

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

Lucky Sahualla	Joanie Brehm	Anja Timmerman
Meredith Murphy	Andrew Winston	Hilary Ybarra
Eric Olafson	Kleta Gerhart	Steve Ybarra
Grace Ford	Cheryl Howard	Lily Lenz
Vivian Ho	Doug Morris	Thai Hoang
John Boles	Bob Petner	Dana Rahman
Valentine Boving	Janice Thompson	Patrick Stayton



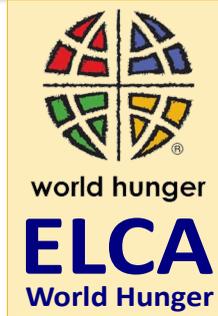
ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL

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 \$18,882** 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.

Foundation Invites Grant Applications

The Board of Directors for the Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church New Foundation invites grant applications. Regular grants may be made solely in support of the life and work of the Church and other qualified organizations whose purposes are aligned with the strategic emphases of the Church. Strong preference will be given to grant applications that, in the judgment of the Board, advance the Church's mission as "A Healing Place." Grant applications may be **submitted by December 31, 2019** to the Church office or to any member of the Foundation board (Russell Post, Kathy Collins, Bob Solberg, Wendy Wiker, and Jerry Zamzow).



Saturday, December 28 & Sunday, December 29, 2019

This Week and The King's Banner, our monthly newsletter, are available at ctkelc.org



Year-End Tax Deductible Contributions from Any Asset

As you prayerfully consider your calendar year-end giving, remember: You can take advantage of the charitable tax deduction for any gifts given before December 31. Checks must be dated and postmarked in 2019. Of course any gifts placed in the offering plate through December will be credited to 2019.

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 start the new year with a necessary reserve fund. We need \$195,000 by year's end to ensure our health going into 2020. Thank you for your prayerful sacrificial support.

Flowers for the Nave

The 2020 Altar Guild Flower Chart is on the mobile bulletin board. Flower arrangements for weekend services are \$65. Please pay for the flowers when you sign up. Checks can be made out to Christ the King Lutheran Church with "Altar Flowers" in the memo line and placed in the offering.

Annual Reports

The 2019 Annual Reports are due on **January 17**. See last year's reports online as a reference at ctkelc.org/about-us/how-we-work. Please email your report to michaelshelton@ctkelc.org.

New Year's Day Organ Recital

January 1, 6:00 p.m.

Don't miss New Year's Day organ recital with Mary Joy Silmaro, flutist Kelly DeVany, trumpeter Bob Walp, and a cameo moment with Rick Erickson. Celebratory reception follows. This is one of the best kept secrets in town.

Epiphany Observance January 5

Join us on the 12th day of Christmas, January 5, to bless the nave, our "church house" with the blessing of the magi. At the end of the 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. services all will move to the narthex for the inscription of the lintel for the 2020 year. We will celebrate the occasion with king cake at coffee hour. A printed prayer rite and chalk can be taken home to inscribe and bless one's own house or door.

Welcome to our New Pastoral Intern



We welcome Sergio Rodriguez as our Pastoral Intern here at Christ the King for the calendar year of 2020. Sergio is a student at Wartburg Theological Seminary. His ministry with us, as well as his taking Clinical

Pastoral Education, will complete his academic requirements for a Master of Divinity degree and advance his candidacy for ordained ministry in the ELCA. He comes to us having served two congregations as a licensed lay minister, and, among many other duties, will help us reinvigorate campus ministry with Rice University. We are excited to welcome Sergio and his two cats! We'll share much more about him in the next Banner.

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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
Mary Joy Silmaro, Music Associate Robert Walp, Brass Choir Director
Beth Hartfiel, Business Administrator 2353 Rice Blvd, Houston TX, 77005
Phone: 713-523-2864 Email: ctk@ctkelc.org Website: ctkelc.org
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



SUNDAY FORUM

9:45 a.m. in the parish hall

December 29: Christmas Goodies Potluck in the courtyard.

January 5: Intergenerational: The story of "The Glorious Impossible",

presented by Diane Schoppe

Adults, children and youth gather to hear and see "The Glorious Impossible" which is a retelling of the Christmas story using beautiful pictures from Madeleine L'Engle's book of the same name. All are welcome; room 204 on the second floor will be ready for you.

January 12 and 19: The Epistle to the Romans

presented by Dr. Christian Eberhart

How Can I Get Involved at Christ the King Church in 2020?

Each year the members of Christ the King Church generously donate their time and talent to the mission of living our faith. As we approach our 75th anniversary year, we invite members and friends to fill out a survey indicating your interests. In December you will receive a catalog in your email in-box (in PDF format) which describes many opportunities for your involvement in congregational life and community outreach in 2020. You will then receive a link to an online survey at SurveyMonkey.com to indicate your interests. Of course, there will also be paper copies available, both the catalog and response forms, in the narthex. We hope everyone will consider getting involved in strengthening our congregation's mission to be a healing place for one another, our community, and the world.

About 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. Known as the church of "God's work. Our hands.," the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer Martin Luther.

A New Class on "Basically Lutheran 101"

Sundays, January 12, 19, 26, and February 2 at 12:30 p.m.

Have you ever wondered what is distinctively (or peculiarly) Lutheran about Christ the King Church? Do you want a refresher and/or an "update"? Are you from a different tradition and are mostly new to how and why we Lutherans worship and think the way we do? And why we here at CTK are "sorta different" from even other Lutheran congregations? For that matter, how are we like the rest of Christianity? Why keep any distinctive behaviors and doctrines?

Discover the answers to these questions and much more in a new four-week series, with lunch, after church on **Sundays at 12:30 p.m., January 12, 19, 26, and February 2.** Lunch is free to non-member inquirers and for whatever others are inspired to donate. We'll meet for an hour each of those Sundays.

The class will be introduced to Martin Luther's life, the origin of the Lutheran movement, Lutheranism's central Theology of the Cross, Lutheran worship and preaching, Lutheran ethics, and Christ the King Church's own expression of Lutheranism. This class is NOT a "requirement" to be a CTK member. All interested in deepening one's understanding of who and why we are the way we are in an ecumenical and interreligious world are encouraged to check it out.

Anyone can come, even at the last minute. But we do encourage you to sign-up for the class by contacting cherylgaspard@ctelc.org, calling the church office, or speaking with Pastor Duane.

Community of Hope Training begins in January — Is God Calling You to be a Lay Chaplain?

Do you want to deepen your relationship with God? Do you want to acquire the skills needed to handle different life situations in your every day journey? Do you want to be comfortable extending God's love to your family, friends, and neighbors?

Then, the Community of Hope may be for you! In addition to providing training to equip laypersons to serve in pastoral care ministry as Lay Chaplains, the Community of Hope offers a journey into wholeness through spiritual growth opportunities in a community shaped by prayer and Benedictine spirituality.

At Christ the King Lutheran Church, we have

trained 119 Community of Hope Lay Chaplains (both members of our congregation and from many other congregations) who live out their call to be "holy listeners" in many different settings: in their families, their workplaces, their neighborhoods, hospitals, nursing homes, hospice, and within the congregation. You are invited to consider becoming a part of our Community of Hope.

Classes will be held on Monday evenings, January 27 through April 6. Class size is limited. Registration deadline is January 10. For more information or to receive an application, contact Beverly Davis at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org or 713-400-0517.

Luther Packs Supplies Needed

The youth group of Christ the King Church have been creating "Luther Packs" for the last three years to help combat homelessness and hunger in the city of Houston. Each kit is created by the youth for our congregation members and friends to give out to the homeless and contains supplies such as a snack, water, personal care items, and a handout with information on local agencies/resources. These kits are a physical way to show God's love in the community.

During the year, the Luther League creates over 300 Luther Packs. We invite donations of the following items to help subsidize the cost of supplies: brown paper bags, applesauce tubes (individual packages, no jars of cups), little water bottles, beef jerky sticks, cheese and cracker packs, mints, Bumble Bee snacks-on-the-run (tuna, chicken salad, ham, etc.), Vienna sausage, GoGo Squeeze fruit pouches, Planters mixed snack pouches/trail mix, peanut butter or cheese cracker packs, dried fruit crisps packets, raisin snack boxes, granola bars (crunchier varieties like Nature Valley Oats 'n Honey, please), Jif to Go/Nutella to Go, Sunflower seeds, non-chocolate protein bars (chocolate melts!), Kleenex, lip balm, and rain ponchos. You can drop off items at church in the donation basket in the narthex. For more information, please contact Deacon Ben Remmert.

"For there is no salvation of man if there is no salvation of nature, for man is in nature and nature is in man."

(Paul Tillich, German Lutheran theologian, died 1965)



Weekly Emails — Did You Get Yours?

Every Thursday evening, we send an email highlighting upcoming church events and important parish news. If you do not receive these emails and would like to be added to the list, please email benremmert@ctkelc.org. If, however, you think that you are already on the list but are not receiving our emails, please try a few things:

- Check your spam or junk folders — if an email from us is there, mark it as "not spam" and then:
- Go to the bottom of the email and click the link "Add us to your address book"
- Make sure that "ctk@ctkelc.org" is in your address book

If you are still having trouble, talk to or email Ben Remmert (benremmert@ctkelc.org).