



Christ Findings

Developing Dynamic Disciples for Christ

In This Issue:

Family Prayer

The Most Wonderful
Time of the Year!

A Sticky Hymn for
a Sticky Sunday

Community
and Purpose

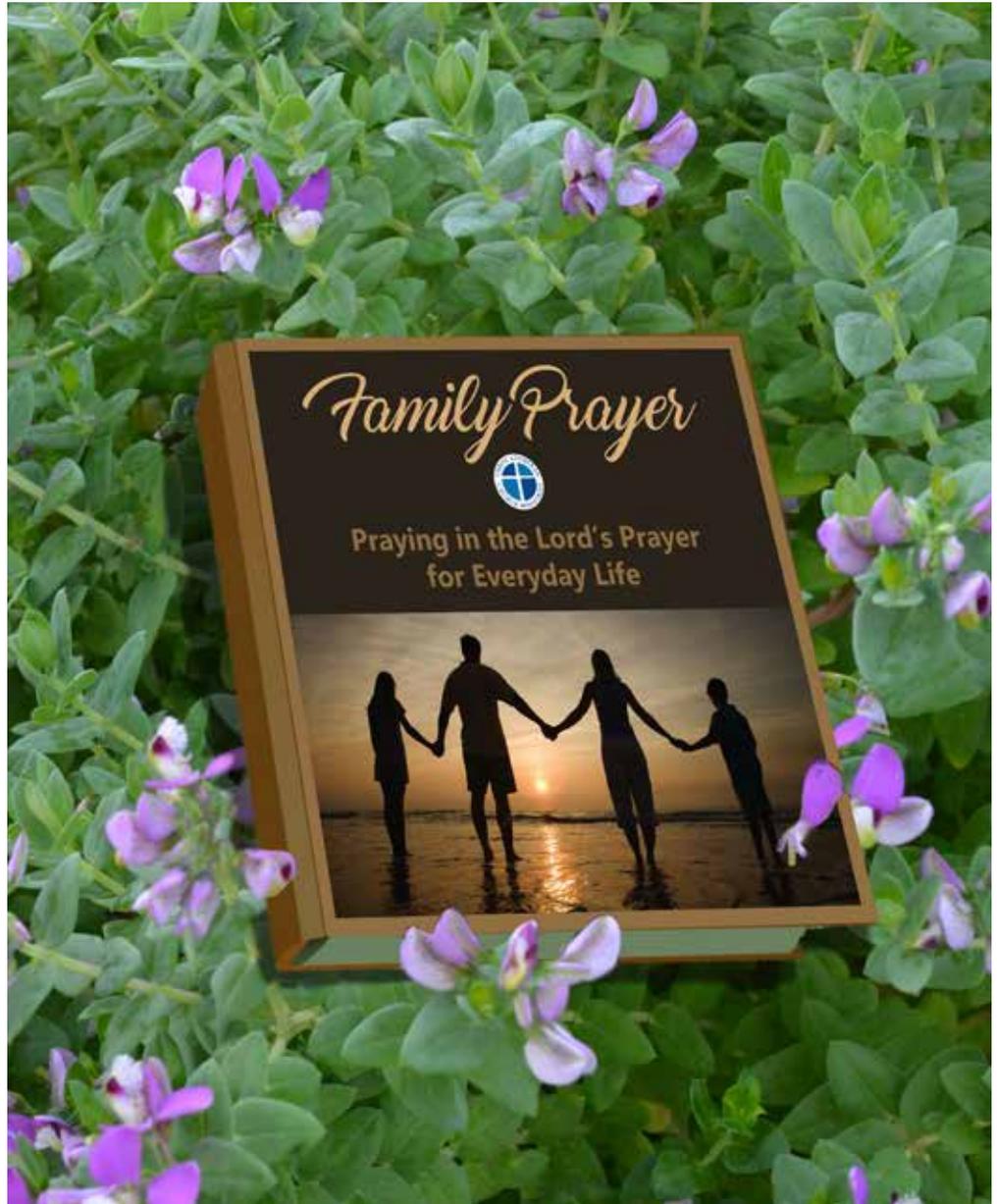
Insights Returns

College Voices

Naomi's Place

Sanctuary Gets
an Upgrade

...And more!



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2017
Fall Issue

Family Prayer

Pastor Burkey



Outside of prayers for meals or prayers for bedtime, the first church prayer most people learn is the Lord's Prayer. Because we use the Lord's Prayer so often in church (and that's a good thing!) we miss the beauty of the Lord's Prayer to guide our personal prayer time (and that's a sad thing).

What if we began to see the Lord's Prayer as a light to guide our prayers in our homes? What lessons might the Lord's Prayer have for us as a Family Prayer?

Starting the weekend of September 10, in weekly

“Complete Love” Theme for 2017-18 Church Year

Complete Love is the theme for the new church year, which started July 1 and runs through June 2018.

The theme comes from 1 John 4:11-12: *Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.*

We've already examined, this past July, the book of Ruth and the *Complete Love* story contained therein, which goes way beyond any romantic angle Hollywood would put on the story.

Speaking of Hollywood, in August we looked at several facets of *Complete Love* in our annual “God's Epic Story in Movies” message series.

In September we jump into the *Lord's Prayer*. Similar to our look at the 10 Commandments two years ago, we will find how *Complete Love* can transform our conversations with God in prayer.

This coming winter, we will look at the power of *Complete Love* with the power of *The Blessing*, a great way to share the power of God's love with your family (especially your children), and friends.

Then in Spring, we will look at taking *Complete Love* to our neighbors. Not only will we pack 100,000 meals, we will look at how we can bring God's *Complete Love* to our community and world.

As we move through next year and beyond, following God's guidance and pursuing God's will, may our community see God's *Complete Love* of Jesus in us. Even more, may our community and world come to know this Jesus, as Lord and Savior.

messages, Life Group studies, and most important of all, daily prayer time, we will discover the absolute beauty and power of this wonderful Family Prayer called the Lord's Prayer.

The result? We will still pray the Lord's Prayer in our worship services with a greater awareness of what we pray and a greater focus on why we pray.

Thanks to learning the petitions and pattern of the Lord's Prayer, we will learn how to pray for family and friends, as well as, any foes that cross our path. We will discover how investing in this Family Prayer brings greater joy, power, and peace in our daily lives.

Two thousand years ago, Jesus' disciples wisely asked Him, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Let's be wise this Fall as we not only hear His answer, but apply to our life together in worship and life together in our homes. Starting September 11, commit to pray the Family Prayer, the Lord's Prayer every day. Then watch what God can do!



Christ Tidings

Developing Dynamic Disciples for Christ

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A Blessed Back to School

Xavria Schwarz



For Christ Lutheran School and Preschool...it's the most wonderful time of the year! School is back in session and we are welcoming in another great year!

It seems as if the 2016-2017 school year just ended, but it is already time to start our 2017-2018 academic adventure. Our theme for the 2017-2018 school year is **Complete Love**. The verse for our **Complete Love** theme is 1 John 4:11-12: *Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.* Christ Lutheran School students regularly study and celebrate this amazing truth... We are disciples of Jesus. We are called to be learners of God's Word and instruments of the Holy Spirit. We are called to study, experience, and share **Complete Love** in a community of believers where God's people celebrate together and share burdens together. The Bible is God's true Word and equips the body of believers to know and experience **Complete Love!** The 2017-2018 school year will be another great year of discovering the beautiful truth that we are developing as dynamic disciples of Christ and are called to share and experience God's **Complete Love**.

2017-2018 brings exciting change for Christ Lutheran School! Mr. Aaron Mietzner joins our teaching staff as the new Science/Technology teacher

and Mrs. Rachel Duggie joins our staff as the new 1st grade teacher. There are a number of reasons Mr. Mietzner and Mrs. Duggie are going to make excellent additions to our CLS teaching team, a few include:

- **Spiritual depth:** Through written and personal interviews, Aaron and Rachel clearly communicated their deep love for the Lord, strong spiritual habits, and personal testimonies of faith that weave together into a tapestry of spiritual maturity and commitment to Lutheran ministry necessary for being the discipleship leaders and faith developers of the students who will be entrusted to their care.

- **Classroom instruction and management:** Mr. Mietzner and Mrs. Duggie bring great, new experiences and innovative approaches to instructional leadership. Written and personal interviews, coupled with professional references indicated they are teachers who are ready to take on the important challenge of continuing the legacy of educational excellence at Christ Lutheran School.

- **Additional gifts that benefit the school community at large:** Deep discipleship and instructional excellence are always at the forefront of each call committee's search for quality, classroom teachers. As an added benefit to our school community, Mr. Mietzner brings a deep love and knowledge for Science to our teaching team and Mrs. Duggie brings a passion for early childhood development. Both Aaron and Rachel will make appreciated and beloved additions to our K-8 school staff.

The opening day of school was Wednesday, August 30. We celebrated our opening chapel service at 8:45 a.m. in the gym. More than 210 students as well as many parents, grandparents, and guests joined us to ring in the new school year. As we love to say each opening day of school... "welcome home!"

Christ Lutheran School Reminder:

September 4: Labor Day - No School, No ESC

September 18: Back to School Night, 6:30-8 p.m. (in the Gym)

September 19: Teacher Inservice, 12:30 release (ESC available)

September 19-22: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Book Fair (in Youth Center)

September 25: Picture Day! (Retakes on TBD)

October 17: Teacher Inservice, 12:30 release (ESC available)

October 20: Sock Hop, 5-9 p.m. (Gym and surrounding area)

Oct. 30-Nov. 9: ITBS Assessments, 3rd-8th Grades (Avoid Absences!)

Visit our website for more information! lutheranschool.org

A Sticky Hymn For a Sticky Sunday

Roger Howard



No, I don't think of "sticky" in a negative sense, like "This floor is sticky from the soda you spilled," or "That's a sticky problem I really don't want to deal with right now." Rather, I'm using "sticky" in the positive sense of hymns that stick in your mind after worship and remind you of the truths of faith.

We will be celebrating two pivotal events on Reformation Sunday this year: the Rite of Confirmation and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation begun by Martin Luther. The rite of Confirmation seeks to plant "sticky faith" in the lives of our youth to help them weather the storms of life. I think it is appropriate, therefore, for our next class to be confirmed on Reformation Sunday, when we celebrate the gift of God's Word alone that sticks with us by His grace alone, through faith alone, and brings us all the gifts of God's Holy Spirit.

You may be surprised to learn that one of the

Reformation's "stickiest" hymns (think "memorable" or "popular"), written by Luther himself, was originally written for children! When Luther wrote, "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" (LSB #655) in 1541, it was for a special worship service arranged in Wittenberg for prayer against the threatening Turkish army. That doesn't sound very much like a hymn for children, at least to our modern ears...but when you remember that the singing for that service of prayer was to be led by the boys' choir, it fits.

Cultural differences have made this German hymn much less "sticky" in our day, but its words still ring true, especially when you see the Christian faith under attack on every side. The text prays for God to stop all attacks that would tear people away from Him, and it asks Him to defend His Church and send peace and unity on earth. These words could have been written today, don't you think?

Please pray for our confirmands and their families, that they would be committed to lifelong development as dynamic – "sticky" – disciples. Also plan to attend our Reformation celebrations on Sunday, October 29, including our morning services AND a Reformation Hymn Festival for the churches of San Diego County at 4 p.m. that afternoon (details to come). May He keep us **all** steadfast in His Word!

Mission Trips Update

As we approach the end of the calendar year with back-to-school, Fall holidays, Thanksgiving, and Christmas on our minds, it's time to remember that six members of our congregation recently completed a short-term Paraguay mission trip. And seven more will be headed to Burundi, Vietnam, and Uganda over the next few months!

Please join us in keeping these short-term missionary teams in our prayers as they share God's good news in Africa and Asia!

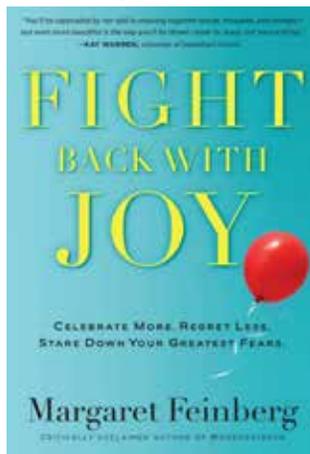
mission trips
Join Us!
2017

Burundi Gahararo Sept 15-Oct 1	Vietnam Mekong Delta/Ho Chi Minh City Oct 6-15	Uganda Arua Nov 16-26
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Insights and Insights at Night Return September 15

Insights and **Insights at Night** Bible studies begin Thursday, September 14. **Insights** will meet from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. in Lucas Hall and **Insights at Night** will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. also in Lucas Hall.

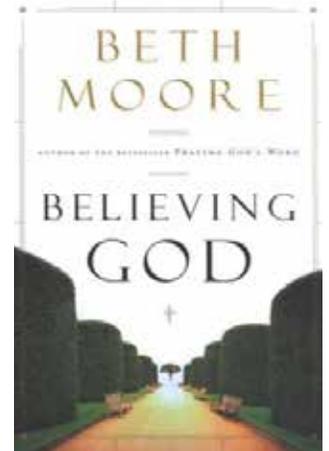
The morning class will be doing a video study with Margaret Feinberg, *Fight Back with Joy*. Through the daily homework and video lessons, we will learn the real power of joy, learn to defeat lifelong patterns of discouragement, discover strategies for overcoming every day challenges, and have our heart awakened to



the delight of being a child of God. We will learn how joy is more than whimsy, a weapon we can use to fight life's battles, and be challenged to practice defiant joy.

The evening class will study *Believing God* by Beth Moore. She encourages us to join her in the journey of faith, learning how to believe God in daily living--seeing beyond the obvious and into the supernatural activity of God. In her homework, she introduces the idea of "GodStop" (Savoring The Observable Presence).

If you are interested in **Insights**, contact Joane Falk at 619-463-1749 for more information. For **Insights at Night**, contact Diane Erzen at 858-279-4188 or just sign up the first day of class.



DivorceCare, DC4K and Single & Parenting Classes to Start September 10

These seminar-based support groups have helped many heal from the hurt of divorce in their family. It is a very painful time for adults, but we must not forget the effect divorce has on children. Children also deal with depression, anger, loneliness, difficulty in forgiving, financial worries, and more.

A great way to reach out to others is to let them know about this ministry we have here at Christ Lutheran Church Ministries. The next 13-week session of these programs begins Sunday, September 10 at 4:00 p.m. Each session is 90 minutes long. There is an \$18 fee to cover the workbook, and scholarships are available.

DivorceCare features 13 dynamic video sessions with 32 renowned experts on divorce and recovering, facilitated by people who understand how you feel, where you'll learn how to deal with the pain of the past and look forward to rebuilding your life. The class meets in Room G.

DC4K (DivorceCare for Kids) is a special group tailored to help kids heal from the hurt caused by the separation or divorce of their parents using games, activities, and music to create a fun, comfortable atmosphere. The class meets in Room F.

Single & Parenting is a class for those who find themselves in the position of single parenting no matter what the reason (divorced, widowed or just single). The class meets in the Fireside Room.

These non-denominational programs feature Biblical teaching for recovering from divorce and separation. Childcare is available for younger children upon request.

For more information or to register, please contact Marcy Moeller at marcylamesa@yahoo.com or at 619-660-9698.

	<i>Sundays, 4 - 5:30 p.m. in Room G</i>
	<i>Sundays, 4 - 5:30 p.m. in Room F</i>
	<i>Sundays, 4 - 5:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room</i>
<i>All Programs Start Sunday, September 10, 2017 and runthrough December 10, 2017</i>	

Community and Purpose

By Jan Steinbrueck, our 2017 Summer Youth Intern

Coming back to school for my senior year, many people have asked me what my favorite part of the summer was. Between going to India and working in California, it's hard to choose! But I can assure you of one thing – working at Christ Lutheran was one of the most incredible experiences I have ever had.

Within the first two days, many people had welcomed me with open arms and so much love. Within three days of working, I went to the beach for a youth event. You all made sure that I would have the true California experience right off the bat. But it didn't stop there. You all took me to the beach several more times, took me to new food places almost every day, and made sure I was involved in your community – one of the best communities I have ever seen in a church.

But what does community even mean? You all love one another endlessly, through trials and times of rejoicing. You share in one another's stories and allow people to add their story to Christ Lutheran's mix. Within the mix of these stories, you have people from many places, gathered now in one place, to create a beautiful and welcoming environment for strangers. No one is perfect, but even in the mess-ups, you allow for forgiveness and collaboration on how to make things better.

I have taken away so much from this summer, but one thing stands out – we are all created for a specific purpose. You have many moving parts in your church

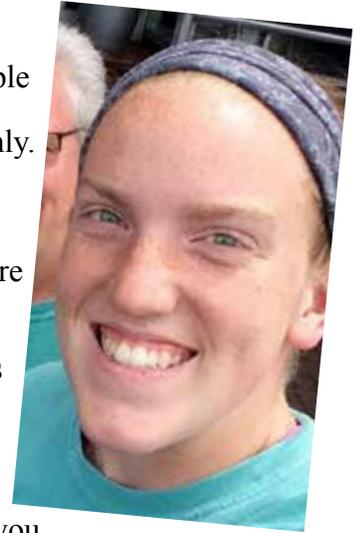
and you allow different people with different skills to help make everything run smoothly.

As I am still in college, I still go through each and every day wondering what my purpose will be in a future church, or wherever God calls me. But God has made me for something special, as well as all of you. I learned this summer to not be afraid of what God has called you to, because no matter what, God is going to walk you through that journey.

I want to sincerely thank all of you for making my summer internship what it was. Parents – thank you for letting me get to know your children who are absolutely amazing. Church leaders – thank you for letting me assist in leading your congregation in different capacities. To everyone – thank you for sharing just a little bit of your story with me. And to San Diego – thank you for letting me be a tourist.

Be bold in the fact that you are loved and sent by a beautiful creator with a purpose. I hope to stay in contact with you all, and I hope that you'll stay in contact with me too.

Stay awesome Christ Lutheran. And don't complain too much when it gets a little humid. I assure you that it's worse here in Seward, Nebraska!



Weekend to Remember

FamilyLife's **Weekend to Remember** marriage get-away is coming to San Diego twice this year and now is the time to make plans to attend. On October 27-29 it will be held at the Sheraton Carlsbad Resort and Spa and then on November 17-19 at the Hyatt Regency La Jolla at Aventine. This get away offers couples biblical wisdom and a safe environment to work on their marriage, free from distractions. By learning about and applying God's plan for a healthy marriage from trained speakers, you and your spouse can connect with each other more intimately, improve communication, anticipate conflict and handle it head on, and experience marriage the way God intended it to be.

The regular price is \$299.98/couple, but if you register with the group from our church using the name "clcm" you will save \$100 per couple. However, for a short time there will be a "BOGO" (Buy One, Get One) from August 28 to September 19 so the cost per couple is only \$149.00. This covers registration only. You are responsible for making your hotel reservations.

When calling the hotel, mention that you are part of FamilyLife's **Weekend to Remember** and ask for the discounted rate. Depending on the hotel, the discounted rate might expire as early as three weeks before the event, so call early to ensure getting the discount! Both of the locations offer special pricing and special breakout sessions and military marriage resources for military couples. Visit www.FamilyLife.com/Military for more information.

For more detailed information, go to FamilyLife.com/Weekend or contact Chuck and Joanene Falk, 619-463-1749 or pick up a brochure and register on line using the code "clcm."

CLCM College Voices

highlighting a young adult college-age church member

Name: Conrad Holden

Year/University/Major: Freshman / Grossmont College / Swim Instructor

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

I have connected with others through a club called Young Life and the friends that I have had since high school.

Where have you seen God at work at school?

I've seen God's work through a diverse campus to bring everyone together in Christ.

Where are your favorite hang-out places?

My favorite places are at home with my family, at the beach, and anywhere in tune with nature!

What is something you have learned while away at school?

I've learned everyone comes from different walks of life and has sacrificed something different to come to school.

What are your career plans after graduating?

I plan to transfer to SDSU in my Junior year and major in Marketing.

How can Christ Lutheran members pray for you?

Pray for success in my educational endeavors and a clear path forward.



Naomi's Place - Coping with Loss

Starting Wednesday, October 4, we launch Naomi's Place, a part of Christ Lutheran Church Ministries. Naomi's Place will be a safe place for you to talk openly about your grief and what you are experiencing. *He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.* (Psalm 18:16)

Grief is a normal and natural emotional response to the loss of a loved one. Naomi's Place will be a support group of people with common loss and concerns who provide emotional and moral support for one another with love. Effective grief support is dealing with your broken heart. It is not about intellectual explanations, but emotional support.

Naomi's Place is named for Naomi, from the book of Ruth, which we recently focused on in our weekly message. Debi Ridulfo is the lead facilitator of this new program. Naomi's Place is where encouragement will fuel your hope!

When: First Wednesday of the month, starting October 4

Where: Fireside Room

Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For more information, send an email to clcm.np@gmail.com or text (re: Naomi's Place) to 619-415-5330.

New Sound System and Lights for Sanctuary

Throughout July and August, we installed new lighting, a new sound system, and a new projector. These improvements are the first step in our "Create For Community Campaign" which will make
(continued on back page)





“Sanctuary improvements”
(continued from page 11)
improvements to our campus
over the next few years.

The work required a
great deal of coordination
between the installation

technicians and
CLCM staff so as
not to interfere with
Sunday services and
to minimize the impact
on our Thursday Night
Commons services.

The new systems will
provide clearer sound for
the congregation, a sharper
picture for projected images
and state-of-the art lighting
to enhance the sanctuary.



SUNDAY SCHOOL
OPENING DAY

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

CONNECTING AS WE DIG INTO

THE LIFE OF

JESUS

Reformation Sunday
Coming October 29;
All Saints, November 5

Mark your calendars! Reformation and Confirmation Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, October 29, at 8 a.m. worship, featuring the Sanctuary Choir and Classic Brass. The following Sunday, November 5, both the 8 and 10:30 a.m. services will feature our Commemoration of the Faithfully Departed to celebrate All Saints weekend.

Coming in November!
OUR CHRISTMAS ISSUE