

MARCH 2020 CALENDAR

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS - CHECK WITH YOUR COORDINATOR FOR ANY CHANGES:

Monday mornings - Prayers & Squares in Ramona, 10am, Judy Hardison

Wednesday afternoons - Discipleship Class at Mimi's in Mira Mesa, 1:30-3pm, Dcn Steve

Thursdays - Ramona Bible Studies - 1st/3rd Thursdays, RTH7-8:30pm

Ramona Lenten Soup Suppers, 6pm, RTH starting March 12 (2nd/4th Thursdays)

SUNDAYS - REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10AM IN POWAY AND RAMONA

OTHER EVENTS/DATES TO REMEMBER

3/1 1st Sunday in Lent, 1st Catechism Class, 12-1:30pm

3/6 LENTEN FISH FRY, food served from 5:30-6:30pm

3/8 Catechism Class, 12-1:30pm DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME - SPRING FORWARD!

3/10 Staff meeting @5pm, Vestry mtg @ 6pm, Search Cmte mtg @ 7pm

3/12 Ramona Lenten Soup Supper, 6pm @ RTH

3/13 LENTEN FISH FRY, food served from 5:30-6:30pm

3/14 Ramona Spring Cleaning event, 9am (see more details in Ramona Team Report)

3/15 Catechism Class, 12-1:30pm

3/17 St. Patrick's Day 🍀

3/20 LENTEN FISH FRY, food served from 5:30-6:30pm

3/22 Catechism Class, 12-1:30pm

3/26 Ramona Lenten Soup Supper, 6pm @ RTH

3/27 LENTEN FISH FRY, food served from 5:30-6:30pm

3/29 **All CTK service at 10am in Poway**

Catechism Class, 12-1:30pm

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR CHURCH EMAILS FOR OTHER EVENTS AND REMINDERS!

HAPPY, HAPPY EVERYTHING!!!

BIRTHDAYS

3/3 Sue Rello

3/13 John Lown

3/16 Peter McCoy

3/17 Gail Duffey

ANNIVERSARIES

3/18 Steve & Soon Elder

3/28 Scott & Mary Brown

3/21 Wally & Judy Hardison

3/23 Peter & Nancy McCoy

These dates are taken from the official membership paperwork on file. Please let me know if there are additions or corrections to this list. ~ Cindy



MARCH WORSHIP MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

POWAY	MARCH 1	MARCH 8	MARCH 15	MARCH 22
ALTAR				
GREETER USHER	LINDA TREY	SUE RELLO LARRY RELLO	GINA TREY	TREY
1ST READ	JOHN LOWN	LYNN	BRIAN DEPIERRE	LARRY RELLO
PSALM	JUDITH LOWN	LYNN	JOANIE	SUE R
2ND READ	MAC	ELAINE	MAC	SUE R
PRAYERS	JOANIE	JOANIE	ELAINE	LYNN
CHALICE	MARY CAROL	SUE RELLO	CATHY	MAC
HEALING	CINDY/SUE	SUE/CATHY	MAC/CATHY	SUE/CINDY
PREACH OFFICIATE SERVE	FR. GABE FR. LARRY	MAC NIBBS FR. BILL DCN STEVE	FR. BILL FR. GABE	FR. LARRY FR. BILL

RAMONA	MARCH 1	MARCH 8	MARCH 15	MARCH 22
ALTAR				
1ST READ	JIM	LEAH	LENA	JIM T
PSALM	LENA	LEAH	LENA	LEAH
2ND READ	LEAH	PETER	JIM H	LEAH
PRAYERS	NANCY	BARBARA	JIM T	NANCY
CHALICE	NANCY	JIM T	BARBARA	NANCY
HEALING	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
PREACH OFFICIATE SERVE	FR. BILL FR. BILL DCN STEVE	FR. GABE FR. LARRY	FR. LARRY FR. LARRY DCN STEVE	DCN STEVE FR. GABE

ALL CTK	MARCH 29
ALTAR	
GREETER USHER	HELEN TREY
1ST READ	BARBARA
PSALM	LENA
2ND READ	BRIAN
PRAYERS	JOANIE
CHALICE	CLERGY
HEALING	CATHY
PREACH OFFICIATE SERVE	FR. GABE FR. LARRY BILL/STEVE

If you are not currently serving as a Worship Minister but would like to do so, please speak to any of our clergy about how to make that happen! We especially need Altar Guild members, Prayer Ministry members (you do not need to be an OSL member!), Chalice, Ushers, Greeters, and Acolytes.

NOTES ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

Lectionary Readings are taken from the ACNA LECTIONARY found in the BCP text link on the ACNA website or on the back of the pages of your Liturgical calendar
The Bible version used at CTK is the ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION (ESV).

Meet Fr. Gabe!

Fr. Gamaliel (Gabe) Garcia has been officially appointed as the Interim Rector of CTK and will begin serving on March 1st. Welcome, Fr. Gabe and Cristina!

Here is a brief bio from Fr. Gabe

I was born and lived many years in San Antonio, TX in a ministerial family. I had the opportunity to live for several years in Mexico and Central America as my parents served in missions. I made the decision to be a follower of Christ at the age of 6 and had an experience of the fullness of the Holy Spirit at the age of 16.

I married Cristina Morett on December 21, 1985. She has been my life and ministry partner, providing not only leadership skills, but great Bible-teaching abilities. She is the wonderful mother to our 2 children, Christopher Paul and Vania Monique. We have 2 grandchildren, Matthias Ezra age 3 and Lucia Ynez who is 10 months old.

Aside from being ordained into the priesthood in 2006, I have had the opportunity to serve in ministry in several places. I served as Academic Dean and Accreditation Liaison at INSTE Global Bible College in Ankeny, IA. I was privileged to serve as senior pastor of Rancho Hills Church in San Diego, CA from 2004 to 2017. This was an interdenominational congregation serving the Hispanic community in the South Bay area.

From 2004 to 2008 I was able to serve as Hispanic Liaison for the Anglican Mission in the America's (Pawley's Island). Prior to this, I pastored in several places in both Arizona and Southern California. These provided the opportunities to both help start congregations as well as being called to bring reconciliation to congregations in need.

A graduate of the University of Arizona with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration, I have also had the opportunity to study at LIFE Pacific University and Reformed Theological Seminary, holding a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry from Southern California Seminary.

Other ministry:

President of the Hispanic Church Coalition in San Diego, "Pastores Unidos"

Member of the Council of Church Leaders for Azusa Pacific Seminary at Azusa Pacific University.

Member, Board of Directors of Shiloh University, Kalonah, IA

Teacher, mentor, and developer of Biblical Counseling training program, which I developed together with my wife.

Vestry Report

The Christ the King Vestry met on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 6pm at Christ the King Church, Poway.

Present: Fr. Russell Eddingfield, Elaine Fox, Helen Cox, Jen Marchewka, Lynn Maudlin, Jim Heaton, Dcn Steve Elder, Dcn Jason Waller, Fr. Bill Gandenberger, Fr. Gabe Garcia, Cindy Kaemmerer. Both Fr. Larry Eddingfield and Peter McCoy were absent.

Jen Marchewka has graciously stepped in to fill the remaining Vestry term of Brian DePierre. *A motion was made/seconded/passed to appoint Peter McCoy to fill Mac Nibbs unexpired term and Jen Marchewka to fill Brian DePierre's unexpired term.*

Minutes from January 2020 Vestry meeting were reviewed and amended. *A motion was made to approve the amended minutes and the motion was seconded and passed.*

Jim Heaton went over the January 2020 financial reports but not much to report since it's only one month in to the year and several adjustments will be made with regard to Fr. Russell's resignation and the appointment of an Interim rector. *A motion was made to accept the reports and the motion was seconded and passed.*

Fr. Russell requested that the Vestry look into how they may be able to contribute to the Deanery for the ongoing South Bay church plant efforts and Jim Heaton suggested that we could use some surplus funds and/or Regional Church Plant Funds but he will look into it more closely and make a proposal at the next meeting.

Cindy reported the 2019 surplus of \$8861.68 was transferred into the Reserve Fund.

Dcn Jason submitted his letter of Resignation to CTK effective march 1st after much consultation with the Bishop and Fr. Russell and he will be taking a leave of absence from active ministry with a plan in place to return to ministry at a later date.

Fr. Gabe Garcia was officially introduced as the appointed Interim Rector and he will begin his ministry at CTK on March 1st.

Elaine gave a brief rundown of Poway Team events and promised a more thorough debrief of the recent North County Veterans Stand Down once Trey gets back from travel.

Leah Cullen, who arrived for the subsequent Search Cmte meeting, gave a brief review of Ramona Team events including a prayer meeting and potluck on Feb 13 at 6pm.

Dcn Steve reported that Fr. Gary (RCC) needs to resurface the upper parking lot at a cost of around \$900 and is asking for volunteers to help with this project to keep the labor costs down.

Jim Heaton shared his experience with a new online program called SLACK with which the Vestry and Search Cmte or committees who meet for specific purposes can communicate easily and effectively on specific threads without having to use general email. He gave a demo and has issued invites to all members and he hopes to begin to use this as the standard way to communicate and get things done between meetings.

This report was taken from the unapproved Minutes of the February 2020 Vestry meeting.

A letter from Deacon Jason

February 10, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ of Christ the King Church,

After much prayer and consultation, our bishop and I have agreed that I will be taking an indefinite leave of absence from my ministry responsibilities as a deacon beginning March 1st. Fr. Russell and I have also been in conversation about this, and he concurs with the decision. This leave of absence has been a long time coming as I have wrestled with our family situation, as well as the demands of being a high school teacher, making it difficult for me to serve effectively as a deacon. It has become increasingly clear to me that the Lord is now calling me to devote more of my time and attention to the needs of my family, particularly as we seek to expand our family.

Bishop Keith has outlined a plan for my leave of absence to care for me and allow for my potential return to active ordained ministry at some point in the future if or when we decide it to be an appropriate time for me to do so. As part of this plan, I will be in regular contact with the bishop and other clergy of the diocese for accountability and spiritual care. During this time, I will still be an ordained deacon of the church under his authority, however my status will change to inactive and I will be released from active ordained ministry and responsibilities to serve a local church.

Due to the indefinite nature of this leave of absence, I have also given the vestry my resignation letter from Christ the King effective March 1st. I want you all to know how much I have appreciated your love, support, and prayers these past two and a half years I have been with you. It has been a joy to know all of you, and an honor to serve the Lord alongside you. I only regret that I was unable to get to know all of you better and do more with you and for you.

I pray that the Lord will continue to watch over Christ the King Church and each of you individually. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always,

Deacon Jason Waller

A New Season: Search for a New Rector

Much is happening! We have said our goodbyes to Fr. Russell and Molly with love, blessings and gratitude. We have also welcomed our Interim Rector, Fr. Gabe Garcia and his wife, Cristina and look forward to getting to know them.

Guided by Bishop Keith, the Search Committee will continue its work in organizing and preparing for the search. The next steps involve preparing our Congregation Profile. Basically this entails **assessing our common life and engaging in a planning process to take appropriate steps forward as a congregation.** We need everyone's input into this process.

By the time you read this, you may have received an email with a link to access a survey instrument called the **Church Health Assessment**. There are numbers of questions in various categories. Your answers will be compiled into a report which will provide valuable insight into our current health status. In addition, we will review who we are as a church family, what are our ministries, and descriptions of the communities that surround us, including a bit about the history and culture of our area.

Please join us in prayer as we go through this season: *Jesus, we've entrusted our lives to you, because you alone are trustworthy; you alone are the Good Shepherd. We've given you our sins, wounds, brokenness, and weakness. Now, in fresh surrender, we give you our planning for the next season of our common life. Show us the way we should go through our transition. Write our story beyond our wildest dreams and hopes. It's all about you, Lord Jesus—not us. Amen.*

God Bless You All,

Elaine Fox, Rector's Warden

POWAY MINISTRY TEAM REPORT

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace..." 1 Peter 4:1]
"For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for His Name in serving the saints, as you still do." Hebrews 6:10

It is surely a fact of inexhaustible significance that what our Lord left behind Him was not a book, nor a creed, nor a system of thought, nor a rule of life, but a visible community... He committed the entire work of salvation to that community. Lesslie Newbigin

Thank you all for the generous donations for our Veterans participating in the **North County Veterans' Stand Down** event! I have not received any follow up information from the organizers, but will inform you when I do. Please continue to pray for our Vets.

The Lenten Season is beginning soon. Be sure to look for the **baby bottles!** Our customary pocket change collection during this season will go to benefit **Life Choices Pregnancy Center of Poway**. The center provides abortion clinic alternative services, including free pregnancy tests, information on options available and ultrasound referrals. Look for the baby bottles in the fellowship hall each Sunday in lent beginning March 1.

If you are new to Christ the King Church, we would love to have you join our team. The team meets regularly to pray and seek God's will as we plan. In any event, we definitely need your prayers as well as ideas on ways that we can reach out to our community with the love of Christ and His saving Grace. God Bless You All.

Submitted by Elaine Fox

efox92064@yahoo.com

Ramona Ministry Team Report

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” - Hebrews 10:23-25 ESV

We had an excellent and tasty Potluck and Prayer meeting last month...and an unexpected guest in Fr. John (in town for an Executive Committee meeting). It was a time of great fellowship, encouragement, and heartfelt prayer.

Our efforts individually to reach out and bless our community have been successful and we know the seeds we are planting will bear God-pleasing fruit (because the Lord is with us and for us).

Looking ahead to March:

- We will be joining Serve Ramona with their Spring Clean-up Fling. This is a day where the partnered churches reach out into our community and help bless everyone with a spring-cleaning in various locations of Ramona. CTK has volunteered to help clean up the area around Town Hall (where we worship on Sundays) and Main Street. The cleaning begins at 9am on Saturday, March 14, 2020. We'll meet at the Town Hall and will spread out from there.
- Due to location challenges and the success of our Potluck and Prayer meeting at the Town Hall, we've changed the Lenten Soup Suppers to Thursday evenings at 6pm, alternating with our already scheduled Bible Study Thursdays. Our first soup supper is scheduled for Thursday, March 12th at the Town Hall.

Looking beyond March...

- We will continue to add our willing hearts and capable hands to Serve Ramona's efforts:
 - July: Clothing Swap
 - Oct: Homeless care kits
 - November: Turkey Dinner
 - December: sing-a-long*
- And, as the weather gets warmer, we will resume our monthly BBQs to provide a frequent opportunity for our congregation to meet together in love and fellowship...and to invite others to come and get to know us.

May we continue to be stirred up to love and good works as we step forward in faith in this new year of possibilities!

Submitted with love and joy by:

Leah Cullen

Leahsingz@gmail.com – 760-803-7550



“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches.

Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

ESV 8-15:1 John

The Pruning Never Stops (and that’s a good thing)

Recently, our little-church-that-could was put on notice that changes were a comin’. Our Rector of 15 years has been called by the Lord to make a change...and thus we have been swirled into that call to change. In our first rector search committee meeting one of our members proffered the thought that we are going into a time of pruning as a church.

The next day I was chewing on this thought (and contemplating my life as a whole) and said to myself (and God), “I’m so tired of pruning!” My life has been a series of pruning sessions, especially since I started going to church and learning about the Lord’s will for my life. Now, don’t get me wrong, I was fully aware that I had MANY areas in my life that needed pruning, and for the most part, I welcomed the necessary lopping off of the deadwood that hampered my walk with the Lord.

But, there have been some really hard prunes that have taken a toll on my heart. The refining process, once the Lord cut away the obvious brambles, has not been easy. It’s been a very long season of pruning and learning to let go.

I was thinking about these challenges and our impending church upheaval/renewal/refining situation with a Tevye candor (see Fiddler on the Roof) when I stepped outside my office to get a little fresh air. That’s when I spied my poor rose bushes. We are in the midst of what Southern California calls winter (probably what most of the Midwest calls spring heading into summer) and it’s been far too chilly for this born and raised California girl to have any desire to prepare my roses for their winter nap.

My roses were looking pitiful, because of my shiver avoidance (aka neglect):

- The onslaught of fungi had been given full rein, so most leaves were mottled or had dark spots.
- There were dead heads from at least a month (maybe more) of flower growth that I had let remain, instead of pruning.
- There were also a few sickly roses trying valiantly to bloom, but since *someone* hadn’t fertilized, watered, or even cared for them for a while, they were hard-pressed to shine with their usual colorful glory.
- Overall, my poor roses bushes were a sad, mangy looking lot – barely enough leaves to cover their cold bones; elbows, knees, and limbs all akimbo; no shaping, no rhyme, no reason.

This regretful situation happens pretty much every year. And, each year, I eventually take pity on my poor roses and do what’s necessary – **I prune them – big time!** I remove all the tiny stragglers and useless branches, lop off a third to half of their current growth, remove all leaves and new growth (since it’s just too cold right now for that growth to successfully flourish), and prune them down to their bare bones. They won’t have a great year and won’t blossom into their full glory, if I don’t do this.

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That's when the lightbulb clicked on over my head. **For me, like my roses, the pruning never stops if I want to bear beautiful and lasting fruit.** I can't say that really thrills me. Pruning hurts. It's really hard to see how stripping me to my bare essence is going to produce fruit and glory. I'm actually praying that such a dramatic pruning won't always be necessary for the Lord to help me be the child He knows I can be. Yet I will trust in Him. Into these thoughts of pruning popped the verses I shared above. I've meditated upon and treasured these verses for several years, but it wasn't until that day that I saw those first two sentences from a different perspective. **Jesus is the True Vine and all those branches being taken away or pruned are in Him.** Ouch! Here I am dwelling on my little prunes and how much they sting...and never thought about how Jesus might be experiencing these "adjustments."

Thinking about my poor roses and how I have to snip and lop and vivisection so many parts really brought into clarity Jesus as the True Vine. Whole sections that at one time were strong and vital just wither and stop producing. To keep the bush healthy and growing, I have to cut those dead branches off and take them away. But, I (as the vinedresser) am sad to see these limbs die off and I'm sure the roses aren't having the happiest time during this process, either! If I had a better regimen of horticultural care, they probably wouldn't have gotten to that point.

I am so very grateful that my Father in Heaven and Jesus, the True Vine and source of anything worthy in me, do not have such a poor care taking regimen as I. **They are always ready to feed and water me, love me and care for me, and yes, gently (or sometimes not so gently) prune me.** They have no desire for my branches to get to the point that they need lopping off. **They want me to flourish and produce good fruit.** *All that I need to do is seek Them, abide in Them, love Them...and trust in the pruning process.* This truth not only applies to me, but also to our lovely little church:

Count it all joy, my brothers (and sisters) when you meet trials (aka pruning) of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith (pruning again) produces steadfastness (faith and trust during and after pruning). And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete (filled with riotous blooms of joy and blazing with zeal for the Lord), lacking in nothing. – James 1:2-4 ESV
(emphasis added by Leah, the prunee)

Dearest Father in Heaven: our Creator and Vinedresser

Dearest Jesus: my True Vine and source of True Life, True Love, True Redemption

Dearest Holy Spirit: the soothing balm and quickening fire that eases my pain and gives me joy to continue to bloom –

Thank you for hiding your Word in my heart. Thank you for the moments of clarity that you bless me with. Thank you for never giving up on me. Thank you for your patience, kindness, strength, power, forgiveness, light, and love. Thank you for the metaphors, similes, and analogies that you spark in me (when I take a break from wallowing in my woes). Thank you for giving me a tangible example of your continued tempering, testing, molding, revealing, refining of me (and our church) through my little rose bushes. I ask your forgiveness for neglecting them and neglecting my relationship with You. Please help me and our wonderful church family to trust in You and your process of pruning. Please help us remember what it takes to care for rose bushes (and all other flowering and fruit-bearing plants) so that they are healthy and bloom well. And help us realize we are quite like these plants (as individuals and as a church) – we are always going to require pruning during our journey here on earth. Lord, please help us abide in you continually so that we can draw on your Life, Strength, and Power as we experience these times of reshaping, resurfacing, reorganizing, repurposing so that we may be repaired, renewed, reenergized, restored. Please help us be the best rose bushes we can be: blooming with love and joy; our flowering fruit plentiful - a fragrant offering for Your glory - drawing others close to you. I love you with all my heart. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Submitted by Leah Cullen

