



Goodnewsletter

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. John's at Prayer

This is a special time to pray. I hope all members will accept the invitation to join together in praying over the next five weeks. We marked the weekly subjects on the enclosed church calendar.

June 5—11—Pray for People with Special needs (those sick, injured, homebound, hungry, homeless, unemployed fearful, troubled)

June 12—18—Pray for the Church (St. John's, our Call committee & Council, the pastor the Lord is preparing for us, our unity & dedication)

June 19—25—Pray for You (that you will be all that God calls you to be,

healed, whole, at peace)
June 26—July 2—Pray for God (that is, express your love to him, your gratitude, pray for his will to be done)

July 3—9—Pray for Our Nation (our local & national leaders, our citizens, those in the armed forces, for our efforts toward peace)

Our Sunday sermons will also deal with prayer. Be there to think through why we pray and how we pray.

June 5—"Prayer Has Power"
June 12—"Pray When It Is Hard to Pray"
June 19—"Pray with the Bible

Open"
June 26—"Pray When You Are Alone"
July 3—"Joint Prayer Has Special Effect"

Our Telephone Ministry Team has been a great force within the congregation to make sure that every member of the congregation is prayed for regularly. Now imagine the results as every member of the congregation is in prayer at the same time for the same cause or need.

Jesus promised, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you" (Matthew 7:7) Prayer is a great gift with great power and with great promises from God.

Pastor Gene



June
2005
Volume 3
Issue 6

Sunday Worship:
Contemporary 9:00 am
(2nd & 4th Sunday)
Traditional 9:00 am
(1st & 3rd Sunday)

EHCC Sunday School 9:00 am
Sunday Adult Forum 10:30 am

4th Tuesday 7:00 pm
Women's Eve. Bible Study

Thursday Choir 7:30 pm

Council Members:
Pat Cowan—President
Glenda Holsbo—V.P.
Stephen Dietrich—Treasurer
Denise Lemler—Secretary

Rod Cravens
Vicky Gay
Bill Martin
Patti Persiani

St. John's Mission

Statement:

St. John's is a congregation of believers in Jesus Christ, called by the Holy Spirit into a community of faith and love to be God's instruments of love and grace.

MOVED: Norma Linstroth moved to Ventura County to be closer to her daughter. Norma has been a faithful member here and will be greatly missed. God bless you!

SOME OF THOSE ON OUR PRAYER LIST RECENTLY ARE: Norma Linstroth, Florida Lupachini, John and Ruby Collins, Jim Laffey, Barbara Gay, Miria Stephens, Jeane Lawrie, Florence Stephens and Denise Lemler. Please call the church office if there are others we should be including in special prayer.

Happy Birthday

Jeanne Kenney
Pat Cowan
Brian Cowan
J.R. Stephens
Ellen Spitzer

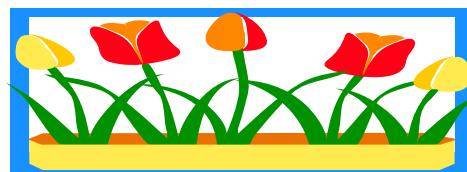


NEEDED:

- Someone(s) to change the street sign as needed.
- Our food pantry, in the kitchen, could use a donation. Thanks for helping.
- Remember when you return from vacation and don't know what to do with all those small bottles-We are collecting them for Becky's house. You can leave them in the marked box in the kitchen.

WANTED:

- Old ink cartridges to recycle. Leave them at the office. We get cash back.
- Box Tops 4 Education-They are on some of the General Mills products. You can leave these at the office, also.



Memorial Garden News
The Memorial Garden will soon be ready to plant. One of our Girl Scout troops, that meets here, will be supplying us with some plants. Do you have one? We are, also going to plant flowers around the sign after it's been painted and plant some up front by the sanctuary.

Happy Wedding Anniversary

Dave & Patty Persiani
Harvey & Glenda Holsbo
Charlie & Mildred Meyer



News from the Council Chair

It's wonderful to report so many happenings – we certainly are a busy little church! The Easter Season was filled with lots of activity and we are so thankful to have so many faithful and helping hands to make everything such a great success.

Brian and I were the delegates to the Annual Assembly of the Pacifica Synod, held this year here in San Diego at the beautiful Town and Country Resort in Hotel Circle, joined by Pastor Gene and Grace. We enjoyed meeting old acquaintances, worshipping in full force with all the beauty and formality only possible in large numbers of clergy and laity, listening to the speakers and hearing what's new in our religion and reaffirming the old and true. The keynote speakers were Dr. Phyllis Anderson, who is the newly installed president of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, and Bishop Gomez, from El Salvador. Dr. Anderson spoke of the major challenge facing all denominations, but especially ELCA, today, that is, how to attract newcomers to our faith while 'competing' with the mega churches who offer loud and stylish music and glitter and show-times, while maintaining our beloved Lutheran traditions. No one wants to change our faith to meet the fads of the day, yet we are seeing so many declining congregations contrasting with the huge, amplified, modern, mega churches, that it's hard not to want to imitate what they're doing. She urged all of us to keep this dilemma in our prayers as we work to find a solution.

Bishop Gomez thanked us for our wonderful support during his country's earthquake, and reported on the re-growth that is occurring there today.

We have a new alarm system installed in the sanctuary, courtesy of East Hills, and it's already shown me the need to pay attention when you are given the instructions on how to use it: I managed to lock myself inside the sanctuary while doing Altar Guild. My purse, keys, cell phone, SHOES, jacket – all were sitting in Pastor's office. So there I was: no way to call anyone, no way to get back into the church offices, no way to get even in my car, and NO SHOES. At noon, on a hot Saturday. A lesson in ingenuity, and also a lesson in the First Rule of Church: BRING YOUR KEYS!!!

Glenda is hard at work on the Fourth of July Carnival. This year, East Hills will be joining us, and we have all sat together to bring our efforts into one big event. Pray that it's not over 100 degrees again!

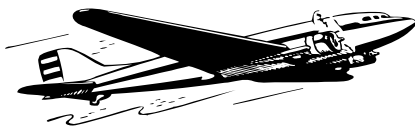
I want to take this opportunity to thank David Bailey for leading our choir this year, and to wish him all the best as he continues his studies at Penn State next year. We have all grown as a choir under his tutelage, as well as having grown fond of him and Rachel. And we also thank him for finding his own replacement so our music ministry will continue uninterrupted after the summer break.

Another thank you and "Job Well Done" to our Corie Stephens – she's given her notice that she's no longer able to continue as our Custodian, and we've replaced her with a cleaning company. Thank you, Corie, for having taken care of the offices, rest rooms, kitchen and Fellowship Hall, for so long, and we wish you all the best in your job with Cingular, as well as your studies at Grossmont.

Our finances seem to be a little more stable as of this writing: we have paid off the \$25,000 term loan incurred last November, put funds aside for the Endowment Committee to use for grants, set aside a fund to use for calling a new pastor, and paid one quarter of the yearly benevolences as set for by the Benevolence Committee, and still have a few shekels to rub together in the bank account. We are still looking at having to pay off the large Line of Credit, but we will put monies towards that as they become available (or, if there's a designated donation, we could use that).

May God's peace be with each one of you throughout this month and all the year!

Pat Cowan



MAF (Mission Aviation /Fellowship)
We have news of what the Ault family has been doing since January. The letter is posted in the entry hallway, by the courtyard doors, above the old altar.

“Growing for Christ”

Prayer for Our Call Committee

Since we're into prayer, do name before the Lord our members who are serving on our Call Committee—Ernie Burkleo, Pat Cowan, Luella Cravens, Judy Dietrich, John Stephens, and Laura Stephens. As they interview the candidates referred to us by the bishop, pray that they will have the gifts of wisdom and discernment, the gifts of understanding and hearing the leading of the Holy Spirit. And pray for those they will interview. We are requesting the names of pastors willing to serve on a half-time basis. Please remember that until the committee is ready with a recommendation, information about those being interviewed needs to remain confidential. If the committee is ready to recommend a candidate to call, they will propose that to the Council and the Council will schedule a Congregational Meeting to consider extending the call. Prior to that meeting. The Call Committee will arrange an opportunity for members of the congregation to get acquainted with the pastor being considered.



On Sunday, June 5, we want to recognize & join in prayer for those graduating from high school and college and special programs. We listed in the May newsletter our high school and college graduates. In addition, we want to note that Lisa Wallace is completing her training at Grossmont College as a Vascular Ultrasound Tech. If we missed anyone else, please leave a message for Pastor Gene Holtz.

We congratulate all of you for your achievement and we celebrate with you the future that God has opened for you. May he guide and direct your ways.

The reception following the service will honor our grads and will be a farewell to David Bailey.



Summertime is Camping Time....

Lutheran Retreats, Camps, and Conferences of Southern California offer a wide variety of camping opportunities including Teen Camp, White Water Rafting, and Intergenerational/Family Camp. Camping opportunities begin at grade 3. For more information contact Pastor Gene or call Lutheran Camping at 800-464-2417.

Viva Volunteers!

Interfaith Shelter Network held a celebration of their volunteer commitment on May 25. Patty Persiani was recognized as one of their many volunteers, over the past 19 years. This year they were able to place 3 of their guest in jobs and apartments. We are all blessed, so let us continue on with our work and grow with Christ.



Regarding East Hills Christian Church—

East Hills is now worshipping at 10:45 am instead of 11:00 am. And any children from St. John's are welcomed to enroll in their Sunday School that meets from 9:00 am—10:00 am.

June Worship Assistant's Schedule

	9:00 am	
CANTOR	Pat Cowan	6/5 & 6/19
READERS		SNACKS
6/5	Vicky Gay	Maxine Mattson
6/12	Vicky Gay	Marilyn Litsheim
6/19	Charlie Meyer	The Women bring snacks
6/26	Charlie Meyer	Rene Brown
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS		
6/5	Vicky Gay	
6/12	Vicky Gay	
6/19	Charlie Meyer	
6/26	Charlie Meyer	
USHERS		
6/5	Rene Brown	Please be prepared to light
6/12	Rene brown	and extinguish candles.
6/19	Marilyn Litsheim	
6/26	Marilyn Litsheim	
		The Worship Assistant's Schedule is posted for the reminder of the year, in back of the sanctuary.
ALTAR GUILD	Judy Dietrich	
	Thank you for all your help during our service.	



July 4

Neighborhood Carnival

3:00 pm



Cake walk

Come and celebrate Independence Day with us.

Fireworks 9:00 pm

Spaghetti Dinner 6 PM

Games
and so
much more





hot dogs
& drinks



Published
Monthly



ST. JOHN'S
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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El Cajon, CA 92019

Address service requested

“Growing for Christ”

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Website: <http://www.stjohnslutheranelcajon.org>

Staff:

Eugene Holtz Interim Pastor
Laura Stephens Secretary
David Bailey Director of Music
Jeane Lawrie Accompanist
Drew Peterson Accompanist
Beth Stephens
& Corie Stephens Youth

Weekly Group Building Usage

Sundays	4 pm	Women's Way	Thursdays	6 pm	SerenitySeekers
Monday-Friday		CNU- Refuge Aid	Every other	6 pm	G. S./Brownies
Monday-Friday	7:30 am	A.A.Coffee Clutchers	3rd	7 pm	4H/Beef/Dairy
Monday-Friday	12 pm	A.A. EC Noon Group	Fridays	9 am	License 2 Freedom