



Pastor Brian Hiortdahl
pastorbrian@slelca.org

News And Views



P a s t o r a l P e r s p e c t i v e

After decades of faithful service at St. Luke's, the Hoppman family graciously returned to celebrate with us the installation of the new pastor in early February. Pastor Carl set the tone by opening worship with a warm welcome and a wise reminder: You are the church.

Pastors come and go, but the victory of Christ and our mission to share it remain constant. Easter is eternal. God's good news persists and prevails. God's church always has work to do and witness to give, regardless of who, if anyone, currently occupies the pastor's office.

St. Luke's has learned this the hard way, and learned it well. Pause for a moment and reflect upon all that was accomplished between pastors. The congregation navigated a pandemic and solidified its online worshiping presence. Needy children received clothes and backpacks. Weekly Bible study, led not by a pastor, nourished souls online. A local hospital has more hats and blankets than it knows what to do with. Grieving families were wrapped in love when a spree of death raged through the congregation.

The call committee did a lot of work preparing to call a new pastor while the property committee continued its reliable stewardship of a very large, aging campus without missing a beat. Community groups were hospitably welcomed and hosted. Leadership kept the rig on the road amid staff changes, health mandates, synod upheaval, and more. Members called on and cared for one another. And many readers are probably thinking of more things I haven't mentioned yet, which underlines the point. The church has accomplished a lot! You are the church.

The work doesn't disappear now that the new pastor is in place, though some of it might change and other things are now possible. You are still the church, and our mission remains: *to spread the good news, serve those in need, and share the victory of Jesus Christ throughout the world.* You did it, you're doing it, and you are called to commissioned to continue doing it moving forward. Thank you for your part in this great endeavor, and keep up the good work!



WORSHIP & MUSIC BOARD

March 2023

At our regular meeting held on February 1, 2023, the Board discussed preparations for the Lenten Season, which began with Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023. A delicious Soup Supper preceded the worship service with guest minister, the Rev. Dr. Donald Heinz who is professor of Religious Studies emeritus at California State University, Chico.

YES!! After a hiatus of three years, our traditional Soup Suppers during Lent are back!! Please join us in Schultz Hall each Wednesday in March for Soup Supper at 6:00 pm followed by a guest ministry partner sharing a profile of Jesus in our midst from 6:30 to 7:00 pm. To contribute to Soup Suppers, signup in the Narthex. In addition to soups, desserts and breads are also needed.

A Work Day will be held on Saturday, April 1st, to clean and polish all elements used during services. Palm branches will also be placed around the church in preparation for Palm Sunday, April 2nd. On Maundy Thursday, April 6th, the service will be held at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, and will include stripping the Altar. Please consider participating in both of these events, since many volunteers are needed. Signup sheets will be available in the Narthex later in March.

Good Friday service on April 7th will also be in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm. Easter Sunday service will be at 10:30 am. Look for information in this newsletter about plans from the Evangelism Committee regarding a Continental Breakfast before church service.

Lenten Devotionals have arrived and are available in the Narthex, next to the doors.

There are many opportunities to volunteer to help in many ways, including our most pressing need, Ushers!! If you are interested in helping in any way, please let me or the church office know.

Just a reminder, it is **NEVER TOO LATE** to join the Choir! Please see Jane Fanucci, Choir Director, if you are interested.

In Christ's Love,

Shirley Prouty, Chair



Wednesdays in Lent - We Want to See Jesus

and

Lenten Soup Suppers

Join us each Wednesday in March for soup supper at **6:00pm** and a guest ministry partner sharing a profile of Jesus in our midst from **6:30-7:00pm**. To contribute soup, please sign up in the narthex.

The Evangelism Board coordinates the Church council boards and/or groups that host each soup supper.

Each board/group sets up the room and provides soups, breads, desserts and clean-up. W-ELCA will host the first Soup Supper. The following is the list of dates for each Soup Supper:

February 22nd: WELCA

March 1st: Council

March 8th: Evangelism and Community Concerns

March 15th: Worship, Music & Choir

March 22nd: Property, Education and Youth

March 29th: Congregation



“What Does This Mean?” – Being a Lutheran Christian

Thursdays, 7-8pm, ages 12+

Are you new to the weird, wonderful world of church?

Do you think you might like to be baptized or confirmed?

Were you baptized or confirmed so long ago that you’ve forgotten what you learned?

Do you wonder why Lutherans do/think/sing/believe what they do?

On February 23, Pastor Brian launched a ten month class on the basics of Lutheran Christianity based on the Bible and Martin Luther’s Small Catechism. (There’s a Large Catechism too, but save that for seminary.) We’ll explore the story of God’s rocky relationship with humanity and delve into the 10 Commandments, the Apostles’ Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, what is a Sacrament?, and more. All are welcome; questions are encouraged! If you would like to join this class, there’s still room and time; please contact Pastor Brian by *March 8*.

New Member Sunday – Rescheduled to March 5

St. Luke’s will receive new members at 10:30am worship on Sunday, March 5. Please join us that day to welcome them!

If you would like more information or have questions about membership at St. Luke’s, please contact Pastor Brian.



We would like to thank everyone for the wonderful donations in January and February.

We were able to donate:

547 pairs of socks

347- Loaves and Fishes

150- Union Gospel Mission

50- Kelly - City of refuge

11 scarves

6- Loaves

5- Union Gospel Mission

Souper Bowl 2023

Cans of Soup

33 for Eagles and one pack of ramen

39 for Chiefs

Total 72 total cans donated to South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership.

Thank you,

Community Concerns and WELCA

71 Hats

35 - Loaves and Fishes

36 - Union Gospel Mission

57 Gloves

30 - Loaves

27 - Union Gospel Mission

We also had a bag of hand made hats from Dorothy.

We donated them to Union Gospel Mission.

women^{of}faith

The Women of ELCA celebrated both Valentine's Day and Women Heart Health month with of a group of about 20 women wearing red that day. We enjoyed a potluck lunch (with food the color of red); devotions and a fun Valentine Bingo game was provided by Faith Harper. Minutes were read from our last meeting from January 2023, by Marlene Kiser and the Treasury report was presented by Connie Reule.



The Benevolence for money earned from 2022 were read as part of the January Meeting Minutes as followed:

Year		Amount
2023	Warm Line Family Resource Center	\$300.00
2023	ELCA Good Gifts	\$300.00
2023	Mustard Seed School	\$300.00
2023	South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership	\$300.00
2023	Elk Grove Food Bank	\$300.00
2023	St. John's Program for Real Change	\$300.00
2023	Samaritan's Purse	\$300.00
2023	Boys and Girls Clubs of Sacramento	\$300.00
2023	Chicks in Crisis	\$300.00
2023	School Project Backpacks	\$300.00
2023	Wind Youth Services	\$300.00
2023	City of Refugee	\$300.00
2023	My Sister House	\$300.00
2023	Installation for Pastor Brian (installation)	\$378.00
		<hr/>
		\$4,278.00

New Business for the year was discussed of Ash Wednesday Soup Supper and Bunco.

The Mission project for W-ELCA/Community Concern Project for January was reported by Linda Duffek. Linda reported on the number of socks (547), hats (71), gloves (57) and scarves (11) that had been collected for Union Gospel Mission and Loaves and Fishes, thank you all who donated any items.

W-ELCA's next meeting will be March 11, 2023, at 11:30am and the lunch will be a potato bar – please bring a topping you like on your potatoes for our lunch. Mission support will be for "My Sister's House", gathering baby lotion, baby power, baby-shampoo, baby wash, diapers, and sanitary pads.

*Yours in Christ,
Marlene Kiser, WELCA Secretary*



Finance Update

January 2023

General Fund (Only) Contributions		
Data	This Month	Year to Date
Total Contributions	\$17,365	\$17,365
Compared to Budget	\$4,028	\$4,028
	30.2%	30.2%
No. of Contributors		
2023 (Current Year)	59	59

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

Other Contributions:

A. None

Comments:

- A. This January report includes several quarterly contributions that skew the report.
- B. Annual statements of 2022 contributions were distributed in January, for all contributions. If you did not receive a statement and believe you have, please contact me either by email or telephone.
- C. Need offering envelopes? If you need offering envelopes, please contact me or simply put a note on the offering plate.

*Jack Fenske 916/714-3626, LRFenske@comcast.net
St. Luke's Financial Secretary*

MARCH

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AND READINGS

Sunday March 5th

Carol Carney	Altar Care
Philip Karlstad	Reader
Christina Wilson	Prayer Leader

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Sunday March 12th

Marlene Kiser	Altar Care
Karen Linfor	Reader
Bob Behr	Prayer Leader

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11

Sunday March 19th

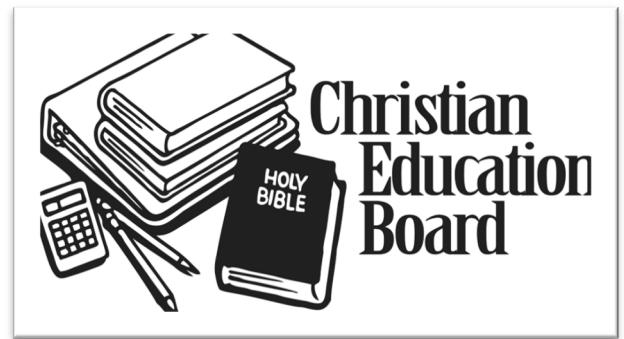
Gail Weber	Altar Care
Sarah Madison	Reader
Kelly Boyer	Prayer Leader

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14

Sunday March 26th

Kelly Boyer	Altar Care
Phillip Petersen	Reader
Kirsten Ireton	Prayer Leader

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11



We are on the lookout for **Sunday School teachers!** If you would like to volunteer a Sunday or 2 a month, we could sure use the help! Please inquire further by reaching out to Laura Tice via text or phone call at 916-271-7566.

We are seeking **Easter candy** donations to make Easter goody bags to pass out. A donation bin will be placed in the Narthex beginning March 5th. Thank you in advance for your donations! (Candy only, please! We have plenty of the plastic eggs!!) Eggs will be filled and goody bags assembled following Church service on **April 2nd** for anyone who would like to help with that. Thank you!

Corey Anderson	March 1
Selena Connell	March 5
Monica Willoughby	March 5
Jennifer Connell	March 6
Renee Roberts	March 6
Laura Tice	March 7
Kevin Kiser	March 9
Sarah Madison	March 16
Emma Kiser	March 23
Irma Lowe	March 23
David Saxby	March 23
Conner Ricciardi	March 24
Bob Harrison	March 26
Karen Kiser	March 28
Patricia Lehman	March 29
Bob Behr	March 30
Kelly Sobkowsky	March 30

Church Work Day

Saturday, April 1st

9:00am– 12:00pm

All members welcome. Bring a friend. Help us beautify the inside and outside of St. Luke's Church property for the Easter and spring season. Donuts and coffee will be provided.

Your Humble Servant,
Kelly Boyer

Installation Celebration

Sunday, February 5, 2023







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

Join Us!
Wednesday Soup Suppers
6:00pm
Guest Ministry Partner
6:30-7:00pm

