



Third Sunday of Advent

December 17

10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant

The Longest Night - December 21

7:00 p.m. A Service of Hope and Comfort

Friday, December 22

12:15 p.m. Advent Organ Recital

Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve

December 24

10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols
with Holy Communion
(Only one morning service!)

4:00 p.m. *Weihnachtsmesse*
German-language service

6:00 p.m. Holy Communion
around the Crèche
with Carols and Candlelight

10:00 p.m. Holy Communion with
Carols and Candlelight (Incense)

Christmas Day

December 25

11:00 a.m. Carols and Communion

First Sunday of Christmas

December 31

10:00 a.m. Holy Communion
(Only one morning service!)

January 1

6:00 p.m. Organ Concert

Pageant: From Heaven Above December 17, 10:00 a.m.

A Christmas pageant will be presented by the children of the Sunday School and Wednesday Night music programs. Martin Luther wrote the hymn *From Heaven Above* in 1535 for his family and congregation. It announces the birth of Christ in the voice of a heavenly angel who tells and interprets the nativity story in a beautiful and beloved tune. Martin and Katie Luther will visit us at the pageant.

Waffle Café 9:45 a.m.

All are invited to enjoy waffles and hot chocolate made by the Luther League youth before and after the Christmas Pageant. Proceeds go to youth attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering.

On the Longest Night: Service of Hope and Comfort December 21, 7:00 p.m.

Join us at 7:00 p.m. in the nave for a service of hope and comfort on The Longest Night of the year, December 21. This meditative service gives us time to remember, share our hurting places with God, and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Join others for whom the Christmas season is bitter-sweet, to hear scripture, lift up prayers for healing and wholeness, and to sing hymns that acknowledge God's presence with those who mourn and grieve, with those who suffer, and with those who struggle. God is the light shining in our darkness.

All are welcome! The service will be followed by a brief time for light refreshments and fellowship.

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SUNDAY FORUM

on break until January

December 17 —

Children's Christmas Pageant, 10:00 a.m.

Waffle Café by Luther League

December 24 — No Sunday Forum Worship at 10:00 a.m.

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

Friday Organ Concert

Friday Organ Concerts conclude on December 22 with a 30 minute concert at 12:15 p.m. featuring Brian Glikes and Rick Erickson performing music for the Advent season.

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!

SEARCH Cards and Coffee Ministry

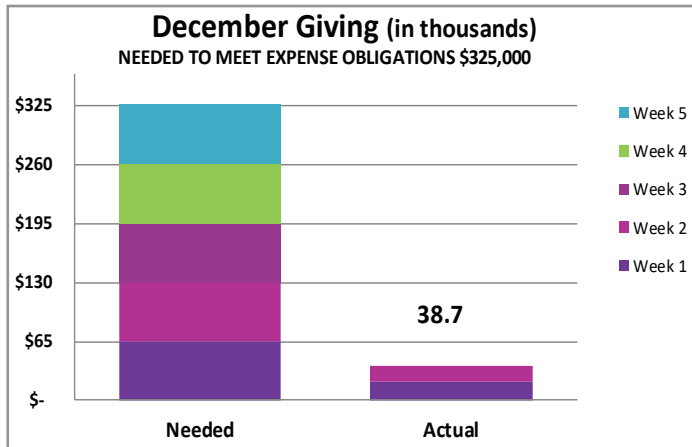
Perry St. Apartments, 4415 Perry, on **Wednesday November 15, 10:00-11:00 a.m.** If you have any **2018 calendars** you'd like to contribute you may drop them off in the donation basket in the narthex on Sundays or in the church office. Contact Beverly at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org.

Tamales! Tamales! Tamales! December 17

Between services on Sunday, **December 17**, the members of Good Shepherd Church (El Buen Pastor) will be selling their delicious tamales again. The cost is \$10 per package. Proceeds go to support projects for their church. Remember, don't wait too long, they always go fast. Thank you to our friends at El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church.

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? Thank you so much for your prayerful and sacrificial support.

Give Generously. Reduce Taxable Income.

An IRA donation can do even more. It can help you build a bright future for Christ the King and enjoy some special tax advantages.

As some of our members have discovered, the IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals age 70½ and over to give up to \$100,000 per year directly from an IRA to Christ the King. This action can satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) while being excluded from your taxable income. Build bright futures. What could be better?

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**, along with **Pastor Duane Larson** and **Pastor Karin Liebster**.

How Well Do You Know What Goes In The Green Bin?

After each service this Sunday, test your knowledge of what goes, or does not go, in the green curbside recycling bin. Prizes for correct answers! Join the Creation Care Team for this fun, and educational recycling activity.

Interfaith Environmental Network of Houston 2018 Kick-Off Event Sunday, January 7, 2:00 p.m.

You are invited to the 2018 Kick-Off Event for the Interfaith Environmental Network of Houston, a local affiliate of Texas Interfaith Center for Public Policy. At this event, the organization will review 2017 activities, discuss plans for 2018, hear from a variety of faiths on the connection of their faith to the natural world, and learn about the top ten free environmental resources for houses of worship. Join us! Details and registration can be found on www.eventbrite.com. Contact Lisa Brenskelle at brenskelle@aol.com with any questions.

Join Us on an Ecumenical Justice Journey!

Join with other Christians for an Ecumenical Justice Journey in 2018, using the ecumenical resource, Living Justice: A Gospel Response to Poverty. The group will meet bimonthly, once for study and once for action. Specific dates/times are TBD, but we plan to begin in January. See <http://www.cpj.ca/books> for more information on the text. Contact Lisa Brenskelle at brenskelle@aol.com.

Flowers for January and February

The 2018 Altar Guild Flower Chart is on the mobile bulletin board. Flower arrangements for weekend services are \$65. **January and February have many open Sundays for flower dedications.** Please pay for the flowers when you sign up. For online giving use the Donate link on the church home page. Checks to Christ the King Lutheran Church or cash in an envelope should say "Altar Flowers."

Luther League Christmas Party December 17

All 6th – 12th grade youth and their parents are invited to help decorate the church Christmas tree at 4:30 p.m. before attending the Luther League Christmas party and gift exchange. All attending should meet in the narthex at 4:30 p.m. to decorate the tree. Afterwards, we will move to the parish hall for a festive feast, fellowship, games, and a white elephant gift exchange. Please bring a gift under \$10 (new or used) for the gift exchange. Gifts are typically something laying around the house that you don't want and that is funny, tacky, or "Gag Gift."

The main entrée will be provided but side dishes and desserts are needed for our feast! Please contact Ben Remmert.

Plan Ahead- Summer 2018

Lutherhill Elementary Summer Camp- July 15-July 20

Those completed 1st-5th grade will spend a whole week at Lutherhill discovering all of the joys camp has to offer with Deacon Ben Remmert! Alpha Campers (1st Graders) are at camp from July 15-18 and Youngin's (2nd-3rd Graders) and Yearling's (4th-6th Graders) are at camp from July 15-20. Enjoy fun bible studies, camp-wide worships, afternoon activities and daily All Camp activities. Spend an evening around the campfire making s'mores. Sign up and register by February 15 to guarantee a spot.

Lutherhill Beach Camp July 22-27

Those that have completed 6th-8th grade can experience a week at Lutherhill as a confirmation group with Deacon Ben Remmert! Beach camp is located at the new Zion Retreat Center, Galveston Island. Campers will experience the love of Christ both inside and outside the walls of Zion by taking advantage of the beach and surrounding attractions. Jr. High students will dive into Bible studies, enjoy worships on the Gulf of Mexico, cook for one another, experience service opportunities in the surrounding communities, explore the island of Galveston, and grow in community with fellow junior high students. Sign up and register by February 15.

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

Daniel Zorn	Trey Bourne	Bill Mintz
Bill Marks	Robert Hoover	Henry Thweatt
Kiersten Thompson	Richard Stuff	Gaelyn Leshar
Matthew Boles	Eldon Thomas	Mary Ella Orsburn



ELCA World Hunger Appeal

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

Sunday, December 17

8:30 a.m. Worship, Setting 5, nave
 9:45 a.m. Luther League Waffle Café
 10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant, parish hall
 10:50 a.m. Worship, Setting 5, nave
 4:30 p.m. Luther League Christmas Party

Monday, December 18 Church Office Closed

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

Tuesday, December 19

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

Wednesday, December 20

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
 10:00 a.m. SEARCH Coffee and Cards, offsite
 6:15 p.m. Brass Choir, parish hall
 7:30 p.m. Church Choir, nave
 7:30 p.m. Chorus, parish hall

Thursday, December 21

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
 7:00 p.m. Service of Hope and Comfort on the Longest Day, nave

Friday, December 22 Church Office Closed

8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer, 3rd floor
 12:15 p.m. Advent Organ Concert, nave

Saturday, December 23

6:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship, nave

Sunday, December 24

10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion, nave
 4:00 p.m. *Weihnachtsmesse*
 German-language service, nave
 6:00 p.m. Holy Communion around the Crèche with Carols and Candlelight, nave
 10:00 p.m. Holy Communion with Carols and Candlelight (Incense), nave

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day

Church Office Closed
 11:00 a.m. Carols and Communion, nave

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.

Mexico Spring Break Trip: March 9-14, 2018 \$500 deposit due asap, Balance due February 1

The Combined Choir and Chorus of Christ the King Church is travelling south to Mexico City for Spring Break 2018. Members and friends of CTK are welcome to join the choir and chorus for this trip! We will carry the spirit of the Reformation forward as we join in songs and service with sister congregations (Spanish and German Speaking) and with the Lutheran Seminary. We will engage in a day of service through Amextra after preparing prayerfully for this adventure as part of our Lenten Worship. There will be plenty of time for organized cultural and touristic adventures too. Tour Packets are available in the Narthex or via email. **Dates:** March 9-14 with an option to add on two days until March 16.

Price for Singers and Youth: \$1,750 for 5 day and \$2000 includes airfare, most meals, lodging (4 star), and activities. \$500 deposit due immediately Balance due February 1.

Travel will be arranged on Southwest Airlines and through Amextra for group travel. Contact Rick Erickson, Alicia Goodrow or Anna Vanbuskirk for more info.

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