

# Christ Lutheran Church

The People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ

November 2019



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## Pastor John

Dear Friends,

A big part of November is Thanksgiving, a time we pause from the busy-ness of our lives, in the middle of the week, to say a special 'thank you' to God for all of His blessings and kindnesses to us. And so as we anticipate our great time of 'taking time out to thank God' fast approaching at the **end** of the month, I would like to **begin** this month also by saying a great big 'thank you,' and 'a job well done' to all of you for your time



**PASTOR JOHN STENNFELD**

and talents and service in making this year's pumpkin patch our most lucrative yet. We had so much great help from so many of our members, and friends, of the congregation, and it enabled us to 'sell out' a couple days before Halloween even arrived. Your time and service went to support not only those folks who grow the pumpkins, but also the two non profit organizations of Water to Thrive, and Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation of Thailand. And we also served the people of our community. I cannot tell you how often we were thanked for having the pumpkin patch, but also thanked by many families for having our playground there and allowing folks to use it throughout the year. I don't know if anyone will ever enter our church building for worship based upon their pumpkin patch contact with us or not, but I do know that there are many folks whom we served, loved, and talked to with whom we would have never met nor encountered were it not for the patch. So again, to all of you, for whatever part you played in this year's pumpkin patch, "Thank you." Have a blessed and thanks-filled month.

In Christ,

Pastor John





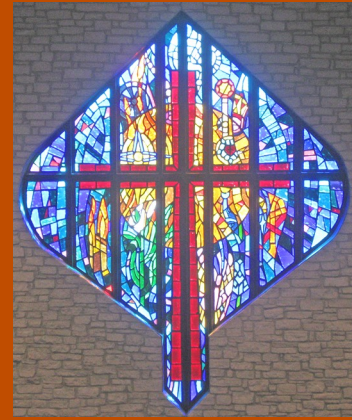
## Letter from the President

In October the people of Christ really put their collective best foot forward as we once again operated the SoCo Pumpkin Patch for our neighbors and friends. I am thrilled to report that each of our charities (Water to Thrive and the Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation of Thailand, aka the Thai Children's Mission) will each receive around \$1,600 as a result of our efforts. Additionally, we will host a stop on the Travis Heights Art Trail in November. While we may all hope for tangible results from our efforts in the form of new members, we should rest in the assurance that we touched the lives of numerous families and groups who came to experience the Patch and the Art Trail. The conversations and interactions that we had, or will have, may some day yield fruit in ways we can't comprehend.

In November, the Council will meet to develop the proposed budget for 2020. More importantly, we will look to replace several officers including the Vice-President and President (me) as well as filling a number of other positions. If asked to serve, please prayerfully consider doing so. It takes the combined efforts of all of us to keep Christ Lutheran moving forward, loving, and serving. Approval of the budget and election of officers will take place at a yet-to-be-determined December voters' assembly.

Stay up on the latest activities or catch up on a sermon you may have missed through our website ([www.christaustin.org](http://www.christaustin.org)) or by following us on Facebook (look for "Christ Austin 78704") or Twitter (@ChristATX78704).

- Alan Werchan



Travis Heights Art Trail  
Saturday and Sunday,  
November 2nd and 3rd



## Men's Discipleship

We will continue a study for 2019-2020 led by Tim Ristow and based on the book "Navigate Your Faith: A Christian's Field Guide to Not Getting Lost" (by Ron Pratt) on the first Tuesday of November, the 5th, at 7:30 P.M in the Christ's Workshop. Please contact Tim, or Jordan, for information.

### Mission Statement

*The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to connect people to Jesus through:*

✚ *Inspirational Worship* ✚ *Loving Service*  
✚ *Caring Fellowship* ✚ *Relevant Education*

*So that they may know, and grow in, his love.*

## HVAC Install





## Eunice Guild



This page is sponsored by the Women of the Eunice Guild.

St. Paul says in 2 Tim. 1:5, that Eunice, the mother of Timothy, was a woman of "sincere faith." She loved her Lord and Savior, and she lived her faith. It is our prayer that we may all be granted this same sincere faith. God be with you and bless you as you spend time in Meditation and in Cooking With Eunice.

### Meditation — "The Pride-filled Pie"

The nursing home was providing turkey and ham for the "Holiday Party." The residents' families were to bring a side or dessert. I opted to make my luscious 10-inch, 4 egg pecan pie with my pie crust recipe. I worked the dough and crimped it perfectly. Then, I reworked it just to be sure. It was gorgeous! I placed it on a lace doily in the sun's rays coming through the window, and took pictures. I was so proud. Later, I criticized my husband for not carrying it with proper care, and then I held it safely on my lap all the way to the facility. Once there, I strategically placed it on the dessert table in the middle of the other pies, and we made our way, through hallways crowded with decorated tables, to Aunt Elizabeth's room. When invited to the serving line, we seated her at a table and went to fill our plates. Oh! I could barely contain my delight! There, in the center of the desserts, was my pie, elevated on a pretty pedestal serving plate by someone who obviously recognized excellence - and, it was already missing several slices! My pride swelled! When we sat at our table, I was thrilled to see several people nearby had slices of my precious pie. But then, to my horror, I saw that after taking a bite, they would dig out the filling or simply push the pie aside. I looked down and hoped no one knew I was the baker. After the party, I quickly grabbed my pie plate with its one last hapless slice, and once home, we tried it. Surely it was not as bad as it had appeared, but alas, the crust was tasteless and hard as a rock, ruining the entire pie eating experience! In my zeal for perfection, I had broken a vital rule of crust making - NEVER overwork the dough! I weakly tried to excuse it by passing the blame. If they had just left it on the table where I put it, and not sliced it up - well - it was useless. I was so ashamed. Proverbs 16:18 says, "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall." Haughtiness, or arrogance, takes our focus off of our Savior and others, and places it solely on ourselves. Galatians 6:8 says: "The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life." What begins with a "small pie", can start us down a slippery slope and away from Christ, our salvation. I had sinned. I took my eyes off of my Savior. St. Paul said it so simply, so beautifully: "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Gal. 6:14). Every Thanksgiving since, I've thought of my "pride-filled pie." It was a silly little incident, so why spend this time so many years later, "telling all"? Because the Holy Spirit taught me lessons to be shared. The wrong was not in my wanting to create a wonderful pie. It was in my attitude at wanting it to be the best to serve my needs - my sinful pride - rather than to add to the joy of, and do good towards, others. There is also a lesson in knowing God's Hand is ever present in my life. In His great love for me, He is always at work renewing me, disciplining me - preparing me for my forever life with Him! I must stay focused on Christ, and a great way, is through prayers of thanksgiving. Saying "thank you" to someone, especially to God, turns the focus towards them. And so, this year, my prayer of Thanksgiving will be for a pecan pie that still reminds me of lessons learned, and that all I really need in life is God's Grace which I know in my Savior's cross. And, I will add a humble "thank you" for the opportunity to serve others through a simple meditation about a "pride-filled pie." In all things, to God alone, belongs the Glory. With Joy in Christ! Duannah

### Cooking With Eunice

#### Every Day Pecan Pie

This is the perfect holiday pecan pie, pleasing almost any taste - but, keep the recipe handy as it is just too easy & delicious to bake only for the holidays!

3 eggs  
1/4 cup melted butter  
1/2 cup granulated sugar  
1/2 tsp vanilla  
1/2 cup packed brown sugar  
1/4 tsp salt  
1/2 cup evaporated milk  
1 1/2 cups coarsely chopped pecans  
1/4 cup light corn syrup  
1 9-inch unbaked pie crust  
Preheat oven to 375°. In mixing bowl, beat eggs. Stir in other ingredients except for pecans, & mix well. Stir in pecans. Pour into one unbaked 9 - inch pie crust & bake 35 to 40 minutes, or until knife inserted in center comes out clean.

Since it's November, how about a 2-fer! We LUV retro recipes!

#### Texas Sweet Tater Casserole

3 cups cooked & mashed sweet potatoes (or 1 large can, drained)  
2 to 4 Tbsp. butter, melted  
1/2 tsp vanilla  
3/4 to 1 cup granulated sugar  
1/3 cup milk (evaporated is great!)  
1 or 2 eggs, beaten  
pinch cinnamon, nutmeg (optional)

Mix all ingredients & pour into a buttered 8X8-inch baking dish.

**Topping:**  
1/2 cup brown sugar 2 1/2  
Tbsp melted butter  
1/4 cup flour 1/2  
cup chopped pecans

Combine topping ingredients and sprinkle over sweet potatoes. Double topping recipe if you prefer. Casserole can be covered & refrigerated at this point for baking the next day. Bake at 350° for 35 to 40 minutes.





**JORDAN BOESSLING**

## Creative Communication and Community Connections

Please contact Jordan for more information on any of the activities on pages 4-5.

Just a reminder that we often take photos, and at times, video, of ministry events to put up around Church on the screen on Sundays and to post to the web that publicizes the worship, service, fellowship, and education life of Christ Lutheran.

### Central Texas Food Bank

Volunteer with the Central Texas Food Bank in their Proust Recovery Warehouse (6500 Metropolis Dr., Austin, TX, 78744) to help with food sorting on Saturday, November 9 from 9:00 am to 12 noon. Volunteers must be 8 years or older. Only 15 volunteer spots available. Please contact Jordan for details, and to sign up to serve.

### Discipleship Classes at 9:30 am on Sunday Mornings

Pastor's Class – Mark

Discipleship Classes for All Ages

Our Nursery Room is available throughout the morning.

### **Thursday Morning Bible Class**

Come join us as we study the Book of Joshua in Bible Study lead by Jordan Boessling on Thursdays from 10:00a.m. to 11:00a.m.

### **Christmastime at Christ**

Stay tuned this Autumn for announcements about loving service opportunities we are working to schedule throughout the upcoming holiday season, namely with Upbring's Angel Tree Project; Austin Police Operation Blue Santa; Decorating / Outdoor Christmas Crèche; and Christmas Caroling. More details to follow also regarding our plans to present a Christmas program for during 10:45 worship service on Sunday, December 22.

### **Christ's Friends**

Hey there happy campers! Make your reservations now at LCRA's Black Rock Park in Buchanan Dam, Texas (<https://www.lcra.org/parks/Pages/black-rock-park.aspx>) for a camping weekend on **Friday, Nov 15th, and leaving Sunday, Nov 17th** before things are booked up. The Hamil's already have booked **site 11**, the Etter's will be in **site 12**. Cabins are also available.

### **Eunice Guild Announcement**

The Ladies of the Eunice Guild will NOT gather during November, but make plans now to Party with Presence on Tuesday, December 10th. Find out the details in the December Newsletter and Bulletin Announcement Sheets!

### **Jolly Christmas Party with Presence!**

Please come to the Best Jolly Christmas Party and give the gift of your Presence! It's so much better than presents! Take out your magic marker NOW, turn to December 2019 on your calendar, and draw a circle around Tuesday, the 10th - the day to set aside for partying. This merry-making occasion, sponsored by the ladies of the Eunice Guild, is for any and every one looking for a relaxed and festive mid-day opportunity to celebrate ALL that is Christmas, with loving people of Christ. Watch for all the specifics in the December CLC Newsletter and the Bulletin Announcement Sheets.

### **Angel Tree Project**

We get to partner with Upbring, the new LSS, once again on the Angel Tree Project. This is a tradition at Christ where are given the chance to buy Angel Tree gifts for the children served by Upbring living in foster homes. Starting November 10th, if you are interested in sponsoring a child and buying him or her a gift or two from their wish list, please take an ornament from the Christmas tree in the narthex - groups can even form to collectively buy a more expensive gift for a child. Please be sure to write on the Angel Tree Ornament sheet 1) your name and contact information 2) the names and ages of the children you signed up to sponsor. Please bring all gifts in plastic bags (w/ ornaments attached) to Church and set under the Christmas tree by Sunday, December 1. Please contact Jordan with questions. Thanks for your support!



## 15th Annual Austin & Central Texas Senior Fest!

**Date:** Saturday, February 1, 2020 - 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church (ELCA), Austin  
**Keynote Speaker:** The Rev. Michael Newman, President of the Texas District, LC-MS  
**Keynote Topic:** "Getting Through It: Facing an Uphill Life with God's Gifts."

Seniors, come join other area Lutheran seniors in February for a fun-filled day of joy, learning, and inspiration! Brochures are available in the narthex and the church office. For additional information, to download a PDF version of the brochure, or to register online, visit our new secure website, <https://sites.google.com/view/austinseniorfest/home>—for more information or questions, contact David Austin at 512-939-4010 or my e-mail at [austinseniorfest@gmail.com](mailto:austinseniorfest@gmail.com)

## Operation Blue Santa

On Thursday, December 12, from 6:30-7:50 pm, we have a group opportunity to help with Austin Police Operation Blue Santa (4101 S Industrial Dr. Ste. 260, Austin, Texas, 78744). Shifts at Santa's Workshop involve wrapping presents, sorting toys, and preparing packages for families. No children under 6 years old. Only 20 volunteer spots available. When we are finished with this service project those who would like to will grab a bite to eat somewhere together. Please contact Jordan, or Pastor John, for details, and if you are able to commit to serving during that day/time to serve.

## Christmas Program - (To Be Determined)

Sunday, December 22 during 10:45 worship

## Travis Heights Art Trail – Saturday, November 2nd and Sunday, November 3rd

The Top Ten Reasons Why You Should Get Involved in the Travis Heights Art Trail

- 10) We can provide a location for Austin-area non-profits that are supporting the community with various art-related programs
- 9) We can celebrate the beauty that is created by local artists who have been given special artists gifts by God
- 8) We can financially support our neighbors who are
- 7) We can provide food and drinks to all who stop at our welcome center
- 6) We can welcome visitors to our community, as a goodly number of individuals who pass our building on the way to Congress Ave., are visitors to Austin
- 5) We can love others as God loves us and possibly connect with hurting folks
- 4) We can continue the process of serving our community as we have during the Pumpkin Patch
- 3) We can show our concern for the community by our involvement
- 2) We can demonstrate Christ in our lives by our presence as a light to the world
- 1) We are called to serve our neighbors and the people of Travis Heights are our neighbors.

Please consider visiting the Art Trail on Saturday, November 2, and Sunday November 3, from 11 am to 5 pm. For more information or to explore ways you can directly help, contact Donn Trautner or Jordan.





# Sharing the Love of Christ



The Quilters



Pumpkin Patch!



Pumpkin Patch Unloading & Opening Day!



Aquarium Adventure!





# Christ Lutheran Church

November 2019

Stewardship  
Ephesians 5:21

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

## Thanksgiving Word Search



Dinner	Pie
Fall	Pilgrims
Family	Pumpkin
Feast	Share
Native (Americans)	Thanks
November	Turkey



### November Birthdays

Dorothy Traugott	11/1
Bryan Richter	11/4
Yolanda Faulkner	11/6
Berrick Juszczak	11/8
Andy Hentschke	11/9
Linda Ihlo	11/9
Mildred Westfall	11/12
Ron Kautz	11/16
Christina Juszczak	11/17
Elizabeth Chapman	11/18
Felix Alexander	11/20
Alice Werchan	11/20
David Cano	11/23
Ronnie Richter	11/25



### November Anniversaries

Gary & Vicki Lippe  
11/25/1994



# Christ Lutheran Church

November 2019

## November 3rd

Flowers: Given by Cindy Zieschang  
Tellers: P. Bost/S. Etter  
8:15am: Lector: Mark Herber  
10:45am: Lector: Norma Nanyes  
Acolyte: Ben Ristow  
Communion Guild:  
8:15am: Kim and Ben Schaare  
10:45am: Mary Karotkin, Gerald & Ellen Decker  
Fellowship: Trisha Jaimes and Stella Campos

## November 10th

Flowers: Given by Duannah Ashmore  
Tellers: J. Carrion / A. Carrion  
8:15am: Lector: Paul Kern  
10:45am: Lector: Gary Lippe  
Acolyte: Katy Herber  
Communion Guild:  
8:15am: Felix and Louise Alexander  
10:45am: Trinity Stennfeld  
Fellowship: Gerald & Ellen Decker

## November 17th

Flowers: Given by Dorothy Traugott  
Tellers: J. Carrion / A. Carrion  
8:15am: Lector: Jessica Engs  
10:45am: Lector: Phil Etter  
Acolyte: Matt Ristow  
Communion Guild:  
8:15am: LeMorris Galbreath  
10:45am: Pachalin Stennfeld  
Fellowship: The Stennfeld Family

## November 24th

Flowers: Given by Nancy Wilson  
Tellers: M. Moore / A. Moore  
8:15am: Lector: Clayton Pillack  
Acolyte: Katy Herber  
10:45am: Lector: N/A  
Communion Guild:  
8:15am:  
10:45am: Bryan & Ronnie Richter

## ELDERS:

8:15am: Roy Pietsch  
10:45am: Kevin Craig

\* Flowers will be donated

If you cannot serve as scheduled, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement. If a problem arises Sunday morning, please call the church to let Pastor know.

