



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

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 you 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 you 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

((▶)) LIVESTREAMING IN...

01 : 12 : 45
HOURS MINUTES SECONDS



WATCH LIVESTREAM

The livestream will begin a few minutes before the service starts.

Worship Is Not Content

For some time now, I have been hesitant about the idea of live streaming our worship services. That may seem a little strange in 2026. After all, nearly everything else can be streamed, and many churches have been broadcasting their worship services for years. But I have had some reservations about it.

Some of those reservations have been practical. There are copyright questions to navigate, equipment can be expensive, and technology has a way of creating as many problems as it solves. We have been recording portions of our services and uploading them to YouTube, but that process has not always been reliable. We have run out of storage space, recordings have failed to upload, and we have occasionally discovered that what we thought we had recorded was not quite what we expected. That's all true, but my biggest hesitation has been theological.

I do not believe that the church's calling is to become a content-creation business. There are companies that would be happy to help us turn worship into an online media operation. They can manage our livestream, edit sermons into short clips, optimize our social media presence, and help us count and identify clicks, views, likes, and subscribers. That is not what I want for Christ the King. I don't think that's what any of us want at Christ the King.

I have no interest in becoming an Internet Christian influencer, and I don't think worship should become another form of online entertainment. Worship is not content. It is not something we produce for an audience. It is something we do together as the gathered people of God. That distinction matters.

The Lutheran tradition has always placed a great deal of emphasis on the gathering of God's people around Word and Sacrament. The church is not simply a collection of individuals consuming religious material. We are the Body of Christ. We gather together, we hear God's Word, we pray, we sing, we confess our faith, we receive Christ's gifts, and we are sent back into the world to love and serve our neighbors.

That is why I don't want a livestream to become an excuse for simply staying home whenever it is more convenient. There is something important about being together. There is something about seeing one another, sharing the peace, singing with one another, kneeling together at the altar, and receiving Communion as a gathered congregation that cannot be completely reproduced through a screen.

At the same time, I have become convinced that there are good reasons for us to make our worship available online. This summer, we have had members who have been recovering from illness, surgery, or other circumstances that have made getting to church difficult. For them, watching a service online isn't about convenience. It is about remaining connected to their church family when they cannot physically be here.

There is another reason as well. I have become convinced that for many people, seeing our worship online may be an important step toward eventually walking through our doors. Before someone visits a church for the first time, they may want to know what they are walking into. What is the worship like? What kind of music do they sing? What is the congregation like? And, perhaps especially these days, is this a place where I will be comfortable? Is the pastor going to tell me how I should vote? Are there going to be things happening that I don't expect? A livestream cannot answer all those questions, but it can give someone a glimpse of who we are.

So, after some hesitation, I think it is time for us to take this step.

We are beginning the process of setting up a proper livestream for our Sunday worship. The goal is not to create a polished online production. The goal is simply to make our worship accessible to those who cannot be with us and to offer those who are curious about Christ the King Lutheran Church a window into the life of this congregation.

We expect the livestream to be available through our church website, and our hope is that it will be as simple as clicking a button. We are still working out some of the details, including how long recorded services will remain available afterward. As we figure out what works best for our congregation and I suspect there will be a few technological hiccups along the way. That's part of the adventure.

Because we aren't hiring a company to manage this for us. There won't be a professional production crew sitting in the back of the sanctuary making sure every camera angle is perfect and every microphone level is precisely balanced. There will be, well... us.

So there may be a Sunday when the camera doesn't quite point where we thought it was pointing. There may be a microphone that decides it would rather not cooperate. There may even be a moment when someone has to walk over and ask, "Is it working?"

If that happens, I hope we will remember that we aren't producing a television program. We are worshipping. And that brings me back to why I think this is worth doing.

We aren't trying to build an audience. We aren't trying to become influencers. We aren't trying to make worship go viral. We are simply trying to remove one more barrier between people and the worshipping community of Christ the King.

Hebrews reminds us, "Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together" *Hebrews 10:24-25*. The livestream will never replace that meeting together. Instead, I hope it will help us remain connected when circumstances prevent us from gathering, and perhaps help someone who is searching for a church take that first step toward joining us.



The church's primary calling is to proclaim Christ, receive his gifts, love our neighbors, and gather together as his people. The livestream is simply one more tool that can help us do that.

If the technology occasionally reminds us that the people of Christ the King are not professional broadcasters, well, perhaps that's okay too. We have never claimed to be perfect at everything we do. We are simply a congregation of people who gather together to worship a perfect Savior.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. B.' followed by a flourish.



Mid-Month Breakfasts

Served 9am-10:30am

August 8 and

September 12

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

Sunday, August 9

Mark your calendars
for **Back to Church Sunday!**

As we gather after a busy summer, we'll take a moment to pause, reconnect, and celebrate the gift of being together as God's people at Christ the King. Whether you've been here every Sunday, are new to our congregation, or it's been a while since we've seen you, **there's a place for you here!**



Come worship, catch up with friends, meet someone new, and help us begin a new season of life and ministry together. And when worship is over, **stay for our Summer Harvest Lunch!** Throughout the summer we've been exploring what it means to care for God's good creation, and on Back to Church Sunday we'll put a pin in our Creation Mandate series by celebrating the fruits of that creation—literally! We'll gather around the table for a fun, informal meal featuring **Garden Café-style potato casseroles** and all the good things that come from summer gardens.

If your garden has already been blessing you with more tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, peppers, or other produce than you know what to do with, **bring some to share!** Maybe you've made enough pickles or tomato sauce to fill every jar in the house, or perhaps the zucchini is multiplying faster than you can give it away. You're welcome to bring something homemade to share—or simply bring some fresh garden produce for others to enjoy. No pressure, no fancy presentation required. Just bring what you have, come hungry, and let's enjoy the abundance God has given us.

Worship. Fellowship. Food. Garden goodness. What better way to celebrate the end of summer and begin a new season together? Bring your family and friends along to share in the joyous atmosphere! We hope you'll join us!

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!

Congregational Life CONTINUED



We're in the Parade!

August 15 – 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.

Faith Formation

Sunday School, Confirmation, Bible Study



Date

August 9 Back to Church Sunday (Backpack Blessing)

August 16 Let's talk about Prayer

August 30 Let's talk about Prayer

September 13 Let's talk about Prayer

September 27 Let's talk about Prayer

We kick off the academic year on Back to Church Sunday August 9. We won't have a lesson that day but be sure to be in worship for the Backpack Blessing. Generally speaking, we will have lessons every other week from 11:20 – 12:30. Pre confirmation aged kids begin in the Sanctuary with music and then move into lesson time.

Meema's House

August 23, 11:30pm

Summer's come to a close and we're back in school, but there is still time for one more pool party. We had a great time to finish out VBS at Meema's house. Join your church friends at Meema's – 18202 Nicholas Rd. Plattsmouth, NE 68048. You don't even have to get in the pool to fellowship with those who do. You might even get to meet some of the bees that get featured occasionally in sermons. ;-)



Bowling

September 20, 11:30am

Join your friends from church after worship for lunch and bowling at "Papio Bowl" in Papillion! Just 13 minutes away. Adults are welcome to stick around as well. \$4 for shoes, \$6 per game, we'll cover the pizza and drinks.

Youth and Family

Events for specific age groups

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

Smash Park – August 23, 6pm

Finish out the summer with your church friends at Smash Park in LaVista! There are a number of activities; this month I was thinking axe throwing. We're asking for \$10 to help defray the costs. We'll have a sign-up genius so we know how many lanes to reserve and how much food to order.

Pizza and Bible – September 13, 6pm

Several of us have gathered for fellowship over the summer, and since a few of you have suggested adding some time for Scripture study, I think it would be fun to work that into what we're already doing. The fellowship remains the main thing—we'll just give ourselves a little time to explore Scripture and see where the conversation takes us.

We've been preparing some space at church that should make for a comfortable setting when we have a larger group.

I'll choose a section of Scripture and send it out ahead of time. If you'd like to come with a question to stump me, something that caught your attention, or simply something that might inspire the conversation, even better. No homework required—just come ready to spend some time together, share a meal, and see what Scripture has to say to us.

Youth

Middle and High School

Food and Faith Questions

August 16, 4:30pm

Our youth gatherings are first and foremost a chance to spend time together, have some fun, and enjoy being part of a community. But I've also noticed that every now and then one of you will text me with a question about something you heard at church, saw online, or had a friend ask you—and I love those conversations!

So we're going to make a little more room for those questions when we gather. We'll have some time together to look at Scripture, talk about faith, and ask the questions that don't always have easy answers. You don't need to have a question prepared, and you certainly don't need to know the "right" answer. **Wondering is welcome. Questions are welcome. Even really good questions that might stump Pastor Bryan are welcome!**

Come ready to hang out, eat something, ask questions, and see where the conversation takes us.



September 20, 11:30am

Check out the blurb in faith formation on the pervious page!



August and September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 6pm CTKYA Pizza and Bible	34 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	4	5 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	6 12pm Fitness Club	7	8 9am Mid-Month Breakfast
9 Back to Church Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Summer Harvest Lunch	10 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	11	12 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	13 12pm Fitness Club	14	15 Arrows to Aerospace Parade Line up at 9:30am
16 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education 4:30 Youth Food and Faith	17 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	18 11:30am WELCA	19 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	20 12pm Fitness Club	21	22
23 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:30pm Pool Party @ Meema's 6pm CTKYA Axe Throwing	24 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	25	26 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	27 12pm Fitness Club	28	29
30 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education Don and Mille's	31 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	1	2 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	3 12pm Fitness Club	4	5
6 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	7 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	8	9 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	10 12pm Fitness Club	11	12 9am Mid-Month Breakfast
13 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education 6pm CTKYA Pizza and Bible	14 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	15 11:30am WELCA	16 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	17 12pm Fitness Club	18	19
20 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:30 Youth & Family Bowling	21 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	22	23 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up	24 12pm Fitness Club	25	26
27 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11:15am Fellowship 11:20am Christian Education	28 12pm Fitness Club 5:30pm T.O.P.S.	29	30 9am San Andreas Pantry Set-up			