



Vol. 66 Issue 6, June 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I begin part-time (30 hours per week) Interim Ministry with you, I want to thank all the people at Christ Lutheran Church and Pre-School who have made the transition process from Pastor Pam's farewell, through the season of Lent and into the Interim Ministry time so smooth and joyful. I am enjoying getting to know folks on a deeper level and getting into the rhythm of such a vibrant congregation!

I "hit the ground running" May 2 by looking ahead for worship planning and realized it was already time to plan for the long Pentecost season. As we navigate in-person worship and events amid COVID, I ask for your enduring patience as together we continue to plan and adjust.

In my May 1, 2022, sermon I began, "Have you heard the quote, 'Change is hard at first, messy in the middle and gorgeous at the end'? I'm not sure who said it first, but that person was very wise. And especially in the past 2+ years we have all experienced "change" to some degree."

Each time I have accepted a call to ministry in a different setting, I have often not known what God had planned for me

and the respective community until well into the work. I have entered each new call trying to heed God's command to go, and feeling the promise that God has for each of us, through the power of the Holy Spirit. But change is hard, especially in the beginning of a transition – a new job, a new school, a new neighborhood, or church community. And it has often been my experience as a Transition Minister, that once the "getting to know you" or honeymoon phase wears off, and we enter the middle, things can get a bit messy. Knowing this ahead of time often helps us prepare to do the hard work needed to prepare this community for the permanent pastor, that we trust God has already chosen. Which brings me to the end of the quote, "Gorgeous at the end" – what a celebration we will have when the new, permanent pastor has accepted the call to be your pastor here at Christ Lutheran Church in Long Beach, CA.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Laurie Arroyo, Interim Pastor



Greetings!

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future—Jer. 29:11

In August of 2016, I saw a job listing for a Director of Music and Worship here at Christ Lutheran. At the time I was over 3 years in with my “then” current church, serving them with the same job responsibilities. I was happy, content, and loved the congregation over at that little church in Costa Mesa...but I was intrigued. I came and met Pastor Pam and the search committee, and the rest is history.

So, you never know where the Lord will lead you and what plans He has for you; however, this time there is no “other” church. I just need time off to rest and mend mentally, physically, and emotionally. It has been a long and rough two years since this “virus-I-will-not-name” took hold of us. Hopefully, by the end of the year, I will be the same old Brian and get back to my normal life.

As for Christ Lutheran? Well, that beautiful passage from Jeremiah (which is my favorite) holds true for you. With me leaving now, you have plenty of time to find the perfect new director to start fresh with in the Fall. Christ Lutheran deserves that and hopefully will get that!

What will your new music director receive? Well, this church is blessed to have a wonderful and talented music team, hard-working staff, and loving and supportive congregation. You truly made me, the director, successful and not the other way around. So, I do not anticipate much of a set-back for the Lord has a plan for you: a plan to give you hope and a prosperous future.

I am leaving with only sweet memories. I hope nothing but the best for Christ Lutheran and you will always hold a special place in my heart.

One last time: thank you for your time, talents, and treasures...as well as your love and support.

Your humble friend,
Brian Madigan



PRESCHOOL NEWS

We kicked off the first week of May with teacher appreciation week. The parents brought in special treats/presents each day for the staff. It is an honor and privilege to care for their children and we are blessed to have such generous and supportive families at CLP!



At the end of the week, we celebrated Mother's Day with our Moms & Muffins event. Moms and their children enjoyed breakfast and fun activities that included playdough flower sculptures, a magic gummy worm experiment, and coloring book marks.

May 11 & 12, we were able to offer free vision screenings through the Elks club. This is a great resource that allows us to catch potential vision issues early on.



In June, we will wrap up our school year. We will celebrate dads with Dads & Donuts on Friday, June 10th. We will have breakfast and activities for the dads to do with their child at drop off.



Our school year will come to an end on Wed, June 22nd. We will honor our friends that are going to Kindergarten with a special graduation ceremony just for them at 10:30am in the Sanctuary. Then we will celebrate everyone at our End of Year Program in the

Social Hall at 11:30am. We will have cake on the yard and school will close at 12:30pm.

We will be closed for staff work days on Thurs 6/23 & Fri 6/24 to prepare for our summer session which will start on Mon 6/27. Our theme for summer will be "World of Colors". Our weekly themes will include: Blast off to Summer of Colors, Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Purple, and Rainbow.



Blessings for a beautiful month!
Lisa Clinton



Those at home or in care facilities: Justin

Bartlow, Ione Marchael, Don Westerhoff, and Frances Willms.

Those struggling with illness or other concerns: Judy Haenn, Daniel Howard, Bary

& Janice Schlieder, Gary & Linda Zimmerman.

Family & Friends: Marylyn, Terry, Cheryl,

Lori, Erin Belk, Leah Blakeman, Lois Brown, Zach Burkard, Byron, Clara & John Caldwell, Scott Carr, Steve, Charlie and David Corm, Mary and Max Croes, Noah Dodd, Dorcas, Tamara Fitzgerald, Brechin Flournoy, Alberta Gray, Cindy Gray, Michael Hardman, Evie Holdhusen, Bobbie Hoenig, Kylie & Crystal Huber, JoDee Irwin, Doris Jung, Linda Kuhn, Barb Korsmo, Katrina Lahr, Sue Lance, Hudson Nunnally, Barb Ontiveros, Luis Ortiz, Peacemaker, Paul Perencevic, Paula Pettit, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Emily Renton, Mary Kathryn Rivera, Theresia Tuer, Anna Watt-Morse, Ed Weston, Teresa, Jessica, Steve and Jenny West.

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 Samuel Brown, Ryan Dorris, Johnny Luna, Jim Reeder, Steven, Brina and Michael Navarro.



We continue to pray for Sue Bredenkamp and family in the passing of their dear husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather, Roger. Roger's memorial service is being held on Saturday, May 28, 11am Christ Lutheran Church.



6/1	<i>Mia Colvin</i>
6/3	<i>Maggie Fitzpatrick</i>
6/4	<i>Kristina Randig</i>
6/4	<i>Kit Snyder</i>
6/4	<i>Caleb Swagler</i>
6/4	<i>Frances Swagler</i>
6/7	<i>Joy Bright</i>
6/8	<i>Kim Croes</i>
6/10	<i>Roger Halvorson</i>
6/14	<i>Michael Elliott</i>
6/16	<i>Kai Flournoy</i>
6/17	<i>Kris Alfonso</i>
6/17	<i>Parker Treat</i>
6/22	<i>Faith Timney</i>
6/25	<i>Cathy Westwood</i>
6/27	<i>Rick McGee</i>
6/28	<i>Teresa Lowther</i>
6/29	<i>Casey (Burkard) Smith</i>
6/30	<i>Laura Innes</i>

***OWLs (Officially Wise Lutherans) will meet on Thursday, June 9th at 12:00 noon in the Social Hall. Bring a side dish to share.**

***Note the name change from Older to Officially**

Daytimer’s LunchBunch may meet on Tuesday, June28th at 11:30am at Hof’s Hut on Bellflower Blvd in Los Altos.



If you are a Ralph’s Shopper, please add Christ Lutheran to the Community Programs partnership attached to your Ralph’s card. We received a donation for \$77.39 from just 13

households December 2021 through the end of February 2022.

We also receive contributions from **Amazon Smile** if you designate Christ Lutheran as the charity of choice for eligible purchases. We have received **\$606.40** since we began participating in this program. Thanks so much.



Direct your
Thrivent Choice
Dollars
Today!



Eligible clients with membership can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds. These recommendations are shared by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit

organizations, including churches. CLC received \$2298.00 in 2021. Thank you to church members who have selected CLC to receive these charitable gifts. Ask your Thrivent rep for details.

Your church council wants to provide ways for members to reach out to each other and ask for recommendations for trusted service providers. This can be for handiworkers, electricians, housekeeping, etc. Please feel free to send in your requests to the church office by email or phone. We will print these in the weekly announcements with your contact information.

You may know that Staples and other business supply stores will collect your used ink and toner cartridges. Staples will give you store credit for the items you turn in for recycling. CLC's office turns in cartridges for recycling and because of our customer status, we are allowed to turn in up to 20 cartridges each month. This allows for a significant savings when we order office supplies. If you are not inclined to take your cartridges to Staples or any other location, we would love to have them. We'll have a container in the usher's room for this purpose, just ask an usher to direct you and thank you for your support.

Church in Societies' donation focus for the month of June is Christian Outreach in Action (COA). This ministry, born out of Christ Lutheran Church, assists people with food, clothing, job assistance, first aid/health, chapel services, counseling, showers, shelter and permanent housing. In the past, our church has purchased groceries, prepared, and served a meal at COA on the fifth Wednesday of the month. Since the Covid protocols were put in place, we have only been able to provide the funding for this meal. This is still the case, so this month, if you would like to contribute toward the food and paper product purchases, please use your regular giving envelope or the special giving envelope in the pews. Be sure to mark the amount that you want to go toward COA for the treasurer's benefit.

Farewell to Brian Madigan Worship and Music Director



The congregation and staff of Christ Lutheran Church and Preschool wish you all the best as you take this time to rest and reinvigorate yourself. We thank you for sharing your talents of music directing, arranging and composition. Our worship and chapel times have been enhanced by these gifts. Your support of pastors, staff and volunteers in our ministry carried this family through a difficult two years. We are grateful.

It is our wish that peace, joy and love fill your life always. Let us know what exciting and fulfilling experiences come your way.

In Christ's love and with much gratitude,

Your Christ Lutheran family

**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.

July Newsletter Deadline:

June 15

Life In Christ
Is the newsletter of

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**Please join us in person for Sunday
Worship 9:30am
Live on FB or later on YouTube
Channel**



Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook.

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