



JUNE - JULY 2026

THE KING'S MESSENGER

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMPHIS, TN

The Fruit of Faith: Hospitality in Ordinary Places

After church today, I pulled into my driveway and glanced over at our neighborhood pool. What had been quiet and nearly lifeless just a few weeks ago had suddenly come alive. Children splashed and jumped into the water, parents sat talking beneath umbrellas, laughter carried across the neighborhood, and the familiar sounds of summer had returned. It struck me: summer has a way of bringing people back outside, and back together.

Earlier this morning, I opened my *Lutheran Service Book* to see the suggested topics for Sunday prayer. It was: "For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments." That second phrase stayed with me. If faith is nourished through Word and Sacrament, perhaps its summer fruit looks something like hospitality: an open table, a porch conversation, an invitation to VBS or simply welcoming someone new.

After all, the Divine Service never ends at the church doors. The same Christ who serves us through His Word and Sacraments sends us back into our homes, neighborhoods, and daily vocations as people shaped by His mercy. Summer, with its cookouts and porch conversations, may be one of the best seasons for Christians to practice hospitality.

The Scriptures speak often of hospitality as an ordinary expression of Christian love. St. Paul writes, "*Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality*" (Romans 12:13), while St. Peter simply says, "*Show hospitality to one another without grumbling*" (1 Peter 4:9).

In her book *The Gospel Comes with a House key*, Rosaria Butterfield writes, "**Radically ordinary hospitality is this: using your Christian home in a daily way that seeks to make strangers neighbors and neighbors family of God.**" That is a beautiful picture of what Christian hospitality looks like. It is not about perfection or performance. It is about ordinary Christians opening ordinary lives because Christ first welcomed us.

Summer gives Christ the King wonderful opportunities to live this out. In addition to regular worship services and Bible studies, **Vacation Bible School (June 15-19)** and the upcoming **All-American Cookout celebrating America's 250th Birthday (July 5)** are simple opportunities to invite others into the life of our church. A neighbor. A grandchild. A coworker. Someone who has never stepped inside Christ the King. Sometimes hospitality begins with a simple invitation: "*Would you like to come with me?*"

Christ welcomed us when we were strangers to Him. May this summer be a season where Christ the King becomes known as a place where strangers become neighbors, and neighbors become family in Christ.

Vicar Steven Andrews

CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL CAMPUS UPGRADE FUND

As most of you know, we are in the midst of a Capital Campaign to raise **\$1.2 million** in order to address the dire need for security and safety of our school students and staff. All the windows in the main school building need replacing to ensure that no one is impacted by inclement weather or exterior threats and that easy egress is available in case of an emergency. Damaged roof soffits and fascia will be addressed and a new canopy at the West Entrance to the gym is included in the plans. Architects and a General Contractor have already been employed, and we are hoping to begin the remodeling construction by the Fall of 2026.

Through personal appeals and fifty-five generous donors, **we have already raised \$491,768 as of the end of April 2026**, but we need our congregation's continued support to close the gap.

The next chapter of CTK School depends on all of us. Together we are preserving and improving a place where children learn, families gather, and faith continues to grow for generations to come.

Please watch for further information on how you can invest in this important undertaking. We're investing in something bigger than a building. We're investing in ministry and the future of our church and school.

CTK Capital Campaign Committee



YOUTHMIN@CTK

JUNE/JULY 2026

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Youth Room at 9:45am for lively discussion, prayer, fellowship, and Bible Study. The Bible is filled with God's inspired Word giving each of us a life plan. Learn how to navigate the twists and turns of your life by relying on God's Word!

HS Youth Group travelled to Dollywood for a fun end of year celebration. Thank you, Mrs. Baskette and both Mrs. Smith(s), for your continued leadership as we anticipate CTK's new Youth Ministry leader and her arrival later this summer.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL kicks off June 7 with a study of Psalm 23. The students will be memorizing this beloved Psalm, playing games, learning how and why Jesus is our Shepherd, discovering fascinating facts about sheep, shepherds, and Ireland, creating memorable snacks and crafts, and meeting some interesting animal pals.



MIDDLE SCHOOL - join the fun for **MINI GOLF** on June 20 at 10:30 and a party from 6:00– 9:00 on June 26. Mr. Leborious will get you all the details. You have Sunday morning options, join the HS youth at 9:45 in the Youth Room or if you would like to help with Summer Sunday School, we meet in the room by the gym at 9:45. We would love to have your help !

VBS 2026

SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

JUNE 15—JUNE 19

Thank you to our volunteers for stepping up to help our youngest members and friends have a really **COOL WEEK!!**

Philippians 4:13 reminds us that **WE CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH HIM WHO STRENGTHENS ME!**





**IT'S AN
ALL-AMERICAN COOKOUT
CELEBRATING THE 250TH
BIRTHDAY OF OUR
*Nation***



**Sunday
July 5, 12:15PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**Enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, and all the
trimmings, plus a Birthday Cake
for the USA!**

**The CTK's Men's Quartet will present
Americana favorites so be prepared
to sing along!**

**Sign up in the Rotunda or at
bit.ly/CTKCookout**

LWML NEWS

NEW MEETING TIME!

Our next LWML Meeting will be Thursday, June 18, at 5:00-6:30PM In Room 201. (Note new time!) We welcome and encourage every woman to use her God-given gifts to serve the Lord with gladness!



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 on Sunday, June 7, before and after Second Service in the Fellowship Hall.

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!

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.

"The Lord Reigns!"





JOB COMFORT DOG'S MINISTRY NEEDS



Job Comfort Dog turns 11 years old this month!
Check out the “giving tree” in the rotunda.
Let’s make it a Happy Birthday by helping to
replenish Job’s Ministry Funds
through donating for the following needs:

- Food
- Vitamins
- Visits to the Veterinarian
- Deployments
- Emergency Site Visits
- Grooming
- Unexpected Expenses



THANK YOU!



Thank you, Job, for your faithfulness
and compassion. Happy Birthday!





***Congratulations* to the Confirmation Class of 2026!**

We are so proud of our new confirmands! As part of the path to completing Confirmation instruction, the students were asked to prepare a “Statement of Faith.” The following are excerpts from their essays, in order of how they appear in the picture above:

Karter Madden—Through Confirmation, I have learned more about my faith, God’s Word, and the promises made at baptism, More importantly, Confirmation has allowed me to have a bigger understanding of how God’s grace and promises are always what saves me.

Evan Brown—I associate Confirmation with learning things that have stuck with me such as the Ten Commandments...parables and the way they apply to the Bible and life...and the three uses of the law....it caused me to change my viewpoint on the Trinity.

Lucy Lawrence—One lesson that stuck with me was the difference between justification and sanctification....Truth faith takes an ongoing commitment to God and His Word.

Keira White—Once you learn what it means to be a Christian, a child of God, you learn about living in eternal life with Jesus Christ after we die.

Jack Bennett—Confirmation taught me that the bread and wine aren’t representing Jesus’s body and blood, but that His body and blood are present in, with, and under the bread and wine. ...It has been an amazing two-year Confirmation Class, and I have learned more about Jesus in those two years than I have in my whole life.

Oliver Lawrence—Thank you, [Pastors and teachers], for helping me both in my faith and through the struggles and confusion I’ve occasionally had. You helped me understand who Christ really is and I deeply appreciate that.

CTK SCHOOL NEWS



"We Love the 90's!"



Muffins with Moms



Job at Wee Praise



Our Christ the King Lutheran School 8th Grade graduates were delighted with the "surprise" guest speaker: former CTK teacher Mr. Ben Kuefner who traveled from St. Louis where he is currently attending the seminary. Congratulations to our 2026 Graduates!

**Enroll now!
Check out our
website at
ctkschool.com
or call the main
office number
901-682-8405
for more
information.**

Mrs. Michella Novy and Dr. Charlotte Johnson were treated to lunch at the University Club as recognition for each being named Educator of the Week through Channel 3-WREG.



Welcome Home to our Tanzania Mission Team!



We give thanks to God for the success of our recent mission trip to Tanzania! Your heartfelt prayers and donations resulted in baptisms of over 1,200 persons by our CTK team and the entire 14-member LCMS team. Our CTK mission team was headquartered in the Kishapu District in the Southeast of Lake Victoria Diocese. The Pastors from the Diocese, along with Village Evangelists, accompanied us on daily evangelism trips into villages of Mihama, Mwamadulu, and Nhyawa. And every day we had a three-hour African massage going out and back on the rugged roads!

It goes without saying that the needs of our brothers and sisters in Tanzania are great. But CTK and the Mid-South District have stepped up to help every time a team visits. Based on the warm welcome we received on arrival and tearful goodbyes that took place when we departed, our Lutheran brothers and sisters are thankful for our presence every time we visit!

Stay tuned for a date for our Tanzania Mission presentation. We hope you will attend – we have many things to tell you about!

Your 2026 Tanzania Mission Team,

Mark Novy, Mike and Cindy Jurgensen, Sharon Hyde



Looking Ahead to August...

We all know how fast the summer goes by! Here are a few “heads up” on what’s coming in August:

Sunday, Aug. 2 Blessing of the Backpacks
Faculty Installation and Reception

Sunday, Aug. 9 Single Service Sunday, 10AM
Installation of Paige Mielke
Pastor Neugebauer preaches
Potluck in Honor of Paige



THANK YOU!

Faith in Action would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who contributed items and/or participated in the filling of backpacks at our 3rd Annual Survival Backpacks for the One More Child event. We put together 48 care packs for survivors of sex trafficking in the Memphis area and had extra donations for which we purchased more backpacks for a total of 72! Shout out to our Youth Group who came to help out and Messiah Lutheran's LWML group who donated items and had volunteers to help as well. We are so thankful! Your support means everything! Thank you! For additional pictures, check out our Facebook Page [CTK FAITH IN ACTION TEAM!](#)



12TH ANNUAL CHILI BOWL AUCTION

SPONSORED BY



A Fall Chili Contest and
Silent Auction for Charity

CELEBRATING AUTUMN
BY GIVING BACK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
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

CTK Comfort Dog Ministry

**Habitat for Humanity
NHC Somerville Rehab
Room In The Inn**



**Baptist Reynolds Hospice
Dorothy Day House
Fed Ex Family House**

Christ the King Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

bit.ly/Chili12

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