

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

Children's Ministry
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Come **PLAY** with us!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CTKLUTHERAN.ORG

Christ the King is a place of...

- Grow in Faith
- Reach Out to Others
- Actively Worship
- Connect in Small Groups
- Encourage Discipleship through Serving

The Pirates are Coming!

Ahoy! The pirates are coming to Christ the King! Well, for the Father/Son Pirate Adventure Lunch, that is. You will **not** want to miss this *new* special event for boys (PreK-5th grade) and their dads on **Sunday, October 18th from 12-2pm** in the KidZone Auditorium.

We'll all start with a swash-buckling good lunch, then the little pirates will head off to hunt for hidden treasure while the big pirates enjoy a message on the importance of Christ-centered parenting!

Seating is unlimited, but we do ask that you reserve a space ahead of time by signing up on the Children's Ministry page of the church's

website: www.ctklutheran.org/children. Admission is free, but we will be taking a free-will offering.

Moms and daughters, your special event is coming in the spring, and we'll be asking these guys to help out then—so let's all pitch in *now* to make this event arrrrgh-mazing! You can sign up to help out on the Children's page of the website.

So, hike up those boots, grab your eye patch and your parrot (seriously, you are invited to dress up!) and we'll see you there.

Mark your calendars!



Pirate Adventure Lunch
Sunday, October 18
12-2pm

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE NET



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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MARK 1:16-18

ALL THINGS NEW

"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is [His] faithfulness."
Lamentations 3:21-23

I love a fresh start, don't you? I've come to notice that once August has begun, I have a little more spring in my step. I'm a little more excited about doing daily, run-of-the-mill things and can't wait to plan for all the good things that will happen in Children's Ministry once the new program year starts. Yes, every August feels like a fresh start, a chance to try new things: new curriculum, new programs, new events; and a chance to put into practice all the lessons we learned from mistakes we made last year. The opportunity for this fresh start is enormously freeing, but it leaves me to wonder, how many of us really take advantage of the "fresh starts" that are offered us?

The author of Lamentations seems to understand just where we're coming from. The third chapter of Lamentations is so influenced by Israel's liturgical service it is no wonder that this particular

poem is still relevant today. It begins with, appropriately, a lament of the suffering of one representative man described in the language of worship, and bursts forth with a confession of faith in verse 22—a confession, based on creeds thousands of years old, that still carries relevant hope for us in the twenty-first century: God's never-failing compassions are new every morning, because our God is a God of faithfulness. What an incredible truth: God's compassions, his mercy, his love, his faithfulness—his *promises* are new every morning!

Our church has been through a lot in the past year. We've shared loss, pain, sorrow and grief... but we've also shared joy, hope and love. Easter Sunday was evidence of God's ever-renewing compassion for his children—we had over 700 people in attendance at *one* service alone! If we ever doubted God's purpose for our church, that day alone should remind us never to doubt the power of our Lord. The power of our God to raise his Son from the dead and defeat death; the power of our faith in the

risen Christ that he calls us to his purpose here at Christ the King. This is the power of our God—that because he is love, we have a fresh start every day. This is the power of our God—that because of his Son, we have the opportunity to choose to be a part of his Kingdom here on earth. This is the power of our God—that he *calls* us to ministry in his name.

The Apostle Paul understood the idea of a fresh start. In fact, Paul writes in 2nd Corinthians chapter 5 that anyone who has been reconciled to God in Christ is a new creation. *"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* Paul means that not only are we to have a new relationship with God, but also a new, righteous way of life in which one takes on the very character of God in Christ by living one's life for the sake of others—or, as we like to call it, *ministry*.

As we begin this new year of ministry program, we once again have been given a fresh start—another chance to accept the call to service in the Kingdom of God. The Children's Ministry Board

and I will be taking that chance and embracing the opportunity for a fresh start, and we pray that you will join us. On the pages that follow, there is important information about all of our Children's Ministry programs—additions, changes, and yes, I'm afraid, even some subtractions. It is our hope and prayer that you will consider this fresh start a chance to get involved in this wonderful ministry. There are hundreds of ways to do that and we are committed to helping you find just the right fit for your time, your talents and even your level of comfort—not *everyone* is called or even gifted to be a Sunday School teacher, and that's okay!

As you and your families prepare for a fresh start in the days and weeks to come, I pray that God blesses you all in wonderful and surprising ways!

Grace and peace,

Marissa

Letscher
Coordinator of
Children's Ministry

Equipped for Success!

It takes more than hard work and dedication to make any ministry successful—especially one with two hundred children! In order to make our Children’s Ministry the very best it can be, we’re asking for a little help to get us started this year. In an uncertain economy, the ability to well-equip a ministry the size of ours becomes a real challenge, especially when that means purchasing supplies for teachers and students. Just imagine—that’s 200 boxes of crayons and markers, 200 glue sticks, more than 200 pencils (because... well... you know pencils have a huge propensity to grow legs and run away), construction paper, chenille stems, silly googly-eyes and all kinds of other supplies that make Sunday School and all the other Children’s Ministry programs at Christ the King so much fun!

Starting Sunday, August 9th, we will have a Giving Tree in the Atrium hung with tags that have been labeled with a supply

request, just like we do for VBS. While you’re out shopping for school supplies, if you would consider giving a gift of supplies to the Children’s Ministry this year, we can better ensure that every child that walks through our doors, and every teacher that gives of their time and talent to make this ministry happen, has everything they need for success.

And remember to save your receipts, as your donations are tax-deductible! Thank you in advance for your support and dedication to this ministry!



Don't Be Late for These Very Important Dates!

- Children’s Ministry Volunteer Training (choose one session):
 - Wed. 8/12, 6-8pm (with childcare)
 - Thurs. 8/13, 10am-noon
 - Sat. 8/15, 9-11am
- Sunday, August 30th—10-11am, Children’s Ministry Open House!
- Sunday, September 13th—First Day of Preschool Sunday School, KidZone and Club 456 at 10am
- Sunday, October 18th, 10am—Spectacular Sunday (PreK-5th Grade)
- Sunday, October 25th, 3pm—Trunk-or-Treat and Monster Music Concert
- Sunday, November 22nd—Take-Your-Parents-to-Sunday-School
- Wednesday, December 2, 6-7pm—Intergenerational Advent Celebration
- Saturday, December 5, 9am-1pm—Parents’ Day Out
- Thursday, December 24, 3pm—Children’s Christmas Eve Service
- Sunday, December 27—No Preschool Sunday School, KidZone or Club 456



Children’s Ministry Open House

If there was ever an event NOT to be missed, this is it! If you ever feel overwhelmed and under-informed about any of the programs in Children’s Ministry, you need to be at our Open House!

On Sunday, August 30th from 10-11am, the Children’s Ministry Board and volunteer staff welcome you to our Open House. We’ll meet in the KidZone Auditorium to share in an informational session about all the programs that our Children’s Ministry will put on during the 2009-2010 program year.

Hear about all the new programs and events, get clarity on old events that are taking on new life next year, and

gather calendars, event sign-up sheets, register your child(ren) for programs and events and sign yourself up to volunteer during the new program year.



**Children’s Ministry
OPEN HOUSE**
Sunday, August 30th, 10am

2009-2010 Children’s Ministry Volunteer Opportunities

Leadership Positions

- Children’s Ministry Team member—attends all scheduled meetings of the Children’s Ministry Team, assists the Coordinator of Children’s Ministry in vision-casting, planning and implementing the programs of the Children’s Ministry.
- Quarterly Preschool, KidZone, or Club 456 Teacher—Leads or co-leads a single-age group of students every Sunday. Is required to attend Teacher Training sessions quarterly.
- KidZone or Club 456 Song Leader—Leads students in singing during Large Group.

- KidZone or Club 456 Tech—Runs audio/video for Large Group.
- KidZone or Club 456 Drama—Leads/performs short skits or does storytelling for Large Group.
- KidZone or Club 456 Large Group Host—Serves as the emcee for Large Group.
- Grade-level Coordinator—Works with the Coordinator of Children’s Ministry to schedule non-Sunday school social events and service projects in order to foster friendships between the children.

“Behind-the-Scenes” Positions

- Preschool, KidZone or Club 456 Classroom Helper—Serves as an “extra set of hands” by helping the teacher in a classroom.
- Nursery Helper—Assists the Nursery Attendant during any weekend service.
- Coach—Prepares the materials and supplies for the teachers at a given grade level.
- Hallway Host/Hostess—Assist with attendance check-in, help monitor hallways during class time.
- Check-in Desk Volunteer (KidZone and Preschool) - Assist with attendance check-in.

- Classroom Grandparent—have fun reading to our preschoolers, and perhaps helping with a craft or two!
- Special Events Helper—Sign up to help with one or more of our special events (Trunk-or-Treat, Advent Kick-Off, Easter Egg Hunt, VBS).
- KidZone or Club 456 Set-up Crew—Help set-up the KidZone auditorium, classrooms and registration desk on Sunday mornings.

For more information on these and other Children’s Ministry volunteer opportunities, please feel free to contact Marissa (mletscher@ctklutheran.org)

Club 456

We know who you are, believe me—we’ve been there. We’ve seen you standing in the back of KidZone, hands in your pockets, head down with a look on your face that tells you wish you were anywhere else because this “just isn’t cool!” Well, we heard you loud and clear, all you 4th, 5th and 6th graders, and we want to tell you something... you now have a place that’s *all your own*—Club 456!

Beginning this Fall 2009, you will no longer be joining us in KidZone for Large Group—you will have a space all your own. You will check in at

the KidZone registration desk as usual, but now you will meet your fellow Clubbers and Club Leaders at Club 456 (formerly known as Room 156) for Large and Small Group time. You’ll start out with your Small Group (boys with boys and girls with girls) from 10-10:30am (make sure you’re on time!). Then you’ll finish your time with awesome worship during Large Group, and your parents can pick you up at Club 456 at 10:50am.

We’re very excited about Club 456 and we can’t wait to see you there for the first time on September 13th!



Faith Stepping Stones

Faith Stepping Stones is back this year—a little leaner, a lot better!

Due to budget constraints, the Faith Stepping Stones program will begin the 2009-2010 year with three stones: Baptism, First Communion and My Bible. The First Communion and My Bible stones instruction will take place in the students’ KidZone classroom during the 10am Education Hour on selected Sundays throughout the year. Parents, this means you *do not* have to try to make it back to church at another time during the week! We understand that has been a struggle for many. These changes are being made in an effort to make these courses as accessible as possible.

For more information on the

Baptism stone, please see the article “Baptism at Christ the King” on the Children’s Ministry page of the church’s website.

For more details pertaining to the First Communion and My Bible stones, families with students in the 1st and 3rd grades respectively should expect an informational letter in the mail at the beginning of September which will include the sessions schedule.

Any other questions/concerns can be directed to Marissa: mletscher@ctklutheran.org or 770-449-1211.

