



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



2013

Pastoral Perspective



My High School History teacher told me when I had to get a haircut or get kicked off the track team to ask myself if it was worth it to me to take a stand on the issue. If it was, then I should go ahead and not get a haircut. If it wasn't, then I should get a haircut and let it go. He told me that what was involved was

either a matter of conscience or convenience. If it was a matter of conscience, then I should be willing to give myself to the larger cause. If it was a matter of convenience, then I was just concerned about myself and really had no legitimate business in the conflict. The conflict couldn't really be creative for me or any of the authorities involved if I was just concerned about what I wanted to get to do. If I honestly felt a word of truth concerning the length of hair that should be allowed for sports participants needed to be delivered even at the risk of the messenger, then perhaps I should be that messenger. If I just didn't want to get a haircut, then I was being selfish to make such a big deal about it. As it turned out, what I did was shave off all of my hair so I had to wear a skull cap for a couple of weeks to get to go to school at all, but that just shows there's most always a way to skirt an issue.

Jesus, as we know, wasn't one to skirt issues. He also wasn't one to try to get away with what was convenient for him. His whole life and mission was rather one of creative conflict in which he gave

himself completely to the larger cause. He knew a Word of Truth had to be spoken even at great risk to the messenger and he willingly was not only that messenger but the Word of Truth itself.

"When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem." (Luke:9:51) Jesus set his face toward Jerusalem. He didn't do it for any personal gain or convenience. He did it to speak and act for God to accomplish our salvation. Some Pharisees tried to dissuade Jesus from going into the midst of the conflict that was waiting for him in Jerusalem. Jesus, however, already knew what was coming and answered: "I must go my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem." (Luke 13:33) Jesus knew the price he would have to pay and was not about to stop for the sake of convenience or safety. The conflict in which he was involved was a matter of conscience which required him to forsake any concerns about convenience. He went all the way to the cross in order to reconcile us with God.

Take time this Lent, as you prepare for the great Easter celebration, to give thanks to Jesus for facing tremendous conflict and willingly sacrificing his very life so you could have new life in him.

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl



W-ELCA Meeting Reminder

W-ELCA will have their next Business Meeting on Saturday, March 9th at 11:30am. You are

encouraged to wear green!!! Please sign-up in the Narthex for a Potato Bar Topping and so we know how many potatoes to bake. If you are able, please bring non-perishable food items for the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership food closet. We are planning the Passover Supper Meal so your attendance and help are greatly appreciated.

In Memory

We are all saddened by the passing of our sister in Christ, Karen Behr. Each of us carries special memories or funny stories of her that I know her grandchildren would love to hear. So, just as Karen so loved to share stories with her grandkids and us, I would like to create a "storybook" of memories of Karen. I would encourage everyone to write down their favorite Karen story or memory, or share some pictures of Karen. I will compile these in printed books for each of her grandchildren. Original pictures will be returned after I scan them. Your stories can be hand-written or typed. Everything can also be emailed to me at kireton@surewest.net.

In Christ,
Kirsten Ireton



Lenten Soup Suppers and Services

We began our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, February 13, with our first soup supper. Thank you to W-ELCA for hosting such a wonderful meal and to all those who brought soups, bread and desserts. The soup supper was followed by a very special Holy Communion service and a Lenten drama between an elder and Peter before the Passover.

Please plan to come to the following soup

suppers and services which will be held at 6 pm in Schultz Hall. Each Wednesday service will include a drama that will help us consider how those involved were feeling about the events of Holy Week.

Wednesday, March 6 – hosted by the Council

Wednesday, March 13 – hosted by the Congregation

Wednesday, March 20 – hosted by the Evangelism and Community Concerns



Easter is Sunday March 31

We are very happy to announce that Carol Carney and Ron Webb will again co-chair this year's **Easter Breakfast**. They are planning another delicious French toast breakfast, but they will need your help with set-up, cooking, serving, and clean-up. Sign-up sheets will soon be available so be sure to let them know how you can help make this a very special day.

God's blessings,
Pat Webb, Chair of Evangelism Board



CD's of Worship Services

The Evangelism Board is considering starting a new program of offering CD's of our worship services once a month to those who are unable to attend services. We would like to find out if such a program would be of interest to you. In order to establish this kind of ministry, we would need someone to make approximately 10 copies of the recorded worship services. Is there someone who would enjoy doing this? These CD's would then be personally delivered to those who would like them. If you would be interested in this ministry or would find this helpful for you, please contact Carolyn Andrews or Thelma Williams and let them know.



Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm for our Lenten Soup Suppers and Services to be held in Schultz Hall. This is a wonderful time of fellowship to share and learn with one another.



This year's Passover Lamb Supper will be held on Thursday, March 28th at 6:00 pm and will once again include a Ritual Meal. This is a wonderful time of sharing as Pastor Carl explains the history and religious significance of the Passover in our everyday lives.

The dinner will be sponsored by the St. Luke's Women of the ELCA. You are encouraged to purchase your tickets early which will assist in the planning of this very labor intensive meal. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and children 12 and under are \$5. No tickets will be available at the door. Please see Kirsten Ireton or Dorothy Haney to buy your tickets by March 24th.

There will also be sign-up sheets in the Narthex for anyone interested in assisting with the set-up and meal preparation.



Good Friday
Service of Shadows
7:30 PM



ELK GROVE FOOD BANK
SERVICES
by Judy Saxby

The following is information showing the amount of food collected at St. Luke's Lutheran in 2011 and 2012. It is my hope that we can increase our giving in 2013. Your donations are very much appreciated by Sacramento County residents. If you are unable to shop for items, you are welcome to write a check to EG Food Bank Services and I will gladly deliver it to them.

Totals collected:

	Food	Clothes
2011	40 bags/cans	4 bags
2012	29 bags/cans	5 bags

Here is a list of grocery items needed by the Food Bank: pasta, mac & cheese, boxed mashed potatoes, pkgd rice, pkgd beans, canned fruit, vegetables, soup, tuna and other canned meat, canned chicken, cereal products, high protein foods (i.e., canned chili, peanut butter, beans). Fresh fruits & vegetables that store well in frig.

Ensure, vitamin supplements.

Baby items (food, formula, diapers and wipes).

You can use your grocery receipt as proof of purchase for your tax deduction and a copy of your check for proof of donation.

If you have any questions, please direct them to:

Judy Saxby, Food Collections – 798-0825



In October 2009 St. Luke's received a bequest of \$100,000 from the estate of Fred and Albina Blumhardt. (former members of St. Luke's)

A committee was formed to develop a plan for the use of the funds. On February 13, 2010, a congregational meeting was held and a plan was presented for approval. A total of eight categories was proposed with priorities given for expenditure. They are as follows:

<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Category Name & Order</u>
\$31,000	1. Sanctuary (Westside windows & Choir Room)
20,000	2. ADA Compliant Restroom (Sunday School wing)
10,000	3. Kitchen
4,000	4. Sanctuary (new paraments)
10,000	5. Benevolence (Seminarian David Bentz & St. Johns Shelter)
13,500	6. Landscaping & Parking Lot
4,000	7. Rain gutters
20,000	8. Schult Hall addition upgrade

The plan was approved by the congregation as proposed.

Over the past two years the various projects were started and completed as of December, 2012. The following summarizes the total amount expended for each category:

1. Sanctuary (windows)	\$28,335.71
2. ADA Restroom	15,750.36
3. Kitchen	16,765.77
4. Sanctuary (paraments)	4000.86
5. Benevolence	10,000.00
6. Landscaping & Parking Lot	25,873.87
7. Rain gutters	2,197.00
8. Schult Hall	3,724.38
Total Expended	\$106,647.95

The additional amount above the original \$100,000 bequest was from interest earned when it was deposited in a savings account.

This concludes the Blumhardt Fund projects as proposed and approved.

Submitted by,
Howard Triebwasser, Vice President



If you or someone you know might be interested in helping care from someone in need we just might have an opportunity for you. The caregiver would be given an upstairs apartment in the home and will provide any gas money needed for transportation. The caregiver would be on duty Monday through Fridays with weekends off.

If you are interested please contact the church office at 421-5039.



It's A Girl!
For Laura and Justin Tice

Sunday, March 3rd after church

It's a Diaper and Wipes Baby Shower
(No preference on brand)

Come and celebrate with the proud parents and big sister to be Aiyana.



Congratulations to Dave & Brooke Barr on the birth of their son, Jesse Kensington. Jesse was born on February 5 and was 8lb 3oz and 21" long.



Congratulations to Don Miller who has a new Great-Grandson Enzo Andrew born on February 18th. He weighed 8lb. and is 20 1/2". This gives Don 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.



We would like to express our thanks and appreciation for the many cards, messages, and meals we received following Karen's passing away. We continue to feel your prayers and concern during this time as we cherish the many memories of Karen's life among us as wife, mother, and grandmother. Thank you. The Behr and Thomas Families.

Thanks.

Bob



"We enjoyed so much celebrating with the St. Luke's congregation, and appreciate all the gifts and well-wishes we have received. Much love and thanks go out to the choir for organizing this wonderful event."

Dave and Brooke Barr

Dear Pastor Carl,
A Special
THANK YOU Thank you for allowing our teen choir to return to rehearsing at your church on Friday mornings. The choir has increased in number so we look forward to meeting regularly at your facility. We are grateful for your continual support of our musical endeavors with home schooling families.

Gratefully,
Eric and Candy Rainwater



Holy Communion
8:15 and 10:30 AM

Easter Breakfast
8:30 to 10:00 AM



Our Egg Hunt begins at 10:00am sharp, so don't be late. What a wonderful way to enjoy Easter morning than with the laughter of happy children.



2/19/13 Council Meeting Highlights

- Taehyun Ahn, our Minister in Training, is in China teaching at an International School for several months; when he returns he will continue his preparation for ELCA ministry.
- January's envelope giving was \$3700 less than the budgeted amount.
- Winter Sanctuary was a huge success and we'll host again next Fall.
- Brooke had her baby!
- The Christian Education board will be surveying the congregation to find out what education programs everyone would be interested in.
- Soup Suppers are happening every Wednesday through Lent.
- The Property Board has been working with SMUD on the rate we are being charged. At SMUD's facility energy audit's recommendation the Council gave approval to the Property Board to move forward with a lighting upgrade project for the sanctuary.
- In an effort to remind everyone to lock up the facility properly after use, the Council approved the purchase of signage to be placed strategically around the facility.
- The Finance Board is looking into updating Counting Procedures.
- W-ELCA is hosting a Baby Shower for Laura and Justin Tice on March 3 after worship.

Submitted by: *Holly Hoppman*

New Members will be received on Sunday, March 10. If you are interested in joining our congregation, please contact Pastor Carl.



Winter Sanctuary

2,812. That's the number of homeless people in Sacramento County according to a study done in 2012. 2,812. The number of people whose home is a cardboard box under a bridge. 2,812. The number of people who live on handouts and scraps found in garbage bins. 2,812. The number of people who have to spend their days walking around town with no place to go. The Winter Sanctuary program aims to change that, at least a night at a time.

The Winter Sanctuary Program was launched by the Sierra Health Foundation, Volunteers of America, and Sacramento Steps Forward in 2010. Its goal is to give the homeless a place where they can get a hot meal and a warm place to sleep at night. Here's how it works: Every afternoon, Volunteers of America shuttle buses pick up as many as 100 men and women who have been screened by the Winter Sanctuary representatives at the Loaves & Fishes staging area in downtown Sacramento. All guests sign a contract pledging "no drugs, no alcohol, and no violence". The shuttle then takes the guests to that day's designated host site. When the guests arrive, they settle in and relax while the volunteers at the site finish up preparing dinner. Once dinner is ready, the guests are served their food and sit down to eat. Once they have finished off their food, they may go and get seconds or just relax. After dinner has been completed, the guests relax and do other activities. Usually the host site puts up a movie for the guests to enjoy. Lights out is at 10 PM and the guests sleep in the sleeping bags that the Volunteers of America have provided for them. The guests wake up around 5 AM and are provided a continental breakfast before they get on the shuttle buses and return to Loaves & Fishes.

I approached Pastor Carl of St. Luke's Lutheran Church about my school community service project because I thought it would be a good idea to help my local church. I was honestly just expecting to help with small things around the church. But when I had a meeting with him, he brought up the Winter Sanctuary and how he was hoping they could host one this year. He needed someone to organize it and help get everything in line. I thought it was very interesting and decided to take the opportunity. Pastor Carl would recruit volunteers from the congregation and we would have our first meeting in a couple of weeks.

Right away we had a good amount of volunteers. The first order of business was to assign tasks to everyone and figure what they wanted to help with. Kirsten Ireton was in charge of dinner, Pat Hamilton would take care of the continental breakfast, and I would pick out a couple movies to show after dinner. We also had many volunteers step up to help throughout the night including: Lynn Gavia, Thelma Williams, John Johnsen, Pat Webb, Ron Webb, Carol Carney, Mary Harris, Mack Vance, Kelly Boyer, Al Moser, Pat Lehman, Linda Duffek, and Elizabeth Korhonen. We would have meetings every other week up until February 11th (our date to host Winter Sanctuary) to make sure everything was moving along nicely.

The day of the event was really exciting. I got up in the morning and got my things together to head over to St. Luke's to help set up. I brought a couple movies to show and brought along my sleeping bag with me because the Pastor and I would be staying the night with the guests. I got lunch and arrived at the church around 2 PM. Just as I got there, the Pastor and others arrived with mats for the guests so they wouldn't have to sleep on the hard floor. I helped them load the mats off the truck and into the church. After that, Ron Webb and I set up the tables in Schultz Hall, other volunteers set up coffee and lemonade, and Kirsten Ireton finished preparing dinner. After all that was finished, all we had to do was wait for the buses to arrive with the guests.

The first set of buses arrived around 5 PM. I, along with others, went out to greet them as the guests got off the buses. Right away they were very thankful. They would ask where to set down their belongings and immediately thank you for housing them for the night. The first set of buses only had about half of the guests so we waited for the second set. The second set arrived around 6 PM and the one distinct difference I noticed was how young these people were. Some even looked my age and couldn't be any older than 21-22. It was kind of scary to see people this young on the street. It was a bit of a reality check and really put things into perspective. After the second set of guests got settled in, we began to have them line up for dinner. Kirsten had prepared pasta, salad, and bread rolls that were generously donated. The guests lined up in a serving line, women first, and were served their food. Right away we noticed they took a huge liking to the salad and ranch dressing. Many came back for seconds and thirds. Needless to say, we didn't have much food left after dinner was completed. While dinner was being served, I went around and talked with the people who volunteered from the church. One of which was Pat Hamilton. She was a part of the group serving dinner and she said she had never done this kind of thing before, but was really enjoying it. She said it made her feel good and that it was fulfilling. She told me this experience has made her want to volunteer and help serve the homeless on Thanksgiving and just help the community more. That kind of thing was great to see. I could tell by looking at all the volunteers; faces that this was an awesome experience for them, as was it for me. It was truly a memorable thing to see.

After dinner was completed, the guests helped clear the tables out of Schultz Hall so they could lay down their sleeping bags. Once everyone was settled down and relaxed, I put on a movie. I chose "Across the Universe", a musical set to the music of The Beatles that followed a group of young adults through the turbulent 1960s. The guests really seemed to like it. Many came up to me during the movie and expressed that they really liked the movie. I thought they would. After the movie finished up, it was almost 10 PM and time

for lights out. The volunteers the Volunteers of America sent over would sleep with the guests while the Pastor and I slept in the Sunday School wing. It wasn't very comfortable, but it would have to do for the night. We had to wake up around 5 AM to give them their breakfast before they left.

My alarm went off. I sit right up and turn it off and see red tail lights outside of the window. At first I say to myself, "I know that isn't the bus. They aren't supposed to be there until 6 AM! It's only 5!". But nonetheless, it turns out the first set of busses had gotten there early to pick up the first group of guests. Pastor Carl was able to run out and get them their breakfast right before they left. We were able to get the remaining guests their bagged breakfast before they left. Once they were gone, we took and cleaned out the garbage bins and locked the church before leaving to go home.

This entire experience was really amazing. It felt great to help people who are in need and see the look on their face because they are happy just to have warm food and a place to sleep at night. The people were very thankful and it made it all that much better. It was also great leadership experience for me that will surely help later in life. I learned how to properly organize a group of people to take on a task and also how to adjust on the job if things don't go quite the way you'd expect them to go. It was truly a great and memorable experience that really had an impact on me. I would love to help set this up again if St. Luke's is willing to host it again.

Eli Korhonen



Alison & Marc Thomas Baby Shower



Winter Sanctuary



Moms to be:
Deanna Dockter, Laura Tice
and Alison Thomas





BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY



March 1 Corey Anderson
March 2 Megan Lester
March 2 Barbara Tears
March 4 Sue Jones
March 5 Selena Connell
March 5 Monica Willoughby
March 6 Jennifer Connell
March 6 Renee Roberts
March 10 Ruth Jones
March 10 Don Miller
March 13 Ben Bates
March 13 Donna Ben-Iesau
March 16 Sarah Madison
March 17 Mackenzie Harrison
March 18 Inge Marchuk
March 23 David Saxby
March 24 Kimiya Ricciardi
March 24 Norene Schell
March 25 Katie Light
March 26 Bob Harrison
March 26 Al Moser
March 28 Karen Kiser
March 28 Jim Whitehurst
March 29 John Johnsen
March 29 Pat Lehman
March 30 Bob Behr
March 30 Kelly Sobkowsky

March 3 *Howard Triebwasser In Memory of
Wife Pearl;
Rosary Jensen For Grandsons'
Birthdays;
Don & Norene Schell In Memory of
Loved Family Members;
Don & Norene Schell In Memory of
Loved Friends*

March 10 *Bruce & Karen Kiser For 38th
Anniversary;
Larry & Deanna Dockter For Renee's
Birthday*

March 17

March 24 *Jan Tanaka For 33rd Anniversary*

March 31

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

March 3 Daniel Encinas
March 10 Katy Etchison
March 17 Selena Connell
March 24 Joshua Bell
March 31 Katy Etchison

Altar Care

8:15 AM Cheryl Franklin
10:30 AM

Communion Servers

Bob Behr, Betty Englund, Nick Manlapig

Counters

March 3 Walter Arndt, John Johnsen
March 10 Don Schell, Bob Behr
March 17 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
March 24 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
March 31 Carolyn Andrews, Jack Fenske
Micki Fenske

Greeters

March 3 Terry & Joyce Finnegan
March 10
March 17 Ed & Kirsten Ireton
March 24
March 31 Paul Maki, Chona Sison, Joshua Bell

Head Ushers

8:15 AM Ron Franklin
10:30 AM Larry Dockter

Prayer Leaders

March 3 Larry Dockter
March 10 Peggy Moser
March 17 Triss Hoppman
March 24 Nick Manlapig
March 31 Vivian Blazic

Psalm Leaders

March 3 Isabella Basquez
March 10 Micayla Shower
March 17 Derrick Mihanovich
March 24 Elizabeth Wilson
March 31 Amber Mansfield

Readers 8:15 AM

March 3 Maribel Herrera
March 10 Ron Webb
March 17 Eric Linblade
March 24 Kristine Felgenhauer
March 31 Phil Petersen

Readers 10:30 AM

March 3 David Saxby
March 10 Betty Englund
March 17 Ken Lentsch
March 24 Kirsten Ireton
March 31 Sylvia Kohler

Wednesday Lenten Readers 6:30 PM

March 6 Judy Saxby
March 13 Alison Thomas
March 20 Vivian Blazic

Wednesday Prayer Leaders 6:30 PM

March 6 Samantha Basquez
March 13 Ruth Heaton
March 20 Holly Hoppman

Maundy Thursday Reader and Prayer Leader

March 27 Nick Manlapig; Sylvia Kohler

Refreshments

March 3 Baby Shower For Laura & Justin Tice
March 10 Ken and Debi Lentsch
March 17 Paul Maki, Chona Sison
March 24 Jerry and Carol Carney
March 31 Easter Sunday Breakfast

Visitor Greeters

March 3 Carole Vance
March 10 Pat Webb
March 17 Carolyn Andrews
March 24 Kelly Boyer
March 31 Carole Vance

Welcome Leaders

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



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

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«City» «Zip»



Holy Communion 8:15am & 10:30am
Easter Breakfast 8:30am—10:00am
Easter Egg Hunt 10:00am