



Pastor Pam's Pennings

**December 2019
Volume 63, Issue 12**

Happy Holidays or Merry Christmas? How many times have we heard debates, or read social media posts regarding which greeting to use during the season between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day? Do we stay true to our Christian understanding that the season of Advent and Christmas is purely our season? After all, Christmas literally means "Christ's Mass," the time when we as Christians gather to worship Jesus, who is the Christ. Or, do we recognize that in our pluralistic, freedom-of-religion United States, that there are nearly 40 different celebrations between Thanksgiving and Christmas, and to wish someone a Happy Holiday may be more in line with our understanding of what's good in our country?

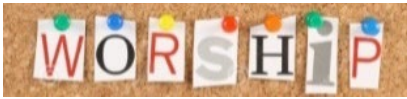
I'm looking forward to having conversations like this with Natalie Loepke, our intern from Germany who arrives on the 6th! She will be with us for three months splitting her time between our house and the home of Rebecca and Matt Green. Think of it, we have the opportunity to help someone with their international studies, just like we send our children to other countries to do the same!

Also, I hope you'll mark your calendars for both Christmas concerts - on the 8th with the youth outreach band and Music Makers from our Preschool. And on the 15th the Christ Lutheran Music groups will perform. Both are at 3pm in the Sanctuary with refreshments afterward.

Christmas Eve Family Service at 5pm, Prayer for Peace at 7pm, and Christmas Eve Festival Service at 10pm will continue our age-old celebration of the birth of Jesus. Christmas Morning at 10am we will celebrate Lessons and Carols. I invite you to come in comfy clothes and enjoy the story of Jesus' birth.

On December 29, we will celebrate again the story of Jesus' birth with the hymns we all love to sing at Christmas. Joy to the World!

+Blessings+ *Pastor Pam*



Greetings!

Happy birthday Jesus! We have a wonderful calendar of events at church this month so check your pink bulletin insert weekly. Our Music team really appreciate the kind words of praise you send our way after we ring or sing each week. Thank you! So what's up with the kids:

Youth Music News!!!!

YOUTH MUSIC CHRISTMAS CONCERT ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH@3:00

Youth Music Concert? Here is what to expect: The opening 15-20 minutes will be the Music Makers demonstrating some of the activities they work on weekly; they will also be performing a few songs. They will be cute, all dressed up, and jumping around and singing. Then, there will be a short recital of some of the older kids performing solos and duets on piano and guitar. Finally, the Outreach Band will perform a short set list of Rock and Roll classics...as well as Christmas favorites! Afterwards, we will have cookies and cocoa. Please come and support these wonderful children.

Music Makers, along with the rest of the Pre-school children will be presenting their wonderful Christmas pageant on Friday the 13th @3:30 here at church. Music Makers will also be taking a break until after the holidays.

CL Outreach Band will be taking a break until after the holidays. Please come out on the 8th to support them!

The Music Teams are preparing for our Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 15th@3:00. It will be a wonderful afternoon.

Worship Report: THANK YOU!!! everyone who helped us prepare the sanctuary for the Christmas season. Also, remember to turn on and off the sanctuary lights on the breaker box in the room next to the sacristy or they will blink. If you need assistance, we will teach you. We are still working on the problem.

Once again, thank you for your time, talents, and treasures...as well as your love and support.

Your humble Director,

Brian Madigan



Preschool News

November seemed to fly by. I hosted the local directors meeting and luncheon on Tues, Nov.12. We had a great turn out of 12 directors from other local preschools. It is always good to have time to fellowship and learn from these other Church related Directors.

On the 27th we celebrated Thanksgiving with a school wide performance and a finger food feast in the social hall. The children had lots of fun cooking turkeys with me on Tuesday and they tasted great at our feast! The tables looked beautiful with the centerpieces and placemats that the children made.

Our pajama day will be on December 4th. We will collect pajamas and books to donate to LSS.

In December, our Room 4 & 5 students in Music Makers will participate in the Church Children's concert on Sunday, 12/8.

Our annual Christmas program, "Who Is Coming to Our House" will be on Friday, December 13th at 3:30pm in the sanctuary. The sanctuary is always packed for this special program. All of the children participate. Rooms 4 & 5 will be our stable animals and Mary & Joseph, Room 3 will be angels, Room 2 will be little drummer boys & girls, Room 1 will be shepherd and sheep, and Room 6 will be the star and "wise babies".

We will have a special family outing on Dec 15th with a Christmas lights tour of Naples on the Big Red Bus. We will start with cookies and cocoa with Santa and then board the open air double decker bus and listen to a live guitar player leading us in Christmas carols as we take in all of the beautiful lights. What a great way to get in the Christmas spirit!

We will be closed for winter break December 23 through January 1st. School will resume on January 2nd. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Lisa Clinton

OWLs in the Nest This regular fellowship time is an opportunity to enjoy a potluck meal and conversation. **Make sure to be at the first meeting of 2020 on**



Thursday, January 9th, at 12:30pm in the conference room. Please RSVP so that we have enough of the main dish for everyone. Each person who attends is asked to bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. For example, a couple would provide 2 dishes. If you have any questions, please contact Harriette Probst at 562 430-9448; leave a message and say that you are from Christ Lutheran.

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Men's Bible Study Meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:15 in the evening. The

January meeting is on the 13th. Men of all ages are welcome.

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Pray for Peace in the Middle East Join Pastor Pam in the Sanctuary on the 24th of each

month at 7pm to pray for peace in this fragile and volatile area of the world. Raising our voices together in hope for respect and resolution is one way that we can support our brothers and sisters in this region.



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Adult Bible Study meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:15pm in the home

of Phil and Jeanne Peterson. The current study is on *the Book of Acts*. Everyone is invited and welcome to join. Please contact Phil or Jeanne for more information, 562 429-3093.

January meetings on the 8th and 22th.

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SONS OF NORWAY

The Sons of Norway meet in CLC's Social Hall at noon on the second Saturday of each month.

January's meeting is on Saturday, the 11th.

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Bible 101-Basic Theology meets on the 4th

Tuesday of each month at 7:15pm. We will be reading the book, *Silence is Not the Answer* by George Johnson and discuss it together. All are welcome on January 27th.

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will meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm. Please join us on the 27th of January. No experience necessary; we will teach you.

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members at Home or in Care Centers: Justin Bartlow, Judy Haenn and Ione Marchael.

Those struggling with illness or other concerns: Daniel Howard, Donna Johnson, the Joseph family, Bary & Janice Schlieder, Cathy Westwood, Gary and Linda Zimmerman.

Family & Friends: Gladi Adams, Jeri Cooper Alacano, Marilyn Armstrong, Ralph Bender, Casey Benning, Leah Blakeman, Anjella Booth, Wynn Burkard, John Byron, Clara & John Caldwell, Dawnie Campbell, Mary Jane Cassara, Charlie and David Corm, Noah and James Dodd, the Ford family, Dale Garner, Malcom Gay, Alberta Gray, Robert Hammersley, Evie Holdhusen, Bobbie Hoenig, Bill Horner, Leslie Hoskins, Russ Hoxie, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Justin Irwin, Rev. George Johnson, Doris Jung, Mary Keenan, Tom Kelly, Katrina Lahr, Terry Lord, Ian Ollie, Joyce Pressler, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Gracie Reeder, Sharon, Sue Schlaf, Jim Strader, the Titus family, Teri & Andrew Urenda, Anna Watt-Morse, Tristan Weisel, Jenny and Steve.

We pray for the ongoing work of:

- + Linda Gawthorne among the Kogi people of Colombia
- + First responders who provide safety, security and care
- + Those serving in our nation's military, especially: Jason Arellano, Samuel Brown, Gene Chen, Rachel & Victor Colon, Michael Cote, Aaron Crayton, William Eaton, Damian Ellsworth, Nicholas Flournoy, Gabriel Gallegos, Richard Gallegos, Chandler Hoover, John Lambertson, Brittany Graham, Davis McElwain, Morgan Llewellyn, Haley

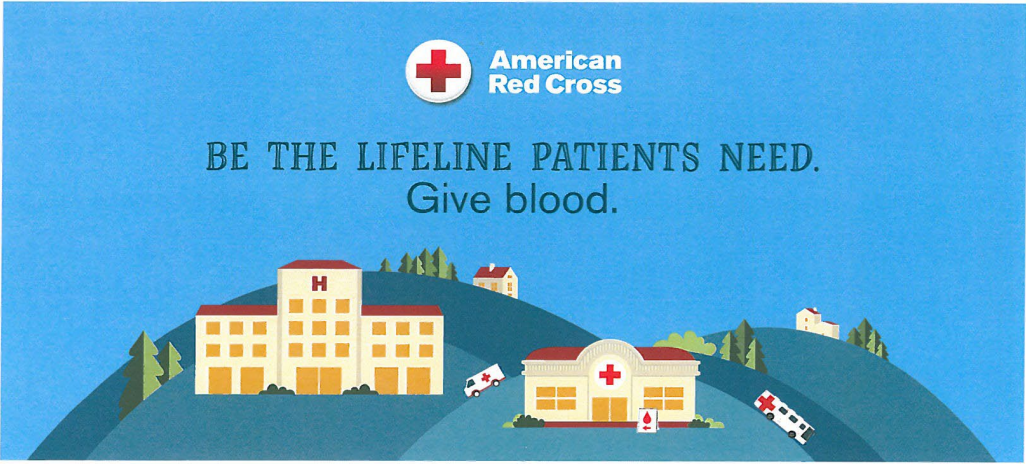
Fessenden, Johnny Luna, Shawn McRae, Emily Merritt, Steven Andrew Navarro, Michael Joseph Navarro, Jim Reeder, Sophie Schade, Douglas Steelhammer, Dominic Vancini, Jonah Westcott & Collin White.



- 12/3** *Angel Trujillo*
- 12/6** *Shirley Pierce*
- 12/8** *Judy Haenn*
- 12/13** *Samantha Benoit*
- 12/13** *Daniel Peralta*
- 12/13** *Linda Zimmerman*
- 12/14** *Kara Ihrig*
- 12/15** *Claudia Fitzpatrick*
- 12/17** *Robin Black*
- 12/18** *Renu Moon*
- 12/19** *Angie Nelson*
- 12/23** *Annette Rodrigues*
- 12/27** *Pat Barnett*
- 12/31** *Ruth Benner*

SUNDAY EDUCATION SCHEDULE (CURRENT)

December		
1	The many Faces of 2 nd Temple Judaism	Video-Biblical Archaeology Society
8	Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls	Video – BAS
15	Jesus and His Judaism	Video – BAS
22	Jesus' Death & Resurrection	Video – BAS
29	Paul & the Interpretation of Jesus' Message	Video - BAS
January		
5	Ron Nelson	The ELCA & its policies
12	Dave Challis	Budget Meeting
19	Congregation Meeting	Live
26	Jewish Factionalism & the Early Gospels	Video – Biblical Archaeology Society
February		
2	Emergence of Christianity & Rabbinic Judaism Debates	Video – BAS
9	Lisa Cottrell	Live - Card-making
16	Belonging to God	Video – Mark Allan Powell
23	What is a Steward?	Video – Mark Allan Powell
March		
1	Treasures and Hearts	Video – Mark Allan Powell



Red Cross Blood Drive
Christ Lutheran Church

Location: Hall
 6500 Stearns Ave
 Long Beach, CA 90815

Sunday, December 8, 2019
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Sign up online at RedCrossBlood.org and enter Sponsor Code: CLCLB or call Kim Croes at 562 598-2433 for your donation appointment now.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Scan to schedule an appointment.

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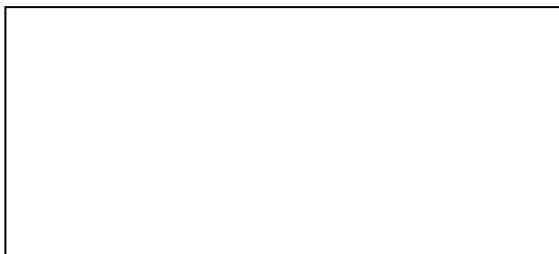


Come to give **Nov. 25–Dec. 18** and we'll email you a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card*, courtesy of Suburban Propane.** Give Something that Means Something® | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

*Restrictions apply, see amazon.com/giftcard. **Terms and conditions apply, see RedCrossBlood.org. Thanks © 2019 The American National Red Cross | 262701

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.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
December 15, 2019

Life In Christ

Is the newsletter of
 Christ Lutheran Church
 6500 Stearns Street
 Long Beach, CA 90815-3497
 562.598.2433
 Preschool 562.594.6117
 christlutheranlb.com
 email:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com

Please join us for Sunday Worship 9:30am
 Children's Sunday School During Worship
 Adult Education 11:00am



Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook.
facebook.com/christlutheranlb
[christlutheranchurchLB \(Youth Page\)](#)



Review us on
Scan for instant access to our website



