First of all, let me say a boisterous thank you to each and every one of you who took the time to fill out our Mission & Outreach Survey this past August/September. The results of this survey will be a huge help to us moving forward as we create a Mission & Outreach Team that seeks to reflect our entire community of faith. Many thanks to Lisa Diana, our deacon-in-training, for initially crafting the survey and to the Benevolence Team for their edits that made it even stronger.

One of the key questions that came out of the survey was: “What is mission and outreach?”

Great question! Mission is our sense of where God is calling us to help others in need. Outreach is taking the step to say to those in need, “We see you. We care. We are here to help.” Mission and Outreach can benefit long-term members, visitors, and people outside our walls. As we have looked at the results of the survey, it’s clear that we are just beginning the conversation about the needs we find most compelling as a community of faith that will further give shape to how we specifically define “mission” and “outreach” in our community of faith.

Therefore, Lisa Diana and I would like to invite you to participate in “House Meetings” so that we can find out more about your particular passion to help others and how your heart is yearning to make a difference in people’s lives. Between the two of us, we will host six House Meetings in October, on various days/times throughout the week so that hopefully all may attend. We are encouraging every member to attend a meeting and share with us directly so that as we form our new Mission & Outreach Team we will have a strong shaping of our vision for its future. All House Meetings will be led at church. You can sign up by calling the Church Office, by emailing Pastor Leslie, or by using the sign-up sheet available in the CrossWay.

(Continued on the top of page 2)
Here are the dates:
Tuesday, October 10 at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday, October 15 at 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m.

- Pastor Leslie Price

Reformation Sunday, Organ Concert and Reformationfest!

Over 500 years ago, Martin Luther arrived in Rome after a long pilgrimage from his homeland of Germany. The corruption in religious practices he saw in "holy" Rome shocked him and undergirded his call upon the Catholic Church to stop its injustices and abuses. His movement toward reform, combined with his theological convictions, led to a separation from the Catholic Church that he had not anticipated. Those who followed Luther's teachings soon became known as Lutherans and today are still known for their radical emphasis that it is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ that we are saved and not by any works of our own. It is this amazing gift of grace from Christ that lies at the heart of our Reformation celebrations. This year marks the official commemoration of the anniversary of the Reformation, as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the year that Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral.

On October 29, we will have a special Reformation Day Festival Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Later that evening, we have a plethora of fun activities planned. At 4:00 p.m. our beloved organist, William Ross, will give a “farewell” concert including Reformation era musical selections. Join us for this memorable concert and exciting way to commemorate the anniversary of the Reformation. In lieu of our usual Oktoberfest, we will host a Reformationfest. We will share the traditional German fare we enjoy in this season and toast to the grace of God with our beer steins, but we also invite you to bring a dessert that celebrates your cultural traditions, whether Mexican, Japanese, Swedish, etc. As such, we will show that while Lutheranism began in Germany, this theology now has spread across the globe and taken root in a variety of cultures and peoples. Our Reformationfest will also include games and activities relating to Martin Luther and the history and theology of the Reformation. Come pin the 95 theses on the door, throw some indulgences away, and eat a Diet of Worms cake! The festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. October 29.
From the Congregation Council

Greetings from your Congregation Council!

The Council continues to focus on making sure that our activities as a church align with our mission and goals. We are always interested in feedback and input from the congregation. The council members are listed in the weekly bulletin, and our minutes are posted in the Narthex.

Here are some items of interest for your awareness:

- The council recently interviewed a possible intern who was on a geographical restriction meaning he can’t go through the normal internship placement process. The opportunity came about because the candidate was married to a military pilot, and they had orders to San Antonio. The intent was to develop and mentor the intern as he followed his call to ordination and to help Pastor Leslie with pastoral duties. Unfortunately the council did not see a good match in terms of his theological foundation and the ability to have him jump into pastoral care and Sunday services. The council continues to monitor the workload for Pastor Leslie, and our budget for this year includes support for visiting pastors to help with Sundays.

- The council has decided to move the stewardship campaign to the spring. The goal is to align the stewardship campaign more closely to our annual fiscal planning (we budget from July 1st to June 30th). We will still be reflecting on stewardship throughout the year, and during the fall you can expect to see some temple talks and articles on all the great things your stewardship does and discussions on what our goals should be as a church when it comes to our annual operating budget.

- We continue to look at ways to improve and maintain the physical aspects of our beautiful facilities. We have three priorities in the near term. First, we are collecting quotes on a new sound system for the sanctuary. Second, we are looking at ways to improve the appearance of Fellowship Hall. Finally, we are collecting ideas and inputs to improve the “curb appeal” of our church.

Thanks for trusting and enabling your council to lead the congregation. We sit in all different parts of the church so chances are there is a council member in a nearby pew. Come tell us your thoughts.

- Joe Diana, Vice-President

Sympathy News

- Derek & Nicole Mueller on the death of their father, Herb Mueller, and to Herb’s friends and family. A longtime, active member of Christ Lutheran along with his late wife, Karen, Herb died on September 4.

- Sarah Borrell on the death of her mother, Helen Ford, on September 12.

New Members Wine & Cheese Mixer

Save the Date! November 16 at 5:30 p.m.
We have had quite an impressive beginning to our Adult Education classes for the year. Our own Dr. David Hough, Professor of Physics at Trinity University, has already taught two of four fascinating classes covering the fate of our universe and the fate of the stars and galaxies. If you missed the first two, you haven’t missed it all. Dr. Hough will teach two more classes in October. Read more below. We will gather at 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

October 1: The Fate of Planets
Given the heavy physics needed to describe the evolution of the universe, galaxies and stars, it may sound surprising that the evolution of planets is perhaps the most complicated of all. Newly-formed planets can be blasted apart in collisions, flung out of their solar systems, or devoured by their parent stars. If they escape these fates, they may have the conditions necessary for the origin of life. But even then we really have no idea how often life would actually begin, and even if it does, how long it would last. Those planets on which intelligent life eventually emerges may face the same potential for self-destruction as we do on Earth. But even if we and our descendant species find the wisdom and means to maintain life for billions of years, the Sun will eventually swell up and swallow Earth. We'll explore these issues, and consider how the recent discovery of a treasure trove of thousands of planets orbiting other stars can advance our understanding of planetary evolution.

October 8: Contemporary Revolutions in Religion and Science: Luther vs. Copernicus
While Martin Luther’s seminal role in the Protestant Reformation is well known and receiving much attention in this 500th anniversary year, the revolution in cosmology launched by his contemporary, the Polish astronomer Nikolaus Copernicus, is not as familiar. We will compare and contrast the nature of their two revolutions, in which some have referred to Luther as the Copernicus of theology, and to Copernicus as the Luther of astronomy. And we'll learn a little bit about what Luther thought about science and scientists.

For the rest of the Sundays in October, we will have a group discussion of the book, Radical Lutherans/Lutheran Radicals, as we consider how we are a church that is always reforming. Our own Dr. Carl Hughes, Professor of Theology at Texas Lutheran, contributed to the book and will join us on Sundays, October 22 and 29, to enrich our conversation. Here’s a more detailed schedule: Oct. 15 – Martin Luther: The Forgotten Radical; Oct. 22 – Soren Kierkegaard: Protesting the Lutheran Establishment; and Oct 29 – Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Political Resistance in Tyrannical Times. Books are available in the church office for $20, and you are encouraged to read the corresponding chapters in the book prior to attending the class.

Here’s a glimpse of the rest of the fall schedule for Faith University: Sunday Mornings:

November 5: All Saints Intergenerational Activity
November 12: 85th Anniversary Breakfast Celebration
November 19, December 3 & 10: Dr. Dan Long returns to lead part II of a class on Lutheran Hymnody.
December 17: Christmas Pageant
Sunday School for Parents

We invite all our parents on Sunday mornings to head over to Primrose House after dropping off your youngsters at Sunday school. There you will find a cozy and welcoming space and time for conversation with one another. Conversations range from current events in our personal lives to current events in the news, but always with a particular focus on what it’s like to be a parent in today’s world and how we can best mentor our children. Sunday School for Parents is led by its faithful participants. There are still slots available to lead. If you would like to sign up to lead a month or even one Sunday, please talk to Pastor Leslie. Note: nursery is also provided during the education hour for children not old enough for Sunday school.

October’s Leader Schedule:
October 1 – Joan Woods
October 8 – Sarah Loyd
October 15 – Adam Braaten
October 22 – Open
October 29 – Open

Lucy Circle...the Conversation Continues

On the third Sunday of each month (with occasional exceptions), Lucy Circle meets in the Parlor at 9:15 a.m. to discuss an essay, fictional story or other short reading. We engage in welcoming conversation and invite all women who would like to join us. This fall we are reading FREE essays written by women that we can download from the Internet. This month, we’ll meet on Sunday, October 15 to discuss “Split at the Root: An Essay on Jewish Identity” by Adrienne Rich. You can read and print out the essay at: http://www.public.asu.edu/~hiroshi/eng101/documents/rich.pdf. Please join us and bring a friend.

Upbring News

Upbring is one of our Benevolence partners who serves abused children in Texas. Below is a paragraph from a thank you note they sent:

Together, we are doing essential work, and we are utterly grateful you have chosen to walk alongside us, and girls like 16-year-old Mara who is not only healing but thriving. Mara said, “Whenever I am having trouble, someone is always there to talk to me. I am thankful for all of the staff and teachers who have helped me get on track to graduate high school early!”
Preschool & Elementary Sunday School

Preschool and elementary students meet every Sunday in their Sunday School classrooms starting at 9:15 a.m. and end their time at 10:15 a.m. (Sunday School is located on the 2nd floor).

**Sunday School for Preschool (3 years old through Kinder):**
- October 1: I Can Love God Back
- October 8: What is Faith?
- October 15: God Never Changes
- October 22: What is Forgiveness?
- October 29: God Loves Everyone

**Sunday School for Elementary (1st through 5th grade):**
- October 1: The Plagues
- October 8: (Bring a Friend Sunday) The Building of a Tabernacle
- October 15: Freedom
- October 22: The Rules (the 10 Commandments)
- October 29: The Rules Given to Moses

**Sunday School Offering: Meals on Wheels**

The Sunday school children will begin collecting money for Meals on Wheels as part of their Sunday School offering this year! We have a big igloo cooler for collecting our offering each Sunday during the Sunday school hour. The children are excited to see how much of the cooler they can fill throughout the year!

**Trunk or Treat**

Please join us for a fun and safe evening of games and Trick or Treat goodies in the Christ Lutheran Primrose parking lot on Wednesday, October 25 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. All ages are invited to join us in Halloween fellowship.

We are also in need of participants to bring their cars – decorated if possible – with goodies to hand out to the kids. Please contact Carrie Jowers if you would like to participate.
Stepping Stone: 3rd Grade Bible and Bible Navigation Class

Sunday, October 29, 3rd graders will be receiving their Bibles during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Bible Navigation Class will take place during the 9:15 a.m. Sunday School hour. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend. The 3rd graders will be receiving the Spark Bible to acknowledge their new reading skills, maturity development, and readiness to graduate from the picture Bible. The Spark Bible is a “real” Bible, the NRSV translation, which is the same translation we use in worship. This Bible is also full of age-appropriate introductions and details to help your child delve into the Bible more deeply. Children are encouraged to bring their Bibles to Sunday School; this is the Bible we use for our Sunday School Bible study.

Christmas Pageant: December 17

Please mark your calendars to see our children tell the story of Christmas: “The Best Story Ever Told.” You won’t want to miss it! The pageant will be held on Sunday, December 17, during the Sunday school hour (9:15 a.m.). Pageant parts will be given out on Sunday, November 19. Our Angelicus Choir will be rehearsing pageant songs on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. beginning in October. I strongly encourage ALL children to participate. Children will begin rehearsing lines during the Sunday school hour beginning November 19. Saturday, December 16, there will be a final dress rehearsal that is REQUIRED for all children participating in the pageant.

We need parent volunteers for this year’s pageant. If you are interested, please let Carrie Jowers, Director of Faith Formation, know.

FX3 (Faith Fellowship & Friends)

Our middle school students are invited on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month to a special time of fellowship. We will talk about our lives and the things that are going on. This time will consist of a group discussion, prayer, games, dinner, and fellowship. We will meet in the Youth Fellowship Room from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The dates for October meetings are Sunday, October 1, and Sunday, October 15. Don’t forget to bring a friend!
Confirmation Class

The Confirmation Class is doing a wonderful job of assisting as acolytes for the 10:30 a.m. worship service. A huge thank you to Nate Tenorio, William Hall, and Ander Escudero for serving as our September acolytes.

Acolyte Schedule for October
- October 1: Nate Tenorio
- October 8: William Hall
- October 15: Katrina Weidman
- October 22: Joshua Murguia
- October 29: Emily Giesecke

Confirmation Class Schedule
- October 1: Required Confirmation Small Group -- Luther’s Legacy
- October 8: Breakfast Fellowship (Bring a Friend Sunday)
- October 15: Required Confirmation Small Group -- Worship-The Word
- October 22: Middle School Retreat (No Sunday School)
- October 29: Required Confirmation Small Group -- Worship-Sending

Confirmation Large Group

Join us on Wednesday, October 4, beginning at 5:30 p.m., for a Pizza Feast. After dinner, Pastor Leslie will begin teaching on Luther’s Life from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Bring your Bible and confirmation binder to class.

Upcoming Middle School Event

Corn Maze Outing: On Saturday, October 28, we will head to Hondo for fellowship, games, Bible Trivia to get through the corn maze, and dinner by the campfire. We will meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. and head to Hondo. Afterwards, we will return to the church for a sleep-in. We are looking for chaperones for this super fun event; so if you can help, please let Carrie Jowers know.

Middle School Gathering Retreat

The retreat will be held October 20 through October 22. The theme for the weekend is “God’s work of forming and reforming is ongoing, not just a one-time event.” The deadline for registration is Monday, October 16. Cost for the weekend is $150 (scholarships are available). For more information, please contact Carrie Jowers.
Senior High - The Light

The Light-Living in God’s House Together
The world can be a dark place. Be the light. Matthew 5:11

The Senior High Youth will meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month in the Youth Fellowship Room (located on the 2nd floor). We will meet from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and we’ll enjoy a small group Bible-based discussion, dinner, games, and share our highs and lows. Dinner will be provided. Don’t forget to bring a friend!

High School Gathering Retreat

Please mark your calendars for this super fun retreat at Camp Chrysalis. The weekend is set for Friday, February 9 through Sunday, February 11. More information will be coming soon.

Register Now for the

ELCA Youth Gathering 2018

The ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas, will take place the week of June 27 through July 1, 2018. Registration is open for this event until November 1. The cost for this year’s trip is $250 (scholarships are available upon request). The ELCA is busy planning for the Gathering, and we invite you to follow the progress on Facebook (ELCA Gathering) for exciting details and great video clips. Let’s get our youth excited about this great mission opportunity.
New Member Sunday

Join us on Sunday, October 22, in the CrossWay after the 10:30 a.m. service for a reception honoring the new members of our CLC family! Call the church office if you are interesting in joining...all are welcome here!

Bring-a-Friend Sunday, October 8

Last year, we hosted the first Bring-a-Friend Sunday that we have had in a long while. It was a huge success, particularly with our youth and children. They were excited to bring their friends to CLC and show them what our faith community is about. Hopefully, we adults are up to the challenge of the good example they have set for us! On October 8, we will celebrate Bring-a-Friend Sunday at CLC in our worship and education ministries. Our hope is that Bring-a-Friend Sunday will not only a remind you to think about others you know who might want to come along with us … it also might make asking this person or these people a little bit easier.

Mulligans

Mulligans is a welcoming group of 20-40 somethings who are dads, singles, or married men with or without children. This group of young and young-ish men invites other guys to the group for great conversation to find a deeper meaning of your faith, yourself, and your family. It’s a no pressure environment in a place of trust and commitment to each other. We welcome ideas for service projects. Please consider making Mulligans your time for friendship and faith. We meet at 6:30 p.m. on second Tuesdays at the Hoffbrau. Next meeting: October 10

- Ryan Loyd and Jeff Jowers

Soul Sisters

Soul Sisters is a welcoming group of 20-40-somethings who identify as sisters on this faith journey together. We might be single or married, have children or not. We are a group for the young-at-heart, and we seek to have meaningful conversation about our lives of faith amidst the real struggles and challenges that come our way. We are a casual group that practices trust and unconditional love. We hope you'll join us. We meet on first Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at Julian’s in Sunset Ridge. Next meeting: October 5
Grief and the Holidays Presentation

Offered through Porter Loring Family Care Services
Presenter: Ed Haynes: Hospice Chaplain, Former Pastor of Alamo Heights Baptist
Sunday, October 22, 11:45 a.m., CLC Parlor

The holidays are an especially hard time when grieving the loss of a loved one. The season renews memories, family ties, and traditions. We become painfully aware that our special loved one is no longer present. This is often difficult for families. The pain of the loss is confused with the spirit of the season. Grief and the Holidays is a workshop designed to help those who are grieving and their families to better understand the grief process, how it affects us during the holiday, and how we can use this special time to continue to heal.

How am I going to face the holidays and handle all those first times?
What are some things that I can do to eliminate unnecessary stresses?
Do I even want to attend social gatherings?
Do I need to develop a game plan just to get through?

Please contact the office if you are interested in attending.

Day School News

We have had a great start to our year! We have been working hard for all our students and families. We have 104 students currently enrolled. We have openings in our two-year-old program, and we would love to add new families to our school.

We have welcomed some wonderful new staff to our Day School Family. Amanda Godfrey is teaching our 3-year-old children and teaching an after school dance class. We have several new and wonderful assistants helping out our lead teachers: Jennifer Odom, Arianna Lopez, and Meagan Cawlfield. We are so blessed to have such a strong and professional team.

We are busy getting ready for our Fall Fest on November 9. This will be a great evening of fellowship and fun. There will be live music, food, and a silent auction. We would love to see you all there. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please contact the Day School Office at 210-822-7671.

Special events for the month of October will include Firefighter Day and Happy Tails.

The school will be closed on October 9 in observance of Columbus Day.

We will also be closed October 19-21 so our staff may attend the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children’s Conference. This is a great opportunity for us to listen to the leaders in our field discuss relevant topics that will enhance our teaching.

Have a happy and safe October.

- Dana Ferraro, Director
All Saints Sunday & Dia de los Muertos

At Christ Lutheran, we celebrate a unique cultural tradition that remembers those loved ones who have gone before us. Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead is an annual two-day Mexican festival where family and friends remember departed loved ones. It is a vibrant celebration of life that gives artistic expression to mourning through music, color, dancing, food, art, flowers, and more. The dead are celebrated literally as though still alive, and ofrendas or "offerings" are made in memory of them and their favorite sports, foods, drinks and pastimes.

Join us for contemplative worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on November 5. Congregants will be invited forward during the service to light a candle in memory of a dearly departed friend or family member, and a bell tone will sound for all those lost in the last year as we lift their name in prayer. If you would like a name added, please contact the church office. At 9:15 a.m., we will host an all-ages event in Fellowship Hall. We will partake of Pan de los Muertos, a delicious sweet bread, learn about the traditions of Dia de los Muertos, and present ofrendas in honor of our loved ones. Please feel free to bring pictures, cards, or any other mementoes that are meaningful to you in remembering and celebrating the life of someone who has gone before you.

Praises to:

- Mary Overstreet for the elegant banners commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.
- Jim Vasquez and his crew for hanging the banners.
- All who donated school supplies to Agape Ministry. We made many kits and the clients were very appreciative.
- All who donated personal care items for Harvey evacuees. We assembled over 100 kits!
- All who participated in the Habitat for Humanity Build and the project at church, assembling the hygiene kits for hurricane evacuees, as our God’s work. Our hands. Day of Service.
- Carl Hughes for transporting the hygiene kits to the collection location for Upbring to disburse to evacuees in Southeast Texas.
- John & Ryan Malitz for sending a crew to help us get a great start on our Habitat home.
- The confirmation class for excellent attendance at our first large group session.
- All the small group leaders for having “booths,” and sharing information about your groups on Small Group Sunday.
- All the mission trip youth and their parents for a great presentation and delicious food at the rescheduled Stockholders Banquet.
- Joe & Lisa Diana, Casey & Carol Passant, and Chad & Stephanie Burkhardt for organizing the fun Couples Night Out!

CLC Book Club

This month’s reading is fascinating … and offers a good time for you to consider joining our group of readers if you haven’t been with us before. Michael Lewis will lead the discussion of The Prisoner in His Palace by Will Bardenwerper on Tuesday, October 3, in the Primrose House beginning at 6:45 p.m. Hope to see you there!
**Staff**

The Rev. Leslie Price  
Pastor  
Carrie Jowers  
Director of Faith Formation  
Dana Ferrero  
Director of Day School  
Becky Richard  
Office Manager/Accountant  
Linda Sulser  
Administrative Assistant  
Dr. Dan Long  
Director of Music Ministry  
William Ross  
Organist  
Ariana Reyna  
Youth Choir Director  
Sharon Wiedemann  
Youth Choir Accompanist  
Clara Tenorio  
Church “Keeper”/Nursery Attendant  
Sam Tenorio  
Custodian  
Ryan Loyd  
Sound Tech

**Parish Council**

Robb Decker, President  
Joe Diana, Vice Pres.  
Sharon Wiedemann,  
Treasurer  
Blossom Stobb, Secretary  
Sarah Loyd, Trustee  
Chris Fidao, Trustee  
Carolyn Dufelmier, Trustee  
Pastor Leslie Price

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**CLC Habitat Build**

[Images of people working on a construction site]
Reformation Festival
Food - Fun - Fellowship

October 29, 5:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall and Courtyard
William Ross - Organ Concert 4:00 p.m.