Gmail

Secretary - Ceci Gunderson <church.sec@christtheservant.com>

CyberServant for 11/1/2026

1 message

Cecile Gunderson <church.sec_rt+christtheservant@email.breezechms.com>

Thu, Oct 29, 2026 at 3:28 PM

Reply-To: church.sec@christtheservant.com
To: Church Secretary <church.sec@christtheservant.com>

Christ the Servant

Find Hope • Make a Difference • You Matter!



Come worship with us this Sunday, 9:30 am

Please note: The fall time change will take place this weekend. Do not forget to set your clacks back an hour on Saturday night.

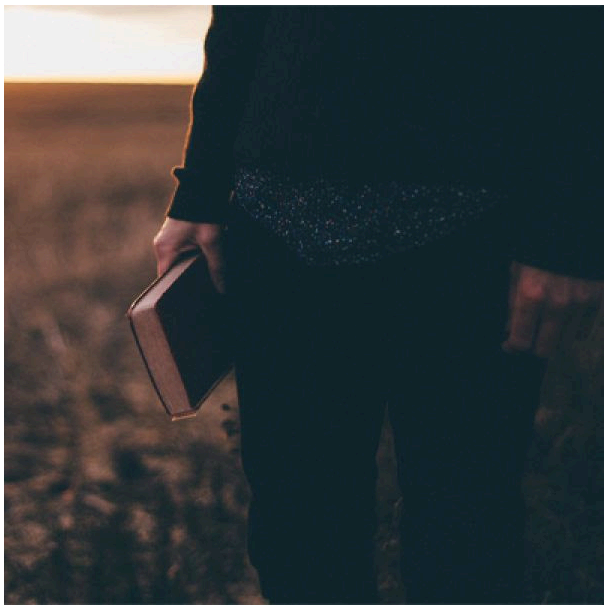
Our Service Schedule

Sundays 9:30 am

If you cannot join us in person, we offer a live broadcast of our service every Sunday starting at 9:20 AM on Facebook and on YouTube.

Watch on Facebook

Watch on YouTube





Church Office Hours

The church office is open
Tuesdays and Thursdays,
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Call 972-727-3191 if you have any questions. Calls will be returned as soon as possible during office hours.



Sunday School News:

Elementary: David
Confirmation: Getting Started with the Bible



Link for parents to sign up: NTNL UPPER ELEMENTARY RETREAT

Church News



Fall Back This Weekend!

Turn your clacks back one hour Saturday night for the fall time change.



Advent is Almost Here!
Mark your Calendars!
Sat., Nov. 28, 9:30 am
Setup for Greeening of the Church
Sun., Nov. 29, 9:30 am
First Sunday of Advent - Hope
Greening of the church
Sun., Dec. 6, 9:30 am
Second Sunday of Advent - Peace
Wed., Dec. 9, 7:00 pm
Jazzy Vespers
Sun., Dec. 13, 9:30 am
Third Sunday of Advent - Joy
Sun., Dec. 20, 9:30 am
Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love

The Nativity Story
Mon., Dec. 21, 7:00 pm
Longest Night Service
Thurs., Dec. 24, 7:00 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Christmas Nativity, LIVE!

Sunday, December 20th during the 9:30 Service, we will be presenting for the first time, the Nativity Story during the worship service. We will be presenting live characters and singing Christmas hymns.

What do we need from the congregation? We need volunteers to sign up for character roles. Randy Lewandowski has created a sign-up form, and it is on a clip board in the Narthex on the round table. . He will be there to answer any questions you may have.

- **There are no speaking parts.** You don't have to worry about memorizing lines or speaking in front of a large crowd. All speaking will be done by a narrator.
- **There's no rehearsal.** You will enter the scene, stand, and exit when it is over. And, someone will be there to tell you when to enter and exit.
- **Costumes are minimal and will be provided.**

Calling all Sunday School kids!! You are needed also! You will get to be Angels and Sheep. You will also get to lead the congregation in "Away in the Manger." All practicing for you will be done during Sunday School time.



Grief Work
Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Our church family will host a weekly Grief Support small group Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the church library. This 8-week gathering will provide a safe, confidential space where your stories are honored, your tears are welcome, and your faith is anchored—TOGETHER, we will look to God's promises for comfort in community…plan to join us.



Wreath Fundraiser

Order form in Narthex or visit our website for a link to order online.

Order a beautiful 28" holiday wreath for just $42, with pickup at the church the week after Thanksgiving. Orders must be placed by November 8.



Are You Prepared to Vote in November?

Check your voter registration status at https://www.texas.gov/living-in-texas/texas-voter-registration/.

Friday, October 30, 2026 - Last Day of Early Voting

Election Day
Tuesday, November 3, 2026 - Vote in person
- Mail Ballot Can Be Delivered in Person by 7 PM
Wednesday, November 4, 2026 - Last Day to Receive Ballot by Mail



The Time to Celebrate is Approaching!

Sunday, November 15th will be the 45th anniversary of Christ the Servant! Prepare to celebrate! Please RSVP by Friday, October 30. (That's tomorrow!)

You can mail or bring the postcard to the church office, scan the QR Code on the back of the card and fill out the form, sign up on the list in the narthex, or use this link: CtS Anniversary RSVP If you know any former members, please share this link with them or give their address to Pat Howard.

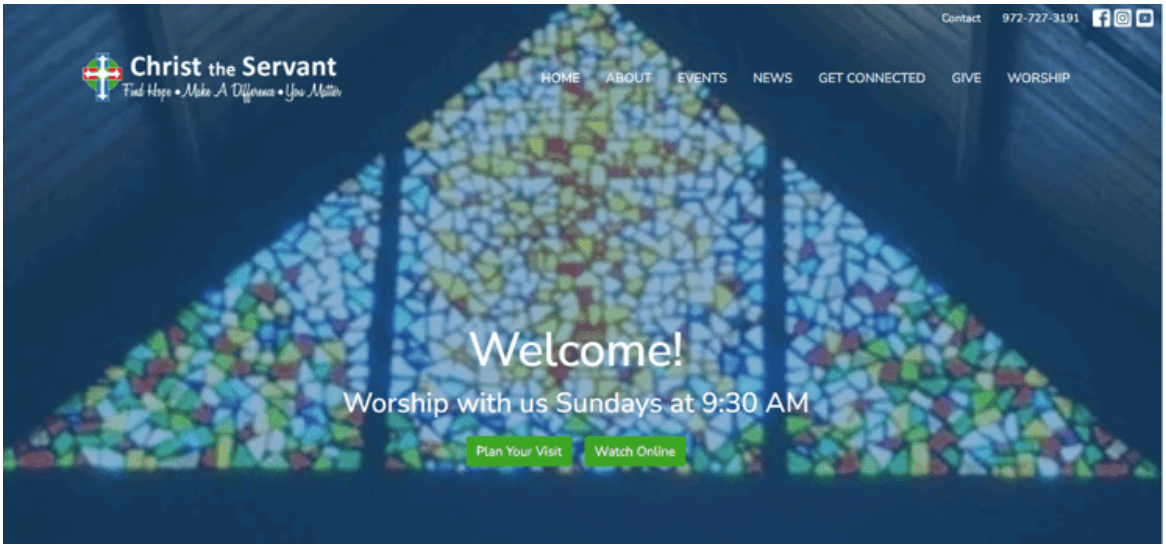
Also on the table in the narthex is a list to sign up to help setup and/or clean up for the event. Please take a moment to consider helping to make this the best event ever!
Please contact Pat Howard or Kelley Stewart if you have questions.



Church Worship Song Suggestions

As we celebrate Christ the Servant's 45th Anniversary this year, we would love to hear music from our history and music for our future. This is where you come in! Please share a favorite tune we can weave into a worship service this fall by using the link below:
Church Worship Song Suggestions

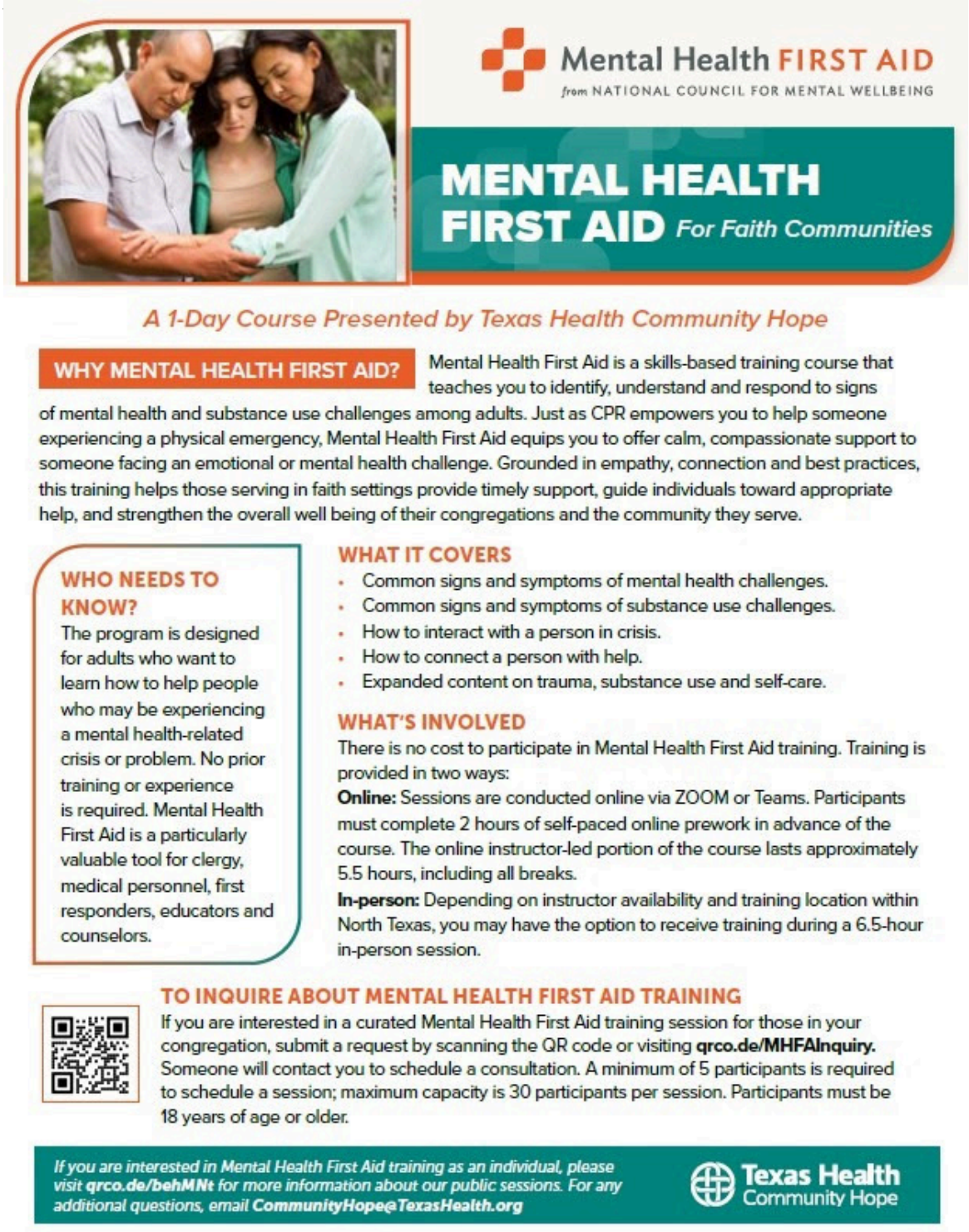
Did You Know There Are 2 Calendars on Our Website?



Yes, that's right! There are 2 calendars on the church website!

When you click on 'Events' at the top of the website, you will get a calendar of events intended for a quick overview for visitors. You will find events we normally have on our calendar that might be of interest to visitors and events taking place at other locations, such as the AMA Senior Luncheon at St. Jude's. This calendar is maintained by our Marketing Committee in the care of Elizabeth Secora.
Now, if you scroll to the bottom of the Home page, you will find a section in black with white lettering. There you will find the word 'Members'. If you click that link, you will be taken to the Members page. There you will find forms, the Mini Parish and Assisting Ministers schedules, the Readings for the month and the church calendar with all the events, meetings and and groups using the church building and property. (If you are viewing it on your phone, it will make more sense if you use a landscape view; i.e., turn

your phone sideways.) This is the calendar maintained by Ceci in the church office. If



Would you be interested in attending this class? Please contact Dr Cheryl at drcheryl2@yahoo.com'

Ways to Serve



AMA Needs Your Help!

Household cleaning items requested by the AMA Food Pantry:

October Shampoo, Deordorant, Toothpaste

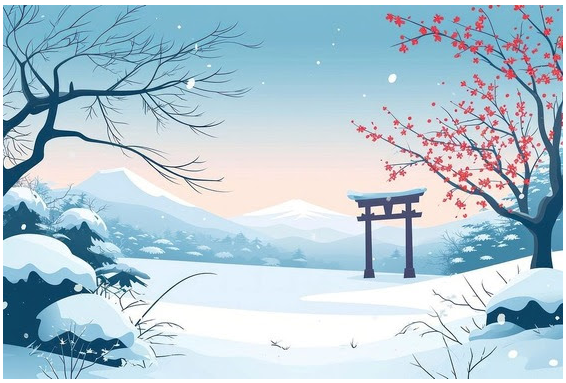
Fun & Fellowship



Game Night!
Sun., Nov. 1, 6-8:30 pm
Meet in the Fellowship Hall for snacks and friendly game competition.



Lunch at Jason's Deli
Thurs., Nov. 5
12:00 noon
Come enjoy food, laughs and friendly conversation. All are welcome!



Country Lane Apartments Craft show
Sat., Nov. 7, 10 am – 3 pm

Betsy Green will have a table there. Come find her!



Crafters' Coalition
Sat., Nov. 7
12:00 noon - 3 pm

Bring your lunch and your craft and enjoy lively conversation as you work on your projects.



Empty Nesters
Fri., Nov. 13
2-4 pm

Meet in the church library



Coming in January!
Used Book Sale

Save your used books. Watch for an announcement on when to bring them in.

The History of Christ the Servant

In celebration of our upcoming 45th anniversary as a church, Lennie Gunderson is putting together some aticles of our church history, decade by decade, based on documents from the past. Here is the fifth and final installment.



Christ the Servant Lutheran
Church History
The Fifth Decade
2020 -2025

Faithful Through Change Now and into the Future

The years from 2020 through 2025 brought both unexpected challenges and remarkable opportunities to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church. During a time when communities around the world faced uncertainty, the congregation discovered new ways to worship, serve, and remain connected. What began as a period defined by disruption gradually became a story of resilience, renewal, and growth. Through changing circumstances, pastoral transitions, innovative ministries, and steadfast outreach, Christ the Servant continued to live out its mission while preparing for a promising future.

2020 marked a turning point unlike any other in the congregation's history. As the pandemic reshaped everyday life, Christ the Servant was challenged to rethink how ministry could be carried out when people could no longer gather in traditional ways. Members embraced digital worship, strengthened relationships through new forms of communication, and found creative ways to care for one another from a distance. Outreach ministries adapted to meet changing needs, proving that compassion and faith could flourish even when physical separation was required. Though the year brought hardship and uncertainty, it also revealed the congregation's ability to adapt while remaining firmly rooted in its mission.

2021 became a year of reflection and preparation as the congregation approached a significant leadership transition. With the conclusion of Pastor Illausky's long ministry, members looked back with gratitude while also looking ahead to the future. The church worked closely with synod leaders to begin the search for new pastoral leadership, encouraging thoughtful discussion about mission and vision. Throughout the transition, outreach remained a defining characteristic of congregational life. Support for struggling families, partnerships with neighboring churches, assistance to people experiencing homelessness, and efforts to combat hunger both locally and abroad demonstrated that service continued uninterrupted. The year stood as a bridge between honoring a valued past and embracing new possibilities.

2022 was a year of steady faithfulness during a season of transition. Without a permanent pastor in place, the congregation relied upon interim leadership, committed volunteers, and the support of the wider church to guide its ministry. Rather than slowing down, Christ the Servant strengthened important areas of congregational life. Confirmation instruction resumed, new members were welcomed, and ministries serving vulnerable families continued despite lingering challenges from the pandemic. Careful financial stewardship also strengthened the church's foundation. In many ways, 2022 served as a vital bridge between pastoral eras, preserving the congregation's identity while preparing for a new chapter.

2023 brought the joyful beginning of that new chapter. The calling of Pastor Cheryl Herreid concluded a lengthy period of prayer, planning, and discernment. Her arrival marked more than a leadership change; it signaled a renewed season of mission and purpose for the congregation. Existing ministries continued to thrive while new opportunities emerged through strengthened community partnerships, expanded outreach efforts, and growing participation among youth. Investments in church facilities reflected confidence in the future, while collaboration with local ministry partners demonstrated the congregation's commitment to serving beyond its walls. The year became a meaningful turning point as Christ the Servant welcomed new leadership and renewed its commitment to worship, hospitality, and service.

2024 was characterized by purposeful renewal. Building on the momentum of the previous year, the congregation focused on translating prayerful listening into meaningful action. Worship opportunities expanded, communication efforts improved, and the church developed a clearer invitation to those seeking a spiritual home. Partnerships with childcare providers, community organizations, fellow congregations, and international ministries broadened the church's impact and demonstrated the power of collaborative service. As resources were secured to strengthen future ministries and enhance safety, the year revealed

a congregation eager to preserve its core identity while embracing new methods of ministry and outreach.

2025 reflected a spirit of investment and optimism. Strong fundraising efforts improved church facilities and strengthened financial reserves, providing confidence for the years ahead. Increased attendance, the welcoming of new members, and expanding leadership opportunities for young people pointed to growing congregational vitality. The formation of a Marketing Committee and the adoption of new digital communication tools helped the church share its message more effectively with the surrounding community. At the same time, longstanding outreach partnerships and new service initiatives ensured that caring for neighbors remained central to the congregation's mission. The year demonstrated a church not only preserving its traditions but also embracing innovation in order to better serve future generations.

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church’s forty-five-year history is a story of faith, service, resilience, and community. Beginning as a mission outreach that visited thousands of homes before formally organizing as a congregation, the church grew from a small gathering of believers into a vibrant and enduring ministry serving Allen and the surrounding communities. Through multiple pastoral transitions, the construction and expansion of church facilities, the development of educational and youth ministries, the launch of Small Blessings Preschool, and decades of outreach to local and international neighbors, the congregation consistently lived out its calling to share Christ’s love through worship, fellowship, and service. Members responded faithfully to challenges that included financial struggles, leadership changes, a devastating flood, and a pandemic, each time adapting while preserving the church’s mission. Throughout its history, Christ the Servant has built partnerships with schools, community organizations, and other congregations; provided food, shelter, mentoring, and care to those in need; and embraced new opportunities in technology, communication, and ministry. Today the congregation stands as a thriving church marked by renewed growth, strong community engagement, and a continuing commitment to helping people find hope, make a difference, and know that they matter, while remaining firmly rooted in the vision on which it was founded more than four decades ago.

In Case You Missed It



On Sunday, Oct. 25, a new confirmand emerged! Rowyn Osmer publically confirmed her faith during the service on Reformation Sunday.

Book/Bible Studies

Online Daily Devotional Group

Join your friends at CtS for a daily devotional using the online YouVersion Bible App. Use the QR code on the right to download the application and contact Steve Secora to get added to the group!



Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday meets in the library after worship service (around 10:45-11:00). The current topic is the series "That the World May Know", by Ray Vander Laan.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

This Zoom Bible Study meets on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00. Join us this month for a new Bible Study series - *Paradoxical People: The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12).* For more information, please contact Ginny Grundei at ggrundei51@gmail.com.



Wednesday Evening Bible Study

meets in the church library 7-8 pm. All are welcome! For information, please contact Tina Lewandowski or the church office.



WoW - Women of the Word

meets in the church library Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.
For more information, contact Paula Edwards at ped129@yahoo.com.



Da Guys' Book/Bible Study
2nd and 4th Saturdays, 8:30-10 am.
Next meeting, Nov. 14th

To participate, contact Steve Secora or Lennie Gunderson. You may also contact the church office for information.

Other Ways to Serve



Thank you to all teams for your dedicated and most appreciated service to the church grounds:
our lawn mowing teams and our gardening group that maintains the flower beds!



Assisting Ministers

Nov 1 Cheryl Lindberg
Nov 8 Bill Henke
Nov 15 Kathryn McCord
Nov 22 Tim McCord
Nov 29 Julia Whannell
Dec 6 Doug Egner
Dec 13 Linda Federle
Dec 20 Bill Henke



Rehearsals:
Lutherings Bell Choir
Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

Chancel Choir
Wednesdays, 7:30 pm



Mini Parish Schedule
2026
November G2 - Sunday Servants
December G3 - Spirit Seekers
January G2 - Sunday Servants

Leaders:

One Way	K. Miller/K. Smith
Sun. Servants	Sedlacek/Whannell
Spirit Seekers	Wang-Jones/Wilson

The entire schedule for 2026 is posted on the kiosk in the narthex. The schedule is also posted through January 2027 on the website under
Resources > Worship Leaders
For questions, call Ceci Gunderson in the office 972-727-3191 during office hours.

Prayer List



Tom Anderson
Brody
Doris DeNamur
Ginger Pickett
Johnson family
Will
Abe
Brittany
Doug
Kayla
Kennedy
Kim
Maddie
Mark
Pam
Sarah

Continuing Prayers for:
Chrissy Andrews, Ellen Andrews, John Andrews, Betty, Mary Blitt, Kent Bode, Macey Boland, Jerry Cardenes, Alec Chavez, Chris, Chuck, Clouse family, Patricia Collis, Mazie Conarty, Bishop Yehiel Curry, Brenda Daily-Brooks, Deborah, Doug, Glenn & Caroline, Alex Gonzalez, Grundei family, Rob Harris, Linda James, Jessica, Karrell Johnson, Kimberly Judy, Julie, Kelly, JR Lawson, Leischski family, Bill Linam, Chad Lindberg, Sue Long, Mark, Lucy Markovich, Richard Marquez, Chris McCullom, Bob Morgan, Jane Morgan, Weston Offield, Deloris Olson, Doris Schmidt, Ken Schmidt, Jack Terry, Karen Whannell, Whitney, David Wilson, Ashleigh Wright, Mac Wright

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Follow Us on instagram!
@christtheservantallentx

1. Download instagram and follow the given steps to create an account.
2. Once your account is created, click the search button to enter our instagram account name and follow!

Scroll through the account to stay updated with our upcoming events!
Repost!
Click on the triangle under post and click “add to story” to share with your followers.

Important Notice to All

Our pastor and staff will never email or text asking for gift cards, money, or urgent help. If you receive a message like this, do not respond—instead we encourage you to call the church directly to verify.

Christ the Servant

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