

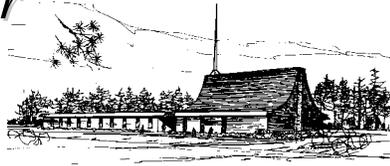
The King's Messenger

July 2020

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Christ the King Lutheran Church

7239 Patterson Road, Columbia, SC 29209

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Loved by God, we are disciples of Jesus, called by the Holy Spirit to make disciples for Jesus.



THE SC SYNOD ASSEMBLY MEETING
SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2020

**LISTEN, GOD IS
CALLING!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
SCSYNOD.COM

The 2020 SYNOD Assembly will be held online on Saturday, **July 25th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**, in partnership with Lumi Global. A new Bishop will be elected at this assembly.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Pastor Mark

What does the Lord Require?

...do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

This passage from Micah is the slogan of MORE Justice, a local interfaith network of congregations that is working on grass roots justice issues. MORE stands for Midlands Organized Response for Equity, and it has been active in the midlands for the past five years or so, during which time we have worked with public officials on issues like establishing a fund for low income housing, greater excellence in public education, and better police/community relations. I am a member of the network through Ascension Lutheran Church, which is one of the more than 30 congregations that make up the organization.

One of the key principles of MORE Justice is that God tells us, through his prophet Micah, that God requires that we both *love kindness* and *do justice*. Many Christians seem to be very good at *loving kindness* - that is, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and welcoming the stranger. But we seem to have a more difficult time embracing the other part of the equation, which to work at doing *justice* in God's world. Some church folks may actually question whether the pursuit of justice is the proper calling of the church.

In this time of an almost unprecedented intensity of the cries for justice, many businesses and secular organizations have responded by echoing the cries of the Black Lives Matter movement. If the church really is called to do justice, how should the church respond? What do we think God has to say about justice at this moment in time?

I have been having powerful, Spirit-filled conversations with folks in our own congregation about how Christ the King should respond in our ministry setting. What do we think God requires of Christ the King at this time in history? What should we say to our neighbors nearby the church, a vast majority of whom are African American, about justice in the context of the global movement we are seeing today?

Some folks I have already spoken with at CTK have said that they don't like the slogan "Black Lives Matter" and some have said they think it is a good one. Some have suggested that a statement about "justice for all people" would appropriately express how our congregation discerns God's will, or others have said perhaps simply a word of welcome to everyone would be enough. I have had several truly inspiring conversations around this question and I am looking forward to more as time goes on.

I am convinced that the struggle for justice and equity is the job of the church. I would certainly welcome anyone who wants to join me in that struggle through the MORE Justice Network. There is strength in numbers. But even as an individual neighborhood congregation, I believe we are called to speak for God, even as the prophet does. We know how to love kindness. How do we do justice?

Your brother in Christ,
Pr Mark



Christ the King Lutheran Church

July 2020

Pastor Mark Buchan

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Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
8:30 am-1:30 pm

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Our Purpose Statement

Loved by God, we are disciples of Jesus, called by the Holy Spirit to make disciples for Jesus.



Bible Readings for the Month

July 5 Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 14

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

Second Reading: 2 Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

July 12 Time after Pentecost: Lectionary 15

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and trees that clap their hands.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

**July 19 Time After Pentecost –
Lectionary 16**

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the LORD does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God’s children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God’s judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

**July 26 Time After Pentecost –
Lectionary 17**

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God’s actions for us. Through Christ’s death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God’s love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to

separate us from such incredible divine love.

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew’s gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that “the kingdom of heaven is near!” Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people’s lives.

July Tellers: To Be Announced

NOTICE

Due to the increase in Covid-19 cases, the following monthly activities remain on hiatus:

- Bible Study
- Women of the ECLA
- Shawl Ministry

We will continue to worship outside, under the picnic shelter, until further notice.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR JUNE

June Council Highlights

- Melanie Walker has been hired as CTK's new Office Administrator.
- The month of April saw a shortfall of \$5000 in our budget.
- Council voted to accept SC Synod's offer to cut synod benevolence in half to adjust for lost giving during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- New exit lights will be installed to meet fire code.

Next Council Meeting:
July 14th
6:30 PM

FOOD SUNDAY is July 12

Featured Items:

Canned Peas

Jiffy Mix

**We collected 66 lbs. for the
month of June!**

Our Goal for July is 100 lbs.!



KM Deadline

We're looking for member contributions! We would love to hear your experiences with home-worship and any stories or thoughts on worship during these unprecedented times.

The deadline for the July issue of the King's Messenger is July 20th. Please call the office or email Melanie at secretaryctk@sc.twcbc.com with information or entries.

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

July Birthdays

2nd ~ Gordon Holscher II

8th ~ Michael Freie

30th ~ Mary Nettles



1st Crystal and Michael Freie
2nd ~ Debra and Edward Butler
4th ~ Josie and Alfred Pedersen
20th ~ Bill and Jane Wannamaker



Hello, I'm Melanie Walker the new office administrator. I'm a graduate student studying creative writing at the University of South Carolina. Born and raised in Boston, I enjoy writing, playing the French horn, and going for hikes with my daughter, Gemma. Please come by or give the office a call to say hello! My office hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 9am to 1pm.

Outdoor Worship Updates

Thank you to everyone that attended our first month of outdoor worship! We will continue to worship outdoors for the month of July. We've also purchased a radio transmitter! With the radio, you'll be able to stay in your air-conditioned car with the windows closed while listening to our service on the radio—just tune to FM 89.9. We will also have live sound for those who prefer to sit under the picnic shelter.

We also now have a Youtube page, where we'll post all online worship videos. If you have a Youtube account, you can subscribe to **Christ the King Lutheran Church** to receive updates and new video uploads. We will also continue to post weekly sermons on the website, and send them by email.

Updating the prayer list

Please let us know if you want your name or your loved ones name to be added or removed from the prayer list on our weekly bulletin.

Thanks!

Call the office at 803-397-9208 or email Melanie at secretaryctk@sc.twcbc.com.



Christ the King Lutheran Church
PO Box 9161
Columbia, SC 29290-9161
Return Service Requested

*We are the body of Christ worshiping through
Word and Sacrament as a family of believers.
Our purpose is to instill, sustain and nourish our
faith as congregation by being a supportive
community in order to proclaim the Gospel of Christ
and to serve Christ in outreach on all levels.*