

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

### Grace and Peace A message from Pastor Bryan

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, **that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,** almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Summer Communion Preface

As we sing the liturgy, some of the words we say strike me every week. The above emboldened section is one of those portions. Just before communion, we announce to God the Father "that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you."

Hmmm.

Just consider that for a moment. At "all times and in all places" we are to give thanks to God. Really? How can we do that? When we are struggling with our sense of inadequacy and wonder if our lives hold any significance to anyone at all, is that really a time to give thanks to God? When we are sitting in a hospital room, holding the hand of a loved one in their bed, not sure what tomorrow will bring, how easy is it to give thanks to God "at all times"? Or, when we are at a funeral viewing of someone we deeply miss and the heartache actually physically hurts, are we supposed to give thanks to God in "all places" - even in a funeral home? How are we able to do this?

In our worship we are indeed called to give thanks to God "at all times and in all places" and ... we can! Its important to remember that these words come right before we go to our Lord's table – before we kneel or stand next to our brothers and sisters who might also have these same feelings. We say it moments before we remember Jesus' death on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. These words come moments before Jesus lays his life-giving body into our hands to reassure us that he has conquered death itself for us.

If Jesus can do all of this for us, how can we not give thanks to him at all times and in all places?

Being a follower of Jesus means we don't need "good days" in order to give thanks to God. We don't need to be in "good places" to call out in faith to God. In fact, Jesus loves it most when we call out to him in thanksgiving during the very worst times in our lives. When we wrestle with our failures and unfaithfulness to him, we can give thanks to God at that time that his cross has crucified our sinful nature and put it to death (Galatians 6:14). When we are at a hospital bed holding a hand of a loved one not knowing what tomorrow will look like, we can, even at that time, give thanks to God that we do know what our tomorrows look like in light of his glory and grace. And even when we are at a funeral home staring at a loved one who is no longer moving, even at that "time and place" we can give thanks to God that our Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead to promise us the gift of life everlasting. We truly can give thanks to God "at all times and in all places" because his death and resurrection reaches us at all times, and in all places, of our lives.

## Congregational Life Events for the whole community

## **Mid-Month Breakfasts**

#### Served 9am-10:30am August 12 and September 9

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



#### BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY IS COMING!

Mark your calendars and be sure to be in worship to renew our life together as God's people at Christ the King!

Whether you're a long-time member, new to the area, or have been away for a while, we can't wait to see you! Our doors are open wide to embrace everyone with open arms. Let's reconnect, and strengthen our relationships. We look forward to having you with us on Back to Church Sunday! Bring your family and friends along to share in the joyous atmosphere!

If you're going to school of any kind, be sure to bring your backpack or laptop case for a special blessing for the new school year!

### LET'S CLEAN UP AND PAINT THE FLOAT! 11am August 12!



### We're In The Parade! August 19 – Line up at 9:30am Ride on the float and represent Christ the King!

We would like as many people as possible to ride on the float. We will line up at 9:30am beside Lincoln Rd. The parade starts at 10am. This is a fun and easy thing for kids to do. We hand out candy and t-shirts.

# **Youth and Family**

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

#### Top Golf – August 13, 7pm

Finish out the summer with your friends at church At Top Golf! Only \$10. RSVP with Jocelyn (4026765395) by August 6!

### Trackside in Waverly – September 17, 7pm

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 9-12 (2023-2024)

### Game Night – August 20, 4:30pm-6pm

Join your friends at church for games, pizza and other party food at the Rices (13503 South 22<sup>nd</sup> Street). We attend different schools but having people outside of school to help you grow your faith can be a huge asset. Just ask any of the people in the young adult group.





### Intermediate Grades 6-8 (2023-2024)

### Game Night – September 3, 4:30pm-6pm

**ERREPARTS** Join your friends at church for games, pizza and other party food at the Rices (13503 South 22<sup>nd</sup> Street). We admit this is the lamest name for this group, but we wanted to avoid saying "middle school" or "confirmation".

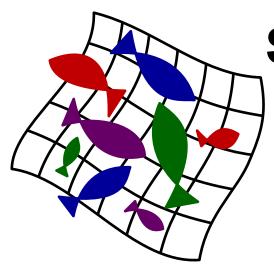
### UP and DOWN! – September 16, 12pm

This is an opportunity to have a great time while you help others have a good time too. Our youngest friends will join us and you can help lead games. I'll bet you will have a blast too!



We'll start with some lunch in the Fellowship Hall; our older friends will help us play a pretty cool new game and a fun new song with actions!





# Sunday School and Confirmation

DateSunday School8/13/2023Back to Church Sunday8/27/2023Creation and the Fall9/10/2023Noah9/24/2023Abraham10/8/2023Isaac/Jacob10/29/2023JosephFifth SundayFifth Sunday

We kick off the academic year on Back to Church Sunday August 13. We won't have a lesson that day but be sure to be in worship for the Back Pack Blessing. Generally speaking, we will have lessons on the second and fourth Sundays from 11:20 - 12:30. We'll begin in the Sanctuary all together, 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 the Old and New Testaments.

## News and Information from the Office

#### **Church Calendar**

The church calendar for beyond what is published in the newsletter is available on the congregation website - https://ctklc-bellevue.org/calendar/. Here you will see congregational events (green) and community use of our building (red). Hall rentals are not listed here.

If would like to subscribe to the Congregational Events calendar on your iCalendar:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/ctklcbellevue%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics

If would like to subscribe to the Congregational Events calendar on your personal Google calendar: https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=ctklcbellevue%40gmail.com&ctz=America%2FChicago

# **August and September 2023**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 6pm Fitness Club	3 6pm Fitness Club	4	5
6 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	7 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	8	9 6pm Fitness Club	10 6pm Fitness Club	11	12 9am Mid-Month Breakfast 11am Parade Paint Party
13 Back to Church Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Cookout! 7pm CTKYA Top Golf	14 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	15 11:30am WELCA	16 6pm Fitness Club	17 6pm Fitness Club	18	19 Arrows to Aerospace Parade Line up at 9:30am
20 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 4:30pm Youth Game Nite	21 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	22	23 6pm Fitness Club	24 6pm Fitness Club	25	26
27 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education	28 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	29	30 6pm Fitness Club	31 6pm Fitness Club	1	2
3 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 4:30pm Intermediate Game Night	4 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	5 9am Quilting	6 6pm Fitness Club	7 6pm Fitness Club	8	9 9am Mid-Month Breakfast
10 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education	11 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	12	13 6pm Fitness Club	14 6pm Fitness Club	15	16 12pm UP and DOWN
17 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 7pm CTKYA Trackside in Waverly	18 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	19 9am Quilting 11:30am WELCA	20 6pm Fitness Club	21 6pm Fitness Club	22	23
24 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education	25 5:30pm T.O.P.S. 6pm Fitness Club	26	27 6pm Fitness Club	28 6pm Fitness Club	29	30