



**Pastor Pam's Pennings**

**September 2021  
Volume 65, Issue 9**

September! This month tells us that we are  $\frac{3}{4}$  done with 2021! We share in September all kinds of exciting news about programming and restarting existing programs! You will read some of those starting dates in this newsletter – as choir, hand bells, OWLS, and other groups begin. Other questions remain...

Will there be Sunday school? If so, when?

What will Sunday education look like?

Will there be a confirmation class this fall?

What will we, as a congregation do for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday if anything?

I'm hoping and praying that our Congregation Council retreat this Saturday, August 21, will give us some answers to these questions.

What I can share with you are some very important dates in September...

**Sunday, September 5 @ both services**, we will have Stump the Pastor Sunday! I invite you to ask questions: Bible-based, or theological questions! Let's have a lot of fun together!!

**Sunday, September 12 @ 3pm**, we will be a satellite site for the installation of Bishop Brenda Bos! We will gather in the Social Hall where we can make it a real party as the Southwest California Synod welcomes its new Bishop (and the ELCA welcomes its first lesbian Bishop). Hosting this satellite site will save a lot of people the long trip to Angelica Lutheran downtown LA!

**Sunday, September 19 @ 11:30am**, we will have our quarterly congregation meeting. This will be in hybrid format so you may attend via ZOOM, or in person. And, during worship we will have the Christ Lutheran Preschool Teacher Installation!

Sunday, September 26 doesn't have any special events scheduled...yet. Does anyone have any ideas?

Blessed September!

*Pastor Pam*



## Preschool News

Our "Sense-Sational" summer session was lots of fun! Our last day of summer session was on Friday, 8/20. We celebrated with an obstacle course bounce house on the playground. We closed 8/23-8/27 for our staff work week to get everything cleaned and prepped for fall. Our staff also attended workshops on phonics and literacy, sign language for babies, and conscious discipline during work week.

We were able to raise enough through our fundraising efforts to have new floors installed on campus the last week of Summer. We now have vinyl wood plank flooring in all of the preschool classrooms. They are beautiful and we are so happy that we were able to invest in this upgrade.

We are so grateful to the church for allowing us to borrow the adult lounge to use as our "Raccoon Room" classroom as we navigated through COVID last school year. Since we will no longer need to use the adult lounge as a classroom, we painted the room and replaced the carpet in that space with the same vinyl wood plank flooring.

Our 2021-2022 school year began on August 30th with full enrollment in all rooms. We have been able to make some adjustments to our COVID policies as the guidelines change. Parents are now able to drop off on campus, at their child's classroom door. We were also able to go back to our normal operating hours of 7am-6pm for the new school year. Children and staff still must wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status but can be mask less outdoors on the playground.

Our staffing for fall will be Mrs. Caston in Room 1, Mrs. Leone and Ms. Janssen-Nielson in Room 2, Mrs. Skinner and Mrs. Griffith in Room 3, Ms. Fitzpatrick in Room 4, Mrs. Stiles in Room 5, Ms. Yang in Room 6, Ms. Saeed as our Afternoon Teacher, Ms. Scott as our AM Floater, Mrs. Palley and Ms. Chhim for our PM teachers. Ms. Laney will be moving to a sub basis. Ms. Theriault will continue as the Assistant Director. We have 28 new families joining our CLP family this year. We will spend the month getting to know all of our new families and getting to know our current families even better. We are planning to host our first, on campus, school wide event, *Back to School Night*, on Monday, 9/13. This will be a parents only event.

We wish success to all of our graduates going to Kindergarten and look forward to welcoming our new and continuing students to another year of *Growing in God's Love at CLP*.

Sincerely, Lisa Clinton

# Your Church at Work

## Church Council News

### President's Report for June

**By Debra Albrecht**

On Saturday, August 21 your church council had a retreat. Your amazing, devoted church council members were very creative and devoted to making sure Christ Lutheran Church continues a vibrant and meaningful congregation to the community. Our Mission Statement is "Christ Is Alive!" We came up with several goals to keep this mission statement alive. After coming up with some wonderful goals, we prioritize the top three goals. These goals will be shared with you at our Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 19. Please look for more details about this meeting in the future.

As you reflect on the future of our church, I would like to quote John F. Kennedy, "**Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country!**" So, I am

going to have to rephrase it to say, "Ask not what Christ Lutheran Church or your church council can do for you - - ask what you can do for Christ Lutheran Church and your church council. Reflect on things you are passionate about and how you can share that passion at Christ Lutheran. For example, I love watercolor painting. Maybe, I could lead watercolor painting classes for Sunday School where we paint important church symbols! We can invite friends and family to these events or classes. D'Jesus Trujillo is passionate about preventing bullying among the youth. He had a beautiful, fun fundraiser here at Christ Lutheran to raise funds for these youth! What can you do for Christ Lutheran Church?"

## Connections

**OWLs in the Nest will begin meeting again on Thursday, September 2 at 12 noon in the church social hall. This first meeting back will focus on renewing friendships and checking in with everyone. A main dish and beverages will be provided. If you plan to attend, please bring a side dish to share. We will be planning the agendas for future meetings so please think about topics for our meetings.**

## Church in Society

Exciting news!!! Habitat for Humanity has set three dates for on-site volunteers at the Long Beach build. The dates are: Friday, September 24, Saturday, October 30 and December 18. They are accepting 10 volunteers for each of those dates. Please let Claudia know if you'd like to volunteer. Habitat is also accepting volunteers at

its ReStore locations. Habitat has been asked to participate this year in "Long Beach Gives." You can donate at:

[donate.longbeachgives.org/HabitatLA](https://donate.longbeachgives.org/HabitatLA). The day to donate is on September 23. Just a reminder about the Habitat "Raise the Roof" fundraiser on Sunday, October 17 from 2:00-5:00. We're still looking for sponsors and for items for gift baskets for the raffle. Please let Claudia know if you can help out in any way.

We delivered several boxes of canned food to Lutheran Social Services (LSS) in July. We also delivered backpacks and LOTS of school supplies to LSS in August. LSS was very grateful for all of your donations. We had a tour of the facility and were told that LSS is always in need of gift cards for their seniors and homeless. We will be putting up a gift card tree for the month of October. We will also continue to collect food for LSS.

***Blessings,***

***Claudia Fitzpatrick and Shannon Howard***



**Members at Home or in**

**Care Centers:** Justin Bartlow, Judy Haenn, lone Marchael, Carol Price, Frances Willms.

Navarro, Michael Joseph Navarro, Jim Reeder, Sophie Schade, Douglas Steelhammer, Dominic Vancini, Jonah Westcott & Collin White.



**Those struggling with illness or other concerns:**

Deb Albrecht, Daniel Howard, Bary & Janice Schlieder, Gary & Linda Zimmerman.

**Family & Friends:** Ashley, Marylyn, Terry, Gladi Adams, Jeri Cooper Alacano, Cheryl, Marilyn Armstrong, Zach Burkard, Byron, Clara & John Caldwell, Charlie and David Corm, Mary and Max Croes, John Daly, Becky Dave, Tamra Fitzgerald, Brechin Flournoy, Alberta Gray, Cindy Gray, Evie Holdhusen, Bobbie Hoenig, Ben Horner, Bill and Teria Horner, Kylie & Crystal Huber, JoDee Irwin, Victoria Johnson, Doris Jung, DJ Koenen, Barb Korsmo, Katrina Lahr, Shirley Latner, Barb Ontiveros, the Otterson family, Mike Rainey, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Debbie Reighard, Bob Schlaf, Beth Schluemer, Casey and Mark Smith, JayeAnna and Ethan, Cordle, Anna Watt-Morse, Steve and Jenny West.

**We pray for the ongoing work of:**

- + Linda Gawthorne among the Kogi people of Colombia
- + First responders who provide safety, security, and care
- + Those serving in our nation's military, especially: Jason Arellano, Samuel Brown, Rachel & Victor Colon, Michael Cote, Aaron Crayton, William Eaton, Damian Ellsworth, Gabriel Gallegos, Richard Gallegos, Chandler Hoover, John Lambertson, Brittany Graham-Karsten, Davis McElwain, Morgan Llewellyn, Haley Fessenden, Johnny Luna, Shawn McRae, Emily Merritt, Brina Navarro, Steven Andrew

- 9/1** *Phyllis and Ron Kay*
- 9/10** *Kim and Frank Croes*
- 9/19** *Barbi and Don Darnauer*
- 9/27** *Laurel and Adam Elliott*



- 9/2** *Linda Clark*
- 9/6** *Nicholas Jenkins*
- 9/6** *Annie Johnson*
- 9/7** *Chris Panos*
- 9/8** *Sue Bredenkamp*
- 9/8** *Eric Willms*
- 9/10** *Pam Challis*
- 9/10** *Nathaniel Willms*
- 9/12** *Nathan Latiolait*
- 9/14** *Hannah Rodrigues*
- 9/18** *Don Darnauer*
- 9/18** *Emily Randig*
- 9/21** *Jonah Koch*
- 9/22** *Arielle Joubert-Honacki*
- 9/23** *Chantal Joubert-Honacki*
- 9/25** *Kameko Flournoy*
- 9/25** *Kathy Treat*
- 9/26** *Jax Johnson*
- 9/28** *Linda Peralta*
- 9/29** *Samantha McGee*
- 9/30** *Matthew Timney*



# Church News

**Daytimer’s LunchBunch** will meet again on Tuesday, August 31 at 11:30am at Hof’s Hut on Bellflower Blvd in Los Altos.

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The Church in Society committee has developed a new giving plan for 2021 year. Since we are not able to be in worship together, which makes it very difficult to bring material donations for the ministries we support, we will focus on specific programs each month and collect financial contributions to distribute. Until we return to the physical church space, special offerings can be designated in the memo line of the check or information box on PayPal.

## September – COA Dinner

\*Members who have pledged to organizations such as Habitat or Miracle Ranch will continue with their regular pledges.

\*When we return to “normal” we will resume regular collection of **items** for the CSULB Food Bank, New Life Beginnings, COA, and LSS (Lutheran Social Services). Keep LSS and COA in mind when you do have items to donate. **You can take items directly to their locations** even though **we** are not collecting for them right now. Their addresses can be found on line or call the church office for their phone numbers. There might be occasions where we will sponsor an in gathering of specially needed items for any of these organizations as situations arise.

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If you are a Ralph’s Shopper, please add Christ Lutheran to the Community Programs partnership attached to your Ralph’s card. We received a donation for **\$84.47** from just **15** households for March through May.



We also receive contributions from **Amazon Smile** if you designate Christ Lutheran as the charity of choice for eligible purchases. We have received **\$469.05** since we began participating in this program. Thanks so much!

Direct your  
**Thrivent Choice Dollars**  
 Today!



Eligible clients with membership can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds. These recommendations are shared by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches. CLC has received **\$1460.00 so far in 2021**. Thank you to church members who have selected CLC to receive these charitable gifts. Ask your Thrivent rep for details.

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## Help Wanted

### Birthday Committee

This group of members will be a sub committee of Connections and can have as many members as want to participate. As a member, you will take responsibility for sending birthday cards to CLC members for the month. If you'd like, cards and postage can be provided; names and birthdates are found in the monthly newsletter. The more people who help out, the fewer months each person will have responsibility for. Please contact Kim in the church office to volunteer.

### Children's Sunday School Leaders

Although Sunday school is not getting started quite yet, we would like to know who is interested in helping us reach one of CLC's important goals. This group of members would rotate leading children's Sunday school each month. The curriculum will be provided, any photocopies that are needed can be made in the church office, craft supplies are available in the Craft Closet upstairs. Reimbursement will be made for other supplies that are needed as well as snack items.

### Nursery Attendant

In the event we open up our nursery during worship, we will need a responsible individual to attend to the kids. If you or someone you know might be interested in caring for our young members, please let the office know so that we can follow up and be prepared.

**Christ Lutheran Church  
6500 Stearns street  
Long Beach, CA 90815-3497**

**Return service Requested**



**Mission Statement:**  
Christ Is Alive!

**Vision Statement:**

Christ Lutheran Church is a community of believers committed to praising our Savior Jesus Christ. With His love, we reach out to those in need and welcome all with open hearts. Our worship dynamically combines word, song and prayer to share God’s incredible message. Having faith in this, we go forth knowing that with God and the power of the Holy Spirit, anything is possible.

**October NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:  
September 15**

***Life In Christ***  
**Is the newsletter of**

**Christ Lutheran Church  
6500 Stearns Street  
Long Beach, CA 90815-3497  
562.598.2433**

Preschool 562.594.6117

[www.hristlutheranlb.com](http://www.hristlutheranlb.com)

[email:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com](mailto:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com)

Please join us for Sunday Worship  
830am or 1030am



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