



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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News And Views



2016

Pastoral Perspective



The scene Jesus describes in the parable recorded in Matthew 20:1-16 is that of a farmer hiring day laborers throughout the day to work in his vineyard. For people not fortunate enough to own property or be regular workers for a property owner, finding employment was really difficult. The job market was very tough in Jesus' time. Folks were desperate and would grab any work they could get. Someone who got hired and didn't have to just stand around anxiously hoping for work was naturally grateful.

In the parable, the farmer's heart obviously went out to the many folks standing around without work. Every time he encountered a group of would-be-workers during the day, he had compassion on them and sent them to work the rest of the day in his vineyard. It became clear that he was concerned about more than just the work to be done in his vineyard. He generously desired to share with those in need.

The farmer's generous nature showed itself at the end of the day. He paid each worker a day's wage regardless of when they started. Some had worked all day, others just a while. And surprise, the workers who

had been so grateful to have a day's work at the beginning of the day were upset because the ones who hadn't worked as long were paid the same amount as they were. They felt they were more deserving than the latecomers. They wanted separate treatment. They couldn't really argue for more pay since they had agreed to their wage, but they could certainly grumble saying that the latecomers should get less.



When one is down, one naturally looks for compassion, but as soon as one is partially back on his or her feet a different standard is often sought. There comes a desire to have things ranked and divided so that everyone has a clear idea of who is ahead of whom and who is more deserving. That became very important to these workers. It may not have been the money as much as the wish to be set off from those others who had come later. In order to feel more worthy, folks often look to discover others who seem less worthy and then point them out with scorn. Unfortunately, this desire to feel more worthy permeates most all of human society.

This craving for status and separate treatment is so intense that people who have been recipients of God's mercy will actually turn around and point out others they don't believe are as worthy of that same mercy. Jesus, in His parable, is showing how folks say to God, "Stop being so generous now that you have extended your mercy to me. By extending that mercy to others so indiscriminately you are

violating the pecking order we have established among ourselves.” Of course, by definition, you can’t earn mercy. If you could earn it, it wouldn’t be mercy.

So the argument of the day laborers, although it might be valid in a modern-day labor dispute, is irrelevant in a Christian context. We need always to remember that as we share the victory of Jesus with others we are simply sharing something that has been so generously given to us.

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl

TRAVEL WITH RICK STEVES ON THE WEDNESDAYS IN JULY!

You have a wonderful opportunity to take part in a potluck dinner and virtual travel experience to four exciting locations with Rick Steves on the four Wednesdays in July. We will meet in Schultz Hall at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday from July 6th through July 27th. After a delightful potluck dinner together, Rick Steves will lead us by DVD to an exciting faith-filled location.

First, we will travel with him to Germany and see the important places of Martin Luther’s life and ministry. Rick, who is a Lutheran, will help us understand and appreciate Luther’s powerful message for his age and ours.

The next Wednesday we will travel to the eastern Mediterranean to experience the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul. We will learn about Paul’s teachings that are so vital to the Christian faith while seeing some marvelous sights.



The third Wednesday we will go to Papua New Guinea to learn how we are woven together in a global neighborhood.

The fourth Wednesday we will travel with Rick to South Central Los Angeles to consider how we are working in the city for good! Plan now to attend these special travel experiences with the world renowned travel leader, Rick Steves.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

At the July Bible studies and through the whole month, W-ELCA will be collecting school supplies for local elementary schools. Join us after worship on Sunday, August 7th, to put backpacks together for the school children and classrooms in need at Charles Mack Elementary and Parkway Elementary Schools.



EVANGELISM Narthex Remodeling



IN MEMORY

The new big name tag board has been installed. It will accommodate all the name tags on one board. It looks beautiful.

Pastor Carl advised the following Narthex Memorials:

Don Miller
Narthex Remodel

Fred & Genie Sommer
Name Tag Board

Bertha Dahl
Opportunity Table

Katie Ramsey
Flower Chart

Astrid Lynn
Cabinet

Art & Vi Gibson
Lutheran Rose Stained Glass Window

Alex & Esther Becker
Trinity Stained Glass Window

Outreach Luncheon



A luncheon is planned for Saturday, August 20, at Logan's Restaurant.

Logan's banquet lunch menu is \$16.00 per person, and it includes house chips (for burgers and sandwiches), ice tea or soft drink, tax, and gratuity. Here are the choices:

- Old-fashioned cheeseburger or hamburger
- Grilled chicken sandwich
- French dip sandwich (thinly sliced roast beef on a soft roll with sautéed onions and mushrooms, topped with Swiss cheese, and served with au jus for dipping)
- Mesquite grilled chicken salad, choice of dressing
- Mesquite grilled steak salad, choice of dressing

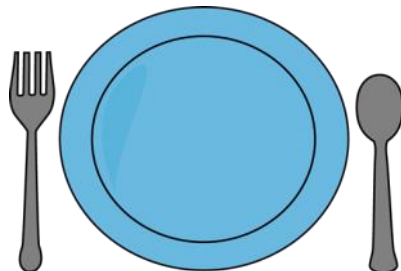
There is no charge for the room, but we do need to have a minimum of 20 people.

A sign up sheet will soon be on the Opportunity Table. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 14.

Diners' Groups:

It's time to sign up for the new diners' groups, which will get together in September, October, and November. The sign-up sheet will be available starting Sunday, July 10th, and we'll take signups through August.

Pauline will provide a sign-up sheet. The last day to sign up for the Diners' Groups will be August 21st.



SYNOD COUNCIL REPORT



Ed and I would like to take a moment to thank the Council for the opportunity to attend the 29th Annual Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly in Reno, Nevada, June 3-5. The theme of the weekend was "We Are Church Together," and this was made very apparent by the many different congregations that came together that weekend to learn, make church-wide decisions, and worship together.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and Bishop Mark Holmerud were in attendance to offer their wisdom and expertise on where we are as a church today and where we are looking to move forward in the future. Eaton invited us to participate in the ELCA process "Forward Together in Christ." You too can participate in this process: download the toolkit, watch a video with Bishop Eaton discussing this process, and learn more online by visiting www.elca.org/future. We would encourage you to check this information out if you are able.

We were treated to a Bible study led by a young man named Luke Hanson. He shared with us his experience as a Young Adult in Global Mission (YAGM) in Rwanda. Using the story of the Ethiopian eunuch, he shared that his faith was strongly influenced during his time in Rwanda. He thought he was going to be Philip and teach, instead he was the Ethiopian; he received the Gospel in a new way, then returned home rejoicing.

We attended a very interesting workshop on the upcoming 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. The ELCA has a website dedicated to celebratory events. Please check it out: www.elca500.org

There were elections of Council Members and several resolutions were passed. Our Synod Council District B Lay Female representative is Sherrill Hines, and the District 3 Dean Clergy representative is Pastor Leslie Welton from St. John's in Sacra-

mento. A complete list of all those elected can be found on the www.spselca.org website.

The following resolutions were passed:

- Resolution 2016-1, Regarding ELCA World Hunger
- Resolution 2016-2, Regarding Sierra Pacific Synod Compensation Guidelines
- Resolution 2016-3, Regarding Growth in Mission Support
- Resolution 2016-4, Regarding U.S. Aid to the State of Israel
- Resolution 2016-5, Regarding Corporate Social Responsibility in Palestine and Israel
- Resolution 2016-6, Regarding the Racial and Ethnic Ministries

For the full text of the resolutions, see the Assembly Handbook at www.spselca.org

The Assembly adopted a 2016-17 Budget which showed an anticipated total revenue of \$2,229,590 and expected expenses of \$2,432,998. In addition to the revenue, \$261,040 from a non-recurring sale of property will be applied toward the budget.

The Assembly approved changes to the Synod Constitution S9.04 that bring the bishop election process into compliance with the suggested process throughout the ELCA.

We thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the inner workings of our church and would love to be considered for attendance at the assembly in the future. We would also like to encourage other members to attend as well.

I think the main lesson we got out of the weekend was that we, as a congregation, need to be both welcoming and inviting to all people. We need to open our doors and hearts to people of every race, sex, ethnicity, and sexual orientation without prejudice. We Are Church Together.

In Christ,
Ed and Kirsten Ireton



SLY **St. Luke's Youth**

Summer is upon us! First, I wanted to extend congratulations to Daniel Encinas on his recent graduation from Army Basic Combat Training on June 10th. We are very proud of Daniel and wish him well in his future endeavors. Please remember to keep him and his family in your prayers.

We did not have a meeting in June, but we plan to meet on July 10th at noon to plan a couple of outings and a service project.

I also hope that SLY will consider attending the Wednesday evening Bible Studies and potlucks with their families. These studies are always interesting, and the food is great too!

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

School Supplies Drive

Please remember to bring your donations of school supplies to the church by July 31st.

Youth Service

If you have a need for work at your house, let our board know, and we will supply a youth to help.

Clothes for St. John's Shelter

Please bring women's and children's clothes and shoes to donate to St. John's Shelter. We are aware of a great need that is ongoing. There is a barrel in the office to put the donations in, and then we will deliver them to St. John's.

W-ELCA

Our annual Mega BUNCO event was held on Saturday, June 4th, and was a great success. We raised

about \$2200 toward W-ELCA's annual benevolence fund, which will be distributed in January. Many thanks go out to everyone who was able to attend, help, or donate in some way. Special thanks go to Peggy Moser, Katie Iniguez, Dorothy Haney, Linda Duffek, Sam Basquez, Larry Dockter, and the team of people who helped set up, clean up, and work in the kitchen. We collected items for the Sacramento SPCA.



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Drafts of the minutes from the Council Meetings are available in the office, posted on the bulletin board. They will be updated every month after the council meets. They are also available on the church website at <http://slelca.org/resources/>.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE CONGREGATION

Joe and Janette Payne—Planning to move to Corvallis, Oregon this summer.

Sarah Payne—Diagnosed with Adenocarcinoma. Tests and treatment options underway.

Stan Niemi—Recovering at Sutter Roseville Medical Center Rehab from a series of three strokes.

Daniel Encinas—Graduated from Army Basic Combat Training on June 10.

Robin Zoesch, Stella Loveless, Pat and Bill Lehman, Elsbeth Whitehurst, Duane Reule, Cliff Landaker, Rosie Johnson—Unable to attend worship regularly.

If you have an immediate prayer concern or want to be included in the E-prayer group, please email Pastor Carl at carlhoppman@gmail.com anytime.

HOLY BAPTISM

We welcome into the family of Christ:

Ryan Logan Edwards

Parents: Paul Edwards & Amanda Edwards

Sponsor: Wanda Alonzo

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. By water and the Holy Spirit, Ryan is a reborn child of God and a member of the church, the body of Christ.



Altar Flowers

- | | |
|---------|--|
| July 17 | Karen Linfor
In honor of Jerry's birthday |
| July 24 | Ron Webb
For Pat's birthday |
| July 31 | Kelly Boyer
For Mom's birthday |



Natalie Ley	July 1
Ken Lentsch	July 3
Bruce Kiser	July 5
Cliff Landaker	July 6
Bekka Roberts	July 7
Rosie Johnson	July 8
Steven Lee	July 17
Ronald Ley	July 19
Juanita Guilbeau	July 24
Al Boschee	July 26
Bob Janes	July 26
Pat Webb	July 27
Linda Olsen	July 28
Ron Zoesch	July 29

General Fund (Only) Contributions			
Data	This Month	Year to Date	
Total Contributions	\$18,505	\$93,722	
Compared to Budget	+\$2,423	+\$3,777	
	+15.1%	+4.2%	
Compared to 2015	-\$599	+\$3,051	
	-3.1%	+3.4%	
No. of Contributors			
2016 (Current Year)	93	91	avg.
2015 (Last Year)	93	89	avg.
Other Special Gifts			
Sunday School		\$39	
Flowers		\$80	
Memorials		\$925	
Special Gift (Confirmation Expense)		\$100	

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

May 2016

Comments:

- A five-Sunday month.
- Offerings, to date, are slightly over Budget and 2015 offerings.
- Please use **numbered** envelopes, if feasible.
- If you need numbered envelopes, either see me or drop a note in the offering.
- When using pew envelopes, please write your name and amount legibly, on the envelope.
- If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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

Jack Fenske
St. Luke's Financial Secretary



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Altar Care			Psalm Leaders
(8:15 a.m.)	Cheryl Franklin		July 3	Hannah Encinas
(10:30 a.m.)			July 10	Sierra Etchison
July 3	Triss Hoppman, Marlene Kiser		July 17	Amber Mansfield
July 10	Peggy Moser		July 24	Angie Martinez
July 17	Karen Linfor, Ben Briel		July 31	Lucy Orcutt
July 24	Lydia Toloy			
July 31	Steven Lee, Dave Saxby			
			July 3	Readers (8:15 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.)
			July 10	Christiana Wilson; Betty Englund
July 3	Communion Servers		July 17	Kelly Boyer; Tracy Etchison
	Connie Reule, Bob Behr,		July 24	Kathryn Felgenhauer; Mary F. Harris
	Mary F. Harris		July 31	Eric Linblade; Holly Hoppman
July 17	Kelly Boyer, Al Moser, Connie Reule			Sarah Madison; Triss Hoppman
July 31	David Saxby, Faith Thomas,			
	Howard Triebwasser			
			July 3	Refreshments
			July 10	Ed & Kirsten Ireton
July 3	Counters		July 17	Marc & Alison Thomas
	Nancy Minning, Connie Reule		July 24	Paul Maki, Chona Sison
July 10	Don Schell, Bob Behr		July 31	Kelly Boyer, Lois Sherrets
July 17	Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig			Jacob & Christiana Wilson
July 24	Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser			
July 31	Carolyn Andrews, Jack Fenske			
	Micki Fenske		July 3	Visitors' Gifts
			July 10	Pauline Arndt
			July 17	Carolyn Andrews
July 3	Greeters		July 24	Linda Olsen
	Steven Lee		July 31	Carole Vance
July 10	Linda Olsen			Joyce Jensen
July 17	Paul & Sande Heaton			
July 24	<i>(needed)</i>			
July 31	<i>(needed)</i>		July 3	Welcome Leaders
			July 10	Carolyn Andrews
			July 17	Pauline Arndt
8:15 a.m.	Head Ushers		July 24	Mary Frances Harris
	Ron Franklin		July 31	Ron Zoesch
10:30 a.m.	Lydia Toloy			Pat Webb
July 3	Prayer Leaders		July 3	Sunday School Teachers
	Alison Thomas		July 10	Lauren Orcutt, Christina Hisamoto
July 10	Faith Thomas		July 17	Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez
July 17	Judy Saxby		July 24	Alison Thomas, Lajuan Andrews
July 24	David Saxby		July 31	Samantha Basquez, Laura Tice
July 31	Lauren Orcutt			Alison Thomas, Debi Lentsch

*Thanks
for
Serving!*



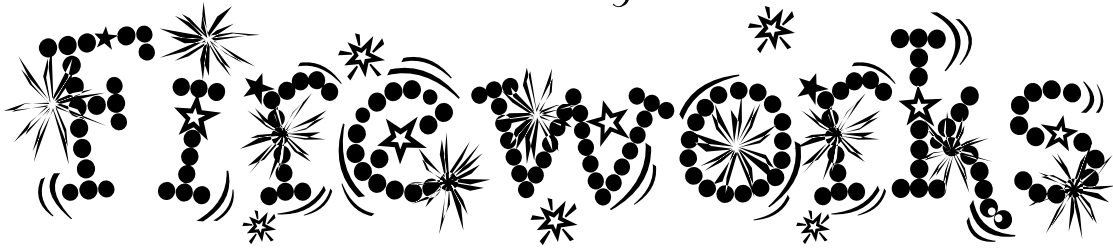
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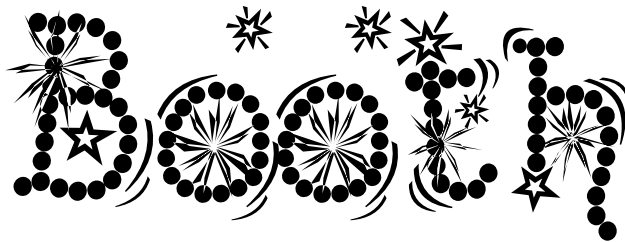
Return Service Requested

«Head of House» «Last Name» «Spouse»
«Address»
«City» «Zip»

Come on out and join us!



Corner of Mack Road
and Valley Hi Drive



(in the Food Source
parking lot)

