



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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2017

News And Views

Pastoral Perspective



Two days before he died, Martin Luther wrote, "We are beggars, it is true." What an odd way to sum up a life—especially his life! This is a man who stood up to kings and councils, burned Papal Bulls, challenged sixteen centuries of church tradition and more than survived. This

is a man whose written work fills 55 volumes, whose scholarly translation of the scriptures shaped the modern German language and whose courage reshaped the geography of Europe. Surely at the end of such a life there must be time for something more impressive than calling oneself a beggar. Yet, like his soul mate, Paul, any boasting was in his weakness, and the power of the cross.

The New Testament is filled with stories of folks who, like Luther and Paul, realized that they were but beggars before a gracious God.

There was the Canaanite mother who came begging Jesus to heal her little daughter. Jesus responded, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She replied, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly. (see Matthew 15:21-28)

There was the Roman centurion who approached Jesus on behalf of his Jewish servant who lay paralyzed in the centurion's home. Jesus said he would come and heal him. But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go' and he goes, and another 'Come' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this' and he does it." When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith" ... And to the centurion Jesus said, "go; let it be done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment. (see Matthew 8:5-13)

Not worthy. These words are a refrain on the lips of beggars who populate the pages of the New Testament. Zacchaeus, the short man who sat in a sycamore tree, hoping to just get a glimpse of Jesus as he passed by. The woman who suffered from a blood flow for twelve years and did not dare face Jesus. "If only I can touch the hem of his garment I will be healed," she thought. Bartimaeus, the blind beggar who boldly cried for mercy. At his death, the thief on the cross who simply asked Jesus to remember him when he came into his kingdom. Beggars all.

Yet each of these humble supplicants ends up more blessed than they could ever dare dream. They receive grace upon grace. As surely as the exalted are humbled, the unworthy who come to Jesus are exalted.

We come to God with nothing, realizing that our morality, our good works are never adequate before the perfect God. We come vulnerable and poor or we don't come at all. In the third verse of Rock of Ages we sing, "Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling. Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die."

Actually, we should want it no other way. If our being children of God depended on what we do, how much we have accomplished in the moral realm, how well we have performed, or even how sincere our faith is, we could never be certain we belong. We would always agonize over whether we had done enough and believed hard enough. And worse yet, we would tend to judge others harshly so that we would feel better about ourselves and what we have accomplished.

But when we realize, "We are beggars, it is true," we give up all pretenses and simply cling to Jesus for dear life. If our lives are filled with anything worthwhile we know it is because the Lord has been gracious to us, not because of anything we have done to earn it. We are always but beggars before a gracious God. We don't count ourselves better than anyone, but simply, as evangelist D.T. Niles reminds us, see ourselves as beggars telling other beggars where to find food.

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl

CHURCH DIRECTORY

It's here, it's here! Our church directory is finally complete. There will be some copies in the Narthex and in the office. They have been printed in large format, so limited quantities are available and can be reprinted by request.

In the near future I would like to create a pictorial directory, so I can get to know all your happy faces.

-Rochelle
Church Secretary



FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER, 7TH

Join us Saturday, October 7th, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for some fun, food, and shopping!

Our traditional pancake (and bacon!) breakfast will be served from the kitchen from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. We have decided not to sell lunch, but don't fret - we are going to invite more food vendors to quench your appetite. We will, however, be selling sodas and water to keep everyone hydrated.



As always, the Country Store will sell delicious goodies made with love by the women (and men) of our congregation. This year, we request individually wrapped baked goods, like cookies, cupcakes, brownies, fudge, Crack Corn, etc. The easier the goodies are to eat, the better they sell! Look for the sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Table.

We have revamped the White Elephant sale - it will now be called the Church Yard Sale and will be located in Schultz Hall and the inner courtyard. Don't worry if you can't remember the location, we will have lots of signage pointing you in the right direction.

If you would like to help with sorting, setting up, and pricing items for the Church Yard Sale, Judy Saxby (916.798.0825 or kringla646@comcast.net) and Carol Carney (916.335.0847 or jccarneyonroad@yahoo.com) will be at the church on Thursday and Friday, October 5th & 6th starting at 9 a.m. and would greatly appreciate anyone that would please come and help us with this large task.

We cannot run this event without all of our VOLUNTEERS! We need help with set-up (starting

at 6am) and clean-up (2pm), so bring your muscles! We also need help throughout the day to relieve workers in our various W-ELCA

WE VOLUNTEERS

sponsored sales areas. Even if you can only spare an hour or two, we can use you! We can accommodate your abilities, so please check out the sign-up forms on the Opportunity Table.

In His service,
Katie Iniguez



ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

SLY would like to thank everyone that participated in the Congregational Camp Out. We enjoyed spending time with each of you!

On October 7th, SLY members will be participating in the St. Luke's Fall Festival. Members are asked to report to Laura Tice at 8:00 a.m. to begin set-up.

On October 28th, SLY members are asked to report to the St. Luke's parking lot to set-up and help with the first Annual St. Luke's Trunk or Treat Event. Time is to be determined.

Pumpkin bread baking and sales are right around the corner. Please keep an eye out for our announcements regarding this event.



COMMUNITY CONCERNS



October is here! With the Fall Festival starting us off to community concerns closing out the month October 28 from 3-7:30 pm with our first ever

community outreach Trunk or Treat! There is a sign up sheet on the opportunity table to participate. Bring your car! Decorate it (or not)! Wear a costume! Donate candy! Volunteer to make/sell caramel apples and popcorn balls! Facepaint! Help give out coats to kids! It should be a really fun evening!

We will be participating in the Share-a-sole shoe drive for the kids at Charles Mack Elementary school again this year. If you were one of those folks who helped fit the kids with new shoes, you know what a fun and joyous time we had! A barrel will be in the narthex marked Share-a-sole for new shoe donations sizes 3-9, girl or boy. Thank you for your generous spirit of your time, money and smiles!



In Christ,
Faith Thomas, chair



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017
AT 11:45 A.M.**

Join us in Schultz Hall for our Reformation Sunday Potluck to celebrate the 500th Reformation, our Lutheran heritage and our personal family heritages. There will be a special musical by our children and youth showing how the Reformation began.

The Potluck is a favorite of many and one you won't want to miss. We encourage our congregation to bring a favorite family dish or one that represents their heritage as well as family keepsakes that will be displayed on a special table. Those planning to attend are asked to sign the sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Table so we will be sure to have plenty of seating for everyone.

CONGREGATIONAL BBQ



We had a Wonderful Hot Day for our Picnic. We have so many wonderful people who helped with this event. We want to thank Linda Ferguson & Sue Fechter for grilling all the hot dogs and hamburgers. We appreciate both of you for making this event great. Our wonderful men came and set up the tables, chairs, and canopies and took them all down after the BBQ. I would like to personally thank Bruce Kiser, Paul Maki, Jack Fenske, Ben Briel, Clarence Korhonen, Bob Behr, Ed Ireton, Paul Heaton and Ron Webb. The wonderful Ladies that I must thank are Carol Carney, Pauline Arndt, Kirsten Ireton, Pat Webb, Kelly Boyer, Micki Fenske, Dorothy Haney and Peggy Moser. It took the entire Congregation to make this a wonderful event.

Women of the ELCA

It was great to see everyone who was able to join us for lunch out at Chicago Fire on Saturday September 9th. A big thank you goes to Pat Webb for setting up the luncheon!!!

Our biggest event coming up is the Fall Festival, we hope you will be able to join us. Look for more information about this event throughout this issue.

We are beginning our preparations for the end of the year events, specifically our Christmas collection to support families from Charles Mack Elementary School. Look for more information in upcoming issues.



Lunch at Chicago Fire with WELCA



DEATH IN OUR CONGREGATION

We mourn the death of Ruth Jones, who was taken up into the heavenly kingdom on September 15, 2017. We extend our deepest sympathy to Reuben Jones and his family.

With Sympathy

Services were held at East Lawn of Elk Grove on September 22, 2017.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Welcome Jack! John and Lauren Orcutt had a very healthy baby boy. He was born 9:03 p.m. on August 29th, 7 pounds 9 ounces and 20" long.



Jack 1 week old.



Big sister, Lucy holding Jack.

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 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.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Micayla Shower	October 02
Ferd Boschee	October 03
Hannelore Marchuk	October 03
Howard Triebwasser	October 04
Justin Barr	October 05
Gail Weber	October 07
Thelma Williams	October 07
Vivian Blazic	October 08
Ron Franklin	October 08
Jeff Kiser	October 08
Ofelia Ojeda	October 08
Isaac Diaz	October 15
Duane Kiser	October 19
Joan Mooney	October 21
Ben Ireton	October 22
Christina Hisamoto	October 28
Dolores Johnson	October 31



- 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
 916-714-3626
LRFenske@comcast.net

- October 1 **Yvonne Brown**
 For Howard Triebwasser's
 84th Birthday
- Michael Schell**
 For Maria Schell's Birthday
- October 8 **Phillip & Jennifer Petersen**
 For Jennifer's Father, John
- Duane Reule**
 In Memory of Betty Jo Reule
- October 15 **Ron & Pat Webb**
 For their Anniversary
- October 22 **Dockters**
 In Remembrance of Katie Ramsey
- October 29 **Karen Linfor**
 In Memory of her Mother,
 Margaret Stubblefield

General Fund (Only) Contributions			
Data	This Month	Year to Date	
Total Contributions	\$19,572	\$151,450	
Compared to Budget	-\$3,688	-\$9,244	
	-18.8%	-6.1%	
Compared to 2016	\$587	-\$4,278	
	3.8%	-2.9%	
No. of Contributors			
2017 (Current Year)	89	89	avg.
2016 (Last Year)	87	89	avg.
Other Special Gifts			
Sunday School		\$23	
Flowers		\$340	
Memorials		\$50	
Special Gift (Confirmation Expense)		\$0	

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

August 2017

Comments:

- The bright spot in this report is that that the August contributions exceeded last year's August contributions, +3.8 percent.
- The other figures in this report are somewhat discouraging.
- Mid-year offering statements were distributed in early August. If you did not receive a statement, but believe you should have, please contact me.
- Please use numbered envelopes, when feasible. Thank you.
- If you need numbered envelopes, either see me or

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



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care

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

Head Ushers

8:15 a.m. Ron Franklin
10:30 a.m. Craig Eckels

October 1 Jennifer Connell, Rachel Kiser
October 8 Shirley Prouty
October 15 Triss Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
October 22 Carol Carney
October 29 Ben Briel, Steven Lee

Readers (8:15 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.)
October 1 Kristine Felgenhauer; Samantha Basquez
October 8 Eric Linblade; Vivian Blazic
October 15 Sarah Madison; Larry Dockter
October 22 Phil Petersen; Tracy Etchison
October 29 Lydia Toloy; Mary Frances Harris

Communion Servers

October 1 Howard Triebwasser, Kelly Boyer, Linda Duffek
October 15 Bob Behr, Betty Englund, Pat Hamilton
October 29 Mary F. Harris, Kirsten Ireton, Karen Linfor

Refreshments

October 1 Ofelia Ojeda & Carol Carney
October 8 Connie Reule and Nancy Minning
October 15 Mack and Carole Vance
October 22 Walt & Pauline Arndt
October 29 Reformation Sunday

Counters

October 1 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
October 8 Don Schell, Bob Behr
October 15 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
October 22 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
October 29 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule

Visitors' Gifts

October 1 Pauline Arndt
October 8 Carol Carney
October 15 Joyce Jensen
October 22 Pat Webb
October 29 Steven Lee

Greeters

October 1 Steven Lee & Carole Vance
October 8 Jack & Micki Fenske
October 15 Kelly Boyer & Lois Sherrets
October 22 Mack and Carole Vance
October 29 Sande Heaton & Walt Arndt

Acolytes

October 1 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez
October 8 Aiyana Tice
October 15 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez
October 22 Lucy Orcutt, Kimiya Ricciardi
October 29 Isabella Basquez, Aiyana Tice

Prayer Leaders

October 1 Marlene Kiser
October 8 Al Moser
October 15 John Orcutt
October 22 Maria Schell
October 29 Max Schell

Welcome Leaders

October 1 Kelly Boyer
October 8 Mary Frances Harris
October 15 Pat Webb
October 22 Carolyn Andrews
October 29 Lydia Toloy

Psalm Leaders

October 1 Amber Mansfield
October 8 Lucy Orcutt
October 15 Kimiya Ricciardi
October 22 Elizabeth Wilson
October 29 Isabella Basquez

Sunday School Teachers

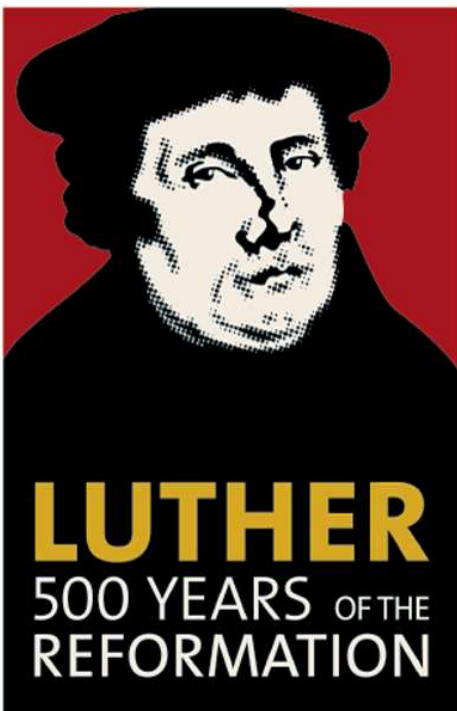
October 1 Lauren Orcutt, Christina Hisamoto
October 8 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez
October 15 Alison Thomas, Lajuan Andrews
October 22 Samantha Basquez, Laura Tice
October 29 Alison Thomas, Laura Tice



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

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**JOIN US ON
REFORMATION
SUNDAY**

**BRING A FAVORITE FAMILY
DISH OR ONE THAT
REPRESENTS YOUR
HERITAGE**

**OCTOBER 29, 2017
AT 11:45 A.M.**

