

INTERMISSION

2400 WILCREST DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77042
713-784-6620

WWW.CHRISTTHESERVANT.NET



The Women's Ministry Team has been busy planning some wonderful events and we do hope ALL women of CTS consider these fellowship opportunities. Also, we are proud and excited to announce that Lauren Welborn has joined our committee so onward and upward! Here are some upcoming events where you will find sign up sheets in the Narthex for all !

LADIES MONTHLY DINNER

WHEN: Wednesday, February 8, 6:00 pm

WHERE: Cantina Laredo, 11129 Westheimer Road
713-952-3287

(at Wilcrest...sits behind J. Alexanders)
Always a fun evening! Please sign up!

WOMEN'S APPRECIATION LUNCHEON AND FELLOWSHIP

WHEN: Wednesday, February 22, 11:30 am

WHERE: Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

Lunch, Sing-a-long, Games and just plain old-fashioned fun and fellowship for women of all ages! Please sign up!

GUIDED TOUR OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART

WHEN: Monday, March 27, Carpool from CTS @
9:00 am

Guided Tour begins at 10:00 am

WHERE: Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

1111 St. Joseph Parkway, Houston TX

The Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart is architecturally magnificent in a spiritual setting. Lunch following tour (place to be determined). Please sign up!

Our annual and back by popular demand...

WOMEN'S RETREAT AND RENEWAL

WHEN: Friday, April 21 through Sunday, April 23

WHERE: Camp Lone Star, La Grange, TX

Retreat theme will be "Treasured"...Where God sees us as "precious and priceless". Deadline for signup is APRIL 7th and early signup is appreciated and recommended.

Hope you join us for this fun and fulfilling weekend!!

Any questions, please contact Marsha Bower at marshab@emcmc.com or 281-381-0515.



STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

THANKS to all of you who have made financial pledges for 2017 by completing Financial Commitment forms.

By pledging your financial commitment, we can continue to accomplish good things together as we share our mission – living our name with passion and purpose.

If you have not yet completed a Financial Commitment form, it's not too late! There are extras in the Narthex. Just complete and put in the offering plate.

Thank you again for your faithfulness!

YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, **February 5th** is Super Bowl Sunday, and in keeping with our annual tradition our confirmation students will be collecting an offering to benefit the Souper Bowl of Caring. After each service you can find them in the narthex holding soup pots to collect cash donations. It is our way of making the biggest sports day of the year into a day of giving and service for those who need it most. The following Sunday, **February 12**, our confirmation students will decide which charity they want the funds to go to (lobbying by the congregation IS allowed). Please consider being generous that day!

Confirmands may also receive service hours for participating in the collection, especially those who work the 8 a.m. service.

Confirmation

Our Confirmation classes are in full swing. So far we have covered Martin Luther, The Reformation, and an overview of the small catechism. In February, we plan to cover the Ten Commandments and in March the first article of the Apostle's Creed. Confirmation students and parents, don't forget to mark your calendars for the next 2 meetings - **February 12 and March 12 from 12:30-2:30 p.m.**

Sr. High Retreat: February 17-19, 2017

Spend time in fellowship and learning with young adult leaders and fellow senior high campers. Lutherhill's energetic staff will lead activities and small group community time to further explore what it means to be the body of Christ. This retreat will begin on Friday evening with community time lead by a live band and our speaker. On Saturday morning, we will have different sessions for the youth to explore what current issue they would like to spend more time learning about, and then spend an afternoon filled with activities. We close the weekend on Sunday with a community brunch and a sending worship. Several of our students are already planning to attend. If you'd like to attend contact J.T. about registration, and watch your email for a link to sign up online via the Lutherhill website. Cost \$35/person (scholarships available).

Jr./ Sr. High Night Owl Summer Camp at Lutherhill: June 25-30, 2017

Spend a week at Lutherhill growing in your faith as you are challenged by new experiences!

- Learn from cabin Bible studies and camp-wide worships
- Challenge yourself on the high ropes course
- Enjoy afternoon activities and daily All Camp activities
- Stay up late and sleep in! Experience camp on a whole new schedule
- Spend a night cooking over open fires and sleeping in the tree houses and hammock village

Cost for CTS students is only \$100 per person for those that participate in all fundraisers. Contact J.T. about registration, and watch your email for a link to sign up online via the Lutherhill website. **Deadline to sign up is March 1st.**

Summer Camp for Kids at Lutherhill!! July 16-21, 2017

This summer we aren't leaving out our little ones! There's a camp program for all of our kids who have completed 2nd - 6th grades the week of July 16-21 (July 16-19 for those just completing 1st grade).

Even our younger kids can spend a whole week (or half-week) at Lutherhill discovering all of the joys camp has to offer! Find new friends and fun times in God's creation!

- Learn from cabin Bible studies and camp-wide worships
- Enjoy afternoon activities and daily All Camp activities
- Grow in community through camp songs and games
- Spend an evening around the campfire making s'mores

Cost for CTS kids is only \$100 per person. Contact J.T. about registration, and watch your email for a link to sign up online via the Lutherhill website. **Deadline to sign up is March 1st.**

Schlitterbahn Trip - July 7, 2017 (6th - 12th Grade)

Summers in Texas are only getting hotter (Winters, too!) So we are cooling off by taking a trip to America's largest and greatest water park - Schlitterbahn in New Braunfels, TX.

We will meet at CTS at 7 a.m. on July 7th to ride over there together, spend the entire day, and head back home at 7 p.m. (arriving back at CTS around 10 p.m.) Naturally, we will stop at Buc-Dees in Luling on the way there and back for food and snacks. Cost is \$35, plus whatever you plan to spend on meals and snacks that day. Sign-ups will begin in May, but it's never too soon to mark your calendar.

VBS - July 30 - August 3, 2017 (Kindergarten - 5th Grade)

It's one of the summer events we look forward to most! We hope you'll plan on sending your kids to party with us and the VBS team from Camp Lutherhill! This Summer's theme is "RE:"

In celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, we will be exploring Romans 5:1-5 and the ways we are called to continually Reform, Reimagine, and Rejoice. Signups will begin in May, but it's never too soon to mark your calendars for this!

HOMELESS MINISTRY

Thank you for helping the homeless realize that there are people who really care about them. They are very appreciative of us coming to see them on a regular basis.

We served 6,670 lunches (16,209) sandwiches to 5,259 people (167 women) in 2016. We could not begin to make the sandwiches without the work of Judi Leisk, who coordinates the bread pickups, and the wonderful people who pick up the bread. We are blessed to have many of you come and help us prepare the sandwiches and the lunches. You make it possible for us to have 700 sandwiches and 300 complete lunches ready each time.

Phylis and Mike Karas work all year putting together toiletry packages. We provided 3,106 men and 239 women with much needed toiletry items. Socks were provided during the year and rain ponchos were provided in December. Since we began providing toiletries from 2005 through 2016, we have provided 37,755 toiletry packages.

This year we asked the homeless what they would like since we knew cold weather was approaching. They wanted sweatshirts with hoods. CTS Council provided 288 zippered hoodies to the homeless. They were very surprised and excited to receive these new hoodies. The rain ponchos and the hoodies were so needed since the weather has changed so drastically to rain and cold. Can you imagine what it is like to sleep outside in the rain and cold?

YOUR thoughtfulness goes a long way in bringing comfort to others less fortunate.

Thank You.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday celebration with a meal of pancakes and ham will be February 28, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The English tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday came about as a way to use as much milk, fats, and eggs as possible before Ash Wednesday began.



A sign-up sheet will be available for those wishing to attend and those wishing to help make the pancakes.

GARAGE SALE

The sale will be on Saturday, March 11.

You can donate items for the sale from Sunday, March 6 through Friday, March 10. Bring donations to the CTS Fellowship Hall.

This is the only fundraiser the homeless ministry has in the year. It takes a lot of people to make this happen. We need you during the week to help sort, price and box up items to have ready by Saturday.

Friday, March 10 will be our biggest day as all in sorting and pricing must be completed. Usually there are only a couple of us trying to do this until 10:00 pm or 11:00 pm. Please join us during the week to help – we are willing to be there in the evenings if you are available after work or anytime during the day.

We need a couple of people with trucks who could pick up large donated furniture items at church members' homes. Please let me know if you would be available that week and when.

Shirley Downing
281 682 2752
downeysa@hotmail.com

Looking ahead..Lent begins March 1

Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesday nights from 6-7 before the Lenten Services

Please make plans to join us for some good food and fellowship.



We need 5 people to bring soup and 4 people to bring bread.

We also need people to volunteer to help set up and to help with clean up.

Sign-up sheets will be available later in the month so you can be a part of Wednesday evenings beginning March 8.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Christ the Servant has “gone green” for the month of February, since it is the liturgical color for Epiphany. Ash Wednesday is March 1 and Easter is late this year – April 16.

The music program at Christ the Servant is staying busy. We are now in the 500th anniversary year of the Reformation. The January Reformation Evening Prayer service at Memorial Drive Lutheran was very successful. We will return to Christ the Servant on March 26 at 4:00 p.m. for a look at “Luther’s Catechism in Song.” Luther wrote hymns about each part of the catechism, and the ELCA has asked its congregations to look at the catechism during Lent (as we will do). Doing so by way of Luther’s music is a natural thing to do. The ELCA is offering an online catechism course, and it is available for upload for a few days.

On a personal note, I will be doing a radio program on KKHT 100.7 FM beginning February 19 at 6:00 p.m. Its title is “Martin Luther – With Eyes of Faith,” and will discuss Luther’s life, work, and (of course) his music. There will be interviews, music and discussion (and perhaps guest appearances from the staff here). The show will stream on The Christ the Servant website as well as on Facebook. This is a fabulous opportunity to share what I have learned about Luther over the years, and I am very excited about doing this.

The abstract for a paper on Martin Luther’s communion hymns I submitted to Societas Liturgica has been accepted. I am now working out the financing with that organization, and hopefully will present it at the University of Leuven (Belgium) in August. This will be plenty to keep us busy during a season of rest.

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016

	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$716,026.00
Total Expenses	\$628,339.00
Excess	\$37,687.00

COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Christ the Servant council held its first meeting Thursday, January 19th. We began the new year with a review of year-end results and we are excited to report we enjoyed a very good month of December and 2016 thanks to the generosity of our members and friends!

We are pleased to welcome several first-time members to council this year, including; Kyle Cooper (President elect), Ken Smith (Secretary), Susan Collins (Treasurer), Samantha Clark (Financial Secretary), Bryant King (At-large), and Linda Siegele (at-large). Our returning members include Rosalie Fontenot and Brent Brown (both At-large).

We have a lot of exciting opportunities ahead of us in 2017 that will enable us to live up to our name, Christ the **Servant**. Additionally, during this 500th anniversary of the Reformation year, there will be some special programs and events at CTS. One of note that I am particularly looking forward to is our music director John Krueger’s radio show commemorating the anniversary. The pilot show of “Martin Luther – With Eyes of Faith” will air at 6pm February 19th on KKHT 100.7. There will 35 weekly broadcasts with the final episode airing October 29th...two days before the anniversary of the Reformation. Cool stuff!

Please remember council members in your prayers as we do the work of Christ the Servant!

David Stallwitz - President

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Bob and Judi Leisk
- 2 Fred and Pat Korge
- 14 Larry Henderson/Michelle Sanchez
- 27 Archie and Ruby Sadler
- 28 Kelly and Lauren Ryan



CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Kristin and Bruce Palfreyman and their children Kasey, Anna and Jacob, and the rest of their family. Kristin's mother Joan Gardell went to her eternal home in Christ on December 5, 2016. Joan and her husband Dick were faithful members of CTS for more than 25 years.

Our sympathy also goes to Eric Teegerstrom and his sons Carl and Kristian. Their wife and mother, Mary Beth Teegerstrom went to her eternal home in Christ on January 5, 2017. Mary Beth served CTS as Liturgical Assistant, Sunday School teacher and in many other ways for twenty years.

Please remember both of these families in your hearts and prayers.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Peter Lares
- 3 Carla Abonce
- 4 Lucky Srinivasan
- 5 Hunter Heil
- 9 DJ Blockhus
- 10 LeRoy Bauer
James Thomas
- 12 Susan Sutton
- 13 Thomas Goedecke
Case Iversen
- 14 Austin Hanson
Lauren Dumler
- 16 Paula Ruskan
- 18 Jonathan Collins
Elizabeth Collins
- 19 Christopher Magre
- 20 Max Dumler
- 21 Jerry Myers
- 22 Vicki Rudolph Williams
Kristian Teegerstrom
- 23 Jim Burkett
- 25 Bobbie Miner
- 28 Tom Brinkman



THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

How does the old saying go...a picture is worth a thousand words? There is some debate as to the origin of this English idiom. A 1918 advertisement for the San Antonio Light is one option.

When the word comes from God, I think the reverse probably applies. The Gospel according to John will be the topic of discussion for the Tuesday Night Bible Study Group beginning on Feb 14th. As you may know, it is thought that the opening verses come from an early Christian hymn used in Johannine circles. You probably know the opening: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Well, that will be the starting point for 8 sessions on the Gospel of John running every other Tuesday night from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the CTS conference room from Feb thru May.

The group is led by Ken Smith and Richard Carlson; however, we plan to rotate leadership of individual sessions to other members of the group, just like we did last spring when the group spent 12 sessions covering the Gospel of Mark. We plan to use several of Pastor Jim's favorite commentaries including Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel by Craig Koester.

Presently, the group consists of about 20 people with attendance ranging from 10 to 14 on any given (every other) Tuesday evening. If you have an interest in joining the group, just show up on a Tuesday night even if it is to just to take a look, which you are more than welcome to do.

If you would like to be on our email list, please email Richard Carlson at richardcarlson70@att.net and we will add you to the list. Pastor Jim attends most of the sessions and has been known to add an interesting comment or two.

PRAYER REQUESTS

David **Aguilar**, friend of Bitsy **Muse**
Kevin and Nicki **Bailey**, friends of Ken **Smith**
Todd **Ballengee**, friend of Sandy **Wills**
Karen **Bauer**
Eric **Booth**, brother-in-law of Ron **Herbanek**
Jolie **Brown**, stepmother of Elizabeth **Brown**
Tommy **Bunn**, friend of Mike **Davenport**
Haily **Callihan**, grandchild of Karen and LeRoy **Bauer**
Noah **Conde**, grandson of Jairo and Ruby **Quintero**
Hector **Esparza**, husband of Debbie **Esparza**
Gregory **Euler**, friend of Russ and Gloria **Reider**
Phoebe **Gilchrist**, friend of Cheryl **Skillman**
Michael **Harbin**, grandson of Helen **Earnest**
Rev. Arlyn **Hausmann**, brother of Vanita **Homer**
Vanita **Homer**
Harvey **Jacobson**
Tom and Fawn **Hood**, friends of Tim and Karen **Murawski**
Vivian **Johnson**
Kathy **Keith**, daughter of Connie **Lape** and friend of Joan **Herbanek**
Jason **Leif**, friend of the **Stallwitz Family**
Branden **Magruder**, nephew of Tina **Blockhus**
Vicki **Molina**, friend of Nancie **Blair**
Lourdes and **Pepe**, friends of Tom and Sandy **Wills**
Marie **Newman**, friend of Tom and Sandy **Wills**
Barbara **Paape**, friend of Ken **Smith**
Cathy **Roberson**, daughter of Jodie **Davis**
Mary Ann **Shabunas**, mother of Mary **Hiestand**
Catherine **Shoenfelt**
Gail **Smith**, step-sister of Ron **Hatcher**
Marjorie **Swartz**, mother of Julie **Heil**
The **Teegerstrom Family**
Tina **Williams**, friend of Sandy **Wills**
Zachary, grandson of Bitsy **Muse**

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

The Rev. James Giannantonio
jrgiannan@gmail.com

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Betsy Riggs
ctsoffice1@comcast.net

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Jason "JT" Thomas
jasonthomas0619@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

John Krueger
ctschoir1@comcast.net

NURSERY CAREGIVER

Amanda Howell
Michelle Sanchez

SUNDAY CUSTODIAN

Sulma Cruz

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE

713.784-6620

CHURCH OFFICE FAX

713.784-4742

This newsletter and a calendar of church activities are available on the CTS website at:

www.christtheservant.net

March newsletter information deadline is: February 15



Please submit information and articles in **MSWord documents** to Laura Wilhelm at **lvhwilhelm@comcast.net**
Information may be edited to available space.



FEBRUARY 2017



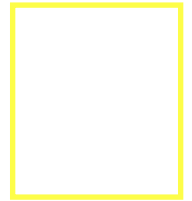
Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>4</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Souper Bowl of Caring</p>	<p>6</p> <p>3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL 6:00 Ladies Dinner 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Council</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>12:30 Confirmation 12:30 Care Team Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Bible Study</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Senior High Retreat</p> 	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>↑</p>	<p>20</p> <p>3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>22</p> <p>11:30 Women's Appreciation Luncheon 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 Altar Guild</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>32</p>

INTERMISSION
FEBRUARY 2017

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
2400 Wilcrest Drive
Houston, Texas 77042

Phone 713-784-6620
FAX 713-784-4742
www.christtheservant.net



2017 COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: David Stallwitz

President Elect:	Kyle Cooper	At Large:	Rosalie Fontenot
Secretary:	Ken Smith	At Large:	Linda Siegele
Treasurer:	Susan Collins	At Large:	Brent Brown
Financial Secretary:	Samantha Clark	At Large:	Bryant King

COMMITTEE CHAIRS, GROUP LEADERS, CONTACT PEOPLE

Acolytes	Inga Carlson	Memorial Service Coordinator	Linda Iversen
Adult Christian Ed	TBA	Men Who Love Spaghetti	Roger Cutler
Altar Guild	Lori Wood	Nursery Attendant	Amanda Howell
Brookdale Ministry	Ken Smith, Carolyn Kirk		Assistant: Michelle Sanchez
CanCare Representative	Susan Kramer	Opportunity Endowment Fund	Laura Wilhelm
Care Team	Arnie Kaestner	Personnel	Inga Carlson
College Ministry	Linda Shoemaker, Linda Siegele	Prayer Chain	Marti Hatcher
Disaster Response Team	TBA	Property	Brent Brown, Ron Herbanek
Family Aid Ministry	Carolyn Giannantonio	Sound Team	TBA 8:00 Service
Fellowship Committee	Rosalie Fontenot		Brent Brown-11:00 Service
Greeters	Donna Schneider	Stewardship	Carolyn Kirk
Homeless Ministry	Shirley Downing	Ushers	8:00 Russell Farmer
Ladies Dinner Group	Mickey Walters		11:00 Pat Welborn
Lawn Care	Russell Farmer, Kevin Petterson	WHAM Representatives	Arnie Kaestner, Marilee Dittrich
Lectors, CTS Players	Carolyn Kirk, Matt Grant	Worship and Music	Lori Wood
Liturgical Assistants	Carolyn Kirk	Youth Fellowship	Michele Byrnes