

The Mission of Christ the King

To Shine the light of Jesus, Reflect his unconditional love, and Mirror his kindness to all people.



www.CtKTwinsburg.com

 READ ALL ABOUT IT!

- Day Camp Review p. 4
- June Council Highlights p. 9
- Shine the Light 5K p. 3
- Youth Happenings p. 6

 SECOND SUNDAY BRUNCH - AUGUST 13TH Second Sunday Brunch

After 9:30 AM worship on Sunday, August 13th, CtK men will prepare our third and final 2017 summer brunch. The men will make breakfast – possibly sausages & pancakes, or possibly eggs; we like surprises! - and coffee & tea will be available. The contribution of other brunch foods & beverages will be appreciated. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring juice, fruit, yogurt, etc. Watch the *Weekend Messenger* for details about the day's menu.

We will eat in the fellowship hall. There will be a free will offering to cover the cost of food purchased. Thanks to everyone who has made these summer brunches fun fellowship events!


 SEPTEMBER 9 SHINE THE LIGHT 5K RUN / 1-MILE WALK

Everyone is invited to participate in the Saturday, September 9th Shine the Light 5K Run/1-Mile Walk! The race begins at 9 AM and will be run on the paved path through Center Valley Park behind CtK. Proceeds benefit CtK youth going to the 2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston.

Runners must register by August 25th with a \$25 donation to receive a tee shirt. On race day, runners are asked to donate \$30. Walkers must register by August 25th with a \$15 donation to receive a tee shirt. Walkers can register on the day of the race for a \$15 donation. Tee shirts will be available to race day registrants on a first-come, first-served basis.

See page three of this *Messenger* for details and the Registration Form, or go to Active.com, champracing.net, or cktwinsburg.com to register online.

 AUGUST 27TH PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT FOR ALL!

Join the NYG (National Youth Gathering) Kids on Sunday, August 27th, for fun, fellowship, and food as photo scavenger hunt teams of CtK members and friends take to the streets to search for specific objects.



Each team will have a limited time to document their finds by taking photos of their team with the objects. Digital cameras (with USB cables!) and your team's creativity are needed.

The schedule of events is:

- 2-5 PM The Search
- 5-6 PM The Food
- 6 - ? PM The Viewing Party

There is no admittance fee; simply pay \$1 for a clue sheet. If your heart desires, a free-will offering will be accepted at the meal. This is a great activity for families, couples, and friends. All ages are invited.

If you're not up for The Search, come for The Food and The Viewing Party to cheer for the participating teams. Come out to enjoy the day, and let's see which team is the most observant! Have any questions? Contact the Dotys at ledoty@roadrunner.com or 330-468-4982.



Christ the King is a Stephen Ministry Congregation. See CtKTwinsburg.com for more information.

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF ROBERT MINDHEIM

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of CtK member Robert Mindheim, who joined the Church Triumphant on Monday, July 10th, 2017. Bob and his late wife, Shirley, joined CtK October 29th, 2006 and are survived by two children and four grandchildren. Pastor Matthew presided at the Celebration of Life Service for Bob, held Friday July 14th, 2017 in Westlake.



LAFF GOES TO MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAME!

On Saturday, August 12th, LAFF will support Haven of Rest's fundraiser at the Akron RubberDucks minor league baseball game vs. the Binghamton Rumble Ponies. LAFF stands for Life After Fifty Fellowship, but people of all ages are welcome to attend.

The game begins at 7:05 PM and is followed by fireworks. Special \$8 tickets had to be purchased two weeks in advance, so the deadline to sign up and pay Sue Simmons was Wednesday, July 26th. You may attend the game on your own, but you will not be seated with the LAFF group.

Participants can eat before coming to the Canal Park or dine at the concessions in the ballpark. No carpools are scheduled, but if you need a ride call Sue Simmons at 330-405-4441. Maps are on the LAFF kiosk.

UNDIES SUNDAYS (& SATURDAYS)

CtK's annual Undies Saturdays & Sundays collection continues through August. Put new cotton briefs for women, **new boxers or briefs for men, and children's underwear** in the Giving Center Bin to be given to those served by Haven of Rest in Akron. **Women's & men's sizes needed are medium up to XXL. All sizes are needed for children.** These people may own only the underwear they are wearing.

If you prefer to donate cash or a check (*made out to Lynne Bailey*), I will shop for you. I can get great deals at the Aurora Outlets Hanes store. If you have any questions, please call me at 330-562-0738.

Submitted by Lynne Bailey



HELP HAVEN OF REST!

Bring two cans of fruit or vegetables to the Macedonia Chick-fil-A on Thursday, August 3rd, from 11 AM to 7 PM. Your donated food will be given to Haven of Rest in Akron, and in exchange you will receive a coupon for a free Chick-Fil-A chicken sandwich. (The limit is one coupon per person, so everyone in your party must bring two cans of food to receive a sandwich coupon.)

DROP-IN CHOIR WELCOMES ALL SINGERS!

Every Sunday morning through September 3rd, Music Director Kevin Basom welcomes ALL singers to the choir room at 9:20 AM for a quick run-through of a familiar hymn to be sung during the offering at worship. This is a very welcoming, fun group; no prior choir membership is required! If you enjoy singing hymns, please drop in and give it a try.



Drop-in Choir



AUGUST & SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE CHANGES

The monthly Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans has been moved to the second Saturday, August 12th, at 8 AM so that no one will have to miss a minute of the annual Twins Days Double Take Parade on **Saturday, August 5th.** The **September Men's Breakfast** has been moved to the second Saturday, September 9th, because of Labor Day. (This also makes it possible for them to eat & run - in the CtK Shine the Light 5 K, that is!)

The August Council meeting will be at 11:30 AM on Sunday, August 13th, to allow more Council members to **attend.** This is **immediately after August's Second Sunday Brunch.** Council minutes and meeting dates are posted on the Council kiosk outside the office, next to the aquarium.

DIRECTORY

Christ the King Lutheran Church
10285 Ravenna Road
Twinsburg, OH 44087
Phone: 330-425-7377
www.CtKTwinsburg.com



Reverend Matthew Groenke, *Senior Pastor*
pmatthew@CtKTwinsburg.com x109

Deacon Patricia Jabre, *Minister of Discipleship & Youth*
pjabre@CtKTwinsburg.com x106

Kevin Basom, *Director of Music*

Linda Mondry, *Saturday Worship Musician*

Wendy Gibbons, *Office Administrator*
wgibbons@CtKTwinsburg.com x102



Shine the Light 5K Run / 1 Mile Walk



Saturday, September 9th at 9:00 am

Scenic out & back electronically chip timed run on a closed course on a paved path with water stations through Center Valley Park in Twinsburg, OH

Light Refreshments

Tee Shirt for those who register by August 25, 2017

(Shirts are subject to availability for race day registration, not guaranteed)

5K Awards: Top 3 overall Male and Female and 3 deep in age groups for Male and Female: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65 and over.

Parking and Registration Address:

Christ the King Lutheran Church
10285 Ravenna Road
Twinsburg, OH 44067

Fund Raiser to Benefit:

Christ the King Youth
Attending ELCA Youth
Gathering in Houston, TX

Register by Mail or

Online at:

active.com, champracing.net & ctktwinsburg.com

5K Run Donation:

Pre-Registration \$25
On Race day \$30

1 Mile Walk Donation:

Pre-Registration \$10
With Shirt \$15
On Race day \$15
Without Shirt



Mail in Registration Form – Checks should be made out to “Christ the King Lutheran Church”

Name: _____ Age on Race Day: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Gender: _____ Shirt Size: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Run or Walk: _____

Guardian Signature for Minors: _____ Fee Enclosed: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Number: _____ Waiver: I understand that running is a potentially hazardous activity. I should only participate if I am medically able and have properly trained. I agree to abide by any decisions of the race official relative to my safety in completing the event. Having read this waiver, I (or for anyone that I am entitled to act on their behalf) waive and release Christ the King Lutheran Church and the City of Twinsburg and all sponsors and representatives and successors of this event from all claims of liability of any kind arising out of my/our participation in the event.

From the Minister of Discipleship and Youth

AUGUST 2017

Christian Education has been very busy this summer. Often we think that teaching people about Christ stops at the end of the school year. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our LOMO (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio) Day Camp in June was a great success. This is an outreach/evangelism camping program. There was a total of 24 students (8 CtK members and 16 from the community) who came together with three counselors from Camp Mowana to learn about Jesus through many different projects, studies, and outdoor fun.



Many hands make light work and there were many hands helping. Thanks to the parents & grandparents who were committed to a Christian-based camp; to the counselors and camp staff for their dedication; to the adults who came every day and helped to teach, cook, provide training and much more; to our middle school and high school kids that did anything they were asked to do; to the congregation for its commitment to Christian Education; to the Lestor Endowment Fund for the generous grant; and to community leaders who came to share their gifts with the students.

Most of all, **Praise be to God for all His blessings.**

In His Service,

Patricia Jabre

Patricia Jabre, Deacon

Stewardship REPORT

ARE WE AUTHENTIC? (GENUINE)

Being an authentic church is not an easy task. Yes, we believe and proclaim the reality of the Bible, know that we are sinners, seek good for all, honor wisdom, and know God has a perfect future for us with Him.

The doors are open for all to attend worship and commune with all the faithful on a weekly basis. It is sad to see that many do not attend regularly, especially during the summer months. Have we forgotten that to recharge we need to gather together to boost each other along the bumpy road of life?

We are faced with requests for our time, talents, and treasures in all aspects of our lives. We have to set priorities and do what God has set us apart to do for ourselves, Christ the King, and our neighbor.

I ask, Are we being authentic in our faith walk? Your attendance at worship, inviting family and friends to attend services, and commitment to support the ministries at CtK are vital to our existence.

Sandy Molnar, Financial Secretary

JUNE FINANCE REPORT	
<i>Complete financial information is posted on the kiosk outside the office.</i>	
Operating Income	\$ 15,961
Other designated income	\$2,298
Total Income	\$18,259
Operating Expenses	\$20,321
Other payments	\$2,133
Total Expenses	\$22,454
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$4,195)
Monthly Budget	\$21,410



DIRECTED THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Christ the King received a gift in the amount of \$57 in July from Thrivent Financial. The following members of Thrivent requested we receive this gift. Thank you for your support.

- James Baker
- Jay Moellering
- Mark W. Tiarney

COLLECTIONS AT CHRIST THE KING

CtK received \$164.98 for clothing put in the St. Pauly Used Clothing Drop-Off Shed during June for a year-to-date total of \$586.80. CtK have received a total of \$3,462.66 since the shed was installed in 2014. (Accepted items in the shed are clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes and stuffed toys, all tied in plastic bags.)



CtK received \$25 from River Valley Paper for paper, magazines, flattened cardboard, phone books, etc. put in the big green recycle bin in the parking lot.

CtK members & friends placed \$7.91 in the collection jar in the narthex that Lynne Bailey faithfully sends to the Salvation Army Bed & Bread program.

MARTIN LUTHER'S CORNER



Here are some interesting "Lutheran" tidbits.

1. Martin Luther did not like the term Lutheran. He preferred the term Evangelical to describe the Reformation.
2. Composer Johann Sebastian Bach, a devout Lutheran, is credited with 1,126 musical works listed in the complete Bach catalog (Bach-Werke-Verzeichnis, or BWV). He wrote about 200 cantatas, including at least two for each Sunday and holy day in the Lutheran church year.
3. During the 16th century, Lutheranism spread through all of Scandinavia as the monarchs of Denmark-Norway (also Iceland) and Sweden (also Finland) adopted Lutheranism
4. The first Lutheran pastor to be ordained in the United States was German-born Justus Falckner on November 24, 1703.
5. Founded in 1947 in Lund, Sweden, the Lutheran World Federation now has 143 member churches in 79 countries around the world representing 70.5 million Christians.
6. Founded in 1826, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg in Pennsylvania is the oldest operating seminary in the ELCA.

Source: Livinglutheran.org

This monthly blurb about Martin Luther is compiled by John Humrichouser for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.



The National Youth Gathering (NYG) Team, currently at seven members, will be holding the following events:

- August 27 - Photo Scavenger Hunt (p. 1)
- September 9 - 5K Run / 1 Mile Walk (p. 3)
- September 15 - First day of NYG registration

Watch for more information about these projects, and help us get the word out. We need your prayers & participation, help in setting up these programs, and your financial assistance.

Talk to our NYG members - Allison Bach, Gabrielle Doty, Adam Groenke, Elijah Groenke, Justin Hartland, Claire Schiopota, Lydia Schiopota - to find out more about these events.

Min. of Discipleship and Youth

YOUTH CORNER
(7th - 12th graders)
LOCK-IN FOR HUNGER
AUGUST 18-19



Friday 7pm—Saturday 9am.

Look for sign-up sheet on bulletin board.

Invite your friends and don't forget - everyone needs to fill out a permission slip.

Min. of Discipleship & Youth

NEED CTK COLLEGE STUDENTS' ADDRESSES

Please contact Wendy in the church office at wgibbons@ctktwinsburg.com with your student's college mailing address for the 2017 - 2018 school year as soon as you know it. We like to mail the monthly *Messenger* to our college students. Also, let us know when this address will be in effect so we don't mail anything to an empty room.

We would also appreciate having your student's college email address so we can stay in contact electronically.



F3 -
FUN
FAITH &
FORMATION
Our three F3
campers,
Allison Bach,
Lydia Schiopota &
Justin Hartland,

experienced all three. They attended Camp Mowana June 25-30 for Confirmation Camp. Eight rostered leaders, including Deacon Patti, served at the camp as instructors. They provided the lessons and chapel experience for the 42 campers.

FUN seems to be the operative word here. Justin says **"I had a fun time at Camp Mowana. My favorite thing that I did there was gaga ball and rock-wall climbing."** Allison enjoyed meeting new friends. **"Thank you for the opportunity to go to the bible camp! I had a lot of fun meeting new friends and learning more about God and water. I also really liked the activities that we got to do and am glad I got to experience that!"** This is the second time Lydia has attended, and her enthusiasm just seems to grow. **"There is educational time where you grow closer to God, times of worship and prayer, but also lots of fun and games. There isn't a time where you're bored and you make lots of great friends at camp. I really love camp and can't wait to go back again next year!"**

Next year's camp is July 15-20, 2018. Hope to see all our Confirmation Students at camp next year.

Min. of Discipleship & Youth

CONFIRMATION CORNER...

Have a great summer. See you at church and all the special summer events.



Min. of Discipleship & Youth

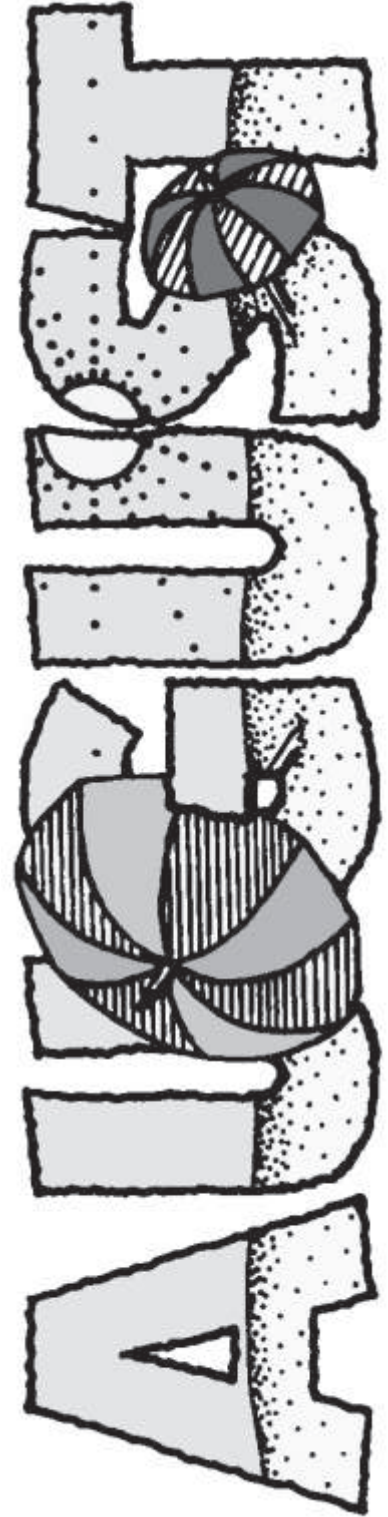
August 2017

For the most up-to-date event schedule for Christ the King, go to www.ctktwainsburg.com/?page_id=72

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
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<p><i>6</i></p> <p>9:20AM Drop-in choir 9:30 AM Blended worship w/communion Twins Days</p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>9:00 AM Offering Counters 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Pastors' study 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study - room 103; lunch at Casa D'Angelo 7:00 PM ITSC</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>12:00 PM Faith Wednesday 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Twinsburg Garden Club Board Meeting - Fellowship Hall</p>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Wella Breakfast - Bob Evans 5:30 PM Worship w/ comm. LAFF in Air on Rubber Ducks Wear Name Tags!</p>																																																								
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Go to cktwinsburg.com, About Us, Newsletters to see current Weekend Messenger with assistants.
 Please contact Wendy in the office to volunteer for any openings shown below.

SHINING THE LIGHT AT SATURDAY & SUNDAY WORSHIP - AUGUST 2017					
	Worship time	AUGUST 5 th & 6 th	AUGUST 12 th & 13 th	AUGUST 19 th & 20 th	AUGUST 26 th & 27 th
Acolytes	5:30 pm	Lydia Schiopota	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed
	9:30 am	Elijah Groenke	Adam Groenke	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed
Worship Assistants, Lectors (L), Communion Assistants (C)	5:30 pm	Katie Bach	Dave Denes	Katie Bach	Patti Jabre
	9:30 am	Julie Groenke (L), Kristin Wedemeyer Goss (C)	Mike Pereksta (L), Crystal Stokes (C)	Jenn Lue (L), Jane Zaremba (C)	Sally Morris (L, C)
Lay Prayer Leaders	9:30 am	Diane Procop	Mike Goss	Kristin Wedemeyer Goss	Jenn Lue
Ushers	5:30 pm	Lynne Bailey	Ron Miller	Volunteer needed	Dave Denes
	9:30 am	Kristin Bedford, D. Urban	Chris Driver, Ginger Pituch	Bob & Sonja Roe	Mike & Rita Mitch
Greeters	9:30 am	Kristin Wedemeyer Goss	Joanne & Rich Ciarniello	Chanon Bortak	John McBride
Sound Booth	5:30 pm	Claire Schiopota	Charlotte Miller	Claire Schiopota	Wendy Gibbons
	9:30 am	Denise Hall	Wendy Gibbons	Wendy Gibbons	Karen Reid
Altar Care	9:30 am	Kristin Bedford, Sue Simmons	Amy Bates, Marge Bowman, Karen Scarpelli	Gabrielle Doty, Jane Zaremba	Lisa Doty, Kate Hartland
Coffee Clean-up	After 10:45am	Office Staff	Ginger & Tom Pituch	Sandy Molnar	Office Staff
September Messenger Assembly Team: Kristin Wedemeyer Goss, Mike & Rita Mitch, Sue Simmons - 1 PM, Tuesday, August 22, 2017 in Room 103		September Messenger Deadline: Thursday, August 17, 2017			
Thanks to Lynne Bailey, Sandy Molnar, Mary Ellen Robinette for assembling the August Messenger!					



JUNE 4, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Complete Council minutes are posted on the Council kiosk.

Meeting Agenda was approved with three additional items:

- Potential events for the fall
- Request to ask for donations for the use of the parking lot for activities not sponsored by CtK
- Letter to council

Pastor Matthew's Report: has received positive feedback about the single Sunday service.

Finance Report**Contributions vs. Expenses**

May 2017 surplus: \$1,300
Total shortfall: \$11,900

Dave Schiopota will coordinate with Wendy to email members a list of current bills with the hope some members will be willing to pay them.

Council president and treasurer to send a letter to members encouraging their faithful giving as well as the guidelines of how CtK meets its financial obligations; also, additional spending needs to be approved by treasurer.

Upcoming Events

Rally Day / God's Work, Our Hands: Sunday, September 10.

Commitment Weekend: Saturday, September 30 and Sunday October 1.

Reformation 500: October 29, 2017.

Building the church

Electronic outdoor sign: Consensus was reached that, when 2/3 of the congregation's share of the cost has been raised (around \$9,000), the sign would be ordered.

Direct mail postcards: continuing to be mailed.

Newspaper ads: continue in the *Twinsburg Bulletin*, *Nordonia News Leader*, and *Aurora Advocate*.

Letter to Epiphany members: Corey Thompson found that all but the most committed members of Epiphany Lutheran have left for other churches. No further action will be taken.

Tiger Pride Lane sign: There was discussion about placing a CtK sign at the Tiger Pride Lane (side street) entrance. John Humrichouser to research.

Old Business

Eagle Scout Project: David Stauffer, member of Twinsburg First Congregational UCC, is working toward his Eagle Scout award. In that regard, he has received approval from the Boy Scouts of America to build fire pit at CtK. As he will need assistance in site planning and design, Rob recommended Lisa Doty be named project consultant, since she already tends the landscaping. A motion was approved to 'award' Lisa this position; 7 – 0.

Corrected constitution: The secretary has corrected a typographic error in the Bylaws, section C13.06.01, and will provide the synod with a copy.

Liability Exposure from the Basketball Court: John has found a relatively inexpensive way to add a vinyl sign to the backboard. Mike Pereksta is researching CtK's insurance coverage.

New Business

Request for donations for use of the parking lot: a member suggested that council consider asking visitors for a donation to use the parking lot for non-CtK events (example, soccer at the adjacent field). Council decided that asking for a parking donation would be counter to being a good community member, but more importantly, to shining Jesus' light. Therefore, there will not be solicitation of said donations.

Letter to council: Council discussed at length a member's letter voicing personal concerns.

Fall events: Corey suggested we come up with a list of fall events. At least one event commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation will take place.

Respectfully submitted: David F. Denes, Council Secretary

Ongoing CtK Events**MEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST**

All men 18 and older are invited to meet for food and fellowship at Bob Evans on Route 82 at 8 am on August 12th. The meal was moved due to Twins Days. See Tom Pituch for info.

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

During the summer, the CtK Tuesday Women's Bible Study meets once a month. Wendy Gibbons leads the time of Bible study, fellowship, discussion, and prayer. All women are invited to attend. The group collects an offering to support the Cleveland YWCA's Nurturing Independence and Aspiration initiative that assists youth aging out of foster care.

The summer study from *Gather* magazine is *All Anew* by Kelly Fryer, echoing the theme of the 2017 Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering. August's session, "Upend the Tables," will be August 8th at 10 AM in Room 105, followed by lunch at Casa D'Angelo in Macedonia. Please sign up by Sunday, August 6th, if you are coming so Wendy can make lunch reservations.

Bibles and copies of the study are available. To subscribe to *Gather* call 844-409-0576; a year's subscription (10 issues) is \$20. See Wendy with questions.

FAITH WEDNESDAYS

Pastor Matthew's leads a noon Faith Wednesday study in the fellowship hall every week. The group is learning about Old Testament prophets. There is time to eat a brown bag lunch in the class. Everyone is welcome to attend whenever it's convenient. See Pastor Matthew if you have any questions.

FORTS.O.F.T. GAME TIME

Everyone is invited to game time the third Wednesday, August 16th, from 10:30 AM to 3:30 PM in the narthex. See Joan El-Kaufman for information.



Chuck Goodnight	8/1
Hailey Miller	8/2
Violet Thompson	8/2
Kalah Koepsel	8/6
Chelsea Roidt	8/7
Priscilla Hegedus	8/10
Diane Procop	8/10
Travis Hartland	8/12
Stacie Baker	8/14
Jessica Foster-Oravetz	8/14
Laura Gibbons	8/14
Lori Harrison	8/14
Pam Wolfe	8/14
Lynn Sares	8/15
Evan Harnak	8/17
Stacy Sykora	8/17
Andrew Bortak	8/18
Bill Root	8/18
Alex Sudnik	8/18
Denise Cuper	8/19
Mary Smith	8/20
Jan Tulley	8/21
Lynne Bailey	8/22
Pam Garrud	8/22
Cheryl Moellering	8/22
Paul Serrin	8/24
Adam Groenke	8/25
Sandy Molnar	8/26
Daryl Van Bogart	8/28
Gary Erbe	8/29



Maxine & Ron Farleman	8/1
Rich & Pat Wilhelms	8/26
Lynn & Dean Sares	8/30

Living in the freedom of Christ

by Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

Recently I discovered Google Earth. I know, I'm a little late to the dance. But this is fascinating. You type in an address and up pops a photo. You can zoom in on places all over the world. And you can zoom out for, literally, a 35,000-foot view. I invite you to give it a try. In fact, this will be a great group activity for all of us in the ELCA.

First, find your congregation. Now expand the field and find other ELCA congregations near you. In some places this will be easy to do. In the "Fertile Crescent" of Lutheranism—the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio and Pennsylvania—there are more ELCA congregations per square mile than there are gas stations. In other places, ELCA congregations are few and far between. But we're there.

Next, find your synod office. You can see them spread out across the U.S. and the Caribbean.

And the ELCA is not alone in North America. Find the congregations, synods and national office of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. We are all over North America.

And now, find all of the member churches of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF). We are all over the world, on every continent except Antarctica. We are 145 member churches in 98 countries. There are 74 million of us. And your congregation is part of this worldwide Lutheran movement.

In May the LWF met in assembly in Windhoek, Namibia. Lutherans from Africa; Asia; Latin America and the Caribbean; North America; and Western, Central and Eastern Europe gathered to worship, sing, deliberate, study and dance.

Our contexts are very different. Climate, cuisine and cultures all vary. Our challenges are different. Lutherans in many parts of the world are a minority community, face persecution, contend with war and forced migration, and deal with the devastating effects of climate change. Lutherans in many parts of the world are ministering and serving faithfully in an increasingly secularized culture, or in parts of the world where the church was suppressed for nearly a century resulting in entire generations that have not heard the gospel. But there is something that we all have in common—our life in Christ.

We have our life in Christ—in the crucified and risen Savior, in the one who poured out his life for us, the one who gave himself away for the life of the world. In baptism we have already experienced the only death that really matters, the death of the power of sin, the death of our death. "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4).

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Now, go to Google Earth and find St. Petersburg, Russia. At the LWF Assembly a delegate from Russia told this story of freedom in Christ. There used to be a Lutheran church in St. Petersburg. It was a beautiful structure witnessing to the glory of God where the Lutheran immigrants who arrived in the 18th century could worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. It was skillfully crafted out of wood. St. Mary's Lutheran Church still stood in St. Petersburg, renamed Leningrad.

The church was a place of worship and hope during the siege of Leningrad during WWII. But people were freezing and starving to death in Leningrad. There was no wood for heating or cooking. So the Lutherans looked at their beloved church and then looked at the suffering around them. Piece by piece they dismantled their building and gave it away for the life of their community.

This is what being free in Christ looks like. This is part of our Lutheran story. This is part of your congregation's story. We live in the freedom of Christ.

A monthly message from the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Her email address: bishop@elca.org.

Reformation 500: 50 Things You May Not Know About the Reformation

Reprinted with permission from Living Lutheran.

As we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, *Living Lutheran* is exploring 500 of its unique aspects, continuing the series this month with 50 Reformation things you may not know about the Reformation.

This list is not meant as an all-encompassing compendium of everything essential to the Reformation and its theology, but rather as a glimpse of the variety of ways the movement that Luther sparked in 1517 would influence the history of the world.

- 1 - The word “Protestant” was first used formally around 1529. “Protestant” originates from the Latin word *protestari*, meaning “declare publicly, testify, protest.”
- 2 - The name “Lutheran” originated as a derogatory term used against Martin Luther by German scholastic theologian Johann Maier von Eck during the Leipzig Debate in 1519.
- 3 - While reformers rejected marriage as a sacrament of the church, they expanded the role of the church in marriage. Couples took an oath before God and the ceremony was moved from outside the church on the doorstep—a medieval practice—to inside the sanctuary in front of the altar.
- 4 - The Reformation created a demand for all kinds of religious writings. Readership was so great that the number of books printed in Germany increased from about 150 in 1518 to nearly 1,000 six years later.
- 5 - By the time Luther died, 30 editions of the Small Catechism had been published. By the end of the 16th century, there were an additional 125 editions in circulation and approximately 100,000 copies in print.
- 6 - An estimated 6,001,500,000 Bibles have been printed since the first one came off the press in the Middle Ages. The first Bible published in North America was printed in 1663.
- 7 - The Luther rose (or Luther seal) was created at the request of printers to have a personal symbol representing the reformer’s faith that could serve as a mark indicating something was an authorized publication of Luther’s. It became widely recognized as the symbol for Lutheranism, and still is today.
- 8 - With the invention of the printing press and the introduction of pamphlets and booklets to the public, women in the 16th century found increasing access to information they had been previously restricted from reading, studying, discussing or even listening to in public settings.
- 9 - The Reformation paved the way for what we still refer to as a “Protestant work ethic.” Luther’s teachings about the “priesthood of all believers” helped dissolve the wall between “temporal” and “spiritual” realms. In doing so, everyday work and labor was affirmed and seen as pleasing to God; it was no longer considered an inferior life to that of a monastic life or the priesthood.
- 10 - Education was set on a far-reaching course of reforming thanks in part to Luther’s advocacy and ideas that a proper, well-organized and broad education for all children—not just those of the wealthy elite—would benefit the state as well as the church.
- 11 - The legacy of Luther’s ideas about education can be seen today in the Lutheran church’s concern for Christian education, early childhood education and schools, colleges and universities, lay schools for ministry and seminaries.
- 12 - An emphasis on the involvement of laypeople during worship revolutionized the way space inside the parish church was used during the Reformation. Many of the physical barriers between priest and congregation were removed. Consequently, the interiors of local churches took on the appearance that many still have today.
- 13 - Whether or not to use pipe organs and other musical instruments during worship became a hotly debated issue for many churches involved in the Reformation movement. Some went as far as banning the use of organs and instruments.
- 14 - Prior to the Reformation, congregational singing—and even talking—during church services wasn’t standard practice in Germany.
- 15 - Luther composed more than 40 hymns in his lifetime, and in 1529 wrote and composed the tune for what became known as “The Battle Hymn of the Reformation”—today called “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.”
- 16 - Luther desired hymns to be modest and text-driven—derived from Scripture, expressing Christian values, illuminating faith and the gospel message and lending themselves to congregational singing.
- 17 - The area of Germany where Luther’s story unfolded is now referred to as “LutherCountry.” This region of Reformation sites and history was part of East Germany for 40 years until the Berlin Wall fell in 1989.
- 18 - The Peace of Augsburg was signed in 1555, despite its dissenters and many loopholes. This settlement represented a victory for state princes and granted recognition to both Lutheranism and Roman Catholicism in Germany, allowing each ruler to decide the religion to be practiced within his state, and permitting residents to migrate to a territory where their denomination was recognized.

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- 19** - The first European colonists who came to North America were attempting to escape post-Reformation conflicts and persecution. They were 98 percent Protestant and a diverse mix of denominations, but their newfound freedom wasn't without intense conflict and intolerance between denominations and religions.
- 20** - In the late 1800s, some North American religious leaders voiced concern over what they feared was hero-worship of Reformation leaders. They encouraged refocusing on theological issues and teachings, the accomplishments and failings of reformers like Luther and Huldrych Zwingli, and contributions of reformers prior to the 16th century.
- 21** - While the Reformation gave birth to Protestantism, today only two of the 10 countries with the largest Protestant populations are European.
- 22** - Today the United States has more Protestants than any other country, about 160 million. Nigeria is second, with nearly 60 million Protestants. China has the third-largest Protestant population, approximately 58 million.
- 23** - About half of all Christians worldwide today are Catholic (50 percent), while more than one-third are Protestant (37 percent).
- 24** - Recent research and surveys reveal that about one-third of mainstream Protestants believe eternal life depends on our actions and living a good life, despite the biblical understanding and teachings of the reformers that salvation is a gift from God received through faith in Christ, through no effort of our own.
- 25** - Reformation Day is a national holiday in Chile, and is officially called *Día Nacional de las Iglesias Evangélicas y Protestantes*—National Day of the Evangelical and Protestant Churches.
- 26** - If Luther could have had his way, he would have probably deleted the books of Esther, Hebrews, James, Jude and Revelation from the Bible. They were among his least favorite books of the Bible.
- 27** - There were reformers well before Luther and what became known as the Reformation, but Luther and other reformers of his time became the first to skillfully use the power of the printing press to give their ideas a wide audience.
- 28** - During the religious wars that followed the Reformation, even family members were often pitted against one another. Both Catholics and Protestants were often convinced that the other was doing “the devil’s work.”
- 29** - The Counter-Reformation—or Catholic Reformation—initiated vigorous efforts to condemn the teachings and influence of Protestant reformers, restore obedience and loyalty, reconvert the converted and establish new missions and influence globally in regions including Africa, Asia and South America.
- 30** - The Catholic Society of Jesus, whose members are called Jesuits, was founded in 1534 and participated in the Counter-Reformation to stop Protestantism from spreading. Today they represent the largest single religious order of priests and brothers in the Catholic Church.
- 31** - The Council of Trent (1562) decreed that all bishops must “banish from churches all those kinds of music in which, whether by organ or in the singing, there is mixed up anything lascivious or impure, as also all secular actions; vain and therefore profane conversations, all walking about, noise, and clamor, that so the House of God may be seen to be, and may be called, truly, a house of prayer.”
- 32** - On April 18, 1994, the Church Council of the ELCA officially repudiated and apologized for Luther’s words and teachings that have been appropriated by anti-Semites for the teaching of hatred and violence toward Judaism or toward the Jewish people. The ELCA also pledged to oppose such bigotry within the church and in society and to pray for the increasing cooperation and understanding between Lutheran Christians and the Jewish community.
- 33** - The idea put forth during the Reformation that God sees all believers as spiritually equal had profound repercussions in the church—especially when the idea was applied to women.
- 34** - Luther’s exhortation to read and interpret the Bible on one’s own and the impact of the printing press opened new doors for lay people that changed the church’s approach to faith formation and Christian education forever.
- 35** - One of the far-reaching impacts of the Reformation was the promotion of applying the word of God to every area and endeavor of life, in the church and in society.
- 36** - The early movement of Lutheranism quickly gained followers in the German states, the Netherlands, Scandinavia, Scotland and portions of France.
- 37** - While we associate the Reformation with Germany, broader reformation movements spread across Northern and Western Europe, including also England and Switzerland.
- 38** - England went through its own religious and political reformation in the late 1500s through early 1600s. It was influenced by Luther and other reformers, but it was more deeply intertwined with the power, personal beliefs and political motives of England’s kings, queens and political leaders of the time.

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39 - In the 17th century, Lutherans from Germany, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and Denmark began to migrate to the United States, bringing their language, culture and Lutheran faith with them.

40 - The first Lutheran worship service in North America is believed to have taken place in what is now Manitoba, Canada, on Jan. 23, 1620.

41 - Today, more than 200 denominations and churches in North America have histories connected to the Reformation.

42 - Worldwide, the number of Christians has more than tripled in the last 100 years. But the world's overall population also has risen rapidly, so Christians make up about the same portion of the world's population today (32 percent) as they did a century ago (35 percent).

43 - An abundance of festivals, exhibits, concerts and tours are taking place across Germany throughout 2017 in recognition of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

44 - Christian education was a passion of Luther's. He encouraged a partnership between the home and the church in which parents would take the lead and the church would assist.

45 - The reformers taught God's dominion over the world, creation and all things and helped revive an interest in the world that was increasingly receptive to an encouraging of exploration, study and rediscovery of nature and the universe—without losing sight of faith and spirituality.

46 - Stirring changes and new thinking about the church, religion, politics, law, economics, education and society, the Reformation influenced the transition from the Middle Ages to the modern period and Age of Discovery.

47 - Luther didn't lay personal, unique claim to his beliefs and teachings. He declared in a sermon, "It is not my doctrine, not my creation, but God's gift Dear Lord God, it was not spun out of my head, nor grown in my garden. Nor did it flow out of my spring, nor was it born of me. It is God's gift, not a human discovery."

48 - Researchers and archaeologists have recently corroborated the assertion that Luther was a well-educated thinker and prolific writer, producing an average of 1,800 pages a year.

49 - Recently discovered archive documents have revealed that an arranged marriage of Luther by his father may have been imminent for the young man and most likely played a major role in his leaving his study of law and joining the order of the Augustinian Hermits at the monastery in Erfurt.

50 - During and after the Reformation, there was a sharp decline in the commissioning of large-scale works of biblical art by Protestant churches.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

Our hearts are warmed by all the cards, prayers, cookies, cakes, pastries and support we received. My **dad's memorial was a beautiful service and reception**, all thanks to the love and support from our Christ the King family. Thank you.

The Spaeth Family & Krakora Family

Shining the Light of Jesus...

How CtK members & Friends Shine the Light of Jesus

Thanks to the CtK men who helped prepare the delicious food for the July 9th Second Sunday Brunch. These included Bob Anderson, Rich Ciarniello, John Hurmichouser, Mike Procop, Paul Spitz, Mark Tearney, and Wiley Wolfe. Thanks also to everyone who brought additional food and beverages to accompany the pancakes and sausages!

Thanks to Tom Pituch for cleaning up two utility closets following an inspection by the Twinsburg Fire Department and for replacing the leaky faucet in the sacristy.

Thanks to helpers for July 15th Memorial Service & Reception for **Wayne Krakora, Anita Spaeth's father & former CtK member**, including Set up - Wendy Gibbons, Ginger Pituch, Chris Spitz, Louise Susnik (plus flowers); Food & drinks - Leatrice Alexander, Lynne Bailey, Wendy Gibbons, Luella Goodnight, Rita Mitch, MJ Neel, Ginger Pituch, Mary Schlosnagle, Sue Simmons, Chris Spitz, Louise Susnik; Usher - Tom Pituch; Servers - Leatrice Alexander, Lynne Bailey, Ginger Pituch, Sue Simmons, Chris Spitz; Clean up - Leatrice Alexander, Ginger Pituch, Tom Pituch, Sue Simmons, Chris Spitz

Thanks to July 18th Red Cross Blood Drive volunteers Leatrice Alexander, Luella Goodnight, Ginger Pituch, D. Urban, Rita Mitch, Lisa Wells. The next blood drive at CtK will be September 12th from 2 to 7 PM.

Thanks to everyone who donated check registers for CtK Treasurer Mike Pereksta to use. He has enough for now.

Thanks to tireless CtK gardener and landscaper Lisa Doty for working her magic and spending countless hours tending the flower beds.

Thanks to Chuck Goodnight for faithfully cutting our acres of grass this year.

Thanks to Matthew Oravetz for overseeing the CtK aquarium and to the many students (Carlee, Kristopher, Grace, Noah, Alex, Lauren, et al.) who help Deacon Patti & Wendy Gibbons by feeding the fish on Sunday mornings.



AUGUST MESSENGER 2017

www.CtKTwinsburg.com

Photo Scavenger Hunt August 27th Presented by National Youth Gathering Group

Everyone is invited to join in any or all of the fun.

2 - 5 PM - The Search - Teams head out with lists of objects to find, their creativity, and a digital camera to capture their team's image with the objects. (\$1 donation for clue sheet.)

5 - 6 PM - The Food - Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for supper. Free will offering will be accepted.

6 - ? PM - The Viewing Party - Everyone is invited to gather in the Sanctuary to see the creativity of the Scavenger Hunt teams.

Stay for breakfast August 13th at 10:30 AM



This will be the final brunch for Summer 2017. Please sign up if you'd like to bring some food for the meal.

Christ the King welcomes you to our worship, fellowship, and service!

Saturday Come-as-You-Are Worship..... 5:30 PM

Sunday Blended Worship..... 9:30 AM

*Holy Communion at all Saturday & Sunday services.
Pre-schooler nursery available on Sundays.*

Cover this box with the mailing label!

Dated Material - AUGUST 2017
Please Rush!



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