



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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News And Views



August
2014

Pastoral Perspective



“Nickels and noses”—church leaders, especially pastors, spend a significant amount of time and energy considering them. “Nickels” are the financial offerings given toward the ministry of the church. “Noses” are the number of people at worship.

The temptation on the part of pastors and other church leaders is to **just** focus on how we can get more nickels in the offering plate and more noses at worship. I believe there is something very wrong with that. I don't care to be considered as just a worship attendance statistic or to have my offerings considered just a way to pay the bills. I don't imagine you want to be primarily considered that way either.

I want to be cared for as someone who has a deep need to experience God and grow in loving relationship with God and His people. Worshiping together is a wonderful way for that to happen. I want my offerings to be considered as an expression of my giving control of my finances over to the Lord in great trust that He will provide for me in His love and use my offerings to help build His kingdom. I do this out of deep gratitude for God's tremendous fatherly love in my life and trust that He will always be there for me with His sustaining love in all situations.

I promise that I will do my best as your pastor always to consider you in the way I would like to be considered. I will encourage our other congregational leaders to do the same. As we consider one another in this way, we truly are enabled to work together on our mission to “spread the Good News, serve those in need, and share the victory of Jesus Christ.”

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,

Pastor Carl



The Presidents' Corner Greetings. I hope everyone is enjoying the warm summer days with time with family or friends in the Sacramento area or trips to distant places. It's a time for us all to be refreshed and renewed in our work, our play, and in our sharing with others.

The children's Sunday School has started with a new cast of teachers sharing their talents and time with St. Luke's children. Thanks to the work of the Etchison and Lentsch families, the Sunday School room was all cleaned and organized for the start of classes in July. We give them a big THANK YOU for their efforts and assistance in getting the program off to a good start and for providing support to the new teachers.

The fireworks booth crew under the leadership of Larry Dockter had another successful venture. If you didn't make it out to the booth to share in the fun times and work, put it on your calendar for next year now so you won't miss out. It's always a good chance to meet and talk with folks both as church members or community members and help St. Luke's earn some funds for property upkeep. Thanks to everyone who took part. As Larry said after closing down the booth on July 4th, "Same time next year!"

On the financial side, we continue to receive the support to meet or almost meet our expenses. Very shortly we will begin looking at the initial stages of developing the budget for next year. This can be a difficult time as costs continue to climb for essential services while we look for ways to grow and reach out to members, visitors, and the community.

Speaking of reaching out, the Community Concerns Board and WELCA are collecting school supply donations for children attending the two nearby elementary schools. See Al Moser or other board members if you have questions. On September 7, after the church picnic sponsored by the Evangelism Board, the Community Concerns Board with assistance from the Youth group (and anyone else who wants to help) will put the materials together for transporting and presenting to the schools.

I'm sure there are numerous other ways to get involved at St. Luke's as the Spirit moves you. I encourage everyone to check out the various opportunities to participate in worship or to provide your talents in supporting other activities and our mission here at St. Luke's. See you in church!

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Bob Behr



Don Schell's 80th Birthday!

Come out after church on Sunday, August 10 to help us celebrate and remind Don of all of the good times over the years as he has been an active member of St. Luke's for 55 years. There will be a Potluck Lunch following the 10:30am service and reception running until about 3:00pm. You are invited to bring a main dish or salad. A sign-up sheet is on the opportunity table in the back of the church. **NO GIFTS PLEASE!** Your visit and sharing is all that we ask (cards are acceptable . . . The funnier the better).



Diner's Groups

If you enjoy eating and sharing with others, you are invited to be a part of our Small Diner's Groups that will get together for September, October and November. Each group of 5 or 6 will get together once a month for a meal or activity of their choice. If a meal is in a restaurant, it is understood that the group will split the check. Be sure to add your name to the sign-up sheet that is available on the Opportunity Table in the back of the sanctuary. These groups are not just for couples. Grab a friend and sign up together or sign up as a single. Sign-ups end on Sunday, August 24. If you would like more information, please talk with Pat Webb or any member of the Evangelism Board. Don't miss out on the fun--sign up today.



15th Annual Fireworks Sale

...and on the 8th day, they rested...

It was a long week with one really HOT day – 106 windy and humid! But we were blest with an abundance of goodwill and fellowship. Looking at my list, we had over 80 folks who helped out by providing food, water, snacks, drinks, other donations, selling or buying fireworks, setting up or taking down the booth, or who spread the word to family and friends to stop on by and visit us.

On the sales side, we had our biggest sales week ever - \$29,455 – not too shabby! After paying expenses, we'll put \$10,738 in the bank to help the Property Board with the work they do here at St. Luke's in keeping the church facilities in tip-top shape.

Since I love food, I want to thank Irene Boschee and Katie Iniguez for their delicious treats, to Joe Payne for supplying us with tri-tip sandwiches one day and pizza another, and to Pastor and Triss Hoppman for supplying us with BBQ chicken and all the trimmings for our July 4th celebration. Salute!

We always have a great time working at the booth because it's always nice to meet the new faces, welcome our returning customers, and to watch the excitement in the kids' faces. That's the best part, the fellowship and fun we share with our neighbors and friends.

And finally, an extra shout out to my faithful core team of volunteers (you know who you are) who show up every day without fail, I couldn't do it without you! Thank you to all and see you next year!

In His Name...

Larry Dockter

St. Luke's Fireworks Sale Committee Chairman



The Community Concerns Board hopes you are having a healthy and happy summer. As we enjoy our time we want to continue to remember those that are less fortunate or need our help. There-

fore; we invite you to help us collect old (used) hearing aids and eye glasses to be donated to the Lions Club- look for a container in the entryway.

Also please continue to bring school supplies for the great need at our local schools Parkway and Charles Mack. Walmart and the Dollar Store are great places to purchase these items, all to be put in back packs and donated during the month of September.

Thank you.
Al Moser, Chairperson



SLY News!

Hey Youth Groupers - I hope you are all having a great summer. We had a great time kicking off summer at Elizabeth's grandparent's house (thank you again!) with our BBQ & Swim Party. I know some of you have had awesome vacations and I can't wait to hear all the details and see pictures. Right now we are looking forward to September 7th and our Service Project helping the Community Concerns Board and W-ELCA put together all the school supplies that are being collected this summer for the two local elementary schools. So be sure to mark your calendars so you are here to help that day. Did I mention that there is a BBQ before hand too?

As we look forward to the fall Confirmation Classes will start September 14th right after church and in October we will have our first SLY Meeting on October 5th at 12:45 in the room behind Schultz Hall (pizza lunch will be provided). Our annual CROP Walk to help raise awareness for the hungry will be October 12th so keep that day open as well. More opportunities for service and sharing will be discussed at the SLY Meeting so be sure to attend the meeting!

I look forward to filling the back pew with you in church at the 10:30 service! Please feel free to call or text me at 916-296-5907 with any questions or email me at kireton@surewest.net.

In Christ,
Kirsten Ireton, Youth Chairperson



IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BBQ/PICNIC

On Sunday, September 7, following the 10:30am service, the Evangelism Board will be hosting a BBQ/Picnic. The board will provide hamburgers/cheeseburgers, hot dogs, condiments (mayo, ketchup, mustard and pickle relish), lettuce, tomatoes, onions, chips, cookies and beverages.

All you need to bring, if you can, is a salad to share. You will find a sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Table in the back of the sanctuary. Signing up helps us to know how many plan to attend and how many tables we need to set up.

We do need help on Saturday morning, September 6, at 9:30am, setting up canopies, tables and chairs in the courtyard so that we will have plenty of seating and shade for everyone. We also could use a few extra hands cleaning up on Sunday after the BBQ. Please let me know if we can count on you to help.

Following the BBQ/Picnic, Community Concerns, W-ELCA and the Youth Board will coordinate the God's Work, Our Hands project of putting together all of the backpacks and school supplies that are being collected now through August.

We hope you will plan to attend and share in this very special time of fellowship and sharing. It's an exciting way to celebrate the start of our fall Sunday School and Adult Education classes.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



EVANGELISM BOARD

On Sunday, July 13, we served up our annual summer root beer floats and orange soda floats. This year root beer was the clear winner. There's nothing like a refreshing, delicious float on a warm summer day. Thanks to everyone who helped serve and clean up. Special thanks to Mack Vance who kept the ice cream and soda coming so that Carolyn Andrews, Joyce Jensen, Carole Vance and I were able to keep making the floats.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



Help Wanted

The Board of Worship and Music will be asking for sign-ups from those interested in helping with Worship as Readers, Servers, Prayer leaders, Welcome leaders, Altar Guild and Psalm Readers (children and youth).

For Servers and Altar Guild, sign-up sheets are on the Opportunity Table under the Good Shepherd window. We ask that you sign up for 1 month

a year. If you are unable to serve on a particular Sunday, substitutes will be arranged.

For Readers, Prayer Leaders, Welcome Leaders and Psalm Readers, we will have sign up sheets in the bulletin. You will be scheduled throughout the next 12 months, beginning in September, 2014 and ending August, 2015. You will receive a letter with your scheduled dates and readings. If you need to reschedule, substitutes can be arranged.

As you may know, Nick Manlapig served faithfully as the coordinator for Readers and Prayer Leaders until his recent passing. We will miss him greatly. Barbara Manlapig has graciously agreed to continue in this role. We thank you, Barbara.

We are also looking for someone who is interested in helping coordinate acolytes. Julie Ireton served as acolyte coordinator for the past few years. She is now a student at UC Berkeley (congratulations, Julie) and no longer able to serve in this way. The duties are to train the acolytes, help them robe and make sure the candle lighter is safely lit. It takes just a few minutes before 10:30 worship. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Janette Payne, Chairman of the Board of Worship and Music.



Want to commemorate a special day?

Say it with flowers. The flower chart is on the Opportunity Table. There are several dates available between now and the end of the year. Select the date, write in your name and the name of the person you want to remember, the event or to the Glory of God. The flowers will be ordered for you for the selected date and delivered by the florist.

You may take your flowers after worship if you like. Please pick them up in the Altar Guild room (behind the choir loft) at the conclusion of the 10:30 service. If you prefer to have your flow-

ers taken to members or friends of the congregation who are sick or shut-in, leave them and they will be taken to the church office for delivery the following week.

A donation of \$20 per bouquet is requested to cover the cost. We can have up to four arrangements per week.



Sing to the Lord

If you like to sing, join the Chancel choir this fall. No previous experience is required. There are no auditions and it is not necessary to know how to read music. The only requirements are a desire to praise the Lord with song and a willingness to attend Wednesday evening practices and Sunday morning 10:30 worship.

Choir practice will resume Wednesday, September 10. The first anthem performance will be September 21. Regular practices are Wednesday nights from 7:00 p.m. to approximately 8:30 p.m. in the choir loft. Sunday mornings the choir gathers at 10:00 a.m. for rehearsal of the piece for the day. We are blessed to have Brooke Barr as our Music Director. She is good-humored, patient and persistent, as well as an excellent accompanist.

We are also blessed with a growing Children's Choir. They meet the second and fourth Sundays for 20 minutes after church in Room 2 of the Education wing. Judy Saxby is their enthusiastic leader. Many thanks to Judy for leading this important ministry. If you know a child who would enjoy taking part, please contact Judy or any member of the Board of Worship and Music for more information or just bring your child to the next rehearsal.



Luau "Fun Raiser"... save the date.

Get out your grass skirt and tune up your ukulele. The annual Worship and Music Luau will be Saturday evening, September 20 with **fantastic food, fun activities and fabulous prizes.**

Entertainment featuring Disney music will be provided by the chancel choir, the children's choir and the bell choir. Tickets are \$5 for children 3 to 12, \$15 for 13 and up. Children under 3 are free. Tickets will be available from members of the Board of Worship and Music beginning in mid-August.



Read Through the New Testament with Pastor Carl

I am honored to help you read through the New Testament in such a way that you'll understand its message clearly and be able to apply its message to life situations effectively.

First, let's break down the New Testament into manageable daily readings. I'll provide material to help you understand what you're reading each day. Sessions will be held each week on Sundays at 9:15 AM in Room 3 of the Education Wing beginning September 14th, Tuesdays at 10:15 AM in the church Office beginning September 16th, and Thursdays at 7:00 PM at the Hoppman Home (8953 Royal Gate Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624) beginning September 18th. Come to whichever session best fits your schedule. You may change the session you attend at any time. Daily New Testament readings will start on September 14th for all three groups and continue each day regardless of whether we might need to skip a session for some reason. The sessions will consist of an explanation of the pas-

sages read that week, consideration of questions and insights group members have, and application of what was read to daily life.

Use whatever translation of the Bible that is easy for you to read and understand. I will be using and recommend The New Living Translation (NLT) 2007 edition. I have large print hardcover copies available for a suggested \$10 donation. The New Living Translation has an excellent study Bible if you would like to get into more depth. Online, The New Living Translation is available at www.biblegateway.com. There is a Kindle version of this translation as well.

Look forward to an exciting and Spirit-filled time this fall of really learning the New Testament!

Pastor Carl



St. Luke's Lutheran Church Confirmation Program "Confirmed In The Word"

I am very excited about writing the Confirmation material, "Confirmed In The Word". In two school years, it will give your student a solid undergirding of Biblical faith for life. The first school year (September—May) we will consider the Old Testament in depth by discussing about seventy Old Testament passages. The second school year we will consider the New Testament in depth by discussing about seventy New Testament passages. I will lead the discussion each Sunday from 12 to 12:45 PM in the Youth Room (the room behind Schultz Hall). We will usually discuss two passages each Sunday. I will email the material to be discussed beforehand for those who would like to consider it ahead and for those who will be missing the next class session. If a student misses a class session, I will count on a parent or mentor to discuss the material missed with the student and sign the discussion sheet so I can be assured each student

has discussed each unit. At the end of the second school year those students who have discussed all the units in class or with a parent or mentor will be eligible for Confirmation. Confirmation takes place at a Sunday worship service in late May or early June. Confirmation is a very special event when each student states publically that he or she desires and promises to make the faith in which they have been brought up theirs for life. It is accompanied by the blessing of the Holy Spirit and a celebration by the congregation.

All 6th through 8th graders are invited to take part in this program. They don't have to be members of St. Luke's to take part. Please contact me for more information and registration material. Classes will start Sunday September 14th. Presentation of the Youth study Bibles will be Sunday, September 7.

Pastor Carl



“Gods Work. Our Hands.”

We will be ordering “God’s Work Our Hands” t-shirts for those who would like to wear them September 7th and at other church events. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt the cost is \$8.00. We will be taking pre-sale orders. Orders must be in by **August 3**. There is a sign-up sheet on our Opportunity Table. You can place your money in a pew envelope marked T-Shirts and place it in the offering tray or speak with Robin Zoesch. We will need advance payment to order the t-shirts.



Community Concerns and The Women of the ELCA Missions Board

The Community Concerns Board and W-ELCA Missions Board are collecting school supplies from now through September 7th. Following the congregational picnic on Sunday, September 7th we will fill backpacks with school supplies for students in need at Charles Mack and Parkway schools. We will do it together as one body, using our hands to do God's work.

So find those sales and stock up on school supplies for this celebration. You can bring any donations to church any time in August. We are collecting all types of supplies including, but not limited to: backpacks, lined paper, printer paper, notebooks, pens, pencils, highlighters, crayons, color pencils, rulers, erasers, binders...

Your response so far has been amazing! Praise God for the concern of our congregation for a very real need in our community.





SLY



Summer Fun



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT JUNE 2014

OFFERINGS (General Fund Only):

| | This Month | Year to Date |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Total Offering | \$20,193 | \$105,215 |
| Compared to Budget | \$2,799 | -\$1,994 |
| | 16.9% | -1.9% |
| Compared to 2013 | \$2,084 | \$5,253 |
| | 11.5% | 6.00% |
| Contributors: | | |
| 2014 (Current Year) | 91 | 92 Aver. |
| 2013 (Last Year) | 87 | 89 Aver. |

Note: Positive values (no +/- sign) means **above**; negative values means **below**.

Other Special Gifts:

- a) Sunday School \$22.40
- b) Flowers \$160.00

Ron Webb
Financial Secretary

2014 Fireworks



Look at all those beautiful smiles





August 3 Jerry Carney
 August 5 Elsbeth Whitehurst
 August 5 Jason Havey
 August 8 Irene Boschee
 August 8 Don Schell
 August 10 Linda Duffek
 August 16 Vi Gibson
 August 16 Kay Yakabe
 August 17 Albert Minning
 August 19 Bertha Dahl
 August 21 Angelo Osako
 August 22 Aiyana Tice
 August 23 Adeline Boschee
 August 23 Zoe Franklin
 August 23 Mack Vance
 August 27 Carolyn Andrews



August 3 *Kelly Boyer for Mom's birthday*
 August 10 *Howard Triebwasser for wife Pearl's birthday*
 August 17 *Joan Mooney in memory of Anniversary;
 Tracy Etchison in memory of parents
 Karen and Emmy*
 August 24
 August 31



Dear Pastor Hoppman,

Thank you for another season of allowing our Shades of Praise teen choir to rehearse at your church. We continue to be amazed and truly blessed that you open your doors and welcome our teens to meet at your excellent facility. Our young people are also grateful for your generosity. We look forward to seeing you and the kind members of your congregation when rehearsals resume in September.

Most Gratefully,
 Eric and Cindy Rainwater



Our dear friend Nick Manlapig went home to be with his Heavenly Father on June 23. Please keep in prayer his wife Barbara Manlapig, their children and grandchildren as well as their entire family. A Memorial Service was held here at St. Luke's on July 12 which would have been Nick's 90th Birthday.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

Aug. 3
Aug. 10
Aug. 17 Amber Mansfield
Aug. 24 Joshua Bell
Aug. 31 Katy Etchison

Altar Care

8:15 AM Cheryl Franklin
10:30 AM Peggy Moser, Mary F. Harris

Communion Servers

Peggy Moser, Ken Lentsch and Debi Lentsch

Counters

Aug. 3 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Aug. 10 Don Schell, Bob Behr
Aug. 17 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Aug. 24 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
Aug. 31 Carolyn Andrews, Jack Fenske
Micki Fenske

Greeters

Aug. 3 Mack and Carole Vance
Aug. 10
Aug. 17
Aug. 24
Aug. 31

Head Ushers

8:15 AM Ron Franklin
10:30 AM Craig Eckels, Larry Dockter

Prayer Leaders

Aug. 3 Alison Thomas
Aug. 10 Mary F. Harris
Aug. 17 Holly Hoppman
Aug. 24 Bob Behr
Aug. 31 Samantha Basquez

Psalm Leaders

Aug. 3 Amber Mansfield
Aug. 10 Isabella Basquez
Aug. 17 Elizabeth Wilson
Aug. 24 Sierra Etchison
Aug. 31 Aiyana Tice

Readers 8:15 AM

Aug. 3 Christiana Wilson
Aug. 10 Kelly Boyer
Aug. 17 Maribel Herrera
Aug. 24 Ron Webb
Aug. 31 Eric Linblade

Readers 10:30 AM

Aug. 3 Al Moser
Aug. 10 Barbara Manlapig
Aug. 17 Pat Webb
Aug. 24 Samantha Basquez
Aug. 31 Betty Englund

Refreshments

Aug. 3 Ofelia Ojeda
Aug. 10 Pending
Aug. 17 Mack and Carole Vance
Aug. 24 Walt and Pauline Arndt, Joyce Jensen
Aug. 31 Ken and Debi Lentsch

Visitors Gifts

Aug. 3 Carolyn Andrews
Aug. 10 Joyce Jensen
Aug. 17 Thelma Williams
Aug. 24 Carole Vance
Aug. 31 Pauline Arndt

Welcome Leaders

Aug. 3 Peggy Moser
Aug. 10 Pat Webb
Aug. 17 Chet Madison
Aug. 24 Carolyn Andrews
Aug. 31 Pauline Arndt

*Thanks
for
Serving!*



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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**“Gods Work.
Our Hands.”**

