



LOGOS

Christ The King Lutheran Church

9800 W. Huguenot Rd. Richmond, VA 23235

May 2017

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From Pastor Chris

Where Have All the People Gone?

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are experiencing something that is a nation-wide phenomenon across denominations – namely, a decrease in worship attendance on Sunday mornings as folks let other distractions bump weekly worship attendance off their list of priorities. Consider this online article excerpt that cites just one of the studies that shows this phenomenon.

“The on-demand culture has affected church people as much as society,” said Scott Thumma, director of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research. Keeping folks in regular attendance is critical, as irregular churchgoing often fizzles into no churchgoing, Thumma said. Mainline Protestants, those most avidly embracing

Wednesdays, have seen a steady decline in attendance. Median weekend attendance at U.S. churches, for example, dropped from 129 people to 80 from 2005 to 2015, according to the institute. The study advised: “To grow, distinguish yourself from other congregations.”

Excerpted from online article by Jean Hopfensperger Star Tribune, Minneapolis, MN,
For many overbooked Christian families, Wednesday is the new Sunday, APRIL 26,
2017 — 10:52AM

We've witnessed this trend at both services, but even more acutely at our 11am service. The problem is made worse when someone who has been absent comes back and asks, "Where have all the people gone? This doesn't make me want to come." This becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy as they then become one more person who is not present to add their voice and their presence to our corporate worship of God.

I would ask you to please consider that every one of your personal absences diminishes the worship experience for the rest of us, and diminishes our ability to worship God most fully. I would then ask you to plan to minimize your absences accordingly. There is no reason why the full sanctuary that we experienced on Easter Sunday morning, with 211 at 8:30am and 128 at 11am, should not be the norm.

There are also personal benefits to simply making weekly worship "What we do" as Christians. Please read the testimonial (below) of one of our members who got out of the habit of worship for a while, but is so glad to be back in the habit.

And for those who are absent with good cause, be reminded of God's grace when we truly cannot make it to worship. Blessings to all in these 50 days of Easter,

Pastor Chris

Not enough time?

Some of you may have been wondering why I have been less and less active at CTK, and also slack in my Sunday attendance, when in years past I have been highly involved. And if you haven't wondered, I hope you will enjoy my story anyway.

Like many of you, my life is crazy busy. I have two teenage daughters who are very active in sports and school activities. I have a full time job *and* a part time job. In addition, I have been studying to achieve designations in my field that will allow me to move up in my company. As if this didn't consume enough of my time, I had hip surgery this past September that was not successful and spend a good portion of my time in pain. In a few months I will have to have a full hip replacement in order to correct the issue. All of these are legitimate excuses as to why I wasn't actively attending church...or at least I thought.

About a month ago my daughter Devon asked me why I wasn't going to church. She expressed that she missed having me there when she attended with her dad. Anyone who knows me well knows that I would do anything for my girls. So in order to make her happy I decided to come back to service.

During the first service I attended, I started to realize that not only was attending service not an additional burden, as I once thought it to be, but just the opposite. I loved seeing all the folks that I haven't seen in a while. I enjoyed the music and singing. And most importantly, I felt the peace that I needed and the respite that I was missing in my daily hectic life.

While Pastor Randy was delivering his sermon last Sunday, it hit me that I do have that voice in my head that tells me that it's "ok" to miss church, to sleep a little longer, to spend the day resting because I deserve it and need it. Of course this was also the voice that tells me not to go the gym because I am too tired and in pain. It tells me that it's ok to eat the entire sleeve of Girl Scout Thin Mints because I deserve it!

...it hit me that I do have that voice in my head that tells...

But that's not the voice I want to listen to. It's the voice that tells me to take time for myself by going to church. And to let go of worry and accept God's grace.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Patrick

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28*



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,
April has been very busy at Christ The King.
As examples, I offer:

- A work day on 1 April, in which 15 members - including four youth - participated in gardening, landscaping and generally making the property look nice for Holy week
- A visioning event on 2 April in which roughly 90 members of all ages participated in activities designed to get us

thinking about the future of our congregation and our mission in the community

- Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday, that took place over the county's Spring Break and which still saw solid attendance for all our observances, including our first inter-religious program for Maundy Thursday
- Easter Sunday with 339 worshippers, over 200 quilts blessed, and a wonderful fellowship pot luck between services
- The second Sunday in Easter, which is a traditionally "low" Sunday, saw 173 worshippers and 46 Sunday School attendees - equivalent worship numbers to 2016 and almost double the Sunday School attendance

And we'll cap this with CARITAS beginning on 29 April. In between there were team

meetings, bulletin production, counseling, hospital visits, stripping of the altar, re-hanging the sanctuary, rehearsals, and many, many more activities. Oh, and a successful campaign to fund a new lawn mower!

This month we will be preparing for our congregational meeting, election of new council members, and presentation of our vision and mission as derived from leadership workshops and our planning day on 2 April. As part of that work we anticipate developing and sharing key Ministry Result Areas that focus on worship and music, congregational life and youth, outreach and evangelism, and efficient operation of the business of the congregation.

In April of 2016 we shared a draft vision for mission and ministry at Christ The King. It included images of excellence in worship and music; increased opportunities for youth and faith formation; growth in intentional outreach to local and international ministry opportunities; and nurturing a culture of generosity. The components of this vision were largely validated by the workshop we held in early April. Council will be aligning that vision with specific actions to implement it, to make our vision a reality, and will be vetting that work in various ways

in May. It is, as all plans should be, a framework rather than a blueprint to be followed to the letter. Where we find the need to make adjustments and course corrections we will. However we will be guided by our faith in God and in the mission we are called to in this place. We all on council look forward to engaging in conversation and hope you will continue to be part of it.

Council would like to thank Dave Reinhart for shepherding the Property Team through a challenging and rewarding month; Wayne Lowe for his diligence in making sure that our trash and recyclables are handled, and remember him in prayer as he undergoes surgery this month; Susann Young and the altar guild for their hard work and attention to detail as we observed Holy Week; and all those members who participated in, worshiped with, welcomed someone to, or otherwise reflected the love of God through the mission and ministry of Christ The King Lutheran Church.

In Christ's peace,

Brent Kemp

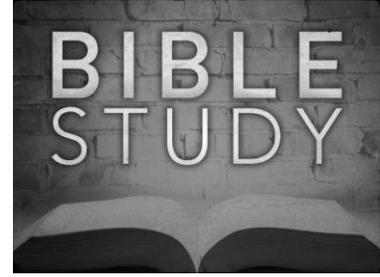


We are transitioning to a volunteer-based nursery as of May 28th, in accordance with the cost-cutting measures approved by the congregation in the 2017 ministry spending plan. We give thanks to Julia Jones for her years as a nursery staffer. With this change we ask anyone interested in assisting in the nursery to attend an introduction and overview session on May 21st between services. Two session times are offered – 10 & 10:30am. The session will take only 15 minutes of your time and will provide important information needed in order to ensure the safety of our children. Please make every effort to attend. If you are interested in helping out and haven't yet signed up, please contact Patty Young at gaitptcp@gmail.com.



Would you like to glorify God and enhance our service of worship by donating the altar flowers for a Sunday? Would you like to give flowers in honor of or in memory of a loved one? Or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or other special event? Then please sign up on the flower chart located on the bulletin board in the hallway as you turn left out of the sanctuary. You also get to take the flowers home after the final worship service of the day, if you like. The cost for each arrangement is \$30. Up to two people may give flowers on the same day, or one person can provide both arrangements. Place checks in the offering plate marked for "Altar Flowers." For information, contact Lindy Moore in the church office at office@ctkrva.org. There are many openings in May & June, secure your spot now.

Monday Night Bible Study beginning May 1st, 7pm



March Attendance & Budget Information

	March		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 43,023	\$ 49,260	\$133,665	\$147,779
Expense	\$ 36,853	\$ 49,256	\$143,441	\$147,769
Attendance	Actual		YTD	
1st service	115		106	
2nd service	70		67	
Nursery	4		3	
TOTAL	189		176	



Seniors!



Join us for our Senior Adults annual Mexican Fiesta in Fellowship Hall on May 11 at noon. The menu will include chicken fajitas, beef, chicken and cheese

enchiladas, Mexican rice refried beans, salad, salsa, chips and desserts. Bring a friend, we will have plenty of food and fun. There is not a set cost for the luncheon, A free-will offering basket will be on the table to cover the price of the groceries. If you plan to attend and do not receive a phone call, please contact Donna Finney at 804 492-4960 so I will know how much food to make! I will need one or two people to help me prepare the meal other volunteers to help us clean up. Please contact Donna if you can volunteer to help



What is your Spiritual Gift and to what Ministry have you been

called? Get prepared to sign up for a Ministry Team at Christ the King on Sunday

May 7, 2017. Time and talent booklets have been distributed in mailboxes along with two sign-up sheets. If you were not able to join us or missed the opportunity to sign up then simply fill out the Ministry Worksheet in the Narthex and place in Tom Powell or Ron Hunt's mail slot in the hallway. If you are still not sure where God is calling you to serve we suggest that you that you complete the ELCA spiritual assessment survey at http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/Spiritual-Renewal/Assessment-Tools?_ga=1.56167147.1329234024.1442312324 This survey takes around 15 minutes to complete and provides a good evaluation of your strong gifts and areas you may want to grow your spiritual gifts. The TIME AND TALENT MINISTRY FAIR on May 7th will be filled energetic volunteers, display boards, games, giveaways and candy for all visitors after each worship service. Whether you sign up for a new ministry or continue to serve in the same way, let your team leaders know how excited you are to do GODs work.

The Stewardship Ministry Team



Please submit a photo your high school and college graduates to the church office as soon as possible. They can be placed in the mail slot outside of the church office door, or can be scanned and e-mailed to office@ctkrva.org

Women's FELLOWSHIP

CTK Women – April 2017

Please note the CTK women's meetings as listed below:

Priscilla Circle will meet with the Circle of Faith on Tuesday, May 9th at 10am for Bible Study and fellowship.

Ginter Hall Bible Study will meet on Thursday, May 11th at 10am.

Circle of Faith will meet on Tuesday, May 9th & Tuesday, May 23rd at 10am. We are no longer collecting manufacturer coupons.

The Holy Tearers will meet on Tuesday, May 16th at 9am. The quilting group makes beautiful quilts of love for donation to various groups. The quilters could use sheets for backing of the quilts, any size or color will be useful. We hope you will join us.

The 2017 VSWO (Virginia Synodical Women's Organization) convention will be held on August 17th – 19th at St. Philip Lutheran Church in Roanoke. Bishop Jim Mauney will be the keynote speaker. Please contact Nancy Tyler for more information.

All women of Christ The King are members of the Women of the ELCA. Go to the website www.womenoftheelca.org to learn more about the organization.



WOMEN'S BREAKFAST will be May 6th at 9am for women of all ages (even those “women in the making”!). We are hoping to revive this tradition to bring the women of the church together. We would like to have our first breakfast of 2017 in May and ask for those interested to bring a dish. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the Nursery to be sure we don't have too much of one good dish! We are taking donations for the YWCA in Richmond, so please see the flyer on the bulletin board for needs toward donation baskets.



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

MEMBERS IN NEED OF HEALTH AND HEALING:

Janet Bruns, Megan Caton, Sherry Frye, Ruta Goodwin, Anna Hoyle, Julia Jones, Mike Kerwin, Mark Killian, Maggie Mariscalco, Dolph Moller, Lisa Rahmlow, Joan & Scott Recher, Eugene Smith, Bea & Paul Wittenbraker

IN THE SURE and CERTAIN HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION to EVERLASTING LIFE WE REMEMBER BEFORE GOD:

Jo Potter (Capel cousin), Eileen Williams (Kemp friend), Annette Nohe, (Goehle sister-in-law), Linda Williams (Mountcastle cousin)

EXTENDED FAMILY and FRIENDS IN NEED OF HEALTH and HEALING:

Sue Abernethy (S. Hoyle's sister-in-law), Roland & Jewell Bernard (Stephen's parents), Roy Blickwedel (Hunt friend), Linda & Grady Bubenzer (Huey friends), Brenda Carpio (Jose's mom), Jackson & Logan Ellis (Manuel's twin grandsons), Valerie Graville (Lisa Grimm's niece), Marvin Grimm (Lisa Grimm's brother), Tracy Green (Anne Hamilton's friend), Randy & Donna Hardman (Finney cousins), Paul Harris, Linda Hudgens (St Matthias friend), Michael Hunt (Hunts' son), William Johnson, Jeanne Kemp (Brent's mom), Maia Kraft (Yates grandchild), Lorne Lefever (Renee's dad), Fermen & Linda Lowe (Anne H friend), Gary Lowe (Wayne's brother), Wilda & Custer Maynor (Demmler parents), David McCullough (Strunk relative), Ginny McDaniel (Shearer, Redding friend), Larry Meeks (Hutchinson friend), Tishae

Odom (Tusing friend), Cynthia & Reagan Oliver (Erika's daughter, granddaughter), Glen Pond (Mountcastle friend), Peggy (VSH), Miles Redding (Redding son), Ruth Reece (Reinhart mom), Juan Serrano (Fortis nephew), Shay (VSH), Mark Sommer (Sommer's son), Shawn T (VSH), Ellen Thompson, Yvonne Travis, Esdras Villatoro-Rodrigues (Fortis friend), Greg Waldhour (Tyler friend), Willie Wilcox, Jackie & Lea Williams (Goehle relatives), Diane Winn (former member), Betty Woodson (W. Mountcastle's sister-in-law)

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Dolores Bell, John Brenner, Alfonso Dixon, Ruta Goodwin, Jackie Lohr, Marta Ruch, Alberta Smith, Gail Smith, Carolyn Sprinkle.

HOMEBOUND NON-MEMBERS: Freda Erickson- Patty Hunt's mother, Nancy Kay- Allison Nassar's mother, Joan Waldron- Pete Waldron's mother.

CAREGIVERS: medical personnel, family members and others who care for the ill and disabled.

ARMED FORCES: Col. Dan Canfield, Major Eric Doctor, Capt James Guthrie, 2nd Lt Whitney Noel, Chief Petty Officer Scott Recher II, Lt Andrew West.

SEMINARIANS: Patrick & Katie Freund at Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago

PEACE CORPS: Mathilda Nassar in Ukraine

SISTER CONGREGATION: Cristo Rey in San Ana, El Salvador, its pastors Carlos & Wilma Najera, Bishop Medardo Gomez, the people of El Salvador and all those working for peace.

TENT of NATIONS: Educational and Environmental Farm in the Palestinian West Bank near Bethlehem, owned and operated by the Nassar family, facing severe harassment from the government, still working to promote peace and reconciliation.



Blood Drive

Coming up: June 4th – Virginia
Blood Services Reformation Blood
Drive! Contact Nancy Lohr with
any questions.



Congregational Meeting
and Pot Luck Picnic
will be held Sunday, June 4th after
combined worship service.
Save the date!



Baccalaureate Sunday
will be held Sunday, June 4th.
Please submit photos of CTK
members graduating from any
degree program (members only
please) to office@ctkrva.org.



Combined Worship Services
at 10am on May 28th, June 4th, July
2nd, August 6, and September 3rd

NEIGHBORHOOD WALK 2017



The Evangelism Team will be sponsoring a second Neighborhood Walk this spring, much like the Walk that many members took part in during our 50th Anniversary year in 2015. In that Walk, we “recreated” the original door-to-door canvassing of CTK’s first pastor, Walter Huffman, as he did the initial calling to invite local residents to join a new congregation. This year, we hope to build on the work that we accomplished two years ago and to foster an open and inviting relationship with our neighbors. We will also be distributing information about our summer program and activities. The date of this year’s Walk has been set for Saturday, May 13th, from 9:30am – 12noon. Please mark your calendars for that morning, and plan to participate in this truly significant and rewarding outreach experience. Full details about the Walk will be made available during the month of April at a sign-up table in the narthex. In the meantime, please see David Nelson or Brent Kemp for more information.



**VSH MEAL
SATURDAY,
MAY 27TH, 5:30PM**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
2017
MIGHTY FORTRESS**

The theme for this year's VBS will be A Mighty Fortress, including some of our Reformation heritage and biblical stories of kingship.

CTK will hold VBS the evenings of July 30 - Aug 3, 2017. Dinner will be provided before the program each night, again this year. Adult volunteers are needed, and an adult Bible study will be provided. Look for registration materials soon for children and adults.



**Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp
and Retreat Center
is celebrating 60 years of
fun, fellowship, and faith.
Saturday, May 27th –
Monday, May 29th
Come join us to celebrate
Caroline Furnace!**

**Come for the free Open House on
Saturday May 27th from 1 – 7p and stay all
weekend for the family-friendly:
yummy food, games and crafts, a sing-along
and s'mores, canoeing and creek walking, the
special Anniversary Dinner and party, and
a memorable Commemorative Worship
Service with special guests.**

**Go to CarolineFurnace.org
for information about the
weekend schedule, available packages,
and registration.**

**Registration closes May 16th
so don't delay to sign up.**

THANKS — from the — HEART

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the congregation of Christ the King Lutheran Church for your expressions of Christian love following my unfortunate fall 6 weeks ago. You have touched me with your prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, transportation and food during my recovery time and I am forever grateful. I still have a long way to go, but certainly progressing in the right direction. God has blessed me with wonderful new friends and a connection with your congregation that will always hold a very special place in my heart.

Blessings to all,
Linda Hudgens



Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the lawnmower fund. We raised enough for the new riding mower and recently purchased a John Deere X570 which will help our mowing team greatly and will last our church for many years. We are still raising money for a new Property shed to house the mower and other outdoor tools. Please mark your donations as lawnmower/shed fund. If you have questions, see Dave Reinhart.



- 2 Wayne & Leah Lowe
- 9 Scott & Nina McCord
- 12 Pete & Carla Waldron
- 14 Bob & Caroline Lenhart
- 15 Gary & Kathy Huey
- 19 Andrew & Stacy McKeague
- 21 Dennis & Joyce Riggle
- 27 Brent & Anne Kemp
- 31 Drew & Megan Caton



- 1 Jessica Guthrie, Kari Sims
- 3 Amanda Schneider
- 4 Evelyn Hornak, Lorin Roemhildt
- 5 Karen Schmidt
- 7 Tim Christmas, David Fournier
- 10 Bruce Hutchinson
- 11 Adam Goehle
- 12 Nicole Yohn
- 14 Wyatt Kwitchen
- 15 Renee Ballentine, Stephanie Korneke,
Jack Shearer
- 17 Ian Brooks, Dan Kwitchen, Phillip Shearer,
Ray Van Dyke
- 18 Doug Noel
- 20 Austin Lambert, Rick Brooks,
Jackie Lohr
- 21 Paul Wittenbraker
- 22 Ann Clyde
- 23 Anne Adkins, Jeremy Hariprasad,
Sarah Lambert, Nancy Tyler
- 24 Mary Fournier
- 25 Margie McLean, Tom Roemhildt
- 26 Lexi Ellis
- 27 Tito Fortis, Tom Hornak, Jeff Kwitchen
- 28 Chuck Reid
- 29 John Brenner
- 31 Nancy Haar

Contact Information

Christ The King Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
9800 West Huguenot Road
Richmond, Virginia 23235

Office: (804) 272-2995

Fax: (804) 272-2090

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8am-4pm

Friday 8am -1pm

Pastor's day off: Friday

Website: ctkrva.org

Sunday Schedule

Worship (Organ-led) 8:30 a.m.

Adult Ed. & Children's Music 10:00 a.m.

Worship (Band-led) 11:00 a.m.

CTK Staff

Randall N. Lohr, Pastor

pastorlohr@ctkrva.org

Christopher D. Carr, Pastor

pastorcarr@ctkrva.org

Lindy Moore, Church Administrator

office@ctkrva.org

Beverley Edwards, Organist/Choir Director

music.edwards@gmail.com

