

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

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

Grace and Peace A message from Pastor Bryan

So, I took a vacation. Like a real one, where you go to a place for something other than an event. It's been a while since I did that. We went to northern Virginia and Washington DC. As Dad grew up in Boston, I have several times heard about how the Revolutionary War started, but it wasn't until this year that I ever really heard how it ended. I don't know why that is, but it was



interesting. Daniel and I even found a great grab cake sandwich Yorktown! We did the monuments on the Mall, the Smithsonian museums, Mount Vernon, and the Museum of the Bible.

The main exhibit of the Museum of the Bible was done really well. It is I guess what I wish I had time to do in confirmation... but it's a little far for a fieldtrip. It begins with evidence of the Oral Tradition which makes up the first few chapters of Genesis, and then slowly walks through the assembling of scrolls and the bible becoming an actual book during the Babylonian Captivity and then the writings of the early church and then the Bible we have today and its various translations. Really well done. The rest of the exhibits don't have the same level of scholarship. All the same definitely something to put on a to do list if you are in DC.

I think I know a lot about the Bible, about scripture. It's kind of been the focus of my life. Basic questions like "Is this stuff written in the Book containing sixty-six books----is it real? Are these supposedly 'sacred words' sacred in the sense of being essential for our lives? Or are the many, many words in the Bible just basically 'not true' – having meant something to an ancient people in a faraway place and time. But what about now? Is 'The Book' consisting of sixty-six books relevant for living life with hope and purpose? Is it effective in giving some sense of direction and joy??? Is the Bible REAL? YES! The answer here is YES if it is read in a manner that's in sync with the purpose for which it was written.

There are many who would make the Bible out to be a LAW BOOK; a "do this not that" sort of "how to live your life book". It has a number of directives that give guidance for concrete situations. And sometimes how people will seek to enforce these directives seems silly at best. "Women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the law says." (1 Corinthians 14:34) I've read some really unsatisfying explanations for this; earlier in this same letter he commends women for their prayer and prophesying (1 Corinthians 11:5), so you won't hear a sermon on this anytime soon.

So, the bible is not a law book, yet sometimes when that's what benefits us, we'd like it to be. Then we could make our salvation totally dependent upon what we do, how we perform. That's the way secular societies always work. Produce and you will be rewarded. Perform well and you'll be ushered up (by a thankful God) to a higher place.

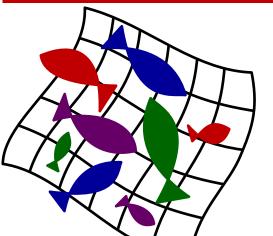
Many make that what religion is about. For them it's about law. So, get the Ten Commandments placed in every public place possible. That's okay I guess, but if you want the essence of Christianity to be on such public display what really should be promoted is THE APOSTLE'S CREED. There you have what Christianity is about: a God who in love creates the world and all within it, including each of us; a Savior who takes the matter of salvation away from humans who are totally inept in that endeavor: and a FIRE, a VOICE, a SPIRIT that dwells among and within us. So, if the Bible is not a book of laws, a kind of 'do this' and 'do that' to get right with God - what is it?

What I liked about the museums careful walking through the creation of what we know as the Bible is that it sees the overview, the over-arching focus of the sixty-six books to be an account about God, about the drama of God entering into our world - and now our lives. The Bible is an extended message, an extended love letter from God to you.

Frankly, to swear on the Bible in court or out is a misuse. There's a 'Christian' construction company - that puts a Bible in the cornerstone of each building being constructed and then pours concrete over it. M'kay, but those bibles are likely not going to be read, and wasn't that the point? I can imagine what the handful of Bible translators who were excommunicated and persecuted for daring to try to get the Bible in a language the common people could read would say about such a practice: "wait... you're doing what?!?! How does that help anyone receive the message?" If our sacred scripture lies unopen on our coffee tables we aren't doing any better.

Martin Luther insisted that the Bible is not the Savior, Jesus is. He wrote that the Bible is like the crib into which the Christ-child was first placed. It is not the Christ but when we look into it we meet him. So as the program year gets started, see if you can't remember where your bible is. Dust it off and open it up. Come to worship, learn a little more, and go back to it and see if Jesus shows you something good for your soul.

Faith Formation Sunday School, Confirmation, Bible Study



Sunday School and Confirmation

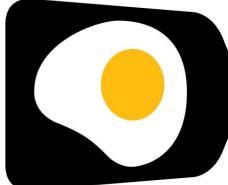
Date

August 11 Back to Church Sunday (Backpack Blessing)

August 18 The 10 Commandments September 8 Manna in the Wilderness September 22 Ruth

We kick off the academic year on Back to Church Sunday August 11. 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 big room downstairs, 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 Catechism.

Congregational Life Events for the whole community



Mid-Month Breakfasts

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

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!



We're In The Parade!

August 17 – 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 11, 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 15, 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. So it should be a good place to meet up. And the food is good!

Youth

Game Night – August 18, 4:30pm-6pm

Join your friends at 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. Just ask any of the people in the young adult group.





Elementary

Ice Cream Sandwich Part September 14, 12pm

On vacation I saw another church promoting this activity. We will be making and packaging Ice Cream Sandwiches. We will of course take some home, but we'll also make them available for sale in church on Sunday and proceeds can go to the food pantry at San Andreas.

August and September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 12pm Fitness Club	2	3
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	5 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	6	7	8 12pm Fitness Club	9	9am Mid-Month Breakfast
Back to Church Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am BtC Burger Burn! 7pm CTKYA Top Golf	12 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	13 11:30am WELCA	14	15 12pm Fitness Club	16	Arrows to Aerospace Parade Line up at 9:30am
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 4:30pm Youth Game Nite	19 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	20	21	22 12pm Fitness Club	23	34
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education	26 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	27	28	29 12pm Fitness Club	30	31 2
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	3 9am Quilting	4	5 12pm Fitness Club	6	7 9am Mid-Month Breakfast
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education	9 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	10	11	12 12pm Fitness Club	13	14 12pm Ice Cream Sandwich Party
9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 7pm CTKYA Trackside in Waverly	16 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	17 9am Quilting 11:30am WELCA	18	19 12pm Fitness Club	20	21
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9am Adult Study 10am Worship Pet Blessing 11:15am Fellowship Don and Mille's	30 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.					