

INTERMISSION

2400 WILCREST DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77042
713-784-6620
WWW.CHRISTTHESERVANT.NET

GARAGE SALE WRAP-UP

This year, the garage sale earned \$3,270 to benefit the Homeless Ministry Project. A CTS Garage Sale is more than a money-maker. It is an opportunity for many hands in the congregation to do God's work!

The formula for success looks simple. Donate Stuff, Sell Stuff, Buy Stuff, Feed Hungry People. But there are LOTS of moving parts (hands, feet, backs, etc.) required to get from start to finish. It is impossible to say "Thank you" to all the individuals, but it is AMAZING to look at a list of the tasks involved! Thanks to all the folks who made each task happen.



Special thanks to the planner. The person who saved the date, held meetings, drew maps, listened to suggestions, problem-solved, gave countless hours and made it all work (aka Mary Puccini)!

Thanks to:

- the folks who got the word out via *Greensheet* ads, *Facebook*, community bulletin boards and by "talking it up"
- the hoarders who cleaned closets, sorted, labeled and bagged up stuff
- folks who brought extra tables!!!!
- those who saved boxes
- the "sign" gang who made them, posted them, took them down and... especially those who WORE them!
- dancers who performed on the Wilcrest esplanade
- the "sorters" who sifted through mountains of boxes and bags
- truck drivers who picked up furniture
- the "pricers" who affixed stickers to countless small treasures
- *Any Occasion Party and Tent* for donating clothes racks
- testers who "plugged in" things and waited for something to happen!
- those "in the know" who helped price electronics
- the chefs and kitchen helpers. Yum!
- friends and family who shopped or helped on Thursday
- the early risers who got up before dawn on Saturday to stage the sale
- those who prayed for good weather
- sales people who assisted the hoards who came to shop
- the negotiators who haggled over prices
- the money changers under the tent!!!!
- the clean-up crew who showed up at 3PM to restore order.

It takes the whole CTS Village to "pull off" a successful garage sale year after year! Thank you!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT

Trip to George Bush Library
May 18th
Meet at CTS 8 AM sharp!!
Cost. \$35 admission and lunch
Return approximately 3 PM
Sign up sheet in narthex.
Deadline to sign up Sunday, May 12th
Questions? Call Marsha. 281-381-0515

Thanks to Ballet Grace for enhancing our Lenten service! They are such a special group of talented young ladies who praise God through their beautiful interpretive dancing.



COUNCIL MEETING RECAP

April 11, 2019

- Reports were presented from the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Music Director, Youth and Family Director and the Pastor which can be found in the Council notebook located in the narthex.
- After all receipts were counted, it was reported that \$3741 was made from the Garage Sale benefitting Homeless Ministry
- Council voted that Susan Collins be the Executive Officer for the church with respect to the Wells Fargo accounts. This will enable her to update account signers, per Council vote, in order to simplify the process going forward.
- JT presented a prototype of an Emergency Policy and Procedure handbook from Living Word Lutheran. The handbook will be reviewed and tailored to meet the needs of Christ the Servant. When the revisions are complete, the goal is to have them available in classrooms and throughout the building.
- There will be informational Temple Talks at both services in May to update the congregation as to our financial status
- Chandler Wilhelm, chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, presented a status report informing Council of their progress. The committee's recommendations will be presented to Council in June for their review and discussion. The full report can be found in the Council notebook.

DEFIBRILLATOR NEED

At the recent CPR Class held at CTS we learned the value of having a defibrillator in the building in the event of an emergency entailing a heart stoppage. Council has discussed the purchase of a defibrillator for the church in case of such an emergency. A quote has been received from the company Heartsmart, for a Defibtech Lifeline VIEW. This AED is marketed as being user-friendly, reliable and durable. The cost is \$1275. If enough funds are raised to cover the cost, the AED will be purchased. If you are interested in donating to the purchase of the defibrillator, please mark your envelopes/checks with "AED" in the memo. Council thanks you for your consideration.



Editor's Note: This month we are introducing a new format for displaying CTS financial information. We hope this will help readers to see where we stand financially as the year goes by.

CTS Financial Dashboard Through March, 2019



YTD Contributions

\$151,512

Below forecast

YTD Expenditures

\$159,582

On budget

Cash Reserve

*6.3 months coverage of
average monthly expenses*

Excludes programs outside of General Fund (OEF, Homeless Ministry, Memorials)

YTD Status versus Budget or Cash Reserve Goal

 *At or better than forecast or >6 month cash reserve*

 *<5% worse than forecast or 3-6 month cash reserve*

 *>5% worse than forecast or <3 month cash reserve*

Contact Treasurer (Susan Collins) with questions




YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

VOLUNTEER SUMMER!

Summer means the gift of a little bit more free time and flexibility – so we are using that to the world's advantage by giving some of ourselves and our time away for great local cause!

Mark your calendar for these three specific events and be on the lookout for more!

Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m. – noon

 Volunteer at Freewheels Houston! Freewheels takes donated bikes and fixes them up to give away to people in our community who need a way to get around! We will volunteer at their warehouse helping get bikes ready to give away!

Sunday, June 9, 3-5 p.m.

Serve at Food For Life Houston making sandwich sack lunches for young children that aren't old enough to attend school, and children who might otherwise qualify for a free lunch program at school. Since there's no school during the summer, the meals are more important than ever.



Monday, July 1, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

We're staying close to home and invading our own church's Homeless Ministry project! Every 1st and 3rd Monday, we need volunteers to make hundreds of sandwiches and lunches to be distributed to the homeless and hungry in downtown Houston. It's part of the mission our church is built on, so let's give it some love!

SENIOR RECOGNITION 2019

There's not a huge class this year, but the class of 2019 is as important to Christ the Servant as any class we've seen yet! We will honor 2019 grads on Sunday, June 2nd, 2019 during the 11:00 a.m. service.

If you are a High School or College senior, or you know someone about to graduate, we'd love to hear from you. Email J.T. at jt@christtheservant.net to get on the list!



BIG SUMMER DATES!

Confirmation Retreat, June 21-23

Confirmation students are invited to join us for a couple of days away in sunny Galveston for some

leisure, learning, and life together. This weekend trip will allow us to knock out 3 months' worth of Confirmation learning to make up for the sessions we'll need to miss in our Confirmation schedule. We'll also spend some time playing together during the day on Saturday, making meals together, and having lots of laughs. This event will be required for all Confirmation students; otherwise arrangement will need to be made for make-up classes to cover some of this material.



VBS, July 7-11

We are making efforts to have the biggest VBS in years, so I hope you'll plan to join us at CTS from 5-8:30 during the week of July 7-11. This year's theme is *Wonder*. We'll make space to rediscover the wonder of God's creation: around us, in us and through us. From wonder-full world we live in, to being fearfully and wonderfully made, to the things in life that make us wonder – there is no end to what we can explore together.

Camp Lutherhill, July 21-26

Get ready for a week of camp in the hills outside of La Grange, TX at Camp Lutherhill. Those who have completed 1st through 8th grades are invited to join us for a week of worship, games and activities, cabin competition, camp food, and new friendships! Cost per person is \$200. Please don't let the cost keep you from going to camp! If you need a scholarship in order to attend, please contact J.T. All scholarship requests are confidential!



NEW SIGNUP ENVELOPES

We're trying a new technique for signups for Youth And Family Ministry Events. On the signup table in the narthex is a stack of envelopes for you to use when signing up for any Y&FM event. You just fill it out with your information and the event name, sign the release form and covenant on the back, and if there is payment involved, seal it in the envelope. Then you can hand it to J.T., put it in his box in the office, or drop it in the offering plate! We hope this will streamline things a little bit, and help us make sure we have the proper forms on everybody for every event.

Thanks for helping us with this little experiment.

JT Thomas, Director of Youth & Family



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

As I write this article, I am at the beginning of Holy Week – the busiest time of year for a church musician, and also the most rewarding. Busy – there is music to prepare, choirs to rehearse, and bulletins to assemble all at once. All of these tasks are normal, but only once a week. However, there are five distinct worship services during Holy Week – two slightly different Maundy Thursday services, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter morning. These services run the emotional gamut from sadness to grief to gratitude to expectation to unbridled joy. Rewarding – these services form the core of Christian faith. Without Jesus suffering, death, and resurrection, there would be no encounter with the living God on Sunday mornings (and other times). Even though I do other things during worship, I am the recipient of these gifts as well.

I will be in Valparaiso when this article is sent out at the end of April. For half a century, Valparaiso University has been running the Institute of Liturgical Studies, and this will be my fifth time to attend. This year's focus is on Communion (last year concerned baptism). It is good to see the ILS getting down to the core issues of worship and worship rites, and I look forward to learning a thing or two. My secondary purpose in being there is to sit down with some people from Augsburg Publishing to discuss the ongoing transcription and translation of the *Tumshangilie Mungu* (Sing Praise to the Lord), a Tanzanian Lutheran songbook. With a great deal of assistance from John Mfungo and Rebecca Cable, this project is nearing the halfway point. The idea is to bring these very rough copies of the Tanzanian core songs into the 21st century by way of turning them into PDF documents in Swahili and English from their mostly handwritten state.

This has opened up a library of music to us at Christ the Servant. As I stated last month, the idea is to add to and not replace our musical repertoire. The Advent cantata from last year, as well as musical selections on both Good Friday and Easter, comes from the *Tumshangilie*, and the point is to let these songs fall where they belong in the church year (as does the rest of the music here). Since we are on the verge of completing the "Church year" section of the book, now is the time to begin discussions as to how and whether to publish them. Later this summer, we will

MUSIC FROM THOMAS GOEDECKE

Thomas Goedecke, son of Kurt and Connie Goedecke, is still working toward his Ph.D. in Music Composition at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, however that hasn't stopped him from composing. At the recent service at St Andrews Episcopal Cathedral, Bishop Michael Curry gave the sermon and Thomas composed a unique choral work inspired by "A Balm in Gilead" and "So it Goes" by Billy Joel.

You can hear the piece from the service by going to YouTube and typing in this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQsbf6ye6gw&=3s>
 The time stamp is 1:35:05

Thomas Goedecke's "Love is the Way" is taken from the Most Rev. Michael Curry's sermon at the Royal Wedding in 2017. It is a call to action to express love when things become difficult, and to accept love in all of its forms.

Thomas writes, "In "Love is the Way" I wanted to experiment with quotation, one in a very forward pronounced way, and one in a bit more of a subtle fashion. The two pieces I quoted were "There is a Balm in Gilead," an African-American spiritual the Most Rev. mentions in his sermon at the Royal Wedding, and "And So it Goes," a ballad by Billy Joel which details the emotions surrounding falling in love again and again after your heart is broken and deceived.

In these times, I feel that the people of the church are recovering from those same emotions. They've felt threatened, broken, and deceived by the church, and need to find new ways to resolve those feelings. This paired with "There is a Balm in Gilead" creates a whole new piece that I hope you all enjoy."



contact the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania with the purpose of turning this music over to them. Where it goes from there, God alone knows (and hasn't told me yet).

John Krueger
 Director of Music

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Eilyn Vincent
- 3 Todd Fredin
- 5 June Jacobson
- 7 Russell Farmer
- 8 Karen Murawski
Kevin Skillman
- 9 Teresa Dickman
- 10 Marilee Dittrich
- 11 Ruth Klinger
Michael Cummings
- 14 Anna Palfreyman
Jacob Palfreyman
- 18 Shannon Skillman
- 20 Susan Kramer
- 21 Erik Teegerstrom
Jodi Davis
- 23 Sydney Scace
Joanne Dumler
- 24 Ann Marie Fritz
Emily Saunders
- 26 Gloria Carmouche
- 28 Braille Ndanshau
- 29 Judie Deeds



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 9 David and Carrie Stallwitz
- 12 Mike and Phylis Karas
- 16 Steve and Marilee Dittrich
- 17 Pat and Karen Welborn
- 20 John and Pam Krueger
- 21 Kevin and Lynn Petterson



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Gospel Medicine by Barbara Brown Taylor
May 5 & 12

The Adult Sunday School will focus on one of Pastor Jim's favorite authors, Barbara Brown Taylor, in the Adult Sunday School between services from 9:30 am to 10:30 am on May 5 & May 12. In her book entitled Gospel Medicine, Barbara shares 26 different stories or mini-sermons you might call them. The plan is to share the ideas in the following chapters (we probably won't get to all of them) found in her delightful book:



Healing	Blessed Brokenness <i>Luke 24:30-31</i>
Promises	Refreshing God's Memory <i>Genesis 9:12-13</i> The Late Bloomer <i>Genesis 17:4-5</i> Peculiar Treasures <i>Exodus 19:5-6</i> Betrothed by God <i>Hosea 2:18</i>
Absence	Good News for Orphans <i>John 14:27-28</i>
Messengers	Dreaming the Truth <i>Genesis 28:10-12</i> Striving with God <i>Genesis 32:22-24</i>
Judgment	With Power and Great Glory <i>Mark 13:24-26</i> Waiting in the Dark <i>John 1:6-8</i>
Transformation	Believing in the Impossible <i>Matthew 1:20-21</i> Laboring in Vain <i>Isaiah 49:6</i>

A big thank you to Margery Wheeler for selecting the stories to cover. In the forward to her book, Barbara Brown Taylor talks about Luke, the physician, who left his medical practice for the preaching life ... to share the healing stories of God found in the Bible. We're looking forward to sharing these stories with you on Sunday mornings May 5 & 12 between services.

Richard Carlson

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
Carol Clinger, sister of Paul Siegele
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, relatives of Marti
Hatcher
Margaret, grandmother of Tina Blockhus
Bill Phelps, friend of Mike Iversen
Ray Reider, brother of Russ Reider
Cathy Roberson, daughter of Jodie Davis
Wuanita Schaper, mother of Carol Klem
Mary Shabunas, mother of Mary Hiestand
Catherine Shoenfelt
Robert Spear
Marjorie Swartz, mother of Julie Heil
Richard Thomas, brother-in-law of June
Jacobson
Andy Wilkins, brother of Marilee Dittrich
Zachary, grandson of Bitsy Muse



CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

The Rev. James Giannantonio
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NURSERY CAREGIVER

Sandra Ani

SUNDAY CUSTODIAN

Sulma E. Cruz

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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

**June/July newsletter information
deadline is:**

May 15

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



MAY 2019

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

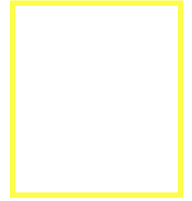
<p>Sunday Worship 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Christian Education- Sunday Classes for all ages 9:30-10:30 a.m.</p>			<p>1 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>2 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 OEF</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 Adult Sunday School</p>	<p>6 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry</p>	<p>7 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>8 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>9 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Council</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Adult Sunday School</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>15 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>16 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 10:00 Altar Guild 8:00 Women's Ministry- Bush Library</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry</p>	<p>21 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>22 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>23 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 9:00-12:00 Youth Volunteer at Freewheels Houston</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27 Office Closed Memorial Day</p>	<p>28 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>29 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:30 AA Journey</p>	<p>30 5:30 WHAM ESL</p>	<p>31</p>	

6 Easter

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MAY 2019

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
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Houston, Texas 77042

Phone 713-784-6620
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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
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	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		