

*Christ Lutheran School
50th Anniversary Celebration*



February 6 — 8, 2009

Thanks be to God for 50 Years of Blessings!

REFLECT, REJOICE, RENEW

1958 – 2008

“Give thanks to the Lord, Call on His Name; make known among the nations what He has done
Sing to him, sing praise to him;
Tell of his wonderful acts.”
1 Chronicles 16:8-9

It is with great joy that we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Christ Lutheran School as alumni, former staff members, parents and friends come together for this celebration.

We *Reflect* on the 50 years of ministry as dedicated pastors and teachers provided for excellence in Christian education as they focused on keeping Christ at the center of all learning.

We *Rejoice* over the blessings of the Good News of Jesus Christ shared over 50 years. Former students have and continue to share this Good News in community, nation, and world today.

We *Renew* our commitment to continue this ministry in the future through the efforts of pastors, teachers, and parents working together in connecting students to know Jesus through a Christ-centered education.

May our Lord continue to bless our ALUMNI and their families along with the present and future students of Christ Lutheran School.



Key Events at Christ Lutheran School Over the Past 50 Years

1952.. Organizational meetings held to establish Christ Lutheran Church.

1953.. Rev. Lothar V. Tornow was called to serve dual congregations at Christ, Costa Mesa and St. Paul's, Laguna Beach.

1957.. Dedication of church and classrooms. Membership of CLC had grown to 135 members.

'58-'59.. Day school opened with 28 students in grades 1 - 3. John Janzow was called as first principal and teacher. Vacation Bible School started with 40 children.

'59-'60.. 4th grade added to school.

'60-'61.. The 1960's became growing years for Christ Lutheran School. 5th grade added to school.

'61-'62.. 6th grade added to Christ Lutheran School. New classroom built behind Parish Hall.

'62-'63.. 7th grade added to school. Two classrooms built (Fireside Room at present).

'63-'64.. 8th grade added to CLS ... Christ Lutheran School's first yearbook was published. First CLS Graduating class with 14 students.

'66-'67.. Kindergarten added to the school ... Lena Danner was first teacher.

'67-'68.. Ed Stelling is called as second principal.

'72-'73.. Bev Arnett, Lena Danner, Linda (Dettmer) Gardiner served as Interim principal.

'73-'74.. Arlen Ahlers called as Minister of Education and third principal of Christ Lutheran School. Final phase of master building plan for the school is approved.

- '75-'76 ..Dedication of ten new classrooms, gymnasium and kitchen major renovation of existing classrooms and facilities.
- '77-'78..Extended Day Care begins for day school ...Phyllis Rees is first director
- '78-'79.. Duane Rohmaller is called as fourth principal.
- '78-'79.. 8th grade students worked on school yearbook with Mrs. Courvoisier as advisor. Plans for the preschool are made. CLS has first group of cheerleaders. 8th grade boys softball team is undefeated with 8 wins 0 losses.
- '79-'80.. Student council was formed with active student government representatives from grades 3 - 8. The school newsletter the *Knight Writer* with three students and Mrs. Courvoisier as their advisor...scouting programs organized for cub webelos; in following years scouts and Eagle scouts did many projects for the church and school.
- '80-'81.. Preschool opens with 28 children ... Sue Theis is the first director. Christ Lutheran School receives full accreditation from Pacific Southwest District. Mark Klitzing is called as 8th grade teacher and boys sports coach, Jenny (Morner) Jordan is called as 7th grade teacher and girls sports coach. Santa landed on the play group in a helicopter. Band started under the direction of Mr. Tretter for students in grades 4 - 8. School theme for the year was started. Mrs. Ebel designed banners for each year. Mock election sponsored by the student council -students elected Ronald Reagan for President.
- '81-'82.. Kindergarten was divided into two sessions with 45 students. First Fall Festival that opened in the gym and later expanded to gym and outdoors, sponsored by our Parent/Teacher League. Band program expanded under the direction of Mr. Bergman. Organized Extended Day Care under Mrs. Bergman.

- '82-'83.. 25th Anniversary of Christ Lutheran School. 7/8th grade boys are league champions in basketball for the first time.
- '83-'84.. Mrs. Dammann is named Pacific Southwest District Teacher of the Year. Spelling Bee with top students going to Orange County Bee at Lutheran High School.
- '84-'85.. Costa Mesa Police Department sponsored the annual Bike rodeo for grades 3, 4, 5. Mrs Stuewe is named Pacific Southwest District Teacher of the Year.
- '85-'86.. CLS receives full accreditation from Pacific Southwest District. 7/8th girls finish second in the CCI volleyball tournament. 7/8th boys win the league championship in basketball. Beginning of handbell choir Mr. Bergmann was the director.
- '86-'87.. Two classrooms and youth room are dedicated. CLS principal and faculty give a presentation, "*Developing Positive Staff Relationships*" at the District Teachers' Conference. 7/8th grade girls win League championship and 1st in Tournament. Sharing the Community - a gift to a needy family (Cerritos Air Tragedy); 5th grade and CLC Senior Citizens. Caren Hildenbrand becomes Spanish Teacher at CLS...5th grade boys win St. John's Tournament. Our custodian Alexander became a *United States Citizen* and we celebrated the event.
- '87-'88.. For the first time our school fielded a team for the Academic Pentathlon; as 6th graders they did an excellent job. 7th grade students who scored high enough were eligible to participate in the Academic Talent Search conducted by Johns Hopkins University and the Pegasus - UCI program, five CLS students qualified. 7/8th grade boys win league championship in football. 6th grade boys win the St. John's basketball tournament.
- '88-'89.. CLS students again participated in the Academic Pentathlon and Talent Search. The Costa Mesa Police Department was well known at school as they again sponsored the 3, 4, 5 grade Bike Rodeo.

- '89-'90.. For the third consecutive year, CLS had a team in the Orange County Academic Pentathlon. CLS student won first place in the Orange County. Lutheran School Spelling Bee... CLS 7/8th boys won the CLS tournament, Zion tournament and 1st in the St. John's consolation bracket.
- '90-'91.. Dedication of 8th grade classroom. 7/8th grade girls finish second in the St. John's tournament, 6th grade boys won first place in the St. John's tournament.
- '91-'92.. Christ Lutheran School receives full accreditation from Western Association of Schools and Colleges (W.A.S.C.), National Lutheran Schools Accreditation (N.L.S.A.) and Pacific Southwest District. 7/8th grade boys finished their season with a 23-3 record.
- '92-'93.. 35th Anniversary CLS.
- '94-'95.. Dedication of five classrooms and School Age Care rooms. Renovation of offices. Computer program and lab organized under direction of Peter Bouffard and also served as instructor.
- '95-'96.. Jan Massmann called as Assistant Principal. 7/8th grade boys basketball team won Christ Invitational Tournament, and Zion Invitational Tournament and were league champions finishing with a record of 25 wins and only 2 losses.
- '96-'97.. First Grandparents Day Observed.
- '97-'98.. Christ Lutheran School receives full accreditation from Western Association of Schools and Colleges (W.A.S.C.), National Lutheran Schools Accreditation N.L.S.A. and Pacific Southwest District. Grandparents Day Observed. Values were part of the curriculum.
- '98-'99.. Grandparents Day Observed. Retirement of principal Mr. Duane Rohmaller.

- '04-'05.. Uniforms are introduced to students at Christ Lutheran School. Dedication of *Jesus and the Children*" mural on the wall at the end of east wing of classrooms in memory of long-time Board of Education member Patrick Lohan.
- '06-'07.. Richard Nordmeyer called as seventh principal for Christ Lutheran School. Connie Willson is named Pacific Southwest District Early Childhood Educator of the year.
- '07-'08.. Students built a school in Papua New Guinea through chapel offerings.
- '08-'09.. Final two classrooms were outfitted with SMARTBOARD technology.
50th Anniversary of Christ Lutheran School is Celebrated.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Approximately 11,300 students have attended Christ Lutheran School over the past 50 years.
- Approximately 1,100 students have graduated from CLS during the past 50 years.
- There have been 60 full-time teachers that have taught at Christ Lutheran during that time period.
- 20 part-time teachers have taught at CLS over the past 50 years.
- 12 teacher assistants have served at CLS during the past 50 years.
- The largest enrollment in grades K-8 was 348 in 1995-96
- The largest total enrollment in preschool and grades K-8 was 398 in 1998-99.
- The largest number of 8th grade graduates was 51 in 1998-99
- Nine School Age Care Directors have served Christ Lutheran School since 1977.
- There have been 8 school secretaries that have served CLS since 1977.
- Five custodians have served Christ Lutheran Church and School since 1977. Until that time members of the congregation served as volunteer custodians until 1977.
- Since 1980 approximately 1568 boys and girls have attended Christ Lutheran Preschool.
- The largest enrollment in preschool was 87 boys and girls in 2004-05.
- There have been five directors serving Christ Lutheran Preschool since 1980.
- 11 preschool teachers and assistants have taught since 1980.

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY
FOR 50 YEARS OF BLESSINGS
UPON CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL
PRESCHOOL, AND SCHOOL AGE CARE

Opportunities for Support

There are many opportunities to support the ministry of Christ Lutheran School. Some of these are listed below.

PRAYER

Many people pray for our school, our students, teachers and staff. We invite you and encourage you to put Christ Lutheran School on your prayer list.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the cost of education rises. Many families struggle and sacrifice to provide their children with the opportunity for an excellent Christian education. Contributions to this fund provide help for those families requiring assistance.

Non-Designated Needs

In the operation of the elementary school, there are many areas that can be enhanced with additional help from donors. These areas are might include: technology, curriculum materials, athletics, music, and playground equipment.



Anniversary Committee

Elinor Courvoisier, Linda Gardiner, Sharon McMullen (office),
Richard Nordmeyer (chairman), Betty Rohmaller, Duane Rohmaller,
Joy Spies, and Ed Stelling

Anniversary Committee Assistants

Walt Bagnara, Denise Burch, Sharon Force, Ginny Nuechterlein,
Geri Struck, and Leah Tornow.

With Special Thanks. . .

**Mr. Peter Brakke with Thrivent Financial
Mr. Doug Bryant – Photography**