



CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

402-733-3294

ctklc-bellevue.org

7308 South 42nd Street, Bellevue, NE 68147

ALL ARE WELCOME

Christ the King Lutheran Church
7308 South 42nd Street
Bellevue, Nebraska 68147
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Grace and Peace

A message from Pastor Bryan

February... not my favorite time of year. Unless you were born in February and have a birthday then, what else is there to look forward to in the frozen tundra of Nebraska? Well, there is Valentine's Day. The one day of the year that we commemorate romance and make the stocks of Hallmark, American Greetings, and many candy makers rise. I always felt that if we have to have a one day holiday to remember our loved ones we really are in trouble!

There's also the Super Bowl. Personally not a big deal to me, but it does give us an excuse to gather with friends to eat a lot of unhealthy snacks, imbibe a bit, and forget for the better part of the day that the world outside throughout the Midwest, is mostly one giant icicle. No, I'm not at all tired of it being cold and dark.

I remember when I used to look forward to the snow, to sledding and days when school was canceled to get a chance to play in the snow. Now, the only sliding I do is slipping on the icy driveway or spinning out on slippery roads. Snow... nice to look at while sipping coffee from a warm living room with a fire and a cat on your lap. Just keep it, and the cold outdoors. Which brings me back to February—one month closer to spring!

Much of our church calendar for the month of February will be spent in the season of Epiphany, concluding with the Transfiguration of Our Lord. Transfiguration means a complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual state.

The word 'transfiguration' in our common English is quite specific and almost always points to Jesus's transfiguration. The Greek word use in the New Testament is actually metamorphosis; meaning 'change'. Hence, the concept of metamorphosis that we learned in science, where creepy-crawly caterpillars turn into beautiful butterflies. There, we see how the outward change is total but also points to the potential that existed in the caterpillars and the need for some time of rest or change in a cocoon.

While we usually think of this time as a little bug snoozing in a sleeping bag, what happens within these seemingly serene pods isn't quite so peaceful. The cocoon is where a caterpillar releases enzymes to dissolve all of its tissues. If you were to cut open a cocoon or chrysalis at just the right time, caterpillar soup would ooze out. This all happens so that the caterpillar can reconstruct itself into something else, something better. That's the process of metamorphosis, a period of struggle and rebuilding.

Jesus's transfiguration doesn't show that process but the change that he shows the disciples is so great that they become unsure of what to do. This manifestation, or visitation of God's power, is Jesus demonstrating quite definitively that he is God. What this does, according to many of the early church theologians, is that it prefigures the resurrection. It's Jesus giving a preview of the glory of the resurrection, the glory of what God is capable of. Jesus could have gone on the road to Calvary without the transfiguration, but it seems it would have been that much harder for the disciples to stay faithful without having seen even that brief moment of God's glory. We're all weak human beings and that showing of God's power would have helped them stay on the course.



Grace and Peace *continued*

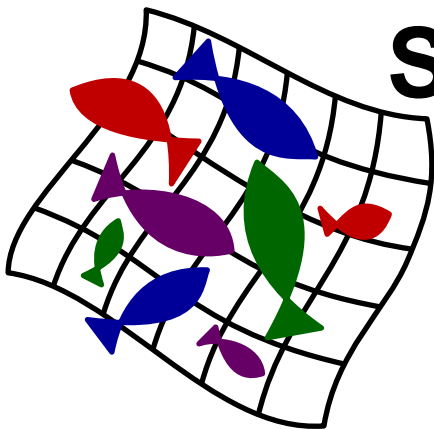
That's how it is with us. We may be in this cocoon that is the present world with demographic changes affecting the economic and political landscape, disruptions in the supply of energy around the world, which affect not just our comfort, the global food supply as well, and what seems to be a cultural shift that values faith less and less.

We know that when we emerge we will not be the same, yet right now we feel a little digested, like a blob of ooze, waiting for God to reach in and reconstruct us. And even as we are in this state of "oozy globbiness", we hold on to the hope that God's there with us. Jesus had his own time of suffering, and we join whatever suffering that we have with his, looking forward to the time when we can share in his glory, flapping away to a better, brighter, less anxious world. And hopefully, with a bit less cold and snow!

Shiveringly,



Faith Formation *Sunday School, Confirmation, Bible Study*



Sunday School and Confirmation

Check the dates because they changed just a bit from what was announced at the beginning of the year.

We'll begin in the Sanctuary all together and then move to groups. For Sunday School ages kids, there is a Bible lesson, music, and an activity that reinforces the lesson. Confirmation this year will take us through Luther's Small Catechism.

Date	Sunday School	Confirmation
February 5	Banquet with Simeon / A place for you	Communion
February 19	First Communion Sunday	
February 26	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer
March 12	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer
March 26	Palm Sunday to Easter	Why did Jesus have to die?

First Communion?

Communion is a Sacrament that people celebrate for the rest of their lives. It has been the common practice of Christ the King to invite young people, who have received instruction, are at least in the second grade, and whose parents feel they are ready, to receive communion as a regular part of their worship experience. **We will be talking about Communion on February 5 during Sunday School.** If you have a young person in your life who is ready to celebrate communion for the first time, please plan on bringing them February 5 and reach out to Pastor Bryan 402-618-7847. *voice or text*

Worship

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, a day when we are encouraged take the time to repent. The actual date of Ash Wednesday is calculated by counting backward from Easter Sunday. As Easter Sunday always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox, like Easter, Ash Wednesday moves around a bit. This year Ash Wednesday is February 22 and at Christ the King we will continue our practice of Mid-week Worship. We will also have our Soup Suppers before worship, this year that will include Ash Wednesday.



February 22

6:00pm Soup Supper

7:00pm Worship With Holy Communion

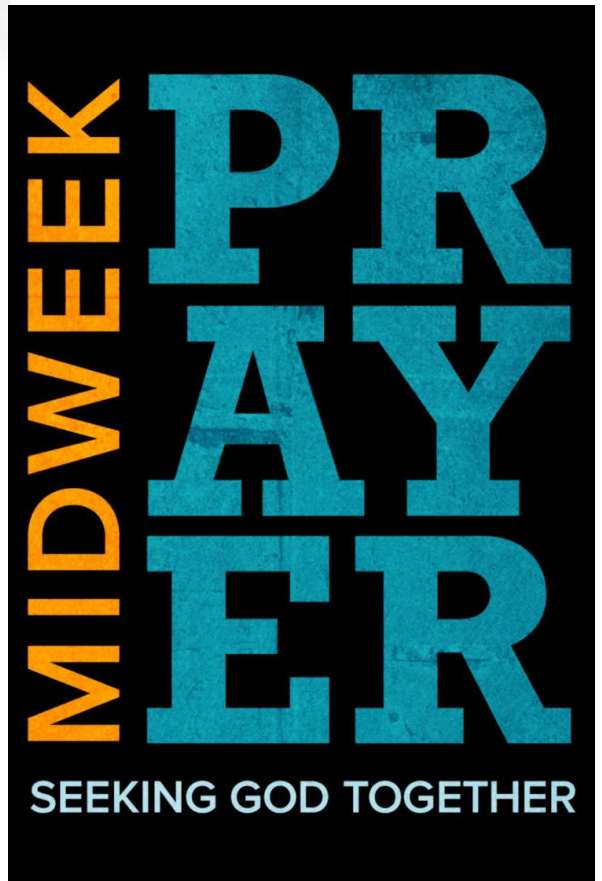
March 1 – March 29

6:00pm Soup Supper

7:00pm Evening Prayer

Lent lasts 40 days and is a symbolic representation of the 40 years the people of Israel spent in the desert with Moses. It also symbolizes the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert before beginning his public ministry. These evenings will combine the story of God's rescue of the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt, with Jesus' rescue of us from our slavery to sin and death, and how that great rescue is presented to us in parts of our regular worship liturgy. These services are typically shorter than Sunday. Expect about 40-45 minutes.

Do you make good soup? We will have at least two varieties of soup each evening along with bread, crackers, salad, and dessert. If you'd like to help with making soup, please contact Judy Taylor 402-320-2765.





Mid-Month Breakfasts

Served 9am-10:30am
February 11 and
March 11

Start your weekend off with a nice breakfast and conversation with some friends at church. There is always hot coffee and good conversation.

Chili Bowl 2023!

February 5 at 5pm

OH... ITS ON!

Come cheer on our culinary champions as they seek, with all the Lutheran grace and humility they can muster, to destroy the Methodists in this epic battle of savor and spice!



Chili Bowl 2023
Christ the King VS Aldersgate



Friday March 3
Friday March 10
4:30pm – 7:00pm

**Fish will Fry again this year
and it's still better than them
other guys!**

We will be having 2 fish fries this year – March 3 and 10! We will be frying, serving and eating fish. AND IF YOU MISS IT, YOU'LL HAVE ONE MORE CHANCE. THIS YEAR WE'RE TAKING THE SHOW ON THE ROAD!!!

Paul and Pastor Bryan will be helping raise funds with Beta Sigma (the Lutheran Fraternity @UNL) at the Lutheran Student Center in Lincoln.

Invite your friends and neighbors!

Youth and Family

Events for specific age

If you have a young person in your life please encourage them to participate.
We promise a welcoming space for all.



Young Adults *Post-High School*

Trackside in Waverly – February 19, 6pm

We've got a new place to try! Let's meet at Trackside Grill in Waverly 13901 Guildford St # H, Waverly, NE 68462 for a check-in. Take exit 409. Waverly is still between Lincoln and Omaha and easy to get to. Plus I'm fairly confident we can get the room in back all to ourselves and maybe we could even get in a round of *Secret Hitler*. Added bonus, there isn't going to be an hour long wait. So it should be a good place to meet up. And the food is good!

Youth *Grades 8-12 (2022-2023)*

Game Night – March 19, 4:30pm-6pm

Join your friends from church for games, pizza and other party food at the Rices (13503 South 22nd Street). We attend different schools but having people outside of school to help you grow your faith can be a huge asset. The last time we did this we had a great time. Now that many of us have learned *Secret Hitler* We can take it to the next level!



Elementary *Grades PreK – 4 (2022-2023)*

Milk Shake Party – February 4, 10am

It's cold outside still, but who doesn't like milkshakes?!?!
We'll do some bible study, make something to hand out to friend's on Valentine's day, and have fun making milkshakes with some surprise ingredients. Consider bringing a friend.

News and Information *from the Office*

2023 Annual Meeting Minutes Christ the King Lutheran Church January 22, 2023

Council Treasurer, Laurel Wiegand, called the meeting to order at 10:55 AM and confirmed a quorum of CTK members present to conduct business.

Pastor Bryan opened the meeting with a short prayer.

Laurel asked for approval of the minutes from last year, Dave Johnson proposed and Jodi Keating seconded.

Laurel then recommended everyone can read the ministry reports on their own, and if anyone wanted to add to their report, they were welcome.

Pastor spoke on the State/Health of the church. The new NE Synod Bishop, Scott Johnson, has a goal to visit, but has had to reschedule twice now. Our hope is to welcome him in February, perhaps a Tuesday with the women's group and enjoy some cookies and conversation. Pastor noted a concern throughout the church at large has been a lot of movements of pastors. Changes are hard on the clergy, and there have been a lot of changes. People, by nature, do not like change. To be a living and healthy congregation we must accept change. Pastor commented that Christ the King is in wonderful shape, and he thanks us for that.

Laurel spoke on the Treasury Report. She was thankful to get through 2022. It was even more complex than our time during the pandemic. She thanked the congregation for their support. We all realize that costs have gone up. 2023 will be more challenging, but we will get through it. She also mentioned that we received Thank Yous from the Bellevue Food Pantry and PLAN thanked us for the use of our space. The Pantry received about \$1,000 from us. This was loose change donations during food related activities like the chili feed.

The mission plan recommended the budget for next year was approved.

Reports of Boards and Organizations had a motion to be approved by Dave Wiegand and was seconded by Ann Hunter.

Old Business: Pastor commented on our newly patched area of the parking lot outside of the hall.

New Business: We were reminded that there will be no big capital campaign or major projects/expenses that we are seeking to incur outside of the budget. There was some discussion about the hall or kitchen since it adds about \$30,000 to our income through rentals. Everything seems fine, there have been no complaints from renters. We will be adding snow removal as a new cost that we will support.

Lastly, Ann Hunter proposed a motion to accept the slate of candidates on the 2023 ballot. Mardelle Gocek seconded and the vote passed.

Laurel adjourned the meeting at 11:18 AM, and Pastor offered a closing prayer

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Cline

February and March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6pm Fitness Club 7:30pm AIAnon	2 6pm Fitness Club 7pm Troop 474	3	4 10am Milkshake Party 2-4pm PLAN
5 Scout Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education 2-4pm PLAN 5pm Chili Bowl	6 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	7 9am Quilting	8 6pm Fitness Club 7:30pm AIAnon	9 6pm Fitness Club	10	11 9am Mid-Month Breakfast 2-4pm PLAN
12 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 2-4pm PLAN	13 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	14	15 6pm Fitness Club 7:30pm AIAnon	16 6pm Fitness Club 6:30pm PLAN Dress Rehearsal	17 7pm PLAN PLAY	18 7pm PLAN PLAY
19 First Communion 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 6pm CTKYA Trackside Waverly	20 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	21 9am Quilting 11:30am WELCA	22 Ash Wednesday 6pm Soup Supper 6pm Fitness Club 7pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm AIAnon	23 6pm Fitness Club	24	25
26 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education	27 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	28	1 6pm Soup Supper 6pm Fitness Club 7pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm AIAnon	2 6pm Fitness Club	3 Fish Fry 4:30 – 7pm	4
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