



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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News And Views



2014

Pastoral Perspective



Christians sometimes follow the practice of giving up something for Lent, the period from Ash Wednesday (March 5) to Easter Sunday (April 20). Unfortunately, it is often just a little something convenient that displays a bit of godliness for the season and gives bragging rights

to the person doing it. I doubt very much that God cares whether we are able to go without chocolate or sodas for forty days.

God wants much more. Anything we might choose to give up is to be in deep and heartfelt response to what Jesus has given for us if it is going to be helpful for our growth in relationship with the Lord. It is to be a devotional focus for us to consider what God provides for us through His sacrificial love. It is to express our faith that allows us to depend on God's way in our lives rather than doing our own thing or responding just to our own appetites and desires. It is meant to be a way of joining in the struggle with Jesus to overcome the way of the world. Of course we can't do that by our own power. When we join our struggle with Jesus, however, He gives us strength and new perspective to be overcomers.

Jesus made the true sacrifice for all time and eternity when He gave His very life so we could have new life in Him. It is not appropriate to think that anything we might give up could match or add to Jesus' sacrifice. What is appropriate is simply to

believe that Jesus gives us power for new life through His overcoming struggle with the way of the world.

What is bringing you down? Is it a harsh attitude toward those who don't simply do what you want them to do regardless of what it might mean for them? How about giving that up for Lent and struggling with being more understanding of their needs. Is it believing you are never at fault? How about giving that up for Lent and struggling with the reality that everything isn't always someone else's fault. Is it eating to try to satisfy other needs? How about giving that up for Lent and struggling to simply eat because you are hungry and then deal with other needs in other ways. I could go on, but I think you get the point.

Lent is meant to be a season of deep growth, not flowery show. Spend some time considering where you need to grow in the Lord and join the struggle in that area. Maybe you can't see so clearly for yourself. Consider asking someone you really trust what they see would be helpful for you to give up. Maybe you could even share with someone during Lent for mutual support and accountability.

Remember, Jesus will be there with you all through the struggle. Come Easter, hopefully, you won't say, "Great! Now I can go back to being the way I was." Rather, you can say, "Hallelujah, the Lord has shown me a new way to live. Help me Jesus to continue to grow in living that way!"

Spreading, Serving and Sharing With You,

Pastor Carl



As we ease into the month of March we begin with our annual crab feed on Saturday, March 1. This event takes the work of many to make an evening of good food and fun. The money that is received goes toward many different needs as it has in past years. Thanks to all who provide their talents to make this a success.

Following the crab feed we begin our Lenten journey with our special worship service on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. This will also mark the beginning of our weekly soup suppers on Wednesday preceding our time of worship. It is another time for getting to know folks around the table and coming together for worship. I encourage all of you who are able to come, eat, share, and worship.

We continue to have some needs for which we ask you all to consider using your talents to support mission at St. Luke's. We are searching for someone to chair our Education Board. This Board plays a vital role in helping us to continue to learn and to oversee the education of our children. We are also looking to revitalize the Facility Use Committee which coordinates the activities using our facilities and reports to the Executive Board. If you would like to lead a group of folks who continue to be committed to our education needs and programs or to coordinate our facility uses, please see me or Pastor Carl.

We are transitioning to a new computer program that will assist us in the management of our membership and financial activities. It is always a learning process when one switches computer programs but we think this program, specifically developed for churches, will greatly assist us to consolidate some management tools. We appreciate the time and effort of a few folks who have been working hard to better understand all the nuances of the new program and inputting the various data.

Our gathering together each week for worship is an important element of our life within St. Luke's. It's a time when we can receive support ourselves or provide encouragement to others while together we worship, share, and help build stronger relationships with our God and all that He provides. I pray that we can continue to share our time, talents, and treasures and make St. Luke's that special welcoming place to gather together in His name.

See you in church!

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Bob Behr



Lenten Devotional Booklets and Coin Offering Folders are available in the church entryway. They are for use from Ash Wednesday, March 5, to Easter Sunday, April 20. If you are unable to get to church before March 5, please call the church office (421-5039) and we will mail them to you.



The Coin Offering Folders are something new for us, but the use of them is a very time-honored practice. You are invited to put a quarter in the folder every day during Lent as a part of your devotional time. It is a reminder of Jesus offering Himself for us and a way to focus on the spiritual offering of ourselves in grateful response. The offerings given in the Coin Offering Folders will be added to the Pastoral Assistance Fund to help folks in the community with emergency needs.



Wednesday, March 5

Soup Supper at 6:00pm
This Supper will be hosted by St. Luke's Women of the ELCA

Holy Communion at 7:00pm
with Imposition of Ashes



LENEN SOUP SUPPERS AND WORSHIP SERVICES

Our Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, with a soup supper hosted by W-ELCA at 6pm in Schultz Hall. Following the soup supper, we will go into the Sanctuary to share in a special worship service.

The remainder of the Lenten soup suppers will be hosted by the following boards or church groups:

Wednesday, March 12 – Worship & Music and Choir

Wednesday, March 19 – Evangelism and Community Concerns

Wednesday, March 26 – Property, Youth and Education

Wednesday, April 2 – Church Council

Wednesday, April 9 - Congregation

Except for Ash Wednesday, all the worship services will be from 6:30 to 7:00pm in Schultz Hall following the 6pm soup suppers.

Please mark your calendar now and plan to be a part of this very special time of fellowship and worship.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



EASTER BREAKFAST SUNDAY, APRIL 20

We are again looking forward to our annual Easter breakfast from 8am to 10am in Schultz Hall.

Please plan to join in this wonderful time of celebration. Watch for further information and sign-up sheets for help with set up, cooking, serving and clean up.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



The Community Concerns Board has come to realize that the volunteer opportunities listed on the Community Concerns page of the St. Luke's Web

Site are obsolete and the information needs to be updated. There are many opportunities which will soon be posted, however, we have learned of one that is in desperate need for immediate help. Therefore, we would hope that some of our congregation may be able to help us fulfill our mission statement which is – Provide leadership, education, direction and support for worthy programs and efforts to mitigate social concern especially within the community in which St. Luke's facilities are located.

When we called Parkway School at 4720 Forest Parkway we learned that they are in immediate need of tutors for the Reading Partner program. Parkway has 16 students waiting to enter the program and need 30 more volunteers to make that happen. On average, for every 1 month in Reading Partners, students gain 1.6 months of reading ability. Hours are flexible – choose one 45-minute session between 9:05 AM – 4:50 PM Monday through Thursday.

If this is something that you would be interested in and would like to help please look for more information on the table in the Narthex or visit www.readingpartners.org/volunteer or contact Rachael Valler, Volunteer Coordinator at volunteersac@readingpartners.org or you may call her at (916)996-0830.

Thank you,
Carol Carney
Community Concerns Board Member
335-0847



We welcome Larayna Sisco Osako-Cain and Caliana Addie Osako into the family of Christ. Both girls were baptized on February 9. Their Mom is Kim Osako and Grandma is Irma Lowe. Kim Osako, Darnell Osako, Angelo Osako, Suzanne Lowe and Emma Lou Collins also joined with their family.



Our deepest sympathy and prayers are with Phillip, Jennifer and Gwen Petersen and family upon the death of their son and brother, Ian Daniel Petersen. Ian is now in the loving arms of his Heavenly Father. Services were held here at St. Luke's on January 31.



"Footprints to Faith"

We have a new bulletin board at church. Please add your "baby's and toddler's" pictures to our board so we can all watch as they grow. There is a box with supplies to use. Feel free to add and update. You will find the board in the church entry-way for all to enjoy.



Our monthly Newsletter is a wonderful way to communicate with our members. So, if you are a board chair or in charge of a committee or have something to share with those of us at St. Luke's, it is important to get your articles into the church office by the 15th of each month.



The Community Concerns Board is calling all willing volunteers to help with the Winter Sanctuary on Sunday, March 23rd. For the second year in a row we will be hosting a group of 100 homeless individuals for a night in Schultz Hall. If you are interested in joining in and helping out with this much needed community project please contact Al Moser, Community Concerns Board Chair!

There will be a meeting on Saturday, March 22 at 10:00 AM in Room 5.



- Lenten Devotions and Coin offering folders will be available to the congregation beginning February 23. The envelopes provide an opportunity for individuals to put a quarter in a slot each day during Lent as part of their devotional time. It is hoped that this gesture will be a reminder of Jesus' offering Himself for us. A motion was made by Karen Linfor and seconded by Betty Englund to allow proceeds of the Lenten envelopes to go into Pastor's Assistance Fund. Motion carried.
- The Sacramento Ballet Chorus is making a donation to use Schultz Hall on Wednesday evenings for several weeks.
- Flyers being prepared to market the Children's Clothing Exchange to the community.
- Winter Sanctuary on track for Sunday, March 23.
- Easter lilies will again be sold for \$10.00 beginning March 9, ending April 6 in time for Easter.
- A children's choir being organized by Judy Saxby with the assistance of others.
- Next dining out lunch on February 22 at the Black Bear Diner.
- Name tag Sunday coming soon.
- Soup Supper schedule worked out as follows:
 - Wednesday, March 5: WELCA
 - Wednesday, March 12: Choir and Worship & Music
 - Wednesday, March 19: Evangelism Board & Comm. Concerns
 - Wednesday, March 26: Property, Youth and Education Boards
 - Wednesday, April 2: Council
 - Wednesday, April 9: Congregation
- Discussed a refund of \$600 from SMUD for water conservation and under-completed projects. Deciding where the funds should be best applied; some suggested to the water bill – and other projects that are the radar of the Property Board.

- Workdays established for Easter and Fall clean-up: April 12 and September 27.
- W-ELCA February 8 meeting celebrated Valentine's Day
- Next W-ELCA meeting March 8 – Potato Bar
Collecting baby wipes, diapers, etc. for Chicks in Crisis at the March meeting.
- Youth preparing bag lunches for guests at Winter Sanctuary.

New Business:

Risk Assessment Oversight: Larry Dockter has worked with our insurance company to gain us a \$1500 refund. To stay on top of the situation and not lose ground, there will need to be periodic checks with regard to safety, and it will require a champion, perhaps someone from the congregation who would like to head this up.

Other: Carolyn Andrews asked that the Board chairs and other leaders go to the website and see what needs to be cleaned up/corrected. Carolyn is the liaison for the website and is working with Larry Dockter to get it in pristine order. Some have mentioned that when they were looking for a church, they checked out our website. It is extremely important that what we present is correct and up to date. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Karen A. Linfor
Council Secretary



Daylight Savings Time

Set your clocks ahead
one hour before you go
to bed on Saturday,
March 8.



March 1 Corey Anderson
 March 2 Barbara Tears
 March 4 Sue Jones
 March 5 Selena Connell
 March 5 Monica Willoughby
 March 6 Jennifer Connell
 March 6 Renee Roberts
 March 7 Laura Tice
 March 10 Ruth Jones
 March 10 Don Miller
 March 13 Ben Bates
 March 13 Donna Ben-Iesau
 March 13 Sarah Thomas
 March 16 Sarah Madison
 March 17 Mackenzie Harrison
 March 18 Inge Marchuk
 March 22 Jan Tanaka
 March 23 Irma Lowe
 March 23 David Saxby
 March 24 Kimiya Ricciardi
 March 24 Norene Schell
 March 26 Bob Harrison
 March 26 Al Moser
 March 27 Elizabeth Ward
 March 28 Karen Kiser
 March 29 John Johnsen
 March 29 Pat Lehman
 March 30 Bob Behr
 March 30 Kelly Sobkowsky

March 2 Howard Triebwasser in memory of wife Pearl
 March 9 Rosary Jensen for Grandson's Birthdays
 March 16 Larry and Deanna Dockter for the love of family and friends
 March 23
 March 30



Dear Pastor Carl and St. Luke's

As we begin our Spring session with the Shades of Praise teen choir rehearsals, we would like to thank you for continuing to allow us to meet at your church.

The use of the Sunday School room and occasionally the Fellowship Hall, as well as the court yard, are ideal for our purposes. There is plenty of room for the teens to learn their music, interact with their drama, and work on their choreography. And they enjoy the beauty and peaceful atmosphere of the fountain, benches and gazebo you have recently put in. We and our students are very grateful for your support.

Very truly Yours,
Eric and Candy Rainwater

If your birthday is this month and you are not on our list please notify the church office, so we can update our files.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

Mar. 2 Daniel Encinas
Mar. 9 Ryan Johansen
Mar. 16 Amber Mansfield
Mar. 23 Joshua Bell
Mar. 30 Katy Etchison

Altar Care

8:15 AM Cheryl Franklin
10:30 AM Karen Linfor, Triss Hoppman

Communion Servers

Larry Dockter, Bob Behr and
Karen Linfor

Counters

Mar. 2 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Mar. 9 Don Schell, Bob Behr
Mar. 16 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Mar. 23 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
Mar. 30 Carolyn Andrews, Jack Fenske
Micki Fenske

Greeters

Mar. 2
Mar. 9 Larry and Deanna Dockter
Mar. 16
Mar. 23 Mack and Carole Vance
Mar. 30 Clarence and Elizabeth Korhonen

Head Ushers

8:15 AM
10:30 AM

Ron Franklin
Kelly Boyer

Prayer Leaders

Mar. 2 Tracy Etchison
Mar. 9 David Saxby
Mar. 16 Sylvia Kohler
Mar. 23 Ken Lentsch
Mar. 30 Betty Englund

Ash Wednesday

Reader

Holly Hoppman

Prayer Leader

Marlene Kiser

Psalm Leaders

Mar. 2 Aiyana Tice
Mar. 9 Amber Mansfield
Mar. 16 Micayla Shower
Mar. 23 Isabella Basquez
Mar. 30 Elizabeth Wilson

Readers 8:15 AM

Mar. 2 Maribel Herrera
Mar. 9 Ron Webb
Mar. 16 Eric Linblade
Mar. 23 Phil Petersen
Mar. 30 Christiana Wilson

Readers 10:30 AM

Mar. 2 Bob Behr
Mar. 9 Mary Harris
Mar. 16 Ken Lentsch
Mar. 23 Janette Payne
Mar. 30 Tracy Etchison

Refreshments

Mar. 2 Ed and Kirsten Ireton, Lynn Gavia
Mar. 9
Mar. 16 Paul Makin, Chona Sison
Mar. 23 Jerry and Carol Carney
Mar. 30 Ken and Debi Lentsch

Visitors Gifts

Mar. 2 Robin Zoesch
Mar. 9 Pauline Arndt
Mar. 16 Joyce Jensen
Mar. 23 Walt Arndt
Mar. 30 Kelly Boyer

Welcome Leaders

Mar. 2 Peggy Moser
Mar. 9 Pat Webb
Mar. 16 Chet Madison
Mar. 23 Carolyn Andrews
Mar. 30 Pauline Arndt

*Thanks
for
Serving!*



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
7595 Center Parkway
Sacramento, CA 95823

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Ash 
Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5

Soup Supper at **6:00pm**

Service of Holy Communion
with Imposition of Ashes
7:00pm