

CHRIST THE KING  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# King's Chronicles

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## "No Need to Hide"

Dear Friends in Christ,

When we're left alone with nothing but the quietness of our own thoughts, we are faced with truth of our own wrongdoing in word and in deed. On the outside, we're pretty good people, right? We attend worship, serve on boards and committees, and give of ourselves to many causes. On the outside, things look acceptable. But we know that inside, we are all needy, fallen people. St. Paul faced that same truth when he wrote: "the good I would do, I do not do, and the evil that I abhor, that I do...O wretched man that I am..."

The Church is intended to be understood as the gathering of believing sinners who know and confess that they need a Savior and reach out to Jesus for cleansing and help. Sadly, we often draw the mistaken conclusion that while leading us in the ways of righteousness, the Church makes us hide our sinfulness from ourselves and others. Untrue! Here is just another example of Satan working to make ineffective something that God has given for our temporal and eternal benefit. Through Word and Sacrament, God works to help us discern our sinfulness, and to believe that we really need a Savior. If you go to church, Satan only wants you to go through the motions, and to make you think that the Holy Christian Church permits no one to be a sinner....especially you!

God has made the Church, the Body of Christ to be the place where weary, sinful people who know they need a Savior come together and acknowledge their sins before Him and each other. God has given His Word and Sacraments to the Church...to baptized souls like you and me to assure us that in Jesus, God has dealt with our sin and has taken it away.

Advent is a time of genuine repentance, not a time of hiding. The season is not meant to drive us to conceal the sin that lives in us, but a time for the light of God's Word to expose that sin, cause change within us, and lead us with penitent hearts to confess our wrong, and to look with believing hearts to Jesus, that Holy Child God sent to be our reconciliation.

Our prayer this Advent as we prepare for Jesus Birth: "Create in ME a clean heart O God, and renew within me a right spirit."

A blessed Advent and Christmastide to you!  
Pastor Boelter

## Live Nativity

One of the things our congregation is noted for in our community is our yearly presentation of the Live Nativity. Our Live Nativity will be held this year on Sunday, December 9, at 12:30. This event has been presented now for 32 consecutive years, with only two years being postponed due to bad weather! We pray many will come to hear our children present the Christmas Gospel, and to sing our Christmas hymns with us once more. As always, Christmas treats and hot chocolate are served in our Large Auditorium to warm up guests and participants! Look for the special article in the Grosse Pointe News that will appear this month. As a side note: many hands make for a smooth-running nativity! Thank you Grant Harris for heading up our Nativity again this year, and to Tom Weiss for providing our sound and music. Helpers are still needed for security, readers, welcoming the people, and clean up. Will you give a few hours to help us have a successful and blessed event? See Grant Harris for details.



## Divine Worship

**Sunday Worship**  
8:15am & 10:45am

**Holy Communion**  
1st & 3rd Sunday  
8:15am  
2nd & 4th Sunday  
10:45am

**Monday Worship**  
7:00pm  
2nd & 4th Mondays of  
the month

### Advent Worship Schedule

Join us this Advent Season as we gather each Wednesday morning and evening in December at **11:15 A.M. and at 7:00 P.M.** for worship.

**Our Wednesday Sermon Series this year is entitled: "What Child is This?"**

**Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** "The Child Who was Zechariah's Hope" Is. 40: 1-5

When going in exile to Babylon, God promised His people comfort, both in a return to their homeland, and in a Messiah to pay for their sins. Over the centuries, many people forgot that promise, but not Zechariah and Elizabeth. When the angel brought Zechariah news that John the Baptizer would prepare the way of the Lord, it was news almost too good to believe. News of God giving us the Christ of Christmas overwhelms us too...with God's love as we remember the promises we often forget! The Child of Mary is the Fulfiller of all God's promises. He is Zechariah's hope...and ours.

**Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** "Our True Hero" Judges 13: 2-7.

Gabriel told Mary that her Son would be holy, meaning "set apart" for a purpose. Centuries before, Samson was one of the judges God set apart to lead God's people, but sadly, Samson had many failings. Samson saved God's people from the Philistines, but Jesus is perfect in His holiness, and saves us from all our sins. When Jesus gave His life for us, He offered us His holiness. I Peter 1:16 says: "You shall be holy, for I am holy." Thanks be to God this applies to us by grace, for we are able to say with Mary: "Let it be to me according to Your word."

**Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** "Leaping for Joy" II Sam. 6: 12ff and Luke 1:39f.

When God's people recognize His many blessings, they can't contain their joy! David danced with joy when the Ark of the Covenant came into Jerusalem. John the Baptizer, still in his mother Elizabeth's womb, leapt for joy when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, arrived to visit in the hill country. In both cases, rejoicing was in order as they observed God's plans coming to fruition. On this day of worship, we too rejoice that Jesus is present to meet our needs, dispel our doubts, and clear away the darkness of sin in our lives.

### Christmas Eve Monday, December 24, 2018

Join us for worship at 5:00 P.M. and at 10:00 P.M. Both services are narrative services under the theme "There Were Shepherds." The early 5:00 P.M. Worship Service includes the Sacrament, the late Service is a festival service without Holy Communion. Our Senior Choir joins us for the late service.

### Close Communion Policy

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated at the early (5:00 P.M.) Divine Service on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day, December 25th at 10:00 A.M. If you are planning to bring family and friends who are not Lutheran and hold to a different confession, please speak with them about the Teaching of the Real Presence, and ask them to see the Pastor or one of our Elders prior to communion. We practice Close Communion at Christ the King to shepherd the souls of all who kneel at our altar. As we know from Corinthians that one can take the Sacrament to one's condemnation as well as one's spiritual health, it is the responsibility of every member to help those who wish to receive the Sacrament with us to properly examine themselves as the Scriptures teach us. Helpful questions are these: 1. Am I sorry for my sins? 2. Do I believe with the bread and wine I truly receive the very Body and Blood of my Savior? 3. Do I believe that I receive the true assurance of the forgiveness of my sins by the promise of Jesus in this Sacrament? 4. Is there anyone with whom I must reconcile before coming to receive the reconciliation of the Lord in this Sacrament? 5. Do I promise with the power I receive in this Sacrament to amend my sinful life? While we permit those who join us in our confession to receive the Sacrament at our altar, we do not practice open communion at Christ the King. Guests should also assent to receiving the Sacrament with us at CtK in both kinds as Jesus indicates: "Take eat, take drink."

### Christmas Day Tuesday, December 25, 2018

We will gather for worship Christmas morning at 10:45 A.M. to sing our Christmas hymns and worship under the theme: "This will be a Sign" based on Luke 2.

## Divine Worship continued...

### **Sunday Morning Worship During Advent**

Our Sunday morning worship series, as well as our theme for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day this year is entitled "In Those Days" based upon Luke chapter 2, the time when our Savior was born. As we light our Advent wreath, we remember an emperor's decree, a journey to Bethlehem, the search for a home, the birth of a first-born Son, news for shepherds and a sign from God. Our preaching and worship will be as follows:

**Sunday, December 2, 2018 First Sunday in Advent** Worship 8:15 and 10:45. Holy Communion at 8:15.

Sermon "A Decree Went Out" Luke 2:1-2

We remember the decree of the Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus that sent Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the long-foretold place for the birth of the Messiah. We remember Caesar Augustus' decree and Mary and Joseph's trip to Jesus' birthplace.

**Sunday December 9, 2018 Second Sunday in Advent** Worship at 8:15 and 10:45. Holy Communion at 10:45.

Sermon: "In the City of David" Luke 2:4

The journey of Mary and Joseph reminds us that God's people have always been on the move. To this day, by Word and Sacrament, we walk by faith and not by sight as we live our days and prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth.

**Sunday, December 16, 2018 Third Sunday in Advent** Worship 8:15 and 10:45. Holy Communion at 8:15.

Sermon: "No Room for Them" Luke 2:7.

Our Lord Jesus, for Whom no place was found, has gone ahead of us to prepare an eternal home for us in heaven. He who slept in a manger and in a borrowed tomb is at God's right hand, yet He will come again to take us to heaven. We await that blessed Second Advent as we gather around Word and Sacrament.

**Sunday, December 23, 2018 Fourth Sunday in Advent** Worship 8:15 and 10:45. Holy Communion at 8:15 (Due to Children's Worship at 10:45).

Sermon: "Her Firstborn Son" Luke 2: 6-7.

At the 8:15 service: We focus on three first-born sons: Cain, Isaac and Jesus.

Cain was remembered for his sin. Isaac is remembered as the son of promise and sacrifice. Jesus, however, is God's only Son and Mary's first-born Son. He came to give His life and be our Savior. We receive the benefit of Mary's first-born Son's life and death each time we hear God's Word and receive the Holy Sacrament. These are the Means of Grace which prepare us to receive Him again this Christmastide.

**Holy Communion will be celebrated this Sunday ONLY at the 8:15 A.M. Divine Service.** Our normal Communion

Schedule is being changed on this day so that our Sunday School Children can present their Worship Service at our late service.

**Sunday, December 30, 2018 ONE SERVICE at 10:45 A.M. with Holy Communion**

Join us for the last service of the calendar year. There will be NO Bible Classes held. We will give thanks to God for the blessings of 2018 and celebrate the gift of a New Year.

**Sunday, January 6, 2018** Epiphany of our Lord (12<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas)

We resume our normal schedule of worship at 8:15 and 10:45, with Holy Communion celebrated at 8:15 A.M.

### **Advent Dinners**

Join us for Advent Dinners in our Library on December 5, 12 and 19. Dinners are held each Wednesday evening from 5:30 until 6:45. This is a great way to fellowship with your family in Christ, and to gather for a good meal after a day of work. Dinner is served until 6:45, when we prepare for our worship service at 7:00. Christ the King Choir is hosting our first dinner on December 5<sup>th</sup>, The Board of Elders is hosting our second dinner on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Our schedule is open at this time for December 19<sup>th</sup>. If you or your group would like to provide dinner, please see the sign-up sheet in our church office. Thank you!

### Christmas Wreath Pickup Saturday, December 1st at Noon

For those who ordered fresh wreaths through our Christmas Wreath fundraiser, please mark your calendars for Saturday, December 1, 2018 at Noon as the time you can come and pick up your fresh wreath. These greens have been constructed the same week we pick them up. Come between 12 and 1 PM. Simply drive up our driveway to the main doors and a volunteer will have your wreath ready to bring to your car. You don't even have to park or come into the church building! Cars are asked to line up next to our building and orders will be filled immediately, allowing you to continue to drive through and exit via the Kroger parking lot. Please be punctual and retrieve your wreath...they will be extra fresh and beautiful! Thank you to everyone who participated in this fundraiser, and contributed to this worthy cause for our church!



Volunteers working at the wreath sales: your call time Saturday for work is 9:00 A.M. Lunch will be served for you afterwards!

### Judelaire's Concert

The Judelaire's Concert will be held Friday, November 30, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. The program this year is entitled "Holiday Magic." Christ the King is hosting the first performance of this program, so we hope you will come and bring your friends to our beautifully decorated church home for a wonderful evening of Christmas celebration. As always, a beautiful reception is planned thereafter in our Church Library with homemade cookies and refreshments.

### Confirmation Classes Begin January 8th!

Confirmation Classes for Levels I, II and III begin once more on January 8th!

This is the time for new students to join our program in Level I, which is an introductory class, teaching the Books of the Bible, the 10 Commandments, Bible History and Lutheran Church History. It is required that parents who desire to enroll their children in this program worship regularly with their children and commit to a faithful three-year study of God's Word in preparation for Confirmation. It is up to each parent as to their child's spiritual readiness to begin our program, but most students begin near the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade school year. Students need to have a basic knowledge of the faith, worship with their parents, and be ready and able to assimilate spiritual concepts.



Teaching Level I again this year is Jan Ropes (thank you Mrs. Ropes!). Nancy Josefiak, our Youth Director, joins our classes each Tuesday evening for fellowship activities and announcements. Pastor Boelter teaches Levels II and III, which divide and present the 6 chief doctrines of the Scriptures in preparation for the reception of the Lord's Supper.

Level II meets each Tuesday from 5:30-6:15 pm.

Pizza is served from 6:15-6:30 P.M. in youth group fellowship time.

Levels I and III meet from 6:30-7:30 P.M. after dinner and fellowship.

It is important that parents who decide to enroll their children in this program understand that it is a 3 year intensive commitment that needs to take precedence over other activities. While occasional absences for health and family purposes are understood, school activities cannot constantly override instruction. Students who continually miss class will not be able to proceed or be confirmed. Unfortunately, make up sessions are no longer able to be scheduled due to the pastor's work load. A syllabus of all assignments is distributed to parents and students alike in Levels II and III at the beginning of the season. All assignments are clearly presented. Materials that are missed become the responsibility of each parent to make up, and the students must demonstrate their proficiency even in those areas that have been missed due to absence.

Christ the King has a wonderful program which introduces our children to the full counsel of God's Word. This is especially important for our children in a fast changing culture. Students who complete our program know God's Word and are prepared for a life of worship and service to Christ for days to come.

If you are intending on having your children join our program, please contact the church office at 313-884-5090 or email Pastor Boelter at [rsboelter@christthekingpp.org](mailto:rsboelter@christthekingpp.org). Classes are taught from January through May. We break for the summer months, and resume from September through October, ending the year in October. Students who complete their work successfully move on to the next level in January of 2020.

**Children's Christmas Program**

**Sunday, December 23, 2018 Late Service 10:45 A.M.**

Coffee/Cookies in Library following Service

(Please Bring a Plate of your favorite Cookies to share!)

**Practices**

-Saturday Dec 8, - 9:30-11:00 am

-Saturday Dec15- 9:30-11:00 am

-Saturday Dec 22- 9:30-11:00 am

**-Sunday December 23, Please have children at Church at 9:30am for Final Practice**

For more information contact

the church office 313-884-5090



**2019 Wish List**

- New garage door for storage shed
  - Projector for VBS and church – approximately \$400.00
  - Upgrading security system for Mack Ave. doors
  - Lochmoor new doors and Kroger side doors – Project approximately \$10,000.00/have received \$5000.00 donation!
- These Wish List suggestions are considered special projects above and beyond regular giving. Thank you so much!

**With God's Blessing and Your Help We Accomplished**

- 2 new glass and steel doors on Lochmoor side
- Replaced 1 of 4 A/C units
- Installed separate heat compressor
- Saved money changing from Comcast to AT & T
- Newly enhanced perennial garden
- Library kitchen stove repairs
- New wreath fundraiser
- Retooled library with more new books
- 4 pews removed for handicap access
- Church carpet stretched and tile redone
- 2 pianos put on movable dollies, plus tuned
- New CtK pamphlets with updated statements and look
- New outdoor LED Christmas lights

**Thank You!**

A Thank You Note was sent to Christ the King by Pastor Miguel Angel from Venezuela, who praises God for the help he and the International Lutheran Church of Venezuela received recently in their time of need. Christ the King, Zion Detroit and Good Shepherd, Toledo, OH sent offerings to help Pastor Angel and his church purchase another vehicle following a car accident which totally destroyed the vehicle they needed to visit churches many, many miles apart. These ecclesiastical visits are so important, to encourage God's people in Venezuela... a country and people hit so very hard by the effects of socialism. Christ the King donated \$851.00 to this cause, representing door offerings taken during two Sundays in October for this worthy mission cause. God's blessings to all who made this possible. With CtK's gift combined with the monies raised by the other churches, God met the need of these faithful people doing God's work in dire circumstances.

**Women's Guild**

**Women's Guild Woman of the Year**

Congratulations to Betty Gade, our Woman of the Year! Betty will be honored March 19, 2019 by the Council of Lutheran Women. Tickets for the lunch will be available late January, 2019.

**Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon**

Come join the Guild for fun and fellowship on December 11, 2018 at 11:30 A.M. at Ram's Horn on 9 Mile Road and Jefferson. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Please make reservations by Sunday, December 9, 2018 with Judy Champine.

## Preschool Happenings



**Registration and Open House** The end of January marks the time for beginning our registration process for the 2019-2020 school year! On Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, we will hold our priority registration night. On this evening current students, siblings of current students, siblings of alumni, Christ the King members, and those students who have attended a Moms and Twos class may register. On February 10<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our annual Open House which will kick off our Open Registration period. Look for new brochures in the Welcome Center in January and share them with families who may be interested in one of our programs! Thank you for spreading the word!

### Fundraisers

December is our Ram's Horn Fellowship Night on the 11th from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. Watch for sign-up sheets and "coupons" to show your waitress that you are part of our fundraiser.

January marks our Little Caesar's Pizza Fundraiser which begins at the beginning of the month. There will be a table in the Welcome Center to place your orders. As always, orders will arrive in time for Super Bowl Sunday!

### Our Classrooms

The school year continues to move quickly forward, and we enjoy each new month and the fun it brings! Our preschoolers spend their days enjoying Jesus time, free play, circle time, centers, gym, handwriting, letter days, stories, projects, and so much more. In the month of December the Three's focus on learning their shapes while the Four's review their shapes. All classes focus on Jesus' birthday and the Christmas story. In January, we focus on winter themes involving snow, snowmen, penguins, and polar bears. During December many of our preschoolers enjoy getting involved with our Living Nativity and we love our Baby Jesus' Birthday Parties!

## Youth Group News



### December 9th - CtK Living Nativity Youth Group Volunteer Event - Between Noon and 4:00 p.m.

Our kids (and their parents) have an opportunity to help in many different ways! A big thank you to Kim and Bill Anderson and their daughters Natalie, Libby, and Molly for supervising and working the wardrobe area - with Bill making sure all is peaceful on the grounds. They have done this for many years and we are so very grateful! Please contact Mrs. J. or Mr. Harris if your kids would like to be "readers" during any of the performances, help in the kitchen serving drinks, pizza, and cookies, or can assist us with the clean up at the end.

**December ?? - TBD - A trip to Greenfield Village to experience their "Holiday Nights"** I have access to a membership which entitles me to discounted tickets. I've heard this is a very fun event, with music, crafts, ice skating, Horse Drawn Wagon/Model T Rides with a Fireworks Finale at the end of the evening. I'll throw some dates out in an email to all of our youth group parents.

There is also a Groupon in my possession for a **fun afternoon at C.J Barrymore's** to play some of their over 100 arcade style games...might be a good Christmas break destination!?

**Christmas Caroling with St. Paul's - Thursday, December 20th (time to be announced)** What a wonderful opportunity to spread the love and spirit of Christmas by singing to some of our CtK & St. Paul members who can no longer get to church. Parents, watch your emails for more details.

**In January, I would like to make plans to have another Marty Party**, lol...invite Marty Fleszar and Crew back for another fun night! I'd like to get some feedback from our parents to increase the number of attendees - the more, the merrier right?

**Gleaners is looking forward to having our youth group (and parent crew) back to volunteer at their warehouse** in Detroit packing up emergency food packs. Any suggestions of other good service projects for our gang are always most welcome. This group really enjoys volunteering!

As the saying goes, "Jesus is the reason for the season" - let's be sure to keep that front and center - a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our Christ the King family!

**Official Acts**

The following acts were performed or are scheduled to be performed by your Pastor on behalf of the congregation:

**Funerals**

Ruth M. Naegel, born July 11, 1925, died in the Lord at Fraser Villa Nursing Center, Fraser, MI on October 1, 2018. A memorial service was held at Christ the King Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 13, 2018. Cremation. Interment of Ashes took place jointly with Interment of her husband, Conrad Naegel's ashes at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, MI on Wednesday, October 31, 2018. Pastor Boelter officiating.

Virginia Madler, born May 13, 1929, died in the Lord at her home at Independence Village, White Lake Township, MI on November 7, 2018. A memorial service was held at Independence Village on Saturday, November 24, 2018. Cremation. Interment: pending.

**Holy Baptism**

To be baptized Sunday, December 30, 2018. Grace Lindsay Christensen, daughter of Kyle Alan Christensen and his wife Emy Michelle ne'e Moreau. Grace was born April 19, 2017. Her baptismal sponsors will be Kevin and Rachelle Christensen. Pastor Boelter to officiate.

**CtK Vestry** will meet on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 6:30 P.M.

**Our next Membership Meeting** will be held Sunday, December 9, 2018 between the services at 9:30 A.M. Plan to join us to conduct the business of God's Kingdom through our Church and Preschool Ministries.

**Stewardship**

**God's Indescribable Gift**

The month of December is for many people the busiest time of the year. In the weeks surrounding Christmas, we have gatherings, parties, and shopping that fill up our days. As enjoyable and even beneficial as these activities can be, we must guard against their taking our focus off the gift of our Savior Who brought with Him forgiveness of sins, salvation, and life forever with Him in heaven.

We should never tire of hearing how miraculous an event Jesus' birth was. Can you picture yourself being one of the shepherds, half asleep, yet watching over a flock of sheep settled down for the night? On the night of Jesus' birth, the sky was filled with light. The shepherds were awakened and became fearful, wondering what was happening. They heard the words of the angels saying: *"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy...for unto you is born...a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord."* (Luke 2:10-11) What the angels said likely calmed them slightly, but they had to be very excited. Filled with awe, they went to find the *"Baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."* (verse 12) They found Jesus with Mary and Joseph, and they couldn't keep quiet about it. Just as the shepherds made known what was told to them, we in the same way are to share the good news of the Christ Child.

How sad that, just because we've heard the story countless times, we lose our sense of awe and gratitude and don't make known all we've heard concerning this Child born to be our Savior. Because of His birth and His suffering and death and resurrection, our lives are not what they would have been. Therefore, we have a story to tell. What has Jesus done for us? How does He help us in our daily lives? What is it like to have the sure hope of Heaven? What can we say about the *"inexpressible gift"* (II Corinthians 9:15) of God's grace given to us in His Son, the Baby of Bethlehem?