

*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



December 4, 2015

This Sunday marks the second week of Advent. Advent services are ongoing each Wednesday, as well, until Christmas and include a light meal beforehand. See all the details below. Have a blessed weekend!



In His Service,
Susan Van Valkenburgh
Communications Specialist

In This Issue



Welcoming Conversation

The season of Advent is here again! It is, of course, a season of joy and anticipation, but also a season of surprises! According to the gospel of Luke, Zechariah and Mary were both surprised by angelic visits announcing the births of both John the Baptist and Jesus. We too can be surprised during this Advent season. We can be surprised by God, but also by visitors in our midst.

One of the recent surprises we have heard from visitors is that with the tables for Scrip right inside the doors and with the Children's Church area closed off as soon as one enters, the entrance to the fellowship hall can feel much smaller than we intend. So two weeks ago at the Evangelism Team meeting, the team talked about how to make the fellowship hall more inviting for visitors and conducive for fellowship before and after services.

The end result is that starting this Sunday, the coffee and tea will be visible from the narthex, with the treats on the wall just inside the doors of the

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narthex. The Scrip tables will be on the same side of the fellowship hall that they have always been on just further down - beyond the coffee and tea.

You will also find the Children's Church blue divider moved to the back side of the fellowship hall to, again, help open up the space and encourage fellowship with one another before and after worship. Please be sure to use this open space as it will help us minimize the congestion that can happen between the services.

Being a welcoming and friendly congregation is important for all of us. It is my hope that with these subtle, yet significant changes we can all have an easier time conversing with one another and in doing so continue to meet and invite others to join us in the mission we share: *Glorifying God, Spreading the Word and Loving One Another.*

Grace and Peace,
Pr. Erik



1st Annual Ornament Exchange- Tomorrow!

The Fellowship Team invites you to the 1st Annual Ornament tomorrow from 2 - 4 p.m.!

Bring the whole family and join us for:

* Ornament exchange for older kids, youth and adults

- * Arts and Crafts for the younger kids (coloring and ornament making)
- * Finger Foods
- * Warm Beverages (hot apple cider, hot cocoa, tea, and coffee)
- * Various varieties of Christmas music

Mark your calendars for this fun event!



Kids Play While You Shop Away! Tomorrow - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Do your Christmas shopping tomorrow and let Christ the King Youth Group and parents give your children a fun day of holiday activities! You can drop off anytime between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. We will play games, watch cartoons and seasonal movies, have snack

time and other fun activities. Click [here](#) for the form to fill out. Either email it to Kristine Macauley at kristine@ctklutheran.com or drop it off at the



Pastor

Rev. J. Erik Allen

Program Staff

Deborah Scarazzo,
*Christian Education
Coordinator*

Kristine Macauley,
Youth Coordinator

Music Staff

Dr. John Broman,
Chancel Choir Director

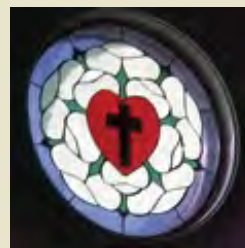
Sandra Lutters,
Music Minister

Administrative Staff

Kathy Voerg,
Business Manager

John Spencer,
Administrative Assistant

David & Susan Van
Valkenburgh,
*Communications
Specialists*



Christ the King Preschool

Jakima McCall,
Preschool Director

church office.

CALLING ALL YOUTH!!!

Sign up and tell us when you are able to help on Saturday, December 5, to play with the kids. Volunteers are needed from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parents of youth are also invited to help. Please contact Kristine if you are able to help.



December Quilting Sewcialbee Cancelled

The December Lutheran World Relief quilting sewcialbee has been cancelled.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our January quilting boot camp. The dates are Thursday, January 14 - Saturday, January 16 from 10 - 2:30 each day.

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



Sunday School Sundays, 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

As the church prepares to enter the season of Advent, please note the class schedule for the youth and children of the church:

Sunday, December 6: All classes will meet as usual.

Sunday, December 13: Rehearsal for the Youth & Children's program for participants. All other classes will meet as usual.

Sunday, December 20: Rehearsal for the Youth & Children's program for participants. All other classes will meet as usual.

Sunday, December 27: No Sunday school classes. There will only be ONE Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. that morning.



Treats for Troops - Thank You!

On Sunday, November 15, the youth of the church and others gathered to make cookies and cards to contribute to Treats for Troops. Thank you to all who participated in making the cards and cookies and also to those

families who donated items to be sent to the troops overseas. A special thank you to Joan Bell for leading the group and gathering up all of the items to take to the assembly area to make-up the boxes to send. Also thank you to Ann Waggaman who brought dozens of cookies she had baked to be included in the boxes. Following is an excerpt from the letter received by Joan Bell about the effort:

We received a huge amount of thank you notes from Midway, Kings Ridge, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Browns Bridge Church, Simpson Elementary, Vickery Creek and Peachtree Elementary so we were able to include 3-4 notes in each box and hopefully some of these notes will receive email replies.

THE FINAL NUMBERS: 425 BOXES, 51,246 HOMEMADE COOKIES AND THAT IS OVER \$6,700 IN DONATED POSTAGE. ~ Carolyn Hyman

Again thank you to everyone that helped with supplying a bit of home to our troops overseas. Well done, good and faithful servants!



Sundays in Advent 2015

**Sunday Morning Worship December 6, 13
and 20**

8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Advent is a time of anticipation. All are welcome to join us as we prepare for the anticipated arrival of the Christ child.

**Chancel Choir Cantata Sunday
December 13 at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

The program presented by the Chancel Choir will consist of six choral selections and one men's quartet piece. Pastor Allen will be putting together a script for the occasion based on the texts found in the seven selections. The quartet will consist of Dr. Jack Broman, Rev. Erik Allen, Rich Grimshaw, and Dr. Mark Spraker. The program will be accompanied by Sandra Lutters.

Youth & Children Program Sunday

December 20 at 11:00 a.m.

This year's Advent Program begins with preparing for the coming of the Christ child and concludes with us worshipping Christ with all our talents each and every day. The short musical portrays the Advent story with readings from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew and Advent songs. Please join the Children & Youth of Christ the King as they prepare us for the coming of the Christ child this Advent season.

Potluck following the Children's Program**December 20 at Noon**

Ruby/Ruth Circles will be hosting a Saint Lucia Potluck for the congregation honor of our Youth and Children directly following the children's Christmas musical at 11:00 a.m. Families are asked to bring entrees, appetizers, and side dishes to share. The Ruby/Ruth Circles will be providing children-friendly entrees and treats. Please email Wendy at wendy@kraby.com if you have any questions or would like to help.

**Wednesdays During Advent**

December 9 and 16

6:00 p.m. Advent Meal

Join us for a time of fellowship prior to Advent services on Wednesday nights. Simple meals of soup and sandwich will be sponsored by the various ministries of the church. Come and meet some of your fellow worshippers!

7:00 p.m. Advent Service - Evening Prayer Reflections

Join us as we use The Holden Evening Prayer service setting to prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus.

**Christmas Cookie Sale Is Almost Here!**

The annual Christmas Cookie Sale will be here Saturday, December 12th!!

For those new to the congregation, the Christmas Cookie Sale is an annual fundraiser benefiting the women's ministry. Bakers in the congregation donate delicious cookies, candies and individual homemade treats; the women's group decorates and sets everything up for the event in the fellowship hall.

Christ the King members and the general public are invited to attend and purchase the delicious treats. When you arrive you'll pick up a box to hold your goodies and set off to tour the trays to select whatever catches your eye. The boxes are weighed at the end and you pay the cashier accordingly. There are many who wait for the sale to purchase a special gift for teachers, neighbors, co-workers and family. The beauty of the Cookie Sale is the wide variety of items from which to select. Certainly more than most of us would make at home! There are also some special categories such as no nuts, sugar free and egg/gluten free.

The best selection is Saturday. If you cannot join us at the sale we will pack up any remaining cookies into 1-pound variety boxes. These will be available for sale between services the next day. Previous years' items have included traditional frosted sugar cookies, biscotti, buckeyes, pecan tassies, peanut brittle, church mice, thin mint cookies, meringues, Swedish cookies, gingerbread men, Mexican wedding cookies and others too numerous to list. You just need to come see for yourself!

To all you wonderful, dedicated bakers - more details will be published soon and I'm looking forward to seeing all the offerings. (Hint: Pizza boxes are a great way to transport your cookies to the church!)

Cookie sign-up sheet and drop-off forms for donations will be posted on the bulletin board next to mailboxes.

For questions, contact June Wolsin 770-889-0908



2015 Angel Tree

The Angel Tree is up in the narthex. This year the emphasis is on clothing but there are non-clothing options as well. We are sponsoring 51 children that would not otherwise be likely to receive Christmas gifts. This year we will not be bundling several Angels representing several items of clothing as we have for the past two years.

1) To provide a gift, please pull white Angel(s) specifying the item(s) as labeled on the Angel(s), purchase the item(s), return them unwrapped with receipts and the Angels, and place them under the tree.

2) White Angels are for the gifts for children. Each child will receive three gifts from our Angel Tree as well as a \$25 gift card to either Target or Walmart. You can purchase the gift cards at the Scrip Table in the fellowship hall.

Please return the gifts unwrapped with the Angels and receipts attached to them as well as the \$25 gift cards by Sunday, December 20. You can place

the gift cards in the wrapped box under the tree.

You can also support Outreach efforts for 2016 by donating Publix gift cards, which support families in need, or checks/cash as specified on the green Angels. The Publix gift cards can also be purchased at the scrip table. You can place these donations in the box under the tree.

Thank you for your support of Angel Tree over the years and please consider providing Christmas gifts for needy children during this holiday season.



The Scrip Program at CTK - What is it?

Since September 2009, Christ the King has been selling gift cards. The church is able to buy the cards at a discount from many sources. Members buy the cards at

their face value to purchase anything from groceries to gas to a night out. The profit made by Christ the King is then used to reduce the principal on the mortgage on the church. This Christmas Season why not help us pay down our mortgage by using gift cards to not only give as gifts, but to also purchase the gifts you are going to give. Together we can make help pay down in our mortgage.

For more information or to volunteer to help with the program, please contact Scott Younghouse at scotttn_1@hotmail.com.



God's Global Barnyard

Again this year Christ the King will be providing families with pigs and cows, ducks and chicks! This year your donations can again change lives: a chick for eggs, a cow for milk, a sheep for wool. With God's Global Barnyard, you may choose an animal or make a donation that will help to go for an animal

with other donations. You are welcome to donate an animal in memory and/or honor of an individual, ministry or organization. Please write Global Barnyard on the memo portion of the check and place with the flyer in the offering plate. This year make a difference that will last into the future of the lives of the people that receive this precious gift. If you would like more information on God's Global Barnyard, please see the flyer on the Welcome Desk in the narthex.



Poinsettias

Order forms for poinsettias for the chancel area are available in your bulletin or on the Welcome Desk in the narthex.

Please submit your orders by this

Sunday, December 6. Poinsettias will be

used to decorate the chancel area on Christmas Eve and the First Sunday of Christmas. Donors are asked to pick their flowers up after the service on Sunday, December 27.



First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 27 10:00 a.m. Service ONLY

Carol Sing with Holy Communion. Pick and sing your favorite Christmas carols from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)



Confronting Racism: A Holy Yearning - January 14

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Racism remains an enduring crisis in the United States. As Lutheran Christians, we must continue our involvement in and commitment to the important work of naming racism as a sin - a violation of God's intention for humanity.

Please join me for another live webcast on "Confronting Racism: A Holy Yearning" - Jan. 14 at 8 p.m. (CST). This conversation will focus on offering a variety of perspectives on the U.S. criminal justice system. As with the previous webcast, we will continue to ground the webcast by two commitments. One is this church's proclamation of Christ and the confidence that this good news brings to set us free from the captivity of racism. The second is this church's enduring commitment to address the complexity of racism and end discrimination.

Joining me once again for this conversation is host William B. Horne II, an

ELCA member from Clearwater, Fla. Together we welcome:

Judge Yolanda Tanner, an ELCA member and an associate judge for the Baltimore City Circuit Court.

Leonard Duncan, an ELCA member who will share his experience of incarceration, poverty and homelessness. Duncan is a student at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and an ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship recipient.

Charlene Guiliani, an ELCA member and former police sergeant. Guiliani is a student at Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, and an ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship recipient.

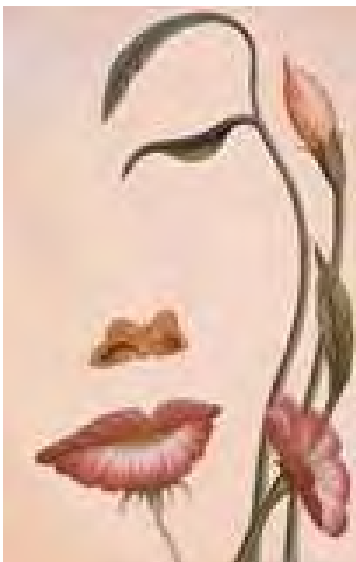
Through our church's social statements "The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries" and "Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture," the ELCA collectively has expressed its calling to confront racism and advocate for justice and fairness for all people. You can access these social statements [here](#). In addition, I have made several public statements on behalf of the church on the subject. Those statements are available [here](#).

You may read more about this webcast at www.ELCA.org/webcast, where a link to the live webcast will be provided. A live stream also will be available at [www.Facebook.com/Lutherans](https://www.facebook.com/Lutherans). If you would like to submit a question to be considered during the live webcast, please send it to livinglutheran@elca.org and provide your name and your congregation's name, city and state.

Join me for this important conversation.

God's peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Ruth/Ruby Circle

What is Ruby and Ruth Circle?

This is a group open to ALL women (of all ages) in the church to get to know each other and support each other under the love of God. We meet once a month for either dinners out, enrichment meetings or for service to the church. Come whenever you can!

Here is our schedule for the year:

Sunday, Dec. 20: We host a St. Lucia reception for all the kids of the church. (Amy B. hosts)

January (TBA): Dinner OUT (Amy B. hosts)

February (TBA): Craft Night OUT (Sue H hosts)

March 4-2-5: WOMEN's RETREAT in N. Georgia Mountains

April Sunday (TBA): Write to Military Members of the church with the children

May (TBA): Hike up Sawnee Mountain

June (TBA): Taco Night at Vacation Bible School

July (TBA): Dinner out (Planning Meeting)

September (TBA): Fall kick-off

Have questions or ideas?

Wendy Kraby, wendy@kraby.com

Amy Barish, amybarish@comcast.net

Ruby/Ruth CIRCLE

A virtuous woman who can find? For her price is far above rubies.

Proverbs 31:10

Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay.

Ruth 1:16



20th Annual Women's Retreat Save the Date!

March 4 - March 6, 2016

Location: Tanglewood Lodge

Helen, GA

Come Thursday, March 3, 2016 and stay for free.

Stay the weekend or just come Saturday for the study!

Scholarships are available.

(This will not apply to single bed registration.)

Changes Coming for 2016:

Limited availability of a single bed at an additional cost.

The study will begin on Friday night.

Registration will open December 2015

Questions please contact:

Stephanie Boylan

Calendar of the Week at Christ the King

Date	Day	Time	Event
6-Dec	Sunday		Second Sunday of Advent
		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
		11:00 - 12:00	Holy Communion
		12:15 - 1:15	Children's Choir & Hand chimes
7-Dec	Monday	7:00 - 8:00	Handbells Rehearsal
		8:00 - 9:30	Praise Band Rehearsal
8-Dec	Tuesday	10:00 - 11:00	Christians In Action (CIA) Bible Study
		11:30 - 12:00	Piecemaker's Quilt Guild Board Meeting
		12:00 - 4:00	Piecemaker's Quilt Guild
		5:30 - 8:00	Council Meeting - offsite
9-Dec	Wednesday	10:30 - 11:30	Staff Meeting
		1:00 - 4:00	Mahjongg
		6:00 - 7:00	Advent Meal
		7:00 - 7:30	Advent Service
		7:30 - 8:30	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10-Dec	Thursday	7:00 - 8:30	Praise Band Rehearsal
11-Dec	Friday	1:00 - 4:00	Cookie Sale Set-Up
12-Dec	Saturday	9:00 - 12:00	Cookie Sale
		3:00 - 6:00	Brito Recital
13-Dec	Sunday		Third Sunday of Advent
		8:00 - 9:00	Early Holy Communion
		8:30 - 11:15	Scrip On Sale
		9:00 - 10:00	Chancel Choir Cantata/Holy Communion
		9:50 - 10:00	Fellowship Time
		10:00 - 10:45	Sunday School/Discipleship Hour
		11:00 - 12:00	Chancel Choir Cantata/Holy Communion
		12:15 - 1:15	Children's Choir & Hand chimes