



AUGUST 2025

THE KING'S MESSENGER

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMPHIS, TN

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well, enjoying the last few weeks of summer. Soon, school will start as well as the usual demands of Fall.

I want to thank all of our Small Group leaders and hosts for their dedication to being in the Word along with cultivating fellowship in these groups. Friendships grounded in the Word are the best friendships. If you've been attending one of these groups, thank you for your participation and support. It speaks volumes when we have small groups geographically spread around town and within these groups, a variety of topics and studies appealing to all ages and perspectives. Consider joining one of our Small Groups; new participants are always welcome. A listing of them is included in this newsletter or you can find the Small Group Calendar on CTK's App.

I want to thank Jim Devan and Rusty Luloff for their work in securing preliminary drawings from Hord Architects. We've held a number of information meetings and there has been excellent feedback and comments. We are narrowing things down in terms of what needs to be done. A fundraising team has been assembled. We hope to launch a campaign soon. The amount of money isn't small but I've seen God work in and through all of you many times and I'm confident that He will provide and good things await. Please keep this effort in your prayers.

I'll bet you didn't know that this year marks the 65th anniversary for Christ the King Lutheran School! Few things are as important as a solid, Christian-based education and I'm proud to be the pastor of a church that has a school. I'm equally thankful for the blessing and the challenge that our single ministry (and budget) presents. When ministry is always "easy," one must question whether ministry is occurring. Keep our precious school, talented teachers, and staff Ann and Jan in your prayers, and look for ways to celebrate and support our blessed school.

Be sure to thank Ashley Baskette, Emily Smith, Chandra Smith, and Pastor Matt for chaperoning the youth in New Orleans at the LCMS Youth Gathering. Events like these go a long way toward formulating faith and service in our youth and, based on what I've heard, it was a wonderful, edifying time for all.

I pray the Lord to bless you, your family, and your loved ones. Christ the King Church and School is a bastion of hope and grace in our society. Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel!

Pastor Mark





On **Sunday, August 3**, the faculty of Christ the King Lutheran School will be commissioned at the 8:30 and 11:00AM services. We will also be installing Kayla Johnson, a new called teacher in Early Childhood, and welcoming other new staff members in our elementary and middle school. ***Join us at a reception in our faculty's honor between services in the Fellowship Hall.*** We pray for God's blessings as they begin a new year of teaching precious children and sharing the love of Jesus along with challenging academics. How grateful we are at CTK to have this shared ministry between school and church!

We are still accepting applications for enrollment for the 2025-26 academic year. Contact Ann Laury, Head of School, at ann.laury@ctkschool.com.



2026 TANZANIA MISSION

*To communicate to the people of Tanzania the life-changing power of Jesus Christ
in a practical and understanding way; to develop them into responsible, productive, successful Christians,
and to equip them for their ministry in the church and like mission in the world.*

With the help of our Mid-South District Mission Coordinator, Bob Allen, a group of Christ the King members are planning to return to Tanzania, Africa, in May of 2026. Our previous missions that started in 2005 focused on outreach ministry. Team members will go door-to-door in villages to spread the Word of God and the wonderful news of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

SUNDAY, August 17, after Sunday School, we will hold a "get acquainted" meeting for all those interested in joining the 2026 Tanzania Mission Team. We'll talk about cost, daily activities, and past experiences, and begin general planning for the late spring 2026 Mission trip. We plan to visit the city of Shinyanga, home of the Southeast of Lake Victoria Lutheran District (SELVD). The main emphasis of the mission will be to share the Good News of Jesus with the Sukuma people, located in Northwest Tanzania. The team will be accompanied by local ministers and lay persons who will act as translators. We will be using simple techniques such as an Evangecube of Bible storytelling. So, if you can share a 4th grade level Sunday School lesson in your own words, **you are qualified!**

Again, please join us in the Conference Room (first floor, first room on the right) on Sunday, August 17, at 11:00am. If you are unable to make the meeting, we have information available for you to pick up. We will have the next meeting in September after the 11:00 worship service. We will alternate meeting dates for both worship services.

Please contact Mike or Cindy Jurgensen at 901-848-0447 or Cindy @cjurgen3@gmail.com if you have questions. We would be glad to answer them!

11th ANNUAL CHILI AUCTION-SEPTEMBER 21

It's less than two months until our Chili Cook-off Contest, Silent Auction, Wine Pull, Battle of the Bourbons, Parade of the Nutcrackers, and so much more!

Beef, chicken, and veggie chili, and BBQ for those who want another option. And the BEATLES ARE BACK! Come enjoy Hollis Prince, Pastor Chuck, Chris Cardona, and Mike Salzgeber as they bring out the best of the best entertainment this year! But, PLEASE sign up so we know how many to serve! Anyone can also enter the Chili Contest! You may even win! If you have a talent to share that would make a great auction item, a wine you'd like to donate, or bourbon for our pulls, we are accepting items now! All proceeds go to fully fund our adopted school in Haiti and to support our community's local non-profits with various needed in-kind donations. Thank you for your continued support! Sign up at bit.ly/ChiliAuction2025! Check out the flyer on the following page for a convenient QR code!



11TH ANNUAL CHILI BOWL TO REACH A GOAL CELEBRATING AUTUMN

BY GIVING BACK

A Fall Chili Contest and Silent Auction for Charity

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

12 - 4 PM

Benefiting Local, National and International missions of
Faith in Action Ministry of Christ the King Lutheran Church

Trinity Hope Feeding Program / Adopted Haitian School
One More Child Crisis Center for Trafficking
Down Syndrome Association Memphis

Habitat for Humanity
NHC Somerville Rehab
Room In The Inn



Baptist Reynolds Hospice
Dorothy Day House
Fed Ex Family House

CTK Comfort Dog Ministry



Sign up at:

bit.ly/ChiliAuction2025

Christ the King Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

5296 PARK AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TN 38119

nmtrmutti@gmail.com for more information



Potluck *Lunch*

Bring a main dish
plus salad or
dessert!

CTK Youth will share
experiences from the
LCMS Gathering and
thank the congregation
for their support

We'll celebrate
New Members!

Sunday, August 24, 2025 12:15PM
Fellowship Hall



**RSVP at bit.ly/CTKPotluck
or sign up in the rotunda**



After enjoying a summer break, Christ the King's Adult Choir members will gather together to begin their new season of making beautiful music, under the direction of Mr. Chris Cardona.

Join us in the choir loft at 6:30PM every Wednesday evening, **beginning September 3**. If you have any questions, please contact Chris at cmckeys@gmail.com. We would love to see you there!

CTK's Faith in Action Committee invites you to join them on Thursday, Aug. 14, at 5:30PM in the Fellowship Hall to assist adults with Down Syndrome in writing letters to their congressional leaders and local business owners to join in the celebration of National Down Syndrome Awareness Month at the 28th Annual Step Up for Down Syndrome Awareness Walk on October 26. Your participation would be so appreciated! Contact Caroline Johnson at nmtrmutti@gmail.com to RSVP.



Honoring the Hearts Behind Holy Hospitality

Each season, as the doors of our church open to welcome those in need of shelter, nourishment, and care, we are reminded of the profound generosity that flows from our congregation and community. This sacred work, what we lovingly call *holy hospitality*, would not be possible without the remarkable volunteers and members who offer their time, resources, and presence to serve our homeless overnight guests.

With Memphis enduring scorching summer temperatures and bitter cold in the winter, our church has become more than a shelter — it has become a refuge. A place where 13-14 guests each night find not only physical safety, but a warm meal, a soft place to rest, and the dignity of being seen and cared for.

This July, our “Undie Sunday” campaign (rotunda display pictured below) brought a wave of essential donations: pajamas, scrubs, socks, and underwear, all lovingly provided by members who answered the call. These gifts are more than garments; they’re acts of comfort in times of hardship. Thanks to Pam Winter, her granddaughter Grace, and Lindy Stephenson for spearheading this event.

Our volunteer team spans generations, from energetic 8-year-olds to wise elders in their 80’s, each offering holy hospitality through homemade dinners, hot breakfasts, bedside conversations, and compassionate watchfulness through the night. We’ve also seen a growing number of women and families among our guests, and our community continues to meet each new need with abundant grace.

To everyone who donates, stays up late, rises early, cooks, organizes, prays, and simply shows up — you embody the love of Christ in motion. You remind us what it truly means to be the Church: a living sanctuary of mercy and hope.

We are forever grateful.

The CTK Inn Crew





**MEET IN THE SCIENCE LAB, SCHOOL ADMIN BLDG
DON'T MISS THE KICKOFF OF A GREAT YEAR!**

CONFIRMATION KICKOFF

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 9:45AM

PASTORS

7TH & 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

PARENTS

LWML NEWS —

Sunday, Aug. 3, is Mite Box Sunday! Please drop off your mites (coin, cash, check) in the LWML Mite Box in the Narthex or you may give online. A recent grant of \$10,000 was sent to Family Promise of Greater Kingsport in East Tennessee, just one of many entities supported by your mites!

Tuesday, August 19, LWML members will be helping with Room in the Inn.

Thursday, August 21, 5:30-7:30PM is the date for our next LWML Meeting. Please join us for food, fun, and a quick meeting. We have mission work to prepare for the Lord and want to encourage women of all ages to come and help. See you then!

UPCOMING SMALL GROUP DATES

***Tuesday, August 12 & 26, 7PM** — Michael & Lisa Salzgeber

“Church History in Plain Language” michael.salzgeber@sylvamo.com

***Wednesday, August 13 & 27, 7PM** — Steven & Jennifer Andrews

“Limping with God: Jacob and the Old Testament” drewcrewe@yahoo.com

***Thursday, August 7, 6:30PM** — Pastor Matt's group for 20's and 30's

pastormatt@ctkmemphis.com

***Saturday, August 23, 7PM** — Billy & Carol Kutteh

Study of Galatians with various leaders cckutteh@yahoo.com

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

***Robyn Byrum “Crafting Moms”** For moms of teens and college-age kids.

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.

Help! I have misplaced my Bible! I have looked everywhere to no avail, and I'm hoping I set it down somewhere at church. It's been missing since the end of May. It has a soft gray cover (a gift from my family) and my name is in the bottom right-hand corner.

If found, please return to the church office or contact me, Joni Wolfe, at 901-827-3925. Thank you for helping in the search!

Joni Wolfe



“Because the love of God unites us...”

George and Emily Brammeier, soon-to-be new members of CTK, have recently returned from a Medical Mission Trip to Guatemala. Under the auspices of Health Talents International, the members of this mission trip served at Clinica Ezell in Monte Llano, Guatemala. This was Emily’s 8th trip and George’s third. Emily, a second-year medical student at UTenn, worked as a surgical assistant in the general OR while George served as a caregiver in post-op and assisted the nursing staff in the patient ward. In total, seventy-five surgeries were performed in the week they were at Clinica Ezell.

The Brammeiers are touched by the faith of the Guatemalan people, including one woman who, after receiving a miracle at the clinic, told all her village and now they go to the clinic “where God works.” As the Brammeiers left, one gentleman named Manuel said to George: “Farewell, God bless you. I tell you, George, to God there are no distances because the love of God unites us.” As a result of their many mission visits, George and Emily deeply admire the Guatemalan people who, despite their living conditions, are always joyous and faithful. George shared: “We have learned to appreciate all of our gifts and it has profoundly moved us to continue to give our time, talents, and treasures in the future.”

You are encouraged to be open to where the Lord may call you in mission work, whether close to home or far away. Sharing God’s love and mercy is our opportunity to act as Jesus would have us live.



SAVE THE DATE! Our next Men’s Ministry Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, Sept 6, 9:00am, in the Fellowship Hall. Paul Howell will once again provide us with a delicious and bountiful meal.

Our topic will be “Retirement.” People have many questions about Social Security benefits, trusts, wills, senior living, required minimum distributions, long-term care insurance, and the like. Our panel will address these issues and more.

Some of you are retired, but have questions. Some of you are nearing retirement age. Some of you have parents that you are trying to help with these issues. Let me know what questions you have so we are sure to cover them.

Part of our Free Will Offering will go toward the cost of food, in thanks to Paul for his generous cooking skills. Please register so Paul will know how many to cook for. You can RSVP to garyosing@gmail.com or 901-326-6737, on CTK’s App under the Events tab.

Comfort. *comfort* my people, says your God.

-ISAIAH 40:1



2025 LCC K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry
National Conference

Can you find Job and his Top Dog?



At the 2025 LCC K9 National Conference in Chicago, both Job Comfort Dog Team and the Future Dog Team made many friends, spent time with past deployment partners, and petted a LOT of dogs! They were thrilled to see the group of new puppies in training. The keynote speakers and breakout sessions were some of the best ever experienced at an LCC K9 Conference and the closing worship by Christian artist Jennie Williamson sent all home with a song in their hearts. Thank you to the members of Christ the King for their continued support.

Picture above, left to right: Job's Caregivers Laura and Henry Greinke are thrilled to work with the Future Dog's Caregiver Katie Eldridge as she learns from the best. Job's first trainer Kelly Pruessner elicited joyful tail wags (and a few licks) from Job. The two teams posed together with our beloved Job.



SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY AUGUST 17

Children PK4—6th and parents

Join us to meet teachers, check out curriculum and have a snack! Watch for the location!!

AUGUST HS/MS YOUTH EVENTS

8/3 ~ HS Youth Night ~ 5pm

8/10 ~ HS/MS Parent Meeting ~ 5pm

8/17 ~ HS Youth Night ~ 5pm

8/23 ~ HS Service Event ~ 5pm

8/29 ~ MS Party ~ 6pm

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

During June, and July, CTK Sunday School took a look at how different Bible characters followed God and Jesus calling to help accomplish God's plan. Moses was called to lead the people to the promised land; the Samaritan was called to help the injured traveler when no one else would; why the women walked while John and Peter ran to the empty tomb; and how the disciples responded to Jesus call to wait on the Holy Spirit when He ascended to His Father in heaven and then evangelize to all! Different callings and different paths, but each listened to the call and accomplished their role. During August we will take look at some of the names of Jesus and what they mean for each child as they continue deepening their understanding of their Savior!!

LCMSYG 2025 in New Orleans is in the books, but the High School students who attended made new friends, reconnected with some old friends, were inspired by amazing speakers, worshipped with 20,000 Lutherans, and came home exhausted and renewed all at the same time. The theme for the gathering was **ENDURE!** No matter what gets put in your path, call on the Lord... He hears you and promises to be with you through it all! Thanks to Ashley Baskette, Emily Smith, Pastor Matt and Chandra Smith for braving the bus ride, heat, and craziness of New Orleans to make sure all the kids made it home safe and sound!

Next stop—San Antonio 2028!

High School SS - 9:45 in Youth Room

LCMSYG 2025

NEW ORLEANS





**Lutheran
Women**
in Mission

MID-SOUTH DISTRICT



*Experience
the Joy*

Fall Retreat - Middle
Sep 19-21, 2025
Camp Garner Creek
Dickson, TN

Based on the Bible Study by Miriam Maassel Neumann

- Begins 3:00 pm Friday – Ends 10:00 am Sunday
- Dinner Friday, three meals Saturday, breakfast Sunday
- Free time to hike, rest and enjoy the view
- Registration deadline is September 5
- Questions? Contact Christine Acomb at christine.lwml@gmail.com
- Details at www.midsouthlwml.org/district-retreats





Rejoice always (1 Thessalonians 5:16)



CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 BACKPACK BLESSING MITE BOX SUNDAY 8:30a Worship 9:45a Summer SS 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship 5:00p HS Youth Night	4 6:30p Bd. of Elders	5 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiahs	6  	7 6:00p Sm. Group -Pastor Matt 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	1	2
10 8:30a Worship 9:45a Summer SS 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship 5:00p HS/MS Youth Parent Night	11	12 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiahs 7:00p Sm. Group-Salzgeber	13 7:00p Sm. Group-Andrews	14 5:30p FIA-DSAM 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	15	16 10:30a Job Handlers Mtg.
17 SS RALLY DAY 8:30a Worship 9:45a Adult Study 11:00a Tanzania Mission Mtg. 11:00a Worship 5:00p HS Youth Night 5:00p Calvary Mission	18 6:00p Church Council	19 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiahs 5:00p RITI	20	21 5:30p LWML Meeting 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	22	23 5:00p HS Service Event 7:00p Sm Group-Kutteh
24 8:30a Worship 9:45a Confirmation Kickoff 9:45a Summer SS 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship	25 6:00p Bd. of Ed.	26 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiahs 7:00p Sm. Group-Salzgeber	27 7:00p Sm. Group-Andrews	28 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	29 6:00p MS Youth Party	30
31 8:30a Worship 9:45a Summer SS 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship	1 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED					