



# Christ Lutheran Church Connected

May 2011

OUR LORD HAS WRITTEN THE  
PROMISE OF THE RESURRECTION,  
NOT IN BOOKS ALONE, BUT IN  
EVERY LEAF IN SPRINGTIME.

MARTIN LUTHER



# Thoughts from Pastor Joe

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[Elizabeth Abrahamson](#) - Sound & Spirit Choir

By Pastor Joe Campeau

Compassion Weekend is here – April 30 and May 1. You will no doubt be reading this article just a day or two before the event begins, in which case it is still not too late to join in. This will be the third time we have sought to move out into the community as one family, serving the Lord by serving his people. I checked last year’s statistics: In 2010 we finished the weekend with 565 people participating in eighteen different projects and logging over 2500 hours of service in the name of Jesus. I remember last year in the weeks leading up to Compassion Weekend I wondered how we would do, it being our second year and the fact that the congregation had just come out of a very difficult time. The response was excellent and served to demonstrate to each of us that the Spirit was active among us and that we could still do big things.

Now I am wondering how we will do this year. Once again our goal is for every single person in the congregation to set aside time that weekend to serve. It’s not that Compassion Weekend is the only time we serve (our congregation continues to serve throughout the year), nor is it that service and faithfulness are only measured by numbers and attendance. But how we respond to Compassion Weekend as a congregation says a lot about who we are and how seriously we take our mission

and ministry, and how willing we are as a people to answer a call that all members participate. Personally, my money is on you. As I write this, I believe that our congregation will step up once again. In fact, I’d like to see that statistic of 565 people participating **increase this year to 600!** I know it’s possible because God can do anything if we will just cooperate. Will you cooperate?

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I know, I know...it’s the weekend after Easter. It will be the third time we’ve done it so some of the novelty has worn off. Some of you are probably thinking, “I served last year, so this year I’m going to take a break.” Or, “This is getting a little boring; can’t we do something new to hold my wandering attention?” Well – that second quote may not be what any of you are really thinking, but if you dig deep enough it is sometimes what lies behind our choices, and is certainly the

## Thoughts from Pastor Joe, continued

prevailing battle cry of our SCV culture. “*Well, I just can’t make a commitment because...*” and then you can fill in the rest of that sentence with anything that comes to mind, when it really should probably end with “*...because I don’t like making commitments.*” The truth is, there are endless reasons **not** to participate. But I think I can give you an overwhelming reason **to participate**—because you are part of the family, and your family needs you. Not to mention the fact that Jesus told us that he is among us to serve and that that’s how the world will know we are his disciples...when we do what he did.

So – I’ll be there at Compassion Weekend. I trust you will be, too.

## History of Jerusalem Class Begins May 16

Jerusalem stands as a key location in the Old and New Testaments. David made it his capital and Jesus went there to be crucified. But there is much more to know about Jerusalem and how it figures into the Biblical narrative. Join us for a four-part class on the history of this captivating city. The four week class will meet Monday, May 16 and 23, and June 6 and 13 from 7:00 - 8 PM in the Fellowship Center. Each succeeding Monday will focus on: Jerusalem in the Old Testament; Jerusalem in the New Testament and Early Christianity; Islamic Jerusalem and the Crusades; Jerusalem and the Modern State of Israel.

The class is open to everyone who is interested in this fascinating subject. Those traveling, or considering traveling, with our CLC group to the Holy Land in November are strongly encouraged to attend.

The class will be taught by CLC member Jeremy Smoak. Jeremy is a professor at UCLA where he teaches Hebrew, and also teaches a similar class about Jerusalem. Jeremy lived in the city for a number of years. He will have slides to accompany his presentation.



# From Pastor Mike

On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation came into effect, proclaiming that all the slaves in the Confederacy were now free. On that day, only about 20,000 slaves were directly impacted, the rest having to wait for liberation by the Union Army. But for those 20,000, they had a choice. They could continue to live in slavery or they could be free.

Every day we face the same question as Christians. When Jesus died on the cross, we were set free from sin. That was our Emancipation Proclamation. It said that we no longer had to be slaves to sin. The question is what do we do with that. Slavery is comfortable. Slavery is what is known. It is what we spent our lives with. We know what is expected of us.

But that is not what we are called to. In Romans 6, Paul writes this:

*What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*

*If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.*

The whole point is we have a new way to live. Too often, we remember that Jesus died for our sins and then we forget that we are called to a new life. It is like we go right back to living in the slave quarters. How do we live this new life?



Friends, we need to rely on the Holy Spirit. We are only brought to belief in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. He lives within us, guides us and strengthens us. We need to live in that reality, not the illusion of slavery to sin. That is what Paul means when he says, 'died to sin'. We live in the new reality of the Holy Spirit.

Don't ask God for wisdom or strength, rely and trust that His Spirit is already living within you. God has blessed each and every believer with the Holy Spirit. He has promised to be with us until the end of the age. Rely on that promise!

When you have problems, when you feel like you are going to do something that you will regret and bring you back into those old patterns, instead rely on the promises that God has given you. Fall forward into the fruits of the spirit that are listed in the bible, kindness, gentleness, and patience. You always have this choice. Do you go back to the slavery or live in the new way. The choice is always yours. It will not be easy and it is tempting to try it for a couple of days, not see any change and go back to the old ways. Give it time, it is like exercise, nobody runs a marathon after training for a week. The Christian life is a marathon.

Turn your eyes to Jesus and trust his promises for your life,

Pastor Mike

# Hands and Hearts

When you've done something over and over again, say, for 6 years or so, I suppose it's human nature to plod along, doing what's familiar without much thought to where you are headed. I find this to be especially true when we are able to surrender control and allow God to direct our paths.

Every so often, along the way we reach a milestone. It causes us to pause and take stock of how far we've come and to look ahead to try to see what the future holds. So it is with Hands and Hearts as we reach a milestone in our ministry to our country's deployed troops.

This month our shipment will include the 5000<sup>th</sup> Care Package. As with each one sent before it and those that will follow, this Care Package will find its way to a soldier serving in harm's way. It will carry a message of support, the promise of prayer and a personal letter tucked in with the toiletries, snacks, entertainment and comfort items.

Looking back, we remember with sadness the two soldiers

we lost in our ministry's first year as well as two others who were seriously injured in our second and fifth years. How blessed we were to be able to touch their lives as well as the lives of so many others.



Although our support is unconditional, we've found joy in a number of surprise visits from "our soldiers" as well as hundreds of emails and Thank You notes. The common thread in almost all these Thank yous is a deep gratitude for the prayer support we offer.

Reaching out in Jesus' name we will continue to show His love to the young men and women of our military through the care and support we are able to send in each box.

Please come to celebrate with us at our milestone May packing party on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Center and on Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 11 a.m. For more

information about how you can volunteer with Hands and Hearts please contact Karolle at [hands\\_n\\_hearts@yahoo.com](mailto:hands_n_hearts@yahoo.com) or 255-3222. All are welcome.



Please join us on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup> as we partner with the American Cancer Society to help fight cancer and to pray for a cure at the Relay for Life event. Our focus will be on prayer and this is a great opportunity to help support others in our community that might be fighting cancer, caring for a friend or family member or who have lost a loved one to cancer by praying with and/or for them. We also will be handing out and taking requests for Prayer Shawls for anyone who would like one. We will begin sign ups on the patio on May 8<sup>th</sup> for Prayer Partners and Survivors. If you would like to walk and help support the ACS you can register on line at [www.relayforlife.org/santaclaritavalleyca](http://www.relayforlife.org/santaclaritavalleyca), our team name is "Prayers of Hope". If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please contact Debbie Price at [debbie@come2christ.com](mailto:debbie@come2christ.com).



## Council Corner

In April, our council met for a half-day planning session. We were able to conduct our routine monthly business while having additional time to review both the past year and look to the future.

In review, there were four 2010 priorities. In faith formation, education and discipleship for adults, new opportunities included: the Summer Apologetics Series, This is the Bible Group and Gaining Perspective Presentation. With our Life Groups, 191 individuals were in at least one group. In discipling new believers, there were new groups formed for Bible Study for Beginners and individual work with new members. There is a focus on our 20's to 30's members for our future church leadership. Two new council members and three new Sunday School teachers were added this past year. A college age group is planned for this summer, as well as Young Women's Bible study, Mothers in Christ [MiC] barbecue and the new Faith and Fitness Group. The final 2010 priority was our worship. A new opportunity, Lift, has begun providing an intimate worship experience. Additional focus was directed to our Christmas and Holy Week.

Looking forward, a new additional emphasis will be on Pastoral Care Ministry. Pastors will continue to call on members. Pastoral Care Ministry offers the promise of developing lay person care givers who could expand the reach of Christ Lutheran Church's Pastoral Care Ministry. Under review is a 7 stage plan from Initiation through Design and finally Operations. The process includes review of budget, staffing, resources, risk management and the overall theology of healing and pastoral care. Additional review has been completed of the past Stephen Ministry and other similar programs.

Considering the January vote to no longer be part of the ELCA, it is time to begin reviewing Christ Lutheran Church's By-laws and Constitution. There is a full spectrum of comparable churches and their documents. Our council will be considering our options and will be putting forth a plan in the future for our members' approval.

Our final planning session was on An Intentional Plan for Making Disciples. The challenge is how do we move from being just consumers and becoming Disciples of Jesus? The Gospels provide the model on just how Jesus nurtured his twelve disciples. Following Jesus' example, we will help people identify and recognize their call as leaders. We will invest ourselves in their lives so that together we may continue to develop a Christ-centered life, deeper proficiencies with the gifts God has given us, and become better equipped to disciple others. We want to make disciples who can make other disciples.

Your brother in Christ,

Kevin Frandson

*Church Council: Hilde Ernsberger (president), Andy Dyroy, Mike McGeever, Ryan Metlen, Kevin Frandson, Rachel Swartz and Kisha Tate*

# YOU'RE INVITED!



## LSS Community Care Center 4th

### Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

**When** Saturday, June 04, 2011 08:00 AM to 11:00 AM

**Where** Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
27265 Luther Drive  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351

**Description** Help the Homeless in your community find jobs and housing. Come share the love at our pancake breakfast fundraiser!

**Cost** \$5.00 adult \$3.00 children

**Contact** Linda Malerba  
lmalerba@lsssc.org  
661 298-8972

sponsored by



This Pancake Breakfast is a part of



# Welcome New Members!

**With great appreciation, I'd like to thank our guests:** *Karen Reade, Kisha Tate, Carrie and Laura Hendry Karolle Blackson, Felicity Grover, Jean Long, Marie Edmiston, Glen Warriner, Ryan Metten, Hank Klehn, Karen Nelson, Bret & Jean Wims, Kathleen Kahovec, Linda Bonar, Judy Barnes, Debbie Price, Teri Gaudioso and Pastor Mike Matzek.*

**Special thanks to "Team Basics", March 2011:** *Rachel Swartz, Vincent & Kap Koch, Barbie Campeau, Mike, Laura & Owen Strunck, Nicole & Erik Scherer, Cindy Schmidt, Joan Costa, Elizabeth Abrahamson, Tina Jacobi, Jeanne Papenthien, Charlotte Burruso, Mark Long, Steve Andersen, Robyn Schreiner, Kevin Liddle, Kevin Eng. Our excellent childcare team: Debi Colbert and Kelsey Gabriel. I couldn't have done it without you, I praise God for your ministry. Your gifts of time and talent have helped shine God's light on our new family members, thank you so much ~Robin Hyland*



Mel Grove



Rey DeLuna, Esther



Matt & Kristan Hinze, Emory, Westley



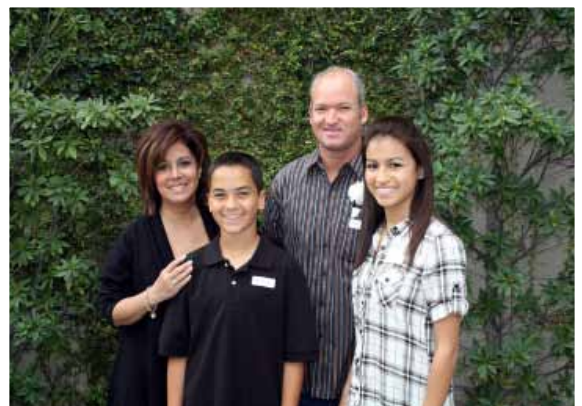
John & Michelle Dow , Jackson



Shannon Kemp & Nicole Kingston



Karen Eames



John & Linda Kniest, Kristi, Matthew



Ted & Joclaire Lehmann, Katelyn



Jared & Susie Pyle



Jack & Esther Lepisto, Annaliisa, Arianna, Annamaria, Jacklyn



David Schmidt



Justin & Alia Marks, London, Madison, Jaden, Hudson



Alan & Gayle Vogel, Mark



Chris & Shelly Oleszkowicz, Jordan



Doug & Julie Williams, Clarice

# Children's Ministries



## Sunday School

The last week of Sunday school this year will be June 5. The Sunday school picnic will be held that day following the 11am service here at the church. Everyone is invited to attend. Please bring a side dish to share. There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, dessert, and drinks provided.

We are already recruiting for Sunday school teachers next year. Please prayerfully consider teaching this fall. We have an opening in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and Jr. High at 9:30am. Please see Kathleen Kahovec if you are interested in serving this fall.



## KOK

KOK (Kids of the Kingdom) will end this last session May 18. This is our midweek program for children ages 3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. We meet on Wednesday nights from 6pm – 7pm. We are recruiting for teachers in the fall for KOK. Please see Dawn Diaz if you are interested.



## Youth Adventures

Youth Adventures will end this last session May 18. Remember to bring a friend and your bibles. We meet in the Youth Center from 6 – 7pm. This is for children ages 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Linda Ferguson can answer any questions you might have about Youth Adventures. Please pray about teaching in the fall. We are recruiting now for high school and adult leaders.

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*Children's Choirs meet at 5:15 on Wednesdays  
Come and join us! Bring a friend!*

# Junior High



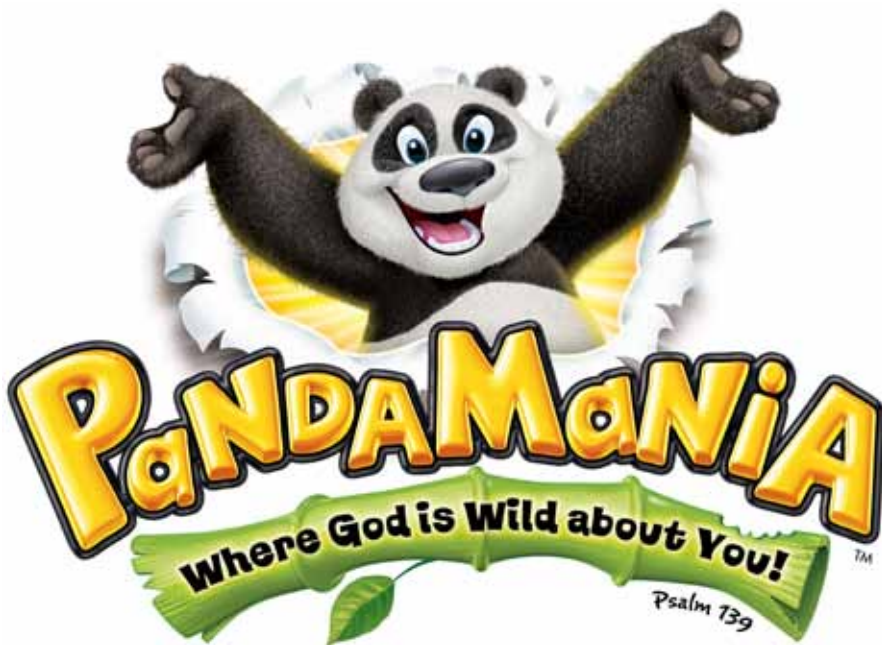
## Junior High

Confirmation classes end May 18 with a fun party at the park and in the Fellowship Center. Please remember to wear the proper shoes for running.

Current 7<sup>th</sup> graders – Please look for the new Confirmation calendar in the mail in the next few weeks. It will be exciting to welcome in the new class and to see what God will do in your lives this next year.

Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders – Your lesson time will be officially completed after May 18. You have all summer to complete your worship notes and service hours. Confirmation Sunday will be October 30 at 11 am this year. There is a fall schedule listed below. Please also be thinking of what you want your confirmation verse to be. You can turn that into Kathleen Kahovec anytime over the summer.

- October 16** Meet after the 11:00 service in the Youth Center. This is an hour long meeting after worship to go over the 5 promises you will make during Confirmation. This meeting is mandatory for all students.
- October 25** Meet at 6pm in the sanctuary with Pastor Joe to discuss the confirmation service. You and a parent must attend this meeting in order to be confirmed!
- October 30** Confirmation Sunday at the 11:00 am service. Arrive at the church in your robe and ready for pictures at 10:00 am.



Vacation Bible School is just around the corner! The VBS dates have been set for June 20 – 24, 2011. We will be using Group Curriculum again with the theme "PandaMania, Where God is Wild About You."

**Registration will begin May 8. Mark your calendars now.**

We will have an Outreach VBS in Newhall again. The dates are July 11, 12, and 13. Please plan on volunteering to help reach the community of Newhall with the love of Jesus. Felicity Grover will be coordinating the Newhall VBS.



***Here is what is coming up in May:***

**Sunday School** will meet throughout May at 9:30 in the Youth Center. We will study the New Testament with Brad Eledge, Mike McGeever, Ryan Metlen, Christian Parr, Tim Tiemann, Todd LeGassick, and Kathleen Kahovec. Come early for donuts and hang out time. The last day of Sunday school will be June 5.

**Impact** will meet throughout May on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Youth Center. Each week we go to Del Taco after Impact for food and fellowship. Everyone is welcome. There won't be any Impact on May 26 because of graduation.

**Seniors – Senior Sunday will be May 15 at 11am.**

Be sure to come to this worship service to celebrate the seniors graduating from High school. Andrew Tiemann and Kayla Colbert will be the senior speakers.

**Arizona Mission Trip** – the youth mission trip will be to Arizona this July 31 – August 6. We will build 2 houses with Amor Ministries. Sign ups are ongoing.

**Important Dates and Numbers:**

- Mission Dates: Sunday, July 31 – Saturday, August 6, 2011
- Individual Goal Setting Meetings: Late June or Early July
- Total Cost: \$300
- \$50 Deposit: due by May 1 - Full payment: due by July 1
- Tents and tools day: Saturday July 16, 9:00 AM
- Pack in: July 30, 9:00 AM



# HIGH SCHOOL

At Impact on Tuesdays, we have been in a study exploring several “global giants” that are afflicting people around the world: spiritual emptiness, egocentric leadership, extreme poverty, pandemic disease, and rampant illiteracy. Most of these have been around since Jesus’ time. The Bible offers a strategy for responding to each of these issues: planting churches, equipping servant leaders, assisting the poor, caring for the sick, and educating the next generation.

The goal of this series is to help our young people become better educated and more involved with addressing these problems. Each week the students discuss what they can do as individuals, what their small group can do, what our youth ministry can do, and what our congregation can do. This is a great chance for us to apply what we learn and to make an impact on the world.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Week 1: Spiritual Emptiness vs. Planting Churches (1 Corinthians 3:5-9)

Week 2: Egocentric Leadership vs. Equipping Servant Leaders (Zechariah 10:2)

Week 3: Extreme Poverty vs. Assisting the Poor (1 John 3:14-20)

Week 4: Pandemic Disease vs. Caring for the Sick (James 5:14)

Week 5: Rampant Illiteracy vs. Educating the Next Generation (Psalm 78:1-7)

## SERIES OBJECTIVES

1. WHAT: God cares about the “global giants” that are wreaking havoc in our world today.
2. WHY: Christians can play a role in addressing these issues in both spiritual and material ways.
3. HOW: Encourage students to take practical steps and respond to these global challenges.

# Preschool News



Christ Lutheran Preschool  
Presents



*Children's Music from Around the World*

Performances by:

Instrument Petting Zoo – April 8, 9:30 am

Stan the Banjo Man – April 13, 10:00 & 10:30 am

Wackee Wendy – May 5, 10:00 & 10:30 am

Remo Drum Circle – June 3, 10:00 & 10:30 am

**First show geared for 3 year olds**  
**Second show for 4 and 5 year olds**

Performances at 25816 Tournament Road, Valencia

**To make reservations for the free concerts,  
ask for Miss Chris or MissTami 661.259.0302**



# May Birthdays

1st

Teddy Papenthien  
Kaden Willers

2nd

Debbie Peters

3rd

Isabelle Bett  
James Jacobi  
Bobbie Kirshner  
Isabel Putnam  
Madison Smoak  
Pat Widman

4th

Steve Arima  
Hayden Biss  
Karen Cole  
Saige Kalk

5th

Madison Davis  
Gwen Laibl  
Garrett Smith  
Mitchell Strenk  
Chrissy White

6th

Kayla Choate  
Brian Curtin  
Janice Eledge  
Therese Fellbaum  
Nancy Garcia  
Christopher Horton  
Isela Lieber  
Linda Miller

7th

Samantha Cheatham  
Gin Eng  
Collin McMenamin  
Blair Rune

8th

Elisa Duus

9th

Stacey Huey  
Owen Strunck  
Diane Weber

10th

Ashlyn Bett  
Emma DeLuna  
Anders Heinstedt  
Kristjana Maxwell  
Robert Sherwood  
Kristen Vojtech

11th

John Csernay  
Robert Jackson  
Glen Warriner

12th

Parker House  
Katherine Larlee  
Robert Mangold  
Tasia Moore

13th

Robin Hyland  
Karen Kibbee  
Kevin Pratt  
Elizabeth Vogel  
Alton Williams  
Alex Woodcox

14th

Dan Bouté  
Isabella Earnhardt-Becerra  
Brittany Schaefer  
Judy Schufer  
Jean Vogel

15th

Jack Mutz

16th

Matthew Kniest  
Kyle McEwen  
Joseph Strote

17th

Tyler Cappelletty  
Jennifer Denzin  
Isabella Eng  
Jake Santos  
Drew Sharp

18th

David Socher  
Cole Van Hoek  
Gina Wileman

19th

Jessica Bradley  
Mark Ernsberger  
Aaron Hedwall  
Matthew Wayne

20th

Justin Beiroid  
Alexandra Chernos  
Daniel Deegan  
Matt Frandson  
Zachary Guzman  
Michael McGeever  
Grant Pin

21st

Brent Burkhardt  
Allison Hoppes  
Kathleen Koch  
Jesse Martin  
Cindy Meyer  
Cherilyn Teague

22nd

Amber Hagkull  
Beth Spadaro  
Adam Volpei

23rd

Linda Burnett  
David Chao  
Christopher Leclair  
Heather Lincoln  
Ryan Pratt

24th

Garrett Bradley  
Christopher Gonzalez  
Cassidy Sand  
Gol Werner

25th

Reve Bellmore  
Jesse Kane  
Todd LeGassick  
Shawn Switzer

26th

Serena Beiroid  
James Duus  
Jim McCardy  
Andrew Pauling  
Matt Tate

27th

Barbara Benforado  
Zachary Davis  
Debbie Fechser  
Tina Jacobi

28th

Megan Mekelburg  
Sophie Mekelburg  
Cole Scherer  
Matthew Sutherland  
Parker Tenney

29th

Kelly Frank  
Sophia Hutton  
Sawyer Smith  
Scott Teske II

30th

Judy Barnes  
Carson Conell  
Garrett Conell  
Andrew Mulhausen  
Jenny Nicolaisen  
Grant Spooner  
Bob White

31st

Erika Gardner  
Blake Gonzalez  
Chris Rosenberger  
Larry Wims



**ChristLutheranChurch**  
25816 North Tournament Road  
Santa Clarita, CA 91355  
661-259-0200  
[www.come2christ.com](http://www.come2christ.com)

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule:

8:00 - Traditional Worship

9:30 - Blended Worship

11:00 - Informal Worship

Sunday School for all ages at 9:30

Kids' Church at 11:00

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