



St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
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# News And Views



## Pastoral Perspective



2017 is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther—the great reformer—nailed 95 theses (or points for discussion) on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Have they ever been discussed over the last 500 years!

During this anniversary year, we are invited to consider and recommit ourselves to our basic beliefs and faith practices as Christians. And here at St. Luke's, we will have several special opportunities to be re-formed around the center of our faith, Jesus Christ. The first opportunity will be our Lenten devotions and Midweek Lenten services. Our Lenten devotions will focus on Luther's Small Catechism. The editors of this devotional booklet, *Free Indeed*, write in their welcome:

Martin Luther wrote his small Catechism for the home, so that parents could explain the most important things in the Christian faith to their children. He prepared brief explanations of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the sacraments of baptism and communion.... *Free Indeed* brings Luther's Small Catechism into your home.... Each day features a reading from the catechism, accompanied by an evocative image, a quotation to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer.

Copies of *Free Indeed* are available on the opportunity table in the church entryway.

Our Midweek Lenten services will begin Ash Wednesday, March 1. We will enjoy a soup supper together at 6:00 p.m. and then have a special Holy Communion service, beginning with the imposition of ashes. Then, for the next five Wednesdays, we will have a soup supper followed by a drama considering the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and finally, Holy Communion.

My prayer is that through these special activities, we will gain deeper insights about our primary beliefs and practices as Christians and be re-formed around our Lord Jesus Christ.

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with You,  
Pastor Carl

## WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is the liturgical season leading up to Easter; it is a time when God calls us to reflect on the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection.

Lent was originally modeled after the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. In



a similar way, Lent is a time for us to reflect, repent, and pray as a way of preparing our hearts for Easter.

Some people choose to observe the season by a type of fasting, such as giving up a food or drink or a habit, like drinking soda or watching television. Others add a religious activity or practice, like spending extra time in prayer, acts of service or volunteering, or following a Lenten devotional. (You can find this year's Lenten devotional and offering cards on the opportunity table!) This fasting or practice is continued for 40 days, starting on Ash Wednesday and ending on Easter Sunday. Sundays are excluded, however, because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter"—a celebration of new life, hope, and salvation—so the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

Here at St. Luke's, we observe the season as a congregation through our weekly soup suppers and Lenten services, as well as special services for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday (which is also a Passover feast), and Good Friday. And 40 days after Ash Wednesday (Sundays excluded), we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the grave on the glorious Sunday of Easter.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1, soup 6 p.m., service 7 p.m.

To mark the beginning of the Lenten season, we will come together on Ash Wednesday to share a delicious soup supper in Schultz Hall at 6 p.m. Afterwards, at 7 p.m., we will head over to the Sanctuary for a special Ash Wednesday Holy Communion Service.

The imposition of ashes – when you receive ashes in the sign of the cross on your forehead – sets the tone for Lent. Each



moment you encounter your reflection, your ashes are a striking reminder that “you are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19b). But the cross, a symbol of Jesus' crucifixion, offers hope, reminding us that Good Friday and Easter are on the way.

## LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Lenten soup suppers and worship services begin on Ash Wednesday, March 1, and continue every Wednesday through April 5. The Evangelism Board coordinates which boards or groups will host each soup supper with soups, bread, and desserts, as well as managing set-up and clean-up. The Ash Wednesday soup supper is always hosted by W-ELCA.



But we are always happy for people to bring food, too! A sign-up sheet is on the opportunity table in the Narthex, so we know how many people will bring food. Every year, we look forward to the delicious array of different soups provided.

The soup suppers begin at 6 p.m., followed by a drama at 6:30. This year's dramas focus on the five main parts of Luther's Small Catechism: the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and finally, Holy Communion.

## LENTEN COIN FOLDERS

The Lenten Coin Offering Cards are a special devotional practice that encourages you to focus each day on the self-giving love of Jesus for you. You are invited to place a quarter in the card slot each day of Lent, and then place the filled card in the special basket provided during Holy Week. The cards are available on the opportunity table in the church entryway.

The offerings received go into the pastoral assistance fund, so that I am able to help folks in the church and community at their points of need. Each

year, we receive several hundred dollars through these devotional cards. The offerings given really do make a difference in the lives of folks in our church and community. Thank you.

Pastor Carl

## CRAB FEED

Last chance to get your Crab Feed tickets! We're looking forward to seeing you at this year's annual Crab Feed on Saturday March 4th! Put on your best pirate outfit and join in on a night of all-you-can-eat crab, raffles, and fun!

## NEW SECRETARY NEEDED



I'm having a baby! And so I am retiring from the church office. It has been a wonderful job, and I'm so grateful for everyone's support and encouragement. I've truly enjoyed working here and I'm sad to leave the position, but I know it's the right choice for me and my family. And I'll still be involved in St. Luke's in plenty of other ways.

The office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:45 a.m. through 12:30 p.m. The secretary's duties include making the bulletins every week, putting together the News & Views every month, updating the parish register, keeping the facilities calendar, answering the phones and emails, greeting people who walk into the office, etc. It's not too challenging, and it's very rewarding.

I'll be stepping down after Easter. Call the office (421-5039) or talk to me or Pastor Carl to find out more about the position. See Pastor Carl for an official application, and please submit your application by the end of March.

Lauren Orcutt  
St. Luke's Secretary

**Church  
Secretary**



## MEMBERS NEEDED FOR NEW EDUCATION BOARD, YOUTH BOARD



As the new year begins with some new board leaders, a few of us are looking for new members to join our efforts.

If you are interested in helping to build a path for our young adults and are over 18 or have completed Confirmation, please contact Laura or Samantha—we need your help to get this new program to reach its full potential!

The Education Board is starting completely anew and currently has no members other than the chairperson (Lauren Orcutt). This board overlooks Sunday School, Confirmation, and the adult Bible studies. All of those programs are running smoothly, so our job is mostly to support and encourage, as well as coming up with new ideas if any are needed in the future. Contact me at if you are interested or have any questions.

I encourage you to consider joining one of these boards to support some of St. Luke's most important ministries! The only requirements are to understand the board's duties, participate in the board's activities as you are able, and attend monthly board meetings (or inform the chairperson when you can't). Your help and participation would be quite appreciated and valued.

## WINTER SANCTUARY

On March 26, we are hosting Winter Sanctuary, a rotating winter shelter for adults experiencing homelessness in the Sacramento region. W-ELCA will provide a nice hot dinner. W-ELCA is also pre-

paring toiletry kits, and SLY is making sack lunches. The Sacramento Youth Band will play some live jazz.

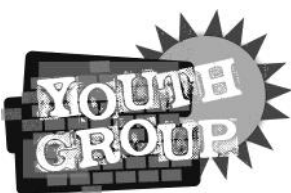
In the coming weeks, we'll be looking for volunteers to support Winter Sanctuary by helping with meals and socializing with the participants, a very important part of this ministry.

## ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

The SLY group thanks Kirsten Ireton for her guidance and dedication to the youth group and each member for the last several years. Hoping to follow in her footsteps, Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez, and Kelly Boyer are the new co-leaders of SLY and are excited to step into this new role. On December 16, 2016, several members of SLY spent a fun filled night in Schultz Hall, planning and gathering ideas to direct SLY for the upcoming year.

A year of building. "Go up to the mountains, bring wood and rebuild the temple, that I may be pleased with it and be glorified"-Haggai 1:8. The members of SLY have many excellent suggestions for how to serve our Lord and Savior, our church, and our community. Members of the group have requested that meetings include lessons and Bible studies to further our knowledge and relationships with the Lord Jesus Christ and ourselves. A survey will be distributed through email for current members of SLY to decide upon the best meeting times and format for our meetings.

Many fundraising ideas came to light, including expanding on the fall sales of pumpkin bread by selling a baked good for Easter, and having SLY members provide child care during church events. The youth will once again be manning the soda and dessert stands for this year's Crab Feed.



Participating in many types of community services was also proposed by SLY members. Helping with the Winter

Sanctuary, visiting nursing homes, and connecting with other community services organizations are just a few of the thoughtful ideas presented by the youth.

Samantha and Laura are also very excited to begin bringing back the Youth Loft as a place for SLY to connect and even as a place for future meetings and Confirmation classes.

The SLY Group Board is looking for more board members. If you are interested in helping to build a path for our young adults and are over 18 or have completed Confirmation, please contact Laura or Samantha. We need your help to get this new program to reach its full potential!

## DINERS' GROUPS

All those who signed up for the Diners' Groups have been notified as to which group they have been placed. They are now ready to share a meal or activity of their choice for the months of February, March, and April. This year, we have several individuals that would like to be included from time to time. We are looking forward to making new friends and enjoying great fellowship.

## WOMEN OF THE ELCA

The Women of the ELCA celebrated Valentine's Day with a group of 26 in February. We enjoyed a quiche and salad lunch, a few activities, and announcements. The women collected snacks and toiletry items for our Winter Sanctuary guests coming in March.

Next month we will be hosting a potato bar for all those interested in joining us on Saturday, March 11th. In lieu of a normal meeting after lunch we will be working on a service project, putting together all of the items we collect for Winter Sanctuary. We are still in need of the



following items: adult socks, small toiletries (body wash, mouth wash, shampoo, lotion, soap, toothpaste, hand wipes), and individually packaged snacks (bottles of water, hard wrapped candies, packets of nuts, instant coffee, cheese or peanut butter and crackers, raisins).

In addition, we will be taking a collection for the Kiwanis Family House at our March meeting. We need: Household products and hotel-size toiletries like shampoo, soap, etc. • Hand-held electric hair dryers • Alarm clocks • New pillows (for twin beds) • Bath towels (white, 30"x52"), Hand towels (white, 16"x30"), Wash cloths (white) • Disinfectant wipes • Liquid dish soap (for hand-washing dishes) • Powdered laundry detergent • Unscented liquid fabric softener (NO DRYER SHEETS) • Non-latex nitrile disposable gloves, sizes M and L • Paper plates, cups and bowls )

You are invited to join us for the soup supper on Ash Wednesday, which we are hosting. Later in the month, join us for Winter Sanctuary as we host approximately 100 homeless on the night of Sunday, March 26th. Hope to see you there!

## DEATH IN OUR CONGREGATION

Mildred Franklin, Ron Franklin's mother and Cheryl Franklin's mother-in-law, died on February 1, 2017. She was a faithful member of our congregation for many years. We give thanks for her long and loving life among us and the new life she has for eternity with the Lord in the heavenly kingdom. Please pray for Ron, Cheryl, and their family during this difficult time of grief. A graveside service was held on February 10.

**Given by:**

*March 5*



## ALTAR FLOWERS

Howard Triebwasser  
In memory of his wife, Pearl

*March 12*

Bruce and Karen Kiser  
For their 42nd anniversary

*March 19*

Jerry and Carol Carney  
For all of God's blessings

*March 26*

~ Needed ~

Note: We like to have two altar flower dedications each Sunday, so there is an empty space or two for all Sundays in March. We purchase two bouquets every Sunday, regardless of how many people sign up, so it is very helpful when St. Luke's congregants help fund this beautiful part of the Sunday morning altar. The sign-up chart is in the entryway, and the cost is \$20 per bouquet.

Corey An-



# MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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## March 1

Selena Connell	March 5
Monica Willoughby	March 5
Jennifer Connell	March 6
Renee Roberts	March 6
Laura Tice	March 7
Kevin Kiser	March 9
Ruth Jones	March 10
Ben Bates	March 13
Sarah Thomas	March 13
Sarah Madison	March 16
Mackenzie Harrison	March 17
Inge Marchuk	March 18
Manny Menezes	March 21
Jan Tanaka	March 22
Emma Kiser	March 23
Irma Lowe	March 23
David Saxby	March 23
Kimiya Ricciardi	March 24
Norene Schell	March 24
Bob Harrison	March 26
Al Moser	March 26
Elizabeth Ward	March 27
Karen Kiser	March 28
John Johnsen	March 29
Patricia Lehman	March 29
Bob Behr	March 30
Kelly Sobkowsky	March 30

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

January 2017

### Comments:

- January was a five Sunday month – three of which were stormy.
- Despite the stormy weather, the offerings met the Budget. Hurrah!
- Annual statements for 2016 were distributed in January 2017. If you have any question regarding your statement, please do not hesitate to contact

me.

- Please use numbered envelopes, when feasible. Thank you.
- If you need numbered envelopes, either see me or drop a note in the offering.
- When using pew envelopes, please write legibly. Thanks.
- 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	
<b>Total Contributions</b>	\$17,503	\$17,503	
<b>Compared to Budget</b>	\$28	\$28	
	0.2%	0.2%	
<b>Compared to 2015</b>	-\$1,853	-\$1,853	
	-9.6%	-9.6%	
No. of Contributors			
<b>2017</b> (Current Year)	84	84	avg.
<b>2016</b> (Last Year)	88	88	avg.
Other Special Gifts			
Sunday School		\$20	
Flowers		\$80	
Memorials		\$300	
Special Gift		\$150	

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

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**Altar Care**  
(8:15 a.m.) Cheryl Franklin  
(10:30 a.m.)

March 1 Carol Carney, Faith Thomas  
March 5 Karen Linfor, Mary F. Harris  
March 12 Peggy Moser  
March 19 Lydia Toloy, Kelly Boyer  
March 26 Brenda Sulzmann

**Communion Servers**  
March 1 Lydia Toloy, Karen Linfor,  
Pat Hamilton  
March 5 Kirsten Ireton, Mary Francis Harris,  
Howard Triebwasser  
March 19 Lydia Toloy, Karen Linfor,  
Pat Hamilton

**Counters**  
March 5 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule  
March 12 Don Schell, Bob Behr  
March 19 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig  
March 26 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser

**Greeters**  
March 5 *Needed*  
March 12 Jerry & Carol Carney  
March 19 Sande & Paul Heaton  
March 26 *Needed*

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

**Prayer Leaders**  
March 1 Ken Lentsch  
March 5 Peggy Moser  
March 12 Tracy Etchison  
March 19 Bob Behr  
March 26 Vivian Blazic

**Psalm Leaders**  
March 1 Amber Mansfield  
March 5 Angie Martinez  
March 12 Lucy Orcutt  
March 19 Aiyana Tice

March 26 Sierra Etchison

**Readers** (8:15 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.)  
March 1 Barbara Manlapig  
March 5 Sarah Madison; Mary F. Harris  
March 12 Phil Petersen; Mary Frances Harris  
March 19 Lydia Toloy; Al Moser  
March 26 Ron Webb; John Orcutt

**Refreshments**  
March 5 Ed & Kirsten Ireton  
March 12 Marc & Alison Thomas  
March 19 Paul Maki & Chona Sison  
March 26 Kelly Boyer & Lois Sherrets

**Visitors' Gifts**  
March 5 Laura Sondrini  
March 12 Carole Vance  
March 19 Carol Carney  
March 26 *Needed*

**Acolytes**  
March 5 Darnell Osako, LaRayna Osako-Cain  
March 12 Aiyana Tice  
March 19 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez  
March 26 Lucy Orcutt, Kimiya Ricciardi

**Welcome Leaders**  
March 5 Mary F. Harris  
March 12 Pat Webb  
March 19 Chet Madison  
March 26 Lydia Toloy

**Sunday School Teachers**  
March 5 Lauren Orcutt, Christina Hisamoto  
March 12 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez  
March 19 Alison Thomas, Lajuan Andrews  
March 26 Samantha Basquez, Laura Tice



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

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## Wednesday Soup Suppers & Lent Services



Starting March 1 (Ash Wednesday), through April 5

Soup supper starts at 6 p.m.,  
followed by a drama about Luther's Small Catechism  
at 6:30 p.m.

