



Christ Tidings

Developing Dynamic Disciples for Christ

SUMMER ISSUE!

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JULY/AUGUST 2015

Jesus' Yoke of Freedom

Pastor Burkey



²⁸“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30 (New International Version)

One member, after church, thanked me for the weekly energy boost. When I responded with a “You’re welcome,” and a puzzled look, he said, “I need to recharge my spiritual batteries and that happens when I worship and hear God’s Word.”

Life can wear us down. Summer is often a time to step back and recharge. As we do that physically, Jesus often invites us to do that with all of life. In these great verses, Jesus makes two invitations to live under his yoke of freedom. The freedom Jesus brings deals not only with meeting the weariness of soul fatigue, but also in the joy of discovering life fulfillment.

Jesus first invites us to: “Come to me”: **Embrace a relationship with Jesus.** I love the Message paraphrase of Jesus’ words in Matthew 11:28: “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest.” -- (Msg)

The first invitation is, “Come to me and all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Notice Jesus speaks to us, to human beings. He likens us to oxen, weighed down with a load that threatens to crush them. Jesus assumes humankind is burdened. I do not doubt his diagnosis.

Jesus’ cure to soul fatigue, to finding rest, is found in a relationship with Him; not religious rules or regulations, but a relationship with the One who loves us, created us, died for us and rose again from death that we might have new life.

Jesus also invites us to: “Take my yoke”: **Live the Jesus creed.** Jesus’ second invitation is in Matthew 11:29-30: ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. -- (NIV)

So what is the yoke of Jesus? A yoke is a horizontal wooden bar laid on the necks of oxen. The Jews spoke of the yoke of *Torah*, the yoke of the Law, because in the Old Testament a yoke is a symbol of submission

to authority. What Jesus means with, “Take my yoke upon you,” He explains with, “and learn from me.” To take upon us the yoke of Christ is to enter His school, to become His disciple, to submit our minds and wills to his leadership, bringing every part of our life under his sovereign control.

So what is Jesus’ key teaching under his yoke? Look at Mark 12:29-31: ²⁹Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” -- (ESV)

Did you notice the promise attached to Jesus’ two invitations is exactly the same? Jesus says, “Come unto me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me and you will find rest unto your souls.”

The way to find rest is to lose our burden at the cross and allow Christ to put His burden and yoke upon us. Freedom is not in discarding the yoke of Christ; it’s found in losing our own burden. Freedom is found under the yoke of Christ. One of the great paradoxes of the Christian life is under His yoke we find rest; through service we find freedom; when we lose ourselves in loving, we find ourselves and live free.



Christ Tidings

Developing Dynamic Disciples for Christ

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VBS and the End of Another School Year

Xavria Schwarz



The 2014-2015 school year concluded with a special Kindergarten graduation and closing chapel. Christ Lutheran School celebrated the conclusion of Kindergarten for twenty-six students, honored 5th through 8th grade students who achieved honor roll and high honor roll status. We also rejoiced with this year's Arthur Bean Christian Service Award recipient – Kylee Sullivan, and we enjoyed an end-of-the-year video. And we closed the school year with chapel worship.

Vacation Bible School at Christ Lutheran School

From June 22 to 26 Christ Lutheran School hosted Vacation Bible School for students entering Preschool through 6th grades. This exciting, week-long event welcomed nearly 200 children from our church, school, and community to gather in worship and song, dig deep into God's Word, participate in fun craft and recreation activities, and enjoy delicious snacks.

Thank you to our kindergarten teacher, Ms. LeAnna Christopher, this year's lead VBS coordinator, and her team of volunteers for their excellent work in executing Vacation Bible School at CLS! Join us in praying for the many children who participated... God, use VBS as a touch point to develop young, dynamic disciples for you! Amen.

Christ Lutheran School's 2014-2015 School Year Concludes

June 10, 2015 marked the end of the 2014-2015 school year for CLS! We praise God for the 61 preschool students and the 211 Kindergarten through 8th grade students entrusted to our care throughout the school's fifty-sixth academic year.

Later in the evening Christ Lutheran School celebrated its fifty-sixth graduating class. Eighteen, 2015 CLS graduates gathered with family and friends to celebrate the conclusion of their Christ Lutheran School education. The evening included the recognition of scholastic and service achievement, speeches from the class Valedictorians and Salutatorian, prayer, and praise. The most special portion of the evening was the individual student blessings prepared and read by a variety of CLS faculty. These special blessings were personal and a wonderful final send off for the school's exceptional graduates.

Day in, day out, Christ Lutheran School is developing dynamic disciples and equipping them to be mission minded in their families, in our school, in their community, and ultimately in our world.

Follow Christ Lutheran School on FaceBook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-Lutheran-School-in-La-Mesa-CA/249821385053883?sk=wall>

**GOD'S
EPIC STORY
IN
MOVIES**

LAST SUMMER'S POPULAR SERIES RETURNS
THIS SUMMER WITH ALL NEW MOVIES!!!

**NEW SERMON SERIES
STARTING IN AUGUST**

Welcoming Angels to Our Home

Pastor John



Have you ever entertained an angel? That seems like a strange question to ask, until you read Hebrews 13:2 (NLT), *Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!* On Sunday morning, as you extend a warm welcome to that person you've never seen before, you just never know who you are greeting.

Hospitality, extended to guests who are venturing into the unknown and scary world of Sunday morning at Christ Lutheran Church is really important. You may be surprised to hear me describe Sunday morning at Christ Lutheran Church as scary. While it may not be scary to you, for guests, walking onto our campus fills them with questions, decisions to make, and often fear of the unknown.

1 Peter 4:9 (NLT) tells us, *Cheerfully share your*

home with those who need a meal or a place to stay. Christ Lutheran Church is our church home and as such we are exhorted to cheerfully welcome those who enter this home of ours. How can you do that? Make a point, of looking around for that person in your "church home" who you don't know and then politely, with sensitivity to their needs, introduce yourself and get to know them. Who knows, you may be welcoming an angel.

Leading the way with hospitality on Sunday morning are our absolutely awesome First Impression Teams. We have four First Impression Teams with nearly 50 volunteers who make hospitality their ministry. More volunteers are needed!!

This summer, joining our church staff is Susan Wilschetz as our part-time Guest Relations Coordinator. Susan brings energy, fresh ideas, endless people connections, and warm welcomes to our Sunday mornings. She will oversee the First Impression ministries and all hospitality services. Susan will also work closely with Pastor Burkey assuring that our new member process effectively and warmly encourages new members to Worship, Connect, Learn, and Serve as they grow as dynamic disciples. Welcome Susan!

Missions Update

Christ Lutheran Church Ministries' first mission trip of the year departs for Paraguay in mere days after this issue of Christ Tidings comes off the press. Sophie Hughes, Sandy Cole and Gio Azzarello head to the town of Capitan Bado in Paraguay. They will be joined a week later by Suzanne and Maegan Calcutt and Sandy's husband, Jim Cole, in Tobati, Paraguay.

Their mission trip, which is sponsored by Su Refugio Ministries, will include starting "I Am Second" Bible study groups, planting a new evangelical church, reaching out to indigenous tribal groups and working various construction projects.

Before the trip, Maegan Calcutt had a goal of gathering 150 pairs of socks to distribute to the needy during the mission trip, but has far exceeded that goal, having received more than 375 pairs of socks!

All of our missionaries are thankful for the \$2900 raised for the missions during their recent spaghetti dinner fundraiser. These funds will be distributed evenly across the missions.

There are still four more mission trips scheduled for 2015, so if you've been wondering if this year is your year to go on one of these exciting trips and

help spread the good news, NOW is the time to get with Pastor John and examine your options (time is growing short for the Peru trips):

Cañete, Peru, September 18 to 26: Start "I Am Second" Bible study groups, serve using the gifts God has given you, participate in the "Happy Feet Program" (shoes for the needy) and outreach into communities. This trip is sponsored by Su Refugio Ministries.

Cusco, Peru, September 25 to October 4: Start "I Am Second" Bible study groups, serve using the gifts God has given you and outreach to indigenous tribal groups. This trip is sponsored by Su Refugio Ministries.

Gahararo, Burundi, October 7 to 21: Minister to indigenous people, build homes for the Bantu people, participate in other construction projects and use gifts God gave you in practical ways. This trip is sponsored by Frances Kitchen.

Holy Land, Israel, October 22 to November 1: Participate in ministry projects for the Druze people, Jewish youth in military, and communities along the

"Mission Update" continued on page 12

“Discover Jesus” ...Not Your Phone

Roger Howard



If you arrive early for worship, you have many choices as to what you can do during the minutes leading up to the start of the service. Some folks choose to chat with their neighbors, some read through the announcements and calendar for the week, some sit quietly in prayer, and some read the “As We Gather” message to figure out the theme of the service (yes, there is always a theme).

Some worshippers make sure their phone is set on vibrate mode or powered off to avoid embarrassing distractions during the service. (By the way, as a worship leader, I thank the Lord for this group!) In such situations, the phone’s owner may take one last glance at messages before putting the phone away.

There is no right or wrong way to make use of this time...or is there?

In an article in the latest issue of Worship Leader Magazine, Pastor Brendan Prout of Community Bible Church, right here in San Diego, wrote about checking email and texts before worship. He said, in part, “One of the most effective tools of [Satan] is to

use anything that would distract you from your focus of bringing glory to the Lord and serving His people as they come together for worship, prayer, fellowship, and the teaching of God’s Word at the weekend service.”

Pastor Prout continues: “If you set yourself up for receiving it, you’re opening the door to get that email that will completely derail all your prayer...and put you in a horrible frame of mind that will distract you...”

In June, when this edition of Christ Tidings went to press, we began a new, six-week message series which features narratives from the Gospel of Mark. People who have grown up in church will recognize these familiar stories about Jesus, and people new to faith will be hearing them fresh, possibly for the first time. Your leaders have been working hard to prepare these worship experiences, and we have been praying that they would help you develop as a dynamic (Holy-Spirit-filled) disciple of Christ.

My prayer for you is that you would discover Jesus in new and transforming ways as we study Mark’s Gospel together. May Pastor’s message, the hymns and songs, the prayers, the sacrament of the altar, and the visual images all combine to usher you into God’s presence every week, and may He remove all distractions that would keep you from experiencing His presence...including telephone technology!

mission trips
Join Us!
2015

Peru
Cañete
Sept 18-26

Peru
Cusco
Sept 25-Oct 1

Burundi
Gahararo
Oct 7-21

Israel
Holy Lands
Oct 22-Nov 1

Summer and Youth Ministry

Cheri Selander



Summer presents a good time in youth ministry here at Christ Lutheran Church Ministries to do the things we value in different ways. Here's a look at what's going on at CLCM this Summer...

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL IN JULY

We value connecting to learn about our great God. So in the month of July, Sunday School kids gather together with fun adults to explore God's Wisdom through games, cool art activities and telling God's epic story. Junior and Senior High will be looking at movies that can lead us to God's truth in His Word!

SENIOR HIGH AND YOUNG ADULTS SERVING

On July 8, Senior High will be bringing God's love to Senior Citizens in our church who need help in their house and around their yard. Young Adults will be traveling to New Orleans to join others in serving the people of that city.

SENIOR HIGH DESTINATION BIBLE STUDIES

Summer is a good time to travel to unique settings around our city to be in God's creation and His word.

SENIOR HIGH CAMPING AND BEACH DAYS

What an opportunity to worship, connect, learn and have fun in San Clemente, July 22-24.

AND IN AUGUST WE WILL ABIDE

We value times of rest, when those who teach Sunday School, lead Confirmation as well as Junior and Senior High, and Young Adults stop for a time to let God's Spirit renew and refresh them for the coming season.

May this summer present a good time of celebrating our God while enjoying His rest and refreshment!

Movies and "Believe" Focus of Upcoming Sermon Series

Two new sermon series will round out the Summer and usher in the Fall!

Coming in August will be a "sequel" or follow-up of sorts to Pastor Burkey's popular "God's Epic Story in Movies" sermon series, which educated and enchanted the congregation last Summer.

The series previously looked at four films: *The Wizard of Oz*, *Horton Hears a Who*, *Frozen* and *Toy Story*, making comparisons and connections to God's work found in the Bible.

This year Pastor Burkey will do the same with five more movies.

With *The Lego Movie*, we'll explore the awesome power of connections. Then, with *Star Wars*, we'll discover the real Force within you and look at Amazing Grace as found in *Les Miserables*.

The series will wrap up with *Finding Nemo* about how God never gives up. And finally, finding your calling in your greatest failure with *McFarland, USA*.

Then, this Fall, we start a new major series entitled *Believe*, a groundbreaking Bible-reading experience

that will anchor every member of your family in the core teachings of the Bible.

Believe will also tie in with Sunday School, the weekend worship services and our Life Groups with a ten-week book and video study series from Randy Frazee, author of last year's *The Story* series.

This new ten-part series (see back cover) looks at ten key beliefs, ten key practices and ten key virtues to help you live the story of the Bible to be more like Jesus.

It's one thing to know the story of the Bible; it's another thing to live it! *Believe*

"*Believe*" continued on page 12



Building Faith Over Summer and Beyond

Brandon Heath



If you haven't already, check out Christ Lutheran's youth page at <http://christlamesa.org/youth/>. Highlights for the summer include:

- Three Refuge events during the summer take us to Boomers, Sky High Trampoline Park and Ultrazone laser tag. Dates and times will be announced on flyers and the website.
- Destination Bible Studies, service projects and camping with beach excursions.
- Over the summer, Young Adults will be meeting every Thursday night at Elisabeth Grimm's house at 6:30 p.m. as well as the occasional social event such as going to the drive-in theatre or having a bonfire.

Also in late July we will put out the information to sign up for upcoming youth group and events

for the 2015-2016 school year. These will include:

- Confirmation: For 7th and 8th grade students, this class is an environment that provides students a chance to explore what it means to be a Christian, to ask deep questions of themselves, God, and church leaders, and to ultimately make a public confession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

- God Squad: This is an elementary age youth group that builds faith by providing a monthly gathering filled with high-energy games and enthusiastic time in God's Word.

- Refuge: As we are **building faith in youth**, Refuge is a fun environment in which Jr. High students can be with friends while experiencing refuge and hope in God's Word. Refuge is held most first and third Friday nights.

- High School: Get information about Bible Study and other events coming up the rest of 2015 and into 2016. This includes more information about our Summer Trip to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering July 16-20, 2016.

- Young Adults: Sign up to Sponsor a Young Adult for the school year.

Congregational Meeting

Christ Lutheran Church Ministries' Congregational Meeting was held the evening of June 14 and was called to order by Congregational President, Don Mathiowetz.

During the meeting, Pastor Burkey presented a devotion and led prayers.

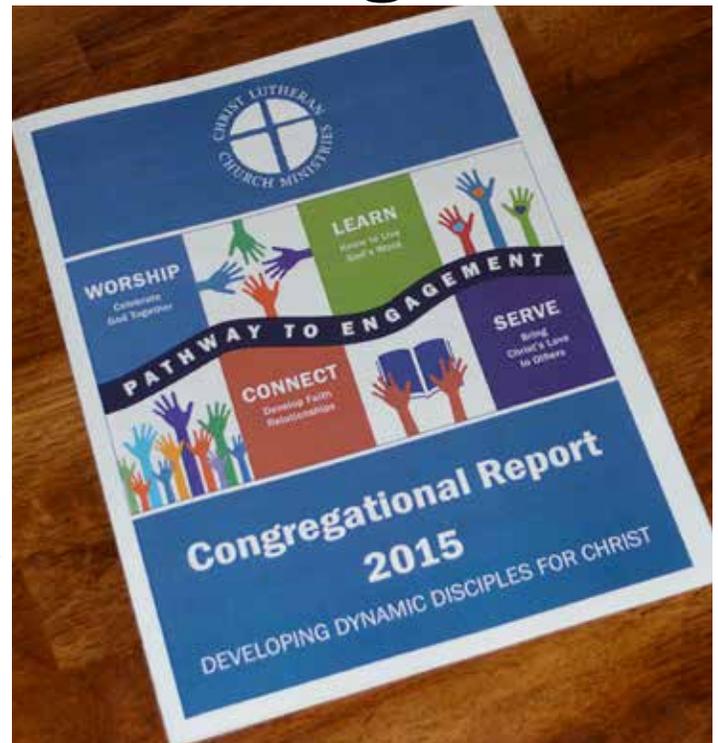
He also presented the annual worship theme for the coming year - **"Believe: Living the Story of the Bible to Become More Like Jesus"** which is also our Fall sermon series and Life Group study (see accompanying article).

"Prayer time is the best part of the Congregational Meeting," said Sandy Cole, CLCM's Church Administrator. "Pastor Burkey led us through praying for opportunities and challenges in the coming year.

Sandy added, "with this meeting having the call for a new first grade teacher and contract for a new seventh grade teacher, prayer was the most important part of the meeting."

Other highlights of the meeting included a financial overview from Gerry Tietje. Gerry expressed gratitude for the generosity of our members, a slight increase in Christ Lutheran School enrollments and a modest one percent budget growth.

Sandy spoke about budget details such as the houses and shopping center (which is now fully rented) and



"Congregational Meeting" continued on page 12

Sticky Faith:

A Sticky Faith Summer

There are some great free resources for your summer from the Sticky Faith Team online. Here are a few of the best ones...

“The Best Family Summer Ever” (<http://stickyfaith.org/articles/the-best-family-summer-ever>) This article gives some practical ideas to help families connect before Summer slips away. It gives advice on communicating expectations, creating a balance between downtime and activity as well as “connecting by disconnecting.”

“Get help navigating technology with your kids” (<https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/blog/viamedia-intro>) This article aims to address the genuine concerns parents, pastors and youth leaders have regarding digital technology and social media. It also shows that things aren’t as bad as they seem.

“Twenty Ideas for Grandparents” (Encourage them

with this “best of” list!) (<https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/articles/twenty-ideas-for-grandparents>) This article shows how grandparents can become more involved than ever by embracing new technology, reinforcing the parents’ religious influence and by using the unique power of family stories.

Finally, a two-part article for parents of recent grads and rising seniors over the summer, entitled “The Proper Care and Feeding of Emerging Adults” (<https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/articles/the-proper-care-and-feeding-of-emerging-adults>) and (<https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/articles/the-proper-care-and-feeding-of-emerging-adults2n>). These two articles give parenting strategies for launching kids into adulthood. According to the article, emerging adults are those between the ages of 18 and 29. This is the age of identity exploration, instability, self-focus, feeling ‘in-between’ and, most importantly, the age of possibilities.

Descriptions of these articles were derived from the FullerYouthInstitute.org article titled Survive Summer Family Playlist: 5 free Resources, published April 27 2015. For more go to <http://stickyfaith.org/family>.



**Coming in
September:
Our Fall Issue!**

Socks for Paraguay

One of the younger missionaries for our soon-to-depart Paraguay missions set a goal for herself to collect 150 pairs of socks for the needy children she knew she would be ministering during the trip.

Maegan Calcutt far exceeded her goal with more than 300 pairs! Way to go, Maegan! That many socks may lead to excess baggage fees!



TECHNICAL CREW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you enjoy technology? Do you love music?
Are you fascinated by modern media systems?

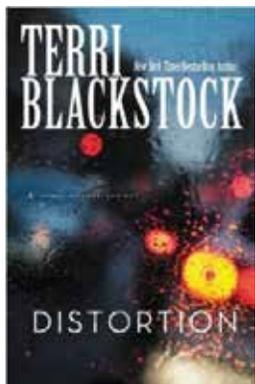
Then consider being a part of
Christ Lutheran Church Ministries
Technical Crew, operating the
projection system, mixing the band
and running the sound board!

To volunteer or learn more about this opportunity,
See Craig or Kathy Barkett after the service.

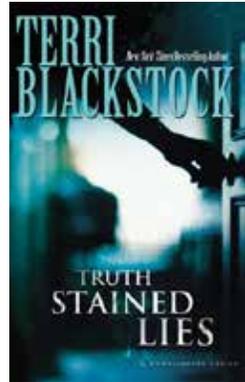
Treasures in the Church Library:**New Christian Fiction Additions in our Library**

Terri Blackstock has sold six million books and is a New York Times bestselling author. A Christian since the age of fourteen, she realized she had not been using her gift as God intended. It was at that point that she recommitted her life to Christ, gave up her secular career, and made the decision to write only books that would point her readers to Him.

Truth Stained Lies and

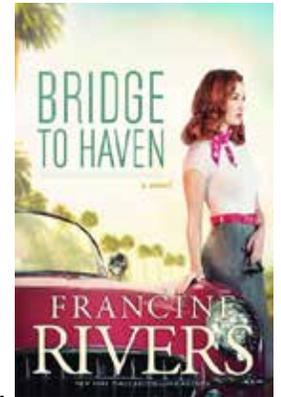


Distortion are murder mysteries that have a family questioning their faith, wondering if God is dispensing punishment through multiple murders. These are the first two books in the *Moonlighters* series. We will add other books to this series as soon as they are written. How can we be sure



that there are more books coming in this series? Well, one of the bad guys keeps getting away.

Francine Rivers is known for her books about family struggles and her historical fiction books about Biblical characters and many of these books are in our library. Her latest, *Bridge to Haven*, starts with a young pastor finding a newborn baby under a bridge. Circumstances in his life cause him to give the child to another family a few years later to raise. The feelings of abandonment stayed with the child, Abra, and caused her to take paths away from God. This is another story of temptation, grace, and unconditional love.



Library Hours: Sundays from 7:30 to 9:20 and 10:15 to 12:00. On weekdays, come by anytime and stop by the office for the key.

Latest Additions Shelf: All books acquired this past year are located on a shelf above the checkout shelf.

Christ Lutheran School Reminder:

September 2: First Day of School!

(12:30 release, ESC available)

September 7: Labor Day (Campus Closed)

Visit our website for more information!

lutheranschool.org

Group in the Spotlight:**FOCUS**

Everyone is pretty familiar with the Bible classes held at Christ Lutheran Church Ministries on Sunday mornings and with the Life Groups that meet every week. What many people may not know is that there are several other groups that meet for fun and fellowship weekly or monthly throughout the year. We plan to focus on a different one of these groups in each issue of Christ Tidings over the next year.

Focus is one of these groups.

According to Don Mathiowetz, the group's

coordinator, "Focus is a group that engages in fellowship, food and Bible study that looks at what God is doing in our lives and does topical Bible Study. We're presently wrapping up *Praying With Paul* which looks at the scriptures of Paul, such as the two books of Corinthians."

Focus meets at 9:20 every Sunday morning in the Fireside room, just off the courtyard and there's always food, not just donuts. "You always have to have food – it IS a Lutheran event, after all," Don says with a smile.

For more information on Focus drop by the Fireside Room on any Sunday morning and talk to Don, or call him at 619-588-8642.

Another Successful CLS Rummage Sale!

While Christ Lutheran School's Annual Rummage Sale, held in the gym June 4-6, fell a few dollars short of the previous year's record, it was still a success, netting \$13,068. Despite falling short of 2014's record-breaking \$14,000.56, the customer turnout and profits were still impressive.

All proceeds will go to fund Christ Lutheran School needs such as technology upgrades, lesson materials and other needs.

The sale was coordinated by Jody Bridge and more than 40 volunteers who worked tirelessly for an entire week, setting up tables and racks, cleaning and testing items, setting prices and arranging pick-up and delivery of furniture and other large items that were donated.

One reason sales fell short was the number of items donated. "We didn't receive as many donations this year, although we did receive some great things, and still a lot of wonderful treasures!" said Jody. "We still have the best rummage sale in San Diego!"

In addition to thousands of items of clothing, other items donated included furniture, electronics, knick knacks, thousands of toys, books and stuffed animals. "We had two huge teddy bears donated by the fifth grade class. We even had five player's chairs from the San Diego State Aztecs basketball team," according to Jody.

There was one interesting sale. "We had someone drive all the way down from Los Angeles to buy our entire stock of Hallmark Christmas ornaments," according to Jody. "We also sold out of virtually every toy we had for sale!"

"Rummage Sale" continued on page 12

CLS's Gym and Playground Get a Facelift

If you're a regular attendee of the 10:30 service you may have noticed the floor of the gym looked much shinier than usual. And if you've been to our school, either as a parent of a Christ Lutheran School student or to attend one of our Sunday school classes, you may have noticed the artificial grass on our playground is no longer torn up or peeling.

While both these repairs can be seen as part of our recent efforts to beautify the campus, in both cases these updates actually extend the life of the gym floor and improve safety on our playground.

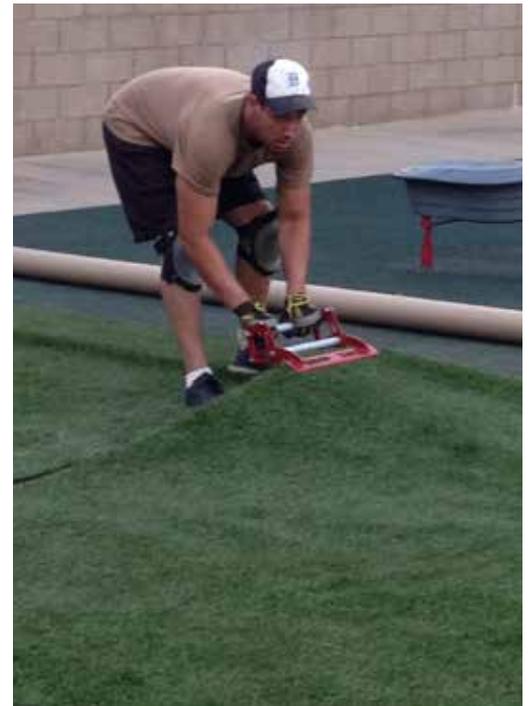
"The gym floor was re-surfaced as opposed to re-finished. There was no sanding involved; only a layer of finish was taken off and a

new coat put on," said Craig Barkett, Christ Lutheran Church Ministries' and Christ Lutheran Schools' Facilities Manager.

In most gyms this routine maintenance is usually done every year or two. "Our gym, because it was kept clean and well-maintained, went six years (without re-surfacing)," according to Craig.

Waxie, the company that re-finished the floor six years ago, held a training seminar for Craig and his staff on how the process works, using a specially designed clear coat. "My staff assisted two technicians from Waxie and the floor was done and ready for the 10:30 service on Sunday. The best part was we

"Gym and Playground" continued on next page



CLCM College Voices

highlighting a young adult college-age church member

Name: Jamie Johnson

Year/University/Major: Freshman / Point Loma Nazarene University / Christian Ministry

Where/how have you connected with other Christians on your campus?

Nearly every day! At Young Life Monday nights, All Peoples Life Group on Tuesday nights, First Church of the Nazarene middle school youth group on Wednesday nights, and at the Thursday Bible study I started for the freshmen class, and at Awaken – All Peoples Chapel service.

Where have you seen God at work at school?

I have specifically seen God working through the Bible study, seeing my peers fall deeper and deeper in love with God each and every day. And through the middle-schoolers, the way they learn to know Jesus and learn to consider him their best friend. It has been absolutely life changing!

Where are your favorite hang-out places?

Bobby B's (coffee shop on campus), the caf, and the beach!

What is something you have learned while away at school?

I've learned to wake each and every day in praise to God for helping me to find the extraordinary in the ordinary, since nothing God has made is simply ordinary. Being away from home has taught me how to full-heartedly rely on Christ and Christ alone.

What are your career plans after graduating?

I am still undecided, but it will be some sort of ministry work!

How can Christ Lutheran members pray for you?

Pray for personal growth, learning more and more about who Christ is and how to grow into His likeness, for middle schoolers to fall in love with Jesus, and ultimately just for unity in the community of college students – united by our love and desire for serving our Savior.



“**Gym and Playground**” from previous page:

only had to pay for the materials which came out of my annual repair budget,” said Craig.

The playground’s new artificial grass was installed by Easy Turf and was finished in time for Vacation Bible School to take advantage of it.

“The original turf was only warranted for one year and had been in place much longer than that,” said Craig. “The playground is a very small area with a lot of concentrated student traffic, something that was not considered at the time of the original installation. It was pulling apart and creating a trip hazard for the students.”

The new turf is far superior and is warranted for eight years and was paid for with funds from the Gifts of Grace Gala. Keep watching as more improvements are made to enhance our worship and learning!



“*Mission Update*” from page 4:

Gaza Strip. Experience the joy of serving in Israel as you tour the Holy Land and many major Biblical sites. This trip is sponsored by Su Refugio Ministries.

Keep your eyes open for more news in the bulletin as well as Christ Lutheran Church Ministries’ website (www.christlamesa.org) and Facebook page as each of these mission teams gets commissioned and receives the church’s blessing before departing.

To join a mission team or learn more, contact Pastor John Palka at jpalka@christlamesa.org or by calling 619-462-5211, ext. 131.

“*Believe*” from page 6:

answers three questions that invite us to **Think** (“What do I believe?”), **Act** (“What should I do?”) and **Be** (“Who am I becoming?”)

Join the *Believe* journey to know who God is and who He is making us to be.

“*Congregational Meeting*” from page 7:

other budget matters, including investigating a shift to solar power.

Phil Lamonica was nominated as a new member of the Apostolic Counsel, replacing a retiring member. He joins Don Mathiowetz, Gerry Tietje, Gunnar Schalin, Lois Vertullo and Dang Lang on the Counsel.

According to Sandy, “the meeting went very smoothly. And, as always we are thankful and appreciate those church members who take the time to attend the meeting.”

“*Rummage Sale*” from page 10:

“I want to thank everyone, all our wonderful volunteers, staff and shoppers,” said Jody. “But I would particularly like to thank Carla Harris, Shauna Robbins, Christy Holden, Paola Sullivan, Mary Shively, Tom Small, Craig Barkett, Jenna VanMourick, Gerda Wittig, Christa & Chris Forano, and the Calcutt Family and so many more who every year give so much time and effort to making this event such a huge success for the school. We couldn’t do it without everyone who comes to help, even if they were only available for an hour.”

At the event’s end on Saturday, June 6, all unsold items were donated to Disabled American Vets. “DAV is a wonderful organization helping our vets. We donated two truckloads of items,” according to Jody.

Next year’s Rummage Sale will be here sooner than you think, so start saving those unwanted, gently used items! “We take just about everything, and sell it to new homes where it will be loved and appreciated anew,” said Jody. “Please come join us next year, we have a lot of fun!”

10 KEY BELIEFS, 10 KEY PRACTICES, AND 10 KEY VIRTUES

BELIEVE

LIVING THE STORY OF THE BIBLE
TO BECOME LIKE JESUS



NEW SERMON SERIES COMING THIS FALL