



# Christ • Community • Connect

Weekly Newsletter — January 11, 2017

## New This Week

### OUTREACH TO MUSLIMS

Nader Hanna is our featured speaker at this month's Breakfast Bible Study at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach on **Saturday, January 13**. He will be discussing his work with Kingdom Life Ministries and outreach to Muslims. It is timely for Christians to know more about Muslims and Islam. The Holy Spirit is working powerfully among them and the number who are coming to Christ is unprecedented in history. We want everyone to hear what God is doing and to partner with Him to fulfill the Great Commission. Breakfast is served in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 am followed by the presentation at 9:00 am.

### SENIOR FEST

CUI will be hosting our Senior Fest on **Saturday, January 20**, and all are invited. Our presenter is Dr. Jeff Held, Music Professor and Assistant Dean, School of Arts and Sciences. His presentation is titled "Singing the Faith: Why Lutherans Love Music ." Using personal anecdotes, historical context, scriptural inspiration, audience participation, and music, Jeff will guide you to a closer connection with the great songs of the church . To register visit [cui.edu/seniorfest](http://cui.edu/seniorfest) or call Amy Bramson at 949-214-3180.

### REV. DR. GREGORY SELTZ TO SPEAK AT THREE RIVERS RETREAT

Dr. Gregory Seltz will be the main retreat leader at the 22nd annual Interim Ministry Retreat at St. Anthony's Retreat Center in Three Rivers, California. The dates are **January 22-24**. One of his topics will be a discussion of his paper on "LCMS Pastors and Churches for 21st Multi-Cultural Mission Work." Though the retreat was originally planned as continuing education for Interim Pastors many others have joined us for this educational experience, including circuit visitors, settled pastors and others interested in Interim Ministry. There is still time to register for the retreat, as spaces are available. Complete information and registration is available on the PSD [website](#). Consider joining a group of dedicated pastors who will gather to learn and to fellowship together. If you have any questions you may contact Rev. Dr. Richard Paul at 714-315-9938 or at [pastor@faithhb.org](mailto:pastor@faithhb.org).

### MINISTRY PARTNER LUNCH

Presented by LCEF, Ministry Partner Lunches are ideal for pastors, worship leaders, music ministers, business managers, LCEF Advocates or anyone interested in learning more about ministry partnerships. After the catered lunch, enjoy Presenters: Blake Flattley of CommunionArts; Aaron Lucas, PSD Director of Communications & Technical Supports; and Tyler Fewins, LCEF District Vice President. Read about our presenters on our [website](#). Join us on **Wednesday, February 28** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Orange or on **Wednesday, March 14** at Desert Foothills Lutheran Church, Scottsdale. Lunches are held from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you at one of these locations. There is no charge for these lunches. Please RSVP to Gail Kanneg at 949-854-3232 ext. 205 or at [gail.kanneg@lcef.org](mailto:gail.kanneg@lcef.org).

## LAY LEADERSHIP REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

The theme this year for our regional workshops is "eschatology/end times" as requested by participants at our 2017 workshops. Thank you to each of our Pastors for hosting and presenting! Deacons, PMAs, Pastors and those interested in furthering their Biblical knowledge are invited to attend. Fee for the day is \$35.00 if you register in advance, at the door it is \$45.00. Checks can be made out to Pacific Southwest District, in the memo section write "Regional Workshop." The fee includes a continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and of course lots of coffee! You may attend any regional workshop you want that works with your schedule. All workshops will start with sign in/fellowship at 8:30 am and begin promptly at 9:00 am. We should finish around 3:30 pm. This is a great way to touch base with other servants in the District while expanding your knowledge about eschatology. Certificates of completion will be provided at the end of the day. The workshops have become a favorite activity of Lay Leadership in the District for the past four years...I hope you will join us! For questions, contact Victoria Waufle, Director Lay Ministry 760-419-8898 or via email at [vwaufle@aol.com](mailto:vwaufle@aol.com).

<b>February 3</b>	Ascension Lutheran Church, Torrance	Pastor Michael Abram, presenting
<b>March 3</b>	Crown of Life Lutheran Church, Sun City West	Pastor Phill Robbins, presenting
<b>March 10</b>	St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange	Pastor Tim Klinkenberg, presenting
<b>March 24</b>	Our Savior Lutheran Church, Arcadia	Pastor Mark Demel, presenting

## BALTIC SEA TOUR

Cruise on the Norwegian Breakaway to Copenhagen, Tallinn, St. Petersburg, Helsinki and Stockholm with Guest Speaker, Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, **September 22 – October 2**. Contact Host Deaconess Doris Snashall for more information at [snashall@pacbell.net](mailto:snashall@pacbell.net).

## LIFE MINISTRY NEWS

Rev. Bill Baker, Life Ministry Coordinator, 949-854-3232 ext. 225, [lifeministries@psd-lcms.org](mailto:lifeministries@psd-lcms.org)

Facebook: PSD Life Ministry; Website: [LCMS.org/life](http://LCMS.org/life)

Happy New Year! January marks a new year and often hope of a renewed beginning and most always a celebration of our physical and Spiritual lives as we look forward to possibilities in Christ. Sadly, January also marks a grim reminder that we, as a culture, are still struggling to restore a culture of life and the value of life, all life, in our community, our nation and around the world. January 19 is the day of the National Walk for Life in Washington DC. Local marches are being held in Los Angeles and San Diego on January 20. Many congregations are holding events and raising awareness within their own ministry context. I want to encourage all of us to do more this year to uphold the Sanctity of Life. First of all, pray: Prayer is a powerful tool and can do so much for ourselves and our communities. Second, Study: Take time to educate ourselves about the many facets of Life Ministry and how it affects everyone. Raise our awareness regarding the topics and be prepared to join in conversation. Third, Look Around: Train your eyes to see what is around you, and who is around you. Fourth, Get Involved: Be intentional about making a difference. Simple things such as such as volunteering to support pregnancy centers in your community such as fundraising, diaper drives, knitting baby hats and booties, and many other ways. Encourage them in their work by letting them know you care. Getting involved with Hospice groups that are favorable with the end of life positions that are Scripturally sound. Use their resources to educate the members of your families and your congregations. Host a Bible Study about Life and share what you have learned with others. Join in or establish through your church a Healing Ministry for those who are struggling with the impact of decisions made and now regretted. Most of all, Encourage your Pastor to host a Sanctity of Life Sunday and take advantage of the many resources available through Lutherans For Life and LCMS Life Ministry. Please let us know What you may be doing so that we can pray for you, promote your work, and assist you if we can. And if you are looking for where to start, we are here to help.

## HOUSES OF WORSHIP & FEMA DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that houses of worship are now eligible for disaster assistance. See the announcement [here](#). See the new policy guide [here](#). In the forward to the new policy guide, FEMA cites Trinity Lutheran Church of Columbia v. Comer as its reason for changing the guidance "so as not to exclude houses of worship from eligibility for FEMA aid on the basis of the religious character or primarily religious use of the facility."

## ONE MINUTE

**Ron Rehner, Counselor for Church Workers; 949-433-5182; [ron@ronrehner.com](mailto:ron@ronrehner.com)**

"Mothers Who Can't Love" As a girl, she became a child "parent" to her mother who could never do anything. The girl had to make her own lunches, run the bath for her mother at night, and tuck her into bed. Her mother could not live without the help of her daughter. A second girl was constantly controlled and criticized by her mother. Her opinions were dismissed, and her creativity was squashed. A third girl would sneak out of her bedroom window to stay overnight with her boyfriend. Her mother never knew or never cared. There were never any rules placed on her. A fourth girl was sexually abused by her mother's boyfriend. When she told her mom, her mom said it was probably her daughter's own fault. All of these women grew up to be church workers. They have been carrying around with them deep hidden emotional scars and shame. As adults, they have struggled with self-esteem issues, troubled relationships, and often depression and anxiety. They represent many church workers who had mothers who could not love appropriately. Each was raised by a mother who falls into defined categories: disengaged, enmeshed, super controlling, hyper-critical, abusive or sadistic. Many of them know the pain of keeping the secrecy of "silence" about what went on in their homes. They still carry the notion that it was their own fault that they could not stop their mothers from behaving like they did. Dr. Susan Forward, a psychologist who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of these wounded daughters, has written an exceptional book entitled "Mothers Who Can't Love." She writes that while many mothers do a good to great job loving their daughters, nurturing and comforting them, guiding them, and keeping them safe, there are some mothers who can't love; they control or criticize relentlessly, or disengage by drinking, drug use or mental illness, or they blur all of the boundaries in the relationship. Some of these mothers are narcissistic and self-centered so their daughters cannot develop their own "self." While the first half of her book gives many real examples of women who struggle with their mothers, the second part gives many prescriptions to regain self-esteem, manage their anger, ways to focus on their own needs, and how to reclaim their beliefs and values different from their mothers. Dr Forward offers ways to release the secrets and to tell the truth. She offers healing and growth to many women injured by their mothers while she praises mothers who love, nurture, teach and protect their daughters.

## TRAINING FOR INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTRY

Thinking about serving as an Intentional Interim now or in the future? The LCMS Council of Presidents standard for training and credentialing is via the National Association of Lutheran Interim Pastors (NALIP) or the pan-denominational Interim Ministry Network (IMN). The NALIP training includes two, on-site weeks separated by a fieldwork experience of about 6 months. Training sites across the nation and course description are listed on the NALIP [website](#). The training provides for and will also benefit deacons, deaconesses and lay ministry leaders who are working in the area of transition ministries in some districts. The next approaching opportunity for training is at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, beginning **April 9, 2018**. See also the Interim Ministry Conference—LCMS [website](#) for some descriptions of this ministry. You may wish to contact Richard Paul, PSD Director of Interim Ministry at [pastor@faithhb.org](mailto:pastor@faithhb.org) or Peter Alexander, NALIP Dean of Faculty, at [pca676@gmail.com](mailto:pca676@gmail.com) if you would like additional information.

# District Convention Information

The PSD Convention will take place **June 27-29, 2018** in Irvine, CA. This is a very important convention as we will elect a new District President as well as regional ordained, commissioned, and lay positions on the Board of Directors and other crucial roles for our District.



## NOMINATIONS

ALL Congregations are encouraged to make nominations for the next triennial. A list of suggested nominees and the required nomination forms can be found on our [Convention website](#).

Submit nominations for District President to:

Rev. Dr. Richard Burkey, PSD Secretary  
Christ Lutheran Church  
7929 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa, CA 91942

Submit all other nominations to:

Rev. Dr. Mike Gibson  
Pacific Southwest District Office  
1540 Concordia Drive East, Irvine, CA 92612

## OVERTURES

Also on the District's website you will find the information on Overture Format and instructions. If you have any questions, please call the President's Office at 949-854-3232.

## PASTORAL AND LAY DELEGATES

Each rostered congregation in the PSD is entitled, and encouraged, to send one eligible Pastor and one Layperson as Voting Delegates. You are also asked to select an Alternate Lay Delegate who would serve in the place of the delegate if, at the time of the Convention, the elected delegate is unable to serve.

All Pastors are expected to attend their District Convention, even if they are not a voting Pastoral Delegate. They are considered Advisory Delegates. Rostered teachers, DCE's and other commissioned ministers cannot serve as voting delegates. They are Advisory Delegates and are encouraged to attend. Advisory Delegates have the ability to speak to the Convention and express their opinion on matters brought before the Convention.

***The submission deadline for nominations, overtures and Voting Delegates is February 11.***

## REGISTRATION

Registration is now open on the [Convention Website](#).

Pastors = Register Voting Pastor    Lay/Alternate Delegates = Register Lay Delegate  
Non-Voting Pastors = Advisory Delegates

Lay Delegates, be sure to follow the instructions on completing your "Certification of Credential" form so that your registration came be complete.

# Youth Ministry News



## JR. HIGH DYG

This year we are at a new location!

The Jr High DYG will be at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Educational Center. This center has it all: worship space, activity space, great hiking and camp activities, and sleeping accommodations. All this over two nights, and three

days for just \$130 if you register by February 5. (\$150 Late Registration by February 26). The theme for this year's Jr. High Gathering is "Follow" based on three lessons from the books of Daniel and Esther. Three speakers will walk us through three narratives, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from Daniel 3; Daniel and the Lion's Den from Daniel 6; and Esther's story from Esther 1-8. All three narratives will center on the verse Daniel 3:29b "There is no other god who is able to rescue in this way." Our Jr High kids are being led in so many different directions in this day and age, by peers, our culture, even family, they are being told to "follow" so many different things, people and beliefs. This year our three speakers will help our kids discern who they are following, and who they are allowing themselves to be led by, and will learn why they should be following the One True God rather than things that don't last. As we have done last couple years, we will provide breakout sessions along with time for your group to meet together to process their learning or walk through additional teaching you provide. Additional free time is planned that will provide your group with a time to debrief the day or handle confirmation related work. Details go to [psdyouth.net](http://psdyouth.net).



## THE SUMMIT

The Summit (4-6 grade) will be held on **Saturday, April 14** at Crean Lutheran High School in Irvine. "He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken." - Psalm 62:6 Stronghold, Refuge, Rock, Fortress!

These are the words that are used to describe our Father

in heaven. As leaders, even when we try to shield our youth from the tragedies in this world, they are still exposed to it, whether it is first hand or seeing it on their computer or television screen. We are connected to the world around us more than ever before. Join us as we encourage our youth to holdfast to God and rely on His strength in all circumstances. The Summit will be filled with active learning, fun, meaningful games and activities, singing, as well as service opportunities for everyone to engage in. We ask that you pray over this event and bring as many kids as you can! This event is one you will not want to miss! Cost and Deadlines: Early Registration (on or before March 10, 2018) - \$40.00; Late Registration (on or before April 5, 2018) - \$50.00. Please look for our event [online](#). Watch for new and exciting event details!



## TEEN LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Life Changes: God Doesn't - Life as a teenager has always been about change. In today's culture, it seems as though this is more true than ever. PSD Youth Ministry, in partnership with Concordia University Irvine, will be hosting a Teen Leadership Training **June 1-3** on the CUI campus that will address this very challenge. Developed

by the LCMS Youth Ministry Office, the teen leadership training materials have been designed as practical leadership training that encourages teens to stay grounded in Christ during times of transition and equips them to support each other in their Christian faith. Early registration: \$90 (deadline January 15). Late registration: \$110 (deadline April 16). Training materials, campus housing, and meals during the event will be



# Prayer & Praise

Submit Prayer Requests to Kelly DeJongh at  
[kelly.dejongh@psd-lcms.org](mailto:kelly.dejongh@psd-lcms.org)

## Prayer Requests

**Family of Rev. Norman Laesch**, who passed away Monday, January 8 after a very brief illness. Pastor Laesch served three different congregations in Iowa, and one in Illinois before moving into the Pacific Southwest District to serve at Faith Lutheran Church, Tucson and First Culver City and Palms Lutheran Church. In addition, he served the Lutheran High Foundation before his retirement. Pastor Laesch was preceded in death by his son, John. He and his wife, Joyce were married for more than 64 years and have a daughter, Cathy Lenhart, who worked at the PSD office for several years before moving to Arizona. There will be a Memorial Service for Rev. Laesch on Sunday, January 14, 3:00 pm at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Anthem. Please keep Joyce, Cathy and the Laesch and Lenhart families in prayer for God's peace and comfort.

**Kim Francisco (UPDATE)** - Great news, the cancer in my stomach IS GONE. It is still in my lungs, but has grown very little. Doctors don't know what God is going to do.

**Rev. Jim Lareva (UPDATE)** - Chemo is no longer working for his esophageal and liver cancer and he is now on hospice.

**Molly Arizmendi**, new grandchild of Pastor Bill Carney, born December 21, blessings on this little one.

**Evelyn Arizmendi**, 3 year old granddaughter of Pastor Bill Carney, who is battling Krabbe Leukodystrophy, a terminal disease, prayers of strength.

## Praise Reports

**Rev. Brad Beckman** was installed at First Good Shepherd, Las Vegas on Sunday, January 7.

## Continued Prayers

*We pray for all congregations and schools currently in the calling process.*

**Rev. Dr. Edward Ambrose** – vascular/orthopedic issues

**Jo Ambrose** – fighting bone cancer

**Rev. Bill Bartlett** – fighting cancer

**Rev. Bob Feller** - recovering from a fall

**Kim Francisco** – fighting cancer

**Rev. Roy Gesch** – macular degeneration and dementia

**Rev. Gerald Gettis** – fighting myeloma

**David Hendry** – suffering from dementia

**Rev. Ray Kibler** – fighting immunodeficiency disease and cancer

**Rev. Jim Lareva** - fighting cancer, on hospice

**Jenny Lawson** - fighting cancer

**Rev. Tom Rogers** - recovering from fractured hip

**Rev. Marty Schramm** - fighting cancer

**Phillip Taylor** - fighting cancer

**Rev. Hal Teuscher** – fighting cancer

**Rev. Gary Trickey** - fighting cancer



# Contact Us

**Subscribe to eNews:** Keep up-to-date on happenings in the Pacific Southwest District as well as resources for congregations; installations and ordinations; and prayer requests.

Send an email to [psdenews@psd-lcms.org](mailto:psdenews@psd-lcms.org) with the words "subscribe" in the subject line.

**Job Site:** Access information on jobs available in PSD congregations and schools. The Job Site can be accessed on the PSD [website](#). Subscribe to bi-weekly email notification by sending an email to [psdenews@psd-lcms.org](mailto:psdenews@psd-lcms.org) noting "Job Site subscription" in the subject line.

**Submit News, Information & Job Postings:** Email [psdenews@psd-lcms.org](mailto:psdenews@psd-lcms.org) with the 'who, what, when, where, and why' of the news item or job posting. Items must be received by 2:00 pm Wednesday.

*The Pacific Southwest District will NOT sell, give or otherwise transmit your email address for any reason other than its intended purpose.*