



CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

October 2014

The Rev. David Nelson

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Headlines: CTK Master Plan Unveiled

Approximately 55 people attended the Town Hall Meeting at Christ the King on September 21, 2014. Father David stated that the purpose of the Town Hall Meeting was to reveal our Master Plan, which everyone has been anxious to see! Before the Master Plan was revealed, Father David gave a brief summary of where we have been and where we are headed.

The Episcopal Church Foundation ("ECF") assists parishes of our size with their capital campaigns. Father David speaks frequently with Leslie Pendleton, our contact person at the ECF. Leslie has been very instrumental in guiding the Vestry and the Master Planning Committee in the steps leading up to a capital campaign. Leslie told Father David that soon after revealing the Master Plan, a feasibility study will be done, which will involve meeting with 8-12 persons of our members who represent a cross-section of our congregation. The purpose of the feasibility study is to determine if there is sufficient interest and financial support among our members to embark on a capital campaign.



From the Desk of David



Father David Nelson

“We are called to be a light, living as a witness to Christ’s love, serving and nurturing all.”

Many of you are familiar with our joyful Wednesday evening Bible Studies. This is an evening of food, fellowship, prayer, and fun. I’m excited that we are expanding this program to include ALL ages. We will provide childcare in the nursery for children 4 years old and younger. For kids 5 through junior high our normal “Sunday school teachers” will be present. (Since it’s on Wednesday evening they are not really Sunday school teachers!). The largest group will be adults and high school age.

The kids and the adults will study the same scriptures. When we close in prayer, we will invite the kids to share what they have learned. The opportunity to have such intergenerational learning is a true blessing.

This all begins each Wednesday in October, 6:30pm to 8:30pm. There are 5 Wednesday’s in October (1, 8, 15, 22, 29) so we get a little extra. The focus is “God calls us to give.” We will explore Bible passages in which Jesus teaches us the many different ways we can give to God.”

The next series is “God calls us to prepare.” This will be Wednesday’s during Advent. We will study the Christmas narrative and discuss how God calls us to prepare for His presence.

Finally, during the season of Lent, the topic is “God calls us to sacrifice.” We will consider the different sacrifices that Jesus made and how he challenges his followers to do the same.

I emphasize this program because I think it’s a great way for families to deepen their faith together. I have spoken with several of my clergy colleagues about this format. Not only were they enthusiastic about it, several were somewhat envious!

Finally, in this newsletter you will see the new Master Plan for Christ the King Episcopal Church. Much has already been written about this elsewhere in the newsletter and at our Town Hall Meeting on September 21st. I was very excited by the response. As you know this whole process is a journey of faith. I’m blessed to serve such a loving church that cares so deeply about the plans and decisions we make for the future. By continuing to do this we are living into our mission statement, “We are called to be a light, living as a witness to Christ’s love, serving and nurturing all.”

Yours in Christ,
Fr. David

~~CALENDAR OF OCTOBER EVENTS~~

- 10/1 Wednesday Family Night with dinner, bible study and prayer from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm.
- 10/3 Parents' Night Out 5:00 pm until 8:30 pm.
- 10/5 Join us for our First Sunday lunch after the 10:30 am service & blessing of the animals at 5:00 pm.
- 10/7 The **Breakfast Brothers** will meet at IHOP in Atascocita at 8:00 am. Bring a friend!
- 10/8 Wednesday Family Night with dinner, bible study and prayer from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm.
- 10/9 The **Daughters of the King** will meet at 7:00 pm.
- 10/11 The **Brotherhood of St Andrew** will meet at 8:30 am.
- 10/15 Wednesday Family Night with dinner, bible study and prayer from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm.
- 10/21 The **Vestry** meets at 7:00 pm.
- 10/22 Wednesday Family Night with dinner, bible study and prayer from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm.
- 10/26 Vestry and Diocesan Council Elections (ballots to be distributed after both services).
- 10/29 Wednesday Family Night with dinner, bible study and prayer from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm.
- 10/30 **Ladies Lunch Bunch** meet at noon at a designated local restaurant.

~ October 2014 ~						
◀ Sep 2014						Nov 2014 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  Dinner, bible study, prayer	2	3 Parents' Night Out  5:00 pm until 8:30 pm	4
5 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Choir 10:30 am Service 1st Sunday Lunch  5:00 pm Blessing of Animals	6	7 8:00 am @ IHOP Breakfast Brothers 	8 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  Dinner, bible study, prayer	9 Daughters of the King 7:00 pm 	10	11 8:30 – 9:30 am Brotherhood of St Andrew 
12 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Choir 10:30 am Service	13	14	15 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  Dinner, bible study, prayer	16	17	18
19 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Choir 10:30 am Service	20	21 Vestry 7:00 pm	22 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  Dinner, bible study, prayer	23	24	25
26 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Choir 10:30 am Service	27	28	29 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  Dinner, bible study, prayer	30 Ladies Lunch 	31	Notes:

~ CTK MASTER PLAN UNVEILED!~continued from page 1

NOTE: The Master Plan revealing Phase I and Phase II for Christ the King as envisioned by the committee members in conjunction with the services of HBL Architects, Steve Lucchesi and Stephanie Kaup and distributed to the attendees of the Town Hall Meeting held on Sunday, September 21 at 9:00 am. is in a separate attachment.



Father David asked our Treasurer, Charlie Tyler, to come forward and discuss our finances. Charlie provided a snapshot of our finances – past, present, and future. Charlie mentioned that we paid off the mortgage on our current building in November 2013. That good news, coupled with the fact that pledges received to date in 2014 represent 118% of our budget, indicates we are in great financial shape. Our members asked Charlie several questions, and Charlie explained our various options for obtaining a loan to assist us with the initial completion of our Master Plan.



Father David then asked the members of the Master Plan Committee to come forward. The Master Plan Committee is comprised of Barbara Goodson, Aaron Holbrook, Ann Rodriguez, Barry Rought, Shawn Sanders, and Rachael Shedeed. Unfortunately, Ann was out of town and Barry and Linda are still in Michigan, so they were unable to attend the Town Hall Meeting. Barbara, Aaron, Shawn, and Rachel then revealed the long-awaited Master Plan! A question and answer period followed, and it was clear from the ensuing dialogue that the priority of the Master Plan Committee was to make certain the wants and needs of our congregation were met in the initial phase of the Master Plan as expressed in the survey we completed earlier this year. There is still much work to do, but what a great start to what promises to be a continued prayerful discernment of the current and future needs of our congregation.

Father David then offered a prayer of thanksgiving for each member of the Master Plan Committee, as well as our Vestry members, and asked that we keep each of them and all those involved in the capital campaign in our daily prayers.



**What Does It Mean to Serve on the Vestry?
Should I Consider Serving on the Vestry?**

*by Russell Strickland
former Vestry member 2010-2012*

Who wants to be on the Vestry? Who should be on the Vestry? Am I the person God has chosen to serve at this time and in this place? With so many questions and a million more, how does one decide that a Vestry position is the place God wants them to serve? Let me share my experience as a guide to help if you are considering a vestry position at Christ the King.

Serving on Christ the King's Vestry from 2010 thru 2012 was one of the best spiritual experiences of my life. I learned more about myself, the Episcopal Church, and most importantly my fellow Parishioners. My expectations about the Vestry were that it would be like serving on a Board of Directors of a company, but I was completely wrong. Yes, we took care of Church business, but unlike a Board of Directors meeting, we came at everything from a spiritual perspective and with a servant's heart. Also, you learn how the Episcopal Church works and how dedicated leaders of the church work on a daily basis.

Now is a good time to ask yourself the questions stated above and reflect on your personal ministry and discern if this is the right time for you to serve. Pray daily on what gifts you bring to your church and how these gifts could be of service to the Vestry. Everyone's gifts from God are different and can be used many ways.

I found this helpful article, "Vestry Discernment begins with the Soul" by Will Thompson an Episcopal Priest wherein he presents five powerful questions:

- How much am I willing to Risk?
- What have I done to contribute to the very thing I complain about or want to change?
- What is the "no" or the refusal that I keep postponing?
- What forgiveness am I withholding?
- What is the gift that I still hold in exile?

Start with questions, end with questions, but ask yourself, "Is now the time for me to serve?"

VESTRY ELECTIONS OCTOBER 26th

Aaron Holbrook, Russell Strickland, and Rachel Taylor have agreed to be Vestry candidates for the upcoming vestry election. All these candidates have been members of Christ the King for many years and have served on vestry in past. We are fortunate to have them agree to serve again. A picture and brief bio of each candidate is below:



Aaron Holbrook, 62, Texas A&M graduate, married to De De for 37 years, and General Manager of American Rice Growers Co-Operative in Dayton. We've been members of Christ the King for 7 years. I served on Vestry from 2011-2013. I help with the yard crew and usher team. It is an honor to serve on Vestry.



Christ the King is a very special place for the Strickland Family. My wife Cheryl and I raised our two children in this Parish. We became members of Christ the King in September 1988. I was very blessed to have served on vestry from 2010-2012 and I am ready to serve on vestry again for the church we love.



My family and I are blessed to have found such a wonderful place to share our time and talents for the benefit of God and this church. As a prior vestry member & "unofficial/official" photographer, I am excited to explore new opportunities in serving for another vestry term.

CHRIST THE KING STAFF MEMBERS

- Reverend David Nelson, Rector ctkrector@embarqmail.com
- Edie McDaniel, Church Secretary christthekingepiscopal@embarqmail.com
- Drew Balog, Organist ctkmusic@embarqmail.com

All Staff Members can be reached via phone through the main church line: (281) 852-1990

CHRIST THE KING 2014 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 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.

Mike McDaniel, <i>Senior Warden</i>	(281) 798-8053	m.e.mcdaniel@hotmail.com
Rachel Shaye, <i>Junior Warden/Stewardship</i>	(281) 507-4475	rachel.shaye@aig.com
Billie Bailey, <i>Evangelism</i>	(281) 381-7216	luv2lern7118@yahoo.com
Barbara Goodson, <i>Hospitality</i>	(713) 657-5654	barbara.goodson@cwland.com
John Holmes, <i>Outreach</i>	(281) 948-3425	jrholmes44@gmail.com
Robert Keller, <i>Finance</i>	(713) 885-7280	baileyblvd@msn.com
Mike McNeil, <i>Webmaster</i>	(936) 334-2498	mmcneil@hardinisd.net
Rosalie Pyle, <i>Publicity</i>	(281) 360-5548	rosaliepyle@gmail.com
Teresa Simmons, <i>Christian Ed</i>	(713) 302-8143	teresasimmons@mac.com

Vestry appointed positions: Charlie Tyler, *Treasurer* and Rachael Shedeed, *Clerk of the Vestry*

The vestry believes it is important that our parishioners have a sense of our church’s financial position each month.

Financial Statement as of August 31, 2014:

<u>OPERATING FUND</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUILDING FUND</u>	<u>RESERVE FUND</u>
Beginning Balance:	\$56,546.20	\$30,108.59	\$24,398.33
Ending Balance:	\$66,206.25	\$32,104.62	\$22,009.55
TOTAL:	\$120,320.42		



**GOD LOVES A
CHEERFUL GIVER**

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

by Barbara Goodson

He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

This verse brought to mind a particular time in my live when I lived on little means and had to borrow money from my mom. When I was able to repay it, I handed her my check. She asked what it was for and I said it was to repay her the loan. She promptly tore it in half and handed it back to me—“paid in full” she said. I cried.

Jesus did this for us—paid the price in full and I joyfully want to give. Although I was not always a good steward of God’s blessings, I started a faithful stewardship journey about 25 years ago and continue it today. This personal story reminds me of God’s faithfulness. I hope you have begun your stewardship journey, but, if not, today could be your first step in discovering God’s abundant provisions when you trust Him with everything. He will never let you down.

A saying I’ve often heard goes like this, “God doesn’t call the equipped--He equips the called.” I believe we are called and He will equip us with whatever we need. Has He called you? You bet He has!



10/1	Edward Sellar	10/13	Ruben Garcia	10/19	J.P. Dimaala
10/7	Rachael Shedeed	10/14	Teresa Simmons	10/19	Arisha Edwards
10/9	Lynda Rought	10/14	Billie Bailey	10/22	Dick Simmons
10/10	Avery Edwards	10/15	Brad Painter	10/25	Debra Hale
10/13	Glenn Smith	10/16	Kylie Wiggins	10/29	Alex Dimaala
10/13	Kristen Fansler	10/17	Charlie Martin	10/31	Albert Maende
		10/18	Emma Fansler		

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.**

10/2	Bill & Theresa Reed
10/8	Robert & Jill Stegall
10/15	Sam & Rachael Shedeed



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.**

It's Back to School for CTK!

Time to bless the back packs!



Fr David calls school-aged children to the altar and they lift their back packs heaven-ward for a blessing!

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, Humble, Kingwood, Crosby, Huffman 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 am	Holy Eucharist
9:15 am	Sunday School & Choir
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist with music

For newsletter comments or
submissions, email:
Barbara.Goodson@cwland.com



A big “hats off” and thank you to the Master Planning Committee for developing a bright future for Christ the King that not only practical, it also incorporates the wishes of our members as reflected in their completed surveys. It is exciting to move forward with a solid and workable plan for Christ the King's future and we all appreciate the labor of love the committee members: Barry Rought, Aaron Holbrook, Shawn Sanders, Ann Rodriguez, Rachael Shedeed and Barbara Goodson gave of themselves to finalize this vision.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN KICK OFF BREAKFAST Sunday November 2nd at 9:00 am –Be There!

Great stewardship sermon, Pastor. I'm going to
increase my giving 100% - from \$1 to \$2!



Join us for the annual **Stewardship Breakfast**,
Sunday November 2nd at 9:00 am.

Let's pat ourselves on the back for what we
achieved this past year and look forward to what
we can do in 2015 !

Rachel Shaye, Stewardship Chairman