

# The Echo

**No. 03-2006      March      Santee, CA**

*The Monthly Newsletter of:*

**Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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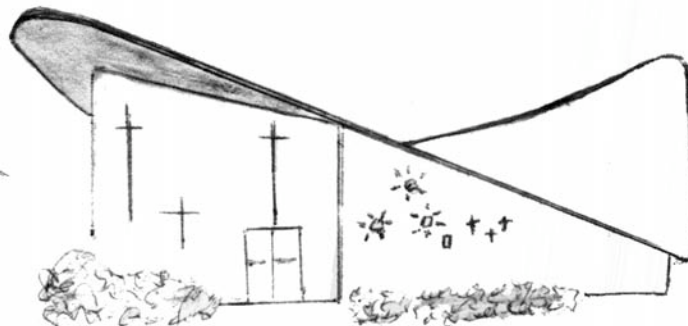
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Prayer Chain, 334-6457

***Marvin Hamilton***  
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***Marsha Hamilton***  
Organist

## Pastor's Page

This year, I am excited about implementing the "God Account"—a restricted fund that will support ministries outside our church. We will donate 10 percent of the money that we receive to this account. These funds will come from our weekly offerings as well as from special sources such as Nextel who pays us to store its equipment on our property.

Why 10 percent? The Bible commands 10 percent, a tithe, to support the temple and those who labor in the temple. God promises to bless those who make this commitment to the work of the temple.

Malachi 3:10

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of Heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

I believe that if we expect the people of our church to tithe, the church must also be willing to tithe. To me, it is no coincidence that at the exact time we as a church made a commitment to the God Account, Nextel agreed to place its equipment on our property. The rent we receive from Nextel will more than replace the dollars we have committed to the God Account. God loves to bless those who bless others.

Deby and I have tithed since the beginning of our marriage. We are extremely blessed financially; however, we know that whatever challenges the Lord places before us, the money has already been set aside to meet those needs. We want to be faithful with what God has given us.

Please do not feel guilty if you are unable to tithe your income to the work of God's Kingdom. Setting aside 10 percent of your income for the church or other charities is an impossible goal for many. I appreciate that some are in a better position to tithe their labors than their income. I want you to feel proud that you are a part of a church that has made this commitment of faith so that many will be blessed.

Jesse Lipscomb will lead the God Account Task Force. We held our first meeting Wednesday,

February 15th. Sherise Stark, Bill Blue, and I will decide how the funds from this account will be distributed. Designated beneficiaries will be presented to the church council for its approval.

We do not simply want to donate money to those in need, but as good stewards, we want to create relationships that are productive and fruitful. Priority will be given to organizations and individuals who desire to maintain a long-lasting relationship with our church.

Individuals who seek help from the God Account will need to fill out an application; however, the task force will not be limited by the application if an emergency that requires immediate attention occurs.

The following organizations were selected to benefit from the God Account:

1. The International Children's Outreach Network (ICON); and
2. Siempre Para Los Ninos

On Sunday, March 19th, we will take a special offering for the International Children's Outreach Network (ICON, an organization founded by Dell Russell, a close friend of Bill Blue. In 1996, Dell joined a tour group that visited remote tribal areas in southern Ethiopia. The tour leader was deeply involved in helping children from poor families receive the medical care they desperately needed, but their parents could not afford. Subsequently, Dell organized ICON, a tax-exempt charity that raises funds for children who suffer from physical deformities such as clubfeet and cleft lips as well as children with disabilities who need crutches and wheelchairs. You will learn more about this amazing organization on March 19th.

It costs our beloved "Siempre Para Los Ninos" orphanage in Mexico only \$2,368.87 a month to care for nearly 30 boys and girls; half of which is spent for food. The orphanage does so much with so little. On Saturday, April 22nd, we plan to take thousands of dollars worth of food to the orphanage. We will use money from the God Account to buy food in bulk. Siempre Para Los Ninos will supply us with a list of foods it needs, and we will accept food donations, on behalf of the children, during Holy Week.

Alejandro, the director of the orphanage, earns \$280 per month. Can you imagine getting paid so little for

such an important and difficult job! He would like to buy a mini van that he estimates will cost \$2200. The God Account will donate \$500 towards the purchase of the van. We hope to raise the rest through donations. Please consider donating towards this effort—an opportunity to reward someone who so generously serves our Lord and His precious children.

Please join me in prayer that God will bless our efforts as we reach beyond our church to help those who truly need help. I am so proud of our church's commitment to this unselfish and faithful effort. The blessings have already begun.

Pastor Rick

### **Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 1st.**

Every Wednesday during Lent, we will have a soup supper at 6:00pm, followed by a worship service at 7:00pm. Mandy and Cliff Vaughan made free-standing crosses out of wood taken from the school buildings which will be given to every family or household on Ash Wednesday, March 1st. On subsequent Wednesdays, worshippers will receive other items that symbolize Christ's passion to be placed on the cross: a rooster, a pair of dice, a piece of purple cloth, nails, a crown of thorns, and a money bag. Pastor Rick will fashion his messages around these items that will be added to the cross during Lent—a reminder of what our Lord did for us on the cross.

Beginning Sunday March 5th, we will celebrate the six Sundays in Lent by exploring our spiritual gifts—an intergenerational event that will be fun and meaningful from 10:30-11:00am.

### **A Day of Visioning**

On Saturday, March 11th, the congregation will meet from 10:00am to 2:00pm to explore future plans for our church—ways to fulfill our mission in the days, months and years to come. Those who attend will participate in three 45-minute sessions on the following topics:

- Landscaping
- Memorial Wall
- Acts Center Remodel

- Joyful Noise Summer Camp
- Long Term Planning
- New Patio (where the school buildings once stood)
- New Buildings or Future Construction
- Second Worship Service
- Community Outreach
- Youth Involvement

Each discussion topic will have a moderator who will record the ideas shared and present them to the church council and appropriate committees for implementation.

What vital roles will you play in our church's future?

### **God's Gifts**

God's Gifts for K-6th will resume at 6:15pm on Wednesdays in March, following a soup supper for children and adults at 6:00pm. Please join us and stay for the Lenten worship at 7:00pm.

### **Passing on the Faith Conference**

Hope Lutheran Church in Temecula  
April 28-29

We are looking for parents who want to learn how to effectively pass the faith on to their children. The Youth and Family Institute of Minneapolis will provide expertise and many helpful resources. Our church will pay the registration fee. Pastor Rick will lead an elective session at this conference. Talk with Pastor Rick or Kim Naour of the Christian Education Committee of the church council if you have questions or would like to attend.

### **Chili Cook-Off**

Lutheran Campus Ministry is sponsoring a Chili Cook-Off Sunday, April 30th from 4:00-6:30pm at St. Andrews Lutheran Church. Pastor Rick and others from 20 Lutheran churches in the San Diego area will make chili for this fund-raising event that will help support Lutheran Campus Ministry. Those who attend will place tips on the tables for each chili choice. What a fun and delicious way to raise money for a good cause.

### **April 22 Trip to the Orphanage in Mexico**

We will meet at the church at 9:00am, Saturday, April 22, to bring hundreds of pounds of food to the

orphanage. Many vehicles are needed to help transport the food. If you would like to help, please contact Pastor Rick. It is a good idea to buy Mexican Car insurance the day before we leave.

### **Thursdays are Youth Nights**

The youth of our church are invited to Pastor Rick's office every Thursday in March at 6:30pm to discuss the Alpha Bible Study series. This is a wonderful way for our youth to become spiritually prepared to be leaders in the Joyful Noise Summer Camp. Bring your friends.

### **Joyful Noise Summer Camp Meeting**

On Wednesday, March 8th, after our Lenten Worship, we will meet to discuss the six week Joyful Noise Summer Music and Arts Camp. We always need more help and staff. We hope to expand this summer, and are examining the possibility of obtaining temporary buildings. Expansion means more staff. If you know youth and adults who might want to serve on our staff, please invite them to this meeting. Last year's camp was such a positive and valued experience. We are looking forward to even more blessings this summer.

### **Flower Bulbs**

Beginning March 1st through March 19th, we will once again sell the Dutch Mill flower bulbs. Fifty percent of the proceeds will go to the summer's Joyful Noise music camp. Buy beautiful bulbs for your yards or donate some to the church's landscaping project. Packages of bulbs are \$5.00. Colorful brochures and order forms are located at the back of the church. Please make checks payable to CHELC and give them to Mary or Bill Thomas or leave them in the office.

### **New Members**

Our next New Member class will be Saturday, March 25th from 10:00am to Noon. We will receive new members Sunday, March 26th at the 9:00am worship service. If you would like to join us, please contact Pastor Rick or fill out the insert in the worship bulletin. We cherish our new members. Come join us in ministry and faith.

## **Than You from Betty Pendergast**



Thank you dear friends,

I received so many cards, gifts and flowers and one big bouquet of roses. Special thanks to the Dorcas circle for all the work you put into the potato luncheon, decorations, and just everything. Also, thank you for the beautiful teddy bear. As always, it was delicious and very much appreciated.

A big thank you goes to the Church Council. It was very hard for me to give up my job, but knowing that I did a good job makes me feel better.

Thanks again.

Love,  
Betty

### **Roses**

Roses to:

Fred and Norma Borgeson for all the wonderful things you do. You have such big hearts. You are two beautiful people.

Grace Otto for your desire to help with anything that has to be done. You are one great lady.

Tom Pendergast for all the times you make your delicious fudge for our church

## Dorcas Circle

Dorcas Circle has received approval from council to investigate the possibility of remodeling the Acts Center.

We wish to form a committee comprised of church members, Dorcas Circle members and church trustees. This committee would review what would be necessary to complete a remodeling, and get estimates of costs for the individual items they submit.

This remodeling would possibly be a new paint job, new carpet, blinds, and whatever else the committee wishes to submit to church council for approval. Once estimates are determined, we will know the amount of funds that will be necessary.

This will not be an immediate project, as we do have many unfinished projects at this time. This will be long-range planning of probably a year or so before we actually undertake the actual work.

Look for Dorcas to hold fund-raising events during this year, with the goal of starting to raise the money for the remodeling project. Probably in the fall of this year, we will launch an all-out campaign for the necessary funds. This will be similar to what was done to purchase our new organ.

We look forward to the involvement of the congregation with this planning committee. If you wish to participate, please call the church office and leave your name and number and we will contact you when we are ready to proceed.

Also:

Dorcas Circle met on February 14th for it's regular monthly meeting. It was announced that we will create a "Fisher's of Men" poster for the Lenten season.

The congregation will have the opportunity to decorate and sign different shapes and colors of fish and they will be put on a poster in the rear of the church.

Also, we will be making theme baskets to be auctioned off at the Easter brunch. The ladies will be making these gift baskets with different themes such as a travel basket, a Padre basket, bath basket, kitchen basket, moving basket, etc. Look for them

to be displayed starting April 2nd, and you will be able to start the silent auction at that time. More information to come.

The sale of the Valentine's carnations was a tremendous success thank to the hard work of Corrine Reid. It was fun to spread love all around us. Between the flowers and the Baked Potato Party, we raised approximately \$500.00.

Please join us at our March meeting Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m. the 14th in the Acts Center.

## Senior Fellowship Luncheon

Sr. Fellowship meets at Red Lobster in La Mesa, 8703 Murray Dr. at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Join in for some good food and wonderful fellowship. For more information call either Grace Otto, 448-8202 or Nancy Funick, 561-7823.

## Texts for the Sundays in March

5 First Sunday In Lent

Genesis 9:8-17, 1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15 - Color: Purple

12 Second Sunday In Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38 - Color: Purple

19 Third Sunday In Lent

Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22 - Color: Purple

26 Fourth Sunday In Lent

Numbers 21:4-9, Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21 - Color: Purple

## March Ministers

Acolyte: 5- Tyler 12- Jessica 19- Cara

26- Ben

Assist. Minister: TBA

Coffee Fellowship: Nancy Funick, Laura Vaughan,  
Grace Otto, Janice Davis

Communion Assist.: 5, 12- Lyn & Charlotte Arthurton  
19, 26- Sue Lisowsky & Christine Goforth

Communion Care: Grace Otto

Edgemoor Hospital Worship:

Greeters: 5, 12- Lin Conklin, Joi Comstock &

Deanna Sampson 19, 26- Jeanna and Katie Timan

Lector: 5, 12- Frank Steirer 19, 26- Sylvia Smith

Stephen Minister of the Day: TBA

Ushers: Pam Meyers and Hi-Youth

## March Anniversaries

- 12 Stephen & Candy Gomory
- Fred & Norma Borgeson
- 13 Ralph & Mary Burmayer
- 15 Darrel & Jeanna Timan
- 19 Betty & Thomas Pendergast
- Jesse & Juliana Lipscomb
- 25 Alan & Joi Comstock
- Linda & William Conklin

## March Birthdays

- 4 Cole Freeman
- 1 Peter Callaway
- 2 Owen Brown
- 3 James Haak
- 6 Wade Vickery
- 9 Betty Pendergast
- 10 Ronald Dixon
- Steven Kramer

- Jennifer Brown
- 12 Marilyn Thomas
- 13 Joshua Callaway
- 16 Lee Strand
- Florence Hustad
- Mary Arndt
- 17 Amy Geiler
- 20 Deanna Sampson
- 21 Fern Gates
- 24 Stephan Paulsen
- 24 Michael Childers
- 28 Richard Schowalter
- 29 Brett Boisvert
- 30 Joanne Huber
- Michael Sallay

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



Mark 9:2-10



Isaiah 43:18-25

# Landscaping Begins

After many hours work by a few members of the congregation, the bank has been cleared, sprinklers installed, several daisy trees and thousands of plants have been planted.

