



MAY 2026

# THE KING'S MESSENGER

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH    MEMPHIS, TN

*When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Mat.. 19:25-26*

Grace and peace be to you, Saints of Christ the King!

I think one of the things we realize as we go through life is that many of the things we thought would be impossible slowly become possible. In many cases, they're not just possible but achievements in our lives. When we're little, the idea of leaving our home and our parents seems impossible, terrifying even. But before we know it, we are packing our rooms and moving into dorm rooms at college. Our High School graduates and their parents are living this one out as we speak. But after college, the idea of getting a job and an apartment seems impossible but as our young adults know, it isn't as scary as it seemed at first. Parents, having your first child seemed a terrifying and impossible task, maybe it still is, but you slowly figure things out. Retired folks, I'm sure this stage of life seemed like something that would never happen but here you are today. For me, the thought of turning 30 this month seems impossible. And yet, here it is!

I could list many more examples, but I think you all understand my drift. As we grow, we see ourselves achieving the very things that seemed so daunting before. It's interesting then that the one place we have never seen this happen in life is with our sins. We never seem to outgrow them, figure them out, or beat them. Sure, they may change and look different as we grow, but they're always there in some capacity. This presents a problem for us because we know that God's law demands perfection. According to the law, you must be perfect to get into heaven. You cannot have a single ounce of sin within you if you want to get into heaven and remain with God in paradise. Jesus makes this clear to His disciples in the Gospel of Matthew, and they, like us, wonder who could possibly be save then? No one, if we were left on our own. But that's the thing, my friends. You are not alone.

Jesus says, **"With God all things are possible."** (Matt. 19:26) Now, Jesus doesn't imply here that you will receive all the things you want. He's saying that with God, the impossible things that you need you will have and indeed you have them this very moment. You have the treasure of heaven itself, the very grace of God. It is by this grace alone that you are welcomed into heaven sinless before God. The impossible is possible for you here and now. We Lutherans say, "It is by grace through faith that we are saved." Grace comes first. Your sins are forgiven; you are welcomed into heaven because God Himself wanted you with Him there forever. His Son Jesus Christ covers you in His blood and you receive grace.

As we continue living as God's people, I urge you to remember this truth: though sin and death appear to be impossible to deal with, know that your God has taken care of them already. The impossible perfect life you are meant to live has been achieved by Your Lord Jesus Christ. Be confident in this and know what God has done for you. I'll leave you with this quote from Martin Luther: *"Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times."* God's blessing to you all!

**Pastor Matt**

## ASCENSION SERVICE THURSDAY, MAY 14

Mark your calendars to make sure you don't miss Christ the King's beautiful Ascension service on Thursday, May 14, at 7PM.

We observe the Feast of the Ascension to commemorate Jesus' ascending into heaven on the 40th day after Easter. The Pascal candle is extinguished, to be re-lit ten days later at Pentecost, commemorating the day 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 of Word and Sacrament.



## THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026



On Sunday, May 17, at the 11:00 service, we will observe the Rite of Confirmation for six young people who have completed instruction by the Pastors and are ready to confirm the baptismal vows taken on their behalf before the congregation.

Please keep the following confirmands in your prayers: that they remain faithful to their Lutheran confession, that they are able to boldly proclaim their faith in their everyday lives, and that they continue to serve the Lord with gladness wherever they go.

*Jack Bennett*  
*Lucy Lawrence*  
*Karter Madden*

*Evan Brown*  
*Oliver Lawrence*  
*Keira White*

The Confirmation Class wishes to thank Mrs. Lorraine Ellard for the beautiful Confirmation banners she so lovingly has handcrafted as a remembrance of their Confirmation Day.

*Soli Deo Gloria*

# TANZANIA UPDATE

**Can you believe it? We are almost ready to depart for the  
2026 Tanzania Mission!**

The team has worked hard to get the packing, payments, shots, and more ready for the upcoming mission trip. The departure date is Thursday, May 14, with return on Thursday, May 28.

Please continue to hold us in your prayers as we four mission members from CTK meet up with ten other missionaries in Amsterdam and fly onto Kilimanjaro, Tanzania. Pray for protection over each missionary as they will be sharing the Gospel with strangers. We pray, Lord, please keep them calm in every area and bring them home safely. Thank You for these people who have heard Your call and accepted the gift of being a missionary. Amen.

Your CTK Missionary Team:

*Mike & Cindy Jurgensen, Mark Novy, and Sharon Hyde*



# Job's Journal

On April 4, Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) sent out a request to LCC Top Dogs for an Emergency Site Visit\* to Crittenden County, Kentucky, to minister to the high school, middle school, and elementary school in the wake of a tragic shooting which gravely injured the School Resource Officer, Deputy Rick Coyle. Immediately, seven dogs, including Job with his handlers Laura and Henry Grienke, responded yes, and were on their way.

**Comfort Dogs Eternity and Magdalene** from Cornerstone, Carmel, IN; **Tabby and Zion** from St. Paul, Des Peres, MO; **Noah, Timothy, St. Louis, MO;** and **Rachel, Immanuel, Charleston, IL,** and their handlers joined **Job** and the Greinkes for a day of comforting and ministering to a hurt and confused student body and staff.

At the end of the day, LCC staffer Anastasia asked each team to describe the visit in one word. Laura wrote: "As I reflect on the day, I'm vacillating between the words 'seen' and 'valued.' This is not a heavily populated area, and many

we spoke with seemed very appreciative and somewhat amazed that we came from several different places that were hours away just to bring the dogs for the day. I hope and pray that our presence conveyed the loving care that God feels for all of us, no matter who we are."

District School Superintendent Tanya Driver shared: "I can't thank you all enough....The impact was immeasurable. Not only did the dogs' presence uplift our students, but also our staff. It provided much needed times of peace and joy during an otherwise difficult week."

It is this kind of responsiveness and care that your donations to Job's ministry allow. Thank you for your support of Job and his mission of comfort to those who are grieving. We continue to pray for healing for Deputy Coyle and for the community of Crittenden County, KY.

*\*Emergency Site Visits are similar to deployments but usually last only a day or two, bringing comfort immediately just where it is needed.*



*Some students would return several times throughout the day, each visit revealing a little more about what was in their hearts and on their minds, giving them a safe space to share their hurts and fears, and giving the handlers and dogs a chance to help with healing.*



## GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

On Sunday, April 26, Christ the King congregation celebrated the graduation of our college, high school, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. After a prayer for each group during worship, the graduates and their families enjoyed a potluck with members of the congregation, complete with beautiful cakes and a special graduate video. Each student was called on stage and applauded by the crowd. We are so proud of our graduates and pray God's blessings on their future.



Be sure to check out the Graduate Video available on the App and CTK's Youtube channel.

## *A Birthday Wish*

Job Comfort Dog came to Christ the King in October of 2016.

What a blessing he continues to be to the congregation and the community at large! As we prepared for Job's arrival, the members of CTK were generous in supporting his ministry, even before they realized the true importance and reach of his comforting presence. And they continued to be so, with the understanding that Job's ministry is not supported in the budget, but is self-sustaining, as required by LCC.



As a result of Job's very active schedule over the last ten years, including deployments and emergency site visits, and his regular needs, such as grooming, vet visits, food, and other necessities, Job's once-healthy coffers are being gradually depleted. We need your help! *In order for Job to be cared for and to be ready to deploy when needed, we are asking for your assistance in making sure his team has what is necessary to continue his ministry.*

As it happens, Job's June 1 birthday is approaching! Beginning on May 24 and continuing for several weeks, Job will have a "birthday tree" in the rotunda from which you can choose a "paw" representing an amount to help with expenses; for instance, \$10 toward vitamins, or \$20 toward grooming, or \$30 toward food, or \$50 for vet visits, or a similar amount for deployments or other needs. Alternatively, you can specify an amount to go where it is most needed.

We appreciate your considering this "BIRTHDAY WISH!" We can assure you Job is very fiscally responsible and won't be blowing his birthday money on candy or comic books!

Thank you so much for your support. Job Comfort Dog loves his CTK family!

*And speaking of Birthdays....Let's celebrate on May 3!*



# LWML NEWS

## NEW MEETING TIME!

Our next LWML Meeting will be Thursday, May 21, at 5:00-6:30PM. We welcome and encourage every woman to use her God-given gifts to serve the Lord with gladness! Our new Officers will be installed at this meeting.

## BOOK SALE JUNE 7!

We are now receiving new and gently used Books and Magazines. The drop-off location is in the Rotunda. The sale will take place before and after Second Service in the Fellowship Hall hallway.

Proceeds will go toward constructing Lutheran World Relief Fabric Kits. PRICES: Adult hardbacks, \$2.00. Adult paperbacks, 2 for \$1.00. Children's books, 2 for \$1.00. Magazines, \$0.25.



The first SUNDAY of every month is Mite Box Sunday! Please drop your Mighty Mites in the box located in the church narthex!

## GRANT PAYMENT PROGRESS REPORT

Your Mites are at work! On March 6, a check for \$5,000 was presented to Lutheran Braille Workers for their mission project "Taking Jesus to Visually Impaired Inmates." Your mites, along with those collected from sister churches in the Mid-South District, made this mission dream a reality. Thank you!

## Mark Your Calendars

2026 District Convention - June 12-14, 2026, Springdale, AR  
Wendy Arth and Pat Paavola will be our LWML delegates.  
We invite anyone else that would like to attend to register online at [midsouthlwml.org](http://midsouthlwml.org).

*"The Lord Reigns!"*



# YOUTH MIN @CTK

MAY 2026

VBS 2026



VBS 2026 needs you! Check out the sign up sheet at the Rotunda Table and join our team for a week filled with COOL Challenges as we help the kids Find Their Strength in God!! The theme is based on Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." We will be learning how God strengthened people in biblical stories and how He is with us today to give us the strength to meet the challenges of our lives and do everything for His glory. Questions?? Contact Kitty at [kkosman@ctkmemphis.com](mailto:kkosman@ctkmemphis.com).

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

### CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR GRADUATES !!

Just because you graduate from High School does not mean you are done with CTK YOUTH!!! Join us each Sunday morning at 9:45am in the Youth Room to study God's Word and learn how you can rely on scripture to give you guidance as your path takes you in new directions. Mr. Kevin Baskette and others will be continuing through the summer months and we would love to have you come and join the discussion!!

Watch for events and opportunities to get together in all the communication & social media formats!!



**MIDDLE SCHOOLERS**— Invite your friends and join Mr. LeBorious on May 15 @ 6:00 in the Youth Room for an evening of fun and fellowship. AND MINI GOLF at Shelby Farms on May 30, 10:00 am.

Interested in helping in CTK Sunday School over the summer months? Contact Ms. Kitty. We would love to have your help with our summer program.

## CTK SUNDAY SCHOOL

CTK SS kiddos are finishing up the month of May with a look at the some of Jesus' parables as well as a few of His miracles during His three years of ministry. We have noted how the Gospels tell the same story, but have different details and why. We will be culminating the semester with His appearance to the disciples and others following His resurrection, just as He promised.

June brings our summer study of Psalm 23. We will be learning about shepherds, sheep, the country of Ireland, and much more. CTK Sunday School is for children who have completed PK4 through 6th grade.

Lutheran Children's Camp is coming up soon, June 15-19, at Camp Clark Williamson in Humboldt, TN! Register today for this week-long camp for those who have completed 3rd through 7th grades. This camp, popular among CTK children for decades, gives kids a chance to experience God's Word through nature with Christian counselors and friends. This year's theme is "Using our WISDOM to make good choices," based on James 1:5. Visit this link to register now!

<https://www.lutheranchildrencamp.com/register>

**UPCOMING SMALL GROUP DATES**

- \***Tuesday, May 12, 7PM** — Michael and Lisa Salzgeber  
 "Church History in Plain Language" michael.salzgeber@sylvamo.com
- \***Wednesday, May 12 & 26, 7PM** — Steven & Jennifer Andrews  
 "Limping with God: Jacob and the Old Testament" drewkrewe@yahoo.com
- \***Date to Be Announced** — Pastor Matt's group for 20's and 30's  
 pastormatt@ctkmemphis.com
- \***Saturday, May 30, 6:30PM** — Study of James, various leaders  
 Billy & Carol Kutteh cckutteh@yahoo.com
- \***Every Thursday, 7PM** — Jim Devan "Woodworking" j\_devan@bellsouth.net

*CTK's first Ladies' Night Out was complete with delicious food, awesome décor, and delightful entertainment. Christian entertainer Wendysue Fluegg took to the stage with songs, stories, and humor, and even had the ladies up on their feet line-dancing and do-si-do-ing. We enjoyed the company of ladies from sister congregations as well as friends of members. We look forward to our next Ladies' Night Out! This event was sponsored by CTK's Office of Community Outreach.*





Mothers, daughters, and ladies  
of the church

You are invited to the

*Mother  
Daughter  
Tea*

Saturday May 9

3:00 PM

Fellowship Hall

**See the table in the rotunda**



# CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

## MAY 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3 Mite Box Sunday</b> 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship	<b>4</b> 5:45p Faith in Action Mtg. 6:30p Elders Meeting	<b>5</b> 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 11:45a Altar Guild Mtg.	<b>6</b> 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 7:00p Woodworking Sm. Grp.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>10 Mothers' Day</b> 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship	<b>11</b> 6:00p Church Council	<b>12</b> 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 7:00p Sm Group-Andrews 7:00p Sm. Group-Salzgeber	<b>13</b> 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	<b>14 Ascension</b> 7:00p Ascension Worship 	<b>15</b> 6:00p MS Party	<b>16</b> 10:30a Job Handlers Mtg.
<b>17 CONFIRMATION</b> 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship - Confirmation 12:15p Stepping Stones - Book Club	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 5:00p RITI	<b>20</b> 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 9:00a CTK 8th Grade Graduation 5:00p LWML Meeting 7:00p Woodworking Sm. Grp.	<b>22</b> 9:00a PK4 Grad. 10:30a CTK Kinder. Grad.	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Pentecost</b> 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship	<b>25 Memorial Day</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	<b>26</b> 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 7:00p Sm. Group-Andrews	<b>27</b> 10:00a Bible Study	<b>28</b> 7:00p Woodworking Sm. Grp.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00a MS Youth Event 6:30p Sm Group-Kutteh
<b>31</b> 8:30a Worship 9:45a Adult Study 9:45a Sunday School 11:00a Worship						