



Goodnewsletter

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2009

St. John's Lutheran Pre-school

As you know, we have called April Johnson to be our pre-school director. April has been in the preschool business for many years and has experience opening successful preschools. I believe God answered our prayers and led April to us to help us build a very successful preschool ministry.

Our goal is to open the preschool as soon-as-possible. The sooner the preschool opens, the sooner we can begin enrolling children, the sooner the preschool starts to grow, and the sooner this ministry starts to support itself. April has already begun work, but we need to start anticipating our part of the ministry. St. John's members need to paint the three classrooms (scheduled for Monday, August 31st); enlarge the playground by rearranging the fence we already have; clean-up the back corner of the church property and build a garden area for the children; donate items on the preschool wish-list (or money to pay for the items); possibly build a small bathroom in the closet area next to the preschool office; put sinks in each classroom if possible; etc. There is plenty to do, but together our many hands will make short work.

Tecate Ministry

There are two orphanages in Tecate that need our help. First, the orphanage which I would like our primary focus to be on, Miracle Ranch, is building a desperately needed girl's dormitory. Most all the building materials have been donated and purchased. What they need now are volunteers to erect the building. Scott, a member of Lutheran Church of the Cross (Laguna Woods, CA) is the foreman of the project. I am in contact with him and we will schedule a Saturday or two to work on the dorm. Please consider participating. You do not need to be an expert in construction. There are many non-skilled jobs (this is why I can participate) that need to be done, including playing



from Pastor

with the children or helping them with art-work or crafts.

All you need to go is your passport (or your passport application and driver's license).

The other orphanage, San Juan Bosco, is in desperate need of food. They recently turned away children, because they are unable to feed them. I would like to collect moneys for San Juan Bosco on Sunday, September 13 and 20 and deliver it to them on Monday, Sept. 21. The orphanages in Mexico do not receive any government assistance. They only exist on contributions from loving, caring people. And I can not think of anyone who is more loving and caring than you, the beautiful members of St. John's Lutheran!

Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our Bible study begins on Tuesday, September 15 from 9:30-11:00. Please come and make this a special weekly hour-and-a-half for yourself and us.

The Ekeren-Moening Epic Vacation

The girls and I will be flying to South Dakota on Wednesday, September 2nd. We fly out of the San Diego airport at 6:30 a.m. and I'm already looking forward to prying my girls out of their beds. Yet, it will be a fun week for us. My niece is getting married on Sept. 4th - Olivia is the flower girl, I am a reader, and Hanley is the beautiful young lady sitting quietly in the pew. Then, after a week of eating way too much, staying up way too late, sleeping in way too long, listening to way too many stories from the relatives, we will return late Tuesday, September 8th.

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:

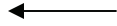
Stephens Dietrich	Chair
Brian Cowan	Vice Chair
Mona Anderson	Treasurer
Laura Stephens	Secretary
Stuart Lindstrom	
Bill Martin	
Susan Shaddox	

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



The Ekeren-Moening Epic Move

Many of you have asked when we officially move to El Cajon. Currently, we have all of our animals down here. The house is being repainted and fixed up a bit, and we'll probably move our "treasures" down from Temecula in the middle of September. Then my office will be turned back into the Pastor's Study from its current status as hotel room. On a Sunday in October, after the weather cools down a bit, I would like to invite all of you for a House Blessing and open house. I'll keep you posted.

In the meantime, keep up on your Book of Faith reading and study, and pray – pray for the ELCA, for our congregation, for our preschool, for the orphanages we support, for all our other ministries and the people we minister to, for the many groups and congregations that use our building, and for each other here at St. John's. God bless!

Happy Birthday



- 1 Patricia Lindstrom
- 5 Kristine Hurtado-Bergstrom
- 7 Glenda Holsbo
- 18 John Collins
- 28 Stuart Lindstrom
- 30 George Ekeren-Moening



Come and take a look at our treasures on Saturday, September 19, from 7 am—12 pm. To help make this a great sale, we need your donations; there is a spot in the Fellowship Hall for you to leave them. Also many hands make the work a lot easier during the sale mechanics. Call the office about helping. We need you!!!



Happy Wedding Anniversary

- 4 Stuart & Pat Lindstrom
- 25 Stephen & Judy Dietrich



DO YOU HAVE COUPONS YOU DON'T WANT ?

You can now leave them in the Coupon Box, located on top of the hallway mailboxes. So when you come across a coupon, bring it in and leave it for someone else to try. Thanks.

September

- 2-8 Pastor on vacation
- 15 Council meeting
- 15 Women's AM Bible study
- 19 Rummage sale
- 24 Women's PM Bible study & Business meeting
- 26 SHARE pick up
- 26 Sonshine Conference
- Bishop's Gathering
- 30 Lifeline Screening here

Our Social Ministry Outreach is collecting

- Box Tops 4 Education
- Used eye glasses
- Hygiene products
- Used ink cartridges and cell phones
- Items for Salvation Army Back Country--:adult underwear protection, blankets, warm clothing, diapers
- Women's clothing, coffee mugs, stationary for Welcome Home Ministries

From the *Council Chairman's* Desk

Greetings,

Well, we have come through another summer and are starting another school year. This year, however, we are looking forward towards the start of the Pre-School Director and the work to begin to bring the Pre-School into existence.

I understand that the Pre-School Board has selected a candidate and is in process of making an employment offer. More information will be provided as this goes forward.

We are also looking into having a Men's Retreat either later this Fall or shortly after the new year. We are still in the early planning stages of this, so if you are interested in being a part of this effort, please let Pastor George or me know.

This is the time of year that I start talking about the next year Council membership. We will be seeking additional members to serve on the Council. It is an important and rewarding personal ministry here at St. John's.

Until next month,

Steve



To receive your newsletter via E-mail, contact sjdietch@cox.net

Council Committee chairs:

Children's Christian Education —
Mona Anderson
Evangelism — Brian Cowan
Negotiating — Stephen Dietrich
Property — Laura Stephens
Social Ministry — Stuart Lindstrom
Stewardship — Brian Cowan
Worship & Music — Susan Shaddox

To contact a council member please leave a note in their mailbox.

WELCOME TO A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF SOCIAL MINISTRY

St. Johns, as part and the ELCA, is called to be part of the ecumenical church of Jesus Christ, in the context in which God has placed it- a diverse divided and threatened global society on a beautiful, fragile planet. In faithfulness to its calling, St Johns is committed to defend human dignity, to stand with the poor and powerless people, to advocate justice, to work for peace and to care for the earth in the processes and structures of contemporary society.

This statement adopted by the ELCA in 1991 and the summary elements that follow set forth affirmations and commitments to guide St. Johns participation in society.

1. Affirmation

- A. The Gospel and the Church
- B. The Church Universal
- C. The Church "in but not from" the World
- D. The church's responsibility in Society
In witnessing to Jesus Christ, the church announces that God, who justifies, expects the people to do justice. God's good and just demands address people in the obligations of their relationships and challenges of the world.
- E. The Baptismal Vocations of Christians
- F. A Community of Moral Deliberation

2. Commitments

In light of these affirmations, the ELCA makes the following commitments concerning:

- A. Sustaining Vocation
- B. Witnessing as an institution
- C. Deliberating on Social Issues

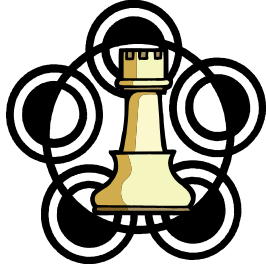
3. God's Faithful Love

The Church has the treasure of the gospel" to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us.

Our witness is a response to God's faithful love received in the Word and the Sacraments

....more to come

Stuart Lindstrom



Sonshine/West

Cluster Fall Event

SONSHINE CONFERENCE

BISHOP'S GATHERING

Saturday, September 26

10 am

Shepherd of the Valley LC

10842 Fury Road La Mesa

\$10 per person

lunch served

Call the church office to make a
reservation by 9/17.

Come and learn what the Bishop
Murray Finck has been doing and
what he wants to do.

Building in Partnership

Habitat for Humanity &

Thrivent Builds

Saturday, October 17

Register - 9:30 am

Program - 10 am \$6

St. Mark's L C

580 Hilltop Drive*, Chula Vista

Guest speakers: Penny Hovick & Sheri Bengtson will report about their recent trip to El Salvador where they built homes. Lunch will follow the program.

Gathering Love gifts for Lutheran Social Services "Project Hand". Needing: cereals, canned foods, rice, pasta, beans, PB & J, diapers, baby formula, wipes, personal items and laundry detergent.

SAVE THE DATE FOR
TACO'S SUNSET BY THE SEA

Mark your calendars for Sunset by the Sea to benefit the Third Avenue Charitable Organization (TACO), October 10, 2009 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at a beautiful seaside home in La Jolla. This event involves a live and silent auction, an autumn harvest supper, wine and cheese tastings, chocolate – not to mention a breathtaking view of the ocean.

Sunset by the Sea is TACO's largest fundraiser, and all proceeds from the auction go directly to support the ministry of serving the homeless and working poor.

Tickets are \$75 each or 6 for \$300, with all proceeds going to TACO. Only 150 tickets will be available for sale, beginning August 28.

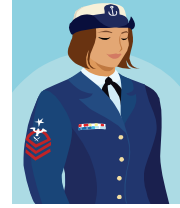
To purchase tickets or ask questions, please contact the Sunset by the Sea information line at 619-235-9445, ext 124.

Also, if you are interested in underwriting or sponsoring a portion of the event, or buying an advertisement for in our Auction Catalog, please contact Melanie Novak, Auction Chair, at (619) 294-9174. Every angel that helps cover the cost of hosting Sunset by the Sea helping TACO's bottom line and enabling the event to raise the maximum amount for those we serve. Sponsorship is a great opportunity to help TACO and spread the word about your personal support in the community.

In addition, we are continuing to raise funds for Christmas in July, even in September! For \$25, you can make someone's Christmas brighter with a gift of a sleeping bag.

Thank you again for your support of TACO!
We couldn't do it without you!

Blessings,
Rachel Line
Volunteer Coordinator



Do you know an active service person? I'm sure most of us know one or know someone that knows one and you hear the stories of their simple needs and wants.

Well, Corie Stephens does. Her name is Marga Hodge. Marga is being sent to Baghdad for 10 months. She is 25 years young and has 2 boys; 5 & 3. Her family lives in Virginia.

Like most that travel abroad, Marga has a wish list:

Sunflower seeds, panty liners, beef jerky, travel size Q tips, tooth brush, baby wipes, A T & T International phone cards, Carmax lip balm and baked goods. We plan on sending a Halloween package, so if you would like to contribute to Marga's 'goodie' package please have your items to the church by September 30. If you know of another person that could use a 'goodie' package, let the office know so we can treat them as well. The next package will be sent for Christmas. Thanks for helping support our troops.

*“Train up a child in the way he should go
And when he is old he will not depart from it”
Prov. 22:6*

St. John’s Lutheran Church,

What a wonderful opportunity for this ministry to reach out to the community to provide a loving and nurturing environment that will plant a seed and watch the most precious of God’s gifts grow in the fundamental’s of God’s word.

It is a honor and privilege to work alongside this congregation in serving the families by providing each child the opportunity to grow and develop their potential through a balanced educational experience while encouraging spiritual development.

It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child and here at St. John’s Lutheran Church, as we come together in serving the children in our care, there will be many opportunities for you to work alongside the preschool allowing the children to be blessed.

I have worked for many years in the preschool ministry and believe that God has called me here to serve both you and the community to build and develop a program that will touch the hearts and minds of many children.

I am most appreciative of your support and encouragement through this process and ask for your continued prayer that God go before me guiding my heart, mind and spirit.

In His Service,
April
Director

PRESCHOOL WISH LIST

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Trikes
Tarp for shading
Balls (any size)
Large Bucket (for play equip)
Sand Box
Sand
Shovels & Pails

ART SUPPLIES

Play dough (3 sets)
Easel (2)
Finger paint
Yarn/string
Paint Brushes (3 sets large)
Glitter (all colors)
Children’s scissors (blunt tip)
Construction Paper
(primary colors) (4 each)

TOYS

Puzzles (wooden)
Soft Blocks
Building Blocks
Dress up clothes
Books
Hula Hoops
Soft little Tyke cars

Any and all donations are greatly appreciated!

Worship Assistant's Schedule

	9:00 am	
CANTOR 9/6 & 9/20	Susan Shaddox	
READERS		CHILDREN'S CLASS
9/6	Vicky Morris	Cindy Cooley
9/13	Vicky Morris	Marilyn Litsheim
9/20	Stephen Dietrich	Pat Cowan
9/27	Stephen Dietrich	Mona Anderson
ASSISTANTS		SNACKS
9/6	Vicky Morris	Doris Hartman
9/13	Vicky Morris	Glenda Holsbo
9/20	Stephen Dietrich	Laura Stephens
9/27	Stephen Dietrich	Maxine Mattson
USHERS		
9/6	Mike LaValle	Please be prepared to light
9/13	Mike LaValle	and extinguish the candles.
9/20	Rene Brown	
9/27	Rene Brown	
ALTAR GUILD	Judy Dietrich	



St. John's Women's News

Welcome back from your summer break. Hope you had a great one. Our next Bible study will be on 9/24 at 1 pm. We'll have a Business meeting, after the study. Also we have decided to delay our Silent Auction until January. Save the date- the WELCA Assembly is on November 7; so watch for up-coming details.

Join us to listen to the word of the Lord and do the work of the lord.

CHOIR NEWS



All members are welcome to join the choir. Choir practice is on Thursdays starting at 7:30 pm. Please contact the church office and leave your name and phone number, so our director, Breana, can get back to you.

"Sing unto the Lord"



Volume 7 Issue 9

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
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georgeekeren@live.com

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

Staff:

George Ekeren-Moening

Laura Stephens

Breana Loraine

Jeane Lawrie

Drew Peterson

Pastor

Secretary

Music Director

Accompanist

Accompanist

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

Churches that meet here

East Hills Christian Church (Sunday - 10:30 am) (shares building)

Jesus Mi Senor (Sunday - 1 pm & Thursday - 6 pm)

Family of God Community Church (Sunday - 11am)

Weekly Group Building Usage

Sunday 6:00 pm A.A. Sober Sunday
Monday-Friday 7:30 am A.A. Coffee Clutchers
Monday-Friday 12 pm A.A. EC Daytime Group
Monday 6:30 pm A.A. Monday Steps
6:30 pm A.A. Woman's Closed
2nd 7 pm 4H Beef
Tuesday 7 pm Women's Al-Anon Closed
Wednesday
1st 5:30 pm Brownie troop
2nd 6:30 pm G. S. Leaders Circle
4th 7 pm 4H Golden Clover

Thursday 6 pm DBSA (Depression Bipolar Support Alliance)
8 pm NA Speakers
Friday 6:30 pm Friday AA
7:30 pm Al-Anon Open
Saturday
3rd or 4th 6 am SHARE pick up
Sign up for SHARE during church office hours.