



# RESURRECTION TIMES

Resurrection Lutheran Church 9812 Hamilton Avenue Huntington Beach, CA 92646  
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## Pastor's Notes from Pastor Brad Stienstra

The Christmas season is the favorite time of year for a lot of us. Thoughtful gifts are exchanged. Extended families gather to observe long-held, cherished traditions like caroling around the neighborhood or attending candlelight services in church to mark the birth of the Savior. Special foods are prepared and eagerly consumed. There might be as many reasons for the primacy of this magical holiday as there are people who celebrate it, but I would like to think that the one most often mentioned is that it is the beautiful reminder we are given of God's abounding generosity. In sending his only Son to take on our human flesh, he shows us that he holds nothing back when it comes to his love for us, and that seems to inspire us to model that behavior in a way that far exceeds what is customary for us.

December gives us one last chance in the calendar year to live generously, to show that we can successfully practice what it means to think beyond the narrow circle of ourselves. It is a time when giving actually seems possible instead of the usual concern we harbor about what we might receive. It is an opportunity for fulfilling the promises we have made to ourselves and to God about trusting in his goodness rather than in the stockpile of resources we can manage to squirrel away.

So I want to urge you to participate in the joy of this special season wholeheartedly. In the spirit of God's unconditional love, don't hold anything back as you prepare to celebrate the wonder of the Christ's coming. Look for every opportunity to bless the lives of those around you in ways big and small. Do your part to help LCR finish the budget year in a strong position by deciding not just to catch up to what you determined back in January would be sufficient to put in the offering plate, but to contribute even more out of the abundance that was showered upon you over the subsequent months so that the congregation might find itself in the enviable position of being able to plan on doing more ministry than it ever thought possible. The first Christmas came as a great surprise, and with your help, this one can be equally marvelous. You can start the new year with the kind of excitement that is pretty rare in the church these days and is certain to rev up the engine of that fortunate person who will be called as your new senior pastor. Merry Christmas!

### Looking Ahead...

Please join us for our Christmas and New Year Services:

<b>Christmas Eve Morning</b>	Single Worship Service	8:30 a.m.
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	Bilingual Japanese/English Candlelight Service	4:00 p.m.
	Family Candlelight Service	6:00 p.m.
	Traditional Candlelight Service	9:00 p.m.
<b>Sunday, December 31</b>	Single Worship Service	10:00 a.m.

**The next newsletter deadline is Friday, December 22—  
Please submit articles to [lcr17@verizon.net](mailto:lcr17@verizon.net)**



## Single Worship Service and Christmas Luncheon

Think of a sleigh ride to Grandma's house...think of the green fern trees dolloped with snow...think of cinnamon sticks wrapped up with ribbon...smell the fragrance of a Christmas comfort meal of Swedish meatballs with mashed potatoes and all the trimmings.

Now imagine you are enjoying this wonderful warm luncheon after the single 10:00 service of lessons and carols on Sunday, December 10 at 11:00 a.m.

Adults \$10, 12 & under \$5, 3 & under free. Please sign up before December 3.

**We invite you to donate toward our Money Tree Christmas fundraiser. Donate any amount of money and you will be entered into a raffle to win a gift. Money raised will then go to one of the following (to be specified by raffle winner): LCR Preschool, Youth or Care Connections Network.**

### Joy's Book Club by Gail Perkins

Joy's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, December 5, at 2:00 in T. Hall. We will discuss books you have read and also enjoy tea and Christmas cookies. You are asked to bring two dozen cookies for our cookie exchange (preferably homemade or from a bakery). A Christmas book titled "Christmas at Little Beach Street Bakery" will be distributed. As only five copies were available, we will have to share. The cost will be \$5 and we will discuss the book at the January 9 meeting. Due to the New Year's holiday, we will meet on the **second** Tuesday rather than the first. At that time, guest author Judith Fabris will be back with available copies of her newly-published book, *Kameleona*.

### Family Promise

The next Family Promise will be held at King of Glory Lutheran Church Tuesday, December 12 through December 14. We hope you will consider signing up to either make a meal for one of those evenings or to be an evening or overnight host. Please sign up between church services on Sunday or contact the church office.



### BCIS Toy Donations

We will be donating toys to fill the shelves of Beach Cities Interfaith Services this Christmas season. If you would like to donate a toy for a child ages 0-14, please drop it off, unwrapped, in the narthex, any time before December 17.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy  
that we feel before our God because of you?  
1 Thessalonians 3:9

*LC Resurrection*

As Thanksgiving approaches, I find myself extraordinarily grateful for having had the opportunity to meet with you to say thank you for your gifts to ELCA World Hunger. In the name of Christ you are changing the world, helping break the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.

You will be in my prayers as we go around the table this Thanksgiving. Thank you for your faithful ministry, passion for justice, and warm hospitality. Thank you for your gifts that strengthen and grow the work of ELCA World Hunger. Thank God for you!

*Happy Thanksgiving*  
*Robin Bron*

### A celebration of life

for Bob Genelle will be held on

**Saturday, December 2, 2017**  
At the Orange Elks Lodge #1475  
211 E Chapman Avenue  
Orange, CA 92966

11:00 a.m. Elk Memorial Service  
and Pastor Brad Stienstra  
In the Lodge Room

Followed by a potluck lunch reception  
In the Crystal Room

# What's New with YOUth?

We have had a great start to this holiday season! The beginning of November brought a movie night in the courtyard! It was a fun kickoff to the fundraising efforts for our summer trip to Houston, for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. The second weekend of November took us to El Camino Pines for the High School Synod Leadership Retreat. A wonderful weekend planned and led by high school youth, to grow in faith and enrich leadership skills. The next weekend, the middle school youth headed to Anaheim for a youth gathering with 300 other middle schoolers! It was great time together where we participated in hotel nightlight, worship sessions, workshops and enjoyed a day at Disneyland!

We had pre-Thanksgiving feasts with all levels of youth, and gave thanks for the blessings in our lives. The end of November brought our intergenerational feast and fall art project, where we created nail and string art pieces for the youth room!

On the horizon...we have the Gingerbread House and Holiday Bingo event on Sunday, December 3, the Holiday Music Service on Sunday, December 10, a Parent's Night Out on Monday, December 18, holiday parties and the High School All-Nighter Friday-Saturday, December 22-23. We hope to see everyone at the Christmas Eve Family Service on Sunday, December 24, at 6pm, too!

Happy Holidays to everyone! Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our ministries!

## Church Council Highlights

Below are highlights from the most recent Church Council Meeting:

- Quotes for a new projector were reported. We will move forward with the current bid and company. More information will be related at the next meeting regarding microphones.
- Council installation will be held on the second Sunday of January.
- Council officers will be elected at the January meeting.
- Below are the results of the air-conditioning survey that was taken at the Congregational Meeting in November.

<u>Option</u>	<u>Rooms</u>	<u>In Favor</u>
1	Sanctuary Only	8%
2	Preschool, Youth Rooms, T. Hall, Bercaw	25%
3	Sanctuary, Preschool, Youth Rooms, T. Hall, Bercaw	38%
4	None of the Above	29%

This information has been presented to Council who has prepared a task force to gather additional information about the installation of air conditioning. Currently, Ed Magee and Steve Cruise will be on the task force. One additional person is needed for the committee. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Tad Trout or the church office.

## Contact Information Update

We are in the process of updating our member information as one more preparation for when a new pastor is hired. Below is a link to the profile update. Please complete only one form for each family if all are living at the same address. Even if you haven't changed a phone number, address, etc., we would still appreciate you taking a few moments to fill one out. You may drop it off in the church office, mail it to the church office (to the attention of Susan), or scan and send it to [lcr17@verizon.net](mailto:lcr17@verizon.net). If you are not an official member, we would still like to have information from you! Thank you so much for your help! If you have any questions, please call Susan in the office at 714.962.5005.

[Click here for form](#)



## News from the Preschool

December is a wonderful month here at RLP. Not only are we preparing for our Christmas program, we are enjoying our Christmas chapels, learning about Christ's birth, learning a new "Fruit of the Spirit" and a new Bible verse, getting ready for our "Happy Birthday Jesus" parties, and making Christmas gifts for the parents. We are very busy! The children are very excited about the holidays and eager to share their "wish lists" with their teachers. It is both a pleasure and a privilege to work here at this preschool. I am blessed by a very supportive preschool board, all of our "friends of the preschool", and an awesome staff.

As many of you know, we are blessed to have Miss Carol Hazen as our on-site music teacher for our preschool. Each morning we begin our day in the courtyard with 2 songs and a prayer. Then all three classes go into Room 3 and sing for 10 to 15 minutes with Miss Carol at the piano. We are the only preschool in the area with a full-time music program and it is due to the time and talents of Miss Carol. We are currently practicing for our annual Preschool Christmas program complete with angels, wisemen, and shepherds. Our program will take place at approximately 9:15 a.m. in the sanctuary on Wednesday, December 13. If you are around, please stop by—you will be glad you did! Our little ones tell the story of Jesus' birth in song—10 songs to be exact! You will experience Christmas in a whole new way when you hear their sweet voices singing about Jesus and His birth.

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### Resurrection Lutheran Scrip List

The Christmas season is upon us. Why not let the scrip team help you with your holiday shopping? Through your scrip purchases, our church averages a 5% profit. Remember, if you don't see a specific gift card on the scrip list, please ask at the scrip table...we may be able to special order it for you. Also, for even faster service, just email Sue Taylor your scrip order in advance. It will be ready and waiting for you to pick up on Sunday. On behalf of the entire scrip team, we wish you a very blessed Christmas and thank you in advance for your continued support.

#### RESTAURANTS

Applebee's \$25  
Carl's Jr. \$10  
Cheesecake Factory \$25  
Chipotle \$10  
Claim Jumper \$25  
Coffee Bean \$25  
Del Taco \$10  
El Pollo Loco \$10  
Islands \$25  
Jack in the Box \$10  
Mimi's Cafe \$25  
Newport Rib \$50  
Olive Garden \$25  
Outback \$25  
Panda Express \$25  
Panera Bread \$10  
Starbucks \$5, \$10, \$25  
Subway \$10  
Taco Bell \$10  
Wendy's \$10

#### FOOD MARKETS

Albertson's \$25, \$100  
Safeway (Vons) \$25, \$100  
Smart & Final \$25, \$100  
Sprouts \$25  
Stater Bros. \$25, \$100  
Whole Foods \$25

#### RETAIL STORES

Ace \$25  
Amazon.com \$25, \$100  
Arco Gas \$50  
Barnes & Noble \$10, \$25  
Bath & Body \$10  
Bed, Bath & Beyond \$25  
Century Theaters  
(Cinemark) \$25  
Crate & Barrel \$25  
CVS Drugstore \$25  
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25  
Gap/Old Navy/Banana  
Republic \$25

Hallmark \$25  
Home Depot \$25, \$100  
Kohl's \$25, \$100  
Lowe's \$25  
Macy's \$25  
Nordstrom \$25, \$100  
Regal Entertainment \$25  
REI Sporting \$25  
Rite Aid Drugstore \$25  
Ross Dress for Less \$25  
Sees \$17  
Shell \$25, \$50  
Talbots \$25  
Target \$10, \$25, \$100  
TJ Maxx/Marshalls/Home  
Goods \$25  
Visa \$50, \$100  
Walgreens \$25  
Wal-Mart / Sam's Club \$10,  
\$25, \$100

# December Birthdays

- 4 Robert Mueller  
Dana Mullin
- 6 Frank Ferrini
- 7 Kris Bashaw
- 8 Grace Butteling
- 9 Max Tripodo
- 16 Mary Brown  
Becky Duggins
- 17 Diana Meinhold  
Judy Giem
- 18 Nancy Mounier  
Jessica Marroquin  
Justin Marroquin
- 19 Bud DeWees
- 21 Stan Justl
- 23 Sean Wiggins
- 24 Pete Mullin
- 25 Debbi Stewert
- 26 Ralph Howarth  
Jane Charlton
- 27 Karen Plantiko  
Chuck Ott
- 28 Tia Payne
- 30 Jamie Buffkin
- 31 Tara Fort  
Avis Nerhus

# December Anniversaries

- 13 Steve and Danielle Hoenig
- 18 Phil and Sue Pohl
- 22 Jack and Yoshiko Chedester
- 29 Don and Christine Williams  
Fran and Karen Ursini
- 31 Michael and Marianne Allen

## Family of the Day

Please keep these families in your prayers:

- 1 Ruth Abendroth
- 2 Bob Achziger
- 3 The Adachi Family
- 4 Marianne Allen
- 5 The Anderson Family
- 6 Jennie Austin
- 7 Mike and Kris Bashaw
- 8 Len and Rita Bekemeyer
- 9 Walter Bentson
- 10 John and Anna Biggs
- 11 Nancy Boren
- 12 The Brandt Family
- 13 Carolyn Bray
- 14 The Bronder Family
- 15 Mary Brown
- 16 The Brunner Family
- 17 The Buffkin Family
- 18 Bev Bullock
- 19 The Butteling Family
- 20 The Ferrini Family
- 21 The Harter-Foist Family
- 22 John and Tara Fort
- 23 Linda and Alex Frias
- 24 Sachiko Fukami
- 25 The Fukuyama Family
- 26 Robert and Linda Gardner
- 27 Jan Genelle
- 28 Judy Giem
- 29 Eric Glicker
- 30 Lovise Glicker
- 31 Aiko Gordillo



*Advent is a Season in which to Celebrate the Messiah's Birth,  
and the Hope it Provides to All who Believe.*

I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life. John 8:12

LSS has been shining the light of Christ's love into the darkness of human pain for over seven decades. Whether it's a bag of groceries, or an embrace of love in service to the Lord, the vulnerable among us find light in their darkness, and hope in their despair. God bless you for your support.

*Merry Christmas*

The Board, Staff and Clients of Lutheran Social Services

***Is your name missing from the December lists?  
If you have a birthday or anniversary in  
the month of December and we have not included  
your name, we would appreciate you bringing it  
to our attention.***



## CCN Updates – December 2017

- The annual **CCN Christmas Party** is **Saturday, December 2 at 5:00pm**. Just a reminder for those who have registered to attend. We look forward to an evening of Christmas cheer!
  - **Game Day!** All are welcome. Bring a favorite game and a snack to share with the group. We meet **Thursday, December 7 from 1:00 – 3:00** in Bercaw Hall, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.
  - **CCN Care Committee** – Interested in supporting your fellow CCN members during times of need with check-in calls, friendly visits, meals or help with errands? Contact the CCN office for more information.
  - **Attention Paper Rollers!** The annual Paper Rollers Christmas Luncheon is Thursday, December 14 at 11:30 at Newport Rib Company. Paper Rollers meetings resume on January 4.
  - **Our next educational seminar will be Thursday, January 18 at 11:30am**. Nancy Ann Horvath will speak about improvisation, the art or act of composing or arranging anything without previous preparation. We will do fun and challenging mind games to keep us all fit in body, mind and spirit! Lunch will be served, but you must pre-register. There is no charge for the seminar or for lunch, and all are welcome. Sign up by calling the CCN office at 714.962.9346.
  - **Chair Yoga!** Join us Monday mornings at 8:50 in Bercaw Hall. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a towel. Cost is \$10 for CCN members and \$12 for nonmembers. Your fifth class is free! Yoga classes will not meet 12/25 and 1/1.
- Nordic Pole Walking Club** – Did you attend the pole walking seminar? Want to use your poles and walk with others? Join us as we walk through Edison Park. We meet Saturday mornings at 9:30 at the picnic tables. Edison Park is at 21377 Magnolia Avenue, Huntington Beach.

### *Carolyn's Corner December/January Events!*

#### *Winter Wonderland Open House*

Sunday, December 17  
10:00am – 12:00pm

Tour the ultimate Christmas Home!  
Join us at LCR member Maggie Caruso's  
home to view the incredible Christmas  
displays and enjoy coffee and treats.

1735 New Hampshire Drive, Costa Mesa

#### *Bowers Museum Exhibit*

Endurance: the Antarctic Legacy of  
Sir Ernest Shackleton and Frank Hurley

Tuesday, January 9

Lunch at 11:30 at the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Market  
201 E 4th St, Santa Ana, CA 92701  
Tour at 1:00 at Bowers Museum  
2002 N Main St, Santa Ana, CA 92706

Carpools meet at 11:00 at  
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection  
9812 Hamilton Avenue, Huntington Beach



CARE CONNECTIONS NETWORK  
WISHES YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!  
MAY THIS SEASON BE FILLED  
WITH PEACE, LOVE AND JOY.

