



Focus on Christ

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

Interim pastor's July 2017 message

Before our Who We Are and Here We Stand gatherings on July 16 and 30, **your opinion is needed:**

What ministry opportunities do you think CLC should address now?

On Sunday during coffee hour a sheet was handed out titled "Trends and Realities in the Larger Church and Christ Lutheran Congregation," which notes some realities that may be opportunities for connection and ministry, and some threats (things that are beyond our control) that may impact CLC's ability to serve and grow.

Take a look at the list below and then:

- 1) **Mark which you see as opportunities (O) and which as threats (T).**
- 2) **Choose the top 2-3 opportunities you think CLC should address first, or make your own suggestions.**
- 3) **Give your top opportunities choices to Pr. Lori before July 12** (so they can be tallied before the first meeting on the 16th). **Hard copies will be available on Sunday July 2 and 9, or email your choices to pastorlori@me.com**

We will gather right after brief worship services on the 16th and 30th to discuss mission and short-term goals. We will eat together, too. The second session builds on the work of the first, so plan to attend both gatherings. Every voice and idea is needed!

Blessings and peace,
Pr. Lori

Trends and Realities in the Larger Church and Christ Lutheran Congregation

- * Congregations are aging and shrinking
- * Religious affiliation is declining
- * Distrust of institutions
- * Use of internet and social media
- * CLC's location
- * No confirmation students (connection to joint ministry congregations)
- * El Cerrito High is within walking distance
- * 67% at CLC are 60-70 and older – while only 18% in El Cerrito are over 65, and the figure is 10% in Albany and Richmond (*Call Committee survey stats*)
- * 83% at CLC are Caucasian/White, 10% Latino/Hispanic, 5% Asian, 1% African-American/Black – while in El Cerrito 59% are Caucasian/White, 26% Asia, 12% Latino/Hispanic, 7% African-American/Black (*CC survey stats*)
- * 9% at CLC are foreign-born, while the figure is 28% in El Cerrito and 33% in Albany and Richmond (*CC survey stats*)
- * 53% of CLC participants feel a strong connection to CLC, 20% moderate, 17% mild and 11% no connection (*CC survey stats*)
- * Hope, El Sobrante, also is without a permanent pastor (as of Sept. 2017)
- * Mira Vista connections
- * Other suggestions?

Remember: email me (or place your hard copy in my mailbox) the 2-3 opportunities you think CLC should address now!

Christ
Lutheran
Church

A Christ-caring
community

780 Ashbury
Avenue

El Cerrito
California
510 524-1050

Rev. Lori Eickmann
Interim Pastor

Marty Schaefer
Organist

George Fosselius
Choir Director

Bill Goehring
Office Manager



July 2017

Save the Dates

MEN'S BREAKFAST
Saturday, July 1 at 8 AM

GRACE LAO MUSIC CAMP
July 10 – 14, Grace Lao Church

WORSHIP TEAM MEETING
Tuesday, July 11 at 6:30 PM

CALL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, July 12 at 5:30 PM

LUNCH BUNCH AT DENNY'S
Thursday, July 13 at 11:30 AM

ALL-CONGREGATION VISION MEETING
#1
**Sunday July 16, following a brief
worship (60-90 mins)**

ALL CONGREGATION VISION MEETING
#2
**Sunday, July 30, following a brief
worship (60-90 mins)**

Celebrating in Our Community

July 1 Helen Cardiff
July 3 Ken Reid
July 10 Hannah Evan
July 11 Lily Hagspiel deAlba
July 12 Chris Hill
July 16 Haley Mack
July 18 Brian Reynolds
July 22 Arlin Aasness

July 23 Anniversary of Melissa &
J.P. Vainio
Michael Holm
Christine Roed
July 25 Amy Tiekü

Upcoming Senior Center Topics:

July 10 - A Talk on healing herbs
July 17 – A talk on medical alert devices
July 24 – A talk on single payer health insurance.
These talks take place at 11:30 – 12:30. If you plan to stay for lunch (\$3) afterward, please call Carol Kehoe in the morning at 524-1050 to reserve a place.

New Contact for Vainio Family:

5 Langdon Park Road
Plymouth, NH 03264 **Home phone:** [603-238-9202](tel:603-238-9202)
Cell phones: Jukka [603-257-0201](tel:603-257-0201) Caitlin: [603-257-0202](tel:603-257-0202)
Melissa: [603-257-0203](tel:603-257-0203) Chelsea: [603-257-0204](tel:603-257-0204)

The Lunch Bunch will be meeting at Denny's at 11:30 AM on Thursday, July 13th. This is open to ALL. If you need a ride or can give a ride, let Lysle know at 685-7434.

Grace Lao Music Camp "Connections" for Grade School Children, July 10 -14:

"Connections," a special annual music camp for grade-schoolers, will be at Grace Lao Lutheran Church, 1963 Carlson Blvd., Richmond, July 10-14, ending with a Sunday program on the 16th. This special week will show children how music "connects us" to God, to other people, and to God's world. There will be music lessons on ukulele, keyboard, violin, and perhaps trumpet. The program will begin each day at 9 a.m. with breakfast, followed by a Bible story and prayer led by Pastor Peter Krey. Special morning activities and demonstrations of the instruments will continue to noon.

In the afternoon there will be lunch at 12, recess and play time, music classes, and a closing gathering, ending at 2:30 p.m. Music classes will be lead by Director Michelle Levy, Randy Mayer, and Marty Schaefer, and maybe others!



The church makes this music camp available without charge to children from church and community. Volunteers lead and make the program special for all who come! And, of course, if people are able to help with donations for expenses, that's always welcome.

Contact Pastor Doris Ng, 685-5393, or email her at risng123@gmail.com. Children are encouraged to pre-register if possible!