

## Worship

Sunday Morning  
Holy Communion  
At 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

## Education

Sunday Morning -

9:15 a.m. for All Ages;

Children 3 & up -

Meet upstairs in their  
classrooms

Junior High Youth:

Youth Room

Adults - Fellowship

Hall

## Nursery

Nursery is available for  
children who are infants  
through 4 years of age  
during Sunday morning  
worship and the Sunday  
School hour.

## Office

Monday - Thursday from  
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday from

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

210-822-3394

office@clcah.org



*Through God's Grace  
All are welcome as we joyfully,  
Receive...to Give  
Learn...to Serve  
and Worship...to Grow.*

April 2018

## From the Pastor . . . Easter Hope

Natalie Sleeth's beautiful gift for melding music and lyrics resulted in her gorgeous and compelling song, "Hymn of Promise." It's a powerful reminder of the hope of Easter, that out of death comes new life. Here are the lyrics, but I encourage you to look up Victor Chan's arrangement of it on YouTube:

In the bulb there is a flower;  
in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise:  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,  
seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;  
in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing;  
in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection;  
at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

## Groups

### Angelicus Choir

Every Wednesday

5:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

### Book Club

First Tuesday

6:45 p.m. - Location TBA

### Dominos Group

First Thursday

9:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

### First Thursday Lunch

First Thursday

12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

### Gloria Choir

Every Wednesday

6:15 p.m. - Sanctuary

### Healing Prayer

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.

Rode Prayer Chapel

### Joseph's Sons

First Monday

6:30 p.m. - Location TBA

### Lydia Circle

Second Monday

6:30 p.m. - Primrose House

### Men's Breakfast

Second Tuesday

7:00 a.m. - Bill Miller BBQ

### Mulligans

Second Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Hoffbrau

### Quilters

Every Tuesday

9:00 a.m. - Primrose House

### Sanctuary Choir

Every Wednesday

7:05 p.m. - Sanctuary

### Soul Sisters

First Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Julian's

Other groups meet during the year. For information, please contact our church office or visit our website [www.clcah.org](http://www.clcah.org).

## Pastor....(Continued from page 1)

“*Something God alone can see ...*” So often in sermons I speak of how Jesus really sees people, folks that you and I and the rest of the world overlook, you and I, ourselves, in our darkest moments when faced with some limitation or strife, even in nature and wildlife. Even then there are things we find fierce and unfathomable that God calls beautiful. God’s ways of seeing are not our ways of seeing. God’s ability to find hope never fails. Most crucially, that ability to see goodness in us no matter our failings, that ability to find a way forward to unite with us once again, to proclaim us loved and forgiven, that ability to bring comfort when the darkness threatens to overwhelm. Our God sees the truth of our lives; our God sees the truth of who we are and what we have endured. The promise of Easter is that we hold it ALL together; through death and sorrow comes new life. When we live into this promise, one of the gifts we are given is that we begin to see the way God sees, and when we do, well . . . it’s something to behold.

- Pastor Leslie

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## Flowering Cross

Christ Lutheran bursts into color with flowering crosses on the church lawn on Easter morning. The cross in the Christian Faith is a reminder of Jesus’ sacrifice – that we may have everlasting life. The flowering cross is an especially striking and beautiful way to symbolize the new life that emerges on Easter morning after Jesus’ death on Good Friday.

The rough-hewn wood symbolizes the heavy cross on which Jesus died. The contrast between the starkly bare cross and the colorful transformation when it is adorned with living flowers is a dramatic, visual representation of the new life we celebrate.

On Easter morning, we ask you to bring cut flowers for each member in your family (and more if you’d like to share) to place on our flowering crosses. Place your flowers on the cross as you enter for worship. For our visitors (and those of us who forget), we’ll have extra flowers.

# Easter Services

**Easter Services** will celebrate our Lord's triumph over death through resurrection on Sunday, April 1 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! The services are nearly identical, although the 10:30 a.m. service will include a children's message. Pastor Leslie will preach at both services, and both will include Holy Communion. Don't forget to bring flowers to place on the Resurrection Cross! An Easter Breakfast will be offered for all ages and Easter Egg Hunts for toddlers through 5th grade will be held between services at 9:15 a.m. Please join us as we celebrate!

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# Easter Breakfast

Please join us for our annual Easter Morning Breakfast at 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Clara Tenorio will prepare breakfast tacos, fruits, pastries, and breakfast casseroles. There will be fellowship for all and an Easter Egg Hunt for children up to fifth grade. "Hop on over" for a morning of food, fellowship and fun!

If you are available to help with the set-up and take-down of the decorations, food, etc., or if you are an expert at hiding Easter eggs, we need you! Please call the church office if you can help.

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# Thank You, Quilters!

You may have seen the beautiful quilts on display in the Sanctuary on Sunday, March 25. The quilters of Christ Lutheran Church have been working for a year, lovingly stitching beautiful, soft quilts to send warmth and comfort to those who need it. It all starts with the fabric our members donate to this cause. Rachel Jackson and Becky Richard cut squares and rectangles. Charleen Richardson, Lucy Mathesen, Grace Carbajal, Alice Anderson, and Lita Chambers, create and sew tops and backs. Then, Marty Halstead sews the tops, batting, and backing together. The last step is tying all three layers – and Kitty McCullough and Peggy Carmody do a fantastic job. Lorraine Lancaster, Gloria Meyer, Delores Cleveland, Priscilla Loker, and Charleen hand-stitch quilts for a fee and the fees are used to support this ministry.

Boxes for transporting the quilts are still needed. Please bring any small to medium size boxes to the church office (a little bigger than the boxes that reams of paper come in.) The quilts will be taken to TLU on Wednesday, April 4, and from there, they will be shipped to a warehouse in Baltimore until distributed as needed. If you are able to help transport boxes of quilts in your car, please contact Lucy Mathesen

## Praises To

- *Carole Parker for organizing the Blood Drive on March 4.*
- *All who donated blood at our Blood Drive.*
- *The impressive gifts of the youth who participated in the talent show and to the parents for helping prepare food.*

## *Faith University – April & May*

April 8 & 15 – Dr. Michael Fischer, the Janet S. Dicke Professor in Public Humanities at Trinity University and a member at CLC, will present two special Faith University classes exploring conflict: what causes conflict, what prolongs it, and what, if anything, resolves it.

April 22 & 29 – As some of you may know and others of you will learn, Pastor Leslie has a love of modern Americana music. Over the years, she has discovered that many of these Americana artists, whose music is secular, come from strong religious upbringings that spill over into their music in glorious and prophetic ways. Together we will explore these artists' take on the gospel and consider what we might learn from them.

May 6, 13, & 20 – Dr. Dan Long, Professor at St. Mary's and our beloved Minister of Music, returns to Faith U to lead a course on sin and redemption in Johnny Cash's music.

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## *Lucy Circle ... Reading, Chatting, Sharing Stories*

On the third Sunday of each month during the school year, the Lucies gather in the Parlor at 9:15 a.m. to discuss a pre-assigned essay or short story. It's casual, fun and often enlightening to hear each other's stories and share points of view. This month, we'll meet on April 15 to discuss a lighthearted essay about the anxiety of a young girl growing into a woman's body – by Nora Ephron. We invite all CLC women to grab a cup of coffee and join us. You can download the essay at <https://genius.com/Nora-ephron-a-few-words-about-breasts-annotated>.

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## *Women's Retreat - The Power of We*

This spring the women of Christ Lutheran are once again invited to gather at the beach in Port Aransas. This year's retreat will be led by Jennifer Dunn and Heather Rosenquist. Under their leadership, we will explore the ways women support each other in day-to-day life and become more powerful as a "we" rather than just a "me." They have a variety of activities and learning experiences planned for us. Many thanks to them for sharing their gifts with us. We will stay at the Mustang Island Retreat Center, a ministry of the Episcopal Church. The cost for the weekend is \$250 for double occupancy rooms and most meals are covered. Registration is now due. You can pick up a registration packet in the CrossWay or go online to download the forms and make your payment. There are still openings; come join us!

# *Building an Inclusive Church*

Reconciling Works is offering a “Building an Inclusive Church” toolkit training at Christ Lutheran on May 11-12. Using the *Building an Inclusive Church Toolkit*, this workshop will provide the tools that empower congregations to create a grace-filled, respectful process towards becoming Open and Affirming, a process uniquely designed for each congregation’s specific needs. This workshop will provide in-depth and hands-on training in the tools of graceful engagement, one-to-one conversations, storytelling, framing and more. These tools are also powerfully useful in many other contexts. This training will hone your skills and give you knowledge about how to help congregations through those tough conversations toward a fully inclusive church. If you would like to attend the workshop, please call or email the church office, and we will get you registered.

The schedule for the training is as follows:

Friday May 11 5:30 p.m. Registration

6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Training

Saturday May 12 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Training

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## *Synod Assembly*

Synod Assembly is fast approaching. It will be held May 4-6 this year in San Marcos at the Embassy Suites. The theme of the Assembly is Seeds of Hope: Beyond All Imagination, which will be clearly evident in the worship services, speakers, and offering. The Assembly offering will support the ELCA Fund for Leaders program through the ELCA Campaign.

Voting members, both clergy and lay, will gather from all across our synod to represent their congregations in making decisions about the issues facing the larger church, including electing a new bishop to serve our synod. We are very grateful to Blossom and Bobby Stobb, Sarah Loyd, and Brandon Albrecht for agreeing to serve as our lay voting members at Synod Assembly. Of course, Pastor Leslie will be there as well. If you would like to learn more about what issues will be discussed and voted on at Synod Assembly, please visit the Synod's website at [www.swtsynod.org](http://www.swtsynod.org).

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## *CLC Book Club*

At our March meeting we had a full house and plenty of good discussion. Our next meeting will be April 3 in Primrose House at 6:45 p.m., and our book is *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Sanders. Lisa Tice will lead the discussion. A blurb from the book says, "From the seed of historical truth, George Saunders spins an unforgettable story of familial love and loss that breaks free of its realistic, historical framework into a thrilling, supernatural realm both hilarious and terrifying."

In May, we will read *The Woman in the Window* by A.J Finn. If you like murder mysteries that keep you guessing, this is for you. For more information about the group, contact Edna Robbins.

# CLCAH presents "Splash Canyon" Vacation Bible School (VBS)!

When: July 9-13; 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- Registration begins April 1. Forms can be found in the CrossWay or on the youth bulletin board outside the parlor.
- Register Online!
- Cost: \$40 per child
- Cash or check (enclose in envelope with registration form; make checks payable to CLCAH)
- Payment due by June 30



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## First Communion - 5th Graders

I am excited to announce that it is time for our 5<sup>th</sup> graders to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. This event will be held during the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, April 29, 2018.

We will hold a First Communion class on Sunday, April 15, and meet in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon for lunch. After our lesson, we will bake bread together and head to Clay Casa to prepare dinner plates and chalices for the big day. We are asking the families to help defray the cost of the experience with a suggested donation of \$15 if possible.

Please let me know if there are any questions! I am so excited for your child. Our congregation is blessed by each of these children.

RSVP to Tessa Baden so we can plan for you!  
Text: 512-775-0210 or email: [tessa@clcah.org](mailto:tessa@clcah.org)

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## Sunday School

We are in need of volunteers to help support our Sunday School programming. Please let me know if you are interested in serving in this way!

April 1: EASTER! Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt!

Each class will be planned in the best interest of our children. Lessons will use real life examples and connections to help our children live through Christ. Holy Moly, Godly Play, and Just Us Little Guys curriculums provide ideas and materials.

## *Middle School Ministry - FX3*

Join us on Sunday, April 15 for fellowship, games, dinner, and a Bible Study (we break into small groups for our Bible Study). We begin at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and end our time together at 7:00 p.m. Friends are encouraged to come! We hope to see you there!

## *Confirmation News*

- Confirmation Large Group will meet for the last time this year on Wednesday, April 4. We will begin with Pizza Feast at 5:30 p.m. and have learning time from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Confirmation Sunday (May 22) is fast approaching ...
  - Reminder: All 8<sup>th</sup> graders are required to attend ALL Holy Week services (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday). If you can't be at CLC, no worries. Just bring back a bulletin from where you went to church instead and turn it in to Pastor Leslie or Ms. Carrie.
  - Our Confirmation Mini-Retreat will be held April 29 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. During this time, the youth will help to plan and create their worship service for Confirmation Sunday.
  - In addition, all 8<sup>th</sup> graders need to schedule an appointment with Pastor Leslie in order to begin working on their Faith Statements for Confirmation Sunday. Please email her at [leslie@clcah.org](mailto:leslie@clcah.org) to schedule. The deadline to meet with her is Thursday, May 3, to give confirmands enough time to work on their Statements prior to May 22.

## *The Light: Senior High Youth Ministry*

The Senior High Youth will be gearing up for our Stockholders' Campaign, which will kick off in the Crossway on Sunday, April 8, after the 8:00 a.m. and the 10:30 a.m. worship services.

April Calendar:

Sunday, April 1: Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 8: Stockholders Campaign Kicks Off

Sunday, April 15: Stockholders Campaign (The Light Fellowship Time at 5:00 p.m.)

Sunday, April 22: Stockholders Campaign

Sunday, April 29: Stockholders Campaign (CLC Fiesta at 5:00 p.m.)

## *Save the Dates for Summer 2018!*

Camp Chrysalis: Sunday, June 10 through Friday, June 15 (Woohoo! Cooler weather!)

ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston: Wednesday, June 27 through Sunday, July 1

VBS: Monday, July 10 through July 14

# *Become a Stockholder: Sponsor Our Youth to Attend the ELCA Youth Gathering*

Our youth will be traveling this summer to Houston, Texas, for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering! The senior high youth and their chaperones will depart for Houston on Wednesday, June 27 and return on Sunday, July 1. The Gathering will take place in three main venues: NRG Stadium, NRG Arena, and the NRG Center, located in downtown Houston. The youth will gather with over 33,000 peers to have fun learning about global issues, hear from speakers around the world, gather for worship, and work together in service to better the lives of those in Houston. Please become a stockholder to support their travel, lodging, and registration for the gathering.

Each stock share is a ticket to our Stockholder's Banquet, which will be held on Sunday, August 26, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Please mark your calendars now for this special time for our youth to serve you and to thank you for all your prayers and your investment in each of them. The senior high will share their story during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Following worship, the youth will serve you a home-cooked meal, show a slideshow of their adventure, and answer questions about their trip.

Senior high youth attending this year are Emily Giesecke, Matthew Diana, William Hall, Griffin Hall, Ander Escudero, Beau Perez, Stella Schwarze, Taylor Dettmer, Daisha Tenorio, and Cisco Tenorio. Chaperones for the trip are Troy Hall, Brandon Albrecht, and Jeff and Carrie Jowers.

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## *Electronic Giving Sunday*

On any given Sunday, 10% of our offerings come from electronic giving. The Stewardship Team has set a goal of doubling the number of electronic givers for the 2018 campaign. On April 15, we will have people available in the Crossway to help our members navigate the process of giving electronically.

Electronic giving is simple and easy and gives you complete control of your giving. Electronic giving has many benefits. For the church, it provides a consistent offering amount per week. So even when the member can't make it to church or forgets the checkbook, the pledge is received. For the giver, it simplifies the giving process, allowing you to forgo writing checks and to dispense with the offering envelopes. Also, based on your method of giving, you can use your credit card to earn points on your pledge (don't worry, we won't consider it an indulgence!)

(Continued on the top of page 9)

### **Electronic Giving is Easy**

To give today via PayPal use the camera on your smart phone on the QR code below

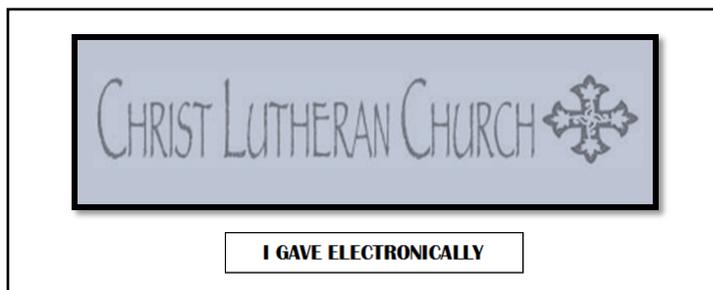


To set up a recurring payment without using PayPal contact the church office at 210-822-3394.

## *Electronic Giving...* (Continued from page 8)

Many electronic givers miss the physical act of placing something in the offering plate. Starting April 15 you will see an electronic giving chit that you can place in the plate. (See examples on page 8 and below.)

We hope that you will consider switching your pledge to a recurring electronic pledge for 2018.



## *Mission and Outreach*

I am excited to be leading our Mission and Outreach Team and thankful for all of you who are so committed to the outreach ministry of Christ Lutheran Church. There's a lot to share about what has been happening in this area. First, our Lenten Adult Sunday School, Faith University, has been highlighting outreach ministries of our newly formed Mission and Outreach Team. Hopefully you have been able to attend one or more of these programs. Thank you for your participation. We look forward to working in the areas of: LGBTQ welcoming, interracial church partnership, immigration, and the San Antonio Sponsoring Committee. I will keep you apprised of developments in these areas and how you can be involved.

Also, coming up as part of our Stewardship campaign this year, volunteer opportunities will be available for the following. I hope that you will choose at least one of these opportunities to give of your time and talent:

1. On Saturday, May 5, from 11:30 – 1:30, we will be volunteering with St. Vinny's Bistro to serve a meal at the Haven for Hope Courtyard.
2. On Monday, June 4, from 6:30-7:30 pm, we will be helping Snack Pack 4 Kids stock for the summer.
3. In July, we will be assisting our VBS program, which meets during the week of 9-13.
4. Finally, in August, we will create prayer garlands that we will display to promote awareness for immigration issues, and we will provide backpacks to the Interfaith Welcome Coalition for those families seeking asylum in the U.S.

Thank you again for being an instrument of God's love in this world. If you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to contact me!

Blessings, Lisa Diana  
Minister of Mission & Outreach  
[lisa@clcah.org](mailto:lisa@clcah.org)

# 2018 Stewardship Campaign: “Receive to Give”

## Recognizing the gifts we have *received* and the opportunity to *give* for the future

April 22 is Stewardship Sunday, and in early April you will be receiving your stewardship pledge packets in the mail. You will receive two stewardship cards: one for your annual pledge and one for you to pledge your time to an outreach activity. I encourage you to read the *Proclaimer* article from Lisa Diana (page 9) on those outreach opportunities to see the details of what is being planned.

In lieu of a letter to go with those cards, the team will be sending a simple visual that highlights the strengths of our church today and the focus of our stewardship campaign for tomorrow. In essence, what we have today is what we all “receive” from the stewardship of the past, and what we seek for the future is what we “give” to make that a reality.

The team recognized the strengths we have received as:

- Our welcoming atmosphere. We are friendly in a deeply authentic way, and we offer a radical welcome to all.
- Lay participation in all areas of congregational life from leadership to service. People are willing to step up and help out.
- Being outreach minded, knowing that we do not simply exist for ourselves but for the sake of the world.
- Incorporating art into our spiritual life, through banners, special music, bulletin covers, poetry, and more.
- Ministering to people in all stages of life. We have strong ministry opportunities for almost every age at CLC.

As we thought about the needs of our congregation and what we would see as the benefits of a robust stewardship campaign, we agreed that future should include giving to:

- Expanded efforts in community outreach, building on what we have begun.
- Funding a second, part-time, pastor, allowing us to grow our various ministries
- Renovation of the parish fellowship hall to enhance this place from which we draw our inspiration and nurture for our congregants, our Day School, and our community.

As you prayerfully consider your stewardship pledge we hope that you share our excitement about what we have today and our vision for the future and that you will choose to make a commitment to support that effort. Choosing to pledge for the first time or increasing your current pledge can make that happen.

- Joe Diana, Stewardship Team Chair & Congregation Vice-President

# Companionate Ministry

For almost four years, our congregation has provided financial, social and spiritual support to our friend Brenda and her family after they transitioned out of Haven for Hope. It has been a long struggle, with moments of celebration and times of despair. But to date, there's this positive outcome: they have remained in stable housing, three of the children are in school, Brenda has a part-time job where she is valued, and they continue to work to overcome the obstacles. Thanks to the support of this congregation, we have helped her in all of these facets of growth and change.

Now, sadly, the fund that we utilized to help Brenda with rent, telephone, car insurance, and emergencies, has dried up, as we knew it would. We have worked for months to prepare Brenda for this eventuality. The future will be difficult without our financial assistance, but we want to continue lending her the hand of friendship and support in the ways we are able.

You will hear from us now and then with appeals, i.e., we intend to help Brenda's four little ones with back to school supplies, shoes and clothing. We will include her in our Christmas adopt-a-family campaign. We will invite them to church and Sunday School. We hope to help them attend VBS this summer.

We will continue to periodically collect paper products, cleaning supplies and non-perishable foods and we ask for your help in doing so, to help defray the high cost of living.

Many thanks to the members of our committee who have faithfully stayed connected to Brenda and worked to find resources for her and her family: Rhonda Barsalou, Beth Callaghan, Willie Hagen, Mary Lynn Logan and Blossom Stobb. I, too, have been with Brenda since the beginning, and hope to maintain a relationship with her and her family. Thanks also to Lisa Diana, who has retired from the committee, to Pastor Leslie who has supported this ministry, and to all who have so generously offered your dollars, gifts and prayers.

- Jan Norris

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# Tricentennial Bells

The River City Ringers are celebrating the Alamo City's 300th year with pieces that pay homage to the strong Mexican influence that the city enjoys. With pieces titled Fiesta and Vivace con Spirito, the flurry of bells and Latino flavor will entrance you, and jazz favorites like Take Five will have you dancing in your seat. Come celebrate San Antonio's bright future with us. The Ringers will perform at Christ Lutheran on May 18 at 7:00 p.m.

## Staff

*The Rev. Leslie Price*  
Pastor

*Dana Ferrero*  
Director of Day School

*Becky Richard*  
Office Manager/Accountant

*Linda Sulser*  
Administrative Assistant

*Dr. Dan Long*  
Director of Music Ministry

*Matthew Goodson*  
Organist

*Sharon Wiedemann*  
Youth Choir Accompanist

*Lisa Diana*  
Minister of Mission & Outreach

*Tessa Baden*  
Children's Ministry Director

*Carrie Jowers*  
Jr. & Sr. High Director

*Brandon Albrecht*  
Asst. to Jr. & Sr. High Director

*Clara Tenorio*  
Church "Keeper" &  
Nursery Attendant

*Sam Tenorio*  
Custodian

*Ryan Loyd*  
Sound Tech

## Congregation Council

*Robb Decker, President*

*Joe Diana, Vice Pres.*

*Sharon Wiedemann,*  
Treasurer

*Blossom Stobb, Secretary*

*Sarah Loyd, Trustee*

*Chris Fidao, Trustee*

*Carolyn Dufelmeier, Trustee*

*Pastor Leslie Price*

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Please join us for our annual

## FIESTA AT CLC

**Sunday**

**April 29th**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Dinner served at 5:45**

**p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall and**

**Courtyard**

If you are able to help with the decorations, food prep, set-up, and take-down, please call Elizabeth Diggs at 210-822-7952 or 210-313-4939 or email [diggsqp@aol.com](mailto:diggsqp@aol.com).

**¡Viva Fiesta!**