



Pastor Pam's Pennings

**February 2017
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I finished a book last week on evangelism for the annual retreat I lead for the women of Community Lutheran Church in Las Vegas that deals with how we in this postmodern society talk about the story of Jesus to people who have been raised in a post-Christian world. *Evangelism for the Non-Evangelists* talks about how we form our own unique and authentic form of sharing the good news of God.

The good news of God is what we're all about in the church – regardless of denominational affiliation. True evangelism starts with spending time discerning what we believe to be true about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We have to know this so that when we are questioned or confronted by those who do not know, we have an answer that is authentic to our own experience of the Triune God. There is no magic formula, no perfect program to make congregations grow disciples of Jesus, and thereby increase in numbers.

So, what do we do? How do we live into the Good News of God's love found in Jesus? Here at Christ Lutheran we live out our understanding of God's goodness:

- 1) by creating excellent worship experiences that welcome all people and touch on all types of musical taste. I encourage you to read Brian's article as he talks about himself and his vision for our congregation's music ministry;
- 2) by emphasizing our youth and their families. This is why we have a Director of Youth and Family Ministries whose job is to nurture the faith spiritual lives of our youth and their families. It's why we invest in our youth with time, energy and prayer as well as support their efforts to learn more about God and God's world;
- 3) by sharing our blessings with others. I have said before and I will say it again and again – you are the most generous people I have ever had the privilege of serving! Whenever there is an appeal for help, you chip in and give beyond my wildest dreams! Our Narthex baskets always have things in them for sharing with others. Twice a year our Sanctuary is colorfully filled with quilts that are made here.

4) by loving each other. You care for one another in ways that I only catch glimpses of from time to time but I know it happens every day in so many ways.

So congratulate yourselves on being evangelists! No bullhorns or sandwich boards needed...just a genuine love of God shared with those you meet (or never meet). I hope we can feel comfortable in inviting others to join our good news even more this year!
+Blessings+

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Welcome Brian Madigan, Director of Worship & Music
In his own words...

My name is Brian Madigan and I am so excited to be your new Director of Worship and Music. I know you all probably have a million questions for me, so to begin with, let me tell you a little about myself. I am a Southern Cali native who loves to hike, read (I am a lifetime scholar), sports, and music. I have had a successful career as a performer, teacher, director, and composer. I have spent most of my time at churches, private schools, and private studios—although I do find the time to give an occasional workshop or lecture at a local college or high school. When you get to know me, you will find that I had a few set-backs in life that derailed an otherwise prosperous career; however, I have always found the time to do God’s work serving as a Music Director at various churches over the past 25 years.

As a musician, I have degrees in both the traditional (classical) and contemporary (jazz, rock, et al.) fields. I hope to finally find the time to finish my Doctorate within the next few years. I play and teach at a proficient level the following: guitar, piano/synths, bass, drums, and vocals. I had a successful private teaching studio in Yorba Linda for over 20 years preparing the youth for competitions in choral music, musical theatre, and Jazz band, as well as songwriting/composing/arranging, studio recording techniques, solo technique, et al. I hope to create a youth music program here at Christ Lutheran complete with lessons, workshops, ensembles, and fellowship. More on that in articles to come!

My primary instrument is guitar where I am comfortable with all levels and styles, including classical, jazz, and rock. Ironically, I have made a living through piano and vocals—neither which is my primary instrument. My Master’s degree is in Music Theory and Composition, which is my specialty. I write and arrange music for all styles, levels, genres, et al.

I am published though ASCAP and my pieces have been played throughout the country and beyond. I have a home studio where I have 1000 of hours of unfinished music that I promise I will someday actually finish. I am looking forward to arranging music for all the talented musicians we have at Christ Lutheran.

I can go on forever and I really hate talking about myself so feel free to come up to me with questions and I will do my best to answer them.

I will spend the next few months of articles talking about my plans and overall vision for the music program here at Christ Lutheran. In addition to the continuous support and growth of our current groups, I would love to see the youth leading music in church. I believe there is room for the youth, hand bells, choir, praise team, orchestra/Instrumentalists, and soloists. Please come see me about what you play and how much you want to play...or sing.

My primary goal will be to combine everyone together as much as possible...why wait till Easter or Christmas—we can have a combination of groups/ensembles at least once every 4-8 weeks. What do you think?

Once again, I am excited about having this new opportunity serving the Lord and serving you: Christ Lutheran.

Blessings,

Your humble Director,
Brian Madigan

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Mark your calendars:

Sunday, February 5 - Souper Bowl of Caring; in gathering of cash, canned goods and nonperishable items to benefit the food pantry at Cal State Long Beach.

Saturday, February 11 – First Communion Class; Conference room, 9am-11am.

Sunday, February 12 – Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for Justin Randig’s Eagle Scout project, the CLC Labyrinth. 9am-1130am



Preschool News

We had a very nice winter break December 23 through January 2nd. School resumed on January 3rd. January was relatively calm.

We are continuing to plan for our 2017 auction, "Totally 80's", which will be on Friday, March 10th at 6pm at The Grand Event Center. It is our hope that holding this event in the evening will give parents an opportunity to enjoy adult company while



supporting the preschool. Get your babysitters lined up so that you can enjoy this evening of dining and dancing.

If you are in need of childcare, please know that Ms.

Maggie Fitzpatrick and Ms. Jillian Rollins will be on campus to

watch children, as well. Tickets will be \$40 and go on sale Sunday

February 5th; the deadline to purchase tickets and sign up for childcare is Friday, March 3rd. We already sent out donation request letters and are in the process of collecting the contributions from our community for bidding. Everyone is looking forward to this fun-filled event!



In February, we will have Special Person Day on Feb 9th. Each child will get to bring someone who is special to them like a grandparent, aunt, or uncle. They will attend Chapel together and then spend time going classroom to classroom to participate in



different activities as well as enjoying refreshments in the courtyard. Activities will include dyeing carnations red, making cards, making candy, playing games, reading stories, and taking a picture and decorating a picture frame.

Wishing you a beautiful month!

Lisa Clinton

“Loose Threads”

Loose Threads is a small group of sewers and quilters, who meet



once a month, bring their sewing machines and a

wide assortment of projects to work on. It's having that dedicated time to work on a sewing project free from distractions that is not only nice, but fun when in the company of friends! We welcome all age levels and all degrees of sewing abilities to join us. We meet at 12:30pm on specified Sunday afternoon in the Social Hall. Our next gathering will be on Sunday, February 12, 2017. Call Chris Panos (562)986-4393 for more information and 2017's schedule.

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Bible STUDY
Join us!

Men's Bible Study Meets on the second Monday of each month. Men of all ages are welcome to meet in the

conference room on **February 13th** at **7:00pm.**

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The Sons of Norway meet in CLC's Social Hall at noon on the second Saturday of each month. Everyone is welcome to attend their meetings to see what this cultural group is all about. Our next meeting is February 11th at 12:00pm.

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Pray for Peace in the Middle East

Join Pastor Pam in the Sanctuary on the 24th of each month at 7pm to pray for



peace in this fragile and volatile area of the world. Raising our voices together in hope for respect and resolution is one way that we can support our brothers and sisters in this region.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER



Members at Home or in Care Centers: Justin Bartlow, Anne Bruner, Coleen & Spud Fenton, Dorothy Henriksen, Jean Johnson, Ione Marchael and Mikki Nemnich.

Those struggling with illness or other concerns: Judy Haenn, Chris Nelson, Bary and Janice Schlieder.

Family & Friends: Bruce Ayers, Ellen Benner, Melanie Baggao, Anthony Callaghan, Edi Callas, Nancy Dionne, Kathy Goodwin, Alberta Gray, Carol Gray, Cindy Gray, Michael Gray and family, John Gumas, Anne Harrington, Bobbie Hoenig, Leslie Hoskins, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Laurie Kelly, William Jacobsen, Doris Jung, Katrina Lahr, Doris List, Ron Manley, Mabel Manzur, Steve Nelson, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Debra Sarvela, Yvonne Seymour, Perry Taggart, Jack Taylor, Rev. Paul Theiss, Janette Velarde, Jenny & Steve West and Gary Zimmerman.

We pray for the ongoing work of:

Linda Gawthorne among the Kogi people of Colombia.

Those serving in our nation's military; especially Jason Arellano, Samuel Brown, Gene Chen, Rachel & Victor Colon, Ethan Cordle, Michael Cote, Aaron Crayton, William Eaton, Nicholas Flournoy, Richard Gallegos, Chandler Hoover, John Lambertson, Brittany Graham, Davis McElwain, Morgan Llewellyn, Haley Fessenden, Johnny Luna, Shawn McRae, Emily Merritt, Steven Andrew Navarro, Michael Joseph Navarro, Jim Reeder, Sophie Schade, Douglas Steelhammer, Jonah Westcott, Joshua Wauchope and Collin White.



Happy Anniversary

2/15 D'Jesus Trujillo & Doug Holdhusen

2/27 Angie & Ron Nelson



2/1 Harriette Probst

2/2 Janan Fancher

2/2 Tonette Matera

2/4 Kathleen Davis

2/5 Angela Joseph

2/7 Gwen Ostergren

2/11 Jeff Rodrigues

2/12 Frank Croes

2/13 Jeanne Peterson

2/14 Kristin Garrett

2/14 Chloe Halvorson

2/17 Emily Nelson

2/17 Rich Williams

2/18 Angie Rollins

2/19 Karen Wyrick

2/20 Laurel Elliott

2/24 Jacob Curel

2/27 Roxanne Palmer

Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Attend Justin Randig's Eagle Scout Project Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser



**Sunday, February 12, 2017
Christ Lutheran Church
6500 Stearns St., Long Beach, CA 90815
9:00AM to 11:30AM**

Bring your family and friends. I will be holding a pancake breakfast to help raise money for the construction of my Eagle Scout Project. My project is to modify the Christ Lutheran Church courtyard to have better drainage, and I will install a prayer labyrinth above it. Donations are appreciated and will go to support my Eagle Scout Project



**Help turn this
into that.**

