

INTERMISSION

2400 WILCREST DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77042
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WWW.CHRISTTHESERVANT.NET

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Brookwood Holiday Open House

Friday, November 30th
Meet at Brookwood 9:30 AM
Shopping, fellowship, buffet lunch
More details to follow.



Women's Ministry Holiday Luncheon

Wednesday, December 5th
11:30 AM, at CTS
"Ballet Grace" a faith-based company of classically trained ballerinas who inspire and enrich audiences through dances of praise will perform.

Delicious food, fellowship and fun.
Bring an ornament to swap.
This will be a time for us to come together and celebrate this beautiful time of the year.



Pajamas for Seniors

Women's Ministry Service Event
Thursday, December 13th at 10:30

We'll need donations of cotton Night Shirts size L for the women and PJ size L for men who reside at Brookdale Nursing Home. Cash donations accepted if you'd like us to buy PJs. We will also present a fashion show for residents.



More details to follow. Volunteers will be needed for this worthwhile event.

LWR FARMER'S MARKET COFFEE

Farmer's Market Coffee is once again available for sale in the Narthex!! **And it's just in time for the holidays!!**

Christ the Servant is partnering with Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to sell Farmer's Market coffee. This coffee is sold by farmers who are helped by LWR to produce high quality coffee and to receive a good fair price for their beans.

By purchasing this coffee, you will be helping with the effort to help raise people out of desperate poverty.

Don't forget to pick some up for a special gift!



COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Church Council met October 11, 2018. Following an opening prayer Joanne Dumler presented a devotion centered on writings from the Reverend Billy Graham.

Inga Carlson announced that she is resigning as Chairperson of the Personnel Committee. Inga is remaining active in our congregation, she fills many roles, and has left the Personnel Committee in very able hands. Inga also advised that Janet Schwan will not be able to return to work as our Sunday Coffee Hospitality Attendant. Janet's cancer is retreating from her body, but side effects from the disease and treatment has left her unable to stand for lengthy periods of time. CTS will host a "Thank You" for Janet in the future when her improving health will allow. Sulma Cruz, CTS's once and future Sunday Attendant, has resumed that role.

Chandler Wilhelm reported that \$1,547 remaining in the Disaster Relief Fund, with the approval of the Disaster Relief Fund Committee and Council President and Treasurer, has been donated to ELCA Disaster Relief to help those hit by recent hurricanes (Florence and Michael). This brings the fund balance to zero. Church Council, on behalf of the entire CTS Community of Faith thank and heartily applaud all the members of this committee. Every member performed tireless work in difficult circumstances in service to others.

Treasurer Susan Collins prepared an initial Budget, and a full Power Point presentation will be prepared for the November Council Meeting at which time the 2019 Budget will be finalized.

A general discussion was had regarding the use of direct withdrawal for giving.

Music Director John Krueger provided a written report of the past month's activities along with look ahead for upcoming activities and events. Youth and Family Director JT announced that CTS will host a "Screen on the Green" October 26 with a showing of "The Princess Bride". JT also announced that the 2019 summer trip for High School and Middle School folks will be at the YMCA of the Rockies camp in Estes Park Colorado. This is a mission trip and participants will be driving to the camp. Vacation Bible School will be hosted July 7 – 11, 2019. The Lutherhill Camp for ages other than High School will be July 21 – 26, 2019.

Joanne Dumler provided an update on possible activities to make up for September's rained out God's Work Our Hands service day. Joanne also provided an update on possible plans for a Visitor's Station at CTS. Sales of Lutheran World Relief Coffee will recommence October 21, with proceeds going to Lutheran World Relief Fund.

Please keep your Church Council in your prayers as we endeavor to carry out CTS' mission.

Ken Smith, Council Secretary

THANKSGIVING DINNER

On Sunday, November 18, immediately following the 11:00 service, we will celebrate Thanksgiving together with our annual Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner, catered by Demeris. A free-will offering will be taken to offset the cost of the luncheon.



Color-coordinated members (Joan Herbanek, Phyllis Begin, Mickey Walters, Susan Givens and Kathy Riggs) line up on a recent Sunday morning. Photo by Mary Puccini.

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY – ISAIAH

The Isaiah Bible Study continues on Oct 30th, Nov 27th & Dec 11th. We'll be making the 160 year leap forward from the pre-exilic 701 B.C.E. to 540 B.C.E. when God abruptly announces: enough sentence, enough exile, enough punishment for Judah's past defiance of Yahweh ... with the following:

40:1 Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her that she has served
her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's
hand double for all her sins.

This is followed by the familiar:

40:3 A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of
the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway
for our God.
4 Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be
made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
5 Then the glory of the Lord shall be
revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
and the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

You are most welcome to join our Tuesday night group midstream so to speak. We meet from 7:00 pm to around 8:15 pm in the CTS conference room. Among the topics for discussion will be the "Servant Songs" interspersed throughout Second Isaiah (Chapters 40-55). These "Servant of the Lord" interludes appear to be referring to Israel ... or could they be the anticipation of Yahweh's ultimate servant Jesus?

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

	<u>Sept. 30, 2018</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$45,361	\$502,804
Total Expenses	\$63,687	\$591,493
Loss	(\$18,326)	(\$88,689)

Large extra expense this month was the cost to repair the broken air conditioner in the choir room, at \$9,690.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Those who continue to be impacted by Hurricane Harvey

Sharon Amundson, sister of Paul Siegele
John Barr, brother of June Jacobson
Karen Bauer
Susan Cotta, mother of Christy Iversen
Dennis and Leonard Craig, brothers-in-law of Marilee Dittrich
Jane Fontenot, grandma of Miley Rose
Doug Gibson, friend of Phyllis and Monte Richard
Phoebe Gilcrest, friend of Cheryl Skillman
Vanita Homer
Vivian Johnson
George Knabb, brother of Jodie Davis
Ron Murawski, father of Tim Murawski
Mateo Puccini, nephew of Mary Puccini
Ray Reider, brother of Russ Reider
Wuanita Schaper, mother of Carol Klem
Janet Schwahn
Catherine Shoenfelt
Edna Simmons, sister of Emma Hammett
Cheryl Spear, mother of Tina Blockhus
Marjorie Swartz, mother of Julie Heil
Richard Thomas, brother-in-law of June Jacobson
Zachary, grandson of Bitsy Muse



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

After having discussed hymns, and how they make their way into worship, in the last newsletter, a logical follow-up is to talk a bit about worship itself. However, instead of an academic discussion, a good place to start is on Christ the Servant's website.

First, we have started posting sermons, along with a bit of music. Preaching is central to worship at Christ the Servant: as a result, our website now contains six weeks of sermons and a link to the readings for the day. After some discussion, we also decided to leave the meditation on the recording since almost all of the music performed is in the public domain.

Second, we have posted a small section titled "Worship at Christ the Servant," which describes our order of service, its history, and biblical content. We have tried to keep it brief (but with room to expand), and as a result it is worth reprinting in its entirety here.

WORSHIP AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

The word "worship" comes to us from the old English "worthscype," which also gives us the words "worth" and "worthy." God, being God, does not need our worship. However, the Triune God -- Father, Son and Holy Spirit (or creator, savior and sanctifier) -- is worthy of our praise as an act of gratitude for what God has done for us.

We are gathered by the Holy Spirit, fed by Word and Sacrament, and sent out into the world to serve. This pattern of worship has existed for the entire history of the Christian church. The sacraments can be found in the Bible, most notably at the beginning and end of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), praising God with "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs" is mentioned in Colossians 3:16. A skeletal version of worship was described by Justin Martyr in about 155 a.d.

Two words are used to describe worship. The word "Liturgy" comes from the Greek word *leitourgia*, which means "work of the people." The other word describing worship is *Gottesdienst*, which is German for "God's service (to us)." God's service to us is in Word, Sacrament, and forgiveness. Our "work" is prayer and praise, and the giving of time and talents.

Our worship is Biblical: almost all of the words of worship come directly from the Bible. We have

two songs of praise near the beginning of the rite: the "Glory to God in the Highest," or *Gloria* is an extension of the angels' song of praise at Luke 2:13-14; "This Is the Feast" is a recent addition and is based on the song of the angels at Revelation 5:11-14.

Our worship is historical: beyond the skeleton laid out by Justin Martyr, perhaps the oldest part of our worship is the "Lord, have mercy" (Kyrie/Christe eleison), which comes to us from the Greek. The creeds, or statements of belief, come from early times and were codified in the fourth century. The order of worship we use (the "ordo") has had its current shape since the time of Gregory the Great (about 600 a.d.). This connects us to the great "cloud of witnesses" described first in Hebrews 11 and 12.

John Krueger, Director of Music



YOUTH AND FAMILY

SUMMER 2019 Dates!

Summer has arrived at Christ the Servant, just in time for cooler weather! Mark your calendars now for the following events occurring in June and July 2019, and look for ways to sign up BEFORE the end of this year so that we can begin planning and fundraising.

June 8-17, 2019 - Jr./Sr. High Family Mission Retreat to The Rockies! We'll drive up and spend a week at YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. During the day we will volunteer for local service organizations and enjoy the mountains. At night we'll worship and learn together about how to grow our faith in families!

July 7-11, 2019 - VBS! We've moved our VBS dates up a little bit this year to spread our commitments around for our younger families. As always, we will have a wonderful VBS staff from Lutherhill combined with our own volunteers to lead us in worship, learning, playing, and creating! Dinner starts at 5 p.m., program begins at 5:30 and goes until 8:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday nights. Tell your friends and get excited together about making this the best VBS ever!

July 21-26, 2019 - is a week of Summer Camp at Lutherhill for those who have finished 1st through 8th grades! We had a blast with a big group of kids last year, and we hope to take even more of you with us this year! The theme for Camp 2019 is "Wonder", and we are looking forward to having the Best. Week. EVER.

CONFIRMATION BEGINS AGAIN!

The new Confirmation Class year begins on **November 11, 2018**. We will welcome at least one new student (and possibly others from Memorial Drive) to spend this year studying Lutheran Catechism and Beliefs. This is a two year class that includes a 2nd year on learning the Bible story. If you are in 7th Grade or higher, and would like to join the class, please let J.T. know. Class begins at 12:30 after the 11:00 service is over and includes lunch!

ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP

Spiritual practices are more meaningful when families learn to do them together. 30 years of research tells us that the most significant spiritual influences in a child's life aren't a Pastor, Youth & Family Minister or Sunday School



Teacher. It's actually mom, dad, grandma and grandpa!

Sunday, November 25 is our Advent Family Workshop. It's our official Youth & Family Ministry kickoff of the Advent Season. We're inviting all our kids and their parents and/or grandparents to gather in the Fellowship Hall during the 9:30 a.m. hour (no kids classes will be held that day) to explore how we might make our celebration more purposeful using crafts, family devotions, and interesting weekly activities. You'll come away from the workshop with something that your family can use during Advent, and a plan to use it together!

Mark your calendars now, and plan to stay (or arrive early) for the Sunday School hour that day.

KIDS WHO LOVE PIZZA!

A rare ALL-AGES KWLP is coming up on **December 2, 2018** when we go see *Wreck-it Ralph 2: Ralph Breaks The Internet!* I love the first *Wreck It Ralph* movie so much, and I can't wait to see the next one.



Sunday, December 2nd after church we will grab some Fuzzy's Pizza on Westheimer and plan to make the next available showing at Cinemark Memorial City. Showtime is TBA as soon as they are released, and you should get your tickets as soon as you can after that.

It's a KWLP Double Feature Month because *Aquaman* comes out on **Friday, December 21!** This movie is going to be so bad that it's good, and because of it, we're going to try something we NEVER do for Kids Who Love Pizza. We are going to see it on OPENING NIGHT! For this one we're going out to Katy for our west-side folks and we will get our pizza at Old Chicago Pizza and Taproom before heading over to Cinemark Katy for the show. Showtime for this movie is TBA, as well, but I imagine tickets will sell out quickly for opening night, so be on your toes!



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Denise Carlson
Andy Iversen
- 4 Monte Richard
- 5 Holly Heil
Lily Sweet
- 7 Bryant King
- 8 Emma Hammett
- 10 Betty Boxx
Chuck Cook
- 11 Paul Williams
- 12 Eve Cooper
- 13 Marsha Bower
- 14 Nicas Kiondo
- 15 Margery Wheeler
- 16 Arnie Kaestner
John Puder
- 19 Michael Sweet
- 21 Tyler Herbanek
Jo Ann Olds
- 28 Gary Hiestand
Gloria Reider



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Kevin and Jackie Scace
- 12 Gary and Mary Hiestand
- 13 Brian and Julie Heil
- 26 Paul and Vicki Williams



CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

The Rev. James Giannantonio
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OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

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NURSERY CAREGIVER

Sandra Ani, Michelle Sanchez

SUNDAY CUSTODIAN

Sulma E. Cruz

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE

713.784-6620

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713.784-4742

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

www.christtheservant.net

December newsletter information deadline is:

November 15

Please submit information and articles in **MSWord documents** to Laura Wilhelm at **lvhwilhelm@comcast.net**

Information may be edited to available space.

NOVEMBER 2018



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

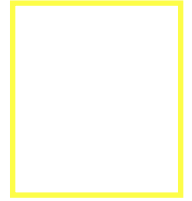
Saturday

<p>Sunday</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Christian Education- Sunday Classes for all ages 9:30-10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Monday</p>	<p>Tuesday</p>	<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>Thursday</p> <p>1 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>Friday</p> <p>2</p>	<p>Saturday</p> <p>3</p>
<p>4 Daylight Savings Time Ends!</p>	<p>5 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry</p>	<p>6 7:00-7:00 Election</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>8 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Council</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 12:30 Starting Confirmation Milestone</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>14 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>15 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 12:30 Thanksgiving Luncheon</p>	<p>19 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry</p>	<p>20 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>21 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>22 Office Closed</p>	<p>23 Office Closed</p>	<p>24 Office Closed</p>
<p>25 9:30 Advent Family Workshop</p>	<p>26 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>27 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>28 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>29 THANKSGIVING</p>	<p>30 9:30 Women's Ministry at Brookwood</p>	

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NOVEMBER 2018

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
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Houston, Texas 77042

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2018 COUNCIL MEMBERS

	President: Kyle Cooper	
President Elect:	Cliff Mabry	At Large: Joanne Dumler-
Secretary:	Ken Smith	At Large: Linda Siegele
Treasurer:	Susan Collins	At Large: Chandler Wilhelm
Financial Secretary:	Samantha Clark	At Large: Bryant King

COMMITTEE CHAIRS, GROUP LEADERS, CONTACT PEOPLE

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