



Christ Lutheran Church

August 2018

The People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ

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Pastor's Summer Sermon Series

"Essential Memory Verses Every Christian Should Know"

Dear Friends,

I heard someone in a movie once say, "You are never wrong to do the right thing." I would venture to say that it would be right to reverse that statement also, "You are never right to do the wrong thing."

And yet we hear all the time from people their justifications for doing something wrong. "It may not have been right, but..." Somehow, in their minds, the word 'but' has the magical power to turn their wrong action into a right action... "but he cut me off," "but she hurt me first," "but I didn't know what else to do," and so on.

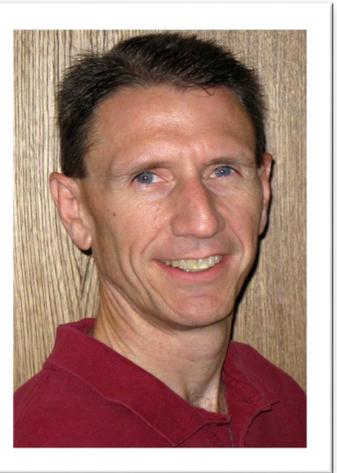
Jesus does not make allowances for wrong behavior. He does not permit evil for cause. He does not justify sinful actions. To the contrary, Jesus said that we should turn our cheek to the one who would strike us, to give to the one who asks us, and to love the one who hates us. He said that we should be perfect.

Thus, there never really is a right time or place for wrong behavior. But there is forgiveness for wrong behavior. Therefore, the proper response to our sin is not self-justification, but humble confession.

Jesus died and rose to forgive us of our sins, and thus God is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness when we come to Him and say, "Lord have mercy on me, a poor sinful being."

May we so strive always to do the right thing, and when we can't or don't, may we be quick to confess our wrong doing to God, seeking His grace for the sake of Jesus.

To God be the Glory,



PASTOR JOHN STENNFELD

— *Pastor John*



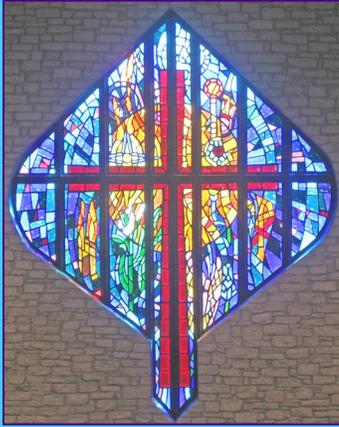
Letter from the President



There will be a voters' assembly on August 12th. After late service, we will have a potluck lunch followed by the meeting. Please bring something to share. The Council will finalize the agenda later in August, but the most pressing issues are: 1) election of officers including replacement of our elected Secretary position following the departure of Sarah and Brett Egge along with addition of a co-treasurer, 2) discussion of some pending financial matters, and 3) approval of names to be dropped from our current membership roster. We will also hear reports from Pastor, Jordan, and others. Please attend to stay informed and to help conduct the business of our congregation.

As always, check our website (www.christaustin.org) and follow us on Facebook (look for "Christ Austin 78704") or Twitter (@ChristATX78704) to get the latest information or to watch Pastor John's sermons.

— Alan Werchan



VOTER'S MEETING
With Potluck Lunch

Sunday, August 12

After Late Service



Stay connected

You can now watch videos of Pastor John's messages from the previous Sunday online! (*visuals added in*) Our website links to YouTube to help us stay connected to Jesus throughout the week.



Stay connected with our social media pages to get the latest information.

Website www.christaustin.org
Facebook look for "Christ Austin 78704"
Twitter @ChristATX78704

Thanks to God, Pastor John, the congregation and all others that have kept me in their prayers, sending cards and letters, and the phone calls I received during my illness. All have been a blessing!
We continue to be "The people of Christ sharing the love of Christ."
~Lucille Herrera





This column is lovingly sponsored by the Eunice Guild.



A Lesson in Wake Boarding!

I am so ashamed! On our way home from church one Sunday, we stopped at QUEST ATX to watch people enjoying the sport of wake boarding. It's done on a big lake with six large towers that hold a cable to which are attached tow ropes that pull people around on wakeboards. The lake has all sorts of jumps and obstacles for the more daring to conquer, and it looks like such great fun! Well, this day there was a young couple practicing on the beginners' cable. Back and forth they went, often falling, but earnestly trying to master the tow. Soon they seemed ready to try the big cable and joined the line of folks on the landing. It was not crowded, but there were all ages of people, some in full matching professional gear and most with just the rented boards and helmets. They grabbed the tow rope, waited for the cable, and with a slight hop they were off flying around the lake, mastering the jumps and performing amazing tricks! When it was time for the couple, the man went first, receiving some last-minute instructions from the operator, watching intently as the hook came around, engaged his tow rope, pulled him to his feet, and – “SMACK!” He hit face down just several feet from the dock. He bobbed up, swam the few feet to shore, and then to the back of the line. The young woman, undeterred, listened to the instructions, rope engaged, the upward pull, and – “SMACK!” Down she went. I began to giggle uncontrollably, and therein lies my shame. There was nothing funny about the couple. They were inspirational, not giving up but trying over and over to at least get to their feet and out into the main wake boarding lane before falling. They were not successful, always repeating the same pattern of falling face down, and when their time was up, they left. I decided to write this based on their experience. After all, we are told in 2 Chron. 15:7 to “be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.” However, I realized that the message was not so much about perseverance, but rather attitudes - in this case, of the “seasoned” wake boarders. Each time the couple returned to the line, everyone seemed to meet them with words of encouragement and were showing them how to brace their arms, bend their knees, spring into position. No one pushed ahead of, ignored, discounted - or giggled at them. There was a tie that bound them to help each other succeed, to grow the sport, to enjoy a common purpose. It was appealing and I longed to jump in! But, the Holy Spirit has already given me a “tie that binds.” I am in fellowship with all believers in the Body of Christ - and - I need to act like it! In Romans, St. Paul says, “let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way” (14:13). Also, to “accept one another, just as Christ accepted you” (15:7). God has given us to each other, not to judge or ignore, but to meet with understanding and encouragement, to keep in prayer, to love. So, “May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give (us) a spirit of unity . . . as (we) follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and voice (we) may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (vs 5, 6)!

— with JOY in Christ! Duannah





Game On! Vacation Bible School

Our sports-themed Vacation Bible School on Sunday morning at 9:30 am this summer continues today and concludes at the end of August. Our theme for August 5th and 12th is that "Jesus gives us joy, and challenges us, and cheers us on to go for the goal toward the eternal life He's won for us." On August 19th and 26th we will review these basics of our faith that are everything to us on and off the athletic field: that Jesus cares for us, Jesus gives us hope, Jesus helps us believe, Jesus loves us, and Jesus gives us joy.

Offerings from our 2018 VBS at Christ to be designated to the Thailand Children's Mission. Please contact Jordan for details and to get involved in **Game On!** VBS.

Be sure to check out Pastor John's class, where the Bible becomes relevant as we study the New Testament book of I Timothy. Our nursery room is available for families throughout Sunday mornings.



Discipleship Hour for Kids and Teens

Be a part of our shepherds/teachers, puppeteers, and special projects team who connects our kids and teens at Christ to Jesus, and continues our Church's commitment to Christian Education. We will have an informational session on Sunday, August 26 from 12 noon - 1 pm in Room 7 & 8 regarding our 2018-2019 Sunday morning 9:30 am discipleship hour at Christ. This gathering and sharing time will be an opportunity to discuss how we can continue to work together as the people of Christ to offer the fun faith-enriching activities we strive to provide on Sundays in partnering with families throughout the week toward raising up life-long followers of Jesus. We'll be making preparations for the opportunities that we have in the upcoming Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer to teach the faith, through our Nursery, Age 3-Grade 5 and Middle School/High School ministries. Lunch to be provided. There will be an activity for children attending with their parents. Please contact Jordan for details, and to RSVP.

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

People of Christ, as I reflect on the sermon about Paul's thorn in the flesh that Pastor John helped me write, and gave me the opportunity to preach on Sunday, July 8, 2018, please be reminded that God's grace is sufficient. This process was healthy from a professional, and personal standpoint, and made me appreciate all the more Pastor's ministry among us at Christ to preach Christ crucified for the forgiveness of our sins, and your prayers, support, and kind words over these past 11 years in partnering together to connect people to Jesus.

Take to heart, that as children of God, we are forgiven of our sins by the death and resurrection of Jesus, and because of His scars, tears, sweat, and blood, we can: **Talk to The Lord** about our struggles... **Read God's Word** for strength... **Understand God's promises** as we wait for His Son our Savior, Jesus, to return... **Spend time together** as the people of Christ... **Take action** to get the help we need with our struggles.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." - Jordan

Loving Service

- Marbridge House — Saturday, August 11 from 9:45-11:15 am — Help with Sports and/or Arts and Crafts.
- Down Home Ranch in Elgin — Help with Various Stages of Growing Poinsettias.
- Please contact Jordan for details and to sign up to serve.





Sharing the Love of Christ

Hearts In Spirit (H.I.S.) Band



Sunday Mornings at Christ in July



10:45 Service Fellowship

Homeless Ministry



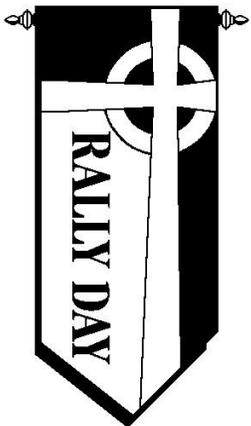
Pastor John and Jordan





Stewardship Word for the Month **Psalm 24: 1 & 2**

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters."



Sunday September 9th



"Ethel, take a leap of faith!"

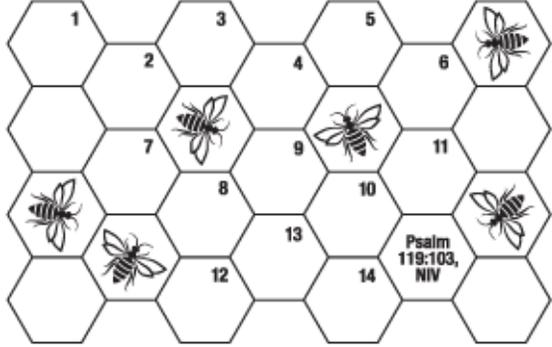
PUZZLE

GOD'S amazzzzing BEES

God created bees to pollinate flowers and make honey. Psalm 119:103 says God gives us something that's even sweeter than honey.

Directions: Find the word that fits each clue. Then write the answers in the correct numbered honeycomb shape to complete Psalm 119:103, NIV.

CLUES			WORD BANK
1. rhymes with cow	8. the tongue's job		than your to are
2. opposite of sour	9. more sweet		sweet sweeter How
3. pronounced "R"	10. rhymes with pan		my honey mouth
4. rhymes with four	11. golden liquid		words to taste, my
5. Letters create _____	12. Pleased ___ meet you.		
6. not too or two	13. rhymes with fly		
7. rhymes with by	14. body part		



Answer: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103, NIV

August Birthdays

- Fred Frieling 8/3
- Scott Mitchell 8/5
- Dexter Juszcak 8/6
- Caitlin Rowlette 8/7
- Bob Wiley 8/11
- Sara Calvo 8/13
- Sherri Shadrock 8/13
- Lindsey Sermons 8/15
- Leah Nicole Montoya 8/16
- Mark Ziehr 8/16
- Tyler Hentschke 8/18
- Micka Ziehr 8/18
- Belinda Reveles 8/19
- Tracy Ristow 8/19
- Clayton Pillack 8/23
- Dana Magruder 8/24
- Kevin Craig 8/28
- LeMorris Galbreath 8/29
- Mehkiya Batts 8/31

August Anniversaries

- Bob & Jean Wiley
8/11/1979
- John & Pachalin Stennfeld
8/13/1989
- Michael & Cindy Zieschang
8/15/1987
- Frank & Joyce Veloz
8/16/1968
- Harold & Shirley Hoes
8/18/1962
- Albert & Jane Carrion
8/20/1988
- Richard & Connie Ziehr
8/25/1957



Elders:
www.christaustin.org

Early Service: **Sonny Mitchell**
Late Service: **Tommie Craig**

August 5

Flowers: **Harold & Shirley Hoes**
 Tellers: **A. Werchan / P. Mitchell**
 8:15am: Lector: **Lucille Herrera**
 Acolyte: **Katy Herber**
 10:45am: Lector: **Divina Stennfeld**
 Acolyte: **Emily Richter**
 Communion Guild
 8:15 am **Kim & Ben Schaare**
 10:45 am **Mary Karotkin,**
 Ellen & Gerald Decker
 Fellowship: **Shirley Hoes**

August 19

Flowers: **In honor of**
 Betty Shaw given
 by her children
 Tellers: **P. Hamil / J. Wiley**
 8:15am: Lector: **Mark Herber**
 Acolyte: **Katy Herber**
 10:45am: Lector: **Gary Lippe**
 Acolyte: **Seth Werchan**
 Communion Guild
 8:15 am **LeMorris Galbreath**
 10:45 am **Jean Linderman**
 Fellowship: *vacant*

August 12

Flowers: **Ziehr's**
 Family Birthdays
 Tellers: **A. Werchan / P. Mitchell**
 8:15am: Lector: **Gracie Cano**
 Acolyte: **Justin Medina**
 10:45am: Lector: **Kevin Craig**
 Acolyte: **Ben Ristow**
 Communion Guild
 8:15 am **Felix & Louise Alexander**
 10:45 am **Pachalin Stennfeld**
 Fellowship: **Decker's**

August 26

Flowers: **Dorothy Traugott**
 Tellers: **P. Hamil / J. Wiley**
 8:15am: Lector: **Clayton Pillack**
 Acolyte: **Justin Medina**
 10:45am: Lector: **Phil Etter**
 Acolyte: **Katherine Werchan**
 Communion Guild
 8:15 am **Gracie Cano**
 10:45 am **Albert & Jane Carrion**
 Fellowship: *vacant*
 * 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.

In July we prayed for...

Jimmy Westfall, at the sudden passing of his brother, Jack Westfall. **Lucille Leitko**, the mother of Debbie Harrison, hospitalized, **Freddie Richter** - healing from surgery, and **Carl Mensing** - healing from surgery