

January 2024



TIERRASANTALUTHERANCHURCH

**"SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE, SERVING GOD'S CHILDREN,
TRANSFORMING LIVES, MAKING DISCIPLES"**



TLC's First Live Nativity Scene

Was enjoyed by so many in the community! On Saturday, December 2nd we had a REAL LIVE camel and goats and sheep and donkey and a precious baby "Jesus" along with Mary and Joseph! So many people at TLC joined in to make this a wonderful and memorable event. Caroling, crafting, cookie decorating and family photos were among the activities.



Military Outreach Committee (MOC)

As 2024 beckons us forward, I would like to first take a quick look back at the accomplishments of 2023 that are in keeping with the words of our MOC closing prayer at the end of each meeting – “always being mindful of Matthew 25 – “I was hungry, and you fed me; ... naked and you clothed me”.

- Children’s Clothing fairs in March and August provided clothing to a total of 148 military families.
- Military Appreciation Food Drives in May and November provided food to 190 military families.
- Family Assistance Ministry – Two junior military families that were having trouble feeding their families received a \$200 Commissary gift card to purchase needed food. Each family was vetted by Navy Chaplains as to their need for assistance.
- The Sharing The Joy Toy Drive and Adopt a Family project with STEP had MOC adopting one military family and providing each member 3 gifts from their wish list (plus potential adoptions by congregation members) and an overwhelming support for the toy drive to provide Christmas gifts to the children of non-adopted families.
- The Hancock Elementary School Harvest Wednesday’s food distributions to local military families needed volunteer support to enable their distributions. MOC supported their weekly distributions in November and December with each providing food to 100 plus military families.

All of the above was enabled by the generosity of this congregation and we sincerely thank you for your support of our MOC ministries!

Looking forward to the coming year, our first Children’s Clothing Fair is in March, so start gathering used children clothing in good condition which we will take starting in February. Also, we especially need volunteers to assist in the support of the Hancock Harvest Wednesday food distributions – they occur every Wednesday 1:30-3:00 pm and we need three volunteers for each. It’s right here in Tierrasanta, requires less than 2 hours of your time, and is an opportunity to interact with local military families. You’ll leave the distribution with a very positive feeling after seeing the smiles and gratitude of the families receiving the food. If you could help even one Wednesday a month, please consider doing so or if you want more information, contact Wayne Duke (858-740-1068/wduke22@gmail.com).

Lastly, we hold our MOC meetings on first Wednesday of the month at 4:30-5:30 pm at TLC but have zoom available for those that can’t make it in. Next meeting will be held January 3rd. Please consider joining us for the meeting, or any of our events throughout the year, and if you have questions, contact Wayne (858) 740-1068, Beckie (619) 204-4596, or Marcia, (619) 206-5790 for more information. With your loving support, MOC looks forward to continuing outreach to our local military families and sharing the light of Christ.



Thank you. We are writing to you today to thank your church for the donation to our Fire Relief Fund here at the church for those affected by the devastating fire in Lahaina. I wanted to let you know that your help has allowed us to give some support to a few members who have lost their jobs, has provided food for our local food pantry which has gained a ton of displaced individuals, will add to our Thanksgiving feast that we are planning on putting together for the community and to help us during the Christmas season with gifts for children from the pantry. We are also working with one of the hubs in Lahaina which has had to move out of where they were located and has been placed in Napili, which is north of Lahaina and about a 20-minute drive for those who were helping right in the thick of things. The grant we received is exclusively going to be used for them and we are currently in the process of figuring out their biggest needs. At the beginning of the new year, we are looking forward to continuing our work with the hub, but also hope to team with the Lutheran Disaster Relief when they come to the island after most of the bigger organizations pull out their support. If you have any other questions, or just want to see how things are going you may email the church office at: klc@kiheilutheran.org or give us a call at 808-879-7979.

Mahalo again for your support.

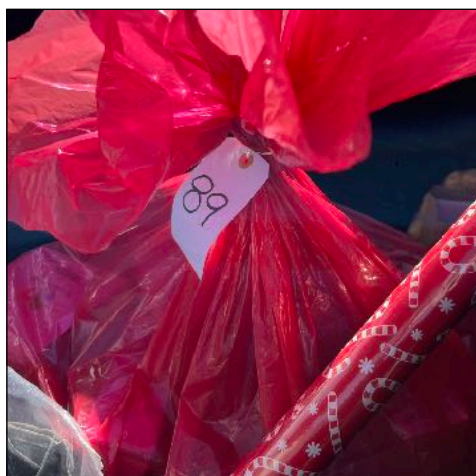
Dear Friends of STEP,

Thank you for your first gifts of toys for the Toy Drive and a check for \$345.00 and welcome to the STEP family!

Without gifts like yours, the services we provide to more than 1,739 military and Veteran families per year might not happen. We offer counseling, education, and grants that set a positive path for financial self-sufficiency for enlisted service members and recently discharged Veterans. We also host Warehouse on Wheels events that provide families with food, diapers, toys, gently used children's clothing and household goods.

Thank you for being a part of our mission and for making STEP part of your philanthropic circle.

Most respectfully,
Tony Teravainen, CEO & Co Founder





TLC Preschool January 2024

Blessed be the little children! December was a lovely month at TLC Preschool. The children learned of the birth of Jesus and that he is the reason for the season. We celebrate his birthday and are grateful for him. We explain that Jesus was a good man and that he set an example for people to serve and help others like he did.

The children did a number of adorable activities celebrating the season while still developing their social and emotional skills, and also their fine motor skills. Children learn through play!

Reminder to look at our TLC Preschool Bulletin Board located to the right of Elizabeth's office. We change pictures out monthly to show activities and events the children participate in.

Our TLC Preschool Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will begin February 1st. Members of the congregation and continuing students have priority enrollment. If you have a child who will turn 3 or 4 years old by 12/1/21 come by and check out our program! Our classes fill up quickly! Call [\(858\)292-7446](tel:8582927446) for more information.

You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drip with abundance. Psalm 65:11

Mary Ann Michlanski
TLC Preschool Director



Pic above: TLC member Linda Moeller with TLC gave the children Advent activity books this year.

Prayers & Squares

We, of Prayers and Squares count our many blessings of 2023. We have continued to work together and support several of the other quilting ministries throughout the year. There were **31** Prayer Quilts dedicated in 2023 as well as **9** High School quilts. We were able to assist with the work on **100** Lutheran World Relief quilts and so appreciated the aid of the congregation and Confirmation kids on "God's Work Our Hands" day in September.

Our Christmas celebration was a breakfast gathering at Country Waffles. What a great place---they accommodated 20 of us and were so cordial in attending to our needs. Please support them (9350 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.) Kathy Stewart, Karen Miles and Janice Taylor continue to be the P & S Social Committee and we thank them for making this happen.

January 26th and 27th, Jo Vroman is leading us in a Mystery Quilt workshop. Please contact her for further details, but these are always well organized and different from our P & S work !

So, we now look forward to this NEW YEAR and what our Lord has in store for us. We love that several new faces have joined our ranks. Thanks as always to the support of our TLC family. Come join us for work and fun on the first and third Saturdays each month in the Fellowship Hall.

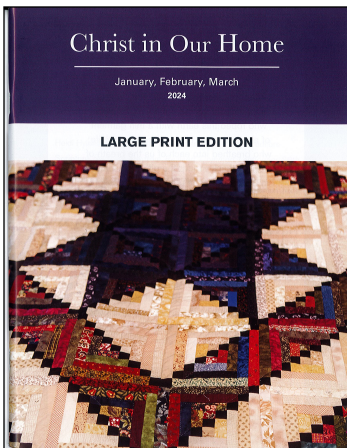


Prayer Group Bring your own cup of coffee. Join us for half an hour in the TLC centrum January 13th at 9 a.m.! Hope to see you then!

Special Prayers Do you have a family member who is deployed in the military? Do you need special prayers? Please contact the church office to be added to the Prayers of the Faithful or put on the Prayer Chain.

Prayers of the Faithful Prayers of God's strength for those TLC members in assisted living facilities: *Reid Bixler, Charles Taylor, Kathleen Bellavance, Bill Holt, Suzanne Till, Nancy Fahien, Cindy Fallon, Barbara Berg, Neil Vann, Barbara Vann, James Vadis, John Michel and the Ramsey family at the death of TLC member Gayle Ramsey.* Lord, please guide and protect our military personnel serving in harm's way, especially *Nick Ponczka and Lance Alt.*

Christ In Our Home, the quarterly devotional encourages you to live out your faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day. The January through March edition is available now in the narthex.



Godly Play
Sundays during the 10 am worship service
Godly Play for children in grades Pre-5. Through stories and play, we explore the wonder of God's love. Our lessons this month: Parents—please pick up your child in the Youth building at 11:15 am. We do not release children without a parent or adult family member.

Linus Layering
Join us at 9am on the first Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall as we work to create beautiful Linus children's quilts for those in need. ***See you January 2nd.***

December Fellowship Report
Winter is here! Winter in San Diego may not be full of snow, but it will be filled with joy, laughter, and lots of singing!

Caroling! We had a great time and a great turnout (nearly 25 singers!) taking joyful holiday Christmas carols to some of our TLC family and friends. We had to much fun, we forgot to take pictures!

Don't miss the Holiday Decor Swap! Jan 7th 11:30am-1pm
Free "shopping" too. We'll have music, food and loads of "new to you" decorations.
Please R.S.V.P. on line or signup in the narthex (so we can plan for food!).

2024 Giving Booklets Your 2024 giving booklets are available in the church narthex to pick up so please look for you!. If you don't see yours, please let Elizabeth in the church office know.

2024 Flower Chart You are invited to donate flowers on a Sunday to celebrate an important event in your life or in memory or honor of a loved one. The flower chart fills up rapidly, so sign up today. The cost of altar flowers is \$40 a week, and you will be notified by the TLC office prior to the Sunday you have chosen.

2024 TLC Newsletter If you would like to sponsor a 2024 TLC newsletter, look for the the sign-up sheet posted outside of the church office. We would like two sponsors per month @\$75 each (cost is \$150 for printing & postage).

Sock Tree Warm feet and full tummies!
The annual Sock Tree is once again gracing our foyer! Help decorate the tree with socks for Lutheran Border Concern's work with children in Tijuana. Bring bags of rice and beans to help our neighbors in Tijuana as we prepare for Christmas. Lutheran Border Concerns will distribute the items on Epiphany, January 6th.
Last day to drop off gifts is Jan. 3rd.

G.R.A.C.E. Night G.R.A.C.E. stands for Growing Relationships Around Christ's Example. G.R.A.C.E. In order to help our busy families this meal is not a potluck! The cost of this meal is a suggested donation of \$2 a person or \$5 for a family. 5:30-6:30pm for the meal!

Crossways Bible Study Please join Pastor Vadis on Wednesday at 7:30pm or Thursday at 10am as we read and study the Bible cover to cover.
You can also watch on Zoom:
[Bible Study](#)
if the hyperlink doesn't work here is the zoom information:
meeting ID: 858 9929 9447
password: biblestudy

Christmas Decorating Fund
Thank you to everyone that contributed to the TLC Christmas decorating fund: Barbara Allison in loving memory of Jim; Linda Baldwin in memory of Denny Baldwin; the Bergeson's in memory of Kathryn Weigle, Thomas Camp, Ruth and Robert Strohbeck; Judith Chapman in memory of Dennis Chapman; the Duffield family in loving memory of Bill & Sula James and Bill & Marie Duffield; Mike & Donna George in memory of Megan George Fisher; Karen Miles in memory of her husband Kent and son Jeff; Ellen Mize in memory of her husband Jerry; Helmut & Linda Moeller in memory of Rudolf & Ilse Moeller and Paul & Christine West; Claudia Murphy and Charlotte Palmer in memory of Homer Palmer; Ginny & Derry Pence in memory of Grace and Ray Olsen; Diane Raines in memory of Hank and Fran Podhradsky; Beckie

and Norm Ryan in memory of Norma Ryan and Nadine and Jim Schroeder; Audrey Russell in memory of her son Aaron Goedker; Duke & Carol Sobek in memory of Howard and Gladys Morrison; Richard and Valerie Spencer in memory of Margaret Mangulla; Kathy Stewart in memory of Anna & John Ball; the Willhite family in memory of Grandma Peggy.

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!

January Birthdays

1st	Zoe Martin
3rd	Neil Vann
5th	Derek Miller Carol Sobek Caroline Ness Barbara Ochendusko Zachary Colby
7th	Rick Benjamin
9th	Sandy Schroeder
11th	Carlysse Cripps Brandi Vadis
12th	Kellen Johnson
15th	Don Mounier
19th	Stan Duffield
20th	Lucas Santos
21st	Claudia Murphy
22nd	Hannah Spencer
26th	Tom Brown Brenda Gay Ellen Mize
30th	Rick Vroman

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.

Facilities Corner

Many thanks to the Chain Gang, Scouts, and all the other volunteers who helped in 2023! It was a busy year that included many unexpected maintenance issues along with our monthly Chain Gang workdays, Spring and Fall Cleaning Saturdays, plus set-ups & take-downs for many events including the rummage sale, Easter, VBS, October Fest, Halloween, Christmas (lights, trees, chairs, tables, partitions) just to name a few. Thanks to all of the above volunteers, our facilities and landscaping are well maintained and looking good!

The unexpected maintenance issues for 2023 included: beehive removal, mini-split a/c in kitchen repair, drooping light fixtures in the youth building, electrical work on alarm/emergency lights, replacement of a parking lot LED light, kitchen garbage disposal replacement and clogged drain line has resulted in the maintenance spending being budget line being exceeded by an estimated \$1700. These items were addressed and fixed.



Improvement plans & projects for 2024 include: (1) Removing book shelves from library wall; (2) Replace library carpet with flooring in foyer; (3) Moving Sacristy to last office space and make current sacristy area a staff office; (4) Roto rooter the drain line from patio to back steps; (5) Add the rain gutter along the east side by fellowship hall (6) Memorial Garden: Put hardy plants in the planter below the plaque wall & repair or replace the short black metal fence in the back of the garden & determine correct method to clean, polish faded bronze name plates & implement; (7) Replace the mini blinds at the Preschool; (8) Repair the parking lot; (9) Replace the brown, folding chairs with comfortable, stackable chairs. This is not a complete list and other items will most likely be added during the year.

In addition to the above plans & projects for 2024, we have to clean & maintain our TLC facilities & landscaping, set-up & take-down for TLC events, Spring & Fall cleaning days and monthly Chain Gang workdays. If you are not already a member of the Chain Gang, please consider joining our group. Coffee, donuts, water are provided. Please come to our next event!

Future Events: Chain Gang Workday on Saturday, January 20th 7:30-10:30

Please let Ed, Wayne, Mike, Stan or Randy know if you see anything that needs attention regarding our facilities or property. Also please consider joining the Chain Gang. Thanks!

TLC's MMT (Stan, Randy, Mike, Wayne, Ed)

Thank you

Dear TLC family,

Thank you so very much for thinking of me this holiday season and for the generous gift bestowed upon me. I truly appreciate it.

Working here at TLC brings me so much joy because of people like you.

Wishing you all the very best and God's love today and always,

Elizabeth Duffield

Lunch Bunch

We had another fun luncheon this December with lots of great white elephant gifts being exchanged. Thank you to Kathy Stewart, Ruth Cleveland and Jan Johnson for putting everything together and for Betsy and Randy for leading festive holiday carols. Our next LB will be in February. We'll have more information to come!



Free Parenting Workshop at TLC For Parents and Grandparents

“No, I Won’t, and You Can’t Make Me!”

Taking the Power Out Of Power Struggles

Learn how to effectively stop power struggles with your child—and understand why kids misbehave in the first place.

February 4, 2024, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., lunch provided

Please contact the church office if you’d like to attend.

Hello TLC Family!

As January 2024 comes to your homes, may you be blessed with memories of beautiful Christmas Worship '23 at TLC! May you have many “wonders of His love” in your hearts from Scriptures read, the story of Jesus’ Birth rung and sung by singers, ringers, and instrumentalists! (In reality, as I write this, it’s December 15, 2023, and we have a few musical phrases that still need some work! Our choir party is tonight at Carol & Duke Sobek’s home, and we are getting ready for a practice run with the harpist, Naomi, who drives down from Carlsbad on Monday the 18th!)

Elizabeth Duffield and I are “whizzing” worship folders back and forth to each other by email, trying to get them done and off to Heather Jerzey, who will format them for the screens!!

By now though, all in attendance will know how it went!

Happy New Year '24 to you!!

In January there will be Messages, Music and Scriptures relating to Epiphany & the appearance of the Wise Men; the Naming of Jesus; and the start of Jesus’ ministry according to the Gospel of Mark! I hope you all will “Come and worship! Come and worship! Worship Christ the Newborn King”! (that quote is from the Carol: “Angels From the realms of Glory”)

A few items:

1. January 6, Epiphany, marks 16 year anniversary of our Pastor Bohdan’s installation here at TLC! We congratulate him and thank God for him!
2. We congratulate Bonnie & Tom Brown, on the Unsung Hero award that their adult son Trent was awarded this month; hold on, I’m gonna have to look it up--- it’s from the National Bureau of Land Management. Trent & his team were recognized (in Idaho) for their efforts to keep recreation programs going during Covid, and for their fine work ethic (help to people during fires, etc). Trent used to play drums with us for some of our anthems!

Perhaps this news belonged in the bulletin, but I hope you enjoyed reading it here!

May you all be able to keep your New Year’s resolutions for a whole day— maybe even a week!!!

I hope it appears to all of you that leading music at TLC is a joy for BFrater (and the Choir Manager, RFrater!) It really is!!

Betsylwayshappyforjoiners
(since you can’t beat us, you may as well...)



Applying Bible Principles

There are some wonderful principles in the Old Testament which apply to present-day Christians. One of these is in Deuteronomy 8:10-18. Stated in contemporary language, it says, "When you have eaten and are full, when your cars, houses and bank accounts multiply, don't forget where it came from: Remember the Lord your God."

In truth, all that we have comes from God. He determines what we will receive, whether it be money, gold, silver, houses, land, bank accounts, stocks, bonds, etc. It all belongs to Him in the first place, and He entrusts it to us. According to David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29, riches, honor, power, and wealth all come from God.

That's why there is no such thing as a self-made man or woman. Oh, we have to do our part. God's plan is not that we just sit around praying and reading the Bible all day long so that what we need to survive will miraculously drop into our hands. We're not just to pray for "our daily bread," but we're also to get up each day and work for it! That's why the Apostle Paul stated clearly, "Anyone unwilling to work should not eat" (2 Thes. 3:10). But in reality, the amount of money and wealth which we receive is determined by God. According to His divine will and knowledge, He entrusts to each of us the amounts which He knows will be best for us.

What should be our reaction to our financial state? Some might pray, "Dear Lord, you must have made a mistake concerning me and my finances. Please give me more money." Others might try to circumvent God's design for their lives by trying to win the lottery or to obtain large sums of money through some other means. Mature Christians, however, will realize God's infinite wisdom far surpasses their limited perspective. They will accept with a thankful spirit what God has entrusted to them and seek to honor God by their living and by their giving.

The San Diego Food Bank registration process does not provide for groups such as TLC to sign up for an event. However, individuals from TLC may sign up for the same event.

Specifically, we would like to invite TLC members to sign up for a distribution event at St. Steven's Cathedral, 5825 Imperial Ave. San Diego, CA 92114, 12:30 to 3:30pm on Tuesday, February 6. Typically, we are finished by 3pm. We can meet to carpool from TLC. Afterwards, we could reconvene for a glass of wine, if desired.

Participants need to be at least 16 years old. Volunteer hours will be accredited for those who need hours for school or work.

Duties include setting up cones for traffic control as well as distribution tables. During the event, we will be loading food into client's cars.

If you are interested, please register individually at sandiegofoodbank.org and send your e-mail address to me at phovde@netscape.net. You will also need to register specifically for St. Steven's which generally opens around 10 days before the event. I will send an e-mail to those interested as soon as I see that St. Steven's has opened.



Thanks,
Pete Hovde

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Please join us at 8:30am on Sundays or at 10am for In Person Worship
Or on Facebook Live.

Kids Worship Saturdays at 4:30pm for worship pizza and activities.

Tierrasanta Lutheran Church
TLC Office: 858-560-8688
Web Site: www.tierrasantalutheran.org
TLC Pre-School: 858-292-7446

*On the front cover: Jim and Marcia Abbott
and family at Christmas Eve worship.*

