



Parish Visitor

Bringing the good news of **Christ Lutheran Church** into your home!


November 2010



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP AND PIE SOCIAL NOVEMBER 24

On the night before Thanksgiving CLC has a wonderful tradition of gathering for exciting worship and enjoying pie afterward. Make plans to be in worship on November 24 at 7:00 and, in addition to the terrific music, hear a special message brought to us from a resident of the Visalia Rescue Mission. It will touch your heart and warm your soul. After worship join everyone at the pie social in the CCC hosted by the Christ Lutheran Church Women's Ministry. What a great way to start a weekend of feasts and celebrations!

Members: Please bring a pre-sliced pie to share and drop it off in the CCC kitchen before the worship service.

Put Your Money
Where Your  Is



Join us for the LWR Fair Trade Fair!
Saturday, November 13, 10 am to 3 pm
Sunday November 14, 7:30 am to 1 pm in the
Community Connections Center

Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive Begins November 1

For those that shop for it, bag it, distribute it, and receive it, it's much more than a bag of food.



For more information see page 5

Monthly Newsletter for Christ Lutheran Church
3830 W Tulare Avenue • Visalia, CA

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Pastor Malison's News for the Pews

"Every time it comes to the stewardship drive at church I sit on my wallet a little harder and say to myself, 'Just try to get my money.'"

One of our members once said that to me. He had a smile on his face. I knew it wasn't a completely accurate reflection of his understanding of financial giving in the church. But I also knew there was a thread of truth in it.

One of the liturgical lines in worship (8:00 worship, that is) is, "It is our duty and delight..." I like those words, especially when it comes to financial giving to God through the church. Another way we say it on Sunday is that visitors need not give, and that the financial support of the congregation is the "joy and responsibility" of the members of the congregation.

So, this is really just for the members.

First, let's think about the "duty" or "responsibility" of financial giving. We are a

church. We are an organization that is driven by membership support. We have bills, salaries, obligations, and a mortgage just like any other organization. Duty and responsibility point to the reality that the church does not have outside funding sources (the ELCA doesn't give us any money to do ministry!); everything comes from our members. In order for CLC to keep going, our members must

take seriously their duty and responsibility. Members are our only means of financial income. If members don't give their fair share then we can't be effective.

To talk about duty and responsibility is not real fun; it is probably less fun to hear. But there is more, and I think this is the real motivation.

Let's think about "delight" and "joy." There is something profoundly unique, exciting, and uplifting about writing a check that will go in the offering plate, that will go to the church, and that will be used for purposes of doing God's work. There is something special about giving money to something that is specifically about doing God's work and will, of proclaiming His lordship, and about changing the lives of others. While I can't speak for others, I truly have a joy and a peace when giving my financial gift, of knowing that this check is unlike any other I write, and in trusting that God will be glorified because of it.

This month in worship we will focus on thanksgiving. I hope that as we do, each of us have the ability to make the connection between being on the receiving end of God's blessings, and tangibly sharing a blessing to others by being a financial giver.

May the duty and responsibility of giving be overshadowed by the delight and joy. And may God be glorified through it all.

Pastor Brian Malison

Brian can be reached via email at Brian@clcvisalia.org.

CLC Staff

Brian K. Malison

Lead Pastor

Lim Forgey III

Minister of Music

David Lemon

Youth Minister

Patti Dudley

Director of Servant Ministries

Dianne Aldrich

Director of Spiritual Formation

Ann Aakre

Director of Discipleship Ministries

Mike Johnson

Church Administrator

Patty Endres

Office Manager

Carol Zarndt-Salvador

Financial Secretary

Kristina Smoot

Executive Secretary

Glen Crownover

Director of Multi Media

Dennis McGuire

Facility Coordinator

Marti Fleming

Nursery Coordinator

Ron Hoffman

Parish Counselor

The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. Psalm 67:6



CONSECRATION SUNDAY

Members will receive their 2011 pledge card in the mail in the middle of November. Consecration Sunday is December 5. These are the things we hope you will do...

- Attend a special Stewardship 101 luncheon on Sunday, November 21 from 12:15 to 1:30. Pastor Malison will lead a Biblical understanding of stewardship, and offer helpful ways to approach being a financial giver to God's work. This luncheon is free, will have child care available, and is open to new members especially (but all members are invited to attend). Please call the church office by November 18 to reserve a place at the luncheon.
- Pray and ask God what percentage of your income He is leading you to give in 2011.
- Fill out the pledge card and bring it to worship on December 5.
- Come forward when directed in worship and joyfully expect God's blessing on CLC because of yours and others gifts in 2011.

Parish Visitor Deadline: Articles for the Parish Visitor should be submitted by the third Tuesday of each month.

November – Hospice Month

The Legacy of Terry Schiavo-Lessons Learned

Five years ago, a private family drama gained national attention as the parents of Terry Schiavo waged a legal battle with her husband regarding the continued prolonging of her life. Terry Schiavo had been in a vegetative state for over a decade after suffering cardiac arrest at her home in 1993. Her husband had said that she had told him she never wanted to have her life prolonged, but there was nothing in writing.

On March 19, 2005, after numerous court battles that went all the way to the Supreme Court, and after drawing the attention of then-President George Bush, Michael Schiavo was granted the legal ability to remove his wife's feeding tube. Terry Schiavo passed away on March 31, 2005.

The legal arguments between Terry Schiavo's husband and her parents on whether to remove her feeding tube shone a harsh light on the pressing topic of advance healthcare directives. Regardless of whether you agreed with the ultimate outcome of Terry Schiavo's story – the lesson learned, even five years later, is the importance of family and caregivers knowing what the patient choice would have been during a healthcare crisis.

Who will make your healthcare decisions if you become incapacitated? The easy answer is likely your spouse or parent. The more difficult answer is to the question, "Do your loved ones know what your wishes would be in the event of a healthcare crisis?" Have you even considered whether you would want to remain alive regardless of prognosis, and to what lengths your healthcare providers should go to keep you alive?

Ultimately an advance healthcare directive is like an insurance policy – you hope that you'll never have to use it, but its existence provides peace of mind. That peace of mind will also extend to your loved ones, who will never have to wonder, like the family of Terry Schiavo, whether they ultimately made the right choice.

To receive information on Advance Healthcare Directives, contact:

- California Coalition for Compassionate Care <http://www.finalchoices.org>,
- Caring Community <http://www.caringcommunity.org>
- Aging with Dignity: <http://www.agingwithdignity.org>

Carolynn Peterson

RN, MSN, AOCN,
Chief Operating Officer, Community Hospice, Modesto, CA

Sunday Morning Education

Adult Bible Study and Discussion continues each Sunday at 9:30 am in the Conference Room of the CCC. This class focuses on the sermon's weekly Gospel lesson, and there are plenty of opportunities to participate in group discussion. Bring your Bible!



Wanted!

A team of Master Craftsmen and woodworkers to help build the Singing Christmas Tree that will be used for the 12/22 event on the Garden Street Plaza. Please come to an informational meeting on Saturday, November 13, at 11 am in the Music Suite.



Adult Bible Fellowship



Parents are encouraged to place their littlest ones in our caring nursery and older children in Sunday School classes and join us for ABF! This class goes through December 12, and may be joined at any time. Meet us in the Christian Life Center, Fireside Room at 9:30 am.

GIVING — September					
	Monthly		Year To Date		Net Difference
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
Income for Church Operations	\$71,424	\$70,047	\$681,340	\$614,629	(\$66,711)
Designated Giving for September: \$17,001		Designated Giving for the Year To Date: \$345,420			
<i>The Thankoffering total was approximately \$1,800.00!</i>					



New Members Welcomed

Please welcome to the CLC family the following new members received into membership on October 24 at the 9:30 am Worship Service:

Ruth Johnson 685-1610

131 W Lynn Ave, Tulare 93274

Patricia McLeod 936-4985

Nicholas White

3920 W Meadow, Visalia 93277

Tara Moffett 936-4985

Latricia Moffett

3920 W Meadow, Visalia 93277

Bob & Sallie Marcellus

2408 Oakes Lane, Hanford 93230

Please clip this section and attach it to your members directory for future reference.

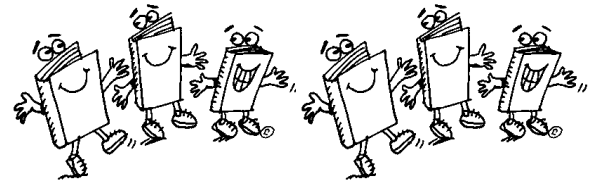


LIBRARY UPDATE

If you are a fan of MYSTERY BOOKS, we have just the thing for you. A display of CHRISTIAN MYSTERIES has been set up in the library. Most of them are by Terri Blackstock and carry a Christian message.

New books will be arriving written by some of our favorite authors so just check the round table for new books by JAN KARON (another book about Father Tim) FRANCINE RIVERS, ROBIN HATCHER, PHILIP YANCEY AND BEVERLY LEWIS. We are also getting a copy of the new LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLE.

We will also be setting up a display of CHRISTMAS BOOKS – fiction, non-fiction and children's books. This will be set up later in November.



Campus Updates

I've got a couple of things outside of our campus activities to review with you this month.

First, our Endowment Team which consists of our Chair John Bookwalter, Andy Balerud, Margaret Kindem, Ted Smith, Cydney Oster, and Doug Berg is providing an update. We have not had many meetings given the current state of our account and the economy, but we have needs you should be aware of. Our balance as of 9/30/10 sits at \$313,681. As per our constitution these funds are to be untouched until such time as the fund reaches \$400,000. Our team would like to see us hit this amount during the 50th year of CLC's service to our community, 2011. As shown in our Endowment Brochure in our lobby, there are many ways to help this fund grow. Cash. Securities. Bequests and Memorials. Life Insurance. Real Estate. Annuities. Charitable Remainder Trusts. And the list goes on. If you would like more information, please contact John Bookwalter.

Second, continue to pray for our strategic planning process. Ministry needs will be defined and refined as we move ahead in service to God. We're blessed with tremendously talented members at CLC and our impact is far reaching. As we move into our next 50 years we have much to be thankful for and much to do. Please be a part of this process and put your time and talents to use with your friends and family at CLC. Pastor Brian will provide more in-depth updates to this process, so stay tuned for more information.

Last, I want to thank everyone for their help with our 10/10/10 celebration. It was an amazing day of celebration and Brian's message was a great reminder of what is possible at CLC, with the help of God. Many hands make light work and we did indeed have many hands helping out. From start to finish the day went smoothly and I am extremely thankful for so many willing and hard working team mates!!

Mike Johnson

Mike can be reached via email at mike@clcvisalia.org

Mark your calendars now!
CLCW ANNUAL BABY SHOWER
December 6, 2010
6:00 pm - CLC BUILDING



We will enjoy a potluck dinner hosted by the Mary-Martha Circle, who will provide dessert and beverages. Please bring salad or a casserole, as well as an unwrapped gift for sizes infants through child's size 14. All gifts will benefit the needy of Tulare County.

Representatives of charities receiving these gifts will briefly inform us of their areas of service.

Please join the women of the church for a relaxed yet worthwhile event.



Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

Help us provide food for those less fortunate in our community. Sign up on the sheet in the foyer, pick up a shopping list and a bag to put the food in, and then go shopping! All food should be returned to the church by November 21. If you cannot do the shopping yourself, we will shop for you with your donation of \$35.00.

Here's an Advent "sneak peak"!

December 1

Cowboy Christmas-with the western band
Baloney Creek

December 8

Bells of Christmas-with bell choirs from
several area churches

December 15

Sounds of Christmas-with choirs, soloists,
children's choirs and harp.

December 22

Singing Christmas Tree -A special downtown
Visalia gathering outside the Enchanted Play-
house to sing Christmas Carols for and with the
community.

YOUTH Connect

Communication is a vital part of a growing ministry. The really cool thing about communication is that it is two way. You receive a piece of information and respond, and then a dialog begins. This is a focus of mine that I have been working on, trying to improve in all facets of my life and ministry. Paving a two-way street is not an easy task when there are so many options for laying the groundwork. I believe that great strides have been made in order to keep people connected, and more importantly communicating. I would like to share a few things with you that have begun to help in the area of communication.

- I have what is called a "text-mark" which is a text messaging system designed to allow me to share short bits of information with a large group of people in a minimal amount of time. If you would like to receive information about upcoming Youth ministry events, lessons, and groups please send a text message to 41411 and include only the word clyouth (one word) in the body. This will include you in all future alerts.
- There is now a live Google calendar that is accessible by anyone at anytime. If you would like access to this calendar, please send an email to david@clcvisalia.org. I will be happy to send you the link.
- As we do more events, projects, etc. I will be loading some videos to YouTube. You can find us by searching christlutheranyouth on YouTube.

These are only a few of the ways that I hope to be able to keep people better informed of what is going on within the youth ministry. I realize that all of these are technology based, and there is a population that either does not "do" technology or isn't completely up to speed on the ever expanding world of information technology. To those I say take heart. I will not forgo other more traditional forms of communication, I will just be focusing my efforts on these methods.

Here are a few things coming up you should be aware of:

November 13: Second Saturday Serve at Tulare County Food Bank

December 26-29: Youth Christmas Retreat

- *Useless Fact of the month:* The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the English language.
- *Unfunny of the month:* Two muffins were sitting in the oven. One turns to the other and says, "Wow it's hot in here!" The other muffins says, "Woah! A talking muf-fin!!!"

Peace, David

David can be reached via email at david@clcvisalia.org

November — Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Worship @ 8, 9:30 & 11 am 9:00 AM Mission Cafe 9:30 AM Sunday Education for All 1:00 PM Lahu Worship 4:00 PM Harvest Festival 6:00 PM 7-8th Grade Confirmation	1 9:30 AM Old Men Coffee @ Burger King-Demaree 6:30 PM Cub Scout Dens 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	2 7:00 AM Elections 9:00 AM Quilting 9:15 AM Staff Prayer 6:30 PM Financial Peace University 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM AI Anon	3 5:30 PM Adult Education 5:30 PM Praise Adventures 5:30 PM Youth CORE Events 6:40 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	4 9:00 AM POPS 11:40 AM Preschool Chapel 4:20 PM Narcotics Anonymous 5:40 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Christian Meditation 6:30 PM Worship Choir 8:00 PM RELATE @ "The House"	5 6:30 AM Well Women @ Valhalla's 4:00 PM Strategic Planning with Kevin Ford 6:30 PM Freedom Fellowship	6 8:00 AM Strategic Planning with Kevin Ford 10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 AM Singing at the Delta Home 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
7 Worship @ 8, 9:30 & 11 am 9:30 AM Sunday Education for All 12:15 PM Africa Info Meeting 1:00 PM Lahu Worship 6:00 PM 7-8th Grade Confirmation 6:00 PM Esther Circle	8 9:30 AM Old Men Coffee @ Burger King-Demaree 6:30 PM Cub Scout Dens 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	9 9:15 AM Staff Prayer 4:00 PM CLCW Board Meeting 6:00 PM Prayer Team 6:30 PM Financial Peace University 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM AI Anon	10 9:30 AM Mary Martha Circle 11:40 AM Preschool Chapel 5:30 PM Adult Education 5:30 PM Praise Adventures 5:30 PM Youth CORE Events 6:40 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	11 Veterans Day-ChristKids Closed 4:20 PM Narcotics Anonymous 5:40 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Christian Meditation 6:30 PM Worship Choir 8:00 PM RELATE @ "The House"	12 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM Freedom Fellowship	13 10:00 AM LWR Trade Fair 10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 AM Second Saturday Serve Youth Event 11:00 AM Christmas Tree Planning 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
14 Worship @ 8, 9:30 & 11 am 7:30 AM LWR Trade Fair 9:30 AM Sunday Education for All 1:00 PM Lahu Worship 6:00 PM 7-8th Grade Confirmation	15 9:30 AM Old Men Coffee @ Burger King-Demaree 6:30 PM Cub Scout Dens 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	16 Parish Visitor Deadline 9:15 AM Staff Prayer 10:00 AM Bethel Circle @ CLC 5:30 PM iMatter Board Meeting 6:30 PM Financial Peace University 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM AI Anon	17 5:30 PM Adult Education 5:30 PM Praise Adventures 5:30 PM Youth CORE Events 6:40 PM Praise Team Rehearsal	18 7:00 AM Finance Team 9:00 AM POPS 11:30 AM Christ-Kids Preschool Pie Social 4:20 PM Narcotics Anonymous 5:00 PM Executive Team 5:40 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Christian Meditation 6:30 PM Worship Choir 8:00 PM RELATE @ "The House"	19 6:30 AM Well Women @ Valhalla's 6:00 PM iMatter Dinner Theater 6:30 PM Freedom Fellowship	20 10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
21 Worship @ 8, 9:30 & 11 am 9:30 AM Sunday Education for All 12:15 PM PrimeTimers Thanksgiving @ Ryans 12:15 PM Stewardship Lunch 1:00 PM Lahu Worship 2:00 PM 9th Grade Confirmation 6:00 PM 7-8th Grade Confirmation 6:00 PM Esther Circle	22 9:30 AM Old Men Coffee @ Burger King-Demaree 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	23 9:15 AM Staff Prayer 5:30 PM ChristKids Preschool Board Meeting 6:00 PM Church Board 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM AI Anon	24 5:30 PM Praise Adventures 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social	25 OFFICE CLOSED 4:20 PM Narcotics Anonymous	26 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM Freedom Fellowship	27 10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
28 Worship @ 8, 9:30 & 11 am 9:30 AM Sunday Education for All 1:00 PM Lahu Worship 6:00 PM 7-8th Grade Confirmation	29 9:30 AM Old Men Coffee @ Burger King-Demaree 6:30 PM Cub Scout Dens 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	30 9:15 AM Staff Prayer 7:00 PM AA (no AI Anon)	1 11:40 AM Preschool Chapel 5:30 PM Praise Adventures 5:30 PM Youth CORE Events 7:00 PM Advent Worship	2 4:20 PM Narcotics Anonymous 5:40 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Christian Meditation 6:30 PM Worship Choir 8:00 PM RELATE @ "The House"	3 6:30 AM Well Women @ Valhalla's 6:30 PM Freedom Fellowship	4 10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 AM Singing at the Delta Home 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous

When you shop at the LWR Fair Trade Fair on November 13 and 14, you're doing much more than shopping. You are putting your faith into action! Every sale benefits the artisans who create these products, and a portion of every purchase is donated to support LWR's partners and projects overseas. Don't miss it! Saturday, November 13, 10 am to 3 pm, and Sunday, November 14, 7:30 am to 1 pm in the Community Connections Center.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

“30 DAYS OF THANKSGIVING”

Many remember to give thanks to God one day a year. Christians, however, live a life where every day is thanksgiving. In our effort to remember to live lives of thanksgiving, we are setting aside the month of November as our opportunity to intentionally live in thanks, and give thanks, for 30 days. All will receive a “30 Days of Thanksgiving” devotional written by CLC members on October 31. And worship each week will help us become clearer and more committed about being thankful people. See you in worship this month!

8 AM — Liturgical Worship/Traditional
9:30 & 11 AM — ChristSong Worship

DATE	THEME	BIBLE TEXT
November 7	Giving Thanks for What Has Been <i>Daylight Savings Time ends-set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday night!</i>	Psalms 92:1-4
November 14	Giving Thanks for What Shall Be	Psalms 91:1-6
November 21	Giving Thanks When It Is Hard	Psalms 86:1-7
November 28	Doing Ministry From A Place of Thanks <i>Special: Sermon interview with Rebecca Chambers</i>	Psalms 111

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