

*Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight,
and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood... 1 Peter 2: 4*



The Living Stone



October 2, 2015

The annual church yard sale is going on right now! Head over to CTK and show your support today or tomorrow. See below for details. Also, new member classes start this weekend, and... you get your pets spayed, neutered and micro chipped, why not get them blessed to boot? Read on for more about the 1st Annual Pet Blessing (and how you'll be blessed in return), plus a whole slew of activities coming your way this fall at CTK.



Have a blessed weekend!

In His Service,
Susan Van Valkenburgh
Communications Specialist



A Blessing for the Animals - and Us

This Sunday afternoon at 4:00 PM we'll see more animals at church in a short, half hour period of time, than we likely will over all the other days of the year combined. Apart from service animals, most churches only encourage animals to come to worship for an annual pet blessing usually near around the

church's commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi. Why is that?

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My guess is that the invitation to bring animals to church invites a certain amount of chaos that we aren't always used to. It's not a question of if, but when the barking will start. When the meowing will happen. When an animal will need comforted or calmed. Indeed, for some the thought of bringing animals to church is a crazy one, yet I dare say it's one from which we can all learn something.

To be sure, commemorating St. Francis and the animals he loved is risky, because we don't know what will happen. We can't predict how the service will go or who might "bark" first. But celebrating this special day with our animals makes us more aware that being in relationship always involves risk and that our God-the Creator of every living thing-risked everything to be in relationship with us. It is this same God, who in spite of the risks, continually calls us into relationship with all of creation.

Many of you have probably seen the different signs, pictures and videos that remind us that "Dog" is "God" spelled backwards. The images associated with this revelation are usually meant to tug on our heartstrings. But the deeper truth is that these images, and frankly all images of our companion animals tug on our heartstrings because they remind us of the trusting relationship that bonds us to them. They remind us that the risk of entering into this loving relationship never outweighs the joy we receive from it. And so it is with our relationship with God.

I promise that there will be barking, meowing and probably all sorts of other animal sounds at church on Sunday afternoon. But I also promise that for those who risk coming the joy will be greater than the cacophony of sounds we hear. So I invite you to come, join the holy chaos this Sunday and remember with us the deep love God has for all of creation.

Grace and Peace,
Pr. Erik



Stewardship Pledge Drive

Recently, a letter was sent out launching the stewardship committee's fall initiative pledge drive that began Sunday, September 27. Our new theme, **Open Minds -- Open Hearts -- Open Hands**, plans to bring some exciting new year round focus to stewardship. You are invited to make gifts

during this special time of the year that will support the congregation and its mission.

In thinking about this year's focus we realized it was a time to stop and reflect upon what has been accomplished in 2015 with some of our congregation's stewardship pledge dollars. With your generosity we were

Congregation
Appreciation Dinner
New Library Books!
Habitat for Humanity
Build

Ministry Quick Links

Calendar



Pastor

Rev. J. Erik Allen

Program Staff

Deborah Scarazzo,
Christian Education Coordinator

Kristine Macauley,
Youth Coordinator

Music Staff

Dr. John Broman,
Chancel Choir Director

Sandra Lutters,
Music Minister

Administrative Staff

Kathy Voerg,
Business Manager

John Spencer,
Administrative Assistant

David & Susan Van
Valkenburgh,
Communications Specialists

able to achieve a new welcome desk, industrial ice machine, upgraded sound system, provided a water well for a village in a third world country, and celebrated our church's 25 anniversary. The stewardship committee challenged each of us to grow spirituality through focus on daily prayer and reading, praying for others with our prayer wall, spreading the word through evangelism, and the sharing of time and talents during the annual ministry fair. We thank you for the ability to accomplish these significant and prayerful achievements.

What are our hopes to achieve in 2016? Your commitment will help support the continued efforts at CTK to increase the opportunities for spiritual growth, to enable staff growth and to support greater emphasis on youth and children ministries. We are encouraged to make the offerings of praise and thanksgiving from hearts filled with love for God.

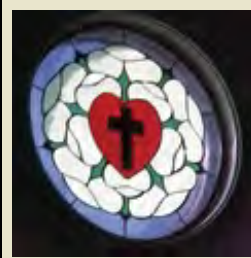
Everyone in our congregation now holds in their hands what it means to be a good steward of God, and what a perfect time to reflect individually what this will look like. As we work towards growing as individuals both spirituality and financially within our church in this coming year, we will be setting the foundation of our church and communities future. The stewardship committee hopes that you will feel the pull of the Holy Spirit calling you to be part of the excitement. Let us all listen to what God is telling us by Opening our Minds, Hearts, and Hands. This is our time to rise up and embrace all that we have been blessed with by being a good and faithful steward. Everything that we own belongs to God, we are to manage it for God's glory.

Please pray for our church during this spiritual journey as we approach
Commitment Sunday, October 18.

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength."

Matthew 12:30

Cathy Beard
Vice President Church Council
Stewardship Council Advocate



**Christ the King
Preschool**

Jakima McCall,
Preschool Director



**New Member Classes Begin THIS
Sunday**

Do you have questions about what Lutherans believe? Do you wonder about your gifts for ministry? Want to know more about the ministry opportunities here at Christ the King? Then these classes are for you! Beginning **this Sunday**, October 4 and continuing for 3 weeks during the discipleship hour (10:00 am on Sunday mornings), Christ the King will be exploring the answers to these questions and more.

Anyone wishing to learn more about Christ the King and/or become a member of Christ the King is encouraged to attend. Each week will be unique in the information shared. New members will be received into the congregation on Sunday, October 25. Please [click here](#) if you plan on attending so that enough materials are provided for everyone. While attendance isn't required for membership, those who choose to attend will learn more about this congregation and meet many of the ministry leaders at the same time.



Annual Yard Sale

The Annual Yard Sale is going on now! This year's sale will be both in the fellowship hall and the parking lot.

Come on by today and tomorrow to help support the Outreach Team!



First Annual Pet Blessing

This Sunday, the CTK Fellowship Ministry invites you to bring the four legged members of your family to celebrate with us the Feast Day of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals. We will meet at CTK at the outdoor chapel at 4:00 p.m. for a blessing.



Fall Landscape Workday

We will have a landscape workday to beautify the church grounds on Saturday, October 10. Come enjoy the cooler weather and help out with pruning, weeding and planting pansies!

No special skills required! We will be working from 9:00 am to noon; come for as much time as you can spare. Contact Amy at amybarish@comcast.net or 770-889-3072 with any questions.

October Sewcialbee

Our next quilting sewcialbee will be on Saturday, October 10, 2015 from 10



a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Please bring your sewing machine, walking foot (if you have one) and any other tools you think you will need. We have a number of quilt tops that need to be layered and then sewn together.

So if you would like to help a worthy cause, please join us. Don't forget to bring your lunch if you are staying for the day.

Any questions contact Cathie Gibbons 678-923-2964 or catherinegibbons4@gmail.com.



Coat Drive

Once again we are supporting the annual coat drive of ***The Place***. Please bring your coat donations to the box in the narthex by Sunday, October 18.



Bible Study: Isaiah

Christians in Action (C.I.A.) invites you to join us at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday mornings at Christ the King Lutheran Church for a study of the book of Isaiah. Our slogan is, "We are here to learn about the Bible and each other from each other." And we have fun doing just that. Come join us!



Pumpkin Painting October 18

The Annual Youth & Children Pumpkin Painting will be October 18 from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch is provided! We will be using some of the Pumpkins for decorations for the Octoberfest on Sunday October 25! The students are welcome to take them home at the close of the Octoberfest. Please email Deborah Scarazzo at debbie@ctklutheran.com if you would be available to help pick up pumpkins or help with lunch.

Sounds of Sawnee Concert



The Sounds of Sawnee are presenting a concert entitled "Broadway Scores Again" on Sunday, October 18th at Midway United Methodist Church. All proceeds go to Family Promise of Forsyth

County. Tickets are \$10.00 and may be purchased from Carol Terry or Jim or Lu Leeds.



Let's Go to the Corn Maze!

The youth group wants the whole congregation to join them on Sunday, November 1, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. We will be at Forsyth county's ONLY corn maze at Warbington Farms. Tell them you

are with CTK Lutheran and get the group rate of \$2 off gate price. Walk their maze for \$8, do both the corn maze AND the fun park for \$13 for kids or \$10 for adults. We will have a spot reserved in the party barn for CTK for those that just want to come and share in the get-together.

Calling all BRAVE youth members. On Friday, October 30, we will go to Uncle Shucks "Haunted Corn Maze," best enjoyed by high school and middle school aged kids that don't frighten easily. We will meet at 8:30 at night. Purchase your tickets individually, but enjoy the maze together. Bring your flashlights because we'll have a race to see who can finish the standard maze in the dark first! Tickets are \$16 for both mazes. Tell them you are with CTK Lutheran group for \$2 off your admission price.

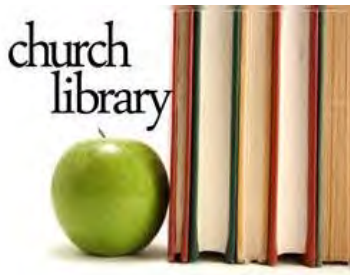
In all, email Kristine@ctklutheran.com to let her know you plan to attend, but RSVP's are not required. Come on the spur of the moment if you want!



Congregation Appreciation Dinner

The Outreach and Hospitality teams will sponsor an Italian dinner on Saturday November 14 starting at 6:30 PM. Dinner will include entrees, salads, drinks, and desserts. Musical entertainment will also be included. Please mark your calendars. You will see

more on this in the coming weeks.



New Library Books!

We have added a lot of new novels to the Christ the King Library. You will find them on the "New and Featured Shelf." Stop by the library and see what other books might interest you!



Habitat for Humanity Build

This Fall, Habitat is partnering with Thrivent Financial to do an Ecumenical Build at Village Chase in Woodstock. Thrivent Builds is designed to involve Thrivent Members, Christians and other volunteers in helping provide a "hand up" to people in need of affordable housing, offering them a path to greater economic independence. We will be helping the Uk/Kim Family who are refugees from Myanmar, also known as Burma; a place where human rights violations are notorious. Below are the following build dates:

October 3, October 10, October 17, October 24, November 7, November 14, November 21 and December 5

The day begins around 8:00 a.m. and will finish around 2:00/3:00 p.m. If you cannot commit to the full day, you can volunteer for part of the day. We ask that you register ahead of time to be better able to determine the tasks that need to be completed. If you would like to sign up or would like more information, please call Angela Maurer at 675-475-0350 or email angela.maurer@thrivent.com.

Calendar of the Week at Christ the King

Date	Day	Time	Event
4-Oct	Sunday		Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
		8:00 - 9:00	Early Holy Communion
		8:30 - 11:15	Scrip On Sale
		9:00 - 10:00	Alternative/Contemporary Holy Communion
		9:50 - 10:00	Fellowship Time
		10:00 - 10:45	Sunday School/Discipleship Hour
		10:00 - 10:45	New Member Orientation Class
		11:00 - 12:00	Holy Communion
		12:15 - 1:15	Children's Choir/Handchimes
		4:00	Pet Blessing
5-Oct	Monday	7:00 - 8:00	Handbells Rehearsal

6-Oct	Tuesday	10:00 - 11:00	Christians In Action (CIA) Bible Study
		1:00 - 3:00	Lydia Circle
		7:00 - 8:00	Nostalgia
7-Oct	Wednesday	10:30 - 11:30	Staff Meeting
		11:00 - 1:00	Outreach serving Lunch at The Place
		1:00 - 4:00	Mahjongg
		7:00 - 8:30	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
8-Oct	Thursday	7:00 - 8:30	Prasie Band Rehearsal
10-Oct	Saturday	10:00 - 2:30	LWR Sewcialbee
11-Oct	Sunday		Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
		8:00 - 9:00	Early Holy Communion
		8:30 - 11:15	Scrip On Sale
		9:00 - 10:00	Alternative/Contemporary Holy Communion
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