



## Pastor Pam's Pennings

*Awake, awake for time is flying!*

**October 2017**  
**Volume 61, Issue 10**

How can it be October already? This year has flown by! It seems like just a couple of months ago I was reminding myself that I have to write 2017 on my checks.

October brings many things to our life here at Christ Lutheran. First of all, we welcome new members on October 1! What a joy to see people who are dedicating themselves to our congregation's faith and ministry! And, our Grief Group will be starting up again on the 1<sup>st</sup> at 2pm. All who could benefit from this group are welcome to attend. Maybe you know someone who could be helped by a grief group. Please feel free to invite them to come.

Second, we have the Blessing of the Pets on October 8 right after worship. Bring your pets and we will celebrate their meaning in our life and give thanks to God who created all things. This will most likely take place on the patio.

Chris Untiet will be here on October 15 to preach and to introduce us to a Habitat for Humanity family. This is a great way to think of our stewardship and our congregation's commitment to Habitat here in Long Beach.

The second Bible 101 class will take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm. That will happen right after Prayer for Peace at 7pm.

It's confirmation month! On October 29, Angel Trujillo and Samantha McGee will be confirmed in worship. We will want to greet

these two amazing young people who are starting their high school careers.

Reformation Sunday is also on October 29. We will be having our celebration the German way...bratwurst, sauerkraut, German potato salad, rye bread and beer! It would be a great day to invite someone to join us for church and fellowship afterward.

Overarching all of this activity is stewardship month. So, for all five weeks we will be hearing from people as they tell their stewardship stories. You will be receiving mail with your pledge cards in it as well as a letter from me.

So then, on October 29, we will have our Stewardship Pledge Reception. Bring your pledges for 2018 and we will have a special offering for them during communion. I believe that these two things are forever tied – the gifts Jesus gives us freely in his body and blood - and the gifts we return to Jesus in our time, talent and treasure.

All of the things we do here at CLC are tied into Jesus and his love for us and all of this world.

***“This is the most dangerous trial of all, when there is no trial and everything goes well; for then a man is tempted to forget God, to become too bold and to misuse times of prosperity.” — Martin Luther, A Treatise on Good Works***



## **Greetings!**

**Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!** for everyone's participation and interest in **Rally Sunday!!!** I am so pleased everyone took the time to explore what we have to offer here at Christ Lutheran. I am looking forward to an exciting new season.

As for music, we are planning a wonderful **Reformation service** at the end of this month. It will be a fabulous day of worship, music, beer, and brats (no...not misbehaved children but the sausage)....yes, you read that correctly: **beer and brats!**

By time you read this, the **Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Youth Band, and Praise Team** have already started presenting new music at worship service. Thank you for your support and kind words each week.

**JUMP START!!!** I am in the midst of planning special Saturday rehearsals for those who are ringing and singing with us this upcoming season. I know we have a lot of talented singers and instrumentalists in the congregation and we need help with this year's Christmas Concert.

**Thanks!**

**Your humble Director,  
*Brian Madigan***



Greetings! I am very excited and thankful to be joining the Christ Lutheran Church family and working with the high school students! My husband, Justin, and our 2-year old, Grant, just moved to Long Beach from Chicago, IL, in July.

My background has been both in higher education and, most recently, teaching Physical Education, Health and Computers to PreK-8 grade students.

I have always felt a call to ministry and have begun working towards an MA in Children, Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary in Minneapolis, MN, as a Distributed Learning student – though someday it feels as if the Holy Spirit is moving me more towards a Masters of Divinity.

In November, I will be heading back to Chicago for a weekend to complete my ELCA Candidacy Interview with the hopes of being on the Word and Service Roster once I am finished with my program.

In my spare time, we enjoy hiking, running, and listening to Grant enthusiastically repeat every Disney character as we spend time at Disneyland (though, Minnie is his favorite!).

*Sarah Swagler*  
*High School Youth Ministry*

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A reminder that **Living Out Faith Together (LOFT)** is open to all students in grades 9-12 and currently meets every Wednesday evening from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We will also be hosting a movie afternoon on **Sunday, September 24, from 3:30 – 5:30 pm** in the high school room under the sanctuary – bring a friend! Snacks will be provided!

## Dates to Remember

- October 1** Welcome new members  
Grief Group Begins 2pm
- October 8** Blessing of the Pets- Bring your furry, feathered, scaly or slimy family members to church with you.
- October 15** Habitat 4 Humanity Benefit Concert- United Methodist Church, 3pm
- October 29** Reformation/Confirmation Sunday- Celebrate with our confirmands and all Lutherans, the birthday of the Church. Immediately after worship come to the social hall for a reception recognizing our confirmands and a traditional German lunch!



## Preschool News

Our Fall session began on Tuesday, September 5 and we are off to a smooth start. Our teachers were installed and blessed on Rally Sunday, September 10. We had a great turn out and got to know all of our new families at Back to School night on Monday, September 25.



Now as we move in to October, we will have our school picture days on October 11th and 12<sup>th</sup>. These pictures preserve memories of this special age of your child and make great gifts for Christmas!

We will be closed on Friday, October 20 for a staff development day. Our staff will be going to a conference on Social Emotional Development with guest speaker Carly Bedard.

We will end our month with This year these celebrations October 31. The children love to get treats. After that, they get yard. It



*Harvest Fest and Trunk-or-Treating.* take place on Halloween, Tuesday, dressing up and going trunk to trunk so excited playing special games on the is always

amazing to see our parent's creativity shine as you decorate your car trunks, so start planning your décor now!



Blessings for a beautiful Fall!  
Lisa Clinton



## *"Loose Threads"*



Stop by the social hall after worship on **Sunday, Oct 8** or at our regular sewing time of **12:30 to 4 pm** that day to make a **STAR block**! The pieces will already be cut for you; just sit down at a sewing machine (provided) and make a **12"** block. We hope to eventually turn all these blocks into **Quilts of Valor** to honor our veterans!

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**Men's Bible Study**  
Meets the **second Monday** of each month at 7pm. Men of all ages are encouraged to come to the

**conference room for a time of study and fellowship.**

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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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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 **October 14<sup>th</sup>** at **12:00pm**.

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## **Grief Group**

This group meets on the **first Sunday** of every month to be a support for all types of loss. This is not a closed group, so please attend as you can and invite others should they have the need. We will meet on **Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** at **2pm**.

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## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

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

**Those struggling with illness or other concerns:** BJ Anthony, Judy Haenn, Daniel Howard, Dave Nell, Bary & Janice Schlieder and Ed Trost.

**Family & Friends:** Del Carlile, Robert Albert, John Byron, Edi Callas, Frances Cavinder, Karen Chandler, Eve Clarkson, Patrick Clinton, Kathy Goodwin, Alberta Gray, Carol Gray, Paul Hayes, Evie Holdhusen, Johanna Hope, Anna Horner, Helen Horner, Bobbie Hoenig, Leslie Hoskins, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Doris Jung, Mary Keenan, Laurie Kelly, Katrina Lahr, Barbara Lindsay, Ron Manley, Mabel Manzur, Jennifer Naraki, Steve Nelson, Paula Pettet, Ed Philips, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Jari Robinson, Debra Sarvela, Sue Schlaf, Renee Seaman, Bruce Short, Perry Taggart, Jack Taylor, Janette Velarde, Bill Weston, Nancy Weston, Jenny, Jim & Steve West, Tad and Logan Wygal, 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 Lamberton, 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***

**10/1** Kristine and Andy Trost  
**10/3** Teresa and Greg Lowther  
**10/10** Kathy and Bill Mitchell  
**10/12** Annette and Jeff Rodrigues  
**10/14** Sara and Sean Benoit  
**10/27** Chris and Kathy Klute-Nelson



**10/2** Lucas Hood  
**10/7** Daniel Howard  
**10/8** Lauren Trost  
**10/11** Chris Nelson  
**10/12** Mary Clayton  
**10/13** Aina Bornemann  
**10/18** Seth Elliott  
**10/18** Lonnie Timney  
**10/20** Sheryl Hunter  
**10/22** Darren Barnett  
**10/22** Melissa Kitano  
**10/28** Faye Huso  
**10/30** Grant Green  
**10/31** Roger Bredenkamp  
**10/31** Zach Petrbock



## *Empowered by Grace!*

A young boy walks into a small drug store and asks the druggist, “May I use the telephone?” The druggist replies, “You certainly may,” and shows him where the telephone is. The boy calls a grocery store and asks the man who answers the phone, “Is your grocery store looking for someone to stock the shelves?” The man replies, “No, we already have a stock boy.” The boy suggests, “If he isn’t doing a good job, maybe you need to get someone who will do a better job.” The man replies, “No, we are pleased with the work the boy is doing,” so the boy hung up the telephone.

The druggist over-hears the conversation and says to the boy, “I’m sorry you didn’t get the job.” The boy says, “I don’t need a job, because I am the stock boy. I was checking to see what they thought of my work.”

What if you could call God to ask him how he saw your effort in fulfilling the purpose for which he created you? What kind of marks would he give you for being his witness, or how you were doing in your service to others, or how you were doing in your giving? What kind of response would you expect to hear? Would God see you as a person relying on the Holy Spirit to do his will or working in your own strength and giving yourself credit for your successes? When God looks at you, does he see that you acknowledge him as the source of all that is good? Does he see you seeking to use his strength and wisdom? Would God tell you that he is pleased with the ways you are using the time, talents, and money he has entrusted to you?

Unfortunately, we all fall well short of God’s standards, but, because of what Christ did for us on the Cross, we are forgiven for all the times we have failed to honor God with our behavior and efforts to please him. By his grace he molds and transforms us into God-pleasing people who seek to please him. In Christ, we can do God’s work well.

Starting on October 1, we are offering a stewardship emphasis titled “***Empowered by Grace!***” We hope and pray that you will participate in both worship services and Bible studies during the adult education hour.





**MEN'S ADVANCE--2017  
OCTOBER 20 - 22  
EL CAMINO PINES**

**ATTENTION ALL MEN, SONS, BROTHERS, OR...  
OTHERS WHO WANNA SEND A MALE FOR A  
WEEKEND AWAY?!**

**"THE INVISIBLE MAN" is the theme for this year's  
men's "retreat"! This annual event for men in  
churches of our Synod (and others they bring) will  
begin on Friday October 20 for the weekend.**

**We will definitely be "VISIBLE" for great food,  
fellowship, worship, fun, and encouragement in our  
faith!**

**For more information, ask Ron Nelson!**

**For registration and payment, visit**

**[www.mens-advance.org](http://www.mens-advance.org)**

# RAISE THE ROOF! BENEFIT CONCERT

Supporting Habitat for Humanity  
of Greater Los Angeles' work in Long Beach

Pop Jazz

Folk Vocals

Exceptional entertainment from  
Long Beach's talented musicians

**Sunday, October 15**  
**3 - 5 pm**

Los Altos United Methodist Church 5950 E. Willow  
Street  
Long Beach

**FREE admission!**

**Free will offering**

Your attendance and financial support will help  
build over 50 Habitat for Humanity homes  
in Long Beach's Washington Neighborhood



# **GOOD FOOD, GOOD CONVERSATION, GOOD CONNECTION**

*No Strings Attached!*

**The Open Table—Long Beach  
Every Monday at 6:30pm.**



This weekly dinner and fellowship experience (with an optional prayer and communion component afterward) gives college students an opportunity to gather off campus. The Open Table—Long Beach seeks to help ameliorate the food scarcity that has been reported on our college and university campuses.

Located at 6500 E Stearns Street, (Stearns between Palo Verde and Studebaker). Please respond to our Facebook evite:  
[@theopentablelongbeach.](#)