

# The Echo

**No. 1-2011      January      Santee, CA**

*The Monthly Newsletter of:*

**Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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## Pastor's Page

Luke 18:1 "People ought always to pray and not to faint."

Happy New Year!

Often at this time of year we think of "new year's resolutions" or ways in which we can change our behavior to do things that are more healthy or productive. I wonder if we have that backwards. Maybe what we should be doing is thinking of ways we can stop doing what is unhealthy and unproductive. Maybe what we need is to have "new year's unresolutions".

Take for example the above verse. The verse suggests that we should always pray which would make a good new year's resolution, but it also says we should "not faint" which implies not doing something so strenuous that will knock us out. You know the saying, "Knock yourself out." This verse is saying lets pray always and stop knocking ourselves out.

Faith is often expressed not in what we do; but in what we do not do or what we restrain ourselves from doing. Faith is often defeated by our anxious doings and it shines when we sit back in confidence and anticipation of the activity of God. God is faithful. God really cares. God will supply our needs and even our desires when we look to Him for that providential care. When we act apart from faith we act first and pray second or we don't pray at all.

I believe in a God who wants to care for us. I believe that God will meet our needs. But I also believe that God wants to be asked. It is the spoiled child who expects a parent to give without being asked and what parent wants to raise a spoiled child. God cannot give when we refuse to receive. God wants to give but waits to be asked so the giving can clearly be seen as God's expression of love for us and not our taking care of ourselves. If we act first and pray later we are in effect saying that we only need God when our own efforts and resources fail us.

I am reminded of teaching my children how to ride a bicycle. I would put them on the bike and then put my hand on the back of the bike seat. As I pushed them down the road I would let go of the seat for brief moments. As they learned to ride the bike on their own I could let go of the bike seat for longer and longer periods of time.

I remember once my daughter Rachel started getting ahead of herself. She peddled the bike faster than I could run along side of the bike. Soon she was way out in front and heading for a busy intersection. I had not yet taught her how to stop the bike. By the grace of God she did not die that day but it was a close call.

Our prayers are like that strong hand on our seats as we learn how to ride the bikes of our lives. We must realize that we need that hand even when it appears we can do this on our own. We must avoid the temptation of going too fast in our lives and losing that strong guiding hand altogether.

God is good. God wants what is most healthy and best for us.

If my children would have tried to learn to ride a bicycle on their own I believe they would still be grounded, or the battle wounds would have been unbelievably painful.

Let God teach you how to ride the bikes of your lives. It is for your benefit and enjoyment. Let prayer be the strong guiding hand that propels you and that keeps you safe. Make sure that prayer comes first and all that is good will follow.

My daughter Rachel is now a research scientist at the National Institutes of Health in Washington DC. She doesn't even own a car. She bikes wherever she goes. I am so grateful she survived learning how to ride that bike. It was a close call. She probably doesn't even realize that hand on the back of her bike seat is still there. I make sure it is there in my daily prayers for her.

Pastor Rick

## Finances And Attendance For November

### Attendance:

	9:00a.m.	11:00a.m.	Tue	Total
11/7	83	36	18	137
11/14	131	32	23	186
11/21	97	35	28	160
11/28	98	40	14	152

### November Finances:

Expenses	<b>\$16,133</b>
Income	<b>\$12,680</b>
Operating Surplus YTD	<b>\$19,690</b>

## Senior Fellowship Luncheon

The second Tuesday of the month when you are invited to the Senior Lunch at a local restaurant beginning at 11:30am. On January 11th at the lunch will be held at Panda Garden Buffet in Santee.

## 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/chele](http://www.ytbtravel.com/chele)

## Outfit for a special night?

Broken zipper?

Waist too tight?

Button lost?

It's Nancy you call,

Sewing, she does it all!

Nancy Funick, seamstress

(619) 270-7187 (619) 933-7823

## Massage Anyone?

Matthew Kassahn from our congregation is looking for clients

Call 619-672-5981 or ask for Matt at

619-741-4164

Stardust Rejuvenating Spa

8209 La Mesa Blvd.

La Mesa, CA 91941

A massage is a great way to let the weight of the world roll off your shoulders

## Confirmation

Confirmation will begin classes after the Christmas break on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

## Cross Training

Several of our youth and Belinda and Stephanie will travel to Yoliijiwa to meet with the best youth ministries in Region 2 of the ELCA January 7-9.

What an Honor!!

## Extravaganza

Pastor Rick, Stephanie and Belinda will travel to Kansas City for the National Lutheran Youth Ministry Convention January 20-24.

Belinda and Stephanie are making a presentation at the Extravaganza to share our Joyful Noise Summer Music and Arts Camp with youth ministers from all over the country.

Please continue to pray for our children and youth. We are so blessed to have such caring and skilled youth ministers in our church.

## **Church E-mail Mailings**

Would you like to be included on the church e-mail list? Do you want some bit of news e-mailed to the congregation? An e-mail list is being compiled by the church office and you can add yourself to the group list by just dropping a note into the offering plate or calling the church office at 448-1888. If you would like to e-mail something please submit the request in writing after checking with Pastor Rick. All e-mails sent will be sent without listing the e-mail addresses of the others who are receiving the information. This is called a “blind” e-mailing and is meant to protect these addresses from reaching someone who is not authorized to send e-mail to our church members without permission.

## **New Church Picture Directory**

The church council has set aside their February meeting to review proposals both “in house” and professional for a new picture directory. If you or someone you know would like to make a proposal for a new directory please plan to attend that meeting of the church council. With all our new members and the pictures in our present directory getting very old we are looking forward to having this valuable tool of communication soon to be at our disposal. The new photos will probably be taken during Lent and Easter this spring.

## **Events for Children and Youth of the congregation:**

### **Pre-K to third grade:**

The first and third Tuesday of every month we host a Pre-K to third grade children’s bible study. TOT’s for CHRIST is from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. If you have questions, contact Stephanie Myers (619) 971-1606.

### **Grades four through six:**

The first and third Wednesday of every month we will continue the 456 group. This group will meet from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the ACTS center.

## **Confirmation:**

Confirmation meets every Wednesday night

## **Upcoming Youth and Young Adult Events:**

*One Salvation*, our new youth led worship includes interactive time to share what God is doing in our lives, and how all we do is centered on his word. The message is scripture based with audio-visuals. There is fellowship time around the campfire after the worship. This worship opportunity is open to anyone in the congregation. For more information contact Belinda Karge at [bkarge@fullerton.edu](mailto:bkarge@fullerton.edu).

## **Servant project:**

In addition to the toy drive at the Christmas program, the youth also took time to make lunches and take them to minister to the homeless. They walked around downtown and shared lunch and scripture with San Diego’s homeless. What a blessing for all involved. Our youth have learned that we are never more like Jesus than when we are serving the poor and lonely. This statement is a key component in the media series used on Tuesday nights for *One Salvation*.

## **Winter Retreat:**

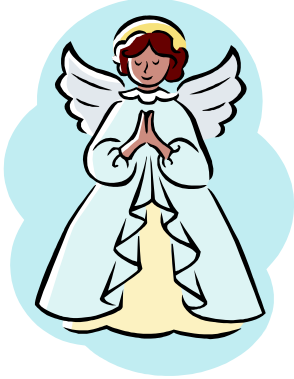
Winter retreat for high school and young adults is January 15-17. Stephanie, Belinda and Pastor Rick will be the sponsors. The cost is \$150. Youth who regularly attend *One Salvation* will receive a discount on the price.

## **Morning Bible Study**

Come join us for a morning bible study Wednesday, at 10:00 a.m. This study is open to anyone in the congregation. The study book we are using focuses on balancing our lives and costs \$10.00. During this study, attendees pray specifically for the youth of our congregation. Belinda Karge and Stephanie Myers are the organizers of this study.

## Women's Retreat

Last May, Pastor and 21 women attended an amazing women's retreat at Luther Glen. We are looking forward to the second annual Luther Glen retreat March 25-27, 2011. The cost is \$160.00 and is due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Young adult women age 15 and older are encouraged to attend with their moms. A retreat registration form will be available in early January. Please turn in your payment with the registration form to Belinda Karge or Ellie Timan.



## Advent Angel Tree

Sponsored by the Dorcus Circle

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!!**

This year our "Angel Tree" was for the benefit of The Salvation Army "The Door of Hope".

This is a safe haven at the Transitional Living Center where homeless mothers with children may stay for up to one year while rebuilding their lives.

Our truck load of donations were delivered on Monday December 13th to many grateful mothers and children.

**THANK YOU AGAIN!**



## Altar Flowers

Have you noticed the beautiful flower arrangements on the Altar for Thanksgiving and Advent??

Both bouquets were arranged by the students participating in Grossmont Union High School District's ROP (Regional Occupational Program/Career Technical Education) program. Students participating are from Chaparral and Spring Valley High Schools.

During the next year we will be ordering our flower arrangements from them when you sign the "Flower Calendar" to honor a birthday, anniversary or any other special occasion you would like celebrate by placing flowers on the Altar. The cost of the arrangements are \$20.00. A real bargain for you, but an opportunity for these students to practice their new found skills.

Please be sure to sign up early, as we need to give the teacher a month's notice, so she can include in her classroom schedule.

For questions, please contact Jean Setzer or Charlotte Arthurton





## Rose Garden

Would you like to bring out the “gardener” in yourself?

Mark the date.....Saturday January 15, 2011 at 9:00am.

We will be pruning back the roses and cleaning up leaves, etc in our rose garden.

Many hands make light work!

Contact Charlotte Arthurton for questions.

## Volunteer of the Month for December Vicki Haas



Vicki Haas is our volunteer of the month for December. Vicki has been a member of the church since 2006 and has volunteered on Council as the Chair of the Board of Outreach, Lector, Hooks and Needles, Dorcas, and various fund drives. Vicki also led a

fund drive to support our troops overseas, she is always eager to volunteer to help whenever needed.

Thank you Vicki for your support and for everything you do!!

## January Ministers

Coffee Fellowship: Nancy Funick, Laura Vaughan, Grace Otto

Communion Assist.: 2, 9- Jeanna & Darrel Timan  
16, 23- Marie Freeman & Grace Otto 30- Youth

Communion Care: Laura Vaughan

Greeters: 2, 9- Timan Family

16, 23- Reaney Family 30- Youth

Lector: 2, 9- Vicki Haas 16, 23- Sylvia Smith  
30- Youth

Stephen Minister of the Week:

2- Ellie Timan 9- Heather Gasner

16- Carol Davidson 23- Marian Privett

30- Mandy Vaughan

Ushers: Katie Timan & High Up

## January Anniversaries

29 Mavis & Richard Rones

30 Jerold & Sherry Henson

## January Birthdays

2 Amanda Schloegel

3 Gail Force

4 Jack Parhiala

5 Jim Carile

6 Bethany Timan

7 Rebecca Taylor

9 Helen Guttzeit

10 William Orton

12 Betty Reaney

16 Marian Privett

19 Kimberly Insel

19 Jeffrey Sallay

20 Naomi Schowalter

20 Marvin Hamilton

23 Charlotte Arthurton

24 Shaina Webb

24 Cassidy Caya

30 Daniel Timan

30 Marcy Metz

30 Faith Chertkow

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

# New Members December 5, 2010

(Not Shown Schrader/Rodriguez Family)



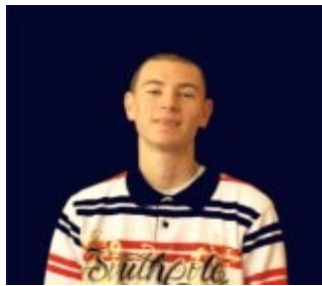
Benita Castro



Fernando & Joy Cervantes  
Amanda, Jordyn



David Crites



Joseph Haven



Tim Neuhaus



Elle Swift

Cullen, Sheaelle Einfeldt



Nathan Wentz



# New Members December 12, 2010

(Not Shown is David & Debra Hustad)



Jimmy & Marlene Chertkow  
Matthew, Faith



Eric & Heather Hustad  
Hanna

