



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
(916) 421-5039
www.slelca.org
office@slelca.org
Pastor Brian Hiortdahl
Pastor@slelca.org



December 2022

News And Views

Welcome Pastor Brian!!!

Dear Beloved of God at St. Luke's,

I gratefully and joyfully accept your call to serve as pastor at St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Thank you for entrusting me with this sacred privilege. As we turn together into a new church year and a new chapter of St. Luke's storied ministry, may God's wisdom and grace inspire, direct, accompany, and sustain us in our shared calling to celebrate, announce, and live Christ's victory for the sake of the world.

Joy and Blessings!

Pastor Brian Hiortdahl

Thank you!

I so appreciated the letters and gifts I received as we ate and talked together after my final Sunday as worship and sermon leader. I greatly appreciate each and every one of you. It's been wonderful to be able to give you communion and to share conversations after church. It continues to be a joy to be a part of the St. Luke's worship family.

Pastor Ron Zoesch



The Zoom Bible Study continues on Tuesdays at 10:00 am. Please let Marlene Kiser know by email: marlenek@att.net or by phone (916-424-8626, please leave a message) if you are interested in attending the Zoom classes.

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 narthex.



Position Available

Are you interested in joining the TEAM? The following Council position is still available in 2023:

Youth Leader

Please be in prayer and consider where you might be able to assist in continuing St. Luke's mission of serving God, the Church, and the Community.

If you're interested in volunteering for this position, please see Shirley Prouty after church or speak with me. We can discuss your consideration in person, I'm at church every Sunday or I can be reached by telephone at (916)662-3073 or send me an email at agrannyatlarge@aol.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

Carolyn Andrews Council President



Our annual Congregational Meeting will be held, this year in-person, on **December 11, 2022 immediately following the 10:30 worship service.**

There will be a potluck following the meeting so please sign up in the Narthex. We will be presenting the proposed budget for 2023, and voting on the leadership positions of Council President, Vice President and Youth Leader.

Thank you for your continued support. All that's being done, couldn't be done without each of you. St. Luke's church family is strong as always.

Cantata

The choir's annual Christmas cantata under the direction of Jane Fanucci will be presented **Sunday, December 18th at the 10:30 service.** Invite your friends and family for this inspirational and up-beat musical presentation.





W-ELCA will be having their Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, **December 10th at 11:30AM** this year in the Schultz Hall. The luncheon will be provided by the W-ELCA Board so please sign up on the W-ELCA Christmas Luncheon Sign Up Sheet on the Opportunity Table, we would love to see all the ladies of the church attend. Our luncheon will include a short W-ELCA meeting, 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 \$10.00 so you can join the fun). Our Joint Mission Support with Community Concern for December is collecting gift cards (certificates) for \$5.00 a piece to be provided to Union Gospel Mission and Loafs & Fishes to be handed out to the Homeless.

Thank You!!!

I would like to give a special Thank You to Bruce Kiser, Jack Fenske, Bob Behr, Mack Vance and Gerry Thomas for helping set up Schultz Hall for the Meet and Greet Potluck on November 13th. I want to Thank Punky Dias for helping us on Friday and Saturday. I need to Thank Peggy Moser for making the Iced Tea and getting the Ice. Also Thank you to Dorothy Haney for the Lemon aid. Thank you to everyone who brought wonderful food and helped clean up. Thank you again Peggy for doing all the dishes.

In Christ, Carole Vance



Church-Generated Trash (requirements and procedures)

Ed. Note: The trash service agreement (schedule and bin size) with Republic Services might not be fully implemented when this article is read.

Everyone by now should be familiar with the new trash recycling requirements implemented by the County of Sacramento and the cities within the county for residential addresses. However, the church is considered a commercial address and must meet slightly different requirements.

So let us talk “trash” at the church and the effect of the recent State laws that affect the church trash procedures. Now that the pandemic is behind us, surely St. Luke’s will, once again, have pot lucks and other events, which means more trash.

City Requirement: The City of Sacramento requires all commercial addresses, such as the church, to employ an **authorized private “trash hauler” to haul and dispose of the generated trash at each commercial address.**

Recycle Laws: In general, the new State laws require garbage to be separated into three bins – (1) organic material (all organic material including vegetation), (2) dry recycle (metal, certain plastics, and dry paper materials) and (3) trash (other garbage). **But St. Luke’s is exempt from the recycling laws as it does not generate sufficient garbage during the average week.** The Property Board has obtained the required exemptions and related documents from the City of Sacramento to verify.

Pick Up Schedule: Because of the new State recycling laws, the City of Sacramento requires the trash haulers to service each **address once each week. Thus, St. Luke’s trash hauler, Republic Services, will be picking up St. Luke’s trash every week.**

Currently, the church trash is picked up every other week. The Property Board has signed a new agreement with Republic to implement the new schedule.

Bin Size: Since the trash will now be picked up every week, the **new agreement with Republic and St. Luke’s reduces the bin size**

to one cubic yard. This is a 33 percent reduction from the current bin capacity. This reduction and the new schedule **allowed St. Luke’s to negotiate a significant reduction in St. Luke’s refuse service expense with Republic.**

Overflowing Bins: Overflowing bins are expensive. The trash must fit inside the bin with the covers closed. Whenever Republic encounters an overflowing bin, the driver will photograph the overflowing bin and an extra charge is added to the monthly invoice. Extra pick ups are even more expensive, but the Property Board realizes that, at times, extra pick ups are warranted, such as for the Crab Feed. Thus, the Board has budgeted for three extra pickups. However, please avoid overflowing the bin and extra pick ups, when feasible. Thank you.

Options for Events: Events can generate large amounts of trash. Organizers of such events should consider various options if the trash generated is greater than the bin capacity. When planning an event, the initial consideration should always be to reduce the amount of trash generated. For example, use washable plates instead of paper plates. If such options are not feasible, please consider these alternatives. Alternative 1 is to secure the trash into large bags and hold the extra trash until the following week. If done, please return and place the extra trash in the bin when bin space is available. Alternative 2 is to secure the trash in large bags and have individuals with facilities elsewhere to dispose of the trash.

Closing: The Property Board, in cooperation with Treasurer Kirsten Ireton, has worked diligently with the City of Sacramento and Republic Services to implement the new State laws **regarding recycling and to reduce the cost of St. Luke’s refuse services.** Although the Board believes that a satisfactory solution has been developed, the Board realizes that the implementation is not complete, and changes are likely to occur. Thank you for being patience.

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

Poinsettias



If you would like to donate \$15 toward the purchase of a Poinsettia Plant in honor or memory of someone, please fill out the poinsettia form and enclose with it your donation in a few envelope. Poinsettias can be picked up following the service on December 25th. Please contact Shirley Prouty with questions.



December's WELCA project will be gift cards for the homeless. We are requesting \$5.00 gift cards to any fast food restaurant, Dollar Tree or 99 Cent Store. We will also be accepting monetary donations to be spent on purchasing gift cards. Donations will help Loaves and Fishes and Union Gospel Mission to provide a little Christmas cheer! Please contact Marlene Kiser or Peggy Moser if you have any questions.

Thank You!



Community Concerns we would like to thank the congregation for the amazing outpouring of food and money donations for the Elk Grove Food Bank. We collected 128 pounds and \$200.00 in checks. This will help the people who need it the most.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

We are now collecting hats, gloves and scarves for the homeless. We have a decorated barrel (thank you Cathy and Gaylen) in the narthex.



Thank you again for your generosity.

Again, thank you for all you do to help support our mission.

God's blessings to you all,

Linda Duffek and Cathy Davis

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

November 2022

Comments:

- a. Through November, the YTD offerings are 2.6 percent below Budget and about the same as last year. Increases are necessary to sustain **St. Luke's**.
- b. Need offering envelopes? If you need offering envelopes, please contact me either by email or telephone, or simply put a note int the offering plate.

Jack Fenske 916-714-3626,

LRFenske@comcast.net

St. Luke's Financial Secretary

Data	This Month	Year to Date
Total Contributions	\$10,769	\$142,928
Compared to Budget	-\$2,569	-\$3,786
	-19.3%	-2.6%
Compared to 2021	-\$281	\$568
	-2.5%	0.4%
No. of Contributors		
2022 (This Year)	50	52 aver.
2021 (Last Year)	53	54 aver.

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

December Birthdays



Alanna Olmeda.....December 01
Faith Harper.....December 03
Carole Vance December 03
Kim FenskeDecember 04
Benjamin Iniquez.....December 05
Jared Kiser.....December 05
Betty EnglundDecember 14
Chet Madison December 16
Sylvia Kohler.....December 21
Deanna Dockter.....December 27
Adalyn Kiser.....December 31

Advent

God Bless Us Everyone! Advent and Christmas home devotionals “Heaven and Nature Sing” are now available. They are available in the narthex.





The waiting is over!! We are so very blessed to welcome our new Pastor Brian Hiortdahl, his wife Tina and family to St. Luke's Lutheran Church. We are so excited for the future of our church and the journey God has in store for us!!

Our service in observance of All Saints Day on November 6th was a touching tribute to honor our loved ones who have passed on to their heavenly home. Many of our members brought pictures of their loved ones, and everyone was invited to light a candle in memory of their dearly departed loved ones. It was, indeed, a beautiful service, and one we will continue in the future.

Our Veterans banners were proudly displayed in honor of Veterans Day on November 13th. A big "Thank You!" to Paul Maki for playing "Taps" and special music, as well as to our wonderful Choir, led by Jane Fanucci.

Christmas Season – the wonderful celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, began November 27th which was the first Sunday of Advent. Advent devotionals are available on the tables in the back of the Sanctuary. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for Advent readers and candle lighters for the Sundays in December, and also for the Christmas Eve service which will be held at 7:00 pm. Please consider participating!

The Christmas card exchange box is set up in the Narthex. Please use this box to send Christmas cards to fellow church members, rather than mailing them. It is a great way to save on postage.

Decorating the Christmas tree and the Sanctuary will take place on Saturday, December 10th, following the W-ELCA luncheon. Estimated time is 1:30 pm. If you are interested in helping, please let me or a members of the Worship & Music Board know. Those members are Marlene Kiser, Peggy Moser, Karen Linfor, Jacob Wilson, Carolyn Andrews, and Shirley Prouty.

Poinsettias have been ordered and will be displayed in the Sanctuary. If you are interested in purchasing a Poinsettia in memory of, or honor of someone, they will be available for purchase for \$15.00 each and can be picked up after service on Sunday, December 25th. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Sunday Bulletin.

Please remember that our Choir's annual Cantata will be Sunday, December 18th. Our Choir Director and Organist, Jane Fanucci, and the Choir have been working on this musical presentation since September. You don't want to miss it!

In Christ's Love,
Shirley Prouty, Chair

The Soul Sisters have been busy!!
48 tiny Santa hats made for Kaiser's NICU. The Soul Sisters meet at church every Monday from noon to 2:00. And all are welcome!!!



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

Return Service Requested



Tree Decorating
December 10th
Following the 11:30
W-ELCA Luncheon &
meeting
(see you about 1:00)



Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT
SERVICE

December 24th
7:00pm



CANTATA

December 18th
10:30am