

INTERMISSION

YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

Lutherhill Retreats

Retreat season is here! Camp Lutherhill is one of the most fun, relaxing, beautiful places on earth. Why don't we spend more time there? This season there are a multitude of opportunities for you and your family to spend time with God and each other in these structured, retreats. Check the Youth and Family Ministry bulletin board outside the narthex for a sign up sheet for all of these events:



Fall Family Retreat - October 9-11
Jr. High Retreat - November 13-15
Advent Family Retreat - December 11-13
Mother/Daughter Retreat - January 29-31
Sr. High Retreat - February 19-21

Age-Level Family Events!

This fall we have a couple of great fellowship events planned for parents and kids to attend together! Join us as we spend some time getting to know each other better, and having a ton of fun doing it! As always - these fellowship events only cost you \$5 per person! Watch for an opportunity to sign up for these events, or email J.T. to say that you're interested.

For kids (K-5th grade) and their families:
November 7 - Dewberry Farms, a pumpkin patch, corn maze, petting zoo, and playground especially for kids!



December 5 - Angel Breakfast (no cost for this event!)

For Jr. and Sr. High (6-12th grade) and their families:
October 18th - Sky High Indoor Trampoline Park - Sunday after the late service (1:00p.m.)
December 20th - Jr./Sr. High Ugly Sweater Christmas Party
December 31 - New Year's Eve at Main Event in Katy



Fall Halloweenie Roast and Movie on the Lawn!

To celebrate the weather cooling off (hopefully!) and the days getting shorter, we're hosting a Halloweenie Roast and showing a movie on the lawn on Friday night, October 30th at 7:30 p.m. We'll fire up the popcorn maker and show a classic family-friendly film on a big screen while we roast weenies and eat hot dogs. It's the night before Halloween, so wear your costume and we'll have a costume parade with prizes for the best ones! Invite your friends and let's make this a night to remember! Watch for an opportunity to RSVP for this event, or email J.T. to say that you're interested.



SAVE THE DATE!

Families of Jr. and Sr. High Students! Mark your calendars now for next Summer's Family Mission Trip to NEW YORK CITY. We are scheduled to serve on the island of Manhattan from July 18-23, 2015 (give or take a day on either end for travel, TBD) through the Seafarers International House (a ministry of the ELCA). This year we're not just inviting students, but encouraging parents to attend this event with their kids! These are the memories that last a lifetime, so don't miss this opportunity to serve together!

But wait there's more!

If you're the parent of a K-5th grader, and you think your family might be interested in a mission trip together (something closer to home, most likely), drop J.T. a line. We'd really like to consider a trip earlier in July for families of younger kids!

SAT/CAT Meetings

The Students and Children's Advisory Teams are scheduled to meet on the following days through the end of 2015. All meetings are on Tuesday nights, and SAT meetings are at 6 p.m., CAT meetings are at 7 p.m.:

October 13
November 3
December 8

COUNCIL COMMENTARY

September's Council covered a considerable array of topics. Some of those concluded as action items. Others appropriately remain open for further contemplation, research or just plain "mulling" before reaching conclusion, hopefully during next meeting. Examples of lingering agenda items include the following.

- Initial thoughts on the 2016 budget. Luckily our church operates with considerable depth of experience, know-how and history when it comes to running our numerous committees and ministries and their associated costs – not to mention the strong administrative business support we enjoy. So, there are no tough budget decisions in these categories. However, there are some issues that warrant attention to details. In keeping with our mission to serve, we need to look closely at possible needs to maintain or upgrade our physical property. Likewise, we consider needs to maintain or upgrade our benevolent contributions such as for Synod/ELCA, West Houston Assistance Ministries and other activities that reach out to people in need of hope or healing. And finally – how much can we commit during an uncertain job market. These matters should not be snap decisions.
- Disaster preparedness and response. Whether our church is drastically damaged or some of our members are suffering, in the midst of a calamitous situation we should know the appropriate action needed and who is prepared to implement. A small task force is currently pre-planning how to structure the rejuvenation of our past disaster response efforts that were successfully orchestrated. You will soon receive more information about this, as well as a call for volunteers to help "flesh out" a plan of action. (By the way...did you know that the website www.Thesaurus.com has 53 synonyms for the term "disaster"?)
- Church Treasurer. Low key investigations are underway to identify a member of congregation who can and will step up to oversee our expenses and monthly statements of financial position. If you are a qualified candidate, or even an interested party, please come forward!

Our goal is to wrap up the above open items before November. In other business, we heard an appeal from congregation member Max Dumler for Council's support of donations to a severely underprivileged village in Pachacutec, Peru. Max is a caring young man with sincere ambitions to help others. We also voted to fund a specific request for a TV and DVD player that will assist teaching efforts and approved his going to the congregation for additional support.

Council-At-Large member, Rosalie Fontenot, reported on

her conversations with the outreach leader at Memorial Drive Lutheran Church. That congregation seeks to join with us in various ministries. Already they're committing to help our cookie-making for the next Kairos prison ministry in October and our homeless sandwich making. They also invited CTS to participate in some of their projects. MDLC is currently led by our own Pastor Steve Kelly on an interim basis.

* * *

As the days and weeks drift toward year's end, please include your Church Council in your prayers that we will be able to perceive God's direction when deciding how to embrace and finance service to others as well as sustain our ability to do so.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Riggs
Council President

REFORMATION DAY LUNCHEON

October 25, we will celebrate with a luncheon in the fellowship hall following the 11:00am service. The barbecue lunch will be catered by Demeris. **It is extremely important that you sign up** so that we have a total count of how many will be attending. As the cost of this luncheon will be around \$1,100, we will have a free will offering and ask that you contribute to offset the cost. It is a fun event. Sign-up sheet is in narthex.



THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

November 22, we will celebrate with a luncheon in the fellowship hall following the 11:00am service. Mark your calendars. More information on this event will follow.

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF AUGUST 31, 2015

	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$427,985
Total Expenses	\$444,098
Deficit	(\$16,113)

ALTAR GUILD NEEDS YOU

Are you looking for a way to be a part of the church service, but prefer to be behind the scenes? Please take a moment to consider joining the Altar Guild. Serving as a team member involves setting up for the services as little as once a month on Saturday for about 2 hours and cleaning up after church on Sunday for about a half hour. We also meet once a month, on the 4th Saturday @ 9:30 am - taking a break in the summer. We will pair you up with an experienced member, so no prior experience is needed.

What is the Altar Guild?



Whether called altar guild, sacristans, worship support team or something else, the volunteers who set the table for worship and tidy up after services are not merely housekeepers; they are ministers to the worshipping community they serve, they are stewards responsible for the valuable and treasured items used in worship, and they are hosts providing welcome and hospitality to members and guest of the congregation.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, contact Lori Wood at rlawood@swbell.net

CORRECTION

Linda Shoemaker's email address for sending the addresses and birthdays of your college students was printed incorrectly in last month's newsletter. The correct address is: lwittig4137@comcast.net.

WHAM NOTE

Beginning October 1, Arnie Kaestner and Marilee Dittrich will be the new WHAM Board Representatives replacing Phylis Karas and Doug Hanson. Thank you to Doug and Phylis as representatives of CTS, for their service and commitment to WHAM.

CARE TEAM NEWS

This is the second in a series to tell what your Care Team does – pray and send cards.

Carolyn Kirk writes: Cards are important:

Receiving a card from someone who cares can be more important than the sender can possibly imagine. When my husband was very ill and in the hospital a great deal, he would regularly receive cards from the faithful and caring members of the Care Team. Oftentimes, I would be included. Although he didn't personally know the senders, it always brought a smile to his face to know that he was remembered and that well wishes were coming his way. It was also comforting to me.

A day or two before he passed from this life, we received a beautiful card addressed to both of us from a member of the Care Team. He was never able to see it but the message of caring, prayer, wishes for healing and strength were so heartfelt and filled with love that I was overwhelmed with the comfort I found there. I believe it came at just the right moment and said just the right thing that I needed to hear. I have kept that card on my desk within a hand's reach for almost four years now and still pick it up and re-read it.

When you are sending a card to someone, you never know when it might be just the perfect message that someone needed – one that could get them through a particularly difficult time – and make a real difference.

As I send cards to those who are unwell, shut-in, grieving or just lonesome, I try to remember that it is a gift to share something from my heart to let them know they are being thought of and prayed for.

Sue Kaestner writes: It has been affirming for me when my church family lets me know they care about my health and so I believe it is important to let the other infirm members of our church family know that they are not forgotten and are loved.

Nancie Blair writes: I enjoy writing, sometimes making cards and then sending them to the members of our family/ congregation who are not able to come to worship with us because of illness or some other reason. I sense that when I miss church, I have missed out not just on the gathering for worship but, on a family occasion. My hope is that they will know that, we here at Christ the Servant, are thinking of them and missing them when they cannot be here.

Next month – calling on the telephone.

Arnie Kaestner



God's Work Our Hands

An important part of our stewardship commitment is use of our time and talents. On the weekend of September 12-13, we made good use of both our time and talents by participating in "God's Work. Our Hands", a national time of service shared by Lutheran churches around the country.

Many volunteers experienced service projects as we did yard work/landscaping at Covenant House, a shelter for young people; made cards and wrote words of encouragement for our military service members; stuffed teddy bears for needy children who are in the custody of Child Protective Services; shared cookies and played games with residents of a neighborhood nursing home.

Many thanks for your generosity!!

Carolyn Kirk
Stewardship Chair

15 people dug, clipped,
raked, planted and
spread mulch in the
gardens at
Covenant House.



22 people made 29 bears which will be donated to Children's Protective Services.



Six people made cookies. 13 people took them to Brookdale Memorial Oaks to decorate with residents and play games.



34 people made 180 cards which will be delivered to American soldiers stationed overseas.





WORSHIP & MUSIC

“In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.”
Galatians 3:26

I try to read the “Upper Room” devotional each evening. I was recently moved by the September 6th reading. I guess it hit home since I’m an educator, but I think it speaks to all of us. In short it was about a principal who placed his students into two categories: “lovely” and “unlovely”. He had to take one of his “unlovely” children home one day and was humbled by the horrible living conditions this child endured. He realized that all children are God’s children and if he treats one carelessly, he is treating Christ carelessly. This holds true for all people, children or adults. We need to be careful about labeling those around us. Everyone is a child of God and should be treated with love and respect. God calls us to love those who are not easy to love. My plan is to make this my goal each day.

Yours in Christ,
Tami Porras
Worship & Music Chairperson

KAIROS PRISON COOKIE MINISTRY

October 6, 7, 8 we will be busy baking cookies. The cookies will be delivered on October 9. Sign-up sheet is in narthex. Times are as follows:

- Oct. 6: 12:00pm-8:00pm
- Oct. 7: 12:00pm-8:00pm
- Oct. 8: 12:00pm-6:30pm



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



3 Pat Welborn	20 Marie Saunders
4 Phyllis Begin	21 John Shoemaker
7 Karen Bauer	22 Pastor Jim
Shirley Downing	Sybille Moore
Joyce Johnson	Eva Ninman
8 Donald Hiestand	23 Kasey Palfreyman
11 Chandler Wilhelm	Linda Shoemaker
Noah Makia – child	25 Billijo Kern
12 Lydia Sweet	Eva Naumow
15 Steven Dittrich	30 Bob Leisk
Lori Wood	31 Richard Carlson
Pilar Harkless	Billy Blair
17 Lauren Welborn	

PRAYER REQUESTS

David **Aguilar**, friend of Bitsy **Muse**
 Bob **Barr**, nephew of June and Harvey **Jacobson**
 Karen and LeRoy **Bauer**
 Alice **Bonkowsky**, mother of Lily **Sweet**
 Eric **Booth**, brother-in-law of Ron **Herbanek**
 Sam **Brown**, father of Elizabeth **Brown**
 Reid **Burrell** and the **Burrell Family**, friends of Vanita **Homer**
 Haily **Callihan**, grandchild of Karen and LeRoy **Bauer**
The Hagen Family
 Pilar **Harkless**
 Paul **Henderson**, son of Larry **Henderson**
 Roxanne **Hymel**, friend of Michele **Byrnes**
 Vivian **Johnson**
 Rosamond **Landry**
 Jason **Leif**, friend of the **Stallwitz Family**
Lourdes and Pepe, friends of Tom and Sandy **Wills**
 Cynthia **McGee**, friend of Audrey **Johnson**
Penny, four-legged family member of Tom and Sandy **Wills**
 Alicia **Porras**, mother-in-law of Tamara **Porras**
 Deb **Prive**, friend of Karen **Murawski**
 Cathy **Roberson**, daughter of Jodie **Davis**
 Larry **Rosson**, brother-in-law of Susan **Givens**
 Steve and Michele **Rupp**
 Mary Ann **Shabunas**, mother of Mary **Hiestand**
 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 Phylis **Karas**

If you would like to add a name 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

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

12 Haika Ngowi and John Japhet Mfungo
 Mike and Linda Saunders
 14 Bruce and Kristin Palfreyman
 15 Bill and JoAnn Olds



OCTOBER 2015

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 5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Worship & Music Meeting	2 11:00 WHAM ESL	3
4	5 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	6  ← Kairos Cookie Baking → 5:30 WHAM ESL	7 7:30 AA Journey	8  5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Council	9 11:00 WHAM ESL Fall Family Retreat →	10 
11 Fall Family Retreat →	12	13 6:00 SAT 7:00 CAT 5:30 WHAM ESL	14 7:30 AA Journey	15 5:30 WHAM ESL	16 11:00 WHAM ESL	17
18 1:00 Jr-Sr High Trampoline Park	19 3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	20 5:30 WHAM ESL	21 7:30 AA Journey	22 5:30 WHAM ESL	23 11:00 WHAM ESL	24 9:30 Altar Guild
25 12:30 Reformation BBQ Lunch 	26	27 5:30 WHAM ESL	28 7:00 Worship & Music Meeting 7:30 AA Journey	29 5:30 WHAM ESL	30 11:00 WHAM ESL 7:30 Halloweenie Roast	31 

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

November newsletter information deadline is:
October 15

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

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

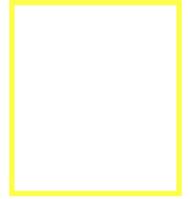
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OCTOBER 2015

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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	Arnie Kaestner	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	Arnie Kaestner, Marilee Dittrich
Liturgical Assistants	Mary Beth Teegerstrom	Worship and Music	Tamara Porras
		Youth Fellowship	Michele Byrnes, Vicki Williams