

# CTK: July News 2018

*During Fr. David's sabbatical, this page will feature an inspirational piece that has touched the lives of millions. Some will be familiar, some surprising. In the spirit of the late Paul Harvey, The Second Page will tell you "the rest of the story." –Ebert*

## The Serenity Prayer

God, give us grace to accept with serenity  
the things that cannot be changed,  
courage to change the things that should be changed,  
and the wisdom  
to distinguish the one from the other.

*Reinhold Niebuhr*



# The Second Page



Heath was the perfect spot for Union Theological Seminary's Professor of Practical Theology to summer with his family. Located deep in the mountains of northwest Massachusetts, the setting was idyllic and in 1943 about as far removed from the horrors of WW II as one could get. The Niebuhr's attended the Heath Union Church and it was the custom for summering clergy to take turns in the pulpit. So it came to pass that on one Sunday morning, Niebuhr preached a sermon that included what would come to be known as the *Serenity Prayer*. He'd written the prayer the night before and while Heath's pastoral setting may have suggested *serenity*, it was the war that dominated his thoughts.

Niebuhr had spent his entire career as a social activist. He'd faced down a resurgent Klan in the 1920's, confronted Henry Ford about the soul-deadening nature of industrialization and become a pacifist in response to the carnage of WW I. The rise of Nazism, however, caused a major shift in his thinking. With friends and family increasingly threatened by Hitler's regime, he was frustrated with organized religion's unwillingness to confront this incipient *evil*. He was alarmed that people of conscience were willing to accommodate German fascism and were letting themselves be seduced by it. When war finally broke out, he was an ardent supporter. Now, in the stillness of Heath's mountain setting, he found thirty-three words that encapsulated everything that he'd been thinking, writing and talking about for years. And though he never imagined it on that Sunday morning, he'd given expression to a belief that would inspire millions.

Despite its popularity, many people underestimate the difficulty of the Serenity Prayer. That's because it's been inaccurately titled. Even a casual reading reveals that there's nothing *serene* about the *Serenity Prayer*. Instead, it's a bold call to action. In the prayer, serenity and wisdom are bookends to the real challenge—*courage to change the things that should be changed*. Life is filled with things that *can* be changed and the word "can" suggests that there is a likelihood of success. But changing the things that *should* be changed is much more difficult. For one thing, there's the implicit understanding that you might not succeed. The prayer, then, calls for the courage to *persevere* in the face of what may be impossible odds for a just cause. Learning what *should* be changed is also a prerequisite for understanding what *can't* be changed. Such insight provides a benchmark and a perspective. You can't be serene with things that can't be changed unless you understand why they are immovable. If you don't perceive this distinction, the serene acceptance of the status quo leads to a smug complacency, a misguided sense of moral equivalency and spineless rationalization. *Wisdom* helps us sort it all out.

The *Serenity Prayer* challenges us to confront the malevolent forces in our world, our lives and our souls. And when we confront those forces we are called upon to act steadily—with perseverance and conviction. Today, ask yourself what *should* be changed and then, with serenity, *courage* and wisdom *do something about it*.

—Ebert

# What's Happening in July

1

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music

2

- Noon – Ladies Lunch Bunch: Amadeo's Italian Restaurant, 22704 Loop 494

3

- 8:00 Breakfast Brothers, Atascocita IHOP

3

- 9:30 – 11:00 Red Hat Society (PH)
- 5:00 PM – 8:30 PM Kingwood Memory Café (PH)

8

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music

9-12

- Vacation Bible School

12

- Daughters of the King will not meet in July

14

- 8:30 Brotherhood of St. Andrew

15

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music

17

- Vestry will not meet in July

22

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music

23-26

- Youth Service Week

29

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music

FYI



## Independence Day!, July 4th

**Independence!** Despite his prickly nature, Adams was absolutely giddy when the Continental Congress declared its independence from Great Britain. He was right on the mark when he predicted the day would be, *“solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.”* (He was prescient as well considering the colonies were hemmed in by the Appalachians at the time.) After years of uncertainty, Congress had finally declared, *“Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.”* Denying that he was “transported with Enthusiasm,” he was none-the-less unable to contain his unbridled joy, hope and triumph when writing to his wife Abigail a day later on July 3. **That’s right, independence was declared on July 2, 1776** when Congress passed the Lee Resolution. Two days later they finished the paperwork by signing the Declaration of Independence. Despite Adams’ conviction that July 2 would be, *“the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America,”* it should come as no surprise that an incipient federal bureaucracy would favor celebrating the paperwork over the declaration. In fairness, things were pretty confusing at the time. The Lee Resolution wouldn’t become unanimous until July 9 when New York got around to voting in favor of it and the Declaration of Independence wouldn’t become official until August 2. If this strikes you as a little post facto, it did to Washington as well. After all, the country had been fighting the British for the past fifteen months. When New York agreed to the Lee Resolution, he gambled it was safe to read the Declaration of Independence to his troops so that they’d know why they were fighting (a gesture always appreciated by the troops in any conflict). With so many days to choose from for the holiday, everyone figured the fourth was as good a day as any for a picnic. Americans have made merry every Fourth of July since.

This year while, kicking back, we might recall that freedom isn’t free. It takes a lot of work just to maintain what we’ve got—to say the least of passing the gift along to others. Despite the many serious threats to freedom in the world today, the greatest is indifference because that leads to decay. Freedom is a living thing and like all living things it requires nurturing and care. It can’t be ignored and expected to thrive. And it’s the obligation of every citizen to keep it alive. Have a happy second, fourth and ninth! —Ebert



FYI



## Make Your Faith Come Alive at LOTS

CTK is serving breakfast at **LOTS** on **July 15**. We'll depart from the church at 6:00 AM. We need **14 volunteers** to meet our commitment to this powerful ministry. You can sign-up in the Narthex.

*You can learn more about **LOTS** on page 8.*



## Vacation Bible School

**Vacation Bible School** is **July 9th-12th**. This summer, our theme is "**Shipwrecked - Rescued by Jesus.**" Through Bible study, music, games, crafts, and other activities, kids will explore stories about how Jesus rescues us in our lives. Kids ages 4 –11 are invited to attend. Registration is available on our website, [ctkatascocita.org](http://ctkatascocita.org).

## Youth Service Week

**Service Week** for 4th and 5th grade youth is **July 23rd-26th**. In partnership with Holy Comforter in Spring, fourth and fifth grade youth are invited to join in on daily service projects around the Houston area. The registration cost is \$50. Contact [Tracey](#) for more information.



FYI



## Mary Magdalene, July 23

Mary of Magdala was one of several women who followed Jesus and ministered to him in Galilee. Luke records that Jesus “went on through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out. . .” (Luke 8: 1– 2). The Gospels tell us that Mary was healed by Jesus, followed him, and was one of those who stood near his cross at Calvary.

Her service and companionship, even as a witness to the crucifixion, has been an example of the faithful ministry of women to Christ. All four Gospels name Mary as one of the women who went to the tomb to mourn and to care for Jesus’ body. Her weeping for the loss of her Lord strikes a common chord with the grief of all others over the death of loved ones. Jesus’ tender response to her grief— meeting her in the garden, revealing himself to her by calling her name— makes her the first witness to the risen Lord. She is given the command, “Go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God” (John 20: 17). As the first messenger of the resurrection, she tells the disciples, “I have seen the Lord” (John 20: 18).

In the tradition of the Eastern Church, Mary is regarded as the equal of an apostle; and she is held in veneration as the patron saint of the great cluster of monasteries on Mount Athos.

*From **Lesser Feasts and Fasts***



## General Convention 79

The Diocese of Texas is hosting General Convention July 5-13, 2018 in Austin and Bishop Doyle needs you! Volunteers are needed to support the Convention and bring our unique hospitality to the Jesus Movement. You can sign-up [here](#).

You can find more information about what goes on at General Convention right [here](#).

FYI

## Coming Up...



## Back to School

It's almost time to start collecting school supplies to help kids in our community. CTK participates with HAAM in this essential ministry. You might recall that 20% of folks in our area live below the poverty line and 35% of kids in Humble ISD qualify for assistance. This is another opportunity in which a small effort can make a meaningful difference. Watch for details in the weeks ahead.

## Save the Date!

On Saturday, **September 15**, **Have Shears Will Travel** is hosting a fund raiser—**A Hair Raising Event—Gone Country**. Have Shears Will Travel serves over 400 homeless, hospice, veterans, and special needs adults with free haircuts and grooming throughout greater Houston. The event will be held at **The Legendary Firehouse Saloon** and include a live and silent auction, raffle, live band and a BBQ dinner catered by **Chef Dan Nix from Open Door Mission**. Bishop Andy Doyle will speak. Tickets are \$100 per person.





# Outreach

## What is LOTS?



**Lord of the Streets (LOTS) Episcopal Church** provides many different services to the local homeless community including healthcare and crisis management. They host a free clinic through the Harris Health System's **Healthcare for the Homeless Program** which offers well woman exams, baby exams, family medicine,

immunizations, HIV testing, TB testing, prescription medications, podiatry, and psychiatry care. To address crisis management, they also provide direct assistance services such as clothing, hygiene kits, mailing address and mail pick-up with ID, telephone use, notary, referrals and homeless verification letters, state ID and birth certificate referrals.

Christ the King is one of **18 Supporting Congregations**. As a Supporting Congregation we provide financial support, clothing donations, breakfast serving teams twice a year, a member to the LOTS Bishop Committee and other volunteers.

If you'd like more information about LOTS, visit the [LOTS website](#).





# Time to Celebrate!



## Happy Birthday!

<i>July 2</i>	Charles Maende
<i>July 3</i>	Nicolas Moore
<i>July 4</i>	Mary Swartz
<i>July 5</i>	Charly Bonnie
<i>July 5</i>	Dylan Clevenger
<i>July 6</i>	Josh Clevenger
<i>July 10</i>	John Holmes
<i>July 13</i>	Jacob Shaye
<i>July 19</i>	Carol Martin
<i>July 19</i>	Kelli Sanders
<i>July 21</i>	Terry Green
<i>July 23</i>	Emily Sanders
<i>July 25</i>	Tracy Painter
<i>July 29</i>	Alan Aston
<i>July 30</i>	Andy Yee

## Happy Anniversary!

<i>July 9</i>	Brett and Elizabeth Lalor
<i>July 22</i>	John and Katherine Holmes
<i>July 25</i>	David and Beth Anne Nelson



# Sabbatical FAQs

## ***What is sabbatical?***

The word sabbatical has its roots in the biblical concept of Sabbath (“to rest” or “to cease”). Sabbath keeping is setting aside time that God consecrates and makes holy.

Sabbatical leave is a time to shift gears, to rest, to disengage from normal pastoral responsibilities, to study, and travel in order to return to minister among us refreshed and renewed. The Rector’s Letter of Agreement with Christ the King specifies that he may take a sabbatical after 7 years of ordained ministry. This sabbatical is taking place 2 years after it was eligible.

## ***How long will the Rector be away?***

Fr. David will begin his sabbatical on June 15, 2018 and return to Christ the King on September 15, 2018.

## ***Who will cover the Rector’s responsibilities during his absence?***

The Reverend Margaret (Marge) Williams will take on liturgical responsibilities on Sunday morning as well as pastoral visits, funerals, or visiting those who are ill or in need. It is important to know that this does not include administrative responsibilities during the week.

Our Senior Warden, Carol Martin, will oversee staff and chair Vestry meetings. If you have a non-liturgical concern that would usually go to Fr. David, Carol is the best place to go.

## ***Do other clergy go on sabbatical?***

The Diocese of Texas has strongly encouraged congregations in our Diocese to provide our clergy with regular sabbatical leaves.

## ***What will the Rector be doing on his sabbatical?***

A portion of this sabbatical will be a trip to the Holy Land from June 18 to 27. In July the family will take a road trip to Michigan (Beth Anne is from East Lansing). Fr. David plans to pursue developing some theological writings throughout the sabbatical, while spending extra time with the family.

## ***Who will pay for the sabbatical?***

The Rector successfully applied for a grant from the Diocese of Texas to fund his sabbatical expenses. This grant also includes payment to Christ the King for a priest to serve at Sunday worship throughout the sabbatical. The Rev. Marge Williams generously will donate time for pastoral care matters.

# Sabbatical FAQs

## ***Whom should I contact for special prayer requests?***

You may contact Edie at the church office to have names placed on the prayer list (or removed).

## ***Whom do I call if I have a family or personal crisis?***

For pastoral matters, please contact either the church office or The Rev. Marge Williams directly.

## ***What if a question/concern arises while the Rector is gone?***

The Wardens and Vestry will listen to all concerns and questions. The Vestry will remain active.

## ***What if I bump into Fr. David in town?***

Please say hi like you normally would! Sabbatical is a break from the various meetings, administrative duties, pastoral work, not a break from life.

## ***Who do I contact?***

### **If you have a general concern please contact...**

Senior Warden, Carol Martin (713) 504-1852

[CMartin@winstead.com](mailto:CMartin@winstead.com)

### **If you have a concern that relates to facilities...**

Junior Warden, Bruce Newport

[tanmakers@aol.com](mailto:tanmakers@aol.com) (281) 682-5266

### **If you have a liturgical question or concern...**

The Rev. Margaret (Marge) Williams

[mwilliams616@comcast.net](mailto:mwilliams616@comcast.net) (713) 859-1258

### **Youth group, or children's ministries...**

Youth Director, Tracey Bulau (832) 493-4123

[tabulau@gmail.com](mailto:tabulau@gmail.com)

### **Music or choir...**

Organist/Choirmaster, Drew Balog (832) 233-9132

[dbalog@hotmail.com](mailto:dbalog@hotmail.com)

***Still have questions?*** Please contact our secretary, Edie McDaniel at the church (281) 852-1990 or [ctkhumble@gmail.com](mailto:ctkhumble@gmail.com)

# Who's Doing What?

## Vestry Member of the Day and Counter

July 1 – George Ebert, Larry Lentz

July 8 – Bruce Newport, John Dowell

July 15 – Barry Rought, Edie McDaniel

July 22 – Shawn Sanders, Debbie Lee

July 29 – Rachael Shedeed, Billie Bailey

## Usher Schedule

July 1

- 8:00 – Rod and Ann Rodriguez
- 10:30 – George and Barbara Spence

July 8

- 8:00 – Leon and Connie Brashier
- 10:30 – Mike McDaniel and Andrew Beesley

July 15

- 8:00 – Robert Lunson and Rachel Shaye
- 10:30 – Bruce and Diane Newport

July 22

- 8:00 – Henry Lee and Robert Keller
- 10:30 – Caren Thomas, Alan Aston, Phoebe, Michael McNeil

July 29

- 8:00 – Rod and Ann Rodriguez
- 10:30 – George and Barbara Spence

## Lay Reader and Chalice Bearer Schedule

July 1

- 8:00 – Lyn Goodman
- 10:30 – Fiona Aston (LR), Rice Aston (CB)

July 8

- 8:00 – George Ebert
- 10:30 – Shawn Sanders (LR), Valerie Bonnie (CB)

July 15

- 8:00 – Deb Tisch
- 10:30 – Barbara Spence (LR), Shawn Sanders (CB)

July 22

- 8:00 – Debbie Lee
- 10:30 – Carol Martin (LR), Larry Lentz (CB)

July 29

- 8:00 – Theresa Reed
- 10:30 – Barbara Spence (LR), Lesley Exum (CB)



# Staff, Vestry and Contacts

## Our Staff

Reverend David Nelson, Rector [bgchaplain@gmail.com](mailto:bgchaplain@gmail.com)  
Edie McDaniel, Church Secretary [ctkhumble@gmail.com](mailto:ctkhumble@gmail.com)  
Drew Balog, Organist [dbalog@hotmail.com](mailto:dbalog@hotmail.com)  
Tracey Bulau, Youth Director [tabulau@gmail.com](mailto:tabulau@gmail.com)  
*Staff Members may also be reached via our main phone line: (281) 852-1990*

## Our Vestry

Carol Martin, Senior Warden (713) 504-1852 [cmartin@winstead.com](mailto:cmartin@winstead.com)  
Bruce Newport, Junior Warden (281) 852-2698 [tanmakers@aol.com](mailto:tanmakers@aol.com)  
Connie Brashier (713) 614-5114 [conniebrashier@gmail.com](mailto:conniebrashier@gmail.com)  
George Ebert (713) 822-7254 [ebertg@gmail.com](mailto:ebertg@gmail.com)  
Barry Rought (281) 852-0551 [bgrrought@gmail.com](mailto:bgrrought@gmail.com)  
Shawn Sanders (832) 527-0778 [bellzandwhistles@aol.com](mailto:bellzandwhistles@aol.com)  
Rachael Shedeed (713) 417-7114 [sarks@hotmail.com](mailto:sarks@hotmail.com)  
Bill Williams (713) 859-7439 [wm.k.williams@comcast.net](mailto:wm.k.williams@comcast.net)  
Andy Yee (713) 927-0435 [andy5964@yahoo.com](mailto:andy5964@yahoo.com)

Vestry Appointed Positions:

Rachael Shedeed, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Bill Williams, *Treasurer*

## Where to Find Us and How to Contact Us

*Mail:* Christ the King Episcopal Church  
19330 Pinehurst Trail Drive  
Atascocita, TX 77346

*Phone:* (281) 852-1990

*FAX:* (281) 852-9073

*E-Mail:* [ctk@gmail.com](mailto:ctk@gmail.com)

*Website:* [CTKAtascocita.org](http://CTKAtascocita.org)

*Facebook:* [facebook.com/ChristTheKingEpiscopal/](https://facebook.com/ChristTheKingEpiscopal/)

# The Back Page

## Vestry's Financial Summary as of May 31, 2018

Revenues and Expenses Year-to-Date	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$133,472</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$130,684</b>
<b>Total Revenue Less Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,788</b>
<b>Cash Accounts</b>	
<b>Operating Account</b>	<b>\$38,126</b>
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	<b>\$12,745</b>
<b>Reserve</b>	<b>\$3,845</b>
<b>Building</b>	<b>\$1,092</b>
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$55,808</b>

## Concealed Handgun and Open Carry Restrictions

### 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.

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Got something for the Newsletter? Send questions, comment or news to the editor at [ebertg@gmail.com](mailto:ebertg@gmail.com)