



May 2007

Goodnewsletter

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Holy Cow!

Our Holy Week and Easter Sunday was wonderful. I thank everyone who helped and participated in these events and made them a huge success. I thought our Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter morning services were excellent. I was taken back by the number of people at our Easter morning service and for all who stayed for Easter breakfast. St. John's really is moving in the right direction!



from Pastor George

Hotter Than Thou Chili Cook-Off

And the winner of the Best Presentation Award is...St. John's Lutheran Church, El Cajon! Yes! That's right! St. John's won the Best Presentation Award. Laura decorated our table with our little volcano, some plastic palm trees and lava rocks and WOWWED the crowd. Congratulations, Laura!

Financially, the chili cook-off was a huge success for Lutheran Campus Ministry. The donation on Sunday, April 22nd for the entire Lutheran community totaled over \$19,000, with over \$300 raised by little old St. John's!

Diapers

We are still collecting diapers for families in need in the back country. Please continue to purchase and bring diapers. This is a huge help to people who live on such little income. You have done such a great job these past months supplying diapers. Keep it up!

Pacifica Synod Assembly

I will be in Honolulu April 30 to May 9 for the synod assembly and a bit of vacation time. I must admit that I'm looking forward to my time in Hawaii. I enjoy synod assemblies and I'm sure I'll enjoy

my time on the island.

Pat Cowan will preach on Sunday, May 6th. This is a great opportunity to hear a different perspective and style.

Preaching can be very intimidating, especially preaching to people you know – and who know you. Please support and encourage Pat.

I will give you a synod report when I return and we are planning a Hawaiian celebration on Sunday, June 10th.

Memorial Weekend Vacation

I will be on vacation Friday, May 25th through Wednesday, May 30th. I will be visiting my home town of Yankton, SD. My nephew is graduating from high School on May 27th and it will be my first trip back to Yankton in 7 years. It will give me a great chance to see my dad and step-mom, my brothers and their families.

Tijuana, Mexico

This summer I am planning a St. John's Lutheran day in Tijuana, Mexico. We would go with Lutheran Pastor Bill Ratz of Transformational World Ministry, who leads groups to Tijuana for educational opportunities. Last summer I went with a group of pastors lead by Pastor Bill and we learned about immigration issues and about the community that has grown around the Tijuana dump. It was a great day and has stayed on my mind ever since.

We do not have a date setup yet. The cost would be \$25 per person, and it is well worth it. Please let me know if you are even remotely interested.

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
4th Tuesday: Women's Business mtg	8:45 am
Women's Eve. Bible Study	7:00 pm

Wednesday:

Confirmation class	6:00 pm
Bible study	6:45 pm

Thursday:

Choir	7:30 pm
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Council Members:

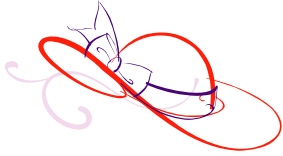
Pat Cowan	President
Glenda Holsbo	Vice President
Vicky Gay	Secretary
Mona Anderson	Treasurer
Rod Cravens	
Mike LaValle	
Bill Martin	
Paul Sofranko	
Laura Stephens	

Financial Secretary: Mona Anderson

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



Sister's in Christ luncheon

Saturday,
May 26
11 am
Coco's Café
East Main Street
El Cajon

Join us with a decorated hat and don't forget your lunch money.



Meals on Wheels

Only \$7 a day for 2 meals! Not possible, but it is if you use the Meals on Wheels program. Call 447-8782 and talk to Caroline Epps. She can tell you how to get started receiving the great meals available. OR if you like to travel and want to be a delivery driver, call Caroline, as well. She can give you all the info you need. This is a wonderful program devoted to helping seniors remain independent.



Happy Birthday

- 12 Lorrie Feuser
- 26 Doris Hartman
- 26 Laura Stephens
- 30 Ruby Laffey
Kathy Ritcer
Cynthia Cooley
Connie Reck



Happy Wedding Anniversary

- 2 Pastor George & Shannon Ekeren-Moening
- 12 Paul & Laura Stephens
- 29 Phil & Katherine Anderson



Many, many, many thank you's to all who helped with the Rummage Sale and all the shoppers. We are planning on doubling the funds through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and hope to get more for our special project.

May

- 3 — National Day of Prayer
- 8 — Council meeting
- 13 — Mother's Day
- 19 — Armed Forces Day
- 26 — Sister's in Christ luncheon
- 27 — Pentecost Sunday
- 28 — Memorial Day



June

- 3 — Confirmation
- 10 — Congregational meeting
- 10 — Hawaii Luau
- 12 — Council meeting
- 14 — Flag Day
- 17 — Father's Day
- 21 — Summer begins

Greetings from the President's desk:

Our cross is here! Have you seen it? It's BIG! It's lying on the hardtop parking lot in the area surrounded by the fence, just waiting for happy hands to come by and paint on the weather coating. I know we'll have lots of helpers for this because this is FUN! OK, it's not pink, sigh, but it's still fun to pick up a paint brush (located right there in the garage, just in case you need to know!) and add your two cents' worth to the cross.

Inside the almost-completed fence – what wonderful words! That fence has been a huge job and this is a great big SHOUT OUT to those who are doing all this wonderful work! I don't want to forget any names so I won't try to name them, but we all know who's doing a monumental job out there and we THANK YOU very much.

On April 22 we planted two Southern Magnolia trees. They will grow to be stately wonders, and will provide comforting shade in a bleak corner of our lot. I just love those large, waxy blooms, and the trees themselves are large, graceful trees. It'll be fun watching them grow. Funny how fast that will happen: when I was a child, a tree would take forever to grow; now that time is moving so quickly, those trees will be up and full grown in no time at all!

Have you noticed that this is a LOT of activity? We are a little church. We have few hands. It's always the same people doing the same things. It seems I've heard these sentences for years already, and look: in spite of them, or maybe because of them, look at all we're accomplishing! We are a little gem in the heart of El Cajon. When I look back on the newsletters of the last few months, I see lots of articles regarding all the things we are doing and making and I'm so proud of our little group.

As I write this, we are one week away from going to Hawaii for the Pacifica Synod General Assembly. I just want you to know that Brian and I are so grateful for the opportunity to represent St. John's at these assemblies, and particularly we are excited to go to Hawaii. It will be wonderful to interface once again with the members of the Synod, some of whom have become friends over the years that we've been attending, and of course, I can't say enough about how exciting it is to go to Hawaii! We intend to be faithful stewards of the faith while enjoying the beauty of the islands.

Til next month, your Sister in Christ,
Pat



To receive your newsletter via E – mail, contact Stephen Dietrich at:
sjdietrich@cox.net

Council Committee chairs:

Christian Education
and Youth—Mona Anderson
Evangelism— Glenda Holsbo
Negotiating—Pat Cowan
Property— Rod Cravens, Bill Martin
Social Ministry— Vicky Gay
Stewardship—
Worship and Music— Miria Stephens
















If you need to contact a council member,
please leave them a note in their mailbox.

Our Social Outreach Ministry is collecting:

- Diapers, any size, for Salvation Army Back Country
- Adult protection underwear (Depends) for Salvation Army Back Country
- Box Tops 4 Education for the Navajo Lutheran Mission
- Used eye glasses
- Personal hygiene products
- School supplies for Lutheran Border Concerns Ministry and Lemon Grove Lutheran Church

May 2007

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
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Pentecost
Festival

Pentecost Sunday
May 27
3:30—6:30 pm

Join us to commemorate the beginning of the season of Pentecost and to celebrate the bi-lingual ministries of Clairemont Lutheran Church and Our Savior's Lutheran Church. All are welcome and all ages are invited to participate in the kickball tournament.

Agenda:

3:30 pm — team registration & all afternoon BBQ starts

4:00 pm — Kickball tournament begins

5:15 pm — Mission Celebration

6:00 pm — Kickball Championship Game

We hope you will join us for this fun and Spirit-filled afternoon!

Anyone interested playing kickball for team St. John's ?



**Pacific Southwest
District L.C.M.S.
Annual Lutheran
Camp Day &
Picnic**

THURSDAY
June 28

10 am — 3pm

Park open to 8 pm

\$15 over 10 years

\$12 3 — 9 years

Parking: \$8

Lunch Buffet: \$9

Food & Coupon packages:

\$5.50 — \$6.50

8770 Irvine Center
Drive
Irvine

(just north of the 5/405 connector,
on 405, at Irvine Center
Drive)

To get this great price
we need

15 water enthusiasts,
so call the church office
by June 17, 444-1272,
to reserve your water
spot.

**Fellowship
Night**

FRIDAY
August 31

7:05 pm

\$11

300-328

(nose bleed sections,
though 300 is right
above home base)

(even on the left, odd
on the right)

\$12

226,228,230

(left field reserved)

\$15

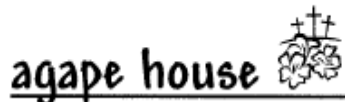
114,116,118,120,122,124

(right upper boxes)

Majority rules on seat
location, so decide
ASAP.

We need 25 seats to get
a block, at these prices.

Call the church office,
444-1272,
by June 10 so we can get
the reservation sent in.



Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry
San Diego State University
5863 Hardy Avenue
San Diego, CA 92115

Rev. Molly Knutson-Keller
Phone: (619) 583-3972
Fax: (619) 583-2554
Email: mollykk@hotmail.com
<http://www.agapehousesdsu.org>

April 23, 2007

*St. John's Lutheran Church
1430 Melody Lane
El Cajon, CA 92019*

Dear Pastor George and members of St. John's;

Blessings!

Thank you for your generous donation to Agape House, Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry at SDSU of \$100.00 given March 27, 2007. Your gift is greatly appreciated. Because of support from congregations like yours, our ELCA campus ministry at SDSU continues to thrive and empower young adults and college students in their ministry and call. We are grateful for your partnership in mission.

Thank you for your participation in this year's Clergy Chili Cook-Off. Without help from local churches, the Chili Cook-Off could not have happened.

Again, thanks for your commitment and support.

God's Peace and Light,

Rev. Molly Knutson-Keller

*Thanks so much for
coming to the Cook Off!
And thanks for your
awesome presentation!
God Bless,
Molly*

Unconditional love, unending exploration, unlimited possibility through Christ!

May's Worship Assistant's Schedule

	9:00 am	
CANTOR	Kristine Hurtado-Bergstrom	6 & 20
READERS		SNACKS
5/6	Vicky Gay	Glenda Holsbo
5/13	Vicky Gay	Kim Stephens-Doll
5/20	Marilyn Litsheim	Maxine Mattson
5/27	Marilyn Litsheim	Marilyn Litsheim
ASSISTANTS		
5/6	Paul Stephens	
5/13	Vicky Gay	
5/20	Vicky Gay	
5/27	Paul Stephens	
USHERS		
5/6	Rene Brown	Please be prepared to light
5/13	Rene Brown	and extinguish the candles
5/20	Mike LaValle	
5/27	Mike LaValle	
ALTAR GUILD	Connie Reck	
	Thank you for all your help	



We have notes from:

1. Florence Horst giving us Easter Greetings.
2. Ione Sykes letting us know how she is doing in Texas.
3. Shannon Ekeren-Moening thanking us for all our support we have given her.

If you would like to read any these notes, just stop by the office.



St. John's Women's News

The Easter breakfast was a huge success. Such an array of food; there were multiple egg dishes, an assortment of fruits, and all the sweet treats you could eat. Coffee and juice rounded out the menu. Seventy people enjoyed the delicious breakfast available and we raised \$250 for the Women's Benevolences. Thanks to all who fixed, mixed and cooked, all the great food and all those "dieters" that participated.



Volume 5 Issue 5

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1430 Melody Lane El Cajon, CA 92019

Address service requested

Phone: (619) 444-1272
Alternate phone number: (619) 328-1994
Fax: (619) 444-1353
Email: secretary@sj.sdcoxmail.com
Pastor's George's E-mail:
pastorgeorge100@hotmail.com
Website: <http://www.stjohnslutheranelcajon.org>

Staff:

George Ekeren-Moening	Pastor
Laura Stephens	Secretary
Breena Loraine	Choir Director
Jeane Lawrie	Accompanist
Drew Peterson	Accompanist

Office hours:

Tuesday—Thursday 8 am—4 pm

Weekly Group Building Usage

<u>Monday-Friday</u>	7:30 am	A.A.Coffee Clutchers	<u>Thursday</u>	6 pm	DBSA (Depression Bipolar Support Alliance)
<u>Monday-Friday</u>	12 pm	A.A. EC Noon Group		8 pm	NA Speakers
<u>Tuesday</u>	7 pm	Women's AlAnon	<u>Friday</u>	9 am	License 2 Freedom
3rd	7 pm	4H Beef		7:30 pm	AlAnon Open
<u>Wednesday</u>			<u>Saturday</u>		
2nd	6:30 pm	G.S. Leaders	4th	6:30 am	SHARE pick up
4th	7 pm	4H/ Golden Clover	<u>Sunday</u>		
			2nd	1 pm	SHARE sign up