



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



News And Views

Pastoral Perspective



For centuries the call has gone out for all the faithful to come and worship at Christmas time. Why? It certainly is not that your coming to the Choir Christmas Cantata or Christmas Eve Service will automatically make all the difference for you. It is only

too possible for you to come to worship at Christmas time and get no more out of it than your coming together to open presents or to have a big meal. It can be just another thing to do. You might not be sure why you do all these things, and sometimes don't even want to, but you feel you should.

If you realize in your heart why it is important for you to come to worship at Christmas time, however, your whole perspective on the holiday will change and your observances will take on new meaning. You are called to come to worship at Christmas time to receive the Good News that Christ has come to you. Through the Choir Christmas Cantata presentation and Christmas Eve Service, you hear about how Christ willingly left Heaven to be born a baby in this sinful world. He came to live here and experience the same challenges you experience and more. He came to die for you on the cross so that you would have life in Him that can never be taken from you no matter

how you get nailed by situations and circumstances.

Receiving this Good News gives all your Christmas observances new life. If you share presents then, it is to experience the joy of giving, for Christ has given so much to you. If you share meals, it is to celebrate your connection with others, because God has connected you in Christ's love.

Whatever you do this Christmas time, make coming to worship an important part of your holiday observance. Come expecting to hear the Good News of God's love for you in Jesus Christ. Come expecting to hear how Christ comes to you wherever you are in life. Please come. You won't be disappointed.

Spreading, Serving and Sharing with You,
Pastor Carl



Christmas Cantata

December 16th, 10:30 am



Advent Home Devotionals & Coloring Books

Advent home devotionals are now available. There are also Advent coloring books to enjoy.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

We are taking orders for Poinsettias in honor or memory of loved ones to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas. The cost is \$10 each. Orders will be taken through December 9. We are hoping for 50 or more orders so we can fill the sanctuary with Christmas beauty. Please place your order in the offering plate or turn it in to the office. A list of the honorees will be printed in the bulletin December 16, 23 and 24. You may pick up your plants after the 7:00 p.m. service Christmas Eve.



Sign Up for Advent Candle Lighting & Readings

Each Sunday in Advent, we have a family or group of friends light that week's Advent candle and read a special Advent passage at the beginning of the service. Sign up on the opportunity table!



The choir's annual Christmas cantata under the direction of Jane Fanucci will be presented Sunday, December 16 at 10:30. This year's piece is a reprise of a cantata presented a few years ago entitled "One King." It focuses on the Kingship of Jesus and features the Chancel Choir, soloists Suzanne Zemke and Pastor Carl. Invite your friends and family for this inspirational and up-beat musical presentation. Please note there will be no 8:15 service on December 16.



Candlelight Service

Our traditional Christmas Eve candle lighting service will be held Monday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. This is a family oriented service featuring carols, readings and special music and highlights the light Christ brings to the world with the symbolic lighting of candles. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the 8:15 and 10:30 services on Sunday, December 23. Please note there will be no 11:00 p.m. service Christmas Eve.



Congregational Meeting and Potluck, Sunday, December 9, 2018

Join us for the last potluck of the year as we share with each other and enjoy delicious food!

After we eat, we will have the annual congregational meeting. The proposed 2019 budget will be presented for approval, and we will elect officers and board chairs. There will be copies of the proposed budget and nominees on the opportunity table, in case you want to review them before the meeting.

Please plan to come to this important meeting, and be sure to add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Table, so we can provide enough seating for everyone.

Evangelism Board hosts the potluck. We welcome as many people as possible to help with the set up and clean up, etc.



Congregational Christmas Card Exchange

If you would like to exchange Christmas cards with other members and friends of St. Luke's please put them in the Christmas card box located in the church entry.



W-ELCA Holiday Collection

As we round out our program year we are excited about getting into the holiday spirit with our mission support. We are collecting gifts for families from a local elementary school. Look for opportunities to contribute in the narthex! We are collecting gifts for the children and youth in each of the households as well as gifts and gift cards for the adults in the homes. We're looking for all kinds of items, from toys to clothes, gas gift cards and grocery gift cards (Wal-Mart & Food for Less). We will be collecting these items through Sunday, December 23rd, 2017.

If you would like to help us wrap the gifts for the families, please join us following worship on Sunday, December 23rd to wrap all the gifts and get them prepared to deliver to the families in time for Christmas!



W-ELCA CHRISTMAS GATHERING

W-ELCA will be having their annual Christmas Gathering on Saturday, December 8th, this year in the Schultz Hall with lunch hosted by W-ELCA. Our

gathering celebration will include playing Christmas games, singing Christmas songs, and a small gift exchange for those who would like to participate. (If you would like to participate please bring a wrapped gift under \$10.) Anyone wanting to bring some Christmas cookies to share as part of the Christmas celebration we be greatly appreciated.



November W-ELCA Meeting report:

We had a great meeting in November with a special guest speaker (Josh) from the Valley Hi Family Resource Center. Josh shared with the group the programs the center offered for all ages. Fliers are available in the baby clothes closet room for those who are interested in resources that are available.

Yours in Christ,
Marlene Kiser,
W-ELCA President

Christmas Tree Decorating



We will be decking the halls and setting up the congregational Christmas tree on Saturday, December 8 after the WELCA Christmas celebration, around 1:30 p.m. All are welcome to join in the fun and partake in Christmas cheer.



Happy Fall, y'all! October was a very busy month!

October 10, we trooped over to Charles Mack school for the Share-a-sole event! We were able to fit brand new shoes for 220 kids! (Last year it was 165). Also, we contributed a total of 32



New shoes for students in need



Next up was our 2nd annual Trunk or Treat on October 27. We partnered up with Valley Hi Resource Center. We had about 800 people!!! Unbelievable and so much fun! We had a total of 19 trunks for the kids to go to, as well as all the games they could play to win tickets to exchange for prizes. The coat give-away and the costume give-away was a big success as well, and the Children's Clothing Closet had a couple dozen families make use of it! God is good, isn't He?!?

Thank you to all those who participated and helped with both of these events!

We will be hosting Winter Sanctuary on February 24, 2019.

Until then, community concerns wishes you all a joyous Christmas season!



Yours in Christ, Faith Thomas, chair

St. Luke's Youth



Can you believe that the end of the year is almost upon us? And because you're planning for the new year SLY is here to help! We have your 2019 Wall calendars available for purchase while supplies last.

These beautiful Wall Calendars are only \$7.00. They make great gifts and stocking stuffers for Christmas. All proceeds benefit our youth programs and activities. Thank you for your continued support. See Laura Tice or Samantha Basquez to purchase a calendar today!

calendar



Thank you!

Reformation Sunday Heritage Potluck

We would like to Thank Everyone who helped set up and clean up Schultz Hall for this event. Thank you to all that provided the wonderful food for our Potluck.

Darnell Osako took First Place in the Word Search, Aiyana Tice took Second Place and John Orcutt took Honorable Mention.

CRAB FEED PLANNING



It's that time of year to start talking about the Crab Feed. If you are interested in helping with the Crab Feed, we'd love to have you join us for our first planning meeting after worship on Sunday, December 2nd in Room 3 of the Sunday school wing. Pick up your refreshments, then join us as we discuss themes and pick a date for our 2019 Crab Feed!

A NOTE FROM PAULINE ARNDT:

Since we just experienced Reformation Sunday and I am sure folks may have looked for a German Chocolate Cake, I just got this information from the International German Genealogical Society:

Here's a tidbit for you holiday bakers. Did you know that German chocolate cake is not German in origin? According to the November, 2018 issue of "Der Ahnenforscher", the newsletter of the German Genealogy Group based in Long Island, N.Y., this cake was developed by an English-American baker, Samuel German in 1852. The Baker's Chocolate Company used Samuel German's creation of a dark baking chocolate. The recipe was developed in the 1950s in Texas and recommended using German's Chocolate for this coconut cake. In time, the possessive (German's) was shorted to German Chocolate Cake. Thanks to Donna Potter Phillips for the heads up!





TRUNK OR TREAT







DEATH IN OUR CONGREGATION

Adeline Weston died peacefully October 25th with her son, Craig, who faithfully cared for her these last years, by her side. Although a very active and vital member of St. Luke's for many years, Adeline was 97 years old and unable to attend worship for some time. Please give thanks for her wonderful life among us and the new life she so yearned for in Jesus for eternity. Please give thanks for the loving care Craig has given Adeline and pray for Craig to be comforted in God's love as he grieves.



Services were held at St. Luke's November 5, 2018.



We mourn the death of Arnetta "Billie" Becker, who was taken up into the heavenly kingdom on October 27, 2018. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

Burial was held at East Lawn Memorial Park on November 8, 2018.

Alanna Olmeda	December 01
Carole Vance	December 03
Kim Fenske	December 04
Benjamin Iniguez	December 05
Jared Kiser	December 05
Elizabeth Korhonen	December 12
Betty Englund	December 14
Chet Madison	December 16
Kristine Felgenhauer	December 17
Marilyn Dorr	December 18
Sylvia Kohler	December 21
Triss Hoppman	December 25
Robert Harrison	December 26
Deanna Dockter	December 27
Adalyn Kiser	December 31



December 24th 7pm

Dec 2 Katie Iniguez
For Ben's 6th Birthday

Dec 9 *Needed*

Dec 23 Gail Weber
In Memory of John & Dalton

Dec 16 *Needed*

Dec 30 *Needed*

Michael & Maria Schell
In Memory of Winnie Schell's Birthday

Thelma Williams & John Johnsen
In Memory of our parents

Jared, Rachel, Jacob & the whole Family
For Adalyn's Birthday



FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

October 2018

Comments:

- The contributions in October were excellent – surpassing both the monthly Budget and last year's October offering.
- Although progress is being made to catch up, the "year-to-date" figures continue to fall slightly short of the Budget and last year offerings.
- When making a special contribution, please clearly mark in **large, bold letters** what the contribution is for. Thank you.
- 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
916-714-3626
LRFenske@comcast.net

General Fund (Only) Contributions			
Data	This Month	Year to Date	
Total Contributions	\$18,709	\$173,086	
Compared to Budget	\$1,487	-\$2,186	
	8.6%	-1.2%	
Compared to 2017	\$702	-\$4,485	
	3.9%	-2.5%	
No. of Contributors			
2018 (Current Year)	77	85	avg.
2017 (Last Year)	91	89	avg.
Other Special Gifts			
Sunday School		\$52	
Flowers		\$140	
Special Gifts		\$400	
		<i>Pastoral Assistance \$50</i>	
		<i>Fall Festival \$100</i>	
		<i>Community Concerns \$250</i>	

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care

(8:15 a.m.) Cheryl Franklin
(10:30 a.m.)
Dec 2 Kelly Boyer, Ben Briel
Dec 9 Marlene Kiser
Dec 16 Faith Thomas
Dec 23 Jennifer Connell, Rachel Kiser
Dec 30 Connie Reule, Nancy Minning

Communion Servers

Dec 2 Faith Thomas, Gail Weber,
Carolyn Andrews
Dec 16 Bob Behr, Kelly Boyer,
Linda Duffek
Dec 30 Betty England, Pat Hamilton.
Mary Frances Harris

Counters

Dec 2 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule
Dec 9 John Orcutt, Triss Hoppman
Dec 16 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
Dec 23 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser
Dec 30 Nancy Minning, Connie Reule

Greeters

Dec 2 Mack & Carole Vance
Dec 9 Cathy Davis & Gaylen Everet
Dec 16 *Needed*
Dec 23 *Needed*
Dec 30 Steven Lee

Prayer Leaders

Dec 2 Ralph Zbrog
Dec 9 Bob Behr
Dec 16 Kelly Boyer
Dec 23 Larry Dockter
Dec 24 Merle Zbrog
Dec 30 Betty Englund

Psalms Leaders

Dec 2 Sierra Etchison
Dec 9 Aiyana Tice
Dec 16 Lucy Orcutt
Dec 23 Amber Mansfield
Dec 30 Jai Lia Vang

Head Ushers

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

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

Dec 2 Christiana Wilson; Marlene Kiser
Dec 9 Sarah Madison; Karen Linfor
Dec 16 Phil Peterson; Al Moser
Dec 23 Ron Webb; John Orcutt
Dec 24 Christiana Wilson
Dec 30 Sarah Madison; David Saxby

Refreshments

Dec 2 Carol Carney & Ofelia Ojeda

Congregational Meeting and Potluck

Dec 9 Mack & Carole Vance
Dec 16 Carole Vance
Dec 23 Jacob & Christianna Wilson

Visitors' Gifts

Dec 2 Carole Vance
Dec 9 Steven Lee
Dec 16 Gail Weber
Dec 23 Pat Webb
Dec 30 Carol Carney

Acolytes

Dec 2 Darnell Osako, LaRayna Osako-Cain
Dec 9 Noella Sondrini, Anthony Basquez
Dec 16 Claire Kerian, Elizabeth Wilson
Dec 23 Lucy Orcutt, Kimiya Ricciardi
Dec 30 Amber Mansfield, Angie Martinez

Welcome Leaders

Dec 2 Betty Englund
Dec 9 Carolyn Andrews
Dec 16 Pat Webb
Dec 23 Gail Weber
Dec 30 Chet Madison

Sunday School Teachers

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



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

Non-Profit Org.
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Return Service Requested

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE WONDERFUL EVENTS!



CANTATA
DECEMBER 16TH
10:30 AM



Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT
SERVICE
DECEMBER 24TH
7:00 PM

DECEMBER 8TH
W-ELCA CHRISTMAS
GATHERING
11:30 AM

&



TREE DECORATING
1:30 PM