



CHRIST LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
LONG BEACH, CA

Life in Christ, Vol. 69 Issue 1 January, 2025



All I know is we said, "Hello."

So dust off your highest hopes

All I know is pouring rain and everything has changed

All I know is a new found grace

All my days I'll know your face

All I know since yesterday is everything has changed

I just wanna know you better, know you better, know you better now

I just wanna know you, know you, know you

From the song "Everything Has Changed" by Taylor Swift ft. Ed Sheeran

Christmas has come and past, and yet its effects linger. God has come to us in the form of Jesus, the Christ child, and has brought unimaginable peace to the world through Emmanuel, God with us. So even though Christmas Day has past, the Spirit of Christmas lives on as Christ lives on.

This time of year, we continue our celebrations as we observe Epiphany, a small but mighty holiday of the church year that celebrates God's incarnation, most specifically to the Gentiles (those outside of the Jewish faith) as told through the story of the Magi's finding and worshipping of the Christ child.

Epiphany might be a familiar word for us. In our everyday world, we often use it to describe something eye-opening that happens or an idea we experience that brings about something new to our minds and hearts. In truth, I hope epiphany is more than familiar to us. Hopefully, we are experiencing epiphany constantly as we are being made to see things in a new light especially in matters of faith.

In Taylor Swift’s song, “Everything Has Changed,” she speaks of what I would describe as an epiphany: a moment in time where things were changed (and for the better). For Taylor, her epiphany comes in meeting a young man and feeling like there is promise in this relationship.

And although our epiphany is different, it rings true to Swift’s song in that we are forever changed in our meeting the Christ child.

Our eyes are opened and we see God in a new way.

Our eyes are opened and we are showered in grace.

Our eyes are opened and we simply want to know Him better.

Everything has indeed changed. So now we seek to live out our days as changed people.

Thanks for the reminder T. Swift. We needed that.

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We're moving our live-stream to YouTube!

As of Sunday, November 3, we will live-stream our worship services through YouTube. The link to our YouTube site is:

<https://www.youtube.com/@christlutheranlb>

Too techy? Not to worry. There's good news!

You can still go to our Facebook page on Sunday mornings. We'll post a link there so you can easily connect to YouTube on Sunday mornings or whenever you watch worship. Click on that link and you can watch the live or recorded worship service.

We hope this transition will be an easy one. If you have trouble come November, please contact the church office at 562-598-2433 and we'll do our best to assist.

Thank you!



Preschool News

December 3 was our annual Pajama Day event. We collected 58 pairs of pajamas and a lot of books. Claudia Fitzpatrick delivered them to Lutheran Social Services for them to pass out at their Christmas party. They were truly appreciative of our generosity. Thank you to everyone that participated and helped in making someone's Christmas special this year!

We had a special family outing on Dec 11th with a Christmas lights tour of Naples on the Big Red Bus. We had about 45 people attend. We started with cookies and coco at Marni's and then boarded the bus for the tour. What a fun and unique way to get in the Christmas spirit!

Our annual Christmas program, "Who Is Coming to Our House" was on Friday, December 20th at 3:30pm in the sanctuary. Room 4 & 5 were our stable animals and Mary & Joseph, Room 3 were angels, Room 2 were little drummer boys & girls, Room 1 was the shepherd and sheep, and Room 6 was the star and "wise babies". We enjoyed cookies and cocoa in the courtyard following the program.

We closed for winter break December 20 through January 1st. School resumed on January 2nd.

During January, the teachers will be working on student assessments and we will begin planning for our Auction which will be on Friday, 3/14/25. We will also have a special snow day with a 20x20 foot area of "snow" from Long Beach Ice Company.

Happy New Year!
Lisa Clinton

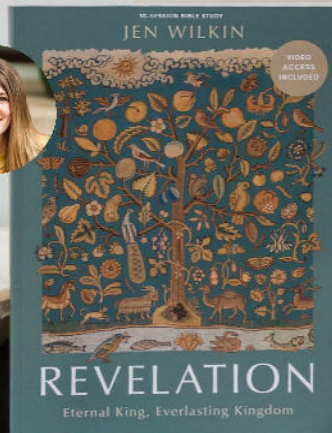
You can understand every book of the Bible. Even this one.

Join us for our next Bible study!

In this 10-session study on Revelation, discover how the last book of the Bible—the culmination of God's great story—speaks both a steadying word of assurance and a strong call to endure to the church in every age

Meeting on Wednesdays at 6 PM
February 5 - April 16 *no meeting on 3/5*
Christ Lutheran Church, Long Beach
in the Founder's Room

For more information contact
Shannon Timney
(562)598-2433 *church office*



Lifeway.women



Dear Pastor and Members of Christ Lutheran Church in Long Beach,

On behalf of Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, we would like to extend our thanks and sincere gratitude for your support in making our Annual Christmas Celebration a heartwarming success. This year, we were blessed to serve 55 families and bring joy to 156 children through toys, gift cards, and more. Parents received groceries including fresh produce from a local farmers market, quilts, and hygiene items. Children and families enjoyed a nice lunch, games, crafts, a photo booth, and a surprise visit from Santa Claus and a Minion, which helped create unforgettable memories for those in attendance.

Your care and compassion, financial contributions, gifts (pajama sets and books), volunteer work, and prayers brought the peace and joy of the season to our community. The love of Christ was truly evident in every smile and every moment of the celebration.

Thank you for partnering another year with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California to make this event possible. Your support made a difference, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with love, joy, and blessings.

Sincerely,

LSSSC Staff and Volunteers



Wendy Rubio

Senior Director

Lutheran Social Services of Southern California



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, Kristine Trost, Rich Williams, Gary & Linda Zimmerman.

***Family & Friends:** Noah, Lois Brown, Elsie, Leah Bootman, Charlie and David Corm, Mary Croes, Denise Davis, Jessica, Clark Enebo, Tamra Fitzgerald, Brechin Flournoy, Cindy Gray, Shar Higa, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Bryan Koenen, Aaron, Kim & Sienna Koepke, Barb Korsmo, Katrina Lahr, Carolyn Laitsch, Luke McCann, Cameron, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Sharry Reed, Debbie Renner, Heather Robinson, David Sarvela, Marlene Shafer, Vicki Thompson, Kathy Vonbuskirk, Jessica 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, 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.

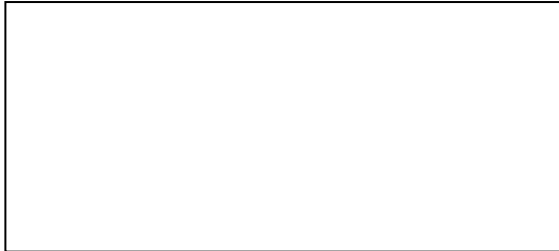


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|------|--------------------|
| 1/2 | Beverly Koenen |
| 1/5 | Bary Schlieder |
| 1/7 | Kristine Trost |
| 1/9 | Matthew Green |
| 1/9 | Donald Nielsen |
| 1/16 | Linda McGee |
| 1/18 | Kathy Klute-Nelson |
| 1/20 | Marvin Moon |
| 1/24 | Rob Randig |
| 1/27 | Mark Ennen |
| 1/27 | Samia Hack |
| 1/27 | Don Koepke |
| 1/27 | Garrett Latiolait |

MAY YOU SHINE
THE LIGHT OF
CHRIST IN THE
NEW YEAR!

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!

January Newsletter Deadline:
 December 15

Life In Christ

Is the newsletter of

Christ Lutheran Church
6500 Stearns Street
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562.598.2433

www.christlutheranlb.com

[email:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com](mailto:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com)

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

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



Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook.

facebook.com/christlutheranlb