



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



2013

Pastoral Perspective



"Success" has long been the accepted goal in this world. Our educational system rewards "success" from start to finish. We love hearing "success" stories about someone who has made it big. We want to be "successful" ourselves.

Mastering highly marketable techniques or skills seems to be at the heart of "success". A professional athlete needs to master skills that the team wants in order to be "successful". A "successful" teacher, preacher, or whatever has mastered the techniques of the profession that are in demand.

This "success" is not wrong. We celebrate it at the time of graduation, promotion, and during sports playoffs. But being overly "success oriented" can cause problems. The quest for "success" has gone too far when a person views self-worth and the worth of others simply in terms of "success". If nothing matters but "success", and a person is willing to do whatever it takes to be "successful", there is a real problem. Then everyone is valued only in terms of how "successful" they are.

Success that is truly lasting and satisfying is something other than what is described above. Success, in this sense, comes by focusing on being successful in relationship with God rather than focusing solely on being "successful" in relationship with the world. There are no techniques or skills to be

marketed, just thanks to give and all that one is and has to be developed and used as God provides and guides. The truly successful person begins by viewing his or her very life as God's, to be managed for Him, under His guidance. God gets the glory for anything that is achieved. That person might or might not be "successful" in the eyes of the world. That's not what matters. What matters is living and growing in a close working relationship with God.

As you consider your life and direction, would you call yourself successful? If you don't believe you are successful, all you need do is thank God for allowing you the use of all you are and all you have, and then ask Him to guide you in managing it well for Him. No matter what, you will always have enough to do this. I guarantee it. Congratulations on your success! Keep up the good work!

Spreading, Serving and Sharing With You,
Pastor Carl





The Presidents' Corner

Over the past few months I have asked everyone to consider what they might be able to do to further our mission. We have

begun looking for some new leaders for a few of the Boards. At the same time we will be drafting a church budget for next year based on the results of our stewardship program and the identified needs for various programs of the church. We all have special gifts to share. In order for us to continue to work to fulfill our mission of “spreading, serving, and sharing”, we all as the congregation must work together using the three “T’s”: time, talent, and treasures. Please consider how you will use your three T’s in the coming year. We need everyone’s support.

The church officers and board chairs are involved in a planning process to evaluate where we are in meeting our mission and how we can continue to do so in the future. This involves determining our strengths and weaknesses, identifying some known challenges in the future, and doing some “thinking outside the box” to develop alternatives to meet these challenges. As we get into this effort, we will do our best to communicate some of the ideas and results of our self-examination and future insights.

Mark your calendars for our annual meeting on Sunday, December 8th.

See you in church!
Your fellow servant in Christ,
Bob Behr

I was told recently by a newly retired couple who worshipped at St. Luke’s in search of a church home that no one spent time to talk with them. It reminds me that even a very friendly congregation such as ours can allow folks to fall through the cracks. Please be on the look out on Sundays for folks you don’t recognize and make sure to reach out to them in Christ’s love.

Pastor Carl



The 2013 Fall Festival was huge success and I just can’t thank everyone enough for all your generous donations and hard work. We had the help of the Monterey High School Key Club this year; they helped set-up, clean-up and worked the face painting booth. What marvelous youth they are and a joy to be around. We are excited to announce that we raised just over \$2,200 which will benefit many local charities as part of our Women’s Benevolence. Everyone pulled together and we had many great donations of White Elephant items, books, crafts, plants and yummy Country Store goodies. The left-over White Elephant items were donated to the Salvation Army. The vendors and community can’t wait until next year! Most importantly, we accomplished our mission as a church to spread, serve and share in the Victory of Jesus Christ.

Our next event is our Women’s Group Luncheon on Saturday, November 9 at 11:30 am. We will be sharing soups & salads – please sign up in the church entry. We are collecting canned food and non-perishable food items for the Elk Grove Food



Bank.

For more than 100 years, Lutheran women have been setting aside coins and small offerings every day to give thanks for blessings in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of life. At a Thankoffering service, women bring their Thankofferings together to give thanks to God in worship and fellowship. Thankofferings go in full to support the churchwide ministries of Women of the ELCA. At St. Luke’s we

will celebrate our annual Thankoffering Service on Sunday, November 24th. Please look for sign-up sheets in the Church Entry and help us make this another special event. If you have any questions about how you may assist, please speak with Holly Hoppman.



Thanksgiving Eve Pie Social

Please sign-up to bring a pie to share for the Pie Social after the Thanksgiving Eve Service. Make sure that it is pre-cut and in a disposable dish as leftovers are donated to the Narcotics Anonymous marathon meeting that is held at St. Luke's every year.



Wednesday, November 27, 2013
7:00 PM

Join in thanking our Lord for our many blessings.

Thanks
for your
participation

You were asked to bring "White Elephants" for the Fall Festival and once again the generosity of the wonderful people of St.

Luke's was overwhelming. As promised we sorted, cared for them and attempted to give them all a new home – those that did not get a new home, the giving is being passed forward to another non-profit organization that cares for those in need in our community. The money made on the ones that did get a new home will be part of the WELCA incredible benevolence giving at the end of the year.

We can't thank all of you enough who donated, helped us, or made purchases – it was truly a fun day of community outreach! Being able to have tables in the sanctuary and sharing our beautiful church made it even more special – thank you Pastor Carl for allowing us to do this.

A very special thank you to the following people who came to sort, price, set up, sell, clean up and make our job so much easier – we couldn't have done it without you!

Jack & Micki Fenske
Keri Furry (friend of St. Luke's)
Pat Hamilton
Dorothy Haney
Mary Harris
Joyce Jensen (friend of St. Luke's)
Karen Linfor
Connie Reule
Don Schell
Pat & Ron Webb

We thank Jack Fenske and Jerry Carney for all their help with the signs and all the men of the congregation who assisted with tables, heavy lifting and other support they gave us. A huge thank you to Jack Fenske for delivering some of the larger items to people that had no way of getting them to their homes. Last but not least a huge thank you to Deanna Dockter for her support in so many ways!

Carol Carney
Judy Saxby



Thank you to all the wonderful bakers, our tomato gardener, krack korn makers and volunteers who helped to make our Country Store a great success this year.

It was amazing watching all the shoppers checking out the amazing food on our table and deciding what they were going to take home. Sometimes the decisions were very difficult and other times they just took everything they wanted. It was a time when diets seemed to be thrown out the window and the joy of homemade goodies were the priority.

Thanks for all the support,
*Deanna Dockter, Linda Duffek
and Carolyn Andrews*



Council Highlights

- The Keep It Simple Service (KISS) is being very beneficial for many folks. We will continue this worship service through the end of the calendar year and evaluate it then.
- October 20th, November 3rd, and November 17th Pastor will be talking about the various ways the church functions through our Boards and how everyone can get involved.
- Sunday October 20th is the Preschool Room and Children's Clothing Exchange Open House after worship.
- Giving was up in September, but for the year we are still down compared to budget.
- Finance is working on the 2014 budget to propose to council next month.
- Everyone is invited to bring a token/picture of a loved one who has died to church on All Saints Sunday, November 3rd.
- Our annual Heritage Potluck will be held after

worship on Reformation Sunday, October 27th.

- Thank Offering Sunday is November 24th.
- Pies will be served following the Thanksgiving Eve Service.
- Howard Triebwasser will be leading out nominating committee this year. We are looking for a Treasurer, Worship and Music chair, and Education chair if you are interested!



Pre-School Room and Children's Clothing Exchange





Clothing Exchange

The Community Concerns Board is excited to announce that the renovated Preschool Room and new Children's Clothing Exchange are now open! Many thanks go to everyone involved in getting the room up and running.

The Children's Clothing Exchange is available to everyone, member and community alike. If you or someone you know has a little one that has grown out of their clothes, you can exchange them for different clothes anytime or just get some clothes if you need them. Below is a list of items we hope to have available for exchange. Donations of any of these items will ensure the success of this much needed program. You may bring any donations to Room 1 anytime. If you have any questions, please contact the Community Concerns Board: Al Moser, Lynn Gavia, Holly Hoppman, Elizabeth Korhonen or John or Lauren Orcutt; or see Clothing Exchange Coordinator, Carole Edwards or Peggy Moser.

Children's Clothing Exchange Wish List:

- Boy and Girl Clothing—Newborn to 5T
- New or gently used shoes—All children's sizes
- New or gently used Receiving blankets
- New underwear—2T and up
- New or gently used socks
- Pajamas—Newborn to 5T
- New or gently used coats
- Diapers—All Sizes
- Nursing covers
- New Disposable nursing pads
- New or gently used bibs
- New pacifiers



St. Luke's Youth are currently taking orders for mini loaves of Pumpkin Bread until November 17th. Please sign-up in the Narthex so you **don't miss out**. The pumpkin bread will be available for pickup on November 24th after worship service in the kitchen.

We are also currently accepting donations of the following items:
Flour, Sugar, and Eggs.



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Any questions, please contact Kirsten Iretton at 916-296-5907 or via email

kireton@surewest.net.



Final product
PUMPKIN BREAD



Remembering those who have gone before us...

The Board of Worship and Music invites you to bring a small memento of a loved one on All Saints Sunday, November 3 to commemorate those who await us in the Heavenly Kingdom.



In recent months we have mentioned how wonderful it is to have the sounds of little ones in church. Benjamin and Sarah trying to out do one another singing during a

hymn, Jesse and Amelia conversing with those around them. This only reminds us what joy our children bring us.

Now is the time where we need to remind ourselves how our older children bless us every Sunday by serving God by being an acolyte or reading the Psalm.

Please join us in recognizing our Psalm Leaders and Acolytes:

Isabella Basquez
Elizabeth Korhonen
Micayla Shower
Joshua Bell
Katy Etchison
Amber Mansfield

Sierra Etchison
Amber Mansfield
Aiyana Tice
Daniel Encinas
Ryan Johansen
Selena Connell



Thankoffering: Give with gratitude

Mark 12:41-44 is the story of a poor woman that gives 2 coins, all that she has. Women's offerings date back to the early 1800s and are a long standing tradition in the Lutheran church, as well as here at St. Luke's. You are invited to join the Women of the ELCA on Sunday, November 24th for worship as we celebrate the work that women of faith do. We will be collecting a Thankoffering during the service. All Thank offerings collected are sent to the churchwide WELCA to support the life-changing ministries of the Women of the ELCA. If you have any questions, or would like to be involved in the service, please contact Holly Hoppman.



Veteran's Banner

On Sunday, November 10th, we will be recognizing our veterans once again. If you know of someone whose name should be added to our Veteran's Banner, please contact the church office or Holly Hoppman.



Pick-A-Plot Program Re-Energized

Pick-A-Plot Program

Ever wonder why the planters around St. Luke's facilities are generally neat, clean, and **green**? The answer is, in part, that it is the result of the "Pick-A-Plot" program that was instituted by Bernie Johansen about eight years ago. At that time, Bernie was the Property Board chairperson, and she was seeking a means to maintain the planters – some, of which, do not have sprinklers and must be watered by hand – without increasing the duties of the landscape services contractor (and ultimately increasing costs).

Recently, the current Property Board realized that the Program needed to be reviewed and amended, as some of the plots have been eliminated or revised during the last eight years. In addition, a few caretakers expressed desires to be relieved of their duties, because of health or other issues. But, probably more importantly, the Program had become lost and needed to be re-energized.

Thus, in October, the Board reviewed, amended, and re-instituted the Program. Assignments of current caretakers were verified and new caretaker assignments were made as required. In addition, in effort to document the Program, a "Pick-A-Plot" binder was created that contains plot descriptions, plot photographs, caretaker guidelines, and currently assigned caretakers. This binder is kept in the office for reference by all.

The Property Board appreciates this relatively-small, but important effort, and thanks the currently assigned Pick-A-Plot caretakers – Carol/Jerry Carney, Linda/Mike Duffek, Jack/Micki Fenske, Dorothy Haney, Paul Heaton, Karen/Bruce Kiser, Peggy/Al Moser, and Brenda Sulzmann. These members are providing a valuable service that aids in keeping St. Luke's operating cost at a minimum.

Although there are too many individuals to list, the Board also would like to thank the caretakers who have faithfully served during the past eight years. Your efforts have been appreciated; thank you.

If you are interested in the "Pick-A-Plot" program and wish to become involved, contact a Property Board member. There is always room for additional assistance and the Board (and the caretakers) would welcome the added help.

*Clarence Korhonen, Chairperson
St. Luke's Property Board*



Have you noticed a change in the weather!

Because of the weather change, we have moved our after service refreshments to our Fellowship Room (#5) in the Education wing. Be sure to come over, have a cup of coffee, some refreshments and enjoy a time of sharing.

All of us on the Evangelism Board appreciate each and every one of you who has helped serve refreshments, provide baked goods and other treats, or put away the tables and chairs. Without everyone working together, we would not be able to enjoy this special time after our worship services.

If you would like to be a part of our refreshments team next year, please let me know. We will be happy to get you started.

*Pat Webb
Evangelism Chair*





FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

September 2013

Do you have a hard time getting up early for church?

Do you prefer a small *worship group*?

Is the standard service too long?

KISS (Keep it Simple Service)

What: Just the essentials: Prayer, Word and Community—about 30 minutes!

When Sundays at 12:16 PM

Where: Room 1
(The little ones play as we worship)

COME GET YOUR GOD ON!

OFFERINGS (General Fund Only):

	This Month	Year to Date
Total Offering	\$17,915	\$147,007
Compared to Budget	\$2,382	-\$5,436
	15.3%	-3.8%
Compared to 2012	\$2,565	\$2,382
	16.7%	1.7%
Projected Year-End Balance (Compared to budget)		
Contributors:		
2013 (Current Year)	94	92 Aver.
2012 (Last Year)	90	89 Aver.

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

Other Special

Gifts:

a) Sunday School - \$34.50

b) Flowers \$130.00

Ron Webb
Financial Secretary

2013 Worship & Music Luau





November 7 Andrew Harrison
November 10 Judy Saxby
November 11 Billie Becker
November 14 Julie Ireton
November 15 Marc Thomas
November 16 Alison Kerian
November 17 Betty Hansen
November 17 Betty Ley
November 17 Mike Wilke
November 22 Rosary Jensen
November 27 Micki Fenske
November 27 Carl Hoppman

November 3 Al and Irene Boschee for
Wedding Anniversary
November 10 Reule Family To Proudly
Honor Past and Present Military
November 17
November 24

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



Annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck

On Sunday, December 8, we will be hosting the potluck for the Annual Congregational Meeting following 10:30 AM Worship. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend so you won't miss our last potluck of the year.

In loving service,

Pat Webb, Evangelism Chair



Friends Rylee and Aiyana enjoying
Sunday School

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

Nov. 3 Daniel Encinas
Nov. 10 Katy Etchison
Nov. 17 Selena Connell
Nov. 24 Joshua Bell

Altar Care

8:15 AM Cheryl Franklin
10:30 AM Connie Reule, Nancy Minning

Communion Servers

Mary Harris, Nick Manlapig, Howard Triebwasser

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

Counters

Nov. 3 Walter Arndt, John Johnsen
Nov. 10 Don Schell, Bob Behr
Nov. 17 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Nov. 24 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser

Greeters

Nov. 3
Nov. 10 Ed and Kirsten Ireton
Nov. 17
Nov. 24 Larry and Deanna Dockter

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 Jerry Carney

Prayer Leaders

Nov. 3 Triss Hoppman
Nov. 10 David Saxby
Nov. 17 Tracy Etchison
Nov. 24 W-ELCA Thankoffering Sunday

Psalm Leaders

Nov. 3 Aiyana Tice
Nov. 10 Amber Mansfield
Nov. 17 Isabella Basquez
Nov. 24 W-ELCA Thankoffering Sunday

Readers 8:15 AM

Nov. 3 Maribel Herrera
Nov. 10 Ron Webb
Nov. 17 Eric Linblade
Nov. 24 W-ELCA Thankoffering Sunday

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

Nov. 3 Bob Behr
Nov. 10 Holly Hoppman
Nov. 17 Mary Harris
Nov. 24 W-ELCA Thankoffering Sunday

Refreshments

Nov. 3 Ed and Kirsten Ireton, Lynn Gavia
Nov. 10 Kelly Boyer
Nov. 17 Paul Maki and Chona Sison
Nov. 24 Jerry and Carol Carney

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

Visitor Gifts

Nov. 3 Thelma Williams
Nov. 10 Pauline Arndt
Nov. 17 Pat Webb
Nov. 24 Carolyn Andrews

Welcome Leaders

Nov. 3 Peggy Moser
Nov. 10 Pat Webb
Nov. 17 Chet Madison
Nov. 24 Carolyn Andrews



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

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Service is at 7:00 PM

Join us at our
Pie Social
following service

