

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!

- LAFF tours Cleveland p.2
- Livestream NYG p. 6
- Pastor's Page p. 3
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-

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Through and including Sunday, September 2nd, Ctk's worship schedule includes the 5:30 PM Saturday Come-As-You-Are worship service and a single, blended 9:30 AM Sunday worship service. All singers are invited to join the Drop-In Choir on Sundays at 9:20 AM in the choir room to rehearse a familiar hymn for that day's offering music.



When Pastor Matthew is at the National Youth Gathering June 30th & July 1st, Reverend Robert Pindell will preside at worship. Rev. Pindell was at Christ the King in June 2017.



2018 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING IN HOUSTON THIS MONTH!

Please keep our National Youth Gathering Team of Gabrielle Doty, Adam Groenke, Elijah Groenke, Justin Hartland, Claire Schiopota, Lydia Schiopota, Pastor Matthew Groenke, and Deacon Patti Jabre in your prayers while they travel to Houston from June 26th through July 1st. The team is grateful for the financial support of Ctk members and friends over the past several years!

EVENING VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 10 - 14

All students entering kindergarten through seventh grade are eligible to attend Vacation Bible School from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM on Sunday, June 10th, through Thursday, June 14th. If you have a heart for youth, talk to Deacon Patti Jabre about how you might assist.



Each evening's activities will include music, games, Bible study, snacks, & crafts. On Thursday, there will be a closing program for families around the fire pit, weather permitting. (Rain location is inside.)

EMERGENCY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JUNE 3

Council has chosen June 3rd at 10:30 AM (after 9:30 worship) to hold an Emergency Congregational Meeting for a vote to address our financial shortfall. Following the vote will be a discussion about the mission, vision, and goals of Christ the King. **We need all members to attend and give their input.**



RITE OF HEALING AT WORSHIP JUNE 2ND & 3RD

Both the 5:30 PM Saturday, June 2nd, worship service and the 9:30 AM Sunday, June 3rd, worship service will include a brief Rite of Healing. This rite includes special prayers, the laying on of hands, and anointing with oil. Please invite anyone you know who could be comforted by such an opportunity.

SUMMER OFFICE COVERAGE NEWS

There will be limited volunteer office coverage from Monday, June 4th, through Friday, June 15th, while Wendy is on vacation. Please call ahead if you need to see someone.

Beginning June 22nd, summer Fridays office hours will be from 9:00 AM until noon.



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

"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." IN SEPTEMBER

On Sunday, September 9th, the ELCA will hold "God's work. Our hands." Sunday. This is an opportunity for ELCA congregations to reach out to the community. Watch the *Weekend Messenger* for details on this year's project: S.O.A.P. - Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution. Past CtK projects have included improvements at Center Valley Park and assembling school kits and health kits for Lutheran World Relief.

LAFF TOURS CLEVELAND JUNE 16TH

On Saturday, June 16, Life After Fifty Fellowship (& Friends!) will carpool to downtown Cleveland for a guided walking tour of the Gateway District. Tours are free, but a request for donations will be made at the end. Carpools will leave CtK at 9 AM to join the 10 AM tour. These tours begin at the Euclid Arcade, 401 Euclid Avenue and last for 1½ hours. Since we are in the area of East 4th Street, a walking street full of restaurants, lunch will be at the restaurant of your choice after the tour. For ease of parking, please plan to carpool. There are maps on the bulletin board indicating parking and dining possibilities. Questions go to Sue Simmons.

There is a red folder on the LAFF kiosk, eager to accept event and activity ideas. Please give the committee as much information as you can, including a contact number if you know it. Thanks.

SOFTBALL IS BACK!

CtK's softball coach, Bob Bortak, announced that the Twinsburg Church Softball League will be in play again this year after a one-year hiatus! Watch the *Weekend Messenger* for more information.

COMBINED JULY/AUGUST MESSENGER PLANNED

Because of relative quiet in July & August, Christ the King will print a single *Messenger* for these months. Please submit news to Wendy in the office by Wednesday, June 27th, for July & August. We will communicate details about additional new events in the *Weekend Messenger* as they are planned.

Monthly editions of the *Messenger* will resume in September when the program year gets into full swing again.

HAVEN OF REST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED JUNE 30TH

Five or six volunteers are needed to help set up, serve, and clean up after dinner at Haven of Rest in Akron the evening of Saturday, June 30th. Look at the Sign-Up Bulletin Board to volunteer, and see coordinator Sue Simmons for details. Christ the King has volunteered for this ministry to homeless and hurting individuals on the fifth Saturday for at least six years. The next date to volunteer will be Saturday, September 29th.





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 10-14, 2018
6 PM-8:30 PM
Registration Forms can be found on the website or in the narthex.
Min. of Discipleship and Youth

For by **GRACE** you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

EPHESIANS 2:8

ADDITIONAL MEAL PROVIDERS SOUGHT

More volunteers are needed to take meals to those recovering from illness. The number of meal providers at CtK has not kept pace with the number of people requesting assistance. Please speak to Meal Coordinator Chris Spitz to help, or contact the office for information. Meals may be store-bought; they need not be homemade.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY JUNE 8TH & 9TH

Pastor Matthew, Deacon Patti, Dave Denes, Jane Zarembo will represent CtK at Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly June 8th & 9th at the John S. Knight Center in Akron. Thanks to a CtK member for saving CtK \$200 by paying the registration fee by the early bird deadline!



DIRECTORY

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Living in God's amazing grace

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

FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

JUNE 2018

This month I am going to write about the fourth fruit of the Holy Spirit in Paul's list, which is patience. One of the most famous sayings about patience is that "patience is a virtue." There are many references to patience in the Bible and I have selected a few of these that describe this particular fruit of the Holy Spirit:



So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." (Matthew 18:26)

Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." (Matthew 18:29)

"But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance." (Luke 8:15)

"But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." (Romans 8:25)

"The sign of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, signs and wonders and mighty works." (2 Corinthians 12:12)

"May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience." (Colossians 1:11)

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer." (Romans 12:12)

"And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them." (1 Thessalonians 5:14)

"But as for you, child of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness." (1 Timothy 6:11)

"I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry." (Psalm 40:1)

"And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces patience, and patience produces character, and character produces hope." (Romans 5:3-4)

"By your patience you will gain your souls." (Luke 21:19)

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by patience and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of patience and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus." (Romans 15:4-5)

We give thanks for the gift of patience, a fruit of the Holy Spirit vital to the living out of our faith.

Living in God's amazing grace,

Pastor Matthew Groenke

**NEW BABY ARRIVES!**

Laurel & James Michalek's first child and Lynn & Mike Pereksta's first grandchild, Julien James Michalek, was born Friday, April 27th in Cleveland. He weighed 5 pounds and was 18 inches long. Thanks to Mike & Lynn for providing cookies to celebrate Julien's birth!

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF YOU

To my CtK Family –

For everything you've done....for being the special people that you are...thank you so very much.

Words are not sufficient to express my gratitude for all of you! Thank you for all your cards and prayers. They mean so very much!

Love,

Linda Mondry

OUR CONDOLENCES TO RUTH GAUER'S FAMILY

Ruth Gauer, a CtK member since October 2004, joined the Church Triumphant on April 26, 2018. A resident of a local nursing home for the past several years, Ruth was always very appreciative for the annual visit of CtK Christmas carolers, for Pastor Matthew's bringing communion, and for the greeting cards sent by Lynne Bailey on behalf of CtK.

Born on July 24, 1924, Ruth was a Navy veteran of World War II and will be buried at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman next to her husband Chuck on June 14th, with Pastor Matthew presiding. In lieu of flowers, Ruth's family requests that memorials be given to Christ the King in her memory.

ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Thanks for the new "Be Still and Know" banner donated in memory of Rich & Joanne Ciarniello's parents: Adele & Peter Ciarniello and Ann & Guy Guarige. Pentecost, "the green season," begins June 3, the Sunday after Holy Trinity Sunday.

Thanks to Sue Simmons for the new red banner with a dove for Pentecost Sunday. She gave the banner in memory of her deceased Hartman family members.

Thanks to Pam Wolfe, who is the newly appointed banner coordinator for the Altar Guild!

Thanks to Sue Simmons for completing Altar Care duties for Ascension Day worship May 10th.

An Altar Guild summer sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Current Altar Guild members and **anyone** interested should sign up for the 9:30 AM Sunday services they'd like to serve.

**NEW ADDRESS FOR ERIC SPAETH**

CtK member Eric Spaeth is continuing his training in the Army at an Air Force Base in Texas through October. Here is his address if you'd like to say hi.

Eric Allen Spaeth
161 Nichols St. Unit 89109
Goodfellow AFB, TX 76908

**A NOTE OF APPRECIATION**

Thank you to Ginger Pituch and Jane Zaremba for the meals for our family. We really appreciated their generosity during this time.

Jessica Foster-Oravetz

NEW FAITH WEDNESDAY IN JUNE

Pastor Matthew will lead a study of *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet* by Adam Hamilton that covers from Moses' upbringing in the courts of Pharaoh to his leading God's people in the Exodus from Egypt. There will be a DVD segment to begin each week's lesson.

There will be no Faith Wednesday class on June 20th, 27th, or July 4th. A new study will begin July 11th. Watch the *Weekend Messenger* for information.

**Shining the Light of Jesus...**

...Rich Ciarniello for putting the "NO PARKING on Tuesdays" sign on the garbage enclosure and for helping Tom Pituch with greatly appreciated mailbox repairs.

...Lynn Sares for spending two days upgrading Wendy's Microsoft Office software.

...Dave Denes, Chuck Goodnight, and other donors for copy paper for the office.

...HS Graduation reception food & helpers: Lynne Bailey, Jean Coss, Wendy Gibbons, MJ Neel, Louise Susnik

...Confirmation cake donation: MJ Neel; confirmands' flowers: Lynne Bailey; reception helpers: MJ Neel, Chris Spitz

...May 8th blood drive helpers: Marge Bowman, Shirley Duffy, Luella Goodnight, Rita Mitch, Tom Pituch. We had 13 donors come in. The next blood drive at CtK will be Tuesday, July 17th, from 2 to 7 PM.

ARE YOU BEING A GOOD STEWARD?



God has given us a direction in what Stewardship is really all about. Simply put we are to give intentionally, regularly, generously, of our first fruits, proportionally and cheerfully.

The Finance Committee has been tasked to oversee the processes required to manage the gifts presented to Christ the King. The congregation approved a budget that was beyond our capabilities assuming that members would step up to meet the challenge.

I am sorry to report that we are not meeting our obligations and we are continuing to be short of funds to pay all of our upcoming bills.

It takes all of **us** – not just a few – to be faithful stewards in the ministries established here at Christ the King.

Are you being a good and faithful Steward? Your support is critical at this time in the life of CtK

Sandy Molnar
Financial Secretary



DIRECTED THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Christ the King received a gift in the amount of **\$149** in May from Thrivent. The following members of Thrivent requested we receive this gift. Thank you for your support.

Rob Doty Lisa Doty Jay Moellering

CASH DONATIONS OR MULCH NEEDED

Lisa & Rob Doty, CtK's unofficial gardeners, estimate that 20 cubic yards of mulch are needed for CtK beds this year. So that we don't end up with 15 different kinds of mulch, cash donations are especially appreciated. **Please** see Lisa or Rob if you would like contribute to this project. There will be a work day scheduled to help spread mulch. Watch the *Weekend Messenger* for details.

UNDIES SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS THROUGH JULY

CtK's will have its annual *Undies Saturdays & Sundays* collection n June & July. 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. 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



APRIL FINANCE REPORT	
<i>Complete financial information is posted on the kiosk outside the office.</i>	
Operating Income	\$17,621
Other designated income	\$948
Total Income	\$18,569
Operating Expenses	\$20,691
Other payments	\$3,173
Total Expenses	\$23,664
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$5,295)
Monthly Budget	\$20,054

SPRING 2018 ENDOWMENT GRANTS APPROVED

These Endowment Grant Requests were approved by Council at their April meeting:

Requested by	Description	Granted
Tom Pituch / Property	Materials to seal areas of the roof	\$2,300
John Gibbons / ITSC	Security cameras	\$500
Kevin Basom / Worship & Music	Replace 3 lavalier microphones	\$2,000
Patti Jabre / Christian Ed	F3 Camp 2018	\$375
Bob Bortak / CtK Softball	CtK Softball	\$175
Denise Tiarney	Fundraiser for Zoe Kirchens	up to \$2,000
Karen Reid / Outreach	Seed Purchases for LWR	\$200
Tom Pituch / Property	Lights replacement, Door repair	\$2,000
Joyce Hunt / TEAC	Food budget - 3 months	\$3,000
Karen Reid / Garage Sale Warriors	Fulfill needs of LMM and HHH	\$600
Lynne Bailey / Outreach	Believe in Dreams	\$1,000
Joanne Ciarniello / Outreach	Haven of Rest	\$3,000
Mike & Rita Mitch / Outreach	YWCA / NIA	\$1,000
Lynne Bailey / Outreach	Aurora Food Pantry at Volunteers America	\$2,000
John Humrichouser / Outreach	Remember Nhu - Orphanage sponsor	\$1,200
Mike Coss / NYG	Shine the Light 5K Run expenses	up to \$2,000



CONFIRMATION
God's blessing to these CTK youth confirmed May 20, 2018:
Allison Bach
Elijah Groenke
Lydia Schiopota



Min. of Discipleship & Youth

2018 FIRST BIBLE RECIPIENTS

These four students were presented their first Bibles at worship this spring after attending classes led by Deacon Patti Jabre:

Truman Goss
 Grace Lue

Jillian Harnak
 Nathan Stayanchi

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BAGS AVAILABLE

If your youngster would benefit from some quiet activities during worship, Children's Worship Bags are located next to the Sanctuary doors. If you cannot locate the bags, please ask an usher for assistance.

Special thanks to Denise Tiarney for her years of being in charge and to the Harnak family for recently taking over the responsibility of updating the bags. Talk to Jody Clare-Harnak if you'd like to donate any books, crayons, stickers, or other quiet activities.

APRIL SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Prekindergarten – Kindergarten – Benjamin Stayanchi
 1st – 3rd Grades – Jillian Harnak, Nathan Stayanchi, Alex Sudnik

7th – 12th Grades – Claire Schiopota

Adults – Rich Ciarniello, Dave Denes, Pastor Matthew Groenke, Denise Hall, John Humrichouser, Karen Reid, David Schiopota, Sue Simmons, Amy Williams

MAY SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE

1st – 3rd Grades – Noah Lue

4th – 6th Grades – Spencer Bach, Grace Lue, Koren Goss

7th – 12th Grades – Allison Bach, Claire Schiopota, Lauren Williams

Adults – Katie Bach, Dave Denes, Lisa Doty, Chris Driver, Pastor Matthew Groenke, John Humrichouser, David Schiopota, Dale Schlosnagle, Mary Schlosnagle, Sue Simmons, Denise Tiarney, Amy Williams

The CTK National Youth Gathering Team says...



The team of Gabrielle Doty, Adam Groenke, Claire Schiopota, Elijah Groenke, & Lydia Schiopota, Deacon Patti Jabre & Pastor Matthew Groenke, leaves Tuesday, June 26 and returns July 1. We are going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering Houston TX where we will meet up with over 30,000 other ELCA youth from across the country and around the world.

Thanks to all the family and friends who helped get us there. We will have tales to tell when we return.

If you want to be part of the event and see what the kids are experiencing, tune in to the ELCA web site,

<http://www.ELCA.org/>

and watch live stream events from Houston.

Minister of Discipleship & Youth



GRADUATION NEWS

Congratulations and best wishes to these recent grads:

Jason Stahlman graduated from Twinsburg High School on May 22nd. At 8:30 AM worship on May 20th, Jason completed the final Faith Stepping Stone for high school graduation. He will attend the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business in the fall, majoring in a Finance-related discipline.



Braden Susnik received his B.S. in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology from Indiana Institute of Technology on May 12th. He graduated Magna Cum Laude and will pursue a career in law enforcement.

Brent Susnik earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology from the University of Akron on May 13th.

Janet Schiopota was awarded her Executive MBA from Kent State University on May 12th.

Amy Humrichouser, John & Bev's daughter, graduated from University of Michigan Medical School on May 11th where she will continue with her residency in psychiatry.

June 2018

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
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3 9:20 AM Drop-in Choir 9:30 AM Blended Worship w/ Communion, Rite of Healing 10:30 AM Emergency Congregational Meeting <i>Rite of Healing at Worship</i>	4 11:00 AM Staff Meeting	5 9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Ministry 9:30 AM LAFF planning 10:00 AM Pastors' study 7:00 PM Finance - rm 103 7:00 PM Quilters - F Hall	6 12:00 PM Faith Wednesday	7	8 NEOS Assembly - Knight Center,	9 5:30 PM Worship w/ comm.																																																																																																		
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24 9:20 AM Drop-in Choir 9:30 AM Blended Worship w/ communion 9:30 AM Send-off for NYG Team	25 11:00 AM Staff Meeting	26 4:00 AM National Youth Gathering Team departs (final tentative) 9:00 AM Tuesday Morning Ministry 10:00 AM Tuesday Women's Bible Study with lunch out	27 Newsletter deadline NO Faith Wednesday	28	29 Summer Friday office hours - 9 AM - noon	30 5:30 PM Worship w/ comm. <i>Rev Robert Pindoff presides</i>																																																																																																		
National Youth Gathering - Houston TX																																																																																																								

Go to ctktwinsburg.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 IN JUNE 2018						
	Worship time	JUNE 2nd & 3rd	JUNE 9th & 10th	JUNE 16th & 17th	JUNE 23rd & 24th	JUNE 30th & JULY 1st
Acolytes	5:30 pm	Spencer Bach	Volunteer needed	Lauren Williams	Spencer Bach	Spencer Bach
	9:30 am	Jillian Harnak	Grace Lue	Nathan Stayanchi	Adam Groenke	Evan Harnak
Worship Assistants, Lectors (L), Communion Assistants (C)	5:30 pm	MJ Neel	Dave Denes	Patti Jabre	MJ Neel	MJ Neel
	9:30 am	Kristin Wedemeyer Goss (L), John Humrichouser (C)	Shirley Duffy (L, C)	Julie Groenke (L), Denise Tearney (C)	Lisa Doty (L), Wendy Gibbons (C)	July 1 – Sue Simmons (L), Jane Zaremba (C)
Lay Prayer Leaders	9:30 am	Karen Reid	Mike Coss	Kristin Wedemeyer Goss	Shirley Duffy	July 1 - Jenn Lue
Ushers	5:30 pm	Dave Denes	Volunteer needed	Dave Denes	Dave Denes	Lynne Bailey
	9:30 am	Kristin Bedford, Chuck Goodnight	Linda Bendler, Denise Hall	Jay & Kate Hartland	Joanne & Rich Ciarniello	July 1 – Bob & Sonja Roe
Greeters	9:30 am	John McBride, D. Urban	Chanon Bortak	Jean & Mike Coss	Sue Brunst	July 1 - Chris Spitz
Sound Booth	5:30 pm	Patti Jabre	NONE AVAILABLE	Claire Schiopota	Claire Schiopota or Patti Jabre	Wendy Gibbons
Altar Care	9:30 am	Sue Simmons	Amy Bates, Marge Bowman	Sign up on bulletin board	Kate Hartland	July 1 - Sign up on bulletin board
Punch Maker	9:15 am	Kate Hartland	Kristin Bedford	Volunteer needed	Wendy Gibbons	July 1 - Kate Hartland
Coffee Clean-up	After 10:30am	Office Staff	Ginger & Tom Pituch	Sandy Molnar	Office Staff	July 1 - Office Staff
July/August Messenger Assembly Team: Mike & Rita Mitch, Sue Simmons, Jane Zaremba - Watch for early July date, time - in Room 103				July/August Messenger Deadline: Wednesday, June 27, 2018		
Thanks to Lynne Bailey, Shirley Duffy, Ginger Pituch for assembling the June Messenger!						

HIGHLIGHTS OF MAY 14, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING

Complete minutes are posted on the Council kiosk.

Pastor Matthew provided opening prayer

Approval of revised agenda for this meeting with NEOS Assembly & how to fund it

Deacon Patti Jabre's Report

- Christian Education several CTK members are involved with teaching for VBS, crafts, etc.
- CTK members are encouraged to spread the word about VBS. It helps to include the names of CTK members who will be participating to make visitors more comfortable in attending.

Pastor Matthew's Report

- There are some people in our church that are in dire straits
- Participated at Twinsburg School long term planning session

"The Invitational Christian" – Chapter 2 discussion

Northeastern Ohio Synod Stewardship Workshop

- Creating a Culture of Generosity in your Church
- Rev. Abraham Allende told 150 attendees no cutting salaries, no cutting staff, no cutting benevolence
- Ministry Models with Real and Lasting Results - We should change from Stewardship to Generosity

New Business

- NEOS Assembly - How to fund the \$600 registration to save \$200 by paying before deadline.
- Emergency Congregational Meeting to address our financial shortfall and "Building the Church". Set for Sunday, June 3, at 10:30am. How do we grow in mission and faith?

Submitted by Tom Pituch, Council Secretary



111 GERANIUMS DECORATED CHANCEL FOR PENTECOST!

Janet Nezbeda organized, picked up and arranged 111 red geranium plants for Pentecost Weekend May 19th & 20th. Thanks in advance to Lisa Doty for planting and nurturing flowers given to Ctk.

Thanks to these geranium donors for the beautiful display for the chancel for Pentecost:

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Leatrice Alexander | Sue Brunst | Shirley Duffy |
| Jay Hartland | Priscilla Hegedus | Rita Mitch |
| Sally Morris | Linda Mondry | Ginger Pituch |
| Karen Reid | Mary Ellen Robinette | Karen Scarpelli |
| Sue Simmons | Denise Tiearney | D. Urban |
| Pat Wilhelms | Amy Williams | |

Ongoing Ctk Events

MEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST

All men 18 and older are invited to meet for food and fellowship at Fresh Start Diner at 9810 Ravenna Road on Twinsburg Square at 8 AM the first Saturday of the month, June 2nd. See Tom Pituch for details.

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Ctk Tuesday Women's Bible Study meets at 10 AM once a month during the summer. The summer sessions last about 90 minutes. June's meeting will be on June 26th with lunch to follow at a location to be decided. Wendy Gibbons leads the sessions, which include Bible study, fellowship, discussion, and prayer. All women are invited to attend weekly or to drop in when their schedules permit. The group collects an offering to support the Cleveland YWCA's Nurturing Independence and Aspiration initiative to assist youth aging out of foster care.

June's study from *Gather* magazine, is *Let us Pray: The paradoxes of prayer* by Anna Madsen. She writes, "Called to pray, but for what purpose? Can we persuade God with prayer?"

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

FAITH WEDNESDAYS

Pastor Matthew leads a noon Wednesday study in the fellowship hall most weeks. Due to the National Youth Gathering and vacation, there will be no class on June 20th, 27th, OR July 4th. The group is reading *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet* by Adam Hamilton May 30th - June 13th. See page 4 for details. There is time to eat your brown bag lunch in the class. Everyone is welcome to attend whenever it's convenient.



Afton Erbe	6/2
Mike Coss	6/6
Kristopher Bedford	6/7
Marge Bowman	6/8
Koren Goss	6/8
Carlee Bedford	6/9
Laura Corbin	6/11
Corey Thompson	6/12
Lauren Williams	6/12
Irene Ream	6/15
Angel Hall	6/18
Emily Heath	6/18
Dave Denes	6/22
Karen Scarpelli	6/24
Jody Clare-Harnak	6/26
Janet Schiopota	6/26
Mike Pereksta	6/28
Bill Hoffman	6/30



Dale & Mary Schlosnagle	6/8
John & Wendy Gibbons	6/9
Leah & Anthony Nedelman	6/9
Tom & Ginger Pituch	6/24
Bob & Sonja Roe	6/24
Wiley & Pam Wolfe	6/24

CTK SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE

The next blood drive at CtK will be Tuesday, July 17th, from 2 to 7 PM. Watch the bulletin board for a sign-up sheet for registration desk and canteen volunteers. Blood donors, mark your calendars; summer vacations tend to lead to shortages of blood.



God loves

By Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

During a recent chapel service at the Lutheran Center, Rafael Malpica Padilla, executive director for Global Mission, shared his favorite Bible verse with us: “Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end” (John 13:1).

Jesus was in Jerusalem in the upper room praying with his disciples, modeling selfless service as he washed their feet, and preparing them for his glorification that would take place on the cross.

“He loved them to the end.” To his bitter end on the cross, but to the end of so much more—to the end of the deadly grip of sin, to the end of everything that would try to mar the image of God borne by every human being, to the end of death.

And Jesus loved them, 12 flesh and blood human beings who carried all the “stuff” people carry—passion and humor and courage, fear and doubt, the need to be seen and affirmed, great faith and quaking uncertainty. Jesus did not love the concept of disciples or the theory of people— Jesus loved *them*, Jesus loves *us*.

Jesus loved. How does one describe that? At my cousin’s wedding, the priest noted in his sermon that human language is too small for God. All the poetry in the world can’t express the love for one’s beloved or for a new baby or for family. All of the hymns ever written or sung can’t convey the love we have for God. Neither can words convey how much God loves us. It’s almost incomprehensible how much we are loved by God. It is too much to take in. But it is true.

This is the message that the Lutheran movement still has to speak to the rest of the world. God loves us. God means well for us and for the world. God’s love is deep and constant. And God’s love is not sentimental. The Incarnation was not a whim. Emmanuel, God with us, was a deliberate immersion into human brokenness in order to bring about healing and wholeness. “For while we were still weak ... while we still were sinners ... while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son ...” (Romans 5:6-10).

The Lutheran movement presents an alternative face of Christianity to the world. Too often the image of Christianity seen in popular culture is of a judgmental transactional God demanding perfection from an imperfect people, a people who, in desperation, work harder and harder to save themselves. Rules for purity are erected—pure theology and pure morality. Stark lines are drawn defining who is in and who is out. Faith becomes work. Righteousness is our righteousness achieved by ourselves.

Grace—God’s love freely given—is God’s work. It is not our doing. It is a gift. It is freedom. This is not for a minute to deny the truth of our sinfulness or that God does judge us and finds us falling seriously short. Grace doesn’t give us a free pass, nor does grace gloss over the reality of suffering and evil in the world. This grace, this freedom, makes it possible for us to realize the love of God in Christ in the world and in our own lives. And no human can set bounds on God’s grace.

Jesus loves his own and loves us to the end. Jesus doesn’t expect us to do the same—Jesus makes it possible for us to do the same. Therefore, we have nothing to fear and nothing to lose when we reject the notion of racial supremacy, when we welcome the stranger, when we confess that God alone is first. We can tell that story.

A monthly message from Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Her email address: bishop@elca.org . Reprinted with permission from Living Lutheran.



Bishops-elect reflect on historic votes

Davenport and Thomas-Breitfeld are first two female African-descent ELCA bishops

By John Potter

Last weekend, following her election as the ELCA's first female African-descent synod bishop, Patricia Davenport was reminded of a hymn her congregation sings, "For Everyone Born" by Shirley Erena Murray. "For everyone born, a place at the table," go the lyrics. "And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace."

"I am delighted that is no longer for me just a song that we sing," Davenport said, "but a movement."

Less than 24 hours later, the ELCA would again make history by electing its second female synod bishop of African descent, Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld.

Davenport was elected May 5 to serve a six-year term as bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod. She succeeds Claire S. Burkat, who has served as synod bishop since 2006 and will retire July 31.

A member of the Spirit & Truth Worship Center in Yeardon, Pa., Davenport currently serves as director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop for the synod. She will be installed Sept. 22.

Thomas-Breitfeld was elected May 6 to serve a six-year term as bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin. She succeeds Mary Stumme Froiland, who has served as synod bishop since 2013 and will retire June 30.

Thomas-Breitfeld currently serves as interim pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Beloit, Wis. She will be installed Aug. 18.

Lifelong Lutherans

Both bishops-elect are lifelong Lutherans. Davenport was raised in a predominately German congregation, and Thomas-Breitfeld grew up in the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church, a majority-Scandinavian denomination—"Don't I look Swedish?" Thomas-Breitfeld joked—that merged into the Lutheran Church in America, an ELCA predecessor body.

"Because it was a predominately German church where English was not the primary language spoken, of course there were no people in leadership who looked like me," Davenport said of her childhood congregation. "So to be able to take those steps on this journey and get to a place where I've been elected bishop to serve is just mind-boggling. I know it's the work of the Holy Spirit."

Thomas-Breitfeld agreed: "To someone who's been in the church for all of my life and to a pastor who has seen nonacceptance based on gender and race, [my election] was gratifying."

Each also agreed that their elections signaled a meaningful affirmation by their synods of the leadership gifts they can offer the church. "I came into the church during an era of 'You're welcome to come, but leave your baggage and all of your gifts, all the things you bring, at the door,'" Davenport said. "So this [election] says to me, 'You have gifts, bring them, share them with all.'"

Synod members saw the bishops-elect not through a lens of focusing on differences, but "as baptized people of God, looking at the gifts that people bring, and voting based on that," Thomas-Breitfeld said.

"A tidal wave of hope"

Some of the most meaningful moments for Davenport and Thomas-Breitfeld in the wake of their elections have been hearing from members, young and old, across the church (and other denominations) about what the actions have meant to them.

The bishops-elect reported hearing from not only elders of color in the church—saying, "I'm grateful that I lived long enough to see this happen," or "I couldn't sleep last night"—but also encouraged young seminarians, who have told them, "I'm going to stay here [in the ELCA]. I'm going to continue to press forward."

"Probably the thing that has been most gratifying and most humbling is hearing from my sister-pastors and sisters who are in the call process who have been so emotional about this," Thomas-Breitfeld said. "It gives them a sign of hope. That as they watch me, they can celebrate and say, 'Maybe that can be me, too, one of these days. Maybe things are changing.'"

For Angela Khabeb, a pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church in Waukesha, Wis., the elections felt like "a tidal wave of hope." Upon hearing of Davenport's election, Khabeb said she was "giddy with excitement. I felt powerful and strong." Later, when she saw that Thomas-Breitfeld—who had attended Khabeb's ordination—had been elected, she began to weep.

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“This is the equivalent of Neil Armstrong landing on the moon,” Khabeb said. “I’ll never forget where I was when I found out.”

A path forward

Both bishops-elect expressed hope that their new roles would encourage and challenge ELCA members to live out their baptismal call to strive for justice.

“God loves each of us. If we remember that, then we know how we need to respond to one another,” Thomas-Breitfeld said. In the face of categorizations such as race and gender that the world deems important, she said, what truly matters is remembering that “we are named and claimed by God. If God claims us, then we need to claim each other.”

Davenport echoed that sentiment. For her, the elections signify a tangible path forward for intentional inclusion. “For those who have not found their place at the table, we get to say, ‘Look, see, there is room at the table for you,’ ” she said. “This is not the end, this is the beginning.”

John G. Potter is a content editor of Living Lutheran. Reprinted with permission.

Bonhoeffer and the way of peace: Lutheran legacy of peacemaking

By Katie Day

In his brief 39 years (1906-1945), Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a prolific teacher, writer and preacher who deeply engaged his political and social context of Nazi Germany. He modeled a compelling witness to Christ, a journey of discipleship that led to his execution by Adolf Hitler in the waning days of World War II. He walked his talk in a way that is truly exceptional and continues to resonate today.

Perhaps the current interest in Bonhoeffer has to do with our own time and society: we’re witnessing troubling signs of polarization, violence and extremism that we have never navigated. We long for wisdom that will keep us grounded in our faith in the midst of churning times. To paraphrase Jeremiah 6:14—peace, peace, we cry, when there is no peace.

Peace was at the core of Bonhoeffer’s theology and work. He never met a polarity he liked, instead always showing the relatedness of the law and gospel, Christ and the world, church and state, etc. But this wasn’t about theological abstraction; Bonhoeffer was consumed with what it meant in *the concrete* (a word he used frequently). He was never more concrete than when, as a 28-year-old, he spoke at an ecumenical conference in Fano, Denmark, in the summer of 1934.

Hitler had been in power for one year. While some in the German church supported him politically, the majority were taking a “wait-and-see” position. The Confessing Church was a small but growing resistance movement, and Bonhoeffer was emerging as one of its leaders. They were seeing ominous signs of war and violence in Hitler’s agenda of expansionism, hyper-nationalism and racial purity. The church had just issued its Theological Declaration at Barmen, which publicly asserted the independence of the church of Jesus Christ over any other power that would demand absolute loyalty. Finding its voice, the Confessing Church declared that Christian identity transcended race and nationality.

A conversion to pacifism

As he addressed the gathering of the World Alliance of Churches that summer, Bonhoeffer knew he needed to persuasively frame the theological basis for the ecumenical movement’s role in peace building. The world was on the verge of war, a historic moment that called the global church into living out its presence as Christ in the world.

Bonhoeffer had had a conversion of sorts to pacifism when he had a profound engagement with the Sermon on the Mount a few years earlier. He came to believe that Jesus wasn’t setting up a rhetorical dilemma by showing how far we had fallen away from God’s intention so that we would seek salvation. Rather, Jesus was calling his followers to live in the way of peace with one another—a peace that was incompatible with war.

In outlining his theses going into his address, he argued against any justification of war as being heroic, inevitable or as a vehicle for peace. “To the objection [that] the State must be maintained: the church answers: Thou shalt not kill,” Bonhoeffer said. “To the objection [that] war creates peace: the church answers: This is not true, war creates destruction.”

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In his address to the delegates, Bonhoeffer brought the passion of a preacher. For him, the ecumenical organization did not only represent a conference of diverse traditions, but the embodiment of the church itself. The church transcended all human boundaries of nation, politics, ethnicity and race; the church was Christ himself in the world, living out the commandment of the Prince of Peace. Therefore, he found, it can't take up arms, especially against itself, the body of Christ. Of course, this is exactly what would happen in World War II, as Christians killed other Christians on bloody battlefields throughout Europe.

“Peace must be dared”

For Bonhoeffer, this radical view of peace could not be implemented through treaties, reallocation of global capital or even the processes that might be promoted by secular pacifism. All of these, he argued, confuse peace with safety. For him, the way of peace building, like grace itself, is not cheap or easy. According to *The Bonhoeffer Reader* (Fortress Press, 2013), he said:

“There is no way to peace along the way of safety. For peace must be dared. It is the great venture. It can never be made safe. Peace is the opposite of security ... peace means to give oneself altogether to the law of God. ... Battles are won, not with weapons, but with God. They are won where the way leads to the cross.”

This is not an individualistic, pietistic approach. Individual Christians and denominations can't do it alone—they will be “suffocated by the power of hate,” Bonhoeffer said. Only the whole ecumenical church acting as a singular witness will be effective. The ecumenical church, when united, has proven to be a powerful agent for peace throughout history.

As we face our own wars and rumors of wars, Bonhoeffer's words ring across history from Fano in 1934: “The hour is late. The world is choked with weapons, and dreadful is the distrust. ... For what are we waiting? ... We want to give the world a whole word, not a half word—a courageous word, a Christian word.”

May it be so.

Katie Day is the Charles A. Schieren Professor of Church and Society at United Lutheran Seminary, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Reprinted from Living Lutheran with permission.

THANKS TO EVERYONE SUPPORTING FUNDRAISER FOR ZOE!

Thanks to everyone for their prayers and continued support for young CtK member Zoe Shore-Kirchens and the May 12th fundraiser held for her benefit. A total of \$11,360 was raised.
Submitted by Denise Tiarney

Thank You!

COLLECTIONS AT CtK

St. Pauly Used Clothing Shed – \$59.87 for April;
\$220.75 for the year; \$4432 since inception

Correction to March St. Pauly report: Monthly amount should have been \$59.88



River Valley Paper Recycling Bin-
\$24.92 for February & March

Aluminum cans - 4.6 pounds of
cans brought \$1.60 during May.

MARTIN LUTHER'S CORNER

Martin Luther on his marriage to Katie:



He knew his patience was hard to find at times. He once said, “All my life is patience. I have to have patience with the pope, the heretics, my family, and Katie.” But Martin “recognized that marriage was good for him.” Marriage and family was a school of character for him. He also said the following about marriage:

“Good God, what a lot of trouble there is in marriage! Adam has made a mess of our nature. Think of all the squabbles Adam and Eve must have had in the course of their nine hundred years. Eve would say, ‘You ate the apple,’ and Adam would retort, ‘You gave it to me.’” But, despite the hardship of daily life, Martin loved Katie enormously. And he knew that marital love grows stronger over time. “The first love is drunken. When the intoxication wears off, then comes the real marriage love.”

And again Luther wrote, “Union of the flesh does nothing. There must also be union of manners and mind.”

This monthly blurb about Martin Luther is compiled by John Humrichouser.



JUNE MESSENGER 2018

www.CtKTwinsburg.com



VBS Registration

**What are you waiting for?
Register NOW!**

Open to all students entering kindergarten through seventh grade

**Meets 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Sunday, June 10th - Thursday, June 14th**

Closes June 14th with program for families around a campfire!

See Deacon Patti Jabre with questions.

EMERGENCY Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 3rd, 10:30 AM



Agenda

- Vote to address CtK's financial situation
- Discuss Vision, Goals, & Mission for CtK's future

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

Saturday worship each week at 5:30 PM

Sunday Worship and Schedule:

Drop-In Choir 9:20 AM

Blended Worship 9:30 AM

Holy Communion at all Saturday & Sunday services

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