



New Year's Day Organ Concert

Monday, January 1 at 6:00 p.m., join Brian Glikes and Rick Erickson as they perform our popular annual New Year's Day organ concert - this year featuring works for organ four hands and feet! Works presented will include a transcription of Mendelssohn's Reformation symphony, along with music by Mozart. All welcome!

January 7 Festival of the Epiphany and Baptism of Our Lord

Join us in closing the 12 days of Christmas with the celebration of Epiphany and Baptism of Our Lord on January 7. We will bless the nave and inscribe the lintel at the 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. services. The magi will be back and coffee hour features king cake. A printed prayer rite and chalk can be taken home to inscribe and bless one's own house or door.

January 7 Small Catechisms for 3 Year Old Children

Children age 3 will receive the gift of Luther's Small Catechism to mark the milestone of language which they acquire during their third year of life. Children are now ready for the fun with words and welcome the discovery of making meaning. Prayer life and the passing on of prayer traditions can now be shaped in home and church life. Families with three year old children are invited for the milestone recognition at both Sunday services.

Your Ministry Needs Your Generosity

It's not unusual that we need your generosity at the end of the year to balance the budget and to start the new year with a necessary reserve fund. No thanks to Harvey, we are down on receipts and high on expenses. We need \$325,000 by year's end to ensure our health going into 2018. Last year we came near this mark at year's end. Can we do it again? And better? **As of December 28, our receipts were \$144,800 compared to the \$325,000 needed by midnight tonight.** Thank you so much for your prayerful and sacrificial support.

Congregation Council

The following were elected in December by the Council as officers for the 2018 church year: **Lee Thweatt**, president; **Andy Winesett**, vice president; **Maureen Lamson**, member-at-large Executive Committee; **Lucky Sahualla**, financial secretary; **John Labuda**, treasurer; **Cheryl Pfennig**, secretary; **Peter Boecher**, **Gaelyn Leshner**, **Chris Bryant**, **Carolyn Phillips**; along with **Pastor Duane Larson** and **Pastor Karin Liebster**.

Altar Flowers for January

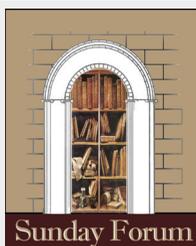
The 2018 Altar Guild Flower Chart is on the mobile bulletin board. Flower arrangements for weekend services are \$65. **January has many open Sundays for flower dedications.** Please pay for the flowers when you sign up.. Checks to Christ the King Lutheran Church or cash in an envelope should say "Altar Flowers."

Welcome to Worship

We welcome you to worship today. Please sign the guest book and enjoy a cup of coffee and snacks after the service. You may leave contact information or write a note on the worship card in the pew. Donations at the snack table benefit the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

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SUNDAY FORUM

9:45 a.m. in the parish hall

December 31— No Sunday Forum
Worship at 10:00 a.m.

We and Hurricanes

In a two week series, Professor Christian Eberhart will address the subject of "We and Hurricanes." Christian is a member of Christ the King Church and a Professor of Religious Studies and Chair of the Department of Comparative Cultural Studies at the University of Houston.

January 7: Environmental Justice and the History of Natural Disasters

A historical overview of hurricanes and other natural disasters that affected the Gulf Coast. What do religion and ethics have to do with it?

January 14: After Hurricanes Katrina and Harvey

After Hurricanes Katrina and Harvey rebuilding efforts and coping with trauma after major natural disasters.

January 21: The Congregation Council has called for a special **congregation meeting at 10:00 a.m.**

We Love a Parade!

On **Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 15**, the "Love Thy Neighbor" Group of Christ the King Church joins the MLK Grande Parade. All members and friends are welcome to join. The parade starts at the corner of Elgin and San Jacinto at 10:00 a.m., but all groups gather for registration by 9:00 a.m. at the SE corner of Holman and San Jacinto. The theme of the parade is "The Color of Unity." We will have a banner, two cars, and however many would like to walk the route of 1.5 miles with individual signs provided (or you can make your own). Please contact Rebecca Shields at rshields63@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the parade walkers, representing Christ the King Church's commitment to the Gospel-Faith-Justice-Welcome. **We need an accurate count of participants by January 8 so to ensure enough signs for all.**

Are You Interested in Membership with Christ the King Church?

Friends who are new (or not so new!) to Christ the King Church are warmly invited to a luncheon and orientation on Sunday, **January 21 at 12:30 p.m., in the 3rd floor conference room.**

Membership

at Christ the King Lutheran Church

The meeting has three purposes.

1. Establish new friendship with each other and the pastoral staff.
2. Learn about this community of faith – who we are, our traditions, our commitments, our place in global Lutheranism, why we do things the way we do.
3. Express whether one wants to demonstrate public commitment to God's mission to the world through the ministry of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

New members will be received in worship on Sunday, January 28. Please contact the church office (ctk@ctkelc.org or 713-528-2864) to sign-up for the lunch meeting, or speak with one of the pastors if you have further questions. Wherever and whoever you have been, you are welcome here as one of God's children and Christ's disciples in our mission to amplify God's love in the world.

Join a Choir or Chorus?

January is a time when our programs restart — a good time to consider joining the Choir or Chorus! If you sing and wish to participate, please speak to Rick, rick@bachsocietyhouston.org or Brian, brianglikes@ctkelc.org!

houston
food
bank



**Saturday
January 13**

Leave the church at 7:30
Return at noon

For information, contact ctkhfb@gmail.com

God Among the “Least of These”: Navigating Spiritual Waters with People Experiencing Homelessness

presented by Lisa Levy, M.Div.,

Spiritual Support Coordinator for SEARCH Homeless Services

Thursday, January 18, 6:00 p.m. parish hall

Join our Community of Hope lay chaplains for an informative evening with Lisa Levy. In her book *Just Hospitality*, the late theologian Letty Russell wrote, “I understand hospitality as the practice of God’s welcome, embodied in our actions as we reach across difference to participate with God in bringing justice and healing to our world in crisis.” For people experiencing homelessness, what does “God’s welcome” look like? How do we respond to the spiritual needs of people who dwell in perpetual crisis? How might we embody a space of radical hospitality for those who exist on the margins? Is healing possible, and what does healing mean in this context? During our time together, we will explore these questions as we discuss what a Christian pastoral response to people experiencing homelessness might be. Christ the King Church has been a member of SEARCH’s Council of Congregations for about 20 years.

Lay Chaplain Training Begins February 5

Do you want to deepen your relationship with God? Do you want to strengthen your ability to handle difficult circumstances in your everyday life? Do you want to be a better listener—to God, to your own heart, to your neighbor? Then, the Community of Hope might be for you!

The Community of Hope training awakens participants to God’s call on their lives through experiential discovery and understanding of their own spiritual gifts for ministry. Each student is encouraged to make a journey into wholeness. More than the absence of illness, a healthy person is one who has discovered meaning and purpose in life and understands the importance of mind, body, spirit balance. The program is rooted in Benedictine Spirituality and is based on the classic “clinical pastoral education” model used to train chaplains. It builds community and develops spiritually centered pastoral caregivers, equipped for ministry in multiple settings.

Contact Beverly Davis at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org or 713-400-0517 for more information and to register. Classes will be held on Monday evenings starting February 5 and concluding April 23. Cost is \$120 which includes all materials. **Deadline to register is January 15.** Learn more about COHI at www.cohinternational.org.

Luther League Escape Room Trip January 7, 5:00 p.m.

A great afternoon of fellowship as we welcome the New Year, locked together in a room together for an hour at the Houston Escape Room. We will meet at church and carpool over to Houston Escape Room located at 100 Jackson St #120 at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$20 which covers admission and dinner. Please RSVP to Ben Remmert ASAP. Friends are welcome to attend.

2018 Kick-Off Event Sunday, January 7 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The Interfaith Environmental Network of Houston, an affiliate of the Texas Interfaith Center for Public Policy, invites you to their 2018 Kick-Off Event at 1st Unitarian Universalist Church, 5200 Fannin St. If you can’t attend in person, join us on Facebook Live (like us on Facebook – see faithandenvironmenthouston.com). We will hear from faith leaders of a variety of faiths on the relationship between their faith and the natural world. We ask those who can do so to bring some snacks to share. We’ll provide beverages. People of all faiths are encouraged to attend, as are representatives of local environmental non-profits that would like to work with people of faith on environmental issues. Please join us! If attending in person, please register on www.eventbrite.com.

We celebrate with these members and friends who are remembering their baptism this week:

Cheryl Howard	Hilary Ybarra
Doug Morris	Steve Ybarra
Bob Petner	Lily Lenz
Karen Sebung	Thai Hoang
Janice Thompson	Dana Rahman
Anja Timmerman	Patrick Stayton
Colby Hutchison	



ELCA World Hunger Appeal

The mission offering is collected at the church doors at the end of worship.

The December Mission Offering is designated for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America World Hunger Appeal. The ELCA's commitment to supporting people who live with chronic hunger, disease, and poverty around the corner and around the world is carried out by ELCA World Hunger through relief, development, education, and advocacy. **Last year, we contributed over \$24,000** to the World Hunger Appeal and, historically, our congregation has regarded the World Hunger Appeal as one of our distinctive global mission priorities.

All money raised by the World Hunger Appeal comes through specially designated offerings and donations from ELCA members, congregations, and friends. ELCA World Hunger receives no benevolence (general budget money from general ELCA member offerings); the ELCA's world hunger ministry is based in congregations, where most of the fundraising takes place.

Sunday, December 31

10:00 a.m. Worship, nave

Monday, January 1 New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

6:00 p.m. Organ Concert, nave

Tuesday, January 2

Church Office Closed

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

Wednesday, January 3

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

6:15 p.m. Brass Choir, parish hall

7:30 p.m. Church Choir, nave

7:30 p.m. Chorus, parish hall

Thursday, January 4

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

Friday, January 5

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor

9:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, 3rd floor

Saturday, January 6

6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship, nave

Sunday, January 7

8:30 a.m. Worship, nave

9:45 a.m. Sunday Forum, parish hall

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:50 a.m. Worship, nave

2:00 pm Interfaith Environmental Network

5:00 pm Luther League at Escape Room

Access to Church for Early Service January 14

The Chevron Houston Marathon will be held Sunday, January 14, beginning at 7:00 a.m. The event results in numerous street closures including Bissonnet and Kirby. The disruption affects mainly 8:30 a.m. and Sunday Church School participants. The best route to church is from U.S. 59 to Buffalo Speedway then turning left on Rice Blvd. For a map of the course go to chevronhoustonmarathon.com.

Are You a Marathon Runner?

We encourage all friends and members of the congregation who will run in the Chevron Houston Marathon to let us know so we can include you in our prayers. Eat and rest well during the last weeks, and "Godspeed" to all!

The Rev. Dr. Duane Larson, Senior Pastor
 The Rev. Karin Liebster, Associate Pastor
 Deacon Ben Remmert, Director of Youth and Family Ministry
 Beverly Davis, Director of Congregational Care
 Linda Schoene, Congregational Nurse
 Deacon Rick Erickson, Cantor, Director of Bach Society Houston
 Brian Glikes, Music Associate Robert Walp, Brass Choir Director
 Noelle Jung, Church Business Administrator

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 Email: ctk@ctkelc.org Website: ctkelc.org
 Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.