

# The Echo

**No. 10-2011      October      Santee, CA**

*The Monthly Newsletter of:*

**Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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## Pastor's Page

Psalm 56:8

“You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.”

That is amazing Scripture. God keeps track of all our sorrows. God collects our tears in a bottle. God records each of our sorrows in a book.

I must admit that I woke on the morning of the 10th anniversary of 9/11 with a deep sense of sadness. I had been thinking all week of the tragedy and I was amazed that something that took place 10 years ago had such a profound impact on my feelings.

I was glad that I chose to add special prayers to that morning's worship service. The theme of those prayers was: “Lord Jesus, have mercy.” I began our prayer time with three repetitions of me speaking “Lord Jesus” and all present responded each time with the words, “Have mercy.”

Those words have a history for me.

When I was being treated for cancer I would end every prayer with “I thank you Lord Jesus for your goodness and mercy.” Now I was going to have us all pray for the cancer of terrorism that infected our country on 9/11 with a similar prayer, “Lord Jesus have mercy”.

Isn't the first step of any form of mercy someone who remembers the suffering and pain of those who suffer? That is what the Psalm above states. God remembers our every sorrow and records them in a book. God even collects our tears in a bottle!

But my memory of 9/11 not only caused me to remember the sorrows of those who suffered and died in those terrorist attacks but also the suffering of people throughout the world who in similar ways suffer.

On the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on our country I had us pray, “Knowing how our country suffered mercilessly, that we do everything possible to protect civilian populations throughout the world from war, famine and natural disasters”. I wanted us to pray not only for ourselves but also others throughout the world who suffer in similar ways. Could we be so callous to think that we want only for God to meet us

in our suffering and not also lift up the suffering of others? Isn't that the great sin of those who perpetrated the attacks on our country on 9/11? Those terrorists were only concerned about their perceived suffering and had no regard for the suffering of others. They not only refused to remember, they callously disregarded the suffering they caused. To defeat that kind of terrorism we had to do better.

Perhaps equally meaningful to me in our worship the morning of the 10th anniversary of 9/11 was the hymn we sang following those prayers. The hymn is called “This Is My Song” and the lyrics speak loudly our need to think of the larger context to our suffering.

Verse #1 reads “This is my song O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home the country where my heart is, here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.”

The last verse reads “This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms, your kingdom come; on earth your will be done. O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you, and hearts united learn to live as one. So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations; myself I give you; let your will be done.”

God knows and remembers our suffering. The Psalm above states that God desires to remember every detail of that suffering down to the last drop of a tear.

Jesus came to this world to let us know that God has become one of us and so God knows our suffering, our weakness and our failures. May we turn to Jesus so that we can be healed of our sufferings and so that we can become a source of healing to a world filled with suffering. The first step is to see and feel and recount that suffering. The first step is to be willing not only to remember our suffering but also to remember the sufferings of others.

Peace to you! Be an instrument of God's peace in the world.

Pastor Rick

## Finances And Attendance For August

### Attendance:

	<u>9:00a.m.</u>	<u>11:00a.m.</u>	<u>Total</u>
8/7	95	32	127
8/14	102	44	146
8/21	74	25	99
8/28	98	31	129

### August Finances:

Income	<b>\$14,164</b>
Expenses	<b>\$15,255</b>
Operating Surplus YTD	<b>\$15,989</b>

## Senior Lunch

The second Tuesday of the month you are invited to the Senior Lunch at a local restaurant beginning at 11:30am. On October 11<sup>th</sup> the lunch will be held at Michael's Grill 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/chelc](http://www.ytbtravel.com/chelc)

## 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

## Sunday School

Every Sunday within the 9:00am worship service and following the 11:00am worship service

## Confirmation

### New time and Day of the Week

Confirmation is every Sunday at 11:45am. This is a new day and time so we can include a large group of teens who want to learn more about their faith after being introduced to the faith through "One Salvation" our youth led worship. Let Pastor Rick or Stephanie know if you are interested in joining the class.

## Thursday Bible Studies

### Something for everyone!!

Thursdays in October (No study October 20 and 27) we will have Bible study from the "One Year Bible" in the church office from 6:00am (Yes! A.M.) until 6:30am. Many of our church council leaders are at this study but it is open to the whole congregation.

Also Thursdays in October (No study October 20) we are combining the regular Thursday evening Bible Study and the ABC Bible Study in the Acts Center at 7:00pm. Child care is provided. We are studying the Gospel of Mark.

Come and join us!

## Calling All Singers

Have you ever found yourself singing along with the song on the radio either at home or while driving? Or do you have a high school age son or daughter who is caught up in the Glee frenzy? Well, here is an opportunity to let that singing voice out. Church Choir will start practice on Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm to 8:00pm beginning September 14th. While we would love to have you at practice on Wednesday evenings, we also do a quick practice to the church service on Sundays starting around 8:15am with the first practice on Sunday September 18th. We are not professional singers, and you do not have to read music to sing. If you can carry a tune you can sing in the choir. We have friendly and patient choir members to help you along, and again, both adults and High School age singers are welcome. We have fun and would love to have you share your voice. Please join us on Wednesday evenings and/or on Sunday mornings.

### **Church Council Meeting At Noon, Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup>**

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### **First Communion will be Sunday, October 9th.**

The First Communion class will be Saturday, October 8th at 10:00am for young children and parents and at 11:00am for older youth.

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### **Fall Festival Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> Mark your calendars!!**

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### **Pastor is on Vacation**

Pastor Rick and Deby are planning a vacation October 14-21. Stephanie Myers will be preaching on Sunday, October 16th at both worship services. Come and hear our youth minister share her faith.

## LYO

### **Lutheran Youth Organization**

October 7-8 Retreat at St. Olaf Lutheran in Garden Grove

### **El Salvador (A Mission of Faith)**

Before we left to go on this mission I assured Pastor Rick that I would keep a daily journal so that I could share with all of you our experiences. I kept my promise of writing in my journal daily. Now that I sit here with my journal open to page one I feel somewhat overwhelmed. Where do I start? The thought of trying to share our experience in this tiny space is no small feat. So, I've decided to write more than one article. As a matter-of-fact, I think I'll keep writing each month until someone in the Congregation says "Enough already...we got it, The El Salvador Mission changed all four of you ladies for life!" It truly did. We arrived on a hot steamy Saturday evening and as soon as we were through customs we were greeted by a warm, loving, Lutheran coalition of friends. We met Oscar (Our amazing driver) and rode in his Micro Bus to our new home in El Salvador, The Casa Concordia. Casa Concordia is a not only a Lutheran Retreat Home but a U.N. Safe House as well. It is located in the city of San Salvador in a neighborhood that by most standards would be considered extremely poor. Although there is a tall iron entrance gate with armed guards at night and a cement wall surrounding the property, we felt safe. We were surrounded by love and protected and honored by the family that runs the home. Maria Trinidad is the mother of the home. Everyone calls her Mama Trini. She is a beautiful, strong soul who has had to bury two children and a husband due to the on going violence in El Salvador. Her story is nothing short of astonishing. Mama Trini also runs Casa Esperanza (Hope House) The Hope House is a homeless facility that feeds approximately 70 men, women & children almost daily. Mama Trini is truly a force of nature. Being in her presence was very special. She is honored, revered and respected by her family, Bishop Gomez the people of San Salvador and all the Lutherans passing through on various missions. I can see now that one of my future articles will be all about this remarkable woman. I will ask Terri to

assist me when it comes to writing about Mama Trini as they quickly became BFF's. (Best Friends Forever) We attended church on Sunday at Resurrection Lutheran in downtown San Salvador. Bishop Gomez presided over the service, which was an uplifting, Christian experience. Although the service was completely in Spanish I felt the words and the love of the Holy Spirit come streaming through. The two and half hour service had dancers, seven Lutheran Ministers, a band, a comedian and tons of heart. Terri was brought up front to present her gifts of the beautiful embroidered communion and alter cloth that she had made. It was a touching moment. Nearing the end of the service the children of the church presented each of us in the Lutheran Delegation with a beautiful little wood cross and a hug. We were invited to have lunch with the Bishop in his office after the service. I understood this to be quite an honor. Pastor AnnaKari translated the Bishops message to us. His message was simple. The people of El Salvador are people of God and the countries most precious commodity. He requested each of us to share our observations of what we experienced while here. In writing these articles it is my intention to share with you the love, peace, compassion and faith in Jesus Christ that I saw and felt everywhere. Jesus is alive and well in Central America! I am completely honored and humbled that I was allowed to experience this mission of faith.

### **Blessing of the Animals**

We will have our annual blessing of our pets on Sunday, October 23rd between worship services. Please bring your pet to the blessing and share the love you have for the animal kingdom.

The blessing will be at 10:30am so that people have time to return home to bring their pets to the blessing from the 9:00am worship and can come early from the 11:00am worship service.

### **Council Meeting Minutes August 28th, 2011**

Pastor Rick opened the meeting with devotions from Job and Corinthians. Wisdom and opportunity were the discussion points.

Reports were read and approved, and summer updates were given. Numbers from the Caring Neighbors and the Senior Lunch program, both considered community outreach, were highlighted. The number of people served, both in our congregation and in the community, is quite impressive. A motion was made by Laura Vaughan and seconded by Keri Hyles to institute a Caring Neighbors Sunday, which will be similar to Blue Jeans Sunday, also a great success.

The Memorial Wall and the Church Directory was discussed under the heading of old business. The Memorial wall needs to be finished and the empty spaces filled. Penny Sallay submitted a proposal to encourage additional purchases. Pastor will reach out to the congregation to determine if price is a factor when deciding to purchase a spot on the wall.

The distribution of the Church Directory will be delayed to allow for new members to be included. Pastor will be reaching out to inactive members to update their status and to find out if they would like to be included in the updated directory.

Under new business, we discussed and planned Rally Day, a day to kick off our Sunday School Program. This will be held on Sunday, September 18th. The new curriculum, as well as our other youth ministries, will be highlighted, and there will be a church-wide picnic beginning at 11:30.

Under miscellaneous business, we discussed the Offering to the Poor, which raised approximately \$3000 for different ministries, the Fellowship Calendar, which is filled out thru the end of the year, and the need for food for funeral receptions held at the church.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 with a motion by Laura Vaughan and a second by Deanna Sampson. The next council meeting will be held on Sunday, September 25th at 12:00

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pam Meyers  
Council Secretary

## **Blue Jean Sunday 2 - Going Out!**

We're going out in our Blue Jeans to be God's working hands (and work pants!) for our neighbors on October 2. We're working with Caring Neighbors, a Lutheran Social Services program that uses our church office and helps neighborhood seniors with household projects. Feel free to wear your holey-holy pants! We had a great turnout to work on our own church grounds in June, what a great chance to go out and share God's love with our community!

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

### **Tots 4 Christ**

Tots 4 Christ is our pre-k to 2nd grade bible study. This class offers a bible story, craft, game and a snack for fellowship. Tots 4 Christ will meet every other Tues starting on Oct 4th at 5:15pm and will go until 6pm. We will meet the first and third Tues of every month. Parents are encouraged to stay. Stephanie Myers our Youth and Family Minister will lead this program. If you have any questions please feel free to contact her at [stephmyers88@yahoo.com](mailto:stephmyers88@yahoo.com) or at 619-971-1606.

### **Souled Out (New 456 group)**

We are super excited for this upcoming year to begin! What was once known as "456" is now called "Souled Out"! This is our elementary bible study that spreads the Good News to 3rd graders all the way up to 6th grade!! This awesome interactive bible study allows youth to explore their Faith like never before!! We have a wonderful curriculum by Spark House called The Anti-workbook lined up. The youth will dive into New and Old Testament; learn the Lord's Prayer and so much more! Souled\*Out begins Sept.20th @ 6pm & goes until 7:00pm. Our bible study will meet every Tues nite for an hour in the acts center. Souled\*Out will be led by our Youth and Family Minister Stephanie Myers!

### **First Communion**

Another cool date to keep in mind is our 1st Communion Class that will be held on Sat Oct.8th

@ 10 am. If you have any questions please feel free to Contact Stephanie Myers at : [stephmyers88@yahoo.com](mailto:stephmyers88@yahoo.com) or (619) 971-1606

### **One Salvation Youth Led Service**

One Salvation, our 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. We meet on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. October 4th the Stephen Ministers will be joining us for an evening of sharing spiritual gifts. A lot is planned – you won't want to miss out – mark your calendars. For more information contact Belinda Karge at [bkarge@fullerton.edu](mailto:bkarge@fullerton.edu).

### **Young Adult Group**

Many of our young adults and/or college students have classes on Tuesday nights or have to work. A group recently attended a play (Jungle Book) together and during dinner discussion after the play realized that we needed to get some type of fellowship going for those who are no longer in high school but want to continue getting together for fellowship. The ELCA leaders have published research showing that between the ages of 18 and 28 many young adults leave the church because they do not feel connected to others their age. We want to foster these connections and encourage young adults to grow in their faith. Belinda Karge is coordinating these monthly meetings. Email her at [bkarge@fullerton.edu](mailto:bkarge@fullerton.edu) or facebook her to let her know you want to participate and you will be notified of the monthly event/meeting.

### **Morning Bible Study Opportunities**

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 is from the Women of Faith Series 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.

## October Anniversaries

- 9 Thomas & Linda Gulliver  
15 Rudy & Terri Flores  
31 Michelle & William Gomes

## October Birthdays

- |    |                       |    |                    |
|----|-----------------------|----|--------------------|
| 2  | Danil Koch            | 14 | Jeanna Timan       |
| 3  | Betty Berglund        | 15 | Jean Sevcik        |
| 4  | Stacey Parhiala       | 19 | Marlene Chertkow   |
| 4  | Camryn Force          | 21 | Kathleen Darland   |
| 5  | Tiffany Coletti       | 24 | Linda Gulliver     |
| 7  | Mathew Callaway       | 24 | Stephen Salaz      |
| 10 | Vance Coletti         | 25 | Pamela Blyth       |
| 11 | Sherry Martin         | 25 | Sara Paulsen       |
| 12 | Jeffrey Taylor        | 27 | Charlotte Dravland |
| 12 | Candy Gomory-Greenlee | 28 | Helen Humphries    |
|    |                       | 31 | Hanna Hustad       |
| 12 | Sydney Hartman        |    |                    |

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

## October Ministers

Coffee Fellowship: Nancy Funick, Laura Vaughan, Grace Otto

Communion Assist.: 2, 9- Laura Vaughan & Vicki Haas 16, 23- Ed Teichner & Sarah Paulson 30- High Youth

Communion Care: Charlotte & Lyn Arthurton

Greeters: 2, 9- Stephanie & Chris Meyers 16, 23- Becky Byrd 30- High Youth

Lector: 2, 9- Stephanie Meyers 16, 23- Keri Hyles 30- High Youth

Stephen Minister of the Week: 2- Carol Davidson 9- Ellie Timan 16- Marian Privett 23- Carol Davidson 30- Ellie Timan

Ushers: Jennifer, Owen & Sydnie Brown, Tom Davidson, Heather Gasner, Susie Rettig, Diedra Zeller

## News From Taco

The Gospel of John starts very poetically with these words:

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and

the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” John 1: 1-5.

How many of you were thinking of verse 5 during the Great Power Outage of 2011? The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

I must admit that I panicked a little bit when we found out it was more than just the corner of Third and Ash downtown. The unanswerable question of “When would the power come back on?” opened up the fear of the unknown. Will all the food in my fridge go bad? Will my tank of gas last through the extent of this outage? How will we serve our Friday morning meal with no power? But this fear was quickly extinguished when Thursday evening turned into such a fun night! Since then, we’ve been telling our “power outage stories.” Where were you? What did you end up doing that night? Every story I’ve heard is a story of people enjoying the evening. In the figurative and literal darkness of a strange situation, light was certainly shining!

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

In the darkness of not knowing where a hot meal will come from, where to find medical services, or social services, TACO strives to shed light. So far this year, TACO has served 17,485 meals to 11,408 people. What an amazing number. Thank you to you all for shining your light in the darkness of others, offering hope to all of God’s people.

At the writing of this article, we are busily preparing for Bread Upon the Waters. Look for details in November newsletters or follow us on facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/TACOSDfb>

Also, if you haven’t heard the news, TACO raised over \$8,000.00 in its first ever Rummage Sale! Many thanks to Martha Radatz, Dagmar Miller, Susan Mayes, Kathleen Sorahan for coordinating such an amazing event.

Blessings,  
Rachel Line  
Volunteer Coordinator