

# The Echo

**No. 02-2009      February      Santee, CA**

*The Monthly Newsletter of:*

**Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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Prayer Chain, 449-1645

***Marvin Hamilton***

Choir Director

## Pastor's Page

“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me”  
Isaiah 6:8

Are you hearing God's call? It sounds impossible. But hearing God's call should be as simple as breathing for those who have received the Spirit of God. And we are all promised that Spirit in baptism. It is not a matter of hearing an audible voice from above the ceiling. It is a matter of listening to the still, small voice that is at war with another part of us within. It could be considered a conscience but it is so much more. This voice of God doesn't just make us feel bad when we do what makes us feel ashamed, this voice speaks words of love, affirmation, encouragement and most importantly this voice speaks words of direction.

The most wonderful part of this voice of God within us is that this voice seems to speak different ways at different times and speaks to us in ways it might not speak to others. This voice is in many ways a voice just for us and just for a particular time of our life.

In John's account of Jesus' life, Jesus is pointed out to be the Messiah by John the Baptist. John's is telling his own disciples “Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”. John must not be the jealous type. John wants his followers to follow Jesus. This is the only true test of a Christian leader. Does the Christian leader want those who follow him or her to follow Jesus?

But what if those directed to follow Jesus discover that there is something new to what following Jesus means? That's the point!! We direct others to follow Jesus because Jesus will have something new that needs to be taught and learned that the original leader had no idea was important. Now the follower becomes a leader of the leader.

Last week at the January Church Council meeting our new president Jesse Lipscomb said that he wanted to lead our devotion time at the council meetings. He said that we needed to be close to God personally but he felt that it was his responsibility to make sure as president of the council that we made

sure we understood what the Bible has to say about church leadership. Jesse wants to lead our church council on a study of Galatians and Ephesians where the issues of church leadership are taught. How exciting to have that renewed emphasis at our church council meetings under Jesse's leadership. I am anxious to learn from Jesse's insights.

Later in John's Gospel Jesus “finds” Philip and says, “Follow me”. Then Philip goes to Nathaniel and says, “We have found him about whom Moses and the prophets speak, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathaniel says, “Can anything good come from Nazareth.” Yet Jesus first words to Nathaniel are not words defending himself but rather words that compliment Nathaniel. Jesus says to Nathaniel “Behold an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Jesus is encouraging Nathaniel to speak the truth as he sees it even if that perspective is critical of Him.

Think of this! Jesus seeks us out like he sought out Philip. We may not have to come to Jesus because He will come to us. And even if we have doubts about Jesus He will encourage the expression of those doubts and thank us for our honesty.

I began with a quote from Isaiah. Isaiah said the words that all of us want to echo, “Here I am send me”. Isaiah overheard the call of God but when he heard that call he responded positively.

May God's voice so move us and seek us out that all our thoughts and doubts will make way for God's voice to continue to be heard our whole lives. Please join me in the joy of asking God for the great gift of His voice in our lives and may we know that voice is made flesh in Jesus our Lord.

Pastor Rick

## Finances and Attendance for November

### Attendance:

	9:00a.m.	11:00a.m.	Total
12/7	101	8	109
12/14	141	28	169
12/21	104	10	114
12/28	90	15	105

### November Finances:

Expenses	\$13,665
Income	\$14,967
Operating Surplus YTD	\$11,792

## Bagels and Senior Lunch

Something each Tuesday of the month

Meet at Einstein Bagels at the Santee Trolley each Tuesday between 9:30am and 11:00am for fellowship

Except...

The second Tuesday of the month when you are invited to the Senior Lunch at a local restaurant beginning at 11:30am. Senior Lunch for February will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> at Panda Garden Buffet, 70 Town Center, Santee.

## Adult Studies

Pastor Rick offers two adult studies.

On Sunday mornings between services he will offer a study from a book called "The Book of Faith" which explains in detail the Lutheran perspective on Bible Study along with several actual Bible studies.

On Thursday evenings from 7:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. Pastor Rick and Deby will open their home at 1630 Whitsett Drive in El Cajon to study the New Testament readings from the "One Year Bible". This is open to any adult. Please let Pastor Rick know if you are interested in attending.

## CHROS Practice moved to Saturdays

CHROS the music group for children, youth and adults has moved to a Saturday practice at 8:30am.

CHROS meets every other Saturday and the guitars meet every Saturday. Talk to Pastor Rick if you are interested in joining the group.

CHROS will meet two Saturdays in February and that will be Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The next Youth Led service is Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

## Church Travel Site

Did you know that we have a church travel site where you can book airline tickets, hotel accommodations and rental cars and for the very best rates available and have a percentage of the dollars you spend come back as a donation to the church.

Go online to benefit yourself and your church:

[www.ytbtravel.com/chelc](http://www.ytbtravel.com/chelc)

## Wednesdays are Church Night

There is a big advantage to having almost all of our weekday church activities be on the same evening. This allows whole families to participate because there is something for everyone and with one night a week when the church has most of its activities it is easier to remember.

We would like to make Wednesdays:

### "Church Night"

Here is the schedule:

5:30p.m. to 6:30p.m. Confirmation

7:00p.m. to 8:30p.m. High Up

6:30p.m. to 7:30p.m. Dinner and Confirmation/  
Jr. High Youth Group

7:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. Adult Choir

## High Up Going to National Gathering

Check out the envelope board at the back of the church. The envelopes are marked 1-125 and our High School and College age youth are looking for your support to attend the National Gathering in New Orleans next summer. Simply pick a numbered envelop and place that amount of dollars in the envelope to support this effort. Let's see if we can use all the envelopes!

## **Feed the Homeless February 9<sup>th</sup>**

Meet at church at 2:30pm and return by 5:30pm

Let Pastor Rick Know if you would like to attend and need a ride.

### **Sewing Needs?**

She's a wizard with a needle and thread

Can produce any garment that pops into your head

She mends, darns, and sews 'til work is completed

Call Nancy Funick at 619-270-7187

Her prices are right and satisfaction is yours!

### **Christmas Season "Thank you!"**

Christmas is full of energy and there is so much that is offered. Let's thank those who made it all possible:

- Betty Pendergast, Marian Privett and Gail Orton our volunteer office staff
- Steve Salaz and Stephanie Myers who coordinated the best youth drama ever
- For the hard work of the choir and Marvin Hamilton and Lynn Nichols for leading the choir Christmas presentation
- For Marvin singing and Lynn playing her harp, the choir singing, the brass trio of Hank Schneider, Pete Callaway and Bill Orton and for Marilyn Thomas on the violin for making the Christmas Eve worship exceptionally beautiful
- For Deby Schowalter supplying homemade cookies, Laura Vaughan organizing refreshments and Mike Weber building a bon fire for the Christmas Eve reception
- For Belinda Karge and the High Up putting on a great Christmas program dinner
- For Vicki and Dick Haas organizing our angel Tree to Tecate, Mexico along with all the others who supplied gifts and the ladies who made blankets

- For Jeanna Timan and Kim Taylor for an inspiring and so cute SS Christmas program and for Lynn Nichols playing songs and Neil Johnson running the sound
- For Joanne and Hank Schneider, Marie Freeman, Dee Ryden and many others who made the sanctuary beautiful

Wow! So many to be thankful for and what Christmas joy was shared because of them.

### **Church Council**

The Church Council has moved its monthly meeting to the second Sunday of the month from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. The reason for the change is that our council president Jesse Lipscomb will be doing a live radio broadcast M-F during the evening for his financial planning business. How exciting!

The church council is also looking for more ways to communicate the meetings to the church membership. They are considering putting the meetings on video for you to view. The nature of this proposal will be finalized at the February council meeting. More to come!

### **Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting of the congregation will take place Sunday, February 15th. Please consider staying between the 9:00a.m. worship service and the 11:00a.m. worship service to hear of the year that was and the hopes for the coming year. This will also be a time to volunteer for the various programs of the church. See you in the Acts Center for this important meeting of the church that occurs only once each year.

### **Youth News**

The Confirmation youth and some of the High Up youth will be attending a retreat at Faith Lutheran in Yucaipa that is sponsored by the Pacifica Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) on Friday, February 13th and 14th.

This retreat is a preparation for the LYO Event which will take place at the Synod Assembly in May.

The Confirmation and Jr. High youth will come home to a Valentine's dance at church on the 14th.

The Confirmation youth are planning to sell “Candy Grams” on Sunday, February 8th to support their events. Show your love for others and support our youth on the Sunday the 8th.

### **Ash Wednesday**

Please worship with us on Ashe Wednesday, February 25th at 7:00p.m. The service will contain the imposition of ashes for those who desire this symbol of penitence. Please consider a regular attendance at our Wednesday worship services at 7:00p.m. through the Lenten season.

Children coming to Ash Wednesday worship will receive a children’s devotional that can be used through the year.

### **Special Music**

The Worship and Music Committee along with Marvin Hamilton and Lynn Nickels is organizing “Special Music” the second Sunday of the month during the Offering.

Would you like to sing a solo or a duet? Do you play an instrument and would like to play it for a worship service? Please contact Marvin if you are interested. Lynn has agreed to accompany our singers and will practice with them on a Wednesday from 6:30p.m. to 7:00p.m.

How exciting to have this opportunity to let the gifts of our church shine for the benefit of others.

### **Ladies Weight Loss Group**

Laura Vaughan is organizing a weight loss group called “Prism Weight Loss”. The organizational meeting is Monday, February 9th at 7:00p.m. in the Library. Either come to the meeting or contact Laura if you are interested.

### **Senior Fellowship Luncheon**

Sr. Fellowship meets at Panda Garden Buffet, 70 Town Center, Santee, at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Join in for some good food and wonderful fellowship. For more information call Grace Otto, 448-8202 or Nancy Funick, 270-7187.

## **Council Page**

### **Constitution and By-Laws:**

Back in the late 1990’s when we became ELCA, the Constitution was rejected by the Synod. As we voted on during the Budget Meeting a Constitution Committee was selected to write a new Constitution.

Our new Constitution is completed! There will be two Special Congregation Meetings in February between church services to discuss and vote on the new Constitution and By-Laws.

The By-Laws are written in reference to the Constitution. Therefore after the Constitution is approved by the Congregation the By-Laws will be finalized.

February 1, we will have a Special Meeting to discuss and vote on the Constitution. February 8, we will have a Special Meeting to discuss and vote on the By-Laws. February 15, during the Annual Meeting we will ratify the Constitution and By-Laws.

Immediately following the Annual Meeting the Constitution and By-Laws will be sent to the Synod for final Approval.

I wish to thank my committee members who have dedicated their personal time and efforts to complete this huge task. Their careful attention to every detail has given us our ELCA Constitution which is long over due.

Dick Maxa  
Jim Thomas  
Hank Schneider  
Joanne Schneider  
Dorothy Monroe  
May Hustad

Please mark your calendars for these important dates and attend these Special Congregation Meetings. This marks another major milestone for CHELC.

Penny Sallay  
(Council Secretary)

## February Anniversaries

12 Cindy & Ken Ryan

## February Ministers

Coffee Fellowship: Nancy Funick, Laura Vaughan,  
Grace Otto

Communion Assist.: Laura & Mandy Vaughan

Communion Care: Laura Vaughan

Greeters: Frances Family

Lector: 1, 8- Jim Thomas 15, 22- Jane Reaney

Stephen Minister of the Week: 1- Ed Teichner

8- Jim Thomas 15- Ellie Timan 22- Vicki Haas

Ushers: Chris Francis & the Confirmands

## February Birthdays

4	Cole Freeman	16	Frank Steirer
5	Trudy Hanley	17	Norma Borgeson
7	Carole Dixon	19	Jane Reaney
8	Brian Meyers	19	Oscar Avendano
9	Trevor Thompson	21	Michael Huber
10	David Francis	22	Grace Otto
12	Selina Weber	22	Lorraine Beyer
13	Michelle Gilliam	23	Bryan Force
14	Mark Jones	26	Richard Haas
14	Shawna Bagalini	26	Kristin Naour
14	Thomas Coletti	28	Judy Johnston

(If anyone was missed, please call the church office, 448-1888)

## Texts for the Sundays in February

### 1<sup>st</sup> Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111 (10)1

Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

**Color:** Green

### 8<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (3)

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

**Color:** Green

### 15<sup>th</sup> Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30 (2)

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Mark 1:40-45

**Color:** Green

### 22<sup>th</sup> Transfiguration Of Our Lord

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm 50:1-6 (2)

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

**Color:** White