

CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

December 2012

The Rev. David Nelson

19330 Pinehurst Trail Dr.
Atascocita, TX 77346

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www.CTKAtascocita.org

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CTK Headlines

Christmas Eve Services

We will have two special worship services on Christmas Eve.

The family service is at 5:00 pm. Our children's choir will sing the offertory at this service. Nursery care will be provided.

The traditional service is at 10:30 pm. There will be the adult choir and incense, and we will light candles as we sing Silent Night.

Feel free to come to either or both services as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Poinsettias for sale



Christmas Eve SERVICE

Don't forget to order your Holiday Poinsettias. Bring some Christmas cheer & color to the church with your donation!

The cost is \$10 per poinsettia. The sign-up sheet is posted on the church bulletin board.

Outreach Report:

- ✓ We delivered 144 items to CUIC
- ✓ We collected 420 boxes of stuffing for HAAM!



From the Desk of David



Father David Nelson

If you have been paying attention to the absurd in our culture you may have heard dire warnings that the world is going to end soon. I can pretty confidently say that it will not. More accurately, Jesus says nobody knows the day or hour (Matthew 24:36). I remember people panicking about Y2K, several fringe pastors making predictions over the years, and the next in line is the Mayan Calendar. The Mayan calendar actually goes in cycles—the last cycle runs out on December 21, 2012. Of course, by that same logic, one could predict the world is going to end on April 3rd, 2089. Why April 3, 2089? In the Book of Common Prayer that is the last date for Easter we have on our calendar. The reason for this is simple—we didn't have enough space to list the date for Easter 2090!

Instead of worrying about the world ending, our efforts are better served in thinking about new beginnings. This is the time of year in the church calendar when we focus upon beginnings. The season of Advent, which means coming, is a time when we await the coming of Christ on Christmas Day, and as we anticipate the time when He will come again.

In order to make way for a new beginning one must rearrange first. As a new parent, I am getting a crash course in this lesson right now! As any parent remembers, having a baby means changing your routines, sleep patterns, rearranging your house, avoiding travel, and many other surprises. For this reason Advent is also a season of repentance. Most people associate repentance with saying you are sorry. Repentance is much more. Author Marcus Borg says repentance means "to return" –that is, return from exile, to return to life in the presence of God, to a life centered in God. He adds another meaning. Repentance also means: "to go beyond the mind you have." I really like this explanation because it reminds us that repentance is more than saying you are sorry and saying it won't happen again (even if it might). Repentance also means returning to God from the path of sin and embracing a different mind than you have—the mind of Jesus, whose wisdom is always a trusted guide. Over and over in my life I have been amazed at the wisdom of Jesus' teachings. The more I understand his teachings, the more I am both challenged by them and inspired to follow His path.

So during the seasons of Advent and Christmas, we are invited to ponder the new beginnings in life. Where is God planting a seed in your heart? Is there some new beginning that God is calling you to discover or rediscover? I pray that you explore these questions during this season of new beginnings.

Yours in Christ,
Father David Nelson†

*"Over and over
in my life
I have been
amazed at
the wisdom of
Jesus'
teachings."*





~~CALENDAR OF EVENTS~~

- 12/1 It's a church workday, be ready to work at 8 am.
- 12/4 The **Breakfast Brothers** are meeting at IHOP in Atascocita at 8 am. Bring a friend.
- 12/6 The **Daughters of the King** are having a Christmas party at Debbie Lee's house at 7 pm.
- 12/7 The Youth Group is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner at the church. Seating at 5 pm and 7 pm. RSVP required.
- 12/9 You are invited to a **Christmas Open House** at Barry & Lynda Rought's house. 1-5 pm.
- 12/15 **FREE Breakfast and Pictures with Santa**, from 9 am - 1 pm at the church.
- 12/16 Lessons and Carols Service at 10:30 am.
- 12/23 The children will perform their annual **Christmas Pageant** at 5 pm.
- 12/24 **Christmas Eve Services** at 5 pm (with the children's choir) and 10:30 pm.

~~~"Unabashedly Episcopalian" Advent Study, Wine & Cheese! Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> ~~~

| ~ December 2011 ~                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                  |                                                                               |                                                                                   |                                                                             |                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun                                                                                                                                             | Mon                                                                                                                                              | Tue                                                                                              | Wed                                                                           | Thu                                                                               | Fri                                                                         | Sat                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                  |                                                                               |                                                                                   |                                                                             | <b>1</b><br>8:00 am church workday<br>9:00 am Altar Guild brass polishing                                                            |
| <b>2</b><br>8:00 am Service<br>9:15 am Sunday School & Confirmation class<br>10:30 am Service<br>12 noon First Sunday Lunch                     | <b>3</b>                                                                                                                                         | <b>4</b><br>8:00 am @IHOP Breakfast Brothers                                                     | <b>5</b><br>6:30 pm<br>"Unabashedly Episcopalian" Advent Study Wine & cheese  | <b>6</b><br>7:00 pm<br>Daughters of the King Christmas Party @ Debbie Lee's house | <b>7</b><br>5:00 pm & 7:00 pm<br>Spaghetti Dinner Hosted by the Youth Group | <b>8</b>                                                                                                                             |
| <b>9</b><br>8:00 am Service<br>9:15 am Sunday School & Confirmation class<br>10:30 am Service<br>1-5pm Christmas Open House @ Rought's          | <b>10</b>                                                                                                                                        | <b>11</b>                                                                                        | <b>12</b><br>6:30 pm<br>"Unabashedly Episcopalian" Advent Study Wine & cheese | <b>13</b>                                                                         | <b>14</b>                                                                   | <b>15</b><br>Breakfast with Santa 9am - 1pm<br> |
| <b>16</b><br>8:00 am Service<br>9:15 am Sunday School & Confirmation class<br>10:30 am Lessons & Carols                                         | <b>17</b>                                                                                                                                        | <b>18</b><br>6:00 pm<br>Vestry Meeting                                                           | <b>19</b><br>6:30 pm<br>"Unabashedly Episcopalian" Advent Study Wine & cheese | <b>20</b>                                                                         | <b>21</b>                                                                   | <b>22</b>                                                                                                                            |
| <b>23</b><br>8:00 am Service<br>9:15 am Sunday School<br>10:30 am Service<br>12 noon Hanging of the Greens<br>5:00 pm Christmas Pageant & Party | <b>24</b><br>5:00 pm & 10:30 pm<br>Christmas Eve Services<br> | <b>25</b><br> | <b>26</b>                                                                     | <b>27</b>                                                                         | <b>28</b>                                                                   | <b>29</b>                                                                                                                            |
| <b>30</b><br>8:00 am Service<br>10:30 am Service                                                                                                | <b>31</b><br><br>New Year's Eve                               |                                                                                                  |                                                                               |                                                                                   |                                                                             |                                                                                                                                      |





## ~~CHRISTMAS PAGEANT~~

Please make plans to attend our Parish Pageant and Christmas Party on Sunday December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5 pm.  
**It's an Instant Christmas Pageant!**

All children 12 and under are invited to participate. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. The pageant will have scripture readings, Christmas hymns, and a lot of fun!

Snacks, games, and beverages will be served immediately following the service which will include time for photos. Please bring a wrapped children's gift (not to exceed \$10) so the kids can do a gift exchange.



## ~~CHRISTMAS HUMOR~~

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" The son replied, "I do know!" "Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?" A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy. "Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked. "You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven..."

"Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt." Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses." When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

People want the front of the bus, the back of the church, and the center of attention.



## ~~MEET OUR STAFF~~

### CHRIST THE KING STAFF MEMBERS

|                                     |                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reverend David Nelson, Rector       | <a href="mailto:ctkrector@embarqmail.com">ctkrector@embarqmail.com</a>                           |
| Edie McDaniel, Church Secretary     | <a href="mailto:christthekingepiscopal@embarqmail.com">christthekingepiscopal@embarqmail.com</a> |
| Drew Balog, Organist                | <a href="mailto:ctkmusic@embarqmail.com">ctkmusic@embarqmail.com</a>                             |
| Amy Beesley, Youth Minister         | <a href="mailto:ctkyouth@embarqmail.com">ctkyouth@embarqmail.com</a>                             |
| Tracy Painter, Newcomer Coordinator | <a href="mailto:tracyspainter@gmail.com">tracyspainter@gmail.com</a>                             |

All 5 Staff Members can be reached via phone through the main church line: (281) 852-1990

### CHRIST THE KING 2012 VESTRY MEMBERS

Your vestry is a group of lay members elected by you, the church members, to serve with the rector as the leadership and governing body of the church. Through an annual retreat, and monthly and other special meetings, the rector and vestry are responsible to set and oversee the vision of ministry for the church, 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.

Each Sunday you can find a 'Vestry Person of the Day' present during the services for announcements, and available before and after each service for any questions any parishioner or newcomer might have about the church or any of the ministries.

|                                          |                |                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Russell Strickland, <i>Senior Warden</i> | (832) 671-2928 | <a href="mailto:russd211@msn.com">russd211@msn.com</a>                 |
| Aaron Holbrook, <i>Junior Warden</i>     | (713) 851-7178 | <a href="mailto:holbrookfarm@hotmail.com">holbrookfarm@hotmail.com</a> |
| John Holmes, <i>Finance</i>              |                | <a href="mailto:jrhomes44@gmail.com">jrhomes44@gmail.com</a>           |
| Robert Lunson, <i>Outreach</i>           | (713) 204-7581 | <a href="mailto:robertlunson@gmail.com">robertlunson@gmail.com</a>     |
| Carol Martin, <i>Evangelism</i>          | (713) 504-1852 | <a href="mailto:cmartin@winstead.com">cmartin@winstead.com</a>         |
| Mike McDaniel, <i>Stewardship</i>        | (281) 798-8053 | <a href="mailto:m.e.mcdaniel@hotmail.com">m.e.mcdaniel@hotmail.com</a> |
| Shawn Sanders, <i>Worship</i>            | (832) 527-0778 | <a href="mailto:bellzandwhistles@aol.com">bellzandwhistles@aol.com</a> |
| Teresa Simmons, <i>Christian Ed</i>      | (713) 302-8143 | <a href="mailto:teresasimmons@mac.com">teresasimmons@mac.com</a>       |
| Rachel Taylor, <i>Publicity</i>          | (713) 703-4099 | <a href="mailto:rtaylor2325@yahoo.com">rtaylor2325@yahoo.com</a>       |
| Robert Keller, <i>Church Treasurer</i>   | (713) 885-7280 | <a href="mailto:baileyblvd@msn.com">baileyblvd@msn.com</a>             |
| Rosalie Pyle, <i>Clerk of the Vestry</i> |                | <a href="mailto:rosaliepyle@gmail.com">rosaliepyle@gmail.com</a>       |

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR NEW 2013 VESTRY MEMBERS! Billie Bailey, Barbara Goodson and Bob Keller**

One of the responsibilities of the vestry, along with the rector, is managing the church's finances. We feel it's important that our parishioners have a sense of our church's financial position.

Here is a snapshot of our October 2012 Financial Statement.

#### Operating Fund

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$61,133.13        |
| Revenue           | +\$16,635.75       |
| Expenses          | -\$12,798.64       |
| Ending Balance    | <b>\$64,970.24</b> |

#### Building Fund

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$7,717.86        |
| Revenue           | +\$500.00         |
| Expenses          | -\$0              |
| Ending Balance    | <b>\$8,217.86</b> |





## ***Christmas Open House***

*You are invited to a  
Christmas Open House:*

**Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 - 5:00 pm**

**Barry & Lynda Rought's**



6614 Emerald Ash Court  
Phone (281) 852-0551

## ***Pictures & Breakfast with Santa***



The whole community is invited to  
**BREAKFAST and PICTURES with SANTA**

**Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm at the church**

**WATCH Santa ride in on the fire truck!**

The event is **FREE** to the community  
*Receive a FREE picture and picture frame*

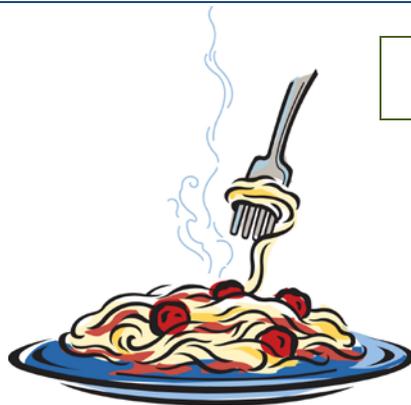
## ***Spaghetti Dinner***

The Youth Group is hosting dinner!

**Friday evening, December 7<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 pm & 7:00 pm**

RSVP required – sign-up sheet on the bulletin board  
\$10 for adults  
\$5 for children under 12

*See Amy Beesley for details*



**Spaghetti  
Dinner**





|       |                |       |                   |
|-------|----------------|-------|-------------------|
| 12/1  | Stella Loo     | 12/16 | Barbara Goodson   |
| 12/3  | Bryce Auth     | 12/19 | Paula Campbell    |
| 12/3  | Lyn Goodman    | 12/21 | Diane Newport     |
| 12/9  | Bev Silloway   | 12/21 | Stephania Jackson |
| 12/9  | Debi Deanovich | 12/22 | Linda Tyler       |
| 12/11 | Don Hardy      |       |                   |

### *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* fall; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

12/1 Mike & Edie McDaniel  
 12/6 Rod & Ann Rodriguez  
 12/11 Harry & PJ McCluskey  
 12/22 Dick & Teresa Simmons  
 12/31 Albert & Selma Maende



### *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.**

## **Flowers by Laura** *flowers for any occasion*

*Specializing in:*

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Cell (713) 859-4802



## Christ the King Episcopal Church

19330 Pinehurst Trail Drive  
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We're on the Web!

Find us at:

[www.CTKAtascocita.org](http://www.CTKAtascocita.org)

## About Christ the King

Christ the King is a pastoral size 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**

**J**esus is Lord – Following the teachings of Christ as revealed in the Scriptures

**O**utreach – Committing to Christ-centered service

**Y**ou are Welcome – Respecting the dignity of all God's children

**F**aith and Fellowship – Growing together in joyful celebration of our faith in Christ

**U**nited in Prayer and Worship – Praising God through our liturgy

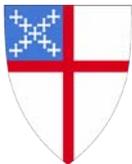
**L**ove as Christ Loves Us – Nurturing our Community

## Weekly Schedule

### SUNDAY MORNING

|          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 8:00 am  | Holy Eucharist            |
| 9:15 am  | Sunday School             |
| 10:30 am | Holy Eucharist with music |

For newsletter comments or  
submissions, email:  
[rtaylor2325@yahoo.com](mailto:rtaylor2325@yahoo.com)



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