

Christ Lutheran Church

"God of deep soil and luxuriant growth; you call us from our shallow selves to find our depth in you: may we abide in Him alone who can teach us who we are; through Jesus Christ, the true vine. Amen." from Prayers for an Inclusive Church by Steven Shakespeare



March Calendar

Every Tuesday

Bible Study
10:00 a.m.

Every Wed. in March

Lenten Dinner
Sanctuary - 6:30 p.m.

March 1

Beach Clean-Up Day
9:00 a.m. North Beach

March 4

Lenten Supper and Ice
Cream Social with La
Cristianita (see inside)
Sanctuary 6:30p.m.

March 10

WELCA Bible Study
See inside - 1 p.m.

March 14

Food Giveaway at FAM
8 a.m.

March 17

Blood Drive at CLC

March 18

Council Meeting
Fireside Room - 2 p.m.

March 21

Spring Cleaning at CLC

March 29

Palm Sunday
Beach Church 8 a.m.
Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Pastor's Message

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last week I wore a clerical shirt and cross necklace to preschool chapel. I don't do this often, but it was Ash Wednesday and whenever I am in more formal wear, I try to explain to the kids this shows I'm a pastor, and the cross shows I love Jesus. During chapel we looked around the sanctuary to find other crosses. We lost count, but I think we found at least fifteen, in the banners, on the altar, on the communion rail. I kept telling them we use crosses to show us we love Jesus. But the truth is, we have the cross to show us Jesus loved us.

It's hard to tell the kids about the violent aspects of our faith story. Even when telling Old Testament stories, I often found myself trying to get out of sticky messes about violence. I told them Moses' mother hid him in a boat "because Pharaoh didn't like babies". King Herod also "didn't like babies" when I told them about Baby Jesus and his parents fleeing into Egypt. But what will I say about Jesus dying on the cross? So far, I've been explaining Jesus died for us, and it happened on a cross. Ugh. It gets so much worse than that. I don't know if four year olds need to have a deep understanding of Jesus' crucifixion. I do want them to know Jesus loves us and died for us. That's not a bad thing to understand at any age.

As adults, we enter into the season of Lent with some trepidation. We know we're supposed to feel un-

comfortable as we reflect on our own sin. We know we'll be hearing the stories of Jesus' painful journey to Jerusalem, to his betrayal, his arrest and his death. Some congregations revel in this journey. Others avoid it. I expect we'll find ourselves somewhere between the two experiences.

It's important to remember, however, that the cross shows us how much Jesus loved us. It's a lesson for all of us, not just our preschoolers. And because Jesus loved us, we can love more deeply. We are called to love creatively and fully and intentionally in our own community. We are called to move away from our own self-centered pursuits and consider the needs and strengths of others. This is a lifelong process, but I know we are poised to do this in new ways as a congregation. Jesus inspires us, not just with his journey of obedience and sacrifice. Jesus inspires us with his commitment to love, and this Lenten season, we'll marvel at that commitment.

Following Christ requires more than wearing cross necklaces. Following Christ requires serving others. There are several opportunities to serve our community this season. We're collecting blankets and cold weather clothing for homeless. San Clemente Military Family Outreach needs school supplies. We're hosting a Blood Drive. We're cleaning the beach. Take a moment to find something that sparks your interest among the items listed in this newsletter. The path to the cross is filled with service and even joy. Let's serve together.

-Pastor Brenda Bos

Church Council Corner

This 50th Anniversary year is off to a great start with so many members involved in thinking and planning for our prayer and visitation and homelessness and hunger ministries and helping identify and move forward on new revenue streams to help secure CLC's financial future. Bless you all! The Council is thrilled to see such enthusiasm and talent, so many willing hands and hearts, and commitment to the work we are all doing on the Lord's behalf.

At our February meeting, the Council officers who served in 2014 were re-elected to continue in their Council roles for another year: Judy Franz, president; Betty Buck, vice president; Shay Arnett, secretary; and Laura Pephens, treasurer. Pat Gilliam will continue as Property Chair and Donna Vidrine with Visitation. We need your prayers, as we continue working with and supporting Pastor Brenda in our administrative roles, Thank you.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Lenten suppers and programs this month, culminating with Holy Week and three services on Easter morning! We'll be asking people to pull out those yard signs from years past to help announce the service times to your neighbors. Look for Christ Lutheran ads in the San Clemente Times and be sure to invite friends and family to worship with us!

The March Council meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18, at 2 p.m. in the Fireside Room at church. We have changed the meeting time again to avoid a conflict with that night's Lenten supper, which Council will host. All are welcome to attend our meetings and we are happy to get your ideas, questions, suggestions any time!

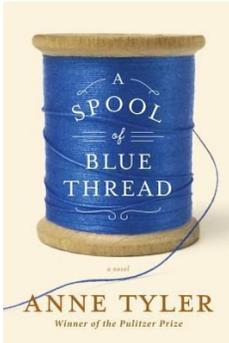
Wishing you a blessed Easter season,

Thank you for your support as we do God's administrative work on your behalf here at CLC, *Judy Franz, President; Betty Buck, Vice President; Shay Arnett, Secretary; Laura Pephens, Treasurer; Pat Gilliam, Property Chair; Donna Vidrine and Pastor Brenda Bos*

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE MEMBERS WHO HAVE GOTTEN INVOLVED IN THE PAST MONTH IN OUR PLANNING (AND DOING) HOMELESSNESS AND HUNGER MINISTRIES, NEW REVENUE STREAMS.

What in the world of WELCA?

WELCA will be meeting at Donna Running's home on Tuesday, March 10th at 1:00 p.m. Please contact Betty Buck for more information at (949) 493-6179.



CLC Book Club

Our next book will be A Spool of Blue Thread by Anne Tyler. Set in Baltimore, "A Spool of Blue Thread" explores three generations of the Whitshank family. Over time, they've come to define themselves by certain family stories — and buried many others away in secret.

We will be taking the month of March off so we can all attend the Lent Wednesday Evenings. Book club will resume after Easter on April 21 at 6:30 p.m. for our wonderful potluck dinner and book discussion. Please put it on your calendar and plan to join us for the fun.

MARCH 14TH, 8 A.M. FAM FOOD GIVEAWAY

Please park on the street and wear close-toed shoes.



American Red Cross

Blood Drive



Christ Lutheran Church
San Clemente

Blood Drive will be held in the Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 17, 2015
12:15 PM – 6:30 PM

To schedule your appointment or for more information, contact Betty Buck at (949) 493-6179, edbmeb@cox.net Or sign up at www.RedCrossBlood.org Use Sponsor Code: CLSC

All participants will receive a discounted ticket offer to an Anaheim Ducks game at the Honda Center & an LA Kings game at the STAPLES Center!



redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS
(1-800-733-2767)



Use your smartphone to scan the QR code at left, or go to redcrossblood.org/social to follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Identification is required to donate.

©2012 The American National Red Cross

WANTED:



Members of local service or community organizations like Kiwanis, Rotary or other groups – please let Pastor Brenda know if you can help the church connect more deeply with local interests and concerns.

Lenten Service Projects

Many people believe we need to “give something up” for Lent. In the Lutheran tradition, we often “add something” in Lent, including acts of service or spiritual practice. Christ Lutheran Church will be engaged in several service projects during Lent (starting February through the first week of April). Would you like to clean up the beach? Support La Cristianita Preschool? Volunteer at F.A.M.? Join a prayer team in worship service? Watch for many opportunities to live out your faith during the first part of 2015!



Upcoming for Lent

Services

- Sunday, March 29** Palm Sunday
- Friday, April 3** Good Friday service 7p.m.
- Sunday, April 5** Easter Services at 6, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays in Lent

- March 11** Lenten Dinner in Sanctuary at 6:30p.m.
- March 18** Lenten Dinner in Sanctuary at 6:30p.m.
- March 25** Lenten Dinner in Sanctuary at 6:30p.m.



Serving the Community

- Saturday, March 14** Food Giveaway at F.A.M.
- Tuesday, March 17** Blood Drive at Christ Lutheran
Hospice Volunteer Training - Mission Hospital
- Saturday, March 21** Spring Cleaning Day for CLC and LCP

La Cristianita Preschool March 2015 News

35522 Camino Capistrano

San Clemente, CA 92672

(949) 496-1405—Preschool (949) 496-2621

From the director...

It's Spring...already! Next week, the time will change, the days will be longer, sports and practices are starting back up and the schedule is as busy as ever! We have several preschool families with brand new babies (Congrats!), parents are making choices about schools for next year, and everyone at La Cristianita is realizing how blessed we are to have Pastor Brenda as the newest member of our preschool family! New beginnings are surrounding us—what a gift! Although sometimes the idea of starting fresh can be overwhelming.

As parents, we tend to run ourselves ragged in an attempt to make sure our children have not only what they need, but what they want as well. The parental nurture God has gifted us with, has left us little time for ourselves—for our relationships—and simply to enjoy the blessing of being a parent and enjoying the youth of our children. What do we do in the midst of the day to day grind to nurture ourselves? For each of us, the answer to this question will be different! I know personally, I sometimes am not even sure where to begin thinking about how to take care of me...there's no time for me after everything else.

As the days get longer and the schedule get's busier, how can we stop to appreciate the new beginnings and nurture ourselves? A morning walk on the beach trail with your significant other? A monthly date night or night with YOUR friends? Reading a new book? Going to church? Updating the baby books? Scrapbooking? A round of golf? A family hike? We will, without doubt, be better parents if we take a small amount of time each week to nurture ourselves and our relationships.

This spring, I hope you will take the time to appreciate and nurture all of the new beginnings in your life. Take some time and figure out how to take care of yourself...what is your passion? What can relieve a little bit of the overwhelming feelings for today. What works for you? I'm trying to figure it out as well...but slowly and surely I'm figuring it out. Tomorrow I will splurge outside of the norm and pay someone else to come clean the house so I don't have to do it this weekend. I will continue to nurture my passion for my work and the joy I am experiencing expanding my ways of thinking as I complete yet another course in my Master's program and look at the light of my educational tunnel come December. And when homework is done, the house is clean, the laundry is put away...my 10 year old and I may shoot some hoops in the driveway, my 18 year old and I might make dinner together, and maybe the whole gang will get a movie on Netflix and appreciate our new Brady Bunch family. I pray you spend a little time appreciating "you" as well!

Leigh Ann Downie
Director

Chapel Time...
Please join us in the sanctuary.
March 4, 10, 18 & 24

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

...Christ Lutheran Church, our congregation and

Pastor Brenda;

...The staff and families of La Cristianita Preschool;

...Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton and the ELCA, Bishop

Murray Finck and the Pacifica Synod;

...Those battling health issues for strength and healing;

...Those serving in the military and their families.

“Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.”

WE'RE ONLINE!

Lost your calendar? Forgot where to park for beach church? Need to contact us? Well now you can stay connected with CLC 24 / 7 through our website.

Website: www.clcsancllemente.org

BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY AT 10 A.M.

Join us in the Fireside Room for our Bible Study with Pastor Brenda. See you there!

The Rev. James E. Miley, Christ Lutheran’s first pastor, passed away at the age of 78 in Ventura, CA of complications related to Alzheimer’s Disease. His boundless energy and enthusiasm for helping others enrich their spiritual lives was the primary reason he was chosen on three different occasions to found new mission congregations from the ground up. Donations to Mount Cross Lutheran in Camarillo or Lutheran World Relief are requested in lieu of flowers.

SCMFO is collection school supplies for San Onofre School. Items needed: Heavy duty pencil sharpeners, easel paper pads (large size), dry erase markers and erasers, copy paper, pencils, art pencils and basic rubber playground balls (flubber balls). Please give to Judy Franz or drop off in the church office.

Linda Hardy’s daughter, Jessica, is participating in a Race Across America to help bring attention to childhood obesity. They are already all the way to Texas! You can follow her journey and donate to her here: raceacrossusa.org/core-team/

Way to go, Jessica!



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH & LA CRISTIANITA PRESCHOOL

35522 CAMINO CAPISTRANO

SAN CLEMENTE, CA 92672

CLC Contact Information:

secretary@cbc.occoxmail.com

949. 496. 2621

Office hours: 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Leigh Ann Downie (Preschool Director)

leighann@cbc.occoxmail.com

949. 496. 1405

Preschool hours: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.