

# The Christian Visitor

JANUARY 2020~VISTA LA MESA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## NEW MEMBERS & FRIENDS CELEBRATION POTLUCK SUNDAY, JANUARY 12TH

We will have our Second Annual New Members & Friends Potluck after worship on January 12th. We are asking Flock 1 to bring desserts, Flocks 2 & 3 to bring main dishes, and Flock 4 to bring side dishes & salads. There will be another Flock Competition, so make sure your flock members are here! If you can help in the kitchen, please let Fellowship Chair Jennefer Lehton know asap. Come celebrate growth with us!

## Interfaith Shelter Is Here!

Interfaith Shelter has arrived! VLMCC is hosting December 28th through January 11th. There are several ways to assist with this important ministry. We need donations for breakfast and lunch, and dinners each night. We especially need volunteers to be overnight hosts. You can sign up on the clipboards in the Fellowship Hall or by using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050548a4a62caa8-vlminterfaith>. Thank you for your generosity!

Shelter will be departing on the day of our **January Welcome Saturday**, so we also need your time and donations for that! The sign-up sheets are in Bailey Hall. See Amy or Karen if you have any questions about how to help.

## ONLINE GIVING!

We are almost ready to launch our online giving platform! We are using [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) as our platform. You can search for us there, but we will be working this month to get donation buttons set up on [vlmcc.org](http://vlmcc.org). You can also add the app to your phone. This is a great way for people who don't carry cash or checks to become regular givers and support the ministries of our congregation!

There are fees associated with this option, so if you're content giving with paper, please continue doing so! For those interested in setting up electronic giving, please consider doing it with a debit card or directly from your bank account, because those fees are lower than payments with credit cards.

## Bible Study in January

I give thanks for the special "Beyond Sentimentality" series we have had during Advent. On **January 5th**, we will return to regular Bible study with a **four-week series on the book of the prophet Hosea**. This is an extraordinary text filled with language and insights that are very appropriate for our own day. We spent only one week on Hosea back in 2017, so it will be good to revisit this prophet at the beginning of 2020.

Then, in **February, Tesa will lead us in a study of the Acts of the Apostles**.

I am sure you will join me in looking forward to her leadership in our study! ~Michael

## From My View at the Table

Dear Church,

Your presence matters! On the last Sunday of 2019, we launched a series called Worship/Life. The goal of this five-week series is to show how your presence and participation in worship are a such an important part of our congregation's commitment to cultivating vitality and growth. We hope to give everyone a renewed and deepened understanding of what it means to participate in worship as individuals, so that as a gathering of God's people, we can fully experience the abundant life we have in Christ.

The 2020 Vision of the Christian Church, initiated by former General Minister & President Dick Hamm, calls us to be "a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality, and a passion for justice." One of the four priorities of the 2020 Vision is to revitalize 1000 Disciples congregations. Vista La Mesa is poised to be one of them!

Your presence in worship is a huge part of how we get there. Our Sunday worship service is our "front door", the thing that first-time visitors use to assess whether they want to get more deeply involved with our community. If you're not here, we're not operating at full strength! We hope that everyone will resolve to make 2020 the year to Be In Church.

Another part of this process is that we'll be spending time over the next few months clarifying our guiding values. Knowing who we are and why we're here makes it easier to share that vision with others! I hope you'll join in these important conversations!

grace & peace,

*Pastor Rebecca*

### Pastor's Schedule

Pastor Rebecca and Todd will be going to see her sister & family in Germany for two weeks, leaving on January 30th. They will be back late the night of February 13th. Tesa Hauser will lead the service on February 2nd, and Michael Kinnamon will lead the service on February 9th.

### OUR MISSION

To share the joy of God's love.

To nurture one another to wholeness.

To motivate each other to Christian witness.

To effect healing in a hurting world.

### Women's Study Group

January 3, 17 & 31

10 am in the Library

We hope you

can join us!

### The Elders & Deacons

January breakfast

meeting will be held on

Sunday, January 19th

(instead of the 12th) to

avoid overlapping with

the Potluck.

Elders & Deacons,

please be present and

bring a dish to share.

Thanks!

### **CAMP NITE IS COMING!**

We hope you'll join us for our fourth annual Camp Nite "Breakfast for Dinner & Talent Show" fundraiser! We've moved this event into the early spring to avoid conflicts with other activities.

On Saturday, February 22nd, at 5:30 pm, we will be serving breakfast for dinner, Loch Leven-style complete with cinnamon rolls. Then we'll head to the sanctuary for a camp-style Talent Show! Tickets are \$5 and a free will offering will be collected during the show.

All proceeds will go to our Camp Fund, which helps our kids attend summer & winter camps at Loch Leven. If you would like to perform for the show, please let Pastor Rebecca know asap.

Thanks so much for your  
generous Christmas gifts to us!

love & blessings,  
the Staff of VLMCC

Francia Berry Stephanie Cadiero  
Ellen O'Toole Scott Tiemann  
Deborah Wilson Tesa Hauser  
Rebecca Littlejohn

Praying &  
Coloring  
Saturday  
1/25, 1 pm  
In the Library  
Everyone is  
welcome!

*Note: Both lunches are a  
week later than normal!  
(The calendar was printed before the  
date for Lunch Bunch was changed.)*

**Women's Lunch**  
Wednesday, 1/8  
11:30 am  
Marie Callender's  
Hosted by Lyn & Grace

**Lunch Bunch**  
Wednesday, 1/22  
11:30 am @ Anthony's  
The Baileys Hosting

## Novels Tea

Novels Tea (a small group for  
working women) will meet on Sunday,  
January 12th at 3 pm in Classroom 4.  
We will be discussing the book  
"Feed", by M.T. Anderson. Please  
bring a tea cup and a fancy snack to  
share if you can!



## Can You Help?

We will be putting away the  
Christmas decorations after  
worship on Sunday, January 5th.  
Because GA will be meeting in the  
sanctuary (due to Shelter) that  
afternoon, we'll need many  
helpers so we can get it all done as  
quickly as possible. Thanks!



## IN OUR PRAYERS...

For more information, please contact the Church Office at 619-463-9909.  
Thank You.

## Happy Birthday!

- Jan. 4 - Patty Severns
- Jan. 5 - Ray Adsit
- Jan. 13 - Julia Tiffany
- Jan. 15 - Himston Flores
- Jan. 16 - Troy Gurling
- Jan. 20 - Sonny Cusumano
- Jan. 23 - Jackie Hahn
- Jan. 24 - Tracy Stockdall
- Jan. 27 - Mary Jane Fay

## Happy Anniversary!

- Jan. 6  
Ray & Victoria Adsit
- Jan. 20  
George & Donna Moss
- Jan. 24  
Bob & Beckie Neely

# YOUTH NEWS

On Sunday, January 5th we will host the **PYG All-Ages Skating Party!** We'll be walking over to Super Oscar's for lunch and then to the Kroc Center. Parents, if you bring younger kids, please accompany them. Skate rental is \$10. No need to pay if you're not skating. We can cover skate rental as needed.

Our next **Partnership Youth Group meeting** is at University Christian Church, 12:30-2:00 on Sunday, January 26th. Make a point of being here that day!

This year **Winter Camps** will be held for Junior High and High School the same weekend, **at Loch Leven, January 17-20.** Jan Camp is for grades 6-8, and Chalice Camp is for grades 9-12. Visit [www.disciplespswr.org/camp](http://www.disciplespswr.org/camp) for more information and registration forms. We can help pay the fees from our Camp Fund. Let Pastor Rebecca know ASAP if you'd like to go. We will try to arrange car-pooling with other San Diego churches.

Look for information elsewhere in this newsletter about our upcoming **Camp Nite** Fundraiser! We need your presence, your service, and your talents!

## Share Your Gifts!

As part of our Worship/Life Series this month, we are encouraging everyone to consider new ways that you might participate in worship. There is a clipboard going around that invites you to express interest in leading the Children's Moment, serving as Lay Reader, or sharing a Faith Story or Offering Invitation. We are also always looking for Worship Greeters and Offering Counters (or occasional subs for both those positions). Please ask Pastor Rebecca if you have any questions about these various roles and what they entail. Part of our worship of God is the diversity of voices lifted up in our service! Your participation makes a difference!

## The Board of VLMCC

VLM's Board will meet on **Wednesday, January 22nd** at 7:00 pm, in the Library. All members are welcome to attend these meetings.

Board Members – Your **reports are due Friday, January 10th.** The Administrative Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 14th, and we need your reports before that in order to organize the agenda. When you turn in written reports, it makes the meetings much more efficient, so thank you for making the effort!

One annual January item of business is the appointment of the **Nominating Committee** for 2020, who will then begin work on calling lay leaders for the 2020-2021 ministry year.



Brenda Rorie-Baety & Pastor Rebecca made a new nativity scene for the Sanctuary this year.

## Address Updates

We have some members and friends who have moved recently, who would like to share their new addresses with you.

Xavier & Maree Cotton (as of 1/25)  
1034A S. Tremont Street  
Oceanside, CA 92054

Sandy Hanna  
3789 Cypress Street  
La Mesa, CA 91941

Katie Yoder  
8361 Mellmanor Drive, # 6  
La Mesa, CA 91942

# January 2020 Worship Participants

	Jan 5	Jan 12	Jan 19	Jan 26
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Bob Neely	Ruth Tiffany	Walter Rorie-Baety	Katie Yoder
<b>Kids' Moment</b>	Karen Cliffe	Rebecca Littlejohn	Deborah Wilson	Rebecca Littlejohn
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Walter Rorie-Baety	Beckie Neely	Dick Penny	Mandy Dohring
<b>Offering Invite</b>	Larry Knight	Karen Cliffe	Jerry Bailey	Cheryl Davis-Plotts
<b>Elders</b>	Jerry Bailey Julie Germain	Cheryl Davis-Plotts Larry Knight	Tim Cliffe Beckie Neely	Mary Jane Fay Michael Martin
<b>Deacons</b>	Mary Alynn Fallon Bill Kwon Dick Penny Lace Watkins	Amanda Dohring Matt Hauser John Lehton Susan Peterson	Patrice Hill Jennefer Lehton Donna Morey Christine Lind	Ray Adsit Al Flores Daphne Flores Lyn Van Winkle
<b>Comm Prep</b> <b>Comm Set-up</b> <b>Comm Clean-up</b>	Matt Hauser Mandy Dohring Mandy Dohring	Susan Peterson Matt Hauser Matt Hauser	Matt Hauser Matt Hauser Matt Hauser	Mandy Dohring Mandy Dohring Mandy Dohring
<b>CWW</b>	Remain in worship	Helene Sisneros Cathy Mullican	Helene Sisneros Cheryl Davis-Plotts	Helene Sisneros
<b>Greeters</b>	Jerry & Norma Bailey	John Lehton Wavalea McKee	Larry Knight Jennefer Lehton	Ray Adsit Tim Tiffany
<b>Counters</b>	Mary Alynn Fallon John Lehton	Jerry Bailey Ruth Tiffany	Walter Rorie-Baety Lyn Van Winkle	Donna Morey John Lehton

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Flock 3– Deacons: Patrice Hill, Jennefer Lehton, John Lehton, Christine Lind

## WHO AND WHERE WE ARE

We are a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We are part of the Christian Church in the Pacific Southwest Region.

We are located at 4210 Massachusetts Ave. (at Boulevard Dr.), one block South of University Ave. in La Mesa, conveniently situated between Interstate 8 (exit at 70th St.) and the 94 Freeway (exit at Massachusetts), and very near the #852 bus line.

**Sundays: Bible Study @ 9:00 – Worship @ 10:30**

**Secretary's Hours: M-T 9-12, W 10:30-1:30, F 9-1**

## CHURCH STAFF

Ministers: **The Members of VLM**

Pastor: **Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn**

Ministerial Intern: **Tesa Hauser**

Church Secretary: **Ellen O'Toole**

Music Director: **Deborah Wilson**

Nursery: **Stephanie Cadiero & Francina Berry**

Custodian: **Scott Tiemann**

Church Tel. (619) 463-9909

Office E-mail: [admin@vlmcc.com](mailto:admin@vlmcc.com)

Pastor's E-mail: [pastor@vlmcc.com](mailto:pastor@vlmcc.com)

Church website: [www.vlmcc.org](http://www.vlmcc.org)