



St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
(916) 421-5039  
[www.stlukesac.org](http://www.stlukesac.org)  
[stlukeschurch@att.net](mailto:stlukeschurch@att.net)  
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# News And Views

January 2012

## Pastoral Perspective



Will you be exchanging some Christmas gifts this year? Perhaps you appreciated the thought behind some of the gifts you received, but would really rather have something else.

A statement sometimes spoken by a recipient of a gift to the giver is, "You really shouldn't have." Now, while that is normal-

ly considered a compliment, suggesting that the gift is most extravagant or that the recipient is not deserving of such great kindness, at times the recipient means, "You really shouldn't have, because this isn't what I want." That this is often the hidden meaning is made obvious by the long lines at special counters set up just to take care of post-Christmas exchanges.

This flurried gift exchange might be no big deal, but there is one gift that is not to be exchanged. That is the real gift of Christmas, Jesus. Of this gift you might say to God, "You really shouldn't have", but it was the only way God could win you back into right relationship with Him. This gift, the gift of His Son, your Savior, is the only gift that can bring true meaning and purpose to your life. It is the only gift that lasts forever. Why would you ever want to exchange this gift of life, this gift of a growing relationship with God through Jesus?

Well, it's sort of like receiving a beautiful plant. Sure, it's great to have around for a few

days to look at, but it can seem like too much trouble to have to take care of. Why not just exchange it for an attractive artificial plant? It's sort of like receiving a baby pet. Sure, it's cute and adorable, sort of like the baby Jesus, but it can be a hassle to live with day in and day out. It can be challenging to have around all the time. Why not just exchange it and get a computer screen saver of baby animals?

Get the idea? You can be tempted to exchange the real gift of Christmas, which is right relationship with God through His Son, Jesus, for a convenient and more comfortable relationship with your worldly desires apart from God. You can be tempted to exchange a living relationship with God for what you might think will be more satisfying for your life in this world. You can say in your heart to God, "You really shouldn't have", meaning, "Thanks for the gift of Jesus, but I don't really want to have Him in my life all year long to listen to and follow."

But don't do it! Don't exchange the gift. Sure it can be challenging at times and make you shift your priorities and what is important to you, but the gift of right relationship with God through Jesus is priceless. There is nothing you could exchange it for that would be anywhere near as wonderful. Keep the gift. Thank God for it every day. Hold it close to your heart. You will really be so much more satisfied with it than anything you could exchange it for.

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,  
*Pastor Carl*



## The Presidents' Corner

We had a great congregational meeting on December 11 with an opportunity to thank those who completed their

terms on the Church Council and those who played an important part in implementing the priorities of the Blumhardt Memorial projects. We approved a budget for 2012 based on the pledges we received during the stewardship campaign and past member giving records. We expect 2012 will be another one of challenges for us to be able to spread the Good News, serve those in need, and share the victory of Jesus Christ in our lives.

We have new members of Council that will work to continue the good things happening around St Luke's:

- ◇ Financial Secretary – Ron Webb
- ◇ Secretary – Holly Hoppman
- ◇ Community Concerns – Judy Saxby
- ◇ Education – Missy Jensen
- ◇ Evangelism – Pat Webb
- ◇ Property – Clarence Korhonen
- ◇ Worship & Music – Karen Linfor

Continuing members are:

- ◇ Vice President - Howard Triebwasser
- ◇ Treasurer – Larry Dockter
- ◇ Finance – Betty Englund
- ◇ Youth – Jennifer Connell

There are many opportunities to volunteer for one of the various boards and become involved in helping St Luke's meet its mission. Please consider sharing your talents or learning something new by volunteering to assist us this next year.

One goal for this coming year is to have some discussions regarding where we are heading as a church. Sometimes called strategic planning, it is an attempt to look ahead so that the church can be better positioned to meet the needs of our members and community. If you would be interested in being involved in such an effort, let

me know. I look forward to working with you in 2012.

See you in church!

Your fellow servant in Christ,  
*Bob Behr*



The Council approved the Community Concerns motion to disburse \$300.00 from the Community Concerns special funds account to contribute to the Sierra Pacific Synod's sister synod in Rwanda to help the bishop of that synod purchase a car.

The Worship and Music Committee noted that they would have church members contribute Easter Lilies in memory or honor of someone for the Easter season as the Poinsettia project for Christmas was a great success.

Pastor Carl announced that the orientation for all new council members and committee chairpersons would take place on Saturday January 28, 2012.

The Evangelism Committee reminded everyone of the Epiphany Breakfast to be held on January 6, 2012.

The Council accepted the resignation of Church Secretary Pauline Arndt effective the end of December. **Resumes for the position of Church Secretary are now being accepted. The position is for 5 days a week for 3 hours each day – 9am to noon.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Ruth Heaton**  
Church Council Secretary





**Community  
Concerns  
Board**

I want to thank my Board Members: Judy Saxby, Mike Wilke, Pat Webb and Melissa

Jensen. We accomplished a lot during this past year and with your assistance and the many generous donations from the congregation we were able to serve our community well.

*Al Moser,*  
Community Concerns Chair



**Recognition/Thank you to Ron Webb** for being sure that there are hot beverages every Sunday for After Service Refreshments and our Potlucks. A card and token of appreciation

were presented to Ron at the Congregational Potluck on Sunday, December 11. We also recognized Bob Behr for his support by moving so many tables and chairs, for after service refreshments and potlucks, all through the year.

**Congregational Potluck** – Sunday, December 11 - Thank you to WELCA for all the beautiful decorations and table set-up. We also thank all those who attended, those that brought dishes and all those who helped in any way to make this a wonderful time of sharing. It was truly a great opportunity to fellowship in appreciation of the Christmas season.

**Holiday Assistance**

Due to the generosity of the Congregation we were able to share with several very deserving families. Once again, we were shown how blessed we all are to be a part of such a wonderful and caring group of people here at St. Luke's – we thank all of you for supporting this opportunity to share with those in need.

**Epiphany Breakfast**

To celebrate the Epiphany (Manifestation) of our Lord, we invite everyone to join us on Friday morning, January 6, for a worship ser-

vice and breakfast in the Fellowship Room at 9:30 a.m. The breakfast, which will include breakfast casseroles, muffins, fruit, bagels and cream cheese, juice and coffee, is being hosted by the Evangelism Board. A sign up sheet is available on the opportunity table in the church entryway. You are encouraged to bring your favorite nativity scenes to share.

As mentioned before, it is with mixed feelings that I have decided to leave this Board and thank all of you for making it such a truly rewarding year. To my outstanding Board Members, Carolyn Andrews, Pauline Arndt, Shirley Prouty, Pat Webb and Thelma Williams I say Thank You, once again, and wish you all great success next year under what I know will be outstanding leadership by the new Board Chair, Pat Webb. I also, thank Pastor Carl for always being available and guiding us through the year. My hope is that the entire Congregation will give the new Board all the support next year, as you did this year.

*Carol Carney*  
2011 Board Chair



**1. Parking Lot Work (On Going):**

This is a Priority 6, Blumhardt project. The repair work was completed November 22 at a cost of \$8,865.00.

This Priority also includes sealing the parking lot cracks, which has not been completed. Two bids have been obtained for crack sealing; however, the bids are based on an outdated inspection. The Board recommends that the crack sealing work be performed.

**2. Gutters (Completed):** On November 29, the gutters on the west side of the church buildings were cleaned, and then, Gutter Guards, consisting of a perforated aluminum alloy, were installed over these gutters. The work was performed by The Whole House Fan and Gutter Guard Company for a cost of \$2,197.00. The company provides a 10-year “no clog” warranty. The work is included as part of the Priority 7, Blumhardt projects.

**3. Exterior Replacement Blubs:** Two test

globe-type fluorescent bulbs were recently installed in the courtyard (19 watt/75 watt equivalent). The Board decided that the improved appearance (versus simple compact fluorescent bulbs) merits the increased cost. Fenske was instructed to obtain bulbs for the remaining small wall fixtures (about 10). Cost less than \$150.

**4. Budgets and Funds:** The members reviewed the various funds available to the Property Board.

a. 2011 Budget – Expenditures are consistent with the Budget, except the Landscape Service Contract is over (as expected) and Natural Gas and Sewer Charges are significantly under.

b. Property Board Special Funds – The balance is about \$13,000.

Blumhardt Funds – The estimated funds available for completing the Crack Sealing, Landscape, and Schultz Hall Additional projects are about \$13,000. It is unlikely that sufficient funds will be available from the Blumhardt Funds for the Shultz Hall addition.

**Courtyard Replacement (On Going):** The Board has received four estimates for replacing the courtyard with stamped concrete. The cost is about \$12,000. The Board members determined no additional investigative work is necessary at this time. Additional brief discussion concluded that a stamped concrete solution is probably the best solution for several reasons, of which, low maintenance is the most significant.

**Remaining Blumhardt Projects:** The Board reviewed the remaining Blumhardt projects, for which, the Board is responsible.

Landscape/Sprinklers (\$7,500 Estimate) – As reported last month, Fenske has a plan drawn, which includes new sprinkler heads, minor landscape planting, and removal of some shrubs and four trees. At this meeting, the Board decided to separate the tree removal from the other landscape work and make this work a separate contract. Kiser has obtained

an estimate for removing a large pine tree (\$850) and will obtain a new estimate for removing the other trees (four in total). The Board will seek bids for the remaining landscape work.

Schultz Hall Addition (\$20,000 Estimate) – As noted above, it is questionable whether sufficient funds will be available for this project. Carney and Fenske have developed an estimate of \$13,500 for renovating only the restroom. This estimate includes replacing all major components of the restrooms (floor covering, wainscot, partitions, and major fixtures). Further investigations will be deferred until the Landscape and other priority work is completed.

Once again I want to thank the members of the Board for their outstanding service to this board and to St. Luke's, Phillip Connell, Scott Falwell, Jack Fenske, Eric Linblade, Bruce Kiser and Clarence Korhonen – it has been an extremely busy and rewarding year! Again, a very special thank you to Jack Fenske for preparing all of the agendas, minutes and multitude of plans, drawings, and other paper work. I also want to thank all the members of the Congregation who helped, in any way, to support our efforts during the year and I ask you to please continue to do so as the Board starts the New Year under the leadership of Clarence Korhonen.

*Jerry Carney*  
**2011 Board Chair**



WELCA will be having a general meeting Saturday January 14th at 11:30 am. This is a pot luck and we will be collecting canned goods and/or money for the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership (food closet).

I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who helped make WELCA such a success this past year.

There will be some changes within WELCA starting In January:

Kirsten Ireton will be President, Karen Linfor will be Vice President, Tracy Light will be Treasurer, and Carol Carney will be Secretary.

The new missions team members are:

Pat Webb, Karen Behr, Gail Weber and Linda Duffek.

I wish everyone much happiness in the New Year.

Thanks,  
Linda Duffek



A thank you to everyone who donated for the poinsettia plants that decorated our sanctuary for this Christmas season! It was beautiful. Any poinsettias left in the sanctuary following New Years Day services will be donated to our shut-ins. And because of the success of this project, the board of worship and music plans to do it again for Easter with lilies, so keep an eye out for that in March.



**HELP NEEDED**

To prepare for Epiphany we need your help taking down our Christmas tree and the Advent decorations on Saturday, January 7th, 2012. Join the board of Worship and Music at 10am as we transition our worship space for the New Year.



EP'PHANY

**St. Luke's 11th Annual Crab Feed**

This year's Crab Feed theme is "Rockin with the 80's".  
Saturday, March 3, 2012



There is something new at this years Crab Feed, we are adding Shrimp to our menu. We will still be offering chicken for those unable to eat Crab or Shrimp.

Our costs have risen over the last couple of years and due to this we will be rais-

ing our prices for the first time in approximately six years. Cost for adults will be \$40.00, children 6-12 are \$15.00 and children 5 and under will be free.

As you know this is a wonderful fundraiser to help our Property Board keep up with the demands required of them for the many projects that are needed around our facility. Last year we made an amazing total of \$5,375.00 in profit to help with a property needs.

The RAFFLE is a huge part of our Crab Feed, so this means we are already asking for donations to help with this. If you have a favorite restaurant, salon, hardware store, family activity you and your family enjoy you might want to ask your contact person if they would like to help by donating a service. We do have our donation request available in the narthex on the opportunity table.

You will find our sign up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to volunteer for this awesome event.

Tickets are now available and going fast! Please see Pauline Arndt or Deanna Dockter following church services to purchase tickets. For our 8:15am service, please see Ron Webb if you are interested in purchasing tickets.

If you have questions, please contact Deanna Dockter, Ron Webb or Kirsten Ireton.

Your friend in Christ,  
Deanna Dockter



**Epiphany Breakfast**

We will celebrate the Epiphany (Manifestation) of our Lord on Friday morning, January 6, with a breakfast and worship service in the Fellowship Room at 9:30 AM. A sign-up sheet is

on the opportunity table in the church entry-way.



# January Worship Assistants

## ACOLYTES

1-Jan	Daniel Encinas, Joshua Bell
8-Jan	Katy Etchison
15-Jan	Katie Light, Selena Connell
22-Jan	Elise Mihanovich
29-Jan	Katy Etchison, Elise Mihanovich

## ALTAR CARE 8:15 AM

Cheryl Franklin

## ALTAR CARE 10:30 AM

Ruth Heaton

## COMMUNION SERVERS

Howard Triebwasser; Ken Light;  
Larry Dockter

## COUNTERS

1-Jan	Walter Arndt & John Johnsen
8-Jan	Don Schell, Bob Behr
15-Jan	Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
22-Jan	Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
29-Jan	Carolyn Andrews, Micki Fenske, Jack Fenske; Howard Triebwasser (Substitute)

## GREETERS

1-Jan	Pat Hamilton
8-Jan	AVAILABLE
15-Jan	AVAILABLE
22-Jan	AVAILABLE
29-Jan	AVAILABLE

## HEAD USHERS

Ron Franklin; Ken Lentsch

## PRAYER LEADERS

1-Jan	Holly Hoppman
8-Jan	Larry Dockter
15-Jan	Nick Manlapig
22-Jan	Ken Lentsch
29-Jan	Walt Arndt

## PSALM READERS

1-Jan	Katie Light
8-Jan	Amber Mansfield
15-Jan	Micayla Shower
22-Jan	Derrick Mihanovich
29-Jan	Elise Mihanovich

## READER 8:15 AM

1-Jan	Erick Linblade
8-Jan	Maribel Herrera
15-Jan	Christiana Wilson
22-Jan	Kathryn Felgenhauer
29-Jan	Ron Webb

## READER 10:30 AM

1-Jan	Tracy Etchison
8-Jan	Katy Etchison
15-Jan	Ruth Heaton
22-Jan	Jason Havey
29-Jan	Samantha Basquez

## Readers

*If you are unable to read on your assigned*

## REFRESHMENTS

1-Jan	Ireton Family
8-Jan	Jerry & Carol Carney
15-Jan	Pending
22-Jan	Pending
29-Jan	Pending

## VISITOR GIFTS

1-Jan	Thelma Williams
8-Jan	Carolyn Andrews
15-Jan	Pending
22-Jan	Pending
29-Jan	Pending

## WELCOME LEADERS

1-Jan	Carolyn Andrews
8-Jan	Peggy Moser
15-Jan	Pat Webb
22-Jan	Chet Madison
29-Jan	Pauline Arndt

## Worship Assistants

*If you are ill, coughing or unable to serve or perform your task on your assigned date, please contact the church office @ 421-5039 or Peggy Moser @ 606-7880. Also, please remember to use the Hand Sanitizer available at the Lectern, before serving communion.*



**November 2011**



It's Been Great!

**OFFERINGS (General Fund Only):**

	<b>This Month</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
<b>Total Offering</b>	\$15,540	\$162,700
<b>Compared to Budget</b>	-\$750	-\$6,571
	-4.6%	-4.1%
<b>Compared to 2010</b>	\$1,201	-\$1,406
	-1.5%	-0.86%
<b>Projected Year-End Balance</b> (Compared to budget)		-\$7,454
<b>Contributors:</b>		
<b>2011 (Current Year)</b>	83	86
<b>2010 (Last Year)</b>	95	97

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

**Other Special Gifts:**

- a) Flowers - \$134
- b) Sunday School - \$20
- c) Thanksgiving Offering - \$1,287.85

*David Saxby*  
Financial Secretary

As of December 31, 2011, I am no longer the Office Secretary here at St. Luke's.

I have enjoyed my time here in the office. Everyone has been wonderful to me. I have gotten to know so many of you in a way that I would not otherwise have had the opportunity. I am looking forward to spending time at home, getting back to my genealogy research and spending more time with Walt and my family.

We will still be around, in choir, Divine Drama, Adult Bible Study, WELCA, and of course Sunday Worship.

I thank you all for your friendship and caring. It is great to be part of the St. Luke's family.

Blessings to all,  
*Pauline*

**A New Year's blessing**

May God make your year a happy one!  
 Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,  
 But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;  
 Not by making your path easy,  
 But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
 Not by taking hardships from you,  
 But by taking fear from your heart;  
 Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
 But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;  
 Not by making your life always pleasant,  
 But by showing you when people and their causes  
 need you most,  
 and by making you anxious to be there to help.  
 God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year  
 ahead.

—Author unknown

# Kids Page



## NO-SEW FLEECE SCARF



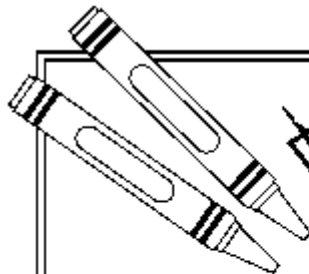
Winter is a difficult time for people in need, so make this scarf to help someone stay warm.

### What you need:

- Medium-weight polar fleece, 60" standard width (a 9" portion will make one scarf)
- Scissors
- An adult to help

### What you do:

1. Cut a piece of medium-weight polar fleece to the size of 60" x 9". Cut the fabric across its width so the material is stretchy.
2. Trim off the edge binding. To add "fringe" along each end, make a 6"-long cut every half inch.
3. For curly fringe, pull each strand and then let go sharply. Another attractive option is to tie an over-hand knot at the top of each strip.
4. Donate your scarf to a local group that helps people in need. For greater impact, encourage your Sunday school classmates or other friends to make scarves, too.



## PUZZLE

### A caring disciple

In Acts 9, Peter tells of a woman who lived in Joppa. She performed good works and helped the poor. Solve the puzzle below to reveal this disciple's two names.

Instructions: Cross out the letters that spell each object and write the remaining letter on the blank.

adcltne



\_\_\_rohmtae

\_\_\_srgbape

\_\_\_rbieda



\_\_\_pehtshred

\_\_\_rdhaenica



fadoo

Her name in Greek

\_\_\_pdeesh



\_\_\_dchilnero



\_\_\_drove



\_\_\_acehtr



\_\_\_sarcos



\_\_\_nusoatim



Answers: Tabitha, Dorcas



PREPARING FOR THE CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S BIRTH!



Our Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck was a great success!

Thanks, Ron, for making sure we get our coffee! Hope you enjoyed the cherry pie.



Jonathan Dockery	1-Jan
Manuel Ojeda	1-Jan
Shirley Clark	2-Jan
Kathryn Felgenhauer	2-Jan
Nick Moser	5-Jan
Betty Litz	9-Jan
Karen Linfor	10-Jan
Melissa Jensen	11-Jan
Shirley Martsch	12-Jan
Deanna Simmons	13-Jan
Walter Arndt	16-Jan
Wesley Lester	18-Jan
Dennis Fischer	19-Jan
Stella Loveless	24-Jan
Susan Landaker	26-Jan
Amy Franklin	29-Jan
Bernie Johansen	30-Jan
Kirsten Ireton	31-Jan
Tracy Light	31-Jan

+ Christian Symbols +  
“Ecce Agnus Dei”

Latin for  
“Behold, the Lamb of  
God,” this is the phrase  
John the Baptist used  
twice to point out Jesus  
to others (John 1:29,  
36). It marks Jesus’  
Epiphany  
(manifestation, revela-  
tion) as the Anointed  
One (Christ, Messiah).



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January  
Altar Flowers

1-Jan	<b>Available</b>
8-Jan	Ken, Tracy & Katie Light -- Celebrate Karen Linfor's birthday.
15-Jan	<b>Available</b>
22-Jan	<b>Available</b>
29-Jan	Linfor's -- Celebrate Tracy Light's birthday



We have received gracious thank you notes from the recipients of our Holiday Assistance Gifts.

They are deeply appreciated and truly show the generosity of St. Luke's family.



The New Way of Life Narcotics Anonymous Group would like to say “Thank You” for all your help and for the food donations to our Thanksgiving Marathon Event. Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated.

**Believe.**  
**HOPE.**  
*Encourage.*  
**PERSEVERE.**

# St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Carl Hoppman, Pastor  
 Phone: (916) 421-5039  
 E-mail: pr.carl@att.net

## January 2012 Event Calendar

Brooke Barr  
 Music Director  
 E-mail: plusader@yahoo.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM - Holy Communion 9:15 AM Bible Study 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:15 AM Crossways 7:00 PM Executive Committee	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>5</b> 7:00 PM Crossways	<b>6</b> 9:30 AM Epiphany (Manifestation) of our Lord Breakfast & Worship 	<b>7</b>  10:00 AM
<b>8</b> 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM - Worship 9:15 AM Bible Study	<b>9</b> 6:00 PM Community Concerns Bd 7:00 PM Evangelism Bd	<b>10</b> 10:15 AM Crossways 6:00 PM Property Bd	<b>11</b> 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>12</b> 7:00 PM Crossways	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10:00 AM Music/Worship Bd 11:30 AM W-ELCA - Gen Mtg-Potluck; Gather Canned Goods and/or \$
<b>15</b> 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM - Holy Communion 9:15 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM SLY & Confirmation 2:30 PM Service @ The Commons News & Views Deadline	<b>16</b> Martin Luther King, Jr.	<b>17</b> 10:15 AM Crossways 7:00 PM Council Meeting	<b>18</b> 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>19</b> 7:00 PM Crossways	<b>20</b> Confirmation Retreat 	<b>21</b> Confirmation Retreat
<b>22</b> 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM - Worship 9:15 AM Bible Study Confirmation Retreat 	<b>23</b> 7:00 PM Youth Bd	<b>24</b> 10:15 AM Crossways	<b>25</b> 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>26</b> 7:00 PM Crossways	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM - Holy Communion 9:15 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM SLY & Confirmation	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 10:15 AM Crossways	<b>UPCOMING EVENT</b> * Ash Wednesday — February 22, 2012 * Crab Feed — March 3, 2012			



**ARISE,  
SHINE;**  
for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD  
has risen upon you.

Isaiah 60:1, NRSV



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

**Return Service Requested**

**Sunday Worship Schedule**  
8:30 AM Worship  
9:15 AM Adult Study  
10:30AM Worship

«NAME» «Spouse»  
«Address»  
«City» «Zip»

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