



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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News And Views



2013

Pastoral Perspective



Pastoral Perspective

Jesus had an amazing way of relating with folks who were on the outskirts of society or looked down on by others. He accepted them as they were even though they had life styles or behaviors of which he didn't approve. In fact, Jesus was known as "a friend of sinners".

It is a reality that Jesus accepts those whom others would simply try their best to keep away from. The question, then, that hits us in the face is "How can we reject and ignore those whom Jesus loves and accepts?"

Maybe we have the wrong idea about this acceptance business. True, Jesus accepted the prostitutes and adulterers, but he didn't approve of what they were doing. True, Jesus accepted the tax-collectors and others who took advantage of their own people for financial gain, but he didn't approve of their dishonesty and cheating. When Jesus is described as "a friend of sinners" this doesn't mean he puts his stamp of approval on sinfulness and immorality. Acceptance and approval are two different things.

Jesus knew a meaningful relationship has to begin with acceptance. Without acceptance there is no loving concern, just cold judgment. Any kind of helpful relationship between people begins with recognizing and affirming the common bond of humanity between ourselves and others. Jesus willingly and lovingly did that. That really is what the miracle of God becoming human is all about.

If I am going to minister to you, I must meet you where you are. If you are going to minister to me, you must do the same. This is the way Jesus ministered with folks. He didn't hide from folks or keep away from them. He interacted with them in love.

Jesus demonstrated what acceptance means and what it does. It opens the way to sharing love. Acceptance is really love's first word. It is the foundation of loving deeds that follow. Jesus shows us the way that works. He shows us a kind of love that can change our lives and the lives of others for good.

What then are we to do? First, let's receive and give thanks for Jesus' acceptance and love given graciously to us and then, in his power, show acceptance and love to our fellow sinful and brothers and sisters in this world.

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl



The Presidents' Corner

We continue to move along through the Summer with lots of stuff going on or being planned for the Fall.

Despite all the triple-digit temperatures and a higher than normal humidity, the fireworks booth crew under the leadership of Larry Dockter survived and provided for another successful venture. Many folks participated whether working the booth, helping setup or cleanup, or providing water, goodies, and water. Thanks again to everyone who assisted for another great year at the fireworks booth!

The Wednesday night Bible studies on God's Grace, being led by Missy Jensen, have provided a good forum to examine what God has given us based on our trust in Him. It has been a good time of fellowship and some good fun while doing some digging in the Bible and reflecting how great our God is.

Not everyone may know, but we have been going round with SMUD in regard to our rate classification. We were elevated to a higher rate based on Sunday morning electricity use. Members of the Property Board led by Clarence Korhonen went before the SMUD board to plead our case and were successful in getting SMUD to review its rate structure and return us to the original classification. This saves us on the order of \$200 - \$300 a month. We certainly appreciate Clarence's determination to attempt to correct and to be successful in this endeavor. Thank you, Clarence!

We are just past the midway in 2013 and seem to be holding on when it comes to meeting our expenses. It is sometimes appropriate for those who pledged last fall to review where they are in meeting their annual pledge. We realize folks financial status may change throughout the year, so if you anticipate not meeting your pledge for the year, please tell Ron Webb, the Financial Secretary, confidentially, so that we may know whether to expect

any possible shortfall in overall offerings so we can try to adjust.

I'm sure there are other informative articles this month that report on what has taken place and what is planned for the coming months. I encourage everyone to check out the various opportunities to participate and to provide your talents in helping St. Luke's spread, serve, and share with those around us.

See you in church!
Your fellow servant in Christ,

Bob Behr



Plates Café Luncheon

The Evangelism Board has arranged for a Luncheon at Plates Café on August 23, 2013. Time is 12:00 Noon. We have made arrangements to use the private side room for our group. We have copies of the menu, driving instructions and sign-up sheet in the church entryway.

Plates Café trains women for careers in the food service, catering, retail and hospitality industries. Plates Café is part of St. John's On-The-Job training program. It will be great to support another of St. John's projects.

Parking is limited and suggest we car pool from Church. We should meet at 11:15 am. If you should have any questions, do not hesitate to give me a call, Carole Vance 916-421-9172



DINER'S GROUPS

Our first small diner's groups met in May, June and July.

Groups enjoyed home dinners, dining out and one even went to a River Cats game.

During the month of August, we will again be taking sign-ups. You may sign up as a couple or a single. Everyone who signs up will be put into new groups of 6 or 7 persons. Each group will then get together once a month for a meal or activity of their choice for the months of September, October and November. When a group dines out, each person pays for their own meal.

Be sure to sign up so you won't miss out on the fun and the opportunity to get to know your church family. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 18.

If you have any questions, please talk with Triss Hoppman or Pat Webb.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



CONGREGATIONAL BBQ PICNIC AND BAKE SALE

It's time for our annual September BBQ Picnic and Sunday School Bake Sale. This year it will be held on Sunday, September 8, following the 10:30 am worship service.

BBQ hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, condiments (mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, and pickle relish), lettuce, tomatoes, onions, chips, cookies, and beverages will be provided. Those attending are encouraged to bring a salad, if you can, to share.

Canopies, tables and chairs will be set up in the courtyard so there will be plenty of seats and shade for everyone. We are asking for help setting up the canopies, tables and chairs on Saturday, September 7, at 9:30 am.

After the picnic, everyone is invited to join together in organizing all the school supplies that have been collected. This service project, God's Work, Our Hands, is in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ELCA.

Come out and enjoy this very special time of sharing and fellowship as we look forward to the start of our fall Sunday School and Adult Education classes.

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair

Missy Jensen, Education Chair

Al Moser, Community Concerns Chair



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



Gods Work. Our Hands. September 8th!

Don't forget to bring you school supplies for the "Gods Work. Our Hands." Sunday on September 8th. Be sure to plan to stay after the Congregational Picnic and BBQ to help put together packets for Charles Mack and Parkway schools.

You can bring any donations to the church office or to the Wednesday potlucks throughout July and August.

The schools have specifically asked for backpacks, paper, and facial tissue (Kleenex). 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...

Don't forget to sign up for your "Gods Work. Our Hands." t-shirts with our congregation's name on it to commemorate the day. The shirts are \$8 a piece and we will be taking pre-sale orders. Look for a sign up sheet in the church narthex entry and be sure to sign up by Sunday, August 4th, if you are interested in a shirt. You can put the money in an offering envelope marked for T-shirts or talk to Holly Hoppman.

Shirt sizes run from Youth Small to 4XL.

Council Highlights

- Confirmation class will begin in the fall.
- A new KISS (Keep It Simple Service) will begin September 15th at 1:12pm each Sunday in Room 3.
- Fireworks sales netted approximately \$9100 in profit. Council approved Property Board to use the monies on a priority project list presented as follows:

- o Tall Grass/Weeds - \$250

- o Work Shed - \$3,100
- o Gutter Guards - \$700
- o Parking Lot Reserve - \$2,000
- o Strip and Wax Education Wing Floors - \$825
- o Replace Office HVAC - \$4900
- o Install Filter Box for Multi-purpose/Kitchen HVAC
- o Sunday, September 8th is the Annual Congregational Picnic/BBQ. Everyone is asked to bring a salad to share.
- o Mark your calendars for 8/23 Evangelism is hosting an outing at Plates run by St. John's.
- o Council approved a new Janitorial Service contract to be initiated with Vanguard Cleaning Systems.
- o Council approved CR-2003-3 a revised continuing resolution on offering counting procedures, which was reviewed and revised by the Finance Board.
- o Council approved CR-2013-1 a continuing resolution on kitchen use.

Council will begin some strategic planning in October of this year.





14th Annual Fireworks Sale

It was a long week of well over 100 degrees every day, but we SURVIVED! When the wind blew, it was like a blast-furnace. But through it all, we had fun!

We were blest with an abundance of goodwill and fellowship as plenty of food, snacks, water and drinks were provided by so many. I want to thank everyone who helped out in any way - selling fireworks, setting up or taking down the booth, providing donations, by just visiting with us, buying fireworks or by telling your friends and family to visit the booth.

As for sales, we sold \$27,507 in fireworks! Down about \$1,300 from last year, but still better than our normal average. After paying for the fireworks, sales taxes, the U-Haul, **fees and other expenses, we'll be** putting around \$9,100 in the bank to go towards property improvements here at St. Luke's.

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

We couldn't do it without you! See you next year!

In His Name...

Larry Dockter

St. Luke's Fireworks Committee Chairman



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT JUNE 2013

OFFERINGS (General Fund Only):

	This Month	Year to Date
Total Offering	\$18,109	\$99,962
Compared to Budget	\$1,656	-\$2,161
	10.1%	-2.3%
Compared to 2012	\$2,896	\$3,594
	19.0%	3.70%
Projected Year-End Balance (Compared to budget)		\$8,568
Contributors:		
2013 (Current Year)	91	94 Avg
2012 (Last Year)	87	89 Avg

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

Other Special Gifts:

- a) Sunday School - \$27.00
- b) Flowers \$215.00

Ron Webb

Financial Secretary



August 3 Jerry Carney
August 4 Elsbeth Whitehurst
August 5 Jason Havey
August 8 Irene Boschee
August 10 Linda Duffek
August 16 Vi Gibson
August 16 Amber Mansfield
August 16 Kay Yakabe
August 17 Albert Minning
August 19 Bertha Dahl
August 20 Denise Lester
August 22 Aiyana Tice
August 23 Adeline Boschee
August 23 Zoe Franklin
August 23 Mack Vance
August 27 Carolyn Andrews

Carole Edwards 851-1086
10700 Coloma Road #43
Rancho Cordova, Ca 95670

Kim Morris
(contact information coming)



If your birthday is this month
and you are not on our list
please notify the church office,
so we can update our files.

August 4 *Deanna Dockter In Memory of
Aunt Linda*

August 11 *Howard Triebwasser In Memory of
Wife Pearl;
Connie Reule For Amber Mansfield's
12th Birthday*

August 18 *Hannelore and Inge Marchuck In
Loving Memory of Our Parents
Eugene and Hedwig Marchuk*

August 25 *Pat Hamilton For Pat and Husband
Jim's 50th Anniversary*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

Aug. 4 Daniel Encinas
Aug. 11 Katy Etchison
Aug. 18 Selena Connell
Aug. 25 Joshua Bell

Altar Care

8:15 AM Cheryl Franklin
10:30 AM

Communion Servers

Ken Lentsch, Debi Lentsch and Mary Harris

If you are unable to serve as acolyte, altar care or communion server as scheduled, please call the church office at 421-5039.

Counters

Aug. 4 Walter Arndt, John Johnsen
Aug. 11 Don Schell, Bob Behr
Aug. 18 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Aug. 25 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser

Greeters

Aug. 4 Karen Linfor
Aug. 11 Al & Irene Boschee
Aug. 18 Laura, Aiyana & Amelia Tice
Aug. 25 Kelly Boyer

If you would like to be a greeter, please call Pat Hamilton at 682-3818.

Head Ushers

8:15 AM Ron Franklin
10:30 AM Craig Eckels

Prayer Leaders

Aug. 4 Nick Manlapig
Aug. 11 Vivian Blazic
Aug. 18 Ken Lentsch
Aug. 25 Alison Thomas

Psalm Leaders

Aug. 4 Amber Mansfield
Aug. 11 Aiyana Tice
Aug. 18 Isabella Basquez
Aug. 25 Elizabeth Wilson

Readers 8:15 AM

Aug. 4 Ron Webb
Aug. 11 Eric Linblade
Aug. 18 Phil Petersen
Aug. 25 Christiana Wilson

If you are unable to serve as prayer leader, psalm leader or reader as scheduled, please call Nick Manlapig at 383-9376.

Readers 10:30 AM

Aug. 4 Alison Thomas
Aug. 11 Ken Lentsch
Aug. 18 Vivian Blazic
Aug. 25 Kirsten Ireton

Refreshments

Aug. 4 Ofelia Ojeda
Aug. 11 Kelly Boyer
Aug. 18 Pending
Aug. 25 Mack and Carole Vance

If you would like to help provide and or serve refreshments, please call Pat Webb at 685-6345.

Visitors Greeters

Aug. 4 Pauline Arndt
Aug. 11 Pat Webb
Aug. 18 Carolyn Andrews
Aug. 25 Kelly Boyer

Welcome Leaders

Aug. 4 Peggy Moser
Aug. 11 Pat Webb
Aug. 18 Chet Madison
Aug. 25 Carolyn Andrews



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

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