



OCTOBER 2026

THE KING'S MESSENGER

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

MEMPHIS, TN

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." – Colossians 3:12

I'm a big believer in self-improvement. Ask Kim, I could use all the improvement I can get — ha! I attended the Spiritual First Aid workshop held here at CTK September 18-19, both the Friday evening session and all day on Saturday. You might think that a pastor would be well-equipped to give spiritual aid and you're right, but only because of first-hand experience, learning as one goes, so to speak. What I've learned has been the hard way, as they say. The training seminarians receive in this area is light but in our seminary's defense they place the emphasis on doctrine, preaching, and teaching — critical pastoral tasks. Spiritual care is very important and what I learned from Rev. Singer and his wife was very helpful and can be for anyone. Here are a few things that everyone can benefit from:

First: When someone is in trauma it is paramount that one listens. Often, in the name of help, we want to rush in, solve the problem, limit pain, and so we speak up too quickly. It's important to let people talk.

Second: Small things matter. Helping people calm down through simple breathing exercises helps tremendously. It lowers stress. It reduces heartrate and otherwise calms the nerves. Did you know that peppermint reduces stress? Have some mints handy.

Third: When people are in trauma, they are going to run through a litany of issues. It's helpful to them, after listening, to try to get them to verbalize which issue is causing them the most stress. This provides clarity for them and it offers a path forward. Simply ask, "What do you need help with the most?"

Fourth: (This one is a gem.) It's more important to be physically present than it is to say something and the great news about this is it takes the pressure off. You don't have to say the "magic" word, and there isn't one, anyway. You don't have to recite multiple Bible verses either. Simply being there with them is helping them more than you realize.

These are just a few simple, easily implemented ways to help others.

I've always thought Christ the King is a warm, welcoming, caring congregation. The New Testament is clear that we are to love and care for each other. The better equipped we are to help people, the stronger we are as a congregation, and the more likely we will be able to reflect Christ's love, mercy, and forgiveness to others. Perhaps, as a church, we can pursue a Spiritual First Aid Care Team here at Christ the King.

Thank you for the love and care you give to others, in the Name of Jesus..

Pastor Mark



From Gratitude Comes Generosity

*You will be enriched in every way so that you
can be generous on every occasion, and
through us your generosity will result in
thanksgiving to God. 2 Cor. 9:11*

**STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25, 2026**



REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 2026

**Stewardship Sunday
Worship at 8:30 and 11AM
Sunday School 9:45AM
REFORMATION POTLUCK 12:15PM**



Pastor Appreciation Sunday **October 18, 2026**



**Here's your chance to let your Pastors
know how much you appreciate their
faithfulness and compassion.
Baskets will be available in the narthex
to add your cards and well wishes for
each of our Pastors
(and Kim and Diane)!**

*Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you
with knowledge and understanding. " — Jeremiah 3:15*

SEA ISLE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FREE EVENT

VENDORS

LIVE MUSIC

FREE FOOD

PROVIDED BY OUR SIPNA
NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES



CAKE WALK!

BOUNCY HOUSES!

GAMES!

BALLOON LADY!

PHOTO BOOTH!

NEIGHBORHOOD FESTIVAL

SAT, OCTOBER 3, 2026 11AM-2PM

MCWHERTER CENTER PARKING LOT (CORNER OF ESTATE & SEA ISLE ROAD)

MPD TACT UNIT, MEMPHIS FIRE DEPARTMENT - HOOK & LADDER TRUCK!

POLICE SPECIAL FORCES WITH THE MOUNTED PATROL & CANINE UNIT!

FREE FLU SHOTS! (PROVIDED @ SIPFEST BY WALGREENS PHARMACIST)

WALK OR DRIVE... PARKING ON ESTATE & SEA ISLE SCHOOL LOT.

PER MPD
NO PETS ALLOWED



Happy Anniversary, Job Comfort Dog!

Join us in the rotunda on Oct. 11 to celebrate Job's 10th Anniversary!

Can you believe it's been TEN YEARS since we welcomed Job Comfort Dog into the Christ the King family? It seems like only yesterday we were marveling at the unconventional idea of a dog doing ministry! Our application to Lutheran Church Charities took three years to process but the end result was so worth waiting for! We knew from the beginning that Job was a one-of-a-kind dog and we were very blessed that God had chosen to share him with us. Our first Top Dog, Barbara Schmitt, charted the course for this previously unexplored outreach and gradually Job became a favorite of both CTK members and people in the community. We are grateful for Barbara's astute leadership in our fledgling Comfort Dog ministry.

In addition to his Caregivers Henry and Laura Greinke, and his current Top Dog Genie Swan, — who all serve as Handlers — Job's current team also includes Handlers Peggy Askew, Gretchen Eisenhart, Debbi Foshee, Dianna Garner, Cheryl Lockhart, and Dave Swan; and Ministry Partners Jackie Brotchner, Peggy Krohn, Joni Wolfe, Carol Guenter, and Social Media rep Laura Smith.

In addition to his visits to area medical and nursing facilities, schools, libraries, community events, and home visits, Job has been deployed over the years to a number of crises around the country, as well as close to home.

In review, these include the following:

- *Nov., 2015—Chattanooga, TN, Woodmore Elementary Bus Crash
- *Jan., 2018—Benton, KY, Marshall County High School mass shooting
- *Feb. 2018, Parkland, FL, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School mass shooting
- *May & Sept, 2020—Uvalde, TX, Robb Elementary School mass shooting
- *Oct. 2021—Collierville, TN, Kroger shooting
- *Aug, 2022—Memphis, TN, St. Mary's School in the wake of the Eliza Fletcher tragedy
- *March, 2023- Nashville, TN, Covenant School mass shooting
- *Sept., 2024—Winder, GA, Appalachee High School mass shooting
- *April, 2025—Mountain Home, AR—Death of a high school student; and Crittenden County, KY, at the death of a school resource officer.

In each of these deployments, as well as in every visit that he makes on a weekly or monthly basis, Job and his handlers have been and continue to be able to bring comfort and peace in the name of Jesus Christ. We celebrate Job's ten years among us and look forward to more comforting from his beautiful heart in the years ahead.



Some of our favorite pictures throughout the years

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS!



Above, left: Our theme for this school year is “Lavishly Loved.” Check us out!

Above, right, top: Our Preschool students and teachers show big 901 energy!

Left: We were officially presented with our passing of NLSA Accreditation from the Mid-South District. A representative was on hand to present us with our banner and certificate.

Veterans, mark your calendars for our annual Veterans Day service on November 11.

More information coming soon!

Room in the Inn Updates!

October is a month in which we do not host RITI so we take the time to restock our closet for what our guests might need in the upcoming winter months. Most needed items include: Children’s pajamas, all sizes; Underwear, all sizes for women & men; Adult sweatpants, shirts, & scrubs, all sizes for women & men; Socks, all sizes for men, women, & children.



Thank you to our loyal volunteers who gave of themselves over the summer. Please prayerfully consider helping us this winter; there are a variety of ways. Your heart will be blessed as our guests will be. — Your RITI@CTK Team

YOUTHMIN@CTK

October 2026

HIGH SCHOOL—MIDDLE SCHOOL

For all of you who are travelling for Fall Break, we wish you safe travel and a wonderful time.

But, if you are in Memphis, please join us on Sunday mornings for your regularly scheduled classes! HS meets in the Youth Room @ 9:45 and Youth Confirmation Class meets in the Admin. Bldg. Room #203 @ 9:45.

HS will be helping at SIPFEST on Oct. 3.
See Miss Paige for more information.

HS—Party Oct. 25

MS (6-8th) - MS Retreat—Camp Trinity
(Petit Jean, Arkansas) Oct. 16—18th.
Miss Paige has all the details.



CTK SUNDAY SCHOOL

PK4—6th Grade

After a Successful Rally Day we have begun our fall curriculum— CPH's Enduring Faith - Unit 1... In the Beginning.

Each week the students delve into God's Word discovering the Bible is more than a book for stories. Our dedicated teachers guide classes through lessons that help students learn about Gods Law and His forgiveness and always point to Jesus, His love and His sacrifice for each of us.

Thanks to our teachers this year—Pat Oxford, Linda Smiley, Linda Ritter, Kim Britt, Christy Murphy, Nick Tieman, Bill Kuykendall, Sharon Hyde and Kitty Kosman

SS starts at 9:45am sharp with opening in the room adjacent to the gym

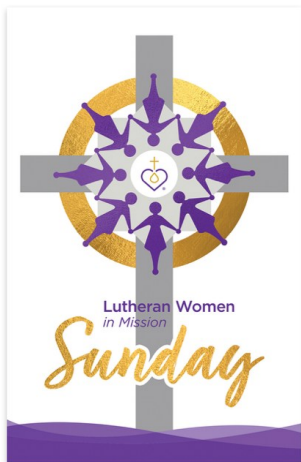


JOIN US FOR
TRUNK or TREAT
OCT. 24

See Flyer for details at
the table in the Rotunda



RALLY
DAY
2026



On **Sunday, Oct. 4**, we will observe **LWML SUNDAY**, thanking God for these faithful women who carry out the Great Commission through service, prayer, and fellowship with others. This year's theme is **Supporting Missions**, as expressed in our Mission Statement—*As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.* LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) is the official women's auxiliary of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Since its founding in 1942, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries, and to support global missions through sacrificial gifts of mites, tithes, offerings and service. LWML has been active at Christ the King since 1959.

Sharing their love for the Lord with others, the women of CTK's LWML meet once per month for devotions, service and mission projects, and fellowship. Also occurring once a month is Mite Box Sunday, in which all people of the church are invited to contribute mites (coin, cash, checks) to help us reach our mission-minded goals. The next Mite Box Sunday is October 4.

CTK's LWML participates in Concordia Seminary's **Adopt-a-Student** program, providing ongoing financial support to future pastors in our Synod. Please join us by prayerfully a donation, placing your **"PURPLE ENVELOPE"** in the offering plate. These funds will be used to assist LWML's sponsorship of seminary students and future deaconesses as they continue their studies. Last year your generosity allowed us to adopt eight students! Every dollar in the purple envelopes goes directly to our adopted students. If you prefer to use the online option, click "Give" on the CTK website (or on the My Vanco App), and select **"LWML AAS Program"** from the drop-down menu. You can donate online until Nov. 1. Thank you for your help!

DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR!

The **Fall LWML Rally** will be held at Messiah Lutheran Church, on Saturday, Oct. 10. "Aging Gracefully" is the title of the program. Registration begins at 9AM, the program begins at 9:30AM. Cost is \$10 for lunch. Our Guest Speaker will be Claire Rutkauskas from Creative Aging, a program for seniors in the Memphis area that works to connect artists and musicians with seniors in need of social stimulation and creative outlets! We are gathering adult coloring books, colored pencils, markers, unused Christmas and Birthday cards, and stamps. Messiah Lutheran is located at 3743 Austin Peay Hwy. Please register by Oct. 2 with Brooke Moore, CTK's LWML president, at kimberlymoore66@yahoo.com.

Our **next meeting of CTK's LWML** is Thursday, October 15, at 5:00PM in Room 201. Come join us and enjoy getting to know our new ladies. Don't forget your item for the Immanuel Oktoberfest Basket we are putting together. Our Basket theme is "All Things Italian." Remember, too, to submit a couple of your favorite Italian recipe cards for the auction basket!

Please note: Our next **Mite Box Sunday** is October 4! Thank you for your continued contributions to our Mite Box missions. — **CTK's LWML**

News From Miss Paige —

The month of September was filled with lots of fun and fellowship! The Middle School got together to play games, share a devotion, and lots of laughs. The High School meets every Sunday morning for group discussion and devotions, and on Sunday nights we gather to hang out! The High School group tried to do a Bob Ross painting challenge which was fun and "not so relaxing!"

We're looking forward to October as it will be a busy month for everyone traveling, including the Middle School to Camp Trinity for a youth retreat happening for 6th-8th grades October 16-18 in Petit Jean. The High School will help serve at SIPFest at the beginning of the month and will enjoy a Halloween party later in the month.

Thank you, everyone, for helping me adjust to the transition of the move! I am very grateful to be serving here and ask for your continued prayers for the Youth Groups as we grow in the name of the Lord!

Please reach out to me at pmielke@ctkmemphis.com with any questions or concerns.

Some dates to remember:

High School: October 3, SIPFest; October 25, Halloween Party

Middle School: October 16-18, Youth Retreat; October 24, Trunk or Treat with the School

Have a great October!

Miss Paige, Director of Youth and Family Ministries

JOIN THE TEAM!

Fellowship Hall Sound & Video Training

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 10, 10:00am**

Contact Lisa for
more information
513-919-7441



SPIRITUAL FIRST AID COMES TO CTK!

On Friday and Saturday, September 18-19, Rev. Chris Singer, President and CEO of Lutheran Church Charities, brought the Spiritual First Aid training workshop to CTK. Rev. Singer, along with his wife Jeanette, led thirty CTK members and community friends through a nine-hour workshop which included interactive role-playing and thoughtful questions and answers. In learning how to be “spiritual first responders,” the workshop attendees discovered the OARS acronym to be helpful in approaching someone in crisis: Open-ended questions, Affirmation, Reflecting, and Summarization. Breakout groups were given scenarios and asked to write scripts which they then presented to the larger group, applying these principles. They learned that SFA principles can be applied to people in ordinary suffering, not just extraordinary disasters, especially when they are approached with humility and compassion.

The workshop attendees enjoyed dinner on Friday night and lunch on Saturday catered by CTK’s own Jake Behnke. Volunteer helpers included members of Job Comfort Dog’s team, and Job himself greeted the workshop registrants as they arrived. Michael Salzgeber provided expert sound and video guidance.

CTK’s Office of Community Outreach was pleased to present this training workshop and we know it will be a great resource as we continue to reach out to our neighbors and those around us in need. — *Genie Swan*



Top: The workshop registrants included CTK members, teachers, and staff, as well as people from the community.

Bottom, from left: Breakout groups presented scenarios (here, Pastor Mark has received some bad news and is offered help by Teresa Cobb and Charlotte Johnson); Jake Behnke stopped for a moment in the midst of cooking to give a smile; attendees — including Lana Browne, Ashley Tieman, Linda Ritter, and Jennifer Andrews — gave their attention to Rev. Singer, a dynamic speaker.



SMALL GROUPS

Make a **BIG** Difference!
Let's **GROW** together.

Andrews' Small Group - October 13 & 27

Contact Info: Vicar Andrews, skandrews24@gmail.com

Salzgebers' Small Group - Oct. 13 & 27

Contact Info: Lisa Salzgeber, lisamariesalz@gmail.com

Nehemiahs - Every Tuesday morning

Contact Info: Jim Devan, j_devan@bellsouth.net

Woodworking - Every Thursday evening

Contact Info: Jim Devan, j_devan@bellsouth.net

Pastor Matt's Small Group - Last Friday of each month

Contact Info: pastormatt@ctkmemphis.com

Kuttehs' Small Group - Next date: Oct. 3 Potluck

Contact Info: Billy Kutteh, wkutteh4@comcast.net

Stepping Stones Book Club - Every Six Weeks

Contact Info: Jean Schmidt, schmidtjis@aol.com

Coming soon - Chunky Knit Group

Training Session: Oct. 20, Sessions begin Oct. 24

Contact Info: Brooke Moore, kimberlymoore66@yahoo.com

See your weekly bulletin for meeting times and locations



BRATFEST

Brats and Hot Dogs Provided



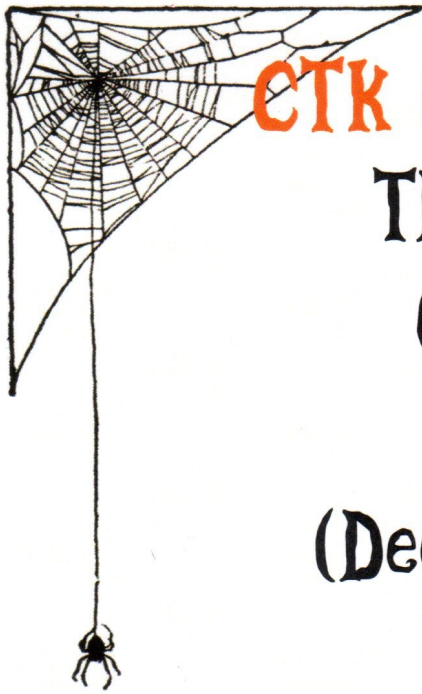
**POTLUCK!
BRING A SIDE AND
DESSERT**

**SUNDAY
25 OCTOBER 2026
12:00PM**



CHRIST THE KING FELLOWSHIP HALL

[BIT.LY/CTKPOTLUCK](https://bit.ly/CTKPOTLUCK)



CTK CHILDRENS MINISTRIES

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 24TH

3:30 PM

(Decorated Trunk Set up 3:00)

EAST PARKING LOT



*Food, Fellowship and Fun starts at 4:00



DECORATED TRUNKS NEEDED!!
RESERVE YOUR SPOT
MARTIHUEBNER@GMAIL.COM

**** AWARD FOR BEST TRUNK ****



LIFE CHOICES OF MEMPHIS

BABY SHOWER FOR BABY BOUTIQUE

SPONSORED BY FAITH IN ACTION

OCTOBER
1st - 18th



Your are invited to help keep the Baby Boutique stocked!
WE WANT OUR MOMS TO HAVE THE VERY BEST FOR THEIR NEW BABY!

NEW OR GENTLY USED CONDITION ONLY, PLEASE.

Maternity Clothes

Preemie Size Clothing

New or Gently Used Clothing (newborn to 12 months)

Receiving Blankets

Bath Towels and Washcloths

Bibs and Burp Cloths

Bottles

Baby Monitors

First Aid Kits

THESE ITEMS ALL NEED TO BE NEW AND FULL SIZED

Diapers (Newborn to Size 2)

Pacifiers

Teething Rings

New Breast Pumps

Baby Wipes

Baby Wash

Shampoo

Lotion

Diaper Rash Cream



LIFE CHOICES MISSION:

*To educate and empower women
to choose and cherish LIFE.*

ALL ITEMS MAY BE DROPPED OF IN THE COLLECTION BASKET IN THE ROTUNDA

*If you have donations of cribs, car seats or strollers for the Baby Prep Program,
please let us know so we can arrange for pick up or drop off.*