



PROCLAIMER

Christ Lutheran Church

July-August 2025

Worship

Sunday Morning Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. through Labor
Day weekend, August 31

Livestream

9:30 a.m.

No Education Hour
during the summer

Office

Summer Hours
Through August 7
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

School Year Hours
beginning August 11
Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
210-822-3394
office@clcah.org

From the Pastor

You must abandon your fear of each other and fear only God. You must not indulge in any deception and dishonesty, even to save your lives. Your words must be Yea'Nea; anything else is evil. Hatred is destructive to hated and hater alike. Love your enemy, that you may be children of your father who is in heaven. (Howard Thurman in *Jesus and the Disinherited*, Abingdon Press, 1949).

This quote from Dr. Howard Thurman's classic post-WWII prophetic book speaks eloquently to me, interpreting Jesus' Sermon on the Mount teachings in Matthew 5:43ff. Written at a time of acute racial injustice following the war, when Black Americans who served their country valiantly in uniform yet returned home to discrimination and even violence, I find Thurman's inspiring message as relevant in 2025 as it was in the mid-20th century.

I am the son of a combat veteran, and the brother of combat veterans. Most of my adult years were spent in uniform, defending the freedoms of the First Amendment with my life, but I see and read about the growing, perhaps irreversible changes in our democracy and wonder if my family's military service, and that of so many who gave their lives in defense of the Constitution, may be at grave risk.

Yet there is something of vastly greater value than even our nation's Constitution, as nation-states come and go. Though our temporal freedoms may be in decline, Matthew reminds us that what he identifies as the Kingdom of Heaven is eternal. Leaders and tyrants may arise for a time, perhaps longer than my own life expectancy, but Jesus calls us to "fear only God." As followers of Jesus, we are called to avoid "any deception or dishonesty," even at the cost of our physical lives. Hate for other persons created in the divine image can destroy all of us.

Loving one's enemy does not mean approving of their behaviors, nor engaging in violence or sin oneself. It does mean aspiring to the Kingdom where no corruption destroys, nor thief can break in and steal. I take heart that working for justice is "God's Work – Our Hands." Being an advocate for migrant persons seeking refuge from certain death or suffering, bringing their families from places of torment to the hope of our shores: this is God's work. Seeking justice for those already in this country, regardless of their heritage or language, is simply seeing others as persons for whom Christ died.

As we celebrate our national heritage on this July 4th, embrace the positive values of our country, realizing all the while that nations are for a time, but the Kingdom of Heaven is for eternity. Work for justice and decency in this temporal space we fondly call home. Lay claim for eternity in Jesus' assurance that "... we may be children of our Father who is in Heaven."

-Pastor H

An E-Votion for You

"Son, your sins are forgiven." Mk 2:3-12

I don't imagine the paralyzed man's friends wanted to hear Jesus say that. I imagine they wanted to hear Jesus say, "Get up, take your mat and walk." I imagine the scribes didn't want to hear Jesus say anything at all if all he was going to do was blaspheme. But then, Jesus healed the man and proved he had the authority to forgive sins. And the people shouted their praises to God.

I don't know. Is it just me, or does it seem to you that we live in a time when people love to shout, especially at people who are saying things they don't want to hear? Well . . . what might you like to hear Jesus say about that? Be kind? Be respectful? Be forgiving? Be quiet? Of course, if we're too busy shouting, we may not hear Jesus at all.

Dear God, we live in a time of shouting. Help us listen to Jesus, even if Jesus is saying something we might not want to hear. Amen.

-Steven Lunning, Retired ELCA Pastor

Installation of our New Director of Faith Formation, Blythe Boeck, on Sunday, August 17

Blythe's first day in the office will be Tuesday, July 22. She will have a couple of weeks to overlap with Carrie to aid in a smooth transition into this role. Look for surveys in your inbox this late July and into August as Blythe seeks your input to plan exciting programs for the year ahead. We also will have a service of installation for Blythe affirming her and praying for her in her new role on staff during our regular 9:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, August 17, followed by a reception in her honor in the CrossWay.

SMALL GROUP CORNER

CLC Book Club, Tuesdays, July 1 & August 5, 6:45 p.m., Primrose House

Join your CLC friends for some lively reading and conversation this summer. On Tuesday, July 1, we will discuss *The Orphan Collector* by Ellen Marie Wiseman; and on Tuesday, August 5, we will discuss *The Reading List* by Sara Nisha Adams. The CLC Book Club meets the first Tuesday of every month.

Small Group Leaders Open House Wednesday, July 23, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., CrossWay

We are amazingly blessed by almost 50 small group ministries at Christ Lutheran. From learning a new language to Bible Study to dinner groups to book reading to faith exploration to sharing talents in worship to meeting with other faithful men and women, our small group ministries are thriving. Of course, behind each of these small groups is a fearless and dedicated leader who organizes the calendar, plans content, and motivates members. We are grateful for our small group leaders. On Wednesday, July 23, all small group leaders are invited to an Open House in the CrossWay from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. to share in fellowship with one another and to check-in with Pastor Leslie on how their ministry is going and what might be helpful for further support. RSVP to Pastor Leslie by email or phone to let her know you are coming.



Wednesday, July 23
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
CrossWay

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CORNER

Youth Service Project at Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM) Tuesday, July 8, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Youth (finishing 5th through 12th grade) are invited to spend the morning working at CAM Ministry on Tuesday, July 8, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Afterwards, we will head over to The Oasis (next to CAM) for lunch. Please reach out to Ms. Carrie if your youth would like to attend.

Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday, August 10, 9:30 a.m.



The summer is flying by and soon our children and youth will be returning to school for another year of studies and learning. Every August we like to bless these students and their teachers, praying for them to have a meaningful and fulfilling year. We invite all students to the Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 10, at the 9:30 a.m. worship service, where they will be welcomed forward (along with their trusty backpacks, briefcases, etc.) to receive a prayerful blessing for the year ahead.

Children's Art on Bulletin Covers this Summer



Do you have a budding young artist or a child who simply loves to color and draw? We would love to have them contribute their creative talents to our worship at CLC. This summer we will feature bulletin covers by our youngest members. Our theme for the summer focuses on God's grand creation of the Earth, the animals, and of course, us! We are particularly looking for drawings of mountains, rivers, the moon, sun, and rain. If you have questions, please talk to Pastor Leslie or Mary Overstreet. You may submit your child's art by emailing a high-quality image of the art to office@clcah.org

CHURCH BEACH CAMP



July 31 - August 3
Mustang Island Episcopal Retreat Center

Please hold our church members attending Family Beach Camp in prayer as they travel to Port Aransas in late July/early August. We pray for a fun weekend, filled with fellowship, faith building, and relaxation!

MISSION AND OUTREACH CORNER

Humane Borders, Thursday, August 7, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall (with Zoom option)

The CLC Mission and Outreach Team invites you to join us for wine and cheese prior to a 6:00 p.m. Zoom presentation from Humane Borders to inform us about their good work.

Water for All: Humane Borders is a Southern Arizona nonprofit with a mission to save lives by delivering water in the Sonoran Desert. Board Chair Laurie Cantillo discusses Humane Borders' work, the migrant death crisis, and changes at the border in recent months from a nonpartisan, "boots-on-the-ground" perspective.

Listen and be inspired by how a small but mighty group makes a difference by modeling compassion and defending the basic human right to clean, safe drinking water.

Our next Mission and Outreach Meeting will be Monday, August 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor and on Zoom. Contact Deacon Lisa Diana, lisa@clcah.org, for more information.

Summer Food Offering for Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM)

This summer, we will be collecting non-perishable food for clients of Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM) during the worship offering. Thanks for caring about the poor and unhoused in our community who suffer from food scarcity. CAM needs: 1 lb. bag of rice & beans, pasta, peanut butter, jelly, 1 lb. tomato sauce, tomato paste, instant oatmeal, powdered milk. You will have an opportunity to bring your donation to the altar during the offering time.



Donations for Global Refuge



Christ Lutheran supports the Global Refuge San Antonio Welcome Center that offers a myriad of services to refugees and asylum seekers. Some of the items they need: gift cards from HEB, Walmart or Uber, bus passes, toiletry items, cleaning products, diapers, feminine hygiene products, and paper products. Please leave your gifts for Global Refuge on the bench in the CrossWay. Thank you!

Summer Bike Drive and Wrench-A-thon

This summer we will be collecting gently used bikes (especially adult bikes) for Nuevos Vecinos, as well as other organizations that may need them. Please bring your donations to the Fellowship Hall.

Then, on Sunday, August 24, we will have a Wrench-A-Thon and bike wash for "God's Work, Our Hands Sunday" after worship from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to repair and clean up the bikes for children and adults who are dependent on bikes for their main transportation. No experience is necessary to help out!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Second Friday Swim Nights this Summer



On second Fridays this summer, we will gather at the Alamo Heights Pool from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for fellowship and fun. You don't need to be a member of the pool to join us! All ages are welcome. The AH Pool boasts ample space with tables and lounges, an Olympic-sized pool, and a playground. In addition, they have a poolside grill that offers a full menu of foods and beverages. The second Friday dates this summer are July 11 and August 8.

Still shining bright at 100

YOU ARE INVITED TO

DORCUS
MANNING'S

100th Birthday Party

Sunday, After Worship, 10:30 a.m.

JULY
13

Christ Lutheran Church CrossWay

CELEBRATING CARRIE JOWERS

Carrie Jowers has served our congregation for over a decade as Director of Faith Formation. In that time, she has reached out to children, youth, parents, and families – transforming their lives with the good news of Jesus Christ via Sunday School, VBS, summer camps, retreats, FX3, Family Nights, children's sermons, and so much more. At the end of July, she will retire from ministry work and her role on staff. We plan to thank and celebrate Carrie at a brunch reception in her honor on Sunday, July 27, following worship. See the invitation below. We are preparing a video to share on July 27. If you have a picture (or 2 or 3) of Carrie engaging in ministry with all of us, please send it to Heather Rosenquist (thewordchick@outlook.com) and put "Carrie's Video" in the subject line. We give thanks for Carrie and her ministry among us.



MEMBER NEWS

Our Sympathy to:

- The family and friends of Frieda Reichenbach, who died on May 30, 2025.
- The family and friends of Margie Douglas, who died on June 3, 2025.

PRAISES TO:

- Our high school graduates for their years of scholarship and study
- CLC campers for dedicating a week of their summer to attending Camp Chrysalis with Ms. Carrie
- VBS staff and volunteers for a meaningful week of faith building and fun
- Everyone who worked to put Annual Meeting information and materials together
- All who are contributing goodies for our summer breakfasts

STAFF

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor

Carrie Jowers
Director of Faith Formation

Dana Ferraro
Director of Day School

Ainslee Ford
Office Manager & Accountant

Deacon Lisa Diana
Minister of Mission & Outreach

Lori Harris
Communications Coordinator

Dr. Dan Long
Director of Music Ministry

Jeff Hammack
Organist

Mary Patino
Youth Choir Director

Sharon Wiedemann
Youth Choir Accompanist

Sam Tenorio
Custodian

Jesus Garcia
A/V Tech

Carolyn Dufelmeier
Event Coordinator

Clara Tenorio
Nursery Attendant

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Michael Fischer
President

Bryan Woods
Vice-President

Jeff Timm
Treasurer

Paul Pfeifer
Secretary

Karen Corder
At-Large Member

James Ehler
At-Large Member

Edna Robbins
At-Large Member

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Christ Lutheran Church

GROWING TOGETHER

6720 Broadway
San Antonio, TX 78209
clcah.org
210.822.3397

Summer Breakfast Sign Up

Many of us have enjoyed our return to one summer worship service at 9:30 a.m. with breakfast prior! If you would like to participate in providing breakfast foods for the fellowship time, please let us know by using the sign-up sheet in the CrossWay or by using the QR code below. You may sign up for one or all of the food offerings – fruit, juice, and pastries. We ask that food be set up by 9:00 a.m. and that you stay to help with clean-up after worship. Thanks in advance!

