



# CORNERSTONE

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1505 S. FORD STREET, REDLANDS, CA 92373  
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ctkredlands.org



## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SMITH

AUGUST 2018

Dearly beloved of Christ the King;  
The Lord be with you.

All Theology is Christology. American Christianity has, in large part, been seduced into thinking that religion is all about us, all about me, all about the self. A consumerism approach to matters of faith in our country exacerbates this unhappy trend. It is not breaking news to report that every human being alive possesses a healthy dose of ego-centricity. Apparently, everyone's favorite word to hear is their own name. Many churches have tapped into this consumerism approach and intentionally crafted a service that, regardless of their protestations otherwise, puts the parishioner in the center. Church as spiritual self-help, church as spiritual self-reflection, church as spiritual self-affirmation – these are the contemporary paradigms for success in today's spiritual marketplace. There is a better way. Check that; there is a much better way.

In the Gospel according to John we find these words: "In Him (the Word made flesh, Jesus) was life, and the life was the light of men" (John 1:4). The eternal Son of God, who was made man, who was crucified to save all humanity from sin and death, who rose again triumphantly from the grave, who ascended to the Father's right hand, and who promised to be with His church throughout the ages – He is to be always and prominently and spectacularly in the center of the church's life and practice. Jesus said: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10). His life is what the church feeds on, not the most recent trend that hawks the latest method for getting in touch with your spiritual feelings.

Christ Himself engages us with His life through His holy Word. The narrative of God's will to save humanity through His beloved Son is the content of the Scriptures – from beginning to end. Jesus said: "These are the Scriptures which testify about Me" (John 5:39). In God's Word we encounter a life that goes beyond our own, and through this Word God Himself is at work to convey, to deliver, to grant the bounty of His Son's enduring life. About this Word St. Paul wrote these marvelously applicable words: "I

am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith'" (Romans 1:16-17).

It is almost embarrassing to say, but the church has become wayward from her first love. A concerted return to the Lord's feet by returning to His teaching is the corrective for our self-infatuated era. Listen for the words of Jesus in your pastor's preaching. Listen to see if he is putting Christ in the center of the worship of God's people, or if something else occupies the place of highest honor – namely us. Listen to the music being sung in your church. Who or what does it amplify? Do the songs mostly speak about what God has done for us or what we do for Him? Do you really want to be at the center of your faith? Isn't there a better way?

Jesus said: "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). The Crucified has set us free from sin, and death, and Satan's cruel tyranny and that freedom is lavished upon us as His blessed Word is feasted upon in the worshipping assembly. The church's first and only love is the King who established His kingdom by dying and rising. The church's first love is the narrative of His life and the rich teaching He continues to give to any and to all in Holy Scripture. May the church ever abide in Him. May the church ever abide in His wounds, and His words.

Peace be with you,

Rev. Wiley James Smith

## Bioethics in Luther's Small Catechism

By Ryan C. MacPherson

May 22, 2018

Does the title of this article surprise you? We are accustomed to thinking of “bioethics” as “new,” stemming from ethical questions surrounding the medical technology of the 20th and 21st centuries. Luther's *Small Catechism* dates back to 1530. How could Luther's summary of Scripture possibly be relevant to today's medical breakthroughs?

Simple. Luther latched onto timeless truths from God's Word. Whether or not he personally anticipated that his catechism could be applied to bioethics is beside the point. God's Word is always relevant.

Consider the **First Commandment**, unpacked by Luther into these words: “We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.” Intrauterine devices, contraceptive drugs, fertility treatments, embryonic stem-cell research, human cloning, gender transformation surgery—the list keeps growing, but the issue remains the same. First, consider motive: does your choice in these matters arise from faith in God—from fear, love, and trust in Him above all? Or do you fear pregnancy (or else infertility) more than you fear God? Do you love your scientific research ambitions more than you love Him? Do you trust in your own sense of “gender identity” rather than God's design for male and female?

Consider the **Fifth Commandment**, unpacked by Luther into these words: “We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.” Now talk with your physician about in vitro fertilization: fertilizing multiple eggs in the lab, selecting several of them to be implanted in the uterus, storing or else discarding the rest, knowing that most of the ones that get implanted will not survive, hoping that one will, worried that three might—triplets can be difficult, right? Now ask yourself whether this procedure defends and supports the life of each child, yes, from the moment of conception onward.

Or what about the **Fourth Commandment** in relation to **Holy Baptism**? In the Large Catechism, Luther identifies the reason that children ought to honor and obey their parents: God has given them parents in order to bless them through the spiritual and physical care that God expects parents to provide to their children. Bringing one's children to Holy Baptism is an essential component of Christian parenthood. Now ask yourself how this applies to children who have been intentionally conceived and then discarded, or frozen in storage indefinitely, as part of the process of bringing a selected sibling of those children into the world. Is it right to baptize the selected one but cut Christian parenthood short with respect to the others?

Consider the **Sixth Commandment** and the numerous study questions and Bible passages provided in the synodical exposition to Luther's Catechism. Read Genesis 1:28, Psalms 127 and 128, and Malachi 2:15. Now ask yourself whether God desires that husband and

wife should remain open to His blessing of children, or whether God regards children as choices to be welcomed only when the situation is convenient by human standards. You know that the world has spoken loudly and clearly as to its position on this issue. Can you also hear that still, quiet voice of God? When you fear, do you turn to the world's strategy for consolation, or do you remember the **First Article** and the **Fourth Petition**? God richly and daily provides, and He invites you to receive your daily bread with thanksgiving.

Consider **Confession**, unpacked by Luther into these words: “Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of.” Perhaps in contemplating the questions provided above, you still do not know right from wrong. Perhaps your conscience is unsettled about prior decisions or confused about forthcoming decisions. Frankly, the remedy is not for you to get your bioethics checklist just right; checklists are for Pharisees, who think they can figure out the right standard and then follow it perfectly. You are too broken for that, and God knows it.

When all else fails (and all else will fail!), consider **Absolution**. The point of absolution is that God forgives those sins which we confess specifically and also those sins which we aren't even sure we need to confess. Lean not on your ability to confess but on His promise to forgive. Come to Jesus with the sincerity of your doubt: “Lord, I've sinned against You in ways that I know and in ways that I don't know. O Christ, I rely on nothing other than Your promise to forgive.”

Now ask yourself one more question: Do you still think it odd to speak of “Bioethics in Luther's Small Catechism”? Or, do you realize now that Luther's summary of Holy Scripture provides a framework for addressing all kinds of challenging topics? Luther, like John the Baptist before him, simply pointed to Christ. That's the value of the catechism, for all of life.



*Ryan C. MacPherson, Ph.D., a member of the LFL Speakers Bureau, teaches at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota. He also is the founding president of the Hausvater Project ([www.hausvater.org](http://www.hausvater.org)) and the author of *The Culture of Life: Ten Essential Principles for Christian Bioethics*.*



On July 1<sup>st</sup>, Christ the King Lutheran Church and School dedicated a mural inside the new Multi-Purpose Building that will happily be seared into the minds of generations of children. This magnificent depiction of the Lord Christ with four adorable children is an artistic rendition of the precise reality that is played out at Christ day after day in our school. The mural, painted by Mr. Larry Dierdorff, was the inspired choice of our school director, Mrs. Christine Chernobieff, and sponsored as a memorial to Mr. Brian Waller by the Waller and Prill families.

The Words of Christ are prominent and frame the image perfectly. "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14). The central figures are found in an orange grove to place our local context within the scope of our Lord's ongoing work. The flowers at the bottom of the mural are a reminder of the resurrection and the hope of heaven which breaks into this earthly sphere.

The cross, encircled with a heart, was mounted on the exterior of the building also as a memorial to Brian Waller and was dedicated on July 1<sup>st</sup> as well. The physical beauty of our campus and the delightful Christian art which adorns our church and school is amplified by these recent additions. We are grateful to the Waller and Prill families and to Mrs. Chernobieff for their devotion to our Lord, their desire to beautiful our school, and their lovely contribution. To God alone be the glory.



**Pacific Southwest District**

1540 Concordia Drive East  
Irvine, California 92612-3203  
949-854-3232 or 855-856-5350  
FAX: 949-854-8140

May 2018

Rev. Wiley Smith  
Christ the King Lutheran Church  
1505 S. Ford Street  
Redlands, CA 92373

Dear Pastor Smith,

I want you to know how much I appreciate your support for Christine Chernobieff who served on the Early Childhood Cabinet this school year. Your commitment to the Pacific Southwest District helps to strengthen the projects, resources, professional development and value-added programs that we can offer.

Thank you for your partnership in the educational ministry that we share to children and families!

Connected in Christ, serving Him,

Rachel Klitzing  
Executive Director of School Ministries

cc: Christine Chernobieff

WOODSIDE FAMILY  
307 E. WACHTER  
BISMARCK, ND  
58504

BISMARCK ND 585

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CTK  
1505 S. Ford st  
Redlands, CA  
92373

CTK,

I hope your summer is going well. I hear it's been pretty hot down there... North Dakota has had a little heat too... hahaha. Well we hope to get down there to visit at some point. It would be great to see you all again.

God Bless  
JUSTIN & FAMILY



**BETHEL**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI SYNOD

Greetings CTK,

We're finally in North Dakota! We left Fort Wayne on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June and arrived here on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The city is beautiful. Although it has been a bit hot, I suppose we ought to enjoy it while it lasts, as winter will likely be pretty extreme.

And so Vicarage begins! Well, actually, I haven't officially begun. I'm scheduled for installation on the 29<sup>th</sup> at Shepherd of the Valley, and then a week later at Bethel. I look forward to starting. In the meantime we have been settling in, exploring the city, and meeting the congregations.

Luke is currently in the process of applying for part-time jobs. He is hoping to save money for a car, hopefully before we go back to Indiana. He and the other two boys want to get involved in local sports, hopefully with the nearby highschools. Eutimia may join in the choir or local theater. We'll see. Rosie is just getting bigger and bigger. Her vocabulary is growing by leaps and bounds, and a few times she has actually spoke complete sentences!

We hope you all are doing well! I will continue to keep you updated throughout my Vicarage year! Thank you all for everything you've done for our family!

God Bless everyone at CTK!

In Christ,

The Woodsides

The Woodsides

# CTK August 2018 Events



## NO COUPLES BIBLE STUDY

in August

## WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY



Please join us on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the church overflow. Everyone is welcomed.

## CTK WOMEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAY, August 17<sup>th</sup> AT 9AM



Set aside an hour to enjoy some sisterly fellowship and café refreshments at the ESRI Café, located at 380 New York Street in Redlands (south of the post office). Hope to see you there.

## Bible Study **Saturday Mornings** @ 8a.m. - 9a.m.



With Deacon Russ in the Church Office

## MEET YOUR TEACHER SUNDAY – AUGUST 12 CHURCH GREETERS NEEDED



The Board of Evangelism is recruiting members of the congregation to be present in the Preschool/Kindergarten classrooms on Meet Your Teacher Sunday on August 12, 2018 from 10:30am to 12:00pm. The goal is to welcome parents to our school and to share information about our church. We have been doing this now for the past three years and it has been well received by all participating in this event. Teachers say they feel supported by the church and it helps to have another person in the room visit with parents while they wait to meet the teacher. Congregation members say it gives them an appreciation of the sterling quality of our teachers and the richness of the education and activities provided for the students. It is a great opportunity to share what our church has to offer and



## LWML SCHOOL KIT TIME

We have quite a few supplies left over from last year. All we need this year to complete the 77 kits is 268 spiral notebooks and donations of money to cover the cost of shipping. If you prefer to donate money, please label checks "School Supplies" in the memo line and place in the offering plate. Cash needs to be placed in an ordinary envelope and labeled with "School Supplies", your name and the amount. Please put your donated notebooks in the box next to the LWML table in the narthex. For more information you can contact Joy Phillips or Ruth Scott. Thank you. 😊

## Anniversaries

08/03 Don & Bernice David  
08/07 Dwayne & Cynthia Danielson  
08/18 Anthony & Carolyn Lombardo  
08/18 Glenn & Jodi Henderson  
08/21 Joe & Diane Ronchetto  
08/30 Dan & Mary Beth Gosnell  
08/30 Vance & Doris Herzberger

If your special date did not appear or is incorrect, please contact Cindy Currier at the church office 909-793-5703.

## Birthdays

08/02 Lucy Becker	08/17 Cheri Haarala
08/02 Robert Hathaway	08/17 Patricia Townsend
08/04 Margaret Nowak	08/18 Marianne Anderson
08/05 Karen Prill	08/21 Bukola Gross
08/06 Louie Freitas	08/22 Sophia Waller
08/07 Alex Perez	08/23 Matt Townsend
08/08 Lorrie Hinkleman	08/24 Joe Ronchetto
08/09 Benjamin Whittier	08/28 Timothy Bakken
08/14 Gladys Nye	08/31 Fred Nowak
08/16 Aric Perez	

# CTK August 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b> Divine Service <b>10:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study			 <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study		<b>6:00 PM</b> Stewardship Meeting	<b>8:00 AM</b> Bible Study with Deacon Russ 
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b> Divine Service <b>10:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study		<b>7:00 PM</b> Evangelism Meeting	 <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study			
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b> Divine Service  <b>10:30 AM</b> Meet Your Teacher (No Adult Bible Study)			 <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study	<b>7:00 PM</b> Elder Meeting		
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b> Divine Service <b>10:30 AM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collect Mites</li> <li>Adult Bible Study</li> </ul>		 <b>9:00 AM</b> Women's Coffee Fellowship	 <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study			<b>10:00 AM</b> Elder Meeting
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b> Divine Service <b>10:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study		<b>7:00 PM</b> Church Council Meeting	 <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Bible Study			<b>8:00 AM</b> Bible Study with Deacon Russ 



Check out our website at [www.ckredands.org](http://www.ckredands.org)



Christ the King Lutheran Church  
 1505 S. Ford Street  
 Redlands, CA 92373




## Servants for August 2018



DATE	ACOLYTES	ALTAR	ELDERS
Aug 5	Gabriela Vasquez & Ava Belli	Bernice David	Tom Crowley
Aug 12	Alex Hathaway & Jacob Freitas	Renee Murphy	Dwayne Danielson
Aug 19	Lauren Hathaway & Sierra Scott	Anna Bush	Don David
Aug 26	Emma Hinkleman & Jilian Belli	Connie Johnson	Vic Hayes
DATE	FLOWERS	DATE	FINANCE
Aug 5	John & Betty Mitchell	Aug 5 & 12	Cindy Hanson & Judy Alder
Aug 12	Gloria Paulus	Aug 19 & 26	Robert Arnold & Joy Phillips
Aug 19	Don & Bernice David	DATE	USHERS
Aug 26	Glenn & Jodi Henderson	Aug 5	Mike Bush & James Wilson
		Aug 12 & 19	Tom Crowley & Tim Reiman
		Aug 26 & Sep 2	Joe Belli & James Wilson