordering priorities and resetting schedules, there's no better time to reaffirm the importance of weekly church attendance in our lives.

For many, summer brings travel, rest, and a relaxed pace. And while these months offer wonderful memories and much-needed rest, they also tend to disrupt regular patterns of worship. As we prepare to re-engage with school, sports, and extracurriculars, let's be intentional about returning to regular worship and anchoring our families in the life of the church.

Why is church attendance so vital—especially during the busy school year?

Worship Grounds Us in Grace.

In a world that constantly demands performance and achievement, weekly worship reminds us that we are loved not for what we do, but because of what Christ has done. Our identity is found in Him, not in report cards, trophies, or accolades. Regular worship places this truth front and center, shaping hearts both young and old.

The Church Is Family.

As the school year ramps up, our lives can feel increasingly scattered. The church provides a place of spiritual grounding and community. It's where children and youth build Christ-centered friendships, where parents are supported in prayer, and where every generation comes together in faith.

Weekly Habits Form Lifelong Faith.

Our calendars reflect what we value. By prioritizing Sunday worship—even when the schedule is full—we teach our children (and ourselves) that God comes first. Regular attendance reinforces the rhythm of grace and helps nurture a faith that lasts beyond childhood and into adulthood.

Continued on page 5 ...

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, August 2025









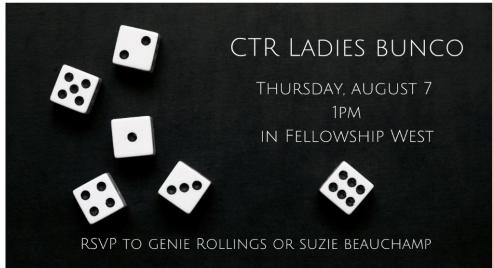


Did you know? You can now reserve the church gym online for pickle-ball, or other events, by using the Church Center app. On the home screen tap the

"Pickleball/Gym Request" button. Or you can use the QR code and it will take you straight there!







CTR BOARD MEMBERS

President: John Meinders
President-Elect: Philip Hixon
Past President: Shaun James
Secretary: Sharon Campbell
Treasurer: Jennie Gard-Haws

Directors-at-Large:
Eric Kaplinski
Amanda Stein
David Ross
Tim Zwosta

Personnel: Paul Wilkening Communications: OPEN

Education: OPEN

Elders: David Nightingale Family & Children: Carri Cline Finance: Mary Ann Meckfessel Outreach: Suzanne Beauchamp

Parish Life: Melissa James Marilyn Rains

Property: Brad Young

Stewardship: Brenda Flasch

Strategic Planning:

Amanda Stein

Worship: Katie Michaels-Johnson

Youth: Terry Brown

Endowment Chair: Kyle Stein





8:15 AM

Divine Service



In the Divine Service, God comes to us in His gifts of Word and Sacrament. Following the order of service found in Lutheran Service Book, we are gathered by the Holy Spirit to hear God's Word, sing His praise, and receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in the waters of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Holy Communion on 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays. A Nursery is available for children 0-4 yrs.

Participate in worship by serving as an usher, greeter, or lay reader or by joining the Sanctuary Choir or Agapè Ringer handbell ensemble.

9:30 AM

Sunday School



Join us weekly all year long for Christian Education opportunities for all ages. Children, Youth, Young Adults and Adults all have classes open to them.

Join us for Sunday School Opening in Fellowship West as we will have an acoustic style music beginning at 9:20AM. All ages welcome.

10:45 AM **Di**

Divine Service



In the Divine Service, God comes to us in His gifts of Word and Sacrament. Following the order of service found in Lutheran Service Book, we are gathered by the Holy Spirit to hear God's Word, sing His praise, and receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in the waters of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Holy Communion on 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays. A Nursery is available for children 0-4 yrs.

Participate in worship by serving as an usher, greeter, or lay reader or by joining the Sanctuary Choir or Agapè Ringer handbell ensemble.

10:45 AM

Fellowship45



Starting at 10:45 AM each Sunday, meet us in Fellowship East for a new time of fellowship with different opportunities each week.

All ages are invited to attend this new purposeful time of fellowship.

Each month will have a theme with different opportunities to build upon it each week.

1st Sunday- Topical Bible Study

2nd Sunday- Service

3rd Sunday- Family Activity

4th Sunday- Potluck

11:45 AM

Modern Worship Service

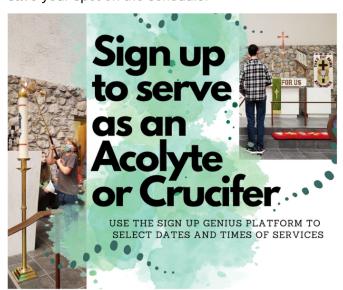
Holy Communion on 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays



The beauty of Scripture and the reliable truth found in God's wisdom is central to our worship. Pastor B leads our Modern Service alongside our house band as we strive to provide worship saturated in singing God's praise, hearing His Word, and receiving His gifts every week.



Students in 3rd-12th grades can sign up so serve as an acolyte or crucifer in worship services. Please use the Sign Up Genius page to save your spot on the schedule!





sign up here!

...Continued from page 1

We Need Each Other.

The school year brings challenges—academic, social, emotional, and spiritual. Church is the place where we lift each other up in prayer, bear one another's burdens, and receive encouragement from God's Word and His people. We weren't made to go it alone.

As we sharpen pencils and prepare backpacks, let's also ready our hearts for worship. Let's choose, as families and individuals, to be rooted in the presence of God and the fellowship of believers. Let's make this school year one where worship isn't just squeezed into our week; it becomes the foundation of it.

So as you reset your morning alarms and hang the new school calendar on the fridge, don't forget to schedule what matters most: Sundays at church. We can't wait to see you there.

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10:25



BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

- 1-Kinley Howard
- 1-Sarah Keeton
- 3-Jackson Fuller
- 3-Katie Michaels-Johnson
- 3-Caroline Walter
- 3-Hannah Walter
- 5-Dean Butler
- 5-Ashley Mabrey
- 6-Dan Kuehnert
- 7-Logan Garrett
- 8-Collins Goossen
- 8-Alexandra Koch
- 8-Gary Sharpe
- 12-Calvin Goossen
- 12-Hailee Goossen
- 14-Chris Flasch
- 15-Suzanne Watt
- 17-Kevin Drain
- 17-Tyler Kollock
- 19-Presley Keeton
- 20-Nickolas Roberson
- 25-Sandy Moeller
- 27-James Dutton
- 28-Katie Nightingale
- 29-Kelley Goodrum
- 29-Teresa Lynch
- 30-Brenda Flasch
- **30-Sandy Hughes**
- 31-Sara Lucas
- 31-Dale Malwick
- 31-Amanda Stein
- 31-Lanece Young

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, August 2025



MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIR & HANDBELLS FOR YOUTH & ADULTS
BY JACOB DRENGLER

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

For my final newsletter article as your Director of Music, I would like to revisit two of my favorite subjects: congregational song and the Psalms. Christians are a people of song. Each week in the liturgy, we are gathered together in the name of the Triune God with song, hear and proclaim the Word with song, approach the Lord's Table with song, and are sent forth into a broken world to be God's hands and feet to our sisters and brothers in need with song.

The songs on our lips are not always songs of rapturous praise. There is, as we see clearly in the Psalms, the first hymnal of the Church, a place, and indeed, a deeply felt need for songs that speak to our human brokenness. As Paul Westermeyer writes, "In the Psalms we deal with the height and depth of human life, articulated in a most compelling way. We see our struggles against the backdrop of God's goodness and mercy- our struggles with God and God's struggles with us in steadfast love and faithfulness."

We do not only sing songs of joy, for we know only too well the weight of sin, death, depression, grief, and injustice. The Psalmist knew all these things, too. More than that, he understood the need to give voice to the feelings of lamentation and sorrow that arise out of humanity's common experience of these painful realities. Indeed, Psalms of lament, both communal and individual, comprise the single largest category within the Psalter. Consider these words from the Psalms:

Give ear to my words, O Lord; consider my groaning. (Psalm 5:1)

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? (Psalm 13:1)

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? (Psalm 22:1)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! (Psalm 130:1-2) There are times in our lives when we, like the Psalmist, cry out to God in distress. There are moments, the proverbial dark night of the soul, when we join the Psalmist in asking, "How long, O Lord?" Consider those things that rest heavily on your own heart and mind; those things that would seek to silence the song of praise within you. Now consider these words from the Psalmist, drawn from the very same Psalms referenced above:

But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them that those who love your name may exult in you. (Psalm 5:11)

But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me. (Psalm 13:5-6)

I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you. You who fear the Lord, praise him! [...] For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help. (Psalm 22:22-24)

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. (Psalm 130:7)

The Psalms of lament arose from a variety of circumstances: sickness, imminent death, persecution, exile, shame, and abuse. Yet despite this, as we see in the above Psalm verses, the Psalmist continued to hope in the Lord for deliverance. As dearly loved children of God, we too share in that hope. This hope gives us reason to sing to the Lord, whatever the circumstances, for we know that we do not sing alone. As a family of believers, we, grafted into Christ through Baptism, are members of the Church of all times and places, a universal body that joins in song with angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven.

Trusting then in the steadfast mercy and love of the God who hears you in your songs of praise and your songs of pain, may you be strengthened for the journey, remembering that you are a child of God who is loved, called, redeemed, and never, ever alone.



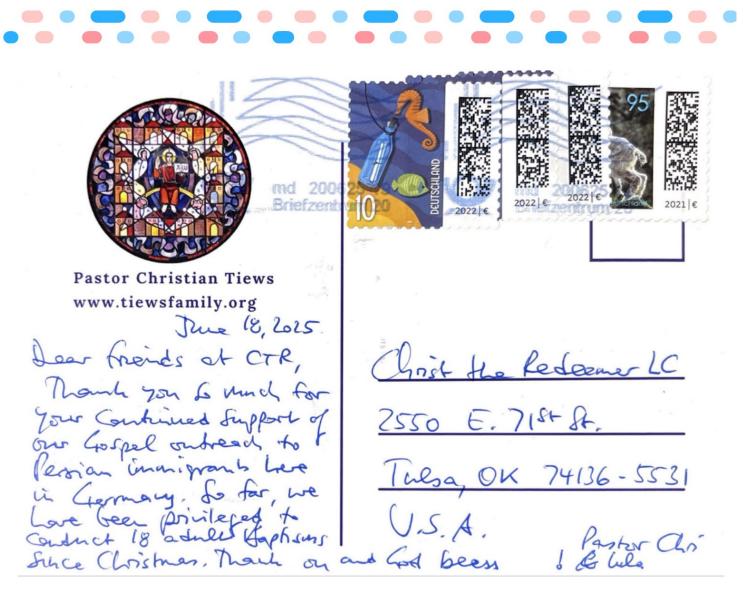
Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, August 2025

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will hold a special congregational meeting on Wednesday, August 6 at 6:30 PM. Only two items will be on the agenda:

- Approval of hiring Carri Cline full time as Director of Family Ministry effective immediately.
- Granting the Music Director Search Committee the authority to hire Jaime Carini as Director of Music as of a date to be determined (still within calendar 2025) if the Committee and the CTR Ministry Staff approve following her visit to Christ the Redeemer on August 13.

Jaime Carini needed to postpone her visit here until August 13 (it was originally scheduled for July 30). She will meet with the members of the Ministry Staff and will audition for the Search Committee that day. So that we are not required to hold a second special congregational meeting, we are asking the congregation, on August 6, to grant the Search Committee the authority to hire Jaime as Director of Music upon completion of her interviews and auditions on August 13, if the Committee believes she is the right choice. Contact John Meinders if you have questions.





CTR-U stands for "Christ the Redeemer University" and incorporates Christian Education and learning opportunities for all ages on Wednesday nights during the school year. We offer a variety of classes to meet the needs of children, youth and adults. All classes are open to anyone to attendguests and friends are always welcome! At certain times we may also offer special speakers or one time events, please check the listings for these event speakers and times. If you'd like to see a particular Bible study or class or would like to start up a group on your own, please contact the Lay Ministry of Education.

CTR-U Dinner Schedule Fall 2025	MENU Salad Bar and Dessert every week			
September 3	Grill Night! Burgers & Hot Dogs			
September 10	Taco Bar, Chips & Queso			
September 17	Breakfast for Dinner			
September 24	Raising Cane's, Mac n Cheese			
October 1	TBA			
October 8	TBA			
October 15	FALL BREAK NO CLASSES			
October 22	ТВА			
October 29	ТВА			

NURSERY

Wednesdays 5:30-8:00 PM One of our regular Nursery works would love to be available to care for your little one on Wednesdays. If you plan to us the Nursery, please sign up on Church Center.

RESUMES SEPTEMBER 3!



Wednesdays
5:30-6:30 PM
Kids from Kindergarten
through 5th grade are
invited to join us for Faith
Friends. Each Wednesday
we will be learning about
our faith, having fun and
fellowship. Led byCarri
Cline.

CONFIRMATION

Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 PM

Led by Pastor B reviewing the 10 Commandments in the Jr High room.

YOUTH GROUP

Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 PM

Led by DCE Suzanne and enjoying games & fellowship in the High School room.

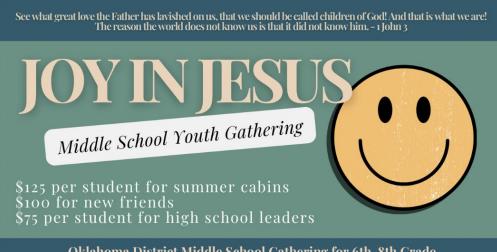
LUTHERANISM 101

Wednesdays 7:00-8:00 PM

Led by Pastor B in Fellowship East for anyone interested in the topic or wanting to become a member.



PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR ANNUAL 2025 MEDICAL AND LIABILITY PACKET ON THE CHURCH CENTER APP BEFORE ATTENDING AN EVENT.



Oklahoma District Middle School Gathering for 6th-8th Grade October 3-5, 2025 @ Camp Lutherhoma

As we look toward the Fall and start of school we are also excited to announce the JOY Oklahoma District Middle School Youth Gathering! This year's event is the weekend of October 3-5, 2025 at Camp Lutherhoma in Tahlequah, OK.

JOY is open to students in 6th-8th grade and their friends.

This year's cost is \$125 for CTR students.

Invite a friend who has NEVER attended and is not a church member for only \$100. We are also looking for High School Leaders! You pay \$75 per person and sleep in summer cabins. Please only pay once you have been accepted as a leader and please talk to DCE Suzanne BEFORE applying to discuss the responsibilities. This price is non-refundable. To apply as a leader please complete the form you will be sent online. You will be expected to attend all leadership training meetings and be at Camp for the duration of the gathering.

With your registration you receive: 2 nights in the Camp Lutherhoma cabins, a snack Friday night, 3 meals on Saturday and 1 meal on Sunday, a t-shirt, and a weekend of FUN!

Registration is due by September 3, 2025 to guarantee a t-shirt. Registrations received after the deadline will be allowed if space is available, but may not receive a t-shirt. For questions, call or email DCE Suzanne. Register on Church Center.

- Price is per person for 6th-8th grade youth.
- A new friend is a 6th-8th grade youth who is not a member or regular attendee of our congregation and has never attended Joy previously but is invited by one of our youth to attend.
- Please register ASAP so we can reserve your spots! Pay full price or a \$75 non-refundable fee to hold your spot.





AUGUST 3

"RESCHEDULED"

PAINTBALL EVENT

AUGUST 17
CTR BOWLING EVENT
@ ANDY B'S

SEPTEMBER 3 CTR-U RETURNS

SEPTEMBER 21
TULSA AREA LCMS
ALL CHURCH PICNUC
@ HAIKEY CREEK
PARK

OCTOBER 3-5 JOY- OK DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOL GATHERING @ LUTHERHOMA

NOVEMBER 21-23 FALL FORCE @ LUTHERHOMA

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CONTACT CARRI CLINE TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS.
ALL REGISTRATION IS NOW ONLINE THROUGH CHURCH CENTER & ONLINE PAYMENT IS AVAILABLE.









But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, ar you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 18



THIRD SUNDAY Family Funday



COME AND BOWL WITH US!

Everyone is welcome!!

Fountain drinks and a small snack will be provided. Bring your family and friends!

Sunday, August 17th from 2-4 PM



Cost is \$12/person
You must sign up by August 8th.

To sign up, scan the QR code or go to:





Save the date for these fun family events!!

- Aug 8th-9th -Club 345 Lock-In
- Aug 17th Bowling
- Sept 21st -Tulsa Area
 LCMS Picnic
- Oct 26th Fall Festival

And for these Education Opportunities...

- August 10th Christian Education Sunday
- September 3rd- Faith
 Friends returns to CTR-U





JOIN US



Christian Education Sunday

During the summer, our many activities and vacations and events continually draw us away from each other. By the end of the summer, we need a reset when it comes to our Sunday schedule. It's hard to reset on your own and get "back to the basics," but it's much easier in a group of your brothers and sisters in Christ. That's why we have set apart this one day to draw together with a common purpose- to renew our energy for worship, purposefully dig into God's Word, and be in fellowship with one another. Join us as we get "Back to the Basics" at CTR this fall!

Join us for our Fall Kick-off!

- Backpack Blessing at all services for students during the Children's Message
- Celebrate with us at a breakfast during the Education hour!
- Families- pick up books as part of our Stepping Stone ministry for your home library.
- All Students- wear a t-shirt for your school and show some spirit!

CTR Education Ministry

To sign up to participate in a class or for more details, contact DCE Suzanne Watt at suzanne.watt@ctrtulsa.org We are always looking for new small group adult leaders!

Sunday school for preK-5th grade will begin a new curriculum on August 17 using the "Enduring Word" CPH series.

Middle School 6th-8th

New confirmation classes begin August 17 on Sundays and September 3 on Wednesdays at CTR-U.

High School 9th-12th

New classes begin August 17. Come and fellowship with your friends and enjoy the conversation led by DCE Suzanne.

Youna Adult Group

Help us decide how this ministry wants to continue by attending a meeting on Wednesday, September 3 at 7:30

<u>Adult</u> Classes

We have multiple options on Sundays: Life by His Word and Pastor's Class. There are also small groups that will be offered during CTR-U.



FAITH STEPPING STONES

August 2025

Long before and long after children and youth are part of the church's various ministries they are connected to their families. By far the most influential people in a young person's spiritual life are his or her parents. In fact, scripture itself mandates that a parent's most important calling is to impress upon their children the word of God:

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6)

This scripture is at the cornerstone of our Christian Education ministry. The Church plays a vital role in the spiritual formation of believers and can act as an extended family to all who enter. This can help to show them that their "family" extends beyond their own biological family into the family of Christ represented by the congregation. The union of home and congregation forms a partnership for ministry to take place. The relationship between those who gather publicly for worship and those who interact on a daily basis in homes and communities should be a partnership to carry faith beyond the walls of the church and into each Christian's daily life. The responsibility of the church worker and the church is to strengthen families so that they are able to impress the Word of God into the hearts and minds of their children. The job of the Church is to keep the priority of the family at the forefront of our mission and to give families the understanding and tools they need to raise their children in the Christian faith.

As children grow we want to educate and train them in the faith when they come to the church, but we also want to give families the resources to continue that development at home. As each child in our church grows, we will put resources in the family's hands to help reinforce at home what they are also learning here. On August 10, 2025 we celebrate Christian Education Sunday and will have these resources available to each family for their home library. Please look for your child's name with the appropriate age group and bring your book home. Please share this book with your child and work with them as they grow in Christ!

On Christian Education Sunday we will also have the annual Backpack Blessing for all ages at all three worship services, Back to School giveaways, a breakfast at 9:30 and more! This is our fall kickoff for new education programming for all ages. You don't want to miss out! See you there!!

DCE Suzanne Watt







Each Sunday we begin our Sunday School time in Fellowship West at **9:30 AM** All children age preK-5th grade are asked to join us here as we begin the morning with music, prayer, celebrate birthdays and more.

ENDURING





PreK-5th Grade Elementary Students

Sundays following Opening

This fall in Sunday School, for PreK- 5th grade, we will begin using the CPH "Enduring Faith" curriculum. As students progress through the program, they learn all about their Savior Jesus Christ, what their Savior means for them, how to defend their faith, and how to teach their faith to others. Age-appropriate activities build skills to strengthen Bible learning.

YOUTH SUNDAY CLASSES

6th-8th Grade-Jr High/Confirmation

Sundays at 9:30 AM

Our fall class will be a confirmation elective on Lutheran History and the life of Martin Luther. Meets in the Middle School Room. Led by Shaun James and Jonathan Caspersen.

9th-12th Grade-High School

Sundays at 9:30 AM

New classes using the book "Myth or Faith? Clearing Up Common Misconceptions about Christianity." Meets in the High School Youth Room. Led by DCE Suzanne Watt.

ADULT MINISTRY AT CTR

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

All young adults are invited to come connect with other young adults in Bible study, discussion and fellowship.

Join us for CTR-U Dinner at 6:30 PM and then Wednesday, September 3 @ 7:30 PM

Come to the fishbowl and help decide what we want to do this fall for class.

Who is a young adult? Most of our attendees are 19-29 years old. This also includes those attending college, trade school or with professional careers, married or single.



Starting August 17
Sundays at 9:30 AM

Come to the fishbowl and take part in Bible study each Sunday morning.

ALL YOUNG
ADULTS IN
COLLEGE, OR
POST GRAD,
MILITARY, OR
CAREERS, ARE
WELCOMED TO
IOIN US.





TUESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S STUDY

We'll start back again on Tuesday, September 9th at 10am! We will decide our topic that first meeting. This class meets in the Fishbowl on Tuesday mornings. If you are interested in joining these women in the Fall, contact Carri Cline ccline@ctrtulsa.org.

Adult Class Opportunities

PASTOR'S CLASS

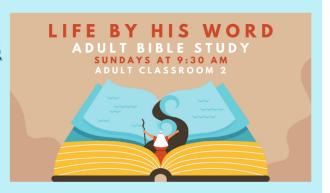
Sundays 9:30-10:30 AM
Topical Class
Led by Pastor B in Fellowship East



LUTHERANISM 101

Wednesdays 7:00-8:00 PM Led by Pastor B in Fellowship E

Led by Pastor B in Fellowship East for anyone interested in the topic or wanting to become a member.



August 10th- Christian Education Sunday

September 3rd - CTR-U returns

Lutheran Women in Mission +

We are involved



LWML National Convention!

The **Bi-annual National Convention** was held in Omaha, Nebraska and we had 6 women attend! My first convention and it was everything I hoped it would be. It was spirit filled and very uplifting to worship, learn and connect with 3,700 Lutheran women who are so dedicated to spreading the news of Christ thru so many wonderful missions. Read our other articles for more info! Debra

The Might Mites

Every 1st Sunday of the month you are encouraged to round up all your loose change or write out a check to support **LWML Missions!** This is your monthly chance to participate in outreach missions. In September we will be sharing the 2025-27 grants that were awarded at the convention and share some of the mission stories shared there.

Lutheran Women in Mission

LWR School Kits

At our September meeting we will be putting together the **LWR School Kits!** We would love to have you join us so see you in the West Fellowship Hall on the third Tuesday, September 16th, at 12:30pm.





Aug 1	Rob & Teena Newton	44 yrs
Aug 2	James & Rachel Morgan	22 yrs
Aug 4	David & Sarah Ross	24 yrs
Aug 5	Tracy & Sean Dickson	29 yrs
Aug 9	Wayne & Barbara Beikmann	51 yrs
Aug 15	Terry & Valarie Kolkmann	55 yrs
Aug 15	David & Marion Penka	55 yrs
Aug 16	Mark & Barbara Fuente	45 yrs
Aug 19	Richard & Debbie Burling	53 yrs
Aug 21	Kara & Clint Howard	21 yrs
Aug 22	Jonathan & Jennifer Caspersen	27 yrs
Aug 26	Cliff & Pat Morris	49 yrs
Aug 26	Dennis & Pat Morris	58 yrs
Aug 27	Philip & Stacie Hixon	20 yrs
Aug 29	Bruce & Edie Cottrell	55 yrs

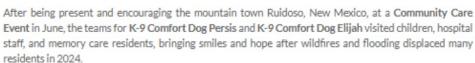


Christ the Redeemer,

Though you so much for Mosting a meal 3. Morship mant! We appreciate your hospitality and generosity towards as! you and were a, ught in the week.

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church - Cornerstone, August 2025





For memory care resident Myra of Goodlife Assisted Living, the two LCC golden retrievers brought back memories of past family pets.

"Oh, I remember what our dog was like," she said, gasping with delight and smiling broadly. "I miss the feeling of petting their fur."

Persis and Elijah took turns with their paws in her lap as she sat in her recliner and stroked their heads and backs.

Later that morning, the dogs and their handlers stopped by the Ruidoso Boys & Girls Club, delivering LCC K-9 coloring books and K-9 business cards. Students at the club took turns in small groups cuddling with Persis and Elijah and talking about how calm the dogs were during the visit.



The students eagerly lined up for a group photo with the dogs to remember the special treat of seeing them almost a year ago.

That afternoon, across town at the Lincoln County Medical Center, hospital staffers were eager to having wagging tails and wet noses become a surprise in their day.

With handlers Steve and Roxy Hurry of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Lynette Lackey and Joanne Kurtz of Our Redeemer Lutheran in Wichita Falls, Texas, the dogs made their own rounds that afternoon, visiting the ER and Oncology departments while saying hello to patients and family members lounging in the waiting room.

"We were honored to come back and be here," said Steve Hurry. "Ruidoso has been through so much over the last 12 months. The dogs have helped start conversations and open up people who are closed off or have bottled up emotions."

The Hurrys will return to the community again in early July for Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church's Camp Courage Vacation Bible School.











STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

For the Month of May	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	For the Month of June	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
May Giving	\$70,031	\$52,969	June Giving	\$140,734	\$111,674
Monthly Income Budget	\$71,000	\$72.853	Monthly Income Budget	\$88,750	\$91,066
Year to Date Actual Giving	\$402,924	\$385,242	Year to Date Actual Giving	\$543,658	\$496,916
Year to Date Expense Budget	\$422,709	\$438,783	Year to Date Expense Budget	\$503,100	\$523,164
Actual YTD Expenses	\$383,541	\$399,378	Actual YTD Expenses	\$475,083	\$503,883



Online Giving VANCO



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Drop Off In-Person



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

We will now be able to accept donations and payments for Family & Children's Ministry events and Youth Ministry events through the app and online giving webpage. To visit our online giving page simply go to the web address https://www.ctrtulsa.org/online-giving/



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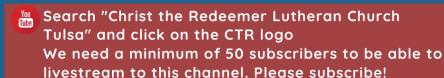
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High school students & parents can join our GroupMe for text updates about upcoming events and reminders.







The **LWML Lutheran Women in Mission** met for a celebration of God's Grace and goodness in Omaha, Nebraska June 26-29, 2025. Official attendance was 3774 registrants from all 40 districts of the LWML.

The Thursday evening opening worship and communion service had close to 4000 worshiping together. The 272 member choir was especially good this year!

Mission grants from the 2023-2025 Biennium were fully funded and delegates pledged to fund 33 grants for a total of \$2,622,270 over the next two years! That will be a lot of Mite Box offerings!

The convention offering on Sunday was for our Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT), Oklahoma District. At this writing the total of the offering is not yet announced as offerings can be made through July. This is very exciting for our district.

The mission speakers representing mission grant recipients from the previous biennium were especially interesting this year. They were: Deaconess Kelly Bristow from Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch; Chelsea Irwin, LCMS Missionary Coordinator in the Eurasia Region, from the Light of Christ in Eastern Europe; Carol Halter, longtime LCMS Missionary in Hong Kong and China; Rachel Potts, Lutheran Braille Workers; Rev. Dr. John Reinke, Lutheran Deaf Outreach and Rev. Paul Ernewein, Forged by Fire Services, Gulf Coast Region. All told how their grants had benefited their varied ministries.

It was the first time we had a bi-state mission walk encompassing walking from Nebraska to Iowa to raise money for our mission grants. 1697 walkers in yellow tee shirts crossed the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge across the Missouri River to Iowa and back and raised \$73,000 to start off the biennium.

The convention Bible Study Leader was Bible study author and speaker, Christina Hergenrader from Friendswood, Texas. The Bible study was centered on the convention theme "Growing in God's Grace" and scripture verse, 2 Peter 3:18, But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.

Thursday was a day of Servant Activities which included producing Braille calendars and books, a blood drive, assembling meal packs, tying quilts, and making hygiene products for Orphan Grain Train among 10 different activities.

The mission flag procession on Saturday morning is a favorite as the flags of the 83 countries where LWML has had mission grants are paraded to open the day. Many are carried by LWML women with special connections to that country and are often dressed in traditional clothing.

It's quite an experience to attend an LWML convention and you will have that chance when the LWML Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri and Kansas districts host the national convention in Oklahoma City, July 8-11, 2027. Save the date and plan to attend. It's an experience you don't want to miss!

My First LWML National Convention!

Ok, I have to admit that I'm not much of a convention goer. They are big, crowded, noisy, and people are always offering you the opportunity to get involved – not exactly the ideal environment for the ultimate introvert to thrive in. However, I was the Tulsa Zone LWML Delegate, and it was my responsibility to represent our LWML members at the National Convention and so I went. Before I even got to the convention, I voted on the National Mission Grant Goal and for 10 of the proposed 47 Mission Grant proposals!What an awesome responsibility.All of the proposals were worthy of our and your support. I knew that we would be spreading God's Word and Love, no matter which grants were ultimately chosen for the 2025-2027 biennial period.



The convention itself was what I expected:big and crowded – over 3,700 people attended; yes, it was noisy as women (and men) greeted friends from across the nation; and yes there was an exhibit hall with past, present, and maybe future mission grant recipients providing information about the needs they are meeting and how anyone could help them continue their service. But it was so much more!

It was amazing and moving to see 3,700 people and the dozens of Pastor's participating in the opening Communion Service. The stories and gratitude of the past mission grant recipients were uplifting and moving. The Bible studies were meaningful and thought provoking. And even I, a relative newcomer to the LWML world, found new friends and old friends from my mission trip to Belize!





But there was a business side to the convention also. Afterall, someone has to ask for, review, and suggest which mission grants meet our criteria for funding. Someone has to write the Mustard Seed Devotions and other Bible Study Materials. Someone has to actually gather the

materials. Someone has to actually gather the mites and pay the grants. Someone has to be there to support us as we go about God's work. And so, we also voted on bylaw amendments, officers, and nominating committees.

With the strength and support of our local, regional, and national members, we can serve more people both locally and nationally. At the Oklahoma District level, with your help, we are funding \$135,000 mission grants, most of which are in Oklahoma!(See "Bookmarks" on LWML table in the narthex.) That is in addition to \$2,350,000 mission grant goal at the national level which was exceeded this year. Praise, God! (See April 2025 Mission Goal Report also on the LWML table.) Bookmarks containing the 2025-2027 National Mission Grants with a \$2,622,270 goal, are coming soon and will be placed on the LWML table when they arrive!

So, I may not be much of a convention goer, but this is one that I'm glad I attended. And I look forward to the next National Convention here in OKC in 2027! (For a little bit of heaven, come to OKC in 2027!)

We need you to be the foundation of this effective organization. With your help, with your mites, we can continue to support missions locally, nationally, and internationally!

Serve the Lord with gladness! (Ps 100:2)

Suzie Beauchamp, LWML Tulsa Zone President







This was the largest Mission Walk in LWML convention history!
More than 1,627 men, women, and children raised the \$73,610.04
(preliminary amount) as they trekked across the beautiful
Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge. The bridge connects Nebraska and
lowa — making this a doubly historic mission walk taking place in
two states! Lush gardens and green spaces, well-groomed trails, and
stunning sculptures made the one-mile walk enjoyable for all.







MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The next convention is lighting up Oklahoma City, July 8–11, 2027 — hosted by the Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas Districts.



2550 East 71st Street Tulsa, OK 74136 Sunday Divine Services 8:15 & 10:45 AM

Modern Worship 11:45 AM

Sunday School/Bible Classes 9:30 AM

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OUTREACH ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Monday, Aug. 4 6:30 pm

ANYONE INTERESTED IN HELPING OR
ORGANIZING IS INVITED!
BRING YOUR IDEAS AS WE
PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR!

