

# Christ the King Lutheran Church Annual Report for 2011

## Table of Contents

Church Council & Staff Listing.....	2
Congregational Meeting Agenda.....	3
Annual Report of the Pastor.....	4
Annual Report of the Youth and Family Director.....	7
Annual Report of the Council President.....	9

## Annual Ministry Team Reports

Treasurer.....	10
• 2011 Income & Expense Summary.....	11
• 2011 Proposed Ministry.....	12
• 2011 - 2012 Comparisons.....	13
Congregational Life Ministry.....	15
Fellowship Ministry.....	16
Learning Ministry.....	17
• King's Kids Preschool.....	19
Property Ministry.....	20
Service Ministry.....	21
Staff Relations Ministry.....	24
Witness Ministry.....	25
Worship & Music Ministry.....	26
• Music Ministry.....	28
Youth & Family Ministry.....	30

# CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

10550 Georgetown Pike  
Great Falls, VA 22066-2416  
Office - 703-759-6068 Fax - 703-759-7918  
www.gflutheran.org email: ChristTheKing.GreatFalls@verizon.net

## The Church Staff

Rev. John Bradford, Pastor  
Jane Cooper, Director of Vocal Music & Music Ministry Coordinator  
Andrew Dobos, Director of Instrumental Music & Organist  
Deb Cantrell, Youth & Family Ministry Director  
Tracey Shenk, King's Kids Preschool Director  
Mike Swineford, Church Administrator  
Satva Silva, Silvia Locks, Nursery Attendants

## The 2011 Church Council

<b>Position</b>	<b>January - June</b>	<b>July - December</b>
<i>President</i>	Brett McMillen	David Whelan
<i>Vice-President</i>	Bill Carbaugh	Peter Saba
<i>Secretary</i>	David Whelan	Mark Baker
<i>Treasurer (ex officio)</i>	Bill Hiatt	Bill Hiatt
<i>Financial Secretary (ex officio)</i>	Tom Cooper	Kristine Chadwick
<i>Congregational Life Chair</i>	Susan Boruff	Vacant
<i>Fellowship Chair</i>	Tracey Maxwell	Donna Kiffe
<i>Finance &amp; Insurance Chair</i>	Kary Froscheiser	Kary Froscheiser
<i>Learning Chair</i>	Liz Spoto	Liz Spoto
<i>Long Range Planning Chair</i>	Bill Carbaugh	Peter Saba
<i>Staff Relations Chair</i>	Mitch Neaves	Mitch Neaves
<i>Property Chair</i>	Tom Kalka	Tom Cooper
<i>Service Chair</i>	Juli Benson	Juli Benson
<i>Stewardship Chair</i>	Ernie Fergusson	Ernie Fergusson
<i>Witness Chair</i>	Victoria Wagner	Victoria Wagner
<i>Worship &amp; Music Chair</i>	Charles Schwab	Charles Schwab
<i>Youth &amp; Family Chair</i>	Steve Wilson	Steve Wilson

# **Christ the King Lutheran Church Great Falls, VA**

## **Congregational Meeting Agenda**

**February 5, 2011**

1. Call meeting to order - David Whelan
2. Establishment of Quorum (50 confirmed members)
3. Presentation of Annual Report to Congregation
4. Treasurer's Report - Bill Hiatt
5. Stewardship Report
6. 2012 Budget Proposal
7. Resolution of Approval of 2012 Budget
8. Call for any other old or new business
9. Closing Prayer
10. Adjournment

## Report from the Pastor

*“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,  
plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.  
Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.  
When you search for me, you will find me says the Lord;  
if you seek me with all your heart,  
I will let you find me, says the Lord...”  
(Jeremiah 29: 11-14a)*

Greetings of grace and peace fellow disciples of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

I begin my first report as your pastor with one of my favorite scripture verses from the prophet Jeremiah. In these verses we are assured that our God is with us in amazing ways to assure us of the plans that God has for us – plans for our welfare, to give us a future with hope! What great possibilities God has for us as we consider the potential of 2012. Even though my thoughts in this report reflect back on what has happened in 2011, my heart is already focused on the new possibilities that lie ahead as we move forward energized by our Lord’s promise that if we seek him with all our heart, he will let us find him. And in finding our Lord we find our future both as individuals and as a congregation. I am excited about our future!

As I compose this report we have been in a partnership of ministry for eleven months. Our Lord has been very gracious to us. I, very much, feel called here at this particular time to be your pastor and want you to know what a joy it is for me to serve the faithful followers of Jesus at Christ the King Lutheran Church. Surely God has blessed us with many opportunities to discern our mission/vision here as the gathered body of Christ. The wonderful aspect of being your pastor is your willingness to look at how God is calling us to “be” and “do” as disciples named and claimed by our Lord, Jesus Christ. We have been given many gifts for ministry and through our willingness to work in partnership, with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we will continue to look for the future; the future that our Lord promises that is filled with hope. Thanks be to God!

We are a growing congregation. Since I began my pastorate with you the Holy Spirit has baptized 11 new disciples who are now new members of this church. We have received into membership through Affirmation of Baptism 35 new disciples. We are currently looking to a new members group consisting of nine or more disciples looking for membership within the next few months. We had the joy to celebrate with 11 of our youth being confirmed this year through the reaffirmation of their baptisms.

We are a congregation willing to seek God’s leading in discerning our call to ministry. During the month of June we conducted seven cottage meetings. We had a total of 58 families represented at these gatherings. These meetings proved to be very useful to us all as folks got to know their new pastor and wife and I had an opportunity to share my vision of discipleship and what it means to be a discipleship congregation. We had some great conversations and wonderful fellowship.

Our first year together has been a productive one as we have seen this congregation explore more deeply what it means to be a discipleship-based community of faith. What exactly does that mean? It means that we are more interested in growing our faith together as a community of believers than we are about the statistical aspects of membership. That is not to say that membership should be disregarded, as it has been an important element of our congregation's growth and development over the past 30 years. Having said that, I would submit that membership is all too often considered to be the "end of the journey." With the discipleship model, commitment to the life and future of a congregation is just the "beginning of the journey" as we work together to build ministry and our lives of faith together.

I have spent a good deal of time talking about the Marks of Discipleship from the

## PoWeR SuRGe

acronym, which helps us remember these six important marks of being disciples...

**Pray** daily  
**Worship** weekly  
**Read** the Bible daily

And from that power comes the "surge" to...

**Serve** at and beyond Christ the King Lutheran Church  
**Relate** to one another and to our God  
**Give** of our time, talents and resources

These marks will be the guiding principle as we go about building ministry and adding to the numbers of our family at Christ the King Lutheran Church in the future.

During the year we have had several opportunities to communicate directly with the congregation regarding our stewardship challenges and I am very pleased with the response we received. There is more detailed information elsewhere in this annual report, but suffice to say that your response enabled us to get our finances out of the red and into the black. I am grateful for that as it empowers us to begin the new year in much better shape financially. As we continue a new and renewed focus on biblical stewardship, it is my hope that 2012 will be a better year with fewer letters asking for help with our finances.

It has been a year of exceptional cooperation and unity on the part of our Council. We had a wonderful retreat in the fall simply focusing on our mission and vision as a discipleship congregation, our relationship with God and one another, and our role as spiritual leaders of the church. The spirit of the session was enhanced by the presence of Pastor Joe Vought from Community Lutheran Church in Sterling, who co-led the retreat.

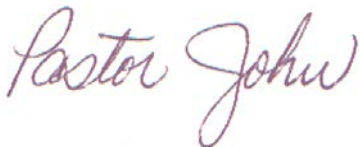
Staff relationships are excellent. We are blest as a church to have people who are grace-infused, care about each other, work well together, are patient and flexible, work hard, go the extra-mile in their own work, respect and support the ministries of each other, laugh easily, communicate honestly, and just basically get along in the best sense of that word. I think I speak for us all when I say that we love our jobs and look forward to 'coming to work.' I deeply appreciate the gifts brought to the life of our congregation and our daily/weekly efforts by Deb, Mike, Jane, Andrew, Karen and Tracey.

The spirit of the congregation is open, friendly, welcoming, caring and receptive to the work of the Spirit among us. Of course we are not perfect. But from what I observe and what I hear and what I experience personally – this is a remarkable congregation. There is diversity in some of our worship preferences...in some of our theological convictions...in some of our passions for ministry...in some of our ideas for the future – but there is a lot of unity in our core values, fundamental commitments and love for one another. It is a wonderful place to belong...and I think all who visit feel it.

This has been a year in which I have embraced in a deeper and more complete way just who I am as a pastor – and who we are as a church. That is, to be comfortable with my unique mix of gifts and strengths, as well as my limitations and weaknesses. In my imperfection – I am still the person whom God made me to be and the one God has put here in this church for this time and for the people here now...and for the people whom God is drawing and calling to this place who are not here yet. (In fact, one of the great blessings is to see how God has been gathering people here and bringing such a wonderful mix of gifts and strengths and passions that have been critical pieces in the unfolding of God's direction for us.) We are WHO WE ARE and my job is to help us be the US that God wants us to be – not some aberration of us patterned after other churches and other forms that don't fit the unique shape of our church in this community.

Thank you for being a part of this church...a participant in the life of this congregation...a sheep of the flock in this particular pasture of God's kingdom. Thank you for allowing me to be your pastor – Christ's under-shepherd – and encouraging me in all the many ways you do, large and small. May we continue to be partners in Christ's mission for many more years.

For Christ's sake and the glory of God, in the power of the Spirit,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Pastor John". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor John Bradford

## Report from the Youth & Family Minister

My Dear Friends,

What a year this has been! *Gift Nights, Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sale, Operation Sharehouse*, rummage sale, Butterbraid fundraiser, Silent Pie Auction and Chili Supper, Easter Breakfast, 7th/8th Grade Youth Mission Trip, Senior High Mission Trip, 11 new Confirmands, Confirmation Banquet, teaching Confirmation classes, youth events, lock-ins, Confirmation retreat, Virginia Conference meetings, Great Falls Ecumenical Council, Synod Assembly, Salvation Army Grate Patrol, College Care Packages in the fall and spring semesters, tornado warning, snow storm, hurricane, earthquake, and pneumonia. Even with all of this excitement, I shared some remarkable “God-moments” with this congregation, helped to welcome a new friend and pastor, and stood with the rest of the congregation to welcome individuals and families as they became disciples with us at Christ the King.

The congregation at Christ the King has an abiding love for Christ, a heart for service and a love of children. This is evident in their support and participation in events throughout the year.

Each fall and spring semester, the congregation generously donates items for our College Care Packages. This year we sent over 30 packages to students across the country from our congregation. The boxes included snacks, stress balls, highlighters, pens, sticky notes, prayer cards and designer sugar cookies donated by “Sugar Cookie Creations”.

The entire congregation came together to raise \$3,750 and packaged 15,000 meals for Christ the King’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Operation Sharehouse in February. The congregation enjoyed fellowship and fun while scooping rice and dried vegetables. More importantly, those participants heard God’s call, “ if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness . . .” Isaiah 58:10.

In November 2010, we decided to change the Annual Pie Auction to a silent auction and add a chili supper to the event. The results were impressive. Over \$1,100 dollars was raised and the event was very well attended.

On Super Bowl Sunday 2011, mission trip participants were able to raise over \$500 making family-size subs, antipasto salads and pans of brownies during the *Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sale* on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Then the congregation enjoyed a hearty Easter breakfast and helped to finance the Mission Trip with the help of the Tuesday Morning Men’s Bible study who cooked and cleaned.

After some very hard work, the Mission Trip group found a long line waiting to find bargains and treasures at the first Annual Christ the King Youth Rummage Sale. Sales were good and are expected to be impressive in 2012 Rummage Sale scheduled on May 5, 2012 and the youth sold the yummy *ButterBraids* just in time for everyone’s Easter breakfast.

After all the all the fundraising, on June 26th, fourteen 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth packed up three vans and traveled 8 hours to Lutheridge Camp in North Carolina for the 2011 Mission Trip. On July 17th, thirteen Senior High youth did the same. Each group spent their time serving on the Cherokee Indian Reservation at Cherokee, NC., particularly at the Living Waters Lutheran Church, the Rathburn Center—home-away-from home for patients and their families during extended hospital stays, and the Manna Food Bank. Both groups spent a day rafting down the Nolichucky River and the Director of Youth and Family traversed the River both in and out of the boat.

Beginning on October 16 and each third Sunday of the month, members of the congregation come together to attend various ministries and *break bread* at a potluck dinner on *Gift Night*. The name "Gift" Night is an acronym for "growing in faith together". *Gift Night* allows the congregation to block off a small amount of time to attend several small group events that they might not be able to fit into their busy schedules otherwise. *Gift Night* has something for everyone from infants to 99, single or married, children or empty-nesters. Some small group ministries were already in place, such as King's Ringers and King's Chimers and others which were new to Christ the King, such as the Wednesday night adult Bible study.

Raising Up Parents, a small group ministry for parents, was formed in 2010 and is still meeting each month. The group has been joined by Rose Smith, a licensed counselor. She graciously consented to facilitate the group and lend her expertise.

There are so many people to recognize and acknowledge that I run the risk of forgetting to name a generous supporter of the Youth and Family Ministry. With a handful of exceptions, may I just say, thank you to all of you who stepped forward to cook, drive, pack, chaperone, organize, clean, paint, teach and answered the call to support our youth through this ministry.

I need to take a moment to thank a few key leaders in the Youth and Family and the Learning Ministries. Steve Wilson, as your council representative for the Youth and Family Ministry has become an integral part of the Senior High Bible Study group and has taken on the task of primary leader for this group. He keeps the parents and students informed about the topics for each week's class and fellowship and service events. Kevin Magley has stepped forward to be the Senior High Youth Leader and advisor to the Youth and Family Team. He spends a good deal of time at youth events and on yearly mission trips. Liz Spoto, your Education Rep to the Council, has worked closely with me and her Education team to come up with a winner program again this year. I must also mention Heidi Toloczko and Erika Smith who spend countless hours making sure our youth have a quality Christian education. What a gift this congregation has been given in these people.

Concerning 2012, I am looking forward with great anticipation and I am excited to implement programs that will help the congregation in their efforts to raise Christ centered youth and families. A special emphasis in 2012 will be given to this task giving parents and other adult members of this congregation the tools necessary to accomplish this task. We will work together to discover what a family of faith looks like and how individuals follow Christ into a world which struggles to lead all of us into other directions.

May the Holy Spirit guide and lead us as we move forward into the life God would have us live. I pray each one of us will be a shining example of Christ's love for the world, especially the children. I am asking each and every member of this congregation, whether you have children at home or not, to step forward and accept the call of Christ to "Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them." Deut. 4:9

Looking forward to working side by side with each one of you.

Until then . . .

*Deborah Cantrell*  
*Director of Youth and Family Ministry*

## **Report of the Council President**

Over the past 30 years, I have had the privilege of working with several Pastors and multiple Christ the King church councils. Each has had their own unique strengths and weaknesses, but in the end, they all have “loved God, loved people and thus, nothing else matters.” The past year has certainly not been an exception and I feel very confident in the direction we are going in 2012. Christ the King has always been a very warm, giving congregation and in my opinion, the past year has epitomized that fundamental belief.

If you all can remember back to January 2011, and I know it seems so long ago, Christ the King was in the midst of calling a new Pastor. Our Call Committee, directed by Mitchell Kiffe, dedicated hours to identifying, interviewing and selecting a Pastor they felt would lead us forward into a challenging yet exciting time in our church development. The Pastoral transition period is never simple, but Pastor Paul Opsahl offered stability and continuity which the congregation embraced by continuing and expanding all ministry areas of the church. This speaks volumes on how dedicated, talented, and loving each of you are.

In February 2011, Christ the King called Pastor John Bradford to be its new pastor, and within a very short time, it became very apparent that Pastor Bradford was perfect for CTK, and vice versa. He and his wife, Dorann, have added new ideas, new vision, and a tremendous amount of energy to raise the bar within the congregation. As Pastor John has said many times, he doesn't want us to be simply a membership oriented congregation where we just come every Sunday morning to worship, yet do very little to love and minister to those less fortunate in the community and beyond.

Today, each ministry area of the congregation is functioning at a high level with extremely talented, yet more importantly, loving and caring individuals. To name a few, Liz Spoto has done an excellent job of coordinating the Learning ministry area within the congregation. She has taken an already vibrant program to the next level with creative ideas, confident leadership, and tireless energy. On another front, Juli Benson seems to come up with another Service ministry program every time I turn around. And how can I thank each of you for supporting her Water of Life program to the extent that you did. Your love for others and wanting to do something to “make a difference” was overwhelming.

Did I mention that a pastoral transition period is never simple? That often-time is reflected in the financial giving of the congregation until the new pastor is identified and settled into the new position. I am extremely pleased to report that although we did have some cash flow issues during the year, Christ the King has recorded a profit for the year ended December 31, 2011. This is directly related to the generous giving during the month of December which highlights your firm belief in our new leadership and the desire you have to establish a solid financial base for CTK moving forward. Each ministry area requires financial resources as well as the time and talent of the entire congregation. Our most recent Stewardship campaign has yielded strong results and I want to thank each one of you who has made that commitment. I know each of you is committed to performing the Lord's work, but it helps the leadership of the church to plan ministry areas with your formal commitment of time, talents and financial resources.

I look forward to the coming year with excitement, new energy and the opportunity to work closely with such dedicated individuals as we have at Christ the King Lutheran Church. If we continue to love God, love people, nothing else matters.

*Respectfully submitted,  
David Whelan, Council President*

## **Treasurer Report for 2011**

We entered 2011 on an optimistic note from a financial perspective compared to the previous few years. In 2010, our expenses exceeded income by over \$70,000. To create a better financial posture for 2011, we adjusted mortgage payments by \$6548 monthly for annual savings of \$78576. The council also reduced the budgets for several ministry areas. Another reason for optimism was the arrival early in the year of our new pastor.

The church ended the year with a positive cash flow (\$10,266) thanks to outstanding generosity by the congregation in December. Our current mortgage balance is \$466,680 with a maturity date of Oct. 2030. That compares to assessed property values of \$2,048,890. As the financial condition of the church improves, we may be able to accelerate pay down of our debt. Our cash in bank at the end of 2011 was \$86,669, which exceeded obligations to dedicated accounts by \$20,852.

In the following pages please find a summary of income and expenses for 2011 and the proposed budget for 2012 along with an explanation of changes from 2011. The budget for 2012 will be a stretch for the church with total income expected to increase by approximately 6%.

Please join me in thanking the many people who have devoted their time during 2011 to keep CTK's finances in order: Kary Froscheiser, Finance and Insurance Chair; Dave Rudorfer, former Treasurer; Mike Swineford, Church Administrator; and our dedicated Counters who work each Sunday.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Hiatt, Treasurer*

## 2012 Proposed Ministry

	2011 Actuals	Ministry 2011	Proposed Ministry 2012
<b>Income</b>			
General	564,181.37	540,400	600,000
Miscellaneous	31,833.36	9,600	30,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>596,014.73</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>630,000</b>

<b>Expenses</b>			
Metro DC Synod	32,211.57	31,500	31,500
GF Ecumenical Council	300.00	300	300
Worship & Music	6,730.49	6,400	6,400
Learning	14,472.51	13,000	15,000
Youth	7,116.22	6,000	5,000
Witness	2,331.46	2,750	7,750
Service	13,048.14	17,000	21,000
Stewardship	670.45	1,500	600
Fellowship	4,372.39	2,500	4,000
Church Staff	334,715.53	304,526	350,000
Finance and Insurance	14,960.83	15,500	16,275
Administrative	18,532.71	17,000	17,000
Congregational Life	671.04	3,000	7,300
Church Utilities	27,960.29	30,000	29,150
Church Maintenance	49,649.55	40,000	57,750
Parsonage Utilities	2,321.13	2,700	2,800
Parsonage Maintenance	15,447.64	14,300	6,000
Mortgage (P & I)	40,236.00	40,020	40,236
Capital Reserve			10,000

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>585,747.95</b>	<b>547,996</b>	<b>628,061</b>
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<b>Cash Flow</b>	<b>10,266.78</b>	<b>2,004</b>	<b>1,939</b>
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# 2012 budget Compared to 2011

## INTRODUCTION

### Explanation of Budget Component Discussion

Any congregation member who would like to review the details behind the aggregate numbers in the budget, please contact members of the Executive Committee or the Treasurer. Anyone interested in the details of a particular ministry commit may contact the chair of that committee.

## BUDGET COMPONENTS

### Metropolitan Washington DC Synod

The budget for this portion of the budget is assumed unchanged for 2012 and as a result represents a smaller portion of church income than in 2011.

### Great Falls Ecumenical Council

Our annual dues are unchanged at \$300.

### Worship

Budget remains unchanged from last year consistent with the recommendation of the ministry chair.

### Learning

The ministry chair requested an increase in this budget by \$2000 over last year. The major expenses relate to Sunday school, vacation Bible school, and confirmation.

### Youth

Budget decrease of \$1,000 brings the budget in line with recommendation of ministry chair and is less than 2011 expenses.

### Witness

This budget increased due to costs associated with welcome packets and visitation materials, communications and marketing, and outreach.

### Stewardship

This budget remains the same as last year and reflects the expected cost of a new program, "Effective Stewardship".

### Fellowship

This budget increased consistent with actuals from 2011 and expected needs from the ministry chair.

### Church staff

Staff budget increases as a result of pay increases for the staff and a better estimation of benefit costs.

### Finance and Insurance

This area consists of property and worker compensation insurance. The budget is consistent with expected costs for 2012.

### Administration

Budget is unchanged from 2011 and is less than actual expenses for 2011. The estimate is consistent with recommendations from the church administrator.

### Congregational Life

This budget significantly increased relative to 2011 consistent with the request of the ministry chair. The largest portion of this budget is associated with training costs for three Stephen Ministry leaders.

#### Church and Parsonage Utilities

These expenses reflect expected costs for 2012 and are similar to 2011 costs.

#### Church Maintenance

This amount is greater than what was spent in 2011 but is significantly less than requested by the property chair. The increase is largely associated with increased cleaning expenses relative to 2011. It does not include costs associated with eventually painting and carpeting the sanctuary.

#### Parsonage Maintenance

In 2011, significant maintenance was performed on the parsonage to get it ready for our new pastor. Those expenses are expected to decline in 2012.

#### Mortgage

The church mortgage is \$3353 monthly or \$40,236 annually.

#### Property

Decrease of over \$20,000 reflects lower operating/improvement costs after selling the second parsonage. Proceeds from renting the main parsonage will be used to make improvements to the parsonage prior to the arrival of the new Pastor. \$36,000 will be set aside for HVAC unit replacement from the proceeds of the sale of the second parsonage.

#### Capital Reserve

The Council desires to build up reserves that have declined over the past few years. This represents a step in that direction.

## Report from the Congregational Life Ministry Team

The Congregational Life Ministry Team is poised to provide a renewed emphasis in this ministry throughout 2012. Like all the ministries at Christ the King, people are needed to step up and help make each ministry successful. If you are interested in any of the ministries listed below, please contact Pastor John for more information.

### Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry serves as a one-on-one caring lay ministry between care receivers and their care givers. God is the ultimate Care Giver, but He provides gifts to His servants to enable them to help others through rough times we all encounter in our lives. With extensive training and continuing education, Christ the King's Stephen Ministers have provided endless hours of assistance to those in need within our church family and the community. In 2012, new leaders will be identified and sent to training to come alongside the current leadership to provide a stronger and renewed energy to this vital program. Many thanks to all who serve or who have served as a Stephen Minister or Leader!

### Prayer Team

Over the years, Christ the King has had a vibrant Prayer Team, and while we know that all of you are praying, we intend to formalize the Prayer Team once again. Stay tuned for details!

### Meal Ministry

During times of need, it is important for the church family to come together to ease the burden of a family facing the hospitalization of a family member, a death in the family or other life crisis. Providing meals to the family shows our Christian love for each other in a very real and tangible way, nourishing the body and the soul.

### Card Ministry

Celebrating a birthday, an anniversary or some other life milestone? Christ the King wants to celebrate with you! Please let us know when you are about to celebrate one of those milestones, and let the CTK family send mailbox greetings to help you celebrate.

### Via de Cristo

It is a mountain top experience! Pastor John, a leader within the Via de Cristo program of the ELCA, is one of the facilitators for many of the Via de Cristo weekends. Spend three days with fellow Christians and deepen your relationship with Christ. Want to know more? Ask Deb Cantrell, Jim Hawkins, Dan Cowan, Dorann Bradford or Pastor John about their experiences ... you will want to Via de Cristo!

### Small Groups

Small groups are emerging at Christ the King, so jump right in! Do you wish to start another small group? Talk with Pastor John about any ideas you may have that will help bring the church family together.

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** – This group of faithful men meets every Tuesday morning at 7:00 at the Silver Diner in Reston. Focusing on a different topic every week, they come together for faith, fellowship, and breakfast of course! Contact Art Evans for more information.

**Couple's Small Group** – This group meets on Sunday mornings during the educational hour and focuses on the ever evolving relationship between married couples. Contact Amy Swineford for more information, and feel free to drop by on Sunday morning!

**Rebekah's Circle** – Women of Christ the King gather at homes or restaurants to share a meal and enjoy the fellowship of other Christian sisters. Contact Juli Benson for more information.

**Secret Sisters** – Secret Sisters will be back in 2012! Do you enjoy sharing random acts of kindness with your sisters at Christ the King? If so, then you will want to sign up to participate in this fun program. Details will be coming out soon, but shhhhhhhhhhh!, it's a secret! ☺ Contact Victoria Wagner for more details.

## Report from the Fellowship Ministry Team

2011 was a year of great transition and refocus for our congregation and, thus, for our Fellowship Team. The first half of the year was spent primarily welcoming and introducing a new Pastor and thanking and saying goodbye to an Interim Pastor. Fellowship Chair Tracey Maxwell organized installation receptions and farewell parties prior to her own departure, when her family moved from the area. The Maxwell's are sorely missed! The second half of the year 2011 was spent in mobilizing our dedicated group of planners and helpers to celebrate our Church's good fortune in calling Pastor John Bradford and his vision for a growing, vital Christ the King in our community.

With that in mind, our twin goals for event programming in this and next year are: 1) to encourage visitors and new members of the congregation to become actively involved in the ministry of the Church and 2) to offer opportunities for all members to get to know each other better and have fun together.

To achieve these goals in 2011, the Church Council approved the expenditure of additional funds in the fall, as all budgeted funds had been spent on the earlier receptions, a Shrove Tuesday pancake party in February and an indoor church "picnic" in June celebrating the beginning of summer.

Since then, we have attempted to provide a Fellowship event each month to bring members of our community together for bonding. In August, we hosted a Coffee and Conversation reception in the narthex, thanks to Annette Brady. In September, we hosted a Rally Day Kickoff BBQ on the front lawn of the Church, thanks to the Evanses, Kennedy's and Swineford's. In October, we held a Fall Festival indoors (due to a surprise October snow!), thanks to Dorann Bradford, Karen Magley, Carol Jones and Audrey Wild. In November, the Evanses, Kennedys and Swinefords once again teamed up to provide a pancake breakfast. Finally, December featured a Christmas party at the lovely home of new members Carol and Pat Murphy, thanks to planners Jill Peterson and Suzanne Gaibler. In addition to these monthly events, Susan Canis assumed the duties of Sunday morning coffee provider between services. Helpers for all of these events reads like a Church directory! Our thanks go out to each person who helped with set-up, clean-up, shopping, cooking, hauling, decorating and organizing.

2012 will feature monthly events, as well, with brunches in January and February and a Lenten Fish Fry in March, and Chili Cook-off in April...just to start with! If you have ideas or are anxious to help work on any of these projects, please let me know. We are always looking for fresh perspectives!

*Donna Kiffe*  
*Leader, Fellowship Team*

## Report from the Learning Ministry Team

Peter writes in 2 Peter 1:5-8, “make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, **knowledge**, and to **knowledge** self-control....For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your **knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

God calls us to learn, and that’s exactly what we’re doing at Christ the King! Many thanks to all of our dedicated teachers and coordinators who have helped to make 2011 another terrific year of building and growth for our education program. And thank you to the congregation for financially supporting the addition of children’s and youth Bibles to each of our pews in the sanctuary. We love to see all those open Bibles every week during worship!

### Rotational Sunday School

Artists, game players, movie watchers, chefs and actors have continued to flourish under Christ the King’s Rotational Sunday School program. Each week our Sunday School kids have participated in one of our five rotations: art, games, multimedia, cooking and drama, to learn God’s Word through a different hands-on activity that they love. When you were a Sunday School kid, did you ever make caramel to demonstrate the Parting of The Red Sea? Or fly paper airplanes inscribed with scripture to learn about God’s communication with Abraham and Sarah?

To complement each lesson, the kids have also memorized a related Bible verse that they’ve shared with the congregation monthly. The goal: to inscribe sound bites from God in our kids’ minds to help guide them through life’s ups and downs.

In Fall of 2012 we plan to switch out one of our rotations, just to keep the program fresh and vibrant. Science? Movie Making? Puppeteering? Stay tuned...

### 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Program:

After a multi-year program of study, we were pleased to welcome eleven new adult disciples of Christ the King in an Affirmation of Baptism service on June 5, 2011. As a final push toward the big day, confirmands engaged in a two-day retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge in April, wrote and presented personal faith statements to the congregation...and played some home-made *Lectionary* (aka Bible Pictionary) just to test their learning and make sure it all “took”! Then, to mark the occasion, they participated in a Family Blessing Celebration, a formal banquet for fifty, and finally a brunch sponsored by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation students. It was clearly an experience to remember.

Thankfully, the 2011/12 school year has continued to be a time of growth for our new crop of confirmation students. Luther’s Small Catechism continues to be the focus for our sixth graders, while a broader Bible study and small group discussions define much of the seventh and eighth grade program. To shake things up a bit, we also added local “faith experiences” to the 2011/12 confirmation program. January’s experience: a Catholic mass at St. Catherine’s. And, in February, a visit to the National Gallery for a study of the Bible through the lens of art. In addition, during the summer of 2012, rising seventh and eighth graders will attend their first week of confirmation camp to further their learning and fellowship.

When they’re actually in the *classroom*... No more tables and chairs for either of the confirmation groups. Now, the first one to class gets a seat on the couch. Or the best view of the new flat screen TVs that were generously donated to allow PowerPoint presentations, video, and even some Christian internet surfing, once Fios comes to CTK. (The 6<sup>th</sup> graders need to be comfortable when they’re “tested” again with a game of *Who Wants to Be A Lutheran* at the end of the year!) Thank you so much to all of the families who donated their time and resources to help us create the two new youth rooms that serve our confirmation students. They really help to create an inspiring atmosphere for learning.

### Senior High Bible Study

Senior High has been all about applying the Bible to the life that our students live today. Through in-depth Bible study and thoughtful discussions, Steve Wilson, Jill Neaves and Kevin Magley have continued to lead this strong, inspiring group of teenagers on a wonderful faith journey. Many thanks also to our guest leaders, including Liz Spoto's Dad, Arne Hagglund, who joined the Senior High this fall to help tackle the challenging question of evolution in relation to the Christian faith.

We look forward to the 2012/13 school year, with plans in the works for a Senior High classroom make-over and more challenging discussions about the relevance of God in today's world.

### Adult Sunday School

Pastor John broke all Adult SS attendance records with Dr. Mark Allen Powell's energizing series on *"How Lutherans Interpret the Bible."* Dr. Powell's engaging style provided us with not only the Bible's historical background, but with insights on how we might interpret and live out God's word for us. This study took us from Rally Day until mid-November, when we began an incredible Advent study, *"A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus."* Dr. Ken Bailey unpacked the traditional nativity stories via his extensive research and firsthand experiences of living in Palestine for more than three decades. By delving into the original Hebrew language of the Gospel, Dr. Bailey illuminated several key points, which greatly deepened our understanding of our Savior's miraculous birth.

Following up with Pastor John's series of sermons in September and October, we began 2012 with the book *"Power Surge"* by Lutheran Pastor Michael W. Foss. Rooted firmly in Jesus' teachings, this six-week course shows us how to create a grace-centered model of discipleship, mission-mindedness and ways to live out our faith. Looking forward, we will be using ELCA's *"Seven Wonders of the Word"* for our Lenten study in February and March. After Easter, we will be exploring Robert Schnase's thought provoking book. How does radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity sound to you?

*Wrestling With Angels* wraps up this year with DVD vignettes from some of our country's best theologians on life situations we all struggle with--such as guidance, forgiveness and suffering. Join us in Gysan Hall for the most exciting hour of your whole week! Or join one of our many smaller groups in the newly re-decorated Luther's Lounge, complete with its new flat-screen TV, thanks to the generosity of several of our families at Christ the King.

### Vacation Bible School

Last, but certainly not least, a note about Vacation Bible School. Led by the remarkable Antonia Siebert, with the strong help of Marian Zimmerman and a host of volunteers from Christ the King and St. Francis Episcopal Church, our church building was miraculously transformed last August into Hometown Nazareth. Kids learned all about what life was like when Jesus was a kid...complete with roving tax collectors, fully costumed workshop leaders, and up-lifting music that many are still singing today! We thank everyone who stepped forward to help make VBS a meaningful – and even life-changing – experience for the children of our congregation and our community.

And....we look forward to hosting VBS yet again next summer, under the direction of our beloved Karen Anderson and in continued partnership with St. Francis. Yes, you heard it correctly. In thinking seriously about the mission of Christ the King and the enormous impact that VBS can have on our youth, we have decided to host the program annually at Christ the King. So mark your calendars to participate – and volunteer – for the week of July 30 – August 3, 2012, 2013, 2014 and beyond!

Again, many thanks to all of our teachers – and learners – for bringing such a wealth of blessings to Christ the King. We hope you'll enjoy the convertible bench/picnic tables that we gifted to the church in your honor last spring. And, of course, we hope you'll join us again next year to continue the faith journey of leading our youth in the awesome power of God's Word.

*Liz Spoto, CTK Learning Chair*

## Report from King's Kids Preschool

2011 was a year of big changes in the preschool program at Christ the King. We bid a fond farewell to Karen Anderson, the director of the program from 2007 to 2011, as she resigned her position in order to spend more time with her family. Karen played an important role in advancing the program to a traditional preschool model. Her service, guidance, and care for the children are much appreciated. Christ the King member, Tracey Shenk, was hired as the new director, effective with the start of preschool in September.

The program, formerly Mother's Day Out, received a new name in 2011 – **KING'S KIDS PRESCHOOL**. The new name was chosen by the board and new director to more aptly reflect the quality of the program as a traditional preschool which focuses on educating children and preparing them for the academic challenges of kindergarten. King's Kids Preschool continues to provide the Christian-based, loving, nurturing care that the Mother's Day Out program was built upon, while also focusing on kindergarten readiness in literacy, writing, and math skills.

The 2011-12 school year has been a "rebuilding" year for the preschool program. The school year began on September 13th, with 31 students enrolled, 3 of whom are CTK members. The program was fully staffed with 13 teachers - 3 of which are CTK members.

The 2011/2012 King's Kids Preschool Board meets quarterly to review and manage the program, set goals and handle various issues. The current KKP Board Members include Doug Gaibler (Chairman), Pastor John Bradford, Jill Neaves (Treasurer), Antonia Siebert (Secretary), Liz Spoto (CTK Council Learning Chair), Tracey Shenk (Director), and Jennifer Kalka (Board Member - as the Parent of a Child enrolled in the program).

In order to progress towards our enrollment goal of an average of 40 students per day, we have increased our marketing efforts and added "enhancements" to our program to enrich the children's experience and include their families in more events. The following advancements have been made:

- A new website for the preschool was created : [www.kingskidspreschoolgreatfalls.org](http://www.kingskidspreschoolgreatfalls.org)
- New programming and special events have been added to the curriculum, including extracurricular Spanish classes, visits with Miss Manners, Art and Artists sessions, after school field trips, Thanksgiving Feast, Christmas Program, Mother's Day Tea, End of Year Picnic
- In 2012, we will offer Spanish as part of our weekly curriculum, as well as "Kids In Motion" physical fitness. We also are planning an "IPAD Mobile Lab" so the kids can have fun learning while using the latest technology.
- Summer Camp will be held the first two weeks of June.

By the beginning of 2012, total enrollment has increased to 42 students - 4 of whom are CTK members. Enrollment for the upcoming 2012-13 school year begins on January 24th for currently enrolled families, January 25th for CTK members, and January 26th for the public.

The board decided to raise tuition slightly for the 2012-13 school year after researching comparable programs. Tuition Rates for 2012-13 are as follows:

Little Lambs - (Infant / Toddler) -\$200 / month for 1 day a week, \$400 / month for 2 days a week, \$600/ month for 3 days a week

Friendly Frogs – (2 ½ Year Olds) -\$265 / month for 2 days, \$395 / month for 3 days

Busy Bees – (3 Year Olds)- \$250 / month for 2 days, \$375 / month for 3 days

Curious Caterpillars – (4 Year Olds – Pre K)- \$375 / month for 3 days, \$595 / month for 5 days

King's Kids Preschool strives to be financially stable. Our tuition for the year 2011-2012 will meet our financial obligations. We continue to monitor our budget and make adjustments to prevent us from depleting our funds. Our savings continue to be in the ELCA Mission Investment Fund.

*Respectfully Submitted by:  
Tracey Shenk, Director*

## Report from the Property Team

Throughout this past year the people of Christ the King have given their blessings of much volunteer labor and money to support many necessary improvements and the upkeep of our parsonage and church buildings. This support has helped us keep our worship and education areas clean, bright and pleasant environments for learning and praising God.

Prior to the arrival of Pastor and Dorann, we made several interior improvements to the parsonage including refinishing of wood floors, new paint for walls and ceilings and new second floor carpeting. Due to the age of the parsonage, I anticipate additional maintenance for the exterior, in particular the garage door, the rear patio and original appliances not already replaced.

Our church building, electrical, and plumbing systems are over 25 years old and the new education building is over 10 years old. So, upkeep and maintenance are becoming more important as the years roll on. We replaced one of the sanctuary's heat pumps this past year after it failed. We have painted many, but not all of the outside windows as needed (note: additional painting is needed in 2012). We have been diligent in keeping up with routine maintenance such as replacing light bulbs and ballasts, electrical switches, and arranging for refrigerator repair and repairs to outdoor plumbing fixtures.

In September, during extremely heavy rains, the courtyard flooded with water entering the lower double door entrance to the nursery school. After reviewing the drainage system for this area, we decided that corrections should be made to improve the flow of rain water away from building and the courtyard and towards the culvert under the driveway. We hired a contractor and improvements were made in late November and early December.

In November, we started using a new cleaning company to provide better and more complete cleaning of the church. The new company was selected after reviewing five applicants and interviewing three. We are very pleased with the level of service from this new company.

Most significant this year are the contributions and the volunteers that enabled us to upgrade the women's bathroom, paint the narthex, halls, classrooms, and small kitchen and to install new carpet in halls, classrooms and Gysan Hall. I thank all who participated in these projects.

Finally, many volunteers help us keep our grounds beautiful with gardening care in the courtyard, the front drive, the shrubbery around the building, around the playground area, the wooded area and at the parsonage. These volunteers keep our church looking fresh and inviting. So again, thanks to those who contribute their labor of love for all of us to enjoy worship, learning and fellowship at Christ the King.

*Respectfully Submitted by  
Tom Cooper, Chair  
Property Committee*

## Report from the Service Ministry Team

In 2011 TEAM SERVICE continued the CTK tradition of “serving others” locally, nationally and internationally. TEAM SERVICE met once a month to plan the many and various service projects and events that occurred throughout the year. We are grateful for our dedicated TEAM SERVICE members – Audrey & Allen Wild, Ana Kreutzer, Susan Boruff, Trudy Fleit, Karen Magley, Linda McMillen, Kathy Hill, Judy Lombardo, Mary Wilson, Art Evans, Annette Brady, Dolly Whelan and Louise Babirak. Many thanks to all for their leadership, commitment, and time. It is a privilege to work with this fine group of dedicated volunteers!

We are also grateful for the monetary service contributions from CTK that are reflected in the financial section of this Annual Report. These funds allow us to support service-oriented organizations, which do important work locally, nationally and internationally. The budgeted financial contributions from CTK, however, are only a part of the overall work here at Christ The King. Many of the projects involve hundreds of hours of volunteer time. In addition, we receive many financial contributions from individual members. We also receive a great deal of funding from Thrivent to support so many of our projects and we are very grateful for their generosity.

A primary objective of TEAM SERVICE is to get as many congregation members as possible to participate in “serving others”. A Service Brochure, which can be found in the Narthex, lists descriptions of current service activities and how CTK members can get involved. TEAM SERVICE also partners with other groups in the Church, such as Fellowship, Choirs, Youth and Family and King’s Kids to more effectively serve others. As you read the review of Service Projects for 2011 set out below, please consider how you might participate in “serving others” in 2012.

### **Service Highlights for 2011 Include:**

**Cedars Luncheons:** CTK members helped with the set up, cooking and clean up during the monthly luncheons for seniors in our community hosted by the Great Falls United Methodist Church. We thank Audrey Wild and her amazing team of volunteers for their work in 2011.

**Operation Sharehouse:** In February, many people gathered in Gysan Hall to prepare 15,000 meals for STOP HUNGER NOW. We assembled packages of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and flavoring mix, which included 21 essential vitamins and minerals, all into small packaged meals. Each meal costs 25 cents. The packaged meals store easily, have a shelf life of five years and transport easily. We don’t know where all the meals were sent but do know that many were sent to Haiti where there is great need. Many thanks to Thrivent for helping us reach our goal of \$3,750.00 in funds to purchase the supplies. Great job Deb!

**Any Soldier Project:** In March we continued with a project that was started last year to collect much needed items for our troops serving in Afghanistan. We combined this with a Lenten “giving” project which was actually a Lenten “adding” project. Each week we asked the congregation to “add” to what they were already buying and purchase items for the soldiers. One week it was toothpaste, the next week it was shampoo, etc. We had a soldier, SSgt Andrew Morrow, come and speak at CTK and tell us about his experiences and answer questions. Additionally, letters were written by Sunday school classes and a large group gathered to pack up collection boxes. Items were collected based on requests from four field office bases (FOB’s). We collected many huge boxes (weighing over 200 pounds) of items ranging from books, hygiene items, socks, sunglasses and much more. The boxes were sent to Afghanistan and we received several letters from the troops expressing their EXTREME appreciation. Many thanks to Annette Brady for coordinating this exciting effort, which will be repeated in 2012.

**Salvation Army Grate Patrol:** In both February and in May our CTK youth, along with other volunteers from our congregation, assembled bagged dinners (and homemade soup in February) and delivered them, via the Salvation Army van, to homeless men and women in Washington DC. Donations of blankets, hats, gloves and socks were also distributed in February, while hygiene kits were distributed in May. The recipients were thrilled and grateful. Many thanks to Thrivent for funding both projects! We will be doing this again in May 2012!

**Hunters Woods Fellowship House Spring Concert:** In April many members of CTK - adults and children-entertained the senior residents of Hunter Woods Fellowship House with a concert thanks to Jane and Andrew. We provided a buffet of snacks and desserts and enjoyed rich fellowship time with the residents. Special thanks to Jane and Andrew, King's Kids and the Sweet girls for their amazing talent. Also, thanks to Kathi Evans, Kim Kennedy and Audrey Wild for coordinating and for cleanup.

**Paul's Ride:** For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row people gathered to support organ donation. There were 329 riders and 46 support people, a number of them from CTK. \$15,000 was raised and the funds were donated to Washington Regional Transplant Community. Thanks to Audrey and Allen Wild for their involvement.

**Martha's Table:** In May and September members of the congregation helped make 1000+ sandwiches which were delivered to Martha's Table – an organization in Washington DC which helps feed the needy. Thrivent once again helped with funding this project both times. Thanks to Karen Magley who shopped and coordinated this project.

**Good Samaritan Fund:** \$200 from the Good Samaritan Fund was used to help our neighbor, Randy Liang and his mother. Randy was a Freshman at Langley High School who was seriously ill. His mother had lost her husband and her job and faced enormous medical bills. We provided our donation as an extension of God's love.

**Back To School Backpack Drive:** CTK collected 47 backpacks for Reston Interfaith's "Back To School" Drive. We thank Linda McMillen for organizing this collection. TEAM SERVICE also contributed funds to Kids R First, a co-sponsor of this project, to purchase school supplies for the needy. Thrivent helped provide funds for extra backpacks for the children.

**Alzheimer's Walk:** Art Evans coordinated CTK's efforts to participate in the Alzheimer's Walk this year for the first time. The walk was held at Reston Town Center. It was a well-attended event that we will participate in again next year. It was great to be part of Kings Walker's and gather together for such a worthy cause. Thanks Art!

**Help The Homeless Walkathons:** In October 24 members (and animals!) of CTK participated in this walkathon in Reston to raise funds and awareness in support of Reston Interfaith to prevent and end homelessness. Contributions by walkers were made online or in person and as a result of a great showing of walkers (1500) they were awarded additional funds of \$25,000. It was a beautiful 3-mile walk and a true win-win situation for all who came!

**Habitat for Humanity:** A \$500 donation was made to Habitat for Humanity with an additional \$500 matched by Thrivent! Thanks to Allen Wild for his work on this project.

**Canned Food Drive:** In October and November members of the congregation brought many bags of canned foods to donate to the Emergency Food Pantry in Reston. They were very grateful for our generosity.

**Compassion International:** In December Compassion International treated us to a presentation on the Water of Life program. We viewed a video presentation of a young girl walking 4 miles for filthy, disease filled water. She was able, however, to use a Water of Life filter and obtain pristine clear safe drinking water for her and her family for life! We jumped into this project here at CTK and at this time have 141 systems purchased, which will provide at least 141 families CLEAN SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR LIFE! Many thanks to Karen Magley for all her hard work with Compassion. We thank everyone who participated and helped us change lives for people in Haiti, Rwanda and beyond.

**It's Not YOUR Birthday:** Pastor John wanted to emphasize that CHRISTmas is not our birthday. Why not spend some of God's resources (\$\$\$) on things that would really please Him? SO... we did! Many people kindly filled the Water of Life jug with gifts that were given in God's name. Thanks so much!

**Christmas Angel Gifts:** Many gifts, purchased by individuals in our congregation, were delivered to needy children in our community. 68 gifts went to Reston Interfaith and 16 were delivered to Fisher House/Bldg. 62, which is a temporary home to families of wounded soldiers who are recovering at Walter Reed Military Hospital. Additionally, 4 gift baskets were delivered as well. Special thanks to Linda McMillen who coordinated this project.

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing:** We had many people who showed up on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Safeway in Great Falls to ring the bell for the Salvation Army. Thanks to all who participated and thanks to Louise Babirak for coordinating this project!

**Gifts of Hope:** The congregation this year gave alternative Christmas gifts that included books, groceries, snacks, chairs, dental care, in home care, gift cards and more. Thanks to Kari Lervick for organizing this project.

**Support to International Organizations:** CTK provided scholarship funds for a young boy in the Holy Land, supported Bethania kids, LENS, supported CRUDEM Foundation, which operates a hospital for the sick and poor in Haiti, and supported the Lutheran World Relief in the fine work they do around the world on behalf of Lutherans.

**Support to National Organizations:** We provided financial assistance to a number of organizations, including Childhelp, American Bible Society, and Wounded Warriors.

**Support to Local Organizations:** Financial contributions were made to Reston Interfaith, SHARE, Kids R First, Lift Me Up, The Good Shepherd Alliance, National Lutheran Home, Lutheran Social Services, Hunters Woods Fellowship House, Jacobs Ladder, LINK and Community Family Life Services.

**Youth Camps:** Financial contributions were made to support the Lutheran Camps at Mar-Lu-Ridge and Caroline Furnace, as well as to Camp Fraser in the local area.

2012 will be a very exciting year as we take on new service projects and support several new organizations that are in need. Let's continue to do God's work here on planet Earth!

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Julianne Benson, TEAM SERVICE Chair*

## **Report from the Staff Relations Team**

We are so blessed to have the staff we have here at Christ the King Lutheran Church. Each one has a passion to make this church the most joyous, spiritual and loving church possible. From the staff in the Nursery and Preschool to the musical team to the Administrator and the Youth Director to the Pastor, they have made this past year wonderful to be a disciple of Christ the King.

The staff in our nursery always have a smile for us and our young children. Satva and Silvia are truly a delight to have in our nursery. Parents can enjoy their time worshiping Christ knowing their child is in loving care. With Karen Anderson's decision to step down as Director of our Preschool, so she can be with her own children during their young years, we owe her much gratitude for years of teaching our preschoolers great values, wonderful lessons and providing spiritual growth. Stepping into the Director's position this year, Tracey Shenk, has continued the inspirational teachings and been very busy enhancing our program with the new name King's Kids Preschool among other program offerings. We look forward to watching this special program continue to soar. Our musical team of Andrew Dobos and Jane Cooper bring such an uplifting experience during each worship service. We appreciate the many hours they spend rehearsing and working with their respective choirs and ringers. They are both truly gifted musicians and we are so blessed to have them on staff. Mike Swineford continues to be the rock of the church by organizing daily activities with ease. Our Youth Minister Deb Cantrell has put in place a wonderful family ministry program from Sunday School through GIFT night giving all ages an opportunity to grow their faith. Deb continues to strive to make the family ministry programs the best possible with some new members noting the presence of strong youth programming as one reason for joining.

After a long search for a Pastor we were blessed to have Pastor John Bradford join in leading our discipleship this year. His positive and energetic nature has brought new excitement into our church building and programs. It is evident with all the new faces around the church that Pastor John's work is spreading through the community. This is an exciting time to be a part of CTK, and with the changes he has brought to the church this year it is most likely just the beginning of a wonderful long relationship with us.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Mitch Neaves, Staff Relations Ministry Team*

## **Report from the Witness Ministry Team**

The Witness Ministry Team's objective in 2010 - 2011 is to be a witness of Christ to disciples within the family of Christ the King and to those in Christ the King's geographic area of responsibility who are not members of His church. We are also responsible for the stimulation of attendance at worship services, Holy Communion, Sunday School and other church functions.

2011 was an exciting year, as we began to work with Pastor John to identify projects that are necessary to move forward as a progressive church.

With Pastor John's expertise in the area of Witness, we have begun a hospitality program, delivering mugs and Bibles to visitors of Christ the King. Since Pastor John's arrival, Christ the King has welcomed thirty new members into our church family; and, with Pastor's mantra to "love God, love people, nothing else matters," we look forward to loving many others into the family, too!

Other programs have been outlined and set up, but now require volunteers to move forward. Particularly in the following areas ~ New Disciple Orientation Ministry Coordinator, Welcome Packet Ministry Coordinator and Welcome Visitor Volunteers. Also, in the area of advertising and communications, we need someone to help manage our advertising. If any of these areas is of interest to you, please let Pastor John or Victoria Wagner know of your interest. Ministry requires volunteers, and we are all in this together. Let's work together to make Christ the King the best church home it can be!

The Witness Ministry Team looks forward to an exciting year of ministry and outreach, and invites anyone who wishes to participate in this ministry to join us at this exciting time in the life of Christ the King.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Victoria Wagner, Witness Ministry Team*

## **Report from the Worship and Music Ministry Team**

2011 witnessed a major change in Worship and Music Ministry. We were saddened by the departure of interim Pastor Paul Opsahl. Pastor Opsahl had been a very spiritual and steady shepherd who skillfully and compassionately guided us through our period between Pastors. He was highly respected and deeply loved. He left with our heartfelt appreciation and blessings. Our new Pastor, John Bradford, was welcomed with great enthusiasm. Pastor John (his preference for address) has been blessed with the ability to give sermons that not only expertly deliver God's word, but are delivered in a manner that captivates and motivates the congregation. Worship is exciting.

The next months, after Pastor John's arrival, saw a period of adjustment for the congregation and for Pastor John. It was a period of experimentation in the order and style of the Worship Service; a time when Pastor John sought to integrate his style and preferences with respectful awareness of tradition at Christ the King. This adjustment period witnessed the can-do attitude and willingness of Worship Service Ministry Team to be flexible, to adapt, and to adjust. We have now reached relative stability and while adjustments will and should continue, basic procedures, understandings, and expectations have been resolved and the future will be smoother.

The congregation can take great pride in all the Worship Service volunteers and their leaders who continuously and selflessly give of their time to make the Worship Service the wonderfully spiritual, meaningful experience it is. The Altar Guild, led by Ellie Mickert and Lisa Anderson, continues in its unheralded and absolutely vital role of ensuring that everything is always proper and in-place for worship and that our sanctuary is beautifully decorated. If ever there was a "behind the scenes" group of people who deserve our heartfelt gratitude it is our Altar Guild. The dedicated members who coordinate and lead the various Worship Service volunteer positions are also vital. They are; Deb Cantrell - Acolytes and Crucifers, Mitch Kiffe - Ushers, Lynne Simmons - Greeters, Art Evans - Lectors, and myself - Assisting Ministers. Art Evans has prepared an excellent instruction letter for Lectors. A revised Handbook for Assisting Ministers and a Guide for Ushers with a folder of special instructions for ushers for each Sunday are now available. A Guide for Greeters is planned. We now have only a single Acolyte/Crucifer at the early service. This change was due to the lack of availability. Should more eligible candidates begin attending the early service we will again have both. Michelle Hawkins prepared an entire year Acolyte and Crucifer assignment schedule and Deb Cantrell has conducted a series of training sessions for the Acolytes and Crucifers. (It is a very rewarding experience to witness the enthusiasm and energy our young people exhibit as they begin to participate in the conduct of the Service.) The comprehensive list of all volunteers, prepared for everyone volunteering in order to help them in finding substitutes when necessary, will now be distributed electronically, permitting faster and more current updating. We have begun a program of having the Senior High youth serve as Lectors at both services on the third Sunday of each month. This new program, begun in December, is a very welcome addition, and it is being coordinated by Steve Wilson.

While the 2010 decision to have just one service in August was well-received, it was agreed that we did not want to possibly send a message that we were closed for the summer. Thus, we did not go to a single summer service in 2011.

In June of 2011, Pastor John established an informal group of volunteers to assist him in assessing the feasibility and desirability of adding a Contemporary Worship Service to our worship program. It is an objective that has been enthusiastically embraced by many in our congregation. If it is determined that we should proceed, it will likely take some time before it can become reality as it does entail a sizeable start-up cost, funds that are not currently available.

We are truly blessed and so very thankful to have Jane Cooper and Andrew Dobos leading our music program. These two exceptionally talented and dedicated staff members have provided a comprehensive supplemental Music Ministry Report that follows.

I remain positive and optimistic about where we are headed with our Worship and Music Ministry. With our new Pastor in place it is clear that our worship program at Christ the King is on a positive trajectory and is rapidly accelerating!

*Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Schwab,  
Worship and Music Team Chairman*

## Music Ministry

2011 started out wonderfully with the promise of a new pastor. On the weekend he moved in, we celebrated the month of February with a "Songs of Love" Concert performed by Jane and Tom Cooper, Mary and Ben Pelson, and Emma Miller-Cvilikas, and accompanied by Andrew Dobos. There were over 100 people in attendance, several from the surrounding community, and we heard praise from the congregation for several weeks afterward.

For Pastor John's Installation in March, we provided special music from the choir, organ and trumpet. Our choir gained a bass and a soprano when Pastor John and Dorann joined.

On April 10, our King's Kid's Choir performed their second musical "It's Good!" at both worship services and for the residents of Hunters' Woods Fellowship House in Reston.

The King's Choir and Andrew supported the Maundy Thursday worship, and on Easter, we performed "A Jubilant Song" by Allen Pote with handbell ringers and two trumpets.

The King's Choir continued through June 5<sup>th</sup>, supporting the Confirmation worship with music, and though we didn't have a "Worship in the Park" we had a joyous picnic on the front lawn on June 19<sup>th</sup>. We used this Sunday for the kickoff of a new "Summer Music in Listening Enjoyment—SMILE" program. With Andrew's help as a soloist on the organ and accompanying many other musicians and singers, we were able to fill all the prelude and offertory anthem slots at both services for the whole summer with special music from members of our congregation. Many youth were included and new talent was discovered!

On July 23<sup>rd</sup> the King's Ringers helped celebrate the life of former ringer, Prue Welsh, by playing two beautiful pieces for her Memorial Service. Her family and others present were touched and we remembered joyous times making music with her.

Rally Day arrived on 9/11 and the King's Choir joined the choir of Great Falls United Methodist Church and other singers to provide a joint choir directed by Robert Mitchell for the 9/11 Memorial Program that was held at 7 p.m. on the Village Green that evening. Andrew Dobos accompanied the group, which was not easy as darkness fell. Jane Cooper sang with a quartet of women on a special number.

Our Cherub Choir debuted October 30<sup>th</sup> with a song from vacation bible school and a new Director, Leigh Chowdhary. Leigh is supported by long-time accompanist Helen Critchfield and Maria Wray.

On November 13, Andrew Dobos blessed us with another Organ Recital at 5 p.m. It was a wonderful program, played masterfully, followed by a lovely reception in Gysan Hall.

A few members from the King's Choir sang "Bless This House" for the Tuesday evening worship before Thanksgiving, and sent our travelers on their way feeling blessed.

This year our pastor introduced Wednesday Advent Worship Services at noon and 7:30 p.m. Jane accompanied those at noon and Andrew covered the evening shift.

December 11 was a joyous day for music, as the King's Choir presented their cantata, "Shout the Good News!" by Lloyd Larson. William Wagner was our wonderful narrator and the congregation

enjoyed participating in singing the parts of traditional carols that were woven into the piece. Our beloved Bishop Graham was present to lead worship and give Holy Communion to the congregation, and he said he enjoyed the cantata and hearing it twice.

Karen Magley continues as Director of the King's Chimers, the tone chime group for children in grades 2 – 6. The Chimers played monthly preludes at the 11 a.m. worship and were featured at the offertory for the Sunday School Christmas Worship on December 18.

Our Christmas worships were filled with music. The King's Kids Choir sang "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" at the 5 p.m. Worship, accompanied by Andrew and a Percussion Ensemble. Kathryn Miller-Cvilikas blessed us with a solo called "Christmas Lullaby" at the 7 p.m. Worship and the King's Choir sang a lullaby during the lighting of the candles. At the 11 p.m. Worship, the King's Ringers did a beautiful piece arranged by Andrew to include Tom Cooper on trumpet and Andrea and Emily Sweet on violins. They also played during the preludes for both the 7 and 11 p.m. worships. On Christmas Day, Patti Flowers-Jacobina sang the lovely "Gesù Bambino."

We want to give special thanks to Marian Zimmerman who is the music librarian for both the King's Choir and the King's Ringers. She did a wonderful job of reorganizing and relocating all the handbell music.

Though we struggle keeping enough people to staff our choirs, we are thankful for the faithful few who continue to grow in their musical abilities. We also want to thank those members of the congregation who support us with their monetary gifts and positive feedback. We look forward to plans for opportunities to share musical talents in praise of our Lord in 2012.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Cooper, Coordinator of Music/Vocal Director  
Andrew Dobos, Instrumental Director/Organist*

## **Report from the Youth and Family Ministry Team**

It is a pleasure to report on the past year as Youth Director and provide a preview of the plans for 2012.

### **2011 Program**

The Senior High Bible Study classes form the week to week core of our Youth Program. Our program continues to grow as we regularly entertain 15 or so high schoolers each Sunday in our Bible Study classes. The emphasis each week is on scripture and how it can be consistently relied on to bring you closer to God and living your faith. The scripture lessons lead to far ranging discussions on the holy spirit, leadership, service, science, proverbs, character traits, sports, civil rights, daily devotions, family, death, etc...you get the idea. Closing with a prayer and hopefully a greater understanding of the truth in scripture and how it applies to life.

Thanks to Liz Spoto, Bill Carbaugh, Brett McMillen, Nicola and Kevin Magley who all have stepped in a guest teachers. Also to Mitch Kiffe, Bill Canis, Carolyn Saba, and Ernie Fergusson who participated in a discussion group this past June discussing how faith works in their life and what a difference it has made.

And of course many thanks to Jill Neaves who not only steps in to teach but consistently attends our Sunday Bible Study Classes and does so much to help facilitate the discussion. Our Senior High students are fortunate to have such an advocate.

### **Mission Camp, 2011**

In July 2011, youth and chaperones from Christ the King loaded into vans and road tripped to North Carolina for the 2010 Mission Trip. Thanks to Deb Cantrell who leads this endeavor every year along with Pastor Bradford who made his inaugural trip. Thanks also to Jim Hawkins, Ana Kreutzer, Bill Carbaugh, Shane and Jeanne McGinley, Kevin and Nicola Magley who all forfeited a week of vacation to attend as chaperones.

The Mission Trip experience is outstanding one for our Youth and an important in their Christian education. Of course, trips like these cannot happen without the help from our congregation. The many fundraisers were very successful in offsetting the costs of the trip – and were a lot of fun for Youth. From the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Pie Auction, to the first annual Rummage Sale, we want to say Thank You to the Congregation for their support and financial contributions. Given the success of our fundraising, these trips are increasingly self funding.

### **Looking ahead to 2012**

Our Sunday Bible Study and schedule for Fellowship and Service Events will continue in 2012. Kevin Magley has taken a leadership role in initiating a fun schedule of events for our high school youth and our plans for the coming year are ambitious: Bowling in January, Ice Skating in February, Annual Lock-In in April, Whitewater Rafting and Grate Patrol in May, Martha's Table on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>, Outdoor Barbecue/Field Day in June. For our college aged students, we will continue our Christmas Goodie Box and Deb's Text Ministry. We are also looking to kickoff a new Summer Bible Study program for our college students while they are home during June and July.

And of course a highlight of the year is always the Summer Mission Trip and this year we have a large group of Youth who will be traveling to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering. The New Orleans National Gathering only occurs every 4 years so it makes for special event. Thanks again to Deb for her leadership and the volunteers who do so much work in carrying out our Mission Trip activities.

A great 2011 -- and now very much looking forward to 2012.

*Respectfully submitted, Steve Wilson*



