

APRIL 14, 2024 | 8AM WORSHIP | THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME *Home*



CHRIST LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL
CHRISTLAMESA.ORG

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Thanks for joining us today! Whether you were raised in a home that regularly worshipped, only went to church on Christmas and Easter, or are exploring the Christian faith for the first time – we are glad you are here. If you haven't been to a Lutheran Church before, our worship format might be a unique experience for you. Our service is filled with symbolism and ancient tradition that propels our hearts *upward*. Today, we encourage you to embrace the *extraordinariness* of our *ordinary* worship, where God forgives our sins, the Holy Spirit prepares us for daily life, prayers are lifted, heaven and earth converge, and the profound mystery of the Eucharist takes place. Sundays may seem ordinary, but they are also filled with extraordinary moments that we should not miss. If you have any questions, our staff, volunteers, and your fellow worshippers are here to answer any questions and help in any way they can.

THE SEASON OF EASTER

Easter, the pinnacle of the Christian liturgical calendar, follows the reflective season of Lent and culminates in the joyous celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The liturgical color for Easter is typically white or gold, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness and the victory of life over death. As we enter into the Easter season, we are called to contemplate the significance of Christ's resurrection, and what it means to live as “Easter people.”

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

If you brought little ones with you today – we are overjoyed to have them here. While your worship might feel more like a wrestling match, a battle of wills, or a circus... your time, efforts, and distracted worship are worth it. Even the messiest and most frustrating days are not wasted. If your little one just needs a place to stretch their legs for a second, we have a staffed **Kid Care** for 0-2-year-olds on the second floor of the courtyard and a **Family Room** in the back of the sanctuary.

HOLY COMMUNION + WHAT WE BELIEVE

Communion is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and confidence that our Lord gives us not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table the baptized who trust in the words “my body... my blood... for you”, repent of all sin, and seek to live by the Lord's ways. If this is not your belief, are a child who has not taken the First Communion Class or are unfamiliar with the belief of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, we invite you to come forward with your arms crossed so that we can give you a blessing by making the sign of the cross over you. We also encourage you to talk to one of our pastors after the service if you have questions.

CONNECTION CARD

Please let us know you're worshipping with us today. You can give us as little, or as much, info as you'd like. There is also a place on the connection card to submit a prayer request, make a comment, ask a question, or express interest in next steps. If you'd like to give an offering, you can do that, too! Scan the QR code or visit christlamesa.org/hello.



SUNDAY SCHOOL + YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday School is encouraged for those 3 years old to 6th Grade. Check-in begins at 9:00 am at the back entrance of Christ Lutheran School (near the preschool building). Sunday School starts at 9:15 am and parents pick up at 10:15 am. New students and friends are welcome anytime! Questions? Visit christlamesa.org/learn.

7th-8th Graders meet for Confirmation in Room 202 (second floor of the courtyard) from 9:15-10:15 am. **9th-12th Graders** meet for Senior High Sunday Morning in Youth Center Room 3 from 9:15-10:15 am.

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Bible studies play a vital role in deepening one's understanding of Scripture and fostering spiritual growth. Please consider attending a study this morning.

- **The Village Bible Study** explores, from a biblical viewpoint, issues that impact our families. It meets in Lucas Hall (Preschool Building) from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.
- **The Berean Bible Study** engages in an in-depth study of God's Word, verse by verse. It meets in Room 203 from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.
- **The Focus Bible Study** is a place for seasoned adults to gather around fellowship and God's Word. It meets in Room 101 from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.
- **The Grace Bible Study** is for 20-30 year-olds to study God's Word and its relevance to everyday life. It meets in the Teacher's Lounge from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.

LOOKING TO SERVE?

Looking to *dive deeper* in your faith journey, using your gifts for God's glory and the world's good? Consider serving on Sunday morning. Wondering how you can serve? Consider taking the spiritual gifts inventory located at christlamesa.org/resources. More information can be found at christlamesa.org/serve.

+ ORDER OF WORSHIP +

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Please stand, if you are able, as we prepare our hearts to worship God and receive His good gifts.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

OPENING HYMN | LSB 477 | ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! HEARTS TO HEAVEN

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil in confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried: now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia to the triune Majesty!

CONFESSION OF SIN | PSALM 32:5; PSALM 51:10; 1 JOHN 1:9; JAMES 5:16

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**All: But, if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and
 cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

We take a moment for self-reflection as we confess to God our imperfections.

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

FORGIVENESS

Please be seated as we enter the "Liturgy of the Word." Since the early days of the church, portions of the Bible have been read during worship so that all may be formed by the Word of God.

FIRST READING | PSALM 4 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 770

Reader: Our first reading is from the book of Psalms, the fourth chapter.

¹Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer. ²How long will you people turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false gods? ³Know that the LORD has set apart his faithful servant for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. ⁴Tremble and do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent. ⁵Offer the sacrifices of the righteous and trust in the LORD. ⁶Many, LORD, are asking, "Who will bring us prosperity?" Let the light of your face shine on us. ⁷Fill my heart with joy when their grain and new wine abound.

⁸In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING | 1 JOHN 3:1-7 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1739

Reader: Our second reading is from First John, the third chapter.

¹ See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. ⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. ⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL | LUKE 24:36-49 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1508

Leader: To honor the words and works of Jesus, please stand.

All: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostles' Creed serves as a timeless and foundational expression of the Christian faith, offering a sense of shared identity. We utilize the creed as a statement of belief about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Adults may be seated. Children are invited to come forward for an age-appropriate message.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE HYMN | LSB 606 | I LAY MY SINS ON JESUS

I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us from the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious till not a spot remains.

I lay my wants on Jesus; all fullness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases; my soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, my burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.

I rest my soul on Jesus, this weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

HOMILY | LIVING AS CHILDREN

OFFERING | CHRISTLAMESA.ORG/GIVE

Members of Christ Lutheran support the mission through their giving of time, talents, and treasures. If you are a guest joining us, please know there is no expectation for you to contribute.

CROSSFIRE BAND | TRUST IN GOD

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine, He's been my fourth man in the fire, time after time
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood, and what He did for me on Calvary is more than enough.*

I trust in God, my Savior, the one who will never fail, He will never fail.

*Perfect submission, all is at rest, I know the author of tomorrow has ordered my steps
So this is my story and this is my song, I'm praising my risen King and Savior all the day long.*

*I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered (x3)
That's why I trust Him, that's why I trust Him*

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Please stand, if you are able, as we lift up our prayers to God.

PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Each petition ends with:

Leader: Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers, we continue with the Lord's Prayer:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION | ISAIAH 6:1-8; 2 TIMOTHY 4:22; COLOSSIANS 3:1; MATTHEW 26:26-28

The Sursum Corda (Latin: "Lift up your hearts") is an ancient Christian communion prayer. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we have been raised with Christ and now reign with him in heaven. We end this preface with the singing of "This is the Feast," one of the songs being sung in heaven before God's throne (Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9). We join our voices with the angels and those who have gone before us in the faith to give glory to God. Finally, we embrace the ultimate Mystery of Faith, as bread and wine become, for us, the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

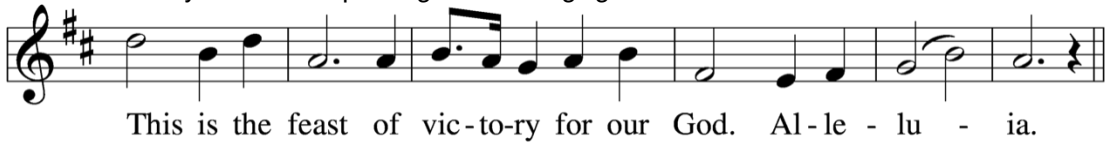
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

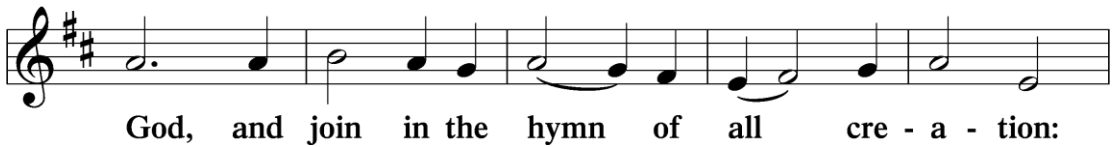
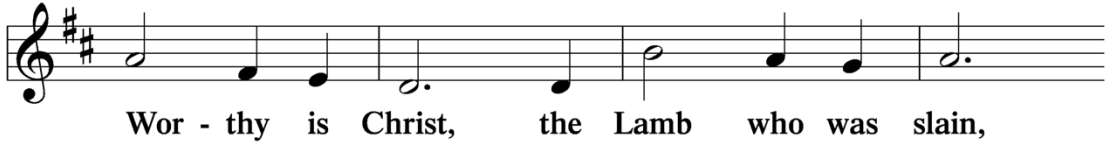
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

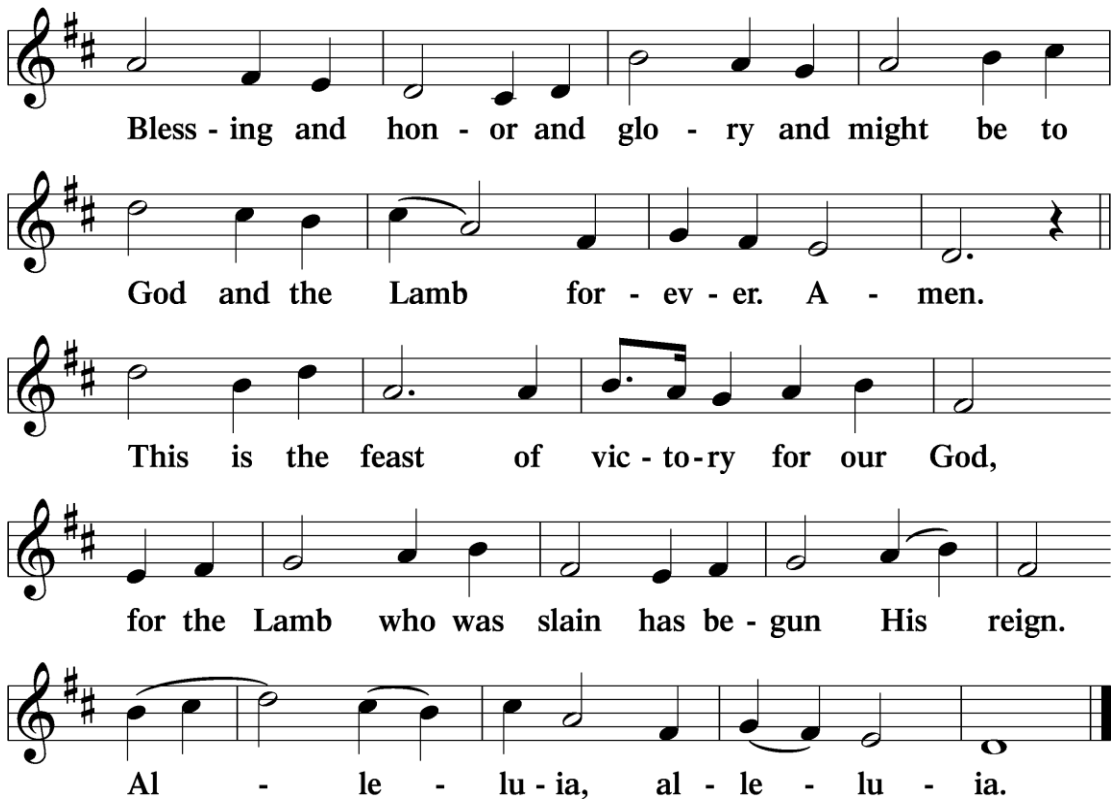
All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly ... evermore praising You and singing:



All:





Pastor: Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed...

SHARING OF THE PEACE | MATTHEW 5:9; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:20

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Please be seated, and join in singing the hymns, as you reflect on God's love and prepare to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. You can find what we believe about Communion on the bottom of page 2.

COMMUNION HYMN | LSB 729 | I AM TRUSTING THEE, LORD JESUS

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, trusting only Thee.
Trusting Thee for full salvation, great and free.
I am trusting Thee for pardon; at Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for cleansing in the crimson flood.
Trusting Thee to make me holy by Thy blood.

I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying all my need.

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever and for all.

COMMUNION HYMN | LSB 801 | HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation, and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art! How great Thou art!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN | LSB 482 | THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE

This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow: **REFRAIN**

REFRAIN: Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen.
But now has Christ arisen!

Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver: **REFRAIN**

My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number: **REFRAIN**

*Hymns and songs are used by permission: LSB Hymn license no. 110000410; CCLI license no. 254628.
To watch this service again, or share it with a friend, visit christlamesa.org/worship.*

LIFE GROUP GUIDE | NEW LIFE TO THE WORLD | WEEK 2

- What's one childhood memory that always brings a smile to your face?
- Read 1 John 3:1-7.
- What stands out to you in the passage? How does John describe God's love for us?
- What does it mean to you personally to be called a child of God? How does understanding ourselves as children of God impact our daily lives and relationships?
- How does your own childhood experience relate to viewing God as Father?
- According to the passage, what transformation occurs in those who are children of God? How does this transformation manifest in our lives practically?
- How does the identity of being a child of God influence your pursuit of righteousness?
- Where do you need the Holy Spirit's help in your continued growth and maturing as a child of God?
- End your time by sharing prayer requests.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant and Preacher: Pastor Travis Ferguson; **Liturgist:** Deacon Jacob Sitze; **Children’s Message:** Cheri Selander; **Acolyte:** Mia Rall; **Reader:** Mike McGhen; **Music Leader:** Kathy Barkett; **Worship Partner:** Dale Mastny; **Communion Assistants:** Scott Azzarello, Bob Maass, Mike McGhen, and Gunnar Schalin; **Livestream, Sound, and Media:** Stuart Gardner, Craig Barkett, and Dana Blackford; **Welcome Team:** Kerry Banke, Wayne Sieckman, Kathy Coe, Holly Lamonica, and Nancy Sierra.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Celebrating a birthday this week: Celebrating a birthday this week: Lisa Kelley, Miles Thomson, Jonah Gardner, Joanene Falk, Mary Beth Hanson, Suna Nguyen, Craig Barkett, Hudson Corkle, Kim Huth, Shaun Johnson, Faith Chisum, Ben Voss, Jim Hanson, Emily Kusel, and Dave Rickards. **Healing:** Charlie Wells, Nancy Sierra, and Lucy Price. **Others:** Merciful Father, You give life to this community of faith by infusing us with love for one another. Inspire us to reach out to our neighbors in meaningful ways and bring the joys of community to a wider family of people.

OUR STAFF



Travis Ferguson
Pastor



Jacob Sitze
Deacon



Patti Maass
Director of Operations



Cheri Selander
Director of Youth Ministries



Brandon Heath
Minister to Youth



Kathy Barkett
Director of Worship and Music



Sarah Kusel
Assistant Director of Music and Worship



Xavria Schwarz
Principal



Melissa Payne
Preschool Director



Stuart Gardner
Director of Community and Communications



Craig Barkett
Director of Facilities



Kathy Garces
Administrative Accountant



Emily Lieber
Human Resources Specialist



Kathy Johnson
Worship and Music Assistant



Kim Voss
Administrative Assistant

To contact a staff member, please visit christlamesa.org/about

ANNOUNCEMENTS



MEAL PACKING EVENT | MAY 5 AT 11:30 AM – Our Easter Offering raised over \$42,000! That is well over our \$32,000 goal – praise the Lord! Please mark your calendars for Sunday, May 5th, at 11:30 am as we pack over 100,000 meals for children in Peru. You can sign up to help at christlamesa.org/mealpacking. This is a great event to invite friends to. Thank you for being committed to making such a difference!



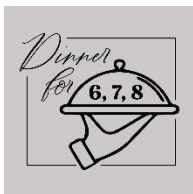
THE 2024 MEXICO HOUSEBUILD | SATURDAYS IN APRIL AND MAY – As a church, we partner with AMOR Ministries to build a home for one family in Mexico. Join us on April 13, 27, May 11, and 18 as we help our neighbors to the South! Anyone over 8 years old with a valid passport may come to serve on a build Saturday. Friends and family are welcome to join. Scan the QR code to sign-up.



CELEBRATION OF SAN DIEGO MINISTRIES | TODAY | 12:00 PM – Join the Sunshine Zone of the Southern California Lutheran Laymen's League at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (1376 Felspar St, San Diego, 92109) as they host 5 presenters, including our very own Dennis Wetjen, who will speak to current Lutheran Ministries in San Diego. Lunch will be provided. This is a great opportunity to hear about how God is at work throughout San Diego!



CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL - Named Premier Parent Choice Award Winner for 2022-2023, our Christ-centered and accredited School and Preschool have been committed to academic excellence since 1958. You get tradition and legacy with a bright and exciting future with Christ Lutheran. If you are interested in enrollment, visit lutheranschool.org or call **(619) 462-5211, ext. 3**, and schedule a tour today!



DINNER FOR 6, 7, OR 8 - Social evenings of fun and fellowship for families, singles, and couples of all ages, will begin in May. Sign up today or next Sunday in the courtyard. Groups meet once a month in each member's home in May, June, July, and August. Group members take turns hosting and providing the main course, bread, and the beverage. Other members will bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert. Contact Chuck or Joanene Falk 619-454-0852.

To see more upcoming events, visit christlamesa.org/calendar.