

August 2026



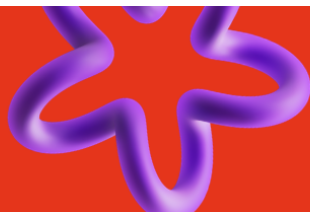
TIERRASANTALUTHERANCHURCH
"SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE, SERVING DEED'S CHILDREN,
TRANSFORMING LIVES, MAKING DISCIPLES"



*Splash
Day
at TLC*



(On the cover: Marcia Abbott & Ginny Pence serving up hot dogs and hamburgers while Howard Reese grilled. Thank you to everyone that helped make this a fun Sunday summer afternoon.)



BACKPACK BLESSING

**Start the school year with a special blessing.
Bring your backpack or tablet or computer to
receive a special blessing.
Sunday, August 16th.
(blessings at both services)**



**16
AUGUST
2036**



Preschool
Tierrasanta Lutheran Church

Youth Building Remodel Update

Construction on the Youth Building is continuing, although progress has been a little slower than anticipated. At this time, the project is running approximately **five weeks behind schedule**. Because of this delay, the preschool has adjusted the start of the new school year from **August 24 to September 8**.

The construction team has recently completed patching and mudding the walls in preparation for painting. The next phase includes completing the bathrooms, installing the mop sink, and adding the drinking fountains required by the City.

Another important requirement is an upgrade to the building's fire alarm system. The new system will include voice evacuation notifications when the alarm is activated. This upgrade requires replacing several existing strobe units and installing a voice notification control panel. We have been informed that these improvements are necessary to meet the City's requirements for the transition to an **Education (E)** occupancy.

I want to make one quick correction to the remodel update I shared. I mistakenly stated that it had been decided to move the entire preschool, including the office, to the Youth Building. That decision has not been made. We are currently discussing the possibility, and it will be presented to the Church Council for consideration at the next council meeting. I apologize for the confusion.

Thank you for your continued patience, prayers, and support as we work through the final stages of this exciting project. We look forward to sharing more updates as construction progresses.

If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions, or would simply like more information, please don't hesitate to reach out. I would be happy to hear from you.

Melissa Vargas-Preschool Director

Phone: **858-292-7446**

Email: mvargas@tierrasantalutheran.org

Tentative Schedule for Social Ministry Through the End of 2026:

- T.A.C.O. Meal Service at 1st Lutheran on Monday (November 16)
- San Diego Blood Bank Bloodmobile, Sunday (October 4)
- Lutheran World Relief (LWR) School Supply Drive (ongoing)
- Back-to-School Drive (school supplies) during VBS in June (June 22-26)
- ELCA Day of Service Sunday, September 13
- ELCA Good Gifts, Reverse Advent Calendar (food drive) and Lutheran Border Concerns
- Ministry (LBCM) Rice and Beans, and Sock Drives in December

The TLC Giving Garden

If you are interested in learning more about the TLC Giving Garden, you stop by anytime or reach out to Carol Newcomb at csnewcomb66@gmail.com



You can also read their monthly newsletter on our weekly email blast or online at: [CLICK HERE](#).

GRACE Night Returns 9/16

Food is Love. That's our motto in the TLC kitchen at GRACE Night. We can't wait to kick off another year of Growing Relationships Around Christ's Example on September 16th! We have a few surprises in store, but we could also use your help. Here's how:

- 1) Like to cook and plan meals for a crowd? We need support to prep, cook, and serve.
- 2) Like to bake or make a yummy dessert? We need contributions throughout the year.
- 3) Like to have a good time in the kitchen? Join our team for set up, serving, greeting, and/or cleanup.
- 4) Like to enjoy a night off in the kitchen? [Click here](#) to purchase your season pass or Dinner Deal card and join us for dinner on Wednesday nights!



Please contact Gretchen Veihl at Gretchen.veihl@gmail.com or 858-232-5698 if you can help.

August 2026 MOC Newsletter Article

Is anyone ready to think about fall, starting back to school and Christmas displays in Costco? Not many of us are ready to give up the summer beach quite yet, but while you're out hiking, lying by the pool or vegging in air-conditioning, perhaps meditate about Instagram worthy closets and dresser drawers – clean, tidy and easy to open. MOC is ready for you to take the next step. We're ready to take all those kids' clothes stuffed in the closets, drawers (or under beds) that no longer fit or they just won't wear anymore. Starting on September 14th, MOC will begin collecting new or clean and gently used children's clothing for its Fall Children's Clothing Fair to benefit our local military families. The Clothing Fair will be held on September 24th in the Murphy Canyon Chapel. This ministry outreach is 100% dependent on the generosity of our church community to pass on children's clothing, or to spread the word to neighbors, friends and relatives. If you have any questions, please contact Beckie (619) 204-4596.

If you would like to know more about what MOC does, please come to the next meeting, held on August 12th at 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. You can also contact Beckie, Marcia (619) 206-5790 or Wayne (858) 740-1068 for more information.



Pictured above is the clothing drive from March.

The Golden Circle is a TLC designated fund which allows Pastor to provide financial support for specific needs, which may be local, within our congregation, in our community or further afield, to include Ukraine. The Golden Circle is not supported by our budget or General Fund but relies on designated contributions.



Still Time To Sign Up!
Contact Alyona Colson
alyona.colson@gmail.com

Prayers & Squares

Summertime and the living is easy.....so Prayers and Squares Quilting Ministry met only once in July. We took the 4th of July off and only met on July 18th. For that reason, there is little to report.

We did have a GREAT turnout on the 18th.....20 of us gathered for all things quilting, including more donated fabric for the picking ! We had 2 new ladies join us and that is always welcome. Now the push has started for making and completing Lutheran World Relief quilts. Notice that there are 13 stacked in the back of the sanctuary under the blue wall hanging. Keep an eye on it as it will grow between now and the late September Ingathering of all San Diego quilts for the national headquarters.

We thank Wayne, Stan and Howard R for constructing and assembling our new storage shed behind the Youth Building. We look forward to the shelving on order that will allow us to further organize batting and fabric for our many endeavors.

Quilts are ready for dedication for Prayer Concerns for your loved ones. Contact the church office to get started.





Walmart and Staples have crayons for \$.50/box and spiral notebooks for \$.35/each.

TLC Food Pantry

Thanks to everyone who has been stocking the pantry! **There is a big turn-around on items;** a definite indication that it is **well used**. Keep up the great work stocking the pantry with nonperishable food items. Simply open the doors and add non-perishable food items. Thank you so much for your generosity. It's making a difference in people's lives.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

Last year the Social Ministry Committee collected items to make personal care kits to be distributed by Lutheran World Relief (LWR). This year we will be gathering supplies to make school kits to be assembled on the ELCA Day of Service in September. As always, LWR has very specific directions for each kit. With 80 years of experience, they know what ships well and what is universally useful. They also try to maintain consistency so each child receives the same items and no one child is left out. Please abide by the directives set out by LWR when purchasing your donations.

For August we'll collect Crayons (the 16 or 24 count boxes) and Spiral notebooks (70 page, wide or narrow ruled). Right now

Special Music Wish List

- For the Grand Piano: Earthworks PM40 Piano Mic System \$2,999.00
- For Soloist / lead vocalist: Shure KSM11 Vocal Condenser microphone \$791.00
- For Instrumental Soloist: (Violin, Flute, Acoustic Guitar, etc.) Shure SM81-LC Cardioid Condenser Instrument Microphone \$395.00

Please mark your donations MICROPHONES

- Paiste Giant Beat Cymbal 24" \$650.00
- Paiste Signature Cymbal Fast Crash 14-inch. \$360.00

Please mark your donations: DRUM KIT



Ways to Give

Cash / Check

The offering plate is passed during services.



Mobile Giving
QR code



Additional Ways to Give

Automated giving: On our home page look for the drop down option called "Giving" and click on it.

Automobile Donation: CARS (Charitable Adult Rides & Services) is a nonprofit organization based in San Diego. Information on our website under **Giving**

Facilities Corner July

Can't believe I'm doing this again, but here I am as DOFE. Having had this position 3 previous times, I know the keys to success are to put the time in, lead by example, and to get others involved in the maintenance of our church property. As such, working with Iiro Yrjola (more about him below), he and I spent the most of July working on cleaning up the east parking slope that was badly overgrown. We've trimmed back trees, bushes, pulled out spreading acacia in areas, removed dead plants and weeds, all with the aim of getting to a more open and clean look on the slope. While working on this and other tasks, I've also started a "Doing It Together" initiative to get Chain Gang members involved with helping me work tasks during the week or doing specified "DIT tasks" on their own as they have time. In the first 2 weeks, 7 individuals have either assisted me or completed 6 worklist tasks that would otherwise still be on the worklist. The goal, as always, is to get and keep our campus in pristine condition.

Another key in getting things done is knowing that there is a problem and you can help with that. A facilities@tierrasantalutheran.org email account has been established for the congregation to contact the DOFE about any maintenance/landscaping problems you may come across or to bring of issues of concern regarding our facilities. So, if you see a problem, take a picture if applicable, and send it with any supporting information. It will be looked into, added to our worklist, and hopefully expeditiously corrected.

As to a summary of work accomplished this month, it includes: Trimmed trees/shrubs and cleared up about 2/3's of the east slope, cleaned all parking lot island and filled with new brown woodchips, addressed water damage to the ceiling and walls of the narthex and repainted the narthex, blockage in back rain gutter cleared, trimmed oleanders by transformers along

Clairemont Mesa Blvd, weeded lower front mulch area, trim scrubs along south end of parking lot, cut back acacia in front mulched area, repaired broken rail fencing behind educational building, by dumpster, and along east roadway, cleared access to front signage electrical outlet, patched and painted chipped area across from kitchen door, thoroughly cleaned gas barbeque, repaired step-up platform in play yard structure, trimmed and dead headed Birds of Paradise in front area below stairway, trimmed bougainvillea's along the sidewalk east of the church and the adjacent short oleanders between the patio and parking lot, and made an access point through the rail fencing for east mulched area and play area. We had a very good turnoff (16) for our Chain Gang workday on the 18th and were able to help Randy with dethatching the lawns in front of the church building, trimmed brushes on front slope lot and east of the stairway, trimmed/deadheaded 3 Birds of Paradise on front slop, raked up Liquid Amber pods on front slope, removed damaged plant at south end of parking lot, cleared and leveled a path and laid blocks to border the back slope ice plant, trimmed the border around stone cross on front slope.





If you've noticed a small RV parked along the back west side of the parking lot, It belongs to Iiro Yrjola, a retired Finnish mechanical engineer and businessman who has lived in San Diego (mostly Tierrasanta) since 1992 when he came here to get his MBA at USD. He now spends his time volunteering at Mission Trails and other sites around San Diego, and for the last month and a half, has been helping address landscaping issues around campus. With Pastor's concurrence, we are allowing him to park his RV here as he wants, knowing he will continue to assist with landscaping efforts, and it gives us someone in the parking lot at night that will hopefully discourage mischievous acts/vandalism. A picture of Iiro and his dog, Nala, are included.

One thing that literally "just popped up" was a huge gouge/protrusion in the parking lot asphalt from a trash truck that turned through the parking lane viced staying on the main roadways. We definitely will have to address it, but it may take a while, so will keep it flanked by cones for the time being.

Before closing, I want to thank Ed Holler for all his efforts these last 3 years as DOFE. He did an admirable job coordinating/addressing maintenance and landscaping issues throughout the campus, kept the Chain Gang going strong, and most importantly, kept the campus in very good condition. Thank you, Ed!

Lastly, always looking for new Chain Gang members, both male and female. If interested or have questions, please contact me. Please note in the pictures, you will see our youngest ever Chain Gang participants. Peace and Health to All,

Wayne Duke
Director of Facilities



Hello TLC Family!

Summer months are 2/3s over now, as heat and mugginess each display a continued presence that we work around in our worship time and in added times of fellowship! The memory of our Drive - In Sunday morning services during pandemic are fading a bit; but, oh my, how we worked to deal with sun heat and glare for our OUTSIDE playing, singing, and ringing (and preaching, and ushering!) There was SO MUCH to think & plan about in addition to getting the music & musicians prepared!! Even dealing with the sun's MOVEMENT during the service "oh no it's in my eyes again & I can't see my music !"). It was certainly hot & muggy at times.

Yesterday(7/29), I was able to come into the Centrum, just press the ONE baby button that Wayne Duke — our head of facilities THEN, and NOW he's back serving again!! What a heart for helping!— -- has labeled in RED with an arrow! This little 'press' resulted in lovely coolness in that room for music rehearsals - heat being relieved in addition to sun glare! I will say that there's STILL a bit of morning sun to avoid where choirs stand to sing and ring. It shines intensely down through the gorgeous stained glass windows in mornings, and the west windows during evening practices! (That evening glare is mostly what BFrater deals with as I lead rehearsals, because I'm looking west toward the singers and ringers to see if we could make it all sound a little better 'this time! ' Does this solve the question: " Why are the musicians all squinting?")

Readers / scanners, I did not think that for this newsletter there would be much to write about, but look what 'heaved' forth again!! Here are a few points, though:

- I'm grateful for the skills and talents of the instrumental and vocal soloists during June & July and at our 8:30 am services! This will continue for at least three weeks in August also.
- When I spoke of the beautiful stain glass windows up high in the centrum, they reminded me of Marilyn Licht, who designed them. This led my thoughts to her husband:
- Pastor Ken Licht, who celebrated his 85th birthday on August 3rd!! Happy Birthday, Ken!! Pastor Ken & the TLC council hired BFrater to come to TLC as organist and choir director many years ago!
- This employment been a lot of fun & blessing for me, working in that section of the Centrum - what's that old Broadway lyric — " I've got the sun in the morning and the moon at night ". (For us: "we've got a 'glare' in the sunrise and a 'glare' at 'set') . 😂😏).
- Happy Anniversary to our current Pastor Bohdan and Brandi Vadis on 8/18!! Many more!!
- Lastly—- we plan to begin rehearsals again for our music groups on August 19th. As always, welcome back, beloved musicians!!! There are always openings for singers & ringers! Give me an email, a text, (or a holler!)

Betsy Frater
TLC Music Director

Linus Layering

Our August meeting will be the second Tuesday, August 11th. The change to the second Tuesday is only for August. In September our meeting will again be the first Tuesday of the month, September 1.

Prayer Group Bring your own cup of coffee. Join us for half an hour in the TLC centrum **August 8th**. We meet each month at 9am, please leave any prayer requests in the notebook on the high table in the foyer.

Saturday each month, please leave any prayer requests in the notebook on the high table in the foyer.

Prayers of the Faithful Prayers of God's strength for those TLC members in assisted living facilities: *Reid Bixler, James Vadis, Marianne d'Arnaud, Ellen Mize, Anastasia Balmaceda, Helmut Moeller, Diane Raines, Mary Peters, Kathy Kelly, and Marge Foelber. Please hold Patty Sanchez and Lindee Berg and family in your prayers at the death of their mother TLC member Barbara Berg, and Jo Vroman and family at the death of Jo's mother Lois M. Harder. Lord, please guide and protect our military personnel serving in harm's way, especially Matt Reese and Jake Hovde.*

Can You Help During

Worship? *We need to add some additional helpers to our worship schedule.*

Please contact Elizabeth in the church office if you'd like to usher, read or help with communion. All help is appreciated! No experience necessary - we'll train you!

Tuesday Morning Bible

Study is held at the Denny's Restaurant at 9898 Mira Mesa Blvd at 8am. We use the Serendipity Bible, and copies are provided. We will be reading the Gospel. Pastor will buy breakfast for anyone attending the first time. All are welcome!

New Members Class will be held on Sunday, September 20th at 11:15am and members will be received on Sunday, September 27th. If you would like to join the class, please contact Elizabeth in the church office to sign up. eduffield@tierrasantalutheran.org or 858-560-8688. You can also sign up in the narthex.

Kid's Choir - Weds. 4:30PM!

We meet in the centrum at 4:30pm. All kids are welcome! The choir is for kids ages 4-10 years old! Performance every first Sunday of the month Rehearsals Wednesday at 4:30 in the sanctuary. For more information, please contact Tetiana Ordone at (808) 726-7886.

August Birthdays

1st	Suzanne Till
2nd	Ruth Cleveland
3rd	Bill Stephenson
5th	Larry Lacroix
6th	Carol Aguilar
7th	Sherrill Moore
8th	Elizabeth Nadeau
10th	Dennis Brittain
14th	Richard Veihl
17th	Howard Reese
18th	Marcia Abbott
27th	Teresa Stowinsky
29th	Jim Gay
	Lauren Taylor

August Anniversaries

9th	Thom & Ginny Van Benthuyzen
	Rick & Jo Vroman
10th	Richard & Amanda Ness
13th	Sandra & Andrew Taylor
16th	Tom & Bonnie Brown
26th	Claudia & Tom Murphy

If you have a birthday or wedding anniversary that isn't on our monthly list, please let Elizabeth in the church office know. We certainly want to send you best wishes for your special day.

TLC's Annual

RUMMAGE SALE



12
SEP

Summer is upon us! Start cleaning out those closets and garage!
Items accepted September 6th.