

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

Crown of Life Lutheran Church

19291 Stone Oak Parkway
San Antonio, Texas 78258

PASTORS: Mark D. Barz

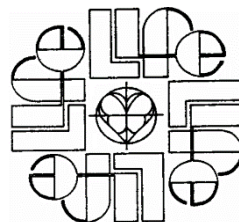
Brian L. Kachelmeier

DIVINE SERVICES: 8:00 & 10:45 am

LIVE STREAMING: 8:00 am

CHURCH OFFICE: (210) 490-6886

WEBSITE: www.crownoflifes.org



**WE WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE AT CROWN OF LIFE
AND THOSE WHO WATCH AND WORSHIP
IN YOUR HOMES ASSISTED BY OUR WEBCAST.**

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP JESUS CHRIST! Our Lord speaks a new teaching, with the complete authority of God. That is why we're here – to honor the One whose Good News has power to bring life from death, sight from blindness, meaning from futility. Please use the large Worship Guide within this Worship Folder to participate in this Divine Service. We pray that you will join us in worship again soon.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN OUR WORSHIP! Infants, too, are adopted into God's family by Baptism. And these youngest disciples have a place in the gathering of the visible Body of Christ. The Cryroom is available for parents with fussy children or for nursing mothers.

TO OUR GUESTS REGARDING HOLY COMMUNION: We are glad you are here at Crown of Life on this Sunday. If you are a member of a sister congregation of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, we invite you to receive the Lord's Supper with us. We ask other guests to speak with Pastor Barz or Pastor Kachelmeier or one of the Elders regarding future participation in this Sacrament. Baptized Christians not yet instructed to receive within this fellowship are invited to receive a Baptismal blessing at the Altar. You may come forward and kneel with your arms laid across your chest as the sign of the cross. For additional information, please see the pamphlet *Holy Communion at Crown of Life Lutheran Church* (available from an Usher) to learn about our beliefs concerning the Lord's Supper.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: You formed and made me, O God. You then called and commissioned me in my Baptism. Because of these baptismal promises You hold me in Your hand of grace. Give me joy and confidence to affirm this and strength to live as a witness and advocate for the lives devalued and threatened in our society. Amen.

**PASTOR KACHELMEIER IS COMPLETING TEACHING IN AUSTRALIA.
GOD WILLING, HE RETURNS HOME TOMORROW, JANUARY 29.**

THIS WEEK'S MISSION & MINISTRY

This Sunday (January 28)	8:00 am	Divine Services with the Lord's Supper
	& 10:45 am	<i>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</i> <i>Sanctity of Human Life Sunday</i>
	9:05 am	Fellowship Time
	9:30 am	Opening for Sunday School & Bible Classes
	12:15 pm	The CROSSING
	4:30 pm	GOOD NEWS Group
Tuesday	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	8:30 am	Tri-Circuit Pastors Conference
Saturday	7:30 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study
Next Sunday (February 4)	8:00 am	Divine Services with the Lord's Supper
	& 10:45 am	<i>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</i>
	9:05 am	Fellowship Time
	9:30 am	Opening for Sunday School & Bible Classes
	12:15 pm	The CROSSING
	4:30 pm	GOOD NEWS Group
	6:00 pm	Board of Elders

***The MISSION STATEMENT of
Crown of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church:
We are a Christ-centered family called to spread the Gospel
by serving, inviting, and teaching God's Word so that all will
celebrate His free gift of salvation.***

CREATION HONORING THE CREATOR

TODAY'S FLOWERS are placed to the glory of God by ***Robert & Sylvia Matthys*** in honor of their daughter ***Wanda***'s birthday (January 29). The chart for 2024 is posted in the Main Hallway. There are two lines for each Sunday. If you would like both flower arrangements, sign up on both lines. Arrangements are \$35 each. Yours may be taken home following the 10:45 Service. Be sure to return the white plastic container from the flowers to the Church Office.

WORD OF THE WEEK

FONT is the word commonly used to describe the place of Baptism in a Lutheran Church. (Font is similar to the word 'fountain.') The Font may be smaller or larger; it may be constructed from wood or metal, brick or concrete. A bowl – again, smaller or larger – is placed (with no top) on the Font. Our cruciform (cross-shaped) Font was constructed in early 2013. The blue glass bowl was a gift from a Crown of Life member family in January 2009.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED & PONDERED

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – What fills the heart that has no room to forgive? Listen to “*Nature Abhors a Vacuum*” (*Ephesians 4:32*) with Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler on WOAI 1200 at **6:00 am** on *Sunday, February 4*.

SPEAKING OF LIFE – Gospel-motivated voices have the privilege – and the responsibility – to proclaim the whole counsel of God. Those who speak otherwise dabble in judgment and condemnation (*Deuteronomy 18:20*). The Scriptures and the Savior have graciously made clear – with “shalls” and “shall-nots” – His jealous devotion to the survival and salvation of every human life. We get to repeat and rejoice in it, especially for the sake of the weaker ones (*1 Corinthians 8:12*).

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

JANA INGLEHART serves the Lord through The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS) as the regional communication specialist for the Latin America and Caribbean region, based in the Dominican Republic. In this missionary role, she assists national churches and missionary pastors in church planting through the provision of media tools they can use to give witness to the Gospel. She works with pastors to create visual aids and written materials to help the laity grow in God’s Word. See more information about Jana on page 9.

SPECIAL DATES IN THE FAMILY

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

January 28 Wendy Ellis
31 Abby Golding
Zane Golding

February 2 Margaret Palm
3 Brett Conrad

ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK

February 1 Max & Anissa Speight

WORSHIP & OFFERINGS

OUR FIRSTFRUIT offerings and special gifts demonstrate the glad and generous faith of living disciples, supporting Mission and ministries here at Crown of Life and in many places.

Worship Attendance: Sunday, January 21

8:00 Divine Service	89	Sunday School	14
10:45 Divine Service	130	Youth Bible Classes	10
		Adult Bible Class	55

Mission & Ministry

Sunday, January 21 \$12,399

40th Anniversary Thank Offerings

Received to date \$7,526

DIGITAL GIVING can be your response to God's great and gracious and generous gifts. For those who often do financial transactions with your smart phone or tablet, here is the **QR code** for an offering to our Lord to support the mission and ministries of Crown of Life Lutheran Church.



NOTES FROM OUR PRESCHOOL & PRESCHOOL PREP

SCHOOL REGISTRATION for 2024-2025 has begun. Church members can stop by the Education Office for registration materials and to submit forms. We are also available to show you the classrooms and answer your questions. We can do registrations over the phone. Remember, church members receive a 25% discount off monthly tuition.

FAMILY DANCE NIGHT will be on *Friday, February 9*, from *5:30 to 7:30 pm*. We would love for your family to join us! We will have music, food, crafts, photo booth, glo sticks, and lots of fun. The entrance fee is \$5 per person.

Have a blessed week. *Diane Dillow*, Director

NEW NURSERY ATTENDANT

WELCOME *Julie McCorkle*, our new Nursery Attendant. She is starting *today* and will be in our Nursery from *7:50 am to 12:00 pm* every Sunday morning. The ages she will be helping with are 18 months to 4 years. (If you recognize her name, she is also our Preschool Office Administrator)

GROWING IN OUR DISCIPLESHIP

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES –The Tuesday group is continuing to read and discuss Chad Bird's "*Limping with God: Jacob and the Old Testament Guide to Messy Discipleship*." The Wednesday group is starting a new study, "*God's Relentless Love: A Study of Hosea*" by Sharla Fritz. Join us for friendship and study from *10:00 am to 11:30 am*. Childcare is offered on *Wednesdays*.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY – Our next study will be on *Saturday, February 3*. Be here at *7:30 am* (for breakfast) or at *8:00 am* for Bible Study and prayer as we continue working our way through a book titled *Worship 101*.

CROWN OF LIFE EVENTS

READERS OF THE ROUND TABLE will meet again on *Monday, February 19*, at *6:00 pm* to discuss *The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish. Bring your own beverage and lunch box and bring your ideas for spring books! New readers are always welcome to join us. Call ***Bobbi Mouser*** at 830-385-9486 if you have questions about this gathering.

OUR QUILTING & SEWING GROUP will meet again on *Thursday, February 22*, at *10:00 am*. No experience is necessary! Call or contact ***Linda Pulliam*** for more details.

Crown of Life's 40th Anniversary

Saturday, January 13 & Sunday, January 14

We are thankful for...

The 40th Anniversary Planning Team: **Doug & Susan Tonder, Steve & Kathy Lippe, Andy & Jill Deurmier, Adam & Jessica & Eileen Gottula, and Pastor Barz.**

The Decorating & Setup Team including **Susan Ryan.** Decorations and table favors were made by **Denise Poppe.** Tables and chairs were set up by **George Poppe.**

Russ Ingram who served as our MC on Saturday evening.

Jackie Sorenson who was our photographer on Saturday evening and on Sunday.

Andrew Eickstead & Andrew Entzenberger and the **Lutheran High School Students** for serving the dinner and cleaning up afterward.

Crown of Life members who donated pictures for the Crown of Life Timeline on the wall in the CLC.

The generous gift of a member to cover the cost of our Anniversary Challenge Coins.

Former Crown of Life members who traveled from across Texas and around the United States to celebrate with us.

Guest Proclaimers: Pastor Jason Kaspar (Mount Calvary, LaGrange, Texas) in our Evening Prayer worship on Saturday, and the **Rev. Dr. David Maxwell** (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis) in our two Divine Services on Sunday morning. Pastor Kaspar was the most recent man Crown of Life sent to the Seminary. Professor Maxwell was the first man Crown of Life sent to the Seminary.

Musicians coming to provide special music for our celebration – Samantha Levenhagen – Harp; Reilly Murphy – Violin; Pastor Kenneth Bunge – Trumpet.

Choir members and handbell ringers and their addition to our worship.

Becca Jones, the Executive Director of the Church Extension Fund of our Texas District who allowed us to make the final \$40 payment and then struck the match to burn our mortgage on the Community Life Center.

All who gave gifts – large and small – to pay off the debt on the CLC.

All the Thank Offering responses to God's great gifts to and through Crown of Life. As we rejoice in the great gift of salvation in Christ, these gifts will go outside of Crown of Life so that others may know of God's grace and goodness. You may designate your Thank Offering for one or more of the following: **Lutheran High School of San Antonio, Christian Assistance Ministry, Lutherans In Africa, or the Joint Seminary Fund of the LCMS.**

*Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,
for He who promised is faithful.*

Hebrew 10:23

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

for Children, Youth & Adults

Bible Verse for Children, Youth & Adults

They were all amazed, saying: "What is this? A new teaching with authority!"

Mark 1:27a



Sunday School

Children from 3-years-old up to fifth grade are encouraged to participate in our age-appropriate Sunday School classes today and every Sunday.

The CROSSING for Middle Schoolers

This important discipleship ministry for youth meets again *today* from *12:15* to *1:20*. Thank you, parents, for making this commitment to the faith-journey of your children.

Middle School & High School Bible Classes

Our Middle School class meets in the Gathering Space of the Community Life Center (CLC).

Our High School class meets today in the Youth Room of the CLC.

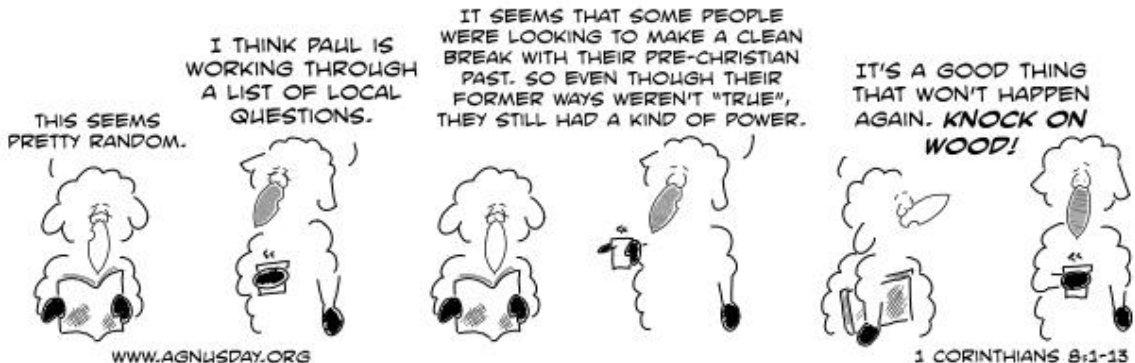
Adult Bible Class

Our theme for *today* will be *Actions and Piety in the Divine Service*.



Agnus Day Liturgical Comic

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



2025 LCMS Youth Gathering



ENDURE

Hebrews 12:1-3

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's National Youth Gathering is scheduled for **July 19-23, 2025**, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Registration is scheduled to open in fall 2024. More information will follow.

Held every three years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith, and their Lutheran identity.

During the five days of the Gathering, youth spend time together in God's Word, worship, service, and fellowship with others from across Synod and our partner churches around the world.

Save the Dates:

Winter 2023 | Gathering Ambassador Applications Open

March 15, 2024 | Gathering Ambassador Applications Close

July 15, 2024 | Young Adult Volunteer Applications Open

July 21-24, 2024 | National Lutheran Youth Workers Conference

December 31, 2024 | Young Adult Volunteer Applications Close

Early 2025 | Team Flex Applications Open

April 30, 2025 | Team Flex Applications Close

July 19-23, 2025 | 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering

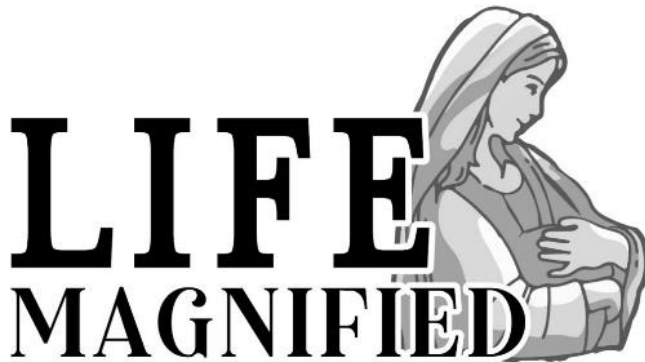


GOOD NEWS GROUP

Do you have questions about the Bible? Are you ready to explore faith and discipleship as a Lutheran-Christian? Call or email **Pastor Barz** (210-413-8077) or pastor@crownoflifesa.org if you're curious about this Bible Study and conversation. Our group meets **again today from 4:30 to 5:30 pm**.

Life Magnified 2024

- + We thank the Lord for giving us the gift of life, and we continue to pray and study, march and speak for our neighbors - especially our unborn neighbors - so that life is extolled and magnified.
- + We gathered yesterday at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin for worship and Bible study, for fellowship and nourishment. Above all, we gathered to encourage one another to speak and act to protect God's gift of life to those of every age and stage.
- + See the various *Life Witness* resources on the table in the Entranceway. There is a nominal charge for these items.



Jana Inglehart

Serving the Lord in the Latin America and Caribbean Region

Jana Inglehart serves the Lord through The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod as the *Regional Communications Specialist* for the Latin America and Caribbean region. She is based in the Dominican Republic.

In this role, Jana assists the national Lutheran churches and missionary pastors in church planting through the provision of media tools they can use to give witness to the Gospel. She works with pastors to create visual aids and written materials to help the laity grow in God's Word. Jana is also helping to establish a lay Bible vocation-based online Institute for individuals who have little or no access to a trained pastor or evangelist. She provides technical support and assistance to four seminaries to help them promote their teachings online which, in turn, greatly multiplies the number of people who can be reached with sound Biblical teaching.

Another facet of Jan's work is taking photographs and shooting videos of the mission work taking place in this region, as well as writing and editing articles for LCMS print media, websites and blog sites. These tasks help to spread the word about what God is doing through His people in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Pray for Jana that God will give to a greater degree strength and peace as she learns the culture and help her learn the Spanish language so she can effectively communicate and share God's Word with the people she is called to serve. Pray that God uses Jana's gifts and talents to help further His kingdom. Pray for the hearts of people here in the United States who will partner with Jana in prayer and financial support so they can participate in the Kingdom work with her. Let us give thanks to God that Jana is serving His children in this part of the world.

Additional Information:

- Birthday: November 30
- Home District: Nebraska

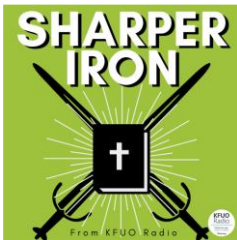


February 4	8:00 am	10:45 am
Elders	Dan Jarvis / Scott Robinson	Russ Ingram / Juan Treviño
Lay Reader	Peter Avots	Randy McConnell
Ushers	Willie Koops / Keith Martin	Randy McConnell / Nick Dovalis
Greeters		
Altar Care	Wendy Ellis	Meg Ware

DCE CALL TEAM UPDATE

THE DCE CALL COMMITTEE has recommended that we do not issue a Call to DCE candidate Megan Harcrow. The team is also moving ahead to develop an application for a DCE Intern from Concordia University – Nebraska. This past Monday, we had a Zoom conversation with an active DCE in California.

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Hosted by Pastor Timothy Appel
with guest Pastors
to study and discuss God's Word
to equip and encourage God's people.

Listen live or on-demand at: kfuo.org/sharperiron

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YOUR UNANSWERED BIBLE QUESTIONS...

Pastor Bryan Wolfmuehler and Pastor Brian Kachelmeier respond live to your unanswered Bible questions! You can also submit questions via email: talkback@issuesetc.org, Twitter: @issuesetc, and the Issues, Etc. comment line: (618) 223-8382. Listen to the show on-demand at **issuesetc.org/?s=Unanswered+Bible+Questions**.

*Crown of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church
is a member congregation
of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.*

