



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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News And Views



2014

Pastoral Perspective



“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’ ”

--Matthew 21:36-40

Our God simply cannot be known or followed outside the context of love. It is because God “so loved the world” that He sent Jesus to us. All that Jesus did and continues to do through the Holy Spirit is motivated by love.

Our God relates to us in love and commands us to share His love with one another. This has not been the case in other religions. The gods worshipped by ancients and many today are not gods of love. They command tribute and strict obedience, but not love. They have become the centers of whole civilizations, but do not promote love. Our God, however, is known to us by His great love. He commands us to love Him and one another in return.

The good news is that what God commands He provides. We are not to try to manufacture love for God and one another by our own power. We are simply to share the love God graciously gives to us.

We know the love of God through the forgiveness of sins. Through the life and death of Jesus, God has forgiven us and poured His healing love on us even though we fall so short of His perfection. Because our sins are forgiven, we need not hate ourselves or feel guilty because we just cannot produce love for God and one another by our own power no matter how hard we try. Rather, we can rejoice that we are loved and forgiven children of God, washed clean of our sins by the blood of Jesus. Seeing one another in that same light, we are enabled to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. May we be so focused on God’s love for us and so open to share it, that it flows freely from us as it has been freely given to us.

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl





It was great to see so many on Easter Sunday and partake in the breakfast, Easter egg hunt, and worship. Wouldn't it be great to have a full

church every Sunday? Thanks to all who made our Easter celebration special (a special thanks to the Easter Bunny who put smiles on a lot of faces).

It was also great to see so many children in attendance and to be treated to special music from the children's choir. An important part of reaching out to the children is to have a fun and special Sunday school program. Kirsten Ireton has led our children's Sunday school for several years and now has decided this Fall to move into rejuvenating the older youth program. Therefore, we are beginning a search for someone to lead the education program and our Sunday school for the children. If you are interested in assisting with this vital ministry at St Luke's, let Pastor or me know and we will begin working to get a team together to ensure we continue to provide the education of our children.

Summer is just around the corner and we continue to look for fun events and special worship opportunities as we move into the new season. Current projects underway include the introduction of contemporary liturgy for our worship services and review and update of our webpage. We are always open to feedback so let us know if you identify something we could be doing better whether it's worship, mission outreach, or some other area within our mission to spread, serve, and share..

We appreciate your continued financial support in helping us meet our financial responsibilities. Thanks to you all.
See you in church!

Your fellow servant in Christ,
Bob Behr



Due to the combined efforts of Sacramento Steps Forward, Volunteers of America and the area's faith community, Winter Sanctuary is now in its third year of housing and feeding homeless men and women.

St. Luke's was privileged to participate for the second year on Sunday, March 23. Thanks to the following volunteers we were able to make a difference in the lives of 86 homeless people by giving them a meal, entertainment and a safe place to sleep in our church facility.

The Community Concerns Board thanks WELCA for preparing the meal. Kirsten Ireton for being the main "Chef" and once again preparing her wonderful pasta sauce and all else she did for the event. We also thank Pastor Carl, Holly Hoppman, Julie Ireton, Katie Iniguez, Peggy Moser, Pat and Ron Webb, Linda Duffek, Lynn Gavia, Pat Hamilton and Carol Carney for all their help. The Board members thank our Board Chairman, Al Moser, for coordinating the event and the extra effort he put into making it such a successful evening.

We are also extremely grateful to the Sacramento Youth Band for playing in the Court Yard – it was an unbelievable treat for these folks and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone in attendance. The Youth Band usually practices in Schultz Hall but due to the event came to practice in the Court Yard. We all think they went above and beyond just practicing, realizing how much these unfortunate people were enjoying the music.

Some of us were once again fortunate enough to have time to visit with some of the homeless people making us feel so blessed that we have homes, jobs, family, St. Luke's and so very much to be thankful for. When talking with them you come to realize how easy it really is to become homeless and how horrible it can be for these folks. Of course, like every other group of people, there are always those that put a bad name on the group

however; the ones that come to the Winter Sanctuary are so appreciative for every little thing that is done for them and would do anything not to be in the situation that they are. Our thoughts and prayers will be with them and hopefully we can share a night with them again next year.



EVANGELISM BOARD

Thank you to everyone who joined together to help make our Lenten soup suppers and services a wonderful time of

worship and fellowship. It was great to see so many take part—we averaged 45-65 people each week. Thanks to our boards, church groups and the congregation, we enjoyed delicious soups, breads and desserts. The Lenten dramas presented each week gave us insight as to how several Biblical people (Mary, Martha, Lazarus, Matthew, Judas, Joanna, to name a few) were affected by their relationships with Jesus.



Diner's Groups

Our Diner's Groups have enjoyed getting together and sharing meals and activities for February, March and April. If you want to join in

the fun, we will begin sign-ups in mid-July for new groups that will get together for September, October and November.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



Getting to Know You

Remember our name tag Sunday? Responses to our follow-up survey were overwhelmingly in support of having permanent name tags.

Many said they found them very helpful as they finally had a chance to put a name with a face, meet someone new, and greet people by name. We heard you and asked the Church Council to authorize the Evangelism Board to use some of the Crab Feed funds to purchase magnetic name tags. Beginning Sunday, May 18, members will be encouraged to take their name tag from the board in the entry way. As members leave the worship service or the refreshment area, baskets will be available for them to drop off their name tag. Using these name tags will help all of us be a closer church family.

Look in the entry way for the beautiful magnetic board made by Jack Fenske. Thank you so much Jack!

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



The Women of the ELCA held its 4th meeting of the year on Saturday, April 12th, with 18 in attendance. We discussed exciting events coming up. At the

April meeting we collected hygiene items and undergarments for WIND Youth Services; an organization working with homeless children and teens in the area.

Next month WELCA is hosting the Annual Mother's Day Luncheon on Saturday, May 10th, at 11:30am. All are invited to join us and bring guests. Please be sure to sign up and let us know how many people will be coming. We want to ensure that we have enough seats for everyone! If you have any questions please contact Linda Duffek. At the Mother's Day Luncheon we will collect NEW undergarments for women and youth served by Saint John's Program for Real Change (formerly St. John's Shelter for Women and Children). Saint John's Program for Real Change provides vital Mental Health Services, Supportive Services, Career Education, On-the-Job Training, and Respite Services

to women and children living in crisis. For more information about the Program for Real Change, I would encourage you to visit their website at: <http://saintjohnsprogram.org/program/>

Holly Hoppman, W-ELCA President



Mark your calendars and Save the Date for this year's BUNCO event on Saturday June 7th, at 6pm. Keep an eye out for Ticket sales. We are looking

for some fun raffle prize donations for this year's event. Please bring them to the office no later than June 1st. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Moser or Dorothy Haney.

Getting to Know Each Other Better



Joyce Jensen

Joyce Jensen - a Minnesotan, moved to California 18 months ago to be near her daughter. Joyce also has a son, 3 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter. Her son-in-law is an ELCA pastor. She is a retired registered nurse. Joyce enjoys birding, walking 2 miles a day, reading. She is a cancer survivor. She serves on St. Luke's Evangelism Committee.

Robin Zoesch - A native Californian, moved back to California from Ohio when husband Ron, an ELCA pastor, retired. Her former foster daughter and son, our "grandson", lives in Sacramento. Robin retired from law library. She enjoys reading, watching PBS, HGTV and History Channel and current movie DVDs. Robin is a cancer survivor. She serves on St. Luke's Evangelism Committee.



Ron & Robin Zoesch - California resident, except for 17 years in Ohio. He is a retired ELCA pastor and former Assistant to the Bishop, Northeastern Ohio Synod. Ron enjoys walking his Maltese dog, Bart, reading mystery novels, cooking at home, developing church mission plans, growing roses (not easy in Ohio), watching PBS, HGTV and History Channels and current movie DVDs. Ron served St. Luke's Easter breakfast.

Winter Sanctuary Lunch Service Project



The St. Luke's Youth Group spent Sunday afternoon, March 23rd in service to 86 homeless men and women by preparing take-along sack meals for them. The sack meals included a sandwich, piece of fruit (donated by Hooverville Ranch), a bottle of water, rice krispie treat, granola bar, pack of gum, bag of chips, and fruit snack. The Connell Family donated the final 5 items for each of the bags and several other families donated bread, peanut butter & jelly, paper bags and sandwich bags.

It was definitely a multi-generational activity too. We had the following participants helping out: Josh Bell, Tracy and Katie Etchison, Cannon, Megan and Alison Thomas, Selena and Jennifer Connell. Kelly Sobkowsy and Corey Anderson, Ken and Debi Lentsch, Amber Mansfield and Angie Martinez, Kirsten and Julie Ireton, and Pastor Carl.

After the meals were prepared, the youth had a short meeting to discuss upcoming events. They decided to go to Leatherby's soon on a Sunday after church for lunch and ice cream and then to the park for some fun in the sun.

It is such a wonderful blessing to have such a great group of young people at St. Luke's. They are growing into wonderful young adults and are eager to help spread, serving and share in the victory of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,
Kirsten Ireton



Congratulations to Flor and Darrell Yakabe at the birth of their son, Charles Darrell, who was born on March 27. He weighed 8lb 3oz and is 20". His big sister is Natalia and very proud grandparents are Charles and Kay Yakabe.



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Geri Kittrell who went to be with her Heavenly Father on April 2. Service will be announced at a later date.



Thank you for all the cards and phone calls. It's a very sad time for us since Harry passed away. We appreciate your kind thoughts and prayers. We also wish to thank the Comfort Committee and especially Pastor Carl for the kind thoughtfulness and things he did for us.

God Bless,
Adeline Weston & family



Miracles Happen

What a miracle of love! We made fifty Lenten coin folders available for folks to fill as part of their devotions during the season. The money from the folders will be used for the Pastoral Assistance Fund. We received the majority of the coin folders back. Along with some very generous special donations, we received over **\$1,500** for the Pastoral Assistance Fund. Thank you! This money will be a tremendous help as we assist families and individuals in need of emergency housing, food, transportation or medication. You may make a special donation to the "Pastoral Assistance Fund" any time. Pastor Carl personally administers the fund to help fulfill our mission to "serve those in need".



Graduation Sunday will be held on **June 1** this year. If you have a relative who is graduating from high school or college this year, please let the office know as soon as possible. We will need to know the school they are graduating from and if it is college, what their degree is. We would love to celebrate with you and your family.



Families Celebrating Easter Sunday



Lots of Good Eggs!



Easter Breakfast



Kitchen Crew—Bob Behr, Carol Carney, Carole Vance and Pauline Arndt



Co-Chairs Carol Carney and Ron Webb



More Kitchen Help—Ron Zoesch, Walt Arndt, Linda Duffek and Marlene Kiser



Don Miller, Reuben and Ruth Jones, Paul Heaton and Sande Trezise



The Dockter Family

A Successful Winter Sanctuary



**Community
Concerns
Board**



**SLY
Volunteers**

Happiness is sharing with others





May 2 Kelly Boyer
 May 2 Genie Sommer
 May 6 Dallas King
 May 8 Jennifer Petersen
 May 9 David Barr
 May 9 Katie Iniguez
 May 14 Lucy Orcutt
 May 15 Victoria Diaz
 May 16 Tracy Etchison
 May 17 Debi Lentsch
 May 18 Bob Guilbeau
 May 18 Alison Thomas
 May 19 Samantha Basquez
 May 23 Claire Kerian
 May 26 Nancy Minning
 May 30 Carol Carney
 May 30 Dorothy Haney
 May 30 Justin Tice
 May 31 Duane Reule



May 4 *Katie Iniguez for Al and Peggy's Anniversary*
 May 11 *Al and Irene Boschee for loved ones; Larry and Deanna Dockter for the blessing of Victoria's baptism; Inge and Hannelore in loving memory of our mother Hedwig Marchuk*
 May 18 *Ken Lentsch for Debi's birthday*
 May 25 *Kelly Boyer for Julia and Jared's birthdays*



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

May 4 Daniel Encinas
May 11 Ryan Johansen
May 18 Amber Mansfield
May 25 Joshua Bell

Altar Care

8:15 AM Cheryl Franklin
10:30 AM Connie Reule, Nancy Minning

Communion Servers

Betty Englund, Mary F. Harris, Nick Manlapig

Counters

May 4 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
May 11 Don Schell, Bob Behr
May 18 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
May 25 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser

Greeters

May 4 Jerry and Carol Carney
May 11 Larry and Deanna Dockter
May 18
May 25

Head Ushers

8:15 AM Ron Franklin
10:30 AM Craig Eckels

Prayer Leaders

May 4 Samantha Basquez
May 11 Pat Webb
May 18 Nick Manlapig
May 25 Triss Hoppman

Psalm Leaders

May 4 Isabella Basquez
May 11 Elizabeth Wilson
May 18 Aiyana Tice
May 25 Amber Mansfield

Readers 8:15 AM

May 4 Phil Petersen
May 11 Christiana Wilson
May 18 Kelly Boyer
May 25 Maribel Herrera

Readers 10:30 AM

May 4 Triss Hoppman
May 11 Nick Manlapig
May 18 Pat Webb
May 25 Samantha Basquez

Refreshments

May 4 Ed and Kirsten Ireton, Lynn Gavia
May 11 Kelly Boyer
May 18 Paul Maki, Chona Sison
May 25 Jerry and Carol Carney

Visitors Gifts

May 4 Thelma Williams
May 11 Pauline Arndt
May 18 Carole Vance
May 25 Joyce Jensen

Welcome Leaders

May 4 Peggy Moser
May 11 Pat Webb
May 18 Chet Madison
May 25 Carolyn Andrews

*Thanks
for
Serving!*



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

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Easter Excitement!

