



June 2020

30322 Via Con Dios
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA
92688
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www.clcrsm.org

Community News

CLC: Plans for Gathering Together Again and Caring for our Neighbor



Dear CLC Family,

Many of you have been asking me, “When will CLC re-open?”

First, the church has never been closed. We have continued to worship, pray, serve and love our neighbor in new ways. Thanks be to God and thank you for all the ways you have been praying for and supporting our mission and ministry.

But now that the stay-at-home order has been lifted for all those not testing positive or exposed to COVID-19, and since places of worship have been included in the California COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE (see [here](#)), our church leadership has set in motion plans to carefully and with great attention to the health and well-being of all, create opportunities to gather in person for worship and for patio small group Bible study. Saddleback Children’s Center has also begun plans for opening their summer session.

When we gather in person (target date, June 14), we will follow all safe hygiene protocols encouraged by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We will also continue to offer our worship service on video ([here](#)) and hopefully “live” at 8:30am for all those who are safeguarding their health at home.

Thankfully, CLC’s worship space is designed with a high ceiling and is spacious so there is room to spread out and physically distance for safety. The governor’s guidelines allow 25% capacity or 100, whichever is less. For CLC that means we can accommodate 75 people inside the sanctuary. To err on the side of caution we will begin with no more than 50 per service. They are back ordered but we are also planning to have an FM transmitter to broadcast to vehicles in the parking lot once they become available.

Video only

SUNDAY, JUNE 7 – A special service honoring our CLC High School Graduates will be available to view for worship at home.

In-person and video

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 – If all preparations are complete, we will begin our new summer worship schedule of **8:30am** and **10:30am** (allowing time in between services for sanitizing and airing out the sanctuary and restrooms). Please arrive 20 minutes early to allow for a slower than usual entry.

Other details

- Again to err on the side of caution, patio fellowship/coffee time will be temporarily suspended.
- All attending will need to wear face coverings while entering and in the sanctuary. While we know there is disagreement about this, we ask for the sake of unity in the body of Christ that we set aside personal views. If it protects even one person it is an act of love for our neighbor. We

remember Martin Luther's words on freedom and love of neighbor: "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject of all, subject to all."

- Holy Communion will be celebrated once again. I am looking forward with joy to receiving with you the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. All due health precautions will be taken by offering a sealed and pre-filled container of grape juice and a communion wafer. See diagram for instructions. One helpful note: There are two seals, one for the wafer (peel back first), then one for the grape juice (peel back second). When we have an FM transmitter, for those worshipping from their vehicles, I will be bringing communion to a station on the circle drive following each service.



- Following public health advice we will shorten the length of our service to minimize our exposure. Normal speech has been found to disperse airborne virus droplets in the air for 8 minutes. So in addition to physical distancing, facial coverings, and shortening the service we will also temporarily refrain from congregational singing and minimize congregational speaking. Our musicians will stand well beyond the range that breath droplets travel and I will be wearing a face shield to inhibit the travel of my breath droplets. Yes, I will look funny, but it's because I love you :)
- Our nursery and cry room will not be open and the children's area in the sanctuary will be temporarily unavailable. Children will need to stay with their families.
- Soon we will announce a plan for safely arriving at CLC (spreading out our arrival times and entering through multiple entrances). At the entrance we will have a quick temporal thermometer check for all. All volunteers and worship leaders will also be checked prior to serving. Once the service ends we will dismiss from the back rows first.
- We will also announce a plan for a new seating arrangement and how to sign up for a particular service and seat so that we can notify you immediately if anyone seated nearby becomes ill.
- Finally, and we cannot emphasize this enough: "Do not attend a service if you are not feeling well, have a fever, or have had direct contact with someone who likely has or is confirmed to have COVID-19."

Why do we go through all this careful planning, thoughtful preparation, and sincere concern over safety? Certainly not for ourselves alone, but for the love of our neighbor, and our most vulnerable members.

We will get through this. God is with us. We are not in this alone. In the body of Christ we are praying for one another and all those who have suffered physically or economically. As I share with you each day in my email signature at the end of "Today's word of hope"...

Stay calm, keep praying, and trust in the Lord's presence among us,

Paul King



APRIL 2020

	2020 YTD ACTUAL	2020 YTD BUDGET
Receipts—Offerings	\$ 149,376	\$ 141,956
Net Receipts—Preschool	41,953	71,000
Receipts—Other	<u>2,476</u>	<u>1,930</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 193,805	\$ 214,886
Total Operating Expenditures (Non-Preschool)	(<u>187,080</u>)	(<u>189,082</u>)
Excess Receipts over		
Expenditures (Net Operating Income)	<u>\$ 6,725</u>	<u>\$ 25,804</u>
Loss on Sale of Stock	(392)	(0)
Transfers to Dedicated Accounts	<u>(18,000)</u>	<u>(18,000)</u>
Total Net Revenue	<u>(11,667)</u>	<u>\$ 7,804</u>

Offerings	
Mailed Offerings	\$20,167
Charitable Grants	\$ 1,200
EFT Offerings	\$23,339
Total	\$44,706

Liquid assets available to meet expenses totaled \$23,610 on 4/30/2020 (excludes dedicated funds).

Offering income was \$13,099 less than budgeted for April. YTD offerings are \$7,420 more than budgeted. Our congregation’s generosity during the Covid-19 Pandemic is much appreciated and makes up for the loss of preschool income.

Preschool net income was \$29,669 less than budgeted for April. Income will not continue for April, May, and June due to closure. Plans are in place for an abbreviated summer program if permitted.

Other Receipts included specified gifts of \$43 for the Building Fund, \$1,313 for Siloe, \$1,100 for Door of Faith, \$3,370 for the Food Bank, \$100 for the music and worship fund, \$250 for ELCA Disaster Relief-Covid 19, and \$2,230 for the Good Samaritan Fund.

Non-Preschool Operating Expenses were \$3,295 less than budgeted for April. All expense categories were below budgeted numbers.

Transfers for April included \$4,000 to the building fund from the church’s operating funds. This transfer will continue if the church has positive year-to-date income.

Detailed information is available upon request from Tracy Cantin (treasurerclcrsm@gmail.com).

How Can I continue Giving?

1. You can write a check and mail it to us (Community Lutheran Church, 30322 Via Con Dios, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688).
2. You can give online through the website, clcrsm.org. There is a link at the top of the page that says, “Give Online”. You can do a one-time donation or setup a recurring donation.
3. You can give with your phone using the GivePlus+ App. Just go to the App Store or Google Play and search for “GivePlus+”. The first time you login, you select your church. You will find us by searching the zip code, 92688. You can do a one-time donation or setup a recurring donation through the App.
4. You can text an offering donation to 855-949-0112. The first time you do this you will get a text back prompting you to enter your name and credit card number.
5. You can do a Zelle transfer through your online banking website. When adding the church as a payee, just enter our email address: clcrsm@clcrsm.org
6. If you need any help with your online giving, please contact Tracy at treasurerclcrsm@gmail.com

Amazon Smile: The church has registered on Amazon Smile. This is a great program where Amazon shoppers can designate any registered charity to receive .5% of their qualified purchases as a donation. To participate in this program, just go to www.smile.amazon.com to sign up and choose Community Lutheran Church as your designated charity.

Schwab Account: The church has a Schwab brokerage account. This way members can donate shares of stock as an alternative to cash offerings. Not only can you help the church, you can avoid paying capital gains tax on appreciated stocks.

CLC Council Meeting Highlights May 2020

The May 2020 CLC council meeting was held on Wednesday May 20, 2020. Highlights from the meeting included:

- Discussed options and procedures for gradual re-opening of church for worship when circumstances permit.
- In preparation for returning to in-person worship, there will be deep cleaning, social distancing and masks will be required, no bulletins will be handed out, sanitizer will be accessible, offering plate will not be passed; on-line giving is encouraged, nursery and children's area will not be available, fellowship on the patio will be suspended.
- When we are ready for in-person worship, all steps will be clearly communicated through email, social media and posted signs.
- Pastor Marty will continue the on-line YouTube channel videos for the time being.
- Saddleback Children's Center is set to open on July 6, 2020 for a 5 week summer program.

Hello CLC Family,

I want to say thank you for your prayers and support during this difficult time. I have had a wonderful time these past two months virtually connecting with our kids and youth. As the end of the school year winds down, I know that screen time has become overwhelming. This month we will be taking a virtual break from some of our children's and youth Zoom times.

We will; however, continue to offer through the month of June, Sunday School Zoom time for all ages.

As we move forward into June, I will be keeping our families posted about what this upcoming summer will look like for our kids and youth. Thank you for your patience during this time, as we move into a new and uncharted summer season.

I also want to ask you if there is something that we could be offering you, your kids, and our youth during this time.

Sincerely,

Josiah Canto, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Virtual Sunday School



Sundays
Preschool-High School
Community Lutheran Church



For Ages Preschool – 5th grade Weekly on Sundays at 10 am

Each Saturday we will be emailing a Sunday school lesson that you can do with your children on Sunday.

Join us for a 20-25 minute ZOOM time for all of our kids to say hello to each other and a time to share something good about our week and something we can keep in prayer for each other. :)

Here is the ZOOM link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89009277418?pwd=SEQ3RHNZeXhaUjNhRzlwT3NTRUJDQT09>

For 6th – 12th Grades Weekly on Sundays at 10:30 am

We will have a 45- minute zoom time for our 6th-12th youth to join Keith Borgschatz for a lesson and a time to connect with one another.

Here is the ZOOM link:

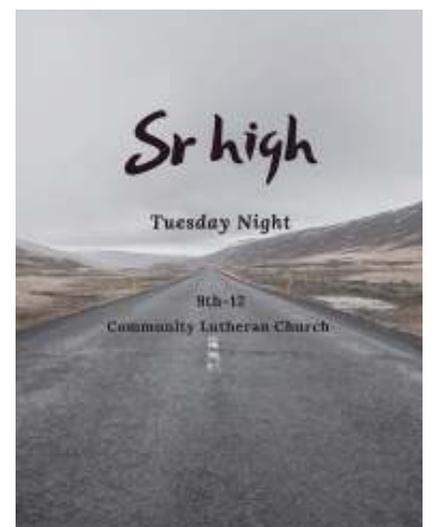
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86965100681?pwd=VFFhaUFibGNrazd4V1lidWRBTlhBQT09>

Sr. High Youth Group (9th -12th) Weekly on Tuesdays at 7 pm

We will continue meeting virtually on Tuesday evenings through ZOOM and will keep you posted on any changes on the ways that we are meeting.

Here is the ZOOM link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/761359532?pwd=UIVPYVZLYKJhaDdXUTdnL0Z5VGVodz09>





Weekly on Thursdays at 7 pm

We will continue meeting virtually on Thursday evenings through ZOOM and will keep you posted on any changes on the ways that we are meeting.

Here is the ZOOM link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/824792444?pwd=SENCdC9xZWVh5ODU2QkY4aitmMVpPQT09>



RSM Food Pantry

Wednesdays, June 3rd & 17th
10:30am-4:30pm

You are welcome to help and be a part of this great service to the community of RSM and the surrounding communities in Orange County. This is a great way to lend a helping hand. We sort, organize and pass out groceries with members of our community to anyone in need. You may come anytime between 10:30am-5pm. This is open to anyone and there is always a need for more helpers!

Located at the Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, 30605 Avenida de las Flores, RSM.

Prayer Chain

Please send your prayer requests to Pastor Marty by email to:
PastorMartyclcrsm@gmail.com





High School Graduates 2020

This year, we won't be able to connect the same way with our High School Seniors as we have in the past. There is sadness, but also an opportunity for us to reach out, encourage, support our seniors and let them know they are not alone. We would love to have you, our church family, reach out to our high school graduates and offer words of encouragement and congratulations!

Many of you have met our seniors and have had the chance to get to know them over the years and see them grow up here at CLC. Our Seniors may have been a babysitter for you or you have had them as leaders at VBS and other kids' programs. You might not have met all of them. Whether or not you have met them, we are a family so let's take some time to reach out and encourage our graduates and reach out to them with the love of Christ!

We have shared their names, addresses and pictures below. If you or your kids would like to record a video message, we would love to send that along to them.

You may mail letters and cards directly to our graduates, if you have a video message you would like to pass along, please send it to Josiah at Josiahclcrsm@gmail.com



Tamara Hirschman
15 Santa Inez
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688



Kenzie Iserman
23032 Bouquet Canyon
Mission Viejo, CA 92692



Savannah Paxton
21 Amy Way
Ladera Ranch, CA 92694



Amanda Smith
19051 Woodland Way
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679



Julia Stucke
27 Korite
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688



Sierra Wise
31941 Joshua Dr.
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679



Elizabeth Wolfson
35 Banstead
Dove Canyon, CA 92679



Amanda Vaskovich
21 Charca
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688



The Book Club is scheduled to meet at 7:00pm on Monday, June 8th to discuss ***The Last Bathing Beauty*** by Amy Sue Nathan. In this book we meet Betty Stern, an eighteen-year-old beauty working at a lakeside resort the summer after graduating from high school before embarking on a future that includes college in New York City. Decades later, we see how the choices Betty made that summer resulted in changes in the plans for her future and influence the advice she gives to her granddaughter who is facing a dilemma of her own.

As we have the past few months, we will meet via **ZOOM** again for the June 8th meeting in keeping with Social Distancing recommendations. Members of the Book Club will receive an invitation to the meeting via email that will contain a link to join the **ZOOM** meeting. Please contact Julie Draper at [jadrapr59@gmail.com](mailto:jadraper59@gmail.com) if you would like to participate in the discussion.

Upcoming Books:

July 13

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek

by Kim Michelle Richardson

August 10

Midnight at the Blackbird Café

by Heather Web

September 14

What Alice Forgot

by Liane Moriarty

October 12

The Giver of Stars

by JoJo Moyes

We invite anyone who has read these books to join us for some lively conversation and fun. The CLC Book Club reads a wide variety of books and welcomes all readers along with book suggestions. Please contact Julie Draper or a member of the Book Club for more information.



Community Lutheran Reaches Out To Park Terrace Residents

While the residents of Park Terrace have been shut in their rooms, Community Lutheran has been sharing God’s Love! It began with 28 Easter Cards and 28 kits of supplies and instructions for them to each make three more cards to send their loved ones. The card in the kit to the residents comes from “their neighbors at Community Lutheran Church” The next 28 kits was for Mother’s Day. In mid-May it was Memorial Day cards.

The residents’ cards invite them to worship with us online and it’s really special for them to think that our whole church body is praying for them. It also gives them a nice little decoration for their room. There are even three residents in the Memory Care ward who have been making the cards with the help of their caregivers. Can you imagine what a blessing it is for those families to receive a card from their loved one?

This is turning into a very exciting activity that combines Outreach with Parish Life. Eventually this will evolve into an in person project and a perfect opportunity for crafters and anyone else who would enjoy assisting the seniors in making cards. There’s always an occasion to send a card! Next up: Father’s Day! This ends up being a gift from us that spreads God’s love not only to the residents themselves but to all the households who receive their cards! Thank you to Kathie Pfeiffer and Heidi Wolfson for organizing this project. If you have any questions or want to get involved, contact Heidi Wolfson at 949-459-1828 or wolfsons@mac.com.



AMAZING FACE-Mask Ministry



There are mask making kits available in the CLC office. We hope to make 500+ masks for Lutheran World Relief! Please help us meet our goal!



QUILTING FOR LWR



IF things open up we will plan to resume on Monday, June 22 from 9am -Noon and/or 6pm-8pm. Those on the email list will receive notice. If you are interested in joining us contact Kathy Anderson (970) 776-9074.



YOUNG AT HEART

We plan on resuming in September. If we plan a summer picnic an invitation will go out.



What are Stephen Ministers?

Stephen Ministers are laypeople trained to provide one-on-one, Christ-centered care. They provide care to individuals facing difficult times in life—grief, cancer, divorce, financial difficulties, hospitalization, chronic illness, job loss, disability, loneliness, a spiritual crisis, or other life struggles – sounds familiar in these trying times of the COVID-19 pandemic. Stephen Ministers have a compassionate heart for those who are hurting and are equipped with caring ministry skills learned through an intense training regimen administered by our congregation's Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Minister has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person regularly to listen, care, pray, encourage and offer emotional and spiritual support in a confidential, non-judgmental atmosphere.

Community Lutheran has had a standing presence in Stephen Ministry since the early 2000's. You'd be surprised how many in the congregation have trained to be a Stephen Minister since that time. There is currently a cadre of active Stephen Ministers who generally meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month for what is called Peer Supervision. These sessions include support for each other in our caring ministry relationships and for the opportunity for continuing education on related subjects to make us better Stephen Ministers.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a relationship with a Stephen Minister, please ask any of our Stephen Leaders or Pastor Marty for more information. If Stephen Ministry is of interest to you as an outreach for your time and talents, we encourage you to explore your heart and consider joining us in becoming a Stephen Minister in the future.



Caught Serving...

- For your generosity and dedication to Community Lutheran Church.
- To the musicians, the cantors, the scripture readers, and Rich Morgan for your time, skills, and dedication to our Youtube Video Sunday Worship Services.
- To Everyone who is making "Amazing" Face Masks for Lutheran World Relief.
- To Kathie Pfeiffer and Heidi Wolfson for organizing the Park Terrace card making ministry and to everyone putting together the card making kits.