

# THE SCROLL



CHRIST THE KING  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER OF CHRIST THE KING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## THE CHRIST OF ADVENT

BY CLAY HOLLAND

“I am the bread of life.” “I am the light of the world.” “I am the good shepherd.” “I am the true vine.” “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”

There is a lot of confusion in our world regarding who Jesus is. Some say he is an historical myth. Others believe Jesus was a good man and sacrificial leader. Some believe that Jesus was a great prophet from a long line of prophets. As such, he is to be respected but not worshipped. Others hardly ever think about Jesus at all.

This Advent season we are going to spend five weeks reflecting on how Jesus defines himself in the Gospel of John. One of the distinctive features of John’s Gospel is this series of “I am” statements. Very often, when people try to make Jesus out to be something that he is not, he will correct them by setting the record straight using definitions beginning with the words “I am.”

There is nothing more important for our church and our city during the confusing morass of the Christmas season than taking time during Advent to reflect upon who Jesus is. The Christmas celebration in

our culture is often a great joy, but it is also confusing with respect to how, or if, Jesus is supposed to fit into it.

I would encourage you to begin your celebration of this season in worship thinking about who Jesus is, and how the truth about Jesus can transform you. This is also a wonderful opportunity to invite others in our city to be in worship at Christ the King. The Christmas season is often a season of great loneliness and confusion. The “I am” statements of Jesus are bedrocks for life. They are also relational in nature and show Jesus to be a gracious Savior that is capable of walking you through all of the hardships you face into eternal life with him.

Please make worship a priority for you and your family during Advent. Please also make it a priority to “be a bringer” and introduce your friends and neighbors to the Savior who defines himself as the Christ of Advent.

### ADVENT EVENTS 2010

*Sunday, December 5*

Advent Celebration

*Wednesday, December 8*

Women’s Christmas Dinner

*Friday, December 17*

Behold the Lamb of God (Andrew Peterson) a Christmas Concert

*Friday, December 24*

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 pm -  
Lessons & Carols

10:00 pm -  
Holy Communion



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# END OF YEAR GIVING

AS OF NOVEMBER 7, 2010

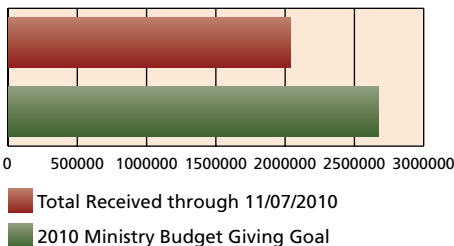
**2010** has been quite a year of transitions for Christ the King. We have moved into our new permanent facility on Silber Road, and we have done so in the midst of a pastoral transition related to the search for a new Senior Minister. There have been a lot of changes of late, but one thing has remained constant: God's care for Christ the King through the generosity of its members.

We are deeply grateful for your confidence in what the Lord is doing in us and through us to bring honor to his Name and powerfully extend his kingdom in Houston and beyond.

As we approach the end of 2010, our financial need remains significant. As of Sunday, November 7, we still need to receive \$633,640 to meet our 2010 Ministry Budget. We would ask you to be in earnest prayer that the Lord would provide for the needs of the church.

To give online now, please visit [www.christtheking.com/giving](http://www.christtheking.com/giving).

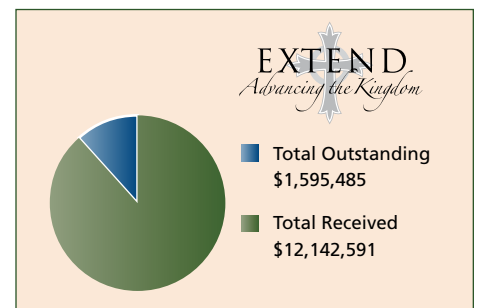
## Ministry Budget 2010



To view our 2010 Mission Partners funded by our Ministry Budget, please visit [www.christtheking.com/our-missionaries](http://www.christtheking.com/our-missionaries). The church's 2009 audited financial statements are available upon request at the church office.

**End of year giving deadline** In order for contributions to be recorded in 2010, they must be received in the church office by December 31, postmarked or given online by December 31, or given in the offering plate by December 26. You may want to consider a gift of appreciated assets. For information regarding stock transfers, please contact Adrienne Fry at the church office.

**EXTEND update** As we approach the end of our EXTEND Capital Stewardship Campaign, we are grateful to have been worshipping in our beautiful new facility since September 12. We have completed our financial obligations to Tellepsen Builders via the Compass Bank loan the congregation approved in May 2009. Total gifts to EXTEND received to date are \$12,142,591. Total outstanding pledges are \$1,595,485. If you have any questions about your 2010 pledge, please contact Adrienne Fry at the church office. To give online now to EXTEND, please visit [www.christtheking.com/giving](http://www.christtheking.com/giving).



## THE VINEYARD: WHERE DISCIPLESHIP MEETS COMMUNITY

BY MARK H. PILLSBURY

**T**he Vineyard formed as a small group of families that could not swing weeknight community groups. We envisioned it as a place on Sunday mornings where young parents could talk over the issues of raising small families amidst the hustle of urban living.

But God works in unexpected ways. Many of the first attendees were single, and some were empty nesters. Vulnerable and open to discussion, we shared our wounds with one another. These struggles ranged from stress brought on by the recession, each one's battle with indwelling sin, and even doubts and confusion about God. Throughout all of this, we sought authentic-

ity, honesty, and spiritual integrity and we reminded one another to rest on the hope found in the cross.

The Vineyard continues to grow by grace and by caring for each other in a genuine way. We talk about real life problems, and we don't speak in code. Furthermore, the Vineyard gets together outside of the church building in casual social outings. We have a Google group that helps to keep us connected throughout the week.

Over time, the Vineyard has evolved into a discussion group based on the sermon and the community group questions. The group has energized us to carry authentic living into the rest of our lives. We are being trans-

formed through lively fellowship centered on realistic faith, transparent communication shared by everyone, and an earnest desire to foster discipleship within the group.

Discipleship happens when people get together and help each other with their growth in Christ. It doesn't simply happen because of a well-organized program or a shiny new church. Instead, when we share what we are struggling with, and remind each other of the truth in God's Word, we grow in Christ and build deeper community. Discipleship is being before doing, maturity before ministry, and character before career.

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## PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

BY DONNA SIMS

Charged with the task of “identifying with a view to recommending to the congregation” a senior pastor, sixteen members of Christ the King have met together as the Pastor Nominating Committee since mid-July. Because this is not a mandate they take capriciously, each PNC meeting purposefully opens with a devotional as a means of encouraging, challenging, and equipping the members. Through Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, the members have been reminded that although they are fellow workers in this process, God is the one who ultimately determines the leadership for and provides the growth of his church. He who laid the foundation of the earth, determined its measurements, and hung the stars in the heavens is the one who establishes his church and raises up her leaders; he will show himself faithful to the task at hand.

The members feel humbled and blessed to partake in this calling and have found the PNC to be an iron-sharpening-iron experience. As one member shared, “I have been humbled at how the Lord is using the many talents and perspectives embodied by the members of the PNC to accomplish his purpose for his glory.” Another noted, “As God works through people with widely different skills, interests, talents, and proclivities to accomplish his purpose, we have witnessed that he enjoys revealing his will through the toil of his people.”

Individually and collectively, the PNC has spent countless hours researching candidate names and evaluating sermons. “What I thought would happen has happened,” shared a member. “What I did not expect was how many of the members have gone ‘above and beyond’ the call of duty. That has been a blessing.” For some, listening to sermons on their computers or MP3’s as they go about their daily tasks has been the norm. For others, examining worship bulletins and online vision statements has consumed their time.

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## YOUNG ADULTS

WRITTEN BY JESSIE LIU

The Christ the King Young Adults took the move into our new building as a cue to refresh and jump-start our ministries this fall. Paul Duffin’s Young Adults Spiritual Growth Class has kicked off an excellent study of the Minor Prophets, focusing each lesson on how we can know God more and what we are called to do as a church, as a result of deeper knowledge of him. Jared Huffman has been teaching us insights about Christian joy, suffering and sanctification through studying Philippians on Wednesday nights. On both Sundays and Wednesdays, we’ve continued the fellowship beyond the building’s walls. A fluid group

goes out to lunch each Sunday, with creative ideas such as a picnic lunch at Memorial Park and a visit to the Greek Festival. After Wednesday night teaching at church, we continue to enjoy each other’s company at a fun place to eat. We’ve also enjoyed football games and live music together. Our social in September was a tailgate party at the Rice vs. Baylor game, and we enjoyed bowling at Dave and Buster’s on the first Wednesday night in October. There are more social events coming up, and we are also continuing to seek opportunities to serve others within the church and beyond.



# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

WRITTEN BY JESSICA EVANS AND JENNIFER VANLOH

The ladies of Christ the King have enjoyed many exciting and enriching events over the last few months.

In August, Meredith McCord spoke at the Theology Uncorked event and gave us great reminders on how to live missionally.

The ladies in the Women's Bible Study have been diligently studying the promises of God in the book of Joshua this fall. We have been meeting in small groups on Wednesday mornings and evenings with fabulous wrap-ups by Cecille Shannon and Marion Wade. Through connecting with other women and engaging with God's Word, we gather to build relationships and grow in grace.



"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" was a huge success! Women gathered at various homes across Houston for a tasty dinner and engaging conversation. These dinner parties were a great opportunity to get to know new people in a relaxed setting. A big thanks to the following women for hosting these dinners: Mary Grace Rogers, Monika DuBose, Julie Smith, Meredith Crow, Gayle Durie, Marion Wade, Chris Butler, Holly Batchelder, Kristen Leibert, Ruth Cagle and Leslie Pine.

Sarah Shughart and Stacie Donovan organized the Sowing Seeds Outreach event in October. We met at the church playground and then took cookies to the firemen across the street. The children loved playing together and the firemen really appreciated the visit.




YOU ARE INVITED  
TO THE 9TH ANNUAL  
*Women's Christmas  
Dinner*  
DECEMBER 8, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.  
1201 SILBER ROAD  
GUEST SPEAKER  
*Lara Gibbs*  
PLEASE RESPOND ONLINE  
WWW.CHRISTTHEKING.COM

Finally, the Women's Retreat at the San Luis Hotel in Galveston offered women both spiritual nourishment and physical refreshment. Megan Croft spoke on resting in Christ. The women of Christ the King had a wonderful time of fellowship and relaxation in beautiful surroundings. Alicia Garza orchestrated the entire event beautifully. We are so thankful for her service to the Women's Ministry of Christ the King.

# MEN OF CHRIST THE KING

BY JOHN PISLAK

Who or what is MOCTK? Well, if you're a man and you attend Christ the King, we're you. MOCTK (Men of Christ the King) is an integral component of our church engineered to minister to men.

**Our Mission:**

To equip men to Worship, Know and Serve the King.

**Our Vision:**

To build a community where friendship, learning and service strengthen the church by helping men serve Christ in their family, the church and the world.

**Our Plan:**

Monthly events and seasonal studies with three repeating themes,

- Learning • Serving • Connecting

Here's what's coming up on the MOCTK calendar:

**Serving:** Use a little elbow (or bicycle) grease. Join us in serving the local community by building bicycles. Each year we partner with Elves & More to help construct more than 15,000 bikes which are given away during the Christmas season to underprivileged children. This year our build is Tuesday, December 14 at 5:00 PM. You'll find more details at christtheking.com/men. When we're finished with the bikes we usually get together at Hunters Pub.

**Connecting:** January is National Steak Month ... well, not really. But that doesn't mean we can't all get together and eat meat! Mark Miller is hosting Steak Night at his place on January 19th. You bring your own



meat and we'll provide the fixins. It's always a great time. More details to come.

**Learning:** Our current Bible Study of 1 Corinthians is a huge hit. There are six different groups meeting at different times of the week all over Houston. If you're not in a study now, there will be plenty of room for you during our next study in the spring. Be looking for details soon.

# STUDENT MINISTRY

**C**hrist the King student ministry kicked off the fall with a bang this year. For the first time in CTK's existence, the students had a place to call their own. We feel so blessed to have such a wonderful God and wonderful church body to provide us with this amazing new facility. Our students have adapted like animals to the wild. The metaphor is actually quite fitting, for there was no awkward "get-to-know-you-phase" between the students and the new youth space. From the moment they stepped foot on the third floor that first Sunday, September 12th, the place was theirs. It has been amazing to see how God can use a building to bless others and bring glory to himself. But it has also been amazing to rediscover that the biggest blessing is not the building itself but the people who occupy it week after week.

We have already taken part in a few exciting Saturday night events this fall from our middle school "Dinner and A Mystery" to our high school "Movie Night" and "Mission Impossible" game. Sunday school has continued to be the key portion of our corporate teaching and worship, and Sunday nights have given themselves to a more intimate, relaxed session of games and Bible study. We also had the privilege of going to the VanLohs' ranch for our middle school fall retreat in October. Joey Stewart, National Director of RYM, came and taught us about assurance of faith and dealing with doubt. Our students had an incredible time getting to know one another and studying the Word. We are praying the same will happen for our upcoming high school fall retreat November 12-14 at Stoney Creek Ranch. Our student ministry director John Trapp will be teaching on Christ as the good portion. All in all, this

fall has been an extraordinary time of growth for our students and for our leaders, and we are excited about what Jesus has in store for the upcoming holiday season.



## **CODE 45**

### **Code 45 Spring Curriculum**

#### **How Majestic Is Your Name**

*A Study for Children on the Names and Character of God*

Did you know that there are more than 200 different names given to God in the Bible? God's many names explain to us His character and remind us of His promises.

#### **Spring Event**

February 18 @ 7:00 pm

Broomball at Memorial City Mall Ice Rink

# ALL THE PEOPLES

BY BRAD DELOACH

**A**s a congregation, this past October we turned our attention to the Lord's work outside of the United States. We learned that the landscape of the global church has been rapidly changing. As of June 2010, over 60% of the world's Christians live in places we often see as mission fields, including Zambia, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Demographers tell us that this shift of Christians will continue and that by 2025 approximately 70% of the world's Christians will live outside of the West.

These changes mean that our approach to and thoughts about global mission are changing as well. During October, the Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelism was held in Cape Town, South Africa. At this seminal event senior evangelical leaders from over two hundred countries and numerous denominations discussed six of the most pressing issues facing the evangelical church today. Describing one of the topics the event organizers said, "Global Partnership for world evangelization, unlike anything possible in the previous twenty centuries, is now attainable as we develop relationships that are based on mutual respect – acknowledging that God has called us to be one in him."



This month we had the privilege of hosting several of our old and new partners who shared about how God is at work around the world. Bryan McReynolds discussed how we are called to value and learn from the cultures in which we minister. They will be leading a new effort of our denomination's mission sending agency called Training in Ministry Outreach (TIMO). Rev. Wong Fong Yang, Sr. Pastor of City Disciples Presbyterian Church, talked with us about living out the gospel in a pluralist society and painted a picture of the way that global Christians are tied together in a common

mission. David and Eowyn Stoddard shared with us about working in East Berlin and the ways in which we are called to be salt and light in our situation. And concluding the month, Phil and Lyla shared their experience of how the Lord has used their vocations both here in Houston and soon to be outside the United States to accomplish his mission of making disciples of all the nations.

If you are interested in getting more involved with global mission activities at Christ the King, contact Brad DeLoach, [brad.deloach@christtheking.com](mailto:brad.deloach@christtheking.com).



*Missionaries to Germany David and Eowyn Stoddard at the Tompsons house.*



*Rev. Wong Fong Yang, City Disciples Presbyterian Church, Malaysia.*

**CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

**Baptisms**

Catherine Hart Brack, Anna Riley Peek, Peter Barry Schwab and Kendall Faith Smith were baptized on September 26

Isaac Robert Hagedorn, Christopher Pierce Russell and Paul Alexander Sims were baptized on October 17

**Births**

Everett Culver was born to Molly and Jason Whiles on September 15

Kaden Saba was born to Monique Sayon on September 16

Anna Teresa was born to Sara and Bret Oliver on September 20

Elizabeth Anne was born to Meredith and Pat Smith on September 24

Thomas Hendrik was born to Els and Koos Hoefakker on October 4

Adelene Grace was born to Lindsey and Eric Micekon October 6

Ever Marie was born to Cara and Ben Moore on October 8

Stephen En-cheng was born to Idee and Tao Mou on October 16

Sophia Ann was born to Kim and Ryan Dolibois on October 19

Onetta Gbeyonoh was born to Etta and Onardrous Nyanti on October 29.

Clementine Beatrice was born to Kevin and Julie Wells on November 4.

**Communion**

Mary Sophia Dewhurst celebrated her first communion on October 24

John Boyd Butler celebrated his first communion on November 7

**Sympathy**

Our sympathy is extended to Angela Pennington in the loss of her grandmother

Our sympathy is extended to Jay Glanton in the death of his aunt

Our sympathy is extended to Carol and Vic Thomas in the loss of Vic's mother

**STAFF NEWS**

**Jenny Levenhagen**

*Discipleship and Congregational Care Coordinator*

On October 1, Jenny Levenhagen joined the Christ the King staff as the Discipleship and Congregational Care Coordinator. Jenny and her husband Eric, have attended Christ the King for 2 years. Jenny has a Master of Arts in Counseling and most recently worked in social work. We are so excited to have Jenny join our staff!

**Katie Ashby**

*Worship and Communications Coordinator*

Also in October, Katie Ashby became the part time Worship and Communications Coordinator for Christ the King. Katie's education is in Human Development and Communications. Her husband, Linc, served as Christ the King's first student minister from 2002-2007. She is thrilled to be back in Houston after 3 years in Atlanta, GA.

**THE VINEYARD**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

For many of us, it is apparent that the Vineyard has been God's way of working out our discipleship. We have found transparency, encouragement, and edification central to our personal spiritual growth.

Author Michael Spencer says, "Jesus-shaped discipleship produces people whose lives, habits, commitments, and words

resemble Jesus more than the cultural ideas of comfort, convenience, and economic prosperity." At Christ the King, we strive to be risky, rather than simply a comfortable, suburban church. The Vineyard reflects the gospel as we grow in grace and walk alongside one another down the difficult road of discipleship.

**PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Additionally, the members have grown in appreciation of the senior-pastor position. One member commented, "The PNC has realized that a senior pastor's ministry extends far beyond eye-level purview. I have gained a greater appreciation for the vast variety of ways in which God ministers to his flock through the instrumentality of a senior pastor."

Though the search often seems to be an arduous task, the members stand in awe at the "breadth and depth of the PCA ministry as it seeks to grow God's kingdom as the Reformed Gospel spreads to so many." Listening to such a wide variety of sermons has given them a window into how God's Word is being preached across the country. Even more encouraging is the passion they hear in these Christ-centered and doctrinally-sound sermons. The committee would appreciate the continued prayers of the congregation for wisdom and God's guidance as the PNC searches out candidates.

**Church Office:**

1201 Silber Road  
Houston, TX 77055  
713.892.5464  
713.892.5470 (Fax)  
info@christtheking.com  
Office hours: Monday – Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm

**Worship:**

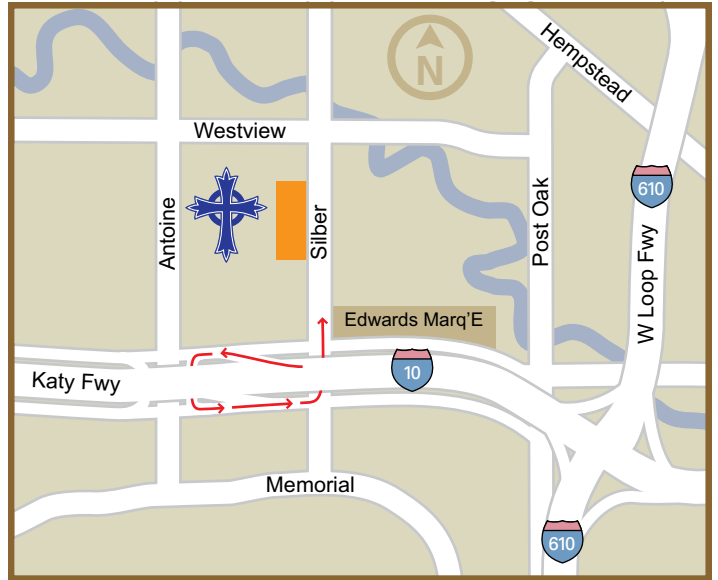
Sunday mornings at 9:30 am & 11:00 am

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Christ the King Presbyterian Church exists to worship,  
know and serve the King so that he is honored and his  
reign is powerfully extended in Houston and beyond.*

Christ the King is a self governing, self-supporting  
congregation of the Presbyterian Church in  
America (PCA).

**Worship Location**



**COME & WORSHIP WITH US**  
**AT 9:30 AND 11:00 AM**  
**1201 SILBER ROAD**

Houston, TX 77055  
1201 Silber Road  
CHRIST THE KING  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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