

INTERMISSION

Clean out your closets!
Scour the garage!
Empty your cabinets!



HOMELESS MINISTRY ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Saturday, March 21, 2015
7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Donations accepted Sunday through Friday,
during office hours only
March 15 through March 20
CTS Fellowship Hall

Tax receipts will be available.

Call Ron Herbanek at 832-878-5306 if you need to
have large items picked up.

Volunteers needed:

- Sorting/Pricing/Boxing- Sunday-Friday any time
of day
- Set-up Crew at 6 a.m. (breakfast will be
provided)
- Food/Cooking Crew- day of sale
- Cashiers- day of sale
- Sales Representatives- day of sale
- Cleanup Crew- 3:15 day of sale to load Second
Blessing truck

Lunch will be provided for volunteers on day of sale.
Signup sheets are in the Narthex.

Contact Shirley Downing:
281-684-2752
sdowning@whamministries.org

LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday Soup Suppers - 6:00

Wednesday Midweek Services - 7:15

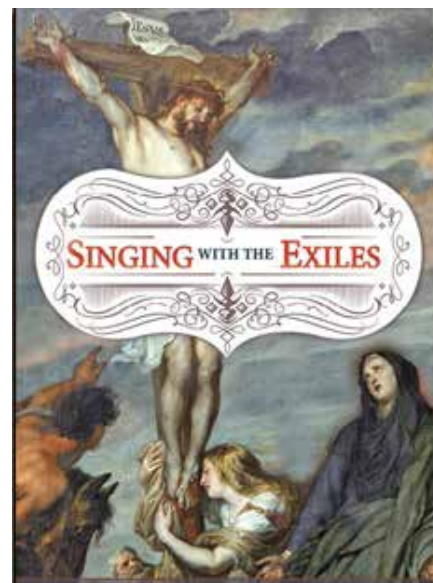
Singing with the Exiles

March 4 - Marked

March 11 - Breaking Down the Gates

March 18 - Get Out!

March 25 - One Little Word Can Fell Him



March 29 Palm Sunday

Procession of Palms
8:00 and 11:00
Services

6:00 Reading of the
Gospel of Mark



COUNCIL COMMENTARY

As a relative newcomer to attending and overseeing our church council meetings, I'm still amazed at the volume of discussion topics that materialize each month. Of course, some have more significance than others, but all merit being addressed. Below are synopses of things covered on February 12.

Financial

While it's too early to see how true our projections of this year's income and expense will be, January results were mostly on target. Our 2015 budget of about \$612,000 affords ample leeway to support our worship, outreach, facility and staff. Nevertheless, given some uncertainty in Houston's economy, council will watch closely for any downward trends in giving. We'll be aided by financial secretary Ron Herbanek's analyses of our sources and uses of funds. In our discussion, at-large member Bill Blaire pointed out that Houston continues to benefit from expanding industries, medical as one example, and that there still is a tremendous amount of construction taking place.

WIFI

Council agreed to go forward with extending wireless network access throughout the church building. In case you're wondering, this is much more than a frivolous convenience. It will broaden our resources for educational tools and activities, facilitate presentations to potential members, mission partners and visiting groups, and offer communication efficiencies to members. For example, if you're in the habit of reading your Bible lessons on an iPod, you can now bring that reference right into the Sunday school room with you.

Youth and Family

Director J.T. Thomas related a task list of no less than 10 – 15 current activities. He's juggling a constant stream of groups or events involving children of all ages. Look for his activity report elsewhere in this issue.

Speaking of children all ages, did you know that our CTS members away at college receive a care package no less than five times a year? The package contains things like Starbucks gift cards (during

finals), candy, devotional materials, or other thoughtful treats. Thanks go to current coordinators of our College Ministry, Linda Siegele and Linda Shoemaker, for helping keep a faith-based connection with those kids.

Worship and Ministry

Pastor Jim introduced to council an initiative to further live our CTS mission to "serve others with passion and purpose." In the next few weeks and months council will be seeking and exploring new ways that the congregation can minister to those in need.

Pastor Jim also mentioned the escalated planning by the Worship & Music Committee. By the time you're reading this, we'll be well into the season of Lent. You should know that a great many devoted people have worked hard to create the environment of fellowship, music and narrative that surrounds the messages of remembrance and renewal during Lent, Holy Week and Easter celebration.

Synod

Next month (during April), along with Pastor and J.T. Thomas, I will attend an assembly of the Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. Due to my embarrassing lack of knowledge of the Synod's makeup and purpose, I thought it wise to do a little research. The TLGC Synod is a source of information, materials and programs for 112 Lutheran churches in the region. Its overriding purpose is to equip congregations with techniques of evangelism that will help them grow spiritually and in their capacity to welcome newcomers to the faith. The upcoming assembly will focus on fresh approaches to evangelism and community outreach. This is a timely topic considering our own desire to outwardly expand our ministry at CTS.

At the conclusion of the February council meeting, in celebration of Valentine's Day, Treasurer Mickey Walters treated Council members to chocolate-covered cherry cookies. Sitting on church council definitely has its perks!

Submitted by Kathy Riggs, Council President

YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School

On Sunday, March 1st, we will begin a new 7-week series called *For The Life of the World (FLOW)*. It's a fascinating look at the why's of our faith. What is our purpose here? What should we be doing with our lives? What is our salvation even for? This series is quite an undertaking for our teachers. We are pretty excited about it! We hope our students will make a concerted effort to attend, and that parents will help make Sunday School a priority during this series.

Lenten Family Devotionals

Next time you're at church, pick up a copy of our Lenten Devotionals for Families. One day a week, sit down with your family around a table or over a meal and engage in some thoughtful discussion questions, read some relevant scripture passages, and maybe even get involved in some creative rituals or acts of service. There's no better time for your family to try out some new habits and practices than Lent! Families with children of all ages will find it useful.

Spring Family Retreat - April 24-26, 2015

Bring the whole family out to Lutherhill for a weekend filled with Lutherhill activities!

Your family can enjoy our high ropes course, arts and crafts, archery, and many other camp activities. This retreat is filled with fun for all ages. Our speaker for the weekend will lead worships for the entire community while Bible studies will be split based on age. Our theme for this retreat season, "Act, Love, Walk," aims to get your family moving toward a vibrant faith life.



The weekend's activities include:

- Programming for All Ages
- Family Arts and Crafts Project
- Time for just the adults to catch up with our Executive Director while the kids hang out with Lutherhill staff.

Cost is just \$35 per person for each family member! Sign up on the table in the narthex, and let us know you plan to attend.

CAT and SAT!

No, it's not the title of a Dr. Seuss knock-off. And those aren't the names of 2 tedious standardized tests! No, the Children's Advisory Team and the Student Advisory Team are doing great work laying a foundation for the future of Youth and Family Ministry at Christ The Servant! In February we developed language to describe our vision for the kind of students we want our programs to produce! We're also refining our Safe-Haven Guidelines to make sure we are zealous for the safety of the kids in our care. Be on the lookout for those very soon!

Our next meetings are scheduled thusly:

SAT - Tuesday, March 10 @ 6 p.m.

CAT - Thursday, March 12 @ 6 p.m.

Easter is coming!

Join us Easter Sunday (April 5) at 9:30 a.m. for our annual Easter Breakfast, and Egg Hunt for the kids! Plenty of great food, candy and treats for everybody! Mark your calendars now, invite a friend, and plan to be there as we celebrate resurrection and rebirth!



FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 20145

	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$47,248
Total Expenses	\$51,899
Excess	(\$4,651)



MUSIC NEWS

John Krueger, Director of Music, will be presenting a paper, "Two Rites and a Hymn: Martin Luther and Baptism," at Congress XXV of the Societas Liturgica, which will be held at l'universit  Laval in Quebec City from August 11-15. The Societas Liturgica is an international group of liturgical scholars that conducts research in the areas of worship and congregational song. His paper will be presented in the area of "the history of liturgical formation" under the overall theme of Liturgical Formation (how Christians are shaped by the liturgy).



The genesis of the paper was as part of the course work for John's class on "Christian Initiation" last summer, which completed his certificate in Liturgical Studies (Master's level) at the University of Notre Dame. The paper is being presented as the ELCA is discussing the relationship between the baptismal font and communion table; as a result, it gives John and this congregation a chance to contribute to the discussion.

This honor would not have been possible without the generous support of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in providing a continuing education budget with the expectation that it be used constructively. As one of two Lutherans from the United States to present papers at this congress (the other is Dr. Thomas Shattauer, Dean of Chapel at Wartburg Seminary), that investment has borne fruit and is greatly appreciated.

CANCARE NEWS



A Huge Thank-you to CTS

Last January was the Chevron Houston Marathon when over 30,000 runners participate each year, running to raise funds for charities in the Houston area. CanCare was responsible in assembling runner's packets, this was the third time at CTS. CanCare is appreciative of the logistical and volunteer help in getting this task accomplished. Thank-you!

The latest numbers show that 70 people ran (or walked) either the full or half (or 5k) for the benefit of CanCare, generating more than \$57,000 after donor matching! Congratulations to all who participated during the runs, and a special thank-you for the generous donations from CTS. And, early registration for the next marathon has already begun for next January!

CanCare is a network of trained volunteers including cancer survivors, family members of cancer survivors and medical professionals who provide confidential emotional support to others facing cancer. Our mission is to improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their families.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Bob **Barr**, nephew of June and Harvey
Jacobson
Karen **Bauer**
Eric **Booth**, brother-in-law of Ron **Herbanek**
Reid **Burrell** and the **Burrell Family**, friends of
Vanita **Homer**
Ezekiely Aron **Chanimbaga**, father of Emma
Chanimbaga
Michelle **Ernst**, friend of Bill and Nancie **Blair**
Heidi **Farmer**, sister-in-law of Russell **Farmer**
Jim **Harley**, friend of Paul **Richard**
Linda **Heyne**, cousin of Michelle **Stelly**
Roxanne **Hymel**, friend of Michele **Byrnes**
Tiffany **Stoler**, cousin of Michele **Byrnes**
Vivian **Johnson**
Rosamond **Landry**
Roger **Lemburg**, brother-in-law of Marti
Hatcher
Mary **Merriwether**, family friend of Ron and
Marti **Hatcher**
Alicia **Porras**, mother-in-law of Tamara **Porras**
Arianna **Ross**, niece of Tamara **Porras**
Valarie **Schick**, granddaughter of Bill and
Nancie **Blair**
Mary Ann **Shabunas**, mother of Mary **Hiestand**
Ron **King**, friend of the **Stallwitz Family**
Kelly **Nickels**, sister of Carrie **Stallwitz**
Doris **Stange**
Barbara **Stelly**, mother of Michelle **Stelly**
Shelby **StPierre**, friend of Michele **Byrnes**
Marjorie **Swartz**, mother of Julie **Heil**
Bettie **Taylor**, friend of Bitsy **Muse**
Paul **Williams**
Zachary, grandson of Bitsy **Muse**
Richard, Sandy and Ricky **Wilson**, relatives 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

SYMPATHIES

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Phil and Eva Ninman and their family. Lela Ninman went to her eternal home in Christ on Sunday, February 15. Lela was interred at Memorial Park Cemetery in Tulsa, Oklahoma on Friday, February 20. Please remember the Ninman family in your prayers.

Our deepest sympathy also goes out to the Bowen/DeBakey families. Linda H. Bowman DeBakey went to her eternal home in Christ on Sunday, February 15. The service will be held at Christ the Servant today at 4:00 p.m. Please remember these families in your prayers.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Kevin Carlson
- 3 Marti Hatcher
Shelter Ukpe
- 4 Carolyn Giannantonio
- 5 Susan Collins
- 6 Vanita Homer
- 7 Ade Kujimiyo
Dana Lares
Patience Ezebuio
Catherine Peng – child
Caroline Kiondo
- 8 Emily Booth – child
- 10 Pam Beaver
Clement Kiondo – child
- 14 Carol Klem
Stephanie Klem
Eric Bauer
- 15 Nancie Blair
Vicky McGibbon
Karen Welborn
- 16 Patrick Key
- 17 Charles Mahan
- 18 James Gordon
- 19 Tia Booth
- 21 Phylis Karas
- 24 Ed Booth
Laramie Winczewski
- 26 Katrina Hiestand
- 28 Prudence Ezebuio – child
- 29 Fred Korge
- 30 Carolyn Brath
Emma Chanimbaga
Mike Iversen
Pete Stultz



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Roger and Debby Cutler
- 20 Billie and Nancie Blair
Shane and Shelly Torkelson
- 21 Brent and Connie Brown
- 23 Pete and Sharon Stultz



CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

The Rev. James Giannantonio
jrgiannan@gmail.com

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Betsy Riggs
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Jason "JT" Thomas
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John Krueger
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NURSERY CAREGIVER

Laura Ripkowski
Michelle Sanchez, Assistant

SUNDAY CUSTODIAN

Sulma 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

February newsletter information deadline is: January 15

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

MARCH 2015



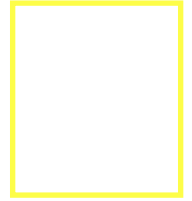
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Bible Study Conference	6:00 Soup Supper 7:15 Midweek Lenten Service 7:30 AA Journey	5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Men Who Love Spaghetti-Piccolo's	11:00 WHAM ESL		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Daylight Savings Time begins! 		5:30 WHAM ESL 6:00 SAT 7:00 Worship & Music Meeting	6:00 Soup Supper 7:15 Midweek Lenten Service 7:30 AA Journey	5:30 WHAM ESL 6:00 CAT 7:00 Council	11:00 WHAM ESL		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
			 Garage Sale Items Drop-off 			21 7:00-3:00 Garage Sale 	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
12:30 Care Team	3:30-6:30 Homeless Ministry	5:30 WHAM ESL 7:00 Bible Study Conference	6:00 Soup Supper 7:15 Midweek Lenten Service 7:30 AA Journey	5:30 WHAM ESL	11:00 WHAM ESL	9:00 Altar Guild	
29	30	31					
Palm Sunday 6:00 Reading of Mark		5:30 WHAM ESL					5:30 WHAM ESL

Sunday Worship
 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
 Christian Education-
 Sunday Classes for all
 ages
 9:30-10:30 a.m.

INTERMISSION
FEBRUARY 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	Opportunity Endowment Fund	Carrie Stallwitz
CanCare Representative	Susan Kramer	Personnel	Karen Welborn
Care Team	Arnie Kaestner	Prayer Chain	Judi Leisk
College Ministry	Linda Shoemaker, Linda Siegele	Property	Brent Brown, Ron Herbanek
Disaster Response Team	Mike Karas	Sound Team	TBA 8:00 Service
Family Aid Ministry	Carolyn Giannantonio	Stewardship	Brent Brown-11:00 Service
Fellowship Committee	Rosalie Fontenot	Ushers	Carolyn Kirk
Greeters	Donna Schneider	WHAM Representatives	8:00 Russell Farmer
Homeless Ministry	Shirley Downing	Worship and Music	11:00 Pat Welborn
Ladies Dinner Group	Mickey Walters	Youth Fellowship	Doug Hanson, Phylis Karas
Lawn Care	Russell Farmer, Kevin Petterson		Tamara Porras
Lectors, CTS Players	Carolyn Kirk, Matt Grant		Michele Byrnes, Vicki Williams
Liturgical Assistants	Mary Beth Teegerstrom		