

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



My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips, when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me. *Psalm 63:5-8* 

Over and over again in Scripture, we see God calling his people to remember his countless deeds... his marvelous works... his faithfulness. Why are we encouraged to remember so much? Well, God's people throughout scripture (and us too) often forgot and this led them astray. But another reason God would ask his people if they remembered what he had done in the past was to create hope and provide rest. Yes, rest. And this was also often a call and an invitation amidst seasons of change, new surroundings, or even during challenging circumstances and trials.

David, a man who had his fair share of trials, seasons of change, and new surroundings, shares his experience of remembering in the psalm above. "My soul will be satisfied....when I remember you...and I will sing for joy." He knew why God would encourage his people to remember. He knew that there was a deeply satisfying rest that was to be found in the act of remembering what God had done throughout his life; specifically the difficult times.

Is it possible that the very things that seem to be draining the life out of you are the very opportunities to access the most beautiful rest available to you this side of eternity?

Is it possible that in the moments where anxiety, fear, and worry consume your thoughts or prevent your mind from drifting off to the sleep that you so desperately wish you could take hold of, there lies an opportunity with the One who sits up with you day and night?

Is it possible that God has something to offer you in the times he calls to you in the darkness of your room, heart, and mind?

The rest that David testifies of having found as he lies awake at night, is something that we too have access through the simple act of remembering the marvelous deeds the Lord has done for us. When your mind is consumed over your current situation, recount the trials he has brought you through.

When the future seems uncertain, how has he already provided in times of uncertainty? If things are pretty ugly at the moment, what beauty has God brought forth from the ashes of your past? How has he seen you through?

As you take a moment to reflect, and please, please, I beg you to do this, whether out loud with a friend or spouse, or on paper so you can visualize his faithfulness, look at what he has done! Remembering God's faithfulness and witnessing to his ability to be in and through and over every situation we face, allows for us to enter into a sacred rest that only he can provide. He gently calls to you this day, this night, this moment, to open the pages of the past where you can see his loving hand over each and every situation you've faced. And the rest that you will find is a rest that replenishes and quenches in a way no vacation or hours of sleep a night could ever touch.

Rest in his love, his mercy, and his faithfulness



### **Mission and Service**

### School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

Again this year we will collect items for LWR School Kits in July. July is a good month as "back to school" sales usually begin in July. Instead of asking you to buy all of the items for a complete kit, starting June 30, there will be a tree in the entry that will have decorations listing the items for you to purchase. Each school kit must contain:

- ✓ Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, no loose-leaf paper
- ✓ One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ✓ One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- ✓ Five black/blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- ✓ Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- ✓ One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ✓ One pencil sharpener
- ✓ One eraser

Our goal is to assemble 30 complete Lutheran World Relief school kits. We ask for you to bring your items to church no later than August 11. Our Sunday School children will be assembling the kits as part of Rally Sunday.

### **Property Opportunity**



The mowing season is upon us! We are looking for volunteers to sign up for a week to mow and trim. It takes a team of two about 2 hours to get the job done. Driving the tractor is not super hard, but can be super fun!

Text Trent at (402) 706-7084 and let him know what your availability is so we can put a schedule together. If you are a solo operator and would like to team up with someone that too can be arranged.

### **Guest Preacher**

On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Matt Wiegand will be our guest preacher. Matt was confirmed right here at Christ the King about 6 years ago. We ask kids at this time to make a witness to their faith. Lately Matt has been thinking about what it means to be an adult disciple in the world in which we live today; the challenges, the opportunities, and how best to live out this calling from Jesus. He has been working really hard on how best to communicate his experience and what's going on inside his head and heart. This is going to be something you are not going to want to miss. BBQ party following worship.

### Youth and Family Events for specific age groups



### Vacation Bible School June 10 - 13 · 6:00pm - 7:30pm

VBS has changed from the days we bought a box that came with crafts and scripts for people to act out Bible characters. At Christ the King we have embraced the idea of our summer BBQ party as a day to invite friends to share our joy of being the people of God together. Our young people are an important part of that. Last year we moved to an "Arts Camp" model of VBS and this year we are refining that to be a time for our young people to prep for our Big Summer Celebration on June 23.

Katheryn leads a worship team at CUNE during the school year and she'll lead a summer worship team here at Christ the King. VBS week will be an opportunity for any of our older youth to come together and learn some new worship songs to lead on June 23. Of course our young people will have some songs to sing as well. If you have any questions text her at 402 708-5214.

Charlotte is going to be helping people of all ages, but especially our youngest members share the story of the Bible orally. This isn't about memorizing scripture exactly but sharing accounts of Jesus the way the early church did. Before the gospels were composed, Jesus' first followers sustained his memory by sharing stories of his life, death and teachings. We'll piece these tellings together in a "Video Gospel" to share in worship. We'll need parents and other caring adults to help as well.

We want to share and show the joy we experience being God's people at Christ the King... a place where All Are Welcome. We aren't putting an artificial age limit on who can participate. If you want to sing some fun songs with our resident Guitar Girl (Katheryn) and help share the gospel join us at VBS!

Dinner served until 6:15 and we will get started in the sanctuary at 6:20. If you can, Let us know if you are coming and if you are bringing friends so we have an idea how to prepare.

To do so contact Angie Wicklander — angiewicklander@gmail.com 402 201-7817.

### Congregational Life Events for the whole community

### **Mid-Month Breakfast**

Served 9:00am-10:30am

### June 8 and July 13

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

We have a new breakfast item for June! shhh... it's a secret. You'll have to come check it out!

# Congregational Lunch June 23 – following worship

Paul Dawkins is hosting a BBQ Party. Smoked Pork, Fried Chicken, Summer Corn Salad,

Alex approved Mac-n-Cheese, Corn Bread Peg's Potato Salad and Marge's Cole Slaw.

#### **INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN YOU!**

Seriously, this is not a hard sell. It's the week after Father's Day, a couple of weekends before Independence Day celebrations. "Hey, my church is doing a BBQ Lunch on June 23. This guy at church loves to smoke meat and it's kind of his excuse to have a party. The food is going to be great. Seriously. And a young man from our congregation is going to be preaching... not the old guy who usually does it. Oh, and there's going to be a duck too. Why?!?! I have no idea, but if you go to church just once this year, this should be the day." This is NOT a fundraiser! This is us having great fellowship and provides an easy opportunity for you to invite someone to worship.



Join us for a Fellowship Lunch at Don and Millie's after worship. We get a portion of the receipts to put toward the Capital Fund, so tell all your friends to go to Don and Millie's and say, "I'm with Christ the King!"

## News and Information from the Office

# **Our Church Directory is Online!**

View our church directory online or via the FREE mobile app today.

Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better! To view the directory online, go to members.instantchurchdirectory.com and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.



Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory* and download the FREE app to begin. *A hyperlink is on button if viewing this digitally.* You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app. If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact me at the church office.

Please check your information! On June 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be a photo booth if you want to take a new picture, or send me an updated one! I'd like to print new paper copies by the end of July.

Yes, I understand some people still like those.

(All the information comes from what's online)

Taylor Compton, Office Assistant



### News and Information from the Office

### **Communications Update**

In May, email service and SMS (text) service providers began enforcing stricter requirements for bulk email and text senders regarding the authenticating outgoing emails, managing reported spam rates, and facilitating easy unsubscribes. The provider we were using for these services was unable to meet the new standards and so dropped the service. We are transitioning to a new provider and hope to have that transition complete by the next newsletter. If you received a link to this newsletter it was sent via a trial service.

What this means is

- we will be retiring the ECHO Prayer feed and moving to text/email prayer announcements
- if you unsubscribed from the list, you may need to do so again (apologies)
- on the plus side, our office communications are likely to look more professional

Please be patient during the transition.

# Worship

# Prayer of a Nation July 7

A worship service for Independence Day weekend. Veterans and active duty Service Members will be recognized.







### The Commemoration of Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel July 28

Bach is considered one of the greatest figures in all of western music and is so prominent and important figure within Lutheranism that Swedish archbishop Nathan Soderblom called him the fifth evangelist. Even though they worked in different times and in very different settings, the core values that shaped their approach to music making were similar: grounded in faith, and always to the glory of an ever creating God, working through their imaginations and composition skill. We will commemorate the contributions of these three great composers during worship singing a selection from each.

# June and July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	3 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	4	5	6 12pm Fitness Club	7	9am Mid-Month Breakfast
9 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	10 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S. VBS 6-7:30pm	11 VBS 6-7:30pm	12 VBS 6-7:30pm	13 12pm Fitness Club VBS 6-7:30pm	14	15
16 Father's Day 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	17 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	18 11:30am WELCA	19	20 12pm Fitness Club	21	22
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am BBQ PARTY	24 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	25	26	27 12pm Fitness Club	28	29
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship <b>Don and Mille's</b>	1 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	2	3	4 12pm Fitness Club	5	6
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	8 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	9	10	11 12pm Fitness Club	12	9am Mid-Month Breakfast
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28 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	29 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	30	31			