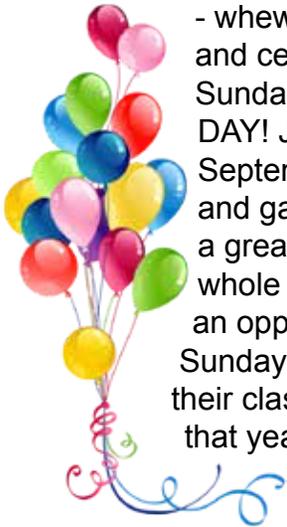


# INTERMISSION

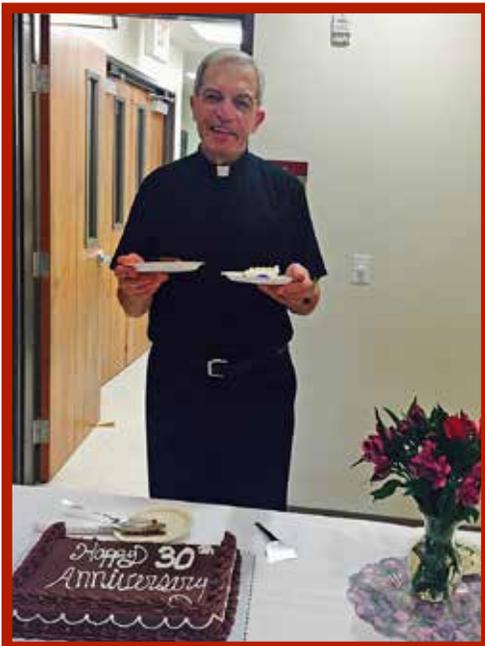
## RALLY DAY

September is a busy month! Labor Day, Safe Haven Training, God's Work, Our Hands Sunday - whew! Let's blow off some steam, and celebrate the start of a new Sunday School Year with RALLY DAY! Join us between services on September 20th for breakfast, fun and games for the little ones, and a great time of fellowship when the whole family gets together! It's also an opportunity to meet your child's Sunday School teacher, check out their classroom, and get a jump on that yearly paperwork we all love so much - the 2015-2016 Release Form (yeah!)

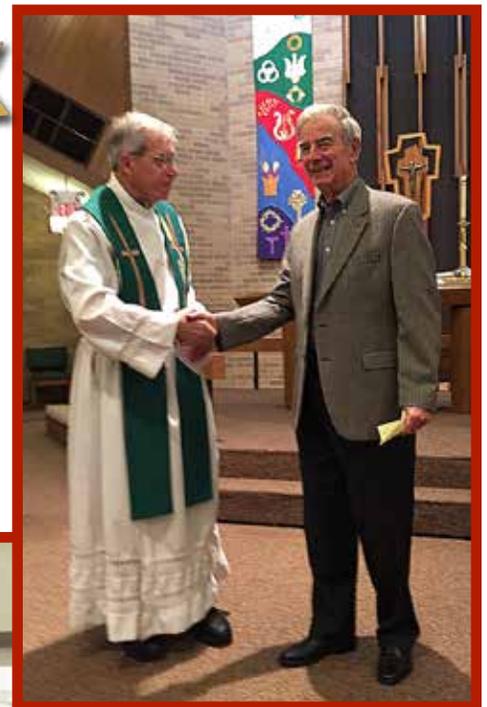


## GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Mark your calendar for the weekend of September 12th and 13th, and join us as we do God's Work with Our Hands. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.



At both services On August 16, CTS celebrated the blessing of 30 years of Pastor Jim's service to our congregation. Thanks be to God!



## COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Here are some highlights from the August Council meeting:

As usual, one of the first regular agenda items after Devotions is to have one member provide a short “thumbnail” sketch of his or her history with CTS and also to share information about their life outside the church, such as career and special interests or skills. This began as a means to know each other better, while gaining insight about our collective experiences in the many aspects of church operations and ministries. The years and years of service represented on Council is both amazing and admirable. The spotlight this meeting was on Mickey Walters. Until she retired, Mickey’s entire career was in banking. She joined CTS only five years ago and has now served as our Treasurer for FOUR of those years! She also organizes the monthly women’s dinner group. (Although she failed to reveal it, she also is a serious professional-level expert in the art of needlepoint!)

Then we proceeded to the business agenda. Our average Sunday attendance is almost flat. The year-to-date giving is currently about \$29,000 behind last year; however, projections show that we still should meet expected goals by year-end.

A few other items included:

- We’re organizing an intense search to fill the role of Treasurer in 2016. (Sadly, we have to agree that after four years, it’s time for Mickey to take a break!) So if you have an interest, or even just want to know more about it, contact me, Pastor Jim, Mickey or the church office.
- We voted to decline a proposal to pay the City of Houston a hefty monthly fee to landscape and maintain the esplanade median on Wilcrest in front of the church. Maybe we can organize a work party sometime to spruce it up and water occasionally.
- Monte Richard is going to re-engineer the Photo Board to accommodate the new pictures that are a different size configuration than in the past. And speaking of photos, we owe a huge thank you to Carolyn Kirk who, along with numerous smiling helpers, coordinated the entire photography project and directory production. That is a monumental task.

- An investigation into air conditioning problems throughout the building is being launched. You’ll be hearing more about that as an evaluation proceeds.
- Our Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Jason J.T. Thomas, has been approved as a Candidate for Rostered Ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This is the first step in a dedicated three-year-plus educational journey for J.T. (and his family). We are very proud of him!

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Riggs  
Church Council President

## SAFE HAVEN TRAINING

Attention Youth and Family Ministry volunteers! If you are (or ever think you might like to be) a volunteer minister in Youth and Family Ministry - have I got a deal for you! In order to comply with Safe-Haven Guidelines, and in an effort to keep the children of our community as safe as possible, we must submit to regular training regarding child sexual abuse. This includes Sunday School teachers, retreat counselors, chaperones, adult sponsors, VBS volunteers, nursery workers, and anybody who has contact with a student or child through one of our programs or ministries. Thankfully, Jessica Noonan (Director of Preschool and Children at Living Word Lutheran Church in Katy) will be on hand Saturday, September 12th from 10:30am - noon to provide such training for our volunteers absolutely free of charge. If you currently fill, or can comprehend an instance in which you might possibly be compelled to fill, one of the roles listed above, it is necessary for you to have completed this training. Please make plans to join us that morning. Those in attendance can look forward to complimentary coffee during the event and lunch following. RSVP to J.T. or sign up on the table in the narthex.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School begins the week after Rally Day! We have the best teachers, the best lessons, and the best classes for children of all ages! Sunday School is where the foundation of lifelong faith is laid. It's where children learn the timeless truths from the Bible that shape their lives forever. It's where kids learn that they are surrounded by a circle of friends who love them. Even if you haven't brought your child to Sunday School before, make plans to be there on Sunday Mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Our fellowship hall is a great place to sit, relax, drink some coffee or tea, and chat with other parents. Better yet - try out one of our adult classes led by great teachers talking about fascinating things!



## SAT AND CAT MEETINGS

After a short summer break, the Student Advisory Team and the Children's Advisory Team are back in session! We have much to discuss! If you're one of the honorable folks on those teams - here are a few upcoming meetings you should plan to attend!

### SAT:

Tuesday, September 8th

Tuesday, October 13th

Tuesday, November 3

Tuesday, December 8th

(all are at 6pm in the Conference Room at CTS)

### CAT:

Tuesday, September 8th

Tuesday, October 13th

Tuesday, November 3

Tuesday, December 8th

(all are at 7pm in the Conference Room at CTS)

## KAIROS PRISON COOKIE MINISTRY

The next Kairos Prison Ministry weekend event will be held October 9-11. We will again be baking cookies at CTS on **October 6-8**. Please mark these dates on your calendar if you wish to help, and look for the sign-up sheet in late September. Those who helped in June had a good time and a sense of doing something to help a great cause. Lots of work (in June we baked and delivered 150 dozen cookies), but good fellowship and knowledge that this goes to a great cause and very much appreciated.



## NURSERY NEWS

There have been some changes in the nursery. Laura Ripkowski decided to leave to after being with us for 2 years. Amanda Howell has joined our nursery staff as the lead nursery attendant. Amanda has worked in many nanny positions and worked for 5 years at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church nursery. Amanda joined the nursery staff in July. Michelle Sanchez has been working in the nursery for 1 year as the nursery assistant. Michelle Sanchez has experience as a nanny.

The nursery is staffed during the second service (11 am service). During the 8 am service it is open as a cry room and parents are welcome to use it if necessary. If there is a need to staff it during the early service (8 am), please let us know.

Infants through Kindergarten are welcome in the nursery. Parents are expected to drop off, sign in and pick up their children. We have pagers available for the parents to take into the service in case the nursery needs to contact the parents during the service.

Parents please let the nursery attendants know of any allergies or special conditions that the nursery attendants should be aware of.

Please stop by and say "Hi" to our nursery staff and see what a great nursery we have. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to visit with Amanda Howell or Karen Welborn.



## CARE TEAM NEWS

### What does the Care Team Ministry Do?

This question arises because the Care Team ministry does not publish reports to Council, has no elected members, and conducts much of its activity without publicity, often requiring confidentiality. Some will recall open sessions made available on Alzheimer's, Patient's Rights and Hospice. We freely volunteer our efforts and we do receive financial support from the church for modest out-of-pocket expenses. In order to respond to this question in a meaningful way, we plan to present a series of five newsletter articles to offer understanding and to promote caregiving by all members. Yes, we all are called to be caregivers! (Sounds like a sermon topic.)

First, let's talk briefly about boundaries, what the Care Team does not do. We do not provide financial support, nursing care or physical treatment. These things are provided by those who are trained to do so. We focus on care and not cure.

So, what is care and caregiving all about? Well, it's about praying for others, sending cards, calling on the telephone, and visiting. It's about spiritual and emotional support. It is about being present to those whose suffer, even when nothing can be done to change their situation. It is about growing in compassion for others with Jesus as our guide and the Holy Spirit as our strength. It is about listening. Isn't really being listened to, i.e. our spoken and unspoken words (feelings), one of the greatest gifts in life? Think about that.

The enthusiasm, love and growth in compassion of the members of the Care Team is a continuing joy and blessing to me as I believe it is to the care receivers. In the next newsletter, you will hear from a team member about what prayer and sending cards means to them.

Arnie Kaestner

### Caring

by Howard Thurman

I know I cannot enter all you feel  
 Nor bear with you the burden of your pain.  
 I can but offer what my love does give;  
 The strength of caring ....  
 This I do in quiet ways  
 That on your lonely path  
 You may not walk alone.

## AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CLASS

Basic **first aid** and **CPR** training will be offered on Sunday, September 27, at 1 pm. This will be taught by a certified instructor and you will obtain your certification for CPR at the completion of the course. Training will include CPR for both adults and children, including infants.

Certification can be obtained for Healthcare positions also, just indicate that is required when signing up.

The cost of the class is \$35 per person and the certification is good for 2 years. Lunch will be provided. Child care will be provided if needed. Please wear comfortable clothes as there will be practice sessions with manikins.



Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex or please contact Karen Welborn at 713-304-0714.

### CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS

Please send your current college address and birthdate to:

Linda Siegele at [lsiegele@consolidated.net](mailto:lsiegele@consolidated.net) or  
 Linda Shoemaker at [lwittig1437@comcast.net](mailto:lwittig1437@comcast.net)  
 in order to receive goodies throughout the school year.

### FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JULY 31, 2015

	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$368,869
Total Expenses	387,096
Excess	(\$18,227)



## TO QUEBEC...AND BEYOND

As many of you know, I recently returned from what was a “once in a lifetime” trip that was part college, part medical, part vacation, and part business. The college part was that we visited two colleges for Kristin on the trip. As a rising senior in high school, now is the time. This was possible because of the medical part, which was a follow up visit to the Mayo Clinic, where she got a good report and is healthier than she has been in a year. The vacation part was in two short bursts – one was a visit with family and the other was driving through Quebec, Maine, and a 100 mile section of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Given that my children are nearly grown, this was sort of the last big family trip.

The business portion of the trip took us to Quebec City and Congress XXV of Societas Liturgica, an international group of liturgical scholars, which held their biennial conference at Université Laval (founded in 1662). I had a very busy week: there were several worship services, and I played organ for the Morning Prayer services, directed the choir for several pieces (both of my children sang in the group), and had to edit a lot of music “on the fly,” which often meant stripping the selected music down so it could be performed by a group of about 35 people that was on a musical par with our choir with very limited rehearsal. In addition, I presented a paper on Martin Luther and baptism, where I looked at his two baptismal rites, the Small Catechism, and a hymn written near the end of his life. This paper began its life as the last paper I wrote at Notre Dame, and was shortened slightly to fit into the area of “liturgical formation” (how the liturgy shapes us as Christians). Thanks to the appearance of a new magazine on the liturgy that will be called *Studia Liturgica* and likely start as an e-magazine, it looks as though the paper will actually get published as well.

We had just enough time to wander around the city a bit. The oldest part of the city is walled and has cobblestone streets. After having driven there, Houston traffic

is easy. There are several old cathedrals in the old city, and we used two of them for worship events: the Cathedral of Notre Dame for opening worship, and the (Anglican) Cathedral of the Holy Trinity for the Eucharist service. Quebec City is also listed by Conde Nast as one of the top twenty places to eat on the planet. Even the “chain” restaurants were excellent, and the more upscale dining was fantastic. There is a local dish called “poutine,” which consists of French fries, cheese curds, a thin gravy, and whatever else (meat, veggies). The kids fell in love with it, and Ross managed to find two cans of poutine sauce to bring back.

All in all, the trip and the conference were amazing. While at the conference, I was able to work, sing and worship with liturgical scholars from all six continents and nearly all Christian denominations. Getting a good report on Kristin’s health was a blessing, and spending time with the family was wonderful. My next “liturgical adventure” will be here in Houston: The North American Academy for the Liturgy (NAAL) will have its next conference here in January. I have already been invited to attend as a guest; however, my work in Quebec may have qualified me for full membership in the NAAL.

None of this would have been possible without the help and support of this congregation. My continuing education for the last few years has been at Notre Dame, and that work has borne fruit. I am getting to work with some of the great liturgical scholars on the planet and am now getting to contribute to the discussion as a peer. The worship practices of this congregation (and clear liturgy enacted honestly counts greatly), along with the generosity given me

in both time and money, have given this parish a place at the table with the best of current liturgical scholarship.

I greatly appreciate the support and the opportunity, and hope to continue contributing to the worship life of the church. Meanwhile, let’s keep singing.



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Premachand Potla
- 4 Brian Heil  
Kathy Riggs  
Etta Johnson
- 5 Debby Cutler  
Cheryl Spear
- 6 Gregory Goedecke
- 7 Scott Elstad  
Terry Timmerman
- 9 Laura Wilhelm  
Tom Wills
- 10 Ruby Sadler
- 12 Donna Grant  
Toni Burns  
Michaela Schrader
- 13 Susan Givens  
Sue Kaestner
- 15 Alene Olson
- 16 Robert Froebel  
Mickey Walters
- 18 Kevin Scace
- 10 Issiah Mgendi (Makia)  
Vivian Ezebuoro
- 20 Archie Sadler
- 21 Larry Henderson
- 22 Amelie Goedecke  
Hans Kiondo  
Dylan Ellison
- 26 Lucille Cochran
- 29 Travis Herbanek



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- David **Aguilar**, friend of Bitsy **Muse**  
 Bob **Barr**, nephew of June and Harvey **Jacobson**  
 Karen and LeRoy **Bauer**  
 Janet **Becker**, sister of Donna **Grant**  
 Alice **Bonkowsky**, mother of Lily **Sweet**  
 Eric **Booth**, brother-in-law of Ron **Herbanek**  
 Randy **Brown**, father of Elizabeth **Brown**  
 Reid **Burrell** and the **Burrell Family**, friends of  
 Vanita **Homer**  
 Haily **Callihan**, grandchild of Karen and LeRoy  
**Bauer**  
 Pilar **Harkless**  
 Jim **Harley**, friend of Paul **Richard**  
 Paul **Henderson**, son of Larry **Henderson**  
 Roxanne **Hymel**, friend of Michele **Byrnes**  
 Audrey **Johnson**  
 MyDream **Johnson**, daughter of Audrey **Johnson**  
 Vivian **Johnson**  
 Rosamond **Landry**  
 Cynthia **McGee**, friend of Audrey **Johnson**  
 Alicia **Porras**, mother-in-law of Tamara **Porras**  
 Deb **Prive**, friend of Karen **Murawski**  
 Larry **Rosson**, brother-in-law of Susan **Givens**  
 Steve and Michele **Rupp**  
 Mary Ann **Shabunas**, mother of Mary **Hiestand**  
 Brian **Smith**  
 Kelly **Nickels**, sister of Carrie **Stallwitz**  
 Doris **Stange**  
 Marlene **Susca**, friend of Gloria **Reider**  
 Marjorie **Swartz**, mother of Julie **Heil**  
 Marcy **Williams**  
 Robin and Mark **Wolfley** and family, friends of Ruth  
**Klinger**  
 Zachary, grandson of Bitsy **Muse**  
 Sandy and Ricky **Wilson**, aunt and cousin of Phyllis  
**Karas**

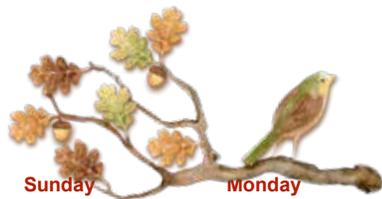
If you would like to add or remove a name from the  
 Prayer List, please call Betsy or email her at the  
 church office:

**713-784-6620 or [ctsoffice1@comcast.net](mailto:ctsoffice1@comcast.net)**



## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Rev. Kenneth and Bernice Ribe
- 2 Ron and Marti Hatcher
- 4 Mike and Lily Sweet  
Everett and Pam Mobley
- 15 Terry and Debbie Timmerman
- 25 Monte and Phyllis Richard  
Russell and Kathy Riggs



# SEPTEMBER 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:30 AA Journey	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day-Office Closed	8 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry 6:00 SAT 7:00 CAT	9 7:00 Worship & Music Meeting 7:30 AA Journey	10 7:00 Council	11	12 10:30-12:00 Safeguarding God's Children <u>God's Work-Our Hands</u>
13 <u>God's Work-Our Hands</u>	14	15	16 7:00 Opportunity Endowment Fund 7:30 AA Journey	17	18	19
20 Rally Day 	21 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	22	23 7:30 AA Journey	24	25	26 9:30 Altar Guild
27 Sunday School classes begin 1:00 1st Aid/CPR class	28	29	30 7:30 AA Journey		 <div style="border: 1px solid orange; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                     Sunday Worship 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Christian Education- Sunday Classes for all ages 9:30-10:30 a.m.                 </div>	

## 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 is available on the CTS website at:  
[www.christtheservant.net](http://www.christtheservant.net)

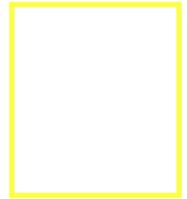
Please submit articles in **MS Word documents** to  
Laura Wilhelm at: lvwilhelm@comcast.net.

October newsletter deadline is **September 15**.

INTERMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 2015

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

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



## 2015 COUNCIL MEMBERS

**President: Kathy Riggs**  
**Vice President: Kevin Scace**      **At Large: Rosalie Fontenot**  
**Secretary: John Shoemaker**      **At Large: Bruce Palfreyman**  
**Treasurer: Mickey Walters**      **At Large: Bill Blair**  
**Financial Secretary: Ron Herbanek**      **At Large: David Stallwitz**

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS, GROUP LEADERS, CONTACT PEOPLE

Acolytes	Mary Beth Teegerstrom	Memorial Service Coordinator	Linda Iversen
Adult Christian Ed	Mary Beth Teegerstrom	Men Who Love Spaghetti	Roger Cutler
Altar Guild	Lori Wood	Nursery Attendant	Amanda Howell
CanCare Representative	Susan Kramer		Assistant: Michelle Sanchez
Care Team	open	Opportunity Endowment Fund	Carrie Stallwitz
College Ministry	Linda Shoemaker, Linda Siegele	Personnel	Karen Welborn
Disaster Response Team	Mike Karas	Prayer Chain	Judi Leisk
Family Aid Ministry	Carolyn Giannantonio	Property	Brent Brown, Ron Herbanek
Fellowship Committee	Rosalie Fontenot	Sound Team	TBA 8:00 Service
Greeters	Donna Schneider		Brent Brown-11:00 Service
Homeless Ministry	Shirley Downing	Stewardship	Carolyn Kirk
Ladies Dinner Group	Mickey Walters	Ushers	8:00 Russell Farmer
Lawn Care	Russell Farmer, Kevin Petterson		11:00 Pat Welborn
Lectors, CTS Players	Carolyn Kirk, Matt Grant	WHAM Representatives	Doug Hanson, Phylis Karas
Liturgical Assistants	Mary Beth Teegerstrom	Worship and Music	Tamara Porras
		Youth Fellowship	Michele Byrnes, Vicki Williams