



ANNUAL REPORT

— 2020 —



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



BISHOP ANDY TAYLOR'S REPORT

Together in Christ, we equip, accompany, and serve boldly, so all may experience God's boundless grace.

PACIFICA SYNOD'S MISSION STATEMENT, ADOPTED MAY 30, 2020

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. -- Jeremiah 29:11

This is not what we had planned. Last fall, Bishop Guy Erwin of the Southwest California Synod and I planned for a large, combined Synod assembly, to be held at California Lutheran University. The Assembly would allow Pacifica Synod leaders to visit our university, which is sited within the boundaries of the SW CA synod. It would allow us to get better acquainted with our sisters and brothers from our near neighboring synod. It would allow for dynamic worship experiences, as we remembered the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women, the 40th anniversary of the first ordination of a woman of color, and the 10th anniversary of our church's welcoming of LGBTQIA+ persons in committed, covenanted relationships as rostered ministers.

Then the Coronavirus began to spread throughout our land, and particularly in our state, and everything changed. At first, we postponed our Assembly to early August, hoping the virus would be tamed by that time, or that it would weaken in the summer months. When that did not happen, we thought about holding an online assembly. In the end, our Council decided to postpone this year's assembly to 2021. Since we do not know if the virus will allow us to meet in person, we are planning an online assembly for May 1 of next year. We are learning with other synods how to utilize technology to pull off an Assembly, and are making new plans, plans to learn between now and May 1 how to hold an effective Assembly through technology.

We are not the first people to have our plans changed. The disciples had plans for their lives. At first, many planned to earn their living by fishing, until Jesus called them to follow and everything changed. For three years, they planned to be with Jesus when he took the throne of Israel, threw out the Romans who had conquered the land, and re-established the old reign of David. But when Jesus died, those plans also went out the window. For a couple of days, they were lost, wondering what had happened, why God had allowed Jesus to be killed, and if God would allow them to suffer a similar fate. But on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, rose to assure them that God is greater than sin and evil, rose to pour the Holy Spirit into God's people. And they discovered that God had a new plan. God had a plan to bring all things together in Christ, and that they were called to participate in this plan. Of the 11 male disciples remaining after Jesus rose from the dead, tradition tells us that 10 were martyred—only John reached old age, imprisoned and exiled for the faith. But through them and through their witness, God has called disciples in every time and place. We are those disciples now. We

are reminded that God's plans do not always match our own. And yet, we listen to God's call and seek to be faithful even as we make plans for the future.

I'm not sure how many congregations planned, at the beginning of 2020, to put time and effort into creating online worship experiences. But when the virus shut down in-person worship in mid-March in both Hawai'i and California, our congregations went into action. The results are amazing. I have been and continue to be in awe as I participate in worship throughout our synod, hearing sermons on YouTube, seeing congregations meet for coffee hour via Zoom, singing along with musicians during Facebook live feeds. These were not the plans we may have had at the beginning of the year. But God's plan of gathering all people together through worship and fellowship was implemented by our congregations engaging in creative and technologically challenging work.

Our Synod has been engaged in a planning process since our last Assembly. The Synod Council, with the help of GSB, a consulting firm that helps synods and congregations develop strategic plans, put together a planning team and process to enable the Synod to develop a new Mission Statement, list of Core Values, and a set of plans for Ministry Result Areas. The process began by listening for God while listening to each other. Workshops were held for Synod Council and rostered ministers (Pastors and Deacons) in which Pacifica's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities for ministry, and external threats to our work were discussed and recorded. A survey was sent to lay leaders and rostered ministers. 462 members of our church, from 88 of our worshipping communities (congregations, campus ministry, camp, chaplaincies, etc.) filled out the survey, and the answers were recorded.

The Synod Council formed a Strategic Planning team. The members were Rev. Moses Barrios; Rev. Brenda Bos; Synod Council members Anthony Eder, Rev. Jeff Lilley, and Dr. Nicolette Rohr; Synod Vice President Lori Herman; former Synod Vice President Sheila Wenzel; and me. Anthony Eder could only be with us for a couple of meetings, but the rest of the group worked diligently to listen for God by studying the responses to the workshop and surveys. I am grateful to the members who spent hours crafting the framework and the language of the new strategic plan. When the pandemic hit, the team realized that the plan that was developing allowed us to address new issues that COVID-19 brought to the fore. We are hopeful that the plan is nimble enough for our Synod to adjust to whatever changes may happen in the world so that we as church may go where the Holy Spirit leads us.

The plan was adopted by the Synod Council on May 30, the very day we were supposed to meet in joint Assembly with the SW CA synod. We are rolling out the Mission Statement and the Core Values now, and will present the Ministry Result Areas, with specific underlying goals, in the Fall, when we have online Bishops' Gatherings for our Conferences. You may find the Core Values in Synod Vice President Lori Herman's report.

Our new Mission Statement is: Together in Christ, we equip, accompany, and serve boldly so all may experience God's boundless grace. We begin with the words Together in Christ. Our unity is not in our politics, our like-mindedness, or in any other external quality. We are

united in Christ. Our synod is one because God has called us to be one, to serve with one another and love one another, in spite of anything else in this world we may disagree on. Together in Christ, we seek to live out the great commandment: to love God and to love our neighbor.

...we equip, accompany, and serve boldly... Our work is not just to be together with each other. Our work is to help all know that they are not alone. We, the entire synod (congregations, camps, chaplaincies, campus ministry, helping organizations, as well as the Office of the Bishop) equip congregations and leaders for ministry in the 21st century. We accompany one another, particularly during this time of pandemic and constant change, so that we can learn from one another and encourage each other to continue in ministry. We serve because Christ served us, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to serve one another and our neighbors near and far. We do so boldly, remembering the boldness of Martin Luther and other saints, recognizing the difficulty of the work before us but placing our trust in the One who will never leave or forsake us.

...so all may experience God's boundless grace. We engage in mission not for our own sake, but for the sake of God's beloved world. We recognize that many live wondering if there is a God in this world, and if there is, if that God loves and cares for us. We proclaim through words and deeds that God's love and grace are for all, and that abundant life is promised and experienced as we realize that, daily, we and

all humanity are recipients of God's unending grace.

I encourage you to memorize our Synod's mission statement. I urge you to remember that "Together in Christ, we are Pacifica Synod," a synod devoted to equipping, accompanying and serving with boldness, so all may know of God's boundless grace.

The specific plans for Ministry Result Areas will be shared at our Bishop's Gatherings, which will be held online in the months of September and October. Keep an eye out for when your Conference will meet.

However, I do want to share with you briefly one goal in the plan that we have already begun to work on. The plan calls for the synod to deepen our diversity and inclusion, which includes working for racial justice. Last year at our Synod Assembly, we voted to strongly encourage rostered ministers to take an anti-racism workshop. A workshop was planned for last April at Luther Glen, but had to be cancelled due to COVID19. But the death of George Floyd and the resulting cultural emphasis on standing against racism has spurred the Synod into action. I wrote a letter to the synod inviting all to join in working for racial justice. The Synod Council invited members of Pacifica to sign the ELCA's anti-racism pledge. We have an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Workgroup (Rev. Lara Martin, Rev. Darin Johnson, Mr. Jim Tyler, Rev. Nathan Allen, Rev. Rick Fry, Rev. Cyndi Jones) that is working on anti-racism seminars. We know that such work is sometimes seen as controversial. Congregations and members do not always agree on how racism can be combatted. But I am glad we are having this conversation, as difficult as it may be. We will see where God leads us as we discuss and listen to one

another. Once again, the theme of last year's Assembly is key: we listen for God while listening respectfully to one another.

2019-2020 has been a year filled with changes. Some of those changes were unplanned, and we may feel like we are unprepared for our world the way it is. But God is with us. And because God is with us, we will have all we need to share God's peace. Together in Christ, we equip, accompany, and serve boldly, so all may experience God's boundless grace. Let us continue in the work God puts before us, so that all may know of God's incredible love.

Submitted by the Rev. Dr. Andrew A. Taylor, Bishop

Agenda

Call to order, establish quorum	Kathy Hartl	
Opening Prayer	Pastor Steve	
Review and Approval of 2020 Minutes	Kathy Hartl	Pages 7-8
Introductions & Council's Report	Various	Page 9
Pastor's Report	Pr. Steve Awbrey	Page 10
La Cristianita Preschool Report	Leigh Ann Downie-Economy	Page 11-12
Treasurer's Report	Joe Pohlot	Page 13
Acceptance of 2020 Financials	Congregation	
Approval of 2021 Budget	Joe Pohlot	Pages 14-15
Election of New Council Members	Kathy Hartl	Page 16
Ministry Reports	Various	Pages 17-18
Closing Prayer and Adjournment	Pastor Steve	

**MINUTES FROM ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2020**

Call to order - 9:15am quorum established by Gerry Loughman Kathy Hartl

***31 in attendance plus Leigh Ann Downie-Economy

20 needed for quorum

Opening Prayer Pastor Steve

Review and Approval of 2019 Minutes Kathy Hartl

Motioned to approve: Judy, second: Laura; approved.

Introductions & Council's Report Various

Making no changes to ministries in 2020

Pastor Steve is in the office Tuesday & Wednesday; half-day for studying/writing on Thursday

Questions about the transition should be directed to a council member.

La Cristianita Preschool Report Laura Pephens on behalf of Leigh Ann Downie-Economy

See attached

Preschool employs 14 teachers & aides

LCP Board reinstated

Lost \$25k last year. 2020 financials should be very strong (increase of nine new students, no personnel issues, which were rampant in 2019, solar project is budgeted for).

Treasurer's Report Laura Pephens

See attached

Impressive spend on ministries

\$131,880 in cash

2020 Budget is planned assuming nine months with Pastor Steve; three with a new pastor (based on estimated time of when we might call a new pastor)

Acceptance of 2019 Financials Congregation Laura Pephens

Motion to approve: Shay, second: Gerry; approved

Transition Team Introduction/Discussion Council

What is entails and how it leads to the Call Process

Duty: completing the Ministry Site Profile - ELCA-wide document to share with potential pastoral candidates. This document will be a written representation of CLC's history, who we are, where we're going, etc. Will take a few to several months to complete, but there is no set time. It's more important to get it right than finish it quickly.

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
2020 COUNCIL REPORT**

Well, what a year.

We write to you having just voted to recommend that we call Pastor Juli Patten as our next settled pastor.

In the past 13 months we have said a tearful goodbye to Pastor Brenda, welcomed Pastor Steve and Jacque, and faced the shutdown of our everyday lives in the face of COVID-19.

It has all been so much.

Through it all we have worked to keep Christ Lutheran Church and La Cristianita Preschool going. We moved our services online. Pastor Steve moved the Tuesday evening Bible Study to Zoom. Book Club moved to Zoom.

We voted to back a PPP loan for La Cristianita. Laundry Love went on hiatus, but returned, modified for safety. Our Homeless Bonfire transformed from a social occasion into a meal delivery service.

Over the Spring and Summer, the Transition Team worked through the challenges of remotely meeting, not just each other, but all the members of the congregation who told us about their hopes for our church. They worked hard to capture what is so unique about our congregation. Thank you to Bridget Callanan, Anita Fiorenza, Ken Gilliland, Kathy Hartl and Mary Frances Maddox for a Ministry Site Profile that touched the heart of Juli Patten.

The Return to In-Person Worship committee worked to develop detailed plans to allow us to safely return to in-person services. Thanks to Gerry Loughman and Judy Franz for developing the detailed plan submitted to the City of San Clemente which enabled us to return to Beach Church. Thanks to Lynn McKenrick, Laura Pephens, Donna Vidrine, Lois Faist, Sue Fulks, Tom and Mary Whitman and Norman Franz for their work preparing to return to in-person worship.

Starting in September, the Call Committee of Jim Ferguson, Judy Franz, Louise Gilliam, Kirk Goodfellow, Kathy Hartl and Gerry Loughman began their process of study, reflection and prayer in preparation for meeting candidates. The Call Committee, chaired by Judy Franz, worked through the fall and into Winter, asking the Holy Spirit to lead them in their work to the candidate God was calling to Christ Lutheran Church.

In November, Council voted to suspend In-Person worship until Orange County returned to the Red Tier.

We move into 2021 thankful for all of you, thankful for each other, thankful for the care and warmth of Pastor Steve and Jacque Awbrey, thankful for God's love and grace, and hopeful about our future.

Yours In Service,

Kathy Hartl, President

Joe Pohlot, Vice President

Cari Perizo, Secretary

Ken Gilliland

Mary Francis Maddox

Gerry Loughman

INTERIM PASTOR STEVE AWBREY ANNUAL REPORT

My life verse since the time of my Affirmation of Baptism is Colossians 1:25-29:

“I became the church’s servant according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to God’s saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is God whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that God powerfully inspires within me.”

We have been working together as partners in the gospel over the past year. With this report I say farewell and Godspeed to folks at Christ Lutheran Church. I will be filling-in where needed at some other churches, and, most importantly, enjoy being Scarlett’s Kuku, Robin and Grant’s Dad, and Jacque’s husband of 46 years.

Christ Lutheran Church is blessed with a good number of hard-working folks and a caring community preschool on campus. Enthusiastic small groups help to maintain the good health of this congregation. Bible and book studies bind this congregation together.

Christ Lutheran is not a normal church. It is more “able-normal” in its centering homeless outreach ministries and the inimitable worship setting at the beach...no other local congregation does worship on North Beach on a regular basis like CLC.

What a long, strange trip it has been in 2020. Having come thru a time of grief and transition you seem ready and eager to “get it on” and “get along” with a new pastor-servant-leader. My hope for you is to mightily move into the future God has already imagined for you with a new leader and a recommitted congregation of faithful folks. Be a helpmate to your new pastor as you set healthy and realistic (better said as “unrealized”) goals and mutual expectations.

I have been blessed by the challenges of helping you to look at who you are and Whose you are in my messages and ministry. Remember always that you belong to the family of God and this sense of belonging is paramount to creating a healthy Christ Lutheran Church. I hope that you felt prayed for and cared for as the real presence of Christ’s body in San Clemente. I believe that I have done my best to help you during this extraordinary time of spiritual searching, physical pandemic, and cultural turmoil. It pains me to know that I was not helpful to all of you, no matter how hard I might have tried. I ask for your forgiveness and I offer my forgiveness for whatever brokenness that remains from trying to do God’s work as the individuals God created us to be. May you now come together and feel reunited as you look forward to renewal in 2021.

“God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! God does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, God’s Spirit deeply and gently within us. Glory to God in the church! Eph. 3:20

“May the Lord bless and protect you; may the Lord’s face radiate with joy because of you; may the Lord be gracious to you, show you favor, and give you peace.” Numbers 6:24-26 And, of course, keep looking up (it’s where your headed anyway).

LA CRISTIANITA PRESCHOOL 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Like everyone in our world, 2020 was a year filled with challenges and stress. On March 13, 2020 we announced closure due to COVID-19. At the time, we thought we would be back to school in about 3 weeks. We had no idea that we would end up staying closed until August 4, 2020. There is no doubt that there were many sleepless nights as we tried to navigate staying financially afloat. We were very grateful for the PPP loan that allowed us to keep our employees motivated to offer amazing distance learning for our student through weekly take home packets and Zoom calls. We were also grateful for the families who graciously paid tuition despite the fact that children were learning from home. We carefully navigated CDC and Community Care Licensing guidelines for a safe reopening and brought students back to school on August 4, 2020 and had about 85% of our enrollment back on campus.

Our amazing staff that remained committed are Abby Campos, Luisana Gomez, Mackenzie Downie, Chris Ontiveros, Kayli Berutich, Becky Johnshoy-Rasor, Lisa Banks, Veronica Barajas, Kelsie Spriggs, Ashley Fowler, Shelby Reynolds, Gayle Reyes and Jenna Powers. While COVID prevented us from holding our spring Trike-A-Thon and our 2020 Fall Carnival, our parent volunteers helped us earn back close to \$8000 for reopening expenses. Prior to our closure in March, we were able to hold our 2019 Fall Carnival, and 6 Family First dinners around the community that offered great fundraising success. We are also grateful for our CLC volunteers. To Laura Pephens for the giving of time and talents as our book keeper and board treasurer. To Shay Arnett, Brad Smith and Norman Franz for serving on our preschool board. We also thank the CLC Council for their endless support of everything we do.

As we enter 2021, we pray for our country – for unity, love and compassion. We pray for health and healing. And we ask God’s continued blessing on our school, staff and their families. Our family of faith is working together to continue God’s work and hope to share many of His blessings throughout our community. Thank you for sharing God’s grace with us.

Hope, peace and love,

Leigh Ann Downie-Economy Director

TREASURER'S REPORT TO CONGREGATION

Christ Lutheran Church started 2020 in a sound financial position. We had \$131880 in cash reserves. The transition team was formed and Pastor Steve was there to guide us. Then March came around and COVID 19 materialized and changed our worship world.

Fortunately we have been blessed with a significant rain day fund, because what we have experienced is a hurricane. Christ Lutheran made it through 2020 and has \$87438 in cash reserves. According to Pastor Steve, much better than most in the Synod.

We were able to spend much less than we budgeted, but our offerings dropped significantly. The attached financials reflects a loss in 2020 of \$17726 as compared to a budget of a profit of \$30639. Total offering were \$119138 compared to a budget of \$211597. Total expenses were \$137077 compared to a budget of \$187538.

The 2021 budget reflects a new Pastor being called to help guide us. Total offerings increasing to \$168100 and the loss decreasing 47% to \$9397.

Joe Pohl

	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget
	From last year's report			
Income				
Offering				
Envelopes, plates	\$203,459.00	\$119,010.00	\$211,597.00	\$168,100.00
Seasonal	\$2,523.00	\$128.00		
Total offering	\$205,982.00	\$119,138.00	\$211,597.00	\$168,100.00
Miscellaneous				
Senior care	\$652.00	\$51.00	\$2,400.00	\$100.00
Shepherds Fund	\$2,870.00	\$831.00	\$3,000.00	\$800.00
Facility usage	\$4,111.00	\$1,144.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
Total Miscellaneous	\$12,403.00	\$2,026.00	\$9,400.00	\$900.00
Total Income	\$205,982.00	\$121,164.00	\$220,997.00	\$169,000.00
Expenses				
Administration				
Interest expense mission	\$1,530.00	\$3,582.00	\$1,700.00	\$4,000.00
Life ins, Retiree, auto pastor	\$3,387.00	\$83.00	\$395.00	\$3,400.00
Advertising	\$284.00		\$500.00	\$100.00
Insurance disability pastor	\$1,628.00		\$557.00	\$1,700.00
Insurance liability	\$6,954.00	\$7,290.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Medical ins/pension pastor	\$21,725.00		\$4,422.00	\$7,000.00
Medical Ins Secretary	-\$1,116.00	-\$997.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Office Expense	\$5,853.00	\$10,255.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Pastoral expense	\$0.00		\$500.00	\$250.00
Pastoral Official Synod Meetings				
Postage	\$70.00	\$204.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
Printing	\$31.00		\$50.00	\$50.00
Telephone	\$2,617.00	\$1,924.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
Total Administration	\$42,963.00	\$22,341.00	\$25,724.00	\$33,200.00
Benevolence				
SCMFO	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Senior Care	\$2,588.00	\$575.00	\$3,250.00	\$400.00
Queerfully/wonderful	\$0.00		\$250.00	
San Clemente HS	\$0.00		\$250.00	
Pacifica Synod	\$14,856.00	\$8,975.00	\$21,160.00	\$16,810.00
FAM	\$0.00	\$1,189.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Total Benevolence		\$11,239.00	\$25,910.00	\$18,210.00
Conferences				
Pastor's Cont Ed	\$563.00		\$1,000.00	\$2,700.00
Synod Assembly	\$1,260.00	-\$500.00	\$1,275.00	\$0.00
Total Conferences		-\$500.00	\$2,275.00	\$2,700.00
Fellowship				
Coffee Hour	\$60.00		\$300.00	
Materials	\$243.00		\$500.00	
Total Fellowship	\$303.00		\$800.00	
Parish Ed/ Youth	\$611.00	\$94.00	\$950.00	\$100.00
Property				
Beach truck	\$1,856.00		\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
Equip Mtnce	\$4,663.00		\$4,750.00	\$1,000.00
Facility payment LCP	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
Office equip/Gardener	\$3,690.00	\$365.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,500.00
Permits	\$3,578.00	\$2,588.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,500.00
Property repair/mtnce	\$1,092.00	\$1,642.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00
Property Tax	\$2,048.00	\$1,405.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
Total Property	\$16,927.00	\$7,500.00	\$22,750.00	\$11,000.00
Salaries				
Payroll service	\$801.00	\$696.00	\$900.00	\$700.00
Instrumentalist/Vocalist	\$4,324.00	\$4,275.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,275.00
Music Director	\$18,813.00	\$16,250.00	\$19,600.00	\$16,250.00
Pastor salary/housing	\$59,232.00	\$47,000.00	\$51,000.00	\$60,500.00
Employer payroll tax	\$4,621.00	\$3,823.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00
Secretary	\$14,862.00	\$13,732.00	\$16,250.00	\$16,250.00
Sound Technician	\$8,485.00	\$7,812.00	\$9,600.00	\$7,812.00
Total Salaries	\$111,138.00	\$93,588.00	\$104,350.00	\$109,787.00

Utilities				
Electricity and Gas	\$1,150.00	\$698.00	\$800.00	\$700.00
MWD and Storm drain	\$0.00	\$317.00		\$325.00
Total Utilities	\$1,150.00	\$1,015.00	\$800.00	\$1,025.00
Worship and Music				
Altar Supplies	\$640.00	\$313.00	\$500.00	\$300.00
Beach Worship	\$811.00	\$143.00	\$750.00	\$100.00
Misc	\$306.00	\$179.00	\$150.00	\$175.00
Music	\$685.00	\$689.00	\$400.00	\$700.00
Offering Env	\$238.00		\$400.00	\$200.00
Substitute Pastor	\$1,220.00	\$475.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Substitute Pianist/Vocal	\$400.00		\$600.00	\$0.00
Total Worship and Music	\$4,300.00	\$1,799.00	\$3,800.00	\$1,975.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$197,159.00	\$137,077.00	\$187,358.00	\$177,997.00
NET ORDINARY INCOME	\$18,841.00	-\$15,912.00	\$33,639.00	-\$8,997.00
Other Inc/Exp				
Other inc Benevolence	\$1,652.00	\$670.00		\$700.00
Shepards Fund	-\$1,779.00	-\$593.00	-\$3,000.00	-\$600.00
Other	-\$2,160.00	-\$1,890.00		-\$500.00
TOTAL NET OTHER INC/(EXP)	-\$2,287.00	-\$1,813.00	-\$3,000.00	-\$400.00
Net Income / (Exp)	\$16,554.00	-\$17,726.00	\$30,639.00	-\$9,397.00
NET ORDINARY INCOME	\$18,841.00	-\$15,912.00	\$33,639.00	-\$8,997.00
Other Inc/Exp				
Other inc Benevolence	\$1,652.00	\$670.00		\$700.00
Shepards Fund	-\$1,779.00	-\$593.00	-\$3,000.00	-\$600.00
Other	-\$2,160.00	-\$1,890.00		-\$500.00
TOTAL NET OTHER INC/(EXP)	-\$2,287.00	-\$1,813.00	-\$3,000.00	-\$400.00
Net Income / (Exp)	\$16,554.00	-\$17,726.00	\$30,639.00	-\$9,397.00

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
2020 NEW COUNCIL MEMBER PROFILES

Anita Fiorenza

I first began my worship with CLC at North Beach Church in spring of 2017. The following year in March 2018 I joined as a member of the church. I became a regular at Tuesday morning Bible study where I also learned so much of CLC love for the local community and started participating in several of our ministry programs. I have worked in our senior out reach program, assisted with activities in our homeless program and also volunteered in our Laundry Love program. I love the involvement and dedication that Christ Lutheran Church has shown to the local community.

My work background consist of two separate careers. I worked with a major insurance company as a commercial property underwriter and a marketing representative for 20 years. During that time I was also very interested in fitness and nutrition and decided to change careers and move into the fitness industry. Starting as an aerobic instructor (back in the day!) then began completing studies and developed a Personal Training business.

I am now retired and enjoying life and my family & four children who blessed me with eight grand children and two great granddaughters. I also feel very blessed in being part of Christ Lutheran Church family.

Judy Franz

Just completed service on the Call Committee; former Council President, secretary and outreach chair; former Transition Team chair; VP of SCFMO helping military families; Laundry Love and homeless outreach volunteer; Book Club coordinator; with her husband Norman, grateful 15-year member of CLC. They attend Beach Church and are part of the driver/set-up team. Retired after 30 years in public communication with cities and schools.

Jennifer Halbmaier

My name is Jennifer Halbmaier but most people call me Jenny. While my kiddos call me Mommy! I have been married to my husband for 18 yrs., we met while attending Long Beach state. We have two daughters, Tayla & Skyla (11 &8) and a son, Blaise (5). All three of our children have attended La Cristianita Preschool, with Blaise currently attending 2 days a week. We have lived in San Clemente since 2004 and absolutely love everything SC has to offer. I currently work part-time for Southwest Airlines and have been employed with them for over 10 yrs.

We started attending Christ Lutheran in late 2017. We enjoy attending the beach church and miss it tremendously! Pastor Brenda baptized our family in December 2019. We are so grateful to be a part of Christ Lutheran.

SOME OF OUR MINISTRIES

SAN CLEMENTE MILITARY FAMILY OUTREACH (SCMFO)

Even Covid could not keep CLC members from supporting military families at Camp Pendleton in 2020! Our church, along with 8 other churches, businesses and caring individuals, helped San Clemente Military Family Outreach give \$27,000 in commissary cards for food and MCX cards for gas on base and \$32,000 in direct assistance for emergency needs, including car repairs, dental and medical bills, air conditioners (for respiratory health reasons), moving expenses, compassionate travel.

Before Covid changed our lives in mid-March, members supported and volunteered at the annual baby shower in January for 40-plus military moms to be. Our church also collected nonperishable items to help restock the small food pantry at the SCMFO office at St. Andrew's.

Support for SCMFO's Online Auction Fundraiser, which replaced the in-person "Salute to Military Stars" event at the end of October was amazing. The Council approved a \$500 sponsorship, the Meairs family underwrote the online auction costs, and members donated auction items and made cash donations, bid on auction items—and several of you won! More money was raised than in any prior fall fundraiser, enabling SCMFO to provide Thanksgiving dinners to 1,000 military families!

Both Judy Franz and Laura Pephens are on the board of SCMFO and Julianne Murphy helps with intake (initial responder to requests for assistance that the board approves) and cochaired the organization's "Thank a Family" program at Christmas (25 families were adopted). Thank you to everyone for supporting our military families who sacrifice so much for us.

Judy Franz

BOOK CLUB FELLOWSHIP

Our church Book Club group read right through the pandemic in 2020, not even taking a summer month off! We easily transitioned to Zoom in March and found we really liked it (although sharing a potluck meal was missed by all). As usual our reading list was eclectic. Titles included "My Grandmother Said to Tell You She's Sorry" by Fredrik Backman, "Cinnamon and Gunpowder" by Eli Brown, "Beneath a Scarlet Sky" by Mark Sullivan, "Delicious" by Ruth Reichl, "Sisters in Law (about Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sandra Day O'Connor), and "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. In December we laughed our way through an around-the-Zoom-boxes read of "The Worst/Best Christmas Pageant Ever." From 10 to 16 book lovers joined us at each meeting this year for lively discussions and good Christian fellowship. Everyone is welcome. Read on!

Judy Franz

FAMILY ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES

Early in the year, FAM had to adjust to Covid restrictions, but continued to provide much needed assistance to our neighbors in need in San Clemente and adjoining cities. Most of their events went virtual, including the annual Hunger Walk in October, an event our church has a strong history of supporting. We were once again supporters, with a budgeted sponsorship donation approved by Council, and a short walk around our church neighborhood organized by Donna Vidrine. FAM had no large group walk in downtown San Clemente, but supporters were encouraged to walk in small masked groups on their own. We look forward to participating in the Adopt a Family program again next year and providing food for their community Thanksgiving Dinner and gifts for their community Christmas Party for families with children in 2021—two events that were not held this year. Thanks to our members who volunteer at FAM.

Judy Franz

LAUNDRY LOVE

Well, Hello All! This year has been interesting for LL. The first two months of the year we held operations as normal, an average of 8 volunteers per month. We took March off (rained out) and April off (COVID), then reconfigured with the help of The Laundry Basket owner Jeff Campbell and his lovely wife Mary. They volunteered to manage the inside with some rule changes (no children, no folding, in and out). We were responsible for registration, handing out supplies and quarters on the outside...also managing physical distancing.

We continued this path through November, and cancelled December. We are planning to resume in January, assuming volunteers are comfortable with that.

Given all this, this is what we did during 2020:

- Funds Collected from CLC Parishioners: \$200.00
- Funds Collected from St. Clement's Parishioners: \$1,640.00
- Funds received through City of San Clemente Grant: \$2,500
- Quarters used for the year: \$3,207.00
- Average monthly use of funds: \$356.00
- Number of non-duplicated people assisted during 2020: 82
- Average Number of Loads: Pre-COVID-294, Post Covid-167
- Balance of funds available to LL at 12/31/20: \$6,960

If you are interested to learn more, or want to volunteer please contact Laura Pephens at 949.248.4596. Peace to all!

Laura Pephens

In the early verses of Ephesians 4, the apostle Paul writes to the Christians in Ephesus, a city on the Aegean Sea at the mouth of a river and at the intersection of three trading routes. The letter was written about ten years after the church had started. During the early years of this congregation, Jews and Gentiles from several ethnicities and nationalities had come together to form "one body." Paul was aware that they had done well and commended them for their faith and love.

The word "one" appears more than seven times in the first four verses. This reflects the importance Paul gave to being called into the "unity of Christ." He wanted to note that, although many of the church members came from far off, there is "one Lord, one faith, one baptism." This oneness reflects God's gift of reconciliation in Christ.

A second emphasis from Paul was that, as believers, they were to "bear with one another in love." This would require humility, gentleness and patience as each of them practiced their faith. It would require tolerance to "maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

A third emphasis was that each person had been given gifts by God and that these gifts were given to increase the whole. Because the Ephesian church was a young congregation and its members were just beginning in their faith journey, their understandings were often tossed to and fro. But as they grew in faith, each person contributed to building up the body of Christ.

The fourth and final emphasis was that by "speaking the truth in love," each person must grow into Christ. This means taking time to learn about one another and their gifts. Knowing these gifts, we can do God's work both within and beyond the faith community. When there are decisions to make or relationships to reconcile, we know to begin with prayer and reflection, always desiring to speak the truth in love — not for our own benefit but for God's glory, that we might become more complete.

As our members and friends gather today, whether face-to-face or online, we are reminded of our calling into "unity in Christ." We come from many places and work in many contexts, and yet we recognize "one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

Whether new to a worshiping community or further along the journey, we realize that humility, gentleness and patience are required both in the good times and especially in times of uncertainty and struggle. God wants us to be more complete through our work. Christ provides the way. The Holy Spirit is with us for guidance and courage. Each of us has been given the gifts to be complete, and through our faithfulness we will grow stronger and work together as one body.

LET US PRAY: LORD, LET THE WORDS OF THE APOSTLE PAUL DWELL IN US DEEPLY. MAY WE EMBRACE THE RECONCILING POWER OF ONENESS WITH CHRIST. MAY THIS ONENESS GUIDE OUR CONGREGATION AS WE LIVE INTO THE NEW REALITIES OF THESE TIMES. AS WE MEET NEW PARTNERS IN MINISTRY, MAY WE TAKE TIME TO GET TO KNOW THEM WITH PATIENCE, HUMILITY AND LOVE. HELP US TO SEE HOW SHARING OUR GIFTS WILL MAKE YOUR WORK EASIER AND MORE FULFILLING WHILE BRINGING ALL OF US CLOSER TO CHRIST. MAY THE BLESSINGS YOU GIVE EACH DAY STRENGTHEN US TO A LIVING, DARING CONFIDENCE IN YOUR GRACE. AMEN.