



Vol. 67 Issue 2, February 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,

February 2023 is a month of transitions in the community of faith at Christ Lutheran. At the Congregational Meeting on January 22, new Church Council officers and members were elected. We give thanks for those who have served in various leadership positions through the return to in-person worship and staffing changes of the past 12 months. And we look forward to the talents that new leaders bring to invigorate our message of God's love to the world.

At the end of the month, we transition from the season of Epiphany to the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday (February 22nd) marks the beginning of the 40 days of our Lenten journey. Traditionally a time of preparation for baptism, we will offer Holy Communion and Baptism preparation sessions after worship each Sunday in March (March 5, 12, 19 & 26). If you and yours are interested in attending, please call the church office to let us know so that we have plenty of materials ready. These sessions are for parents, grandparents, sponsors, siblings, and anyone wanting more information about Holy Communion and Baptism at Christ Lutheran.

During worship in the season of Lent, our focus will be "What kind of God are we baptized into?" and how are we to live in the promises made to us in baptism. We will take a pause from Matthew's account and emphasize encounters with Jesus in the gospel according to John. Our worship takes a more subdued tone as we "Bury the Alleluia" and prepare ourselves for the joy of the Easter celebration. (Easter is April 9th !!)

Blessings to you,

Pastor Laurie Arroyo, Interim Pastor



Preschool News

We had a very nice winter break December 23 through January 2nd. School resumed on January 3rd and January remained a pretty calm month.

On Wednesday, January 11th, we had a Snow Day for the children at school. The Long Beach Ice Company blew in snow on our playground and the classes took turns playing in the snow and sliding down a hill made of snow. To make the day even more special, a parent brought their snow machine so not only was there snow on the ground but there was also snow falling on the playground. It was such a fun day for the children.

We are continuing to plan for our 2022 auction, "Boots & Bling...It's A Country Thing." which will be on Friday, March 10th at 6pm at The Grand. Tickets will go on sale Sunday 2/5/22 and will be \$50 each. We sent out letters and are in the process of collecting donations. 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 that is special to them like a grandparent, aunt, or uncle. They will go to Chapel together and then enjoy going classroom to classroom to participate in different activities as well as enjoy refreshments in the courtyard. Activities will include dying 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



If you are a Ralph's Shopper, please add Christ Lutheran to the Community Programs partnership attached to your Ralph's card. We received donations totaling **\$365.98 from just 14 households this year.**

We also receive contributions from **Amazon Smile** if you designate Christ Lutheran as the charity of choice for eligible purchases. We have received **\$718.11 since we began participating in this program.** Thanks so much. (We have been notified that this program will be discontinued in February. Until then, we are still receiving credit for Amazon Smile purchases.)



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 received **\$2176.00** this year. Thank you to church members who have selected CLC to receive these charitable gifts. Ask your Thrivent rep for details.

Thursday, February 9th

***OWLs (Obviously Wise Lutherans) will meet at 12:00 noon in the Social Hall. Bring a side dish to share. *Note the name change from 'Older' to 'Obviously'.**



Saturday, February 11th

Sons of Norway will meet at noon. Everyone is welcome to come and learn about the Norwegian culture.

Tuesday, February 28th

Daytimer's LunchBunch will meet at 11:30am at Hof's Hut on Bellflower Blvd in Los Altos.

Wednesday, February 22nd

Ash Wednesday

7pm Worship

Sundays, March 5,12,19,26

Holy Communion/Baptism Classes

11:30am in the Sanctuary

Sunday, February 26th

First Lenten Soup Lunch

Immediately following worship

Sunday Lenten Soup Lunches

Immediately following worship.

Red Cross Blood Drive

8am-2pm in Social Hall

New Member/What Lutherans Believe Class

11:30am in Conference Room

Tuesday, February 28th

Recipe for (Chicken) Tortilla Soup

Shared by Kim Croes, originally made by Jenn Ostergren for confirmation dinners.

Ingredients

Meat (Your preference or none for vegetarian version)

- 1 12.5-oz can Chicken breast
- 1-1.5 lb. shredded/ground beef

Canned Goods (Again your preference, but I use the following, can substitute low sodium where available)

- 1 15-oz can Kidney beans, red
- 1 15-oz can Pinto beans
- 1-15-oz can black beans
- 1 14.5-oz can diced tomatoes with garlic
- 1-15 oz can cream of chicken soup (for thickening, don't use if you want a vegetarian version)
- 1 small can green chilis
- 1 box of chicken or vegetable broth

Other items

- 1bag frozen corn
- Taco Seasoning(several packets or a jar)
- 1 bunch cilantro for garnish
- Chopped avocado for garnish
- Sour cream for garnish
- Shredded Mexican mix cheese for garnish
- Tortilla chips

Preparation

Empty all canned goods, including the liquid, into large pot. Heat through, add the bag of frozen corn.

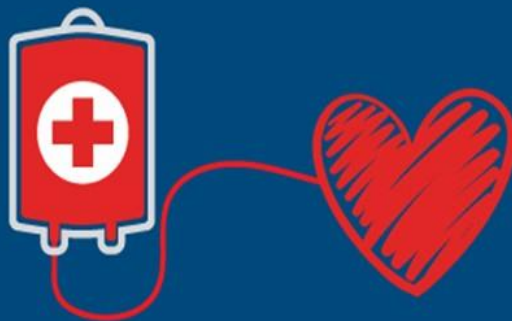
Add taco seasoning to taste; start with a quarter cup or 2 packets. As the seasoning mixes in, continue to taste, adding as you prefer. At this time you may want to add 13oz of water to increase volume of soup.

Let everything simmer on low for 20 minutes. (I like to make this ahead and let the flavors really meld together.)

Prepare your bowls for serving: place crushed tortilla chips in bowl, top with cheese if desired. Ladle soup into bowl and garnish with any or all of the suggested items, or anything you might prefer. This is not a spicy version so you may want to add your favorite heat increasers.



Kindness
is in your blood.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Christ Lutheran Church

The Social Hall
6500 Stearns Ave
Long Beach, CA 90815

Sunday, February 26, 2023
830am-230pm



**American
Red Cross**



**Members at Home or in
Care Centers:** Justin
Bartlow, Laurie Ennen,

Ione Marchael, Sydney Nichols, Don
Westerhoff, and Frances Willms.

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

Don Darnauer, Judy Haenn, Daniel Howard,
Karen Koch, Stephanie Petrbok, Bary & Janice
Schlieder, Doris Weinert, Kurt Weisel, Gary &
Linda Zimmerman.

***Family & Friends:** Marylyn, Terry, Cheryl,
Lois Brown, Zach Burkard, Byron, John
Caldwell, Scott Carr, Mireya Cervantes, Jon
Christopherson, Steve, Charlie and David
Corm, Mary Croes, JD, Glenn Darnauer,
Tamara Fitzgerald, Brechin Fournoy, Alberta
Gray, Cindy Gray, Helen Hagen, Evie
Holdhusen, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Ray Irwin,
Doris Jung, Barb Korsmo, Katrina Lahr, Sue
Lance, Lenny Lloyd, Diana Lobel, Joyce, Lainie
and Beau, John McCarthy, Dewey Martin,
Hudson Nunnally, Paula Pettit, Kristina &
Scott Randolph, Emily Renton, Mary Kathryn
Rivera, J.R. Rose, Nina Savlov, Vicki
Thompson, Sharon and JT Tooman, Jessica,
Steve and Jenny West.

We pray for the ongoing work of:

- + Christ Lutheran's Pastoral Call
Committee
- + Linda Gawthorne among the Kogi
people of Colombia
- + First responders who provide
safety, security, and care

- + Those serving in our nation's
Military, especially Samuel Brown,
Ryan Dorris, Morgan Llewellyn, Johnny
Luna, Jim Reeder, Steven, Brina and
Michael Navarro.



**2/15 D'Jesus Trujillo &
Doug Holdhusen**

2/27 Angie & Ron Nelson



2/3	Sarah Swagler
2/4	Kathleen Davis
2/5	Angela Joseph
2/9	Natalie Stamer
2/11	Jeff Rodrigues
2/12	Frank Croes
2/13	Jeanne Paige
2/14	Chloe Halvorson
2/17	Rich Williams
2/20	Laurel Elliott

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.

March Newsletter Deadline:
February 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

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**](https://facebook.com/christlutheranlb)