



A Special Guest Preacher on September 8



We welcome
**Pastor Ron
Glusenkamp**
as our Guest
Preacher
on Sunday,
September 8. He

comes to thank Christ the King Lutheran Church for our large role in the ELCA's successful *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*.

Friday Morning Bible Study

All are invited to Friday Morning Bible Study. **Join us for a cup of coffee at 10:00 a.m. in the council room** Bible Study and prayer begin at 10:30, and we finish approximately 11:40 a.m.

We read the texts assigned for the Sunday liturgy and prepare ourselves for the encounter with the living Lord who promises to be with us in word and sacrament. No need to pre-register, simply join us!

New Member Orientation

On **September 29 at 12:30 p.m.** all who are interested in learning more about Christ the King Church's ministries and community are invited to a luncheon with the pastors. On October 6, we will receive all who would like to join themselves to the mission of Christ the King Church as new members.

WE INVITE YOU TO CHURCH!

You may recall the famous story about the person who was talking with his pastor one evening, easy chair facing easy chair with flames nicely glowing in the fireplace between them. The visitor spoke of wanting to take a break from worship. Without words, the pastor took a poker, shifted an ember away from the fire, and both watched the ember grow cold and die. The guest said he got the point.

We can't be spirited without each other in worship. There is no such person as a Christian who goes it alone. The Spirit calls us and gathers us to be "sanctified" together (Luther's words).

But often missed in the little story is that the fire grows weaker without the once glowing ember, too. The whole spirited flame needs everyone.

Yes, we have our challenges. Effective people these days work 24/7. How the effectiveness is lost, however, how faith is weakened, without re-memorizing the sabbath day to keep it holy, whether here at home or away on vacation or business. The worldly understanding of success today may well be inversely proportional to strength of faith. We Christians, however, understand success and faith differently. We take joy and strength when both our faith and our talents are collected into the coming together—the re-membrance—of the sabbath. God promises to meet us when this happens, when the word and sacraments are proclaimed and done.

See you in worship. Love, Pastor Duane

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with nearly 3.5 million members in more than 9,100 worshipping communities across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer Martin Luther.

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Sunday Forum

SUNDAY FORUM

9:45 a.m. in the parish hall

September 8 and 15: House Churches: Introduction and Demonstration

September 8: Terri Bourne will introduce the concept and history of house churches.

September 15: The house church launching team will lead the Sunday Forum participants in a demonstration of an actual house church meeting. We will split in a several smalls groups, each led by a sponsor.

September 22:

Reflections from the Summer Youth Trips

Deacon Ben Remmert and the youth group share impressions and reflections from the trips to Leipzig and Saxony in Germany, and to Wilmington, North Carolina. Youth and adults experienced first hand Reformation sites throughout Saxony, and also visited the concentration camp Buchenwald. In Wilmington, NC, our youth engaged in hands on hurricane relief work, with gratitude for the help Houston received after Harvey in 2017.

September 29: What in the world is Ammparo?

A new outreach ministry of Christ the King Church

The newly forming Ammparo group at Christ the King Church will introduce its scope in this new (and not so new) area of justice advocacy ministry. Our congregation and synod are participating members of the ELCA's AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation, and Opportunities) network. Ammparo intends to engage as a church body with affiliates and partners to respond to the migration situation and its causes and to advocate for migrant children and their families.

Houston Science and Religion Discussion Group Why we Are Probably the Only Intelligent Life in the Galaxy

presented by Nicholas Cornor

The Houston Science and Religion Discussion Group (HS-RDG) will conduct its regular monthly meeting on **Monday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m.** in the 3rd floor conference room. The public is welcome to participate in the HSRDG meetings, which are scheduled for the **third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.**

Small Group Book Study: Shameless, A Sexual Reformation

Wednesdays, 6:00 -7:15 p.m.

September 11-October 16

Join us for a book study at church and from afar via Zoom. This six-week book study will read Nadia Bolz-Weber's 2019 book "Shameless: A Sexual Reformation". Some of the topics she tackles in this book are: Adam and Eve story, church history influences on LGBTQ acceptance, abortions, sexual trauma, divorce, and purity culture. The book is available in hard copy and eBook. Please read ch. 1-2 for the first meeting. This book study will be a safe space for all thoughts and opinions on these topics. All are welcome to attend. Please contact Pastor Karin Liebster to RSVP.

Information and Listening Session with Council

Sunday, September 22 at 12:15 p.m.

in the parish hall

The congregation council offers this Information and Listening Session as we discern the request by Memorial Drive Lutheran Church to help maintain a viable Lutheran presence in the Memorial area of Houston.

Caring and Carrying On through Cancer

Saturday, September 28, 9:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

presented by CanCare in the parish hall

We are all touched by cancer, either through a loved one's diagnosis or certainly within our friendship circles and our congregation. Come hear from two fabulous speakers about cancer's effect on body, mind and spirit, and learn ways we can better support our loved ones through the cancer experience. This free workshop is sponsored by our Community of Hope lay chaplains and Cancare, Inc., and is **open to ALL interested persons.** Please RSVP to beverlydavis@ctkelc.org.

Writing Circle

The Writing Circle will break for September and resume on Friday, October 4. For information contact Anna Fay Williams, texaslion11@yahoo.com.

Young Adults – Professionals

Our CTK-YA group is growing and exciting. We usually meet every 3rd Sunday evening. This month, **September 22 at 7:00 p.m.** we “regroup” in a big way with our annual fall BBQ at the Larson Parsonage, 2423 Wroxton Rd. Bring your own main course to grill and a side or dessert to share. Beverages will be supplied, but further contributions are welcome for that, too.

Also good to know: every other first Saturday morning of the month, starting 9:00 a.m., we volunteer at the Christian Community Service Center. Our next time is **October 5**. YAs also are the key production team for *Blues, Brews, and Good News* and may be particularly interested in signing up to study Bible texts alongside parallel texts from the Qur’an with our young adult Muslim friends from the Blue Mosque (see accompanying article at right).

Blues, Brews, and Good News Returns September 27, 7:00 p.m.

It’s back. After the summer break, Blues, Brews, and Good News returns to its every fourth Friday slot with great music by The Healers and provocative topical discussions. Oh, and outstanding craft beer choices!

Our topic this month syncs up with the ELCA’s resolution as a denomination that we are a “Sanctuary” Church. **We’ll discuss what “sanctuary” means** from theological, historical, and legal perspectives. AND, with a “semi-open mike” format, we’ll ask what YOU think it means and should mean.

“Sanctuary” as a “safe place” will mark our discussion in the safe place of “BB&GN.” It’s a big church topic that even caught the eyes, ears, and mouths of the national news media. Invite your friends. With brews in hand and courageous prayers on lips, we enjoy safe and serious conversation about the future of God for all through and with us!

Scriptural Reasoning

Wednesday, September 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall

Pastor Larson and Fatih Ozcan of Houston’s Blue Mosque will give an orientation to the Scriptural Reasoning program. Interested participants will register for the monthly program. Scriptural reasoning was developed at Cambridge University, UK, and has gone global as a wonderful and practical way of sharing our scriptures in small groups. In a group no larger than 14, half Christian and half-Muslim, we read similar texts from the Bible and the Qur’an side by side and share what they mean to us. Light food and good fellowship accent the experience of growing together as Abrahamic cousins in faith and friendship. You can register for the monthly small group programs—hosted in homes or elsewhere—after the orientation on September 25.

Transitions Group - for women over 50 September 9, 1:00 p.m.

The Transitions Group was established about 10 years ago. Based on the Transition Network group, four women at CTK started a group for women over 50 whose changing life situations led them to seek new connections, education, resources and opportunities. They invited women in our congregation who were curious about exploring the question “what’s next in my life?”, “what info do I need to move forward?” etc. Our lives are a series of transitions from active parent to empty-nester, family member to caregiver, volunteer or retiree – who we are now and who we want to be next. We meet monthly. Recent topics include dating, senior living options, philanthropy and finances, spirituality and meditation, happiness and well-being, health and fitness, learning about and walking a labyrinth and many more. Together we are discovering new ways of facing our present and future challenges and opportunities and invite interested women to join us. Participants do not need to be from Christ the King but most of us are. **We welcome you to consider joining us on a 2nd Monday afternoon, location varies. RSVP to Gaelyn Leshner at lesher2@sbcglobal.net.**

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

Sally Muma Jennifer Azure-Keller
Matthias Henze Patricia Chapman
Nancy Jones Anna Graml

Sunday, September 8

Justice Advocacy after services, courtyard

8:30 a.m. Worship, ELW 9
9:45 a.m. Sunday Forum, parish hall
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. Worship, ELW 9
12:30 p.m. Luther League, youth room

Monday, September 9

Church Office Closed

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
1:00 p.m. Transitions group, offsite

Tuesday, September 10

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
7:00 p.m. Congregation Council, council room

Wednesday, September 11

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
10:00 a.m. Piecemakers, 3rd floor
6:00 p.m. Book Study
6:15 p.m. Brass Choir, 001
7:30 p.m. Church Choir, 001
7:30 p.m. Chorus, 011

Thursday, September 12

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
10:00 a.m. Piecemakers, 3rd floor
6:00 p.m. Circle of Care

Friday, September 13

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, nave
9:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, 3rd floor
10:00 a.m. Friday Morning Bible Study, council room
1:30 p.m. Writing Circle, 3rd floor

Saturday, September 14

10:00 a.m. Acolyte training, nave
11:45 a.m. Crucifer training, nave
1:00 p.m. Yoga, parish hall
6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship, nave

Sunday, September 15

8:30 a.m. Worship, ELW 9
9:45 a.m. Sunday Forum, parish hall
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:50 a.m. Worship, ELW 9
12:30 p.m. Youth and Family Lunch



Bright Stars of Bethlehem promotes peace and justice in Palestine through Dar al-Kalima University of Arts & Culture and its initiatives for youth, families and older adults, as well as public advocacy for basic human rights. Bright Stars of Bethlehem is dedicated to educating the next generation of creative leaders in Palestine.

Their key initiatives include:

- Dar al-Kalima University of Arts and Culture
- Outreach for Children and Youth (Diyar)
- Outreach to Older Adults (Ajyal)



Harris County Voter Registration at CTK

Sunday, September 22, 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

If you are not registered to vote in Harris County, or if you have moved & need to update your registration, you can do so at CTK on September 22. Bring your TX driver's license, or state-issued i.d. to register. Or, if you don't have these forms of identification, you can register using the last 4 digits of your social security number. Get ready to vote in September! For more information, contact Lisa Brenskelle at brenskelle@aol.com.

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

May Joy Silmaro, Music Associate Robert Walp, Brass Choir Director

Beth Hartfiel, Interim Church Administrator

Phone: 713-523-2864 2353 Rice Blvd, Houston TX, 77005

Email: ctk@ctkelc.org Website: ctkelc.org

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.