

# 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



## Pastor's Message

One of our preschooler's favorite songs is "Deep and Wide". Of course there are hand motions, spreading your hands high and low for "deep" and wide from side-to-side for "wide". "There's a fountain flowing deep and wide" requires rolling your hands like a fountain, throwing your hands in the air for "flowing" and then back to the "deep and wide" gestures. As you sing it faster and faster, the gestures become more and more difficult. Then, to really heighten the hilarity, you sing the song several times, replacing the words with a hum, first taking out "deep", so you sing "Mmmm and wide, mmmm and wide". Next you hum both "deep" and "wide" then "fountain" and finally "flowing". The kids think it's AMAZING when Pastor Brenda accidentally sings the words when she's supposed to be humming. I think it's AMAZING that it took me several weeks to realize I should forget to hum on purpose so they can laugh at me.

I loved this song, even as a child. I still have no idea what the words mean. I googled it, and found no one has a good answer. The Chowchilla news website explained the fountain is actually Jesus' blood which washes us clean. That's theologically satisfying, but I don't read that in the lyrics. Relevant Magazine talked about the wideness of our world and how we long for depth. Meh: I'm doubting three year olds are having this existential crisis. I think it's supposed to tell us that God's love is both deep and wide.

As I thought about this months'

newsletter article, I thought of this song. Christ Lutheran Church wants to expand, become wider, if you will. We want to reach more people. We want the news to get out that we meet every Sunday, we're worshipping God in unique ways, we have very good news to share. I am meeting community leaders, parents, neighbors, trying to extend that invitation. Many of you are doing the same.

But my job is to also care for the deepening of this community. It won't matter at all if we have more people in our seats on Sunday if there isn't something significant happening for them. We need to become "deeper" as people, finding new meaning in our lives because of Jesus. This is a real challenge in my work, but also among the most satisfying. So often we get caught up in numbers, measuring success by how many people attend our services. This is very important. But how lives are changed is the most important thing we offer as a church.

So I will keep preaching and teaching God's Word, trying to find ways to make it relevant and life-changing. Your job is to wrestle with the Word, reflecting on your own lives and how you see God moving in it. It's my belief that as our spiritual lives deepen, we'll attract the world to the gospel, making Christ Lutheran both deeper and wider. This summer we'll continue to find new ways to connect to God, through prayer and teaching and activities. I welcome your suggestions and feedback and am so honored to accompany you in your faith journey.

**-Pastor Brenda**

## June Calendar

### Every Tuesday

Bible Study  
10 a.m.

### Every Wednesday

Centering Prayer  
North Beach - 7:30 a.m.  
Beach Walk - 8-9 a.m.

### June 9

WELCA Bible Study  
Donna Running's  
- 1 p.m.

### June 11

La Cristianita  
Graduation - 7p.m.

### June 12

No School  
Church Office Closed

### June 21

Homeless Lunch  
See details inside

### June 24

Council Meeting  
Fireside Room 2 p.m.

### Sunday Worship

Beach Worship  
8:00AM

Sanctuary Service  
10:30 AM

## Church Council Corner

**Anniversary Notes** In a month, on July 1, we will mark Pastor Brenda's first-year anniversary with us—can you believe it?! What an amazing year it has been. Council is very grateful to Pastor for her spiritual and administrative leadership, her close relationship with our preschool, her outreach work in our community and beyond (including other churches in our Synod), her sermons and worship style, and so much more. Let's make June **"Thank Our Pastor Month"** at CLC, leading up to the anniversary!

Speaking of anniversaries, it's **Christ Lutheran's 50th!** We're middle-aged compared to a few other churches in our Synod—114 years for First Lutheran, Redlands (where our former Pastor Kim is now), for example—but it's still a wonderful time for us to celebrate the past and anticipate our future. Watch for more information about an anniversary event being planned for early November and other ways we're marking 50 years of service and mission in San Clemente.

**Synod Assembly** At the Synod Assembly in Riverside last month, Pastor Brenda and the Franzes hobnobbed with hundreds of other Lutherans and, as voting delegates, helped make Synod-wide decisions, including 1) increasing the baseline salary for rostered ELCA leaders (pastors) by 1.5% and 2) encouraging congregations to offer gratitude and support for all military personnel, veterans, and their families through care and prayer, with specific guidance on how this might be done including a military-recognition Sunday, memorializing that this be considered by the national church body at their next meeting. CLC is already involved with Military Family Outreach, but we (along with the preschool) will be looking for additional ways to show our support to military members and veterans among us in the coming year.

Other resolutions passed at the Assembly were encouraging the synod, churches and individuals to give to Cal Lutheran University/Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (newly combined); and recognizing the 26th anniversary of passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, considering its impact and requirements for our synods and churches, evaluating our efforts to comply with ADA and reporting back on our efforts to the Synod. And, Pastor Brenda was elected to Synod Council as the representative from our Saddleback Conference!

Our **turf removal project** is slowly making its way through the city and water district's administrative processes. We hope to see some action later this month and remain grateful to preschool parent Corin Bemus for guiding this process along for us.

*Council meets this month on Wednesday, June 24, at 2 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Your concerns, ideas and questions are always welcome and our meetings are open to all. Please feel free to contact any Council member via phone or email (info in the church directory, available at each service if you need one or by calling the church office). In addition to Pastor Brenda, Council members are Shay Arnett, Betty Buck, Judy Franz, Pat Gilliam, Laura Pephens and Donna Vidrine.*

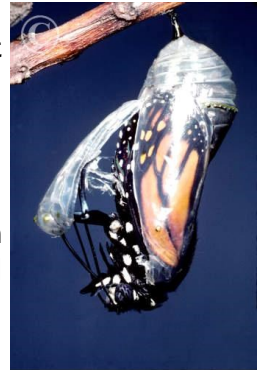
---

## What in the world of WELCA?

Christ Lutheran's WELCA Bible study will meet Tuesday, June 9th at 1:00p.m. at Donna Running's home. We will be continuing studying along with our series, "Transforming Life and Faith". This week we investigate the Church transforming and reforming.

Women are invited to participate in our relaxing, warm, monthly church fellowship. A copy of GATHER is in the Narthex for you to borrow, read and return. We hope to see you there!

*Please contact Ruth Milversted for more information at (949) 240-1132.*



BR2748 [JRM] © www.shutterstock.com

## God's Work. Our Hands.

*This is a recurring series about CLC members and friends who volunteer in the community, taking Christ's great commission "to love one another" beyond the beach and our church walls. Do you know volunteers who should be featured here? Let Pastor Brenda know, so we can highlight them here.*



During college football season, Judie Thompson is hard to miss, dressed head to toe to earlobes in Michigan State Spartan garb. Her enthusiasm for her alma mater is infectious, but her school spirit goes far beyond the field and court. In addition to participating in college nights on behalf of MSU at local high schools each fall, Judie, who has been attending Christ Lutheran/Beach Church regularly for about three years, is the secretary of the Michigan State Orange County Alumni Association (the biggest of its kind outside the number one club in Michigan), which raises funds throughout the year to support scholarships for Orange County students attending MSU--50 of them currently.

Judie taught her entire career, starting in 1967, at Lowell Elementary School in Santa Ana, where she still helps with testing for several weeks-long sessions a year, coordinates and raises funds for a huge Christmas gift program to Lowell students, and helps organize a Christmas giveaway to Lowell parents for their children by SOS (Share Ourselves) in Costa Mesa, getting her MSU Alumni Association friends and fellow Lowell retirees involved.

A volunteer with Read Across America, soprano with the San Clemente Choral Society and member of the CLC Counting Team, Judie saw a need and filled it when she and her husband, Jim, created our church member name tags. Thanks to Judie, we can all now greet each other by name during the passing of the peace and be more welcoming to guests. Judie, you are one busy volunteer and we are very grateful you found Christ Lutheran that Easter sunrise service four years ago with your son Jeffrey. Go, Sparty!



**MICHIGAN STATE  
SPARTANS**

## CHRIST LUTHERAN OUTREACH - SERVING OUR COMMUNITY!

### Family Assistance Ministries

FAM tackles numerous issues surrounding homelessness, including job placement, a food pantry, phone counseling, job counseling and rent and utility assistance. There is always a bucket at the Sanctuary for food donations (they always need peanut butter and cereal!). Just bring a box of cereal or a thing of peanut butter to church with you- just give to an usher and let them know it is for FAM!

---

### Feed the Homeless in Bonita Park Sunday, June 21st at Noon

Celebrate Father's Day by feeding local homeless men and women at Bonita Park (between Pico and El Camino Real). This is an ongoing feeding program sponsored by Shoreline Community Church. We will be providing an entree and side dishes, drinks and kindness to about 20 people. We need people to bring food and others to just show up and talk to the guys. Contact Pastor Brenda for more information.

---

### SCMFO's 3rd Annual Semper Fidei-TEA set for June 13th

It's not too late to contribute to the success of the June 13, 2015 tea for military wives—door prizes still needed! Grocery gift cards are always a big hit, along with personal care gifts (e.g., massage, mani-pedi, haircut/style gift certificates). If you can help make a military spouse's day, give Judy a call at 949-493-3826 or email her at junofranz@aol.com.

---

### Centering Prayer - Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Matthew 6:6 - "If you want to pray, enter your inner room, close the door and pray to your Father in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." Centering Prayer is a form of meditation in which you leave behind external concerns (the "close the door" of Jesus' instructions) and discontinue, at least in intention, the interior dialogue that usually accompanies psychological awareness...and most prayers! (the "enter your inner room" portion of the instructions). How do we do it? We spend 20 minutes sitting together in silence on the beach, using a single word or phrase to clear our minds and try to enter an inner silence, forgiving ourselves when we get caught up in too much thinking! It's a "practice", so beginners are welcome and encouraged.



*This new small group meets at our Beach Church location at North Beach every Wednesday from 7:30-8:00. We then walk the beach trail from 8-9.*

---

### CLC Book Club

The book club is on hiatus this month, but that doesn't mean you can't get a jump on the books coming up! All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr; The Wright Brothers by David McCullough; and Mrs. Grant and Madame Jule by Jennifer Chiaverini. Stay tuned for more information!

## La Cristianita Preschool June 2015 News

It seems hard to believe that another year is coming to an end! What a fabulous year it has been. The end of each year fills me with mixed emotions. I feel energized and excited as I reflect on the year that has passed, sadness in the good-byes to those families that may be graduating or simply moving on, and anxiety as we prepare for the year to come.

These emotions, I'm sure, are similar to those that both you as parents, as well as your children are experiencing. Change is exciting and fun – but yet also scary and uneasy as we look toward the future. It is so important that we, as adults, make change a positive experience for our children. It is important that we talk about what is to come – but be careful not to dwell on things to the point of making it scary for a child. It is our job to reassure children that change is good and also inevitable, and that we will be there to support them as things in life do change. We must also remember that what may not be a big change for us, can be a very big change for little people. Whether it be a new teacher, new classroom, new school, new house, new sibling, or even a new bed – to a child it is a break in routine, and that can be very difficult for some. So love them, encourage them, and reassure them that everything is safe and OK.

As you prepare for whatever changes may be taking place in your lives for next year, please remember La Cristianita Preschool. We all cherish each and every one of you and think of you often as you move on in life. Please take the time drop by, send a note, or even have your child color a picture for us! We love to continue to watch them grow and develop – so please don't forget us! For many of you, we look forward to a great year next year with your family. For those of you who are graduating, good luck and remember you will be deeply missed!

*See you soon,*

*Leigh Ann Downie*

*Director*



**Please pray for...**

Our local law enforcement and firefighters.

San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano and Dana Point schools and local governments

The children, families and staff of La Cristianita Preschool.

The staff and volunteers of Family Assistance Ministries and the clients they serve.

Military families and their deployed loved ones.

Christ Lutheran Church, our volunteers and staff and all those we come in contact with. May God inspire us to serve deeply.

**WE'RE ONLINE!**

Twitter: @beachchurchsc

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/christlutheransc](http://www.facebook.com/christlutheransc)

Website: [www.clcsancllemente.org](http://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!

© 2009 by Randy Glasbergen.  
[www.glasbergen.com](http://www.glasbergen.com)



**"Wireless communication is nothing new.  
I've been praying for 75 years!"**

**Fellowship on the Water**

Summer kayaking starts Monday, June 8, for all who are interested. We meet around 5:15 p.m. and rent kayaks (\$15 single, \$20 double) at Dana Harbor Jet Ski, 34671 Puerto Place, launching by 5:30 p.m. No need to call, just show up and bring a friend!

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH &  
LA CRISTIANITA PRESCHOOL**

35522 CAMINO CAPISTRANO

SAN CLEMENTE, CA 92672

CLC Contact Information:

[secretary@cbc.occoxmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:leighann@cbc.occoxmail.com)

949. 496. 1405

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