



**CHRIST LUTHERAN**  
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL  
LONG BEACH, CA

## Life in Christ, Vol. 68 Issue 10 October, 2024



I WILL FULFILL TO YOU MY  
PROMISE AND BRING YOU  
BACK TO THIS PLACE.  
FOR SURELY I KNOW THE  
PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,  
SAYS GOD, PLANS FOR  
YOUR WELFARE AND NOT  
FOR HARM, TO GIVE YOU  
A FUTURE WITH HOPE.

+ JEREMIAH 29:10-11

**Our annual Stewardship program – “A Future With Hope” – will begin in November. During that time, we will be asking the congregation to think and pray about Time, Talents and Treasures.**

**This year we will once again consider *what* we as members give to CLC, as well as *why* we give to CLC. Everyone that shows up to 6500 Stearns Street gives something, and everyone has their own unique reason for giving.**

**Let’s consider those reasons over the coming weeks and rejoice about the many gifts we have to offer.**

**Commitment Sunday will be November 17<sup>th</sup> this year. As in years past, we will be laying our pledges for 2025 in a basket on the Altar. Together, we’ll fill out the cards; and together, we’ll celebrate God’s beautiful gift of “a future with hope.” After services that day, we will celebrate the gifts of God with a brunch in the social hall. Please mark your calendars now.**

**Sincerely,  
Stephanie Petrбок, Stewardship Chair**

# The Coop



In a recent conversation with the folks planning this year's Christmas Market, they inquired if I might be able to share the event info with our partnering congregations from the recent Sermon Series on the "Bread of Life." They referred to this group as the **church co-op**. And I have to tell you- I love it! What a beautiful way to describe this new thing we're doing together. (But be sure to include the dash. It'll help to make the distinction between co-op and coop. *Photos courtesy of Lutheran Retreats Camps and Conferences, Luther Glen Farm*).

I had lunch with the pastors of this group, plus a few additional friends, and shared the name church co-op and we landed on calling this group of pastors (not of the same conference or even synod, but a group we've opted into) as the **pastor co-op**. They were thrilled!

Wikipedia defines a Cooperative as this:

*A cooperative (also known as co-operative, co-op, or coop) is "an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically-controlled enterprise".*

It's a little wordy, but it does get at the gist- a group of individuals working together toward common goals and interests. Each church (members, leadership, rostered leaders) is striving to be the body of Christ in the world. We are creating

opportunities for folks to connect with Christian community, learn and grow in their faith and relationship with God, share the love of God in word and deed, and serve their neighbors near and far. We have common goals and rather than seeing ourselves as in competition with one another, we're partnering together, pooling resources, exchanging ideas, expanding our reach, and pushing the boundaries of what we thought was possible for us to do as individual churches. We are cooperating. **We are a co-op.**

*“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body,*

*though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.*

*Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.”*

*1 Corinthians 12:12-14*

The body of Christ has many members...some in Los Alamitos, some in Garden Grove, some in Cypress, some in Long Beach, and some elsewhere. And yet, “we were all made to drink of one Spirit.” United by the Holy Spirit, we join together as the body of Christ in hope and trust that God will do a “new thing” within us.

*“I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?”*

*Isaiah 43:19*

We look forward to the ways that God is calling us into partnerships, known to us now and the possibilities that may come in the future. We pray that this will make it possible for us to co-lab and try new things, to co-mingle and share with our neighbors, and to co-labor and work alongside one another in an effort to make God's kingdom known here and now.

Looking forward to seeing what more we can do together!

Pastor Nikki



### “Bread of Life” Series



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Photo courtesy of  
Pastor Luther's  
spouse and her  
Instagram



**Women's Ministry** Check with  
Joyce Carter about upcoming  
opportunities.

**Men's Ministry** Bethlehem in Los  
Alamitos on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
Saturdays at 10am.

Our Redeemer in Garden Grove  
every Thursday at 7am on Zoom.

Contact our church office for more  
information.



### What's next?



# Preschool News

Our Fall session began on Monday, 8/26/24 and we are off to a smooth start. We had Back to School night on Monday, 9/9/24 and got to know some of our new families a little better. Also, our teachers were installed at Church on Sunday, 9/22/24.



We are excited to share that the bathroom remodel is complete. We were able to fully remodel both restrooms outside of Room 3. We painted, replaced the tile with new flooring, installed new vanities and new toilets and replaced the stalls with new cobalt blue stalls. We also had the urinal removed and added a second toilet.

In October, we are looking forward to a lot of fun events. We will host the local Church related Preschool Directors meeting on Tuesday, 10/8 with about 10-12 other preschool Directors. We will have our school picture days on 10/15 & 10/16. Ms. Clinton will do dry ice experiments with the children on Mon 10/28.



We will end our month with our Trunk-or-treating celebration on Thursday, 10/31. The children love dressing up and going trunk to trunk to get treats. It is always amazing to see the parent's creativity shine as they decorate their trunks! If you



would like to decorate your trunk and pass out treats to the kids, you are welcome to come! The cars need to be set up by 11:00am and have enough treats for 65 children.

Blessings for a beautiful Fall!  
Lisa Clinton

## Another word from Stewardship:

Stewardship is not just about treasures; it is also about time and talent. If you have ever considered getting involved in one of the many ministries at Christ Lutheran perhaps one of our featured ministries would be a good fit for you. Additional helping hands are always valued and appreciated.

Music is such an important part of worship at church on Sundays. It can set the tone of the service, evoke emotion and tie all the sections of the service together. We all sing the hymns and liturgy each Sunday and often leave with an “ear worm” of that one hymn or praise song that stuck with us. Being a member of the choir, we get a preview of the songs for the upcoming week, so that “ear worm” just might get in there a little early. We rehearse some really beautiful arrangements of both traditional and contemporary songs, and then sing them for the congregation as an offertory anthem or special music in the service. But the choir is more than a group that sings each week, we are a “small group.” At the end of our rehearsals I ask for “Praise Reports” and then “Prayer Requests.” It’s a great way to check in and be thankful, and pray for one another. Small groups in a congregation are supportive and encouraging of one another. Although I think of our choir as a small group, I also believe in “the more, the merrier!” There is always room for one, two, or twenty more in the choir – no experience necessary 😊

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We are so appreciative of all of you who generously donated funds to PRE during our envelope fund raiser. We were able to raise over \$5000 to help sustain our church property. There are just a handful of envelopes left if you’d like to make an additional donation before the end of the year.

Sincerely, Your Church Council

# OCTOBER 27, 2024 REFORMATION SUNDAY



**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP CELEBRATING  
THE BIRTH OF THE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**THE CHANCEL CHOIR WILL OFFER  
MUSIC WHICH TELLS OUR STORY AND  
THE PRESCHOOL MUSIC MAKERS  
WILL PERFORM SONGS THEY HAVE  
LEARNED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF  
THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

**FOLLOWING WORSHIP JOIN US IN THE SOCIAL HALL AND ON  
THE PATIO FOR AN OKTOBERFEST LUNCH, GAMES AND  
FELLOWSHIP.**



**Wear red!!!**

# Christmas Market Info Coming Soon!

Watch for fliers about vendors and activities.



Contact Claudia Fitzpatrick at [rory690@aol.com](mailto:rory690@aol.com) if you would like to reserve a booth.





## Opportunities to support the ministries and organizations we partner with through our benevolence:

**For Lutheran Social Services (LSS)** – In the days after Thanksgiving and “Black Friday Shopping” we will collect new pajamas for all aged young people and new or gently used books.

There will be a date announced when we can gather at LSS and help prepare these gifts for the community Christmas party.

**For Lutheran Maritime Ministry (LMM)**- We will once again collect gift bags filled with *nice to have* and *need to have* gifts for the sailors who land at our ports. Below is a list of item you might want to begin saving and collecting at home. We will ask for those early in December.

### Suggested Items (full size only, no samples):

Body wash, shampoo, shave cream (some brands make a 3-in-one product)  
Deodorant, comb, socks, tooth paste, toothbrush  
Note pads, pens, envelopes

### Other Gift Items:

Knit Watch Caps (Neutral colors & no pom poms or tassels please) Cologne or aftershave  
Microwave popcorn, chewing gum, deck of cards, cup soup Individually wrapped hard candy (no chocolate)

## Adult Education Schedule Fall 2024

**Wednesday, October 2** – Women’s Bible Study Continues – “God of Freedom”

Discussion leader: Shannon Timney, 6pm in the Founders Room

**Sunday, October 6** - ELCA & Its Policies in Connection with Propositions

by Ron Nelson in Conference Room

**Wednesday, October 9** – Women’s Bible Study – “God of Freedom”

Discussion leader: Shannon Timney, 6pm in the Founders Room

**Thursday, October 10** – “Reclaiming the ‘L’ word” book study

Discussion Leader: Steve Howard 10am at Hof’s Hut

**Sunday, October 13** – Plants in the Bible

by Laura Innes in the Conference Room

**Wednesday, October 16** – Women’s Bible Study – “God of Freedom”

Discussion leader: Shannon Timney, 6pm in the Founders Room

**Sunday, October 20** – Health Benefits of Sprouting the Mustard Seed and Other Plants by Deb Albrecht in the Social Hall

**Wednesday, October 23** – Women’s Bible Study – “God of Freedom”

Discussion leader: Shannon Timney, 6pm in the Founders Room

**Thursday, October 24** – “Reclaiming the ‘L’ word” book study

Discussion Leader: Steve Howard 10am at Hof’s Hut

**Saturday, October 26** – Cozymeal Cooking Class –\$125 RSVP to Church Office

**Wednesday, October 30** – Women’s Bible Study – “God of Freedom”

Discussion leader: Shannon Timney, 6pm in the Founders Room



**Members at Home or in Care Centers:** Laurie Ennen, Ione Marchael, Gale Mussleman, Sydney Nichols, Bary & Janice

Schlieder, and Frances Willms.

**Those struggling with illness or other concerns:**

Don Darnauer, Judy Haenn, Daniel Howard, Sheryl Hunter, Chris and Kathy Klute-Nelson, Karen Koch, Kristine Trost, Rich Williams, Gary & Linda Zimmerman.

**\*Family & Friends:** Noah, Jimmy, Lois, Charlie and David, Mary, Denise, Clark, Jessica, Tamra, Brechin, Sue, Jerry, Joan, Cindy, Shar, Kylie and Crystal, Bryan, Barb, Aaron, Kim, Zoe, Sienna, Katrina, Sue, Cameron, Tim and Mimi, Kristina and Scott, Heather Robinson, Dave, Marlene, Kathy, Sharry, Vicki, and Jessica.

**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, Morgan Llewellyn, Austin Marsh, Johnny Luna, Jim Reeder, Steven, Brina and Michael Navarro.

**We remember :**

our unhoused neighbors, who find themselves without shelter and a place to call home. We pray for their safety, health, and wellness. We commit to treating them with compassion and working to combat systemic issues that leave our neighbors in need.



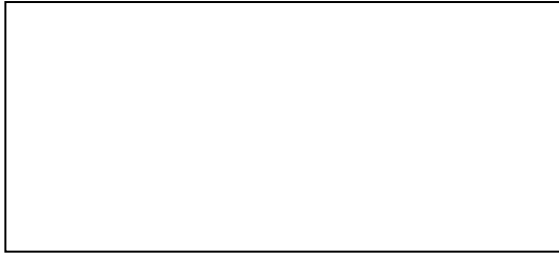
- 10/1 Kristine and Andy Trost
- 10/10 Paige and Aaron Mills
- 10/12 Annette and Jeff Rodrigues
- 10/24 Kim and Tom Magee
- 10/27 Chris and Kathy Klute-Nelson



- 10/2 Lucas Hood
- 10/5 Glenn Hoxie
- 10/8 Lauren (Trost) Prema
- 10/11 Chris Nelson
- 10/18 Seth Elliott
- 10/18 Lonnie Timney
- 10/20 Sheryl Hunter
- 10/24 Wanda Cleland
- 10/30 Deb Albrecht
- 10/30 Grant Green

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
**6500 Stearns Street**  
**Long Beach, CA 90815-3497**

**Return Service Requested**



**Mission Statement**

Living by Christ's example,  
 we welcome, serve, and love  
 all through God's grace.

**Vision Statement**

Embracing the truth that God's love  
 and grace is for all, Christ  
 Lutheran Church is a vibrant  
 and active community spreading  
 the good news through acceptance,  
 action, and benevolence.

**Our Position**

Christ is ALIVE!

November Newsletter Deadline:  
 October15

***Life In Christ***

Is the newsletter of

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
**6500 Stearns Street**  
**Long Beach, CA 90815-3497**

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**Please join us in person for Sunday  
 Worship 9:30am**

**Live on FB or later on our  
 YouTube Channel**



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