

The Master's Notes

January 2010

Lutheran Church of The Master

a Reconciling in Christ congregation

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Craig Shepherd 2000

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In mid-December, our Interim Pastor Deborah Anderson left over several differences of opinions. We wish her well.

On short notice, Reverend and Dr. Elizabeth Steel stepped in for the January 20th service and again on Christmas Eve. She was wonderful. David York, the LCM choir and the South Coast Brass put in an amazing performance on Christmas Eve. For those of you who couldn't attend, you missed a wonderful service.

On Christmas Day, Reverend Joshua Elliot-McGuffie was our guest Pastor and brought with him many members from his home church, St. Andrew's Lutheran.

Guest organist Nancy Ruczynski played traditional Christmas favorites. (David York was away visiting relatives)

And on January 27th, retired Reverend Ronald White was our guest Pastor and Nancy Ruczynski played again.

We expect a new interim Pastor to be named sometime in January. In the mean time, we have a unique opportunity to compare preaching styles of accomplished and seasoned reverends right in our own church. This experience has influenced my thoughts on a permanent call pastor. I invite your comments.

On January 3 and January 10 there will be meetings after church to discuss the 2010 budget. On January 17 there will be a congregational vote on that budget. We encourage you all to attend.

Kevin Grant

ANNUAL BUDGET CONGREGATION MEETING

The annual congregational meeting will be immediately following worship on January 17, we will meet in a formal congregational meeting following worship to receive and review our annual reports, to consider and approve our 2010 budget, and to consider any other pertinent business.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our donations totaled \$14,747 in December, bringing our year-end donation total to \$120,138. The budget goal for 2009 was \$146,000 in offerings to the general fund. We are left \$20,245 short of our goal. Please consider your giving for the new year carefully to help your church continue to meet its benevolences and operating needs in 2010. New envelope packets are available in the narthex. Check with Robin. Thank you!

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 will be sent to Bishop Nelson. 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 question, 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

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER

We are pleased to announce that David York has agreed to continue as Organist/Choirmaster on a permanent basis. His organ 'driving' is superb and the choir has grown in his hands to be a very fine ensemble. We are blessed with his musicianship and good spirits.

WESTSIDE FOOD BANK
"FOOD DRIVE"

Now until January 8, 2010, we are participating in a food drive along with other churches on the Westside. We are asking that you help us fill the barrels in the Narthex by bringing the following items to the church office by Friday.

The following are the types of food we like to receive: (no glass please, except for baby food.)

Cans of: Tuna, Vegetables, and Soup, Fruits and Fruit Juices, Pork & Beans, and Stews & other Meats.

Packaged Foods: Pasta, Lentils, Pinto and other beans, Macaroni & Cheese & Packaged Dinners, Instant Soups, Hot and Cold Cereals, Peanut Butter & other Nut Butters. Nutritional Bars: protein, granola, and energy or breakfast bars. Baby foods are also urgently needed.

Please also consider collecting the following items: Infant formula, Jar foods – all flavors and stages, Crackers, teething biscuits, and cookies, Raisins & fruit snacks, Juices: jars, cans, pouches and boxes, and Infant and children's cereals.



FLOWER CHART

January 3	Open.
January 10	Open.
January 17	Ron and Robin Nickel, in honor of Kaitlyn's and Jeremy's birthdays.
January 24	Open
January 31	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)
The family and friends of Dr. Edwin Butler
Lois Bykiewicz (sister of Peggy Anderson)
The Campbell Family (friends of Dave Shelton)
Judith Cowie (aunt of Charles Peruchini)
Donna Crean
Sara Erman (friend of Sarah Knickerbocker)
Marie Fung (mother of Russell Fung)
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)
Eddi Rytterager (friend of the Nickel family)
Jackie Savage
Heidi and Joshua Schilling (friends of Robin Nickel)
Lori Splinter (Vice President of the Synod)
Igor Tashlitskiy (friend of the Knickerbocker)
Rick Wetts (son of Hazel and Wayne Wetts)
Mary Ann Wright (sister of Millie Rojas)
Frances Willms
Members of the AA Groups
All Churches in the LA Metro Conferences

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



SERMON SURVIVAL TIP: If during the sermon, you drift off to a peaceful slumber.. and your wife gently nudges you, pretend you were praying, and just quietly say.. "AMEN".

