



# 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

George Fosselius  
Choir Director

Marquise Usher  
Bell Choir Director

Bill Goehring  
Office Manager



November 2017

## Interim pastor's November 2017 message

All Saints. Commitment Sunday. Thanksgiving. Reign of Christ. In November two church festivals, our pledges of time/talent/treasure, and a secular holiday all beautifully point to the many gifts God has given. How do we respond to these gifts?

On **All Saints Day**, Nov. 5, we'll give thanks that saints in heaven and on earth are joined as one great cloud of witnesses to the love of God in Christ. Then on **Commitment Sunday**, Nov. 19, we'll "Re-commit to Re-formation" as we offer what we have and what we are for Christ Lutheran's ministries – which, like us, are always being made new.

The **Thanksgiving Eve** worship and pie social on Nov. 22 is an opportunity to invite someone to a brief, casual worship service to hear and give thanks for the good news of the love and mercy of Christ, which is healing the universe. And did I mention there will be pie?! We end the church year with **Reign of Christ** (or Christ the King) Sunday – continuing our praise and thanks for the God who took on human form to show us the way to true life.

*"Through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to God's self all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through Christ's blood on the cross." Col. 1:20*  
Autumn blessings and peace.

**Steering Team Meeting Summary:** The Steering Team meets monthly and will be posting the minutes of the meeting on the bulletin board of the church hall. Below is a summary of the last meeting:

- Discussed partnering with other churches on activities
- Bells to be purchased soon.
- Dan L. is still working on the roof project for bids
- The MSP (Ministry Site Profile) has been submitted to the Synod office
- Second Mile Giving for November goes to ELCA disaster relief
- Approved German Christmas Service on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Thanksgiving Eve Service:** Once again we will gather at CLC on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 22 at 7 PM. A pie social will follow the service. Please let the office know if you can bring a pie to share. Everyone is welcome. Invite your neighbors and friends.

**Bell Choir has New Director:** The Bell Choir shared in worship on Oct. 22 under the leadership of a new director, Marquise Usher. Marquise brings a great deal of expertise to CLC and we welcome him to our community. Picture is Pastor Lori welcoming Marquise. He replaces Melissa Vainio who moved with her family to New Hampshire.



## SAVE THE DATES

BELL CHOIR/CHOIR PRACTICE  
Wed, Nov. 1 (BC 7 PM/Ch 8 PM)

MEN'S BREAKFAST  
Saturday, Nov. 4 at 8 AM

BELL CHOIR/CHOIR PRACTICE  
Wed, Nov. 1 (BC 7 PM/Ch 8 PM)

WORSHIP AND SUNDAY  
SCHOOL  
Sunday, Nov. 12 at 10 am  
Worship

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
Sunday, Nov. 12 at 11:30 AM

WORSHIP TEAM MEETING  
Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 pm

BELL CHOIR/CHOIR PRACTICE  
Wed. Nov 15 (BC 7 PM/Ch 8 PM)

COMMITMENT SUNDAY  
Sunday, Nov. 19 at Worship

STEERING TEAM MEETING  
Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 7 PM

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE  
Wed. 7 pm – Pie social to follow

WORSHIP AND SUNDAY  
SCHOOL  
Sunday, Nov. 26 at 10 am  
Worship

BELL CHOIR/CHOIR PRACTICE  
Wed. Nov. 29 (BC 7 PM/Ch 8  
PM)

CHRISTMAS PARTY  
Friday, December 8

## Celebrating our Community

Nov. 3	Koby Tiekou	Nov. 13	Heather Slinde
	Mike Smith		Fred Wehking
Nov. 5	Philip Youngholm	Nov. 16	Christine Hult-Lewis
Nov. 7	Bertha Rohrbach	Nov. 22	Anniversary of Marty & Barbara Schaefer
Nov. 8	Mary Ann Hult		
Nov. 12	Nathaniel Lohman	Nov. 25	Isadora Bjelland
	Kim Mayer	Nov. 30	AnnBriel Hernandez
	Craig Lewis		

## Stewardship of Treasure – See How We are Doing!

Below is a Financial Statement of Giving from Jan.1 – Sept. 30, 2017.

General		
Budgeted Receipts	\$	15,019.00 \$121,154.13
Monthly Budget & YTD	\$	13,734.00 \$123,608.00
	\$	1,285.00 (\$2,453.87)
HARP		
Budgeted Receipts	\$	1,025.00 \$13,160.00
Monthly Budget & YTD	\$	800.00 \$7,200.00
	\$	225.00 \$5,960.00
Brewing Hope		
Budgeted Receipts	\$	235.00 \$2,370.00
Monthly Budget & YTD	\$	313.00 \$2,817.00
	\$	(78.00) (\$447.00)

## CLC Celebrates Reformation 500: Sunday, October 29, 2017

CLC celebrated the 500 Anniversary of the Reformation by posting reform ideas and then enjoying a special cake. Many also journeyed to Grace Cathedral in San Francisco that afternoon for Festival Worship with the entire Sierra Pacific Synod.



## Congratulations to Kyle Holm

who recently received his Associate of Science Degree in Veterinarian Technology from Carrington College.

**Blessing of the Animals:** On Oct. 1, CLC celebrated the Festival of St. Francis of Assisi with our annual Blessing of the Animals. Pictured is Pastor Lori blessing Judy's dog Petie while Bill and friend waited for Pastor Lori to bless Tubby and Roxi.



**Commitment Sunday, November 19:** Letters and pledge cards have been sent to all members of CLC for 2018. Please prayerfully consider your pledge of Time, Talent and Treasure as an expression of God's blessing to you.

**Anyone need a wheel chair?** We have several wheel chairs, walkers, crutches and portable potties in storage that could be put to good use. Please contact the office if you know anyone who might have need of these items.

