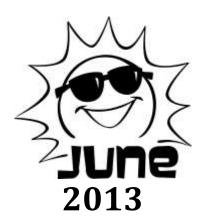


## News And Views



## Pastoral Perspective



Jesus, in his earthly ministry, was continually showing mercy to others. When criticized for it, he told his critics to be about showing mercy, too, instead of finding fault and hurting others with their harsh judgments and actions. Just what is this mercy

that Jesus encouraged? What is its place in the Christian life?

Mercy is compassion and forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to harm. It is acting on true concern for another when that concern is not, in an earthly sense, required. Mercy is not an automatic reflex of the human character. It is often buried and thwarted by such things as a desire for vengeance or a "holier-thanthou" attitude. Mercy is a non-utilitarian action. It is granted without anticipation of a return.

Fake or pseudo mercy, in contrast, is for the purpose of putting someone in debt. A person shows fake mercy so someone will owe them. Real mercy, on the other hand, is an act of selflessness.

If you are looking for an earthly reward, fake mercy is what you want to show. But if you are looking for spiritual growth, for working in the kingdom of God, then true mercy is what you need to show others.

Mercy is hard. It is hard because it requires self-denial. There is irony in Jesus' words to some harsh judgmental people: "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mer-

cy, not offer sacrifices." (Matthew 9:13) Mercy, in fact, amounts to the most severe form of sacrifice there is: self-sacrifice.

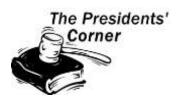
But why can't you just leave this matter of mercy to the Lord and content yourself with other things? That is because by showing mercy you are doing what God wants you to do. You are doing his will. John 3:16 could be paraphrased: "For God so loved the world that he showed mercy to it." God does show mercy to you. He invites you, in turn, to show mercy to others so they will experience his love through you.

Christian discipleship really makes no sense without mercy. What integrates Jesus' words and deeds and makes them consistent and effective is the perpetual theme of mercy, the great compassion and forgiveness he showed to all. Mercy is the binding glue.

The depth of our Christian life is actually directly proportionate to the depth of our participation in mercy. Mercy is not to be some abstraction. It is rather to be something we show in our daily lives as God has shown it so wonderfully to us.

So, even though there is no earthly requirement to show mercy, from the standpoint of Christian growth, there is nothing more practical. It is so practical that it must be practiced in order to be understood. So let's learn by practicing Jesus' statement: "I want you to show mercy."

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You, Pastor Carl



The temperatures are getting warmer so it must be signaling the coming of summer. It's a great time to enjoy the outdoors and take those mini or major vacations. However, St. Luke's keeps moving along with different activities. Bunco is the first weekend in June, recognizing recent graduates is the second Sunday in June and then the month wraps up with the opening of the Fireworks booth. So there is a lot going on and you can take this opportunity to get plugged in and enjoy the fellowship and make new friends. We don't take the summer off but continue to rely on everyone's support and involvement as we move through the summer. Worship attendance is sometimes down during this period, but we urge folks to attend and stay involved. It's a great way to get refreshed and be renewed each week.

Our finances are off a little as of the end of April so we need your continued support. We have certain commitments that we must keep in order to provide the worship services and keep our other activities going along. We are truly blessed to have many dedicated folks who do the little extra things each week or month to ensure we have the activities and facilities to meet the needs of most members and visitors. But we don't have a solution or answer for everything. If you see an area that needs some attention, I gladly welcome you to help us get things back on the right track. We need everyone's energy and ideas to ensure we can continue to meet our mission.

See you in church!

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Bob Behr



Beau Dustin was baptized on April 7. We wish to welcome Beau into the family of Christ and we look forward to our fellowship as a congregation together.



Our thoughts and prayers go out to Paul Heaton and family for the loss of Ruth Heaton. Ruth died April 25th. A service was held on May 2nd at East Lawn of Elk Grove, followed by a reception at St. Luke's.



Our sympathies go out to family and friends of Barbara Dockery who died May 9. Services were held here at St. Luke's on May 21.



Congratulations to Deanna Dockter and Anthony Diaz at the birth of their daughter, Victoria Grace who was born on May 15. She weighed 6lb 2oz and was 19" long. The Dockter Family is once again blessed from God with a beautiful little girl.



Ruth Heaton Family would like to thank you for all your prayers, love, food, flowers, and contributions to her memorial fund. There has been so much outpouring of love for Ruth. It is greatly appreciated. I also appreciate all the love and support that I have received since her passing.

Love, Paul Heaton



# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Fireworks Sale June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 4<sup>th</sup>

It's that time of year again and this will be our 14th year for having a fireworks booth. Wow, just seems like yesterday when we started this venture. The funds we raise from the sale of fireworks are used for the many projects around the church that always come up.

This will be our 7th year in our current location - on the corner of Mack Road and Valley Hi Drive in the Food Source parking lot. We're looking for a lot of volunteers so please consider all the ways you can help out this year. Here are some ideas where you can help -

Sell fireworks in the booth (must be at least 18 years of age to work in the booth) - training provided and you're never alone

Come by and visit for a few hours for fun and fellowship and we'll challenge you to a game of Fireworks Booth Bingo! You do not have to be 18 for this or the following:

Bring snacks or drinks to the booth
Wave flags or banners to attract others to the
booth (maybe in an Uncle Sam costume?)
Buy your fireworks from our booth
Encourage friends and family to our booth
Arrive at 8:30am to help unload the truck
Stay late to pack up everything into the truck

But, we NEED VOLUNTEERS! If you can volunteer to work in the booth, there will be a sign-up sheet soon in the Narthex to reserve your favorite time (s). Times to volunteer are in 3 hour increments and you can sign-up for as many or as few as you need to. The booth will open at noon on June 28th, and then every day after that from 9am to 9pm through July 4th (note that we can stay open until 10pm if we're really busy which is usually on July 3rd and 4th).

Everyone has been very supportive in past years, and it's so appreciated by all. Remember, all funds raised go to a great cause – St. Luke's property improvement projects!

If you have any questions about the fireworks booth or about how you can help as a volunteer, just call or see me. We do have a lot of fun every year (including <u>Fireworks Booth Bingo</u>), so don't miss out.

In His Name...

## **Larry Dockter**

Fireworks Booth Committee Chair



#### **WORSHIP SERVICE CD'S**

We are very excited to announce that we are now recording our Sunday worship services. Copies of every service will be made available upon request and can be picked up at church. Copies of the 2nd Sunday of the month services will be personally delivered once a month to those who are no longer physically able to attend or who may temporarily be prevented from attending worship services. We want everyone to have the opportunity to hear God's word, enjoy the beautiful music and be a part of our worship services.

If you or someone you know would appreciate having one of these worship service CD's, please let me, Pastor Carl, or any member of our board know. We would be happy to include you in this program.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



#### PIE AND ICE CREAM SUNDAY

Father's Day

On Sunday, June 16, the Evangelism Board will be serving pie and ice cream to honor all the wonderful men in our congregation. Please look for the sign-up sheet in the entry way if you would like to bring a pie to help us make this a very special day.



## **Graduation Sunday, June 9**

If you or someone you know is graduating from high school or college, please let the church office know or write the information on the Friendship Pad no later than June 2. We are excited to celebrate with you.



## Luau

The annual Worship & Music Luau is scheduled for September 21st this

year—time to get your grass skirt and Hawaiian shirts ready,, practice for the Hula hoop contest and mark your calendar for a good time of fellowship, great food and fun. Proceeds of this event go toward the music ministry of St. Luke's.

More information to follow as time gets closer.

Aloha, Karen Linfor, Worship and Music Chair



June 2	For Paul Heaton's Birthday; Jan Tanaka For Birth of Great- Grandson, Playton
June 9	For Elizabeth Wilson's 10th Birthday; Don & Betty Englund For 52nd Anniversary
June 16	Jeff & Kelly Boyer Our Greatfulness For Pastor Carl and for Shannon's

June 23 Etchison Family For Sierra's 7th Birthday

Birthday



## Property All Member Work Day June 15 8:00am to 12noon

The Property Board would love to see you at their next work day. In the past the congregation has been very helpful in getting all kinds of jobs done. All you do to help the Property Board allows them more time for the bigger jobs.

Thank you, Property Board



## AFTER SERVICE REFRESHMENTS

Choir members now have an opportunity to help serve refreshments. We have openings for the following Sundays: August 18 and August 25. Please sign up on our refreshment calendar in Room #5 or let me know if you would like to help out on one of these dates.

Thanks.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



## LET'S EAT OUT BENEFIT NIGHT AT NOODLES & COMPANY

What a fun night—THANK YOU to everyone who came out to enjoy a wonderful evening of delicious food, great service and fellowship. Several who came said it was hard to decide what to order as there were so many yummy menu items from which to choose. Not only did we have a great time, but we earned \$218.21 for future ministry programs!

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



#### **Community Concerns**

We are still working with Habitat For Humanity to build a home in Oak Park. We need volunteers to do painting, flower beds and misc. needs. If you are interested in volunteering you will find a sign-up sheet in the church entryway.

If you need help at your home or a neighbor is in need of help with small repairs, etc., please let Al Moser know.



June 1	Karen Cagle
June 1	Paul Heaton
June 3	Phillip Connell
June 3	Phillip Petersen
June 5	Phyllis Englund
June 6	Mikayla Dockery
June 8	Elizabeth Wilson
June 14	Marcella Minning
June 15	Peggy Moser
June 21	Lucy Becker
June 21	Shirley Prouty
June 23	Canon Thomas
June 26	Joshua Anderson
June 27	Susan Mihanovich
June 27	Ryder Roberts

## FINANCIAL SECRETAR-Y'S REPORT APRIL 2013

## **OFFERINGS** (General

Fund Only):

	This Month	Year to Date
Total Offering	\$15,311	\$66,545
Compared to	-\$4,131	-\$3,969
Budget	-21.2%	-6.1%
Compared to	-\$3,238	-\$1,455
2012	-17.5%	-2.10%
Projected Year- End Balance (Compared to budget)		-\$1,393
Contributors:		
2013 (Current Year)	84	94 Ave
2012	93	92 Ave

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

## Other Special Gifts:

a) Sunday School - \$19.33

b)Flowers \$160.00

Ron Webb Financial Secretary



## Council Highlights

- The Worship and Music hosted Luau is set for September 21st.
- We are no longer be using Jami Piper's services as organist.
- Over the summer, children's Sunday school will be the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays only, <u>unless parent or other volunteers would like to lead the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. Contact Missy Jensen or Kirsten Ireton.</u>
- Summer potlucks and Bible study begins July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and will run for 5 weeks.
- Evangelism raised \$218.21 at the Noodles and Company fundraiser at the end of April. Council approved for those funds to be placed in the Evangelism Special Fund.
- Worship CDs are available of the 10:30 Sunday Service. If preferred, the file can also be emailed in MP3 format, and may become available on the church website in the future.
- The Father's Day Pie and Ice Cream Social will be Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Property Board is working on revising the Janitorial Services Contract.
- The Finance Board is working on Offering Counter Procedures.
- WELCA's BUNCO event is June 1st and start collecting your items for the October Fall Festival.
- St. Luke's Firework's Booth starts Friday, June 28th. A sign up sheet will be in the church entry. Sign up and visit often!

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Acolytes Daniel Encinas Katy Etchison Selena Connell Joshua Bell Katy Etchison	June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Psalm Leaders Ryan Johansen Micayla Shower Elizabeth Wilson Amber Mansfield Aiyana Tice
8:15 AM 10:30 AM	Altar Care Cheryl Franklin Triss Hoppman, Peggy Moser  Communion Servers Linda Duffek, Karen Linfor, Howard Triebwasser	June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Readers 8:15 AM Kelly Boyer Maribel Herrera Ron Webb Eric Linblade Phil Petersen
June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Counters Walter Arndt, John Johnsen Don Schell, Bob Behr Nancy Minning, Connie Reule Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser Carolyn Andrews, Jack Fenske	June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Readers 10:30 AM Marlene Kiser Joe Payne Nick Manlapig Mary Harris Bob Behr
June 2	Micki Fenske  Greeters Sign up in the church entryway!	June 2 June 9 June 16	Refreshments Ofelia Ojeda Mack & Carole Vance Father's Day Annual Ice Cream Social
June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Sign up in the church entryway! Sign up in the church entryway! Tracy & Sierra Etchison Sign up in the church entryway!	June 23 June 30	Pauline & Walt Arndt Ken & Debi Lentsch Visitor Greeters
8:15 AM 10:30 AM	Head Ushers Ron Franklin Jerry Carney, Larry Dockter, Ken Lentsch, Craig Eckels	June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Ofelia Ojeda Mack & Carole Vannce Annual Pie & Ice Cream Social Pauline & Walt Arndt Ken & Debi Lentsch
Prayer Lead June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	ers Pat Webb Marlene Kiser Larry Dockter Samantha Basquez Peggy Moser	June 2 June 9 June 16 June 23 June 30	Welcome Leaders Pat Webb Peggy Moser Chet Madison Carolyn Andrews Pauline Arndt



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

7595 Center Parkway Sacramento, CA 95823

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