



# Goodnewsletter

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2010

Lent is a season of preparation for the celebration of Easter. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten*, which means 'spring,' the time of the lengthening of days. At first Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism on Easter Eve. They were taught the gospel message and the Lord's Prayer. They prayed, fasted, and did penance. Eventually, Lent became a time of reflection and self-examination for all Christians.

In our busy, secular world, Lent is a time of renewal, a time to remember Jesus; to walk with him in study, prayer, and service to others, to engage in personal and family worship. However, during Lent Christians as the body of Christ also need to come together to worship and study with others.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday before Easter. Lent lasts forty days, not counting Sundays. Sundays aren't counted because Sunday always celebrates Jesus' victory over sin and death. Even during Lent, Sunday is a 'little Easter.'

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Worship for the day focuses on the themes of sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ. Traditional words in the service are "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We receive everlasting life only as a gift of God's grace.



*from Pastor*

Scripture refers to ashes both as a sign of mortality and a sign of repentance. We use ashes to make a cross on your forehead to symbolize our mortality and our faith in our eternal Lord.

St. John's offers two worship services on Ash Wednesday and Lenten services: 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday and 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. (following our 5:30 p.m. soup supper) on Lenten Wednesdays. Generally, we are called to observe Lent as a time of repentance, prayer, and self-denial; of meditation on Jesus' life and death; and of self-giving to others, especially to those who suffer and are in need. Specifically, our five Lenten services will focus on God's love as taught us in 1 John 4:7-21. We will reflect on the meaning of one or two verses each week.

P.S. - Hanley, Olivia, and I wish to thank everyone for the wonderful Christmas cards and gifts. Many of them came so fast and furious that we have no idea who sent what. So we send this general Thank You for all your love, kindness, thoughts and prayers. Blessings!

Pastor George's cell  
619-249-5224

### Sunday Worship:

Traditional (1st & 3rd Sunday)	9:00 am
Contemporary (2nd & 4th Sunday)	9:00 am
Children's Sunday school	9:15 am
Adult Forum	10:30 am

### Tuesday:

Women's Bible Study	9:30 am
2nd Tuesday: Council meeting	7:00 pm

### Wednesday :

### Thursday:

Choir practice	7:30 pm
4th Thursday: Women's PM Bible study	1:00 pm

### Council Members:

Brian Cowan	Chair
Mona Anderson	Vice Chair
Susan Shaddox	Treasurer
Laura Stephens	Secretary
Stephen Dietrich	
Stuart Lindstrom	
Beth Stephens	

Financial Secretary: Judy Dietrich

### 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.

# St. John's Home Page



## WOMEN'S NEWS

Our next Bible study will be on February 25 at 1 pm. Join us in the Conference Room as we 'travel' through The Lutheran Women's Today magazine.

Join us for all the fun.

## CHOIR NEWS



All members are welcome to join the choir. Please contact the church office (444-1272) and leave your name and phone number, so our director, Breena, can get back to you.

Choir practice is on Thursdays, starting at 7:30 pm.

*"Sing a glad song to the Lord"*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



9 Paul Stephens  
14 Ernest Burkleo  
21 Corie Stephens  
27 Rodney Cravens

News you can use



Crafters there will be a meeting on Saturday, February 6th starting at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. This is a gathering meeting to get ideas, make plans for our Craft sale on October 16th.



Garden Club will be meeting on Saturday, February 27th at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall to plan our activities.

Please join us.

## Happy Wedding Anniversary



3 Cowan, Brian & Pat  
22 Craven, Rod & Luella



Our sympathies go out to Arlene Perkins and family on the passing of Noland John Perkins, a former member. May God bring them comfort.

- Just a reminder -

## February

2/9 Council meeting  
2/14 Valentine's Day  
2/16 Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake dinner  
2/16 Preschool Board meeting  
2/17 Ash Wednesday  
2/21 First Sunday in Lent  
2/24 Lenten soup supper & service

If you received the 2009 Lutheran magazine, due to an automatic renewal from 2008, please consider helping in the payment of it; \$18. You can place the payment in the Offering or drop it by the office. Thanks. Your 2009 subscription will end in March.



## MARCH

3/3—3/24 Lenten soup suppers & service  
3/9 Council meeting  
3/14 Daylight Savings begins  
3/16 Preschool Board meeting  
3/17 St. Patrick's Day  
3/20 Spring begins  
3/28 Palm Sunday

## From the Council's Chair



## Preschool News



Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greetings:

This will be my last newsletter message for the council. At our January council meeting, we elected new officers for the 2010 council. If you were not able to be at the church service on January 17<sup>th</sup> for the installation, here is the line-up of the executive team of the council:

Chair: Brian Cowan  
Vice-Chair: Mona Anderson  
Secretary: Laura Stephens  
Treasurer: Susan Shaddox

I am confident that the executive team will continue to lead St. John's forward according to God's will and the congregation's wishes.

Also at the council meeting, we determined which council members would be responsible for the various committees.

For your information, here is the list::

Budget and Finance: Susan Shaddox  
Christian Youth & Education: Beth Stephens  
Preschool: Mona Anderson  
Evangelism: Stuart Lindstrom  
Negotiations: Steve Dietrich  
Property: Laura Stephens  
Social Ministry: Stuart Lindstrom  
Stewardship: Brian Cowan  
Worship and Music: Susan Shaddox

Feel free to contact any of these council members for information about their committees.

I look forward to continue working with the rest of the council and Pastor George to make 2010 even more successful for St. John's.

God's blessings,  
Steve

St. John's Lutheran preschool is a ministry to reach out to the community in support of parents and children in a loving Christian environment. On February 1st we will be starting our first session and I am hopeful that we will continue to grow. I have had a very favorable response from the posting on Craig's list (a local internet web page) and our advertisement in San Diego Family magazine will definitely catch parents eye. Our enrolment is currently at 5 and we have another 3 students scheduled to start in March. This is only the beginning of a great future for your preschool and without your continued support and kindness it would not have been possible. Please continue to pray for our growth and that God puts a 'hedge of protection' around the staff and students while in our care.

April Johnson, Preschool director





Volume 8 Issue 2

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL  
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Website: www.stjohnslutheranelcajon.org  
Preschool Website:  
www.saintjohnslutheranpreschool.com  
Preschool phone: (619) 749-2605

Staff:

George Ekeren-Moening	Pastor
Laura Stephens	Secretary
Breana Loraine	Music Director
Jeane Lawrie	Accompanist
Drew Peterson	Accompanist
April Johnson	Preschool Director

Office hours: **Tuesday—Thursday**  
**9am—4 pm**

### Other Churches that meet here

East Hills Christian Church (Sunday - 10:30 am ) (shares the building w/ St. John's)  
Jesus Mi Senor (Sunday - 1 pm & Thursday - 6 pm)  
Family of God Community Church (Sunday - 11am)

### Weekly Group Building Usage

<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	6:00 pm	Sober Sunday A.A.	<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	6:30 pm	DBSA (Depression Bipolar Support Alliance)
<b><u>Monday-Friday</u></b>	12 pm	EC Daytime Group A.A.		8 pm	NA Speakers
<b><u>Monday</u></b> every other (10/12)	3:30 pm	Girl Scout/Brownie troop	<b><u>Friday</u></b>	6:30 pm	Friday AA
	6:30 pm	Monday Steps A.A.		7:30 pm	Al-Anon Open
	6:30 pm	Woman's Closed A.A.	<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	3rd or 4th	6 am SHARE pick up
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	7 pm	Women's Al-Anon Closed			Sign up for SHARE during church office hours.
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>					
2nd	6:30 pm	Girl Scout Leaders Circle			