



# The Clarion

We are called to include all people seeking a relationship with Jesus.

Welcome to

**CLAIREMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**IGLESIA LUTERANA**



## PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR ADVENT (AND HAVING A LITTLE FUN ALONG THE WAY)

Hello church family,

Every November, I feel the tug-of-war begin: one hand reaching for twinkle lights, the other whispering, “Slow down.” Advent is God’s gift that helps us do exactly that—slow down to make room for Jesus. It’s the church’s New Year, a season of hopeful waiting, honest longing, and joyful preparation. Before we rush to the manger, we light a candle and breathe.

### What is Advent?

Advent simply means “arrival.” For four Sundays, we remember: **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.** We celebrate Christ’s first coming and lean forward to His promised return. It’s not just a countdown to Christmas—it’s a tune-up for our souls.



### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

English – 9:30 am

Español – 11:30 am

### Ministry Staff

**Senior Pastor: Manuel Borbon**

Cell: 971-533-5874

[pastor.manuel@clairemontlc.org](mailto:pastor.manuel@clairemontlc.org)

**Associate Pastor: Elena Enriquez**

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[iglesialuterana@clairemontlc.org](mailto:iglesialuterana@clairemontlc.org)

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[clc@clairemontlc.org](mailto:clc@clairemontlc.org)

**Children & Adult choirs:**

**Katy Lundeen**

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**Clarion Editor**

[clarion.editor@clairemontlc.org](mailto:clarion.editor@clairemontlc.org)

**December 2025  
CLARION DEADLINE**

**Thursday November 20 @ 4 p.m.**

## **Simple Ways to Prepare This November**

Think “small, steady steps,” not “perfect plan.” Try one or two of these:

- 1) Make a little space
- 2) Look at your calendar and gently remove one non-essential thing each week.
- 3) Create a 10-minute quiet corner — chair, Bible, candle, and a pen.
- 4) Start an Advent wreath at home

Four candles: purple, purple, pink, purple (plus a white Christ candle if you'd like).

- 5) Light one each week, read a verse, say a short prayer. Keep it simple and meaningful.
- 6) Build an Advent playlist (hymns and quiet carols) and let the lyrics till the soil of your heart.



### **A Pastoral Nudge**

Advent isn't about doing more; it's about making room. Imagine your heart as a manger—ordinary, a bit messy, but ready for a miracle. Let's not miss Jesus because we were too busy preparing for His party.

Here's a short prayer you might keep nearby:

“Come, Lord Jesus. Light our darkness with Your hope, quiet our worries with Your peace, awaken our hearts with Your joy, and root us in Your love. Make room in us for You. Amen.”

I'm grateful to wait and worship with you. Let's prepare His room — together.

With love and expectation,

**Manuel Humberto Borbon Talamante**

**Senior Pastor at Clairemont Lutheran Church.**

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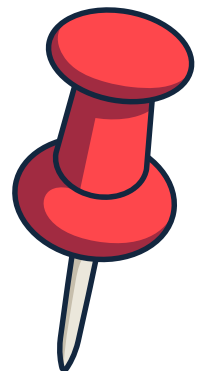
## **Share Your Stories with The Clarion!**

Have photos, event highlights, ministry updates, or personal reflections?

We'd love to include them in The Clarion! Help us tell the story of our church community.

✉ Send submissions to: [clarion.editor@clairemontlc.org](mailto:clarion.editor@clairemontlc.org)

📅 **Monthly deadline: the 20th**



## Thanksgiving

***"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"***  
***Thessalonians 5:18***

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite days of the year because it reminds me to count the blessings in my life and thank God. Things become so small once we realize how lucky and blessed, we are.

Every year we gather at home with our families and at the church with our family in Christ at Clairemont Lutheran Church/Iglesia Luterana to thank God, sometimes even in the midst of uncertainty, pain, and even death. I know that it would be easier to give thanks if everything was harmony and happiness in that world, but unfortunately it is not so because we live in an unjust world.

But we as Christians give thanks first of all for our God, because He never abandons us or forgets us even in the midst of all the difficulties that come our way. As we look back, we see that it was precisely in the most painful or difficult moments in our lives that we experienced God's great power and closeness to us most clearly.

He comforts us, sustains us, loves us.



Let us therefore keep our spirits attentive to the presence and goodness of God and let us not cease to thank Him in everything and for everything, always, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This year, as is a tradition in our Church, I invite you Wednesday, November 26, to come and thank God together for all the blessings He has given us in our congregation and individually. And as is customary, immediately after Thanksgiving Service we invite you to enjoy a delicious traditional dinner!

May God's grace, love, and fellowship be with you all.

Happy Thanksgiving!

**Pastor Elena**

## When does a Bible become a Church?

**By Bill Fredericks**

Several weeks ago, Pastor Manuel and I were standing at the altar, looking toward the narthex. He wondered aloud to me, “Why are the Dalle de Verre glass arches, formed in a way that they are best viewed by the Pastor at the altar instead of the congregation in the pews?” I have written several articles about the arches and how God’s Word (blue ) is expressed in the form and colors of the glass, from creation (white), to Jesus’ life, crucifixion, and resurrection (red to purple), to the end of time (amber). But when he asked, I had no answer.



A few days later I was across Clairemont Mesa Blvd. looking back toward the church. I suddenly knew the answer that Pastor Manuel was seeking. Pastor Vance Knutsen reminded us that the stacked arches of the sanctuary represent the open pages of a Bible, God’s own story. Were the pages stacked from back to front instead of front to back the way passers-by now see them, the congregation would have a better view of God’s story as told by the arches. But it is not only believers who need to receive God’s message. It is outsiders and non-believers to whom we must proclaim our belief in God and Jesus.





Now we should all remember the answer. The sanctuary that we know as Clairemont Lutheran Church Iglesia Luterana, was designed as a Bible; a Bible with its pages open to everyone. We must always remember the last command that Jesus gave to his disciples and to us in Matthew “28<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”



Support CCSA and outreach to those needing help at Christmas. We will provide Family Christmas Baskets. You can support this program by creating your own gift basket, donating items for the baskets, or making a monetary donation for us to purchase items. A flyer with information about items to donate will be available in the narthex.



**We will assemble Christmas Baskets on Sunday, December 7.**

CCSA clients needing help sign up with Clairemont or Pacific Beach centers.

**Baskets will be distributed by CCSA on December 11.**

**CCSA will also be providing Christmas Homeless Gift Bags.**

Suggested gift items: New knit gloves, New knit caps, Candy Bar (small size), a pair of socks, Wash washcloth, Hygiene products – toothbrush/paste, chapstick, new brush or comb, toothpaste (travel size), shampoo & conditioner (travel size), lotion (travel size), soap (travel size) nail clippers.

\*\*\*\*\* \$10 Gift card (McDonalds, Rite Aid, Jack in the Box, Subway, Vons Etc.)

Please contact **Heidi Acosta (858) 373 8634** if you have questions.

Fall 2025:

**"Money, Stewardship and Generosity"**  
by the Rev. Christa von Zychlin

### SESSION THREE

#### Stewardship – Generosity - A wideness in God's mercy

God loves a cheerful giver, because our cheer in giving reflects God's own cheerful mercies. Can the biblical practice of gleaning be considered a class in Generosity 101? We will consider the enemies of generosity: Pharoah, the stingy boss, and the "religion" of Mammonism. Finally, we will turn to the little-noticed women who were generous with Jesus, and the wild generosity of the first Christian churches.

**Focus Verse:** "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

**ALL are invited to attend one of the Gather Bible Studies.**

**Patience Bible Study:** Monday, November 10 at 12:30 p.m.

**Ruth Bible Study:** Thursday, November 13, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1.



### COMING UP



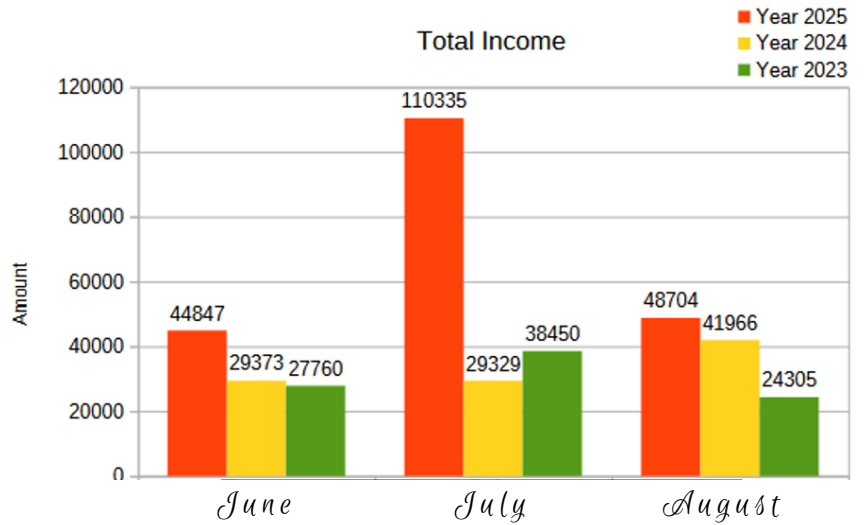
- **November 14-15 - Pacifica W-ELCA Convention & Gathering**  
At Clairemont Lutheran Church  
**Theme:** "Here I Am, Send Me"  
**Theme Verse:** Isaiah 6:8
- **Love Gifts** will be collected for CCSA (Community Christian Service Agency).
- **Registration Forms** are in the Narthex. Turn them in to Harriet Morris. See Harriet Morris or Janet Wood for more information.

# Church Business

## July, August, September Comparison of years 2023, 2024, 2025

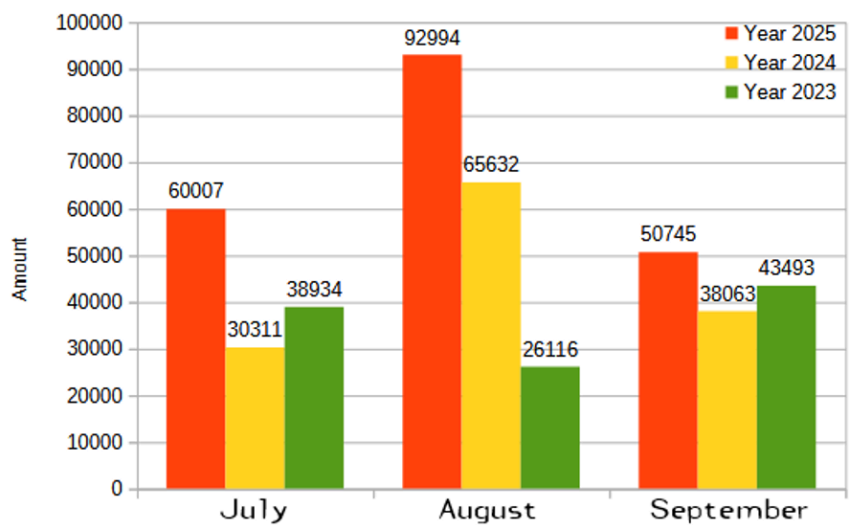
### Total income

		2025	2024	2023
7	July	110335	29329	38450
8	August	48704	41966	24305
9	September	23354	31203	38450



### Total Expenses

		2025	2024	2023
7	July	60007	30311	38934
8	August	92994	65632	26116
9	September	50745	38063	43493



## *Pacifica Women of the ELCA Annual Gathering*

Have you ever thought about attending the Pacifica Women of the ELCA Annual Convention, but thought it was too far away, too expensive, or inconvenient to be away for a whole weekend?

That has changed for this year because it is being held in our own backyard at *Clairemont Lutheran Church.*



**November 14-15, 2025**

**Theme: "Here I Am, Send Me"**

**Theme Verse: Isaiah 6:8**

**For questions, more information, or to get a Registration Form, See Harriet Morris or Janet Wood.**

➡ It all begins on **Friday afternoon, November 14**, with registration beginning at 2:00 p.m. The evening officially begins with dinner at 5:00 p.m., followed by a short program from our own Special Needs Choir. The Business Meeting will follow, with the primary purpose being to elect a Vice President, Treasurer, and Board Members.

➡ **Saturday, November 15** includes a Continental Breakfast, Bible Study, Workshops, Box Lunch, and will end with Worship.

**The cost for both days, three meals, and a whole lot of fun and fellowship is only \$85.**

*If you are unable to attend on Friday, there is a reduced registration cost for Saturday, November 15, of only \$40 This includes both the Continental Breakfast and the Box Lunch plus all the programming of the day.*

Many women from Clairemont Lutheran Church have attended the annual conventions over the years and find them very inspirational and uplifting. We've also met and stayed in touch with women from throughout the Pacifica Synod, including Hawaii. Think about attending even if you have NEVER participated in any Women of the ELCA events previously. Come and see what we are all about and the fun we can have.



# BEYOND THE PEWS

*Living the Word wherever we go.*



During the day, on Sundays, our fellowship space is full of life. We gather there to talk, laugh, and share time under the open sky. The sunlight, the breeze, and the sound of people connecting make it feel welcoming and alive. But we rarely see what it's like at night.

**Photos courtesy of Gary Jaus,**  
[Our Council President, working after hours]



When everyone has gone home, the space becomes quiet and still. The same place that holds our fellowship during the day rests under the stars, peaceful and calm. Seeing it this way reminds us that beauty exists not only in our busy moments together, but also in the quiet times when the space simply waits for us to return.



## † Welcome to Our New Members!

On October 26, we were blessed to welcome our newest member into the **Clairemont Lutheran Church family!** During a special ceremony, we celebrated her commitment to join us in faith, fellowship, and service.



Please take a moment to greet and get to know our new members — let's make them feel at home as we continue to grow together in Christ's love.



***“So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” – Romans 12:5***

*Welcome*



## † Blessing of the pets!

On Sunday, October 12, our churchyard came alive with wagging tails, soft purrs, and joyful hearts! Pastor Manuel and Pastor Elena led a beautiful Blessing of the pets ceremony, celebrating the special bond we share with our animal companions.

Dogs and cats of all sizes received their blessings (and a few extra treats too!). It was a joyful afternoon filled with laughter, gratitude, and community spirit as we gave thanks for the unconditional love our pets bring into our lives.



**Thank you everyone who joined us- two-legged and four-legged alike- for making this such a special day!**



# Hands and Hearts at Work

SHINING LIGHT ON THOSE WHO SERVE

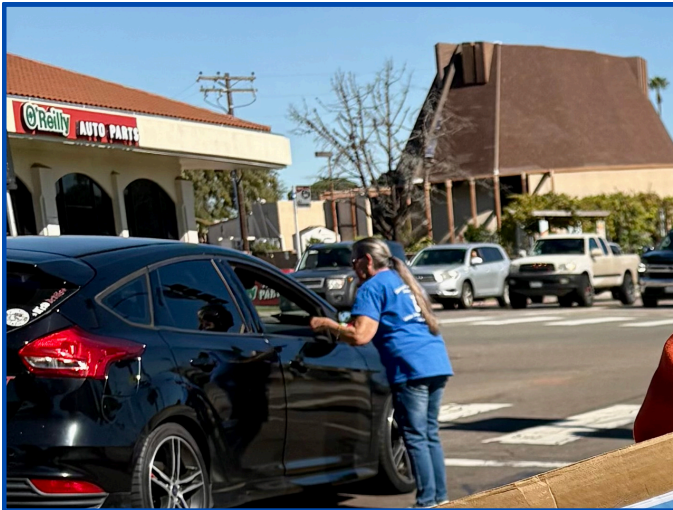


One of the many wonderful ministries at Clairemont Lutheran Church is our Evangelism Ministries Team — a group dedicated to sharing God’s love and spreading His Word in our community and beyond. You might be wondering, “What does Evangelism Ministries do?” Here’s a look at some of the ways we serve:

## 1. Bible Giveaways

We love sharing God’s Word with others! This year, we expect to give away about **274 Bibles** in both English and Spanish — including **Children’s Bibles**, which we recently began offering. Since starting this ministry in 2022, we’ll soon reach **1,000 Bibles shared!**

Our giveaways take place **every other month**. The next one is on **Friday, December 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, right in front of the church on the corner of Clairemont Mesa Blvd. Come join us — we’d love your help!



## 2. Welcome Gift Bags

Each year, we prepare about **45–50 welcome bags** for visitors and new members. These are available in English and Spanish as a small way to say, “We’re glad you’re here!”



### 3. Prayer Cards

We offer prayer cards for anyone in need of comfort or support — a simple reminder that you're never alone in your journey.



### 4. Window Stickers

Our “Living with God’s Help” window stickers, featuring the CLC logo, are available for anyone who would like to display their faith on their vehicle.

You can find **Welcome Bags, Prayer Cards, Window Stickers, and Bibles** in the **Sanctuary** — please feel free to take and share them!

### 5. CLC Event Postcards

We reach out to our neighbors by mailing **10,000 postcards** each for our **Easter** and **Christmas** events! In addition, our team walks through the surrounding community to hand-deliver invitations and connect personally.

### 6. Monthly Meetings

We meet on the **second Tuesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. in Luther Hall, Room #1**. It's a great time to plan, pray, and share ideas for how we can continue spreading God's Word.



Everything we do is rooted in one simple mission: **to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ with our community.**



If you'd like to learn more or get involved, please contact **John Proccsal** — we'd love to have you join us!



# N·O·V·E·M·B·E·R 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2</b> 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1—1:30pm The messengers 1:30pm Rise & Shine	<b>3</b> 1:00pm AA 5-6pm Glee Choir, 4:00pm Gospel Study 6:30pm Scouts 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>4</b> 1:00pm AA 5-6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon	<b>5</b> 12-2:30pm Southern care 7-9:30pm Sacra /Profana	<b>6</b> 8:00am Sandwich Min. 10:00am MorningStar 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:00pm Stephen Ministry	<b>7</b> 12:00pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon	<b>8</b> 7:00am SA 8am-5pm CLC Council retreat
<b>9</b> 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1—1:30pm The messengers 1:30pm Rise & shine	<b>10</b> 1:00pm AA 12:30pm Patience bible study, Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir, 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir , 7-9:30pm Sacra / Profana 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 1:00pm AA 4:30pm Evangelism team 6:30pm Executive Team 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon 7:15pm Council Meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:00am Sandwich Ministry, 4pm—9:30pm WELCA regional meeting 10:00am Ruth Bible study 1:00pm AA Meeting	<b>14</b> 8am –9:30pm WELCA regional meeting 12:00pm Food Distribution 1:00pm Bunco 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon	<b>15</b> 7:00am SA 8am—5:30pm WELCA regional meeting
<b>16</b> 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1—1:30pm The messengers 1:30pm Rise & shine	<b>17</b> 1:00pm AA 6:30pm Scouts 5-6pm Glee Choir, 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir, 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>18</b> 1:00pm AA 5-6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon	<b>19</b> 12-2:30pm Southern Care group	20 8:00am Sandwich Ministry, 10:00am MorningStar, 1:00pm AA Meeting, 5:00pm Stephen Ministry 6:30pm Worship Committee	<b>21</b> 12:00pm Food Distribution, 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon 2:30-6pm Wedding	<b>22</b> 7:00am SA 10-12:00pm Choir rehearsal 1pm David Skoglund Memorial
<b>23</b> 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1—1:30pm The messengers 1:30pm Rise & shine <b>30</b> <b>10am Bilingual service</b> After service Congregational meeting	<b>24</b> 1:00pm AA 4:00pm Gospel Study, 5-6pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>25</b> 1:00pm AA 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 8:00am Sandwich Min. 1:00pm AA Meeting	<b>28</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 12:00pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon	<b>29</b> <b>10:00am</b> <b>Christmas tree decorating.</b> All are welcome to help make our church festive for the holidays!!

# CLC Volunteer Schedule - November 2025

## Lay Readers

11/2 Gary Lange  
 11/9 Karen Creusere  
 11/16 Lynn Ten Eyck  
 11/23 Susan Gjerset  
 11/30 Emilie Lauchmen



## Communion Assistants

11/2 Pam Allen, Harriet Carmona  
 11/9 Nancy & Sarah Groesbeck  
 11/16 Carol Nichols, Harriet Morris, Holly Boyle, Bill Fredricks  
 11/23 Gary Jaus, Aida Jaus  
 11/30 Rita Leatherman, Josua Purba *Bilingual Service 10am*

Robert Newhouse	11/1
Lynn Ten Eyck	11/1
Stephen Johnson	11/2
Ana Vasquez	11/2
Teresa Plascencia	11/3
Ardell Skoglund	11/3
Lili Munoz	11/3
Elizabeth Dittmann	11/5
Linda Knepple	11/8
Lee Hintz	11/9
Natalie Sawi	11/9
Bob Maske	11/9
Paul Leatherman	11/12
James Acosta	11/12
Teresa Munoz	11/16
Wyatt Rabe	11/19
Denise Abell-Hove	11/20
Ashley Herfindahl	11/22
Rory Reece	11/26
Maggie Johnson	11/28

## Welcome Team

11/2 Pam Allen, Curtis Cline, Thomas Knepple  
 11/9 Gary Lange, Kathy Reed, Renée Shepherd  
 11/16 Harriet Carmona, , Emilie Lauchmen, Pam Allen  
 11/23 Josua, Rohany, Joseph & Jeremiah Purba  
 11/30 Sandra Logan, Curtis Cline, Karen Creusere



11/2 Tersa Muñoz  
 11/9  
 11/16 Gabriel Muñoz  
 11/23 Ann Maria Krug  
 11/30 LeRoy Bannach

## Media Team

11/2 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little  
 11/9 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little  
 11/16 Lewis John TenHulzen , Mitchell Little  
 11/23 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little  
 11/30 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little



*Pam Allen*  
*Sandra Logan*