

FROM:

Christ the King Lutheran Church
465 Park Avenue
Windsor, CT 06095

TO:

Dated Material – DO NOT DELAY

THE ENLIGHTENER
Summer 2009

June, July & August

A monthly publication of the members of Christ the King Lutheran Church
Windsor, CT 06095

Rev. Doug Ryniewicz, Pastor
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SUMMER TIME
BASK IN HIS GLORY,
THE GLORY OF FRIENDS & FAMILY,
THE WARMTH OF THE SUNSHINE,
THE WARMTH OF HIS LOVE

From Pastor Doug

Letting Jesus in Where it's Easier to Keep Him Out

"Jesus came and stood among them though the doors were locked for fear and He said, "Peace!"
John 20

Few of us would agree that the followers of Jesus can justify acts of road rage. Someone takes the parking space that we were signaling for. So we get out and punch or kick the driver. "No way!" we would say. Maybe in Medieval times you could take that into your own hands. But now we are civilized. We can't resort to violence as Jesus' disciples.

Some years ago an off duty police officer carrying a sidearm got in a fistfight with a rude parking lot speedster. In his anger, he shot and killed the man. "No way!", we would say. Followers of Jesus don't respond in such a manner. The gospels relate a Jesus who taught non-violent resistance. They remember him as saying things like "Turn the other cheek to one who slaps you" and "Put away your swords for those who live by the sword die by the sword. "This same Jesus went to his own death "like a lamb led to the slaughter". History records the martyrdom of many early converts to Christianity who were soldiers for the Empire. They were put to death because, as followers of Jesus they would no longer consider utilizing violence and killing as a solution to the Empire's problems.

In our day, 2009, many Christians are saying "No way!" can we any longer agree to the use of violence and killing as a normal, sane solution to disagreement and fear. For one thing, modern warfare can no longer protect innocent civilian populations from being murdered "by accident". It took a little man from India who studied the life of Jesus to show the world new, non-violent ways to seek change, to seek justice. Gandhi often wondered how Christians could have missed the obvious about Jesus' teaching of non-violent resistance. It took a black minister from the South to show the world how to follow the non-violent Jesus in ending a cruel and insane American apartheid system that many Christians said the bible approved of.

I am encouraged in my reading lately to learn that the followers of Jesus in the United States are bringing the Light of Jesus to bear on our recent willingness to resort to violence and killing to bring about change and justice.

Christians must surely work for the day when such "solutions" seem Medieval and insane as the examples I started with do.

Jimmy Carter in his book, *Our Endangered Values*, published in September, 2006 writes, "Military officials reported that at least 108 prisoners have died in American custody in Iraq, Afghanistan and other secret locations just since 2002 with homicide acknowledged as the cause of death."

Well before this our nation was a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of December, 1948, crafted by the recently created United Nations Organization. Article 5 states, "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Why did our CIA choose torture over other proven methods? I believe that they were moved by the unchristlike spirit so pervasive in our culture that one has to be tough and powerful as the world understands power and toughness. This was evident in the decision to invade Iraq against the advice of informed individuals who said that such an action would cause more harm than good. Diplomacy and patience, however, produce better results as opposed to violence that only begets more violence.

May, June and July are good months for us as American citizens AND more importantly; followers of Jesus, to open our minds and our hearts to letting Jesus into ALL the places in our lives where He knocks at the door and has something to say to us. Even if it's easier to disagree with Him and keep the doors locked "for fear". **PEACE!**

Pastor Doug

The **STONE TERRACE PROJECT** work is scheduled for June 27th starting at 9:00am. All strong and able-bodied people are encouraged to help. All the material is being delivered to the church, BUT we could use some shovels, wheel barrows, tampers and little bit of muscle. If you have any questions please call John McVey at 860-808-9041.

FROM THE EDITOR: Deadline for the September Enlightener is **Sunday, August 12**. Submit your articles via email me at jmburke840@comcast.net or put it in the "Newsletter" mailbox in the church office

Happy Birthday to:-

June	1	Warren Miltimore
	3	Ivy LaFreniere
	6	Coreen Sumple
	11	Andrew Havighorst
	13	Richard Havighorst
	14	Richard Havighorst
	15	Marilyn Havighorst
	18	William Riedi
	23	Eddie Burke Nancy Moore
	24	Francis Stiles
July	27	Nancy Farooque
	3	Barbara Karadimas
	3	Marji LaFreniere
	3	Barbara Steen
	6	Maxine Pincott
	10	Betty Steen
	14	John McVey
	16	Tristan Courtemanche
	17	Janet Sienko
	20	Melanie Guillerault
August	22	Ruth Ackerman
	26	Kevin Ellis
	29	Wayne Sumple
	31	Shaun Moore
	2	Amanda Courtemanche
	6	Paul Rohr
	15	Peter Sorensen
	18	Jacqueline Moller
	22	Carl Ackerman
	22	Nicole Havighorst
24	Catherine McElaney	
26	Joyce Phillips	
28	Tom Harrison	
30	Anne-Marie Arnold	

. Dear God...Please remember the following people in your daily prayers:

Ivadine Barley, Ed Burke, Ginny Horne, Jim McVey, Angie Nock, Catherine Ryniewicz, Frances Schwentke, Al Schwentke, Betty Steen, Sandie Vik, Mary Alleyne, Billie F. Jackson, and John Metka.

Youth Sunday was held on June 14th. The Sunday School children and teachers were recognized and participated in the service. Certificates of Participation were also distributed and a special coffee hour was held in celebration. Thank you to Rodney Plath (and Mona) for their dedication to the children of CTK. Also thank you to Nancy, Susan, Warren for teaching the children and to Linda and Janet who offered to substitute, as needed.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

TERM EXPIRES 2010

Dorothy Alleyne (2nd term)
Thelma Johnson
Maxine Pincott
Vacant

TERM EXPIRES 2011

Janet Burke (2nd term)
Jan Moeller (filling term)
Vacant
Vacant

TERM EXPIRES 2012

June Burleigh (2nd term)
Anne Marie Nock-McVey
Steve Pincott (2nd term)
Paul Rohr

CTK Officers: After the Semi-Annual Meeting, the Council elected Steve Pincott, President; Paul Rohr, Vice President; Jan Moller, Treasurer; Anne Marie Nock, Secretary; and Bob Gustafson, Financial Secretary.

Many thanks to our most recent "fearless leader", Sandie Vik. Sandie has dedicated many, many years to the life of CTK and has served on Council, Sunday School staff, and various committees. We, the Council, thank her for her love of CTK and for her leadership as Council/Congregation President.

Also thank you to Thelma Johnson for serving as Financial Secretary for the last few years. Without the love and commitment of Thelma and Sandie, CTK would not be what it is today.

With One Voice

For a Summer change of pace, Pastor Doug and Richard Charron with the consultation the Worship and Music committee have recommended the return to a familiar worship setting for the months of July and August. We will be using the "blue" books (also known as With One Voice). This setting is simple to sing and familiar. The committee is confirming that the worship folders (printed service) will continue to be used.

Stay tuned for a change to an ELW setting in September.

Any suggestions and comments, please contact any Church Council member or member of the Worship and Music committee.

ROCK CATS BASEBALL - For the last two years the youth have attended the Faith and Family Sunday event at Rock Cats Stadium in New Britain. This year the date is August 23rd. A signup sheet will be put out on June 14th. Sign up in advance. Tickets are free from Thrivent, but we must let them know how many.

CTK Family Events & Milestones:

Patty Ellis will be graduating from Windsor High School and plans to attend a local community college this fall. **Kevin Ellis** will be going to Camp Mattituck in July, as well as going to Washington, D.C in August with Boy Scout Troop 203. **Katie Ellis** will be acting Cirillo Youth Summer Theatre's production of "**The Little Princess**". Being amusement park enthusiasts, the **Ellis** family is planning a vacation at Cedar Point Amusement Park in Ohio this summer. **Erica Burke** will also be graduating from Windsor High School, with Distinction and will be attending Lasell College in the fall, majoring in Psychology. **Eddie Burke** finished up a personally rewarding lacrosse season with the Windsor High School, and made the honor roll during the season. **Erin Burke** will be attending Calumet in July. She was recognized as an honor student at Sage Park, having received honors for the first three quarters of the year. It was nice to see **Mike Wotus** in church recently after completing his first year at PENN State. Also congratulations to Clare McElaney as she graduates from Glastonbury High School and looks forward to attending Fairfield University in the fall.

PROPERTY REPORT

Paul Suto was hired to paint the exterior wood trim on the building and the bell tower cross..

Projects that still need to be done

1. The council approved funding to redo landscaping of the north side of the church, removing the three rows of rotten decorative timbers and replacing them with stone walls. (scheduled for June 27th @ 9:00 am)
2. The deterioration of the wall that is in the stairwell from the narthex to the lower level needs to have a

consultant review and determine what needs to be done.

3. The lower parking lot northeast corner needs some clearing done to allow the rain water run off the pavement and into the brook in the woods.
4. The bathrooms in the lower level should have the ceiling tiles replaced and the room repainted.

These are just some of the projects that require attention. It was also brought to our attention the bubbling of the roof over the sanctuary.

Cans & Bottles - Kevin & Pat Ellis continue to return the cans & bottles that you bring in for the Youth Group. So far they have returned \$80 worth since January.

Wedding Anniversaries

June	5	Maxine & Steve Pincott	38 years
	12	Michelle & Stephen Pallotti	16 years
	19	Hardy & Jette Fischer	22 years
	20	Jodi & Charlie Jones	29 years
	21	Barbara & Jim Karadimas	40 years
	25	Marquerite & Rudi Schoenewolff	60 years
July	30	Sandy & Bob Gustafson	47 years
	2	Linda & David Wotus	21 years
	17	Harry & Nancy Larson	5 years
August	20	Al & Frances Schwentke	63 years
	14	June & Larry Burleigh	42 years
	23	Jean & John Hoagland	50 years
	29	Susan & John Foote	39 years

The Church Changed, and Nobody Told Us

Elmer L. Towns, Ed Stetzer, & Warren Bird

As part of an experiment, the members of a 35-attende congregation, which had a median age of 68 years, were encouraged to visit five churches that had proven to be effective in reaching younger adults through their worship services. These members wanted to reach young adults, so it made sense for them to see what success in that area could look like. These little old ladies and a few old men took notes ranging from the types of musical instruments the churches used to the churches' nursery programs, preaching styles and topics, singing and just about everything else.

During a Wednesday night service, everyone gathered to talk about what the team had seen. They were all accustomed to the pattern from the '70s—two hymns, an offering, another hymn and possibly a chorus, followed by a certain style of preaching. None of the churches that were visited, however, followed that particular model. In fact, they

were all completely different from the familiar old format.

The first comment was a classic—and everyone agreed with it. One of the older ladies stood up and announced almost indignantly, “Pastor, the church changed, and nobody told us!”

The Goal Is to Reach People for Christ

You may get a chuckle about a church so obviously unaware that times have changed. But what if the median age in the church had been 38 rather than 68—could they also have lost their relevance and evangelistic edge and not noticed it? What if the church, instead of being stuck in the '70s, had been stuck in the '80s or '90s—or even stuck in certain patterns from last year that had led nowhere? If the church had made no impact for Christ outside of its membership last year, should it remain content to do the same things this year?

Most churches need to change because they're showing little or no statistical growth (numerical, spiritual or otherwise) and minimal impact on the surrounding culture. Too many are struggling just to keep their doors open, and yet they tend to keep replaying what they did “last year.” Instead of looking for a breakthrough, churches across the country are slowly dying because too many tend to value tradition over expanding God's reach.

Innovation or death? Too many churches choose death over innovation. The choice we make today will impact the church of our children.

A recent PBS series on colonial life in America was a great reminder about how much the norms for “church” have changed. In the 1600s, sermons were regularly more than two hours long, and people were fined for falling asleep in church! Musical instruments such as the organ were considered worldly. Steeples or outdoor crosses on church buildings were looked down on as inappropriate. Aren't you glad that at least some of those ways of doing church have changed?

On a more serious note, American churches have not suffered—for the most part—the pain experienced by many churches around the world. The idea of an underground church, a persecuted church or even a church with modern-day martyrs is largely non-existent in North America. Other countries generate news such as, “400 churches closed! Pastors killed and imprisoned!” Instead, American churches are moving in the sad direction of, “400 churches closed because communities don't want them around!”

What America needs today is a culture-impacting revival. Today, the only continent where Christianity is not growing is North America. That's a fact we dare not ignore.

Two recent books in the field of church growth examined specific methods that God was blessing at the time they were written. Interestingly, many of the churches written about continue to use the same methods that now no longer work as well—and, not surprisingly, their evangelistic outreach has declined and attendance at a number of them has dropped precipitously.

The message to us all is this: When culture changes, adjust your methods or you will lose your effectiveness...but never change your message or your principles! When methods no longer work, don't blame the harvest as being unreachable; instead, ask God if it's time to change your methods!

Adapted with permission from the authors from their book, *Eleven Innovations in the Local Church*, Regal, 2007. Content provided by: Preaching.com (Submitted by Steve Pincott)

Outreach, Social, and Global Ministry

Friends and Members of Christ the King,

With the election of a new council and the regrouping of committees, the Outreach, Social, and Global Ministry Committee would like to welcome and invite any members of the Church to join !!!! This committee is vital for providing support to our present congregation, including the shut-ins, ill and disabled as well as moving forward to seek solutions in growing the numbers of our congregation at Christ the King. It is also responsible for making aware the needs of others in the World.

We enthusiastically ask all of you to join us!! Those of you who have not had the experience of being on a committee or are new to Christ the King, we are especially looking to YOU!! We want and need new thoughts and ideas.... and you may even have fun and get some good comic relief from Pastor Doug!!!! This is an important committee for the continuing life and community here at Christ the King. Please, seriously consider joining. Contact either Janet Burke 860-688-9546 or Anne Marie Nock 860-697-6364 or email docnock@comcast.net for more info.

Sunday Flowers

As announced at the June Congregational meeting, our florist has retired. Members of the altar guild have looked for options to obtain fresh flowers on a weekly basis. Other florists are much more

expensive - \$40 to \$60 per vase. Previously the cost was \$15 per vase. Present donations do not cover the cost of Sunday flowers.

Maybe this is God's way of saying it is time for a change at Christ the King. Worship and Music is suggesting that we use the beautiful silk flower arrangements we already have on hand. A portion of the flower budget could be used to get several sets of seasonal arrangements for variety. On special Church holidays (e.g., Christmas, Easter, Pentecost) there will still be live flowers in our sanctuary.

If a majority of members of the congregation want to have fresh flowers every Sunday, a bud vase could be made available for display on the altar. This would minimize the expense and could be an opportunity for more people to participate. If no one brings fresh flowers the vase would be removed.

If live flowers are to be provided on a weekly basis, the committee is now looking for volunteer(s) to take charge of this project for the next year.

Friends at Christ the King,

I have a summer job working for Vector Marketing as a sales representative. We sell CUTCO kitchen cutlery. We have high quality knives, barbeque sets, tableware, gardening tools and other gifts and accessories. Everything you need for summer cookouts and weddings. I have my own sample kit including eight CUTCO knives and am able to demonstrate the quality of CUTCO. The products are of high quality, comparable to Henckles, but are manufactured in the US and have a lifetime guarantee. If anyone is interested, please contact me at (860) 462-8131 and I will be happy to provide a demonstration and let you see and try out the products. There is no pressure to buy, just giving a demonstration gets me points towards my pay.

Thanks,

Mike Wotus