



# Focus on Christ

*OUR MISSION: God calls us to live and share the amazing love and grace of Jesus Christ with all people.*

## Christ Lutheran Church

A Christ-caring  
community

780 Ashbury  
Avenue

El Cerrito  
California  
(510) 524-1050

Rev. Lori Eickmann  
Interim Pastor

Marty Schaefer  
Organist

Melissa Vainio  
Bell Choir Director

George Fosselius  
Choir Director

Bill Goehring  
Office Manager



January 6, 2017

### Intentional Interim Ministry

Intentional Interim Ministry is a time when a congregation, with the help of a trained interim pastor, reviews its past, looks honestly at the present and anticipates a wide-open and Spirit-led future. This can be a defining moment for your congregation!

The point is to discern where God is calling Christ Lutheran Church now, and then consider what type of pastor will help you answer that call.

The three phases of this transitional time are:

- Identify what needs attention at CLC now and address those issues.
- Engage in short-term visioning and gather the information needed for the call committee to prepare the Ministry Site Profile (which is like a resume for the congregation).
- Interview candidates and call the new pastor.

During the first two of those phases we will focus on:

**Heritage** – reflecting on how the congregation has been shaped.

**Leadership** – reviewing how leadership is developed in order to address congregational needs.

**Mission** – defining or refining purpose and direction.

**Connections** – considering how the congregation builds relationships within and outside of itself.

**Future** – developing congregational and pastoral profiles.

Now is the time to prepare for the next chapter in the story of the life and ministry of Christ Lutheran Church. Let this be a time to grieve and celebrate, to ask questions and remember and learn, to trust that God is present in uncertainty, and to pray without ceasing! Let this be a defining moment. Let this be an opportunity to be attentive to the urgings of the Holy Spirit, and may we all be willing to go when Christ is leading us. ~ Pastor Lori

### Question and Answer Time with Pastor Lori

After worship on Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Q& A session with Pastor Lori. The session will be very informal to share ideas and give an overview of the interim ministry, structure and process during the upcoming months. It will also give everyone a chance to meet Pastor Lori. All are welcome!!



# The weeks to come

Sat., Jan 7	8 AM 6 PM	Men's Breakfast AA Mtg.
Sun., Jan 8	10 AM 12 PM 7 PM	Worship Mira Vista Service Al-Anon
Mon., Jan 9	9 AM – 2 PM 7 PM	Senior Center Opera Group
Tues., Jan 10	3:30 PM 7 PM	Vale AA Meeting
Wed., Jan 11	6 PM 7 PM 8 PM	Joint Confirmation (PLTS) Bell Choir Choir
Thur., Jan 12	6 PM 7 PM	UCC Meditation UCC Choir
Sat., Jan 14	6 PM	AA Mgt
Sun., Jan 15	10 AM 11 AM 12 PM 7 PM	Worship Q&A with Pastor Lori Mira Vista Service Al-Anon
Mon., Jan 16	Martin Luther King Day – <b>No Senior Center</b>	
Tues., Jan 17	4:30 PM 6:30 PM 7 PM	Girl Scouts Worship Team Mtg. AA Mgt.
Wed., Jan 18	7 PM 8 PM	Bell Choir Choir
Thur., Jan 19	6 PM 7 PM	UCC Meditation UCC Choir
Sat., Jan 21	9 AM 6 PM	AAUW AA Meeting
Sun., Jan 22	10 AM 11:30 AM 12 PM 7 PM	Worship Annual Meeting Mira Vista Service Al-Anon

## Celebrating in our Community

Jan. 4	Susan Jogoda	Jan. 16	Birthdays of Marty and Barbara Schaefer
Jan. 5	Mike Odle Laurie Pangelina	Jan. 18	Liz Smith Agnes Chen
Jan. 6	Anniversary of Peter and Nora Krey Chris Pangelina	Jan. 23	Tyler Lohman Paul Lubkeman
Jan. 8	Josh Krey	Jan. 26	Rafaela Rohrbach
Jan. 11	Cindy Fosselius	Jan. 27	Nathan Garcia
Jan. 14	Brian Grosenheider	Jan. 30	Annette Larsen Anniversary of Keith and Orlando
Jan. 15	Becky Osman		

## **Second Mile Giving, January** **Pat will match any every dollar that is given in January!!!!**

This past fall, through a series of fortunate events, the preschool I run in Berkeley, Gay Austin School, accepted a four year old from Syria named Saleh Ashor. He and his family were part of the group of Syrian refugees allowed into the country under President Obama's plan. They are living for a year with a former Gay Austin family while they learn English and establish a network for themselves.

The family includes father, Mohammed, mother, Zenab, and little sister, Sham. This beautiful Muslim family has been embraced by the wonderful community we have at school, and Saleh is learning English faster than his parents!  
*Saleh as one of Santa's elves*



He is learning and participating in many American customs. Can you imagine being exposed to Halloween for the very first time as an adult? How strange some of our customs are.

Now, here's the reason I am telling you about the Ashor family. When the family left Damascus several years ago, Mohammed lost his livelihood as a carpenter and needless to say, left all his tools behind. I began thinking about how I might help him and his family regain some dignity and I thought wouldn't it be great to give him a substantial gift card to Home Depot so he could begin building his tool chest again?

So, during the month of January, I will match every dollar that comes in for Second Mile Giving and I will present Mohammed with a gift card at the end of the month. Please give as you are able and know you are supporting the least of our brethren. I myself am moved to tears when I think of this family, all they left behind, the continued stress they feel over the uncertainty in Syria and family left behind, and yet how they can continue to smile and feel grateful. It is I who am truly blessed ~ Pat Cosgrove

**Annual Congregational Meeting:** We will have our annual meeting on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> after worship. All reports are due to the church office by January 11<sup>th</sup>, in order that they may be reproduced to distribute on January 15<sup>th</sup> for you to review.