



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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Pastor Rob Williamson
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News & Views



Pastoral Perspective

So, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Grace and peace to you! I hope this finds you well in whatever place you are.

As for me, I am currently sitting in our parking lot with two adorable stray dogs wandering around me, occasionally checking to see if I have anymore peanut butter crackers and looking at me reproachfully when they find I don't.

I had plans on writing something about summer or the coming events in the church or a reflection on the 100th anniversary, all very normal, but instead I find myself looking at these two dogs and wondering who we are.

Common wisdom says that actions speak louder than words, so our actions say something vital about who we are and how true to ourselves we are being. We are Christians, believers in salvation through the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Christ, and with that identity comes a set of expectations for our actions. These expectations are not required for the identity – we are Christians first without any action of our own – but they stem from a sense of responsibility after being given such a magnificent gift.

So if we are to be followers of Christ as well as Christians, how are we meant to act? Jesus gives us a fairly clear example of how our behavior is to be in the story of the sheep and goats. The actions described there all involve care for the oppressed, the poor, and the lowly. The least of my brothers and sisters, he says. As you did to the least of these, you did to me.

Continues.....

These two dogs are the least of these. They have nothing to offer me. So far they have kept me out of the office – I am sitting in my car as I type this – and once they are picked up by animal services, my time with them will be done.

And yet, care for them is care for those in need. Care for those who I could choose to ignore with no negative consequences. Opening the gate and letting them go would have no social ramifications for me, and since salvation is a gift, it does not hinge on my care of these two animals.

But as a follower of Christ, one dedicated to the care of the least, I am obligated to do what I can for them. Today, that means driving them to the shelter for a place to stay and to receive medical care that I can't provide, as well as the peanut butter crackers that I could. I am beholden to Christ, and that means going out of my own way, considering the needs of others, so I can follow the example of Christ.

May we all find ways to follow Christ today.

Blessings to you all,

Pastor Rob



2025 Fireworks Booth Crew



Pictures are of the fireworks booth crew and workers. Larry Dockter, Carol Carney, Peggy Moser, Brenda Sulzmann, and Karen Kiser, Marlene, Bruce, Gaylen, Dorothy were there EVERY morning to help setup too. So many people showed up through out the day.



Thank You





This little guy joined the crew at the fireworks booth every night. Look how close he got to the chairs. He wasn't afraid of anybody.



Kelly and Lois painting the repaired cross.



BLESSING BAG ITEM COLLECTION DRIVE FOR THE UNHOUSED

During the next few summer months (July & August), the Community Concerns Board is sponsoring a Congregational Blessing Bag item collection drive for the unhoused. The goal is to fill 100 nylon bags that have back-pack like straps with basic necessity items such as soap, deodorant, shampoo/ conditioner, toothbrush/toothpaste, sanitizer wipes, socks etc. as well as simple food items (water, applesauce, peanut butter/ crackers, beef jerky sticks etc.).

Starting Sunday, July 6 through Sunday, August 24, Blessing Bag item tabs will be available on the Narthex opportunity table for congregation members to pick up. Each tab will have an item description and quantity needed. See example below. An Item donation bin will be available in the back of the Sanctuary underneath the “Shepard Jesus”. Donations can be dropped off and placed in the bin or nearby up to Sunday, August 31st.

St. Luke’s Lutheran Church – Blessing Bag Item
I will donate: ten (10) pkgs individual Travel Tissue
Drop off in back of Sanctuary by Sunday, August 31, 2025

Assembly of the Blessing Bags will happen on Sunday, September 7 to coincide with ELCA’s annual “God’s work, Our Hands” Sunday. More details about the assembly day, the actual blessing of the bags and recipients will be provided in the August and September News & Views and the Sunday Service Bulletins.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any member of the Community Concerns Board.

Thank You!
Community Concerns Board



Small, East Courtyard Renovated

Thank you, Karen & Bruce Kiser.

When the new black, iron fence was completed for the damaged wall on the east side of the Sanctuary, Karen and Bruce Kiser saw a need to clean and renovate the small courtyard between the fence and the Sanctuary. Thus, they cleaned the courtyard paved areas with a thorough, deep power-washing and removed the debris, weeds, and bark from the non-paved areas. The non-paved areas were then filled with clean, white rock to create a striking contrast to the paved areas. The finished project looks great and is a huge improvement.

We send a sincere **thank you** to Karen and Bruce.

Their work and resources are much appreciated.

*Kelly Boyer, Chairperson
St. Luke's Property Board*



Our New Member

Congratulations to parents

Elizabeth Brasier and Tim Ray

Mila Mckenzie Ray

8 lbs. 3 oz. and 20 inches

Born July 1, 2025

Worship Assistant s

Sunday July 6

Faith Thomas	Altar Care
Bob Behr	Reader
Karen Linfor	Prayer Leader
Karen Linfor	Communion Servers
Kirsten Ireton	
Connie Reule	

Sunday July 13

Kelly Boyer	Altar Care
Karen Linfor	Reader
Sarah Madison	Prayer Leader
Shirely Prouty	Communion Servers
Laura Tice	
Samatha Basquez	

Sunday July 20

Connie Reule	Altar Care
Phil Peterson	Reader
Peggy Moser	Prayer Leader
Faith Thomas, Andrew Weber	Communion Servers
Scott Kelly	

Sunday July 27

Connie Ruele	Altar Care
Kirsten Ireton	Reader
Shirley Prouty	Prayer Leader
Peggy Moser	Communion Servers
Linda Duffek	
Rosabella Lydia Hamilton	





FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

May 2025

General Fund Contributions (only):

Data	This Month	Year to Date
Total Contributions	\$11,013	\$72,783
Compared to Budget	-\$5,172	-\$8,142
	-32.0%	-10.1%
No. of Contributors	52	54 avg.

Note: Plus, values are above Budget; minus values are below.

Other Contributions:

- a. 100th Anniversary – \$80.

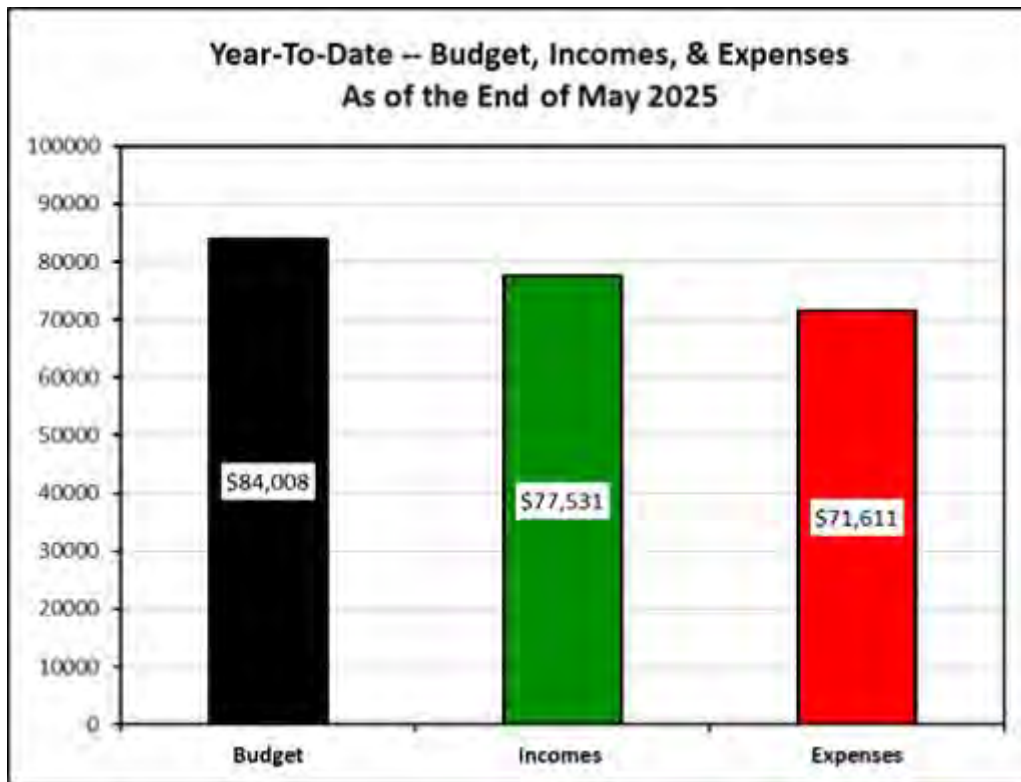
Comments:

- After a wonderful April offering (Easter), the May offerings plummeted by greater than 30 percent.
- As of the end of May, the year-to-date offerings are about 10 percent **below** the adopted Budget.
- The average number of unique monthly contributors is less than last year – 54 compared to 58.

Jack Fenske 916-714-3626, LRFenske@comcast.net

St. Luke's Financial Secretary

FINANCES TO DATE



The Finance Board provides the graph above that compares the year-to-date figures for the **Budget**, **Incomes** (Offerings and Facility Usage Fees), and **Expenses**, as of the end of May 2025. As shown, through May, the Incomes (\$77,531) continue to exceed the Expenses (\$71,611) by about \$5,920. The year-to-date Expenses continue to be below the Budget (by approximately \$8,236). The Finance Board remains cautious regarding the offering receipts being about \$8,100 below the budget at this time and with usual potential “down” offerings in summer. Your continued support and commitment through weekly/monthly offerings remain vital as we continue our journey through 2025.

FINANCE BOARD



Keith Spear	July 01
Mark Zemke	July 03
Bruce Kiser	July 05
Bekka Roberts	July 07
Rosie Johnson	July 08
Juliette Rowland	July 14
Steven Lee	July 17
Pat Webb	July 27
Lily Neidich	July 20
Leo Diaz	July 21
Nolan Jaeger	July 30



July 6: Justin & Laura Tice
 July 13: Lois Sherrets & Kelly Boyer
 July 20: Triss & Holly Hoppman
 July 27: Mack & Carole Vance



ALTAR FLOWERS

July 6 Shirley Prouty—In Memory of Mother Emma Tate
 July 13 Karen Linfor— In Memory of Jerry Linfor's Birthday
 July 20 *Available*
 July 27 *Available*

Would You LIKE t o commemorat E a SPECIAL day

Sign up to provide flowers for our worship services. There is a sign up chart available on the wall in the narthex if you would like to bring an arrangement of flowers for worship. Place them on the stand by the lectern before worship and then take them with you after worship. Thanks!



100th Anniversary

Dinner Celebration

Schultz Hall

June 22 ,2025



Do you have concerns about falling?

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A Matter of Balance is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels.



This program is FREE to the community and emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls.

You will learn to:

- view falls as controllable
- set goals for increasing activity
- make changes to reduce fall risks at home
- exercise to increase strength
- and balance

Who should attend?

- anyone concerned about falls
- anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength
- anyone who has fallen in the past
- anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns



2025 Class Dates:

Every Wednesday for 8 weeks.

10 a.m. — 12 p.m.

*September 3, 10, 17, 24
October 1, 8, 15, 22*

St. Lukes Lutheran Church
7595 Center Parkway
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To reserve your spot scan the QR code and fill out the form or contact:

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 **KAISER PERMANENTE**
South Sacramento Medical Center
Trauma Center