



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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 stlukeschurch@att.net
 Pastor Carl Hoppman
 carlhoppman@gmail.com

News And Views



2016



Pastoral Perspective



Jesus' conversation with the woman at the well, recorded in the fourth chapter of John's Gospel, shows just how far God is willing to go in order to reach people with His love.

This woman was of the "wrong" ethnic group, had questionable religious practices, and her moral behavior was not good. It would have been easy to simply judge her and write her off. Yet Jesus' word to her was a word of invitation, not judgment. He spoke of free-flowing life available in Him and invited her to drink deeply of this new life. His word was not a command to be a better person but an invitation to be refreshed and renewed in His love.

It is so common to believe that before God will do anything for us, we have to shape up. But Jesus said to the woman at the well, in essence, "If you only knew how much God has to give you and how much He wants to give it to you and who I am for you, you would have asked and I would have freely given you water to make you truly alive in me." What a word!

God can't be like that unless He is bound and determined to give Himself, for no other reason than that He loves us and He knows we need Him. God can't be like that unless He is willing to "get down and dirty" with us to show the depths of His love

for us.

There is more. Out of the blue, Jesus said to the woman, "Go, and call your husband." He knew the woman had five husbands in her past and was living with someone outside of marriage at the time. Jesus was inviting her to be open and honest with Him and herself. Isn't it amazing that God would get so personal and intimate?

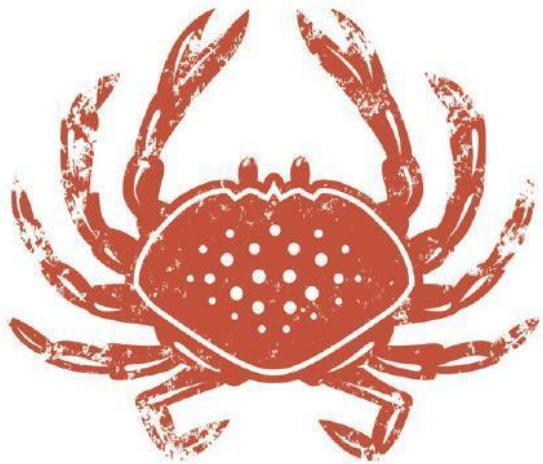
God can't be like that unless the living water poured out for us is purified with a love so great that we can risk being truly open and honest with Him and ourselves. God can't be like that unless He insists on a cure for what really ails us rather than just giving us a band-aid to put over festering wounds. God can't be like that unless He wants to wash us clean, through and through, not just get us looking good on the outside.

In the fifth chapter of Romans, Paul writes, "...God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:5-8)

As you go through the Lenten journey to the cross, open yourself to be cleansed and renewed by Jesus.

That same love shown to the woman at the well, that same love that led Jesus to the cross, has been poured out so that you can have real life in Him now and for eternity. Receive it and let it overflow to those around you.

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl



CRAB FEED

**Saturday, March 5
6 p.m. in Schultz Hall**

We hope you join us for St. Luke's 15th Annual Crab Feed. It's a western theme this year! Yee-haw!

If you need tickets, please contact Ron Webb or call the church office (421-5039). Tickets cost \$45 for adults and \$15 for youth (6-12). Kids 5 and under are free. Thank you for supporting St. Luke's.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & SERVICES

The February 10th Ash Wednesday supper, hosted by W-ELCA, was a great success. The soup suppers hosted by the Council on the 17th, and by the Property Board and St. Luke's Youth on the 24th, were also delightful.

Join us in the multipurpose room for the soup suppers, beginning at 6:00 p.m., followed by a short, casual service featuring a Lent-themed skit at 6:30.

March 2 Soup Supper: Hosted by Evangelism and Community Concerns

March 9 Soup Supper: Hosted by Worship & Music, Adult Choir, and Bell Choir

March 16 Soup Supper: Hosted by the congregation



EASTER PREP

Preparing FOR Easter As in the past, the Board of Worship and Music is asking for your help to beautify our worship for Holy Week. We need palms, cut flowers, greenery, and lots of help.

We will be decorating for Palm Sunday on Saturday, March 19, at 10:00 a.m. If you have palms, please bring them to the church at that time. We can use both fan palms and the large fronds. You are welcome to stay a bit and help decorate the sanctuary. We can especially use the help of a few gentlemen as the large branches can be pretty heavy. We will also be cleaning the altar area and polishing the brass and silver, and we welcome your help with that task.

On Maundy Thursday, we need several people to help with the stripping of the altar at the end of the service. A sign-up sheet will be available beginning on March 13.

Please bring your greenery for the Living Cross and cut flowers to the church anytime Saturday, March 26. You may also bring cut flowers to worship with you on Easter morning and place them on the cross yourself.

Candy and Easter Eggs

SLY is collecting candy & plastic Easter eggs for the annual Easter Egg hunt. If you are able to donate small wrapped candy and/or plastic eggs, please bring your donations to church by Sunday, March 20th. You may give the donations to any SLY member or to Kirsten Ireton. Thank you for supporting this annual event!

SLY Members – we will be filling Easter eggs on Saturday, March 26th at 10 a.m.! Come and help fill the eggs and then come back on Easter morning to help the Easter Bunny hide the eggs at 9 a.m.



EASTER LILIES

As we have done for the past few years, The Board of Worship and Music is taking orders for Easter Lilies to decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning. The lilies may be given in honor or memory of someone or simply to the glory of God. The requested donation is \$10.00. A list of the honorees will be included in the bulletin. The lilies can be picked up after the 10:30 service Easter morning.



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY

March 20

The week before Easter Sunday is known as Holy Week. It begins with Palm Sunday, also known as the Sunday of the Passion. The service with the procession of palms while we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. As the service progresses, the mood shifts to the consideration of Je-

sus' Passion. There will be special music provided by the Bell Choir, Children's Choir, and Chancel Choir.



MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 24

Passover Lamb Supper

Thursday of Holy Week is an especially significant day. Jesus gathered with his disciples to share his last supper. During the Passover meal held that night he identified himself as the lamb to be sacrificed to save God's people from their sins. He promised to be in with and under the bread and wine shared that night and any time the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) is shared.

We observe this day with a Passover Supper in Schultz Hall at 6:00 p.m. We remember through special foods and readings how God saved his people from slavery in Egypt. This Passover remembrance is especially designed for children.



The dinner will be hosted by W-ELCA. All are welcome! Tickets will go on sale the first of March. More details to follow.

There will also be sign-up sheets on the opportunity table for anyone interested in assisting with the set-up and meal preparation.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Duffek, W-ELCA Passover Dinner chair.

Holy Communion

After a full lamb dinner, we have a Holy Communion service in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. At this spe-

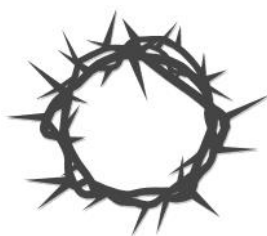
cial service we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples as well as his betrayal and arrest. We remember, as we receive the bread and wine of Communion, how Jesus saved us from slavery to sin. At the end of the service, we strip the altar in remembrance of Jesus being arrested and taken into the hands of his captors.



GOOD FRIDAY

March 25

On Friday of Holy Week (Good Friday), we gather at 7:30 p.m. for the Service of Shadows. With several readings from the Bible and special hymns and



anthems, we remember Jesus' sacrifice of himself on our behalf. As is our tradition, the congregation is invited to nail their burdens on the cross. The service concludes in silence and darkness.

EASTER SUNDAY

March 27, 2016

Easter Breakfast

Please join us for this wonderful celebration! Breakfast will be served in Schultz Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

This year's Easter Breakfast will be chaired by David Davis. We will be setting up for the breakfast on Friday, March 25th. Pauline Arndt will prepare

sign-up sheets for set up, cooking, kitchen help, and clean-up.



Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Easter Egg with start promptly at 10 a.m. on Easter morning, with the Easter Bunny leading the way. Bring your kids and grandkids to this annual event sponsored by the St. Luke's Youth Group! The hunt is designed for children through the 6th grade, and there will be a special section reserved just for little ones under 3.



Easter Egg Hunt

After the egg hunt, you are welcome to return your plastic eggs for recycling. A bucket will be available in the breezeway after church or just bring them back in a bag the next Sunday and give them to any SLY member.

Easter Sunday Service

Join us on Easter Sunday to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. The church will be adorned with Easter Lilies and the beautiful Living Cross. Special music will be presented by the Children's Choir and the Chancel Choir at the 10:30 service.

Christ
the
Lord is
RISEN
Today



W-ELCA

March Meeting—March 12, 11:30 a.m.

For this month's meeting, we'll enjoy a potato bar—bring a topping to share! We are gathering baby wipes, diapers, formula, and baby food to support Chicks in Crisis.

We will also be hosting the Passover Lamb Dinner on March 24. Look out for sign-up sheets on the opportunity table for anyone interested in helping set up and prepare the meal.

For up to date information on what the Women of the ELCA are up to, check out our page on the church's website: <http://slelca.org/living-mission/st-lukes-council/w-elca/>

February Meeting

The Women of the ELCA celebrated Valentine's Day with a large group in February. Following lunch, a few activities, and announcements, the women packaged the snack and toiletry items collected for our Winter Sanctuary guests. Many thanks going to everyone involved in preparing the meal and helping us host the Winter Sanctuary folks on Sunday, February 28th.



SLY YOUTH GROUP OUTING

Sunday, March 13th at 12:45pm – Carmichael Laser Tag – watch your email inbox for the permission slip! This fun outing is a great activity for all ages. SLY members are paid by their SLY account. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. See Kirsten for more details.

The youth gathered on Sunday, January 24th, for their 2nd annual Valentine's Day card-making party. They made about 60 cards for shut ins and some members in need of a little pick-me-up. The group really enjoys being together and being of service to the congregation.



COMMUNITY CONCERNS

We collected 120 pounds of soup cans through the Soup-er Bowl Sunday food drive. The Elk Grove Food Closet was the winner—yay team! Thank you to Judy Saxby for organizing the drive, and thank you to all who participated.

In 2015, we delivered 619 pounds of food to the Elk Grove Food Closet. Judy Saxby would like to thank to those who gave all through the year to the growing number of low-income people who simply need support to make it through the month. St. Luke's is so generous!

The Winter Sanctuary was a great success. Thanks to all the ladies, and whatever gentlemen were there helping, for putting together all the supplies (personal items, toiletries, hygiene items, snacks) – over 100 bags for our homeless guests. Many thanks, as well, to all those who helped prepare and serve food, set up and clean up, or spend time with the program participants. We appreciate all your hard work.

Al Moser
Community Concerns Chair



PROPERTY BOARD

I'm excited to fill this position as your new Property Board chair. I look forward to serving the church and working on new projects. Many thanks to Clarence Korhonen for his hard work before me. Please feel free to give me any feedback or ideas!

Your sister in Christ,
Kelly Boyer
Property Board Chair

OUTSIDE CLEAN-UP DAY



Join us on March 12, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, to help us clean up the church grounds. As members, we are proud of our church and want to keep it looking beautiful. Don those t-shirts and jeans and join us for that comradeship

that comes with working together for a good cause.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING CLOSET

Our children's clothing closet is in need of gently used coats and jackets, sizes 0-6. If you have any to donate, please bring them to the church. If you have any questions, call Faith Thomas at 205-5032.



SACRAMENTO RELAY FOR LIFE

Team Friends in Faith is having a Vendor and Craft Fair Saturday, April 2nd from noon to 4 p.m. in

Shultz Hall. Vendors from PartyLite, ItWorks, TupperWare, Scentsy, Miche Bags, plus many crafters will be on hand to raise money for the American Cancer Society. There will also be a bake sale with yummy goodies! If you sell something and would like a vendor space the cost is only \$25, plus a \$25 donation of a raffle prize. Contact Katie Iniguez for space information or Kirsten Ireton for more information. We hope to see you there!

We would also like to encourage everyone to join us at the April 16th Relay For Life of Sacramento at Hiram Johnson High School from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Please come out to walk a lap or two, or just hang out and support all our friends who are battling cancer right now or who have battled it. Please sign-up at <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/friends2016> or contact Kirsten at 916-296-5907 and she can help get you registered. There are also flyers in the Narthex.



THANK YOU, SOUL STITCHERS

"Thank you to everyone in the Soul Stitchers group for the baby hats you donated to Kaiser. They are very much appreciated. May God bless your work.

Valerie,
Kaiser Volunteer Secretary"





DEATHS IN OUR CONGREGATION

Margaret Crooks

We mourn the death of Margaret Crooks, who passed away on February 7th. As an active member at St. Luke's, Margaret attended many Bible studies and helped others get to church. Her family had a private graveside service.

Robert Prouty

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Shirley Prouty, whose husband Robert Prouty died on January 3, 2016. A memorial service was held in Carmichael on January 23.

Bertha E. Dahl

Bertha E. Dahl died on January 23, 2016, and was taken by her Good Shepherd, Jesus, to the heavenly kingdom. Bertha helped coordinate W-ELCA's Thankoffering services and St. Luke's stewardship program. Funeral services for Bertha were held at St. Luke's, followed by a reception hosted by our Comfort Committee, on February 1.



Debbie Silverberg has a new address:
1230 N St, Apt. 1109
Sacramento, CA 95814

Paul and Sande Heaton have a new phone number:
(916) 509-9623

Paul Maki has a new email address:
pmaki912@gmail.com



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- March 1 Corey Anderson
- March 5 Selena Connell
- March 5 Monica Willoughby
- March 6 Jennifer Connell
- March 6 Renee Roberts
- March 7 Laura Tice
- March 9 Kevin Kiser
- March 10 Ruth Jones
- March 13 Ben Bates
- March 13 Sarah Thomas
- March 16 Sarah Madison
- March 17 Mackenzie Harrison
- March 18 Inge Marchuk
- March 22 Jan Tanaka
- March 23 Emma Kiser
- March 23 Irma Lowe
- March 23 David Saxby
- March 23 Lou Tice
- March 24 Kimiya Ricciardi
- March 24 Norene Schell
- March 26 Al Moser
- March 26 Bob Harrison
- March 27 Elizabeth Ward
- March 28 Karen Kiser
- March 29 John Johnsen
- March 29 Patricia Lehman
- March 30 Bob Behr
- March 30 Kelly Sobkowsky



Birthday Blessings



ALTAR FLOWERS

- March 6 Howard Triebwasser
in memory of his wife Pearl
- March 13 Bruce and Karen Kiser
for their 41st anniversary
- March 20 Jan Tanaka
for her 36th anniversary
and 72nd birthday
- March 27 Marlene and Duane Kiser
in celebration of the risen Lord



FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

January 2016

Comments:

- A five Sunday month.
- Fantastic start to the new year.
- I encourage all members to use numbered envelopes, if feasible. The use of numbered envelopes speeds up the Sunday counting process, makes record keeping easier, and most importantly, minimizes errors.
- If you do not have a box of assigned numbered envelopes, contact me.
- Thank you Ron Webb for serving these last four years as Financial Secretary.
- As of January 1, I began my term as Financial Secretary, a position that I have held before. However, I am still facing a learning curve, as the record keeping software is new to me. I look forward to serving St. Luke's and you.
- If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jack Fenske
 St. Luke's Financial Secretary
 916-714-3626
LRFenske@comcast.net

Offerings (General Fund Only)			
	This Month	Year to Date	
Total Offering	\$19,356	\$19,356	
Compared to Budget	+16.4%	+16.4%	
	+\$2,720	+\$2,720	
Compared to 2015	+20.4%	+20.4%	
	+\$3,280	+\$3,280	
Contributors			
2016 (Current Year)	88	88	avg.
2015 (Last Year)	75	90	avg.
Other Special Gifts			
Sunday School		\$33	
Flowers		\$120	
Memorials		\$725	
Reule Bell Choir Fund		\$100	

Note: Plus values are good; minus values are not.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes
 March 6 Daniel Encinas
 March 13 Isabella Basquez, Elizabeth Wilson
 March 20 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez
 March 27 Morgan Furry, Lucy Orcutt

Altar Care 8:15 a.m.
 Cheryl Franklin

Altar Care 10:30 a.m.
 March 6 Faith Thomas, Debi Lentsch
 March 13 Carol Carney
 March 20 Jennifer Connell, Triss Hoppman
 March 27 Connie Reule, Nancy Minning

Communion Servers
 March 6 Daniel Encinas, Peggy Moser,
 Bob Behr
 March 20 Kelly Boyer, Betty Englund,
 Pat Hamilton

Counters
 March 6 Connie Reule, Nancy Minning
 March 13 Don Schell, Bob Behr
 March 20 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
 March 27 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser

Head Ushers
 8:15 a.m. Ron Franklin
 10:30 a.m. Larry Dockter

Prayer Leaders
 March 6 John Orcutt
 March 13 Barbara Manlapig
 March 20 Joe Payne
 March 27 Janette Payne

Psalm Leaders
 March 6 Sierra Etchison
 March 13 Amber Mansfield
 March 20 Angie Martinez
 March 27 Lucy Orcutt

Readers 8:15 a.m.
 March 6 Sarah Madison
 March 13 Phil Petersen

March 20 Ron Webb
 March 27 Christiana Wilson

Readers 10:30 a.m.
 March 6 Holly Hoppman
 March 13 Kirsten Ireton
 March 20 Sylvia Kohler
 March 27 Jon Linfor

Lenten Readers
 March 2 Mary Frances Harris
 March 9 Triss Hoppman
 March 16 Marlene Kiser
 March 23 Ken Lentsch

Maundy Thursday, March 24
 Reader David Saxby
 Prayer Marlene Kiser
 Psalm Hannah Encinas
 Altar Care Karen Linfor, Mary Frances Harris
 Communion Al Moser, Betty Englund, Bob Behr

Refreshments
 March 6 Dorothy Haney
 March 13 Alison and Marc Thomas
 March 20 Paul Maki and Chona Sison
 March 27 Easter Breakfast

Visitors' Gifts
 March 6 Pat Webb
 March 13 Carole Vance
 March 20 Laura Sondrini
 March 27 Easter Sunday (no visitors' gifts)

Welcome Leaders
 March 6 Carolyn Andrews
 March 13 Pauline Arndt
 March 20 Mary Frances Harris
 March 27 Peggy Moser

Sunday School Teachers
 March 6 Lauren Orcutt, Christina Hisamoto
 March 13 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez
 March 20 Alison Thomas, Debi Lentsch
 March 27 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez



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

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Easter Sunday

Services: 8:15 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast:
8:30 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt:
10:00 a.m.

