

CHRIST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

# Proclaimer

## Worship

Sunday Morning  
Holy Eucharist  
At 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.



Through God's Grace we Joyfully,  
Receive...to Give  
Learn...to Serve  
and Worship...to Grow.

## Education

Sunday Morning -  
beginning September 12  
9:15 a.m. for All Ages:  
Children 3 & up- Chapel  
Junior High Youth:  
Boys- Room 216  
Girls - Room 214  
Sr. High - Room 206  
Adults- Fellowship Hall

## Nursery

A Nursery is available  
for children who are  
infants through 4  
years of age during  
Sunday morning  
worship and the  
Sunday School Hour.

## Office

Monday-Thursday from  
9 a.m.—4:30p.m.  
Friday from  
9a.m.—12p.m.

September 2010

## Rally Day, Picnic & Bring-a-Friend Sunday ... September 12

It's hard to believe that summer has come to an end already! But the start of a new school year brings promise and excitement. Our fall schedule at Christ Lutheran is full of things to get excited about, too. From Sunday School and Lutheranism 101 ... to special events for All Saints Sunday and Reformation Sunday ... to Blessings of Animals and Bibles, we have a meaningful fall that invites us to focus on growing in our relationship with God and with one another.

**Rally Day Fun for All Ages** – To kick it all off, we invite you to join us for a special Rally Day Sunday on September 12, complete with a "day of camp" hosted by Lutheran Camp Chrysalis. We'll have fun activities for our children and youth from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., a special Children's Time during worship, and our annual Rally Day Church Picnic in the Courtyard and Fellowship Hall for all ages, beginning around 11:45 a.m. Please bring a friend to join in the festivities.

**Picnic Potluck** – At the Picnic, our resident party planner, Katie Rode, is planning a feast of fried chicken, watermelon, rolls and beverages. Side dishes and desserts are potluck, thanks to our guests ... that's you! Games and activities for children will abound.

**Dessert Contest** – We hope you'll enter a favorite sweet for our dessert contest that will feature some pretty entertaining "celebrity" judges. You can bake your favorite pies, cakes, cookies, you name it! Please bring your desserts before 11:15 a.m. on Rally Day, and last year's winner, Edna Robbins, will record all entries and keep the bakers' names anonymous to ensure honest judging (not that we don't trust our judges, of course).

**Volunteers Needed** – If you'd like to help out in any capacity, contact Katie Rode at 210-323-0040 or [KatieRode@gmail.com](mailto:KatieRode@gmail.com).

## Groups

### Bell Choir

Every Wednesday  
6:00 p.m. - Room 203

### Book Club

First Tuesday  
6:45 p.m. - Location TBA

### Dominos Group

First Thursday  
9:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

### First Thursday Lunch

First Thursday  
12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

### Healing Prayer

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.  
Rode Prayer Chapel

### Hope Circle

Third Thursday  
9:30 a.m. - Primrose House

### Joseph's Sons

First Monday  
6:30 p.m. - Location TBA

### Ladies Bible Study

TBD

### Lydia Circle

Third Tuesday  
7:00 p.m. - Primrose House

### Men's Breakfast

Second Tuesday  
7:00 a.m. - Bill Miller BBQ

### Quilters

Every Tuesday  
9:00 a.m. - Primrose House

### Sanctuary Choir

Every Wednesday  
7:15 p.m. - Sanctuary

*Other Groups meet during the year. For information about any of the above groups, please contact our church office*

## From Pastor Leslie Setting Our Faces Toward Jerusalem

Jesus is on his way . . . to Jerusalem I mean. Of course, Jesus always seems to be heading somewhere in the gospels. He never stays in one place for too long, seeking to share his teachings, preaching and Good News with as many people as possible. But this fall, Jesus' journeys take a serious turn. Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem and as each step brings him closer to the difficult challenges he will face there, each teaching he shares with us brings us more insight into the difficult challenge of living as his disciples.

That's why I am grateful for Bob Oliver, for his leadership as our Congregational President, and for all of you. This month Bob writes about our Vision Statement and our very strong hope that Christ Lutheran is a place where we seek to grow as disciples. While many in our contemporary culture may have moved on to congregations where the sermons and teachings are entertaining and only seek to make you laugh or feel good, we have sought something different. It's a good thing we have, too, because I promise you that this fall, Jesus will not be letting any of us off the hook. His call upon our lives is very real, and we will see him take on the role of mentor and teacher, seeking to guide us to better serve our neighbors.

When people ask me how I deal with preaching, whether I tend toward tougher messages or more soothing sermons, I usually respond by saying, "I tend toward whatever it seems God is saying to us through the Scriptures; sometimes that's a message of comfort and sometimes it's a message that makes us uncomfortable." This fall, as we set our faces toward Jerusalem and listen to Jesus' tough words, we must prepare ourselves to face the challenge of discipleship. Rather than being intimidated by this or shying away from it, let us view it as an opportunity to be counter-cultural, to show the world that we refuse to be defined by consumer-driven philosophies, and more importantly, to allow these tough teachings to shape us so that we embody God's will in this place, seeking to transform every life we touch.

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## September 19: Christ Lutheran Church Open House

Sunday, September 19 will be "Christ Lutheran Church: Open House Sunday." It will be a different sort of Sunday, with many CLC women at the Chrysalis Retreat and Pastor Leslie out of town for a family event. Bob Oliver will preach at both services. For kids, Dianna has designed an open house, with the special benefit of Dan Long working with the kids on handbells. Penny McDonald, our new evangelism chair, is planning a reception for visitors. The Fellowship Hall will be the place to be at 9:15 a.m. if you are an adult member or visitor. Four of our lay leaders will be with us to discuss special ministries to which they dedicate considerable volunteer time ... and we're sure you'll find their ministries inspiring. We will also enjoy fellowship together, have the option of touring our lovely church facilities and partake of some favorite Lutheran goodies. Please plan to be here. If you have any questions, call Karin Oliver at 826-1450.

# From the Council President...

Jan Norris, former President of our congregation and tireless editor of *The Proclaimer*, sent me an article that makes me very proud of our congregation (Jan is careful not to send me articles that won't make me proud).

G. Jeffrey MacDonald, a minister in the United Church of Christ, authored the article, addressing a trend in worship services that he strongly feels is a source of concern. He points out that since the 1950's there has been a movement toward consumer-driven religion. Clergy have been pressured by their congregations to "keep sermons to ten minutes, tell funny stories and leave people feeling great about themselves." This pressure has resulted in a high level of stress and depression among pastors as they are forced to choose a path of satisfying the demands of the congregation over their calling to "help people grow spiritually, resist their lowest impulses and adopt higher, more compassionate ways." This higher calling requires pastors to help "people to learn to do what's right in life, even when what's right is difficult." So, the warning Pastor Jeff is giving us is that we parishioners need to stop leaning on our pastors to go easy on us and entertain us. Give us the tough stuff...we can handle it!

Now for the pride part. How in the world did we miss that trend? We are so out of it! In all my years here at Christ Lutheran, I do not think we have been guilty of this issue that concerns Brother Jeff. Or if so, our pastors have successfully ignored us! We have been blessed with pastors who remind us of the challenges of the Christ-led life from our pulpit every Sunday. It is not an easy road as Jesus warns his disciples over and over again. As our Vision Statement states, "we worship to grow," and there is no spiritual growth without being challenged.

At the congregation's direction, the Call Committee made challenging sermons a high priority in their search for a new pastor for Christ Lutheran. In fact, finding a pastor with this ability was a key reason the search extended over two years. Over the past four months, I think you will agree that Pastor Leslie Kida does not shy away from challenging us in our spiritual growth when the scripture readings demand it. Yet this is done in a way that does not intimidate us, make us feel alone in our inadequacy or make us feel placed in an impossible position. She lets us know we are in this together, and we are there to support each other on our faith journeys!

Be sure and re-read Pastor Leslie's article this month as she sets the stage for the fall lectionary that will provide plenty of challenges for us all with readings from Luke as Jesus makes his way to Jerusalem. And you don't need to worry about Pastor Leslie sugar-coating the message to us ... she is not wired that way.

Call if you have news.

- Bob Oliver, Parish Council President

## Member News

### Sympathy to:

- The family of Dave Petersen who died on August 15. CLC memorials will be placed in the music fund.
- The family of John Whitmire who died on August 16. A memorial service will be held at Christ Lutheran in the near future.
- Laurie Huhndorf on the death of her aunt, Elda Ehlert on August 24.

### Members who have moved:

- O.J. Stevenson
- Jim Flinn
- Henry Mejia
- Patricia Hoenshell  
If you would like the new addresses, please call the church office.

## Please Note:

If you are not receiving our weekly e-mails, please contact the church office.

## Praises to:

- The Welcome Team for making so many people feel at home in our congregation.
- Dianna & all VBS staffers for an awesome week for our young members.
- To all summer soloists & instrumentalists for incredible music.
- All Meals on Wheels volunteers.

# Sunday School Room Re-Do & Open House

One of our most important missions at CLC is the lifelong faith formation of our children; thus Sunday School is one of the most important programs within our church. A positive experience in Sunday School is essential as this is often where a child's attitudes toward church are formed.

At the beginning of the summer, the Faith Formation Team recognized the need to renovate some of our Sunday School rooms, and we began cleaning, painting and enhancing with props and tools to make education more enlightening for the children and easier for our teachers. Our Sunday School classroom environment should foster the faith formation experience to ensure that our children are comfortable and open to learning about God's love.

With the leadership of Shelley Giesecke, a proposal was established that meets the needs of many areas of our children's ministry. After receiving Council approval (thanks!) the work began! We cleaned and sorted out the rooms and recruited Dale Anderson, Tim Hopkins, Dennis Fortassain and Linda Sulser to paint. A huge thanks to Dale who painted 75% of the spaces!

Sean Looney, a lifelong member of CLC, proposed an Eagle Scout project to create a stage with a puppet theatre for our Story Time room and risers for the Music Room. Sean worked with Dianna Hopkins and his dad, Robert Looney, to create a wonderful plan that is still in progress. We hope to have it completed for Open House on September 19.

With lots of planning, volunteer hours and love, we are excited to show off our new and greatly improved Sunday School rooms to you on Open House Day, September 19!

Here's what you'll see:

**Senior High Room (Room 206/208)** – Rearranged and cleaned, with new valances and photos of our incoming youth.

**Junior High Girls / Boys (Rooms 214 and 216)** – In this growing group, we're splitting boys and girls into separate classes. It'll open up conversation and help the confirmands focus on their Confirmation studies. Rooms 214 and 216 have been freshly painted, furniture is arranged and photos of the youth will be added to empty bulletin boards.

## **Four Rotation Rooms for younger children (3 years old-5<sup>th</sup> grades):**

- **Arts & Crafts Room (#201)** – We moved this activity to #201 (old Junior High Room) to increase space and enhance lighting. Yellow walls and fun green accents make this room light and airy. New round tables and stools make the space versatile and functional and a new storage cabinet holds all supplies. Shelley Giesecke is the lead teacher for Arts & Crafts.
- **Music & Movement Room (#205)** – This room received a good cleaning, fresh paint with silver accents and new valances. One half of the Eagle Scout project will build a two-level platform against one wall. All the instruments for children are now located in this room. Debbie Vasquez leads our kids with bells.
- **Puppets, Drama and Story Time Room (#207)** – This room received a huge make-over! This is the second half of the Scout project where a stage is being built and a puppet theatre. The new space is set up for creative drama, storytelling and puppets. Also new this year is our "Silly Dad Group" that will lead kids in getting creative with Bible Stories.
- **Mission & Outreach (#210)** – Previously our Story Time room, this was painted a while back by Katie Rode and Dianna Hopkins in a theme of outdoor whimsy that works with its new purpose of Mission & Outreach. We've added a world map, tables, chairs and pictures that relate to our new curriculum this coming year. Ava DeFrest teaches Mission & Outreach in this room.

# First Communion

First Communion is a renewing and nourishing milestone in the life of a Christian. It is a central part of our worship and faith life. Through Communion we are strengthened for service by God's abiding love, we receive God's forgiveness and we share in the abundance of living in a family of faith. We welcome all people to share the feast of the Lord's Supper.

This October, four of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders will go on retreat to learn about First Communion. To prepare youth for this event, we will meet on Saturday, September 11 at Clay Casa at 10 a.m. Children and their parents will make their own Communion chalice and paten as a symbol of the Lord's Supper and these pieces will be used to serve the congregation on First Communion Sunday.

On Saturday, October 2, children will meet with Pastor Leslie and Dianna during a morning retreat to receive instruction about Communion, practice forgiveness together and prepare to receive the sacrament. Additionally during the retreat, children will make Communion bread that will be served to the congregation.

The following day, Sunday, October 3, we'll celebrate First Communion Sunday! During the 10:30 a.m. service, children and their families will come forward for a special prayer, blessing and recognition, and their First Communion will follow.

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## Faith Formation Team

At Christ Lutheran, we have a group of wonderful members who gather quarterly to plan activities and ministry opportunities for our children, youth and families. This year we are pleased to announce the addition of two new members, Elizabeth Spillmann and Lynn Rada and can't wait to begin planning for the future. This is an annual commitment and we are grateful to the following members for dedicating their time to the faith formation of our youngest members!

**Dianna Hopkins**, *Director of Faith Formation*

**Debbie Vasquez**, *Council Representative*

**Shelley Giesecke**, *Nursery Coordinator*

**Elizabeth Spillmann**, *Nursery Events*

**Lynn Rada**, *Junior High Events*

**Becky Richard**, *Senior High Events*

**Dana Whelan**, *Family Events*

# Senior High Synod Gathering

Hey, Senior High Youth! We are gathering with about 300 other youth from our Synod for an awesome retreat. All youth in the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to attend. It is open to all high school students – you don't have to be a member of our congregation or even Lutheran.

The theme this year is “GO!” Through worship, Bible study, workshops, an amazing interaction center and more, we will explore what it means to GO and live our faith life! Over the course of three days, youth will choose various workshops centered around the seven faith practices (worship, prayer, service, etc.) and dive more deeply into their own faith life. Worship is high energy with a live band and messages that relate directly to youth today.

Mark your calendars now for December 28-30. The Gathering is here in San Antonio at the Omni Hotel. The cost is \$110 and includes all programming, dinners, hotel accommodations and a t-shirt. To register, complete the registration form that was mailed to your homes and is also available on the website. Attach the fee and return it to church prior to November 30. Dianna Hopkins and Sarah Richard are chairing the event for the Synod and we are excited to see our young people attend! Call Dianna or Sarah for more details.

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## Confirming Our Faith

Calling all 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders! We are kicking off a new year of Confirmation starting on Sunday, September 26 with a get-to-know-you hour for students at 9:15 a.m., and an *Entering Confirmation* blessing during 10:30 worship. Our scheduling format for Confirmation is as follows: students attend small groups from 9:15-10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings throughout the school year and an additional once-a-month large group session on Wednesday nights. Our first large group session for the year will be Wednesday, September 29, from 6-8 p.m. All sessions are required, and students must do make-up work if they are unable to attend. A more detailed schedule of dates and times will be e-mailed to parents soon. If you would like to add your name to this list, please contact the church office at [office@clcah.org](mailto:office@clcah.org), and we will get the information to you. This promises to be an exciting year of growing in our faith together. Questions? Contact Pastor Leslie at the church office or at [leslie@clcah.org](mailto:leslie@clcah.org).

# Thanks to our VBS & Day Camp Leaders

During the week of July 26-30 we were blessed to have 85 young children here for VBS & Day Camp. What a wonderful week! The theme, *Faith 365*, was a wonderful way for children to explore five of our liturgical holidays.

Of course the week wouldn't have been such a success without the following amazing adult leaders:

**Linda Mercer**, *In-Kind Offering Coordinator*

**Ruby Westerman**, *Altar Guild Coordinator*

**Nancy Jones**, *Snack Coordinator*

**Geri Wollschlaeger**, *Snack Coordinator*

**Pam Park**, *3-Year-Old Class Leader*

**Brandon Albrecht**, *3-Year-Old Class Assistant*

**Taun Miner**, *4-Year-Old Class Leader*

**Sarah Richard**, *4-Year-Old Class Leader*

**Blythe Stobb**, *4-5-Year-Old Class Leader*

**Catherine Dolly**, *5-Year-Old Class Leader*

**Lucy Mathesen**, *VBS Arts & Crafts Leader*

**Ava DeFreest**, *VBS Service Project Leader*

**Karly Hartman**, *VBS Games Leader*

**Ben Richard**, *VBS Games Leader*

**Keith Becvar**, *VBS Storytime Leader*

**Catherine Thurston**, *VBS Storytime Leader*

**Debbie Vasquez**, *Day Camp Leader*

**Mary Lynn Logan**, *Day Camp Leader*

**Bob Logan**, *Day Camp Leader*

**Link Lyons**, *Day Camp Leader*

**Charleen Richardson**, *Day Camp Leader*

**Brenna Schulze**, *Day Camp Leader*

**Corinne Schulze**, *Day Camp Leader*

**Rosario Alferez**, *Amazing Helper all week with anything that was needed!!!*

**Dianna Hopkins**, *Director of Faith & Family Formation*

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## Children and Youth are "Taking Root!"

This fall, children and youth in Sunday School will be learning about hunger issues around the world. "Taking Root" is a curriculum for children and youth that explores central Bible texts that envision a world without hunger. Students will work together to transform these biblical images into a hopeful reality.

***Taking Root: Hunger Causes, Hunger Hopes*** explores hunger and poverty with children and youth. The reality is dire. 16,000 children die every day from hunger and hunger-related causes. One in ten U.S. households lives with hunger or is at risk of being hungry. Yet, there is hope. The earth has the capacity to feed its people. Economists have identified strategies that can effectively lift people, communities and nations out of the clutches of hunger. What is needed is a groundswell of people aligning themselves with the goal of ending hunger.

Younger children (3 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) will meet each Sunday in the Children's Chapel for an

energetic opening led by Dianna Hopkins and Peter Gross. Children will then rotate to various workshops led by creative and loving adults: Arts & Crafts by Shelley Giesecke, Service Projects by Ava DeFreest, Games by Lisa Chegin, Music (and Bells) by Debbie Vasquez, and Story Time & Puppets by some awesome dads!

Senior High Youth (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) will meet in their youth room each Sunday with Tim Hopkins, and Will and Elizabeth Garrett. Materials are designed to engage students in meaningful conversations about hunger and poverty. Student notebooks are filled with conversation starters that do not tell young people what to do, think, or believe, but rather engage them in ideas that can be applied to their lives and the life of the world.

We look forward to seeing our young people starting this exciting new curriculum in September!

# Men's Work Weekend and Retreat- Oct.1-3

All CLC men are invited to a work weekend and retreat at Lutheran Camp Chrysalis, October 1-3. Arrival is flexible to suit your schedule – we hope you can join us either Friday evening or Saturday morning. On Saturday, we'll help with projects such as camp facility repairs and trail maintenance, with Friday and Saturday evenings dedicated to relaxing by the campfire, fellowship and conversation. Departure is planned for Sunday morning after brunch and an outdoor worship service. Contact Bob Lynch at 830-438-3389 or Larry Sulser, 210-822-6797 for further information and reservations.

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## Lutheranism 101

Have you ever wondered what Thesis #18 of Luther's *95 Theses* addressed ... or where exactly Luther was standing when he said his famous words, "Here I stand. I can do no other," ... or whether the Diet of Worms had to do with calories or theology? If so, please join Pastor Leslie for what promises to be an exciting fall as we delve into the details of the Lutheran Reformation and explore the exciting theology that inspired thousands to reclaim their faith and put Christ back at the center of their lives. This class will begin meeting on Sunday, September 26, from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and will run through Reformation Sunday at the end of October. All are welcome. Talk to Pastor Leslie for details.

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## Blessing of the Animals at CLC - October 3

Do you have a furry, feathered or scaly animal friend that gives you joy and faithful companionship? Are you a bird-watcher or do you have a love of nature? Then we have a special service for you! Please join us on for our first CLC Blessing of the Animals! The Blessing of the Animals is an annual commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi, held in October to coincide with World Animal Day. St. Francis was a Roman Catholic friar who loved all creatures and believed that humans had the responsibility to protect animals and the environment.

You're invited to bring pets that can be easily and safely transported (and on leashes if appropriate) to the **Plaza at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 3**. Invite a friend to bring a pet as well. If you don't have a pet, you're still invited to join the celebration. We are stewards of God's creation and it is a joy to honor the brotherhood of all God's creatures!

If you have any pet supplies that can be recycled – collars, leashes, soft towels and blankets, etc., please bring them along and we will deliver them to the Animal Defense League. Monetary donations are also welcome.

# Disaster Relief for Pakistan

According to the United Nations, 20 million people in Pakistan have been affected by the monsoon rains and massive flooding. Six million are in urgent need of food, clean water and safe shelter. Lutheran World Relief is working with ACT Alliance, a global coalition of churches and agencies, to support the relief effort in Pakistan. They are sending food, quilts, health kits, layettes, shelter kits, hygiene kits and mosquito nets ... and we can help. If you'd like to contribute, please make your checks out to Christ Lutheran Church and mark in the memo portion, "LWR disaster relief for Pakistan."

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# Eucharistic & Visitation Ministry

Through God's grace, we joyfully receive to give, learn to serve, and worship to grow. On Sunday, September 26, the Eucharistic Ministers and Visitation Team will meet after church for lunch, fellowship and training. Pastor Darwin Huartson will lead us through the essentials needed for doing a good visit. If you are interested in this ministry we are in need of more members so, please join us. It is a wonderful, rewarding way to serve members of our own congregation and receive unexpected blessings from new friendships. RSVP to the church office or Carolyn Dufelmeier or call for more information.

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# Christ Lutheran Book Club

In August, the CLC Book Club enjoyed a thoughtful discussion of [To Kill a Mockingbird](#) at the home of Roberta Leichnitz. We will meet September 7 at Penny Gunderson McDonald's home to discuss [The Big Short](#) by Michael Lewis. We are delighted that K. Duncan Martin II, Ph.D., D.BA, has agreed to lead the discussion ... which we expect will be scintillating. We hope you'll join us for this and the October selection: [The Brass Verdict](#) by Michael Connelly. If you're interested in joining this merry band of readers, call Linda Mercer at 210-828-2015 for details.

# A Tribute to Dave Petersen: 57 Years Singing Bass in the CLC Choir

In early August, the choir received an e-mail announcing that rehearsals would begin August 18, marking the end of our summer hiatus. Dave Petersen replied to that e-mail with regrettable news that the choir hoped never to read but knew down deep would eventually come.

“Thanks for your notice, but my last appearance was on the last Sunday in June. I'm retired after 57 years. That seemed like a lot looking forward when I joined in October 1952, but not so far looking back. Needless to say I will miss our long years together and the love I have in my heart for each and every member of the choir, and for the music we were able to provide our congregation. But, my balance is questionable, my ears won't stop ringing and the low notes are mostly gone. I will now be listening for any flaws since I've reached the age of a critic. Best wishes for another stellar season—Dave Petersen.”

As many of you know, Dave has been the anchor of the bass section for many decades. He has an incredibly low voice that hits notes way down on the left end of the piano keyboard that most people can't hear but can only feel. Our former director, Mary Ann Winden, often stopped after rehearsing a piece and asked Dave to sing the last bass note an octave lower. We would repeat the end of the piece and when Dave hit the low note on the last chord, the choir would marvel at how we could feel the risers resonate under our feet!

As Dave said, he sang in the Christ Lutheran Choir 57 years. Not in several church choirs, but in the same church choir every year since 1952! To put this in perspective, it is an achievement that is so far out there it compares to Bob Beamon's record long jump in the Olympics, Cal Ripken's consecutive games as a player without injury, Hank Aaron's home run record and George Blanda's longevity in the NFL. It is a record of commitment that is not going to be touched! In 1998, Mary Ann Winden received approval for Christ Lutheran to commission the writing of a choral piece to honor Dave's tenure and that of his singing buddy, Cliff Jefferis, who was a close second in tenure with the CLC choir. The commissioned piece, “Treasures in Heaven,” has been sung by the choir numerous times over the years during worship and at Cliff Jefferis's memorial service. Naturally, it has a wonderful bass part.

Upon receiving Dave's retirement e-mail, the first seeds of ways to recognize Dave were discussed. Dave insisted we hold off scheduling any events until he felt better. But then on Sunday, August 15, Carolyn Petersen called to say that Dave had suddenly passed away that afternoon. She asked that Pastor Leslie, Dan Long and the choir be promptly notified as Dave would want. Dave served Christ Lutheran Church in many ways, from President of the congregation to helping out with Sunday School, but it was his dedication to the choir that stands out for me.

The choir will sing “Treasures in Heaven” at Dave's funeral, but we will be missing that last note sung an octave lower. And I know for the next year or so choir members will be hesitant to sit in the last chair on the third row of the choir loft. “That's Dave's chair.” Over time, I'm sure we will lighten up on that rule, and we will move on as the choir expands. Dave would want it that way.

I picture Cliff Jefferis sitting in the Heavenly Choir with his clarinet in one hand and patting the empty seat next to him: “Dave, I have your robe laid out and your music folder is ready. We have a lot of rehearsing ahead of us and some tough bass lines to learn. Lots of beautiful music is planned for this fall, and you can't miss the first rehearsal!”

Dave, we will miss you dearly ... but we are comforted knowing your 57-year streak is not really over. You have just moved on to a higher choir!

- Bob Oliver

# Vietnam ... Still Healing

CLC member Ed Stiteler works with Vietnam veterans in the post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) healing process. Day of Discovery, a part of RBC Ministries, recently produced a documentary that follows two Vietnam veterans – a Marine and a soldier – as they make a return visit to Vietnam. Ed was one of the guides. Interviews with the veterans and their wives reveal poignant personal stories that will be particularly meaningful to those who have been touched by war. Ed and his wife Laurie have donated a copy of the DVD to Christ Lutheran and made it available through the CLC Library for any who may wish to borrow it.

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## Note from a Friend ...

Dear Friends – Gary and I felt so loved and accepted here at Christ Lutheran Church, and after his death, I have felt your support. Please know that I will carry your faces with me (and the memory of the wonderful music) as I move to Portland, Oregon to be with our son and his daughter. If you feel like praying for me, it would be great if the Holy Spirit would stir up a job for me there! Bless you all, always.

Patricia Hoenshell  
6751 SW Taurus Pl.  
Beaverton, OR 97007

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## Quilting Corner

Peggy Hanna has been very generous to Christ Lutheran's quilting group. She has donated two of her mother's quilt tops for auction to raise money for Lutheran World Relief. They are displayed in the Crossway,

There is a bid sheet next to each quilt top. If you would like to bid on either or both of the quilt tops, please add your name and the amount of your bid to the sheet.

## Staff

The Rev. Leslie Kida  
*Pastor*

The Rev. Arthur Rode  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Marilyn Hamilton  
*Director of Day School*

Dianna Hopkins  
*Director of Faith Formation*

Becky Richard  
*Office Manager*

Linda Sulser  
*Administrative Assistant*

Dr. Dan Long  
*Choir Director*

Peter Gross  
*Organist*

Christina Flatau  
*Nursery Attendant*

Kristel Lara  
*Nursery Attendant*

Rosario Alferez  
*Church "Keeper"*

Izzy Sanchez  
*Custodian*

## Parish Council

Bob Oliver, *President*

Marty Loeber, *Vice Pres.*

Terry Bowen, *Treasurer*

Debbie Vasquez, *Secretary*

Robb Decker, *Trustee*

Lisa Chegin, *Trustee*

Kim Fischer, *Trustee*

Pastor Leslie Kida

Christ Lutheran Church  
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San Antonio, TX 78209

## Rally Day & Bring-a-Friend Sunday September 12

Worship at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School Fun at 9:15 a.m.

All Church Picnic 11:45 a.m.

There will be food, fun activities for children and youth, a dessert contest, and plenty of fellowship, so come join us!