

The Echo

No. 01-2006 January Santee, CA

The Monthly Newsletter of:

Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church

9735 Halberns Blvd., Santee, CA 92071

Voice/Fax: (619) 448-1888

E-Mail: chlc@CarltonHillsLutheran.org

Web: www.CarltonHillsLutheran.org

**Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Santee, CA
Permit No. 201**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL PLEASE DO NOT
DELAY

Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church Council and Staff

Sue Lisowsky
President

Darrel Timan
Vice President

Penny Sallay
Secretary

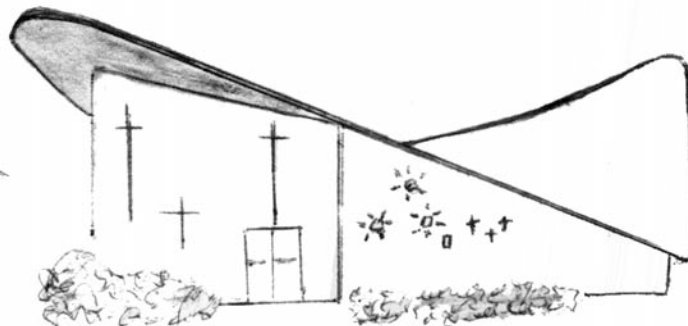
Linda Gulliver
Financial Secretary

Sara Paulsen
Treasurer

Amanda Vaughan
Worship

Tom Davidson
Trustee

Jennifer Brown
Delores Ryden
Mutual Support
Committee Members



Rick Schowalter
Pastor

Kim Naour
Parish Education

Ed Teichner
Coordinator-Stephens
Ministry

Robert Reid
Stewardship

Hank Schneider
Outreach

Randy Catron
Christian Education

Mary Thomas
Prayer Chain, 334-6457

Marvin Hamilton
Choir Director

Marsha Hamilton
Organist

2005 Was Full of Surprises

With the coming of a new year, it is good to take a look back. What amazes me about last year is that none of it could have been predicted. Yet the surprises and the directions we have taken have turned into a wonderful blessing. What a great church we have and how blessed we are to be a blessing to others.

Shortly after coming to Carlton Hills, it became clear that the school was in trouble. There were lots of issues to be dealt with, but one issue became dominant—the condition of the buildings. A leaky plumbing system and water damage had gone undetected for some time, which resulted in the discovery of mold in the buildings. The repairs would be extensive. More problematic, was the fact that if these repairs were undertaken, the buildings would have to be made handicap accessible. With the need to remodel bathrooms and put in elevators, the estimated cost of renovation was over \$500,000. This figure made the closing of the school an obvious, but painful decision.

The buildings were now a liability, however, the church's desire to continue its legacy of educating children needed to be preserved.

One Tuesday morning, at the “Bagels” weekly fellowship, Dusty Hustad told me that these buildings were a product of the labor of the members of the church. He said that the domes were made of triangular sections that could be taken apart and put back together again. This encouraged me to search for a new home for our buildings.

Because construction in this country must come from new lumber, not used lumber, I had to look across the border for a home for the domes. The first orphanage I contacted seemed interested at first,

however, it later turned down the project because it was felt that it was not cost efficient and that it would require too much labor. This led us to Genesis Expeditions, which is not an orphanage; however, it works with 20 orphanages in Mexico and provides Christian retreats for over 1,000 orphans. Greg Amstutz, the director of Genesis, was formerly a general contractor in this country, who had had youth ministry experience at a Point Loma church. Genesis proved to be a perfect fit.

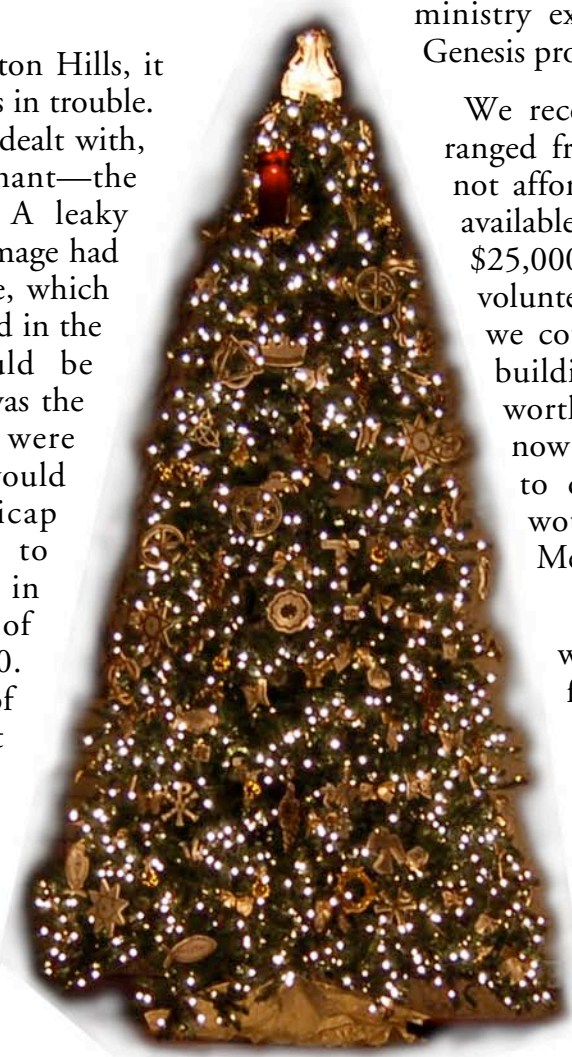
We received estimates for demolition that ranged from \$38,000 to \$45,000. We could not afford such costly estimates. The dollars available from the school for demolition were \$25,000, and the decision to offer a year long volunteer work camp was underway. Maybe we could save some money and have the buildings become a useful addition to a worthy ministry. More importantly, we now had the opportunity for our church to develop an outreach ministry that would serve thousands of orphans in Mexico.

The “deconstruction” started out with a bang with the Lacrosse team from the Bishop school, a private school in La Jolla. It soon became clear that working on the roof and with the huge support beams might be beyond the abilities of our youthful volunteers. We had wonderful volunteers from Kids Corps, the Boy Scouts, and youth groups from other Lutheran churches, but the more we did, the more the project seemed like

such a big and difficult job.

I asked a worker from Genesis that I had met that summer if he could bring some workers over from Mexico to do the work. He agreed and made a 10 week proposal. Many of us felt that the job was too difficult for manual labor, but Rudy, Frank and Jerod proved us wrong. These three amigos tackled a seemingly impossible job and stayed within our budget.

While I considered the benefit to Genesis important, I also wanted our ministry to have a deeper connection



in serving others, that is, a relationship with orphans living in Mexico.

In 2006, our church will continue to preserve its legacy of ministering to children—a story that began months ago.

After the school closed, it became clear that it had played a positive role in the lives of the children it had touched. Even though the children had been primarily involved with the school and not actively involved in our church; we at Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church have always been rooted in ministering to children. I wanted to resurrect this focus on children and make it a part of our present ministry. This resulted in the formation of a task force that explored the possibility of creating a school of sacred music—the genesis of “Joyful Noise,” a six week summer music camp.

Dr. Belinda Karge, a Professor at Cal State, Fullerton, shared this vision. She created at the music camp, a tutoring program that brought children and adults together for a six week adventure that was both successful and popular. The children loved the tutoring and the tutors loved the children. Our first camp served 40 children with 16 of our youth participating as staff. Next summer, we hope to serve 80 children with a youth staff of 25, together with some very



important adult leaders.

We continued to provide tutoring to children throughout the year in connection with our God’s Gifts program.

Some of the “Joyful Noise” staff went to Mexico for a Genesis Expeditions retreat. They visited “Siempre Para Los Ninos,” an orphanage, which has become a vital new expression in the ministry of our church. We donated expensive playground equipment; the Dorcas women’s group made beautiful blankets; and we recently gave the orphanage over 100 wrapped Christmas gifts.

All of this happened in 2005. It looks like the buildings will soon be “deconstructed” and ready to be rebuilt in Mexico to benefit the ministry of Genesis Expeditions. We are thinking about offering a week of “Joyful Noise,” our music camp, at Siempre Para Los Ninos orphanage. Our youth staff would stay at the orphanage for the week.

What an exciting year 2005 was! Thank you, Jesus for your faithfulness.

Pastor Rick





Rev. Dr. Rick Schowalter
Carlton Hills Lutheran Church
9735 Halberns Blvd
Santee, CA 92071

December 19, 2005

Dear Pastor Rick:

Thank you so much for meeting with us last week. We are so excited about receiving the Geodesic Domes as they will be a foundational beginning to the permanent site of Rancho Genesis. We hope you know just how amazing this gift is to us.

Thank you so much for donating \$3000 in May of 2005 toward this project during our effort to reach a grant goal from the Sage Foundation. This allowed us to receive an additional .50 cents per dollar on your donation. Genesis has recently received another \$10,000 Grant from Christian Author Josh McDowell, the Tithing Program chairman of The Las Ventanas Limited partnership, to be used for the "Genesis Carlton Hills Dome Relocation Project". Genesis has set aside a restricted funds account for the "Dome Project". In addition to the \$10,000 already received by Las Ventanas for the Dome Project, they will match dollar-for-dollar on funds raised for this project by December 31, 2005, up to \$10,000. At this time, we have received \$1200 toward the Las Ventanas matching grant. We would very much appreciate your consideration on gifting any additional funds you may wish to give toward the Dome Project, before December 31, 2005, to help us receive this additional \$10,000 from Las Ventanas.

We want to also update you on the "land" situation and site for Rancho Genesis, where the domes will be rebuilt. Genesis has announced to the Door of Faith Orphanage that we will no longer be using their property. The Genesis programs have grown tremendously the last 3 years at our Rancho Genesis pilot location on the property of Door of Faith, with only a Memorandum of Understanding and a handshake. We were hopeful that we could develop a more solid arrangement for this land, but have been unable to accomplish a mutual decision. We know that God has His hand in this development, and of course, the timing was perfect when we look at the big picture. We feel very fortunate that the rebuilding of the Geodesic Domes had not yet begun at this site. We have another temporary site lined up where we can successfully run our 2006 summer programs, if need be. We are very hopeful & excited about the future of Genesis and the future permanent site for Rancho Genesis. It is very obvious that God has a plan and that this setback is not intended to arrest our progress, but to increase our speed forward. There is now quite a bit of land for sale in the area we desire, and one property in particular we are very excited about. We hope to begin negotiations by December 31st. If this is the property God has set aside for us, as He has already provided the Domes, it will happen quickly! Knowing that these Domes will help us to establish our new Rancho Genesis site for immediate and permanent use is just a joyous feeling.

There can be no failure following God's plan with faith through Jesus Christ! We ask you for your continued prayers, support and efforts as we look forward to finding, securing and building a permanent site for Rancho Genesis, that is pleasing to our Lord!!

In His Debt,

Greg Amstutz, Co-Founder

Learning Experiences for Children in Orphanages

Genesis Expeditions, Inc. ■ P.O. Box 6458 ■ Chula Vista, Ca 91909-6458 ■ 619-997-7890
Genesis Diez, A.C. ■ C. Atenas #45 ■ Col. Moderna Ampl. ■ Ensenada, B.C. 22879 ■ Mexico ■ 646-174-5257
Ejecutiva@GenesisDiez.org www.GenesisDiez.org RanchoGenesis@GenesisDiez.org

Dates for January, 2006

Sunday, January 1st.

New Year's Day worship and Santee Food Bank offerings

January 6-8

Youth attend the Construction Zone in Phoenix

Monday, January 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30

Centering Prayer at 6:00pm

Monday, January 9th at 6:30pm

Stephen Ministry Training

Introduction: "Speaking the Truth in Love: How to be an Assertive Christian"

Tuesday, January 10th.at 11:30am

Senior lunch at the Valley House in Santee

Tuesday, January 10, 17, 24, and 31 at 6:00pm

Confirmation

Tuesday, January 10 and 17 at 6:00pm

CHROS Vocals

Wednesday, January 11, 18, and 25 at 6:00pm

Spanish instruction for all ages

Thursday, January 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 7:00pm

Choir practice

Saturday, January 14 and 21 at 10:00am

CHROS practice for vocalists and instrumentalists

Saturday, January 14 and 21 at 11:00am

Scrap Bookers Meeting

January 27-28

Council Retreat at the Borgeson's in Idylwild

Sunday, January 29th

Youth meet at the church at 2:30pm to travel to St.

Andrews for Hunger Awareness Games. Find out what hunger is all about and have fun doing it.

Sermons and Bible Studies Available

Did you know that all of Pastor Rick's sermons and Bible Studies are available in the church office? The sermons are on CD or DVD and the Bible Studies are on CD.

Tim Hustad provides these copies at no cost. They are great if you miss a Sunday or you want to share the sermon or Bible Study with someone who cannot come to church.



Senior Fellowship Luncheon

Sr. Fellowship meets at Valley House in Santee, 10767 Woodside Ave at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 10th. Join in for some good food and wonderful fellowship. For more information call either Grace Otto, 440-2456 or Nancy Funick, 561-7823.

Texts for the Sundays in January

- 1 The Name of Jesus
(Lesser Festival)
Numbers 6:22-27, Galatians 4:4-7 or
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 2:15-21 - Color: White
- 8 The Baptism Of Our Lord
First Sunday after the Epiphany
Genesis 1:1-5, Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11 - Color: White
- 15 Second Sunday After The Epiphany
1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51 - Color: Green
- 22 Third Sunday After The Epiphany
Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20 - Color: Green
- 29 Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany
Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28 - Color: Green

January Anniversaries

- 21 Gilbert & Trudy Hanley
29 Mavis & Richard Rones
30 Jerold & Sherry Henson

January Ministers

- Acolyte: 1- Ben Timan 8- Michelle 15- Tyler
22- Cara 29- Selina
Assist. Minister: TBA
Coffee Fellowship: Nancy Funick, Laura Vaughan,
Grace Otto, Janice Davis
Communion Assist.: 1, 8- Laura & Mandy Vaughan
15, 22- George Montague & Sue Lisowsky
29- Youth
Communion Care: Dixons
Edgemoor Hospital Worship:
Greeters: 1, 8- Grace Otto & Nancy Ripple
15, 22- Bob & Marcy Metz 29- Youth



- Lector: 1, 8- Sue Lisowsky 15, 22- Gary Berglund
29- Vince Coletti
Stephen Minister of the Day: 1- Jim Thomas
8- Ellie Timan 15- Bill Blue 22- Carol Davidson
29- Ed Teichner
Ushers: Darrel, Jeana, Eleanor & Katie Timan,
Joi Comstock, Stephanie Meyers

January Birthdays

- 1 Louie Quintanilla
2 Amanda Martin
4 Jennifer Jones
6 Michael Judd
6 Jeffrey Arndt
6 Bethany Timan
7 Geoffrey Bradley
9 Karen Morrison
9 Helen Guttzeit
14 Rodney Boisvert
16 Herbert Ryden
16 Marian Privett
17 Joseph Lynch
19 Jeff Sallay
19 Kimberly Insel
20 Naomi Schowalter
23 Richard Haak
23 Charlotte Arthurton
26 Crysta Campbell
27 Charlyne Aughenbaugh
29 Timothy Judd
30 Marcy Metz
30 Daniel Timan
31 Brandon Boisvert
(If anyone was missed, please call the church office,
448-1888)

"JESUS" WAS A GREAT CHOICE FOR A NAME.



IT WASN'T A CHOICE.



WWW.AQUADUSTAN.ORG

IT WAS THE NAME ASSIGNED BY GOD. IT MEANS "YAHWEH SAVES"



YES — AND IT'S HARD TO SHORTEN INTO A GOOFY NICKNAME!



LUKE 2:15-21

© NETZSTEIN 05.12

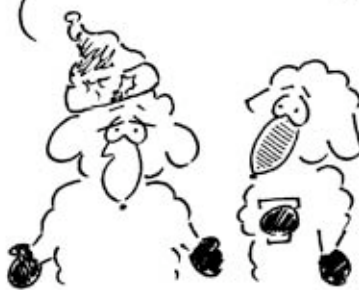


I LOVE CHURCH AT CHRISTMAS TIME! THE CANDLES, THE CAROLS...



WWW.AQUADUSTAN.ORG

...THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARCERATION!



THAT'S A VERY INTERESTING READING OF PHILIPPIANS 2.



PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

© NETZSTEIN 05.12