

FEBRUARY 2019



# The Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

*Rancho Palos Verdes, California*

IF WE LOVE  
ONE ANOTHER,  
**GOD**  
LIVES IN US  
AND **HIS**  
**LOVE**  
IS MADE  
COMPLETE IN US.

1 JOHN 4:12, NIV



28850 S. WESTERN AVENUE ♦ RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA ♦ 90275

1.310.831.0848 ♦ [www.christpv.com](http://www.christpv.com) ♦ [office@clschool.org](mailto:office@clschool.org)





## Christ Lutheran Church & School

Office Hours: Monday–Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
[www.christrvp.com](http://www.christrvp.com)  
310.831.0848

### Office Staff

**Pastor**  
Vacant

**Principal (x1120)**  
Dennis Jacobson, [principal@clschool.org](mailto:principal@clschool.org)

**Office Manager (x1121)**  
Philomena Howard, [philo@clschool.org](mailto:philo@clschool.org)

**Secretary (x1100)**  
Michelle Dorling, [office@clschool.org](mailto:office@clschool.org)

**Admissions & Marketing  
(x1123)**  
Samantha Fulton, [sfulton@clschool.org](mailto:sfulton@clschool.org)

**Bookkeeper (x1122)**  
Renee Barrientos, [rbarrientos@clschool.org](mailto:rbarrientos@clschool.org)

**Children's Ministry (x1103)**  
Tami Ruano, [truano@clschool.org](mailto:truano@clschool.org)

**Music Director (x1104)**  
Christopher Saraga,  
[30topher01-1969@clschool.org](mailto:30topher01-1969@clschool.org)

### Church Council

**President**  
John Jaacks, [jax8@cox.net](mailto:jax8@cox.net)

**Vice President**  
Bill Dahlgren, [apache1223@aol.com](mailto:apache1223@aol.com)

**Secretary**  
Karen Klebingat, [karenk8000@aol.com](mailto:karenk8000@aol.com)

**Treasurer**  
Bob Galvan, [bobgalvan@cox.net](mailto:bobgalvan@cox.net)

**Trustee Chair**  
Terry Balog, [terry@frogenv.com](mailto:terry@frogenv.com)

**Board of Education, Chair**  
Audrey Dahlgren, [drdahlg@aol.com](mailto:drdahlg@aol.com)

## The Origin of the New Testament and its Apocrypha

*Bill Dahlgren, Chief Elder, Christ Lutheran Church*

Many people believe that the books of the New Testament were made authoritative by canon councils. Not so, by 100 AD all 27 books of the New Testament were being used by Christians as instructed by the apostles. No more authoritative books were written after the death of John about 100AD.

We must remember that from Inception of the Christian church on Pentecost to 330AD, we only had the Hebrew Old Testament and many letters and the gospels. None of the Christian literature was put into one book. Constantine declared the Roman Empire Christian in 320AD. It was brought to his attention that many Christian churches had different liturgy due to the churches only having parts of the New Testament. In 320AD, Constantine ordered Eusebius to make 50 Bibles consisting of the Old Hebrew Testament and the New Testament. We have always accepted the Hebrew Old Testament. For the OT is the book that Christ and his apostles used. They never used the Apocrypha and that is the main reason we do not accept the Apocrypha. Constantine ordered 50 Bibles written by Eusebius, bishop of Caesarea. Caesarea was located on the shores of Israel and had the most complete Christian library at his disposal. Eusebius ordered his scribes to make 50 copies of the first Bible. Most Christian scholars believe that the *Codex Vaticanus* and the *Codex Sinaiticus* are the only remaining manuscripts. The *Codex Vaticanus* is in Rome and the *Codex Sinaiticus* is in the British museum. It is believed that all Bibles came from these manuscripts.

Eusebius classified most all of the 27 books as not disputed after conferring with the other major church bishops at that time. Since 100 AD, a lot of new books had been written which he classified as disputed or heretical. All of the books are in the original 50 manuscripts written by Eusebius's scribes.

A conflict began to arise among Christians. In about 140 AD, a man named Marcion arrived in Rome and began preaching only 10 letters of Paul and portions of Luke, he was starting his own religion. This movement grew to such an extent the Christian church leaders saw the necessity to more clearly formalize the distinction between what was and was not authoritative scripture. This led to a list of writing considered authoritative by the Christian church.

*(continued on pages 3-4)*

## *N.T. Criteria for Canonization*

*What was the decision based on for deciding canonicity of N.T. books:*

- 1) Apostolicity. The writings had to possess apostolic authority. This means it either had to be written by an apostle, or by men closely associated with the apostles in their ministry- such as Mark was with Peter and Paul and Barnabas (Acts 14;14) and as Luke was with Paul.
- 2) Whether these books were received by the churches. The phrase, “read in the churches” is often repeated in the writings of the church fathers, spiritual leaders following the apostles. When it says this, it means these books are read in the churches as a whole, not in some scattered churches. There was a consensus among Christians demonstrating the reception of these books as being inspired. Some were read for a while and then dropped, and no longer read in the churches. Only that which could qualify as God’s Word was to be read in churches. There was existing in N.T. times the Holy Spirit gift of discernment. This gift was brought to bear at this time to recognize what was and was not God’s word, both orally and written.
- 3) The use of the book by the church fathers in their writing. In other words, confirmation by pastor-teachers in their teaching and preaching ministry, recognizing these books as having the stamp of God’s inspiration on them.
- 4) Consistency with doctrine received orally from the apostles. This doctrine was called “the rule of faith,” and a book would not be accepted that contradicted what the apostles had said. Today the question for us is, we look at a doctrine and go back to the Scriptures and say, “so we find this doctrine in the Scriptures,” and as such it confirms the doctrine.
- 5) The internal conviction and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit governed the writing of the N.T. Scriptures, and he guided in the selection of the books which we have in our N.T. So today, there is agreement among Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Protestants, and others-no debate, no segment of Christendom used any other books than these 27.

This simply document and formalized the list of books which the early Christian church had already considered authoritative. (Before 100 AD).

It was necessary to canonize any new books that were purposed after 100 AD. This was mainly due to the Gnostics trying to add their books to the New Testament. Gnostics maintained that flesh and matter were evil and that man could be saved only by releasing his spirit from his imprisonment in his corrupt body. Many Gnostic thinkers seized upon the gospel story as the ultimate example of the triumph of spirit over matter. They claimed that Jesus had not actually been a man but a manifestation of the spirit, which and take on material form in order to bring his message to men. The god who sent Jesus was not the god of the Old Testament, who had created the evil material world, but the true god, the lord of spirit. Such Gnostic ideas varied radically from the teaching of Jesus and the doctrine of the church. Jesus had been a real man, and his triumph had been not over the flesh but over death. His life and death represented the fulfilment of the prophecies of the Hebrew Old Testament, and his god was the same god who had created the universe.

Another group of heretics were called Arianism, follower of Arius, holding that Jesus was not of the same substance of god but was only the highest of created beings. Because of these people, the council of Nicaea was called. Here 318 of the church of bishops met in Nicaea in 325 AD and voted them wrong. 300 bishops voted against Arianism saying that the Father, Son and Holy Ghost were one. This is the basis for our Nicene Creed.

Due to Gnostics and Arianism trying to change the New Testament, a canon meeting was held in Carthage in 397 AD that would canonize the present 27 books of the New Testament. This council in Carthage simply confirmed the 27 books that the apostles had made authoritative and denied the myriad of books presented by Gnostics and Arianism. The Hebrew Old testament was never in contention.

## *Inerrancy of the New Testament*

Some people say that the New Testament has been revised to the point that it no longer gives us the original message. The Muslims use this argument to say that only their messages true as they say the Koran has not been changed since it was written.

## Here is why the Muslims are wrong

Most scholars agree the *Codex Vaticanus* and the *Codex Sinaiticus* were written by the scribes of Eusebius and are the scribes of the 50 original Bibles. Carbon dating has proven their time of writing. The *Codex Sinaiticus* lay in St. Catherine's monastery from 400 AD to 1844 undisturbed as the Greek monks didn't know the *Codex Sinaiticus* was there. It was found by Constantine Tischendorf a Swiss Bible scholar in 1844. He took it to Rome and compared it to the *Codex Vaticanus* and found the *Codex Sinaiticus* was written by the scribes of Eusebius but more important there were no significant changes between the two.



## Goals for the **NEW YEAR**

*2019 Goals: Enduring*  
*President John Jaacks*

To give honor and glory to the Triune God, to carry out His will to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the entire world.

To manifest the unity of our faith in Jesus Christ as God and Savior, and to foster Christian fellowship and love.

To extend a helping hand to human need.

To preach the Word of God by the administration of the sacraments and by the religious instruction of all its members according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

## 2019 Goals: Calendar Year

Call and install a new pastor

Achieve a balanced budget

Increase of ten percent in church membership

Start a youth oriented second church service

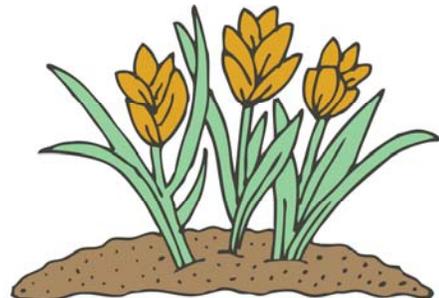
Increase our school enrollment to 205 plus preschool of 50

Develop a financial review committee to review the CLCS budget of 2019-2020.

Grow our Sunday School and Children's' Ministry.

Establish a Security Committee to provide ongoing surveillance and the direction to our church and School.

Create an even better loving, caring Christian atmosphere honoring the Lord and those who have gone before us.



WHAT IS  
**SOWN**  
IS PERISHABLE;  
WHAT IS  
**RAISED**  
IS IMPERISHABLE.

1 Corinthians 15:42

## A MESSAGE OF *Love*

Make this valentine for a family member or friend.



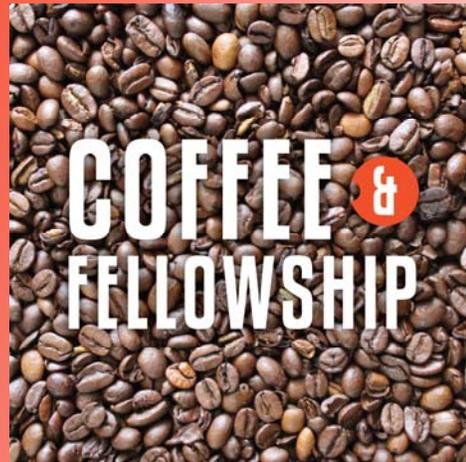
### What you need:

- 10 wooden craft sticks
- Painter's tape
- Markers
- A photo and glue (optional)
- Craft knife (and adult help)
- Ribbon or a rubber band

### What you do:

1. Set the sticks side by side. Secure with two tape strips.
2. Flip the sticks over. Draw (or glue on) a picture or write a message or Bible verse. If using glue, let dry.
3. Flip the sticks again and remove tape. If you glued on a photo, have an adult help cut the sticks (and photo) apart.
4. Secure the sticks with ribbon or a rubber band.
5. Deliver the gift and invite the recipient to assemble the puzzle.

## *Fellowship Update*



The New Year is here, and already it feels like it is flying by us. January was a quiet month here in the congregation, as the outside world has been anything but quiet, it is reassuring to know there are places in the world where you can still feel peace and calm when the times around us may feel like anything but.

On January 27<sup>th</sup> we enjoyed one of our annual family services with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders for a nice start to the New Year. The children sing their praises and join us in Fellowship for treats and celebration after. At the end of the month we begin National Lutheran Schools week which gives us the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in the schools of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

As you look for ways to serve in the coming year, please consider joining us for service on Sundays and signing up for Fellowship!

See you around the coffee and donuts,

*Annette Balog*

[annettembalog@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annettembalog@sbcglobal.net)

# Player's Corner

*introducing our Charger Sports Athletes  
photo credit and stories by Athletic Director, Coach Tony  
and Charger Sports Coordinator, Miss Lisa*



*Brendan Liegey* is one of our three 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' soccer players this year. Besides playing for a time when he was little, he played for the CLS team in 6<sup>th</sup> grade as well. Brendan likes to play defense and likes that, as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, he gets lots of playing time during the games. He has played other sports in the past like swimming, rugby, and he does Jr. Guards. For high school next year, he is keeping his options open. We enjoy having Brendan as one of the Chargers this year!



*Peter Holly* started playing soccer in preschool, which is clear when you watch him on the field! He spent many years with his friend Edson's dad as his coach. Peter realized he was getting serious about soccer the first time he was invited to join a select team. His favorite part of soccer is joking around, playing with his friends, and having fun. We are lucky he is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and we have one more year with Peter on the Chargers team!



## History Comes to Life in the "Walk Through" Programs



## News from the Computer Lab

It was an exciting time in the computer lab as the 3rd graders had an opportunity to present their PowerPoint presentations to their classmates completing the "My Life" project where students spent months learning to use the Microsoft PowerPoint program to create a slideshow with pictures, copy and creative designs to share their hobbies and hopes for the future.

The 4th & 5th grade students participated in the *Walk Through California* and *Walk Through the American Revolution* this month. This is a program that comes to our campus each year and is sponsored by the Parent Teacher League. It is a great opportunity for our students to step back in time as they take on the persona of people and places throughout California and America.





*Miss Elise serving up snow cones to our preschoolers as part of a science lesson!*



## Kindergarten Shape Snowmen

### Lessons in Winter

We may not have snow in these parts, but that won't stop us from enjoying winter and getting creative the Snow Cones and Snowmen in an effort to drive home some very fun lessons!

In winter math, we have created snowmen using circles, rectangles, squares, triangles, hexagons, trapezoids, and diamonds. We will count and graph the number and types of shapes we use, and will also integrate our snowmen into our Bible lesson about how a snowman can remind us of the three persons of the Trinity: God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and how God works to bless, protect, forgive, and save us!

Blessings,  
*Ms. Sooh*

