



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

News And Views



Pastoral Perspective



We like to feel successful. We like people to respect us and acknowledge our efforts. We get the feeling that we are successful when we get a raise or a good grade or win in some competitive game. If we can string enough successes together, we can think of our-

selves as pretty great.

This desire to be successful can naturally become a part of our lives as followers of Jesus. We want the Lord to respect us for what good workers we are. We want him and others to acknowledge our efforts on His behalf. If we do enough for the Lord, we can begin to think of ourselves as pretty great.

This attitude can cause us problems in our relationship with the Lord. God might have to have a talk with us. "This is all well and good," He'll say, "but you have sort of missed the point. The reason it is important for you to do all the things you do to show my love for others is because I love them. When you do anything for others in the name of my Son, you are doing my work in the world. You have to get beyond yourself to be really successful in this work. Then anything you do, even the seemingly little things, are always successful in extending my kingdom of love.

"You see, I love you. I received you long ago when

my Son died on the cross for you. Because of that there isn't anything to come between us except that you sometimes misunderstand what that means. My Son's death and resurrection means that you are accepted, I give you new life in my love. When you do something in His name, you are doing it with the realization and trust that He will make that action meaningful. Then you aren't trying to prove yourself as great. Instead, you are simply helping to further my kingdom of love."

"I guess that makes sense," we will reply, "but how am I supposed to feel successful? How can I know whether I've won or lost?"

Then God will certainly respond, "Who do you think you are? I formed you out of dust. I preserve you. Any worth you have is because of me. You know you've won because my Son won. He suffered and died for you. You couldn't possibly have gone through what He did without cracking and forsaking me. If you want to feel successful, how about this—alleviate all the hunger, injustice, inhumanity, hatred, and suffering in the world!"

"I can't do that!" we will proclaim.

"Now you're beginning to understand," God will explain. "I know you can't. But you can share my love with those around you. You can participate in some ways that will help alleviate some of the hunger, injustice, inhumanity, hatred, and suffering in

the world.”

“That’s what I told you in the beginning I was doing,” we will say.

“Right,” God will respond, “but you were doing things with the idea of earning my respect and acknowledgment so you would feel successful. I want you to realize that success is in my hands. When you share my love in the name of my Son, you are beyond being concerned about whether you are successful. You give the results to me. Believe me, I will win!”

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl

ST. LUKE’S LUTHERAN CHURCH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM: “CONFIRMED IN THE WORD”

I am very excited about the Confirmation material, “Confirmed In The Word.” In two school years, it will give your student a solid undergirding of Biblical faith for life. This school year (September—May), we will consider the Old Testament in depth by discussing about seventy Old Testament passages. Next school year, we will consider the New Testament in depth by discussing about seventy New Testament passages.

I will lead the discussion each Sunday from 12 to 12:45 PM in the Youth Room (the room behind Schultz Hall). We will usually discuss two passages each Sunday. I will email the material to be discussed beforehand for those who would like to consider it ahead and for those who



Confirmation
C L A S S E S

will be missing the next class session. If a student misses a class session, I will count on a parent or mentor to discuss the material missed with the student and sign the discussion sheet so I can be assured each student has discussed each unit.

At the end of the second school year, those students who have discussed all the units in class or with a parent or mentor will be eligible for Confirmation. Confirmation is a very special event when each student states publically that he or she desires and promises to make the faith in which they have been brought up theirs for life. It is accompanied by the blessing of the Holy Spirit and a celebration by the congregation.

All 6th graders and above are invited to take part in this program. They don’t have to be members of St. Luke’s to take part. Please contact me for more information and registration material. Classes will start Sunday, September 18.

Pastor Carl



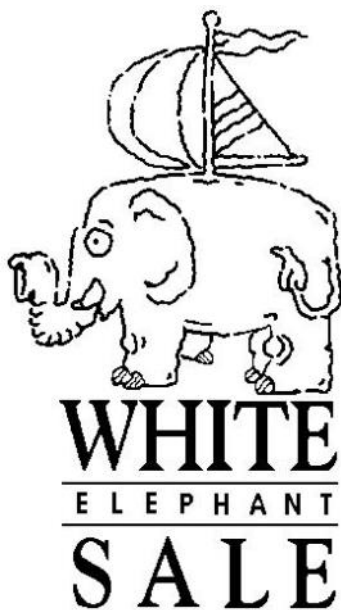
FALL FESTIVAL

Our next big event is just around the Corner! Our Annual Fall Festival and Family Fun Day will be Saturday, October 1st, 2016, from 8am-2pm. Mark your calendars and plan to come and hang out with us for the morning!

We’ll be serving breakfast and lunch throughout the day. Visit our White Elephant booth to find some treasures you never knew you needed! Stop by the Crafter’s Corner for some handmade crafted items that make great gifts for the coming holidays. Find a good book or two to get into this fall at our Books and Plants booth. Then head over to the Country Store for some yummy homemade fresh-

baked treats!

If you're interested in renting a space yourself, see Peggy Moser for all the details. If you have items to donate for the White Elephant sale, please bring them to the overflow room by the last Sunday in September. We would greatly appreciate your help the last week of September sorting through all the donated items. Look for sign-up sheets on the opportunity table to help out!! If you have any questions, ask Carol Carney or Judy Saxby. Do you have a talent for baking?? We'd love for you to make something delicious for the Country Store. Items for the Country Store can be brought to the church office during office hours on Thursday, September 29th, or contact Connie Reule to arrange to bring the items another day. For all other inquiries, please contact Holly Hoppman or email welca@slelca.org.



SEPTEMBER 11 SERVICE

Sunday, September 11, 2016, is the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Twin Towers in New York in which so many police and firefighters lost their lives saving others. On that day, ELCA congregations throughout the nation will be focusing on First Responders.

Here at St. Luke's we would like to take this oppor-

tunity to honor the First Responders in our congregational family. First Responders are those who are first at the scene of a crisis, including police, sheriff deputies, Highway Patrol, other law enforcement personnel, firefighters, search and rescue personnel, members of the National Guard, emergency medical technicians and emergency room personnel, mental health crisis intervention workers, chaplains, and any others who are first at the scene in an emergency.

We wish to honor both those actively serving and retired, both paid and volunteers, as well as their families, at the 10:30 service on September 11. We are asking that you submit the names of these individuals in our congregational family and their affiliations; drop a note in the offering or call the church office (421-5039) by September 6.

CONGREGATIONAL BBQ PICNIC SEPTEMBER 11

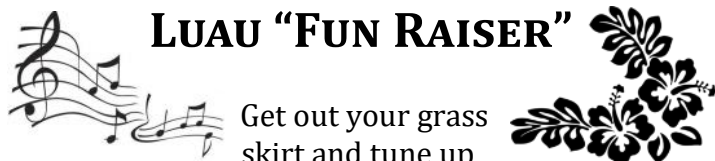
The Evangelism Board hosts the picnic and provides hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments (mayo, ketchup, mustard, and pickle relish). Walt and Pauline Arndt will bring the tomatoes, lettuce, and onions from the Farmers Market. Those attending will be encouraged to bring a salad to share.

Everyone who plans to attend is asked to use the sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Table so we can be sure to have enough seating and shade for all.

Help will be needed on Saturday September 10th at 9:30 to set up tables, chairs, and canopies in the courtyard. Also we will need help for clean up after the BBQ, including tak-



ing down the canopies, putting away the tables and chairs, and cleaning the kitchen.



LUAU “FUN RAISER”

Get out your grass skirt and tune up

your ukulele. The annual Worship and Music Luau will be on the evening of Saturday September 17, with fantastic food, fun activities, and fabulous prizes. The doors open at 5:00 p.m. for games and fellowship. Dinner, featuring Hawaiian-style food, begins around 6:15 p.m. Following dinner is a dessert auction. You and your family and friends can pool your resources to bid on delicious desserts to share at your table or take home.

Entertainment will be provided by the chancel choir and the bell choir. Tickets are \$5 for children 3 to 12 and \$15 for 13 and up. Children under 3 are free. Tickets are available from members of the Board of Worship and Music.

PSALM STUDY DISCUSSION GROUPS, STARTING SEPTEMBER 11

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 handle.



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 expres-

sions of feeling 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 allow it to speak to us and help us speak honestly to God and to 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 two groups. One will meet on Sundays from 9:15 to 10:00 a.m. in room 3 of the education wing. The other will meet on Tuesdays from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. in the church office conference room. A signup sheet is available on the opportunity table in the narthex (church entryway), or you can call the church office to sign up (421-5039). The groups will start meeting on Sunday, September 11, and Tuesday, September 13. We will start this fall with Psalm 66. If you have questions or would like to take part but can’t make it to either of the scheduled groups, please let me know.

Pastor Carl

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

We’re excited to begin our fall program year coming out of this summer. It was great to see so much support for the local schools this year with the backpack drive. As we head into September, W-ELCA will have a general meeting on Saturday, September 10th. You are invited to join us for a board-hosted brunch! We will be collecting wipes, diapers, and household paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, etc.) to support the Valley Hi Family Resource Center (FRC).

The Sacramento Children’s Home operates three Family FRCs that are community based and have a “no wrong door policy,” which means that they will never turn away



a family in need. The Valley Hi Family Resource center provides FREE services to community families through programs like Crisis Intervention, Birth & Beyond Home Visitation, and Effective Parenting Workshops. The Valley Hi Family Resource Center is located close to St. Luke's and we are excited to support an organization that helps build strong families, ensuring they receive the necessary resources and support they need. For more information about the Valley Hi Family Resource Center visit www.kidshome.org or check out their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/valleyhifamilyresourcecenter.

SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG

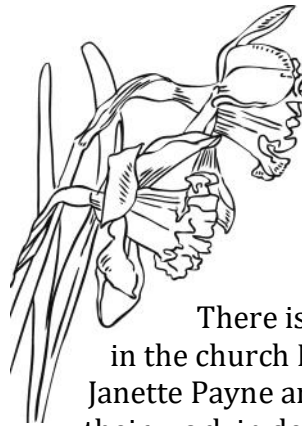


If you like to sing, you are invited to join the Chancel choir this fall. No previous experience is required. There are no auditions and you don't need to know how to read music. The choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m., and performs

on Sunday mornings at the 10:30 worship service.

Choir practice resumes Wednesday, September 7, in the choir loft. Sunday mornings, the choir gathers at 10:00 a.m. for rehearsal of the piece for the day. We are blessed to have Brooke Barr for our Music Director. She is good-humored, patient, and persistent, as well as an excellent accompanist.

If you know a child who likes to sing, encourage them to join the Children's choir. They meet on the second and fourth Sundays for 20 minutes after church in Room 2 of the Education wing. Judy Saxby is their enthusiastic leader.



FLOWER CHART

There is a beautiful new flower chart in the church Narthex. Many thanks to Janette Payne and Jack and Micki Fenske for their work in designing, constructing, and installing it.

If you would like to give flowers for worship to honor someone or remember a special occasion, please select the date, then write in your name, the name of the person you want to remember, and the event (or "To the Glory of God"). The flowers will be ordered for you for the selected date and delivered by the florist. As the year progresses, the sign-up sheets will be updated for the coming year so you can always have the opportunity to reserve that special date.

You may take your flowers after worship if you like. Please pick them up in the Altar Guild room (behind the choir loft) at the conclusion of the 10:30 service. If you prefer to have your flowers taken to members or friends of the congregation who are sick or shut-in, leave them and they will be taken to the church office for delivery the following week.

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





Annual Summer Root Beer and Orange Soda Floats



It was a beautiful day for root beer and orange soda floats, and everyone enjoyed this wonderful treat. I would like to thank Pat Webb, Joyce Jensen, Pauline Arndt, Laura Sondrini, Kelly Boyer, Carolyn Andrews, Lois Sherrets, Linda Olsen, Walt Arndt, and Mary Harris for helping make this a great event. We have extra bottles of root beer and orange soda and will serve them on Sundays with the after-service refreshments.

THANK YOU MR. FIREWORKS

In the August issue of the News & Views, Larry Dockter posted an interesting and detailed article on the 17th annual Fireworks Sale fundraiser. Again this year, our sales broke records, and nearly \$10,000 was raised. As most of you are aware, all the money raised is used to maintain and improve St. Luke's facilities. Without these funds, the St. Luke's facilities would quickly fall into disrepair and sooner or later become unusable (e.g., one year, a main water line had to be repaired).

However, Larry left out part of the story. And that is his continuing dedication and knowledge devoted to this effort. Larry has been chair of the Fireworks Committee for many recent years. As chair, not only does Larry take a week off from his day job to spend seven 12-hour days in the hot sun, he

also attends pre- and post-sale meetings, arranges for transporting the fireworks, supervises pre- and post-sale inventories, and ensures there is sufficient help to meet the needs, including safety needs.

Larry has three equally dedicated individuals to assist him: Dorothy Haney, Peggy Moser, and Ron Webb. This steady group of four ensures that the fireworks fundraiser is a success each year, as it was once again this year.

Thus, on behalf of the congregation, the Property Board sends a big THANK YOU to Larry, Dorothy, Peggy, and Ron for their enduring dedication to this invaluable fundraiser effort.

This article would be incomplete if it did not note that the Fireworks Sale (as well as the Crab Feed fundraiser) was originated by Jennifer and Phillip Connell, some 17 years ago. At that time, Phillip was chair of the Property Board, and he quickly discovered there was not sufficient money available to complete the needed repairs. He also noted that the facilities were aging and falling into disrepair. So, the Connells adopted the fundraiser ideas utilized at their daughter's school and initiated St. Luke's fireworks and crab feed efforts to raise the needed funds. And the rest is history.

Thus, on behalf of the congregation, the Property Board also thanks Jennifer and Phillip for envisioning and implementing the Fireworks Sales to resolve an ongoing funding issue. From those humble beginnings, the gross fireworks sales have grown from a "hopeful" level of \$10,000 to the current level of \$30,000.

St. Luke's Property Board,
Kelly Boyer, Chairperson



THANK YOU PAINTER JUSTIN

On behalf of the congregation, the Property Board thanks Justin Tice for painting the windows, doors, and trim on the sanctuary side of the narthex-sanctuary doorway, at no cost. During the recent narthex remodeling project, the need for this painting was not realized, until the double doors were opened – exposing the old, soiled paint on the Sanctuary side to the freshly painted Narthex. Justin's day job is a professional painter. He and his partner own E & J Painting Professionals. E & J has completed several painting jobs for St. Luke's, and the Board can attest to their quality of work. Again, thank you for the nice work, Justin.



St. Luke's Property Board,
Kelly Boyer, Chairperson

Summer Service Project

Many thanks to everyone who came out and helped with this year's school supply drive for our local elementary schools. Your generosity was in abundance this year. We collected over 3500 individual items for Charles Mack and Parkway Elementary

schools, so thank you to everyone who donated throughout this summer.

On Sunday, August 7th, we had 36 people come together to fill each of the 102 backpacks with a binder, filler paper, pocket folder, spiral notebooks, a ruler, scissors, pencils, pens, highlighters, crayons, pencil sharpeners, erasers, glue sticks, and snacks. The remaining 800 plus items were divided between the two schools along with Kleenex, copy paper, and other supplies for the teachers' use in the classroom. Finally, thanks to Al Moser and Mack Vance for delivering all the supplies to the schools!

Your generous giving is a shining example of how we live our mission in every way.





STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

On August 21, we dedicated two new stained glass windows the narthex (church entryway). They will greet worshipers as they enter for worship and leave for service.

Luther's Rose Window

Dedicated in loving memory of
Art and Vi Gibson



Trinity Window

Dedicated in loving memory of
Alex and Esther Becker





Jesus took Bill Lehman home to be with Him in the heavenly kingdom on August 21. Please give thanks for the life of this caring and loving man and for the new life he has with His Lord and those who have gone before him. Please pray for the family as they share together, that they are uplifted and encouraged in the Lord's love.

A memorial service for Bill will be held at St. Luke's on Saturday, September 24th, at 1 p.m. The family has requested that the reception includes birthday cake (with balloons on it), ice cream (vanilla and butter pecan), cookies, and fruit. They would like for it to be a birthday celebration as Bill would have been 84 on that day. You are invited to come and celebrate!

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 CONCERNS?

A prayer concerns sheet is now available in the Narthex on the Opportunity Table. Please feel free to write down any prayer requests you want to share with our congregation. Pastor Carl will include them in the prayers during the service.

DIRECTORY UPDATE



ALTAR FLOWERS

- Sept. 11 Jerry and Carol Carney
For their 57th wedding anniversary
- Sept. 18 Ron and Pat Webb
For Kevin's birthday
- Sept. 25 Micki Fenske
For Jack's 78th birthday



BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

- Marlene Kiser September 2
- Pauline Arndt September 7
- Barbara Manlapig September 7
- Iva Bates September 13
- Noella Sondrini September 21
- Luella Tice September 23
- Anthony Diaz September 24
- Mildred Franklin September 25
- Helen Fischer September 30
- Lynn Gavia September 30

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

July 2016

Comments:

- July is a five Sunday month.
- Year-to-date totals are slightly above the Budget and 2015 offerings; i.e., on target.
- When feasible, use numbered envelopes. Thanks.
- 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.

Jack Fenske
St. Luke's Financial Secretary

General Fund (Only) Contributions		
Data	This Month	Year to Date
Total Contributions	\$19,001	\$131,187
Compared to Budget	\$812	\$5,641
	4.5%	4.5%
Compared to 2015	\$2,960	\$6,842
	18.5%	5.5%
No. of Contributors		
2016 (Current Year)	87	89 avg.
2015 (Last Year)	86	90 avg.
Other Special Gifts		
Sunday School		\$20
Flowers		\$160
Memorials		\$635
Meyer Donation*		\$131,590

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

**See article in the August News & Views.*



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care

(8:15 a.m.) Cheryl Franklin
 (10:30 a.m.)
 Sept. 4 Jennifer Connell, Rachel Kiser
 Sept. 11 Faith Thomas
 Sept. 18 Connie Reule, Nancy Minning
 Sept. 25 Jennifer Connell

Communion Servers

Sept. 4 Connie Reule, Kelly Boyer,
 Betty Englund
 Sept. 18 Al Moser, Faith Thomas, Dave Saxby

Counters

Sept. 4 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
 Sept. 11 Don Schell, Bob Behr
 Sept. 18 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
 Sept. 25 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser

Greeters

Sept. 4 Laura Sondrini, Mack Vance
 Sept. 11 Steven Lee, Carole Edwards
 Sept. 18 (Needed)
 Sept. 25 (Needed)

Refreshments

Sept. 4 Ed & Kristen Ireton
 Sept. 11 Congregational BBQ Picnic
 Sept. 18 Paul Maki, Chona Sison
 Sept. 25 Kelly Boyer, Lois Sherrets

Visitors' Gifts

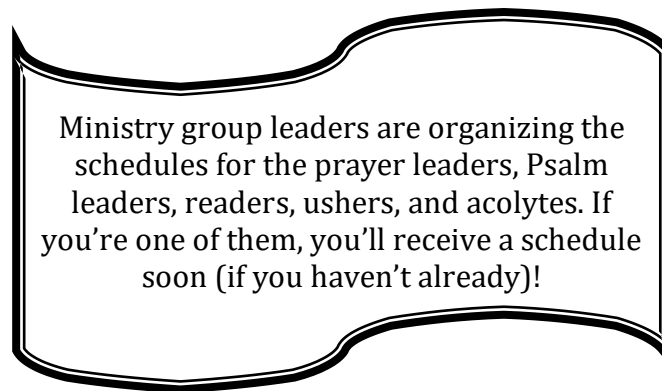
Sept. 4 Carolyn Andrews
 Sept. 11 Steven Lee
 Sept. 18 Linda Olsen
 Sept. 25 Walt Arndt

Welcome Leaders

Sept. 4 Ron Zoesch
 Sept. 11 Pat Webb
 Sept. 18 Chet Madison
 Sept. 25 Carolyn Andrews

Sunday School Teachers

Sept. 4 Lauren Orcutt, Christina Hisamoto
 Sept. 11 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez
 Sept. 18 Alison Thomas, Lajuan Andrews
 Sept. 25 Samantha Basquez, Laura Tice





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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 739
Sacramento, CA

Return Service Requested

«Label Name 1»
«Address Line 1», «Address Line 2»
«City», «State» «Zip Code (5-digit)»



September 11 Service

Honoring First Responders

On the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers, St. Luke's wants to honor the First Responders in our congregational family. If you or a family member is a first responder—whether actively serving or retired, paid or volunteer—please let us know!

Thank you!