The Canticle

Christ the King Episcopal Church,

May 2020



St. Francis Center Continues to Offer Services during Pandemic Open Offering for May

During the past two months, the St. Francis Center has worked closely

with our partner providers and city and state officials to maintain and improve 24-7 resources for unhoused men and women throughout Denver. St. Francis Center (SFC) has continued to operate without having to turn anyone away and has created innovative solutions for physical distancing and harm reduction. As many of you know, we expanded our sheltering space by 8,500 square feet in a matter of days when the crisis started to escalate.

We continue to provide daily shelter, from 6am to 4pm, to hundreds of people at the Asterisk Event Center (next door to SFC), and we served 1,000 individuals before the city opened to two 24/7 shelters. These shelters have provided needed space for social distancing, and the Day Center and the temporary Annex next door, remain open.

St. Francis Center staff and volunteers have initiated thorough screening protocols for guests entering the Day Center and Annex, where they can find spacious refuge and access our standard suite of services (showers, mail, storage, clothing, social services, etc.). When guests at any of the area shelters appear to have Covid-19 symptoms, they are directed to get care, testing and may be given access to private quarantine rooms at various hotels throughout the city.

Your contributions will help to support this vital work. We will also be collecting towels here at the church during May. A bin will be placed outside the red doors on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 9:00am - 1:00pm. You can just drop off the towels.





Long-Term Approach to Regathering A Message from Bishop Kym

"No need to remember past events, no need to think about what was done before. Look, I am doing something new, n ow it emerges; can you not see it?

Yes, I am making a road in the desert and rivers in wastelands." *Isaiah 43:18-19*

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CTK Vision Statement:

We believe that God is calling Christ the King to create a spiritual home where

- * We center ourselves in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
- * We build connections among our members and our neighbors, and
- * We join with our neighbors in caring for our community and God's world.

Worship Services

Sundays, Holy Eucharist 7:45 and 9:45 a.m.

Fridays, Morning Prayer 7:00 a.m.

Clergy The Rev. Rebecca Brown Rector

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Deadline:

Please submit articles by the 15th of the prior month.

Website: www.ctkarvada.org

Check us out on Facebook!

It has now been seven weeks since we have gathered together for worship here at Christ the King—and Bishop Kym is telling us to refrain from worship through the month of May—five more weeks. And when we return, we will not be able to return to "worship as usual." We will need to maintain masks, continue social distancing and—in all probability—continue to fast from Eucharist until a later date. In a widely attended zoom meeting last week, the Bishop and her staff laid out a "long-term approach to regathering," using the language of "seasons."

Recognizing the sanctity of life is the primary concern in developing this approach, so the pace with which we move through these seasons is slower than that of civic re-opening of economic and social life. The Bishop has said she wants to "beat the odds" in terms of how many people—both clergy and laity—could be killed by COVID 19.

This approach is also focused on providing a sense of vision about where we are headed, understanding about why these steps are being taken, clarity about guidelines and expectations, and an ability to adjust plans as needed, should the circumstances change. All of us want certainty, but the best we'll get right now is clarity.

The Bishop's office has outlined four seasons to describe the process of regathering safely as communities of faith, and as they have reminded us "Regathering is a flexible and moving target" determined by multiple, changing factors. Local conditions will vary, and we know that some of our most vulnerable members will need to move more slowly than others.

The following is an outline of the four seasons envisioned by the Bishop and her staff; each of these seasons is tied to particular public health characteristics. A complete description is available upon request from the church office; the expectations for churches are included below:

Season I: Stay at Home – Current Reality

- Virtual worship from homes
- Limiting outreach ministries to safe protocols dedicated to essentials
- No in-person pastoral visits
- No one in church office*
- Model mask wearing

Season II: Continued Mitigation

- Church offices open in spaces large enough for physical distancing.
- Smaller churches (fewer than 10) may worship in spaces large enough for physical distancing
- Scale-able worship of 10, 50, 100 in virtual groups and in-house groups, or in spaces large enough for physical distancing
- Continued virtual worship, perhaps with more leaders and small choir
- In-person pastoral visits resume to low risk parishioners
- Practice health safety protocols
- ALL plans need review and approval from Bishop's Office
- Outbreaks in virus will mean returning to previous protocols for 14 days

Season III: Lifting of All Physical Distancing with Protection

- Church offices opened
- Worship in churches, with continued virtual option for worship and meetings provided; Holy Eucharist may resume under new guidelines

- Return to all outreach ministries
- ALL plans need review and approval from Bishop's Office
- Outbreaks in virus will mean returning to previous protocols for 14 days

Season IV: Applications of Learnings and Future Preparation

Together we are learning how to be better followers of Jesus and Beloved Community.

- Season IV is a part of all the other seasons Capturing lessons learned will drive future actions as we build a new church together.
- In the future, the Episcopal Church in Colorado will build platforms for livestreaming and uploading our worship services and continue to enhance our online presence to gather and to access meetings and programs in real-time. We will also work to become more agile and adaptable, and to develop a better sense of interdependence and interconnectedness.

"No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made.

And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wine skins.

Mark 2:21-22

*except for essential organizational functions

Online Gatherings Continue

This past month has demonstrated the remarkable willingness of the Christ the King community to try something new. Who ever would have thought that we would learn to gather "virtually" in such a short time? And yet, some 60 or so members of our community regularly gather remotely for Morning Prayer, Bible and book studies, the Crafters of the King, Vestry, Stewardship, and Climate Care meetings, and fellowship with other members of the handbell and vocal choirs.

Since we will not be resuming public worship or small group gatherings for some time yet, please contact <u>Jessica Starbird</u>, our Parish Administrator, for assistance in getting connected to one of our "Zoom" gatherings.

New Bible Study Begins May 12, 2:00 – 3:30pm

After a long and reasonably enlightening trek through the book of the prophet Isaiah—all 66 chapters!—we are turning our attention to the Letter of James. Only five chapters long, this letter is one of those that was not written by Paul. Each week, we will read and discuss a portion of the text; please contact <u>Rev. Becky</u> for the Zoom meeting link.

Clergy Letter



"It doesn't look like Easter ... It doesn't feel like Easter ...
It doesn't even smell like Easter But it's Easter anyhow."

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
Easter Sunday Sermon*

Dear People of God,

I know I resonated with these words when I first heard them, as did many of you. And as our time of "separate but together" grows longer, the sense of separate can sometimes (often?) overwhelm the sense of together. If one thing has become clear though, it is that staying together takes a lot more work right now.

But, as a recent ad that I've seen reminds us, the land has its own wisdom. While at the moment we may be artificially defining the seasons in terms of public health considerations, outside our windows something else is going on entirely. Spring continues to unfold its beauty, first with flowers and greening grass, then with the leaves that will soon provide us shade from the summer's sun. And we continue to move through our liturgical seasons as well, even if our common life doesn't look, feel or even smell the same. It is still the season of Easter, and we are now almost half way through.

And it seems appropriate that, along with the community of Episcopal churches in Colorado, we should now begin to look ahead to what comes next—even if we don't have an explicit timeline for when this will happen. This is a very different way for me to do my work: I tend to see the deadline ahead and then figure out how to meet it. But in this case, by the time we know the actual target date for opening, we will need to have all our plans in place, and ready to go.

Over the next few weeks, members of the Vestry and myself will be in touch with the leaders of our various groups and ministries to begin planning how they will be able to resume their ministries. We'll work with you to help you define the parameters, recognizing that how we carry out our ministries may very well look different in each of the seasons. Some may wish to continue with online gatherings longer than others; just as our state is reopening economic activity at different rates in different locations, so we will not just "flip the switch" on our own work.

As we already know, from scripture and our own experience, new life emerges slowly ... and even sometimes prematurely. We are invited to step forward into this new life, whatever it looks like, and to try things out even if they don't work the first time. And we need not fear failure or disappointment, for we know that we do not travel this road along. The One who creates us, the One who walks with us, the One who comforts and challenges us, is always present with us.

In God's peace,



*Click here to hear the <u>full text of Bishop Curry's sermon</u>, which begins at 42:25 minutes into the service.

Worship and Music

Online Worship Continues through May Sunday Morning Prayer, 9:30 a.m.

We will continue to gather for Morning Prayer on Sundays through the month of May. Many thanks to Andi Smith, who has—with the assistance of her son Jeff—been able to record hymns for our services. Please contact the church office if you need the "zoom" link.

As we learn more about what it takes for us to worship together remotely, we have discovered that speaking in unison presents some challenges. Remember grade school science? Sound travels more slowly than light, so we can see things before we can hear them. When we are reading a response, it helps to speak slowly and pause at the end of the sentence or phrase so everyone can catch up.

We have been asked to record the services and post them, so at times during the service, it will be necessary to mute all participants to improve the quality of the recording. The services will be posted on our YouTube account.

Thanks you for your presence and your patience as we learn something new. The Worship Team will be meeting this month to outline how we can worship together, once we have the go-ahead from Bishop Kym.

Faith Formation

At the moment, all of our adult faith formation programs are online. During May, we will be adding children's formation resources as well, which parents can use at a time convenient to them.

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study Wednesday, May 6, 8:00 - 10:00am

We are currently reading from the book *Was God on Vacation?*, by Jack van der Geest. This month we will be discussing Chapter 6, "Buchenwald." We will be meeting through Zoom, and Tom Scholle will be sending out the link. The Zoom session will begin at 7:30am so you can get it set up if you have not used it before. Please <u>notify Tom</u> if you plan to attend.

Book Study Group Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m.

We are currently reading *The Hope of Glory: Reflections on the Last Words of Jesus from the Cross*, by Jon Meacham, and will continue through May. We will begin discussing our next book, *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd, on Wednesday, June 3.

Bible Study Begins May 12, 2:00 – 3:30pm

After a long and reasonably enlightening trek through the book of the prophet Isaiah—all 66 chapters!—we are turning our attention to the Letter of James. Only five chapters long, this letter is one of those that was not written by Paul. Each week, we will read and discuss a portion of the text; no preparation is necessary.

Hospitality

The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch is postponed until at least June. We'll let you know when we can safely gather again.

Ladies' Bunco

The Ladies' Bunco is postponed until at least June. We'll let you know when we can safely gather again.

Caring Connections

Crafters of the King Mondays, May 4 and 18, 10:00am - 12:00noon

The Crafters of the King meet each month to share a time of supportive fellowship, while working on their individual projects. These may be a personal project or something to be shared, such as prayer shawls for the church, or hats and scarves for the folks who come to The Rising Day Center. At a recent meeting, Crafters noted the need for more Prayer Shawls.

Our meetings in May will be held by Zoom; please contact the church office if you need the link.

St. Clare's Table Tuesday, May 12 5:00 p.m.

Each month, the Church of Christ the King prepares and serves dinner for about 80 people at St. Clare's Table, located at the Episcopal Church of St. Peter and St. Mary in Denver. In May, we will be preparing food at CTK, putting it in plastic bags, and taking it to St. Clare's for distribution. To help, please contact Mark Molello.

Breakfast at the Rising Day Center and the Neighborhood Dinner

During the continuing health crisis, we will not be serving breakfast at the Rising or the Neighborhood Dinner.

Parish Life

Vestry Highlights March and April, 2020

The Vestry met on March 17 and on April 21. The following is a summary of both meetings.

Reports received:

- The Finance Committee reviewed the financials from February and March. This year, they will focus on updating our fixed asset accounts, including a physical count. They are also looking for additional members.
- Bob DeLong reported that although pledge payments were above budget, unrestricted giving for both February and March was below budget. Despite this, we are close to budget. After checking with Rev. Becky and the Wardens, Bob submitted an application for a loan through the Paycheck Protection Program, for just over \$27,000. He also requested that Byron Giezentanner be appointed Assistant Treasurer and reinstated as a signatory on
- Bob Mickelson noted that we have been able to repair most of the light fixtures inside, and that grass mowing has begun.
- Linda Palmer reported that the new Stewardship Committee is meeting regularly and looking at ways to highlight the ministries of Christ the King. They also recommended that we donate three months' worth of funds to The Rising and The Community Table, based on the average of what we would spend on providing breakfast and preparing the Neighborhood Dinner.
- Rev. Becky reported that Chris Linden has decided to resign from the Vestry, with personal scheduling difficulties. She then outlined initial and ongoing steps taken in response to the COVID 19 pandemic; she will continue to follow the guidelines from the Bishop's office and update the Vestry on next steps.

Actions taken:

Accepted resignation of Chris Linden.

Approved donations to The Rising and The Community Table.

Approved the loan application to Community Banks of Colorado.

Began reviewing plans for resuming worship services and other programs.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 19

Treasurer's Report February and March 2020

Total Ordinary Revenue (February, 2020)	\$19,625
Total Expense (February, 2020)	\$23,462
Net Ordinary Income (February,2020)	\$(3,837)
Total Ordinary Revenue (March, 2020)	\$13,175
Total Expense (March, 2020)	\$14,329
Net Ordinary Income (March,2020)	\$(1,154)
Total Year-to-Date Revenue	52,185
Total Year-to-Date Expense	53,606
Net Ordinary Income:	\$(1,421)

Property (Fixers and Tenders) Saturday, May 9, 8:30am

Fixers and Tenders provide basic maintenance and repair to our building and grounds; extensive experience or expertise is not a prerequisite! Your help is very much appreciated. Weather permitting, we will be working out side; just be sure to wear your mask!



Adopt-A-Plot Is Here

Do you enjoy working outside and getting your hands a little dirty? Even if you haven't signed up, you can adopt a plant and begin to clear out last year's foliage. And it's a chance to see what is blooming in our gardens. Just be sure to wear a face mask and maintain appropriate social distancing.

P. S. The peonies are on their way.

Parish Celebrations

April and May Birthdays

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of life. And we thank you especially for bestowing this gift upon these, your people. Guard them, protect them, uphold them and strengthen them for your service. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

April

-	
Jane Russick	April 2
Cathy Atkinson	April 15
Barb Shennum	April 17
Margaret Potting	April 19
David Ohamaka	April 20
Edward Andrews	April 22
Audrey Blair	April 22
John Ziebold	April 22
Richard Atkinson	April 23
Trey M. Harvey	April 23
Dave Bredine	April 24
Dane Starbird	April 30

May

May 3
May10
May 10
May 13
May 14
May 18
May 18
May 19
May 20
May 21
May 25
May 28
May 28
May 31

April and May Anniversaries

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the gift of love, especially the love that is shared between two people in marriage. Pour your grace upon them, O Lord, that they may be strengthened and sustained in the covenant they share. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

April

Hester, Frank & Beth	April 9
Fendel, Rick & Katie	April 22
Molello, Mark & Lori	April 28

May

Linscome, Kama & Mitchell, Harry	May 4
Powell, Ryan & Melissa	May 12
Starbird, Dane & Jessica	May 28

Readings for May

May 3 – Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 2: 42-47 Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10

May 10– Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5,15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14

*May 17 - Sixth Sunday of Easter*Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:7-18

1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21

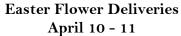
 May 24 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

 Acts 1:6-14
 Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
 John 17:1-11

May 31 – Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:25-35,37 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23







Thank you very much for the beautiful plant delivered at Easter. I loved it, very much. I will keep it and cherish it every day as it reminds me your love and concern. I am eager to join the service and meet all beautiful people and thank them personally.

Love you all,



Thanks so much for the flowers. They were the perfect thing for my sacred space.

Jessica, the card is so beautiful. Thanks for making it.

Love and miss you all,



Dear Friends,

The more tightly we are attached to Jesus, the more purely His love can pass through us.

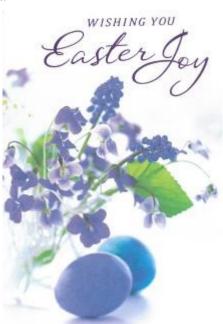
And oh, what a love it is!

Many thanks for the wondrous card and gift, Linda Palmer brought to me for Easter. The Easter card was exquisite! The design, the message, lettering, surpasses even "hallmark cards." I believe it was the most beautiful expression of God's love and grace, I have ever received. Magnificent! The lovely floral arrangement of Spring flowers, brought a welcoming presence of God's goodness in a challenging period of uncertainty. My heartfelt thanks for this extra-ordinary gift, of kindness, love and joy. Look forward to the time, I can "thank you" in person.

I will plant these bulbs in one of my flower beds, for many years of enjoyment.

Dear Mr. Jim, Thank you very much for fresh, home-made and delicious loaf of bread. My daughter's family and I enjoyed it very much. Your note was a very kind gesture of welcoming me to your beautiful group of people. They all are precious to me. I am very happy to be a part of congregation. Rev. Becky and her husband were very helpful to make me feel comfortable. I appreciate every body's love and concern. My special thanks to Mary, who offered to give me ride to church and back home. I felt God's love and presence in your group. Love you all!

Joyce Anwar



To the "flower angels," Thank you for the beautiful blooming plant left on our step! Our thanks to the committee for such a thoughtful gift.

God Bless

Jim and Marilyn

May 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am Morning Prayer	10:00am Crafters of the King		8:00am Men's Bible Study			8:30 Fixers & Tenders
	♀ 7:00pm		1:30pm Book Study	7:00pm Worshiping Voices Choir		
	Handbell Choir		Finance Mtg.			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am Morning Prayer		Prep for St. Clare's				
		2:00pm Bible Study	1:30pm Book Study	_		
	7:00pm Handbell Choir	7:00pm Executive Committee		7:00pm Worshiping Voices Choir		
9:30am Morning Prayer	18	19	20	21	22	23
		2:00pm Bible Study	1:30pm Book Study			
	7:00pm Handbell Choir	7:00pm Vestry Mtg		7:00pm Worshiping Voices Choir		
9:30am Morning Prayer	25	26	27	28	29	30
 31		2:00pm Bible Study	1:30pm Book Study			
9:30am Morning Prayer	7:00pm Handbell Choir			7:00pm Worshiping Voices Choir		