

October 2018

**God is calling.** Gently. Patiently. God is calling us as a congregation to be people of the resurrection. That is a difficult place for us to be. Resurrection is scary. It requires death. It requires us to move away from our comfort zone.

We are afraid of death. Even though we have been promised new life in Jesus Christ, we want to cling to those things which make us feel safe and comfortable. The disciples wanted Jesus to stay with them forever. Healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind and making the lame walk, all the while teaching about the love of God in a powerful way, were only some of the reasons why the disciples wanted things to stay exactly as they were. They wanted to stay in their comfort zone.

If Jesus is not arrested, does not suffer and die on the cross, there is no need for resurrection. We would have heard about an amazing person who healed people, but we would not have experienced the full power of God at work in the world.

Through Jesus, God was calling the disciples to move from their ordinary understanding of the way the world worked into a new way of viewing the world. They didn't always get it right, but they followed Jesus to the best of their ability.

God is calling our congregation to new life; to move from the ordinary and comfortable into a place of new relationship and a vision for ministry which is bigger than us. In the next two years we will be participating in a synod wide training called The Collaborative. We will be challenged to step out of our comfort zone, to actively listen to the voice of God and where God is calling us to move so that we can better identify our mission in our community. We will be asked to get to know our neighbors and assess their needs. We will be asked to examine all of the places where we are expending energy on mission and ministry and will be asking ourselves some tough questions.

Through self-examination and prayer and discernment, we will walk alongside a cohort of nine other congregations in the Southern Ohio Synod. We will be challenged to let those practices and habits die which are hindering our ability to share the gospel. It will not be comfortable or easy, but there will be much joy in the end, just like there was on Easter morning.

We are primed and ready for our participation in The Collaborative. And we will not be walking alone.

Pastor Katie Kerrigan, the Director of Evangelical Mission for the Southern Ohio Synod will be paying us a visit on the weekend of October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> to share more about The Collaborative and answer our questions.

Stay tuned! God is moving in this place.  
Pastor Matt



# WORSHIP

## Worship Schedule

Saturday @ 5 pm  
Sunday @ 11 am



## Service of Healing

### October 6 & 7 – Both services

The laying on of hands and anointing for healing will be offered to the congregation at both services as part of Ctk's ongoing support of those in need of healing.

Names of loved ones may be added to the prayers for healing by writing them in the Book of Intercessions, located by the Baptismal font. Physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional needs will all be lifted up to God's healing hands.

## Prayer Around the Cross

A large cross will be on display to provide a place for extended prayer during the Prayer Vigil on September 5 and during the Services of Healing. Kneeling cushions and chairs will be placed around the cross and votive candles may be lit and placed during prayer.



## All Saints Day

### November 3 & 4 - Both services

We are blessed to have a whole "Cloud of Witnesses" joining us in constant praise to our maker. Our faith has been nurtured by many who have gone before us, just as we pass our faith on to those who come after us, in baptism, prayer, and the word.

The names of those who have been baptized and of those who have joined the saints eternal in the past year will be read aloud in a candlelight liturgy around the baptismal font. A letter will be sent inviting you to add names of your loved ones to this spoken litany.

## Readings for October

### October 6/7 - Service of Healing

Numbers 21:4-9    *The lifting up of the serpent*  
Psalm 107        *You deliver your people from their distress*  
James 5:13-16    *Community of faith called to lay hands on the sick*  
Luke 8:43-48     *Jesus heals a woman who touches His cloak*

### October 13/14 - Lectionary 28

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15    *Turn from injustice to the poor, that you may live*  
Psalm 90:12-17      *Teach us to number our days*  
Hebrews 4:12-16     *Approach the throne of grace with boldness*  
Mark 10:17-31       *Teaching on wealth and reward*

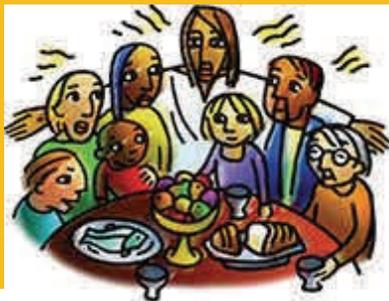
### October 20/21 - Lectionary 29

Isaiah 53:4-12       *The suffering servant*  
Psalm 91:9-16       *You have made the LORD your refuge*  
Hebrews 5:1-10      *Through suffering Christ becomes the source of salvation*  
Mark 10:35-45       *Warnings to ambitious disciples*

### October 27/28 - Reformation

Jeremiah 31:31-34    *A New Covenant*  
Psalm 46             *The LORD of hosts is with us*  
Romans 3:19-28      *Justified by God's grace as a gift*  
John 8:31-16         *The Truth will make you free*

*All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.*



## Upcoming in Worship

### Guitar Liturgy

**November 17 & 18 - Both services**

Celebrate Christ the King Day

### Thanksgiving Eve Praise & Pie

**Wednesday, November 21 @ 7:00 pm**

Reflect on all which we can be thankful (and share some pie after worship.)

You are invited to participate in the pick-up choir which will rehearse at 6:00pm and then sing in worship.

### Christmas Coffee House Lessons & Carols

**Saturday, December 22 @ 5:00 pm**

### Regular worship

**Sunday, December 23 @ 11:00 am**

### Christmas Eve Worship

**Monday, December 24 @ 7:00 pm & 11:00 pm**

## EDUCATION

### Mid-week Lectionary Bible Study

**Tuesdays @ 10:00 am**

Join Pastor Matt in a weekly Bible study. The group will dig into the readings for the coming weekend's worship services.

[Contact Pastor Matt](#)

## Sunday Morning Bible Study

### *Mark as Story*

**Sundays @ 9:30-10:30 am**

**September 30, October 7, 14, 21, November 4**

**Meet in the sanctuary overflow area**

Explore the Gospel of Mark in this 5 week series.

[Contact Steve](#)

## Creative Connections

### *Imagining the Gospel of Mark*

**Sundays @ 9:30-10:30 am**

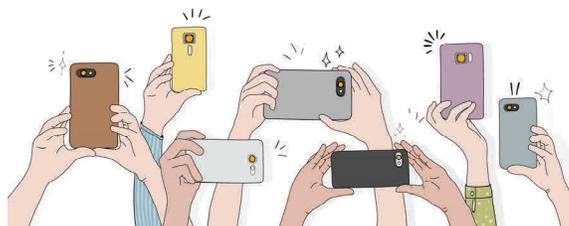
**September 30—November 4**

**Meet in the ARK**

Bring your smartphone (or share one with a friend). We'll be using the camera to visually imagine what the Gospel of Mark is saying to us in the weekly readings.

Come be part of CtK's unique, intergenerational program. (Yes, this is the group that created the video shown at the anniversary celebration.) All ages and abilities are welcome! Don't miss this hands-on, creative learning experience where we connect people of all ages to each other and to our faith.

[Contact Pastor Matt](#)



## Lutheranism 101

**Sunday, October 21 @ 12:30 pm**

**"Abraham, Jacob, and Joseph"**

Come and dig deeper into our understanding of the Christian faith as Lutherans. This class meets monthly through April. All ages are welcome!

[Contact Pastor Matt](#)

# PRAYER MINISTRY

## First Friday Prayer Vigil

Friday, October 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 be made available, so that you can lift up their names. **Please sign up for a time-slot on the Gathering Area kiosk.**

# OUTREACH

## Family Promise

In mid-September, we hosted three families through Family Promise. They spoke very favorably about how especially welcoming CtK was to them. This is something we hear regularly from our guests. One even spoke to Pastor Matt about coming back to visit with our congregation! Talking to them, they are some amazing people. All three families were new to us, so that means all of the families from the previous group have found homes. Thanks to all who set up, took down, provided food (including two meals from the Islamic Center!), fellowship, and spent the night as overnight hosts.

CtK's next Family Promise week is the week of Thanksgiving—November 18-25. Mark your calendars, especially consider being an overnight host.

[Contact Sue](#)

## Stepping Forward Community Dinner

Tuesday, October 9

Faith Community UMC (8230 Cox Rd., West Chester)

Christ the King helps with the Stepping Forward dinner every second Tuesday of the month. This month, another group is providing the meal, but volunteers are always needed for serving and clean-up. (And you get to hear CtK's wonderful Troubadours band play!). In addition to a meal, the Stepping Forward program provides life assistance such as job-honing skills, financial education, computer skills, ESL, parenting classes, and tutoring.

[Contact Sue](#)



## Music with a Mission Concert

Sunday, November 11 @ 3:00 pm

Come for an afternoon of light classical and American songbook music featuring Dr. Vincent Phelan on violin. There will be a freewill offering taken to benefit NEST CLC (Nutrition, Education, Safety, Transformation Community Learning Center).

NEST CLC provides sound Nutrition and targeted Education in a Safe neighborhood environment to Transform the outcome of at-risk school-age children in suburban Cincinnati communities. Through its innovative *mobile classroom*, NEST delivers free, workable, proven programs and strategies to the suburban poor in their own "backyard" affording those it serves a fighting chance to change their futures.



## God's work. Our Hands. Weekend

Thanks to all who served in one way or another during "God's work. Our hands" weekend. The hallways of the Family Promise Day Center were painted, care cards for those on our prayer list were signed, and residents at Cottingham Retirement Community were visited.





## EVANGELISM

### Halloween Trunk or Treat

**Saturday, October 27 @ 6:30-8:00 pm**

Put on a costume, decorate for your car, bring a few bags of candy, and come for a fun evening with the community in CtK's parking lot. Instead of trick or treating from house to house, Trunk or Treat goes from car to car in a safe, family-friendly environment. All ages are invited! Bring your and your neighbor's kids and grandkids! There will be prizes for the best costume and car decorations. Refreshments will be served. **Sign up on the Gathering Area kiosk.**

[Contact Laura](#)

## WELCA (WOMEN OF THE ELCA)

### Mary Martha Circle

**Tuesday, October 9 & 23 @ 11:30 am**

Join the Mary Martha Circle for service and fellowship as they work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

[Contact Ruby](#)

### Rachel Circle

**Tuesday, October 16 @ 7:00 pm**

**Meet @ CtK**

All women are invited and welcome. The Bible study will be from *Gather* magazine. The October project is to buy pajamas in sizes for infants up through adult women. These PJs will be delivered to a local battered women's shelter.

[Contact Judy](#)

## FELLOWSHIP

### Book Club

**Tuesday, October 2 @ 7:00 pm**

The group will be discussing *An Invisible Thread* by Laura Schraff and Alex Tresinowski. It's a true story of an 11-year old panhandler, a busy executive, and the destiny that brought them together.

All are welcome. Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors. Book club is a great way to get to know fellow CtK members. Happy reading!

[Contact Donna](#)

### Lunch with Pastor Matt

**Thursday, October 4 @ 11:30 am**

**The Wooden Barrel (9303 Cincinnati Columbus Rd)**

Grab something to eat and join Pastor Matt for lunch.

[Contact Pastor Matt](#)

### Grapevine

**Friday, October 19 @ 6:00 pm**

The host families will be supplying the drinks and desserts for our potluck dinner. Please bring a side dish to share. Anyone aged 50+ is welcome and encouraged to attend this fun, social evening.

[Contact Jeanine](#)

### Coffee with Pastor

**Tuesday, October 23 @ 7:00 pm**

**Coffee Beans & Brew (7051 Yankee Rd.)**

Join Pastor Matt for relaxed conversation and fellowship.

[Contact Pastor Matt](#)

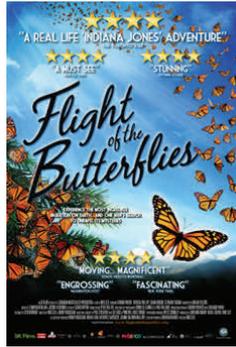


# YOUTH

## Special Movie Event

**Wednesday October 3 @ 7:00pm**

CtK will be showing the spectacular short film, *Flight of the Butterflies*. Come and see this gorgeous, critically acclaimed film and discover the monarch butterflies' secret hideaway and the most incredible migration on Earth. A truly awe inspiring miracle of God's creation. There will be a short discussion with Q and A after the film for those who wish to stay. This movie is sponsored by the CtK Youth Group in conjunction with our Elder of Outreach. You are encouraged to bring a friend!



## Fundraiser Success!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Compliments Sale at the block party. The youth group made \$129 and put smiles on a lot of faces in the process. Nicely done, everyone!

## October Meeting

**Sunday, October 14 @ 12:15 pm**

All junior high and high school youth are encouraged to attend. A light lunch will be provided.

## Monarch Conservation

Under the guidance of Susan Fox, the youth group has been working to have the CtK property certified as a Monarch waystation. In September the youth planted several swamp milkweeds and other butterfly favorites on the border of the church parking lot. Later in the fall we will be working in the back near the woods to establish a prairie garden including other varieties of milkweed. A big thanks to **Thrivent Financial** for approving our grant of \$250 for this conservation project.



# VEIL (VIDA ETERNA IGLESIA LUTERANA)

VEIL is ...

**Vida Eterna 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.

## Homework Fellowship Program

**Sundays @ 2:00-4:00pm**

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church (6329 Tylersville Rd.)**

The Homework Fellowship Program is in full swing. You can get involved with this VEIL program which tutors elementary grade students needing assistance with reading and basic math. Come as you are able.

Adults volunteers from Prince of Peace, Christ the King, Good Shepherd, and Lord of Life, as well as, high school and university students from different faith backgrounds come together to provide tutoring every Sunday.

[Contact Susan](#)

## Halloween Celebration

**Saturday, October 27**

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church (6329 Tylersville Rd.)**

All ages are invited from little ones to college students and adults! There will be music, food, and fun, as well as prizes for best, scariest, funniest, and most unique costumes. The younger children will gather earlier in the evening (4 - 6 pm) and then the older youth (grades 6 -12) will gather later (7-9 pm) for SCARY games. This is VEIL's Youth Group fundraiser for the next ELCA Youth Gathering so please look for the freewill offering basket.

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## Donations

Many thanks to the CtK members who donated snacks for the Homework Fellowship Program, as well as, diapers and feminine hygiene products for Mothers' Ministry! ¡Gracias, gracias!

The follow items are needed for the Mothers' Ministry: thin feminine pads (no panty liners), diapers (size 5 & 6), Pullups, 100% juice boxes, healthy snacks. 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 new group number is YG489 . A percentage of all that you spend at Kroger is sent to VEIL.

## COMMUNITY

### Mary in the Abrahamic Religions

Monday October 8, 9:30 - 11:30 am

Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati  
(8092 Plantation Dr., West Chester)

Our own Pastor Matt will be speaking at a multi-faith discussion about the role of Mary in different faith traditions. This discussion is sponsored by the *Women's Interfaith Network of Cincinnati Suburbs*. There will be representatives of Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Baha'i. Refreshments will be served.

Contact Susan Fox, [ponii1961@gmail.com](mailto:ponii1961@gmail.com)

### Annual "Making the Promise" Breakfast

Thursday, October 18 @ 7:45 - 8:45 am

Butler Tech Auditorium  
(3603 Hamilton Middletown Rd., Hamilton)

**Cost per person: \$10.00**

You are invited to a special fundraising breakfast to benefit Family Promise of Butler County. This event will feature a graduated family who will share their struggle with homelessness and their journey to permanent housing with the help of Family Promise. Come enjoy breakfast, special children's music, raffle baskets, and learn more about the work of Family Promise of Butler County.

Contact Susan Fox to register, [ponii1961@gmail.com](mailto:ponii1961@gmail.com)

## PROPERTY

### Gardening & Landscaping

On Saturday, September 15, the Youth Group and some of the parents planted phase 1 of CtK's Monarch Waystation (stay tuned for more on this subject). The swale project around the parking lot created lot of bare ground, some of it very dry and some soggy. This was a perfect opportunity to plant several plants attractive to and necessary for Monarch butterflies and other pollinators. The youth worked very hard in 90 degree heat! This garden is near the cell phone tower on the east side of our property. Check it out. If you have any questions about this garden and how you could do something similar at your house, [contact Susan](#).

### Property Work Day

Many thanks to the volunteers who worked in the 90 degree heat on Saturday, September 15 to grade the ground below the upper parking lots and then lay four tons of sod! Also, thanks for the chainsaw work and mulching.



### Tree Replacement

As CtK plans for a safer, and more level handicapped parking spots near Pastor's and Denise's offices, the crabapple tree in front of their offices was removed. This tree had been planted in honor of an early member of CtK, Don Schaefer. (The purple leaf tree across the drive is the memorial tree for his wife, Kathy Schaefer.) A new tree in Don's memory — a 'June Snow' Giant Western Dogwood—has been planted in the green space along the west parking lot. Check it out. This is one of the toughest varieties of dogwood.

## CHURCH COUNCIL

### A Note from the Council President

#### **The Power of Prayer**

As we make our life journey, we all learn its lessons, trials and tribulations. Three years on the Call Committee process and finding the right Pastor at the end of it all, taught me about the power of prayer and allowing the Holy Spirit to work through us. The last two weeks of September demonstrated to me, once again, the power of prayer and the success that comes with allowing the Holy Spirit to work among us. The CtK Family has once again risen to the occasion and pledged more than enough to kick off Phase I of our future vision. Everyone is buzzing and sharing ideas about all the things we can do to bring the community in and to take our working hands out there! These are exciting times!

Church council will be meeting to determine the next steps in our visioning. Look for details coming soon about the parking lot repairs and Phase II of the capital campaign.

Thank you, Family, for having faith and coming together once again.

Peace and prayers,  
Sheila

### For the Good of the Church

(As noted in the September Council Meeting)

- Everyone who planned and conducted the 50th Anniversary Program.
- The facilitators, scribes, and all who participated in the Vision and Listening meetings on September 4 & 5.
- Those who are tending and watering plantings around the church and grounds.

# OCTOBER CALENDAR

## **Mon 1**

3:00 pm Music Lessons

## **Tues 2**

10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study

7:00 pm Book Club @ Fogle's house

## **Wed 3**

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm *Flight of the Butterfly* Movie

## **Thurs 4**

11:30 am Lunch with Pastor @ The Wooden Barrel

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

## **Fri 5**

11:00 am Prayer Vigil

## **Sat 6**

7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln

5:00 pm Worship

## **Sun 7**

9:30 am Bible Study

9:30 am Creative Connections

11:00 am Worship

## **Mon 8**

3:00 pm Music Lessons

## **Tues 9**

10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study

11:30 am Mary Martha Circle

4:30 pm Stepping Forward Dinner

## **Wed 10**

10:30 am Staff Meeting

## **Thurs 11**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

## **Sat 13**

7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln

9:00 am Council Meeting

5:00 pm Worship

6:00 pm Presentation about The Collaborative

## **Sun 14**

9:30 am Bible Study

9:30 am Creative Connections

11:00 am Worship

12:30 pm Youth Group

2:00 pm Cottingham Worship

## **Mon 15**

3:00 pm Music Lessons

## **Tues 16**

10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study

7:00 pm Rachel Circle

## **Wed 17**

10:30 am Staff Meeting

## **Thurs 18**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

## **Fri 19**

6:00 pm Grapevine

## **Sat 20**

7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln

5:00 pm Worship

## **Sun 21**

9:30 am Bible Study

9:30 am Creative Connections

11:00 am Worship

12:30pm Lutheranism 101

## **Mon 22**

3:00 pm Music Lessons

## **Tues 23**

10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study

11:30 am Mary Martha Circle

7:00 pm Coffee with Pastor

## **Wed 24**

10:30 am Staff Meeting

## **Thurs 25**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

## **Sat 27**

7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, Cox Ln

5:00 pm Worship

6:30 pm Trunk or Treat

## **Sun 28**

9:30 am Creative Connections

11:00 am Worship

## **Mon 29**

3:00 pm Music Lessons

## **Tues 30**

10:00 am Lectionary Bible Study

## **Wed 31**

10:30 am Staff Meeting

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



# NEWSLETTER

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October 2018