

CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

February 2012

The Rev. David Nelson

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Atascocita, TX 77346

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CTK Headlines

Children's Choir performs Christmas Eve

What a glorious Christmas Eve service, complete with the angelic singing voices of the children's choir!



SPRING is in the AIR!

As you read this February edition newsletter, we realize we are in the winter season, but it is time to look forward... **SPRING** will be here sooner than we realize. With spring comes the changing of the seasons, which brings new growth. I am talking about new plants growing. Yes, the grass will be growing, along with flowers, shrubs and trees. And it is time to think about taking care of our church yard!

Read more about **SPRING** on page 4...

Outreach Report:

- ✓ We delivered 60 pounds to HAAM in January!

From the Desk of David



Father David Nelson

After a wonderful celebration of Christmas at Christ the King, Beth Anne and I took a few days to visit her family in Michigan. I got back into the church office and noticed my desk had several flyers advertising church programs for Lent and Holy Week. I thought to myself, “You have got to be kidding me!” We are still celebrating the 12-day season of Christmas, and Lent and Easter are already upon us?

Lent seems to be coming way too soon this year. My mind was still thinking of the baby in the manger, so I wasn’t ready to prepare for Lent or Easter. Much of the church calendar is organized around the events of Jesus’ life. Advent prepares for Christ to come, Christmas celebrates his birth, and Epiphany recalls the wise men that came to see the “light of the world.” Lent revolves around the temptations of Jesus, while Easter celebrates his resurrection. Next, Pentecost recalls the coming of the Holy Spirit, and then we move to ordinary time.

Most of what the gospels tell us about the life of Jesus centers around his earthly ministry that took place during his early 30’s. We have the birth narratives, and only one story from Luke’s gospel about the childhood of Jesus. Since we don’t know much about his childhood, it makes sense that our church calendar skips right to his adulthood. For example, on January 6th we celebrate Epiphany, where the wise men bear gifts to the Christ child. The very next Sunday, Jesus is an adult being baptized. And you thought your kids grew up fast!

Since we are already preparing for Lent, I want to let you know about a couple of upcoming events as Lent approaches:

- We will celebrate Fat Tuesday on February 21st from 5pm-7pm. The youth group will serve pancakes and raise funds for summer camp.
- Lent begins with Ash Wednesday worship on April 22 with services at noon and 7pm.
- Our Lenten Series will begin with soup, followed by a book discussion and closing with worship. The book is titled, “A Layman Looks at the Lord’s Prayer,” by Phillip Keller. We will have books available at the church office for \$12. The Lenten Series begins at 6:30pm and ends at 8pm each Wednesday and lasts for 5 weeks: February 29, March 7, 14, 21, and 28.

I am very excited about this book study. We all know the Lord’s Prayer, and what a blessing it will be to explore the richness of this model prayer Jesus taught us.

Yours in Christ,
Father David Nelson†

“We all know the Lord’s Prayer, and what a blessing it will be to explore the richness of this model prayer Jesus taught us.”

~~CALENDAR OF EVENTS~~

- 2/5 Join us for First Sunday lunch after the 10:30 am service!
- 2/5 The **Youth Group** is having a Super Bowl party at Good Shepherd in Kingwood – meet at CTK at 5:00 pm.
- 2/7 The **Breakfast Brothers** are meeting at IHOP in Atascocita at 8:00 am. Bring a friend!
- 2/9 The **Daughters of the King** are meeting at the church at 7:00 pm.
- 2/11 The **Brotherhood of St Andrew** is meeting at the church at 8:30 am.
- 2/19 The **Youth Group** will meet at the church at 6:00 pm.
- 2/21 There will be a Vestry meeting at 7:00 pm at the church.



LENTEN SEASON BEGINS

- 2/21 Make plans to join us on Shrove Tuesday for a PANCAKE SUPPER at 5:00 pm.
- 2/22 ASH WEDNESDAY Services at 12 noon and 7:00 pm.
- 2/29 Lenten Program Begins. Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Soup, Book Study & Worship. The book is "*A Layman Looks at the Lord's Prayer*" by Phillip Keller.

~ February 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Sunday School & Adult Choir practice 10:30 am Service 12 noon First Sunday Lunch 5:00 pm EYC Super Bowl Party @Good Shepherd	6	7 8:00 am @ IHOP Breakfast Brothers	8	9 7:00 pm Daughters of the King	10 Diocesan Council College Station	11 8:30 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew
12 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Sunday School & Adult Choir Practice 10:30 am Service 12 noon Children's choir	13 7:00 pm Facilities & Maintenance Committee	14 	15	16	17	18
19 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Sunday School & Adult Choir Practice 10:30 am Service 12 noon Children's choir 6:00 pm EYC	20	21 5:00 pm PANCAKE SUPPER 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	22 ASH WEDNESDAY 12 noon Service 7:00 pm Service	23	24	25 8:00 am – 3:00 pm Wardens & Vestry Conference – Holy Apostles, Houston
26 8:00 am Service 9:15 am Sunday School & Adult Choir Practice 10:30 am Service 12 noon Children's choir	27	28	29 6:30 pm Lenten Program Begins	Mark your calendars: March 3 rd – Brotherhood retreat @ CTK 8:00 am – 12:45 pm March 31 – WORK DAY at the CHURCH!!!		



~~SPRING IS IN THE AIR~~

Continued from page 1....

We have a group of volunteers who mow the grass on a weekly basis. We have several teams who mow so that the duty rotates each week. Of course, there is always an opportunity for new volunteers to join the yard crew.

I will remind you that stewardship is time, talent and treasure. The yard crew is another way to offer your talents!

There was a time when members used their own lawn mower to mow the grass. No need to worry about bringing your own lawn mower, we have one. If you should volunteer, you will be given a partner with experience. We do not expect anyone to join the yard crew and have to learn by trial and error. There is flexibility in the yard crew.

Usually the yard is mowed on Saturday mornings. However, conflicts occur so Friday afternoons or Saturday afternoons will also be fine. You can

always trade with another yard crew member if necessary.

Not every member has the same time, talent and treasure. Let me point out this is a good thing. If everyone had the same talent, there would be no diversity. Our church is blessed with people of different talents. If you think you have a talent that fits the yard crew, please contact me. There is a place for you to share your talents.

There are always other places to share your talents as well. Are you a carpenter, painter, plumber or electrician? We do not have a team like the yard crew, but we have needs for these talents from time to time.

Let me know of any ways you would like to help!

Aaron Holbrook
Junior Warden

~~THE FINAL ANALYSIS, by Kent M Keith~~

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered; *FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY*
 If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; *BE KIND ANYWAY*
 If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; *SUCCEED ANYWAY*
 If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; *BE HONEST AND FRANK ANYWAY*
 What you spend years building, someone may destroy overnight; *BUILD ANYWAY*
 If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; *BE HAPPY ANYWAY*
 The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; *DO GOOD ANYWAY*
 Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;
GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY

You see, in the final analysis, it is all between you and GOD; *It was never between you and them ANYWAY*

Submitted by Russell Strickland

~~MEET OUR STAFF~~

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
Amy McDaniel, Youth Minister	ctkyouth@embarqmail.com

All 4 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	russd211@msn.com
Aaron Holbrook, <i>Junior Warden</i>	(713) 851-7178	holbrookfarm@hotmail.com
John Holmes, <i>Finance</i>		jrhomes44@gmail.com
Robert Lunson, <i>Outreach</i>	(713) 204-7581	robertlunson@gmail.com
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Mike McDaniel, <i>Stewardship</i>	(281) 798-8053	m.e.mcdaniel@hotmail.com
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Teresa Simmons, <i>Christian Ed</i>	(713) 302-8143	teresasimmons@mac.com
Rachel Taylor, <i>Publicity</i>	(713) 703-4099	rtaylor2325@yahoo.com
Robert Keller, <i>Church Treasurer</i>	(713) 885-7280	baileyblvd@msn.com
Rosalie Pyle, <i>Clerk of the Vestry</i>		rosaliepyle@gmail.com

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 December 2011 Financial Statement: We ended at 104% pledges to budget.

Operating Fund

Beginning Balance	\$44,256.21
Revenue	+\$23,071.29
Expenses	-\$22,794.65
Ending Balance	\$44,532.85

Building Fund

Beginning Balance	\$4,767.86
Revenue	+\$140.00
Expenses	-\$0
Ending Balance	\$4,907.86

~~THE LORD'S BALLGAME~~

Freddy and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord's team was playing Satan's team.

The Lord's team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the 9th inning with two outs. They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate named 'Love.'

Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single, because 'Love never fails.'



The next batter was named Faith, who also got a single because Faith works with Love.

The next batter up was named Godly Wisdom. Satan wound up and threw the first pitch.



Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass: Ball one. Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked because he never swings at what Satan throws.

The bases were now loaded. The Lord then turned to Freddy and told him He was now going to bring in His star player. Up to the plate stepped Grace. Freddy said, 'He sure doesn't look like much!'

Satan's whole team relaxed when they saw Grace. Thinking he had won the game, Satan wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen! But Satan was not worried; his center fielder let very few get by.

He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing on the ground; the roaring crowds went wild as the ball continued over the fence ... for a home run!

The Lord's team won!

The Lord then asked Freddy if he knew why Love, Faith and Godly Wisdom could get on base but couldn't win the game. Freddy answered that he didn't know why.

The Lord explained, 'If your love, faith and wisdom had won the game, you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, Faith and Wisdom will get you on base but only My Grace can get you Home:

'For by Grace are you saved, it is a gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast.' Ephesians 2:8-9



2/3	Debbie Lee	2/18	Rachel Taylor
2/3	Jeffery Dukes	2/21	Linda Tyler
2/7	Summyr Glover	2/23	Susan Lunson
2/9	Donna Dalton	2/23	Ashley Taylor
2/9	Steve Goodson	2/27	David Shaye
2/11	Russell Strickland		

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.**

2/1	Andy & Susan Yee
2/10	Brad & Tracy Painter
2/14	Ray & Mimi Buchman



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*

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We're on the Web!

Find us at:

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

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

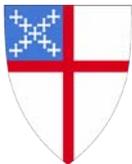
Love as Christ Loves Us – Nurturing our Community

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY MORNING

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

For newsletter comments or
submissions, email:
rtaylor2325@yahoo.com



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