

A photograph of palm trees silhouetted against a sunset sky over the ocean. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a warm orange and yellow near the horizon. The palm trees are dark against the lighter sky, and the ocean is visible in the lower half of the frame.

sea breeze

February 2018

THOUGHTS OF JOY



I cannot believe it, but we are already looking forward to the beginning of Lent. Didn't we just celebrate Christmas? Lent arrives this month. This year, Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day, February 14th.

In the modern era, Lent has come to mean a time of penance, but historically it was a time of preparation. Early Christian confirmands used the six weeks prior to Easter to prepare for their reception into the Church. Preparation took the form of classes, witnessing, praying, and fasting. Then, at sunrise on Easter morning they would be baptized and received into new life as a Christian.

This year, I'd like us to reclaim the original meaning of Lent and make it be a time of preparation for us to receive the rebirth of Easter. Ash Wednesday will begin our preparation as we celebrate a 12:00pm service at Christ Church by the Sea. (The service is at noon so you can still go out with your Valentine that night.)

This Ash Wednesday service will be different than most you have attended in the past. I have planned a Taizé service for us. It will include prayer, contemplation, scripture, and the imposition of ashes. Taizé worship also includes lots of candles and chanted music. This style of worship is designed to prepare your spirit for Lent.

The service will last approximately forty minutes, so that those of you who work may find it possible to schedule this special time into your lunch hour.

As I said, this Lent will be a time of preparation. To prepare our hearts and minds for the passion and resurrection of Christ, we will participate in a Lenten study on grace. It is, of course, our salvation through God's grace that we celebrate on Easter. I will also preach a sermon series through Lent entitled, "No Curbside Parking or Waiting." We will examine why we must not linger in places of comfort, but move forward as disciples in sharing God's good news.

Finally, we will also use Lent to prepare not only for our special Easter Sunday worship experiences, but also for a "Sunday of Service" that will immediately follow Easter. Our "Sunday of Service" will see us working in the community rather than sitting in worship on the Sunday after Easter. More details will follow in the March Sea Breeze.

I'm excited to reclaim Lent from a time of sitting in our sins for a time of preparing our hearts and souls for God's greatest gift, our salvation through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Join me!

Peace & Grace, Pastor Joy

FIND YOUR SANCTUARY



Gratitude from Project Gratitude



Thank you to everyone who participated in the latest round of Project Gratitude. We wrote nearly 60 personal thank you notes to the Newport Beach police officers. The police chief was very excited. Good job!

Our next round of notes will go to our partners in service, the staff and volunteers at Share Ourselves (SOS). We plan to get our pens ready right after Easter. Look for the next dates in the March Sea Breeze.

Women's Breakfast

Tuesday, February 6 at 8:30am at Malarky's. Join us for fellowship, food and fun!
This is our monthly gathering for women of Christ Church to connect center.

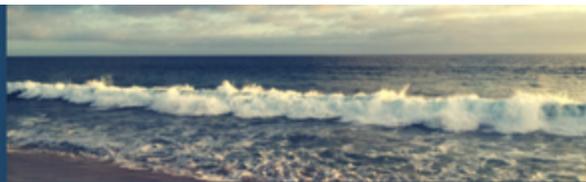
Yoga Changes

Are you confused? I am! When we began our yoga classes last July, we set a price of \$5 per class. However, the attendance has trended downward in the past few months, costing the church more than we can manage, so we've had to re-evaluate what we charge for each class.

Beginning February 1st, both our Wednesday's Seated Yoga AND our Sundays Gentle-flow Mat Yoga will increase in price to \$10.00 per class. It's still a great bargain and we have one of the best yoga instructors in Orange County working with us.

We're sorry to have to make this change, so bring friends to classes with you, which may allow us to reduce the price in the future. Remember, we meet on Wednesdays at 10:15am in the Sanctuary, and Sundays at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. See you there!

FIND YOUR SANCTUARY



An Invitation from Your Finance Team

I am writing to you as the newly appointed Chair of Finance. In our January Leadership meeting, we approved the 2018 budget with a \$22,784 deficit. In this budget, we planned for 75% of our apportionments (our giving to the California Pacific Annual Conference), with our goal to get back to 100%. We anticipate \$208,630 in income and \$231,414 in expenses.

Our biggest shortfall in 2017 was a \$14,588 decline in “givers of record.” These are people who give regularly, but do not pledge. Our beach parking initiative was about \$5000 less than the previous year with LA Unified schools starting school, mid-August. So we built the budget with the lesser numbers in those income lines.

With that being said, we typically underspend our expenses by around \$13,000, so we believe our true shortfall is around \$10,000.

Some items to help us save on the budget:

We going to reach out to Southern CA Edison to help re-lamp the church to save significant lighting costs.

We are filing paperwork to get a tax break for the parsonage.

We are marketing our property for group parking, group events, and weddings.

Execute the Vision Plan to introduce more people to our ministry.

How can you help?

We asked for a 13th month contribution in December. If you were not able to make that contribution, we would not turn away any attempt to make it now!

Stay current with your pledges, if you can give 10% more each month that would help.

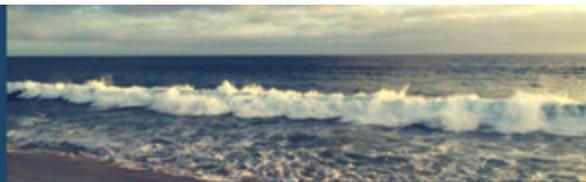
Be a disciple; get involved in the Vision Plan and find the area in which your strengths will make a difference.

The Leadership team and I are confident that with prayer, fiscal prudence, discipleship, and the execution of our Vision Plan, we will end the year with a balanced financial statement.

Peace,
Cathy Saari

Note: All financial reports are available in the church office.

FIND YOUR SANCTUARY



Studying Grace for Lent

This year, Christ Church by the Sea is using the six-weeks of Lent to prepare our hearts and souls for Easter. To that end, we will study the concepts of grace and how grace is reflected in Jesus' sacrifice for us on the cross.

The book that we'll read for our Lenten study is: "A Grace-Full Life: God's All-Reaching, Soul-Saving, Character-Shaping, Never-Ending Love" by Jorge Acevedo and Wes Olds.

Grace. It's a game changer. And when never-ending love comes from God, it sometimes feels like more than you can take. Why does God want to have a personal relationship with me? How can I fully experience and respond to God's grace? What does "grace" really mean?

In *A Grace-Full Life*, you'll examine a Wesleyan understanding of grace for the common person. You'll learn about various forms of grace—prevenient grace, justifying grace, sanctifying grace, and glorifying grace—and you'll come away knowing how God's grace truly works in your life.

Join us for four weeks beginning Tuesday, February 27th. There are two classes offered every Tuesday on the same subject, one from 10:30am-12:00pm and a second from 7:00pm-8:30pm. Both will be held in the church sanctuary. Books become available on Sunday, February 18th and cost \$10.00 each.



**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

Wednesday,
February 14

Taize Worship at Noon



Leadership Team Minutes

Minutes of January 20, 2018 Next meeting 2/24/18, Lynne providing eats.

Present: Susanne, Susan, Karen, Cathy, Nancy R., Kay, Ray, Lynne, Pastor Joy

Absent: Mari, Nancy S.

Meeting called to order by Pastor Joy; minutes approved. Devotion centered around the question: How is it with your soul? We shared our responses.

*Pastor's Report:

Vision/Action Plan - Team members are to answer the questions about Discipleship in the booklet: "See all the People - Intentional Discipleship System Questions". The team will meet to discuss their answers. The District Assessment Team will meet with us in April. We discussed joining with Newport Center UMC to hold a Day of Service for the Newport Beach community on the Sunday after Easter (4/8).

Pastor Joy will be out of the office on vacation January 28 to February 13.

Ash Wednesday Service will be Wednesday, February 14 at noon.

UMW Sunday is January 28. There will be a speaker on the subject of homelessness in Orange County.

The next Bible Study will start in February, exact dates to be decided. The subject will be: Grace!

*Trustees: Bob Fellers, Jill Musser, and Chuck Remley have joined this Ad Hoc committee. Ray reported plumbing problems continue in the men's bathroom. It was suggested that the pipes need regular Roto-rooting, maybe 2x a year. Instructive signage is needed. The carpet needs to be removed in the Bell Library. Touch-up painting is required elsewhere. The electrical panel upgrade has been deferred. More lighting in the hallway by the kitchen is requested by the Children's Center. (SoCal Edison will replace bulbs and fixtures gratis for non-profit groups.) The parsonage has multiple problems. Susan and Pastor Joy will deal with the tree issue. The new rails at the altar, and the new signage and lighting have received high praise.

*Finance: The 2018 Budget was thoroughly discussed. Nancy moved that we adopt it, Lynne seconded, and it was accepted by vote. All financial reports are available in the office. There is a deficit of at least \$9K. The discussion included unanimous votes to move designated funds for Family Promise and VBS/Youth to the Jubilee fund. We will continue to pay part of our apportionments, hoping to pay 75% in 2018. Summer parking needs to be evaluated and maybe revised. The 13th Month Campaign was moderately successful.

*Outreach: It was decided to give the Family Promise linens and supplies to the Family Promise office, and if they don't need them, to the Salvation Army for use in the burn/flood areas north of us. Karen will follow up. No report on Holy Listening. Project Gratitude will concentrate next on thanking the police for their work. Future projects might include the SOS volunteers and the Parks and Rec employees. Susan reported that the SOS "Adopt-a-Family" was very successful, with many members contributing.

*Children's Center: There are 51 pre-school children, and 25 school-aged children. The budget shows a 17K surplus. New members of the Board are: Chuck Remley, Pat Fellers, and Diana Hensley. Nancy Smith is chairperson.

*Staff-Parish closed session to discuss staff evaluations then occurred.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Brown, Scribe

CHURCH CALENDAR



February 2018 Calendar

Thursday, Feb 1st

8:00am: Men's Breakfast - Malarkys

Sunday, Feb 4th

10:00am: Worship

1:30pm: Gentle Flow Yoga, Hall

Tuesday, Feb 6th

8:30am: Women's Breakfast - Malarky's

Wednesday, Feb 7th

10:15am: Seated Yoga - Sanctuary

7:00pm: Choir Practice

Thursday, Feb 8th

8am: Men's Breakfast - Malarkys

Sunday, Feb 11th

10:00am: Worship

1:30pm: Gentle Flow Yoga, Hall

Wednesday, Feb 14th

10:15am: Seated Yoga - Sanctuary

12:00pm: Ash Wednesday Taizé Service

7:00pm: Choir Practice

Thursday, Feb 15th

8:00am: Men's Breakfast - Malarkys

Sunday, Feb 18th

10:00am: Worship

1:30pm: Gentle Flow Yoga, Hall

Monday, Feb 19th

President's - Office Closed

Wednesday, Feb 21st

10:15am: Seated Yoga - Sanctuary

7:00pm: Choir Practice

Thursday, Feb 22nd

8:00am: Men's Breakfast - Malarkys

District Superintendent Hosting Office Hours at Christ Church

Saturday, Feb 24th

8:30am: Leadership Team Meeting - Hall

Sunday, Feb 25th

10:00am: Worship

1:30pm: Gentle Flow Yoga, Hall

Tuesday, Feb 27th

10:30am: Lenten Bible Study (Begins 2/27-3/20)

7:00pm: Lenten Bible Study (Begins 2/27-3/20)

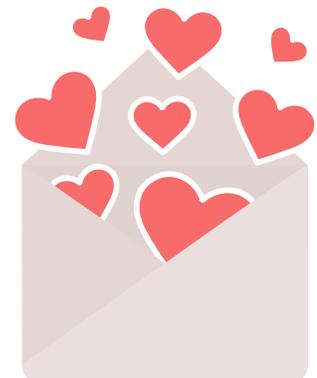
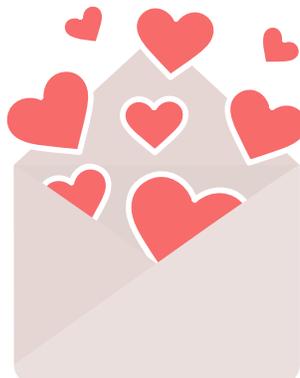
Wednesday, Feb 28

10:15am: Seated Yoga - Sanctuary

7:00pm: Choir Practice

Church Family Birthdays in February

Mary Joan Morris	4th
Sandi Kjar	4th
Heidi Undlin	17th
Jack Christenson	18th
Sam Christenson	18th
Logan Jenkins	19th
Karen Mascitelli	24th
Ray Kjar	27th
Helen Riker	28th



CHRIST CHURCH
BY THE SEA

1400 W Balboa Blvd
Newport Beach, CA 92661

CHRIST CHURCH
BY THE SEA

Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 10:00am-1:00pm
949-673-3805

Staff Directory

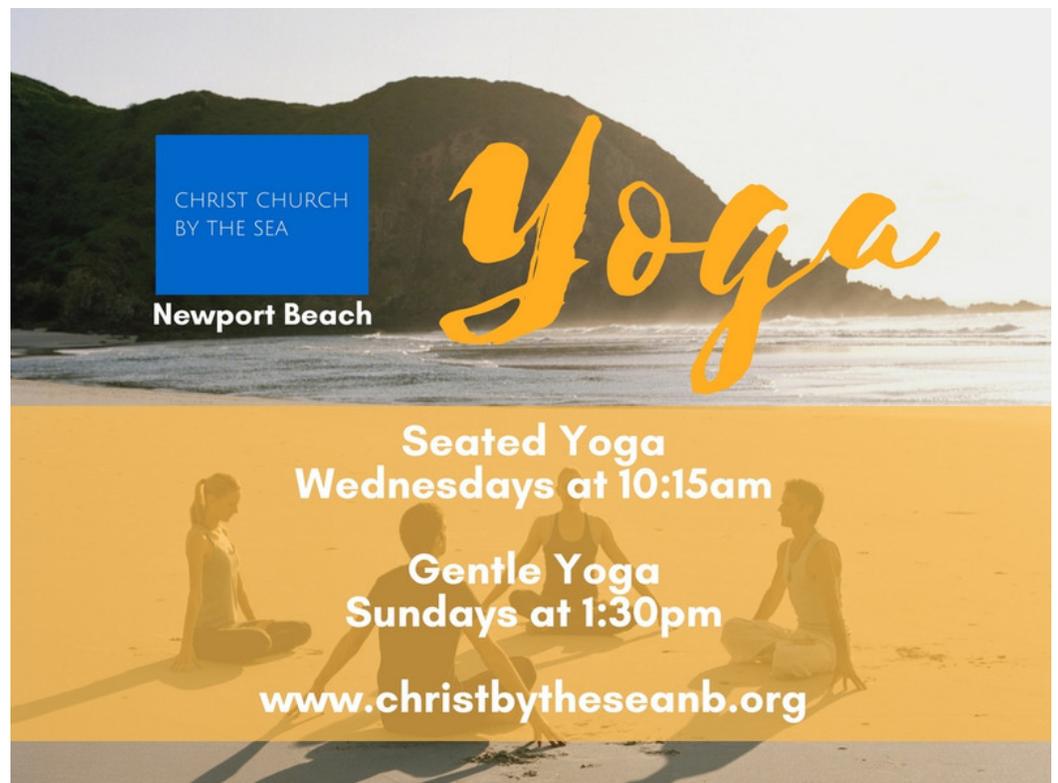
Rev. Joy Price
Lead Pastor
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Lori Weigel
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Andrew Ponder Williams
Growth and Communications Specialist
andrew@christbytheseanb.org

Craig Davis
Director of Music

Jill Musser
Children's Center Director
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CHRIST CHURCH
BY THE SEA

Newport Beach

Yoga

Seated Yoga
Wednesdays at 10:15am

Gentle Yoga
Sundays at 1:30pm

www.christbytheseanb.org