



St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
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NEWS

and

VIEW



2021

## From Pastor Bill Interim

"How you doing? Fine.  
And you? Fine."

This simple exchange  
might just as well be  
translated into Hawaiian

as "Aloha" because it is the common greeting in our  
current American English usage. But what to do if  
the answer "fine" is not accurate?

Pretty easy if accuracy and expediency are both  
served with a quick: "just getting over this cold" or  
"trip to Hawaii next week." Simple problems we all  
encounter which are safe for another mutual  
courteous nod. We don't have to even break stride.  
As if we are all physically, emotionally, spiritually  
in sync all the time.

What if our woe would break the stride of our  
friend's day? Most of the time we say fine,  
preserving expediency over accuracy. Picking up a  
pretense that may preserve even the stride of our  
own day. Staying in sync. Busy, yes we are, and  
need to be, because, you know, life does go on. But  
when we are by ourselves life only goes on and on  
and on. Real living is different than just going on.

In each of these interactions, we pass by an  
opportunity to resonate the empathy that connects  
human beings so deeply. We trade them off for  
busy. We trade off sharing and real living for busy.

Sometimes it is the just showing up that generates  
the faithfulness that the Christian community  
shares and experiences. We do this well when we



come to our regular worship services or a  
memorial service or a chance to work together. I  
have always found this to be a powerful expression  
of faith from individuals as well as the whole  
community. Whenever a loss is suffered it is the  
mutual strength that carries the individual in times  
of weakness. Whenever celebration is the theme of  
the day, all participants in the community are lifted.  
It is the showing up that is so helpful.

Just as surely as such an expression occurs in a  
community it also occurs face to face and one on  
one. Sometimes it is a hospital or home visit, even  
in an accidental encounter.

We care for each other differently in a Christian  
community because we seek, find and open the  
moments, we make our time available, we quickly  
become ready to listen to give and receive  
relationship, and we are patient for the long haul.  
Right now, may not be the right time. Knowing  
when is difficult. Coordinating your busy and my  
busy, with our willingness is to live out the open  
heart love of Christ is the Spirit's job. But being  
ready is ours.

Ready means being available, aware, open,  
resolved, without having to debrief my own self.  
This makes us in sync to be a participant in God's  
work in the community. We must transcend the  
quick cliché that is a code word, an exit ramp, for  
difficult listening and open conversation.

Be full of care out there, and  
See you in church.

Peace

*Pastor Bill*

## IN-PERSON WORSHIP UPDATES

The Reopening Task Force held a meeting on June 17th to address what changes St. Luke's might make that are in line with Governor Newsom's "opening" California. The following changes were agreed on:

**Masks** will no longer be required for fully vaccinated individuals, but will still be required for those who are not vaccinated.

However, **Masks will still be required for those who wish to sing during services.** This decision was based on studies from two colleges that Pastor Bill received from Michael Duffek. Small particles of water/moisture from our mouths float further and stay longer. Singers should also continue to be six feet apart -- both inside and outside! Because we can now sing in church, the choir members who have been meeting on Friday mornings to record the hymns of the day will no longer do so. Also, due to the recommended distance of six feet apart, the pews will continue to be left as they are, with every other pew taped off.



**Communion kits** will continue to be used at this time.

**Attendance** will still be taken at the door.

**Directional signs** will be taken off the floor.

**Offering plates** will continue to be placed on the tables in the back of the Sanctuary, rather than passed around.

The Church's **Air Conditioning** can be used.

In God's Love,  
Shirley Prouty, Chair

## PROPERTY BOARD

### CUSTODIAN EMPLOYED AND OTHER EFFORTS



Throughout 2021, the Property Board has and will continue to, limit expenditures, as funds are uncertain during this transition period. Improvements and similar work that can be delayed are being postponed. However, required maintenance work is not being deferred. Some critical completed efforts are noted below.

**Custodian:** In early April, the Property Board received an email from Vanguard Cleaning Services that they could not continue the janitorial contract at the current rate of \$510 per month. Vanguard had serviced St. Luke's since 2015. The Board determined, and the Council approved, that the most economical solution was to employ a custodian. The logical choice was to hire the person who performed the actual cleaning work under the Vanguard contract. Thus, Maria Ruiz was hired as St. Luke's Custodian, beginning May 3.

**Welcome aboard Maria.**

Next time you see a kind lady, busy cleaning the church facilities, introduce yourself to Maria.

**Other:** Other recent significant Property Board efforts are listed below.

- On a regular basis, various Property Board members have checked the facilities during this period of minimal usage.
- Hired a contractor to replace the "access" door at the north end of the Schultz Hall Addition. This was a carryover project from 2020. Cost - \$880.
- Assisted the Reopening Committee. Purchased and installed materials to facilitate the reopening of the church facilities. Cost - \$553.

- Continued to work with W-ELCA on a suitable replacement for the broken ice maker, which was sold “as is” for \$300.
- Kept the roses and other shrubbery pruned. Thank you Board Member Bruce Kiser and his faithful crew.
- Conducted a successful “All Members Work Day”, primarily to prepare for the Easter services.
- Employed a large vehicle and crew to remove several existing debris piles and the debris along the building foundations. The cost was paid for by a Property Board member.
- In April, hired a plumber to repair a major leak in the main line for the irrigation system. Cost – \$375.
- Employed a landscaper to replace an irrigation control valve. Cost – \$300.
- In May, hired a plumber to repair two, leaking urinals. Cost – \$266.
- Assisted Marlene Kiser and others to complete the installation of an Ethernet cable (for online services) through the facilities; thus, moving the cable out of sight and eliminating the tripping hazards.

Later this year, the Property Board will reserve \$2,000 for a future project to seal coat and restripe the Parking Lot. This work is required every five to seven years to preserve the parking lot.

Additional painting efforts are being deferred at this time.

**Thanks:** The Property Board thanks you for your continuing support. See you at this year’s Fireworks Booth.

Clarence Korhonen, Chairperson  
St. Luke’s Property Board.



As we look forward to opening the church please watch for information about an upcoming Bunco event, the date & time of the event, and when tickets will go on sale.

The next W-ELCA meeting is still planned for September 11, 2021, will be at 11:30 am in-person in the Schultz Hall. As the event comes closer a determination of luncheon will be made.

Yours in Christ Love,  
Marlene Kiser, WELCA President

### **SUMMER MISSION PROJECT**

The July and August Mission Project for Community Concerns and W-ELCA is the collection of basic school supplies for Charles Mack Elementary School and Parkway Elementary School. We have 120 backpacks to fill this year.

#### **Needs for Charles Mack Elementary School:**

- Pencils
- Pens
- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Dry erase markers
- White boards
- Scissors
- Paper





### Needs for Parkway Elementary School:

- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Dry erase markers
- White boards
- Student Scissors
- Lined Paper
- Markers
- Backpacks



Please drop off any supply donations either in the Church Narthex as you come to church or you can drop them off before worship on Sunday morning. All supplies will be needed by July 25. On August 1 we will fill the backpacks. Mark your calendar. Many hands make light work!



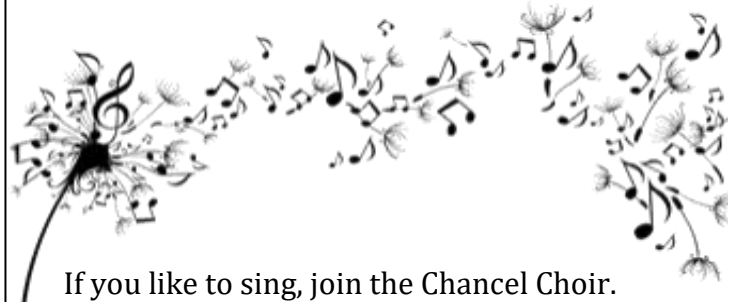
Maria, St. Luke's Custodian, wishes to thank St. Luke's members for the card and gift in memory of her husband who recently passed.

Your thoughts and gift are much appreciated.



Look who came to Hot Springs--our first guests, Linda Ferguson, Sue Fechter and Boreal. They came through AR the end of May and stopped in Hot Springs on their way to NC to see Linda's daughter, Ginny and family. It was so much fun seeing them.

Ron & Pat Webb



If you like to sing, join the Chancel Choir. No previous experience is required. There are no auditions and it is not necessary to know how to read music. The only requirements are a desire to learn to praise the Lord with song and a willingness to attend one weekday evening practice and Sunday morning 10:30 worship. If you are interested please contact our Jane Fanucci. Email: [jef100bicen@yahoo.com](mailto:jef100bicen@yahoo.com) or call (916) 224-4917

# IT'S NOT TOO LATE, LET'S CELEBRATE!



Only a few days left to pick up everything you need for your block party extravaganzas! Whether you need to pick up just a few more finale items or a large assortment to keep your party rocking and rolling, we have everything you need to make your 4<sup>th</sup> of July spectacular! Come down to our booth located at 6366 Mack Road in the Food Source Parking Lot and choose from our huge selection of TNT Fireworks! We appreciate all your business as it helps fund the various Property Projects in and around St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Remember it's not too late to celebrate!



Any questions, see Larry Dockter!

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

*May 2021*

*(On-site worship services did not return until March 7, 2021 ).*



### Comments:

- May had five Sundays.
- The number of unique contributors this month slightly increased from April; however, the increases must continue to attain the 2020 level.
- The May offerings increased nearly \$1,000 over last month but continue to lag the Budget by about 11 percent.
- If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jack Fenske 916-714-3626, [LRFenske@comcast.net](mailto:LRFenske@comcast.net)  
St. Luke's Financial Secretary

Keith Spear	July 01
Bruce Kiser	July 05
Cliff Landaker	July 06
Kris Niemi	July 06
Bekka Roberts	July 07
Rosie Johnson	July 08
Alvin Boschee	July 16
Steven Lee	July 17
Lily Neidich	July 20
Pat Webb	July 27
Linda Olsen	July 28
Ron Zoesch	July 29
Nolan Jaeger	July 30

General Fund (Only) Contributions		
Data	This Month	Year to Date
<b>Total Contributions</b>	\$14,946	\$67,569
<b>Compared to Budget</b>	-\$1,749	-\$8,442
	-10.5%	-11.1%
<b>Compared to 2020</b>	-\$2,985	-\$15,032
	-16.6%	-18.2%
No. of Contributors		
<b>2021</b> (Current Year)	60	55 avg.
<b>2020</b> (Last Year)	67	67 avg.
<b>Other Contributions:</b>		
<b>a. Fireworks Donations -</b>		<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>b. Offset Processing Fees—</b>		<b>\$3.00</b>

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





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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 739  
Sacramento, CA

Return Service Requested

Come on out and join us!

# Fireworks Booth

**Hours**

**June 28th 12pm-9pm**

**June 29—July 4 9pm-9pm**

**Located at**

**Food Source Parking Lot  
between McDonald's &**