



News And Views



2013

Pastoral Perspective



What a privilege it is to be chosen to be in a wedding party. It makes you feel special, and you are. You were chosen because of your special relationship with the wedding couple. You didn't earn the position. It was given to you. You have some special ways you get to take part in the wedding celebration. This is something about which to be happy and excited.

The wise person who is chosen to be in a wedding party receives instructions, learns his or her part, does what needs to be done to get ready, and helps out (there are always ways to help out). The wise person goes with the flow as things progress, because they rarely progress just the way they have been scheduled. The foolish person doesn't pay any attention to instructions, doesn't prepare for his or her part in the celebration, is selfish and self-centered rather than helpful, and certainly doesn't go with the flow as things progress.

Jesus tells a story in Matthew 25:1-13 about ten bridesmaids chosen to take part in a wedding celebration. The five wise bridesmaids in Jesus' story knew they were to get in place with lighted lamps and, when the bridegroom came, go to meet him and escort him into the wedding hall. They didn't know when the bridegroom would come, so they needed to make sure to have enough oil to keep their lamps burning until he came. They went

with the flow and, even though the bridegroom was later than they expected, were ready to take part and they did. What a joy! What a blessing! What a celebration! The five foolish bridesmaids showed up, but didn't pay attention to the fact that it was unknown when the bridegroom would appear, so didn't bring adequate fuel for their lamps and ended up missing out on the wedding celebration.

Jesus is using this story to make a point about His reappearance at the end of time to usher us into the great celebration of the coming kingdom of heaven. You have been chosen to participate in this great celebration because of the special relationship you have with Jesus. You didn't earn an invitation to participate in this celebration. It was given to you. You have some special ways you get to take part. This is something about which to be happy and excited. You are not in charge of the preparation for this great celebration, but your participation is important. The wise person realizes this and responds accordingly. The wise person pays attention to what his or her part is, makes proper preparation for it, and goes with the flow as things progress.

The foolish person doesn't. This makes all the difference. The foolish person, for whom Jesus has died and promised to reappear, rejects the faith and lives turned in on himself or herself. When Jesus reappears, there will be no faith response. There will be no participation in the celebration of the kingdom of heaven. What a tragedy!

Jesus will reappear to usher us into the celebration of the kingdom of heaven. Our instructions are to receive him now in faith. We then are to prepare for His reappearance simply by living lives of faith in Him until He appears. The wise person does this. There are plenty of ways to help out with the preparation for the celebration of Jesus' return through acts of caring and sharing. And the wise person goes with the flow. God knows when Jesus will reappear, we don't. We are to keep the faith and share that faith with others. Then we will truly rejoice when He does reappear. What a celebration that will be!

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl



It is that time again - hope you will do a little "spring" cleaning, a little late, and look for those White Elephants for us.

Maybe the ones that you were reluctant to part with last year but still have not used!

We would appreciate any gently used items you may have such as furniture, kitchen items, decorations, bikes, art, tools, jewelry, toys - any reusable and sell-able items. Just bring them to the church and put them in the overflow room.

Anything we don't sell will be donated to St. John's Shelter - we will not be selling clothes but if you wish to bring some you may put them in St. John's barrel in the office.

If you have any questions or need help getting your items to the church please call Judy Saxby, Carol Carney or the church office. We will look forward to taking care of your little elephants and hopefully getting them a new home!



REFORMATION SUNDAY ANNUAL HERITAGE
POTLUCK,
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 11:30 AM

Mark your calendar now as this is one of our best potlucks of the year. We encourage everyone to bring a dish representing their heritage or one of their family's favorites. Sharing good food and enjoying a special time of fellowship is a wonderful way to celebrate the Reformation.

We will have a display table so please bring one or more family keepsakes that you would like to share.

A sign-up sheet will soon be available in the entry-way so that we will know how many are planning to attend. We would appreciate extra help with set-up and decorating on Saturday, October 26, as well as kitchen help and clean-up on Reformation Sunday.

In loving service,

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



Please mark your calendars and wear red, white & blue for Saturday, September 14th at 10:30 am for the W-ELCA meeting. We will be have a brunch hosted by your W-ELCA board. This month we are gathering single powered drink mixes, hard candies, granola bars, hygiene items, top ramen, instant soups, cookies, toiletries and writing supplies, if you are able. We will be discussing the upcoming Fall Festival in great detail so please plan on coming and lending your support to one of our largest fundraisers.



Fall Festival Saturday, October 5th!!!

Every year we look forward to the fun and fellowship at the Fall Festival. This year will certainly be no different. But of course we can't do this without your help. So we are currently accepting your donations of **paperback** books. You may put them in the Overflow Room in the church on any Sunday. We will need all books by Sunday, September 29th. If you have any questions about the Book Sale please contact Peggy Moser.

If you have a special crafting talent, or making any homemade canned preserves or jams, please consider donating those items to our Country Store. For craft items you may contact Dorothy Haney and for Country Store items please contact Deanna Dockter. We will also be needing donations for the Country Store on the day of the event, so start to think about the goodies you are going to make! Ed Ireton has once again agreed (or had his arm

twisted more likely) to Chair the Food Tent – thank you Ed! He will need lots of help in the morning flipping pancakes, making coffee, and serving up the yummy \$3 pancake breakfast. If you have an electric flat-top skillet they could use in the kitchen that would be great! Also, Kirsten has agreed to make her pulled pork for lunch again, so we will have a pulled pork sandwich meal for \$5 and a hot dog meal for \$3 this year.

The W-ELCA Board appreciates any help you can provide with set-up and clean-up. It takes many hands to make light work (and an enjoyable day for everyone). Set-up will start at 6:00 am and clean-up will begin at 2:00 pm. Again, thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the Fall Festival!!!



CONGREGATIONAL BBQ PICNIC AND BAKE SALE Sunday, September 8

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



KISS (Keep It Simple Service)

We have added an alternate worship experience through the end of the year!

Beginning Sunday, September 15th at 12:16 in room 3 of the Education

Wing. We will be offering just the essentials: Prayer, Word and Community. This is an outreach opportunity for those who don't attend church but are open to the Word of God. The service will last about 30 minutes. Please share with friends, family and neighbors who don't regularly attend church.

In Love,
Missy Jensen
Education Chair

Group Study - Bible Study

We are moving the starting time of Group Study from 9AM to 11:00 AM beginning on Sunday, September 15th.

Group Study is an interactive study group that takes the Word of God and applies it to our everyday life.

If you are interested in a conversational small group bible study environment, please join us in room 4 of the Education Wing at 11:00 beginning Sunday, September 15th.

Grace, Peace and Love,
Missy Jensen
Education Chair



Dear Congregation: We need your help!

The Worship & Music Board is asking for volunteers to sign up for Altar Guild assistants.

Now that summer is drawing to a close, please prayerfully consider how you can give some of your time to this facet of worship.

Although each person commits to one-month of service, we make every attempt to have two people on the schedule and, if not, someone who is familiar with the care of the Alter and its properties will be there to help.

A new sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex. Please take a moment and look for your opportunity to serve the Lord in this way.



Thank you!
Karen Linfor
Worship & Music Chairperson
"Making His praise and glory a priority"



Thinking of joining the choir? Well, here is your opportunity. Choir practice begins on Wednesday, September 4 at 7:00pm in the choir loft for the 2013-2014 season. All are welcome to join.



Get out your grass skirt and tune up your ukulele. It's time for the annual Worship and Music Luau. Fantastic food, Fun activities, Fabulous prizes. The luau will be held Saturday, September 21 in Schultz Hall. The doors open at 5:00 p.m. for games and con-

tests. Dinner of Kalua pork and Huli-huli chicken, salads, side dishes and appetizers, will be served at 6:15. Musical entertainment is provided by the chancel choir and bell choir. Tickets are \$5 for children 3 to 12, \$15 for 13 and up. Children under 3 are free. A free-will offering will be taken for dessert. All proceeds go to support the music program of St. Luke's. Tickets are available from members of the Board of Worship and Music.



Read Through the Bible with Pastor Carl

I am honored to be helping three groups read through the Bible in such a way that they understand its message clearly and are able to apply its message to life situations effectively.

So far, we have read from Genesis through 2 Samuel. This fall we will read from 1 Kings through Psalm 78. I'll once again provide material to help participants understand what they are reading each day. Sessions will be held each week on Sundays at 9:15 AM in Room 3 of the Education Wing starting September 8th, Tuesdays at 10:15 AM in the church office starting September 10th and Thursdays at 7:00 PM at the Hoppman Home (8953 Royal Gate Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624) starting September 12th. Daily Bible readings will start on Sunday, September 8th for all three groups and continue each day regardless of whether we might need to skip a session for some reason. Copies of the daily Bible readings are available in the church entryway or the church office. The sessions will consist of an explanation of the passages read that week, consideration of questions and insights

group members have, and application of what was read to daily life.

If you would like to join in one of the reading groups, you are most welcome. There is still a lot of the Bible left and we will start over again once we are done so you can go through the whole Bible.

Look forward to an exciting and Spirit-filled time of really learning the Bible!

Pastor Carl
(916) 421-5039
cwhoppman@gmail.com

CHURCH COUNCIL Council Highlights

- Sunday School will start September 15th.
- Confirmation class is being reworked.
- Adult Sunday School will begin September 8th.
- Group Study start September 15th.
- KISS (Keep It Simple Service) will begin September 15th at 12:16pm in Room 3 of the Education Wing.
- Congregational Picnic and BBQ hosted by Evangelism, Education, and Community Concerns is September 8th. After lunch we'll be filling backpacks with school supplies.
- If you signed up for a t-shirt for God's Work. Our Hands, Sunday Holly Hoppman will be collecting money as shirts are passed out.
- Council approved the cost of a door replacement after a break-in to the furnace room in early August be charged to the Reserve Fund, approximately \$400.
- Property Board's next all work day is September 21st.
- Worship and Music is hosting a Luau on September 21st at 5pm.



September 2 Marlene Kiser
 September 4 Elise Mihanovich
 September 5 Esther Becker
 September 6 Alicia Altman
 September 7 Pauline Arndt
 September 7 Barbara Manlapig
 September 13 Iva Bates
 September 16 David Lester
 September 20 Lauren Olsen
 September 23 Patricia McLendon
 September 23 Lou Tice
 September 24 William Lehman
 September 24 Ronald Myers
 September 25 Alexander Blair
 September 25 Mildred Franklin
 September 26 Jeff Boyer
 September 26 Ken Light
 September 29 Jack Fenske
 September 30 Helen Fischer
 September 30 Lynn Gavia



September 1 The Moser's for dear friend
 Carolyn Andrews birthday
 September 8 Carl and Triss Hoppman for
 Anniversary
 September 15 Jerry and Carol Carney For
 Anniversary
 September 22 Ken and Debi Lentsch For
 Grandson Alex's 18th Birthday;
 Larry & Deanna Dockter For
 34th Anniversary
 September 29 Larry & Deanna Dockter For
 Anthony Diaz' Birthday

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

JULY 2013

OFFERINGS (General Fund Only):

	This Month	Year to Date
Total Offering	\$14,205	\$114,167
Compared to Budget	-\$3,021	-\$5,144
	-17.5%	-4.6%
Compared to 2012	-\$1,326	\$2,265
	-8.5%	2.00%
Projected Year-End Balance (Compared to budget)		
Contributors:		
2013 (Current Year)	89	93 Aver
2012 (Last Year)	88	88 Aver

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

Other Special Gifts:

- a) Sunday School - \$29.43
- b) Flowers \$180.00

Ron Webb

Financial Secretary

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

Sept. 1 Daniel Encinas
Sept. 8 Katy Etchison
Sept. 15 Selena Connell
Sept. 22 Joshua Bell
Sept. 29 Katy Etchison

Altar Care

8:15 AM Cheryl Franklin
10:30 AM

Communion Servers

Betty Englund, Larry Dockter, Connie Reule

Counters

Sept. 1 Walter Arndt, John Johnsen
Sept. 8 Don Schell, Bob Behr
Sept. 15 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Sept. 22 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
Sept. 29 Carolyn Andrews, Jack Fenske
Micki Fenske

Greeters

Sept. 1 Ofelia Ojeda
Sept. 8
Sept. 15
Sept. 22 Ed and Kirsten Ireton
Sept. 29

Head Ushers

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

Prayer Leaders

Sept. 1 Tracy Etchison
Sept. 8 Karen Linfor
Sept. 15 Marlene Kiser
Sept. 22 Pat Webb
Sept. 29 Samantha Basquez

Psalm Leaders

Sept. 1 Elizabeth Wilson
Sept. 8 Amber Mansfield
Sept. 15 Aiyana Tice
Sept. 22 Micayla Shower
Sept. 29 Isabella Basquez

Readers 8:15 AM

Sept. 1 Ron Webb
Sept. 8 Eric Linblade
Sept. 15 Phil Petersen
Sept. 22 Christiana Wilson
Sept. 29 Maribel Herrera

Readers 10:30 AM

Sept. 1 Larry Dockter
Sept. 8 Holly Hoppman
Sept. 15 Nick Manlapig
Sept. 22 Triss Hoppman
Sept. 29 Bob Behr

Refreshments

Sept. 1 Ed and Kirsten Ireton, Lynn Gavia
Sept. 8 Congregational BBQ Picnic
Sept. 15 Jerry and Carol Carney
Sept. 22 Paul Maki and Chona Sison
Sept. 29 Kelly Boyer

Visitor Gifts

Sept. 1 Thelma Williams
Sept. 8 BBQ/Picnic
Sept. 15 Pauline Arndt
Sept. 22 Kelly Boyer
Sept. 29 Pat Webb

Welcome Leaders

Sept. 1 Peggy Moser
Sept. 8 Pat Webb
Sept. 15 Chet Madison
Sept. 22 Carolyn Andrews
Sept. 29 Pauline Arndt



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

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Hawaiian Luau
September 21st
5:00 PM
Time For Food, Fun and
Games!

