

The King's Herald

December 2025



Isaiah 9:6

Service Times!

Sunday

8:00 a.m. (Traditional)

10:40 a.m. (Contemporary)

Wednesday

11:45 a.m.

6:30 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar!

December 3

Decorate the Chrismon Tree

December 5

PJ Prayer Time

Prayer Summit

December 6

Black Belt Regional Mission

December 10

2nd Wind

December 11

Life Line Screening

December 12

CDC Christmas Concert

December 14

Winter Painting Party

Caroling for "Cruise thru the Chase"

December 19

Firehouse Shelter

December 20

Parent Morning Out

December 21

Youth Christmas Play

December 24

(No regular worship or activities)

Christmas Eve Worship

4:30p.m., 7:00p.m.

Christmas Eve Feast

5:30p.m.

December 25

Christmas Day

9:00a.m. only

December 31

(No regular worship or activities)

New Year's Eve

January 1

New Year's Day (Office & CDC Closed)

Pastor's December Notes

Romans 1:12 - "that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine."

Amanda and I were at a dinner recently where an icebreaker question suggested two Christmases, including one in July. It made me remember a July when I was eight. My family had gone to Florida for the first time. And one of the many things we took in was the July 4th auto race called The Firecracker 400 at Daytona International Speedway. I remember we paid for a spot on the track's infield so we didn't have the greatest view. In fact, of the two and a half miles of the track, we were only able to see about forty yards of the track. Ironically, in that small section of track, we got to see what, according to studies, everyone goes to see, namely, a wreck! But basically, if it weren't for the team of announcers on the radio, it would've been impossible for us to have a clue about the big picture of the race.

And so it is with life.

Even the most gifted overseers are really only able to see a segment of what's going on in life. Even they usually rely on some kind of advisory board to think together and consider the big picture.

For most of us, we can see a small section (maybe forty yards) of the "track of life", but there's so much more going on in the two-and-a-half-mile reality. It's very easy, though, to start thinking that the part we see is all that there is. And when our section becomes boring or accident-riddled, it's very easy to get discouraged and start to think that all of life is that way. This is why, in today's verse from Romans 1:12, God wants us to "be mutually encouraged by each other's faith". It is only through fellowship and conversation that we're able to see the bigger picture and be encouraged when things aren't going our way.

So amidst all that you have to do today, remember that there's more going on in life than your section of the track. Make time for people. Listen to each other. Together, consider others who are confined because they can't drive or they're hospitalized or imprisoned. Reach out to one another. Speak a word of encouragement to one another, telling of the great things that God is doing in various places and calling for faith in God's presence even when one segment looks boring or accident-riddled.

None of us can see the big picture by ourselves. That's why God gives us to each other, "that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine" (Romans 1:12).

Praise God!

Trust and follow Jesus. He gives you power, love, and self-control.

Children & Youth Ministries

Sunday December 21 ~ Youth Christmas Play

Wednesday December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. geared toward children
5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Feast
7:00 p.m. traditional

Thursday December 25 ~ Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day worship (in your pj's if you want!)



Congregation Fun!



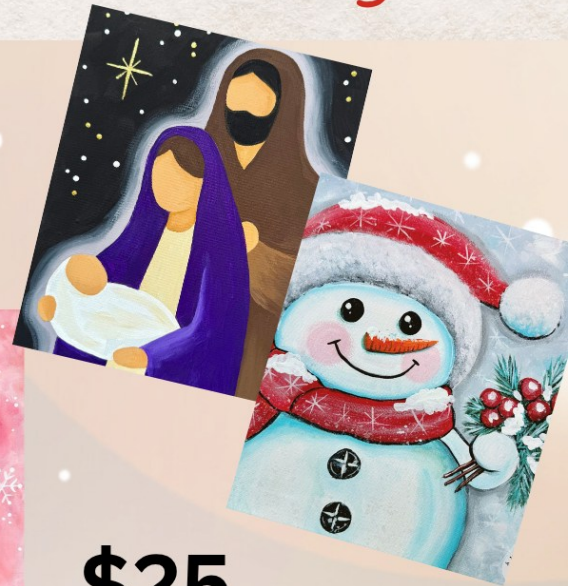
Christ The King

Winter Wonderland Paint Party

Sunday,
Dec 14th
4-6pm



\$35
Adults



\$25
Child

You're Invited to Create a Holiday Masterpiece!

**Join us for a fun and festive paint party! All Ages Welcome!
We'll guide you step-by-step as you create a beautiful holiday
decoration. No experience necessary!**

**You get to pick from 6 Beautiful Christmas designs and
between a 14 in round door hanger and 9x14 canvas!**

**Kid Size options available for 13 and under
(12 in round door hanger or 8x10 canvas)**

**Hosted by Serena at Christ The King Lutheran Church
611 Riverchase Parkway West Hoover, AL 35244**

Phone: (205) 988-5004

Contact Wendi by Dec 10th to register



Upcoming Important Dates:

- Friday, December 5th : Parents Night Out from 6-9pm. The Sign-Up Sheet is at the Check-in/out station.
- Wednesday, December 10th : Santa Pics beginning @ 8:30! If your child doesn't attend on this day you are welcome to bring them in to take a picture.
- Friday, December 12th : Christmas Concert @ 10:30 am in the Sanctuary. This is for 2K and up. We will be planning to all wear tacky Christmas sweaters or your favorite sweater. I will be sending out more information by the end of the week.
- Friday, December 19th : Christmas Parties (Crawlers and up)
- Saturday, December 20th: "Parents Day Out" - 10am-2pm
- Monday, December 22nd : Polar Express/Pajama Day
- **The CDC will be closed Wednesday, December 24th - Friday, December 26th for the Christmas Holidays.**
- **Monday, 12/29, Tuesday 12/30, Wednesday 12/31, & Friday, Jan 2nd :** These are the dates I need you to include on the sign- up sheets on the bulletin board where you check in/out. We are just trying to get a head count for these days.
- **Wednesday, December 31st will be a half day we will close @ 3:30 pm.**
- **The CDC will be closed Thursday, January 1st for New Years Day!**



Christmas Eve Feast

December 24, 5:30p.m. in the Luther Room

Please RSVP to the church office by December 20

(office@etkham.org or 205-988-5004)

Any help is appreciated with decorating, cooking, setup,
and/or clean up.

Please contact Val Stiffler (205-612-2852) or

Wendi Vægter in the church office



Signing up for the Spring "Dinner for 8" is simple and a symbol. Simply call or email Wendi in the church office and tell her 1) if it's you or you plus more people and 2) if you want to be in a home-meeting group or a restaurant-meeting group. It's that simple to join a group that will meet once a month in January, February, and March (or beyond if your group decides to keep going).

Christian Education Classes

Sunday:

“Bible Study Through a Lutheran Lens” led by Doug Sweeney, Ralph Hyatt, Isaac Sagert, Tim Champion, & Pastor Chris in the Luther Room. This class is for everyone.

Oasis with Maizie Nelson and Martha Green in the Luther Room Foyer:

Oasis = An area made fertile by a source of freshwater in an otherwise dry and arid region.

Oasis is a place for God to nurture the wellsprings of our souls. We seek the guidance of Holy Spirit as we grow together toward Christian maturity. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, strengthens the weak, heals the sick, brings back the outcast, and seeks the lost. We study God’s word, Old and New Testament, worship and praise him, sing, pray, and give mutual encouragement to one another. To God be the Glory as he produces fruit for the building up of his kingdom in our homes, the church, community, and the world. All are welcome, on any Sunday, to come for prayer or come for our entire class.

Children & Youth Sunday Education - NURSERY IS available for infants & children 3 years of age during each worship service, and education time. Following are where everyone will meet:

Nursery (infant - 3 years old) ~ Main Bldg, preschool nursery

3K & K ~ led by Debbie Fick & Christine George in the John Room

1st – 3rd grade ~ led by Jennifer Minner & Alyson Usher in the Matthew/Mark Room

4th – 5th Grade ~ led by Lydia Pizner & Maureen Lynn in the Disciple Room

Jr High ~ led by Amanda DeGreen & Elizabeth Cooper in the Jr. High Room

Sr High ~ led by Shandra Graf & Kathy Stepanksi in the Youth Room

Tuesday:

Preschool Chapel with Pastor, Tuesday 10:00 a.m.

EVERYONE Tuesday Morning 10:14 - 11 a.m. for everyone, both in person in the Library and on the phone. Those not physically present call 425-436-6342 Access Code: 328663.

Prayer and Bible study (worship night) Tuesday night 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. call 425-436-6342 Access Code: 328663.

Wednesday:

Sermon Prep Wednesdays 8:45 a.m. with Pastor and friends in the Library

The Prophets and St. Paul led by Pastor, Wednesday's at 10:00 a.m. in the Middle School Room. All are welcome!

Children's Time (Bible Basic's) each Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. in the Jr. High Room

Book Club Book led by Pastor Chris Wednesday's at 5:55 p.m. in the Library. All ages!

Thursday:

Disciple 4 Bible Study, 1:00 p.m. at Barbara Scott’s home. A 32-week deeper study of the prophets in the Old Testament and Paul’s letters in the New Testament.

Congregational Meeting



JOIN US!

Annual Budget Congregation Meeting
& Fellowship Lunch
January 25, 2026
Immediately following 10:40 a.m. Worship

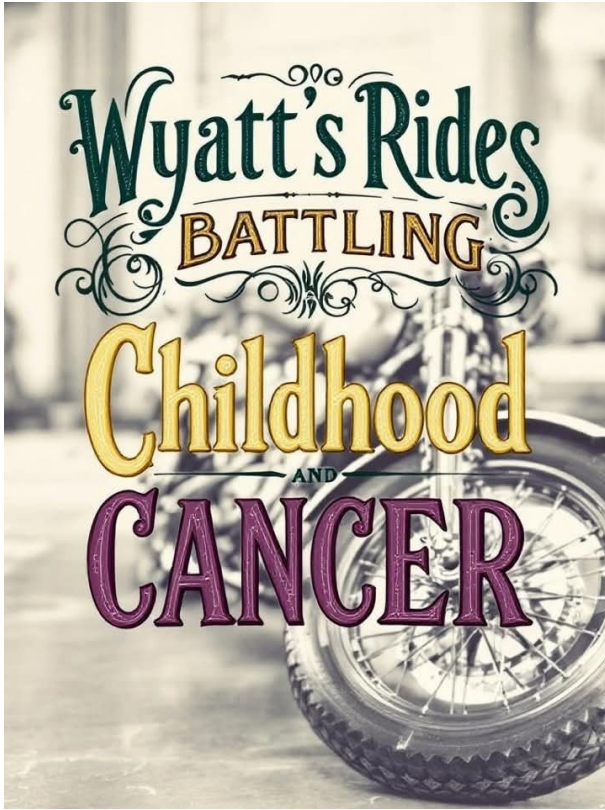
Please let the church office know if you would like a 2026 box of contributions envelopes (or if you don't want one this year). They will be available for pick up soon.

*Thank you so much for
your generosity!*

Ways to contribute financially:

Plates are passed during worship, or Give at www.ctkbham.org, or

Mail a check (611 Riverchase Pkwy W, Hoover, AL 35244)



Angel Tree

This year we are going to combine our collection of toys for Walker County Head Start with the Angel Tree. We will be collecting toys for 3 and 4 year olds for Walker County as well as toys for Wyatt's Ride. Wyatt died at the age of 4 from brain cancer. He spent the majority of his time at Children's Hospital of Alabama. Wyatt's Ride is a non-profit set up by his parents to provide financial help for families battling childhood cancer. We will be collecting toys for boys and girls age 1 to 12 years old. The toys will be given to the children at the hospital who are quarantined and cannot leave their room. Wyatt's parents have told us that this could be their last Christmas. The Angel Tree will be put up in the narthex along with a box for donations. Please have all unwrapped toys donated by Sunday, December 7th. You can take ornaments off the Angel Tree, or just bring in a toy.

I wish to thank my precious friends for the prayers, food, phone calls and visits while I was recovering from my unfortunate accident. I would also like to thank all who filled in for me during this time. Most of all I would like to thank Maizie, Wendi and Pastor Chris.

Pat Loyacano



Aaron's Staff

Serving at First Baptist Church of Alabaster, 903 3rd Ave NW, Alabaster.

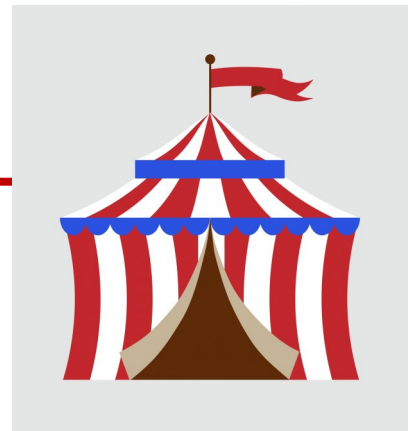
Aaron's Staff is a monthly respite care ministry to families of special needs children and adults. It is scheduled for the 3rd Saturday of each month from 3:30 to 8:00. We are always looking for volunteers. No experience needed. You will not be responsible for feeding or changing clients. You will interact with clients and assist them with various activities such as music, story-telling, art, sensory, and service projects. Please contact Debbie Fick for further information if you are interested. 205-862-1704

Black Belt Saturdays

Black Belt (Rich Soil Region) Saturday Mission

December 6, 2025

We will be heading to **Vredenburgh, AL**
Vredenburgh Christmas Toys & Books for gifts
72 Beech Street, Vredenburgh, AL 36848



Websites:

A Promise To Help <https://www.apromisetohelp.com/>

The Black Belt News Network <https://www.facebook.com/The-Black-Belt-News-Network-2313921062224293/>



1st Friday Prayer Summit

7:00 p.m. 12/5/2025!

*Join us in person or call in and be blessed. Call in: 425-436-6342 access code:
328663*

PJ Prayer Time for Kids

Friday, December 5, 6:00pm - 9:00pm

“Hand picked by God”

Contact Miss Ashlyn to sign up!

Special Daytime Parent Morning Out

Saturday, December 20, 10:00am - 2:00pm



Safety & Security

December 2025	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
8:00 a.m.	Dennis Stanek	Dave Demsky	Todd Vegter	Zack Vegter
10:40 a.m.	Elizabeth Cooper	Jake Daniel	Robbie Wahl	Jeff Minner

December 2025	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Children Time 8:00 am 10:40 am	Patsy Scott Maureen Lynn	Patsy Scott Maureen Lynn	Patsy Scott Binnie Myles	Patsy Scott Binnie Myles
Lector 8:00 am 10:40 am	Laurel Stanek Alyson Usher	Amanda DeGreen Doug Sweeney	David Walter Amy Hoaglund	Casey VanKralingen Lydia Pizner
Prayers 8:00 am 10:40 am	Daphne Phillips Prayer & Healing	Wendi Vegter Amanda DeGreen	Maizie Nelson Gerry Roden	David Walter Maizie Nelson
Ushers 8:00 am 10:40 am	Cole Remillard, Sherry Gilbert Gerhard Graf	Dave & Carla Demsky Elizabeth Cooper	Lee & Joye Sherrill Jeff Minner	Steve & Connie Owen Jake Daniel
Communion 8:00 am 10:40 am	Mike & Matsy Remillard Sharon Swysgood, Lydia Pizner	Mark Scott, Robert Johnson Doug & Wilma Sweeney	Todd & Wendi Vegter Eric & Amy Hoaglund	Bob & Connie Kasper Elizabeth Cooper, Camille Stanek
Crucifer 8:00 am 10:40 am	Ranae Remillard Camille Stanek	Vera Moore Megan Durbin	Karis Reinicke Aubrie Nagel	Vera Moore Cate Wahl
Acolyte 8:00 am 10:40 am	Mikal Remillard Gabe Swysgood, Kendall Cross	Russell Moore Olivia Durbin	Fischer Reinicke Ella Grace George, Mason Fleming	Russell Moore Arden Melton
Banner 8:00 am 10:40 am	Lydia Pizner, Chaplain Kathy Kendall Cross	John & Judy Roberts Volunteer	Daphne Phillips, Gracelyn Zeeh Reese Fleming, Wyatt Usher	Lydia Pizner, Chaplain Kathy Volunteer



3:33 Prayer

Please join our 3:33 prayer ministry by stopping each day at 3:33 to pray, "Lord please bring/continue revival in this nation and your church, and start/continue your revival in me."

40 Days of Prayer

As God has led us in this chapter of our life in Christ, when in 2003, it was put on our hearts to daily pray together the 3:33 prayers. So too, it's only through prayer that we can see where God would lead us now. Please join together in daily prayer:

1. *Dear God, help me to see with your eyes, (Matt. 14:14; 15:32) and reach out with your hands, (Mark 13:16; Luke 8:54) and be your body. (1 Cor. 12:27)*

And

2. *Lord God, I pray for Christ the King Lutheran Church, along with the surrounding community you've given us to serve. Show us your way, both dismantling what you didn't start, and also removing the opposition in each of us so that you can accomplish, through us, the ministry that you want to do.*

Please join us in stopping to pray EVERY DAY at 7:14 am and 7:14 pm and pray and act in accord with this command of God from 2 Chronicles 7:14 – "...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." Spread the word!



December Memory Verse:

"For unto us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"
Isaiah 9:6

Let's Celebrate!!

December Baptisms



12/1	Gena Trammel	12/17	LaDonna herring
12/3	Drew Dunn	12/18	Baylei Purcell
12/4	Joye Sherrill	12/24	Dick O'Brien
12/10	Ben Wilger	12/24	Ben Brasher
12/12	Ross Gregson	12/25	Wray Allen
12/14	Maddie Nethery		

December Birthdays

12/1	Nathan Page	12/19	AJ Nagel
12/2	Doug Smyth	12/19	Fayana Armando
12/3	Fischer Reinicke	12/19	Caleb Wilger
12/4	Janice Sagissor	12/20	George Bargman
12/4	Maddie Hoaglund	12/20	Diana Ashe
12/4	Cathy Troha	12/21	Leslie Wade
12/5	Ellie Shinaberry	12/22	Paula VanKralingen
12/7	Earl Waller	12/22	Libby West
12/7	Adeline Williams	12/22	Greg Carter
12/11	Patsy Scott	12/24	Adam Camlic
12/12	Eva Smyth	12/24	Kyle Camlic
12/14	Judy Roberts	12/25	Wray Allen
12/15	Megan Durbin	12/25	Bill Kinnebrew
12/15	Flavio Armando	12/26	Shawna McGriff
12/16	Tom Fisher	12/27	Dennis Berry
12/16	Walter Stafford	12/29	Angela Dunn
12/17	Sara Shelley	12/30	Jerry Nichols
12/18	Joseph Kasper	12/30	Robbie Wahl

December Anniversaries

12/4	Robert & DeAnne Johnson	54 years
12/16	Eric & Amy Hoaglund	30 years
12/20	Doug & Wilma Sweeney	39 years
12/23	Jeff & Tammy Kusiak	37 years





2025-2026 Church Council

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Lynn Whited, <i>President</i>	334-215-3530(h) 334-657-4155(c)	chiefwhited2@gmail.com
Bill Coats Disciplemaking/Evangelism	713-291-1901	billcoats1@yahoo.com
Jake Daniel Property/Security/Fellowship	210-557-4100	jakedaniel8404@gmail.com
Martha Jones Personnel	205-410-7939	msmatha71@gmail.com
Bradley Moore Finance	205-410-5232	bradleymoore83@gmail.com
Pam Nagel Stewardship	205-612-4375	pambgallagher55@aol.com
Lydia Pizner, <i>Vice President</i> Worship	937-631-8007	lapizner@aol.com
Isaac Sagert Education	659-253-8078	isaac.sagert@gmail.com
Wilma Sweeney, <i>Secretary</i> Missions	847-915-5803	wsween4423@gmail.com
Sharon Swysgood Child Development Center	205-540-0517	goodswys86@gmail.com



Christ the King Lutheran Church

611 Riverchase Parkway West
Birmingham, AL 35244
(205) 988-5004
www.ctkbham.org
office@ctkbham.org

Please join us for Worship:

Wednesday:

11:45 a.m.
6:30 p.m.

Sunday:

8:00 a.m. Traditional
10:40 a.m. Contemporary

Other ways to connect with or worship with us:

Facebook

www.facebook.com/ctkbham

YouTube

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UC237g0ckx5mXo3yUynJmJ2g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC237g0ckx5mXo3yUynJmJ2g)

Instagram

[ctklutheranbham](https://www.instagram.com/ctklutheranbham)

Christ the King Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Chris DeGreen	Senior Pastor	office@ctkbham.org
Amanda DeGreen	Pastoral Intern/Interim Youth Ministry Coordinator	youtheducation@ctkbham.org
Debbie Gorby	Director of Hospitality	office@ctkbham.org
Gerhard Graf	Church Business Manager	adminmgr@ctkbham.org
Rosemary Johnson	Director of Music	Musicministry@ctkbham.org
Elizabeth Cooper	Interim Children's Ministry Coordinator	youtheducation@ctkbham.org
Ashlyn Stuckey	Director of Child Development Center	preschool@ctkbham.org
Wendi Vegter	Church Office Admin Asst.	office@ctkbham.org