



CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WE ARE CALLED "TO BE A LIGHT, LIVING AS A WITNESS TO CHRIST'S LOVE, SERVING AND NURTURING ALL"

Harvey and Community

September 2017

The Rev. David Nelson

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As I mentioned to you last month, I read Vital Practices, a blog that is published by the Episcopal Church Foundation. I had an article planned for the front page of this newsletter, but given the epic storm that has been hovering over Houston and its surrounding areas for the last several days, I turned to Vital Practices for guidance in expressing my observation of the compassion and kindness that our neighbors and communities have shown to one another during this trying time.

The following blog was written by Alan Bentrup, an Episcopal minister who is currently serving as Curate at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cypress, Texas. I am certain that all of us have witnessed the kindness of our neighbors and communities that Alan discusses in his blog.

"I'm writing this as my family and I are in the midst of Tropical Storm (formerly Hurricane) Harvey.

My heart goes out to so many victims of Harvey – to those dear souls who have lost their life, and to those who lost their homes and cars, or years' worth of memories and precious possessions. Hardship and suffering tend to bring out the worst in people – the occasional looting in flooded neighborhoods, traffic nightmares, and fist fights in long gas station lines are, sadly, all too real.

But hardship and suffering also bring out the best in people!

Already, just in the days following Harvey, thousands of people have opened their hearts, their homes, and their wallets to help their fellow human beings through this difficult time.

And I have been amazed by what I've seen in my community. In my own neighborhood, we've helped each other move outside furniture, clear sewer drains, lend portable air-conditioners, and ensure that those who need help can get it. Our neighborhood Nextdoor.com page is filled with people offering assistance of any kind." [continued on page 5]

The Rector's Page



Father David Nelson

“If you are new to Christ the King, one of the cool programs we have is a Wednesday Evening Series. It is designed for all ages.”

Rally Day. Rally Day is *Sunday, September 10th*. This is a great chance to get involved. Between church services, we will have sign-up sheets for the various ministries of the church. Rachel Taylor will take pictures for the directory. Please do plan to be at church on Rally Day as that will be the only picture date until further notice.

Blessing of the Backpacks. We will have our annual Blessing of the Backpacks on *Sunday, September 10th, at both services*. We will also be praying for school teachers, school administrators, etc.

Lay Reader/Chalice Bearer Training will be held on *Sunday, September 17th, at 9:30 a.m.* This training covers the basics of being a lay reader and chalice bearer. We are in search of more lay readers and chalice bearers, especially for the 10:30 a.m. service.

If you are new to Christ the King, one of the cool programs we have is a Wednesday Evening Series. It is designed for all ages. We begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by Bible Study, and end with a short prayer service at 8:30 p.m. Nursery care is available. This year's series is called "Jesus in Context." Each study will explore a theme that will help us put Jesus into context and teach us about how the theme is relevant today.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: "Jesus in Context."

- **Geography: 2017 Fall Study – September 20th and 27th, October 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.**

This study will follow a book and DVD series by Adam Hamilton called *"The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus."* Using videos shot in the Holy Land, we will see important places that marked the ministry of Jesus.

- **Roman Empire: 2017 Advent Study – November 29th, December 6th and 13th.**

Jesus was born and executed in a time when the Roman Empire ruled. We will learn how Jesus challenged Roman power with a vision of another Kingdom.

- **Judaism: 2018 Lent Study – February 21st and 28th, March 7th, 14th, and 21st.**

Jesus was a Jewish Rabbi who taught in a time when the faith was fractured into various splinter groups. Using scripture and video, we will consider how various religious groups were inspired and challenged by the message of Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. David

CALENDAR OF SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- 09/05 *Breakfast Brothers – IHOP Atascocita* – 8:00 a.m.
- 09/05 *Ladies Lunch Bunch – Union Kitchen, Kingwood* – 12:00 Noon
- 09/09 *Brotherhood of St. Andrew* – 8:30 a.m.
- 09/10 *Rally Day, Blessing of the Backpacks* – 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services
- 09/10 *EYC Meeting* – 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- 09/10, 09/17, 09/24 *Children’s Chapel* – 10:30 a.m. service
- 09/14, 09/28 *Daughters of the King Bible Study* – 7:00 p.m.
- 09/16 *EYC – Main Event* – 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- 09/17 *Lay Reader and Chalice Bearer Training* – 9:30 a.m.
- 09/19 *Vestry Meeting* – 7:00 p.m.
- 09/20, 09/27 *Fall Bible Study Series* – 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- 09/24 *Vestry 101* – 9:30 a.m.

September 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Holy Eucharist 8:00 10:30 a.m. Choir Practice	4  Labor Day	5 Breakfast Bros. 8:00 a.m. IHOP Atascocita Ladies Lunch 12:00 Noon Union Kitchen	6	7	8	9 Brotherhood of St. Andrew 8:30 a.m. 
10 Rally Day Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Blessing of the Backpacks Children’s Chapel Choir Practice EYC Meeting	11	12	13	14 Daughters of the King Bible Study 7:00 p.m. 	15	16 EYC 9:00 – 7:00 p.m. 
17 Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Choir Practice. Lay Reader/Chalice Bearer Training 9:30 a.m. Children’s Chapel	18	19 Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m. 	20 Bible Study Series 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Bible Study 	21	22	23
24 Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Choir Practice Vestry 101 9:30 a.m. Children’s Chapel EYC Meeting 6:00 p.m.	25	26	27 Bible Study Series 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Bible Study 	28 Daughters of the King Bible Study 7:00 p.m. 	29	30

Servant Leadership

This Month's Spotlight: Sue Acaster



For most of us, what we know of Christ the King is what we see and experience on any given Sunday. But I think we all recognize that an amazing team of folks exist, working tirelessly behind the scenes, to ensure our doors are open each Sunday to welcome everyone!

This month we spotlight one such servant leader.

Meet Sue Acaster, our Altar Guild Director.

"Sue, thanks for sharing your story with us this month! Tell us about the Altar Guild. It is one of our biggest lay ministries."

SA: We are responsible for taking care of everything associated with the Lord's Table. This includes (i) setting up all the requirements for each and every service that takes place within the church, (ii) laundering the linens, (iii) polishing the brass, (iv) setting up the elements for communion, (v) marking the readings in the lectionary, (vi) marking the prayer book for the person who is reading the psalm and the form for the Prayers of the People, (vii) setting up the numbers for the hymns and psalm on the board for the service, (viii) filling the candles with oil, (ix) placing the HAAM/CUIC contribution basket and alms basins in the rear of the church, and (x) making sure the frontal and the chasuble are the color for the season of the church year.

"Wow, that's sounds like a lot of work, and may scare off potential members. What can one expect if they want to help out?"

SA: With the number of members that we have at the moment, each group of four people prepares for the Sunday services once every four weeks. Normally, the work we do on a Saturday takes about an hour. If we need to change the hangings or there is a special service to prepare for like a wedding, funeral, or baptism, it may take a little longer. We have a big polish day twice a year when all the brass is cleaned and all available members help. So, as you can see, the more people we have, the more groups we could form and spread the weeks out! For special seasons like Christmas and Easter, all members who are in town help out.

"How did you get interested in this ministry?"

SA: I was asked to join to help with the flower set up at my first church in Watertown, Massachusetts, The Church of the Good Shepherd. Ever since then, wherever we have lived, I have volunteered for Altar Guild. I have been a part of Altar Guild here at Christ the King since 1996!

"You also help us make "palm crosses" for Palm Sunday. That is an art! How did you learn that?"

SA: I first made palm crosses at the Church of the Holy Redeemer in my home town of York, England, but needed a refresher from the internet when I had to help people make them.

"You have many crafty talents, one of them being knitting/crocheting. Tell us about that!"

SA: My grandmother taught me to knit when I was 5 years old. I have been making items ever since that first scarf made with recycled yarn from a cardigan that had worn thin on the elbows. I taught myself to crochet when my daughter was an infant. There were prettier patterns in crochet for girls back in the 60's. I used to sew a lot of the kids' clothes when they were young too. My favorite things to knit are baby items and shawls. But the most challenging thing I have made was this sweater!



Servant Leadership – Sue Acaster [continued from page 4]***“We all love your accent. We know that’s not from Texas! Tell us about your journey from England to Atascocita.”***

SA: In 1976, the company my husband Bob was working for in England asked if we would like to come to the US for a 6-month assignment, which kept getting extended until we were asked to stay permanently. Then we had to apply firstly for alien registration, or a green card, then after five years of clean living and paying taxes, we could apply for citizenship. It was a long process of interviews, tests, and physicals. All in, it was 13 years after we first arrived in the US that we became US citizens. We then transferred with Bob's job to Tampa, Florida. We lived on Sand Key, and I attended Calvary Episcopal Church on Indian Rocks Beach and was on the Altar Guild there. We were there for five years, and then Bob was transferred again, this time to Houston.

We lived in Kingwood for a year. After that, we purchased our home in Atascocita and I started coming to CTK in 1995, with Father Abernathy greeting me as he stood outside welcoming everyone coming to church. After we had been here for a year, Bob was asked to spend a year in Belgium, so I joined him in Wakkerzeel. My neighbor dragged me to the Catholic church in the village for special services as she knew I missed going to my church. When we returned to Atascocita, I joined the Altar Guild and have been busy with that and the ECW.

“Anything about your family you want to share with the congregation?”

SA: Bob and I celebrated 51 years of marriage on August 6th. We have 2 children. Our son Martin lives in Portland, Oregon, and will be 50 in September. He is married to Olivia, who has an 18 year old daughter named Ana. Our daughter Claire lives in Newtown, Pennsylvania. She is married to Bill, and they have 4 children, two girls and two boys - Caitlin 21, Thomas 19, William 17, and Meaghan 14.

“Thank you, Sue, for your time this month and THANK YOU for your servant leadership!”***Harvey and Community [continued from page 1]***

“In my parish, folks have called each other to make sure everyone is ok, and to see if there is anything they can do to help. We can’t get to our church building, so we’re among the dozens of Houston churches I’ve seen hosting prayer and worship gatherings online in some form.

Here at home, the constant ping of my wife’s phone is a community of teachers and administration checking in on one another, the status of their homes, and sending up prayer on behalf of one another.

This is very likely the worst storm that Houston has ever faced. But the joy, courage, and selfless spirit of the community is shining through the dark clouds.

Hurricanes and tropical storms will happen again. Some of us might try to prepare better by installing generators and acquiring emergency gas stoves. I hope that we also remember that often what makes it possible for all of us to make it through the difficulties that extreme weather brings is the community that surrounds us.

That is why we build community around us. This is why we invest our time, energy, hearts, and souls – and our finances - into community. It is wonderful to have a community to celebrate with – such as birthdays or Christmas. But perhaps it is even more wonderful to have the support of the community when we suffer the loss of a loved one or go through a trying situation.”



The Daughters of the King are sponsoring a Bible Study that will begin on Thursday, September 14th, at 7:00 p.m. at the church. The Bible Study will be held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. through November 9th. You do not have to be a member of the Daughters of the King or of Christ the King. All women are welcome.

The Bible Study will cover Adam Hamilton’s book, *Half Truths*. The book will be available for purchase at the church, or you may purchase the book in the format of your choice from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or [christianbooks.com](https://www.christianbooks.com). Nursery care will be available. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you are interested in attending the Bible Study. For more information, please contact Theresa Reed at 713.444.6943 or tecireed@gmail.com.

Christ the King Staff Members

Reverend David Nelson, Rector
 Edie McDaniel, Church Secretary
 Drew Balog, Organist
 Tracey Bulau, Youth Director

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christthekingepiscopal@embarqmail.com
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tabulau@gmail.com

All Staff Members can also be reached via the church's main telephone line: (281) 852-1990

Christ the King 2017 Vestry Members

The vestry is comprised of a group of elected laity to serve with the rector as the leadership and governing body of the church. Through an annual retreat, monthly and other special meetings, the rector and vestry are responsible to set out and oversee the vision of ministry for the church, its finances, and to conduct the business of the church as required by canon or civil law. All committees, commissions, or other church groups and their ministries come under the oversight of the vestry.

Debbie Lee, <i>Senior Warden</i>	(281) 785-4240	debbie.lee.jniz@statefarm.com
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Andy Yee, <i>Finance</i>	(713) 927-0435	andy5964@yahoo.com

Vestry Appointed Positions: Rachael Shedeed, *Clerk of the Vestry*
 Bill Williams, *Treasurer*

The Vestry believes it is important that our parishioners be provided with our church's financial position each month. The following is a snapshot of our finances as of July 31, 2017.

Financial Statement as of July 31, 2017

	<u>BUILDING FUND</u>	<u>OPERATING FUND</u>	<u>RESERVE FUND</u>
Beginning Balance:	\$1,092	\$ 79,115	\$3,845
Ending Balance:	\$1,092	\$63,449	\$3,845

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

Beginning Balance:	\$18,115
Ending Balance:	\$20,630

BALANCES AS OF 07/31/2017

Building Fund	\$ 1,092
Capital Campaign	20,630
Operating Fund	63,449
Reserve Fund	<u>3,845</u>
TOTAL - 06/30/2017	<u>\$89,016</u>





- | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|-------|---------------------|
| 09/01 | Anna Garcia | 09/14 | Judy Walker |
| 09/03 | Sue Acaster | 09/15 | Ruben Garcia |
| 09/05 | Mike Herring | 09/16 | Troy Brown |
| 09/07 | Vicky McNeil | 09/18 | Mike McDaniel |
| 09/07 | Caren Thomas | 09/18 | Grace Nelson |
| 09/08 | Jonathan Haughenberry | 09/20 | Andrew Beesley |
| 09/08 | Barbara Spence | 09/25 | Hailey Haughenberry |
| 09/10 | Jenna Nichols | 09/25 | Ryan Taylor |
| 09/12 | Erick Holmes | 09/27 | Aaron Holbrook |
| 09/12 | Daisy Masters | 09/28 | Jill Stegall |
| 09/13 | George Spence | 09/30 | Phoebe Aston |
| 09/13 | Jason Taylor | | |

Birthday Prayer

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* falls; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***



- | | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 09/15 | Steve and Barbara Gibson |
| 09/23 | Jason and Rachel Taylor |
| 09/26 | Mike and Sherry Herring |
| 09/27 | Charlie and Linda Tyler |

Anniversary Prayer

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting. ***Amen.***



September Lay Reader and Chalice Duties

- | | <u>8:00 a.m.</u> | <u>10:30 a.m.</u> | <u>10:30 a.m.</u> |
|-------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>Lay Reader/Chalice</u> | <u>Lay Reader</u> | <u>Chalice</u> |
| 09/03 | George Ebert | Shawn Sanders | Carlos Reyna |
| 09/10 | Deb Tisch | Billie Bailey | Valerie Bonnie |
| 09/17 | Theresa Reed | Fiona Aston | Lesley Exum |
| 09/24 | Debbie Lee | Julie Langler | Dan Langler |

CTK VESTRY ADOPTS "LEGACY STEWARDSHIP POLICY"

At its May 23, 2017 meeting, the Vestry adopted a Legacy Stewardship Policy after several months of consideration. Its driving purpose is to articulate a clear legacy policy in order to encourage consideration of legacy giving by parish families. Key features include:

- Focus is the use of legacy gifts to help fund significant development projects.
- Legacy gifts may reflect parishioner areas of interest.
- Management of legacy funds subject to supervision by the Vestry and use of accounting and reporting according to national church standards.
- Occasional seminars related to legacy planning will be provided. For instance, in February 2018, three Sunday morning sessions are planned as the "Life & Legacy Planning Fair" with subjects including:
 - ❖ Why you need an estate plan regardless of your age;
 - ❖ Methods of anticipating and managing effectively the various special challenges that may occur at advanced ages; and
 - ❖ Legacy stewardship and ways to witness your spiritual commitments when arranging your estate plans.

Further details and reminders regarding these seminars will be detailed in coming months.



Christ the King Episcopal Church

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
www.CTKAtascocita.org



About Christ the King

Christ the King is a pastoral-sized parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. We are a compassionate, generous, outreach-oriented congregation. We serve the communities of Atascocita, Crosby, Huffman, Humble, Kingwood, and Summerwood. Come visit us for Sunday Service and learn about all the wonderful things our church has to offer!

Our Mission

To be a light, living as a witness to Christ's love, serving and nurturing all.

Jesus is Lord - Following the teachings of Christ as revealed in the Scriptures

Outreach - Committing to Christ-centered service

You are Welcome - Respecting the dignity of all God's children

Faith and Fellowship - Growing together in joyful celebration of our faith in Christ

United in Prayer and Worship - Praising God through our liturgy

Love as Christ Loves Us - Nurturing our Community

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Morning

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with music

For newsletter comments or
submissions, please email:

Carol Martin at
cmartin@winstead.com

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (Trespass by License Holder with a Concealed Handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun.

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (Trespass by License Holder with an Openly Carried Handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly.