



CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

September 2011

The Rev. David Nelson

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CTK Headlines

Come One, Come All – Newcomer Ministry at Christ the King

If you are a newcomer to Christ the King, we are thrilled you are here. If you have been at Christ the King for any length of time, you have no doubt noticed the increase in our Sunday attendance at both services.

Since Father David's arrival in March, our average Sunday attendance is up more than twenty-three percent. We couldn't be more excited about this development in our church life. *Read more on page 4...*



"Time Tithing" – Stewardship Update



Stewardship isn't always all about the money. Though important to sustaining the Church's mission, "treasures" are just one of many offerings a parishioner can consider donating to his/her church! The Church looks to its congregation for commitments of time, talents AND treasures. *Read more about 'time tithing' on page 5...*

Outreach Report:

- ✓ We delivered 120 pounds of baby items to HAAM on August 8th
- ✓ Many thanks to Donna Dalton for delivering the baby items!!!

From the Desk of David



Father David Nelson

What an exciting time to be at Christ the King! God has entrusted us with so many blessings. Mother Theresa once remarked, "I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish that He didn't trust me so much." I know that this quote rings true of our staff, vestry, and congregation.

While God is blessing us with a vibrant and growing congregation, God has entrusted us to serve in new ways here at Christ the King. Practically speaking, this means new people will be needed to serve in leadership roles in order to accommodate additional programming. The real challenge is finding ways to support existing ministries while being open to new ones. We need to ensure we have enough people to serve as Sunday school teachers, servers, lectors, and so on before we begin a new ministry. I know we can do this.

I encourage you to read Rosemary Sullivan's article about newcomer ministry at Christ the King. In that article, she describes the hope that we can establish a children's chapel program for the 10:30 am service. This would require 2 adults to teach each week, on a rotation basis. A rotation ensures that no kind soul is sucked into a new ministry and is stuck there for 35 years. Seriously, I once met an organist who "volunteered" to play one Sunday back in 1973. Even though she did not want to do it, she continued to "volunteer" every Sunday until 2008! I think this example reflects well on her generosity but poorly on how that parish honored her gifts.

Another ministry possibility is starting a children's choir. Our organist/choirmaster, Drew Balog, said we need at least 8 children to make this viable. I look forward to seeing what happens as we walk with Christ together.

*"What an exciting
time to be at
Christ the King!
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us with so many
blessings."*

Here is a reminder about some upcoming events:

[Wednesday Evening Program: "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23."](#)

We will read and discuss this book and close with worship (Compline).
Program runs from Sept 14 to Oct 19. 6:30-8:00 pm. Snacks provided.


[Confirmation Class](#)

Class is for teens and adults who are making a mature commitment to Christ and those who would like to be received into the Episcopal Church. Even if you would like a refresher course on church basics, you are invited to participate, just be sure to read the book: "My Faith, My Life" by Jenifer Gamber.
Class begins October 2nd and ends with Confirmation.

[The Bishop will come for Confirmation on December 4th at 6:30 pm.](#)

Yours in Christ,
Father David Nelson†

~~CALENDAR OF EVENTS~~

- 9/4 Join us for 1st Sunday lunch immediately after the 10:30 am service.
- 9/4 & 9/18 The **Youth Group** will meet at the church at 6:30 pm.
- 9/6 The **Breakfast Brothers** are meeting at IHOP in Atascocita at 8 am. Bring a friend!
- 9/8 The **Daughters of the King** are meeting at the church at 7 pm.
- 9/10 **BOOKS & BROWNIES Sale** from 9 am – 3 pm at the church. The whole community is invited!
- 9/11 Sunday School resumes for the year at 9:15 am. **OUR NURSERY OPENS!!!** 
- 9/20 The vestry is meeting at 7 pm.

Special Enrichment Classes:

Inquirer's Class: September 4th, 11th, 18th. Sundays at 9:15 am

Communion Enrichment Session for Adults: September 11th & 18th. Sundays at 10:00 am

'A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23': September 14th - October 19th. Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

~ September 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 8 am Service 9:15 am Inquirer's Class 10:30 am Service Noon 1 st Sunday Lunch 4:15 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm Youth Group	5	6 8 am Breakfast Brothers @ IHOP	7	8 7 pm Daughters of the King	9	10 BOOKS & BROWNIES Sale 9 am – 3 pm
11 8 am Nursery OPENS! 8 am Service 9:15 am Sunday School & Inquirer's Class 10:30 am Service 4:15 pm Choir Practice	12	13	14 6:30 pm 'A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23' Bible Study & Compline	15	16	17
18 8 am Service 9:15 am Sunday School & Inquirer's Class 10:30 am Service 4:15 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm Youth Group	19	20 7 pm Vestry Meeting	21 6:30 pm 'A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23' Bible Study & Compline	22	23	24
25 8 am Service 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Service 4:15 pm Choir Practice	26	27	28 6:30 pm 'A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23' Bible Study & Compline	29	30	



~~NEWCOMER MINISTRY~~

Continued from page 1...

Successful newcomer ministry is currently a primary objective of our Diocese, and it is absolutely one of the vestry's and Father David's primary focuses for Christ the King. As part of its commitment to newcomer ministry, the Diocese is taking applications for grants to support parish newcomer initiatives. To take advantage of this opportunity, Father David and the vestry are joyfully working on an application for a three year grant, which would include funds for a designated staff person. This person would be hired from within our own parish to oversee newcomer ministries and would be trained and supported by a Diocesan newcomer ministry coach. We will submit Christ the King's application shortly, and the Diocese expects to make final decisions on the award of grants by November 2011.

While we are very excited at the prospect of a grant to allow us the luxury of a designated newcomer coordinator, we are already undertaking several newcomer oriented endeavors, which include the following:

- 1) Father David and the vestry participated in a day long vestry retreat focused on newcomer ministry and facilitated by a Diocesan trained coach;
- 2) Concerted efforts by Father David and the vestry to meet all newcomers and to ensure they sign the guest book;
- 3) Emphasizing that the vestry person of the day is available to assist visitors in any way they may need;
- 4) Praying for each month's newcomers at each vestry meeting; and
- 5) Creation of tri-fold brochures to highlight various aspects of our church life, including the steps to membership at Christ the King, lay ministries, service organizations, Christian education, youth

group, outreach ministry, and music ministry.

We have also invested in newcomer bags to give to each new family who visits the church. These are reusable grocery bags bearing Christ the King's logo, and in them are a water bottle, a sticky note pad, and a pen, all with Christ the King's logo, as well as a children's coloring book and a pack of crayons. We are very excited about this new initiative and to kick it off, on Rally Day, we are giving every parish family a bag with goodies to enjoy!

Probably our most exciting newcomer project arose out of Bishop Doyle's meeting with the vestry during his March 2011 visit to Christ the King. In discussing the growth objectives of the church, Bishop Doyle emphasized the importance of bringing into the church and sustaining the attendance of families with babies and young children. This discussion highlighted to the vestry the necessity of offering a nursery to accommodate children from infancy to age three or four, as well as a children's chapel for children who are a bit older.

So, we are thrilled to announce that Christ the King's nursery will open on September 11!

We have extended offers of employment to two nursery staffers, and our offers have been accepted by both. As soon as all is finalized, we look forward to introducing them. The nursery will be available every Sunday during the Sunday school hour and the 10:30 service.

While we are not in a position to begin a children's chapel immediately, our goal is to establish a children's chapel program when we have the volunteers to do so. This would take place during the 10:30 service between the Gospel hymn and the Peace. The children would

start the service with their parents, leave for children's chapel after the Gospel hymn, and return to the service for the Peace. Father David or Rachel Shaye would love to visit with anyone interested in spearheading or participating in this program!

We are blessed by the newcomers we are seeing each week. We pray that our words, actions, and deeds toward them reflect the love of Jesus Christ, and that Christ the King will be a place they wish to make their church home.

~~TIME TITHING – STEWARDSHIP UPDATE~~

Continued from page 1...

School is back in session and so is Sunday School at Christ the King. However, we need everyone to look deep in their hearts and pray about giving a couple of extra hours to lead a class. The class time is 9:15 am on Sundays and you would need a little preparation time to review the curriculum. Please consider investing a couple of hours of your time each week to enrich the lives of our children by taking part in this very vital and important ministry. If you have not noticed, there are children everywhere around the church these days and we need to ensure that they have a place to learn about the Bible.

There are 168 hours in a week. If you were to tithe your time to the church you would need 16.8 hours! Now figure that we are only asking for an additional 2 hours for Sunday School teachers. That would be a fairly good bargain. Please consider helping in some capacity.

There are quite a few people that spend extra time doing things for the church, which could be considered for the time tithe, such as serving on the vestry, altar guild, choir, yard crew, additional committees, etc. Have you ever considered being a part of one or more of the groups? Sometimes it seems that the same few people do the bulk of the work. Although we know this to be true in some cases, we also know that behind the scenes there are numerous people that contribute without ever having any recognition whatsoever.

We thank everyone for what they offer to Christ the King Church, and we ask you to look deep into your hearts and pray for guidance on how you may offer some additional time for our growing community. Time, talents and treasures all working together will enable our parish to continue "To be a light, living as a witness in Christ's love, serving and nurturing all."

In closing, please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 15th, at 6 pm for our **Commitment Dinner** and kick-off to our Stewardship Awareness month. We will have a wonderful meal and brief table discussions on what stewardship is all about, and we will revisit our 'Ripe for the Harvest' campaign. Please plan to attend this event and share food, fellowship and discussion on how we can offer back to God what He has given us.

If you would care to join our Stewardship Team, please contact Father David Nelson or Shawn Sanders.



~~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 2011 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.

Rosemary Sullivan, <i>Senior Warden</i>	(512)450-8116	rosemary@collinsostrom.com
Aaron Holbrook, <i>Junior Warden</i>	(713) 851-7178	holbrookfarm@hotmail.com
Stephen Buras	(225) 223-8112	stephen.buras@cebridge.net
Robert Lunson	(713) 204-7581	robertlunson@gmail.com
Carol Martin	(713) 504-1852	cmartin@winstead.com
Shawn Sanders	(832) 527-0778	bellzandwhistles@aol.com
Rachel Shaye	(281) 507-4475	drshaye@entouch.net
Russell Strickland	(832) 671-2928	russd211@msn.com
Rachel Taylor	(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 July 2011 Financial Statement. *We are 56% to budget in pledges for the year.*

Operating Fund

Beginning Balance	\$54,696.59
Revenue	+\$19,839.50
Expenses	-\$20,639.35
Ending Balance	\$53,896.74

Building Fund

Beginning Balance	\$5,423.86
Revenue	+\$60.00
Expenses	-\$0
Ending Balance	\$5,483.86

~~OUR CHURCH IN PICTURES~~

The kids of CTK enjoy a totally disgusting & slimy party, hosted by Rachael Shedeed and Amy McDaniel



The kids took First Communion classes on Sundays in August.



Adult Family Circuits Dinner

Dinner will be catered by Italiano's Restaurant
~lasagna, chicken cacciatore,
salad, garlic rolls & mini cannoli~

Saturday September 17th at 7 pm
George & Barbara Spence's House
7323 Crescent Bridge Court
Fall Creek

*email: geobarb@swbell.net
sign up sheet on the Church Bulletin Board*

\$12 per person, includes iced tea or water
Feel free to bring a bottle of wine to share!



**Italian
Dinner**

A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23



We will discuss a book called "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" by Phillip Keller. Keller takes what is already the most beloved of Psalms and explains it from a shepherd's perspective. This book is simply a must read!

After discussing the book, we will have a short Compline service.
We will cover 2 chapters per meeting. Snacks will be available.

Bible Study and Compline
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, each week for 6-weeks
(Sept 14, 21, 28; Oct 5, 12, 19)

(You can get a copy of the book at the Church for a \$10.00 suggested donation.)

Inquirer's Class



If you are new to Christ the King or to the Episcopal Church, you probably have quite a few questions.

In this class we will explain how to become a member, give an overview of the Sacraments, and have a brief introduction to the Episcopal Church.

Sundays at 9:15 am
September 4th, 11th & 18th



9/7	Caren Thomas	9/18	Mike McDaniel
9/8	Barbara Spence	9/25	Ryan Taylor
9/12	Erick Holmes	9/27	Aaron Holbrook
9/13	George Spence	9/28	Tyler Auth
9/14	Judy Walker		

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.**

9/5 Mike & Donna Dalton
9/23 Jason & Rachel Taylor



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.**

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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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