

2013 Church Council Report

Another eventful year in the life of our little church . . .

Pastor Change Council started the year faced with the disturbing fact that Pastor Darryl Kozak, the interim pastor we were hoping to call to a permanent position, had misused the church credit card. After a period of time on personal leave, Pastor Darryl apologized to the congregation, made a repayment agreement with CLC, but ultimately resigned (he has since repaid the full amount). Church member and retired ELCA pastor Harvey Anderson graciously stepped in to lead us and a new pastor search began.

Pastor Search Update Rev. Murray Finck (bishop of our Pacifica Synod) sent us two pastor candidates to interview during the year and another candidate was suggested by a church member. One candidate was interviewed by a Council committee and deemed not a good fit for our church; a second candidate could not take less than a full call, which is not something CLC is in a financial position to offer at this point. The third candidate, Rev. Lara Martin, met twice with the full Council, the last time with Bishop Finck in attendance. Council asked if she would consider a 60% call--all we felt fiscally comfortable offering at the time--but she regretfully had to decline. Council will continue the search with Bishop Finck's guidance and Pastor Harvey will continue to lead us in the meantime (yea!).

Church Campus/Property Improvements The Council Property Committee had a banner year, including a church clean-up & planting day in June; a new pergola in the church's entry courtyard (thanks to a donation from the memorial of long-time member Vern Ehlers who passed away this year and is sorely missed); a new desk for the church secretary; trimmed trees (the coral trees need to be trimmed annually--a hefty expense, made possible through a donation this year); and assorted other fixes, from toilet seats to light bulbs. The Beach Truck deserves a section of its own. . .

Beach Truck Reborn Thanks to a gift from associate members Bill and Denise Lindquist, the truck that carries all Beach Church equipment and serves as a mobile billboard for CLC was re-wrapped this year in a bright, eye-catching design. Prior to the new look, the Property Committee, with help from beach truck drivers, had body and mechanical work done on the truck and had it painted. Due in 2014, a new truck lift. We had faithful drivers throughout 2013, with volunteers coordinated by Susanne Harlow. As the year drew to a close, our driver numbers dwindled and new coordinator Brenda Brashears is looking for more drivers!

Telling Our Story In addition to the Beach Truck's redo, the Council's marketing and advertising efforts in 2013 included ads in the San Clemente Journal (and an article with photo) for 6 months and an ad in the Sun Post for 28 weeks. We had plenty of people telling us at Beach Church they had come after seeing the ads. Council is grateful for a donation that allowed this advertising to happen, as our ad budget is usually limited. We also added a new sign at North Beach (propped against the lifeguard stand on Sunday mornings) that tells passers by on the trail or the train who we are! As the year came to a close, long-time member Linda Hardy stepped up to become our webmaster again and Council is very grateful. Visit www.clcsanclemente.org for CLC news & info.

Outreach/Social Ministry/Fellowship CLC supported Family Assistance Ministries and San Clemente Military Family Outreach as our main ministries to our local community this year,

including a military baby shower in January, contributing art supplies and playground balls to San Onofre School on Camp Pendleton in March, a Semper Fideli-TEA for enlisted women and military wives in May, the FAM Hunger Walk (CLC was a bronze level sponsor and we had 11 walkers this year) and the SCMFO Variety Show in October, and the SCMFO and FAM Thanksgiving & Christmas events in November and December. Council coordinated these involvements, but it was our church members who really came through for both organizations! Pastor Harvey followed Mother's Day roses with "Dad's Old Fashioned Root Beer" on Father's Day--what a hit! Our kayaking fellowship continued this year, from June through September, and we added a new opportunity for 8 and 10:30 service attendees to get together for breakfast at the Kahuna Grill at North Beach in July and September. And now we have name badges for Beach Church members, so we can greet each other by name during the Sharing of the Peace (thank you, Judie Thompson). CLC's Book Club is a happy fellowship for book lovers.

La Cristianita Preschool Our preschool is our ministry to young San Clemente-Dana Point families and Council worked to forge closer ties to the preschool in 2013. Thank you to former Preschool board members Norman Franz and Brad Smith. The Council took on the role of the board in March. In August, our preschool director Leigh Ann Downie had a life-threatening bicycle accident in Mammoth. Thanks be to God, she is, after two months at home and three more months gradually recovering, back full time this month. Council is grateful to preschool and church staff, and church treasurer Mary Monasmith and bookkeeper Sara Rehms, for ensuring continuity in preschool operations during Leigh Ann's absence. Vacation Bible School was scheduled in August and Council is grateful, as well, to teachers, staff and volunteers who made it happen for the children and their parents.

Staff Changes We said goodbye and wished well to former church secretaries Wendy La Frano and Christine Preciado, both new mothers, and hello to Debby Boka, who seems like she's always been here! She's smart, funny and motivated to do the best for us, including participating in outreach activities and getting to know the toddlers and their parents. If you haven't yet met Debby, please give her a call or stop by to say hi.

Deepest thanks to our church musicians Russell Crabtree, Tom Fahney and Kenneth Haro, to all our volunteers, and the preschool staff for your service in 2013. Our volunteer bookkeeper Sara Rehms, who has been helping us from after after moving to Sacramento, had to end her role in December as her family caregiving responsibilities have grown. We are grateful to her and wish her well. It's not been the easiest of years behind the scenes, but CLC continued to prayerfully and joyfully worship our Lord Jesus Christ at preschool chapel and in the sanctuary and on the beach each week and that's what's most important. We pray for an uplifting 2014, with more members involved in everything!

-- Christ Lutheran Church Council

Serving on Council in 2013: Pastor Harvey Anderson, Keith Baumgarn (Vice President & Property), Betty Buck (Worship & Music), Judy Franz (Secretary & Outreach), Pat Gilliam (Property), Ron Harlow (President & Marketing/Advertising), Mary Monasmith (Treasurer). Also serving during the first few months of 2013: Brenda Brashears, Ruth Milversted, Kay Tyson.