

The Echo

No. 2-2017 February Santee, CA

The Monthly Newsletter of:

Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Columba Episcopal Church

9735 Halberns Blvd., Santee, CA 92071

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Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church

9735 Halberns Blvd., Santee, CA 92071
(619) 448-1888

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www.CarltonHillsLutheran.org

Worship Service Sunday 9:00AM

Pastor Rick Schowalter

President: Laura Vaughan

Vice President: Rob Koch

Secretary: Tammy Halloran

Financial Secretary: Bethany Timan

Treasurer: Darrren Tune

Trustee: Kris Francis

Parish Education: Selina Kaufman

Children & Youth Ministry: Robin Perna

Worship: Steve Schmidtke

Stephen Ministry: Ellie Timan

Stewardship: Kim Taylor

Outreach: Nathan Wentz

Organist: Roger Barnes

Choir Director: Marvin Hamilton

Youth Minister: Selina Kaufman



St. Columba Episcopal Church

9720 Cuyamaca St., Santee, CA 92071

Worship Service Sunday 11:00AM

Pastor Rick Schowalter

Vestry:

Bishop's Warden: Ann Siracusa

Russ Sarnecki, Shirley Wilder,

Mimi Goodman,

Stephen Ministry

Bill Bixby, Mimi Goodman,

Eileen Pierce, Russ Sarnecki,

Shirley Wilder

Eucharistic Ministry

Bill Bixby, Eileen Pierce

Newsletter Editor

Russ Sarnecki

rsarnecki@cox.net

Cursillo Rep

Lynn Sarnecki

Pastor's Page

Genesis 22:9 “ ‘God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering my son,’ Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.”

God will provide!!

This verse is from a famous story where God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son as a test of his faithfulness.

Abraham is willing to sacrifice his son, but this verse hints that perhaps God will provide another “sheep” for the sacrifice. God does provide another sheep for the sacrifice, but the explanation of the New Testament is that Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son because Abraham knew that God could raise the dead. The real question for us all is: “Do we have the faith required to do what God asks of us even when what is asked of us is monumentally hard to even grasp?”

As I write this Pastor's Page I am preparing to have my Mom come and stay with us. She is a huge hand full to the rehab center, how can Deby and I accomplish the task? I don't have a clear answer. I can't have a clear answer. At his point I am not sure what my Mom is capable of or incapable of. Right now her mind is such a mess. Today she was excited about entering a wheel chair race and I am sure no such race existed except in her own mind. Can I leave someone alone, even for a short time, who wants to race her wheelchair? I am convinced that a big part of her mental confusion is dehydration so her mental confusion may clear up but there are no guarantees. I just know I have been called to do the best I can to provide for her.

Something similar can be said about the plans and preparations for the Preschool and the Food Bank. At every corner new and unexpected twists in the plans are raised. But God provides! At each twist in the plan a solution is offered and we make progress in the ultimate goal of opening the Santee Food Bank and our own preschool.

The Food Bank hopes to have everything in place and ready to go by May.

We are scheduled to move a portable building on our property by the middle of April for the

preschool. We have the funds to make that happen but we are looking for additional funds to build a children's bathroom and a preschool office and closet in the new building. The church council has made the decision that the new building will be dedicated to Dusty and Florence Hustad. What a perfect dedication! We will have the proposed preschool's new building dedicated to the two most influential architects and sustainers of the preschool that was first introduced as a ministry of Carlton Hills' past.

The preschool building will need tables and chairs for preschoolers. It will also need classroom supplies.

We have the money to relocate the building, and set the plumbing and utilities in place, but we still need money for the two children's toilets and a sink. We also need volunteer labor to paint and prepare the walls and floor. Are you interested in making a contribution to these needs or to plan the work projects? If you would like to help support that new building for the preschool, let me know and you can help me raise the remaining funds and design the interior of the building.

The playground has similar needs. We had at one point thought we could put a playground on the parking lot but there were two revelations that shifted our attention to renovating the playground in the back of the Acts Center and constructing a tricycle playground on the patio in front of the Acts Center.

What we did not realize in our work permit for the new building is that the city of Santee already has designated the playground in the back of the Acts Center as the playground for the preschool. Because of neighbor concerns about noise, this was deemed the best location for the preschool playground. Also, we were told that it was not safe to try to have a playground on the parking lot without “ballards” in place. Ballard's are yellow concrete poles that would create a barrier to prevent cars from accidentally entering the playground. These ballards would need to be placed every six feet around the proposed 2,000 square foot playground. That is a huge additional expense!

If we do place the playground at the back and front of the Acts Center there are needs that must be met. We would need to have fencing, additional shade structures, a soft mat around the climbing structure, shade umbrellas, places to sit and a surface that is free from small stones that a preschooler could place into their mouth. The Arthursons will be instrumental in making these changes, but again funding and planning needs to be made. Would you like to help or contribute to the playground?

We are fortunate that Norma Borgeson is interested in bringing others together to raise these funds and make these decisions. Norma wants to dedicate the proposed playground in part to her beloved husband Fred Borgeson. Fred never had children of his own and how wonderful to have the renovated playground be made in his honor and the names of others who wish to make contributions in their loved one's honor.

Please contact me or Norma if you would like to plan the playground space for the new preschool.

God will provide!!

Pastor Rick

Attendance For December

	9:00a.m.	Tue	Total
12/4	81	9	90
12/11	74	8	82
12/18	99	7	106
12/24	Christmas Eve		136
12/57	Christmas Day		57

December Finances

Income	\$14,050
Expenses	\$13,110

Senior Lunch Tuesday, February 14th

The second Tuesday of the month when you are invited to the Senior Lunch at a local restaurant. In February beginning at 11:30am, please join us at the Omletter Factory at 8860 Magnolia in Santee.

Feed the Homeless

Monday, February 6th at 2:30pm we will travel to T.A.C.O. or the Third Avenue Charitable Organization through First Lutheran Church in San Diego to feed about 200-250 homeless or low income people. Let Pastor Rick know if you can go so there is plenty of room in his car.

Long Range Planning

This committee made up of both Carlton Hills and St. Columba's members will set our churches direction for the coming year. The group meets on Monday, February 13th at 6:00pm for one hour and is looking for new members. Please consider joining us. We meet in the Carlton Hills library.

Program Annual Meeting

Please plan on attending the program annual meeting on Sunday, February 5th after the 9:00am worship service.

Come hear the plans for the new year!!

Grief Support Group

The grief support group meets the third Saturday of each month. The group will meet Saturday, February 18th at 10:00am at Norma Borgeson's at 2149 Hillslake Drive in El Cajon.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 1st we will begin Lent with the imposition of Ashes at the 7:00pm worship service. Please join us!

Daily Devotions

Would you like to be a part of our church's daily devotions? Just let Pastor Rick or the Church Office know your e-mail address and you can received the daily devotions via e-mail or stop by the table in the back of the church and pick up last week's list of daily devotions. Most of the devotions are written by Pastor Rick but some are shared by members on the list. If you want to submit a devotion to the list that has now grown to over 120 participants just write to Pastor Rick at SYMCN1@aol.com. What a great way to have Bible study a part of your everyday life a little Scripture at a time.

January 10, 2017

Dear Carlton Hills and St. Columba's faithful,

I have decided to retire one year earlier than I had originally planned to take care of my mother who will be living with Deby and I after breaking her leg and being in rehab for the past 6 weeks. She has limited mobility and great confusion which will require daily and loving care, which I will be honored to provide.

May 1, 2017 will be my official retirement date. My last Sunday will be April 23rd which is the Sunday after Easter. I will be on a planned vacation on Sunday, April 30th.

I understand that this decision to care for my mother in the final months and years of her life is not a decision everyone can make. Deby and I are able to make this decision and thanks to Deby's permission and support, this is a decision I want to make.

My Mom will need a lot of care. I am not even sure I can provide all the care she will need, but I want to try. She is anxious to move in with us and she is very excited to use half of the sale of her home to support the Preschool ministry at Carlton Hills. This can be a lasting legacy to her generosity and faith.

Before my retirement I wanted to accomplish three ministries:

- The move of the Santee Food Bank to our church property
- The buildings and playground needed to start a preschool at Carlton Hills
- The exploration of a shared ministry with St. Columba's

In the months ahead all three of these ministries should almost be completed, if not effectively accomplished. I am thrilled to have been a part of these efforts. I feel like Moses at the Promised Land who was able to bring the people of God to the threshold of the Promised Land, but not called to go with them into that land "flowing with milk and honey".

In retirement I am looking forward to manual labor around the house. I want to construct "water wise" landscaping in our back yard and paint the whole house, inside and outside. When my Mom first came to Carlton Hills we painted the kitchen together. It was a huge job with all those cupboard doors but we did it. Together we will paint again and team our energies. She may just watch but the painting together will bring back memories.

I cannot be your "pastor" after May 1st. Please give the same love, faith and support to the clergy named to replace me as you gave to me. Please know that for me to even have contact with you after my retirement could undermine the ministry of my replacement and that I will not allow. You will however constantly be in my heart and prayers. It has been a great honor to serve you as Pastor.

In Christ,
Pastor Rick

WORSHIP COMMITTEE NOTES

What do the Marines say? “Looking For a few good men!” Well...the Worship Committee is looking for a LOT of good men, women and youth!! As the new Worship Committee position on the Church Council, I would like to bring to light each month, those ways in which you could serve the Lord in ways that make our church service a joy to all.

For February, our usher team #3 has lost several members. This is not a hard position to fill. Hand out bulletins at beginning of service, collect offering, direct members to altar rail for communion and smile! Each of our five teams only usher once each five months of the year. Look to your heart and see if you could help us in this way.

March begins the season of Lent! Wait to see what wonderful opportunities come for you to serve the Lord!

Thank You to the Youth Usher team for serving in the month of January. Also to Skip Taylor, Laura Vaughan, Randy Catron, Taylor Family, Jen Brown, and Keri Hyles for serving as various Worship Assistants.

May we all Serve The Lord With Joy!

Charlotte Arthurton
Worship Committee

Children/Youth & Family Ministry

Tuesday Night Events

Dinner at 5:30 pm- all are welcome!

God's Gifts (pre k & elementary age) at 6 pm

Confirmation (middle school age) at 6 pm

One Salvation (high school and young adult) at 7 pm

Interfaith Ministry with St. Columba's Episcopal Church At 9720 Cuyamaca Street south of Mast on Cuyamaca

Over the last 3 years Pastor Rick has been preaching weekly at St. Columba's Episcopal Church at 11:00am Sunday mornings. St. Columba's lost their priest to retirement and the ELCA is a “full communion” partner with the Episcopal church, which means among many things that they can share pastors.

During the next several years both churches are going to experiment with sharing the same pastor and a cooperative ministry. This would be a cooperation of ministry and not a merger. There would be two separate churches and one pastor. Both churches would remain separate, but they would also benefit from a close cooperation with the other.

This could be a great new direction for our church and we have a year to explore the possibilities of sharing ministry and buildings with each other.

Celebrating the Saints Wall

Our “Celebrating the Saints” wall was originally inspired by CHLC's 50th Anniversary Celebration. It documents the history of our church, our founding members, and our pastors. We also offered tiles to members of the congregation at the time it was constructed.

Now, 6 years later, we would like to continue to build new memories with this wall. We have many new members of our church, as well as members who did not purchase a tile in 2010 when the wall was dedicated. We also plan to add memorials for members who have passed in the last years.

Beginning in December, tiles will be offered at \$100.00 a tile. Those who would like to have a tile but don't have the resources can request a scholarship. Tiles will be on sale until February, with the plan to order and install the new tiles next spring. The wall will also be painted and repaired prior to installing the new tiles.

We hope to see many additional families become a part of our church history on the Saints Wall. If you would like to purchase a tile, or request a scholarship for a tile, please see Kris Francis or e-mail at C182H@cox.net.

Crochet at Church

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 9am (on the 2nd Sat, this is right before Dorcas Circle). Come to learn, from scratch or help with a new stitch, skill, or pattern, or bring whatever project you're working on and come for the fellowship! (If you want to come just for the fellowship and leave off the needlework, we'd love to have you!) Kids are very welcome to learn or to play.

Altar Flowers

Have you noticed how beautiful the altar looks when we have flowers either in front or on either side? You can sign up to recognize someone with flowers and then take the arrangement home with you. During the school year, the flowers are provided by high school students who are taking a Flower Arrangement class at El Cap. So, not only are we beautifying our church, we are also giving the students an opportunity to practice their skills. Additionally, we get them at a great price – only \$25.00 per arrangement!

In the back of the church, there is a Flower Chart. Simply sign up for a particular Sunday or Sundays by putting your name and the reason for the flowers (for example, birthday, in memory of, or honoring someone). Please sign up at least two weeks ahead of time. Then put a check or cash for \$25 in an envelope in the offering indicating your name (and envelope number) and the date for the flowers.

If you would prefer to provide your own arrangement, please feel free. Sign up on the Flower Chart and additionally indicate that you will bring your own bouquet. There is no charge.

Also if you have any vases, baskets, or containers that could be reused for arrangements, please give them to Jean and she will deliver them to the high school.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please call Jean Setzer at 619-647-3517. Thank you.

February Anniversaries

- 6 Heather & Darien Gasner
- 14 Jason & Rebecca Owens
- 20 John & Robin Perna

February Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Robin Hernandez | 16 Frank Steirer |
| 1 David Yantis | 17 Norma Borgeson |
| 1 Kenneth Suess | 18 Nancy Kern |
| 7 Carole Dixon | 19 Oscar Avendano |
| 9 Bryce Taylor | 19 Jane Reaney |
| 10 Scott Rettig | 21 Michael Huber |
| 10 David Francis | 23 Erica Altringer |
| 12 Selina Kaufman | 24 Jacob McDonald |
| 12 Jeffery White | 26 Adam Byrd |
| 14 Shawna Bagalini | 26 Robert Koch |
| 16 Michael | 28 Judy Johnston |
- Cofrancesco

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

CHELC February Ministers

- Coffee Fellowship:** Nancy Funick,
Lector: 5, 12- Darrel Timan 19,26- Keri Hyles
Greeters: 5, 12- Carol & Ron Dixon
 19- Setzer Family 26- Timan Family
Communion Assist.: 5, 12- Darrel & Jeanna Timan 19,26- Lyn & Charlotte Arthurton
Communion Care: Arthurton's
Ushers: Steve Schmidtke, Nancy Kern, Ruth Schowalter, Jack & Marie Youngblood, Jackie Gammon
Stephen Minister of the Week:

<u>S. M., Communion</u>	<u>Prayer Loft</u>
5- Diedra Zeller	Jeanna Timan
12- Ellie Timan	Carol Davidson
19- Jeanna Timan	Katie Wentz
26- Marian Privett	Heather Gasner

St. Columba's Happenings

	February 5th	February 12th	February 19th	February 26th	
Lector	Lynn	Mimi	Eileen	Lynn	
Chalice	Russ	Bill	Russ	Bill	
Greeter	Bill	Arlene	Bill	Arlene	
Hospitality	Bill	Ann	Lynn	Mimi	
Altar Guild	Ellen Katie	Ellen Katie	Ellen Katie	Ellen Katie	

St Columba's Bible Study

The Wednesday evening Bible Study of the book of Joshua began January 18th. Everyone is welcome to join us even as a latecomer, as we started the study mid month. Materials are available for the study. The pre-service study on the Sunday readings at 10:30AM, will be discontinued as the Wednesday study will require a significant amount of home work. Wednesday potluck is at 6PM followed with our study at 6:30PM. Our study closing time is flexible and is determined by interest.

Cursillo Calendar

4 February – Cursillo Jam Session, St. Andrews La Mesa 9:30am – 12pm

18 February – Cursillo 140 1st team mtng St Dunstan's 8:30am – 12:00pm

4 March – Ultreya – St Peters Del Mar 5pm potluck, 6pm Ultreya

20 March – Deadline for Cursillo 140 applications

20 – 23rd April, Cursillo 140

Stephen Ministry

Please pray for our Stephen Ministers and for their Care Receivers.

We do have ministers available for assignments if you or an acquaintance finds a situation that is hard to handle. This may be anything from a loss of loved one to fiscal or emotional stress do to the many difficulties we may find ourselves in. These are stressful times and you do not have to be alone in your despair. The Lord's love awaits, just knock on the door.

The future of St Columba Episcopal Church

The news of Pastor Rick's retirement brings sadness to both congregations. Pastor's spiritual guidance has been such a blessing for us all, and our gratitude for his leadership, and generosity of his time, cannot be overstated. One thing he has personified is a heartfelt trust for the goodness of God and wisdom of the Lord's plan. Thus, we trust in the future, and in the Father's plan in the times ahead. There are decisions to be made, and they are difficult decisions. St Columba as a congregation may soon no longer exist. The Vestry is prayerfully considering our future, which as it should be, will be determined by our congregation, and the will of the Diocese. One thing is almost certain; we will no longer be able to support our church building. As to community, the vestry asks each member to consider what they would like to do in the future, and be prepared to make a choice as to their worship future.

- 1) Move to another Episcopal Church
- 2) Become an Episcopal congregation at the Lutheran Church facility as renters.
- 3) Become members of the Lutheran congregation.
- 4) Make another choice.