



PROCLAIMER

Christ Lutheran Church

July & August 2026

Worship

Sunday Morning
Worship –Summer
Schedule

One Service at
9:30 a.m.
With Breakfast at
9:00 a.m.

Livestream
9:30 a.m.

Summer Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
210-822-3394
office@clcah.org

From the Pastor . . .

On the drive to Vacation Bible School today, my seven-year-old son, Henry, asked me, “Why don’t we ever play together as a family, like on Bluey?”

If you haven’t seen Bluey yet, you need to. It’s a show made for children that speaks to the hearts of folks of every age. Most people who have watched Bluey love it. It’s a cartoon about a family of dogs: a mom, dad, and two daughters, Bingo and Bluey. They have LOTS of adventures. My children especially love the episodes where Bingo and Bluey pretend to be grandmas or where they play a classic game of keepy-uppy.

But back to my son’s gut-punch question, “Why don’t we ever play together as a family, like on Bluey?” Ugh, it’s one of those questions every parent dreads. The kind of question that immediately reveals to us that we aren’t doing enough. We don’t play with our children as often or as much as we should. Of course, I could lodge my protests. We regularly go to the pool and engage in family board games and play catch with one another in the back yard . . . but all my excuses don’t change the fact that my son doesn’t experience our family as one that plays together enough.

I could also tell you that my sister and I have often shared that we feel Bluey, as good a show as it is, puts some unrealistic pressures on parents. Life gets so busy. We have work as well as volunteer jobs. Heck, we have all the responsibilities of catering to and encouraging our children’s sports and arts and academics. Just getting through a normal week can feel like a real grind, and it can be tough to impossible to find the time needed to simply stop and play a full family game of Hide and Seek or The Floor is Lava. I’ll admit that I am often the first to say, “Mommy has too much work tonight, maybe tomorrow.”

But my son’s question today has opened me up to the very real possibility that I might actually be better at my job if I would stop and listen to him more often when he wants the four of us to have family play time. I believe that in those life-giving moments of connection and joy I would find renewal. When I got back to work the next day (or even later that evening), I would do so feeling refreshed and full of purpose.

The great thing about Bluey is that it encourages parents to see the world from kids’ perspectives. It pulls us out of the churn of the everyday into the magical world of childhood imagination, filling us with joy. Jesus too, insisted upon joy. Even in the midst of hard work, he always made time for people, for conversation and shared meals, for broken bread and poured wine. My challenge for myself this summer is to find joy playing together as a family every day, even if it’s only a few precious moments. I encourage each of you to find a way to challenge yourselves to experience joy this summer as well. Take it seriously, but not too seriously.

Pastor Leslie Price

CONGREGATION

Welcome to our **new members** who joined April 19!



Tyler, Josh, Ainsley, & Soren Taylor



Joe Chodash & Fred Feliciano



Roger Steckly & Daniel Robison



Maike Hudson-Foegelle



Sunny, Lucia*, & Sofia Hernandez



Jacob Kirkpatrick

(* not pictured)

Next

*New
Member
Sunday*

is

**AUGUST
16**

Please join us
as we
welcome new
members of
our church
family during
the 9:30 a.m.
worship
service.

Come to the
meet and greet
during a
reception in the
CrossWay
following the
service.

If you've been
visiting and are
interested in
joining, talk to
Pastor Leslie.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You

to our Transitional Staff!

Please join us in thanking **Vanessa Woodworth, Tracy Anderson, and Becky Richard** for their amazing job while we transitioned to permanent office staff. Their flexibility, positive attitude, and willingness to help made this adjustment so much smoother. We could not have done it without them!

Reception
following the
July 12 service

Camp Chrysalis • July 12-17

During the week of July 12–17, eight of our elementary and middle school students, along with Pastor Leslie, Ms. Blythe, and Ronda Lantz, will travel to Kerrville to attend Camp Chrysalis. During worship on Sunday, July 12, we will offer a special blessing and send-off for our campers as they embark on this meaningful week of faith formation. Through worship, fellowship, outdoor adventures, and new experiences, they will have opportunities to grow in their relationship with God, deepen their faith, and build lasting friendships. We invite you to join us in praying for a safe, joyful, and transformative camp experience for all who attend.

Venezuela Benefit Dinner • July 14 • 6:00 p.m.

Nuevos Vecinos, one of our benevolence partners, is raising money for earthquake victims in Venezuela. Many of their community members' families have been affected directly. On Tuesday, July 14, at 6:00 p.m., we've invited a few of these families to come to the CLC Fellowship Hall to host a meal and share stories about what is happening in Venezuela. We hope you can come to this event. You can also make a donation by designating it to CLC as "Venezuela earthquake", in the offering plate, or by using the QR code on page 2 of the bulletin. Thank you for your generosity and prayers for these families and all those affected by the recent earthquakes.

Worship Helper Training • Sunday, July 19 • 10:45 a.m.

Thanks to all the faithful leaders who enrich our worship life as assisting ministers, lectors, and Communion helpers. On Sunday, July 19, we will have a workshop to review protocols for leading and reading and to train new leaders. If you have ever thought of becoming a worship helper, now is your chance! We need you! The workshop will take place in the Sanctuary directly following worship and only last around 20-30 minutes. If you want to help, but can't make it that day, email Pastor Leslie to let her know (leslie@clcah.org).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Small Group Leaders Open House • Tuesday, July 21 • 6:00 p.m.

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 Tuesday, July 21, all small group leaders are invited to an Open House in the CrossWay from 6:00 to 7:30 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.



**New Council Member
Installation & Reception**

Join us during the **9:30 a.m.** worship service on **Sunday, August 9**
as we install our new Council Members:

**Bryan Woods - President, Natalie Stone - Vice President,
Lorraine Potter & Margaret Vallejo - At-Large Members**

We are grateful for these candidates' willingness to serve and look forward to officially installing them in their new roles. We will have a reception following the worship for the congregation to greet them, thank them, and get to know them better!

Outgoing Council Reception • Sunday, July 26

Thanks to our outgoing congregation council members! We are so grateful to Michael Fischer, James Ehler, and Edna Robbins for their service on Congregation Council and their dedication to the ministries of Christ Lutheran. Michael served as President for five years and Vice President for a year preceding that. James and Edna both served as At-Large Members for five years. All three of them have been active in our congregational life in a variety of ministries, while also faithfully attending worship. We are so grateful for the leadership they have shown. **To thank them for their service on Congregation Council, we will have a reception in their honor Sunday, 26, following worship.** Please make a point to thank them for their service to our congregation and community.

Blessing of the Backpacks • Sunday, August 16

Summer is passing quickly, and before long our children and youth will be heading back to school for a new year of learning, growth, and discovery. Each August, we take time to pray for students, teachers, and school staff as they begin a new academic year, asking God's blessing on the journey ahead.

We invite all students to join us for the **Blessing of the Backpacks** on **Sunday, August 16, during the 9:30 a.m. worship service.** Students are encouraged to bring their backpacks, book bags, or other school gear and come forward to receive a special blessing and prayer for a meaningful, successful, and faith-filled year. We look forward to celebrating this exciting new beginning with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sabbatical Time for Pastor Leslie

The time has come! And we are happy for Pastor Leslie and her family! Yes, it's time for her to take a well-earned sabbatical. CLC has a policy, like many congregations, where our pastors are blessed with a 90-day sabbatical every 7 years. Since Pastor Leslie has been with us for 16 years, it is actually past time.

Some of you may not be familiar with this concept. Clergy sabbaticals are a tradition that allows the pastor to "step away" from the congregation for a brief time – to rest, to reflect, to recharge – to then come back refreshed and ready for the demands of parish ministry for the road ahead. As is our church policy, we will continue to fully fund her salary and benefits during this period as it is part of her ministerial call.



This is not vacation time, nor is it medical leave. It is an intentional, complete separation from congregational life that is part of her call to serve this congregation. It is an investment in the health and well-being of both pastor and congregation. During this time away Pr. Leslie is released from all pastoral responsibilities. She will not perform any pastoral functions (i.e. weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc.). We know this part will be difficult for her as it is a big part of her identity and her relationship with the members of Christ Lutheran. As she recently said in a sermon, this is her dream call.

We, as a congregation, will do our part to protect her time away by not contacting her, even in what we might consider an emergency. If we run into her in the store, we can say "Hi", but we will not share anything regarding church life or inquire what she's been doing. And, Pr. Leslie has agreed to resist the temptation to reach out to us. We are called to pray for Pr. Leslie and her family during the days of her Sabbatical, even as we look forward to their return to us.

Pastor H will still be here with us during this time taking care of us. We also are blessed with quite a number of other clergy and deacons and lay professionals in this congregation who have stepped up to offer their time and energy so that Pr. Leslie can have this time for reflection and renewal. They will share the preaching time with him and cover the teaching aspects of our church life this fall, along with other aspects of our shared ministry, so that Pr. H doesn't become overburdened.

A few dates to keep in mind:

- Sabbatical period – September 1 thru November 30
- Question and Answer time with Pastors and Sabbatical Team – Sunday, August 23
- Formal sending and blessing of Pastor Price – Sunday, August 30
- Welcome Home Sunday (with reception) – December 6

We join in praying now for Pastor Leslie and her family, as well as for Christ Lutheran Church. May God bless us each in our call to love and serve God by serving the world!

Your Christ Lutheran Church Sabbatical Team

Rev. Darwin Huartson

Dr. Carl Hughes

Paul Pfeifer

Rev. Lorraine Potter

Rev. Allyson Pryor

Rev. Dave Schulte

Rev. Howard Stendahl

Rev. Stan Whitten

Bryan Woods, Chair

Rev. Paul Ziese

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Haven for Hope Campus Tour

During June, the Mission and Outreach Team scheduled a tour of Haven for Hope with Christopher Edmiston, who is the new Major Gifts Manager at Haven. There were 13 adults and 2 children from the church who joined us. Many were amazed at all the services that Haven provides for those experiencing houselessness, the vision that has been realized in this one-stop location, and the reach and impact that this organization has had and continues to have in the community. We look forward to continuing to find ways of partnering with Haven for Hope and supporting their ministries.



Congregational Collective

Rev. Jermine Alberty uses the Accompaniment model, walking alongside others in their struggles as well as in their joys, as a basis for his SALT training, which he has been introducing to Christ Lutheran, along with other churches in the Congregational Collective. SALT is an acronym for Serve, Affirm, Love, and Transform. At our first workshop introducing the SALT model, he applied it to how Jesus interacted with the Bleeding Woman who touched his cloak and was healed. First, Jesus acknowledged her presence and was responsive to her humanity. He also affirmed her by calling her daughter and by “seeing” her. He didn’t shame her for touching him, but rather provided a safe place where love removed the stigma of her condition. Her transformation wasn’t just physical, but also social, emotional, and spiritual.

When we walk alongside others, there is a potential for transformation to occur, through serving, affirming, and loving them. This is one of the models that the Congregational Collective provides to bridge the need for mental wellness and care in our community and equip the church to respond to that need. You are invited to attend one or both trainings being offered in July to learn more.

Friday, July 10, from 3:00-7:30 p.m. at St. David's Episcopal Church, Rev. Alberty and other churches of the Collective will participate in a workshop using the SALT model, which will focus on troubleshooting progress and developing individualized "elevator speeches" to communicate and generate excitement about the work we are doing around mental health and well-being. On **Saturday, July 11, from 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**, also at St. David's Episcopal Church, there will be a training on **Self-care and Storytelling** for all the churches in the Congregational Collective. This is open to anyone who might be interested in learning more. Contact Deacon Lisa at lisa@clcah.org for information.

Back to School with Christian Assistance Ministry

In June and July, the Mission and Outreach Team is partnering with CAM to provide school supplies to the children they serve. Christ Lutheran has signed up to sponsor school supplies for 30 children, in 3rd and 5th grades, and middle school. To participate, please take a backpack tag from the church CrossWay before or after worship and return the items for that child that are listed on the back of the tag by **Sunday, July 12**. If you aren't able to shop, you are also welcome to donate towards the purchase by designating an offering to “school supplies.” Thank you for helping equip these children for success.

Global Refuge San Antonio Welcome Center, one of our benevolence partners that works with refugees, is looking for volunteers to serve as ambassadors, volunteer in their front office, and serve as mentors. If this is something that you might be interested in, please contact Lisa Diana at lisa@clcah.org. Thank you!

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Community Workshop: **HEALING, BELONGING,** & *Storytelling*



The Congregational Collective is pleased to invite you to our Community Workshop featuring Rev. Jermine Alberty, founder of the S.A.L.T. initiative, and Katie Best-Richmond, Director of Storytelling at the H.E. Butt Foundation.



Saturday, July 11

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

St. David's Episcopal Church
1300 Wiltshire Ave, San
Antonio, TX 78209

To register scan the QR code above or click on this [Registration Link](#)

For further information contact Deacon Lisa Diana at lisa@clcah.org

REPEATING EVENTS

CLC Book Club

You're invited to join fellow readers on Tuesday, July 7, at 6:45 p.m. in the Primrose House to discuss Vision: A Memoir of Blindness and Justice by Judge David S. Tatel. In August, we'll meet on Tuesday the 4th to discuss Theo of Golden by Alan Levi.

Living in Interesting Times, Thursdays in July, Fellowship Hall

Living in Interesting Times will meet July 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The sessions are not filmed or recorded. Minutes are not kept. Attendance is not recorded. Anyone, regardless of church affiliation, is invited to attend, if they agree to two rules. First, no individual or group is to be quoted outside our meetings. Second, nothing is to be done or said that could harm someone. The group is attempting to balance mutual support, education, and advocacy. Outside speakers and presentations are sought about twice a month. Community activities are attended as they occur.

- On July 16, we will welcome Suzanne Kenoyer, former President of the Judson Independent School District Board. Public school challenges will be our focus. We will discuss school funding, vouchers, teacher recruitment, school closures, declining enrollments, superintendent turnovers, and related topics.
- On July 23, we will welcome Cary Clack, popular San Antonio Express-News columnist and San Antonio Peace Laureate. Freedom of speech and of the press will be the focus. We will discuss contemporary challenges to the print media, including how to quote others safely in our current political context.

We will continue to meet every Thursday in August. Upcoming speakers and events will be noted in the Sunday bulletins. If you have a guest you would like to invite on a Thursday evening, please give the name to a member of the group or contact me directly at prziese@gmail.com.

Rev. Dr. Paul Ziese

A promotional poster for 'Swim Nights' at Alamo Heights Pool. The background is a vibrant blue with water ripples. In the top right corner, there are three yellow rubber ducks. In the bottom left corner, there is a colorful beach ball. The text is centered and reads: 'SECOND WEDNESDAY SWIM Nights' in large white letters, with 'Nights' in a cursive font. Below that, it says 'ALAMO HEIGHTS POOL' in bold blue letters, followed by '5:30 TO 7:30 P.M.' in bold black letters, and 'JULY 8 AND AUGUST 12' in bold blue letters. On the right side, there is a diagonal banner that says 'MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED'. At the bottom, there are five white text boxes with blue outlines: 'OLYMPIC SIZE POOL', 'ALL AGES WELCOMED', 'PLAYGROUND', 'TABLES & LOUNGERS', and 'POOLSIDE GRILL'.

SECOND WEDNESDAY
SWIM
Nights

ALAMO HEIGHTS POOL
5:30 TO 7:30 P.M.
JULY 8 AND AUGUST 12

MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED

OLYMPIC SIZE POOL **ALL AGES WELCOMED** **PLAYGROUND** **TABLES & LOUNGERS** **POOLSIDE GRILL**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

An Update from Ms. Blythe



June was full of VBS preparations and excitement! The youth spent the week of June 8 meeting, planning and transforming our hallway and fellowship into an underwater experience for this year's VBS theme of Splash! Dive into God's Gift of Water.

On June 15, we welcomed 40 children for a week filled with faith, fun, learning and plenty of water-themed adventures.

Throughout the week, children explored Bible stories that highlight the importance of water in God's creation and God's work in the lives of God's people. Through engaging lessons and discussions, they discovered how water serves as a symbol of life, renewal, and God's abundant grace.

Each day was packed with hands-on activities that brought these stories to life. Children created scripture-based crafts, including decorating and planting flowerpots, making sensory art projects, and sculpting with clay. They also enjoyed exciting science activities such as creating "oceans in a bottle," testing whether objects sink or float, and

learning about the unique properties of water.

The fun continued outdoors with energetic games like sponge relays, spray tag, and a giant inflatable water slide that quickly became a favorite activity of the week. Of course, no VBS would be complete without delicious snacks! Children enjoyed themed treats each day, including a Creation Buffet and Red Sea Jell-O, which tied into the Bible stories in creative and memorable ways.

Most importantly, our children experienced God's love through worship, fellowship, learning, and laughter. We are deeply grateful



to the volunteers, staff, parents, and church members who helped make this week such a meaningful and joyful experience. Thank you for helping us make a splash as we dived into God's gift of water together!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED FOR ELEMENTARY

We are looking for caring and enthusiastic volunteers to serve in our Elementary Sunday School ministry! This is a wonderful opportunity to help children grow in their faith while using your unique gifts and talents.

We are currently seeking volunteers for the following roles:

ART LEADERS

- Lead simple, age-appropriate art projects that reinforce Bible lessons
- Encourage creativity and engagement in a fun, welcoming environment

MUSIC & GAMES LEADERS

Lead songs, interactive activities, and games ←

Help create an energetic and joyful atmosphere for learning and fellowship ←

Whether you have experience working with children or simply have a heart for helping them learn about God's love, we would love to hear from you!



If you are interested in serving or if you know of someone who might be a great fit, please reach out to Blythe for more information (Blythe@clcah.org)



PRAISES TO:

- Sophia Diana, Bennett Hall, Parker Jowers, Max O'Donnell, Seth Tenorio and Drake Woods on their graduation from high school
- Suz Braaten, Claudia Stendahl, Robbie Shepherd, Silas Tenorio, Sean Tenorio, Hadley Braaten, Leopold von Durckheim, Annie Woodworth, Bennett Hall, Sophia Diana, Hannah Tan, Collin Hoo-Mook, Lexi Banks, Sydney Fraser, Amanda Harper, Jackson Miller, Bayne Garza, and Addy Pape for volunteering to lead groups and stations during VBS
- Silas Tenorio, Sean Tenorio, Bennett Decker, Hadley Braaten for helping set up VBS
- Everyone who donated to the VBS wish list to set the stage for our underwater adventure

STAFF

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor

Blythe Boeck
Director of Faith Formation

Dana Ferraro
Director of Day School

Deacon Lisa Diana
Minister of Mission & Outreach

Teresa Hackett
Office & Property Manager

Dr. Dan Long
Director of Music Ministry

Jeff Hammack
Organist

Sharon Wiedemann
Accountant

Mary Patino
Youth Choir Director

Sam Tenorio
Custodian

Jesus Garcia
A/V Tech

Carolyn Dufelmeier
Event Coordinator

Clara Tenorio
Nursery Attendant

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bryan Woods
President

Natalie Stone
Vice-President

Jeff Timm
Treasurer

Paul Pfeifer
Secretary

Karen Corder
At-Large Member

Lorraine Potter
At-Large Member

Margaret Vallejo
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

