



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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News And Views

Pastoral Perspective



When I have a conversation with folks centering on the commandments, it soon becomes apparent that the setting in which these sacred words are often seen is that of a courtroom. In this courtroom, folks picture themselves standing beneath the awesome authority of the Supreme Judge who is seated

in solitary splendor high above in heaven. In this courtroom, there is no one like us who may sympathize with our human frailty; only a cold hard judge. So folks try to somehow justify themselves or find loopholes in the law that lets them off the hook.

When this is the way folks see the commandments, it is understandable that they try to twist them for personal purposes rather than for what God intends. An example of this is when some very religious people came to Jesus with a question to test him and hopefully discredit him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" They really didn't want to know what God intended for marriage. They wanted to twist God's guidelines for their own purposes. Jesus won't play this game, then or now. He knows that, in our sinfulness, even though two people are united in holy matrimony, they can fall into such a destructive relationship that the most loving thing to do is to allow the disillusion of the relationship before the people in

it are destroyed. But that was never God's intention for marriage and there is no loophole in his guidelines that makes it good. On that day the conversation revolved around marriage. It could have just as easily been about any of God's guidelines. The truth is, we can't justify ourselves before God by twisting His guidelines. We are much better off confessing our sinfulness and the reality that we live in a sinful world and then trusting that God's relationship with us is not a courtroom relationship, but rather a courtship relationship. There is all the difference in the world.

The commandments are intended to be the guidelines within which the courtship between God and humanity is carried out. People in love don't try to find loopholes in the commitment they make toward each other. Certainly, hurts and difficulties come up, but they are confessed, and forgiveness is offered and received. We aren't perfect. God knows that. Out of His great love for us, He sent Jesus to be with us and take our sins and the sins of the whole world upon Himself so we can relate with God and one another in the loving relationship God would have with us. Trust in that relationship. Give thanks that Jesus understands your weakness and hurt. You are not alone. He will work with you through whatever is going on and be with you all the way. He loves you.

Spreading, Serving, and Sharing with You,

Pastor Carl



NOVEMBER 9TH

Fall is here and it is time to prepare the church for the rainy, winter months. Thus, the Property Board will be holding an "All Members Work Day" on Saturday, November 9th, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. All members are encouraged to come out and help get the facilities ready for, hopefully, the good rains that soon will be here. The primary chore will be to clean the roofs and gutters of tree debris. Other chores to be accomplished are to remove redwood droppings from the bushes, weed and clean planter areas, pick up trash (especially behind the bushes), and spray Round Up. We hope to see you on Saturday morning, November 9th.

Kelly Boyer, Chairperson Property Board



We will be observing Veteran's Day on Sunday, November 10. We will feature patriotic music and our veteran's banners will be displayed that day. If you or a member of your family have served in the military and are not represented on our veteran's banners, please contact the church office with their name, branch of service and dates of service so we can add their star to the banners.



Thanksgiving Eve Holy Communion will be at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 27 followed by the annual pie social. We will be decorating for Thanksgiving Saturday, November 23 at 10:00 a.m. If you have any fall produce you would like to share for the display, please bring it to church on or before November 23. We especially need pumpkins or other winter squash or gourds. We would also welcome corn, wheat or any other thick-skinned fall fruit or vegetable. You may have them back after the Thanksgiving Eve service. We will take down the display Saturday, November 30 at 10:00 a.m. and put up the Advent decorations, so please join us.

THANKSGIVING PIE SOCIAL

Following the Thanksgiving Eve Service, we'll be having our annual Pie Social. If you'd like to, please bring a pie to share. We can't have too much, as all the leftovers are donated to the Narcotics Anonymous (NA) marathon meeting that our resident NA groups host for those who are in need of extra support through the holiday weekend. Any and all leftovers are always very welcome!





POINSETTIAS

We are once again 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 from November 17 through December 8. 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 15, 22 and 24. You may pick up your plants after the 7:00 p.m. service Christmas Eve.



CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

Every fall the conferences in the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) gather for fellowship, prayer, and business. This year there is a very important piece of business on the agenda for each and every conference in the synod. It is the work of raising up the names of up to five ELCA pastors who the conferences believe have the gifts, graces, and skills to be the next bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod. Each of the nine conferences will prayerfully do this work and then forward those names to the synod nominating committee.

Our conference, the Capital Valley Conference, will meet here at St. Luke's on Sunday, November 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Shultz Hall. There will be folks from ELCA congregations from Fairfield to Grass Valley. You are welcome and encouraged to attend. Our Evangelism Board will provide refreshments for the group. This is a wonderful way to get to know how we are connected to the larger church

and to help with considering nominations for a new bishop. A new bishop will be elected next May at the Synod Assembly in Fresno. The bishop's term is for six years. Bishop Mark Holmerud is finishing his second term next year and will be retiring then.



WORSHIP & MUSIC

MINISTRY GROUPS 2020

This year the Ministry Fair is November 10th. We will need to Decorate a Table to entice volunteers for Sunday Morning Greeters, Visitors Gifts (Welcome Bean Soup Jars), and After Service Refreshments.

We will be serving After Service Refreshments under the Windows on the west side of Schultz Hall so everyone is encouraged to come in and check out all the ministry opportunities.

SOUL STITCHERS UPDATE

This group of ladies have been busy as usual. I just delivered 25 chemo caps to the South Sacramento Cancer Center. I have delivered 54 baby hats to South Sacramento Kaiser for their NICU since last April. We have 117 hats to be delivered to Union Gospel Mission and 16 hats for Shriners Hospital. We have made and delivered over 414 pillows to Kaiser Hospital for their C-Section and mastectomy patients. And this is an on going project.

During the Fall Festival the Soul Stitchers gave away over 30 looms, loom hooks, crochet hooks, countless craft books and



numerous craft projects. We also gave away 3 tubs of yarn. Thank you to Faith Thomas for sharing her talents and demonstrating how to crochet and looming during the festival.

I want to thank EVERYONE who has donated their time, items or talents to this busy group ladies.

As a reminder we meet the 1st and 3rd Monday's of each month. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US

Peggy



The Fall Festival started off our Fall with a bang. I wanted to thank all the women (and men) who helped with this event in any way. We had great success with the White Elephant sales, the Crafter's Corner, plants & books, and of course the Country Store. Hope everyone was able to attend since we had such great weather. The post review of the Fall Festival will occur at the November W-ELCA meeting, so bring your ideas for next year to the meeting.

The November meeting will be on November 9, 2019, at 11:30AM. Please bring either a soup or salad to share for lunch. Our Mission Support is Valley High Family Resource Center, we will be gathering wipes, diapers, and household paper products (paper towels, toilet paper ...) We are hoping to get a speaker from "My Sister's House" for the meeting.

Christmas is just around the corner and please remember to mark your calendars for the December meeting for the annual W-ELCA Christmas Party on December 14th, 2019.

Yours in Christ,
Marlene Kiser
W-ELCA President



THANKOFFERING SERVICE

On Sunday, November 24, the Women will be hosting the annual Thankoffering Sunday. We will be leading worship, gathered together to joyfully give thanks and praise for what God has given to us. If you would like to take part in the service please let Triss Hoppman know, or keep a look out for a sign-up sheet starting the second Sunday in November on the opportunity table.



First and foremost, thank you to our SLY members who showed up to help for the Trunk or Treat event put on by community concerns! Your help is appreciated!

SLY leader Laura Tice and gracious member Mom, Christina Hisamoto will be chaperoning 5 SLY members to Mt. Cross for Confirmation weekend on Veterans day weekend. Wish us luck, and pictures to come next month!

Please watch for Pumpkin bread order forms Starting October 27th, and continuing through November 17th. This is SLY's biggest fundraiser, and the bread is yummy. It



also makes a wonderful gift! The pumpkin bread will be available for pickup in the kitchen on Sunday, November 24th, after the worship service. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will help fund youth group activities and outings. We are also currently accepting donations of the following items: flour, sugar, and eggs.

A reminder that our SLY meeting for November will be Friday November 22nd while we are making pumpkin bread in lieu of our normal meeting the second Sunday. Please have SLY members arrive at the church at 6 p.m. to help with this fundraiser for Youth events. Dinner will be provided.

Any questions, comments or concerns? Please feel free to contact Laura Tice 916 271 7566



Another Fall Festival is now in the past and once again it hard to express the generosity of the members of our Congregation and friends for the amazing "White Elephants" that were donated. It was the best year yet, for keeping in mind "that if you would not buy it" perhaps no one else would either. We can't thank you enough for the donations and all those that helped in any way to make it a huge success. It was a lot of hard work but basically the work was really easy due to the fun loving members that participated in the pricing, sorting, and selling- namely Kelly Boyer, Gabby Cox, Dorothy Haney, Faith Harper, Mary Frances Harris, Joyce Jensen, Marlene Kiser, Karen Linfor,

Peggy Moser, Shirley Prouty, Connie Reule, Carole Vance, Pat Webb, and Gail Weber.

We could not have gotten along without the huge support and help given by the following men of the congregation and we hope you know how very much you are appreciated for your many hours of help – namely Bob Behr, Jack Fenske, Bruce Kiser and Ron Webb – you guys are the greatest! Behind the scenes for us and appreciated are always Rochelle Jaeger and Jeff Kiser.

As a side note: not sure everyone knows about the "Soul Stickers" and what they do, but everything is for giving for those in need in some way. However, they found a different kind of "NEED" so want to mention, that there was quite a number of items left over from the sale and the following members of this amazing, giving group of ladies, put all the items in boxes, cleaned everything up, put all the chairs and tables away, on Monday, October 7, before their meeting time – namely Kelly Boyer, Dorothy Haney, Marlene Kiser, Peggy Moser and the co-chair of the White Elephant Sale, Judy Saxby! Every item was sold for our benevolence giving, donated to other charities or given in some way to the less fortunate and greatly appreciated – a true blessing.

Thank you, also, to all who purchased our "White Elephants" or just came to visit.

Carol Carney and Judy Saxby





**MINISTRY FAIR
NOVEMBER 10, 2019**

After the 10:30 a.m. service on November 10th, we will have our annual Congregational Ministry Fair. The Boards and Ministry Group Leaders will set up tables in Schultz Hall. You can browse the various Ministry Groups and Boards, get more information, ask any questions, and sign up for the Groups and Boards you want to join for 2020. At the Ministry Fair, we will also collect estimate-of-giving cards for 2020. Your Ministry Group and Board sign-up sheet and estimate-of-giving cards for 2020 will be sent out in November to help you prepare for the Ministry Fair.

Please pray about these opportunities and consider joining one (or more!) Groups or Boards to support our mission as a congregation.

Here are the Ministry Groups and Boards for you to consider joining:

• Greeters
Ministry Group



• Welcome Leader
Ministry Group



• Communion Servers
Ministry Group

• Altar Care
Ministry Group



• Ushers Ministry Group
The Usher Ministry provides a wonderful way to serve a very important role at St. Luke's.

In addition to greeting people with a warm smile to make them feel welcome, the Head Usher has duties that are vital to worship running smoothly.

• Soul Stitches
Ministry Group

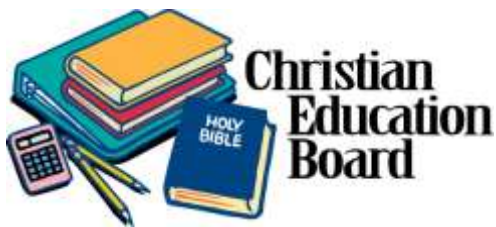


• Choir Ministry Group





· Community Concerns Board
Board responsibilities: Food and clothing collection and distribution, working with community groups on mutual ministry, pastoral assistance fund, Share-a-Sole, Trunk-or-Treat



· Christian Education Board
Board responsibilities: Sunday School, nursery, adult education



· Evangelism Board
Board responsibilities: Parish visitation with Pastor, refreshments after worship, greeters, visitors' gifts, outreach, Easter breakfast, potlucks and going out for meals, diners' groups, publicity

(web, advertising, Facebook, etc.), Lenten soup suppers, Epiphany breakfast

· Finance Board
Board responsibilities: Financial audit, insurance, office supplies and equipment, overseeing important financial documents, offerings counters, taxes and fees, budget, working with the Treasurer and Financial Secretary



· Property Board
Board responsibilities: Landscape service, cleaning and janitorial services and supplies, supervising janitorial and landscape workers, facility maintenance, repairs, improvements, watering and sprinklers, church work days

· Worship & Music Board
Board responsibilities: Worship services and music, worship and music supplies, adult choir and bell choir, Luau, flowers, acolytes, ushers, readers, prayer leaders, altar guild, supervising the music director and organist, children's music programs



· Youth Board
Board responsibilities: Youth meetings, outings and events, youth gatherings and trips, Easter egg hunt

· Church Historian/Photographer
Help take photos at events and of new members to be featured in the News & Views.



FALL FESTIVAL











Hannah Encinas	November 06
Andrew Harrison	November 07
Judy Saxby	November 10
Julie Ireton	November 14
Marc Thomas	November 15
Alison Korhonen-Kerian	November 16
Christine Herndon	November 19
Micki Fenske	November 27
Carl Hoppman	November 27
Mark Encinas	November 29
Dax Moser	November 30



Nov 3	Connie Reule For Al & Irene Boschee's 69th Wedding Anniversary
Nov 10	Fenske's For their 55th Wedding Anniversary
Nov 17	Shirley Prouty In memory of Husband, Robert Prouty
	Kelly & Lois For Connie's Heavenly Birthday
Nov 24	Fenske's For Micki's Birthday



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Grayson Olmeda

Born: October 2, 2019

Parents: Elizabeth Brasier and
Edgar Olmeda

Grayson was 9 pounds 10 ounces
and 22 inches



FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

September 2019

Comments:

- A. September's offerings were excellent, in part, because of a several generous contributions. Thank you to all.
- B. The YTD figures remain positive, which is good.
- C. Several members are giving their contribution "online". If you wish to give "online", access your bank's website and select "Pay Bills". You will need the address of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, which is 7595 Center Parkway, Sacramento, CA, 95823.
- D. To assist the Sunday Counters and the Financial Secretary, please –
- For a special contribution, clearly mark how the contribution is to be used.
 - Use numbered envelopes, when feasible.
 - If you need numbered envelopes, either see me or drop a note in the offering.
 - When using pew envelopes, please write legibly.
- E. 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	\$23,651	\$165,456
Compared to Budget	\$4,281	\$7,516
	22.1%	4.8%
Compared to 2018	\$2,742	\$11,078
	13.1%	7.2%
No. of Contributors		
2019 (Current Year)	74	76 avg.
2018 (Last Year)	83	85 avg.
Other Special Gifts		
Sunday School		\$46
Flowers		\$320
Memorials		\$100

Note: Plus values are above Budget/Last Year; minus values are below.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care

(8:15 a.m.) Cheryl Franklin
(10:30 a.m.)
Nov 3 Jennifer Connell, Rachel Kiser
Nov 10 Ben Briel
Nov 17 Steve Lee, Carol Carney
Nov 24 Karen Linfor
Nov 27 Peggy Moser

Communion Servers

Nov 3 Karen Linfor, Marlene Kiser,
Shirley Prouty
Nov 17 Connie Reule, David Saxby,
Faith Thomas
Nov 27 Howard Triebwasser, Gail Weber,
Merle Zbrog

Counters

Nov 3 Debi Lentsch, Connie Reule
Nov 10 John Orcutt, Triss Hoppman
Nov 17 Betty Englund, Barbara Manlapig
Nov 24 Holly Hoppman, Marlene Kiser

Greeters

Nov 3 *Needed*
Nov 10 Jennifer Connell, Rachel & Kids
Nov 17 Richey Family
Nov 24 *Needed*

Prayer Leaders

Nov 3 Bob Behr
Nov 10 Kelly Boyer
Nov 17 Betty Englund
Nov 24 "Ladies Day"
Nov 27 Judy Saxby

Psalm Leaders

Nov 3 Sierra Etchison
Nov 10 Aiyana Tice
Nov 17 Lucy Orcutt
Nov 24 Lauren Richey

Head Ushers

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

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

Nov 3 Christiana Wilson; Karen Linfor
Nov 10 Sarah Madison; Al Moser
Nov 17 Phil Petersen; Judy Saxby
Nov 24 "Ladies Day"
Nov 27 Marlene Kiser

Refreshments

Nov 3 Ed & Kirsten Ireton
Nov 10 Marc & Alison Thomas
Nov 17 Paul Maki & Chona Sison
Nov 24 Kelly Boyer & Lois Sherrets

Visitors' Gifts

Nov 3 Pat Hamilton
Nov 10 Gail Weber
Nov 17 Carole Edwards
Nov 24 Carole Vance

Acolytes

Nov 3 Lauren Richey
Nov 10 Noella Sondrini, Anthony Basquez
Nov 17 Claire Kerian, Elizabeth Wilson
Nov 24 Lucy Orcutt, Kimiya Ricciardi

Welcome Leaders

Nov 3 Chet Madison
Nov 10 Lois Sherrets
Nov 17 Karen Linfor
Nov 24 Merle Zbrog

Sunday School Teachers

Nov 3 Lauren Orcutt, Christina Hisamoto, Peggy Moser
Nov 10 Laura Tice, Samantha Basquez, Peggy Moser
Nov 17 Alison Thomas, Lajuan Andrews, Peggy Moser
Nov 24 Samantha Basquez, Laura Tice, Peggy Moser



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

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Return Service Requested



Join us

November 17
from 2 to 4 p.m.
in Shultz Hall

For a Conference
Assembly
with
Sierra Pacific Synod
and ELCA