

The Master's Notes

February 2010

Lutheran Church of The Master

a Reconciling in Christ congregation

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Craig Shepherd 2000

LENT

Lent (Anglo-Saxon: "spring") is a season of soul-searching and repentance, reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days. Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. We have been invited to worship at 7:30 p.m. that evening, with Westwood Hills Congregational Church, our full-communion partner congregation. WHCC is located at 1989 Westwood Boulevard at La Grange, 2 blocks south of Santa Monica Blvd. Parking is in the lot just north of the church.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Through the first five Sundays of the new fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010, we have received \$14,805.53 in offerings and related giving of the \$141,775 goal we recently set ourselves in the new budget. Thanks for the generosity and regularity of your giving. Please remember to pick up your 2010 offering envelopes and use the enclosed envelope for a special offering to offset the cost of receiving The Lutheran magazine as well as the offering envelopes themselves. Many thanks.

Eily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

CATGUT MONDAYS

The CATGUT TRIO will present their next LCM concert on Monday, February 8th, at 7:30 p.m. The Catgut Trio has become one of the hottest chamber music ensembles on the West Coast, and you can enjoy their music-making right here! The Catgut Trio has won over audiences with its inspired and moving musicianship, unusual communicative abilities, and innovative and attractive programming. In addition to performing at a number of

venues in the greater LA area, they host this series at Church of The Master. For avid chamber music fans, the Catgut Trio will also be featured this month at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Pacific Palisades in the music Guild Concert Series on Friday, February 26th, at 8:00 p.m.

STATUS OF THE CALL PROCESS

The Call Committee met with Agnes McClain, from the Synod Office, on Tuesday, October 27, 2009. As a part of the Call Committee process in calling a new pastor, on November 15th and 22nd we held two congregational workshops. Each participant at the workshop was asked to complete a questionnaire. The questionnaires will be used to complete our "Congregational Profile". The completed Congregational Profile was sent to Bishop Nelson on January 16, 2010. Our Congregational Profile is a detailed description of our congregation and includes the congregation's composition and needs, neighborhood make-up and needs, future pastoral needs and our mission and vision for the future. Bishop Nelson will use our profile in selecting candidates to be interviewed by the Call Committee. If you have any questions or would like a copy of the Congregational Profile, please feel free to call Barbara Browning at (310) 393-6844. Our Call Committee members are: Kevin Grant, Deborah Warren, Richard Levine, and Barbara Browning.

In the interim until we call a new Pastor, Pastor Ron White will be with us part time beginning February 7, 2010. Please come on February 7th to meet and welcome Pastor White. We have had the pleasure of having Pastor Richards lead us in worship for the Sundays in January and we thank him so much for always being there to support us. Thank you Pastor Richards! During that time we have welcomed Steve Newberry and Russell Fung as new members, and we have welcomed Ralph Stanford in Baptism and Jessica Durston and Avalon Nuevo in Confirmation.

Barbara Browning, Call Committee

ANNUAL BUDGET CONGREGATION MEETING CONTINUED

The annual congregational budget meeting will continue immediately following worship on February 14th. We will receive and review our annual reports and consider any other pertinent business.

WORSHIP-ARTS-MUSIC UPDATE

As we announced last Sunday, we begin our newest challenge today. Nancy Ruczynski is now playing the organ for our worship on Sundays, as David York starts his new position at St. John's Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Los Angeles. David was offered the appointment as Interim Music Director, Organist, and Choir Director by St. John's in mid-January. This appointment is a great honor for David and his career, and as much as we will miss him on Sundays, we wish him well. The Cathedral will undertake a national search to make a permanent appointment in June. Until then, David has offered to continue with the LCM choir on Thursday evenings, choosing music and hymns and rehearsing the choir and soloists. We said "YES!" and then sought an organist who could play for worship and the choir on Sundays. This arrangement is intended to give the choir and congregation a greater stability after and during these months of change. We are happy that Nancy Ruczynski agreed to the somewhat unusual idea. Nancy is also the organist at Bel Air Presbyterian and leads the City of Angels Children's Choir. She attended UCLA and is studying organ with Tim Howard in the Master's program at CSUN. Nancy and David will work very closely to coordinate the worship and music. We thank David, Nancy, the choir and soloists, and the congregation for the support that will sustain our worship.

Sara McGah, Worship-Arts-Music Committee

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These short-term jobs offer good pay, flexible hours, paid training, and reimbursement for authorized work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work. Best of all, census takers work right in their own communities. Census taker jobs are excellent for people who want to work part-time, those who are between jobs, or just about anyone who wants to earn extra money while performing an important service for their community.

Tests are being given every Tuesday afternoon in February from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall. Practice tests are available here in the church office. For more information, contact Robin Nickel in the church office,

FLOWER CHART

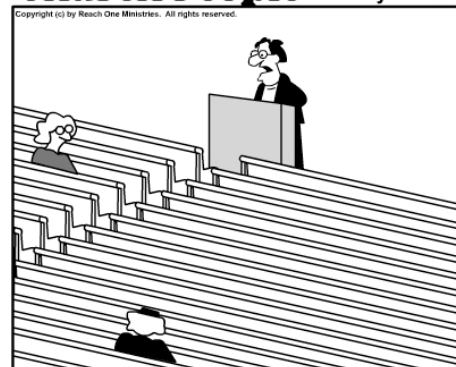
February 7	Jacob and Grace Ahn, in honor of the birth of their daughter, Cory Ann
February 14	Open
February 21	Janet Kaaya, in memory of Dr. E. Z. Kaaya and his mother, Anna.
February 28	Open

The new flower chart is ready for 2010. Please consider donating the altar flowers for worship. If you wish to memorialize someone or an event, please note that with your name on the flower chart. Just a reminder that the cost is \$15 for a single vase and \$30 for both vases. When paying for the flowers, please include the payment in your offering envelope and write "flowers" on the envelope.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Peggy Anderson, Bill Ashton (cousin of Emily Jackson-Yano), **Dolores Brown** (friend of Peggy Anderson), **Griff Browning, Lois Bykiewicz** (sister of Peggy Anderson), **Judith Cowie** (aunt of Charles Peruchini), **Donna Crean, Hollis "Deke" Erdmann, Sara Erman** (friend of Sarah Knickerbocker), **Marilyn Feiman** (sister-in-law of Charles Peruchini), **Pastor Nancy Hamm** (Christ Lutheran Church, Downey), **Wafa Ibrahim** (friend of Sarah Knickerbocker), **Chris Jackson** (nephew of Emily Jackson-Yano), **Lois Jackson** (mother of Emily Jackson-Yano), **Jonathan Kovac** (brother of Deborah Warren), **Pastor Gary & Madeleine Marshall, Gisela Marx, Derick Metzger** (family of Peggy Anderson), **Janice Newberry** (family of Steve Newberry), **Marty Oliver** (friend of Kaitlyn Nickel), **Marcy Pine, Ed Polite** (friend of Robin Nickel), **Grace Rogoff** (granddaughter of Charles Peruchini), **Eddi Rytterager** (friend of the Nickel family), **Lori Splinter** (Vice President of the Synod), **Igor Tashlitskiy** (friend of the Knickerbocker), **Rick Wetts** (son of Hazel and Wayne Wetts), **Pastor Ron White, Frances Willms, Mary Ann Wright** (sister of Millie Rojas), **Beckie Woods, Members of the AA Groups, and All Churches in the LA Metro Conferences**

Church People by Franko



**I think it's time for us to start up the Tuesday
night church visitation program again!**