



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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 Pastor Carl Hoppman
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News And Views



Pastoral Perspective



"Then Jesus said to them, 'Don't be afraid...'" -Matthew 28:10

The women at the empty tomb are filled with fear from what they experience that first Easter morning. The angel at the tomb and later Jesus himself tell them not to be afraid.

Why? Quite simply, because there is nothing to be afraid of. Death is conquered. Christ is risen. The victory is won! Those who believe in Him have nothing to fear.

Don't be afraid. Rather, live a new life in Christ. Paul exhorts us in Colossians 3:1-3: *"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."* If you have been caught up in the magnificent Easter conquest of the power of death, then focus your life on the One who can keep you from living and dying in fear.



In the risen Christ is freedom from debilitating fear. We have nothing to be afraid of because we have already died and been given new life in Christ. The

risen Christ makes it possible to get beyond our petty and pointless grasping at life on our own. We don't have to be hoodwinked into thinking that if we can just get that new thing or situation or circumstance in life, we will really be alive, we'll really have it made. When we think this way, we set ourselves up to live in fear—fear of not getting it or losing it once we do. This old, grasping, frightened self doesn't need to be any more. We are alive **now** in Christ. No one can take that away from us.

The meaning of the resurrection for us, then, is that Christ is now our life. That's saying a lot. Without Him, there is no life for us because we know that without Him there is nothing but fear and death. In Christ alone is the glory and the radiance, the coming forth of the new person, the new Adam. The circle is completed, and all we have to do is allow it to be complete in our lives. We might think all the way back to the sin in the Garden of Eden or just to the last time in our lives when things seemed to fall apart. Because of the risen Christ, that is not the final word. Because of His resurrection, the cut off from fear and despair is precise and deliberate. Satan has had his day. The enemy has been faced head on. The strife is over. The battle is won. We have meaning. We have purpose. We have life.

Don't be afraid. Next time you feel afraid, remember these words to you from the risen Lord Jesus. He will guide and, when necessary, carry you though all the challenges of this life and, at the end,

see you through the valley of the shadow of death to the eternal life that is hidden with Him in God.

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY

April 9

The week before Easter Sunday is known as Holy Week. It begins with Palm Sunday, also known as the Sunday of the Passion. This service begins with the procession of palms while we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. As the service



Hosanna
in the highest!

progresses, the mood shifts to the consideration of Jesus' Passion. There will be special music provided by the Bell Choir and the Chancel Choir.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 13

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 is shared (Holy Commun-



ion).

We observe this day with a Passover Supper in Schultz Hall at 6 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. Then we enjoy a full lamb dinner (chicken is available by request).

The dinner will be hosted by W-ELCA. All are welcome! If you are interested in joining us, be sure to reserve your seat. Tickets are \$5 for everyone over the age of 5; children 5 and under are free. If you are interested in helping with the traditional Passover meal, please contact Holly Hoppman or check the sign-up sheet on the opportunity table.

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

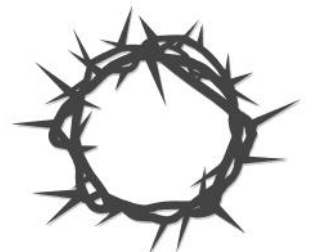
After dinner, we have a Holy Communion service in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. At this special service, we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples as well as his betrayal and arrest. We remember, as we receive the bread and wine of Communion, how Jesus saved us from slavery to sin. At the end of the service, we strip the altar in remembrance of Jesus being arrested and taken into the hands of his captors.



GOOD FRIDAY: SERVICE OF SHADOWS

April 14

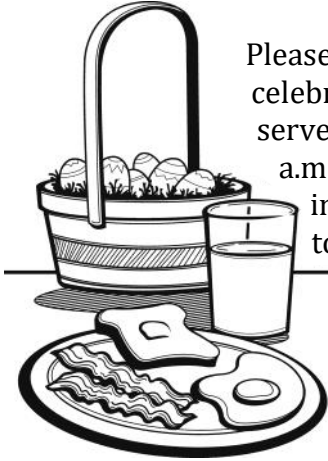
On Friday of Holy Week (Good Friday), we gather at 7:30 p.m. for the Service of Shadows. With several readings from the Bible and special hymns and anthems, we remember Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf. As is our tradition, the congregation is invited to nail their burdens on the cross. The service concludes in silence and darkness.



EASTER SUNDAY

April 16, 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. We'll be having crème brûlée French toast and blueberry-stuffed French toast, as well as other traditional breakfast foods.

Easter Egg Hunt

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

SLY is requesting candy donations to fill the Easter eggs. A bin will be placed in the Narthex. Please bring all donations by Sunday, April 9th.



Easter Egg Hunt

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.

Christ
the
Lord is
RISEN
Today

ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

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, April 8, at 10:00 am. 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 welcome your help with that task. W-ELCA has graciously offered to supply lunch afterwards.

Preparing
FOR
Easter

The palms will be taken down on Monday, April 10 at 10:00 am. If you can stop by to lend a hand, it would be greatly appreciated.

Maundy Thursday, April 13, 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.

On Saturday April 15, we will be preparing the chancel area for our Easter celebration.

Please bring your greenery for the Living Cross and cut flowers to the church anytime Saturday, April 15. You may also bring cut flowers to worship with you on Easter morning and place them on the cross yourself.

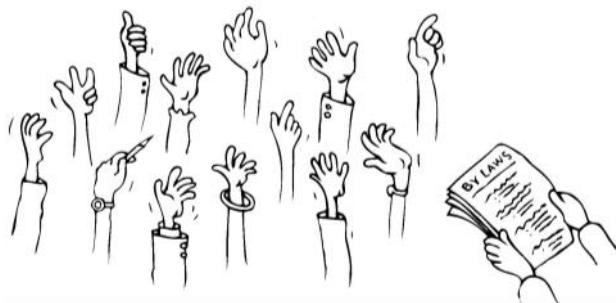


EASTER LILIES

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 dedicated to the glory of God. The deadline to sign up for lilies is April 9. 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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The council has scheduled a congregational meeting for Sunday, April 23rd, following worship. At this meeting, the Meyer Memorial Donation Committee will present their recommendations for spending the remainder of this memorial gift. The congregation will review these recommendations and vote on whether they should be approved.



WINTER SANCTUARY

This year's Winter Sanctuary was on March 26. The Winter Sanctuary is one of St. Luke's opportunities to be directly involved in serving Sacramento's homeless population.

On March 26, two buses (holding 100 men and women) arrived. We showed them where they would be sleeping that night, and then they were entertained by the Sacramento Youth Jazz Band. At 6:30 p.m. we served dinner—spaghetti and rigatoni, salad, bread, coffee and tea, and homemade cookies—and conversation! After dinner, those who wanted to watch a movie selected by Pastor Carl, cards came out, and some chose to go to sleep. St. Luke's people went home to sleep, and SOME of us were fortunate enough that we got to return at 4 a.m. to start the coffee!

Oh yes, did I mention our guests cleaned up after themselves? They did! They put away the tables and chairs at night, and they vacuumed the floor in the morning.

The buses arrived at 6 a.m. We passed out sack

lunches made by our very own talented SLY members and "blessing bags" made by our equally talented W-ELCA members and volunteers. Our guests boarded the buses, and we waved farewell!

So as you can see, the Winter Sanctuary gave us a wonderful opportunity for everyone to be involved with our community!

Blessings,

Faith Thomas
Community Concerns Chair

YOUTH CHOIR

Notice the change in the name of our Children's Choir! I have been notified by some teens that they are interested in singing! Great! If you are between the ages of 4 and 18, please join us! I have a form that needs to be filled out so I can send you emails or phone calls (if necessary).

We started rehearsing on March 26, after the 10:30 service in the Sunday School room. But it's not too late to join—we will also have rehearsals on April 2nd and 9th to prepare to sing on Easter Sunday, April 16th.

Thank you,
Judy Saxby



ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

A huge thanks to the congregation members who contributed to the crab feed bake sale, and to the members of the SLY group who helped us sell an amazing amount of beverages and delicious desserts!

We need candy donations to fill Easter eggs for the annual egg hunt we organize for the younger kids. A bin will be placed in the Narthex and labeled; please bring all donations by Sunday, April 9th.

Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, April 8: We have been asked to help with the All Members Work Day at the church.
- Sunday, April 9: SLY members are asked to help fill Easter eggs immediately following church.

Please contact Laura or Samantha if you are able and available to participate in these events.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & SERVICES

The soup suppers and services have been very well attended. Thanks to W-ELCA, Evangelism, Community Concerns, Property, Education, Youth, Finance, Worship, Music and Choir, and Council for hosting the past suppers. The April 5th supper will be hosted by the congregation—if you can bring soup, bread, or dessert, please sign up at the Opportunity Table!



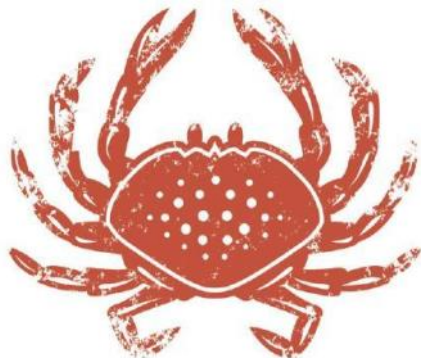
CRAB FEED

Ahoy Mateys! Thank you to everyone who joined us for our 16th Annual Crab Feed at St. Luke's. We had such a fun night and a successful event!

This year's Crab Feed was our most successful yet! The treasure we collected amounted to about \$8,600, which is about \$400 more than last year.

I would like to thank everyone who came out for the evening to support the event. Many thanks also go to everyone who donated to our raffle. This year's raffle was the most successful ever! I would like to specifically thank and recognize everyone who helped out with the planning and execution of this year's Crab Feed, from help in the kitchen, to setup and breakdown. We would not have had such a successful event without the following tremendous helpers: Bob Behr, Ron Webb, Pat Webb, Larry Dockter, Deanna Dockter, Carol Carney, Jerry Carney, Carolyn Andrews, Judy Saxby, Peggy Moser, Katie Iniguez, Dorothy Haney, Carl Hoppman, Triss Hoppman, Marlene Kiser, Dave Saxby, Karen Linfor, Bruce Kiser, Laura Tice, Justin Tice, Samantha Basquez, Al Moser, Kelly Boyer, Jack Fenske, Micki Fenske, Connie Reule, Paul Maki, Chona Sison, Lauren Orcutt, St. Luke's Youth Group, and Monterey Trails and Sheldon High School key clubs.

We'll see you again next year!



CRAB FEED

MEYER MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Meyer Memorial Fund Committee met on Thursday, March 9th, and finalized a list of priorities for the congregational council approval. The committee has spent the last few months reviewing suggestions submitted by members and boards. Our goal was to come up with a list of priorities for the remaining money from the memorial fund after having paid off the mortgage. The priorities fit into a few specific categories: benevolence opportunities, outreach opportunities, and property improvement opportunities. As we came up with a list of potential projects, the committee worked to get accurate cost estimates of each potential project.

As we reviewed the suggestions, the committee considered how each project and idea served our mission and whether the project would be possible to achieve with or without this generous gift we were given. The finalized list was presented to the council for review and approval on March 21st. The council has scheduled a congregational meeting for Sunday, April 23rd, following worship for the congregation's review and approval of the spending of the remainder of this memorial gift.

I would like to thank the committee members for their work over the last few months: Lauren Orcutt, Paul Maki, Jack Fenske, Bob Behr, Connie Reule, Nancy Minning, Carole Vance, Karen Linfor, and Carolyn Andrews.

W-ELCA

The Women of the ELCA met on Saturday, March 11th, to complete a service project. We had 17 people in attendance who volunteered to fill 100 bags with hygiene products like soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tissues, floss, and more. We also filled 100 bags of snacks and water. All the bags were handed out at the end of the Winter Sanctuary event on March 26th.



Our next meeting, on April 8th, will be a great opportunity to hear from one of the organizations we support. Chicks-in-Crisis will be with us to tell us all about what they do to support the community. April 8th will also be an All-Member Work Day hosted by the Property Board, and anyone who volunteers to work around the church or help put up palms for Palm Sunday is welcome to join us for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided for all.

THANK YOU

Elk Grove Food Bank Total Donations

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pounds of food donated</u>
2016	586 lbs
2015	619 lbs
2014	583 lbs

I want to THANK YOU SO MUCH for your generous donations of food for the Elk Grove Food Bank. They are in GREAT NEED of food - the need increases every month! Their most recent need is in the zip code 95823 (which is the area around our church)! They are trying to find a place to distribute food in this area.

May I suggest a few things with regards to donations? And please check expiration dates (toss if it is out of date). They do receive sufficient bread donated from bakeries. Items that are very much in need are milk, eggs, cereal, dog food, baby food, baby formula, and one-pot meals, e.g. mac and cheese, soups, etc.

They have many volunteer opportunities. If you are interested, contact them at 916/685-8453 or go to www.elkgrovefoodbankservices.org.

Thank you again,
Judy Saxby

**Valley Hi Family Resource Center:
Thanks for letting us use your facilities for
the Valley Hi FRC Winter Festival 2016**

To: Pastor Carl and the support of St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

I would like to take this opportunity and thank you for opening your doors to our agency and the families that we serve. If it wasn't for your kindness and generosity we wouldn't be able to welcome the 400+ participants that night. Thank you again for supporting a bigger and brighter future for the South Sacramento community.



From Karen Linfor

My sincere and heartfelt thanks to all who so generously and kindly contributed to the Tracy Light Memorial Fund.

Please keep me in your prayers as I struggle to find peace in the loss of my beautiful daughter.

Karen Linfor

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.





ALTAR FLOWERS

- April 2 *Needed*
- April 9 The Dockter Family
For Larry's retirement
- April 16 Mary Frances Harris
For her birthday, April 20th
- April 23 Michael and Maria Schell
For their wedding
- April 31 *Needed*



This Sunday, pick a job to do on the sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Table and sign up for the All Members Work Day on Saturday, April 8, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. If you don't get a chance to sign up, come anyway. There will be lots of Spring cleaning to do. If you don't want to work outside, join in cleaning the sanctuary and putting up palms in the church for Palm Sunday. **W-ELCA will serve a delicious lunch for all the workers!**



- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Anthony Neidich | April 1 |
| Sande Heaton | April 4 |
| Adeline Weston | April 4 |
| Chris Wilke | April 4 |
| Larry Dockter | April 6 |
| Don Englund | April 9 |
| Clarence Korhonen | April 12 |
| Marilyn Sodergren | April 16 |
| Charles Yakabe | April 16 |
| Megan Gadreault | April 17 |
| Heidi Harrison | April 17 |
| Reuben Jones | April 19 |
| Kamryn Olsen | April 19 |
| Mary F. Harris | April 20 |
| Cheryl Menezes | April 20 |
| Brooke Barr | April 21 |
| Erika Korhonen | April 24 |
| Marsha Ley | April 24 |
| Connie Reule | April 24 |
| Amelia Tice | April 24 |
| Rylee Shower | April 25 |
| Lisa Englund | April 27 |
| Lisa Olsen | April 28 |
| Rachel Kiser | April 30 |



**BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY**

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

February 2017

Comments:

- Mixed results for the monthly offerings in February – significantly below budget (13% plus), but a slight increase from 2016 (2%).
- The year-to-date figures are disappointing – about \$2,500 below budget and \$1,600 less than 2016.
- Perhaps the rainy weather this year has affected the offering totals to date. Time will tell.
- 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
Total Contributions	\$15,922	\$33,425
Compared to Budget	-\$2,485	-\$2,457
	-13.5%	-6.8%
Compared to 2016	\$313	-\$1,571
	2.0%	-4.5%
No. of Contributors		
2017 (Current Year)	79	82 avg.
2016 (Last Year)	82	85 avg.
Other Special Gifts		
Sunday School		\$22
Flowers		\$160
Memorials		\$150
Special Gift		\$155

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



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care

(8:15 a.m.) Cheryl Franklin
(10:30 a.m.)
April 2 Triss Hoppman, Dave Saxby
April 9 Steven Lee
April 13 Peggy Moser, Marlene Kiser
April 16 Jennifer Connell, Rachel Kiser
April 23 Nancy Minning
April 30 Ben Briel, Faith Thomas

Communion Servers

April 2 Mary F. Harris, Connie Reule,
Bob Behr
April 13
April 16 Kirsten Ireton, Howard Triebwasser,
Faith Thomas
April 30 Betty Englund, Ken Lentsch,
Linda Duffek

Counters

April 2 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
April 9 Don Schell, Bob Behr
April 16 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
April 23 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
April 30 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule

Greeters

April 2 Linda Olsen
April 9 *Needed*
April 16 *Needed*
April 23 *Needed*
April 30 *Needed*

Prayer Leaders

April 2 Kelly Boyer
April 9 Larry Dockter
April 13 Betty Englund
April 16 Tracy Etchison
April 23 Mary F. Harris
April 30 Holly Hoppman

Psalm Leaders

April 2 Amber Mansfield
April 9 Angie Martinez
April 13 Lucy Orcutt
April 16 Aiyana Tice
April 23 Sierra Etchison
April 30 Amber Mansfield

Readers (8:15 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.)

April 2 Christiana Wilson; Alison Thomas
April 9 Eric Linblade; Laura Tice
April 13 Faith Thomas
April 16 Sarah Madison; Pat Webb
April 23 Phil Petersen; Bob Behr
April 30 Lydia Toloy; Vivian Blazic

Refreshments

April 2 Ofelia Ojeda & Carol Carney
April 9 Mack & Carole Vance
April 16 Easter Sunday
April 23 *Needed*
April 30 Christiana & Jacob Wilson

Visitors' Gifts

April 2 Linda Olsen
April 9 Pauline Arndt
April 16 Steven Lee
April 23 Carole Vance
April 30 Carol Carney

Acolytes

April 2 Darnell Osako, LaRayna Osako-Cain
April 9 Aiyana Tice
April 16 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez
April 23 Lucy Orcutt, Kimiya Ricciardi
April 30 Isabella Basquez, Aiyana Tice

Welcome Leaders

April 2 Carol Carney
April 9 Carolyn Andrews
April 16 Al Moser
April 23 Carol Edwards
April 30 Paul Edwards

Sunday School Teachers

April 2 Christina Hisamoto, Lauren Orcutt
April 9 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez
April 16 Alison Thomas, Lajuan Andrews
April 23 Samantha Basquez, Laura Tice
April 30 Alison Thomas, Laura Tice

Head Ushers

8:15 a.m. Ron Franklin
10:30 a.m. Kelly Boyer

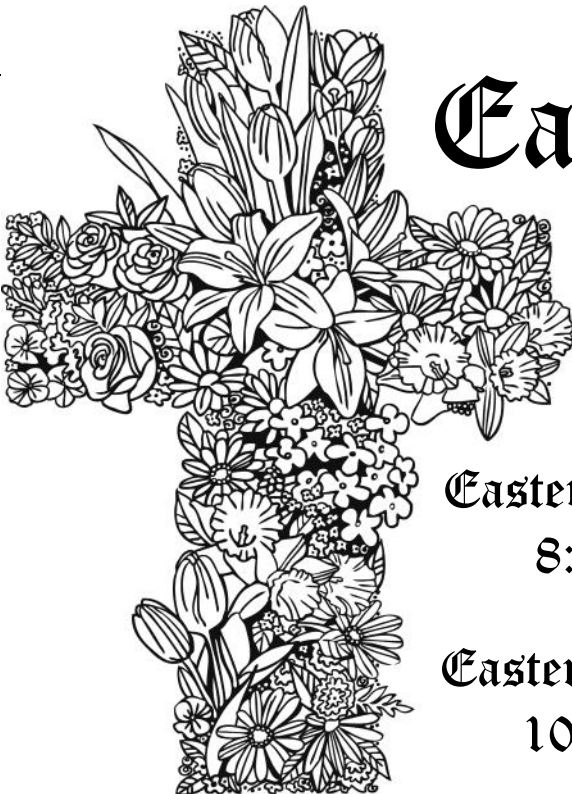


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Easter Sunday

April 16

Services at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast:
8:30 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt:
10:00 a.m.

