CHRIST the KING
lutheran church

eNEWSLETTER

July 2019

The work the Collaborative team has been doing as they study congregational revitalization has been energizing and exciting. Each time the team leaves a training, they are eager for the congregation to experience something new, something different, and something that will ask all of us to grow and stretch ourselves in new directions.

Human beings are creatures of habit. Even those people who say that they love novelty and new experiences have habits that they return to again and again.

This summer as we celebrate the abundance God has given to us, we will also be thinking about who our potential partners in ministry in the community surrounding the church could be.

This will require us to stretch ourselves and imagine the places where God wants us to be connecting and communicating.

It used to be that every church was an island unto itself. The congregation would erect a building and people from the community would be curious to find out what was happening. Times have changed. Instead of waiting for people to come to us, we will be going to them.

I now that this sounds like a scary proposition, but if we trust in the work we have done with the Collaborative team so far- focusing on prayer and the leading of the Spirit- we can trust that the spirit is guiding us to the places we are needed most and where our abundance of gifts will match the needs of the community.

The first step is to think and pray of businesses, organizations, and community partners who are in our local community. After we have identified them, we will send teams of people on a listening tour. We will compile all of our information from our listening sessions and match the evident needs of our community with our abundant gifts.

I invite you to pray about and imagine partnerships in our community. When you have discerned where we might collaborate in ministry, take a pin and flag and mark it on the map in the Gathering Area. I am excited to see the map fill with locations this summer.

Together, with the leading of the Spirit, we will continue to pray and seek guidance for where God should lead us to be partners in the gospel for the sake of the kingdom. Even if it is different than we are used to or a little bit uncomfortable.

Yours in Christ

Pastor Matt

The Collaborative:
Stronger · Better · Together

7393 Dimmick Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069
513.777.4370 ♦ office@ctkluth.org ♦ www.ctkluth.org

Praising God

Cottingham Worship

Sunday, July 14 @ 2:00 pm
Cottingham Retirement Community
(3995 Cottingham Dr.)
Worship with our friends at Cottingham Retirement Community(1 mile south of CtK on Route 42 across from Walgreens). The service typically lasts about 30-40 minutes and is located in the second floor chapel.

Contact Denise

Coffee House Worship & WELCA Brunch

Sunday, July 21
Brunch @ 10:00 am
Worship @ 11:00 am
Enjoy brunch provided by WELCA (Women of the ELCA) and then stay seated for a guitar-led, relaxed worship service with Holy Communion. Invite your friends, neighbors, and family.

Like Coffee House worship? Look for a once a month schedule beginning in September!

Summer Storytelling

Revealing Personality Types from the Bible

Through mid August
INTP, ESFJ, introvert, extrovert, neat desk, piles on the floor, up with the sun, awake at midnight…
So far we've heard from Deborah, the strong-willed judge; Paul the apostle, the ENTJ leader with strong opinions, and Elisha the prophet, providing for his people.

Each week in worship, storytellers will couple their own personal testimony with one of the great personalities in the Bible and how they used their unique gifts to serve the Lord.

Worship Schedule

Saturday @ 5 pm
Sunday @ 11 am

Summer Pick-Up Choir

Sundays, July 14 & August 11
Rehearse @ 9:45-10:45 am
Sing in worship @ 11:00 am
Come as you are, come as you are able. All voices and abilities welcome, both youth and adults.

Contact Denise

Pastor Matt's Weekly Sermon Podcast

A video of Pastor Matt's weekly sermon is posted on CtK's Facebook page each Sunday at 2:30 pm. Tune-in if you're unable to make it to church that weekend or share it with your friends. You can access archived sermons on CtK's website (www.ctkluth.org).

Readings for July

July 6/7—Lectionary 14
Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:1-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 13/14—Lectionary 15
Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 20/21—Lectionary 16
Genesis 18:1-10
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 27/28—Lectionary 17
Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-19
Luke 11:1-13

Growing in Faith

Register Now for DRAMA CAMP

Drama Camp is for EVERYONE in the family age 5 and up. Together a musical script, based on a biblical story, is brought to full production in only one week. This year we'll be performing

by CtK's favorite writing duo: Tom Long and Allen Pote.

Director: Jim
Assistant Director: Annie
Music Director: Denise

Stage Craft Mini Camp
Thursday, July 19 & Friday, July 20 @ 6:00-9:00 pm
Saturday, July 21 @ 9:00 am—noon
Work on sets, props, and costumes to be used for the show.

Script Read-Through
Sunday, July 21 @ 12:15-1:15 pm

4 Rehearsals
Monday, July 22 – Thursday, July 25 @ 6:00 -9:00 pm

Dress Rehearsal
Saturday, July 27 @ 9:00 am – Noon

Final Performance
Sunday, July 28 @ 4:00 pm

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us! Informational flyers can be found on the Gathering Area kiosk. Go to www.ctkluth.org to learn more and to register.

CD recordings and scripts may be picked up by registered participants in the Gathering Area.

Help needed for Drama Camp

- Snack donations—sign up in the Gathering Area
- Costumes—suitcoats, especially children and youth sizes. Please leave them in the coat closet by July 14.

Contact Denise

Drama Camp Performance

Sunday, July 28 @ 4:00 pm
Join us to celebrate a hard week's worth of work and play as Drama Camp presents the Story of Esther as you've never heard it before! Invite your friends to this free performance.

Malice in the Palace has all the ingredients for a great corporate thriller – a beautiful and spirited heroine, a dark-hearted villain, a twisting plot full of danger and intrigue, and a cliffhanger of a climax. And in the midst of this excitement we find a powerful message – the smallest person acting bravely can make an enormous difference, for God has placed us where we are for a reason. *- Tom Long & Allen Pote*

Mid-week Lectionary Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 10:00 am
Join Pastor Matt in a weekly Bible study. The group will study the readings for the upcoming worship.

Contact Pastor Matt

Summer Book Study

Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith

Wednesdays, July 10, 17, 24, 31 @ 7:00 pm
Faith is a messy thing! How can we share our faith stories in the midst of that messiness? We'll be discussing the bestselling book, ***Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith*** by Anne Lamont.

> "At once tough, personal, affectionate, wise, and very funny, ***Traveling Mercies*** tells in exuberant detail how Anne Lamott learned to shine the light of faith on the darkest part of ordinary life, exposing surprising pockets of meaning and hope."

Contact Pastor Matt

Serving Others

Music with a Mission Concert

Internationally known Christian jazz saxophonist, David Kocijan

Monday July 8, 7:00pm

Invite your friends for an inspiring evening of saxophone set within the gospel message. We were introduced to David's music with his stunning setting of *Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen,* interpreted by CtK saxophonist Eric Fogle at the recent Art of Prayer concert. Since then, Croatian born Kocijan has become a friend of CtK (thanks to the internet), and we are excited to host him and his family as they travel to the USA this summer.

> *"David's presentation was musically stunning and his excellence was inspiring. However it is his clear passion for Christ and his ability to translate heartfelt meaning to the listener through his words and music that is absolutely outstanding."*
> *Valley Presbyterian Church, CA*

On special invitation by the artist, the CtK Choir will join him on one or two of his songs. Want a sneak preview? Visit YouTube to hear some of David's inspiring music!

Help support our neighbors in the Dayton area and Southern Ohio as all proceeds from freewill offerings collected will go towards tornado relief.

Reach Out Lakota Back to School Program

It's time to start thinking about the beginning of a new school year. Many children in our neighborhood need help getting basic supplies for a successful school year. CtK is partnering with Reach Out Lakota in July to participate in their Back to School Program. Look for more details coming soon to Parish Notes.

Family Promise

Thank you to everyone who helped during our week of hosting 3 Family Promise families (3 adults & 5 kids) in mid-June. It takes many volunteers to provide a welcoming "home" for our guests. It has been a blessing for all involved to help provide opportunities for these families, as they seek to regain housing and a more stable life. THANKS!

Club 180

Family Promise is a program for Butler County residents. It receives no federal money. All donations received stay within Butler County to help our neighbors. Please consider becoming part of the "Club 180". A donation of just $ 3.46 / week ($180/ year) provides shelter and support services for an entire family of 4 for 4 days. See the outreach display in the Gather Area for more information.

The Family Promise Day Center is in need of the following items:

- shampoo & conditioner (including products for African American hair)
- new bath towels
- tampons
- size 5/6 diapers
- combs & hair brushes
- body wash
- pump hand soap
- hand sanitizer

Please place these donation items by the Gathering Area Outreach display. Thank you!!

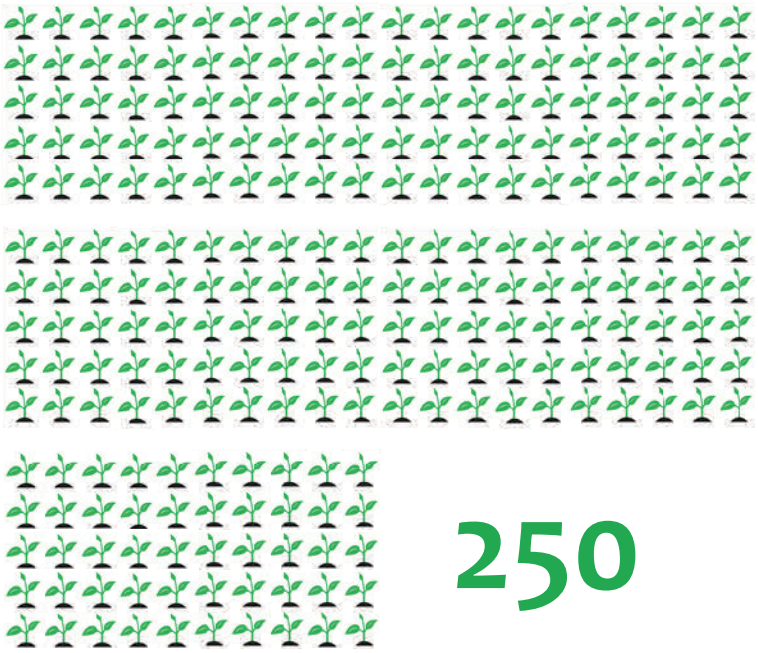
Contact Sue

Graceworks Lutheran Service Annual Golf Outing

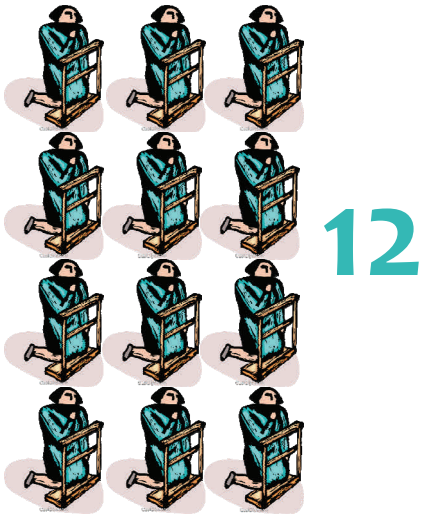
Friday, July 12
The Golf Club at Yankee Trace
(10000 Yankee Street, Centerville)

Join Graceworks for their 21st annual golf outing. Register online at graceworks.org or contact Traci Douglas at (937) 436-6871.

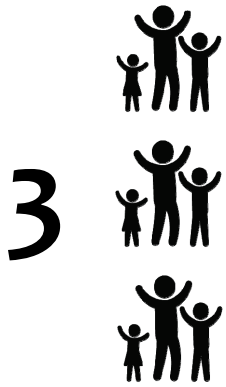
How is Christ the King reaching out to our community?
Here's the month of June in numbers:



250 free milkweed plants were handed out during Monarch Fest to people who were excited to make a difference by creating a habitat for the monarch butterfly.



12 Cottingham residents celebrated Pentecost worship with us in Cottingham's chapel.



3 Family Promise families were hosted in our building, receiving food, fellowship, and a safe place to spend the night.

574 pounds of groceries and personal care items were collected for Reach Out Lakota.

Connecting To Each Other

Men's Breakfast

Saturdays @ 7:30 am
IHOP (7748 Cox Ln., West Chester)
All men are invited to get together weekly for good fellowship and food.

Contact Bob

Lunch with Pastor Matt

Thursday, July 11 @ 11:30 am (Note change of date)
The Wooden Barrel (9303 Cincinnati Columbus Rd)
Grab something to eat and join Pastor Matt for lunch.

Contact Pastor Matt

Grapevine

Friday, July 19 @ 6:00 pm
Everyone age 50+ is invited to come for a fun evening of food and games. The hosts will supply drinks and desserts. You are asked to bring a side dish to share. All are welcome!

Contact Jeanine

No "Coffee with Pastor" in July

Summer Progressive Dinner

Saturday August 17 @ 6:30 pm
Save the date for an evening of fun, fellowship, and food! A progressive dinner is a party with successive courses eaten at different locations. The evening begins with everyone meeting together for appetizers. Then we will break into smaller groups for dinner and come together again for the grand finale of the evening—desserts! The main entrée/ course will be prepared at the host's home and guests will provide an accompanying side dish for a specific course for sharing. This event is great fun and good way to get to know others.

RSVP on the Gathering Area kiosk by July 28.

If you are interested in being on the planning committee or being a host, contact Mary.

WELCA (Women of the ELCA)

Rachel Circle

Tuesday, July 9 @ 6:00 pm
Lord of Life Lutheran (6329 Tylersville Rd.)
Rachel Circle will be the guests of the VEIL community for dinner on July 9. All are welcome to join us. RSVP to Mary.

Rachel Circle's monthly outreach project is a major component of what defines the group. For the June project, 3 raffle baskets full of gardening goodies and generous gift cards were donated to Monarch Fest. For September, supplies to fill school kit bags for Lutheran World Relief will be collected.

Contact Mary

2019 Southern Ohio Synod WELCA Convention

September 20-21
Ascension Lutheran Church (7333 Pfeiffer Rd.)
All women are invited to attend the group's annual business meeting, election of officers, and seminars. Registration is $65 if paid by August 23, otherwise it is $75. Walk in registrations are welcome.

Contact Kathy

Youth

We are excited for Kylie who will be attending Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival at Valparaiso University again this year. Her final concert, the LSM Half Session Concert, will be streamed on Facebook on July 6 at 7:00-8:30 pm. Be sure to tune in and enjoy the outstanding music.

https://www.facebook.com/lutheranmusicprogram

Focusing on Prayer

First Friday Prayer Vigil

Friday, July 5 @ 11:00 am-3:00 pm

The sanctuary will be open for anyone to come for quiet prayer and meditation. Names of those on our prayer lists will made available, so that you can lift up their names. **Please sign up for a time-slot on the Gathering Area kiosk.**

Prayer Calendar

Our prayer journey continues with daily scripture verses and prayer prompts. Pick up a copy in the Gathering Area or access a digital copy online at www.ctkluth.org. You are encouraged to journal your thoughts, get with a prayer partner, or post on the Prayer Journey Wall in the sanctuary.

Welcoming Members

Become a Member of CtK

We will be welcoming new members in worship throughout the summer. If you are interested in learning more about membership or have questions, contact Pastor Matt.

Sharing the Good News

Join the Evangelism Team

Evangelism opportunities exists for all who are interested is spreading the news about upcoming CtK activities like the Music with a Mission concert and Drama Camp.

Contact Mary, for more information on how you can be part of this important ministry team.

Volunteers of all ages are welcome.

Discovering Our Call

The Collaborative

Through summer, we are focusing on telling our stories, assessing our personal and congregational resources, and identifying community needs.

Spiritual Gift Assessments

How is God working in your life? What gifts has He given you to help our community of faith? Knowing your gifts can help you (and CtK) better serve God. If you did not complete the short Spiritual Gifts Assessment during May, you can pick up a hard copy in the Gathering Area or complete it online at bit.ly/spiritual-gifts-test. **Please let the office know your top 3 high scoring gifts by email or with a short note.**

Discovering Our Abundance

We are exploring the many different ways we have been blessed as a congregation. Reflection time will take place during worship.

Summer Storytelling is revolving around the people in the Bible who share our Spiritual Gifts and how their stories are similar to our own. (*See more information about storytelling on page 2.*)

Identifying Our Neighbors

Who are we already partnered with in the community? What other partnership might be developed? Where is there a need in our neighborhood? Put your thinking caps on and help pin locations on the large map in the Gathering Area. Once we have identified groups, we'll be reaching out to them to gather more information.

Summer Book Study

There will be a congregational "summer read" from an author who shares her against-all-odds story of becoming a person of faith. (*See more information about this study on page 3.*)

Contact Laura

Caring for Creation

Monarch Fest—THANK YOU!

The recent Monarch Fest was a GREAT SUCCESS! There were approximately 100 attendees. The enthusiasm of our guests and the fact that both young and old visited, definitely describes a successful event. The Youth Group gave away 250 milkweed plants. Over $440 was collected for the Pollinator Partnership! We have made connections that may grow into future relationships. We have shown that a church does care for God's creation. Thanks to all the many, many people who made this event possible! Thanks to the Youth Group who started the whole concept.

CtK Garden Tour

Saturday, July 6 @ 6:00 pm

A tour of CtK grounds and gardens was given during Monarch Fest. Several people have mentioned that they were interested in this tour, but were unable to participate. So, by popular demand, an encore tour will be given. The tour takes approximately 45 minutes.

Contact Susan

Garden Science Day

Tuesdays, July 16 & August 6 @ 10:30 am

All ages are invited to discover some fun, family friendly science in our gardens with horticulturist, Susan.

Engaging Our Community

Sacred Connections

Saturday, July 13 @ 10:30 am
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati
(8092 Plantation Dr., West Chester)

The community is invited to learn about Islam at this "Bridges of Faith" program . Islam means "submission to God" and derives from the root "slm" which means peace. Muslims of all ethnicities and background gather at ICGC to pray, socialize and learn. Opened in 1995, ICGC is built on strong interfaith relationships, cross-cultural understanding, and service to all. Prayer is followed by an informational tour, social hour and refreshments.

Boy Scouts

Thank You

A hearty THANK YOU to Boy Scout Troop 914! This troop is chartered at CtK, but since they outgrew our space there has been minimal contact. They were asked to help spruce-up our grounds in preparation for Monarch Fest. Not only did they say "Yes," but 18 people showed up. There were boys and girls, men and women. They were enthusiastic, polite, hard-working, and cheerful — a real joy! The following weekend, they showed up again to help set up Monarch Fest. We will be meeting with their troop leader in the coming month to explore how to reconnect with them and build a closer partnership. Stay tuned!

Flag Burning Ceremony

If you have a tattered American flag or other items that need to be ceremonially burned at the end of their useful life, Troop 914 will be having a flag burning ceremony this fall at the fire pit in our back yard. The fire pit is one of the many areas they cleaned up during their work day. Look for more information about this event in the coming months.

VEIL (Vida Eterna Iglesia Luterana)

VEIL *is* ...

Vida Eţerna Iglesia Luterana (Eternal Life Lutheran Church), a local and Synodical ELCA Latino Ministry.

Worship Services

Sundays @ 4:15 pm
Lord of Life Lutheran Church (6329 Tylersville Rd.)
You are invited to join VEIL for bilingual service of the Word and Sacrament.

Saturday, July 27 @ 12:00 pm
Bishop Dillahunt will be participating in the worship service where she will baptize two youth and give them their first communion. All are invited to join VEIL in this special celebration.

Synod Assembly

VEIL was well represented at the recent Synod Assembly sending, for the first time, both a male and female representative. A young adult also attended and was the AMMPARO booth representative. She shared her story of refugee migration at the AMMPARO workshop led by Rev. Henry Zorn. AMMPARO is the ELCA's Strategy to Accompany Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities.

Donations

Many thanks to the CtK members who donated snacks for the Summer Science Camp, as well as donating diapers and feminine hygiene products for Women's Ministry! These contributions make the lives of many VEIL families less anxious. ¡Gracias!

The follow item is needed:

- Feminine pads (thin regular)

Please place your items in the VEIL basket in the Gathering Area. Thank you!

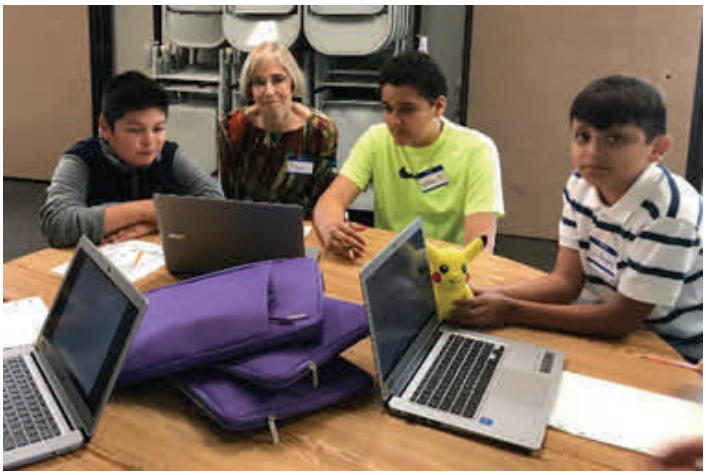
Kroger Community Rewards

A very easy way to help support VEIL is to sign up (either online or at the Customer Service Desk) with Kroger's Community Rewards program and choose VEIL as the group you'd like to support. The group number is YG489 . A percentage of all that you spend at Kroger is sent to VEIL.

Summer Science Camp

Sundays @ 2:00-4:00 pm
Wednesdays @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Through July 31
Lord of Life Lutheran Church (6329 Tylersville Rd.)
All children in grades K-8 are invited to join VEIL'S Summer Science Camp. This summer's theme is Weather & Climate Change. Pastor Alex Hoops and his wife Emily, both from Good Shepherd Lutheran in Kenwood, lead the lessons. Volunteers are needed to assist with crafts, games, and reading. Lunches are needed on Wednesdays for the group. Spanish is not required. You can help once or come every day—whatever works with your schedule.

Contact Susan



Keeping in Touch

New Photo Directory

September 10 & 11 @ 2:00 –9:00 pm

Lifetouch Photography will be working with us this fall to create a new photo directory. Everyone is encouraged to participate. There is NO cost to you or the congregation. If you chose to purchase prints for yourself, you will have that option, but there is no obligation. You will be able to schedule your photo session on either September 10 or 11 from 2-9 pm. The schedule sign-up will be available in mid-July. Look for more information in Parish Notes.

Contact Laura

Leading the Congregation

A Note from the Council President

After attending Monarch Fest and then participating in our Creation Care Bible Study, my attention and interests in the complicated beauty and splendor of God's creation has reached new heights. One of the many things I learned during Monarch Fest is that the monarch is a leader in our environment. The health of the monarch is at the base of nature's food chain. Caterpillars from monarchs and other butterflies are the food of baby birds. We are eagerly anticipating monarchs in our garden that will be followed by songbirds in our trees.

Did you know that we have nearly two acres of woods behind our church? Years ago, a family 'adopted' the care of our woods and built pathways throughout. There are a few benches and chairs along the pathways to sit and enjoy nature. A few memorial plaques pay tribute. Our woods are their own micro environment, rich with many bugs, birds, and animals. If you happen to be around the church at dusk, you are quite likely to see a small herd of deer come out among the scampering squirrels to feed on grass at the top of the hill. Unfortunately, these pathways have become over grown with vegetation. We are not using them, but the trash left behind tells me other people are using them. The quote of Ernie, I've shared before, comes to mind, "you have to take care of what you have before you get what you want."

We have this property, so fertile and plush with its own natural water source. This event wherein we opened our grounds to the public was a smashing success. Several attendees were thankful and amazed that we were creating awareness and taking care of our environment in such an intentional way. "More churches should be doing this" one of them said. As we travel through our prayer journey and listen to the Holy Spirit and develop our vision for the future of Christ the King, let's keep in mind all that we have to share. In so many ways lately, it seems the Holy Spirit is at work within and around us here at Christ the King. We are taking care of God's creation from monarchs to families in need. Is Creation Care our calling? Let's keep praying and listening!

Peace,

Sheila

For the Good of the Church

A special thank you to...

- Boy Scout Troop 914 for their work here in May
- Everyone who helped with the Monarch Fest on June 1
- Laura's work, leadership, and many abilities that made the Monarch Fest a success

July Calendar

Mon 1
3:00 pm Music Lessons
Tues 2
10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study
Wed 3
10:30 am Staff Meeting
Fri 5
11:00 am Prayer Vigil
Sat 6
7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln
5:00 pm Worship
6:00 pm Garden Tour
Sun 7
9:30 am Concert Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am Worship
Mon 8
3:00 pm Music Lessons
7:00 pm Music with a Mission Concert
Tues 9
10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study
4:00 pm Stepping Forward Dinner
Wed 10
10:30 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Summer Book Study
Thurs 11
11:30 am Lunch with Pastor @ The Wooden Barrel
Sat 13
7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln
9:00 am Council Meeting
5:00 pm Worship
Sun 14
9:30 am Pick Up Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am Worship
2:00 pm Cottingham Worship
Mon 15
3:00 pm Music Lessons
Tues 16
10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study
10:30 am Garden Science Day
5:30 pm Collaborative Team Meeting
Wed 17
10:30 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Summer Book Study
Thurs 18
6:00 pm Stage Craft Mini Camp
Fri 19
6:00 pm Grapevine
6:00 pm Stage Craft Mini Camp
Sat 20
7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln
9:00 am Stage Craft Mini Camp
5:00 pm Worship
Sun 21
10:00 am WELCA Brunch
11:00 am Coffee House Worship
12:15 pm Drama Camp
Mon 22
3:00 pm Music Lessons
6:00 pm Drama Camp
Tues 23
10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study
6:00 pm Drama Camp
Wed 24
10:30 am Staff Meeting
6:00 pm Drama Camp
7:00 pm Summer Book Study
Thurs 25
6:00 pm Drama Camp
Sat 27
7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln
9:00 am Drama Camp Dress Rehearsal
5:00 pm Worship
Sun 28
11:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Drama Camp Performance
Mon 29
3:00 pm Music Lessons
Tues 30
10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study
7:00 pm Graver Memorial Service
Wed 31
10:30 am Staff Meeting

Christ the King Lutheran Church
7393 Dimmick Rd.
West Chester, OH 45069

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