

# CTK Communiqué



## July 2025



### CTK Church -Trenton Rd. Campus

15600 Trenton Rd., Southgate, MI 48195

Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am—3:00 p.m.

Church Office Phone: (734)285-9695

Church FAX: (734)285-4188

### CTK Day School - Trenton Rd.

School Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

School Office Phone: (734)285-9697

### CTK Church - Pennsylvania Rd. Campus

16700 Pennsylvania Rd., Southgate, MI 48195

Main Phone: (734)285-9695

### Childcare Center - Pennsylvania Rd. Campus

Child Care Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Child Care Phone: (734)285-8525



### Trenton Road Campus

Thursday Worship 7:00 PM

(Through August 28)

Saturday Worship 5:00 PM

Bible Study 6:00 PM

Sunday Worship: 9:00 AM

11:00 AM

Bible Study/Sunday School

10:00-10:45 AM



# FAITHFUL STEWARDS

## Financial Snapshot – Through May 2025

INCOME (General Fund):	<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>
Church receipts	\$ 100,442.43	\$ 607,155.36
Tuition	\$ 84,999.79	\$ 433,550.89
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 185,442.22</b>	<b>\$ 1,040,706.25</b>
<b>BUDGETED EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 244,370.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,075,288.00</b>
<b>INCOME OVER/(UNDER) BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ (58,927.78)</b>	<b>\$ (34,521.75)</b>

	<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$185,442.22</b>	<b>\$ 1,040,706.25</b>
<b>ACTUAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$183,168.70</b>	<b>\$ 1,073,310.46</b>
<b>INCOME OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 2,273.52</b>	<b>\$ (32,604.21)</b>

The longer days and warmer temps are a welcome sight in Michigan! The “summer slump” in stewardship for churches is sometimes overstated. Thanks to online giving, giving via text message, many church members remain steadfast in their giving, even as we enjoy the summer. Thank you, CTK members, and we thank God for providing us with the technology to be a Great Commission congregation. Jesus said, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)



# memorials & gifts

**In Memory of Kevin  
Franklin**

To the Food Pantry given by  
M/M Roy Thomas

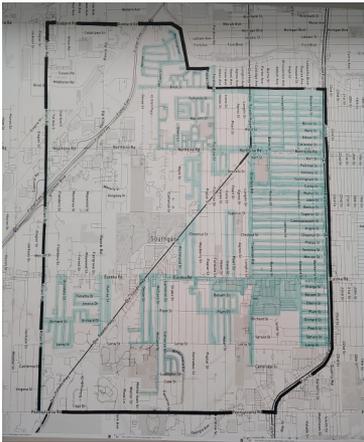
**In Memory of Ann Grahl**

To Alms, given by  
Judy Bielby



**Birthday Blessings**

Karen Mendus  
June 18  
Karen Kerezi  
June 23



**WALK THE WALK**

On June 1, we started 'Walk The Walk', a challenge with the goal to walk and pray through the City of Southgate in one month. At the halfway mark, we have completed 2/3 of the map! The most amazing part of the challenge hasn't just been watching the map fill up, though, but hearing the stories from the people who have walked and prayed. Thank you to everyone who has participated in 'Walk The Walk'!

**Scrap Metal, Cans/Bottles & Capital Fund Drive Fundraising**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>Total (since 2006)</u>
“C” Dollars	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,278.00	\$ 562.00	\$ 25,802.00
Scrap Metal	\$ 2,925.99	\$ 2,383.50	\$ 1,147.24	\$ 58,165.94
Bottles	\$ 2,888.54	\$ 774.60	\$ 161.60	\$ 45,396.44
Paper Recycle	\$ 52.26	\$ 28.25	\$ 11.56	\$ 810.20

(As of: 6/15/25)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 3	Ice Cream Social	8:00 PM	TR
July 7-10	Girls BB Camp 4th—8th Gr	3 to 5 PM	PA
July 14-17	Co-ed Volleyball Camp 1st –3rd Grade	4 to 5:30 PM	TR
July 16	FCM Sizzle & Splash BBQ	5:00 PM	PA
July 21-24	Co-ed BB Camp 1st—3rd Gr	9:30 to 11:30 AM	TR
July 28-31	Boys BB Camp 4th –8th Gr	4:30 to 6:30 PM	PA
August 13	FCM Summer Send off BBQ	5:00PM	PA
August 20	59+ Group	1:00 PM	TR
August 28	Ice Cream Social	8:00 PM	TR
September 14	Rally Day	9 to Noon	TR

**Weekly Events:**

Tuesdays:	Toolbelt Tuesday	8:00 AM	PA
Wednesdays:	Women's Bible Study	9:00 AM	PA
Thursdays:	Donation Station Open	12:00-2:00	PA
	Food Pantry	3:00 PM	PA
	Thursday Worship	7:00 PM	TR
Saturdays:	Donation Station Open	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	PA
	Worship	5:00 PM	TR
	Adult Bible Class	6:00 PM	TR
Sundays:	Worship	9:00 & 11:00 AM	TR
	Bible Class & Sunday School	10:00 AM	TR



# Spiritual Care Ministry

**If you have a family member or friend  
at CTK who is hospitalized, in a  
nursing home or confined to their  
home, please call the church office.**

**Contacts: Harry Dutka (734) 285 9695 Ext. 150**  
**[hdutka@ctk.me](mailto:hdutka@ctk.me)**

**Lisa Demou (734) 285 9695 Ext. 210 [lisa@ctk.me](mailto:lisa@ctk.me)**

**Anna Bourassa (734) 285 9695 Ext. 100 [anna@ctk.me](mailto:anna@ctk.me)**

**Jan. 1 – June 15th visits 792**

## WAYS TO GIVE YOUR TITHE & GIFTS

- **In Person**
- **Online:** Scan the QR code to be directly sent to the online giving [link](#).
- **Online:** Members may visit [www.ctk.me](http://www.ctk.me) and click on “MyCTK” at the top of the homepage to log in. Select “Giving” then “Give Now” to set up a one time or recurring payment.
- **Text:** Visitors/Members text ‘CTKGIVE’ to 73256 to receive a secured link. (It should open to Christ The King Lutheran, Southgate.
- **Mail:** Mail to CTK, 15600 Trenton Rd., Southgate, MI 48195



**ONLINE GIVING & TEXT GIVE OF TITHES/ CONTRIBUTIONS** We are grateful for the opportunity to accept contributions online via MyCTK and through text giving. Just as a reminder, if possible, please use your banking account information, rather than a card number, to save on processing fees, which start at 2.6%. This cuts back on monthly expenses and, in turn, more of your gift goes directly to the mission of your church. Thank you for your faithfulness!



**A reminder to all of our members and visitors that use text giving: please make sure that Christ The King Lutheran Church, Southgate, MI is the link that comes up when you text “CTKGIVE” to 73256. It has been brought to our attention that occasionally another Christ The King church link is listed. Thank you for your tithe.**



## *Thursday Night Services*

*Join us for worship on Thursday Nights*

7:00 PM - through August 28

CTK - 15600 Trenton Rd.

*Stay for an Ice Cream Social on:*

- *Thursday, July 3*
- *Thursday, August 28*





**CTK BASKETBALL CAMPS, PENNSYLVANIA RD GYM,**  
\$50 per player

Girls, grades 4th - 8th, July 7 – 10, 3:00 to 5:00pm

Boys, grades 4th - 8th, July 28-31, 4:30 to 6:30pm

**CTK CO-ED SPORTS CAMPS, TRENTON RD GYM**  
**Grades 1st-3rd, \$50 per player**

Volleyball Camp: July 14-17, 4:00 to 5:30pm

Basketball Camp: July 21-24, 9:30 to 11:30am

Registration link for all camps: [www.ctk.me/sports-camps/](http://www.ctk.me/sports-camps/)

Cash or check can be dropped off with registration forms in the church office or pay via text give to 73256. Type in "CTKGIVE," then choose the sports camp drop down. On memo line, put child's last name and camp type. Questions? Contact Chance Childers at [chance@ctk.me](mailto:chance@ctk.me).

**Family Connection  
Ministry Sizzle and  
Splash BBQ**

Join us on Wednesday, July 16th at 5:00 P.M. at the PA Rd campus for food and fun! FCM will be grilling up burgers and dogs, and we ask that you please bring a dish to pass. You'll need chairs and drinks for your family, and don't forget your swimsuit and towel,

as we will have water activities for the kids!



# RYAN STEVENSON

**LIVE IN CONCERT**  
**AT THE CHRIST THE KING**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH EVENT CENTER**

16700 Pennsylvania Rd.  
 Southgate, MI



**SEPT.**  
**5TH**

6-8pm

**Buy Your**  
**Ticket Now**



**\$30**

All Tickets GA

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/ryan-stevenson-concert>

**Tickets sales are now live!** Use the QR code or visit the link to purchase tickets: <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/ryan-stevenson-concert> (When purchasing tickets, you DO NOT have to pay the optional Zeffy fee. Click on the additional fee box, choose other, and enter \$0.00.) Get your tickets right away, before the concert sells out! If you need any assistance purchasing tickets, please call or stop by the church office during business hours, or visit the Welcome Desk in the West Gallery before or after worship services.

**WALKING CLUB** meets at 6:30pm every Tuesday. Park by the Admin bldg./Donation Station parking lot. We will start with a quick prayer and then you are off! Use your discretion. If it's raining or too hot, we will meet the following week.

**PICKLEBALL SOCIAL** meets every Saturday in the PA Rd gym at 9am, \$3 drop-in. Contact [chance@ctk.me](mailto:chance@ctk.me) for more info.

## 2025 Euchre Dates **Sept. 13 & Oct. 11**

We play in the Upper Room at Trenton Rd, starting at 7pm SHARP! (Sorry, but we are unable to accommodate latecomers.) Cost is \$3 per person. Each player is asked to bring a beverage and snack to share. Partners are not necessary and guests are welcome. This is a

FUN event and prizes are awarded. Questions? Contact Mike Shoup 734.624.4350 or [blueknight007@hotmail.com](mailto:blueknight007@hotmail.com)



# CTK Childcare News

## ATTENTION!

Are you seeking a nurturing environment for your child? Christ The King Childcare Center is currently accepting enrollments for our classrooms. We have availability for infants as young as six weeks up to children aged four years. For more information, please contact us at [daycare@ctk.me](mailto:daycare@ctk.me).



## CTK Childcare Center

PT JOB OPENING

# KITCHEN ASSISTANT

Looking for a Part-Time kitchen assistant to prepare morning snacks, warm lunches and prep the afternoon snacks. **Hours:** 8:45 AM until afternoon snacks are ready.

EMAIL JESSICA:  
[DAYCARE@CTK.ME](mailto:DAYCARE@CTK.ME)



734-285-8525



# ALTAR FLOWERS



ALTAR FLOWERS

ALTAR FLOWERS are available for purchase, in memory or in honor of a loved one, i.e. for anniversaries, birthdays, etc. (Your honoree will be listed in the intercession list.) The sign-up chart is in the West Gallery. You may take your flowers home to enjoy, immediately following the 11am service. Cost is \$25 per vase. Payment may be placed in the offering basket or you may give online or via text. Please designate "altar flowers."

## Diaper Life

The conception of life, the growing of life in the womb, and the delivering of life from the mother is one of the supreme gifts from our Triune God. Life is, in love, given freely. Eternal Life is given on the cross through our Savior, Jesus. Life is given by armed forces for our freedom. Life is given to save life from fires, catastrophic winds, and floods. Loving parents would give their lives for their children.



Thank you, Christ The King worshipers, for helping to clothe the life of little children. The following were given in our annual Mother's Day through Father's Day Diaper Drive: 2,150 diapers and pull-ups, 1,080 wipes, and 8 children's outfits.

We thank Thrivent Financial for the seed money for this drive. We thank you who contributed so generously with your gifts. We thank the Lincoln Park Pregnancy Center for distributing these diapers, along with love and encouragement, to young families. We thank God - the Giver of all Life. Sincerely, Diaper Drive Group

**GriefShare** The winter/spring cycle ended on June 9. We were very excited to use the new 4.0 program with its updated videos and thank you, CTK, for funding the program and materials for participants. Everyone got a lot of great information and ideas for working through their grief and moving into their new, changed lives.

The next cycle will start the end of August or early September. Again, thank you for all the prayers and support for this program. ~ Teresa





A big VBS thank you to everyone who prayed, volunteered their time, or donated for Vacation Bible School! We had \_\_\_\_\_ kids this year. A HUGE thank you to Nancy Kurtz and her daughters, Sara and Christina, for all of their time and talents with the awesome decorations and crafts. Big thanks to Jessica Bourassa for her cool videos and, of course, the star girls, Abigail, Anna and Katherine.

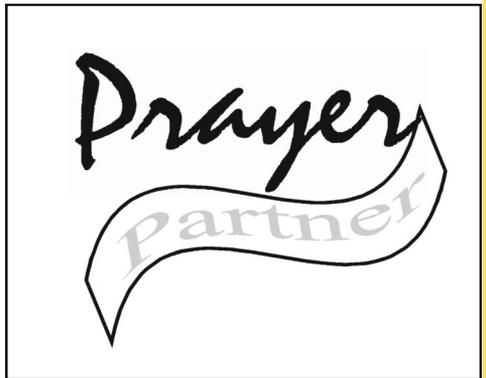
Big thanks to those who donated books. We had almost 800 books to give away to the kids this year. Looking forward to next year! *If you are interested in being part of VBS as the VBS director or Craft Director, prayerfully consider it and let me know by December.* ~ Lisa Demou



## CONSIDER BEING A PRAYER SPONSOR!

Looking for an easy ministry—but so important to our young people? Be a Prayer sponsor to one Confirmand from October through May. It's easy; just sign up to pray for them. You will be given a name and a short bio sheet they fill out. Your job is to pray daily for him/her and send a note or card to them each month. They will not know who you are until next May when they meet you face to face.

Isn't that easy? Email Donna Hepner at [confirmation@ctk.me](mailto:confirmation@ctk.me) and she will contact you. Thank you to those who have already signed up. You are so appreciated!



Donna, Confirmation Coordinator

The 30th CTK Annual Golf Scramble is being held on Saturday, August 16, at Sandy Creek in Monroe. Cost is \$85 per golfer and includes cart, lunch at the turn, and a steak dinner. Shotgun start at 8am.

## Golf Scramble



If you are interested in helping out for the event, or are a local business owner or individual able to donate items or baskets to raffle off, please contact Deanna Warrington at 313-505-1704, Jennifer Gepes at 734-775-1972, or Cindy Burley at 734-752-2349.

**59+ Group:** Join us Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> for “Game Day” from 1:00-2:15pm in the Cana Room at Trenton Rd. Lots of fun and laughs always! All are welcome 😊



## Summer Church Office Hours

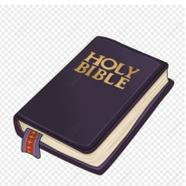
**Mon. – Thurs. - 8:30am to 2:00pm**

**Friday – 8:30-Noon**

**The office will be closed: Friday, July 4th**



## Women’s Bible Study



Women’s Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 9:00am at PA Rd. in the Fellowship Center, classroom #7. We will continue our study of the minor prophets through July 30, then we’ll take a break in August and resume September 3. Class is led by Nancy Kurtz.

**Men’s Bible Study** We are taking a break for the summer. See you in September!



**MELJER "SIMPLY GIVE" UPDATES**

There is a more contemporary Christian chant that is repeated for the participants' contemplation. It begins: "All the time, God is good!" The response is: "God is good, All the time!" The chant is true, but the message is not always foremost in our thinking.

I was reminded of the chant's truth as I thought about recent reports on Simply Give campaigns. The Holy Spirit works through the hearts of Christ The King worshipers, the Meijer family corporation, and community members. The result is that people are fed. We thank God for the privilege each week at the CTK Food Pantry.

2025 Winter Simply Give Campaign (corrected version):

Non-double match card sales	\$ 1,040
Double-match card sales	2,370
Meijer double-match donation	4,740
Additional contributions	<u>3,420</u>
Total	\$ 11,570

2025 Spring Simply Give Campaign ended on June 28. We will receive results in 4-6 weeks (mid-August).

2025 Fall Simply Give Campaign dates are June 29-September 27. Two double-match days are Saturdays, August 16 and September 23.

Meijer will match up to \$5,000 of contributions made on double-match days, up to \$10,000 per pantry per campaign. We thank Jesus



**GATHER AND GROW BOOK CLUB**

There will be no book club meeting in July, but we will begin reading 'Joining Jesus On His Mission: How to be an everyday missionary' by Greg Finke. We will discuss Chapters 1 - 15 during our August meeting. This monthly-meet-up book club is a place for women of all ages (high school and older) to read Christian fiction and nonfiction, gather and discuss as a group, and grow in our faith together. Stop by any of our meetings to see if this club is for you! Please call the church office for more information or to get on our Book Club email list.

# Day School News

*“But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.” Ephesians 2:4-5 (NIV)*

Dear CTK Family,

As the school year ends and we prepare to enjoy the long, sunny days of summer, we’re reminded of the beauty of rest, renewal, and God’s unending grace.

Our theme verse for the 2025-2026 school year is Ephesians 2:4-5, which offers a powerful truth that’s worth carrying into our break: **“We are made alive in Christ not because of what we’ve done, but because of God’s love and mercy.”** What a joyful reminder that, even in moments when we fall short, His grace covers us.

This summer, as students splash in pools, families travel, and routines shift, let’s not forget the One who gave us this life to enjoy. Let every sunrise remind us of His mercy that is new every morning. Let laughter and togetherness reflect the life we have been given through Christ.

We encourage our families to use this time not just to unwind, but also to grow spiritually through family devotionals, quiet time in God’s Word, or gathering together at any of our church events.

May this season be filled with joy, safety, and above all, the awareness that we are loved deeply by a God who brings us from death to life. **Have a blessed summer!**

In Christ,  
Dr. Kelli Kapp-Heifner



**CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN SCHOOL ENROLLMENT** has begun for the 2025-26 school year. If you or someone you know is seeking a preschool or K-8, please contact Chrissy Lambrecht at [admissions@ctk.me](mailto:admissions@ctk.me) or 734.486.2978. General information on our school is always available at [www.ctkpanthers.com](http://www.ctkpanthers.com).



## CTK Military Ministry

### Independence Day Prayer

*Lord of Our Nation,*

America was founded by souls who had a thirst for religious freedom. We do them a disservice when we rewrite history to read: “they wanted freedom FROM religion.” For our foolish desire to be independent of You, I humbly ask Your forgiveness. As our nation celebrates its independence, I pray that You will allow us to give thanks for Name and so many others who are working to keep us free. I also ask that the Holy Spirit will help all of America’s citizens to recognize just how much we are dependent upon You. May each home — from the White House to the poorest tenement — recognize that every blessing we have begins and continues as a generous gift from Your providential hand. Let our country’s leaders bow before You so that You might raise them up and show to the world that we are Your people, and You are our God. In Jesus, let this be the prayer of our nation under God. Amen.

Scripture: “Obey Me, and I will be your God and you will be My people. Walk in all the ways I command you, that it may go well with you” (Jeremiah 7:23).

### Military Ministry Prayer Warriors

If you signed up to be a Military Ministry Prayer Warrior, watch your email or US Mail for a welcome message and initial information about this program.

**ARE YOU IN THE MILITARY, ACTIVE RESERVES OR ARE A VETERAN?** Please contact Denise Doede at [ddoede01@yahoo.com](mailto:ddoede01@yahoo.com) or call the church office to get on our list. Thank you for your service!

### VA Medical Foster Home Program for Veterans

The VA now supports over 1,000 veterans in 700 foster homes in 42 states. This resource provides certified care for veterans needing supervision 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: <https://news.va.gov/?s=Foster+Home+Program>

Contact information for the VA Michigan Medical Foster Homes:

Michigan	
Ann Arbor	734-769-7100
Battle Creek	269-966-5600
Benton Harbor	269-966-5600
Saginaw	989-497-2500

## Our Church History

### **This Month in CTK History**

We believe that 1959 will go down in parish history as one of a giant forward step..." -- Pastor Biesenthal, original pastor of CTK.

"...one copy of each Sunday bulletin will be saved. Years from now, our file of Sunday bulletins will help supply historical data for our church's history." - September 1951

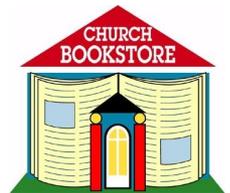
These two statements show that the founders of our congregation were concerned with preserving facts and information for future members.

We recently received a packet of paperwork containing Sunday bulletins, Yearbooks (really cool and good info), pictures and other items to be added to the history of CTK. A BIG thank you to the person or family who dropped off the packets! If you are going through attics, drawers, files and find old papers, pictures or information pertaining to CTK, please consider donating it to the church. We will add that information to our "HISTORY" database. Remember that our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary is next year! Thank you.

## **Psalms & Proverbs**

### **Bookstore**

The bookstore is in need of cashier volunteers on Saturday evenings. You would need to be in the bookstore at 4:40 before service and for 10 minutes after the service. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Claudia at [roylandberg@yahoo.com](mailto:roylandberg@yahoo.com).





## Youth Group Calendar July 2025

6	Youth Group 6-8 PM
13	Youth Group 5-8 PM - Movie Night
19-23	National Youth Gathering NOLA
27	Youth Group 6-8 PM

**New Camp!!!**

**Same Activities PLUS more!!!**

The Youth (6th - 12th Grade) will be attending a **NEW CAMP** January 23 -25, 2026. A \$30 deposit will be due for **ALL** Youth attending camp on August 17th. See Gina for the form.



### **Fundraising**

Nov 8 - Craft Show

TBD - Scrapbook/Craft Day

TBD - Spring Mom2Mom Sale

The Downriver Youth will be hosting a  
**THANK YOU Dinner** for  
 all their supporters!!!

Join us at Penn Campus  
 August 10th  
 5-7 PM



The Youth from all 4 Youth Groups will be  
 there and will be excited to tell you about  
 their trip!!

Calling all 7th-12th Grade Youth and Families  
 interested in CTK's  
 Rooted in Christ Youth Group

Youth Group Kick Off Meeting – Penn Campus

August 24th 5-6 PM The Youth Group will im-  
 mediately follow from 6-8 PM.

**thrivent**<sup>®</sup>

Are you a Thrivent Member? Did you know that as a Thrivent member you have access to “Thrivent Action Team” grants? Did you also know that the Youth Group can use those for supplies needed for fundraisers or events? Please consider helping the Youth Group with your Thrivent Action Team grants.



DOWNRIVER YOUTH GROUP  
**NEW ORLEANS**  
NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING  
SUPPORTERS THANK YOU DINNER

Youth Groups

CHRIST THE KING    MT. HOPE    ST JOHN    TRINITY  
SOUTHGATE    ALLEN PARK    TAYLOR    WYANDOTTE

How did you support the youth?

DID YOU ATTEND A YOUTH HOSTED DINNER?    DID YOU GIVE MONEY TO THE YOUTH?    DID YOU ATTEND A PANCAKE BREAKFAST?    DID YOU BUY FROM A YOUTH FUNDRAISER?

MOST IMPORTANTLY - DID YOU PRAY FOR THE YOUTH WHO ATTENDED THE NYG?

Join us

FOR DINNER, DESSERT AND FELLOWSHIP

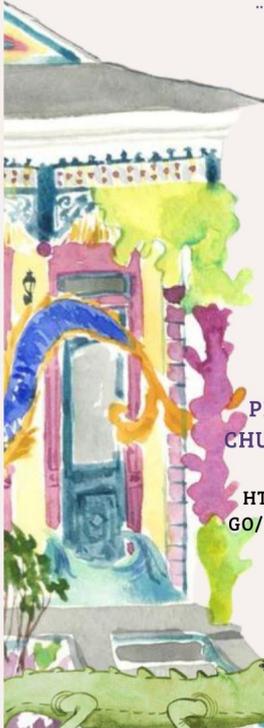
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10  
5 - 7 PM

CHRIST THE KING  
16700 PENNSYLVANIA ROAD

THE YOUTH WILL BE SPEAKING ABOUT THE GATHERING

PLEASE REGISTER WITH YOUR CHURCHES YOUTH GROUP LEADER OR HERE

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10C0D4CAFA62FA4FCC07-56827219-DOWNRIVER](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4cafa62fa4fcc07-56827219-downriver)





**The Donation Station is open on *Thursdays from 12:00 – 2:00 and Saturdays from 10:00 -12:00.* We are in need of baby clothes, jewelry, and all types of kitchen items. If you would like to help in this unique ministry, please contact [carol@ctk.me](mailto:carol@ctk.me) or 734-281-3773.**

### **Donation Station Volunteer Opportunities**

#### **Tuesdays from 10:00 – 12:00:**

On Tuesdays, we work in the Resale Station, getting the shop ready for our Thursday Sale Day. We price and shelf items, try to clean out the drop off overhang, dust, clean, reorganize shelves, if needed, etc. We give new volunteers options and hope they enjoy what they are doing well enough to come back again.

#### **Wednesdays from 10:00 – 12:00:**

During this time, all we do is hang up clothes. This job can be done standing or sitting. This takes place in the office area of the Administration Building.





Summer is officially here! That means different things for different people. Maybe for you, it means going up north, or family BBQ's, or swimming in the pool. Maybe it means a change in your normal routine, or maybe it just means more opportunities to enjoy the beautiful weather! For me and my family, in our stage of life, it means the kids are out of school for the summer – and there's nothing like summer break for kids! My boys are bike riding, tree climbing, and backyard sports playing, and I'm just doing my best to keep up with them! The thing that I am most excited for this summer is to enjoy a slower pace to the days and weeks. A season of rest. We are created in God's image to do His good work in our lives and in the world, and we are also created to rest in Him. The Bible's word for this rest is "Sabbath." Sabbath rest is about more than just not doing work. It's about remembering who we are as God's people. We are called. We are chosen. We belong to Him because Jesus took on our sins and died to give us His righteousness. And that means that, yes, we have work to do – we are called to bring God's kingdom to our community. And that also means that we can and should rest in the grace and mercy and peace of God. Make sure you take a break this summer and remember who you are. Take a break to listen to or read God's Word. Take a break and do something that you love and be with the people you love. Take a break to rest in the beauty of God's gifts in your life.

Seminary Update: I am almost officially done with the SMP program; just 3 classes to go! I'm not thinking too much about the end of the program though, because I am continuing on with my seminary studies. The program that I will be starting is optional, but I want to soak up as much learning and pastoral education as I can! My next class is another preaching class, so I am excited for that! Thank you all so much for your prayers and support!

God's Peace, Pastor Brooks





## 7 WORD STATEMENTS FOR EVERYDAY OF JULY - 2025

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Real friends show up and really help.              | Prov. 18:24      |
| 2. True happiness is built on our faith.              | II Cor.1:23-24   |
| 3. A most wonderful story of true friendship.         | Luke 5:18-20     |
| 4. Ask God to continue our national freedom.          | Gal. 5:1         |
| 5. Overcome pride by giving God the glory.            | Dan. 4:37        |
| 6. Look to Jesus to find true peace.                  | Col. 3:15        |
| 7. Know God's loving eyes are on you.                 | Ps. 32:8         |
| 8. Thank God for His unchanging, steadfast Love.      | I Thess. 5:18    |
| 9. Quit your grumbling; ask God's help instead.       | Ex. 15:24-25     |
| 10. Godly living can impact those around you.         | Matt. 5:16       |
| 11. Your Godly obedience spills down for generations. | Deut. 7:9        |
| 12. Even small kindnesses yield a BIG impact.         | James 2:18-24    |
| 13. No act of kindness is ever wasted.                | Gal. 6:10        |
| 14. Be generous with forgiveness--- like God is.      | Matt. 18:33      |
| 15. Don't fear rejection --- openly praise your God.  | I Peter 4:16     |
| 16. To be "first" later, choose "last" now.           | Luke 14:11       |
| 17. Relax, don't worry, God's always leading us.      | Phil. 4:6-7      |
| 18. Like Jesus, carve out time for stillness.         | Mark 6:31        |
| 19. When praying, tell God your heartfelt concerns.   | Ps. 62:8         |
| 20. Don't lose your confidence over world conditions. | John 16:33       |
| 21. In trials, reach for God, not control.            | Ps. 35:22        |
| 22. You'll find love in all Jesus's stories.          | I John 1:19      |
| 23. Don't use your prayers like "Amazon Prime."       | Ps. 27:14        |
| 24. God's answers don't have one day service.         | Heb. 6:15        |
| 25. Faithful Jesus --- always present in our storms.  | Mark 4:38-40     |
| 26. God knows everything and still adores you.        | Eph. 2:4-5       |
| 27. People receive God's gifts because they ask.      | Luke 11:10       |
| 28. God's our one "constant" in shifting tides.       | Heb. 13:8        |
| 29. Let God's constancy anchor and settle you.        | Isa. 40:8        |
| 30. Give me eyes to see Your presence.                | II Kings 6:16-17 |
| 31. When anger enters the mind, wisdom departs.       | Prov. 29:11      |

~ By Ralph & Donna Moore



# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - JULY 2025

*"TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO, AND WHEN HE IS OLD HE WILL NOT TURN FROM IT."* PROVERBS 22:6 NIV

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## Did you know?

Did you know? During the Bible Study hour, we have something for everyone! Parents with young children/infants who aren't ready to sit in a Sunday School classroom can go to the Parent & Toddler class. There is adult discussion while the littles can play. Or after Confirmation, students can continue studying God's Word with their peers with "Jesus, Gina and Donuts" in the Cana Room. All these classes follow the same curriculum so families can continue the conversation on the car ride home! During the summer, join us in the Upper Room for Sunday School!

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## Bible Bucks - Thank You!



A great big THANK YOU to our Bible Bucks Dears, Mrs. Zanely and Mrs. Kane, for their continued dedication to the Bible Bucks Program. They set up, run, throw their time, talents, treasures and tons of energy into making



this program a great success and a student favorite!

*For Every Lesson You Prepared  
The Love Of God Has Been Shared*

# SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SIZZLE

On Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> our Sunday School students encountered a "brilliant burning bush" as they made their way to the Upper Room for the first session of our Summer Sunday School program. While sitting around a "fiery" backdrop, they heard the thrilling story of Moses, as he encountered a real burning bush and heard God call his name and ask him to do a very special job. The children were reminded that, like Moses, God also has a plan for our lives, as well. Each Sunday this summer, we will build on these wonderful fiery Bible stories with different activities, including crafts, videos, songs, snacks, and outdoor adventures. Please bring your children so they don't miss out. Even if you don't have Sunday School aged children, you're invited to "behold the brilliant blaze" in the Upper Room and see what we're all about.

#2 Elijah and The Flaming Chariot "A Fiery Ascent Into Heaven"

July-Bible Story Telling, Songs, Activity Sheets, Elijah video with popcorn, craft

#3 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego "3 Men In A Fiery Furnace"

August- Bible Story Telling, Songs, Activity Sheets, Bible Bingo, a special guest, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego video and popcorn

#4 The Disciples at Pentecost "The Appearance of Fiery Flames"

August-Bible Story Telling, Songs, Activity Sheets, An exciting outdoor adventure as we review our 4 fire-filled stories with various games, activities, and a special snack, Craft

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***Keep informed....***



Just as a reminder, if you would like to join the CTK Sunday School Facebook page, contact the Sunday School office.

# Pastor's Message



You know how much I love history. So, I'm thinking, "2025 is a nice round number, could be the Quarter Quell in some circles. I wonder what the buzz was 100 years ago."

In July of 1925, America was

captivated by the "Scopes Trial" in Dayton, Tennessee. Also called "The Scopes Monkey Trial" this was one of the most important legal battles of its time. Two of the greatest speakers of the era, Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan, faced off in a debate encompassing science, religion, and Constitutional rights. Granted, the whole thing was a set-up to challenge the Tennessee state law banning the teaching of evolution in public schools. John T. Scopes, a high school science teacher, volunteered to be the patsy. He said he couldn't remember if he actually taught evolution, but did remember going through the chapter on it! For two weeks, the religions of evolution and creation went toe to toe. The High Priest of evolution, Clarence Darrow, outperformed William Jennings Bryan, mainly because the science of creation was in its infancy. Even though Scopes was found guilty, evolution won the popular vote and began its entrenchment in American culture. The great irony is this: Darrow used faith, faith in evolution guised in science, better than Bryan. About 35 years later, Henry Morris and John Whitcomb would use actual science with evidence to begin modern creationism, which demonstrates a young earth. In the 100 years since the Scopes trial, evolution has produced literally zero observational science to support its religion and creation science has exploded exponentially! God is like that, the truth always wins!

In Christ, Rev. Jason Cashmer

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