

INTERMISSION

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

WWW.CHRISTTHESERVANT.NET

EASTER SERVICES

Lenten Service

April 3, 10
12:00 pm Service
12:30 pm Lunch

Good Friday

April 19
7:15 pm Service

Palm Sunday

April 14
8:00 Service
11:00 Service
6:00 Reading of Mark

Easter Vigil

April 20
7:15 Service

Maundy Thursday

April 18
12:00 pm Service
7:15 pm Service

Easter Sunday

April 21
8:00 Service
9:30 Breakfast
10:00 Egg Hunt
11:00 Service



EASTER BREAKFAST

Everyone is welcome!

Sunday, April 21
9:30 a.m.

Please sign up in the Narthex to bring:
Egg Casserole, Breads, Fruit

Volunteers are also needed to
set up before and clean up after
the meal. Contact: Rosalie Fontenot



SUNDAY LENTEN SERIES

Pastor Steve Kelly's special Lenten series of presentations on the SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS FROM THE CROSS continues on Sundays through April 7, 9:30-10:30.

We will be looking at the spiritual importance of these last sayings of Jesus from the Gospels and what they can mean for our own spiritual growth.

EASTER FLOWERS

Sign up for Easter lilies and hydrangeas!

Cost:
\$8.50 for lilies
\$12.50 for hydrangeas

Last day to order - April 14



EASTER DECORATING

You are invited!

Please come join the Altar Guild on Saturday, April 20 at 10:30 as we decorate the Easter cross and prepare the sanctuary for our Easter celebration.

Greenery and flowers needed!

We will need cut flowers and greenery to decorate our Easter cross. Please drop off any donations at church on Saturday, April 20 from 9:30 – 11:00.

We appreciate your help in making our Sanctuary beautiful for Easter.



Did you know...

In the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches, Easter eggs are dyed red to represent the blood of Christ, with further symbolism being found in the hard shell of the egg symbolizing the sealed Tomb of Christ — the cracking of which symbolized his resurrection from the dead.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

In my last article, the structure of the Lenten season was discussed but the discussion was left off midstream. These last couple of weeks we have been looking at Luke 15 through the lens of the book "The Cross and the Prodigal" by Kenneth Bailey. There are two more Lenten services – April 3 and 10.

On April 14, Holy Week begins with the Procession of Palms in the 8 and 11 a.m. services. In the wake of Vatican II, this day is variously called Palm Sunday or Sunday of the Passion. We at Christ the Servant have historically done Palm Sunday since it is the historical observance. In addition, this is the one day of the year where we venture away from the lectionary Gospel reading (one of the passions) and instead read one of the Gospel accounts of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. That night at 6 p.m. we will hear the Gospel according to Mark read in its entirety. This takes about 90 minutes and includes a coffee break in the middle.

Maundy Thursday (from *mandatum* – "Behold, I give you a new commandment") will be celebrated on April 18 at noon and 7:15 p.m. with Holy Communion at both services and stripping of the altar at the evening service. This is the first of the Triduum (three days) services, commemorating Jesus' death and resurrection. On Good Friday (April 19), there will be an ecumenical noon service at St. Cyril and a 7:15 service here. The last of the Triduum services, Easter Vigil, will be at 7:15 on April 20. The service this year will focus on the "waiting" aspect (keeping watch). In keeping with historical practice, we will again have baptisms at this service.

Easter Sunday (April 21) will feature services at 8 and 11 a.m. with a congregational breakfast and Easter egg hunt in between. There will also be a baptism at the late service. Easter baptisms are completely in keeping with early church practice. In the words of Tertullian (third century), "Easter is a good day for baptism, and if not Easter, Pentecost is a good day for baptism. Otherwise, any day is a good day for baptism."



It is well worth the effort to attend some if not all of these services; we outline them every week in the creeds and these days form the center of Christian life and faith. See you there!

John Krueger, Director of Music

COUNCIL COMMENTARY

- Reports were presented from the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Music Director, Youth and Family Director and the Pastor.
- Safeguarding God's Children training will take place on March 17th. Everyone who is currently working with our youth is required to attend.
- Council thanked Bryant King for conducting the CPR training.
- Cliff reminded Council to sign up to help at the Garage Sale.
- Action items from February were reviewed.
- Preparing for upcoming vacancies on Nominating Committee, Congregational Council and OEF were discussed.
- Information was shared about doing a church directory. Plans are to do a church directory in October.
- Susan to update the signature cards at Wells Fargo.

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	w/o Homeless Min,
<u>Month End 2019</u>	<u>Memorials, OEF</u>
Income:	Income:
\$48,830	\$47,690
Expenses: \$57,291	Expenses: \$54,008
Difference: -\$8,361	Difference: -\$6,318
<u>Totals for End of</u>	w/o Homeless Min,
<u>Year 2019</u>	<u>Memorials, OEF</u>
Income: \$94,015	Income: \$92,645
Expenses: \$112,919	Expenses: \$108,217
Difference: \$- 18,904	Difference: \$- 15,572

Thrivent Mortgage Status of March 1st

Balance of Mortgage owed as of March 1st,
2019: \$467,615.39

Monthly Payment is \$ 7,170.00, or \$ 86,040.00
per year.

Mortgage end date: December 22, 2027.
9 years left on the loan.

YOUTH AND FAMILY

Easter Eggs

Wednesdays in Lent are for Midweek Lenten Services. They are for great midday lunches. They are also for filling Easter Eggs with Candy!



During the month of April, join us during and after our midweek lunches, and help fill the Easter Eggs for our kids to hunt.

First Communion Milestone

It is time once again to celebrate the First Communion Milestone. Milestones have two major parts – a learning part and a worship part. The learning part will take place on Thursday, April 18th at 6 p.m. Students who take the class will be ready to take communion for the first time either that night at the Maundy Thursday service, or on Easter Sunday (April 21st) as part of the giant celebration of the resurrection! That's the worship part. Those that can't make the class are still welcome to schedule a one-on-one class anytime with J.T. or Pastor Jim.

Easter Sunday – April 21, 2019

Rain or shine – we ALWAYS have an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. Our youth and adults are filling a massive amount of eggs for our kids to hunt. Come for breakfast, and stay for the Easter Egg Hunt which will start around 10 a.m.



Kids Who Love Pizza – Avengers: ENDGAME

It's been a while for Kids Who Love Pizza, but there's no better time to bring it back than for Avengers: ENDGAME, which comes out on April 26th. I don't want to get spoiled, so I'm suggesting we try to see this film on OPENING DAY, Friday, April 26th. Students 13 and older (and their parents) can reserve a ticket with me for \$11 any time before April 7th. Once tickets are purchased, I'll let you know the exact time of the showing (probably around 7:30 p.m.) Those that want to join us for pizza will meet us at 6 p.m. at California Pizza Kitchen at Memorial City Mall, and we'll see the movie there afterward. There's a signup sheet on the table in the narthex.



Confirmation

Because Easter is on the third Sunday, April's Confirmation class will be held Sunday, April 28th from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. (after the late service). This month we will look at the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed – about Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord. Come prepared to say the Ten Commandments and the First Article of the Creed to your mentor.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Easter Party at Brookdale Senior Living Center

1414 Sandy Springs
Saturday, April 6
10:00-11:00



Wear an Easter bonnet, funny, creative, or a blast from the past! Just show up with a smile and let's offer a little love to these seniors.

Questions? Call Marsha 281-381-0515

Max Lucado Luncheon

Some of our women enjoyed wonderful fellowship and were truly mesmerized by Max Lucado and his talk on "Unshakable Hope" at St. Martin's Episcopal Church. He graciously signed books and we were impressed as he took the time to personally meet and greet a very long line of admirers.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Gospel Medicine by Barbara Brown Taylor

9:30 – 10:30 in the Conference Room

Beginning the first Sunday after Easter, the Adult Sunday School will spend three Sundays talking about the stories in one Pastor Jim's favorite books: Gospel Medicine by Barbara Brown Taylor. Barbara, as she states in the forward to the book, is "a preacher - a public speaker of the gospel -and the story is all I have."

The stories (mini-sermons you might say) in her book are divided into six themes: Healing, Promises, Absence, Messengers, Judgement & Transformation. To peak your interest, here are some of the ideas presented in the "Absence" story entitled "Good News for Orphans".

Each story begins with a Bible verse. In this case it is John 14:27-28:

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you."

In Chapter 14 of the Gospel of John, right after Jesus washes the disciples' feet, Jesus says to his disciples "Love one another, believe in God; Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but I will not leave you orphaned. I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and take to you myself, so that where I am, you may be also."

It's been over 2,000 years since Jesus said this and as Barbara states "Now, from where we sit, it has been so long that some of us wonder if we have not been orphaned after all. Is he gone or isn't he? And if he is gone, where has he gone and what in the world will we do without him? And if he is not gone, where is he, exactly, and why doesn't he show himself?"

Then Barbara uses a creative analogy to show us that God hasn't abandoned us after all. She recalls babysitting her two younger sisters from the time she was twelve (a bit young I think). Her father then her mother would sit down with her before they went out for the evening. They would tell her how much they trusted her and gave her a phone number where they could be reached if they were needed.

Of course once they left, thoughts raced through Barbara's mind. What if "Our parents might have had a terrible accident. They might never come home again and the three of us would be split apart, each

of us sent to a different foster home so that we never saw each other again." Now that didn't actually happen. Her parents did return safely each time they went out.

Being the oldest of three, I don't remember babysitting my younger brother and sister. But I do remember traveling to Dallas to see my mom, also named Barbara. My mom insisted that my wife and I go out for the evening. She took special care of our two boys: pizza for dinner, rented a movie from Blockbuster (dating myself here) and afterwards a game of Chinese checkers.

In her mini sermon, Barbara concludes with "Plenty of you know what I mean, not only because you were babysitters too but because you are Christians. We are all of us Christ's elder children in the world, the ones he has left in charge. We are the responsible ones, the ones he has trusted to carry on in his name, and everywhere we go we see the faces of those whom he has given into our care."

She continues "I am a little fuzzy on the details, as John himself is, but abiding seems to involve becoming part of a large extended family, and a holy one at that."

Our community here at Christ the Servant certainly qualifies as a large extended family. Come join us in Adult Sunday School and we'll share more of Barbara's thoughtful stories of Gospel Medicine.

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Rich and Paula Ruskan
- 6 Mike and Linda Iversen
- 19 Kurt and Connie Goedecke
Tim and Karen Murawski
Laramie and Donna Winczewski
- 20 John and Linda Shoemaker
- 22 DJ and Tina Blockhus
- 23 Bill and Cheryl Skillman
- 24 Nick and Louise Hauser
- 25 Jim and Patti Sterle
- 26 Bill and Susan Givens



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Edna Lwekamua Ndanshau
- 4 Louise Hauser
- 5 Tim Murawski
Ena Puder
- 8 Ken Smith
- 9 Linda Siegele
Dale Olson
Heidi Cooper
Ryenne Wiles
- 13 Jocelyn Johnson
Russell Reider
Karen Carter
- 14 Paul Siegele
- 15 Linda Saunders
Omega Kihupi
Jim Sterle
- 16 Helen Earnest
- 17 Julia Dittrich
Holly Duncan
- 18 Matilda Schrader
- 19 Carrie Stallwitz
Evynn Stallwitz
Laurie Cooper
- 22 Connie Brown
- 26 Haika Ngowi
- 27 Jackie Scace
- 28 David Stallwitz
- 29 Anne Marie Cook
Theresa Kelly



INCOME TAX PREPARATION

AARP is working with the IRS again to prepare FREE tax returns from February 1 until April 15 at the following locations.

St. Basil the Great Greek Orthodox Church
1100 Eldridge Pkwy - Wed 12-4 & Sat 10-2

Hillendahl Library
2436 Gessner - Wed 11-3 & Thurs 12:30 – 4:30

Living Word Church
16607 Clay Rd. - Tue 11-3 & Fri 11-3

Tracy Gee Community Center
3599 Westcenter Dr. - Mon 12-4 & Tue 12-4

Maud Marks Library
1815 Westgreen Blvd. - Mon 10-2 & Fri 10-2

Mendenhall Community Center
1414 Wirt Rd. – Wed 10-2 & Fri 10-2

Also locations at: Jungman, Katy & Cinco Ranch Libraries

Participants should bring last year's return, and must have a Photo ID & Social Security Card or a Year-End Statement. For deposits of refunds you will need a blank check. Affordable Care participants bring your 1095A form.

Take advantage of this FREE service. There are 34 sites in the Metro area, so check your local library for others.

Questions: Phone Dave Deeds – 281-558-3818

HELP WANTED

Part-time opening at CTS

Sunday Nursery Assistant

Hours: Sundays 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., and special services as needed

Responsibilities:

Provide a secure, safe, clean environment for our infants and pre-school aged children

Experience:

Work in a pre-school, nursery or school environment

If interested, please email a resume to:

Shirley Downing
downeysa@hotmail.com
or all 281-684-2752



PRAYER REQUESTS

Those who continue to be impacted by Hurricane Harvey
Sharon Amundson, sister of Paul Siegele
Ursala Aston, aunt of Kurt Goedecke
Robert Barr, brother of June Jacobson
David Bassett, friend of Mike Iversen
Karen Bauer
Sharon 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
Kristin Krueger
Roger and Mary Lemburg
Margaret, grandmother of Tina Blockhus
Bill Phelps, friend of Mike Iversen
Mateo Puccini, nephew of Mary Puccini
Ray Reider, brother of Russ Reider
Cathy Roberson, daughter of Jodie Davis
Wuanita Schaper, mother of Carol Klem
Janet Schwahn
Mary Shabunas, mother of Mary Hiestand
Catherine Shoenfelt
Edna Simmons, sister of Emma Hammett
Ken Smith
Robert Spear
Marjorie Swartz, mother of Julie Heil
Richard Thomas, brother-in-law of June Jacobson
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

Sandra Ani

SUNDAY CUSTODIAN

Sulma E. 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

May newsletter information deadline is:

April 15

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



APRIL 2019

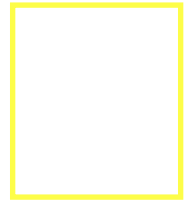


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday Worship 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Christian Education- Sunday Classes for all ages 9:30-10:30 a.m.	2 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	3 12:00 Lenten Service 12:30 Lunch 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey	4 5:30 WHAM ESL	5	6 10:00 Women's Ministry Easter Party at Brookdale	13
7	8	9 12:00 Lenten Service 12:30 Lunch 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey	10 5:30 WHAM ESL	11 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Council	12	19
14 6:00 Reading of Mark Palm Sunday	15 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	16 5:30 WHAM ESL	17 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey	18 6:00 1st Communion Milestone 12:00 & 7:15 Maundy Thursday Service 5:30 WHAM ESL	19 7:15 Good Friday Service	20 9:30 Altar Guild 7:15 Easter Vigil
21 9:30 Breakfast & Egg Hunt	22 Office Closed	23 5:30 WHAM ESL	24 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey	25 5:30 WHAM ESL	26 Kids Who Love Pizza - Time TBA	27
28 12:30 Confirmation	29 5:30 WHAM ESL	30 5:30 WHAM ESL	5:30 WHAM ESL	5:30 WHAM ESL	5:30 WHAM ESL	
2 Easter						

INTERMISSION
APRIL 2019

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

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



2019 COUNCIL

President: Cliff Mabry

President Elect:	Chandler Wilhelm	At Large: Joanne Dumler
Secretary:	Ken Smith	At Large: Linda Siegele
Treasurer:	Susan Collins	At Large: Bryant King
Financial Secretary:	Emma Chanimbaga	

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
Brookdale Ministry	Ken Smith, Carolyn Kirk	Opportunity Endowment Fund	Mike Sweet
CanCare Representative	Susan Kramer	Personnel	Ken Smith, Shirley Downing
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	TBA
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	Cliff Mabry		Lori Wood
Liturgical Assistants	Cliff Mabry		