

INTERMISSION

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 5, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday celebration with a meal of pancakes and ham will be March 5, 5:00 pm - 6:30 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 or help with cleanup.



SPECIAL SUNDAY LENTEN SERIES

9:30-10:30 in the conference room

Pastor Steve Kelly will be leading a special Lenten series of presentations on the SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS FROM THE CROSS.

This class will begin the first Sunday after Ash Wednesday, March 10. Each week 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.



Looking ahead...

LENT AND EASTER EVENTS

Ash Wednesday

March 6
12:00 pm Service
7:15 Service

Good Friday

April 19
12:00 Service
7:15 pm Service

Lenten Services

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10
12:00 pm Service
12:30 pm Lunch

Easter Vigil

April 20
7:15 Service

Palm Sunday

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



Easter Sunday

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

Maundy Thursday

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

KAIROS PRISON COOKIE MINISTRY

It's time again to bake cookies for the Kairos Prison Ministry on March 7, from 9-11:30 and 12:30-4:00. It is a great organization to support. Along with the work, we have a lot of fun as we bake the cookies. Sign-up sheets will be placed in the narthex.



GARAGE SALE!

SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH

The Garage Sale is almost here! And we need your help!

First, we need items to sell. Please think of CTS while you are doing your spring cleaning and set aside items you no longer need for our sale. **Second**, please tell your friends and neighbors to donate and/or shop the sale. And **third**, please help by volunteering the week before or the day of the sale.

When bagging up your items: It would be extremely helpful to **label** your bags; for example, Ladies Medium tops, Men's Large pants, Children's clothes, Kitchen goods, etc. We will have signs around Fellowship Hall starting Sunday, March 24. You can simply drop off your goods under the marked areas. We can always use more portable tables. Make sure they are labeled and we will be sure to get them back to you.



Donation drop-off: We will be collecting items starting Sunday, March 24, starting before the 8 am service and continuing until 5 pm that day. The rest of the week, March 25-29, you can drop off items from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sign-up sheets: We will have sign-up sheets for volunteers to help sort, price and organize items that will come in during office hours, Monday through Friday, March 25-29, 9 am to 4 pm. We also have separate sheets for the Youth and Men of the church. Please consider helping set-up at 6 am Saturday and take-down at 3 pm Saturday.

Anyone with **pick-up trucks** are always in demand; we may need you to pick up donations of furniture and perhaps deliver during the day of the sale. (My husband delivered a couple items last year and donated the "delivery fee" to the sale.)



If you have any questions about the CTS Garage Sale, feel free to call Mary Puccini (cell: 281-797-9989) or email marypuccini@comcast.net



Bonus! Bonus! Bonus!
Christmas in March!



As a big THANK YOU to the church members for donating your items, time and energy to the garage sale, we are having a Friends and Family Pre-sale on Thursday, March 28 from 4 to 7 pm. We are challenging ourselves to sort and price your donations so we are ready to celebrate "Christmas in March". Holiday music, punch, cookies and costumes will be on hand for this event. Please tell you friends and family they are welcome to pre-shop the sale.



Any questions? Call Mary Puccini
281-797-9989

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 2019

January Month End 2019	w/o Homeless Min, Memorials, OEF
Income: \$ 45,085	Income: \$ 44,855
Expenses: \$ 55,628	Expenses: \$ 54,209
Difference: \$ -10,543	Difference: \$ -9,354

Planned Mission Outreach for 2019

OEF Grants for 2019:	\$ 36,500.00
WHAM for 2019:	\$ 12,000.00
TX/LA ELCA Synod:	\$ 20,000.00
Homeless Ministry (estimated):	\$ 11,000.00
<u>CanCare:</u>	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total	\$ 80,000.00

Thrivent Mortgage Status of February 1st

Balance of Mortgage owed as of February 1st,
2019: \$464,498.23

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

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

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

BROOKDALE VALENTINE PARTY!

We had a wonderful, inspiring time sharing some "luv" with the residents of Brookdale!

Many thanks to Ann Wasp, social director, for always welcoming us with open arms. Also a BIG thank you to: John Krueger, Billijo Kern, Sophia Manning, Carolyn Kirk, Bitsy Muse, Janet Lonvick, Anne Marie Fritz, Nancy Fredin and Anansia Kweke and Billy Boy Bower (woof, woof!) for sharing their time and talents. The residents are always so appreciative to receive our attention!

We will return on April 6th at 10:00 for an Easter Party. Again, just show up and stay for a little while, as the more women we have to interact the more successful our service project becomes! Our goal is to spread God's love and to show these folks they are not forgotten!

Sign-up sheet will be in Narthex!



BALLET GRACE IS RETURNING!

LENTEN SERVICE

March 27th, 12:00 PM

Lunch and fellowship to follow

ALL OUR WELCOME! BRING SOME FRIENDS!

Many of you who attended our advent service enjoyed "Ballet Grace", a group of classically trained ballerinas who love to praise God through "interpretive dance". They were gracious enough to accept our invitation to return to enhance our Lenten Noon Service.

We hope to have quite a crowd to support these wonderful young women from "Cookie Jo's" dance company.

Sign up is in Narthex and we look forward to another beautiful and inspiring service during this special time of worship.

Questions??

Call Marsha Bower - 281-381-0515

lb16434@aol.com





WORSHIP AND MUSIC

As this article goes to publication, we have still not reached Ash Wednesday in the church year. Because Easter is so late this year, Ash Wednesday falls on March 6. This date, along with Palm Sunday and Holy Week, is reckoned off what is a lunar holiday (as opposed to a fixed date like Christmas). To be exact, Easter is the Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox. Simple, right? This means that Easter falls into a 35 day window beginning March 22.

This year, Easter falls on April 21. Because Easter is so late, the rodeo is early this year. In addition, wildflower season in Texas will be almost over by Easter, and the Astros will have played almost 20 games. That covers almost everything that interferes with the Lent and Easter seasons.

There is one major change in life at Christ the Servant– we will not be doing evening Lenten services this year. The one exception is Ash Wednesday; we will have services at noon and 7:15 on March 6 as we always have done. For the remaining Wednesdays in Lent, we will have noon services followed by lunch. The theme for this year will be the “Prodigal” son, and his prodigal father, and our prodigal God. Since the Prodigal son story appears only in Luke, and this is the year of Luke, this is the year to look at it in depth.

There are several reasons for not doing evening services. First on the list is that attendance has declined in the last five years. Part of the decline is due to adding the noon service. Another part is that as our congregation ages less people are driving at night. Moreover, as Houston has grown, so has rush hour. Last year, we had two Wednesday services destroyed by rush hour traffic accidents near the church. Worse still, the Wednesday soup suppers were coming down to the same four people bringing soup every week. This is less a matter of pointing fingers and placing blame than to point out that things change – congregations and their needs change, and so do traffic patterns on Westheimer.

In any event, we will have evening Holy Week services, and I will discuss them further next month.

John Krueger, Director of Music

COUNCIL NOTES

Notes from the February 14 meeting of the Church Council:

- Shirley Downing, from the Personnel Committee, submitted a change to the Employee Handbook regarding vacation for employees.
- The Treasurer Report was reviewed and updates on our financial status were discussed. Council agreed to publish the financials in the newsletter and quarterly, financial status Temple Talks will occur at each service.
- Written reports were submitted by the Director of Music, Youth and Family Director and an oral report was given by Pastor Jim as to current and upcoming events/activities including Lent. A decision was made to discontinue the Soup Suppers and mid-week evening Lenten services due to poor attendance. Mid-week Lenten services will continue at Noon with lunch to follow. Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil will continue to offer evening service times.
- Safe Haven Training will take place on March 17th.
- Discussed the timing of coordinating another photo directory – possibly Fall 2019.
- CTS Long Range Planning Committee presented their proposed charter which was accepted by the Council. The charter outlined membership of the committee, objectives, methodology and deliverables.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----|--------------------------|
| 12 | Roger and Debby Cutler |
| 15 | Kyle and Laurie Cooper |
| 19 | Nayibe and Eric Peterson |
| 20 | Billie and Nancie Blair |
| 21 | Brent and Connie Brown |
| 23 | Pete and Sharon Stultz |



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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Those who continue to be impacted by
Hurricane Harvey

Sharon Amundson, sister of Paul Siegele

Ursala Aston, aunt of Kurt Goedecke

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

Bob Leisk

Pam Milke

Mike Phelps, friend of Mike Iversen

Mateo Puccini, nephew of Mary Puccini

Ray Reider, brother of Russ Reider

Wuanita Schaper, mother of Carol Klem

Janet Schwahn

Mary Shabunas, mother of Mary Hiestand

Catherine Shoenfelt

Edna Simmons, sister of Emma Hammett

Ken Smith

Carrie Stallwitz

Marjorie Swartz, mother of Julie Heil

Richard Thomas, brother-in-law of June
Jacobson

Zachary, grandson of Bitsy Muse

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Kevin Carlson
- 3 Waveney Blucher
Marti Hatcher
- 4 Carolyn Giannantonio
- 5 Susan Collins
- 6 Vanita Homer
- 7 Ade Kujimiyo
Dana Lares
Caroline Kiondo
- 8 Shirley Strant-Philipson
Kami Vincent
- 10 Pam Beaver
Clement Kiondo
- 14 Carol Klem



- 15 Nancie Blair
Karen Welborn
- 18 James Gordon
Rose Kiondo
- 21 Phylis Karas
Laramie Winczewski
- 26 Katrina Hiestand
- 27 Kyle Cooper
- 28 Prudence Ezebuio
- 29 Fred Korge
- 30 Carolyn Brath
Emma Chanimbaga
Mike Iversen
Pete Stultz



YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

Please RSVP for any of these events by letting J.T. know you plan to attend, or sign up on the table in the narthex.

Lent Family Workshop

Do you know the #1 factor in shaping the faith of our kids? No it isn't Sunday School, or Vacation Bible School. It isn't Pastors or Youth Ministers. It's Mom, Dad, Grandma, and Grandpa. Decades of research has shown it to be true! Sound intimidating? Well, what if I could put a tool in your hand for you to try out during Lent that would give you somewhere to start when it comes to shaping the faith lives of the next generation? On Sunday, March 3rd, I'm hosting our Lent Family Workshop! During the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School hour, families are invited to gather together to explore how they can make the season of Lent more meaningful in their own homes. We will hand out a set of Lenten devotions and practices and rehearse how to do them together during the workshop.



Safeguarding God's Children

On **Sunday, March 17th** we will be offering a class on Safeguarding God's Children. It is intended to help those of us who work with children and youth to recognize the signs of sexual abuse and misconduct, and give them the tools to avoid inappropriate contact for themselves as volunteers. **The class is required** for all those who serve or wish to serve in direct contact with minors in our congregation. With recent revelations about sexual abuse in the Catholic and Southern Baptist churches, the time could not be more right to make sure we have done our due diligence on behalf of our kids.

Lunch will be provided for the class at 12:30 p.m., the class will begin promptly at 1 p.m.. Instruction will be led by Jessica Noonan, Director of Operations at LEAD, and 20-year veteran of children, youth and family ministries. There is no fee for the class.

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.

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. That may seem like a long way off, but I'm suggesting we pay in advance for the tickets, and as soon as they go on sale we will know exactly how many we need. 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.



Easter Word Search







ANGELS
 APOSTLES
 BETRAYAL
 BLOOD
 CALVARY
 CROSS
 CROWN OF THORNS
 CRUCIFIXION
 DARKNESS
 DEATH
 EARTHQUAKE
 EASTER
 GOLGOTHA
 HIGH PRIEST
 JESUS CHRIST
 JOSEPH
 JUDAS ISCARIOT
 KING
 LAMB

MARY
 NAILS
 PASSOVER
 PIECES OF SILVER
 PIERCED
 PILATE
 RESURRECTION
 ROBE
 ROMANS
 SACRIFICE
 SIMON OF CYRENE
 SOLDIERS
 SON OF GOD
 SPEAR
 STONE
 TEMPLE
 THIEVES
 THREE DAYS
 TOMB



MARCH 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Worship 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Christian Education- Sunday Classes for all ages 9:30-10:30 a.m.					1	2
3 9:30 Lent Family Workshop Transfiguration of Our Lord	4 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	5 5:30 WHAM ESL 5:00-6:30 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 	6  12:00 Ash Wed Service 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:15 Ash Wed Service 7:30 AA Journey	7 9:00-11:30, 12:30-4:00 Kairos Cookie Baking  10:30 Youth Ministry Network 5:30 WHAM ESL	8 10:30 Garage Sale Meeting	9
10 1 Lent	11	12 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 OEF	13 12:00 Lenten Service 12:30 Lunch 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey	14 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Council	15	16
17 12:00 Safe Haven Training 2 Lent	18 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	19 5:30 WHAM ESL	20 12:00 Lenten Service 12:30 Lunch 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey	21 5:30 WHAM ESL	22	23 9:30 Altar Guild
24 9-4 Garage Sale Drop-off 3 Lent	25	26	27 12:00 Lenten Service 12:30 Lunch 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Men Who Love Spaghetti 7:30 AA Journey	28	29	30 6:00 Garage Sale Set-up  7:00-3:00 Garage Sale 3:00 Garage Sale Take- down
31 4 Lent	←————— Garage Sale Items Drop-off & Pricing 9:00-4:00 —————→					

CHURCH STAFF

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

February newsletter information deadline is:
March 15

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

PASTOR
 The Rev. James Giannantonio
jrgiannan@gmail.com

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
 Betsy Riggs
ctsoffice1@comcast.net

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY
 Jason "JT" Thomas
jt@christtheservant.net

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
 John Krueger
ctschoir1@comcast.net

NURSERY CAREGIVER
 Sandra Ani, Michelle Sanchez

SUNDAY CUSTODIAN
 Sulma E. Cruz

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE
 713-784-6620

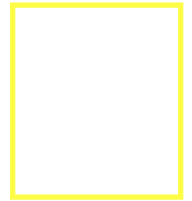
CHURCH OFFICE FAX
 713-784-4742

If you would prefer to receive your monthly newsletter via email instead of US Postal mail, please let us know by contacting Betsy in the church office:
ctsoffice1@comcast.net

INTERMISSION
MARCH 2019

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
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Houston, Texas 77042

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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, Michelle Sanchez
Brookdale Ministry	Ken Smith, Carolyn Kirk	Opportunity Endowment Fund	TBA
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		Brent Brown-11:00 Service
Fellowship Committee	Rosalie Fontenot	Stewardship	TBA
Greeters	Donna Schneider	Ushers	8:00 Russell Farmer
Homeless Ministry	Shirley Downing		11:00 Pat Welborn
Ladies Dinner Group	Mickey Walters	WHAM Representatives	Ken Smith
Lawn Care	Russell Farmer, Kevin Petterson	Women's Ministry	Marsha Bower
Lectors	Cliff Mabry	Worship and Music	Lori Wood
Liturgical Assistants	Cliff Mabry		