



CHRIST LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
LONG BEACH, CA

Life in Christ, Vol. 69 Issue 3 March, 2025



In the early weeks of 2025, when the Eaton and Palisade fires along with other smaller fires were at the forefront of our hearts and minds, we were challenged to think about what was most important to us.

*If we were to get a call to leave our homes,
what would we reach for?
What would matter most in that moment?*

I remember the lists that circulated in those days and the weeks that followed that encouraged us to get our minds around the things that we really need in these instances. It is important that if you haven't already done so, take an opportunity to get prepared. As you know, emergencies are not scheduled and can often arrive with a fierceness. Why not tend to this important task with a clear and level head?

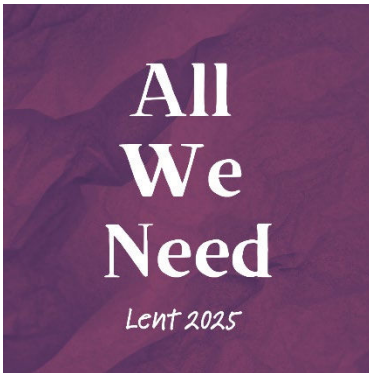


Visit the following for more info on wildfire preparedness:

www.fire.ca.gov/prepare/get-ready-to-go
www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/go-evacuation-guide/

Visit the following for more info on emergency preparedness:
www.ready.gov

When I was considering the various series available for Lent this time around, I was struck by a series called, “All We Need,” created and distributed by Barn Geese Worship. It seemed like just the right thing at the right time as we take inventory of the things that we truly need. Here’s how the writers of our series describe our theme:



“We need a multitude of different things...

Each week, we’ll explore what the scripture for the season reveals about our needs, personally and communally.

...Not every weekly need will be obvious. Many go beyond Abraham Maslow’s famous hierarchy. Instead, we will explore topics like the need for sleep, change, and beauty. Each week’s scripture will redefine and expand what we think of as needs. Some may be difficult to notice before the Spirit nudges us to consider them. Even basic needs are cast in a new light when we consider them from the perspective of our lives as God’s people.” See the schedule below for the wide array of needs that we’ll be contemplating throughout Lent.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th: Our own and others’ needs

Sunday, March 9th: The need to embrace vulnerability

Sunday, March 16th: The need for sleep

Sunday, March 23rd: The need for an advocate

Sunday, March 30th: The need for change

Sunday, April 6th: The need for beauty

Palm Sunday, April 13th: Jesus needs our help

Easter Sunday, April 20th: The need to rejoice

Lent is surely an opportunity for personal reflection and introspection, but take notice that our series invites us to not simply consider our own needs, however important, but our neighbors' as well.

“In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the Law and the Prophets,’ Jesus teaches (Matthew 7:12). This means that any conversation about need—and the way we work to fulfill the needs of others—requires us to care for the needs of our neighbors as though they are our own needs.”

and

“Scripture shows us that from God’s perspective, our needs and the needs of our neighbor are similar and interconnected. God is not satisfied until everyone’s needs are met.”

As we continue to pray for our neighbors most affected by the recent fires and look for ways to help, let us consider the wide of array of needs they have and how we might best care for those in need.

Want to get started? Take a quick inventory as you consider the following questions:

- What do you need?
- What do the people of the congregation need?
- What do our neighbors, the people beyond the church doors, need?
- What do our neighbors affected by the recent fires need?
- How are we called to see and address the needs of our neighbors near and far?



Preschool News

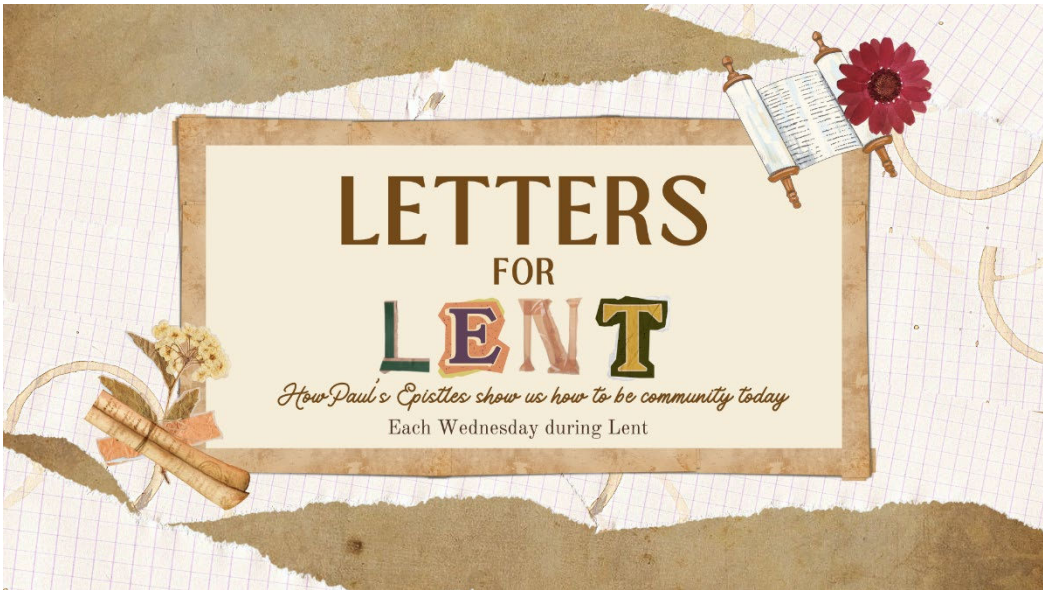
On February 6th, we had a wonderful Special Person Day where just about every child had a Special Person! The children were able to take their Special Person to Chapel and then enjoy refreshments in the social hall. They then went around to do the different activities in all of the classrooms including cookie decorating, photo shop to take their picture and decorate a frame, a dance party and bracelet making. For Valentine's Day, the classrooms each had their own parties to celebrate. Music Makers were invited to sing on Sunday, February 9th.



In the month of March we will have our auction entitled, **"Enchantment Under The Sea"**, which will be on **Friday, March 14th at 6pm at The Grand**. Feel free to dress up and have a fun night out while supporting CLP! We will have silent auction items, various raffle games and wine pull. We will conclude the event with our 80/10x2 raffle, live auction, and fund an item. Tickets are \$65 each and include hearty appetizers and a drink ticket good for one glass of wine, beer or well drink or 2 soft drinks. The deadline to purchase tickets for \$65 is February 28, then ticket prices go up to \$80.

In March, we will have fun with the children's imaginations while we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Then, the last two weeks we will have parent- teacher conferences and registration for our upcoming summer and fall sessions.

Wishing you a beautiful Spring!
Lisa Clinton



Mid-week Lenten e-blasts are back with a fun new twist!

Last year, Pastor Nikki recorded weekly messages that were shared via a special e-blast on Wednesdays. This year, we're going to be partnering with our Co-op congregations for a shared series entitled, "Letters for Lent: How Paul's Epistles show us how to be community today."

Each week, a new speaker will reflect on one of Paul's letters to the early Christian church, unpacking a key characteristic of community that we can all aspire to as members of the Body of Christ.

Wednesday, March 12th: Pastor Luther on Romans

Wednesday, March 19th: Pastor Nikki on Colossians

Wednesday, March 26th: Pastor Carole on Ephesians

Wednesday, April 2nd: Pastor Jennifer on Philippians

Wednesday, April 9th: Pastor Nathan on Corinthians

Letters for Lent continued

This series isn't just about gleaning from the timeless wisdom of the Pauline epistles; it's an opportunity to share in dialogue with one another, to grow together in faith, and to strengthen our sense of community. We look forward to journeying together, discovering anew how we are called to be the church in the world

How do I receive the mid-week e-blast?

Good news! If you're signed up for the weekly e-blast that goes out every Friday, you'll receive the mid-week one too.

If you're not yet signed up, please contact Kim Croes at officemanager@christlutheranlb.com to be added.

What if I miss one?

Each mid-week e-blast will archive the previous messages so you can catch up any time.

As an added bonus, we'll be joining with our Co-op congregations for a shared Maundy Thursday service, April 17th, hosted at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Los Alamitos. Stay tuned for more info coming soon!





Originally the **Long Beach Council of Churches**, was primarily Protestant Christian Churches in Long Beach. Over the years it expanded to many local Catholic Churches and later became the **South Coast Ecumenical Council** with ELCA pastor, Ginny Wagener as its Executive Director. More recently it became the **South Coast INTERFAITH Council (SCIC)** including congregations of many faiths including Mormon, Muslim, Black Muslims and Christians, Hindu, Buddhist, and many others around the South Bay. (Other prominent Lutheran churches--Gloria Dei LC Long Beach & First Lutheran in Torrance.)

Over the years, many Christ Lutheran members have been leaders of the SCIC and recognized with its awards. Marilyn Bittle, prominent community leader and member of Gloria Dei LC in LB, is the SCIC finances leader and Milia Islam-Majeed is the Executive Director. Ron Nelson and Jane Affonso have served on the Board of Directors and the Committee on Social Justice.

Under the leadership of Dale Whitney, SCEC founded the Long Beach Farmers' Markets and Long Beach annual Hunger Walk raising funds for local and national programs. SCIC, with our support, is a "mission to build unity through education, celebration and service-defined by compassion!"

For more than 69 years, it has remained committed to people of diverse faiths and in small groups to share their faith cultures. Every summer it has special opportunities for individuals to do this.

SCIC

**525E. 7th Street Suite A202
Long Beach, CA 90813**

phone: 562/983-1665

office@scinterfaith.org

www.scinterfaith.org

Woven Image in Concert

to benefit

Lutheran Disaster Response for Wildfire Relief

March 23, 2025, 4pm



Christ Lutheran Church

6500 Stearns Street, Long Beach 90815

Songs of the Spirit in a compelling blend of Celtic, Folk and Jazz!

Free-will offering



We pray for:

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, Beverly Koenen, Kristine Trost, Gary & Linda Zimmerman.

***Family & Friends:** Noah, Paula Boerner, Lois Brown, Elsie, Leah Bootman, Denise Davis, Jimmy Duciome, Clark Enebo, Tamra Fitzgerald, Brechin Flournoy, Cindy Gray, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Bryan Koenen, Aaron, Kim & Sienna Koepke, Barb Korsmo, Katrina Lahr, Carolyn Laitsch, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Sharry Reed, Heather Robinson, Chris Sanderson, David Sarvela, Marlene Shafer, Laura Straus, Vicki Thompson, Jessica and Larisa 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, Austin Rowell, Steven, Brina and Michael Navarro.

We remember :

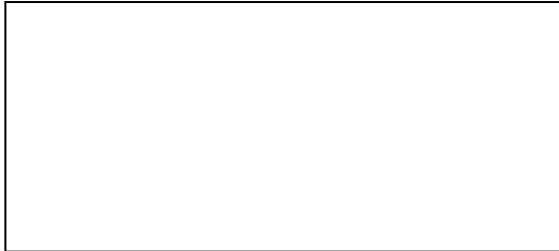
+Our unhoused neighbors, who find themselves without shelter and a place to call home. We pray for their safety, health, and wellness. We commit to treating them with compassion and working to combat systemic issues that leave our neighbors in need.



3/1	Shaun Murray
3/2	Derek Johnson
3/3	Doug Holdhusen
3/12	Chris Caldwell
3/14	Brian Trost
3/16	Steve Howard
3/21	Linda Gawthorne
3/22	Ken Petrbock
3/24	Kim Magee
3/27	Stefan Joseph
3/28	Garrett McGee
3/30	Ingrid Fuelleman-Ramos

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!

April Newsletter Deadline:
 March 15

Life In Christ

Is the newsletter of
Christ Lutheran Church
6500 Stearns Street
Long Beach, CA 90815-3497
 562.598.2433
www.christlutheranlb.com

email:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com

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

Live on our YouTube Channel

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



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