



THE KING'S BANNER



Christ the King Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

2353 Rice Blvd,
Houston TX 77005
ctkelc.org

Volume 75, Number 5
May 2022



Music

Sunday, May 22, join Bach Society for an evening of Concertos for Oboe and Strings at MFAH. Program begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets required. All welcome!



Saturday, June 4, at 3:30 p.m., Bach Vespers for Pentecost will feature Bach Cantata 34, O ewiges Feuer. Bach Choir and players present this and motets and more. Followed by a festive reception. All welcome!

BACHSOCIETYHOUSTON.ORG

THE MAGNOLIA CITY BRASS BAND



MID-MAY BRASS

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022 AT 6 PM
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR MORE INFORMATION
MAGNOLIACITYBB.ORG



**Saturday
May 14**

8:00 a.m. - noon

For information, contact ctkhfb@gmail.com

See page 14.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 22

Vote to Approve Legal Merger Documents

Rice Village Campus: 9:30 a.m. in parish hall

West Campus: 11:30 am in Sanctuary

See page 3

Summer Book Reviews on Sundays

The summer book reviews are a beloved tradition as an educational offering on Sundays during the summer months--even during the pandemic. **All interested in presenting a book on a Sunday during the summer are invited to contact Beverly** at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org with title, author, and your Sunday availability. We particularly welcome books that explore religious, moral, or ethical concerns within society and the world. This summer, book reviews will be offered in a hybrid format, for both in-person and online participants. You don't have to be a techie to present. We'll make sure you have the tech support you need.

Pentecost Picnic June 5

Come celebrate the Holy Spirit and join us for our Pentecost Picnic on Sunday, June 5 at 12:15 p.m. in the courtyard. Lunch will include fried chicken and potato salad. You are invited to bring additional side dishes or desserts to share. Donations will be gratefully received. All are welcome! Bring your picnic blanket and lawn chair, wear **RED** and don your causal picnic attire.

Celebrating 50 years of Nursing June 5

At our Pentecost Picnic on Sunday, June 5, we will celebrate our congregational nurse Linda Schoene's retirement as our congregational nurse along with her 50-year anniversary as a registered nurse. Join us in saying thanks to Linda for her 20+ years of health ministry at CTK.

Strategic Planning Needs You!

On Sunday, May 1

Rice Village Campus - 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.,
three sessions, one for each strategy, held concurrently
Members may attend the session of their choice.

West Campus - Beginning at 11:30 a.m.,
all strategies discussed together in one session.

Two Zoom meetings will be held:

Thursday, May 12, 7-8:00 p.m. and

Saturday, May 14, 10-11:00 a.m.

See page 3.



“WHAT LANGUAGE SHALL I BORROW...?”

Dear faithful People of
Christ the King Church:

“What language shall I borrow...?”

We sang that phrase from ELW hymn 351, stanza 3, “O sacred head, now wounded” at least once during this past Lent, although this particular stanza has an Easter theme running through it:

“Oh make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never out live my love for thee.”

Which makes it useful during these 50 days of Easter even to a confessed “liturgical snob” like me.

“What language shall we borrow...?” is one of the more important questions Christ’s Church in general and Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church in particular is wrestling with in these increasingly complex times. What is the most effective way for us to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ? What are the best words we can use today to describe God, God’s Work and Christ’s Church? How do we best describe who we are as Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church will two physical campuses, a large and growing “virtual” congregation, and growing mission outreach (and inreach!) to the Latine community and to the Rice University campus community? We know there are theological words for which we need new language. We know we have a current growing problem with and even an aversion to the word “evangelical” in our name. Even the designation “Christian” is derided, and for all the wrong reasons! Yet there also is a debate about the appropriate word for our Spanish-language ministry and there appears to also be something lacking with that word “virtual,” as if “in-person” is its opposite. “What language shall we borrow...?”

I can honestly say that this has been a major question for all of the nearly 50 years I’ve been in public ministry. I’m not certain I have ever been satisfied with any of my answers or the answers that I’ve read or heard about from my colleagues and from the wider Church. It also is apparent to me that as we move deeper into the 21st Century, this question – these questions -- is becoming more acute. Yet because the world, our nation, state, and communities so desperately need to experience the Gospel, not only in the words we use but in the actions we Christians take, this is an issue we need to face.

And we are attempting to face this as we work on our mission strategy. Who are we? How do we want to be known? These are as much issues of language as strategy; and we are wrestling with them.

Several years ago I received a distinguished alumni award from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago where “public church” is an organizing theological principle. In my response to the award I asked why: “How is any church not public?” This drew a laugh and then some serious commentary about local churches, Lutheran parishes, being “social and ethnic identity clubs.” Having grown up in a now dying Slovak Lutheran Church, and after watching the demise of Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, German, and other ethnic congregations in New York which refused to adapt to their changing neighborhoods, I’ve seen the problem and at the same time have been sympathetic to the internal concern about identity each of these congregations faced. So we really need to wrestle with the questions of “Who are we?” and “How do we want to be known?”

I’m writing to invite you to join in this conversation seriously and carefully by engaging in it with one another, members of our congregation council, strategic planning committee members and staff, as well as with me. By faith and practice, we all know the answers! But “what language shall we borrow” to express them!

As we bask in the glow of Christ’s resurrection and each Sunday’s resurrection stories, I look forward to this conversation! I hope you do too!

Peace and Joy – and Courage!
Amandus J. Derr
Interim Senior Pastor



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DON RICE

**Saturday, May 14
3:00 p.m.**

at Christ the King
Lutheran Church

Reception immediately following
in the parish hall.

CHURCH BUSINESS

Strategic Planning Needs You!

Dear Faithful People of Christ the King,

For the past two months our Strategic Planning Team, led by Daniel Zorn and with guidance from Triangle 2 Consulting, has been hard at work evaluating data obtained from the Membership Survey and the Congregational Summit, as well as comments from the Congregation Council and church staff. Using this information, the Team affirmed that the sustaining values cherished by our congregation coalesced on a single Goal for our 3-year Strategic Plan:

To increase the mission impact and the number of people served by Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Our shared values call us to:

- Become a spiritual home
- Develop technological innovations to expand our reach
- Act justly in support of others and ourselves through effective public advocacy and service

The Strategic Planning Team invites you once again to join in the process. The Team is providing multiple ways for you to engage in the development of these strategies. You may choose one or more of the following opportunities.

1. On Sunday, May 1, we will gather on the Rice Village and West Campuses.

- Rice Village Campus - 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., three sessions, one for each strategy, held concurrently.

Spiritual Home: narthex

Technological Innovation: adult classroom (basement)

Justice: music suite (basement)

Members may attend the session of their choice.

- West Campus – Beginning at 11:30 a.m., all strategies discussed together in one session in the Luther Room.

2. On Tuesday, May 3, all members will receive an email with a link to an online survey that will ask for responses to specific questions related to the strategies.

3. Two Zoom meetings will be held:

Thursday, May 12, 7-8:00 p.m. and

Saturday, May 14, 10-11:00 a.m.

Watch for links for these listening sessions in a separate email.

Finally, you are always welcome to provide comments to Strategic Planning Team members:

Daniel Zorn, Strategic Planning Team Facilitator, zorn.daniel@gmail.com

Terri Koehler, Congregation Council President, theresa.m.koehler@uth.tmc.edu

Nyla Woods, Congregation Council Member, nyla_woods@att.net

Maureen Lamson, Congregation Council Member, maureenlamson@hotmail.com

Pr. Beth Marie Halvorsen, bethmarie0123@gmail.com

Pr. Amandus Derr, amandusderr@ctkelc.org

Pr. Sergio Rodriguez, sergiorodriguez@ctkelc.org

We are in an exciting time for our congregation – for those who worship God at the Rice Village Campus, at the West Campus, and online. May God's light illuminate our lives and guide our direction as we move forward together.

God's Peace,

Terri Koehler, President, Congregation Council

Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 22

Vote to Approve Legal Merger Documents

Rice Village Campus:

9:30 a.m. in parish hall

West Campus:

11:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

Both Councils of Christ the King Lutheran Church and Memorial Drive Lutheran Church are calling a special congregational meeting on May 22 to vote on the plan and agreement of a legal merger, with its implementing resolutions. This vote to affirm will allow the certificate of merger to be filed with the state of Texas. The merger should be legally concluded sometime in June 2022.

Two points to emphasize:

- On March 13, we celebrated an ecclesial joining of the two congregations, but this is not considered legal in the eyes of Texas.
- A discussion of constitutional revisions is expected to occur in summer 2022 with the goal of adopting a new CTK Constitution in late 2022.

Thank you for your attendance at this specially call congregational meeting.

Theresa Koehler, Council President
(Christ the King Lutheran Church)

Karen Whitefield, Council President
(Memorial Drive Lutheran Church)

Mission Offering



Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunity

AMMPARO

The AMMPARO ministry at Christ the King Church has taken a broad approach to fulfilling our responsibility to welcome new immigrant and refugee neighbors. The congregation's ongoing willingness to support these efforts with time, talent and treasure have had positive impacts in the Houston community and the church.

The May Mission Offering will support the CTK AMMPARO Committee's activities including

- The congregation's sponsorship of the Taqi Hussaini family who fled Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover. The family is among more than 4,000 Afghan refugees who have settled in Houston since the evacuation of people and families who had connections to the U.S. military and other institutions.
- Enhancing efforts by the Family Life Center at St. James Lutheran Church/Santiago Apòstol in northwest Houston to provide financial and other assistance to immigrants often excluded from government programs.

The Sunday Forums on May 8 and May 15 will present speakers who will provide new insights into the efforts at St. James and the refugee resettlement process through the work of Refugee Services of Texas, the Houston expression of Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services.

The congregation, through volunteer activities, special appeals and the support of the Christ the King New Foundation, has responded generously to both the Afghan refugee surge and the compassionate work at St. James. In both areas, however, the continuing need is great.

Since the start of the pandemic, St. James Family Life Center has been a beacon of hope for Northwest Houston by providing food and emergency financial support to hundreds of families each month. St. James continues to receive requests; the need is much greater than their resources allow.

Continued support from CTK members through the Mission Offering as well as the CTK New Foundation are essential to continuing this work.

With a recent grant from the CTK New Foundation, the AMMPARO Committee is exploring ways to assist additional Afghan refugees through another family sponsorship or other avenues.

While the congregation's financial support is essential to refugees' successful integration in the community, volunteer efforts provide another avenue of support that can be rewarding for volunteers as well as the family.

Christ the King volunteers continue to visit the Hussaini family to help them practice their English. During those visits, there are many inevitable moments of cultural exchange whereby the volunteers help give guidance for the ways of our world here in the United States. Their efforts continue to grow; the family has happily been reunited with extended family members who have arrived in Houston from temporary housing on military bases.

Volunteers are always needed to help the adults with employment readiness, identifying potential job opportunities and working on resumes. Also, taking the family to a park or showing them an interesting Houston experience would be a welcome experience for the children.

AMMPARO—Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities—is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

Saturday, May 7 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

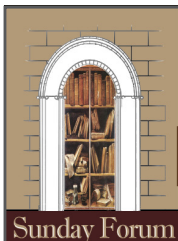
**St. James Lutheran Church
1602 W 43rd St Houston TX 77018**

Dinner Ticket \$10

Dinner includes spaghetti plate, drink & dessert.

Contact Robert Rivera, 713-686-1577 with questions or to donate auction items.

Proceeds benefit the Family Life Center



Sunday Forum

Sundays 9:30 a.m.

In-person in the basement classroom
or online

Look for the Zoom link in the Sunday e-blast
or contact ctk@ctkelc.org.

May 1: Strategic Planning Needs You! *in-person only*
The Strategic Planning Team invites you once again to join in the process. The Team is providing multiple ways for you to engage in the development of these strategies. You may choose one or more of the following opportunities.

Three sessions, one for each strategy,
held concurrently.

Spiritual Home: narthex

Technological Innovation: adult classroom (basement)

Justice: music suite (basement)

Members may attend the session of their choice.

For more info, see page 3.



Please join the AMMPARO Ministry (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunity) as we highlight the work of our partners at Refugee Services of Texas (RST) and St. James Family Life Center.

May 8: Refugee Services of Texas

Development Associate, Jolie Nyamaremba and Community Engagement Coordinator, Jennifer Alima will discuss refugee resettlement in Houston with emphasis on the current experiences of Afghan refugees.

May 15: St. James Family Life Center

Director, Robert Rivera, will discuss the ongoing needs of the community members he and his staff serve. St. James Family Life Center provides food and emergency financial support to hundreds of families per month. They will be the recipient of our May mission offering.

May 22: Special Congregational Meeting

in the parish hall

Vote to Approve Legal Merger Documents

May 29: Liturgical Vestments

Pastor Derr will lead a historical show-and-tell on liturgical vestments.

June 5: Godly Play presents the Story of Pentecost.

See archived Sunday Forums on our YouTube channel at shorturl.at/cx149



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Thursday Afternoons

3:00 p.m. through May on Zoom

The Book of DANIEL: Consolation and Courage

Led by Pastor Amandus Derr

TEXTS: The Book of Daniel (Old Testament)

Prayer of Azariah and Song of the Three Young Jews (Apocrypha)

Suzanna (Apocrypha)

Bel and the Dragon (Apocrypha)

May 5: Daniel's Story (Daniel 1-6)

May 12: Prayer of Azariah and Song of the Three Young Jews (Apocrypha)

Suzanna (Apocrypha)

Bel and the Dragon (Apocrypha)

May 19: Daniel's visions (Daniel 7-9)

End Times (Daniel 10)

May 26: Daniel's Apocalyptic visions (Daniel 11-12)

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83215849169?pwd=cjdBR3RJTWRoK3ZyNEt1QTVMMzBYQT09#success>

Friday Mornings

10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Led by one of the pastors, the group reads and responds to the upcoming Sunday's First Reading and the Psalm each week. If you would like to receive weekly emails with the readings and the zoom link, contact Cheryl Gaspard at cherylgaspard@ctkelc.org.

Summer Book Reviews on Sundays

The summer book reviews are a beloved tradition as an educational offering on Sundays during the summer months--even during the pandemic. All interested in presenting a book on a Sunday during the summer are invited to contact Beverly at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org with title, author, and your Sunday availability. We particularly welcome books that explore religious, moral, or ethical concerns within society and the world. This summer, book reviews will be offered in a hybrid format, for both in-person and online participants. You don't have to be a techie to present. We'll make sure you have the tech support you need.

Houston Science and Religion Discussion Group

Monday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

"The Weirdest People in the World, How the West Became Psychologically Peculiar and Particularly Prosperous" by Joseph Henrich, *presented by Thomas Williams*

The Houston Science and Religion Discussion Group (HSRDG) will conduct its regular monthly meeting on **Monday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.** The public is welcome to participate in the HSRDG meetings, which are scheduled for the third Monday of every month. **To join, email Marian Hillar at hillar@sbcglobal.net.**

CREDIMUS UT INTELLIGAMUS

we believe so to understand

Elmer Ledesma suggests a book each month that may interest “lay readers” in learning more about science and its importance for us people of faith. No Ph.D. necessary; just your desire to learn and to be well-informed. The above title, which translates “we believe so to understand,” is based on a classic theological phrase from early Christianity. It underscores that people of faith are encouraged to understand the world God has given us, so better to care for the creation.

This month:



Her Hidden Genius:

A Novel,
Benedict, M.
Sourcebooks
Landmark,
Naperville, IL,
2022.

Rosalind
Franklin has
always been

an outsider—brilliant, but different. Whether working at the laboratory she adored in Paris or toiling at a university in London, she feels closest to the science, those unchanging laws of physics and chemistry that guide her experiments. When she is assigned to work on DNA, she believes she can unearth its secrets.

Rosalind knows if she just takes one more X-ray picture—one more after thousands—she can unlock the building blocks of life. Never again will she have to listen to her colleagues complain about her, especially Maurice Wilkins who’d rather conspire about genetics with James Watson and Francis Crick than work alongside her.

Then it finally happens—the double helix structure of DNA reveals itself to her with perfect clarity. But what unfolds next, Rosalind could have never predicted.

Lectio Divina

Mondays, 12:00 p.m. on Zoom

Lectio Divina (Sacred Reading) is an ancient Christian practice in which one reads a small passage of scripture, trusting in God’s presence and relevance in daily experience. Lectio Divina is not about acquiring head knowledge of Scripture, but is about a personal encounter with the heart of God, inspiring one’s attention and already praying through the listener. Through this mingling of reading and prayer, the stories and texts of the bible meet us in our own life story. You attend whenever you can, but registration is needed so we can maintain a safe space.

Register with Beverly at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org.

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Professionals

Faith on Tap: Young Adult Group.

May 15 at 5 p.m. Kirby Ice House.

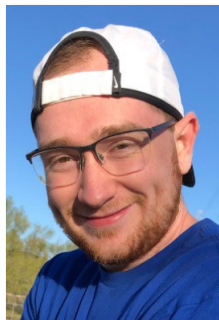
E-mail Rev. Rodriguez for more information

Are you a young adult looking to talk “theological shop” with others like yourself? Have pressing questions about hot-button issues of today? Join our Faith on Tap: Young Adults Group. Every Third or Fourth Sunday of the Month, we meet for beverages, snacks and discussion. Contact Rev. Rodriguez to be placed on our mailing list and for the location for our monthly meetings. Topic Discussion: Zeitgeist or God’s geist: Can we equate the vast changes in society with the guiding power of the holy Spirit? Is there an invisible hand moving markets, people, ideas towards the divine horizon of freedom and grace?

Young Adults Volunteer

Join the Young Adults as we volunteer at CCSC’s Emergency Services on **Saturday, June 4 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon**. All are welcome to join on **the first Saturday every other month**. For questions or to RSVP, please contact nathan@wikernet.com.

COLLEGE



Peter Nikonowicz

Peter Nikonowicz earned a BA in Psychology with honors from Rice University. As a member of Duncan College, Peter served as Chief Justice, Public Health Ambassador, Orientation Week Advisor, Math and Psychology tutor, and Beer Bike Coordinator. In June, he will begin a position as a Research Coordinator in the Department of Emergency Medicine at McGovern Medical School where he will investigate the causes of community-based disparities in out-of-hospital cardiac care. He also

plans to work as a part-time assistant cross-country coach at St. John’s School.



For information, contact Deacon Ben Remmert, at benremmert@ctkelc.org or 281-468-4686.

May Dates:

- 1: Tag Sale, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Confirmation Class and
High School Gathering, 9:30 a.m.
Faith Formation Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
- 7: Confirmation Pool Party, 12:00 p.m.
- 8: Graduation Recognition Sunday
- 15: Confirmation Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
- 22: Slip and Slide Kickball Game, 2:00 p.m.

Slip and Slide Kickball Game: May 22, 2:00 p.m.

Youth are welcome to join us for a game of slip and slide kickball in the back parking lot of our Rice Village campus to kick off the summer. This is an opportunity for youth going on the Chicago trip to get to know each other and welcome the start of our summer programming. All are welcome to come and play.

Summer Luther League D&D Meetings: Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Youth are invited this summer to join the Deacon for an adventure online through Dungeons and Dragons on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Each meeting has our time together adventuring and devotional prayers. No experience needed and dice are provided. If you are interested in participating, please contact Deacon Ben Remmert before our first meeting on Wednesday, June 15.



Luther Leaguers made personal care kits for LWR and filled Easter eggs with candies during their Good Friday Lock-In.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

High School Bible Study Group: Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

High School students are welcome to come for a time of fellowship and study of the scriptures every Sunday. Enjoy a time to recharge your spiritual batteries and take a sabbath from your schoolwork. We have special activities on the following Sundays:

- May 1: Help with Tag Sale in parish hall
- May 8: Meeting to Plan Summer and Fall, last gathering

Confirmation Class Pool Party: May 7 at noon

Christina and Kirby Leshner are inviting the confirmation class and parents for a pool party on Saturday, May 7 at noon. Their address is 1030 Chantilly Ln, Houston, TX 77018. You can RSVP at clesher@lawlesher.com. Just bring a dessert to share. For our 2022 Confirmation Class, we will have a brief gathering about affirmation of baptism so please make sure to attend this great fellowship event.

Graduates Recognition: May 8, 11:00 a.m.

Missed our deadline for this month's banner? We would still love to hear and celebrate with you. If you are receiving a degree from high school, undergraduate, technological, or graduate programs, we would like to know! Email the church office with details about your graduation date and any plans you have for your future (ctk@ctkelc.org). High school seniors Kevin Eddington, Aramis Friberg, Audrey Post, Grace Sahualla, Isabel Wabnitz, Anders White, Glen White, and Olivia Winesett will be celebrating their high school graduations on Sunday, May 8. Learn more about them on our graduation page in this month's King's Banner.

Confirmation Sunday: May 15. 11:00 a.m.

Will Burgess, Clara Bruns, Devin Camacho, Luke Leshner, Elena Longoria, Isabel Wabnitz, and Natascha Wabnitz will affirm their baptism at the worship service on May 15. The congregation (both Rice Village and West Campus) has supported them with prayer and accompaniment during two years of confirmation class when they studied Luther's Small Catechism and the Bible. Affirmation of Baptism makes these youth full members of the congregation with the right to vote at congregational meetings.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Family Playdate at the Playground: Saturday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m.

Children and parents are invited to come and play at the playground together. We will have beverages and snacks outside on the picnic tables. This event is geared for families with young children, but all are invited to come. Parents, we will discuss plans for the summer and fall programming! For more questions, please contact Deacon Ben Remmert.

Pray the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle with Deacon Ben: Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m.

The World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle takes us through every region of the world over the course of a year. Praying for each place on earth and its people at least once a year, we affirm our solidarity with Christians all over the world, brothers and sisters living in diverse situations, experiencing diverse problems, and sharing diverse gifts. Pray with us every Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. online through our Christ the King Facebook group. This month we will be praying for:

May 3: Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

May 10: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

May 17: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal

May 24: Indian Ocean Islands: Comoros, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles

May 31: Angola, Mozambique

More details can be found here:

<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle>.

Godly Play Core Training at Church: July 16-18

Save the date as Christ the King Church will be hosting a Godly Play Core Training this July 16-18! Within a circle facilitated by a Godly Play trainer, you will experience and learn Godly Play stories, practices, and theology in a collegial, prayerful setting. Our talented trainers will deepen your understanding of children's spirituality while guiding you on a personal journey of wonder. This is a great opportunity for anyone that wants to know more about our Godly Play program and to be a storyteller. If you are interested in attending, please contact Marie Monroe or Courtney Webb.

Children's Bibles in the Pews Summer Project:

This summer, we are giving the congregation and friends a goal to raise money to put children's bibles in the pews of Christ the King Church in both Rice and West Campus! This is a great way to make our worshipping spaces friendly to our families. Members and friends can sponsor a bible (\$20.00) and dedicate it to a Sunday School teacher that taught you. We will have a table in the narthex with samples of our children's bibles that we are going to purchase. Our bibles will be purchased and ready for Rally Day in September. For more questions, contact Deacon Ben Remmert at benremmert@ctkelc.org.



CTK member and Pin Oak Middle School student **Charlie Turner** competed in the Texas Middle School state wrestling tournament. He qualified for the competition after extensive training that led him to winning first place in his division at the Houston Area Middle School championship.



Children gathered for the Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. See more photos on pages 9 & 20.

Plan for Summer

Register soon as spots are filling up fast!

Children Trips (1st-6th Grade)

Lutherhill Elementary Camp - July 17-22

Those that have completed 1st-5th grade will spend a whole week at Lutherhill discovering all of the joys camp has to offer with Deacon Ben Remmert! Alpha Campers (1st Graders) are at camp from July 17-20 and Youngin's (2nd-3rd Graders) and Yearling's (4th-6th Graders) are at camp from July 17-22. Enjoy fun bible studies, camp-wide worships, afternoon activities and daily All Camp activities. Spend an evening around the campfire making s'mores. Cost breakdowns are below. **Sign up asap as spots are filling up.**

Alpha (1st Grade) Program Cost: \$375

Young'ns (2nd-3rd Grade) and Yearling's (4th-6th Grade)

Program Cost: \$650

Camp Hope Ministry

June 20-24

Camp Hope is a day camp ministry where youth lead a day of camp here at church from 7:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. for children (ages 5 to 11) to learn bible stories through worship, games, snacks, science experiments, drama, and crafts throughout the day. The vision for Camp Hope is to be the best strategy for congregations to develop young Christian leaders doing justice, who serve God as servants in their neighborhood and in the world.

Location: Christ the King Lutheran Church

Dates: Each day during the week, Monday, June 20 through Friday, June 24 at 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. (before and after camp options available)

Who Can Attend: Those that have finished pre-K through 6th Grade by May 2022 (ages 4-10)

Costs: \$100.00 (Before Camp- \$25.00 & After Camp- \$25.00)

Register: online at www.ckelc.org

Contact Deacon Ben Remmert.



Youth Trips

Lutherhill Jr. High Adventure Camp - July 17-22

Those that have completed 6th-8th grade can experience a week at Lutherhill with Deacon Ben Remmert at Lutherhill's Junior High Camp. Learn from cabin Bible studies and camp-wide worships, challenge yourself on the high ropes course, enjoy afternoon activities and daily All Camp activities, grow in community with fellow junior high students, spend a night cooking over open fires and sleeping in the tree houses and hanging village. **Sign up asap as spots are filling up. Program Cost: \$650**

Chicago Service Trip: July 23-30

2 Spots Opened Up

8th grade-12th grade youth are invited to our new summer trip to Chicago. Chicago is an amazingly diverse city made up of dozens and dozens of unique neighborhoods full of culture and opportunity. We will be serving in this great city in ways that support and build up our partners in their unique contexts for a week with other high school students around the country. We'll hit a few of the iconic city sights from the Bean and Lincoln Park Zoo to Buckingham Fountain – it will be a week you will not soon forget! For more information, please contact Deacon Ben Remmert.

LUTHERHILL RETREATS AND NEWS

Lutherhill Ministries hires staff for a variety of positions at camp in La Grange, and for our retreat center in Galveston. We offer many opportunities for Lutherhill summer staff members. You may have an opportunity to work at either facility if the opportunity arises. We welcome summer staff who are positive Christian role models to all of our campers and guests. Questions? Contact: Curtis Bradbury, Program Director, curtis@lutherhill.org or 979-243-9831.



LUTHERHILL
MINISTRIES

OPEN CAMP DAY

June 4

You're invited out to Lutherhill to kick off our Summer 2022 - Come As You Are! Open Camp Day is a FREE event - bring your family and friends out to experience an action-packed day of camp in just a few hours:

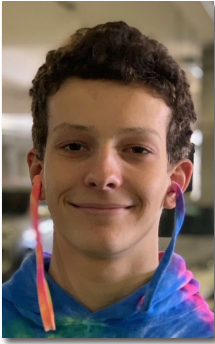
- 10:00 a.m. - Camp Opens
- 11:00 a.m. - Camp-style Worship
- 12:00 p.m. - Hamburger Lunch
- 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. - Camp Activities Open:
Ropes Course, Pool, Pond, Arts & Crafts and more!

RSVP to office@lutherhill.org, call us at 979-217-1954, or on Lutherhill Ministry's Facebook page! (RSVPs are appreciated but not required). We can't wait to see you!



**Kevin Eddington**

Kevin is graduating from Memorial High School and planning to go to Trade School. Kevin works after school and weekends at “threes markets” and has started a power washing business.

**CLASS
OF
2022****HIGH
SCHOOL****Aramis Friberg**

Aramis Friberg is graduating early from Summer Creek High School in Humble and plan on taking a gap year abroad. Having started swim at the age of 4, he continued Varsity throughout High School. He enjoys being outdoors learning new skills, reading “the most important” novels and plays of the century, and spend-

ing time with friends. Christ The King was a great place of peace and fellowship where he has built many strong and lasting friendships. Thank you to Pastor Derr for all the insightful tips and funny stories, Deacon Ben for the past 4 years of fun activities and Pastor Sergio for fun times. Options after his year abroad may include either Marine Biology or Civil Engineering. He greatly enjoyed being Crucifer for such a great congregation and hope to serve again occasionally, when he is back.

**Audrey Post**

Audrey Post is graduating from Episcopal high School and will be attending the University of California-Berkeley in the fall. During her high school career, she played D1 field hockey and was an active volunteer for the Natural Science Museum summer programs.

**Grace Sahualla**

Grace Sahualla is graduating from Heights High School and plans to attend college in Washington, D.C. and major in International Studies, probably at American University. Grace is the captain of the Heights Debate Team and the Outreach Officer of the National Honor Society. She also participated in Girls Golf and Theatre

and volunteered as a Teacher’s Assistant and at Friends for Life Animal.

**Isabel Wabnitz**

Isabel Wabnitz is graduating from Heights High School and will be going to Texas A&M to study Biomedical Engineering, with a minor in German. She is a 4 year varsity swimmer and was the captain this past year. She also received TISCA Academic All-State for her achievements in swimming and academics. She is ranked top 10 in her class, the National Honor Society communications officer, a Heights Writing Center tutor, and the German Club president. She was awarded the Lechner Engineering Scholarship from Texas A&M.

**Luke Whitefield**

Luke Bennett Whitefield is graduating from Stratford High School. He will be attending Texas A&M Galveston in the fall, majoring in engineering. In his free time Luke loves playing guitar, playing basketball and hanging out with his friends.

**Olivia Winesett**

Olivia Winesett is graduating from the IB Diploma Programme at Heights High School. During her time at Heights, she swam and played tennis, served as a writing center tutor, performed with Bulldog Theater, and was a National Honor Society member. Olivia is excited to attend the University of Virginia next year and plans to major in psychology.

Graduates Recognition May 8

Join us after the 11:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, May 8, for cake and coffee in the courtyard of Christ the King (Rice Village) as we celebrate our graduates!

CAMPUS MINISTRY



Greetings in the name of Jesus!

The 2021/2022 academic school year at Rice University has finally concluded. Commencement is May 6 and 7. Congratulations to our graduating seniors at Rice University. May God bless the work of your hands and impart to you the discerning Spirit for the future!

Students:

Graduating Senior Edition

We would like to highlight one of our student leaders as they graduate and continue their formation as a spiritual leader.



Shifa Rahman (they/he) was born in the D.C. metro area and raised in Greenville, NC. They attended Rice University on a full-ride scholarship through

the QuestBridge College Match program. They majored in Religion with minors in French Studies, and African and African American Studies. They're passionate about activism and campaigning for social justice on campus, involving spearheading the Down with Willy Campaign. They're using the skills they've learned in organizing by taking on a new position as the Campaign Director for the Convict Leasing and Labor Project. They also hope to get a M.Div. and is currently in the grad school application process.

The Lutheran Campus Ministry Board is grateful for Shifa's leadership and collaboration on this board. Shifa has concluded their term on the board and as a member of the Lutheran Campus Ministry program. We will pray for their M.Div. application process and their continued leadership in faith-based community organizing.

Board Member Updates:

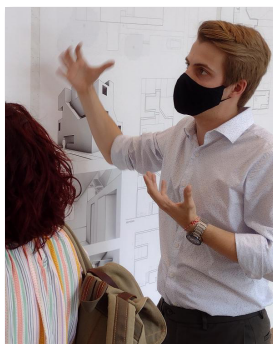
The Lutheran Campus Ministry, RU Board welcomes Dr. Natalie Allen as its newest member. Dr. Allen currently works at OpenStacks on Rice University Campus which provides textbooks for students. Dr. Allen is a member of Christ the King, Rice Village Campus.

Past Events:

April 6: Rev. Rodriguez together with a panel of 4 LGBTQIA+ students and professor presented at an interfaith round table discussion on being queer and a person of faith at the Multi-Cultural Center of Rice University. How did one's own queer identity deepen or disjoint one's own faith identity?



April 6 and April 15: Ben Kerswell had a marvelous performance of St. John's Passion (a New English Translation) with the Bach Society.



April 16: Mark Lichtenberger (pictured left) successfully defended his architecture project before a panel of architecture professionals/professors. How does space and shape re-define the meaning of home?

April 21: Shifa Rahman had a fantastic performance as Fabian in BakerShake's production of Twelfth Night.

April 22: Karina Ithier's powerful performances in the 10-minute play Festival at the University of Houston was moving.

April 23: the Lutheran Campus Ministry, RU board and students met with Daniel Zorn to plan the 2022/2023 Strategic Ministry Plan for Campus Ministry. Look out for more information! New Ministry Plan! New Logo! New Social Media pages!

Upcoming Events:

May 20 and 21: Rev. Rodriguez together with Rev. Morgan Gates of HouMin (Houston Lutheran Area Ministries) and Rev. Jerry Whirtley (Treehouse Ministries, Texas A&M and Blinn College) will be tabling together at the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod Assembly.

June 22 to 24: Rev. Rodriguez will be in Tulsa, Oklahoma for the Region 4 Lutheran Campus Minister's Annual Meeting. The focus of the meeting will be incorporating anti-racism practices, ideas, and principles in your ministry.

Looking Ahead:

August 14 to 20: Orientation Week for the Fall 2022/Spring 2023 Academic Year.

August 20: Quiet before the Storm: Centering Prayer for Rice students, faculty, and staff before the start of the academic year.

LATINE MINISTRY

Aleluia! Cristo ha resucitado! Aleluia, Amen!

Christ the King Church celebrated our first ever Spanish language Easter mass on April 17. Though the in-person presence was small, the online outreach significantly surpassed all expectations. After several long days of ads, flyers and one-on-one conversations, the word spread about our first Easter mass in Spanish. This has provided a firm foundation for future ministry work as well as provide a core group of people, organizations and musicians who may be able to help out in several other Latine fiestas planned for the rest of the year. Spread the word, our ministry is growing. If you would like to be a part of the CTK Latine ministry committee, reach out to Rev. Rodriguez.

Mother's Day is on May 8. This day is a culturally important day for many latine ethnic groups both in the United States and in Latin America. Special masses and blessings are imparted to mothers, grandmothers, and pregnant women to honor and empower them in their work of being the "glue" that keeps the house together.

Past Events:

April 1: Cristo Rey, Principe de Paz, and Sagrada Familia celebrated a Via Crucis service at Kinsmen Lutheran Church for peace in Ukraine. Livestream recording available on our Facebook page or on Kinsmen Lutheran Church's Facebook page.

April 17: On Easter afternoon, Christ the King Church celebrated its first misa en Español. Thank you to Cantor Rick Erickson, Ben Kerswell, Jose, Federico Salas-Isnardi, Donna Salas, Justin Schneewind, Chase Hooks, Rachel McWhirter for your leadership in the misa. Afterwards, Christ the King Church celebrated a Feria (fair) Pascual with Cochis' Taqueria Catering, Funtime Entertainment providing face paint, and Mr. Orlando Carulla and his Father providing musical entertainment.



Pastors Sergio Rodriguez, Adriana Johnson-Rivas and Gabriel Marcano after the Via Crucis service.

Upcoming Events:

Retiro de Relajar y Recargar para Mujeres. May 13 and 14.

Contact Rev. Rodriguez for details and to sign up.

The Latinex Ministries of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod are hosting a two-day women's retreat at Zion Retreat Center in Galveston, Texas. Whether you are a member, a friend, or unaffiliated, you are invited to join us for two days of connection, relaxation, and sacred conversation. Housing and meals are provided.

May 15: Rev. Rodriguez will be preaching at St. James' Lutheran Church for their bilingual service at 10:30 a.m. sermon will be posted afterwards.

SergioRodriguez@ctkelc.org



Christ the King Church celebrated a Feria (fair) Pascual on Easter. Mr. Orlando Carulla and his Father (right) provided musical entertainment.

From Pastor Shelli's Easter Sermon

Have you ever noticed how quietly Easter arrives? There are no angelic choirs making announcements of Jesus' coming. There are no foreign visitors bringing gifts. There are not even any ordinary folks that come in from the Shepherds Fields to see what has happened. There is no voice thundering from heaven or Old Testament characters showing up on queue. There is no drama of parting waters or chariots of fire or burning bushes or mountains shrouded in cloud. The sounds of the Resurrection are quiet, almost fearful. They seem uncertain what will happen next, a little reticent at going forward in a new way. And yet, there is a certain peace to Easter, a peace that begins in the quiet of the darkness and then allows the Light to begin to peek into the scene. It's as if Jesus rises just for Mary and calls her by name. Maybe that is what Jesus does for each of us. In the quiet darkness, Jesus comes and rises before we get there and then when we are listening, says our name. And we begin to follow wherever Jesus goes. We just have to pay attention.



EMMAUS SPIRITUALITY CENTER



- **Saturday, May 14 (9:00 a.m. - noon)**
Faith and Science: A Journey into God's Mystical Love.
Join Robert J. Hesse, Ph.D. for the release of his new book.
Cost is \$60. Register on Emmaus' website.
- **Saturday, May 21 (5:00 - 8:00 p.m.)**
Tent Event for the Whole Family. Kids can enjoy balloon creations, face painting, and sno-cones while adults can talk to various authors, favorite presenters, and learn more about the center. Local restaurants will serve tasty tidbits.
- **Thursday, June 16**
Fund-Raising Gala for Emmaus Spirituality Center. Help increase the level of spirituality in our city by attending the Fund-Raising Gala.

Photos at right:

- Through the Solemn Reproaches from the Cross and the Seven Last Words of Jesus, we heard God's call and found God's love.
- Pastor Beth Marie Halvorsen serving communion on Easter Sunday
- Prior to Easter Service: Soon water will be poured into the baptismal font during our joint experience of Thanksgiving for Baptism

houston
food
bank  **Saturday
May 14**
8:00 a.m. - noon

For information, contact ctkhfb@gmail.com

Useful information

When: 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Where: Houston Food Bank
East Branch,
535 Portwall St.,
Houston, TX 77029

**Second
Saturdays
of
Odd Months**
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Next DATES
July 9
September 10
November 12

Attire: Closed-toe shoes, pants, sleeved shirt (short or long sleeves).

HFB requests volunteers to bring their own mask/face covering.

Carpool: If needed, it will leave the church parking lot at 7:30 a.m.

Let us know if you wish to carpool so we can be sure to send someone there before heading to the HFB.



Welcome New Members



We welcome Christopher, Elizabeth & Winston Smith who became members on Easter Sunday.



Tom Frank, Terri Koehler and Lisa Brenskelle cleaned the gardens for the Spring Native Garden Refresh in April.



Thanks to **Naomi Nelson** who requested funds from Thrivent Financial and to **Linda Schoene** for providing dessert, Christ the King members provided and served dinner for SEARCH Homeless Services' Coming Home program on April 26.

BE PREPARED – PART 2

As promised here is the second part of our medical emergency plan. **The most important part of our response is to get the needed assistance (fire, police, EMS) to our campus as quickly as possible.**



Whom to call:

911 fire and medical assistance
713-884-3131 for non-medical police support

RACEE

In case of fire,

Rescue anyone in danger, call 911 and

Activate fire pull

Contain fire

Extinguish if safe to do so or

Evacuate to Chaucer property

CPR Class

Date: Choose one of two classes,
May 14 or June 4

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Where: Council Room
at CTK Rice Village campus

Cost: \$45 payable at class

Register: lindaschoene@ctkelc.org

Class size is limited to
10 participants per class.

Meet our Medical Emergency Packs. One will be located in the **usher's cabinet in the narthex and the other in the 3rd floor restroom.**



Contents:

2 safety vests
2 flashlights
Gloves
Blood pressure equipment
Information clipboard

Process:

Get emergency pack and safety kit to scene of medical emergency. If person is unresponsive, send someone for AED located to left of kitchen serving window.

If decision is made to call for EMS take out clipboard and form to see what info EMS will ask for.

You need to know:

Location: Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2353 Rice Blvd. and where on property

Nature of emergency:

Age, gender, medical issue, is individual responsive?

Two persons should put on vests, take flashlights if it is dark and go to parking lots to attract EMS vehicles.

Continue to provide care until EMS arrives.

Christ the King members Ian and Patricia Butler featured in a recent article of Houston Grand Opera Magazine



Mentorship and Music

HGO Trustees Drs. **Ian and Patricia Butler** have been coming to HGO since the '70s, but their story goes back further than that. The two met at medical school in Melbourne and have now been married for more than 50 years. Along the way, they've raised children on three continents, had full medical careers, and always shared their passion for teaching, mentorship, and music.

"Ian came from a musical family," Patricia shares. He grew up in Adelaide, Australia, where his mother took him to concerts, and he sang and played piano. Patricia "grew-up in a farming community in Aberdeen, Scotland and discovered music on her own, buying her first opera recording of Madame Butterfly, "when I was 12 or 13."

The Butlers' careers took them to London, Cardiff, Wales, and Baltimore before they finally landed in Houston in 1976, when Ian was recruited to direct the division of child and adolescent neurology at the McGovern Medical School. It was then that the couple saw their first opera at HGO. "David Gockley was the general director," says Ian, "and he was, as everybody knows, interested in new productions. And that was intriguing."

Over time, the Butlers' relationship with HGO has become a partnership, fueled by their interest in education and, says Ian, "encouraging young people to fulfill their potential." They love to watch young artists flourish at the HGO Studio. "We've seen graduates of that program who've gone on to major accomplishments," he says. "I think HGO should be both commended for that." In 2019 they brought a group of students to see Rigoletto. "For them it was just a real treat," says Patricia, who recently retired as Vice Dean of Education at the McGovern Medical School.

The Butlers also recently became sponsors of HGO's new resident conductor, Benjamin Manis (pictured above between Ian and Patricia), once again supporting HGO with their mentorship and their generosity. We're so thankful this amazing couple landed and stayed in Houston!



Advocate for Justice Everyone Week

Each week, the Justice Advocacy Ministry Team highlights a different justice issue, and offers all CTK members the opportunity to advocate using their i-phone. Look for the sign in the narthex highlighting the justice issue, with the QR code that you can use to access the e-advocacy opportunity. Speak for justice, using your iphone, each week at CTK!

Churchwide Assembly Justice Look-Back: Sanctuary

At churchwide assembly in August 2019, a resolution was passed that (a) reaffirms the commitment of the church to migrants and refugees, (b) requests review of strategies & practices of sanctuary synods and development of additional educational and discernment tools on sanctuary, (c) declares the ELCA a sanctuary church body, (d) requests that the ELCA Church Council provide guidance on what it means to be a sanctuary church body. To learn more about this resolution, or other justice-related actions taken at the 2019 churchwide assembly, see this link: <https://www.elca.org/Resources/Churchwide-Assembly>

The Work of the ELCA: Young Adult Ministry

Young adults, those between 18 and 30, are served by the Young Adult Ministry of the ELCA, which offers inspiration, opportunities and resources for young adults and for people who facilitate young adult ministry in their communities of faith. Young Adult Ministry works to support and connect young adults and those who work with them, focusing on addressing the following four areas/questions as they relate to young adults:

- Form Faith – Whose am I?
- Uncover Identity – Who am I?
- Discern Vocation – Why am I?
- Develop leaders – How am I?

To learn more, see <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Young-Adult-Ministry>.

Justice Advocacy Opportunity *Smorgasbord*

There are a number of active justice advocacy requests from a variety of organizations. Speak up for justice today!

Air Pollution & Public Health

The EPA has proposed the Good Neighbor Rule, which limits air pollution from industrial facilities to protect the health and wellbeing of downwind communities. The rule, once implemented, will prevent 1 million asthma attacks annually, as well as 1000 premature deaths. Tender public comments in support of the new rule at: <https://interfaithpowerandlight.salsalabs.org/goodneighbor/index.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&id=d4378547-0e85-4d62-92fd-fda279d985a2>

Human Rights & Democracy – Burma

The military took over Burma in a coup in 2021. The military has tortured, killed and imprisoned those protesting against the take-over. The U.S. has imposed sanctions against certain Burmese military personnel and companies with ties to the military. Urge your senators to co-sponsor the Burma Act, which would impose additional targeted sanctions, support democracy and civil society in Burma. Contact your senators at: <https://support.elca.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=1482>

Hunger – Domestic & Global

Domestically, 12 million kids experience hunger, hindering their growth and learning. To address this issue, urge your Congresspersons to expand free school meal programs, and make the one-year expansion of the Child Tax Credit permanent and fully refundable. Otherwise, 9.9 million kids are at risk of poverty. Use this link: <https://secure.bread.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=433&ga=2.203004689.1299468524.1650918265-287685419.1647949759>. Globally, malnutrition is the leading risk factor for death among kids, at 45%. And, after declining for a decade, hunger is on the rise globally. Urge your congresspersons to co-sponsor the Global Malnutrition Prevention & Treatment Act, which would advance targeted programs to prevent and treat malnutrition. Use this link to advocate: <https://secure.bread.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=427&ga=2.266399886.1299468524.1650918265-287685419.1647949759>.

Healthcare

Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH), operated by the Lutheran World Federation in Jerusalem, is the only hospital to provide radiation therapy for cancer patients in the Palestinian territories and the only medical facility in the West Bank offering pediatric kidney dialysis. AVH finished 2021 with millions owed to suppliers, but tens of millions owed the hospital by the Palestinian Authority. To avoid any interruption of treatment, Congress must ensure that the U.S. government releases a large payment for the East Jerusalem hospitals through USAID as soon as possible. Urge your Congresspersons to support transfer of \$120 million to meet humanitarian needs, which would cover the Palestinian Authority's debt to Augusta Victoria and other hospitals: <https://support.elca.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=1487>

SUNDAY EVENING CONVERSATIONS ON CREATION CONTINUE...

The Creation Care Team at CTK invites you to a monthly environmental education web meeting series whose theme in 2022 is Planet Earth & You.



*Robert Mace,
Executive
Director and
Chief Water
Policy Officer,
The Meadows
Center for
Water and the
Environment,
& Professor
of Practice,
Dept. of
Geography
and
Environmental
Studies,
Texas State
University*

How Long Will Our Aquifers Last?

Sunday, May 22, 6:00 p.m., online

Groundwater is, as famously quoted by the Texas Supreme Court in 1904, "secret, occult, and concealed." Sometimes referred to as "hidden water," it is out of sight and, therefore, unfortunately, out of mind. However, groundwater comprises 98.7 percent of all the fresh, unfrozen water on Earth. About 40 percent of all surface-water flows in the United States are sourced from innumerable seeps and springs that discharge groundwater into streams and rivers. Groundwater supports 26 percent of the human use of water with 70 percent of it watering crops. As drier areas become drier and droughts increase everywhere, groundwater is expected to make up the difference. Unfortunately, much of the groundwater used across the planet is produced unsustainably. This unsustainable use affects flows to springs, streams, rivers, wetlands, and estuaries that support ecologies as well as human needs. In some cases, such as in the Houston area, groundwater production has caused the land to sink, increasing flooding. In this presentation, Professor Mace will present what he has learned about groundwater sustainability through a report he published late last year titled "Five Gallons in a Ten-Gallon Hat: Groundwater Sustainability in Texas" and in a forthcoming book titled "Groundwater Sustainability: Its Birth, Development, and Application." Listeners will have a better understanding of what groundwater sustainability is, how Texas and the greater Houston area is doing with sustainable groundwater management, and what people can do to achieve groundwater sustainability. Time for interactive discussion with the speaker will be provided. Please register for this talk at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-long-will-our-aquifers-last-tickets-314757356727>. Contact Lisa Brenskelle at brenskelle@aol.com with any questions.



Carbon Fee & Dividend: What's Justice Got to Do with It?

Sunday, May 1, 3:30 p.m., online

Members of Citizen's Climate Lobby explain the ins and outs of carbon fee & dividend as an economic policy tool to address climate change. Learn about the positive impact not only on the environment, but also on jobs, the economy, and human health. And, carbon fee & dividend has been deemed by economists as the fastest way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of any economic policy approach. But, best of all, carbon fee & dividend is designed to ensure equity and justice, a key concern of people of faith. Please register for this event at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/carbon-fee-dividend-whats-justice-got-to-do-with-it-tickets-307725203367>. Contact Lisa Brenskelle at brenskelle@aol.com for more details.



Guided Firefly Hike & Prayer with Eyes Wide Open

Friday, May 13, 7:15 p.m.

**Armand Bayou Nature Center
8500 Bay Area Blvd., Pasadena**

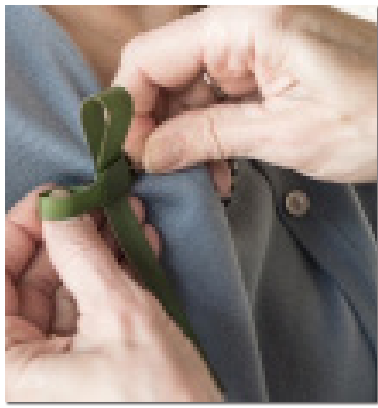
You are invited to join a private two-hour guided firefly hike and practice of a spiritual discipline, prayer with eyes wide open. Come enjoy the sights and sounds of the prairie, forest, and bayou at night, and experience the mating dance of fireflies, as a spiritual experience! You'll also learn about fireflies, which are truly amazing creatures! The hike is suitable for kids 6+. Instruction and discussion of prayer with eyes wide open begins 7:15 p.m., followed by check-in at the center at 7:30 p.m., and the hike at 7:45 p.m., during which you can practice prayer with eyes wide open, a deeply meaningful way to experience nature. Space for these outings is very limited. Contact Lisa Brenskelle at brenskelle@aol.com with any questions. Due to the limited group size, you must sign up in advance to participate. Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-firefly-hike-prayer-with-eyes-wide-open-tickets-302911024027>.



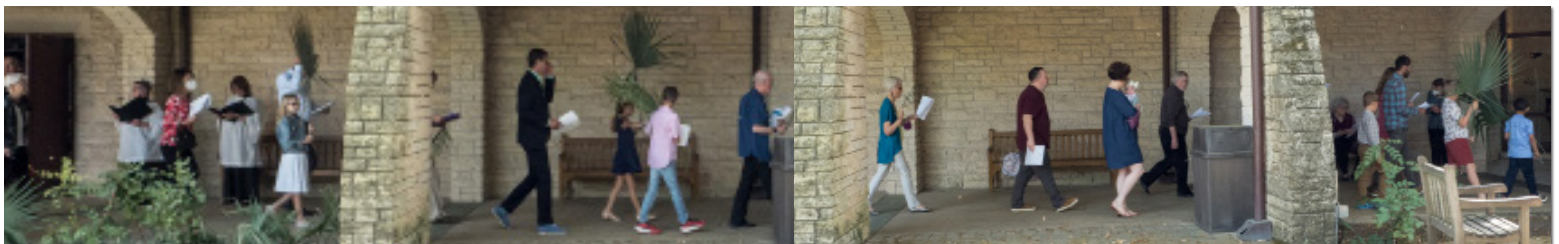
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Tuesday, May 3, 2:00 - 2:45 p.m.

This webinar will provide an update on the current situation and the latest pathways to safety for those fleeing Russian aggression. Join us to learn more about what you can do to support Ukrainians seeking safety,



PALM SUNDAY APRIL 10





EASTER 2022

