



Magnify The Lord

Connecting People to Jesus

A Congregation of
The Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod

760 Victoria Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
(949)631-1611 - www.christcm.com
e-mail address - 1dline@christcm.com



CHRIST WELCOMES YOU!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us at Christ Lutheran! Please check us out on the web www.christcm.com for more information on all our ministries, missions and small groups. Need additional attention or direction? Give us a call in the church office and let us know how we can serve you! 949-631-1611 or 1dline@christcm.com

****LARGE PRINT VERSIONS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE AVAILABLE FROM AN USHER.**

Sermon Based Bible Studies

Sunday (on site)

Nancy Kuhlman ~ Room 113 ~ 9:30 AM
Francis Flacks ~ Fireside Room ~ 9:30 AM
Dean Dammann ~ Room 112 ~ 9:30 AM

Monday

Mandy Ruiz ~ 222 16th St. Huntington Beach ~ 7:00 PM
Amr3034@aol.com or 714-330-9695

Tuesday

Debbie Miller ~ 18887 San Antonio St. Fountain Valley ~ 7:00 PM
dmiller@onesourceind.com or 714-964-9384
Craig Conway ~ 905 Helena Circle, Costa Mesa ~ 7:00 PM
craigconway@yahoo.com ~ 714-540-8135

Thursday

Pastor Joe Strubbe ~ 3473 Venetian Dr. Costa Mesa ~ 1:15 PM
josephstrubbe@yahoo.com or 714-557-5891 **1st and 3rd Thursdays every month
Kathryn Shelton ~ TBD ~ 7:00 PM (singles)
katieshelton@yahoo.com or 714-916-8101
Chris & Mary Fewel ~ Fireside Room ~ 7PM ~ 2nd and 4th Thursdays every month
MPFEWEL@aol.com or cfewel@fewel-associates.com

Friday

Walt and Monica Bagnara ~ 969 Linden Place, Costa Mesa ~ 7:00 PM
1bagnara@christcm.com or 949-650-3728

Saturday

Herb Theiss ~ Gym and Room 102 ~ 7:30 AM (Men)
handvtheiss@sbcglobal.net or 714-556-6921

Student Ministry

Club 56 (5th and 6th): Monday December 14th – Christmas Party

Our next Club 56 event will be a Christmas party at church. We'll have an amazing time celebrating the holiday's as a group, so don't miss out. We're asking everyone to bring a wrapped White Elephant gift as well as a dessert treat to share with everyone. If there are parents willing to bring extra snacks for everyone, we are looking for volunteers. Questions, contact Kyle at 1KFrazier@christcm.com.

Lost and Found: TONIGHT – Jr. High Group 4:30-5:45

Pizza - \$2 and if you feel up to it, bring a treat to share. Every Sunday night we spend time playing games, hanging out, and in Bible Study. Don't miss it!

High Life (High School): Small Groups Tonight

In keeping up with our new model for High School Ministry, every first Sunday of the month will be spent in small groups. We have some great leaders lined up and are excited about this new aspect to the ministry. Hope to see you there.

Next Sunday – Christmas Sweater Party Dec. 13

Nothing says Christmas like a tacky Christmas Sweater. Show up wearing your best and most over the top Christmas Sweater sitting in your closet. We're doing a White Elephant Gift Exchange so wrap up the most random, bizarre, weird/odd thing you can find as we celebrate the season of giving by sharing these gifts with one another. If anyone is willing to provide food and/or treats for the party, please contact Kyle ahead of time at 1KFrazier@christcm.com to let him know.

AFV Taping for High Schoolers Saturday Dec. 12th 11:30 AM to 8PM

Off to Los Angeles for a taping of America's Funniest Home Videos. Bring money for a fast food dinner. There is a dress code! This event will not only be an amazing time, it will also serve as a small fundraiser and a chance for students to earn money towards future trips. Space limited...reserve your seat with Kyle ASAP.

Children's Ministry

Sunday School : 9:45 for students Preschool thru 6th grade
 Preschool 2-3yrs Rm: 109 / Pre-K & Kindergarten Rm: 103
 1st /2nd grade Rm. 106 / 3rd 4th grade Rm. 206 / 5th & 6th grade Rm: 207

Each week during our Sunday School classes we are practicing and rehearsing for our Christmas Program, on Dec. 20th at 11AM "Angels We Have Heard".

Parents of Angels: We will have a Saturday Practice on Dec. 19th from 9:30-11:00. (no Sat. practice for 2-3yrs class)

You need to provide an Angel costume for your child 2yrs -6th grade. **TODAY**
 They are \$8 each, contact Noël. 949-678-4396 1nfairchild@christcm.com
 Erika Augustine 714-884-4396 1eaugustine@christcm.com or

What's Happening?

- **Test Your Knowledge**...Who are: Bach, Besig, Carlson, Carson, Hopkins, Kountz, Lamb, Larson, McKechnie, McChesney, Price, Rutter, Tomlin & Tucker? Nope not a law firm – composers & arrangers of traditional & contemporary music that will be presented by several of our choirs during the Dec. 16 Advent Celebration. Please join us at 7PM (after a great Ruby's dinner at 6PM).
- **Habitat Volunteers** needed to put finishing touches on two homes in Westminster on Sat. Dec. 12. Contact Kathleen Meyer @ libra_msn.com or (714)544-1686. Weekdays - go to www.habitatoc.org and sign-up online or contact jaymie@habitatoc.org. ****WESTMINSTER DEDICATION IS JAN. 16TH 9:30 AM.**
- **Memo from financial secretary** ~ The 2010 offering envelopes are out on the patio this morning. PLEASE pick up your envelopes and use them in the coming year. Envelopes need to be used to get credit for your offerings.
- **ALF (Adult Lutheran Fellowship) Christmas Progressive Dinner**...Sunday, Dec. 20, 6pm. Bring a new member or friend to this fun, informal evening along with that special white elephant gift you've been saving all year. If you would like to host part of the meal, please contact Sue or Walter Hinrichs (714-662-0187).
- **ADOPT-A-FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS** - Tree is up and families are ready to be adopted by you! Read the instructions next to the tree, & **sign the register.** Return all gifts to church office by Wed. Dec. 16. Make sure each bag of gifts or gift cards is labeled with family's I.D.# and name. Thank you for helping these families this Christmas. Any questions, please call Barb Reiland at 714.549.2972
- **The ladies of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League** will be gathering items for two worthy causes beginning this Sunday: Interfaith Shelter & A Women's Safehouse. Please look for the LWML table on the patio TODAY for more information . **All Ladies, please join us Tues. Dec. 8, 7pm in the Fireside Room for our annual Christmas Party.** We'll be supporting the two projects mentioned above. Bring what you can to the meeting (unwrapped). Dessert & coffee will be served. *'Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me'*. You may contact Marty Flacks if you have questions, etc. (714)751-1201
- If you did not receive your **2010 New Testament Reading Calendar** last week, please pick one up from the table outside.

CONTRIBUTION REPORT ~ CHURCH BUDGET ~ 11/22, 2009

	Weekly Worship Attendance	Weekly Offering Received	Weekly Offering Budget	Offering Variance
11/25	188	\$ 3,550		
11/29	467	\$15,100	\$23,600	\$ -4,950
	Budgeted YTD \$ 495,600	Income YTD \$ 422,271		\$ - 73,329

4 Those 2 Come Capital Campaign

11/29 Pledged \$1,577,000 ~ Received To Date \$646,420 ~ Balance \$930,580

Message: Prepare Your Hearts ~ Luke 3:1-18

December 6, 2009

INTRODUCTORY MOMENTS

- Preparations
- God knew that the season had come to send His son, the second person of the Trinity, and he wanted to make sure that preparations were made.
- The chief preparer guy is John the Baptist, commissioned to prepare people's hearts for the coming King.
- The physical terrain gets it! Do we? Are we prepared?

I. JOHN'S OPENING SALVO (V.7)

“**BROOD OF VIPERS!**” A term that denotes:

Sneaky, Evasive, Deceitful!

II. THE CROWD CRIES OUT (v. 10)

III. DIRECTIVE CHALLENGES (11-14)

Does something spiritual happen when we do some thing as physical as give a coat and give a can of food?

IV. I LOVE STUDYING THIS PASSAGE ABOUT JOHN THE PREPARER GUY

“Lord, prepare me. Prepare me. Put your purpose in my mind. Help me not get caught up and lose the plot of the coming Messiah.” I think if each of us were to do this, pray this, we would feel more space in our hearts for the increased activity of the Messiah.

Let's prepare. Let's get Christmas right this year. Spend less; give more! Make room in your heart for the coming Messiah. Your life will never be the same again.

WHAT DO YOU NEED THE SPIRIT TO DO IN ORDER TO PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR THE COMING MESSIAH?

(KEY: HEARTS; SNEAKY, EVASIVE, DECEITFUL)

Small Group Discussion Guide: Prepare Your Heart

LUKE 3:1-18

Share

1. What Advent/Christmas traditions do you enjoy?
2. What part of Sunday's message challenged or stimulated you?

Study

Observations from the Text

1. Verses 1-2 recounts in unusual detail the historical setting of the Gospel story within the framework of world history. 2. The OT provides the background for the development of the story, verses 1-6.
2. This new voice, crying out in the desert, is a call to Israel to return to the desert, to return to faithfulness, to respond to God's grace as they had long ago in another desert.
3. There is a clear note of threat in his preaching that unfolds from the call to repentance. He is calling for a different way of being religious. That new way works out in the concrete realities of sharing coats and food, of dealing fairly and honestly, of respecting others (10-14). The newness of this action is underscored by the radical dimensions of the unfolding of this work of God. Mountains will be moved! Valleys will be filled in!
4. The conclusion of the Isaiah quotation places the coming of Jesus in a global context, v.6. *We will continue that journey.* In fact, we are still on the journey as we still prepare for a Second Advent.

Study Questions from the Text

1. How can we hear this story as something more than just the recounting of historical events that happened 2,000 years ago? Or should we? Is retelling the story at Christmas enough?
2. Why does Luke provide all the historical detail of rulers and governors, yet gives us so few historical detail about other things, like what Jesus looked like?
3. Why does the Gospel story of "Good News," love, and peace on earth, begin with such a negative aspect as a call to repentance and a warning about judgment (3:7-9)?
4. Why would the people respond to John's message with such expectation that he might be the Messiah (3:15)? If they were so looking for a Messiah, why was John's message of preparation even necessary?
5. What exactly is it that John wants the people to do to repent? Is it the Baptism? How does John's response in the following verses (3:11-14) to the people's question of "What then should we do?" relate to his call to repentance and the fact that he was baptizing people ("a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins," 3:3).

Support

1. What difference can this passage possible make in our lives in the 21st century after Jesus as we go out into the routine of Monday morning? Does it really need to make any difference?
2. Pray with and for one another, that the Spirit would prepare our hearts for the significant and transforming presence of the Christ-child.

Prayers of the Congregation

KOBON MINISTRY: We thank the Lord that we have so much to remember with Thanksgiving. Moving from Thanksgiving into Advent we give thanks for the greatest blessing of all, the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ – good news for all people everywhere.

This week please pray for the Kobon District Living Word School at Bulum, teachers Lin Emos and Lina Josua, and all the students.

Please pray for Our Country, Our State, Our Leaders and our Military:

Alanzo Arzate, David, Robert Barba, Matt Burns, Carson Cornell, Michael Culp, Chase DuRand, Mike Espinoza, Sgt Major Steve Fantau, Sam Gaynor, Rob Genzel, Randy Gier, Ryan Genzel, Manny Gonzalez, Michael Gund, Philip Hall, Keith Harrington, John Herman, Devlin Jordan, Sgt Major Mike Kagle, Nick Kessel, Cameron Landers, Justin Mack, Kevin Mason, Adam Moise, Gretzkhey Molson, Braendey Molson, William Moskalski, Josh Praytor, Adam Rodriguez, Casey Patterson, Jonathon Scrantom, Major John Skinner, Alex Tafur, Morgan Taylor, Kane Tomlin, Jacob Vallee.

PERSONAL

<i>Alma</i>	Lamar Fairchild	Carolyn Miles	Gary Gardner
Derek Berhow	Steve Fehr	Kyle Newby	
Jeff Cheek	Ryan Gardiner	The Smith Family	
Janeen Clark	Kristen, Rachel & Dorothy Hanson	Kristie and girls	
Debbie Crawford	Josh Kazmar	The DeBie Family	
Dakota	Janet Kennington	Jim	
	The Lamas Family	Jess	
		Jeff	

ILLNESS

Baby Quinn	George Engelke	Tracy Mulholland	Ruth Snyder
<i>Nathan</i>	Jeri Gonzalez	Donna Mulholland	Jacob Sparks
<i>Jordan Antenucci</i>	Floris Greeley	Patrick Nandy	Tom Steinfeld
Mary Ann Bane	Randy Haller	Lillie Nielson	Chris Stoddard
Geoff Barnard	Leo Hanson	Peggy and Family	Jim Stoddard
Hap Barraza	Erik Herman	Rosa Pulido Pacheco	Mary Lynn Teeling
Jan Blomquist	Rosalie Jensen	Marci Patterson	Nicole Teryl
Mary Ann Breen	Lynda Johnisee	Ruth Paul	Connie Unmacht
Leighanne Clitheroe	Erika Klaer	Elizabeth Piercy	Emily Van Dyke
Staci Cocran	Kathy Knochel	Richard Pflug	Pastor Charles VanKirk
Karen Davis	Sue Krause	Steven Radtke	Anne Vaux
Joaquin Diaz	Jan and Bob Lenke	Robin Ray	Violet Smith
Julian Dunn	David Long	Peter Rasoe	Mary Smith
Gudrun Festner	Matt Lothian	Jeff Ruiz	Leon Wattenbarger
Jason Foster	Bob Lupo	Dean Saylor	Braden Watson
Eric Frei	Kristen Merritt	Bernard Selz	Aiden Wells
Vivian Gilmore	Michael McCullough	Chris Sheetz	Clyde Wells
Mary Hahn	Linnea McCurry	Steve	Josh Williams
Irene Hembree	Mary McFie	Jerry Scidmore	Kylie Williams
	Andy McKenzie	Sue Snyder	Peggy Wolfe

The Christ Lutheran Staff

Lead Pastor ~	Mike Gibson	- 1mgibson@christcm.com
Associate Pastor ~	Glenn Shelton	- 1gshelton@christcm.com
Missionary Pastor ~	John Davies	- Papua New Guinea
Assisting Pastor ~	Joseph Strubbe	- josephstrubbe@yahoo.com
Vicar ~	Lance Irely	- 1lirely@christcm.com
Principal ~	Rich Nordmeyer	- 1rnordmeyer@christcm.com
Preschool Director ~	Britt Anderson	- 1banderson@christcm.com
Music and Worship ~	Kris Huston	- 1khuston@christcm.com
Director of Student Ministry ~	Kyle Frazier	- 1kfrazier@christcm.com
Children's Programming ~	Erika Augustine	- 1eaugustine@christcm.com
	Noël Fairchild	- 1nfairchild@christcm.com

Sunday Morning Shepherds

If you need a ride to church or know of someone who does please contact:

Scott Roberts at 949-646-6952 or email him at roberts1987@att.net

Altar Flowers

The flowers that grace our altar this morning are given in joyful celebration of the birthdays of Jason and John Foster. Our lives were blessed with Jason on December 1st and John on December 11th Praise God from whom all blessings flow!