



## Pastor Pam's Pennings

March 2017  
Volume 61, Issue 3

March! On the first of March, Lent begins. Our Ash Wednesday services will be at 11am and 7pm. Ash Wednesday reminds us of the holiness of this season and of the sacrifice that Jesus did so willingly at the end of these 40 days. We put away the Alleluias (Halleluiahs) until Easter Day when they ring out again with triumphant joy! Each Wednesday we will share in our soup meals together. During the day, we will worship together and then eat. In the evening it will be the opposite; we will eat and then worship. Sign-ups are going around now for bringing a pot of soup or cookies, to share with those who attend. The focus during Lent – both midweek and during the Adult Forum on Sundays - will be on celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. It was on October 31, 1517 that Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses on the Wittenberg Church door and the Reformation began. We have the opportunity to learn together in two ways: 1) In worship, we will be hearing some of Martin Luther's own words and his most basic themes as we *Stand at the Cross*. 2) In Adult Forum, we will be focusing on the Small Catechism. For those of us who grew up Lutheran, I am pretty sure you haven't thought about or used the Small Catechism since confirmation days. For those of us who didn't grow up Lutheran,

Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism for parents to teach the basics of the Christian faith to their children. It focuses on the 10 Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and Confession. Plan to attend!

We will be learning a new Morning Prayer service during the day – written by Marty Haugen – entitled *In the Morning I Will Sing*. In the evening, we will use *Holden Evening Prayer* as the service. Both will still have options for stations and silence as we gather to sing, pray, and remember Jesus' sacrifice.

We hope to start a new group of Stephen Minister training after Easter beginning May 2. This month you will hear from Chris Panos and some videotaped care receivers about the impact of this program in their lives during worship.

Mark your calendars today for our Greater Long Beach Spring Assembly which will be held here at Christ Lutheran at 6:30pm on April 27. Bishop Erwin will be here, along with some other Synod staff. We are usually done by 9pm at the latest. It is a great way to connect with other congregations in our Synod and to hear what's going on at the Synod and Churchwide.

May God bless us as we journey together in this most holy season of Lent.

+ Blessings + *Pastor Pam*

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”

—John 3:16

As we enter into the Lenten season, it is time to prepare ourselves spiritually as we begin our 40 day journey to the cross. As your music director, my job is to prepare, rehearse, and present all the music appropriate for this season. To keep things simple and familiar, instead of the ever-changing Wednesday night Lenten services with different music each week, I've decided to use Marty Haugen's "Holden Evening Prayer" this year. So, any Wednesday night service you decide to worship at will be filled with a very familiar format. Also, we will be doing a similar service format in the mornings: "In the Morning I Will Sing." This morning Lenten service is also written by Marty Haugen so come and sing with us throughout this season of Lent.

I am enjoying working with the Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, and Praise Team and will continue to prepare and schedule them to share their talents with you all throughout Lent. For those who want to sing with us this season, we will have two special rehearsals for those who cannot make Thursday night rehearsals (although during Lent, the Choir will rehearse on Wednesdays after the evening Lenten service). Those rehearsals will be on Saturday March 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup> with both rehearsals going from 10:00 to 12:00 with a light lunch afterwards. *This is subject to change so please check the church calendar before attending.* These rehearsals will only focus on music for Holy Week: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. I am looking forward to seeing you all as we prepare for this Holy season.

As for the youth, the Music Makers are adorable and enthusiastic and seem to like our silly musical activities; as for Kaleidoscope, we have 5-7 children learning how to play in a rock band. Each kid is learning about a particular instrument and then focusing on the instrument of their choice and learning to play together as a team. They are already making music and I am so proud of them. I will be keeping this a year-long event so we will continue through Lent, spring, and into summer. Our Wednesday nights will be filled with music, crafts, games, food, and fellowship. If you are interested in joining our group please come talk with me.

Thank you all for your love and support each week; I really feel welcomed here at Christ Lutheran.

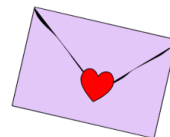
Blessings,

Your humble Director,  
*Brian Madigan*



## Preschool News

February flew by! We had a wonderful Special Person Day where just about every child had a Special Person visiting. The classrooms had their own Valentine's Day parties to celebrate the love of friends.



In the month of March we will have our "Totally 80's" auction which will be on Friday, March 10th at 6pm at The Grand. Feel free to dress up in your favorite 80's attire and get ready to dance and have a fun night out! We will have around 100 silent auction items, a drink raffle, other lottery type games, a photo booth, dinner, dancing with a DJ, live auction, 'fund an item', and conclude with our 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$40 each and will be available for purchase after worship on Sundays or you can contact the preschool office at (562) 594-6117 or [info@clplb.com](mailto:info@clplb.com). The deadline to purchase tickets is March 3rd. March 3rd will also be our Wrapping Party in the Social Hall at 6pm. If you would like to come help us arrange and wrap the auction baskets, we would love to have you! If you have any empty baskets/plastic containers, of any size, lying around, we will gladly put them to use. You can drop them off in the Church or Preschool Offices this week.



In March we will also enter into the season of Lent to prepare for the celebration of Easter. We will have fun with the children's imaginations while we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Then, the last two weeks of the month, we will have parent teacher conferences as we prepare for next year's Registration which will be the first week of April.



Wishing you a beautiful Spring!  
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 afternoons in the Social Hall. Our next gathering will be a retreat to Lake Arrowhead, March 17-19 (limited to 10 people) Call Chris Panos (562)986-4393 for more information and 2017's schedule.

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Pray for Peace in the Middle East

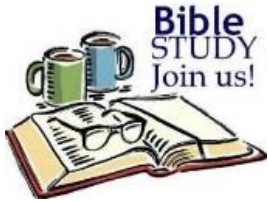


Join Pastor Pam in the Sanctuary on the 24th of each month at 7pm to pray for peace in this fragile and volatile area of the world. Raising our voices together in hope for respect and resolution is one way that we can support our brothers and sisters in this region.

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**Men's Bible Study**  
**We gather on the second Monday of each month. Men of all ages are welcome to meet March 13<sup>th</sup> at**



**7:00pm in the conference room.**

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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 March 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

I would like to thank everybody who contributed towards my Eagle project and helped us meet the fundraising goal. The pancake breakfast was a huge success and I'm very thankful for all those who attended and worked the event. Between the gift from CLC's endowment committee, my fundraiser, succulent sales, and other donations, I have raised enough money to complete the project. This church is one of the most generous places I've seen and I'm happy to call it home. The next step is to plan and start construction. I'll keep you updated on the progress.

Sincerely, Justin Randig

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER



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

**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, David Green, Jake Griffith, John Gumas, Anne Harrington, Bobbie Hoenig, Leslie Hoskins, Clinton Howard, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Laurie Kelly, William Jacobsen, Doris Jung, Katrina Lahr, Doris List, Ron Manley, Mabel Manzur, Steve Nelson, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Debra Sarvela, Perry Taggart, Jack Taylor, Bill Temple, 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*



*3/20 Gloria and Eugene Tadlock*



*3/1 Shaun Murray*  
*3/2 Sara Benoit*  
*3/2 Taylor Williams*  
*3/3 Angie Freligh*  
*3/3 Doug Holdhusen*  
*3/5 Alex Bryant*  
*3/5 Frances Willms*  
*3/8 Courtney Cover*  
*3/10 Alex Naud*  
*3/12 Chris Caldwell*  
*3/12 Denise Maner*  
*3/12 Jack Rollins*  
*3/14 Brian Trost*  
*3/15 Samuel Brown*  
*3/15 Jameson Bryant*  
*3/16 Steve Howard*  
*3/19 Josh Freligh*  
*3/21 Linda Gawthorne*  
*3/21 Victoria Paez*  
*3/22 Lynn Benner*  
*3/22 Ken Petrbok*  
*3/27 Ian Fitzpatrick*  
*3/27 Stefan Joseph*  
*3/28 Garrett McGee*  
*3/30 Ingrid Fuelleman-Ramos*  
*3/30 Patricia Nell*



Sunday, March 19, 9:30am

Park bikes in the Narthex

Blessing at the end of Worship

Group ride to

Rivers End Beach

(Bring a picnic lunch)

**Christ Lutheran Church**

6500 E. Stearns St., Long Beach, CA

*[www.christlutheranlb.com](http://www.christlutheranlb.com)*

# Lutheran Retreats, Camps & Conferences

El Camino Pines 11900 Frontier Road, Frazier Park, CA 93225  
Luther Glen 39136 Harris Road, Oak Glen, CA 92399  
(661) 245-3519 [www.LRCChome.com](http://www.LRCChome.com)

February 8, 2017

Christ Lutheran Church  
6500 Stearns Street  
Long Beach, CA 90815

Dear Church Council,


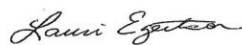
**Snow, snow, snow!** It has been about five years since we have seen snow levels like we are currently enjoying at El Camino Pines. As I write this letter, the two feet of white powder that fell about ten days ago has condensed to a slushy mess. But the good news is, our campers are thrilled!

Last week the dirt road into El Camino Pines was so narrow that a bus got stuck trying to get up. Last night the same thing happened! These experiences made it seem like old times. Before the drought, dragging cars up our icy road was a common experience... for the last four or five years, we have only done it a few times. It reminds me of the old adage, **"The same rain that drowns the rat will grow the hay."** Or our camp version, *the same snow that our campers prayed would fall turns our road into a muddy slip n' slide.*

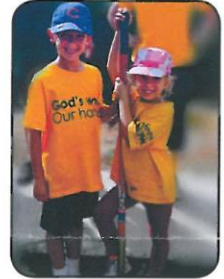
As we mature, we see the pros and the cons that come with all things in life. For now, the joy on the face of our campers is the reminder we need. Blisters from shoveling snow are temporary. Their memories of playing in the snow with friends will last much longer.

That's an uncommon lead-in to the point of this letter, which is to say **thank you for supporting Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences with your donation of \$200 through the Southwest California Synod.** In our eleven years at camp, not once have we had to turn a group away because of snow. Why? Because, one of our donors provided a new truck with a snow plow 15 years ago. Another donor provided a new tractor. With donations like yours, we purchased tire chains to get us across the ice, and a grader blade to move the mess off the road. **You did that, and we are grateful.**

Our campers don't know your name, and they are too young to appreciate how hard a big snowfall is on our staff. But the joy on their face, as they thank God for SNOW is enough. **May you feel that joy today.** Thanks be to God!

Pastor Glen and Lauri Egertson, Executive Directors  
Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences



LRCC provides sanctuaries in time and space where Christ can be encountered, faith renewed and the joy of community discovered.

