



SEPTEMBER 2025

THE KING'S MESSENGER

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

MEMPHIS, TN

*"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6*

God's grace and peace be to you, CTK family! It has been quite the summer here at CTK — from hosting the District Convention Service to making the trip all the way to New Orleans for the Lutheran Youth Gathering, things have been busy! It's such a blessing to have so many ministries going here at CTK; the LORD is certainly at work here in our church.

As time goes on, we are not slowing down at all. In addition to regular worship services and Bible study, the CTK calendar is already full of many events and ministries planned that I am looking forward to. One of my favorites is the Chili Bowl Auction for which I have the good fortune of being a taster again AND performing with the famous CTK Beatles, ha! It's really a special thing to be able to share in fellowship together in so many ways throughout the year. The work that all of you put into making people feel welcome and a part of the family, and the time sacrificed in carrying out our mission, make CTK the special place it is. I love being able to tell people about all the things we do out of love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

This verse from Proverbs is important for us to remember as things amp up and with Advent and Christmas on the horizon. With busyness comes added stress and worry. Not just for church but also in our home lives. Life never really seems to slow down, and it can very quickly overwhelm us as we try and navigate it all. I'm sure we've all felt the weight of trying to make everything work on our own. From work, to kids in school, to family, and yes, even church. Things can seem to get out of hand quickly and our sins only seem to compile on top of it all. But listen to what Solomon writes here: "Trust in the LORD."

More than simply "to trust," the Hebrew word "*batach*" means to "feel safe" or "confident." Solomon urges us to feel safe and confident in the LORD. That includes every aspect of our lives. From our busy schedules to the sins that weigh us down, we are to feel safe and confident with God. It is so easy to "lean on our own understanding" in our lives that we sometimes forget that God is actively working in and with us. Through the prophet Jeremiah God says, "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." God has a plan and future for us in His son Jesus Christ. He has a plan for CTK and for each of us individually. We will see this plan fulfilled ultimately when our LORD returns but we can also see it each day here in this life as God provides what we need when we need it no matter how busy life may get.

I urge all of you to remember these words for Solomon this month. Maybe post them on your fridge or mirror where you will see them each day. Because worry and stress will come as the year goes on, but we can rejoice that we have a God who has a future for us. So, lean not on your own understanding; rather, feel safe and confident in the LORD! I look forward to an amazing month with all of you and I cannot wait to see what God will do here.

God's blessings and peace be to you all!

Pastor Matt

A Sunday to Remember!

On Sunday, August 24, the members of Christ the King were thrilled to welcome twenty new members into the church family. *Thank you, Caroline Johnson, for the great pictures!*



Top Row: Xavier & Liz Meyer; Martin & Megan Ostmann and children Julian, Theodore, Frederick, and Marietta; Ken Nygaard

Second Row: Shannon & Lauren Sullivan; Patrick & Juliet Wheeler; Lauren Denney and son Will

Third Row: Kayla Johnson; Matt Zielsdorf; Steve Hubbard; George & Emily Brammeier

Fourth Row: Donna Cooper

Welcome!



SUNDAY SCHOOL (PK4-6TH) Our summer sessions culminated with a lesson on labor day and September brings us to Unit 7, *Jesus Comes for Us*, part of the Enduring Faith Curriculum from CPH. Many thanks to returning classroom teachers; Pat Oxford, Kim Britt, Linda Ritter, Christy Murphy, Nick Tieman, and Bill Kuykendall and welcome to Linda Smiley!! Under the leadership of Sharon Hyde, RALLY DAY was a success, registering 38 students and welcoming our new PK4 students into the fold! After 4 units of digging into the Old Testament, the older students are looking forward to seeing the fulfillment of many prophecies they learned about through our New Testament lessons and how Jesus Christ was pointed to from before the beginning of time. Thank you to all our parents for trusting your precious children to our care every Sunday morning as we help you guide them on their faith journey! SS meets Sunday morning 9:45am in the Room by the Gym!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

It is always hard to return to everyday life after a wonderful mountain top experience! **CTK's High School youth who were part of the New Orleans LCMSYG have brought back a new energy for the Lord.** Mrs. Ashley Baskette, Mrs. Emily Smith and Mrs. Chandra Smith will be coordinating our HS youth students fellowship and service activities going forward and Mr. Kevin Baskette will be heading up a team of Sunday morning leaders. Even if you were unable to attend the Youth Gathering, we want and encourage you to join us. High School can be a challenging time and who better to help you cope with these challenges than Jesus?? Friendships built on common Christian tenants will help stabilize your own faith and strengthen one another! Check out the calendar of events and come see what we are all about.

A big thanks to Mr. Nathan Laborious for his leadership over the last year!!

See you Sunday morning at 9:45 am

Coming Events:

High School

Sept. 14 ~ Gaming Tournament—Smith Home—3-6pm

Sept. 28 ~ Board Game Night —Schmidt Home—5-7 pm

Middle School

Sept 6 ~ Pool party—Summers Home—1-3pm

Sept 20 ~ Service Event – CTK Campus—10am -12:30pm

Sept. 26 ~ MS Party—CTK—6 - 9 pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

7TH & 8TH grade students have began Confirmation classes under the direction and teaching of Pastor Mark Goble & Mrs. Genie Swan.

Middle School Youth Group activities, service events and Bible study will continue under the guidance of Mr. Nathan Leborious. **Confirmation meets each Sunday at 9:45am in Room 203!**



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!

Christ the King's Altar Guild

invites the women of CTK to its first meeting of the season on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 11:45AM, in the Church Parlour.

If you have an interest in serving behind the scenes in creating a reverent and holy place of worship, this is the group for you!

Saturday and Sunday slots are available so you can serve according to your schedule.

Join us as we look to the meaningful services of Reformation, Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas, each with its own special emphasis of liturgical design.

For more information, contact Karen Whitlock, karenwhitlock967@gmail.com.

Christ the King will be observing LWML Sunday on September 28. The ladies of the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) will be serving in various ways throughout the morning, and will be offering information about their upcoming mission projects.

Ladies, please consider becoming a part of LWML, the official women's auxiliary of the LCMS, whose stated objective is to joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Meetings are the third Thursday of every month at 5:30PM.

TANZANIA MISSION TEAM UPDATE

We're very excited about the 2026 Tanzania Mission! We had our first meeting and the Lord is answering our prayers with potential new team members!

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, September 14, after the 11:00 service in the Church Parlour. We will be discussing upcoming fundraisers and securing support letters.

It's not too late to join the team! Contact Cindy Jurgensen at cj3jurgen@gmail.com or 901-848-0447. — Mike & Cindy Jurgensen

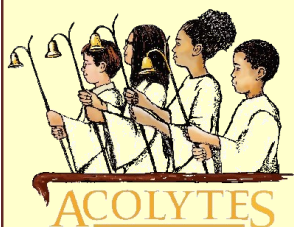
On Sunday, Sept. 7, we will join in a hymnal-led worship service using the Divine Service, Setting Three, as found in our hymnal, the Lutheran Service Book. This music-filled liturgy will include familiar melodies, some sung by the congregation and others chanted by Pastor Matt. It's a wonderful opportunity to revisit cherished traditions while teaching future generations the richness of our liturgical history. Soli Deo Gloria!

Dear Friends in Christ,

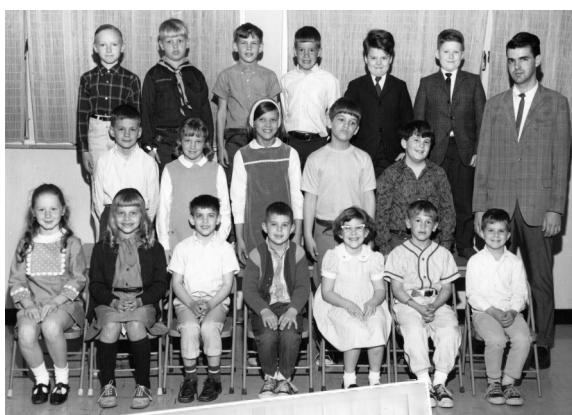
Years ago, when our children were very young, Kim started planning for their future, specifically their education. She set up what is called a 529 plan wherein one can put money into an account which can later pay for qualified school expenses. It was a wise move on Kim's part.

CTK's Stewardship emphasis is just around the corner and I know that you are excellent stewards of God's gifts both in your home and toward the Lord's work here at Christ the King. In the weeks and months ahead, I would ask that you prayerfully consider what you might be able to set aside. Whether it's home, retirement, your children's future, or Christ the King, it's always good to plan and prepare for future needs and opportunities. Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel. God bless you and your loved ones.

Pastor Mark



Attention, 7th graders and parents — Acolyte Training will take place on Saturday, August 30, 2PM, and Saturday, September 6, 10AM, in the sanctuary. Please contact Mrs. Swan at 901-827-9223 or gswan@ctkmemphis.com with any questions. See you there!



*Coming soon!
Celebrate Christ the
King Lutheran
School on its 65th
Anniversary!*



Job's Journal

"Job's here! Job's here!" The excited cry rings through the halls at assisted living facilities when the residents and staff see Job Comfort Dog walking in the building. When Job and his handler enter the facility, wheelchairs and walkers converge in the lobby to await their person's turn to pet this precious pup who brings comfort and smiles. He has quite an avid fan base! In hospitals, the intercom announces Job to the nursing staff; in schools, the counselor texts certain faculty members that she knows need a little extra cheer. "Job's here!" and they make time in their busy schedules to stop by for a snuggle and hug. What a blessing our Job is to so many people!



Above: Job Comfort Dog greeted the children at CTK on the first day of school; Above left: the sisters of Henry Askew enjoyed a visit from Job; Right: Friends wait patiently to say hello to Job at Ciel of Collierville!

Our 11th Annual Chili Bowl Event is coming up September 21st, from noon - 4 in the Fellowship Hall! Please sign up to attend, help or bring items. Deadline for auction items is September 14th! No items will be accepted after this date because all items have to be cataloged and bid sheets printed. Thank you for understanding! This is a benefit event to allow us to keep providing funding to our adopted school in Haiti, as well as an outreach to local non-profits who may need help. Sign up on the rotunda at your convenience, or see the QR code on the poster that takes you to the online SignupGenius. Thank you for all your support! *Your CTK Faith in Action Team!*



Scenes from previous Chili Bowl Auctions!

FUTURE COMFORT DOG UPDATE

The Future Comfort Dog Team attended the 2025 National LCC K9 Conference in Northbrook, IL, in July. Everyone enjoyed the conference, especially the NINETY-NINE Comfort Dogs from across the country **and** the pups in training. The conference was not only a team-building experience but also increased our excitement as we move closer and closer to getting our second Comfort Dog.

What's the BIG question everyone is asking?

"When are we getting our second Comfort Dog?"

We are very close to submitting all the application paperwork. There are still Handler and Ministry Partner spots available. If you are interested, please contact Dianna Garner at 901-237-6111 or email diannagarner@comcast.net. In case you didn't know, the entire CTK congregation is a member of The Comfort Dog Ministry and we sincerely thank you for **all** of your prayers and support.



The Future Dog Team gestures to where they hope their dog will be at the next National LCC K9 Conference!

Katie (left) and Christy get an extra snuggle from LCC Comfort Dog-in-Training "Believe."



Rise and Shine

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 11
9:00AM in the Fellowship Hall

**Panel to answer questions on
retirement topics**

**SIGN UP IN THE
ROTUNDA**

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

SIPFEST FIRST *Saturday* 10.4.25 11_a-2_p

FREE EVENT sponsored by Sea Isle Park Neighborhood Association

Save the Date and Volunteer! Our neighborhood festival — SIPFest — is right around the corner on October 4, 11am—2pm! We are looking for volunteers to grill burgers and hot dogs, as well as friendly people to staff our booth, greet festival-goers, and invite neighbors to visit Christ the King. Contact Steven Andrews to volunteer at skandrews24@gmail.com.

UPCOMING SMALL GROUP DATES

- ***Tuesday, Sept. 2, 9, 23, 7PM** — Michael & Lisa Salzgeber
“Church History in Plain Language” michael.salzgeber@sylvamo.com
- ***Steven & Jennifer Andrews** - Watch for upcoming dates for a new study
drewcrewe@yahoo.com
- ***Thursday, Sept. 11, 6PM** — Pastor Matt’s group for 20’s and 30’s
pastormatt@ctkmemphis.com (at the home of the Aaron & Gracie Tidyman)
- ***Saturday, Sept. 27, 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



**Lutheran
Women**
in Mission

MID-SOUTH DISTRICT



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

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LABOR DAY OFFICES CLOSED	2 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 11:45a Altar Guild 7:00p Sm. Group-Salzgeber	3 10:00a Wed. Bible Study 6:30p Adult Choir	4 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	5	6 10:00a Acolyte Training 1:00p MS Youth Swim Party
7 Mite Box Sunday 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship	8 6:30p Bd. of Elders	9 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 7:00p Sm. Group-Salzgeber	10 10:00a Wed. Bible Study 6:30p Adult Choir	11 6:00p Sm.Grp.- Pastor Matt 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	12	13 10:00a Future Comfort Dog Mtg.
14 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship TBDp HS Youth Gaming Tournament	15 6:00p Church Council	16 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 5:00p RITI	17 10:00a Wed. Bible Study 6:30p Adult Choir	18 5:30p LWML 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	19	20 10:00a MS Youth Service Event
21 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship 12:00p CHILI BOWL 5:00p Calvary Mission Dinner	22	23 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's 7:00p Sm. Group-Salzgeber	24 10:00a Wed. Bible Study 6:30p Adult Choir	25 7:00p Sm.Grp.- Woodworking	26 6:00p MS Youth Party	27 8:00a Ministry Planning Mtg. 7:00p Sm Group-Kutteh
28 LWML Sunday 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a Youth Confirmation 9:50a Adult Study 11:00a Worship 5:00p HS Youth Board Game Night	29 6:00p Bd. of Ed.	30 7:00a Men's Bible Study 8:00a Nehemiah's		