



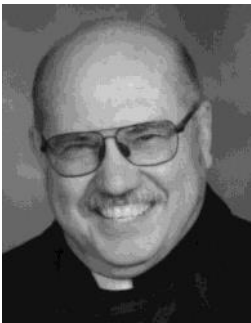
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
(916) 421-5039
www.slelca.org
stlukeschurch@att.net
Pastor Carl Hoppman
carlhoppman@gmail.com

News And Views



2015

Pastoral Perspective



If someone were to ask you, "What is prayer?" what would you say? Prayer is not some kind of white magic. It is not an attempt to control God. It is neither a self-induced pep talk, nor a demand note. Prayer is need finding a voice. It is guilt seeking relief. It is a friend in search of a

Friend. Prayer is the expression of a relationship. Prayer is a way of practicing the presence of God.

In a very real sense, human beings are alive to what is in their awareness, to what they are in the presence of. To live in the awareness of God is to be alive to Him. It is to live in the cathedral of His presence.

Each of us can practice the presence of God through prayer. Prayer is not merely something that one recites by rote in the morning, or at mealtime, or at bedtime, or at church. It is not to be so much scripted as a personal sharing from heart to heart. This sharing happens in different ways.

There are prayers in which we praise God by acknowledging His blessings upon us. With the Psalmist we pray, "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." We have so many things for which we can thank God in prayer each day. Especially do we thank Him for

salvation when we pray with St. Peter, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

We also engage in prayers of confession. In pain and guilt we acknowledge that we have sinned against God's will, violated His commands, delayed the fulfillment of His plans, disappointed Him, and worked against our own true welfare. To confess is to acknowledge our sins and express our craving for forgiveness. We turn to God in penitential prayer. Then, in Jesus Christ, we come to know the joy of having been forgiven, accepted anew, and loved by the One whose forgiveness, acceptance, and love are crucial to our lives.

There are also prayers of supplication or request. This is the kind of prayer that is most often associated with the word "prayer." Such prayers flow spontaneously from the heart, at least from the heart that is overcome with the challenges of life. Martin Luther's fellow reformer, Philip Melancthon, said with regard to such prayers, "Trouble and perplexity drive us to prayer, and prayer drives away trouble and perplexity."

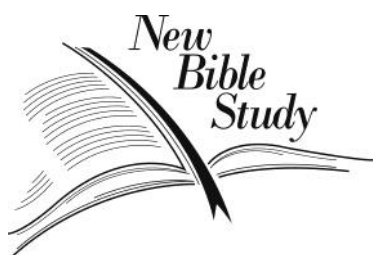
We must not lose heart if we do not seem to get an immediate expected response to our prayers of request. Prayer is, after all, not a demand note. It is rather practicing the presence of God, letting His

presence and power work in our lives and situations. By practicing the presence of God, we learn our total dependence on God. We learn to depend on God, not for favors, but for the power of His love to be active in any given situation. Our relationship with God grows through the persistent practice of prayer.

By faith in Jesus Christ, we are equipped to bring our prayers of praise, confession, and request to God in the full confidence that he will hear and answer us. Prayer is our way of practicing the presence of God. It is communicating in a loving, intimate way with the God who is our loving Father.

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with You,

Pastor Carl



PSALM STUDY DISCUSSION GROUPS

Starting September 13

Throughout our lives, we experience a wide range of emotions such as joy, anger, peacefulness, frustration, despair, happiness, and anxiety. Sometimes, these emotions are not so easy to express or deal with well. The book of Psalms speaks to all these emotions through the words of God's people offering their feelings to God.

The Psalms touch every corner of the human soul. Considering and discussing these honest expressions of feeling can draw us closer to the God who made us and loves us so very much.

I invite you to join me in a weekly group experience based on the Psalms. We will consider and discuss each Psalm in such a way that we'll allow it to

speak to us and help us speak honestly to God and one another. The group will be discussion based. It will be a tremendous opportunity to grow closer to the Lord and one another.

There will be three groups:

- Sundays from 9:15 to 10:00 a.m., meeting in room 3 of the education wing
- Tuesdays from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m., meeting in the church office conference room
- Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m., meeting in the church office conference room

A signup sheet is available on the opportunity table in the back of the sanctuary, or you can call the church office to sign up (421-5039). The groups will start meeting on Sunday, September 13; Tuesday, September 15; and Wednesday, September 16.

Pastor Carl



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC & BBQ

**Come Celebrate the Start of
Our Fall Sunday School and
Adult Education Classes**

Following the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, September 13, everyone is invited to our Annual Congregational BBQ and Picnic.

The Evangelism Board will provide hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, condiments (mayo, ketchup, mustard, and pickle relish), lettuce, tomatoes, onions, chips, cookies, and beverages. If you can, we would love to have you bring a salad to share, but most importantly we want your company!

Please look for the sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Table at the back of the sanctuary. Signing up

really helps, as we need to know how many people plan to attend so we can provide enough seating, food, and shade for everyone.

We also need help the day before the picnic, on Saturday, September 12, at 9:30 a.m., to set up canopies, tables, and chairs in the courtyard. We also need extra help with clean-up after the BBQ, including taking down the canopies and putting away the tables and chairs.

This is always a great time of sharing—you won't want to miss it!



SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

Once again, let's join together to support two elementary schools in our community, Parkway Elementary and

Charles Mack Elementary.

Many children in our community cannot afford basic school supplies, which makes it difficult for them to study properly and earn good grades. Without school supplies, they can feel isolated, insecure, and powerless. Some start avoiding classes altogether. By meeting this crucial need, we can help these children feel confident, cared for, and empowered to succeed in school.

This year, we are purchasing 100 quality backpacks at a low bulk cost, so we are just looking for items to fill these backpacks. You are also welcome to donate to the cost of the backpacks.

Teachers need supplies, too. When schools are underfunded, teachers often lack essential items, and the entire classroom suffers. Many teachers pay for supplies out of their own pockets.

Bring the items to church any time between now

and Sunday, September 13th.

Items for Filling the Backpacks

- Folders with pockets
- Spiral notebooks, wide rule
- Filler paper, wide rule
- Construction paper
- Book covers
- Pencil cases
- Markers, washable
- Paint sets
- Crayons
- Pencils, #2
- Glue
- Glue sticks
- Erasers
- Scissors
- Rulers
- Pencil sharpeners
- Highlighters
- Pens



Items for Teachers & Classrooms

- Construction paper
- Binder paper
- Dry erase markers
- Boxes of Kleenex
- Copy/print paper



3rd Annual "God's Work, Our Hands" Service Day

On Sunday, September 13th, our church family is coming together to fill 100 backpacks with the school supplies we have collected. We will donate the filled backpacks to Charles Mack Elementary and Parkway Elementary Schools to support our local community.

Please join us as we stuff the backpacks, following our annual congregational picnic. Wear your “God’s Work, Our Hands” shirt if you have one.

I would like to encourage everyone to spend this day of service to help others. If you are unable to join us, I encourage you to find another way to pay forward the many blessings God has given you.

In Christ’s Service,

Holly Hoppman
W-ELCA President



“God’s Work, Our Hands” T-Shirts

You may have noticed the bright yellow t-shirts worn, from time to time, by many members of our Congregation. The shirts are from Old Lutheran, a wonderful company that provides fun and unique products to express our Lutheran identity. (You can view the shirts and more at OldLutheran.com.)

The front of the shirt displays the text “God’s Work - Our Hands,” and “St. Luke’s Sacramento” is written on the back.

It as been brought to our attention that some of you would like to order these shirts. We especially encourage these shirts to be worn on September 13, when we’ll fill backpacks with school supplies to be distributed to local elementary schools.

Please look for a table in the breezeway after Sunday services to see a sample shirt and place your order. The price is only \$10.00, and it’s a great way to spread the word of St. Luke’s Mission!



15TH ANNUAL FIREWORKS SALE

...and on the 8th day, they rested...

It was another good, long week and—unlike last year, where we only had ONE really HOT day—this year, we had TWO really HOT days! The rest of the week was just slightly cooler, but it still managed to be windy and humid!

Once again, we were blest with an abundance of goodwill and fellowship. Looking at my list, I see we had almost 90 folks who helped out by selling or buying fireworks; providing food, water, snacks, drinks, other donations; setting up or taking down the booth; or spreading the word to family and friends to stop by and visit us.

On the sales side, we had a really good week this year, grossing \$28,800 – just \$650 less than last year. Not too shabby! After paying expenses (fireworks, taxes, permits, truck rental, and gas), we’ll put over \$9,400 in the bank to help the Property Board with the work they do here in keeping the church facilities in tip-top shape.





A loud shout-out goes to all the wonderful folks who brought us food this year. We had great sandwiches, pizza, tri-tip, fried chicken, brownies, cookies, fruit, chips, and other snacks. And plenty of water, too! Also, a special thank you goes to Pastor Carl and Triss Hoppman for supplying us with BBQ ribs and all the trimmings for our

July 4th celebration. Salute!

We always have a great time working at the booth—meeting new faces, welcoming our returning customers, and watching the excitement on the kids' faces. That's the best part, the fellowship and fun we share with our neighbors and friends.

And finally, an extra shout out to my faithful core team of volunteers (you know who you all are), especially to Dorothy Haney and Ron Webb, who were there faithfully every day to assist me. I couldn't do it without you! Thank you to all and see you next year!



In His Name,

Larry Dockter
Fireworks Committee Chairman

COMMUNITY CONCERNS



Children's Clothing Place

The St. Luke's Children's Clothing Place supplies the community with clothes, shoes, diapers, and other

supplies. We're looking for donations—our priority is clothes and shoes for sizes newborn to 5T.

If you or someone you know could use this awesome community resource, or if you can donate needed items, we would sure love to hear from you. Call us at (916) 421-5039.

With joy and gratitude,

The St. Luke's Community Concerns
Committee

W-ELCA

WOMEN OF THE ECLA

Fall Festival and Family Fun Day



Our biggest event of the year is right around the corner. Our Annual Fall Festival and Family Fun Day will be on Saturday, October 3rd, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's a community yard sale with tables full of white elephant items, a Crafter's Corner, a Country Store, books, plants, and kids activities. Breakfast and lunch will be served for a donation.

If you or someone you know is interested in renting a space at the Fall Festival and Family Fun Day, please contact Peggy Moser.

For our white elephant sale, we're accepting any gently used items (except clothes). Household items, furniture, knickknacks, art, craft supplies, toys, paperback books, children's books—we'll take any random items.

If you have items to donate, bring them to the church anytime during business hours. We're storing the items in the overflow room.

If you want to help with the festival, please talk to

Holly Hoppman. We'll have a planning meeting after worship on Sunday, August 16th, 2015.

All proceeds benefit our Benevolence Fund, which finances our donations to women's and children's shelters, food banks, homeless services, and more.

For a rent-a-space form or more information, visit our website: <http://slelca.org/news/fall-festival/>



W-ELCA Board-Hosted Brunch

BRUNCH

Sooner than we realize, fall will be upon us, and we have many exciting opportunities for everyone to get involved. On Saturday, September 12th, at 11:30 a.m., the women will meet in Room 5 for brunch. No need to bring food to share, as your W-ELCA Board is hosting the brunch. We are collecting hygiene items and school supplies for two local organizations: Moral Values and Courageous Connections.

Moral Values serves young people by teaching them values, providing food and housing when necessary, offering educational assistance, and advocating for their wellbeing. Services are provided to as many as 85 children at a time.

Courageous Connections is a non-profit organization, located in Elk Grove, that works to improve the life experiences and outcomes of current and emancipated foster youth.

In Christ's Service,

Holly Hoppman
W-ELCA President

EVANGELISM

Service at the Commons

Once a month, Pastor Carl leads an informal wor-

ship service for the residents living at The Commons in Elk Grove, an assisted living facility. This time of sharing is very special, as many of the residents are no longer able to attend church. They look forward to singing beloved old hymns and hearing Pastor Carl's message.

The Evangelism Board welcomes everyone to come and see for themselves why this service means so much to these very special seniors. The service takes place at 2 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

If you would like more information, please talk with Pauline and Walt Arndt or Pat Webb. We would love to have you join us.



**Diners' Groups:
Time to Sign Up!**



What happens after you sign up? You will be organized into small groups of 6-8 people, and you'll get together once a month in September, October, and November. It's a great way to form stronger connections with your fellow believers.

Each group makes its own plans. There is no one way to do it! You may decide to go to a restaurant (everyone pays for their own meal), host a meal at home, go to a sports game, enjoy a movie or play, or anything else you want to do. You can even invite others to join your group.

The important thing is sharing with each other and getting to know one another on a more personal level.

Be sure to stop by the Opportunity Table, at the back of the sanctuary, to sign up. It doesn't matter whether you are single, a couple, or a family—everyone can join in the fun. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 23.

Pat Webb
Evangelism Board Chair

COMFORT COMMITTEE

(What Is It?)



Have you wondered what the Comfort Committee does? Members of the committee provide special and welcome services to those who have lost a loved one.

At that important and difficult time, folks like to get together, share stories about the loved one they have lost, and comfort one another.

The Comfort Committee gives them a space to spend time together and provides some refreshments. In today's busy life, it is one of the few times that families get together as a group.

We set up Schultz Hall and prepare a luncheon or snacks for those attending a funeral or memorial service. This frees the immediate family from having to plan this event. Usually the service is for a member of our congregation; sometimes it is for a friend or family member of one of our congregants. Recently, for instance, we served a luncheon for the friends and family of one of our congregation members. The family had to travel from Illinois because their loved one was interred here in Sacramento. They often mention how wonderful it was to have a place to see old friends and visit with family, without worrying about food or preparations.

There are now 8 or 9 folks on our Comfort Committee. It would be nice to have a few more participants who would be available, even just once in a while, to call on. If you think you might be interested in helping occasionally, please contact the Committee Chair, Pauline Arndt.

We are not limited to the ladies of the congregation—gentlemen are definitely welcome. In fact, we need a crew who would be on call to set up the tables and chairs (the evening or day before an event, or the day of the event), and to break down the ta-

bles following the service. It only takes about half an hour to accomplish this task.

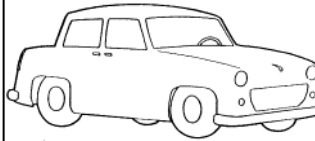
This is a part of serving—as Jesus said, “Feed them and they will come.”



Pauline Arndt

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CANCER PATIENTS

The Cancer Society Needs Volunteer Drivers



In the parable of the Good Samaritan, an injured and needy person is helped by a traveler. Cancer patients in

our community sometimes need transportation to their lifesaving treatments, and we have the opportunity to serve them.

If you would like to make a difference in the life of a cancer patient, consider becoming an American Cancer Society volunteer driver. For more information on how to help get a patient on the road to recovery, please call 1 (800) 227-2345.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

On Sunday, October 18th, Team Friends in Faith will be walking in support, memory, and honor of our friends and family affected by breast cancer. You too can join our team!

Registration is simple: visit <http://main.acevents.org/goto/friendsinfaith> and click “Join Our Team.” The walk starts at 8:00 a.m., and we will be carpooling from St. Luke's in the morning. Men, women, and children of all ages are welcome.

For more information on how to join or donate to the team, please contact Kirsten Ireton.





Deaths in Our Church Family

We mourn the death of Don Miller, a longtime member of St. Luke's. Please pray for the family, that the Lord holds them in His tender care through this

time. We celebrate Don's full and fantastic life as well as the new life he now has in the heavenly kingdom for eternity. A memorial was held at St. Luke's on July 6th.

~ ~ ~

Adeline Boschee, a beloved member of our congregation, has passed away. We give thanks for her long and loving life among us, and we rejoice that she will spend the rest of eternity in the Lord's presence. Pray for her husband, Ferd, and the rest of her family as they grieve. Her funeral service was held on July 23 at East Lawn, in Elk Grove, followed by a reception at St. Luke's.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Say It With Flowers



Every week, members of our congregation help provide flowers to decorate the altar. To sign up, check the flower chart on the Opportunity Table, at the back of the sanctuary.

Select the date, write in your name, and specify the dedication. You can dedicate the flowers to a person you want to remember or honor, to an event you want to commemorate, to thank God for his blessings, or to praise His glory.

The flowers will be ordered for you for the selected date and delivered to the church by the florist.

You can pick up your flowers after worship if you want to take them home. You can find them in the Altar Guild room (behind the choir loft) after the 10:30 a.m. service. Or you can leave your flowers at

church, and they will be delivered to members or friends of the congregation who are sick or shut in.

A donation of \$20 per bouquet will cover the cost. We can have up to four arrangements per week.

Children's Choir

All children are invited to join the Children's Choir. They practice after church on the second and fourth Sundays. The rehearsals take place in Room 2, in the Education wing, and only last 20 minutes. Judy Saxby is their enthusiastic leader—contact her if you have any questions or want to join the choir.



Luau "Fun Raiser"

Save the Date



Get out your grass skirt and tune up your ukulele! Join us for the annual Worship and Music Luau on Saturday evening, September 19, with fantastic food and fabulous prizes. We have several fun activ-

ities planned this year:

- *Dessert Auction:* You can bid on delicious desserts to share at your table or take home.
- *Ugly Hawaiian Shirt Contest:* Dress for success in your gaudiest tropical wear.
- *Entertainment:* The chancel choir, the children's choir, and the bell choir will sing for us.

Tickets are \$15 for teens and adults, \$5 for children 3 to 12, and free for children under 3. You can purchase tickets from anyone on the Worship and Music Board (Janette Payne, Triss Hoppman, Karen Linfor, Peggy Moser, and Mary Harris).



Sing With Us

Join Chancel Choir *Sing to the Lord a New Song*

If you like to sing, join the Chancel Choir this fall. No previous experience is required. There are no auditions, and it's not necessary to know how to read music. The choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and performs on Sunday mornings at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Choir practice will resume on Wednesday, September 9, in the choir loft (at the front of the sanctuary, to the right). On Sunday mornings, the choir gathers at 10:00 a.m. to rehearse the piece for the day. We are blessed to have Brooke Barr as our Music Director. She is good-humored, patient, and persistent, as well as an excellent accompanist.

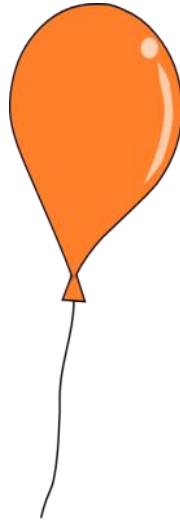


ST. LUKE'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 3 Jerry Carney
 August 4 Elsbeth Whitehurst
 August 5 Jason Havey
 August 8 Irene Boschee
 August 8 Don Schell
 August 10 Linda Duffek
 August 16 Vi Gibson
 August 16 Amber Mansfield
 August 16 Kay Yakabe
 August 19 Bertha Dahl
 August 21 Angelo Osako
 August 22 Aiyana Tice
 August 23 Zoe Franklin
 August 23 Mack Vance
 August 27 Carolyn Andrews
 August 31 Faith Thomas



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



ALTAR FLOWERS

August 2 Al Boschee for Irene Boschee's birthday
 August 9 Howard Triebwasser in memory of his wife Pearl
 August 16 Faith Thomas for her great-granddaughter Stephanie's birthday
 Connie Reule for Amber Mansfield's birthday



Our new pictorial directories are here, and they look fantastic! They will be available on Sundays or in the church office. Just one per family, please.



FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

June 2015

Offerings (General Fund Only)			
	This Month	Year to Date	
Total Offering	\$16,284	\$108,295	
Compared to Budget	-\$674	\$3,777	
	-4.0%	4.0%	
Compared to 2014	-\$3,909	\$3,080	
	-19.0%	3.00%	
Contributors			
2015 (Current Year)	101	91	Avg.
2014 (Last Year)	91	92	Avg.
Other Special Gifts			
Sunday School		\$22	
Flowers		\$120	

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

Ron Webb
Financial Secretary

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes

Aug. 2 Daniel Encinas
Aug. 9 Isabella Basquez, Elizabeth Wilson
Aug. 16 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez
Aug. 23 Joshua Bell, Morgan Furry
Aug. 30 Daniel Encinas

Altar Care

8:15 a.m. Cheryl Franklin
10:30 a.m. (Volunteer needed)

Communion Servers

Faith Thomas, Ken Lentsch

Counters

Aug. 2 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Aug. 9 Don Schell, Bob Behr
Aug. 16 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
Aug. 23 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
Aug. 30 Jack and Micki Fenske,
Carolyn Andrews

Greeters

Aug. 2 Walt and Pauline Arndt
Aug. 9 Mary Harris, Debi Lentsch
Aug. 16 Jerry and Carol Carney
Aug. 23 Paul Maki, Chona Sison
Aug. 30 Irene and Al Boschee

Head Ushers

8:15 a.m. Ron Franklin
10:30 a.m.
Aug. 2 Ken Lentsch
Aug. 9 Ken Lentsch
Aug. 16 Craig Eckels
Aug. 23 Craig Eckels
Aug. 30 Craig Eckels

Prayer Leaders

Aug. 2 Laura Tice
Aug. 9 Pat Webb
Aug. 16 Triss Hoppman
Aug. 23 Bob Behr
Aug. 30 Mary Frances Harris

Psalm Leaders

Aug. 2 Elizabeth Wilson
Aug. 9 Isabella Basquez
Aug. 16 Daniel Encinas
Aug. 23 Sierra Etchison
Aug. 30 Morgan Furry

Readers (8:15 a.m.)

Aug. 2 Ron Webb
Aug. 9 Christiana Wilson
Aug. 16 Kelly Boyer
Aug. 23 Eric Linblade
Aug. 30 Sarah Madison

Readers (10:30 a.m.)

Aug. 2 Barbara Manlapig
Aug. 9 Ken Lentsch
Aug. 16 Lauren Orcutt
Aug. 23 Al Moser
Aug. 30 John Orcutt

Refreshments

Aug. 2 Ofelia Ojeda
Aug. 9 Walt and Pauline Arndt
Aug. 16 Mack and Carole Vance
Aug. 23 Jerry and Carol Carney
Aug. 30 Ken and Debi Lentsch

Visitors' Gifts

Aug. 2 Walt Arndt
Aug. 9 Kelly Boyer
Aug. 16 Thelma Williams
Aug. 23 Pat Webb
Aug. 30 Joyce Jensen

Welcome Leaders

Aug. 2 Rev. Ron Zoesch
Aug. 9 Pat Webb
Aug. 16 Chet Madison
Aug. 23 Carolyn Andrews
Aug. 30 Pauline Arndt



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

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SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

Support Our Local Schools

Many children in our community cannot afford basic school supplies, and many teachers have to use their own money to buy supplies for their underfunded classrooms.

Let's equip teachers to teach well and empower children to study and learn!

To donate supplies, drop them off at the church anytime.

