



APRIL 2025

THE KING'S MESSENGER

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMPHIS, TN



I love the season of Spring. Everything seems to burst forth with vibrancy as if awakened from a deep sleep. An array of colors dot the landscape. The sun shines brighter, waters are bluer, and the air is sweet and crisp. Spring is God's declaration of new life. Below is an excerpt from a poem about Nature which captures its wonder and power.

"Nature! We are surrounded and embraced by her; powerless to leave her and powerless to enter her more deeply....Endlessly, she creates new forms. What is there never was; what was will never return. All is new, yet forever the old....She is life, growth and movement....Insatiably, she always brings beings to enjoy her, to communicate herself to...All is eternally present, eternally in her. " (J. W. Goethe)

You've noticed, I'm sure, that you are powerless in the face of Nature and her seasons. To borrow catechism phrasing: Spring, *indeed, comes to everyone without our prayers but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive it with thanksgiving.*" Spring is one of many beautiful reminders of God's grace. It is no accident then that Easter occurs in Spring. In fact, Spring owes her effect to the Resurrection.

Easter Sunday here at Christ the King is always festive. I hope you will join us for one of the three services. Come to more than one, even. The beautified chancel, hymnody, choral pieces, the messages, (the animals), will combine to give glory to God for the new life He gives us in Christ. You will leave inspired. Please bring a friend.

We need Easter. We need to be reminded of the victory and promise of the resurrected Christ. We also need Easter's inspiration and hope. Just as a good walk, or a scenic drive, a picnic with the signs and wonders of Spring all around, lift the soul, so, too, does the resurrected Christ lift us.

Undeserved and powerless, we are showered by God with His goodness in the Spring. He delights in giving. What does He want from us? He wants us to enjoy and celebrate. He wants us to acknowledge Him as the giver and source of it all. He wants us to believe that eternal life is a reality in His Son and if you're looking for a sign of this truth, God would simply remind you to walk outside.

Pastor Mark

You're **INVITED!**

On Sunday, April 6, ***Easter Invitation Cards*** will be available to all members to share with friends and family, inviting them to worship with us on Easter Sunday. Similar to our Christmas Invitation Cards, these will have a QR code for more information and an opportunity for visitors to check in on our website to let us know they are coming so we can be sure to make them feel welcome and at home.



(front of card)



(back of card)

Help us get ready for Easter! If you are interested in sharing your gift of hospitality by joining the ***Connections Team***, please email Genie at gswan@ctkmemphis.com. You can serve in one of two ways (or both!):

1. Staff the Information Desk before or after worship to answer questions and give new visitors a welcome gift;
2. Be prepared to meet visitors, introduce them to the Pastors, show them where to find coffee, the nursery, and other points of interest, and even offer to sit with them, if they like. Treat them like visitors to your home!

If you feel this is a way in which you could share your love for CTK and the Lord with visitors, email gswan@ctkmemphis.com! Thank you!



WEEK 4, APRIL 2

HANDS THAT RAISE THE DEAD

WEEK 5, APRIL 9

HANDS THAT HOLD ALL THINGS

MAUNDY THURSDAY

HANDS THAT SERVE AND FEED US

APRIL 17, 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY
Us

HANDS THAT WERE PIERCED FOR
APRIL 18, 7PM

EASTER SUNDAY

HANDS THAT HAVE RISEN FROM THE DEAD

APRIL 20, 7:00, 8:30, 11:00AM

Find details about Holy Week and Easter Services here:

**Website – ctkmemphis.com/easter*

ctkmemphis.com/plan-your-visit

Invite your friends and family by visiting these shareable sites:

**Facebook – facebook.com/ctkmemphis*

**CTK's App – under the Events tab*



YOUTH MIN @ CTK

April 2025

HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dates to remember

April 12—High School Service Event 10:00

April 25—Middle School Party 6:00

Meet in the Youth Room



LCMS Youth Gathering 2025 is rapidly approaching. We have a 5 adults and 18 youth attending. The youth will be hosting the Lenten Soup Supper on April 9 as well as the Easter Breakfast as fundraisers. This is a great opportunity to meet our youth and help send them on this life changing experience. The theme is ENDURE based on Hebrews 12:1-3 and we look forward to seeing how this impacts our lives as Christians in the world today.

Please join us!

LCMS GATHERING YOUTH

get together for Bible study & dinner at the Baskette home on Sunday April 6, 5-7pm .

“Let’s Taco About the Youth Gathering”

and prepare our hearts and minds for this awesome trip!!

ROAD TRIP (VBS 2025) is right around the corner, so now is time to see what you can do to help our kids learn that no matter where they go, **GOD GOES WITH THEM!** Check out the table in the

rotunda for a list of volunteer opportunities.

OUR KIDS NEED YOU ON THEIR JOURNEY!



CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL ~ Each Sunday morning 6– 8 adults meet with 30+ children (pk4—6th grade) to guide them in learning about GOD and His story for all mankind. During the season of Lent, we are focusing on Jesus’ ministry during His final week on earth. The goal is to make the words of the Bible come alive for each of the children. At the end of the hour, we ask each student to tell us something new they learned and almost always, there is something new added to their understanding of a particular Biblical story. During the season of Lent, we buried the Alleluia, ate pancakes, watched the crowd shout Hosanna (video), learned why Jesus cleansed the temple, read some of Jesus’ parables and miracles in Bethany, learned about Mary anointing Jesus with spices (for burial), Judas’ betrayal (Judas’ kiss was new to many), celebrated the Last Supper, Peter’s denial, the trial and condemnation of Jesus, Simon of Cyrene, Jesus’ crucifixion, death and resurrection! Thanks to our ministry staff for their commitment!!

Did You Know...?



You might have questions about what exactly a Caregiver in the Comfort Dog ministry does, right? You might wonder about responsibilities, finances, training, and other things. We're here to answer your questions! Maybe you will consider becoming the Caregiver for the Future Comfort Dog after reading these answers!

Did You Know...that every Caregiver has a secondary or backup caregiver to keep the Comfort Dog when the primary Caregiver travels or is otherwise away from home? Comfort Dogs enjoy occasional sleepovers!

Did You Know...that the Comfort Dog Caregiver does not incur any costs associated with the dog, including vet visits, vitamins, dog food, and other supplies? The ministry is completely funded by donations from the congregation and friends.

Did You Know...that the Caregiver can work at a full-time job, using the church or other designated place as a drop-off point for handlers' pickup, if desired?

Did You Know...that the Caregiver is trained in every aspect of caring for the Comfort Dog? There's no guesswork or worry. You'll be prepared for anything that comes your way in terms of caring for the Comfort Dog. You will also have the advice and support of the Top Dog should any questions arise.

Did You Know...that the Caregiver gets the best seat in the house when the dog is unvested and romps in the yard? You get to see the LCC K9 play, run zoomies, chase balls, and enjoy "just being a dog!"

Did You Know...the Caregiver also serves as a handler for the Comfort Dog? You'll be trained in all the commands and proper etiquette and will be equipped to take the dog on caring visits as you feel called to do.

Did You Know...as Caregiver, you will have the honor and pleasure of giving the Comfort Dog his or her nightly massage and brushing? It's a way to bond with the dog and to instill trust and contentment which benefits all aspects of the ministry.

Did You Know...one of the joys of being an LCC K9 Comfort Dog Caregiver is making sure the dog is always looking his best? Handlers depend on you to have his bag, vest, and bandana at the ready! It's so much fun to choose just the right bandana to match the season or weather!

Please contact Laura Greinke (lgreinke623@gmail.com) to ask additional questions about Caregiving or contact Dianna Garner (diannagarner@comcast.net) to volunteer!

As Christ's Ambassadors...

STAY IN TOUCH WITH CTK



Facebook.com/ctkmemphis



Instagram.com/ctkmemphis



Website: www.ctkmemphis.com



Youtube.com/@ctkmemphis7601

Download CTK's App from your app store for the latest news, sermons, and events

Local first-time visitors to Christ the King receive a bag of information and treats designed to inform and engage. Items in the bag include a copy of the latest newsletter, a magnet with worship times, brochures with details about CTK Church and School and the Comfort Dog ministry, a gift from Job Comfort Dog, a Bible storybook and bracelet for children, a "Social Media Guide" (shown here) which lists ways to stay current with all that goes on at CTK, and a small gift card to Chick-Fil-A. The aim is to portray Christian

hospitality and extend encouragement to return to worship.

Nothing, of course, can take the place of a friendly smile and handshake! That's where YOU come in. If you see someone you don't recognize, introduce yourself. That's the best kind of outreach!

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us." 2 Corinthians 5:20

CALVARY RESCUE MISSION

"Rebuilding the Lives of Homeless Men in Memphis, TN"

Thank you to the Volunteers that continue to cook and serve at Calvary Men's Rescue Mission each month. This past March, we served sixty homeless men plus staff. As you can see from the photos, we have great teams that come together by grocery shopping, cooking, preparing, and serving the meal to the homeless. We are always inviting others to join us! Thank you, teams! *Cindy & Mike Jurgensen and Gary Osing*



CTK SCHOOL NEWS



Exciting news!! We had our first Induction into the National Lutheran Junior Association this past week. Twenty of our middle school students were recognized for this prestigious honor. The membership was based on Discipleship, Leadership, Scholarship and Service. Congratulations!



Please join us on Sunday, May 4, as we gather to recognize two of our teachers — Mrs. Debbie Albertini, who is retiring after 36 years of teaching, 23 of which have been at CTK, and Mr. Ben Kuefner, who is beginning his studies at Concordia Seminary in June. We wish for a wonderful and exciting retirement for Mrs. Albertini, and an equally exciting time of study for Mr. Kuefner as he prepares to enter the ministry as a Called Pastor. You can add your well wishes to the baskets in the narthex beginning in April.

NEWS FROM LWML



LWML West Tennessee Zone Spring Rally

”Jesus is the Living Water”

Saturday, April 5, 2025

9:30AM—1:00PM

Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church



SUNDAY, APRIL 6—MITE BOX SUNDAY!

Please drop your Mighty Mites in the box located in the Church

Narthex



SUNDAY, APRIL 6, “One More Child”

We will be helping CTK’s Faith in Action to fill care packages for survivors of human trafficking. Join us after second service in the Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will be served and we will hear from a One More Child representative.



SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 10AM

We will be preparing Easter Baskets for our homebound congregants.

We need your help with stuffing and delivering the many baskets!

Our members LOVE receiving their Baskets every year!



LWML MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 24

5:30PM—7:00PM

We will be discussing the FALL West September Retreat!

Looking forward to seeing you at this meeting in Room 201.



Graduates of 2025! We want to celebrate you! On Sunday, April 27, we will observe Graduate Recognition Sunday at the 11:00am service. We hope all of our college, high school, and 8th grade graduates can attend. The students will process in together and come forward for a special prayer.

As part of this recognition, we are asking our college and high school graduates to **submit their senior or graduation picture** to be included in a video honoring them which will show on that Sunday, and will be available on CTK's YouTube channel and Facebook page thereafter. Scan and email your photo to gswan@ctkmemphis.com **no later than April 13**. Include info on where you are graduating from and your plans after graduation, as well as your full name and parents' names. Your CTK family wishes you well as you face the challenges and joys ahead.



Don't miss the next CTK Monthly Potluck on Sunday, April 27, 12:15PM, in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up at bit.ly/CTKPotluck or in the rotunda and let us know you are coming! Bring a main dish plus a side and get ready to enjoy fellowship and great food. **Our high school and college graduates will be our special guests** and we'll enjoy the video highlighting the grads. A special cake of congratulations will be our dessert! Sign up today!

ASCENSION SERVICE

THURSDAY, MAY 29

Mark your calendars to make sure you don't miss Christ the King's beautiful Ascension service on Thursday, May 29.

We commemorate the ascension of Jesus into heaven on the 40th day after Easter. The Paschal candle is extinguished, to be re-lit ten days later at Pentecost, when the apostles experienced an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Christian Church is acknowledged.

CTK's Ascension Service has always been marked by an inspiring message and beautiful music.

Pastor Chuck will preach at this service and Holy Communion will be celebrated.



Job's Journal

As of this writing, Job and two of his handlers are headed to the town of Mountain Home, Arkansas, to minister to a community in shock after the tragic death of a high school senior. Job, along with Dave and Genie Swan, will join three other LCC K9 Comfort Dogs—Thomas, Michael, and Persis—in offering his comfort to the high

school of 3500 students. The Comfort Dogs will gather at the high school on Monday, March 31, and on Tuesday, they will attend the funeral of the beloved daughter and sister. Your prayers are earnestly requested as Job Comfort Dog gives his best as he comforts, snuggles, and receives the grief of those in distress. Thank you.



Don't miss Cooper Smith in the production of "Guys and Dolls" at New Day Children's Theatre, performing at the Harrell Theatre in Collierville, April 25-May 4!

Visit newdaytheatre.org for times and tickets. Break a leg, Coop!

UPCOMING SMALL GROUP DATES

***Tuesday, April 8 & 22, 7PM** — Michael Salzgeber and Lisa Bough
“Church History in Plain Language” michael.salzgeber@sylvamo.com

***Tuesday, April 8 & 22, 7PM** — Steven & Jennifer Andrews
“Limping with God: Jacob and the Old Testament” drewcrewe@yahoo.com

***Billy & Carol Kutteh** — Watch for upcoming dates cckutteh@yahoo.com

***Every Thursday, 7PM** — Jim Devan “Woodworking” j_devan@bellsouth.net

***Pastor Matt's Group** for 20's and 30's Contact Pastor Matt for upcoming dates
pastormatt@ctkmemphis.com

***Robyn Byrum “Crafting Moms”** For moms of teens and college-age kids. Devotion, crafts, sharing of struggles and joys of parenting. Stay tuned for the next meeting date! robynbyrum2@gmail.com

It's never too late to join a Small Group! Contact the leader for more information on time and location. “Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”

1 Thess. 5:11

Christ the King's Faith in Action Upcoming Events



THURSDAY
MAY 8, 2025



5:45PM - 7:30PM

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH OUR UPCOMING DINNER AND PRESENTATION OF HOUSE-WARMING CROSSES FOR NEW GRADUATES OF THE HABITAT HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM WHO WILL BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE THEIR FIRST HOME, PLEASE SIGN UP TO SERVE!

DINNER AND CEREMONY AT HABITAT STORE ON WINCHESTER

Sign Up in the Rotunda

CONTACT STACY DAVIS /FIA /CTK FOR MORE INFORMATION

SAVE THE DATE! Faith in Action invites you to help on May 8 in the Dinner and Presentation of House-Warming Crosses for new graduates of the Habitat Home Ownership Program.

Please sign up to serve! This is a joyful celebration of accomplishments and Faith in Action is always pleased to make it even more meaningful with a Cross for each family. Contact Stacy Davis for more information.

HELP US create comfort kits for **ONE MORE CHILD**, an organization that provides help to victims of trafficking in Memphis. Faith in Action will purchase backpacks, Bibles, and blankets. You can add: *re-useable water bottles, hygiene items, travel-size hair products, toothpaste, notebooks, adult coloring books, devotionals, and other items.* A collection bin will be in the rotunda. For more information, contact **Caroline Johnson** or **Patti Higginbotham**.

**Next Faith in Action Meeting:
Monday, Apr 14, 5:45PM, at
Panera Bread in Germantown.**

ONE MORE CHILD COMFORT KITS



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Help us create comfort kits for **One More Child**, an organization that provides help to victims of trafficking here in Memphis. Or join us on **SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH, at 12 Noon**, for lunch, and hear our guest speakers talk about this mission while we create the kits. RSVP at bit.ly/onemorechild25 or in person in the rotunda.



Faith in Action will purchase backpacks, Bibles and blankets. But, we need your help to bring in many more items for each of the kits including:

COLLECTING NOW



- 1 or 2 re-useable water bottles
- a blank notebook or journal
- pens
- adult coloring book
- colored pencils or washable markers
- a devotional of some sort
- Hygiene items /New & Unused Travel Size
- hand sanitizer
- shampoo
- conditioner
- lotion
- vaseline
- wipes
- 2-3 travel toothpaste
- 2-3 toothbrushes

bit.ly/onemorechild25



SPRING ZONE RALLY

LWML

West Tennessee Zone

CROSS OF CALVERY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4327 ELVIS PRESLEY BLVD,
MEMPHIS

APRIL 5, 2025

JESUS IS LIVING WATER

JOHN 7:38

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Shannon Cotton, Shelby County Schools

9:00AM - REGISTRATION / 9:30AM - PROGRAM

Lunch to Follow

Gathering for

HOUSE OF GRACE, OLIVE BRANCH &
THE HUB, MEMPHIS

Items requested will come in a list
that will be emailed

Register through your church's LWML leader

Presidents: Email juanita.windrey@yahoo.com
or call 901-493-0909

with number of attendees by 4/2/25

Offering
for:
HOLMES
ELEMENTARY

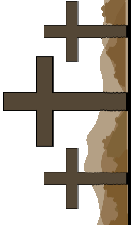
Registration
Deadline:
April 2nd

Cost: \$10
Includes
Lunch!



Christ The King Lutheran Church

APRIL 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
6 MITE Box Sunday 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship 12:15p FIA Care Kits Mtg. 5:00p Youth Gathering "Taco Night"	7 6:30p Bd. of Elders	8 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 7:00p Sm. Grp.-Andrews 7:00p Sm. Grp.-Salzgeber	9 10:00a Bible Study 12:00p Lent Worship 6:00p Lent Soup Supper 7:00p Lent Worship 7:45p Choir Rehearsal	10 7:00p Sm.Grp.-Woodworking	11	12 10:00a Future Comfort Dog Mtg. 10:00a HS Youth Service Event 10:00a LWML Easter Basket prep.	
13 Palm Sunday 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship	14	15 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's	16 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	17 Maundy Thursday 7:00p Worship 	18 Good Friday 7:00p Worship OFFICE CLOSED	19 10:30a Job Handlers Mtg.	
20 Easter 7:00a Sunrise Worship 8:30a Worship 9:45a Easter Breakfast 11:00a Worship 5:00p Calvary Mission Dinner	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 6:00p Church Council 7:00p Sm. Grp.-Andrews 7:00p Sm. Grp.-Salzgeber	23 10:00a Bible Study	24 5:30p LWML 7:00p Sm.Grp.-Woodworking	25 6:00p Middle School Party	26	
27 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship 12:15p Congregation Potluck Graduate Recognition	28 6:00p Bd. of Ed.	29 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's	30 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Choir Rehearsal				