

PASTOR'S NOTES

We remember the words of Jesus: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Many of us remember a time when most of our neighbors were very much like us. Now, our communities have become very diverse and with that diversity we have experienced both cooperation and confrontation. What will be required of us to live, work and fellowship together in a spirit of understanding and fellowship?

This year's Lenten series will give us an opportunity to learn about five different local faith communities. Various speakers will share information about their cultures, social customs and religious beliefs. All of this is intended to build bridges and to deepen our own Christian faith.

Lent Begins with Ash Wednesday Worship

Join us for a soup supper at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to bring a pot of soup, rolls, bread, butter, cookies etc. Worship, with the imposition of ashes, will begin at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Carl's message, "Everything Is Wrong," will explore the waywardness of our lives and God's great desire to get us "back on track."

Pastors Tim, Brad and I invite you to join this pilgrimage of learning and understanding!

Farewell and Blessings to Pastor Kishino

On January 27, the congregation gathered for a special farewell luncheon for Pastor and Nancy Kishino. Pastor will begin his ministry in Moreno Valley in mid-February. Greg Hanson, on behalf of the congregation, presented Pastor with a check to be used for his travel expenses back to Japan to visit his ailing mother before he begins his new ministry.

Those wishing to reimburse funds used for this gift are invited to make their checks payable to LCR with the notation: "Pan-Asian Ministry."

2012 Giving Ends Strongly

In October of 2012 we were experiencing a \$35,000 deficit. By December 31, that amount had been reduced to \$10,000. We are grateful for the congregation's generous response. For 2013, we require approximately \$10,500 in weekly offerings to meet our budget and avoid possible reductions in programming and salaries. For the first three weeks in January our average weekly giving has been around \$8,500. Council is prepared to make necessary adjustments to prevent future deficits.

"Letting Go of God"

Comedian Julia Sweeney's video recounts, in very humorous ways, her journey "in and out" of faith. Brought up in the Catholic tradition, she became confused by some of the church's teachings and decided to begin her own exploration of faith. Join us on Sunday, February 17 at 4:00 p.m. for this extremely entertaining and thoughtful presentation. Ira Glass, host of Public Radio, said:

Somehow, against all common sense, Julia is making something funny that has no business being funny."

4:00 p.m. – Potluck appetizers and/or desserts – Bercaw Hall 4:30 p.m. – "Letting Go of God" video – Sanctuary

Messages for 2/3 and 2/10

February 3 - "Reluctant" February 10 - "Are You Spring?"

Mid-Week Lenten Series

Something a little different this year! Our weekly gatherings will feature speakers from various local faith communities. Following a very brief devotional opening, our guests will share the basic tenets of their faith and answer questions. Please mark the following dates on your calendar. All services will begin with a soup supper at 6:00 p.m.

February 13 – Ash Wednesday – LCR February 20 – KOG – Zoroastrians February 27 – LCR – Judaism March 6 – Newport Harbor – Speaker TBA March 13 – KOG – Center for Spiritual Living March 20 – LCR – Islam

Lenten Sermon Series

During the Sundays of Lent, Pastor Carl will preach a series of messages based on the short book of 1 John. These talks will be in a Bible study format as we explore the richness and the meaning of the author's witness to young churches in the Mediterranean world.

Welcome Pastor Adachi

Along with his responsibilities as Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Hitoshi will officiate at Japanese worship, provide pastoral services and conduct Bible studies. Pastor Carl will occasionally preach at Japanese worship and will lead Bible study twice a month.

Coming Events

- Special Palm Sunday Celebration and Festival--ONE Service at 10:00 a.m.; lunch and activities --more information to follow!
- Family Promise We will partner with KOG the week of March 25. Exact dates not yet known, but we will need volunteers to prepare and host meals and spend the night on KOG's campus. Call the church office.
- **Spring Concert** April 21 at 4:00 p.m., followed by Potluck Dinner
- Hoag Blood Drive whole month of May! Congregation invited to give blood at Hoag's Blood Center. Information available April 28.

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JOANNE'S BOOK CLUB

Please join us for an hour of Christian Fellowship with other women who have a love of books. All women are welcome! We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. in T-Hall. The next meeting is February 5, when we will discuss <u>Home Front</u>, by Kristen Hannah. On March 5, we will discuss <u>13 Reasons Why</u>, by Jay Asher.

Adult Forum on Recess

Because of the upcoming Lenten season, our Adult Forum will not meet until after Easter. On Wednesday, April 3, we will begin a new video/discussion series titled "Deeper Connections: The Life of Christ." We gather at 7:00 p.m. Hope you will join us for this five-week study.

Cursillo Weekends

Cursillo is a "short course in Christianity." The weekend begins Thursday evening and concludes Sunday afternoon. There are 15 brief talks given by clergy and lay leaders. Many opportunities for worship, meditation, singing and prayer! Best of all, there's NO cost!

Men's Weekend – February 21-24

Women's Weekend – February 28-March 3

Pastor Carl will serve as Head Spiritual Director on the Women's Weekend. Please see Pastor Carl for registration information.



BE MY VALENTINE ITALIAN LUNCHEON

Come one, come all to a Valentine's day luncheon on Sunday February 10, after the 10:00 a.m. service. You and your family will enjoy a delightful Italian lunch, listen to the music of romantic Italy by candlelight and participate in a huge raffle of trinkets and treats. This event is for families, with a special bag of goodies for each child.

The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 4-12, and FREE for children 3 & under. Plan on being LCR's Valentine by treating yourself and your family to this fun event. Last chance to sign up is in the courtyard **this Sunday, February 3**!

New Member Class

There will be a New Member Class on Sunday, March 10 from 11:30--2:00 in Bercaw Hall. Lunch will be served. If you are interested in becoming a member, or would like more information on our church and the Lutheran faith, contact the office at 714.962.5005.

LCR's Hiking Group

LCR's group of hikers meets monthly to explore the Southern California (semi-)wilderness! The hikes are generally half-day hikes, with longer hikes scheduled later in spring. Below is the calendar, along with the name of the hike and a website for more detailed information. Destinations are subject to change, but there will be ample notice. Dates may change due to weather. Unless otherwise noted, all the hikes will depart from LCR at 7:30 a.m. If you are interested in joining friends and experiencing the great outdoors, please call the church office.

February 16

Whiting Ranch "Dreaded Hill Loop" http://www.localhikes.com/Hikes/Whiting01 4472.asp

March 9

Chiquito Falls <u>http://www.everytrail.com/guide/chiquito-falls</u>

April 13 Mt. Wilson via Chantry Flats

http://www.everytrail.com/guide/mt-wilson-via-chantry-flats

May 9

Modjeska Peak http://nobodyhikesinla.com/2010/06/06/modjeska-peak/

May 25 Ice House Canyon to Cucamonga Peak (7:00 a.m. departure)

June 8 Crystal Cove Blue Route http://www.everytrail.com/guide/crystal-cove-blue-route

Dinner for Eight

New Dinner for Eight groups are currently forming. Please sign up between services or call Gail Perkins at 949.548.1044.

Wish List Opportunities

- Gifts in any amount to repair extensive mold damage under sink in Preschool
- Gifts in any amount to purchase new wireless mike for guest speakers
- Gifts in any amount to help defray cost of Spring Concert instrumentalists

June 22

Mt. San Jacinto via Marion Mountain - Idylwild (this will be a very early departure) <u>http://www.everytrail.com/guide/san-jacinto-peak-via-marion-mountain</u>



Youth & Family

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Couples Bible Study - Starts up on Friday, February 1, with a no-obligation dinner and devotions at the home of Susan and Greg Hansen from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. All returning and new couples please RVSP Connie Wolfe at 714.222.6846. This growing growth group of LCR couples invites you to join this once-a-month "Topical" Bible study held in a relaxed home atmosphere.

Youth Super Bowl Snack Fundraiser - this Sunday, February 3 following both services...Our youth are preparing your goodies for Super Bowl Sunday or anytime treats! They will have a variety of baked goods and snack food to go. This is a fundraiser to help lower costs for youth attending winter retreats at El Camino Pines Lutheran Camp. Your appetite and donations are greatly appreciated!

High School Youth (Grades 9-12)

<u>Sunday, February 3</u> - Super Bowl Snack Fundraiser following both services. Bake, bake, bake and plan to bring your goodies to church Sunday by 9:00 a.m.

<u>Wednesday, February 6</u>, 6:30-9:00 p.m. - Movie Night in the youth room. Free pizza dinner provided - you bring dessert to share. Our study, through film, will remind us that love is given not earned. <u>1 Peter 1: 17-23</u>. (\$100 deposit due for winter camp)

<u>Wednesday, February 13</u>, Ash Wednesday Service and Soup Supper-- We'll join our congregation for dinner at 6:00 p.m. in Bercaw Hall and worship at 7:00 p.m. <u>Lenten Season</u> reminds us of the depth of Christ's love for us! (Youth room will be open before worship only)

February 16-18, Winter Camp at El Camino Pines..."Growing Up"... Ephesians 4:15. A youth group tradition - we will join youth from other Southland churches for our mountaintop retreat. Cost \$100 if you work this month's fundraiser.

Middle School Youth (Grades 6-8) aka TUG (Teens/Tweens Under God)

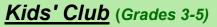
<u>Sunday, February 3 - Fundraiser for winter camp!</u> Plan to provide baked goods and snack food for our youth sale between services. 9:00 a.m. start time.

*Thursday, February 7; 6:30-8:30 p.m. - Jesus Healer--*Luke 8: 43-48--our study continues in the New Testament. Indoor active games and refreshments provided by LCR!

<u>Wednesday, February 13</u>, Ash Wednesday Service and Soup Supper--Join everyone for dinner at 6:00 pm. in Bercaw Hall followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. A great time to catch up on your sermon notes! (No class on Thursday, February 14)

Thursday, February 21 & 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Confirmation study of the New Testament continues.

- Winter Camp El Camino Pines March 8-10
- Watch your mail for updated events flyer too!



We're on the move to Jump Sky High, Tuesday, February 5, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. A night of trampoline fun with church friends from Our Savior's in San Clemente. Cost \$20 includes wall-to-wall trampoline time, pizza dinner and devotions. Questions? Contact Connie Wolfe, 714.222.6846. Parents drop off and pick up at Sky High.



A friend loves at all times. 1 John 4:7

We are all about "love" this month at the preschool. Our Bible verse is from 1 John 4:7. We are talking about what it means to love. We are making Valentines for our parents and reading about God's love for us in our Bible stories. Our "love" chapels will focus on how much our God loves us using Bible puppets and the flannel board. The children will learn a new "Fruit of the Spirit" and we will have Valentine parties in the classrooms. February is also a time when we talk about winter and weather. As I am writing this, we are experiencing some real "winter" weather. Of course I expect it to be near 80 degrees by next week, as that is our "Pajama Day" week. It always warms up for that! We want to be all cozy in our flannel p.j.s and it is always hot! Our year is going by so fast! It won't be long before we are having registration for our summer and fall programs. We will be registering in March. If you know someone who needs a great preschool, please tell them about us.

I can't believe it is almost time for Lent! Ash Wednesday is February 13 this year! I am planning to use the season of Lent to reflect on where I am in this journey with our Lord. I hope to use this time to think about what a gift God has given all of us with His Son, Jesus. I plan to think about my prayer life, Bible study, and if I am putting my gifts and talents to good use. I want to reflect on my Sunday School class and how I can make the lessons "come alive" for my very sophisticated 2nd and 3rd graders. This year, in the coming days and weeks, I am planning to really focus on the events leading up to Easter and how Jesus' sacrifice impacts my life today. I am so blessed and have so much to be thankful for. However I decide to use this Lenten season, I will try to keep my eyes focused on the One who has come to lead us out of the darkness and into the light. Jesus is our rock and our blessed redeemer. Have a wonderful Lenten season full of the hope and the promise of our resurrected Lord.

In His Love,

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS Friday, February 22 Please submit articles to *Icr17@verizon.net*



Care Connections Network

...a personal concierge service for living well at home throughout one's life.

CCN Updates – February 2013

- Welcome to our new members. We are happy to report that 61 of you have joined!
- Our next educational seminar, "Stroke Awareness-Taking Care of your Loved Ones" will be presented on Thursday, February 14, at 11:30 a.m. Stroke is the number one cause of adult disability and the fourth cause of death in the U.S. Join us to learn about the risk factors and warning signs of stroke. Also, we'll be discussing the latest innovations in stroke intervention and treatment. Our presenter is Deb Mastrolia from Hoag Hospital. Lunch will be served. There is no charge for this event or for lunch. All are welcome. Sign up at our table after church or by calling the office at 714.962.9346.
- CCN Board Member, Pastor Yutaka Kishino, has accepted a call to serve at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Moreno Valley. We wish him much happiness in his new position, but CCN will miss his dedication to our mission and our members.

Carolyn's Corner

Join CCN Board Member, Carolyn Carter, on Wednesday, February 20, for a movie at Triangle Square Cinemas and lunch at Yard House! We will meet at church and carpool to Triangle Square. Time is still to be determined. Call the CCN office 714.962.9346 for more details and to sign up.



Bowers Museum is Coming to Care Connections Network!

We are excited to announce that CCN and the Council on Aging--Orange County--have partnered with Bowers Museum to offer eight-week art



classes this spring. Details to follow.



Become a CCN Volunteer!

Whether you are a CCN member or a congregation or community member, we need you! Even just a little of your time can make a big difference in someone else's life. We are building our Volunteer Program and are seeking volunteers who will play a huge role in assisting us achieve our mission of helping older adults age in their own homes and community. As a volunteer, you will find satisfaction by providing



help to someone in need. Volunteer drivers are greatly needed. Please call our office or check our website for more information. 714.962.9346

CCN is a membership organization dedicated to helping older adults age in community safely and comfortably. We offer lifelong learning opportunities, social and cultural events and referrals to vetted service providers who will offer you special member benefits and discounts. **Questions?** Call our office at **714.962.9346**, visit the website at <u>www.careconnectionsnetwork.org</u>, or speak with any CCN Board Member: Nancy Boren, Carolyn Carter, Tami Day, Terri Hendrickson, Fumi Liang, Diana Meinhold, Kanako Kusano, Kim Rice, Maryann Rozzelle and Cheryl Tonic or Project Coordinator, Carolyn Ross.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mark Harding Stephen Czajkowski Steve Reed
- 2 Fumi Liang Sean Timmering
- 3 Barbie Defeo
- 5 Todd DeWees Jerry Marroquin
- 6 Kikuko Osako
- 7 Lynda Cruise
- 8 Luke Laipenieks Laura Graham
- 9 Gen Ferrini
- 11 April Sharp
- 12 Andrew Hansen Bethany Hartunian-Vaughn
- 13 Kennedy Hoenig Toyomi Shigaki
- 15 Jeannie Ott Teruko Matsui
- 16 Laura Czajkowski
- 17 Dylan Zankich
- 18 Shin Adachi Nicole Cicarelli
- 19 Susan Skowron
- 20 Jeff Buzby
- 25 Ryoko Higuchi
- 26 Nick Rice
- 29 John Carter Zack Lund

FEBRUARY FAMILY OF THE DAY Please keep these families in your prayers:

- 1 Pastor Carl & Bonnie Zimmermann
- 2 Ruth Abendroth
- 3 Bob Achziger
- 4 Hitoshi, Satoko, Shin, Yuki & Kan Adachi
- 5 Jack Aden
- 6 Marianne Allen
- 7 James, Karin & Liam Anderson
- 8 Jennie Austin
- 9 Mike & Kris Bashaw
- 10 Len & Rita Bekemeyer
- 11 Walter Bentson
- 12 Matt & Morgan Bergdahl
- 13 John, Anna & Chloe Biggs
- 14 Dennis & Nancy Boren
- 15 Bruce, Donna, Jamie & Jaclyn Brandt
- 16 Carolyn Bray
- 17 Mary Brown
- 18 Pete, Lori, Katie & Kelly Brunner
- 19 Adolfo Brusse
- 20 Ed, Deborah, Jamie & Andie Buffkin
- 21 Bev Bullock
- 22 Art & Patty Butteling
- 23 Emma, Grace & Phil Butteling
- 24 Jeff, Shirley, Kyle & Nick Buzby
- 25 Geoff, Dee Dee, Vicki, Lauren & Geoffrey Campbell
- 26 John & Carolyn Carter
- 27 Gil & Maggi Caruso
- 28 Cherise & MacKenzie Charlton

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Ralph & Claire Howarth
- 18 Charles & Marvyl Olson
- 20 Gary & Kathy Miller
- 22 Pete & Viola Williams
- 26 Frank & Angie Dargavage
- 27 Bob & Rhonda Mueller

Is your name missing from the February lists? If you have a birthday or an anniversary in the month of February and we have not included your name, we would appreciate you bringing it to our attention. Please e-mail Icr17@verizon.net or call the church office. Thank you!