



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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Pastor Carl Hoppman
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News And Views



Pastoral Perspective



Between three and six o'clock in the morning, he came to them. He was walking on the sea. When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified. They said, "It's a ghost!" and began to scream because they were afraid. Immediately, Jesus said, "Calm

down! It's me. Don't be afraid!"

Peter answered, "Lord, if it is you, order me to come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come!" So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. But when he noticed how strong the wind was, he became afraid and started to sink. He shouted, "Lord, save me!" Immediately, Jesus reached out, caught hold of him, and said, "You have so little faith! Why did you doubt?"

Matthew 14:25-31

We learn from Peter's adventure about our need to focus on the great sustaining power of Jesus in the midst of the "strong winds" that are blowing currently in our lives, our nation, and the world. This sustaining power of Jesus made it possible for Peter to walk on water, and lifted Peter out of the turbulent water when he lost focus.

When Peter focused on Jesus, he was able to participate in the tremendous power and presence of the

Lord. When he panicked, he blocked that participation and began to sink. When he cried for help, he again opened up the avenue to participation.

Jesus hauled him out of the water, asking him simply, "Why did you doubt?" which amounts to saying, "Why didn't you keep focused on me? You could walk through any storm, no matter how strong the winds, if you just keep focused on me."

Faith that can sustain us through these turbulent times is not found in trying somehow to believe that we will be safe and everything will return to normal even though our panicked focus is on the dangers and uncertainties that are blowing all around us. Rather, faith is found in focusing on Jesus as our Savior and sustainer. Jesus invites us to dare to trust him and not panic.

When you are overwhelmed by what's going on and feel like you are sinking, don't start desperately flailing. Focus on the sustaining power of Jesus that can always bear you up. That will make it possible for you to go through these frightening times, and help others do the same, in the power that is greater than any power of this world.

As he said to his disciples, Jesus says to you, "Calm down! It's me. Don't be afraid!"

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with you,
Pastor Carl



FALL FESTIVAL AND FAMILY FUN DAY

We are so excited about this year's Fall Festival and Family Fun Day, happening on Saturday, October 1st, from 8am-2pm. Come and check out the White Elephant Sale, Crafters Corner, Country Store,

Books & Plants, and Food Booth throughout the day. There is something for everyone, even kids' activities!



W-ELCA

The money raised at the Fall Festival will be combined with the other funds raised this year to support other local and national organizations. One of the local organizations we were able to support with a portion of the previous year's benevolence is the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership, a local food closet that serves and supports families in need within our local community.

At our next general meeting on Saturday, November 12th, at 11:30am, we will be collecting non-perishable food items to support the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership. You are welcome to



WOMEN
of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

join us as we come together for our last business meeting of the year. You're invited to bring a soup or salad to share!

On Sunday, November 20th, the Women will be hosting the annual Thankoffering Sunday. We will be leading worship, gathered together to joyfully give thanks and praise for what God has given to us. If you are interested in being involved in the service please let Triss Hoppman know.

Finally, following the Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 23rd, we'll be having our annual Pie Social. If you are able, please bring a pie to share. We can't have too much, as all the leftovers are donated to the NA marathon meeting that our resident NA groups host for those who are in need of extra support through the holiday weekend.





SHARE THE SOLES: CHILDREN'S SHOE GIVEAWAY

Community Concerns

We're partnering with 13 other churches for Share the Soles, a new-shoes drive for local children from kindergarten through elementary. This program started 12 years ago with one church, one school, and 200 shoes. It has grown to include 13 schools, 12 churches, and over 3,000 pairs of shoes.

St. Luke's is responsible for Charles Mack Elementary. You can find a barrel and a banner in the church entryway, where you can drop off donations. We're looking for new tennis shoes, sneakers, boots, dress shoes—any closed-toe shoes, no flip-flops or sandals—in sizes 11T to 7 adult. (If you have gently used shoes you'd like to donate, we can put them in the Children's Clothes Closet here at St. Luke's.)

We need 15-20 people to help fit the kids for shoes and pick out the pairs they want, on Monday, October 31, at 9 a.m.

If you have any questions, talk to Faith Thomas (205-5032)!



REFORMATION DAY

Reformation Day (October 31st) is one of the most significant dates in church history. On that day in 1517, Martin Luther nailed the Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Wittenberg church in Germany—an event that is commonly considered the start of the Protestant Reformation.

Luther, a devout Catholic priest, was appalled by rampant corruption in the church. Priests were selling “indulgences,” pieces of paper that promised the forgiveness of sins. The people would purchase indulgences so they could commit sins without consequences, and the priests profited by claiming to peddle God’s free gift of grace.

The Ninety-Five Theses detailed these and many other abuses in the church. As the theses circulated among scholars all over Europe, Luther’s ideas helped spark a widespread and far-reaching religious, cultural, and political upheaval. Luther and other reformers, such as John Calvin, Ulrich Zwing-

li, and John Knox, challenged papal authority and called for essential reforms in the church's structure and teachings. Although Luther simply wanted to restore the Catholic church's piety and dignity, he was ultimately excommunicated, and the Reformation led to the establishment of separate Protestant churches (named after the reformers' protests).

Luther also translated the Bible into the German vernacular—before that, most Bibles were written in Latin—so that the common people could access God's word directly, instead of hearing it through the corrupt priests.

At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that we are justified and set free by grace through faith. Salvation is a free gift of God that cannot be earned by doing good deeds (or buying indulgences). As Luther wrote in thesis sixty-two:

“The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God.”



REFORMATION SUNDAY ANNUAL HERITAGE POTLUCK

**Sunday, October 30, after the 10:30 service
In Schultz Hall**

The Evangelism Board hosts this potluck, which is a celebration of the Reformation, our Lutheran heritage, and our personal family heritages. The potluck gives the members of our congregation an opportunity to bring a dish representing their heritage or a family favorite. You are also invited to help us decorate the tables by bringing a family keepsake or something that shows off your heritage.

We will enjoy a time of learning about the Reformation by watching Rick Steve's short film about Martin Luther's life.

A sign up sheet will be on the Opportunity Table starting on October 2nd. Please sign up if you can attend (and we hope you can!)—we want to provide enough seating and tables.



ARA

WE NEED DONATIONS FOR THE CHILDREN'S CLOTHES CLOSET!

We've had many recent visitors to our children's clothing closet, one of our most important community outreach projects. Anyone in need can walk in, browse our selection, and pick out what they want. We advertised at several local schools this year, and the response has been wonderful. We are so happy for this opportunity to minister to our community by meeting their greatest practical needs.

This project will be especially important as the colder weather comes on, when children who can't afford warmer clothes and jackets will truly suffer.

Because so many people have visited the closet, we are really running out of clothes! If you have any children's clothes that you can donate, or you know someone who is getting rid of kids' clothes, or you can get a bunch really cheap at a garage sale, we'd be grateful for any donations. You can bring them to the office on Sundays or any time during office hours (8:45 - 12:30, Monday through Thursday). We're looking for sizes from newborn through 5T, and we're especially short on the larger sizes and boys' clothes. We try to avoid clothes that reference the child's father (e.g. "Daddy's little girl," "handsome like dad"), since the father is often not in the picture.

Please spread the word to anyone who might need it—they're welcome to walk in any time.

PICTURES NEEDED FOR THE NEWS & VIEWS

Have any pictures of recent church events? Send them in, and we might include them in the News & Views! Some months we don't have much room, but other months we have extra space and would love to fill it with your pictures. We would love to feature photos from the Fall Festival and the Reformation Sunday potluck, for example—so if you want to help out, consider yourself our honorary photographer. Email any pictures to me at stlukeschurch@att.net. If you're not sure whether I'll want them, you can still send them in, just in case.

To those of you who have sent in pictures before, thank you!

Lauren
Church Secretary



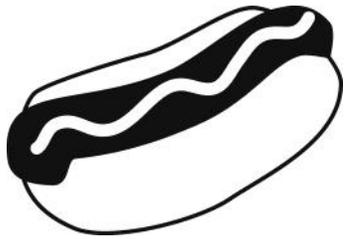
EVANGELISM

Outreach Luncheon

We had a wonderful Outreach Luncheon on Saturday, August 20th, at Logan's Restaurant. The food and service were excellent, and we had 24 church members and friends attend. A good time was had by all.

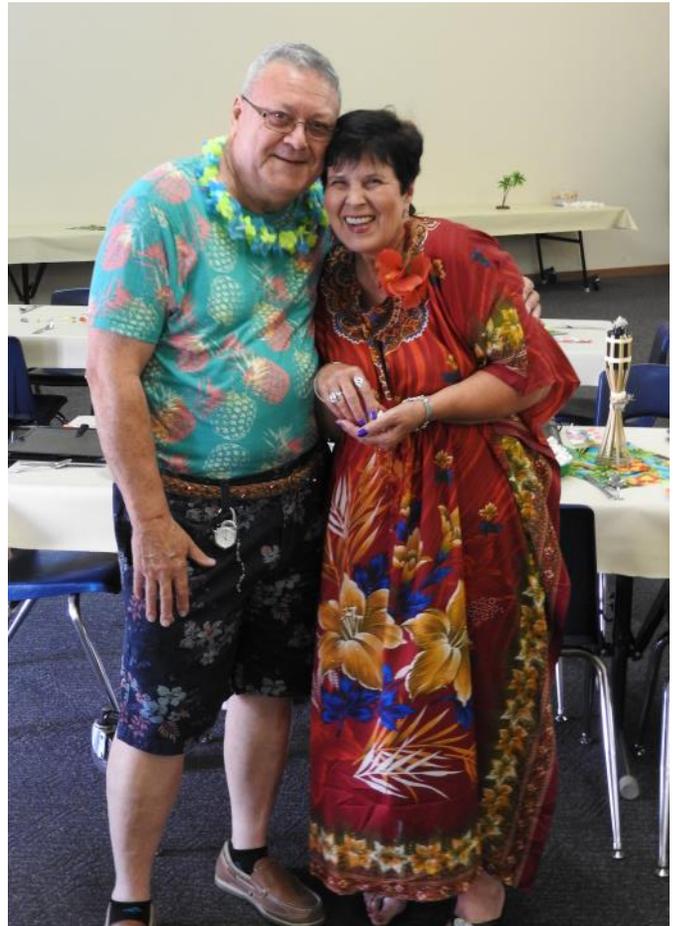
Congregational BBQ Picnic

We had another beautiful day for this great event. As usual, Ed and Kirsten Ireton did a great job of grilling the hamburgers and hot dogs. Thank you—we appreciate both of you for making the BBQ so special. Our wonderful men came and set up the tables, chairs, and canopies. I would like to personally thank Rob Webb, Bruce Kiser, Jeff Kiser, Phillip Connell, Daniel Connell, Jack Fenske, and Mack Vance. We had a great many salads and even homemade dill pickles, thanks to Pauline Arndt. We even had a surprise birthday cake for Pauline and it was delicious. I want to thank Pat Webb, Linda Olsen, and the Evangelism Board for helping make this a special day.



LUAU

The Luau was very successful this year—we raised twice as much as last year! Everyone had a great time eating delicious Hawaiian food, playing games, bidding on delectable desserts, and listening to beautiful music. Thank you to everyone who helped and attended!





THANK YOU, PICK-A-PLOT WORKERS!

A St. Luke's program that is seldom heard from, and thus not well known, is the Pick-A-Plot program. This program organizes volunteers to care for the plants within a designated planting area. The program was conceived and initiated by Bernie Johansen many years ago, when she was chairperson of the Property Board. As chairperson, Bernie recognized that many planting areas were being neglected and beyond the duties of the landscape maintenance contract – thus, the need for a caretaker program.

At its peak, the Pick-A-Plot program involved some 10 different planting areas and over a dozen individuals. In recent years, the Property Board has made improvements (installed irrigation systems, improved drainage facilities, replanted certain areas, etc.), which has eliminated the need for many of the Pick-A-Plot volunteers. However, the need continues for several planting areas.

On behalf of the congregation, the Property Board would like to say “thank you” to the past and current Pick-A-Plot volunteers. A special thank you is warranted for Carol and Jerry Carney, Dorothy Haney, Karen and Bruce Kiser, Peggy and Al Moser, and Brenda Sulzmann, who have been Pick-A-Plot caretakers for many years and are continuing their efforts today (except the Mosers). The Mosers retired last year, when an extensive improvement project made their efforts unnecessary.

Again, thank you Pick-A-Plot workers.

St. Luke's Property Board
Kelly Boyer, Chairperson



SLY (SAINT LUKE'S YOUTH)

Fall is upon us, and with that comes the busy months of back to school, homework, and sporting events. But let's not forget about SLY Fun! Our October meeting will be on Sunday October 2nd, following church and before Confirmation class. Join us as we discuss an upcoming service project, our



pumpkin bread, and a December to remember! Please mark your calendars for the pumpkin bread making party, which will be on Saturday, November 19th at 10:00 am.

A DEATH IN OUR CONGREGATION

We mourn the death of William "Bill" Herman Lehman, who passed away on August 21, 2016. A Celebration of Life service was held at St. Luke's on September 24. We give thanks for his long and loving life. Pray for his wife, Pat Lehman, and his daughter, Kirsten Ireton, as well as the rest of their family during this difficult time.



THANK YOU

Dear St. Luke's Friends,

Thank you for the cards, prayers, phone calls, and outpouring of support after the recent loss of my father, Bill Lehman. My mom, Pat, and our whole family wanted you to truly know how grateful we are for the love we have felt. My dad really loved this church and all the people in it.

Thank you all so much.

Kirsten Ireton & family

Dear St. Luke's,

I'd like to thank everybody for the prayers and cards from both of my surgeries. Both surgeries were a success, due in part to your prayers.

Thank you,
Kathryn Felgenhauer

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Megan and Ronny Gadreault had a healthy baby boy, Liam Alexander, on August 31. Deanna and Larry Dockter are the very proud grandparents!



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Drafts of the minutes from the Council Meetings are available in the office, posted on the bulletin board. They will be updated every month after the council meets. They are also available on the church website at <http://slelca.org/resources/>.



Micayla Shower	October 2
Ferd Boschee	October 3
Hannelore Marchuk	October 3
Howard Triebwasser	October 4
Justin Barr	October 5
Gail Weber	October 7
Thelma Williams	October 7
Vivian Blazic	October 8
Ron Franklin	October 8
Jeff Kiser	October 8
Ofelia Ojeda	October 8
Isaac Dockter	October 15
Duane Kiser	October 19
Joan Mooney	October 21
Ben Ireton	October 22
Christina Hisamoto	October 28



ALTAR FLOWERS

October 2	Ferdinand Boschee, For His 90th Birthday
October 9	Marlene and Duane Kiser, For Jeff Kiser's Birthday
October 16	Ron and Pat Webb, For Their Anniversary
October 23	Larry and Deanna Dockter, In Loving Memory of Katie Ramsey
October 30	Gail Weber, In Memory of John Weber's Birthday
	Karen Linfor, For the Birthday of Her Mother, Margaret Stubblefield

PRAYER CONCERNS?

A prayer concerns sheet is now available in the Narthex on the Opportunity Table. Please feel free to write down any prayer requests you want to share with our congregation. Pastor Carl will include them in the prayers during the service.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

August 2016

Comments:

- August is a four-Sunday month.
- Bad news – offerings are down significantly this month compared to Budget and 2015 offerings.
- Good news – the year-to-date totals remain slightly above the Budget and 2015 offerings.
- When feasible, please use numbered envelopes. Thanks.
- If you need numbered envelopes, either see me or drop a note in the offering.
- When using pew envelopes, please write your name and amount legibly, on the envelope.
- If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jack Fenske
 St. Luke's Financial Secretary
 916-714-3626
LRFenske@comcast.net

General Fund (Only) Contributions			
Data	This Month	Year to Date	
Total Contributions	\$15,297	\$146,484	
Compared to Budget	-\$3,335	+\$2,306	
	-17.9%	+1.6%	
Compared to 2015	-\$4,689	+\$2,141	
	-23.5%	+1.5%	
No. of Contributors			
2016 (Current Year)	82	89	avg.
2015 (Last Year)	103	92	avg.
Other Special Gifts			
Sunday School		\$36	
Flowers		\$80	
Memorials		\$528	

Note: Plus values are good; minus values are not.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care

(8:15 a.m.) Cheryl Franklin
(10:30 a.m.)
October 2 Lydia Toloy, Kelly Boyer
October 9 Marlene Kiser
October 16 Linda Duffek, Peggy Moser
October 23 Carol Carney
October 30 Linda and Lisa Olsen

Communion Servers

October 2 Connie Reule, Mary F. Harris
October 16 Pat Hamilton, Peggy Moser, Bob Behr
October 30 Kelly Boyer, Faith Thomas, Howard
Triebwasser

Counters

October 2 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
October 9 Don Schell, Bob Behr
October 16 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
October 23 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
October 30 Nancy Mining, Connie Reule

Greeters

October 2 Juliette, Jeremiah, and John Rowland
October 9, 16, 23 *Needed*
October 30 Gail Weber

Head Ushers

8:15 a.m. Ron Franklin
10:30 a.m. Kelly Boyer

Prayer Leaders

October 2 Kelly Boyer
October 9 Larry Dockter
October 16 Betty Englund
October 23 Tracy Etchison
October 30 Marlene Kiser

Acolytes

October 2 TBD
October 9 Lily Neidich, Aiyana Tice
October 16 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez
October 23 Lucy Orcutt, Kimiya Ricciardi
October 30 TBD

Psalms Leaders

October 2 Sierra Etchison
October 9 Amber Mansfield
October 16 Angie Martinez
October 23 Lucy Orcutt
October 30 Aiyana Tice

Readers (8:15 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.)

October 2 Eric Linblade; Larry Dockter
October 9 Lydia Toloy; Betty Englund
October 16 Sarah Madison; Tracy Etchison
October 23 Ron Webb; Holly Hoppman
October 30 Eric Linblade; Triss Hoppman

Refreshments

October 2 Ofelia Ojeda & Carol Carney
October 9 Linda Olsen & Kelly Boyer
October 16 Mack and Carole Vance
October 23 *Needed*
October 30 Reformation Sunday Potluck

Visitors' Gifts

October 2 Carole Vance
October 9 Pat Webb
October 16 Kelly Boyer
October 23 Walt Arndt
October 30 *Needed*

Welcome Leaders

October 2 Pauline Arndt
October 9 Mary F. Harris
October 16 Ron Zoesch
October 23 Pat Webb
October 30 Chet Madison

Sunday School Teachers

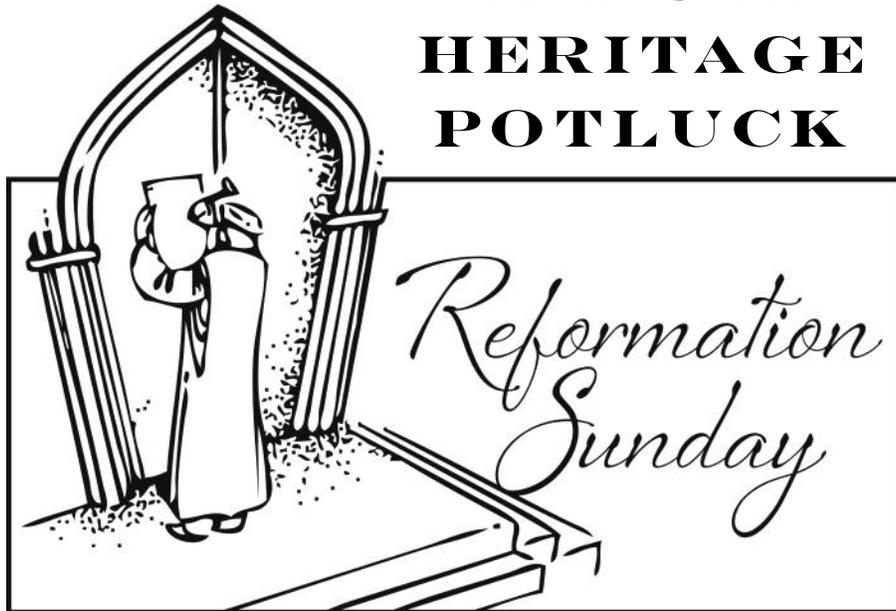
October 2 Lauren Orcutt, Christina Hisamoto
October 9 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez
October 16 Alison Thomas, Lajuan Andrews
October 23 Samantha Basquez, Laura Tice
October 30 Alison Thomas, Debi Lentsch



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

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**ANNUAL
HERITAGE
POTLUCK**

*Reformation
Sunday*

OCTOBER 30, AFTER THE 10:30 SERVICE

Bring a dish representing your heritage or a family favorite!