

# THE SCROLL



A PUBLICATION OF CHRIST THE KING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • FALL 2013 • VOLUME 17 • ISSUE 2

## The Heart of Worship

*"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory!"*

*Isaiah 6:3*

# WELCOME

BY CLAY HOLLAND



Happy New Year!

Now I know what you are thinking. You are thinking that it is August, 115 degrees in the shade, and the activities of summer are winding down into the busyness of the fall schedule. It is definitely not the New Year. That’s all true, but in the life of Christ the King the new year is here – the new ministry year, that is. Every year in the life of our church, we ramp up to the new ministry year that begins in August. It is a time to take stock of where we are as a church family and where we are going.

This year, as we head into the new ministry year, we do so adding a third worship service and a new Sunday morning schedule for children, students and adults. We also see it as a time to make a fresh start in the life of the church – to find a place to serve and a small group or Spiritual Growth Class to join. Above all, we see the new ministry year as a time to take stock of our priorities – both as a church and as families and individuals. What is going to be important to us during this season of our lives? What are we going to invest our time and energy in? What are we going to cherish?

As you read through the Scroll on this “New Year’s Eve,” I would encourage you to do so asking those questions on behalf of yourself and your family. You will see articles regarding our worship as a church family as well as reflections on how the Lord was at work in the life of our church over the summer and what the fall offers for your spiritual growth. In all things, let it be our prayer that we “seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.” The fall is a busy time for us all. Let this “New Year” be a new beginning for you and your family with respect to your relationship with the Lord.

Warmly in the Lord,  
P. Clay Holland, *Senior Minister*

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# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT



BY CARTER CROW

Jesus’ great commission to us is to “Go and make disciples.” A defining question for each of us is, “How shall I do it?”. In other words, “How shall I go about fulfilling the Great Commission?” For us, service at Christ the King is the obvious answer. Jesus makes it very clear that the church is his vehicle for redeeming God’s people. He empowers Christians in the church through the power of the Holy Spirit. He has bestowed us with diverse gifts so that we can work together as one body to accomplish his holy purpose. We need each other to accomplish our goal. As we actively participate in the Body of Christ we are best equipped to serve our Lord’s purpose of spreading the Gospel.

I once had a friend who was a Christian but who was not a member of a church. In his view, there was always something wanting about each church he would visit. He decided to start his own Bible study and use it as his own church. In time, I came to believe that his approach was not at all what Christ had in mind when he established the Church. The Book of Acts and other New Testament books show Christ’s plan for the Church, including the structure of organization and leadership, and perhaps most importantly the fact that Christians have different gifts that complement each other (the Body of Christ) in accomplishing the work of the Church. All of this is intended to glorify God by making disciples who will build the Church. In other words, in my view, our work in making disciples can best be accomplished through our service in our church.

Since we have so many opportunities to serve in discipleship, the issue is, “How will we decide in what to get involved?”. In a way, we have no excuse for sitting on the sidelines. We should avoid the mentality of a “church consumer,” who selects a church like they might select a luxury hotel for a vacation, asking, “What church can serve me best?”. Rather, the question is, “How can I best serve the church?”. As one of our teachers recently said, “Discipleship is almost always intentional.” It requires a decision on our part in terms of how we will choose to serve.

BY RUTH REITMEIER

Community. Connection. Assimilation. These are words that describe and drive what I love to do at Christ the King. Seeing new people get plugged in to a small group where they experience growth, care and support is such a joy. Here are some heartfelt quotes from new members who have jumped in and experienced the benefits of smaller groups:

“You have no idea what being in our Bible study with each of you has done for me in so many areas. Not all Bible studies are the same. Ours is full of God-centered women who truly care for each other. I am so thankful for the welcoming, loving, and accepting atmosphere that has been created amongst us. This is what small groups like ours are about. Your generous gift card will keep me in food for quite some time. I can focus on paying other bills. Please continue to pray that God will bring his perfect job for me soon and that I will have the patience to focus on him and not my circumstances. I love each of you with all my heart.”

“What I really appreciate about the men’s group I am attending is how I have an opportunity to get to know other men in the church at a deeper level. The discussions challenge my thinking and help me to apply Biblical wisdom to my daily life in a practical way. I actually look forward to waking up early in order to spend time with these men because of the positive effect they have had on my life”!

Christ the King offers multiple ways for you to develop meaningful, life-giving connections to our local body of Christ. We hope you will carve out time to experience growth and care through a Bible study, community group or Spiritual Growth Class this fall. If you have questions about finding the best fit, feel free to contact me at [ruth.reitmeier@christtheking.com](mailto:ruth.reitmeier@christtheking.com).



# The Heart of Worship

*"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory!"  
Isaiah 6:3*

## THE HEART OF WORSHIP

BY CLAY HOLLAND

When was the last time you were really excited about something? Perhaps it was a sporting event, a concert or a celebration that you put on your calendar months in advance and eagerly anticipated for weeks. Can you identify with that kind of excitement? I can.

Now let me ask you a question: When was the last time you eagerly anticipated meeting with God in the company of his people for worship on the Lord's Day? If I'm honest with myself, I sometimes approach Sunday worship more with a sense of dread than a sense of excitement — more of a duty than an anticipation of God's gracious gift of a foretaste of heaven — more of an intrusion into my schedule than the realization that I will never be more fully human than during the time the Lord meets me through his Word and Sacraments in gathered worship.

Can you identify with any of those sentiments? Perhaps, and, if so, why? I think it is because it is easy to lose the heart of worship. We have come to believe the cultural narrative that what this world offers us is ultimate, that frantic activism is the only way to succeed, and that what is out of sight is out of mind. By his very nature, we think, God is out of sight. He is therefore easy to put out of mind.

But is this true? Is God really out of sight? In one sense, it is true that we cannot see God. The Westminster Shorter Catechism reminds us, "God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth." (Westminster Shorter Catechism #5) But in another sense, God has made himself both known and visible in two very important ways.

First, God has made himself known through the incarnation. In coming down from heaven to earth, the God of the universe became man and dwelt among us. Second, God continues to make himself known through his body, the church, whose unity in diversity manifests his love and grace to the world.

Think about that for a moment. The God of the universe loves you so much that he has made himself known and continues to make himself known. He wants you to know him. He wants you to know him by coming to him through faith in Christ, and he wants you to know him by nourishing you in worship and graciously confronting you on a weekly basis with the reality of his kingdom.

This fall we are going to focus on the heart of worship. Each week the sermon will focus on one aspect of our worship service, and we will think through why we do what we do when we gather together for worship and how each aspect of our worship glorifies God and also shapes us as the body of Christ. My hope is that we will all begin to anticipate our gathered worship as the highlight of our week — something not to be missed because God is there, and we desperately need him.

*When was the last time  
you were really excited  
about... meeting with  
God in the company of  
his people for worship?*

Join us beginning August 18 as we enter into the heart of worship. And, as always, be a bringer. We do not want to keep the heart of worship a secret from our neighbors.



NEW **MEMBERS**



JOHN AND ABBY AINSWORTH



RUSS AND ABBY ALLEN



JULIUS AND CLAUDIA BALATONI



MIKE, CARRIE, JOB AND ANNA CAVANAUGH



VICTORIA DEKANY



BETSY FOWLER



JAMIE AND REBECCA GABRIEL



BENJAMIN AND ECHO GREEN



RANDOLPH AND CATHERINE LANE



DAVID AND MONICA LUGO



BRET AND ABIGAIL McDONALD



TYSON STITTLEBURG



HAROLD AND MARIANNE TOLSMAN



ELIZABETH WEBRE

We are excited to announce that **BECCA SCHWINGER** has joined our Children's Ministry staff to lead our Children's Worship Ministry. As a volunteer, Becca has been intimately involved in leading and developing our children's worship program in the past. She has most recently lead our children's choir efforts. We are so excited for Becca to join us and lead our children to worship the Lord!



**Newcomers' BRUNCH**  
 Sunday, September 22  
 9:45 AM IN THE REDEEMER ROOM  
 ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF CHRIST THE KING



**INTRODUCTION TO CHRIST THE KING**  
 October 18-19  
 Get to know Christ the King ministers and staff as they present the church's vision, values and beliefs in a relaxed and casual setting. Childcare and meals provided. Details and registration available online.



Community Groups meet in many areas of our city on various nights of the week. In these gospel-centered small groups, you will have the opportunity to form meaningful relationships, care for one another, and study God's Word. To find a group near you, please visit our website.

*Spiritual Growth*  
 CLASSES OF CHRIST THE KING

Spiritual Growth Classes provide an avenue for relationship building, learning, and an opportunity for applying the truths of the gospel to our own lives. We aim for an environment that is both conversational and relaxed; so you may just choose to listen or ask questions and interact as you connect to Jesus through the teaching of the Bible. Questions? Contact Ashlie Hutton at [ashlie.hutton@christtheking.com](mailto:ashlie.hutton@christtheking.com). All classes held at 9:45 on Sundays at Christ the King.

CLASS	AGE	TOPIC	LEADERS
Young Adults	23 - 35	Romans	Chris Colquitt, David Lewis, & Ryan Whitley
Young Marrieds	23 - 35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Questions from Romans</li> <li>Tenets of the PCA</li> <li>Advent in Our Lives</li> </ul>	Kevin & Jennifer Cassidy, Kevin & Julie Wells
30-Somethings	30s	Westminster Confession of Faith	Hugh & Kim Byrd, Pat & Meredith Smith
The Well	40 - 60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heaven &amp; Hell</li> <li>The Gospel &amp; Your Teenager</li> <li>The Theology of Work &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	Richard & Susan Colquitt, Carter & Meredith Crow
The Journey	All	Matthew	John & Cindy Synnott



By studying God's Word, we are working to build a community where men are following Jesus amidst the brokenness in their own lives and in the world around them. We strive to serve and strengthen the church by helping men fix their eyes on Jesus, become more connected to their communities, and grow in grace. This fall we will study together *The Book of Hebrews*. Questions? Contact Sonny DeShong at [sd@landesusa.com](mailto:sd@landesusa.com). You may sign up online through our website.

LOCATION	DAY	TIME	LEADERS
Town and Country	Monday	7:30 pm	Jason Miller
Christ the King	Tuesday	6:30 am	Tyler Reitmeier and George Shannon
River Oaks Baptist Church	Tuesday	6:30 am	Seth Russell
Oak Forest/Kojak's Cafe	Tuesday	7:00 am	Matt Dowiak
Heights	Wednesday	8:00 pm	Mark DiBella and Jim Zucker
Christ the King	Friday	7:00 am	Chris Pine



Our Women's Bible Studies provide a place for women to grow spiritually through Bible study and prayer. Through connecting with other women and engaging with God's Word, we gather to build relationships and grow in grace. This fall we will study *The Gospel of Mark* with materials written by Tim Keller, Senior Pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City. Questions? Contact [annamallison@gmail.com](mailto:annamallison@gmail.com). You may sign up online through our website.

LOCATION	DAY	TIME	LEADERS
Christ the King	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Carolyn Sparkes
Christ the King	Wednesday	9:30 am	Small Group Discussions
Highland Village	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Meredith McCord



## STUDENT & CHILDREN MINISTRY

### BELIZE MISSION TRIP



BY LAURA DURIE

This was my third time going on the Belize mission trip, and I find that the Lord teaches me new things each time. Worshipping at the church in Patchakan made me realize that, language barrier or not, we all serve the same God. In the mornings we performed manual labor and in the afternoons we had a VBS for the kids based on the miracles of Jesus. The kids were so full of energy, joy, and love that they made the exhausting days of work worthwhile. Going to Belize always gives me a renewed perspective on life. At home it can be easy to get wrapped up in myself and forget my heavenly calling, but in Belize all that we did was with joy, in fellowship with each other, and in service to the Lord.

### ROUND UP



BY RACHEL PONTIER

We love it when a plan comes together and the Round Up is just such an example. As the brainchild of Christ the King youth staff it was great to see year two turn out even better than the first. With a total of 220 middle school students from churches in TX, LA, OK and MS, the retreat was full of laughter, games and the Gospel message. We heard that Christ is our only confidence and how Christians can live in light of that strength. We are excited to continue what the Round Up started and are looking forward to next year.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

BY PATTI CUNNINGHAM

"Houston, we have a Vacation Bible School!" Over 450 children and adults attended "Shine," this year's Vacation Bible School during the week of July 15 where children learned to "Shine like stars for God!" With the space-based theme, children learned stories from the Old and New Testaments to see how the Bible points to the one true star, Jesus.



Each morning from Launch Pad, Commander Mel briefed the "recruits" on the day's mission, which included learning the theme and a portion of the week's memory verse from Matthew 5:14-16. In Mission Simulation recruits learned from Cpt. Ponch under

Bobby Babel.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make "Shine" Vacation Bible School a memorable week.

the care of Dr. Cooper how to use the Bible to help us love and obey God. In Sky Lab recruits learned about God's creation. They also met former astronaut, Dave Hilmers, who talked about seeing God's creation from space. The children went in Time Machine and heard Bible characters tell about their search for the one true star, Jesus. Each day ended in Touch Down, where the children saw the daily theme reinforced through the antics of

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### BAPTISMS

Jane Margaret Bartholomew, Chloe Grace Leibert, Bailey Jo Smith, Hope Emeline Smith and Ty Jackson Smith were baptized on June 9

Catherine Sophia Shu-Lin Akins, Emma Ruth Johnson, Katherine Ann Martin and Maria Cecilia Oliver were baptized on July 21

### BIRTHS

Annie Blake was born to Lindsay and Will Fox on May 20

Katherine Ann Martin was born to Sara and Will Martin on May 24

Chandler Anne was born to Sara and David Lewis on May 28

Sarah Elizabeth was born to Lauren and Lige Bolin on May 31

Aaron Ryan was born to Denise and Steve Bell on June 12

Lillian Lee (Lily) was born to Kathryn and David Murphy on June 18

Caroline Elizabeth was born to Michelle and Preston Bruce on July 6

Alexa Claire was born to Hannah and John Harger on July 15

Richard Andrew was born to Meredith and Pat Smith on July 22

### COMMUNIONS

Hope Emeline Smith celebrated her first communion on June 9

Thomas McGowan Crow celebrated his first communion on July 21

### SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to Rachel and Mike Hagedorn in the death of Mike's father

Our sympathy is extended to Rebecca and Robby Knapp in the death of Rebecca's father

Our sympathy is extended to Marie McNamara and Michelle and Mike Hon in the death of Marie's mother (Michelle's grandmother)

Our sympathy is extended to Jennifer and Kevin Cassidy in the death of Jennifer's grandfather

Our sympathy is extended to Mary and Marcus Ostrowski in the death of Mary's mother

Our sympathy is extended to Karre and Lance Orton in the death of Lance's mother

Our sympathy is extended to Etta Taylu in the death of her sister

Our sympathy is extended to Sarah and Brooks Shughart in the death of Brooks' brother

### MARRIAGES

Kristen Hallberg and James Reavis were married on June 15

Abby Usry and John Ainsworth were married on July 20

### ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Cody Dick, Paul Duffin and Chris Pine were ordained and installed as elders on June 23

Neal Wade was installed as an elder on June 23

Kevin Cassidy was ordained and installed as a deacon on June 23

John Synnott and Anthony Urbani were installed as deacons on June 23

George Shannon was installed as an elder on July 7





## BERLIN GERMANY

BY RICHARD COLQUITT

Much has been written about the advance of secularism in Western Europe, and no one returning to Christ the King from the recent mission trip to Berlin would dispute that claim. Yet, having served at the Paul Church in the community of Pankow located in former East Berlin during a week long English Camp for children ages 8 to 13, and having worshipped for two Sundays with the congregation of the Paul Church, we must report that the gospel is being proclaimed and is abounding in the lives of those worshippers at the Paul Church. The fairly small church (about 75 members) is growing, in part, by means of its well-designed outreach into an overwhelmingly unbelieving community. Notably, the summer English Camp is itself a strategic part of that outreach.



Key players in the recent English Camp included our own Alicia Garza, Vicki Wolfram, Nicole Murray, and Susan Colquitt. Alicia, Vicki and Nicole taught English to 19 precious German children daily, and did so with a contagious delight and graceful determination. Susan diligently prepared "American" lunches and snacks for the children and for all those working at the camp. Relationships with the children, as well as with those serving alongside us from Grace Presbyterian, blossomed as we taught and played with the children; all the while convinced that our efforts would not only serve the children and advance the reputation of the Paul Church within the community, but would be well pleasing to the Lord.

When the conclusion of camp arrived on Friday evening, what had been hoped for but uncertain on Monday morning was now vivid and undeniable: the heartfelt parting words of the children and the expressions of thanks from their parents confirming that the children had progressed in their English, and had enjoyed the individuals who had taught and served them. The children and parents are hoping the camp will be repeated next summer. As for those of us who taught and served, we, too, parted with smiles, accompanied by the conviction that continued prayer and support from Christ the King for our brothers and sisters in the Paul Church, and for the Mission to the World church planting effort in Berlin overseen by David Stoddard, are profoundly worthy.

## SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

BY JUAN CARLOS MARTINEZ

As Christians, we are called to love our neighbors sacrificially, in a way that reflects Christ's love for us. With this in mind, this fall Christ the King will be relaunching our City Group and our Global Mission ministries. By participating in either of these ministries, you and your family will have opportunities to serve our neighborhood, our city, and our global mission partners in deeply significant ways on a regular basis. Christ the King would like to invite you and your family to prayerfully

consider being involved in serving through either our City Group Ministry or our Global Mission Ministry. To this end, informational meetings will be held on **Sunday, September 8 at 9:45**. In these meetings you will learn how you can serve through our City Group Ministry or our Global Mission Ministry and will have the opportunity to ask questions about serving at Christ the King.

### Within our CITY GROUP MINISTRY

serving opportunities with a one year commitment include:

#### MERCY STEERING TEAM

The Mercy Steering Team will serve as a liaison between Christ the King and our mercy partners, adopting them so that we can be aware of their needs. We will meet regularly for prayer, mutual encouragement, and training.

#### MEDICAL MERCY MINISTRY

The Medical Mercy Ministry will serve our city by ministering to hospital patients and their families, people in our neighborhood, and health care professionals, through encouragement, prayer, education, preventive healthcare clinics, and Bible studies.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY

This group will serve our immediate community by volunteering with our Spring Branch ministry partners:

- **CORNERSTONE FAMILY MINISTRIES** serves kids through Bible studies, small group discussion, crafts, open gymnasium, and serving food; and adults by teaching English as a Second Language, G.E.D. courses, Parenting, and Financial Literacy. This is a weekly commitment.
- **THE EAST SPRING BRANCH FOOD PANTRY** provides food, free of cost, to families in urgent need, who reside in zip codes 77024, 77043, 77055, or 77080. Volunteer opportunities include delivering food to the pantry, organizing the food pantry, serving food, and helping with the Thanksgiving dinner.

#### MEN OF CHRIST THE KING

The Men of Christ the King serve our neighbors and the city by engaging in quarterly "handy man" projects. This fall we will do a building project for our ministry partner, Agape, in Houston's third ward. Serving as part of the Men of Christ the King ministry involves committing to serve one Saturday in the fall and spring.

### Within our GLOBAL MISSION MINISTRY

serving opportunities include:

#### GLOBAL MISSION STEERING TEAM

When missionaries are in town, members of this team will be asked to find a host family for the missionaries and to organize receptions for them. We will meet regularly for prayer, mutual encouragement, and training. Serving on the Global Mission Steering Team will require a one year commitment.

#### SHORT TERM MISSION TRIPS

- **GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA** Celebrate the advancement of Christ's kingdom through his global church at the PCA's Global Missions Conference. This conference is held every three years and is sponsored by Mission to the World and Reformed University Fellowship. If you are interested in attending this conference, please email Juan Carlos Martínez at [juancarlos.martinez@christtheking.com](mailto:juancarlos.martinez@christtheking.com) by September 13.
- **BANGLADESH** From February 27 - March 9, Christ the King will send a team to Bangladesh for a medical mission trip. Although there is religious freedom in Bangladesh, less than 1% of the population is Christian, and most of the population does not think of God as being a God of love. Through this trip, we hope to support the Presbyterian Church of Bangladesh as they continue to demonstrate God's love to their neighbors through service projects. We would love to have team members with medical skills, but this is not required. If you would like to learn more about this trip, please plan to attend an informational meeting, hosted by Dr. Ann Craig, on Saturday, August 31 at 7:00 pm. Please e-mail Juan Carlos Martínez at [juancarlos.martinez@christtheking.com](mailto:juancarlos.martinez@christtheking.com), to RSVP and to receive more information.





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## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8:30

### Worship Service

#### Sunday School

- Nursery & Toddler
- Wee Worship (3-4 year olds)
- Kingdom Kids (K-2nd grade)

9:45

### Worship Service

#### Sunday School

- Nursery & Toddler
- Sunday School (4 yrs-5th grade)
- Student Ministry
- The Well
- 30 Somethings
- The Journey
- Young Adults
- Young Marrieds

11:00

### Worship Service

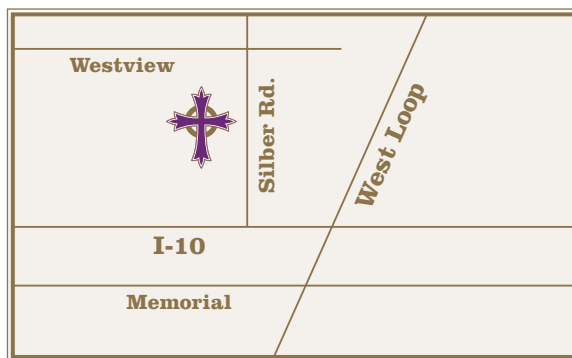
#### Sunday School

- Nursery & Toddler
- Kingdom Kids (4 yrs-2nd grade)
- College
- Topical Spiritual Growth Classes

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WORSHIP



KNOW



SERVE

CHRIST THE KING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH EXISTS TO WORSHIP, KNOW AND SERVE THE KING SO THAT  
HE IS HONORED AND HIS REIGN IS POWERFULLY EXTENDED IN HOUSTON AND BEYOND.