

The Echo

No. 1-2012 January Santee, CA

The Monthly Newsletter of:

Carlton Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor's Page

“Peter said unto Jesus, Lord, why cannot I follow you now? Jesus said, 'You cannot follow me now, but you will follow me later.'”

John 13:37-38

There are times when you cannot understand why you cannot do what you want to do. When God brings the blank space, see that you do not fill it, but wait. The blank space may come in order to teach you what God's will means. Never run before God's guidance. If there is the slightest doubt, then God is not guiding you. Whenever there is doubt—don't.

In the beginning you may see clearly what God's will is, like the severance of a friendship, the breaking off of a business relationship, something you feel distinctly is God's will for your life. Never act on the impulse of that feeling. If you do, you may end up making difficulties that will take years to put right. Wait for God's time to bring the decision round and God will do it without heartbreak or disappointment. When it is a question of the providential will of God, wait for God to move. Remember “love is patient”.

We are beginning a new year, 2012. It is a significant year for me. In a few months I will turn 60 years old. I always say it is one thing to count the years but it is another thing altogether to count the decades.

If there is one thing I have learned over the years it is to not be in such a rush. I have ruined so many projects because I felt I needed to respond immediately when I really needed to be more calculated and measured in my response. It is so much easier to get it right the first time than to mess it up further by a rash and hurried first attempt. I would say I have spent more time in my life fixing what I have made worse by a hurried first response than I have actually fixing the original problems.

Many people have New Year's Resolutions when a new year begins and I think we should consider making a list of what we will stop doing the coming year.

For example maybe the decision to loose weight is the wrong way to go about an over weight problem.

Maybe it is in fact putting the cart in front of the horse. Maybe we should make a list of what we should not be doing in order to lose weight. How about making a list of your binge eating foods and making a decision to not have them in the house? Maybe we need to eliminate certain foods or drinks from our diet altogether? Or maybe the problem is portions? Isn't it easier to say I will eat less of the many foods I like rather than to say I will loose weight and change everything about my eating habits?

I think the same could be said spiritually in my life.

We may want to pray more and read Scripture more, but often that is not the problem. The problem is often we have so much time and clutter in our lives. Yes, we want to pray more but when? We are all so busy. Maybe the key is to eliminate time constraints in our life that are clearly not good for us or our relationships? Maybe if we want to do more constructive things in our life we need to first work on a list of things that occupy our time that really need to be eliminated from our life.

I love my time with Deby. But to be honest my sport watching often puts her second on my list. This year I decided to record all the Twins and Vikings games and only watch the recordings. I want to make my time with Deby a top priority. I find that it is a lot quicker to watch a game where I can fast forward through the time-outs and the between innings and I have also found that I don't even want to watch a game where my team is going to lose. My resolution was not to stop watching but to be much more selective in my watching and put Deby first.

Let's start that list today! What are we doing that is keeping us from being the person we want to be? What can we eliminate or at least modify in our lives that will better serve the top priorities of our lives?

Jesus said it to Peter. Now is not the time. You will have to wait. But the time will come and you and others will be better served later. Be patient. Wait.

Pastor Rick

Finances And Attendance For November

Attendance:

	9:00a.m.	11:00a.m.	Tue	Total
11/6	100	26	32	158
11/13	113	28	29	170
11/20	101	23	27	151
11/27	91	34	35	160

November Finances:

Income	\$15,753
Expenses	\$16,762
Operating Surplus	\$12,600

Senior Lunch

The second Tuesday of the month you are invited to the Senior Lunch at a local restaurant beginning at 11:30am. On January 10th the lunch will be held at Bonny's Cafe at 596 Broadway in El Cajon.

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

She's a wizard with a needle and thread,
Can produce any garment that pops into your head.
She will assist when alteration or
construction are needed.
She mends, darns, and sews 'til work is completed.
Call Nancy Funick to do your sewing chores.
Her prices are right and satisfaction is your!

(619) 270-7187

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

Church Council Meeting

At Noon, Sunday January 15th

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.

Thursday Bible Studies Something for everyone!!

Thursdays in January we will have Bible study from the "One Year Bible" in the church office from 6:00am (Yes! A.M.) until 6:30am.

Also Thursdays in November we are starting a new Bible Study at the Schowalter home at 1630 Whitsett Drive in El Cajon at 7:00pm until 8:00pm. Refreshments are provided. We are studying the Book of Isaiah.

Come and join us!

Sunday, January 29th Between Worship Services

A By-Laws Corrections and Additions meeting will take place between worship services. There is a proposal to add a youth to our church council that will be discussed and acted upon.

Program Annual Meeting Sunday, February 19th

This meeting is usually the second Sunday of February but it will take place this third Sunday in February because Pastor Rick is out of town the previous Sunday

The meeting will take place between Worship Services in the Acts Center

Come and hear about our ministries for the past year and our hopes and plans for the coming year.

Monday, January 2nd TACO (Third Ave Charitable Organization) Feed the Homeless

Let Pastor Rick know if you want to help. We meet in the church parking lot at 2:30p.m.

Upcoming Youth and Young Adult Events

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. For more information contact Belinda Karge at bkarge@fullerton.edu.

Preparing for the All Lutheran Youth Gathering

Pastor, Stephanie and Belinda attended a youth minister training to prepare them to lead our youth in the trip to New Orleans. There is a series of bible studies that youth across the country will be participating in prior to the gathering. We will be kicking off the studies with a youth retreat at the Karge's cabin January 14-16, 2012. The cost of the retreat is \$20.00 per youth and we are looking for additional drivers. Chains might be required!

Thank you for your support of the Dudley's Bread fundraiser! Thank you for attending the Children's program and dinner. In January we will be sponsoring a Pampered Chef catalog party and a Scrapbook party to fundraise.

Do you have Southwest Airline Tickets? We will be flying Southwest to New Orleans and would love to have any frequent flier tickets you can spare. Email the code to Belinda at bkarge@fullerton.edu.

Bible Study opportunities:

Come join us for a morning bible study Wednesday, at 10:00 a.m. in the ACTS center. 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.

If you work during the day, come by the church office at 6:00 a.m. Thursday morning for a bible study with Pastor Rick. Or join the Thursday night study at Pastor and Deby's home at 7:00 p.m.

Women's Retreat

The third annual Carlton Hills Women's retreat will take place at Luther Glen April 19-22, 2012. Registration is a bit different this year, as we are only going to reserve and pay for the rooms our members guarantee (unlike last year when we reserved the entire retreat center); this way the church does not end up paying for rooms that are not occupied. Ladies, clear your calendars and plan to attend this amazing spirit filled weekend. For Thursday through Sunday the fee is \$200; for Friday through Sunday it is \$150.00. A \$25.00 deposit must be received by January 20th to ensure your spot! Give your deposit to Pastor Rick or Stephanie.

January Anniversaries

- 14 Angela & Charles Usher
- 29 Mavis & Richard Rones

January Birthdays

- 2 Amanda Schloegel
- 6 Bethany Timan
- 7 Emma Taylor
- 7 Rebecca Taylor
- 9 Helen Guttzeit
- 10 William Orton
- 12 Betty Reaney
- 15 Charles Usher
- 16 Marian Privett
- 19 Jeffrey Sallay
- 19 Kimberly Insel
- 20 Marvin Hamilton
- 23 Charlotte Arthurton
- 24 Kassidy Caya
- 24 Bruce Dravland
- 24 Shaina Webb
- 30 Daniel Timan
- 30 Faith Chertkow

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

January Ministers

Coffee Fellowship: Nancy Funick,
Communion Assist.: TBA
Communion Care: TBA

Greeters: TBA

Lector: TBA

Stephen Minister of the Week: 1- Marian Privett

8- Carol Davidson 15- Heather Gasner

22- Ellie Timan 29- Marian Privett

Ushers: Stephanie Meyers & Confirmands

News From Taco

Welcome to 2012 from all of us here at TACO. As we come into the New Year and the Epiphany Season, we have so many reasons to give thanks. Your congregation's faithful recognition of the needs of those who come for healing and food help more than 700 people each and every week. Each year we rely on more than 400 volunteers serving meals, we rely on 5 graduate programs to provide life-saving clinics, and more than 800 donors, large and small alike, to help us keep our doors open, the food cooking, and healing happening. We are so blessed to begin a new year with such support.

The week before Christmas brought us scores of volunteers to help us wrap our Christmas gifts for those who make their bed on the sidewalks downtown. As well, we held our Volunteer Appreciation Party where Rachel Line told us of the amazing gifts given throughout the year by all who care for us here on the corner of Third and Ash in downtown San Diego. On Sunday, December 18, all those wrapped gifts again made the structure of the manger for the First Lutheran Christmas Pageant and Pastor Miller blessed them. Then the Friday before Christmas, we were able to give out these small packages, maybe the only gift some folks will receive. We gave out sleeping bags, tarps, and other equipment to make life a bit warmer and drier this year, near 250 all tolled.

Thank you and blessings from TACO.

Jim Lovell
Executive Director

Youth Christmas Program



