



CHRIST THE KING Evangelical Lutheran Church

Green Bay, Wisconsin

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OUR MISSION: *Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church gives all praise and thanks to the Triune God for His grace received through Word and Sacrament by sharing the saving Gospel of Christ with the people of this community and the world.*

JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

Question Everything? *by Rev. Piet Van Kampen*



But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear.

But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."

And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."

So He said, "Come."

And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

—Matthew 14:24-32, NKJV

In one of his novels the author James Patterson once said, "Assume nothing, question everything." Ironically, many accept such statements without question. Few people bother to stop and consider the ramifications. What would actually happen if people questioned everything?

How would questioning everything affect a trip to

your favorite drive thru for a chicken sandwich? You would be stuck at the window, with a long line of cars backing up behind you, as you questioned the safety of your meal: "Is this chicken sandwich safe? What temperature did you cook the chicken to? How long was the chicken patty sitting in the freezer? Was the chicken processed at a plant with a clean health record? What about the restaurant's latest health score?..." Your dinner would be ruined for you and everyone with you.

If you truly questioned everything, how would that change your commute home from work? "Is this car safe?"

How about your marriage? What would life be like if you answered every "I love you" with the words, "Prove it?"

In real life, we eat the sandwich, start the car, and receive the "I love you" without question and without receiving absolute proof. We trust that they're safe beyond a reasonable doubt, and we know that to truly question everything is no way to live. It's unreasonable to keep demanding proof for everything we are asked to believe.

So, then, why do we doubt God and insist on questioning Him *ad nauseum*? The problem isn't with God. Our Lord provides plenty of reason for us to trust Him in His Word. Just as He provided reason for Peter to trust Him on the Sea of Galilee. When Peter asked for proof, Jesus readily gave it with one word: "Come." And when Peter stepped down out of the boat, "he walked on the water" toward Jesus.

But then Peter began to be persuaded by the boisterous wind, and was afraid. That's when he started

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News & Notes

to sink.

And that's when we start to sink too. We see things in the world around us that give us pause and make us afraid. So, God speaks to us in His Word, and something in us answers, "I'm not so sure about that."

So, what's the answer to all our self-centered doubting and questioning? To simply cry out to Jesus, "Lord, save me!" To drag our doubts to His powerful Word and let Him speak faith into our hearts. To hear the Father's good news that your sins are forgiven—and that your endless doubting and questioning are forgiven too. To remember that in your baptism Jesus Himself reached down and saved you from drowning in sin and death for all eternity, and that His love and faithfulness remains even when ours is weak.

—Pastor Van Kampen

CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Volunteers are needed to help take down the church's Christmas decorations. We will meet Saturday, January 7, at 8:00 a.m. Thank you!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL & VOTERS MEETING

Our annual meetings will be held on **Sunday, January 15, at 10:30 a.m.** (following the worship service). Year-end reports are due in the office by January 6 in preparation for our meetings. Church Council meets Sunday, Jan. 8, at 11:30 a.m. Thank you!

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Newly elected and re-elected officers and board members will be installed during the service on Sunday, January 15.

LAUNDRY LOVE

Over the next few weeks, CTK Women on a Mission will begin collecting donations of laundry detergent and other supplies for Laundry Love, including quarters to operate washers and dryers at the laundromat. Laundry love partners with groups and local laundromats in cleaning clothes and linens of low-income or no-income families and persons. Look for the Laundry Love bin in the narthex. Thanks for your generosity!

BINGO NIGHT

CTK Women on a Mission is hosting a bingo night for the congregation on **Tuesday, February 14, at 6:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited! Bring your date for some fun bingo games, white elephant prizes, and tasty refreshments.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Christ the King is looking to hire an administrative assistant for 10 hours/week. Interested applicants can bring their resume to Pastor Van Kampen for a detailed job description. **Applications close Friday, Jan. 6.**

HIS FINAL STEPS—LENT 2023

Ash Wednesday is only a few weeks away! This year, for the season of Lent our midweek worship theme will be "His Final Steps." We will ponder the significance of the people and places on Jesus' resolute final journey to the cross—and, three days later, His first resurrected steps from the tomb. Our worship schedule for Lent and Easter this year is as follows:

- Wed., Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m.—Ash Wednesday Service (with Holy Comm.)
- Wed., Mar. 1, 6:30 p.m.—1st Midweek Lenten Service
- Wed., Mar. 8, 6:30 p.m.—2nd Midweek Lenten Service
- Wed., Mar. 15, 6:30 p.m.—3rd Midweek Lenten Service
- Wed., Mar. 22, 6:30 p.m.—4th Midweek Lenten Service
- Wed., Mar. 29, 6:30 p.m.—5th Midweek Lenten Service
- Thurs., Apr. 8, 6:30 p.m.—Maundy Thursday Comm. Service
- Fri., April 9, 6:30 p.m.—Good Friday Tenebrae Service (with Holy Comm.)
- Sun., April 11, 8:00 a.m.—Easter Festival Service (with Holy Comm.)

January Birthdays!

10 Steven Kirchner
11 Mackenzie Stewart
13 Lila Barlament
21 Karen Spaude
30 Sharon Dunbar



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ALTAR GUILD FOR JANUARY:

Barbara Hartwig & Sue Wallenfang

YEAR AT A GLANCE

- 1/15/22 - Annual Cong. & Voters Meetings
- 2/22 - Ash Wednesday
- 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29 - Midweek Lenten Services
- 4/2 - Palm Sunday
- 4/6 - Maundy Thursday
- 4/7 - Good Friday
- 4/9 - Easter Sunday
- 4/16 - 1st Quarter Cong. & Voters Meetings
- 4/30 - Oral Examination Day
- 5/14 - Confirmation Day (Mothers' Day)
- 6/18 - Fathers' Day, Synod Sunday
- 6/18-22 - Annual Convention of the ELS
- 7/16 - 2nd Quarter Cong. & Voters Meetings
- 7/24-26 - Vacation Bible School
- 7/27-31 - ELS LYA Youth Rally
- 9/10 - Rally for Christian Education (First Day of Sun. School & Bible Class)
- 10/4-6 - ELS General Pastoral Conference
- 10/15 - 3rd Quarter Cong. & Voters Meetings
- 10/31 - Reformation Day, Trunk or Treat
- 11/22 - Thanksgiving Eve Service
- 12/6, 12/13, 12/20 - Midweek Advent Services
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- 12/25 - Christmas Day Festival Service
- 12/31 - New Year's Eve Service

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Divine Service w/Holy Comm. 10:05 Fellowship USHERS: Group 1 New Year's Day	2 No confirmation class No Monday night service	3 9:00 Bible Class 2:30 Brookview Meadows Service 6:30 Board of Elders	4 4:00 Emerald Bay Service	5	6 The Epiphany of Our Lord	7 8:00 Put Away Christmas Decorations
8 9:00 Divine Service 10:20 Education Hour 11:30 Church Council Meeting USHERS: Group 2 The Baptism of Our Lord	9 3:15 Conf. Class 6:30 Divine Service	10 9:00 Bible Class 2:30 Brookview Meadows Service 6:00 CTK WOM	11 4:00 Emerald Bay Service	12 12:00 ELS ERC Meeting (via Zoom)	13	14
15 9:00 Divine Service w/Holy Comm. 10:20 Sunday School 10:30 Annual Cong. & Voters Meetings USHERS: Group 3	16 3:15 Conf. Class 6:30 Divine Service w/Holy Comm. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17 9:00 Bible Class 2:30 Brookview Meadows Service	18 4:00 Emerald Bay Service	19	20 9:00 ELS Circuit 6 Pastors' Wink	21
22 9:00 Divine Service 10:20 Education Hour USHERS: Group 4 Sanctity of Human Life Day	23 3:15 Conf. Class 6:30 Divine Service	24 9:00 Bible Class 2:30 Brookview Meadows Service	25 4:00 Emerald Bay Service	26	27	28
29 9:00 Divine Service 10:20 Education Hour USHERS: Group 1	30 3:15 Conf. Class 6:30 Divine Service	31 9:00 Bible Class 2:30 Brookview Meadows Service				

Our 2023 Lenten Journey to the cross
and empty tomb of Jesus begins on
Ash Wednesday, February 22,
at **6:30 p.m.**

***Come and join us as we follow
Jesus and trace...***

HIS FINAL STEPS

Join us for worship & Bible study!

Worship on Sunday at 9:00 a.m.,

Monday Night at 6:30 p.m.

***Bible Study on Sunday at 10:20 a.m.,
and Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.***