



March 2022
Volume 66 Issue 3

The Office of the Bishop of the Southwest California Synod of the ELCA is located on the traditional territory of the Chumash, Tongva, and Kizh people. The SWCA Synod rests on the traditional territory of over 11 different indigenous people.

What is a Synod?

Synods unite the work of congregations within their areas, serve as regional support, and guide pastoral and other staff candidates. In order to strengthen the relationship between synod leaders and the churchwide office, many churchwide teams relate to and support the work of the synods.



The Southwest California Synod is a **Reconciling In Christ Synod**, making a public commitment to welcome, include and celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) people.



We are also a **Lutheran Restoring Creation Synod**. Lutherans Restoring Creation is a grassroots movement promoting care for creation in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, cultivating a community of dedicated stewards of earth and neighbor who proclaim God’s promise of hope and healing for all.

Quick Facts

The Synod is divided into nine different conferences

More than 100 congregations and worshipping communities in nine conferences comprise the Southwest California Synod. The nine conferences are:

- Channel Islands
- Foothill
- LA Metropolitan
- South Bay
- Twin Valleys
- Central Coast
- Greater Long Beach
- San Gabriel Valley
- Tehachapi

The Southwest California Synod serves the counties or portions of the counties of:

- Kern
- Los Angeles
- San Luis Obispo
- Santa Barbara
- Ventura

The two companion synods of the Southwest California Synod are:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hong Kong (ELCHK)

S'nodo Luterano Salvadore (Lutheran Salvadorian Synod)

Five bishops have served the Southwest California Synod:

- The Rev. Roger Anderson
- The Rev. Paul Egertson
- The Rev. Dean W. Nelson
- The Rev. Guy Erwin, Ph.D.
- The Rev. Murray Finck (Interim)
- The Rev. Brenda Bos



Greetings!

As we prepare our hearts, mind, and spirit for Lent we begin our 40 day journey to the cross. Although we are all back together for Lent after a few years apart, it will be bittersweet...for some are no longer with us. Our love, prayers, and support go out to you all who are no longer part of our congregation (but always a part of our hearts). We will miss you!

After a subdued Lenten season, we will be bringing back the worship team on Easter Sunday. With the band and the worship leaders back up there leading worship, it will bring back some of our pre-pandemic normalcy. In the meanwhile, our choir and handbells will provide wonderful music on Sundays until Pentecost.

Assistant Minister training was held in February; we will have another one in March or April for those who were not able to attend. Even if you do not want to be an Assistant Minister, just coming to learn how to do things at the church (even just turn on the lights, air, sound, et al.) is important. Sometime after Lent, I will be holding a sound/AV training session for those interested in helping us out with the sound, video/live-streaming, power point, et al.

I am so glad to see you all in church and hopefully protocols will allow us to continue doing so.

Thanks!

Your humble Director,

Brian Madigan



Preschool News

Each year, "Special Person Day" has provided an opportunity for CLP children to share their school day with one "special person" such as a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or parent. Due to the Covid surge this year, we had an altered Special Person Day. Although we could not celebrate with everyone in person, we asked that each child still choose a special person. This year instead of bringing their special person to school, we asked that they send their child with a stuffed animal and a picture of their special person attached. Each class took turns enjoying special activities in the courtyard including dying carnations and an obstacle course and teachers uploaded a picture of their child to the ProCare app with their stuffed animal and photo for them to share with their special person. At the end of the school day each child brought home the surprises they made for their special person. For Valentine's Day, the classrooms each had their own parties to celebrate.

Our "Glitter and Gold Gala" will be on Friday, March 11th from 6-9pm at The Grand Event Center. It will be held outdoors on The Palm Terrace with appetizers instead of a seated meal. We are excited to once again be able to host this fun, in person event after our two year hiatus. We will have a limited number of silent auction items including classroom baskets and class projects, live auction items, teacher dates, wine pull and games at the event. We will have the 50/50 raffle at the end of the event. Tickets are on sale for \$45 through March 4th and will be \$60 thereafter. 50/50 Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Tickets will be available for purchase after Church on Sundays, or you can contact Lisa Clinton at the preschool office (562) 594-6117.

We will also have fun this month with the childrens' imaginations while we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Then, the last two weeks we will have parent teacher conferences as we prepare for Registration which will be the first week of April.

Wishing you a beautiful Spring!
Lisa Clinton



**Members at Home
or in Care Centers:**
Justin Bartlow, Judy
Haenn, Ione

Marchael, Don Westerhoff, and Frances
Willms.

Those struggling with illness or other

concerns: Roger Bredenkamp, Daniel
Howard, Bary & Janice Schlieder, Gary &
Linda Zimmerman.

Family & Friends: Marylyn, Terry, Cheryl,
Lori, Erin Belk, Leah Blakeman, Lois
Brown, Zach Burkard, Byron, Clara & John
Caldwell, Steve, Charlie and David Corm,
Mary and Max Croes, Tamra Fitzgerald,
Brechtin Flournoy, Alberta Gray, Cindy
Gray, Evie Holdhusen, Bobbie Hoenig,
Kylie & Crystal Huber, JoDee Irwin, Doris
Jung, Linda Kuhn, Barb Korsmo, Katrina
Lahr, Sue Lance, Hudson Nunnally, Barb
Ontiveros, Luis Ortiz, Mark Palley, Paula
Pettit, Paul Perencevic, Kristina & Scott
Randolph, Emily Renton, Mary Kathryn
Rivera, Twilla and Mason Tucker,
Theresia Tuer, Anna Watt-Morse, Ed
Weston, Teresa, Jessica, 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.



3/1 *Shaun Murray*
3/2 *Sara Benoit*
3/2 *Derek Johnson*
3/3 *Doug Holdhusen*
3/3 *Laura Kurutz*
3/5 *Frances Willms*
3/11 *Jameson Stamer*
3/12 *Chris Caldwell*
3/12 *Denise Maner*
3/12 *Jack Rollins*
3/14 *Brian Trost*
3/15 *Sam Brown*
3/16 *Steve Howard*
3/19 *Josh Freligh*
3/21 *Linda Gawthorne*
3/22 *Lynn Benner*
3/27 *Stefan Joseph*
3/28 *Garrett McGee*
3/30 *Ingrid Fuelleman-Ramos*



QR Codes, or quick response codes, have become a popular and tech savvy way for businesses to perform contactless payments or provide a direct link to their website. According to the FBI, cybercriminals are taking advantage of this technology by directing QR code scans to malicious sites to steal victim's data, embedding malware to gain access to the victim's device, or redirecting payments to fraudulent accounts.

Here are 8 ways from the FBI to spot and avoid malicious QR codes:

1. Check the URL that you are being directed to after scanning the QR code. Look out for malicious domain names that may be similar to the intended URL - but with typos or a misplaced letter - and authentic-looking phishing sites.
2. Practice caution when entering login, personal, or financial information to a website that was navigated to from a QR code.
3. Check physical QR codes for tampering. This can be done by ensuring that no sticker has been placed on top of the original code.
4. Avoid downloading apps from a QR code. The FBI recommends using the mobile device's app store for a safer download.
5. Avoid making online payments via QR codes sent in emails stating there was a payment failure for a recently made purchase. Calling the company for verification at a phone number published on a trusted site is highly recommended.
6. Avoid downloading QR code scanner apps as it increases the risk of downloading malware onto the device. Instead, use a phone's built-in scanner through the camera app of most smartphones.
7. Before making payments using QR codes for someone you know, contact them through a trusted phone number or contact method to verify that the code is from them.
8. Avoid making payments through a site navigated to from a QR code. Instead, manually enter a known and trusted URL to complete the payment.

OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans) will meet on Thursday, March 3 at 12:00 noon in the Social Hall. Bring a side dish to share.

Daytimer's LunchBunch may meet on Tuesday, March 29 at 11:30am at Hof's Hut on Bellflower Blvd in Los Altos. Again, all is dependent upon the severity of the current Covid challenge.



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 \$60.10 from just 13 households

September through the end of November: for a total of \$362.18 in 2021!

We also receive contributions from Amazon Smile if you designate Christ Lutheran as the charity of choice for eligible purchases. We have received \$548.45 since we began participating in this program. Thanks so much



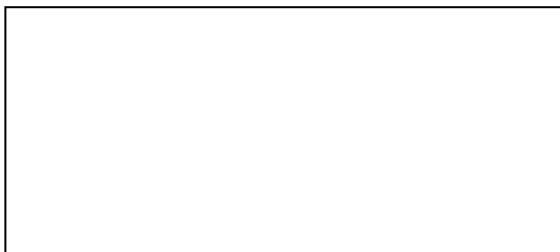


Eligible clients with membership can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds. These recommendations are shared by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit

organizations, including churches. CLC received \$2298.00 in 2021. Thank you to church members who have selected CLC to receive these charitable gifts. Ask your Thrivent rep for details.

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.

April Newsletter Deadline:

March 15

Life In Christ
Is the newsletter of

Christ Lutheran Church
6500 Stearns Street
Long Beach, CA 90815-3497
562.598.2433
www.christlutheranlb.com

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

Please join us in person for Sunday
Worship 9:30am
Live on FB or later on YouTube
Channel



Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook.
facebook.com/christlutheranlb