



The **Whisper**

Christ the King Episcopal Church
6400 North Socrum Loop
Lakeland, FL 33809
863-858-1948

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1176, Kathleen, FL 33849-1176

January 20th, 2022

Serving SUNDAY 1/23

Acolyte— Patrick Biggs

OT— Carolyn Bonzack

NT— Jessica Beck

POP— Philip Williams

Ushers— Jessica Beck, Alice Bradshaw, Philip Williams

Altar Guild— Marilyn Springthorpe, Sarah Williams

Children’s Chapel— Andrea Borden

Pray for One Another

Deacon Ed Tatlian, Jo Ann Tatlian, Anne Therrien, Julia Thomas, Tim Thomas, Linda Toalster, Steven Toalster, Vicky Vilchez-LeeDiane Vollmer, Lynn Weese, Helen Wettleson, Ron Wettleson, Ines White, Andrea Whiteley, Don Williams, Jane Williams, Joyce Williams, Sarah Williams, Phillip Williams, Dave Yearicks, Terri Yearicks, Christopher Yearicks, Deacon Kate Yotter.

Our **Prayer Team** continues to pray for the needs of our church. Please be in touch with Joy Parker should you, a friend or family member need to have prayers during this time of pandemic. Please feel free to send an email to Dr. Joy Parker at: greatgg26@gmail.com. OR 863-712-5594

People on Christ the Kings prayer list:

Those on Christ the Kings prayer list: : Chris, Brian, Connie, Christopher, David, Elliott, Roy, Ronnie, Gabbie, Bob, Kim, Amber, Olivia, Wyatt, Lorna, David, The Springthorpe and Parrish Families, Joy, Paul, Trent. All those effected by Covid 19, those who have committed suicide and the families they have left behind, and those who have been affected by disasters.



ANNUAL REPORT TIME....

If still have NOT received your report, you will have until end of business today for it to be received. The report that goes to the congregation will be prepared and printed on Monday, January 24th.

If you HAVE NOT submitted a report, it will be so noted in the Annual Report as no report submitted.

If you have volunteered to be a nominee, please submit your bio to Jo Ann Tatlian as soon as possible.

We have a new Member!!

Baby Cody James Pouncey

was born last Wednesday, January 12th in the morning. Since he arrived prior to our giving them a “Baby Shower” we will be collecting, diapers, wipes, etc. these items need to be marked “SENSITIVE” - They would also appreciate “BOYS” clothing and infant toys. You can bring everything to church, and put it in the “Blue Box” in the hallway.

He is the son of Xena Folsom and. Anthony Pouncey. His big sister is Olivia June Pouncey .

We will be presenting Xena and Anthony with everything this Sunday!



3rd Sunday after the Epiphany, January 23rd

Bible Study—9:00 a.m.

Praise Team—9:30 a.m.

Worship —10:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 30th– Annual Meeting

Monthly Activities-

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND

Study Groups—

Sunday Morning Bible Study—9:00 a.m.

Tuesday Bible Study—Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Praise Team Rehearsals—Every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday Study Group– 1st and 3rd Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

*Please note the loose Sunday Offering is designated for
1st Sunday Mission; and the 3rd Sunday Discretionary Funds*

This week's
Anniversaries
or
Birthday's

Debbie Hilliard, 1/25; George Giesman, 1/28

Given to the Glory of God—
General Fund Offering = \$5,948.00
Expenses = \$7,476.31

We still have empty places on our Flower Chart.

Please take the time to look at it before you leave church on Sunday—or come during the week!
It's an important piece of our Sunday worship.

It would be wonderful to have at least the first 3 months of 2022 Sunday's covered.

You DO NOT have to pay for them now, you can do that on the Sunday you pick.

Remember all of these arrangements are to the "GLORY OF GOD" to make HIS house of worship beautiful. We have had to increase the cost for flowers next year each arrangement will cost \$25.00 (\$50.00 for both).

Please remember to pick your Sunday(s)!!

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and

Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon



Diocese Convention Delegates—the following people have volunteered to attend.

Jessica Beck, Debbie Hilliard, Jo Ann Tatlian

They need to be voted on at the Service this coming Sunday.

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR THE 2022 VESTRY ELECTION



Jessica Beck and it has been a pleasure to be a part of the vestry for the last three years. I have attended Christ the King since 2000, but this was my first time being a member of the vestry. I have taken this appointment very seriously and continued to be involved with different ministries. Over the years I have been involved in children's church, Boars Head, the car show, Christ the King Feast Day, being an Acolyte leader, making the Sunday announcements and helping with Vacation Bible School. I am still interested in serving on the Vestry and ask for your vote so I can serve another three years. I plan to continue assisting in any capacity that is asked of me

Alice Bradshaw

I would like to introduce myself for consideration as a member of the Church's Vestry position.

I became a member of this congregation in 2018. Since then it has been a privilege to be of service whenever I have been asked.

I worked the Hot Dog booth at last year's Car Show. I have been an usher for the past several years. I have volunteered during church clean up days. And I am a liaison with the AA groups which use the church facilities for their meetings.

My background includes:

Several years of college; never graduated.

Two years of Peace Corps service in Venezuela. Several years of helping Mexican immigrants with completing paper work to establish permanent resident status. Administrative Assistant to a University Vice Chancellor. Was a member of a search committee for an administrative position at the University level.

I headed up a search committee at Silver Lakes community for two new board members just this past year.

I am involved in my church, my community and other outside interests.

I feel confident that I would be able and willing to share my experience, strength and hope with other members of the Vestry.

I believe that God is guiding me in this very important decision. And that I will serve at his wishes.

Yours in love and service, Alice Bradshaw

Carolyn Lee Martin

After a successful 33 year career in banking and financial planning, my husband and I retired to a small community of Indian River, MI in 2000.

Community Involvement::

Member of Indian River Golf Club

Member of Indian River Women's Club

8 year volunteer in Indian River Christmas Parade. Three years as Mrs. Claus.

Church involvement at Transfiguration Episcopal Church of Inidan Rier:

Vestry 2 terms, one as Senior Warden
Established and chaired the Mission Committee
Member of Choir
Regular Volunteer for Senior Lunch
Volunteer for Messy Church

Bill and I moved to Lakeland, FL in 2018 to facilitate a good environment in which to raise our great grand daughters for whom we were named as their guardians.

Member of Christ the King Episcopal Church
Car Show, Usher, Altar Guild

Sarah Williams is a dedicated wife, mother and Episcopalian. She loves her family, consisting of Phillip, her husband and fellow parishioner, her children Molly, Kayla, and Conner, her grandson, Theodore, and the furry, four-legged members, Reggie and Jasper. Sarah's love for Christ the King is emulated in her dedication to church events and community outreach efforts. In partnership with her husband, she has supported the Christ the King Episcopal Church community for nearly 5 years and seeks to continue that service through membership in the church Vestry. Her strengths are kindness, gentleness, and her steadfastness to her commitments. Sarah has just completed her tenure as the president of her community's HOA and is seeking to devote her talents and time to the growth and strengthening of the body of Christ, through discipleship at Christ the King.

DIOCESE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA COVID-19 GUIDELINES, effective January 5, 2022

In light of the high transmission rates in our 15 counties of
Central Florida the following guidelines go into effect immediately!

COVID GUIDELINES

- Masks are mandatory indoors (regardless of vaccination status) effective immediately and will remain in place until your county has less than 10% new case positivity.
- The Celebrant and those serving at the altar must remain masked from the setting of the altar through the consecration and distribution of the Sacrament. Florida State Covid cases are on the rise!- week of
 - 12/3 – 13,530 2.6% Positivity
 - 12/10 – 29,514 5.3% Positivity
 - 12/17 - 128,186 13.9% Positivity
 - 12/24 – 298,455 26.5% Positivity
- The celebrant and any person distributing the communion elements shall wear disposable gloves.
- Those assigned to read lessons, lead the prayers of the people, and the preacher may remove their mask when they are speaking during their part in the service (if there are no people sitting in the pews/seats within 6 feet of the speaker.)
- At the exchange of the peace there shall be no physical contact (embrace, handshake, etc.) • An intinction only chalice still may be offered to the congregation.
- The passing of the collection plate in the pew may continue.
- If desired, food and beverage service may continue. Persons should be masked when not actively eating or drinking. • Social distancing has been proven to be less effective as a preventive measure than previously thought. There will be no mandatory distances set for indoor services.
- Private communions will be discontinued for the time being to protect the recipients, the lay eucharistic visitors, and the clergy.
- Churches must still provide masks and hand sanitizer in the common areas.
- Clergy may impose stricter sanctions than Diocesan COVID-19 protocols. **QUARANTINE GUIDELINES.**
- If you are in close contact for 15 minutes or more with person X who tests positive, you should remain quarantined for 5 days from person X's positive test. If you are exposed to someone who tested positive, you should be tested on the 5th day after your exposure.
- If your test is negative- you may resume your normal activities.
- If your test is positive- you must quarantine for 5 additional days, and remain masked for the next additional 5 days.
- If you tested positive for Covid, there is no need to be tested again for at least 3 months. You may continue to test positive for 90 days even though you are not contagious.
- If you are in a crowded outdoor settings and in close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated, you should remain masked.
- If you have a condition or taking medications that weaken your immune system, you may not be fully protected even if you are fully vaccinated. You should continue to take all precautions recommended for unvaccinated people, including wearing a well-fitted mask, until advised otherwise by their healthcare provider.
- If you are fully vaccinated, to maximize protection from all variants and prevent possibly spreading Covid to others, please wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission. (ALL counties in the Diocese of Central Florida are in high transmission areas!)
- If you have any comments or questions please contact Canon Scott Holcombe at sholcombe@cfdiocese.org.

The 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany—January 23rd, 2022

Old Testament—Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Psalm 19 - Caeli enarrant

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, * and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, * and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, * and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, * and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; * it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; * nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; * the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; * the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; * the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, * sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, * and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? * cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; * then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, * O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

The New Testament—1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one

member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The Gospel—Luke 4:14-21

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

Good News Daily

Volume XXII

January 23-29, 2022

Number 4

Sunday, January 23—[Genesis 13:2-18](#) *Lot looked up and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan was well watered, like the garden of the LORD.* (v.10a NIV)

How like Lot we all tend to be! It is the old adage “the grass is greener on the other side.” Lot looked up and saw lush green land and thought, “That’s for me.” The dream of being able to sit back and relax was going to become a reality to Lot. He knew that he would no longer have to wander from place to place to try to find green pastures for his flocks. The plain of the Jordan had everything Lot had always wanted. Truly this would make him happy. We see this supported in Genesis 19:1. Lot is not found with his flock but sitting at the gate. After all he was a man of means and had plenty of servants to tend to his business.

Of course, we know the end of the story. Lot lost it all with the destruction of Sodom. He barely escaped with his life. Looking at Lot’s “Uncle Abraham,” what a contrast. Abraham, the peacemaker, was willing to accept less than the best to keep peace with his kinsman. Abraham had a promise: “All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring, forever” (v.15). This was not the immediate “jackpot” that Lot’s portion appeared to be but the long-term reward.

We as believers do not always live in the immediate jackpot. Our promise is the longer “forever” of the eternal life.
Psalm 63; Galatians 2:1-10; Mark 7:31-37

Monday, January 24—[Hebrews 8:1-13](#) *“No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord.’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.”* (v.11)

Our readings today give us a glimpse into the future that belongs to us. The act of worship moves from the earthly sanctuary to the heavenly one. From the sacrificial lamb to the Lamb of God.

In our Old Testament reading we see Abraham offering gifts to Melchizedek, king of Salem. In the beginning of this passage from Hebrews we are told that, in Jesus, we have a high priest: a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek. We are also told that “there is a time coming” when the Law will be on everyone’s mind and heart.

We live in such a lawless society that it is difficult for us to imagine that all of those around us will know the Lord. How different our lives will be then! How different the way we will be able to walk around without fear! We will be able to rest in the total safety of the Lord. Not only to rest safely but to be of the same belief and mind as those around us. What a glorious day that will be!

Genesis 14:1-24; Psalms 41, 52; John 4:43-54

Tuesday, January 25—[John 5:1-18](#) *So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted him.* (v.16)

Can you imagine God sitting on His throne and just shaking His head at us and saying, “They just don’t get it”? Jesus came to give life and when he saw the man at the pool of Bethesda, his concern was more for the man’s heart than for his physical condition. Jesus asked the man if he in fact even wanted to be healed, knowing that some people are so in love with their sins and infirmities that the idea of being healed is totally alien to them. Healing would mean a complete turning around, a repentance. For this man it would mean a totally new life, to wake up each morning and do totally new things.

The Jewish leaders of Jesus’ day were more concerned for the Law than for the paralyzed man. Jesus’ concern was then and is now for the whole person. When he met up again with the man he had healed, Jesus warns him to stop sinning or something worse may happen. Jesus touches the root of the problem, the heart of the man.

When we meet people as a part of our daily journey, we need to look past what paralyzes them and be concerned with their heart need, with that deeper place that only Jesus’ love can reach and heal.

Genesis 15:1-11, 17-21; Psalm 45; Hebrews 9:1-14

Wednesday, January 26—[Genesis 16:1-14](#) *“He will be a wild donkey of a man, his hand will be against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers.”* (v.12)

This is the root, the beginning, of the [Mideast conflict](#). It was born out of Sarai’s impatience. She could not wait for the Lord to fulfill His promise to Abram, so she forced an ungodly plan of her own and then complained about the results.

Although she drove Hagar away, Sarai drove her right into the arms of a compassionate God. Even though Hagar’s child was not the one to fulfill God’s promise to Abram, God blesses him because he is from Abram’s seed. He is Ishmael, “father of many.” Even before Ishmael was born, his future was set. He was truly born to be wild, his hand set

against everyone. Today we are still seeing the fruit of that statement in the unrest among the Arab people, especially in their relationship with the sons of Isaac, their Hebrew brothers.

The same God who saw Hagar's pain and suffering saw the pain and suffering in His children and sent His very own Son to remove the pain of guilt, jealousy, and sin that separates us from God's love. In Jesus we can become "sons of Isaac" and receive the full promises of Abraham.

Psalm 119:49-72; Hebrews 9:15-28; John 5:19-29

Thursday, January 27—[Psalm 50](#) *And the heavens proclaim his righteousness for God himself is judge.*

(v.6)

For years this psalm has offered me comfort when I am in turmoil. It is a marvelous picture of the perfect nature of God. He speaks and summons the earth. No one can say "no" to God. He is perfect in beauty. We cannot even imagine a beauty that is absolutely perfect.

God will not be silent. When I want to speak out against the injustice and unfairness around me, I know there is one who will have the final say. He will judge everyone whether or not they want to believe that God is a judge.

Even the heavens proclaim His righteousness. The world view will not be able to shut this crowd up. Who can silence the heavenly host?

When I feel the world is swallowing me whole, I can take comfort in the fact that if the cattle on a thousand hills belong to God, how much more I belong to Him. I can call upon the Lord in my troubles and He will not only deliver me but also honor me.

Genesis 16:15—17:14; Hebrews 10:1-10; John 5:30-47

Friday, January 28—[Hebrews 10:11](#)-25 *Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.* (v.25)

We constantly hear people who say, "I do not need to go to church. I worship God in my own way at home." The writer of Hebrews probably heard the same arguments because in the midst of this beautiful picture of the sacrifice Jesus made for us and, telling the Hebrew people to write these things on their hearts, he suddenly throws in not to give up meeting together.

There had obviously been some cases of "stay at home" believers, "as some are in the habit of doing." Stay at home believers not only cannot encourage others who are fellow members of their community of faith, but they also cannot receive the encouragement that we all need. As we see believers getting discouraged in their journey of faith, it is our job to encourage them all the more as we see the day approaching. Give some encouragement today. Say a kind word, write a note, or simply lend a smile that shows you care.

Genesis 17:15-27; Psalms 40, 54; John 6:1-15

Saturday, January 29—[Hebrews 10:26](#)-39 *But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.* (v.39)

Here the Hebrews are given a glimpse of judgment and the hard time ahead. The writer tells them, and us, that now that we know the truth we have to live in that truth and act accordingly. No longer can we live according to the ways of the world and pretend that is okay. In fact, that would make us like enemies of God. This passage tells us that insulting the Spirit with wrong behavior is like treating the sacrificial death of Jesus as unholy.

We are told to remember the days when we stood our ground while being insulted and persecuted. God is calling His people, the Church, today to stand our ground, to publicly confess His word, His truth, and not to throw away our confidence. Let us stand together and not shrink back.

Genesis 18:1-16; Psalm 55; John 6:16-27

[by Vicky Graham](#)

Used with permission from the BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP
PO Box 380, Winter Park, FL 32790
www.biblereading.org