

Ministering God's Love



Cultivating Faith

THE KING'S VOICE

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STEWARDSHIP

Every Sunday, we dig into our pockets to varying depths and place coins, folding money or checks into a collection plate that one of our friends at Christ the King passes to us. Our gifts are then taken to the priest at the altar who elevates them to God and uses one of the prayers of thanksgiving that we use on occasion goes like this, "Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this money to offer, fruit of our labors and of the skills you have given us. Take us and all that we have to do Your work in the world. Amen." In this process, we are acknowledging that all things we have in our lives, even our life itself, are indeed gifts from God.

In our weekday services, we may say a shorter prayer that acknowledges the same truth, "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of thine own we give to thee." In doing this, we are saying that whatever we might be giving God on that particular day is already God's anyway.

As with any parish priest, I come to this area of church life with several perspectives. I want to see this parish grow and flourish, and that will take gifts of time, talent and money from all of us. When we think of what this means to us, we most often focus on the visible and practical issues in church life. We have buildings to maintain, light bills to pay, programs to run, grass to cut, and trees to trim. Often, it is easier to focus on the need for updating an air conditioner, repairing a refrigerator or cleaning the windows than it is to look deeply into the spiritual stewardship that must be the foundation of our giving.

We often consider our "Stewardship" efforts in church to be a once a year campaign, usually in the fall with a culmination of the effort coming on the Sunday before or after our national Thanksgiving holiday. Thus, we give thanks as individuals, as a congregation and as a nation at the same moment, the ultimate in

synergy. However, the reality is that our stewardship of God's gifts to us comes with every Sunday offering, every time the offering plate is passed to us and we pass it on to our neighbor next to us in the pew.

This fall, I would like to invite all of us to venture into that deeper level of stewardship and move beyond budgets and buildings into the realm of relationship, the spiritual relationship between each of us and our God that needs to be the foundation of our giving. The pledge cards that we fill out need to first reflect a check written on our spirits before we begin to write a check from our bank.

The spiritual side of stewardship is also experienced as a part of our Sunday or weekday services, a time when another plate is passed that represents the gifts that we must first receive before we can become givers ourselves.

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The primary gift of God to us is the gift of ourselves, our lives, our existence in this wonderful world prepared for us "from before the beginning of time." This is truly a "once in a lifetime" gift that contains within it the opportunity to receive God's central gift to us on a weekly basis, the gift of God in Christ that comes to us in the bread and wine of communion. Leslie Brandt, in reflecting on "What it means to believe," says that in seeking God we must first try to understand what it really means to believe in God.

Out of this comes a relationship that has roots in the gifts of bread and wine we bring as we pray together, "Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer which earth has given and human hands have made. For us, it becomes the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Grant that these gifts and the offering of ourselves may be made holy, and unite us in Your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." The gifts of bread and wine that we bring are blessed by God and then given back to us as holy food meant to be received into our bodies and to nourish our spirits as we

become one with Christ in His giving of Himself to us and for us.

First, we must pass the plate of faith, and then we are called to pass the other plate, reaching not just into our pockets, but into our very souls in gratitude and thanks for all of God's gifts. First comes our faith and then will come our response through that faith in joyful giving to buildings and budgets, cutting grass and calling on the sick, missions and ministry, outreach and an ongoing presence of Christ the King in our community.

The theme for our stewardship effort this year will be the theme of "Our Church Family - Fulfilling God's Vision." We have taken many steps over this last year to further our process of heeding to God's call to all of us at Christ the King through committing ourselves to the "Vision" of being a church that is "Ministering God's Love - Cultivating Faith" to our community and the world. In order to move forward with this mission in the coming year, we need to commit our resources of time, talent

and treasure to this work.

Over the next few weeks, all of us will get information on the program and will hear about this theme from the pulpit and in mailings from our Vestry. As we go through the "usual steps" that make up an annual stewardship program, I hope that all of us can take "a step beyond" into the fullness of the mystery of faith and of the receiving of gifts from God's hands and the true giving of gifts from our own.

Fr. Wally+

*First comes our faith
and then will come
our response through
that faith in joyful
giving*



Community Supper

The Community Supper is still in the early trial stage. Our hope was to provide a free dinner to the Community. Not to just those with financial needs but just a night out with family or friends where we (CTK family) can show true hospitality to those God calls to our/His table.

Many of the dinner guests are already members of CTK parish but each dinner has also brought in at least one "walked/drove by saw the sign and felt drawn to come in" guest!..

To date, we have provided 2 dinners (September and October) and expect to do another one on November 19th. This will be the last one until after the Christmas holidays.

We are a small group of women in church who feel called to do these dinners and we send thanks to all who have helped us w/meals, those who have brought friends and those who have helped with set-up and clean-up.

We have truly felt blessed to do this for our friends and neighbors at CTK and we could not have done with you.

We hope we made God 'Smile'...

Blessings, Isabel, Charisse, Meghan, Marilyn and Stacey



Christ the King is Blessed with sooooo many wonderful people. With that said, I would like to tell you about a new Ministry available to you. The "Handy Man Group" is currently made up of four men, Bob Springthorpe, Jack Dale, Mike Burchfield, and Wade Griggs. These men want you to know they are available for small projects needed around your house. If you are in need of their help, please call the church office to set up a time 863-858-1948.

Notes From the Office

I want to apologize for the bulletin being wrong last week. I felt so bad when I found out about it on Monday.

Father Wally has something special planned November 9th. He is going to have a recognition & remembrance table set up in the Sanctuary for all of us to bring pictures of ourselves in the military or a loved one in the military. Start looking through your pictures, we are really looking forward to viewing them and hearing the stories.

If you ever have any questions/comments for me, Please don't hesitate to call the office. ~ Chris Benton

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET OFFERINGS

One of the things that this “non-techie” has discovered since getting an I-Pad is the treasure trove of You-Tube when you want to see a performance of your favorite singer, band or musical. As a child of the 60’s, I have taken a nostalgia trip with James Taylor; Peter, Paul & Mary; Crosby, Stills and Nash; Carole King; Simon and Garfunkle, and others who are all at my fingertips with the music as well as a video of the performance.

One of my favorites has always been the musical Godspell and the lyrics of a “thanksgiving” song from the musical Godspell:

All good gifts around us
Are sent from Heaven above
So thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord, for all his love...

We thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good,
The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food,
No gifts have we to offer for all thy love imparts
But that which thou desirest, our humble thankful hearts!

A theme of this time of year as we approach the holidays and Thanksgiving is our need to say “Thank You” to God for all of the many gifts that we have received from Him and from the generous hands and hearts of our parents, teachers, fellow Christians and others in this world and to say Thank You.

This last Sunday, we were called on to express our thanks through a commitment to our stewardship effort for 2015. Our financial commitment for the support of the ministry of Christ the King will allow our church family to fulfill our “Vision” of being a church that is “Ministering Love – Cultivating Faith” to our community and the world.

In order to complete this cycle of “Giving Thanks,” over the next four Sundays, we will we will also be collecting food products during the offertory of our Communion services of canned or packaged foods at the altar as we fill food baskets for distribution to those in need for the Thanksgiving holiday on November 27th. Please bring items, such as canned and packaged meal items, which may include the “regular” list of canned or packaged goods. However, other protein, meat items or entrees, such as canned or foil packaged tuna, canned salmon, refried beans, kidney beans, pork and beans and canned pasta with meat, chili, corned beef hash, beef stew, canned soups, cream soup, cheese sauce, salsa, and pasta sauce. Consider canned vegetables and fruit such as peas, corn and beans or other items such as carrots, beets and asparagus , fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple, pears, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin, canned cherry pie filling, Mandarin oranges. Also, consider packaged foods such as double wrapped baking mixes, breakfast cereal, hot cereal, oatmeal packets, pancake mix, boxed pasta, boxed crackers, beans, rice, cake mix, tea bags, school snacks and syrup. Also consider taking advantage of Publix’s BOGO deals. These food donations will be collected through the Sunday before the Thanksgiving holiday and will be donated through local food distribution networks.

Stewardship Program Underway

Our stewardship effort for 2015 began on Sunday, October 19th with the blessing and distribution of our Stewardship Notebooks in the form of a "Family Album" of photographs that offer a clear picture of the people and life of ministry at Christ the King. Over the next four weeks, these stewardship notebooks are being circulated to all households in the parish. Our effort will continue through November 16th, when we will have a festival celebration of our response to God's call to us at Christ the King to truly be a church that is "Ministering God's Love – Cultivating Faith" in our community and the world and to continue with this mission in 2015 through the gifts of our resources of time, talent and treasure to this work.

During this effort, copies of our stewardship commitment album will be circulated by members of our vestry to every member and family in the parish to offer an opportunity for all of us to participate. We need your help and support in our stewardship process when you have an opportunity to review your copy of our "Family Album:"

Look over and enjoy the sections in the album on our church's past, present, and future.

Near the back of the album, you will find an envelope bearing your name. Remove the stewardship response cards and fill these out according to the instructions. Seal these in the envelope and notify your designated relay captain that the album is ready to be forwarded to the next family who will view it. You can either give your sealed envelope to your relay captain, mail it to CTK or bring it in to church and place in the offering plate.

In order to move the albums throughout every household in the church by November 17, we ask that you review the album within two days of its delivery to you, make a decision on your support for our work at Christ the King, and notify your relay captain that the album is ready to be picked up and delivered to the next family. We need your help to keep the album moving along "on schedule" so that we can complete our stewardship efforts over the next four weeks and celebrate our time, talent, and treasure commitment to "Ministering Love – Cultivating Faith" as the family of Christ the King.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office (863-858-1948)

Fieldwork Assignment for Bob Dinnerville

I have been studying for the last two years, and continuing my third and final year of preparation to become a Deacon in the Episcopal Church. I wanted to take a moment and explain to everyone at Christ the King that I have been assigned to complete my Fieldwork assignment at St. Stephen's Church in south Lakeland. This is a temporary six-month assignment that is mandated as a part of my preparation for becoming a Deacon. During this time, I will continue to learn more about becoming a Deacon and getting the perspective of those responsibilities at another church. Each member of my class has received a similar assignment. The assignment begins on the first Sunday of Advent and continues through either Easter or Pentecost. After I have completed this assignment, I will be coming back to my family at Christ the King. Jan is planning to stay at Christ the King where she feels at home and loves being part of the Praise Team, as well as reading the lessons and Prayers of the People. She will probably come with me to St. Stephen's a couple of times so the parishioners there have a chance to meet her. I wanted to let everyone know why I will not be at Christ the King for six months. I have not moved, changed, or left, I'm just going to be gone temporarily. I would like to ask you to keep me in your prayers as I continue in this process.



In preparation for
Bishop Howe's visit to
Christ the King



Please help spruce up the church and the grounds on SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22nd

If you have any questions, see Bob Springthorpe or call the church office.

Thank You

To all the Acolytes who helped with the spaghetti dinner and their parents for getting them here.

To Colleen, Bob & Jan

To all who bought dinners and those who donated money

To Jim Royal for lining up the Speakers during our 2015 Stewardship Campaign

To all who helped with the Blessing of the animals

Including Debbie, Jack & Colleen who helped with the animals

Rose, June and their team who put the wonderful coffee hour together

November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am All Saints Sun- day			Confirmation Class w/ Compline 7pm			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Veteran's Day Celebration Vestry meet- ing	B – Diane Holdrum		Confirmation Class w/ Communion 7pm		A – Martha & Wade Griggs B – Cason Benton	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Ingathering			Confirmation Class w/ Compline 7pm COMMUNITY DINNER 5:30	A – Jane & Don Williams B – Alexander Par- rish	B – Ana Zamora	WORK DAY!!! Please come out and help
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Bishop Howe to perform Confirmation/ Reception B – Martha Griggs B – Roger Miller	B - Isabel Detringo		No Services			B – Karissa Heist
30						
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Advent Begins						

We are on the web
WWW.christthekinglakeland.com

**MINISTERING GOD'S LOVE,
 CULTIVATING FAITH**

**CHRIST THE KING
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

6400 North Socrum Loop Road
 Lakeland, FL 33809-4141
 Phone: 863-858-1948
 Fax: 863-858-7710
 E-mail: chris@ctklakeland.com



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry area	November 2, 2014	November 9, 2014	November 16, 2014	November 23, 2014	November 30, 2014
Celebrant	Dr. Wally Reynolds	Dr. Wally Reynolds	Dr. Wally Reynolds	Dr. Wally Reynolds	Dr. Wally Reynolds
Deacon	Kate Yotter	Kate Yotter	Kate Yotter	Kate Yotter	Kate Yotter
LEM2	Martha Griggs	Marilyn Springthorpe	Jim Royal	Bob Dinnerville	Isabel Detringo
Acolyte	Elvon Hospedales	Abbey Pafford	Sydney Sharrow	Lisa Birkner	Neila Heist
Acolyte	Nathanial Heist	Jacob Heist	Mitchell Parrish	All Acolytes	Joey Beck
Acolyte	Clive Borden	Joey Beck	Nathanial Heist		Jacob Heist
Old Testament	Jim Royal	June Raymond	Marilyn Springthorpe	Paige Sharrow	Bob Dinnerville
New Testament	Isabel Detringo	Bob Springthorpe	Andrea Borden	Wade Griggs	Don Williams
Prayers of the people	Jim Royal	Paige Sharrow	Martha Griggs	Jan Dinnerville	Sharon Rogers
Greeters./ ushers	Betty & Claire	Jack & Mike	Sue & Ed	Jack & Mike	Sue & Ed
Pre k SS (paid)	Colleen Parrish	Debbie Dale	Colleen Parrish	Debbie Dale	Colleen Parrish
Elementary SS	Pam Sharrow	Andrea Borden	Chris Benton	Pam Sharrow	Andrea Borden
Prayer Team	Isabel & Jim	Wade & Kay	Lisa & Charisse	Meghan & Cathy	Stacey & Isabel
Altar Guild	Lisa	Claire	Claire	Diane & Carolyn	Diane & Carolyn
Vestry Counters	Isabel & Jim	Isabel & Jim	Isabel & Jim	Isabel & Jim	Isabel & Jim

Please sign up for coffee hour and altar flowers