



St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
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# October

## News 2025

## And Views

### P a s t o r a l   P e r s p e c t i v e

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. / Worship the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.  
- Psalm 100:1-2

Grace and peace to you all! I hope this new month and it's cooler, wetter weather finds you refreshed.

While I often use this space to discuss issues in our world, current events and the way we are called to respond as followers of Christ, or goings on in the life of our congregation, this month I want to highlight a few special aspects of worship in the coming months.

First, October is a month of stewardship. We are called to consider what gifts we are each called to steward in response to the one who gives us these gifts, God. Our worship for the first three Sundays will focus on this. For the first time since my arrival, we'll be deviating from the Revised Common Lectionary and using lessons chosen to highlight stewardship. We'll focus on three themes, one each week that will build on the ones before it: the abundance of creation; the abundance of grace; and stewardship of abundance.

These three Sundays will lead to the fourth Sunday in October: Reformation Sunday, which will include a special service focused on the liturgy itself! We each participate in the liturgical order of service each Sunday, but we rarely talk about *why* we have the liturgy, so on Reformation Sunday, rather than give a sermon, I will be giving a brief explanation of each part of service before we do it, a few sentences that will illuminate each part's purpose in the service. There is no part of our liturgy that is not in place for a reason, and this will help us each appreciate the richness of our shared religious expression.

The fourth Sunday will also include the reception of our Stewardship forms and Estimate of Giving cards. These will be made available on the second Sunday of October, and more information about them will be offered then.

Finally, it's already time to start talking about Advent. This year will be a little different: much like during Lent, Advent will feature Wednesday soup suppers followed by worship. Unlike Lent, though, worship will take place in the Sanctuary following supper and will feature the Holden Evening Prayer, a vespers service written by one of my favorite hymn composers, Marty Haugen. I encourage you to put it in your calendars so you can plan ahead. The first Wednesday in Advent this year is December 3<sup>rd</sup>; more information about the time will follow.

I think that's all for now, so I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Blessings,  
Pastor Rob



## **TOUR OF ELK GROVE'S YEAR-ROUND SHELTER FOR ADULTS**

**&**

## **DELIVERY OF BLESSING BAGS**

The Community Concerns Board is inviting any Congregation Members who would like to join us on a tour of the Year-Round Adult Shelter currently located at the Calvary Christian Center in Elk Grove and sponsored by the Gathering Inn. We will also be delivering the Blessing Bags and some miscellaneous hygiene items from our recent Congregation "Blessing Bag Item Collection Drive." The day/time of the tour will be determined at the next Board meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, please look for more details that will be shared in an upcoming Sunday bulletin.



Blessing of the Blessing Bags  
at the altar  
on Sunday, September 21

*\* Photo provided by Brenda Sulzmann*



## **THANKSGIVING 'FIX-INS' FOOD COLLECTION DRIVE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 THRU SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

The Community Concerns Board is sponsoring a congregational Thanksgiving 'Fix-Ins' food collection drive for the Elk Grove Food Bank. With help from local business and faith based organizations who donate turkeys and other canned/package food, the Elk Grove Food Bank is able to provide families who face food cost challenges, a hearty Thanksgiving meal. According to a November 27, 2024 article in the Elk Grove Citizen (a local community paper) about last year's Thanksgiving Food Drive, "Close to 1,600 individuals signed up to receive food and the food bank hoped to have more than enough for everyone." Food prices are definitely no less than they were last Thanksgiving. So, the number of individuals/families in need will likely exceed last year.

Look for a list of suggested food items for our Congregation to collect in the Sunday, October 5 Service bulletin. There will also be extra copies of the list available on the opportunity table in the Narthex. The following are a few of the suggested food items on the list in case you are not able to attend a Sunday Service:

***Boxed Instant Potatoes***

***Canned Yams***

***Boxed Stuffing Mix***

***Canned Gravy or Instant Gravy Packets***

***Canned Mixed Vegetables or Corn***

***Canned Cranberry Sauce***

***Starting Sunday, October 12 through Sunday, November 9, you can drop off your food donations in the Elk Grove Food Bank bin located at the back of the Sanctuary. If you are not able to bring your donations to the Church, please contact the Office (916-421-5039) to arrange for a pickup from your home.***

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask any member on the Community Concerns Board.



# EVANGELISM:

*Sharing Christ With Others*

## EVANGELISM NEWS

The Evangelism Board has some exciting events happening through the end of the year! Please join us in the fellowship events listed below:

**Oct 26<sup>th</sup>** – Reformation Sunday Potluck (after church)

**Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Thanksgiving Pie Social (after church)

**Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>** – Advent Soup Suppers and Service (starting at 6pm)

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup>** – Annual Congregational Meeting (after church)

There will be sign-up sheets placed in the narthex to help with these events.

Please come and join us for some great food, drinks and fellowship!

Many Blessings

Cathy Davis

Evangelism Chair

# OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



## Sunday, October 5

Marlene Kiser	Altar Care
Sarah Madison	Announcements
Phil Karlstad	Reader
Faith Thomas	Prayer Leader
Shirely Prouty	Communion
Laura Tice	Servers
Samatha Basquez	

## Sunday, October 12

Kelly Boyer	Altar Care
Laura Tice	Announcements
Kelly Boyer	Reader
Sarah Madison	Prayer Leader
Faith Thomas,	Communion
Bob Behr	Servers
Scott Kelly	



## Sunday, October 19

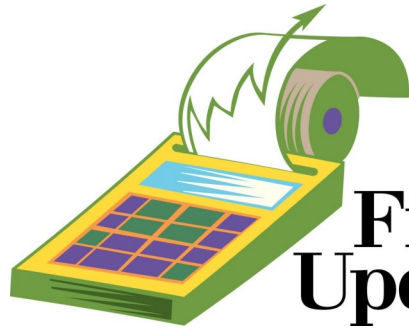
Kelly Boyer	Altar Care
Peggy Moser	Announcements
Karen Linfor	Reader
Bob Behr	Prayer Leader
Peggy Moser	Communion
Linda Duffek	Servers
Rosabella Lydia	
Hamilton	

## Sunday, October 26

Carol Carney	Altar Care
Chet Madison	Announcements
Karen Linfor	Reader
Shirley Prouty	Prayer Leader
Karen Linfor	Communion
Kirsten Ireton	Servers
Connie Reule	

**\*\*We are in need of a couple communion servers that can fill-in when people are absent. So it's a perfect opportunity for people that don't want to do it on a regular basis, but would like to participate in the service. If interested, please contact Pastor Rob or Faith Thomas. Thank you.**





# Finance Update

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

August 2025

### General Fund Contributions (only):

Data	This Month	Year to Date
Total Contributions	\$13,619	\$125,158
Compared to Budget	-\$2,566	-\$4,323
	-15.9%	-3.3%
No. of Contributors	54	55 avg.

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

### Other Contributions:

a. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – \$120, Pastoral Assistance - \$250.

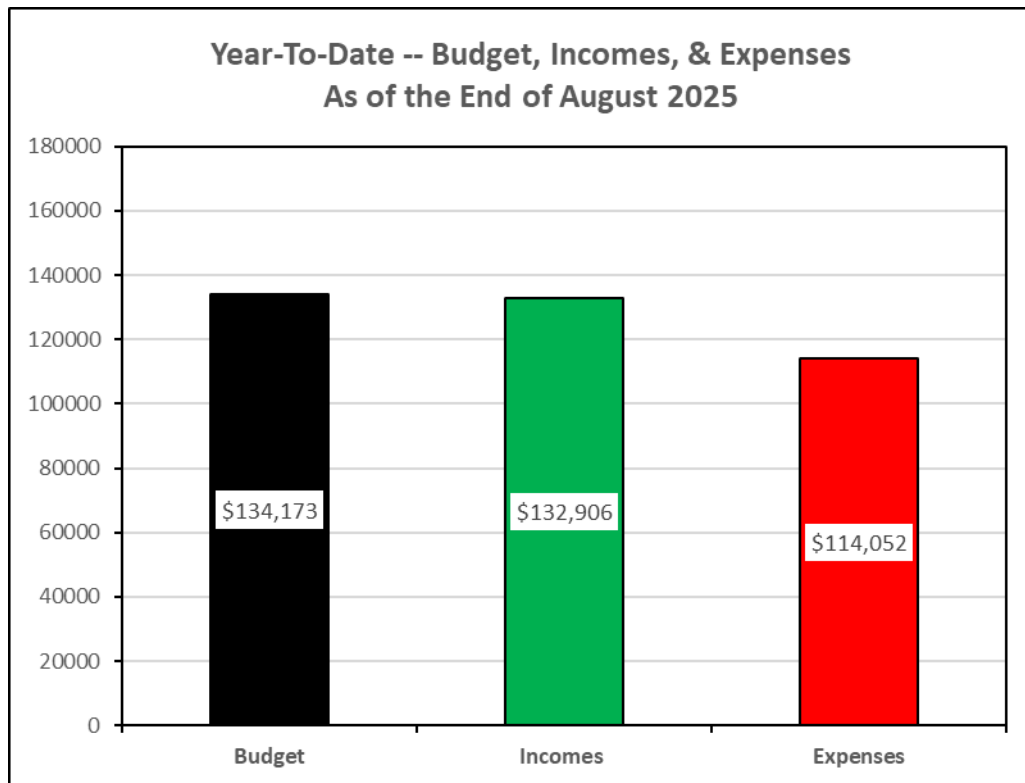
### Comments:

- The August offerings for five Sundays returned to below budget for the month.
- As of the end of August the year-to-date offerings are about 3.3 percent **below** the adopted Budget.
- The average number of unique contributors is nearly the same as last year - 55 compared to 57.

Bob Behr 916-730-0768, [bkbahr@comcast.net](mailto:bkbahr@comcast.net)

Chair, St. Luke's Financial Board

## 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 August 2025. As shown, through August, the Incomes (\$132,906) continue to exceed the Expenses (\$114,052) by about \$18,800. The year-to-date Expenses continue to be below the Budget (\$134,173) by approximately \$20,100. Your continued support and commitment through weekly/monthly offerings help us to continue to meet our commitments through 2025.

## FINANCE BOARD



**October 5:** Ed & Kirsten Ireton

**October 12:** Justine & Laura Tice

**October 19 :** Lois Sherrets & Kelly Boyer

**October 26:** Triss & Holly Hoppman



Kinsley Connell	October 01
Micayla Shower	October 02
Grayson Olmeda	October 02
Ferd Boschee	October 03
Howard Triebwasser	October 04
Gerlyn Reyes	October 08
Ron Franklin	October 08
Jeff Kiser	October 08
Ofelia Ojeda	October 08
Vivian Blazic	October 08
Anthony Basquez	October 09
Daniel King	October 09
Karstan Cagle	October 13
Isaac Diaz	October 15
PengXue Vang	October 18
Duane Kiser	October 19
Joan Mooney	October 21
Kelly Neidich	October 20
Ben Ireton	October 22
Greg Neidich	October 27
Nancy Thomas	October 28
Christina Hisamoto	October 28
Dixon Richey	October 28





Oct. 5 *Lilia & Philip Karlstad*

Oct 12 *Jacob & Christiana Wilson*  
*To Glory of God for Our 49th Wedding Anniversary*

Oct. 19 *Available*

Oct. 26 *Available*

If you would like to provide flowers for worship for a special occasion, in memory or honor of someone, or simply to beautify the chancel for worship, please sign up on the wall chart in the narthex. Then please bring a flower arrangement and place it on the stand next to the lectern before worship and take it with you after worship.



We are deeply saddened by the loss of our dear friend Jack Fenske.

The Property Board would like to acknowledge the outstanding leadership of Jack.

His commitment to our church was tireless, and he truly loved St. Luke's Church. As the Property Board chair I will do my best to keep our property board moving forward.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Boyer



Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we  
accept God's call to spread the Good News,  
serve those in need,  
and share the Victory of Jesus Christ  
throughout the world.

-St. Luke's Mission Statement