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NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	2	3 Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.
4 <i>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</i> Bible Study 9:45-10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 Compline 8:30 p.m.	5	6 Second 2008 Budget Meeting 7:45 p.m. AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	7 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	8 Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	9	10 Men's Bible Breakfast at Mt Olive 8:00 a.m.
11 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 Compline 8:30 p.m.	12	13 Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	14 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	15 Worship and Music 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	16	17 Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.
18 Bible Study 9:45-10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 Compline 8:30 p.m.	19	20 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	21 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	22 <i>THANKSGIVING</i> Worship at Mt. Olive 11:00 a.m. followed by dinner	23	24
25 Bible Study 9:45-10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 Compline 8:30 p.m.	26	27 Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	28 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	29 Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	30 NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS Jacob Ahn Mary Savage	November 5 November 29

The Master's Notes



November 2007

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John Rollefson - Pastor

FROM THE PASTOR

NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

Each Sunday we pray together that God would "lead our hearts, heads, and hands, as we examine our church health and learn how you want us to grow through the process of Natural Church Development." You haven't heard much about NCD in recent months, but some of you will remember the survey we took many months ago that identified the area of our worship life as a priority for us to work together to improve as a way of enhancing our overall congregational life.

Since that time a number of initiatives

have been taken in this regard, including small group conversations and individual interviews to help determine specific concerns. A year ago the new *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* book was introduced to our congregation and several new liturgies from it have been used. Sunday night Compline continues to be a major effort at outreach to the larger community through high quality worship not available from other churches. Our choir membership has grown to include UCLA students as section leaders, and our Music and Worship Committee has offered scholarships to these vocal music students. A seasonally appropriate process of worship planning has been introduced in which James and I take the lead and the entire Worship and Music Committee has opportunity for feedback. Great care is taken to select a range of hymns balancing old favorites with new or unfamiliar hymns, striving to select hymns especially appropriate to the texts we hear in their seasonal context with a strong emphasis on the choir's leadership in encouraging congregational participation in song. Choral offerings supported by additional instrumental music for special days like last Sunday's Reformation celebration and next week's All Saints' Sunday distinguish our worship, as do the occasional educational offerings we host such as Dr. Marshall's presentation on translating the hymns of Paul Gerhardt. I have conducted a couple of sermon feedback sessions with more to come. And not to be forgotten was the eagerness with which members of the congregation stepped forward to volunteer to preach during my sabbatical—and more than that, the enthusiasm with which they were received! A refresher course for assisting ministers, readers, ushers and other worship leaders was conducted. And we continue to take great care with our seasonal liturgical decoration, Millie does a great job in providing appropriately colorful and creative flower arrangements, and Sara and Emily faithfully oversees the care and keeping of our altarware and sanctuary. And just think how

much—even if temporarily—the WPA mural left over from “The Last Days of Judas Iscariot” has enhanced our chancel area.

These past months have witnessed a great deal of change and energy expended in enhancing our worship life together. But of course this does not mean that worship now becomes less of a priority. Rather, our NCD Health Team will be moving toward our participating in another survey both to determine whether the changes and focus on worship these past months have led us to a sense of positive accomplishment and enhancement in our worship life while also giving us the opportunity to discover whether we might benefit from taking on the challenge of working to improve another area of our life together as a congregation.

Pastor John Rollefson

ALICE BRANNVALL MEMORIAL

Our congregation's oldest saint, Alice Brannvall, passed from this life on Tuesday, October 16th while staying at her daughter's home in Valencia. Alice, a native of northern Sweden near the Arctic Circle, was a regular at worship, sitting in her front pew and enjoying both Bible Study before worship and coffee and conversation time after. She was an inspiration to all of us who knew her, and we mourn her passing during this year she was preparing to celebrate her 100th birthday.

All Saints' Sunday worship on November 4th will be dedicated to Alice's memory. The Choir will be singing the Hungarian composer Zoltan Kodaly's *Missa Brevis* for the occasion and opportunities for brief remembrances of Alice will be provided within the liturgy for All Saints and during our coffee and conversation time. On the Sunday we learned of Alice's death when we sang together in our closing hymn, #792 new to us in *ELW* but sung to the well known tune of Jean Sibelius' “Finlandia”:

*Within your Spirit, goodness lives unfading,
The past and future mingle into one.
All joys remain, unshadowed light pervading.
No valued deed will ever be undone.
Your mind enfolds all finite acts and off'rings.
Held in your heart, our deathless life is won.*

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Through Reformation Sunday, October 28, we have received a total of \$109,659 in general account offerings or 81.2% of the \$135,000 budgeted for this 2007 fiscal year. This means we're about \$2,000 behind our plan, though your steady and generous giving through the end of the year will be crucial in helping us to meet our budget. This week members will receive a stewardship mailing which will include a report on the amount of your giving through September 30th. We hope you will use this to spur you on in your giving through the end of the year. And please do take the opportunity to use the “growth giving worksheet” to calculate what percentage of your income you are currently giving through the church in order to challenge yourself to grow in the proportion this coming year, returning your commitment card with your offering beginning All Saints Sunday, November 4th.

COMPLINE

Compline, our beautiful Sunday evening service of prayer at the close of the day continues every Sunday evening at 8:30 p.m. Led by LCM-er Deke Erdmann, Compline features the chants and anthems of the professional men's choir, The Master's Consort. Come, “Listen to the quiet!”

FLOWER CHART

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| November 4 | Lutheran Church of The Master,
in memory of Alice Brannvall |
| November 11 | Sara McGah,
in memory of Tom |
| November 18 | Charles Peruchini,
in memory of his father's birthday. |
| November 25 | Dave Shelton, Kaitlyn Nickel,
and Julie Johnson,
in memory of Alice Brannvall |



OUR PRAYER LIST

Bill Ashton (cousin of Emily Jackson-Yano), **Jack and Doris Billingsley** (grandparents of Phil Haussmann), **The family of Alice Brannvall** (Alice passed away from this life October 16, 2007), **Laura Brodian** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Dolores Brown** (friend of Peggy Anderson), **The Campbell Family** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Kathy Coleman** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Dean Deutmeyer** (friend of Charles Peruchini), **Pat Driscoll** (mother of Julie Johnson), **Frances Illingworth** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Laurel Jones** (also known as Katie Luther), **Judith Kubzansky, Summer Lager** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Donna Mae Taylor and her mother** (friends of Dave Shelton), **Pastor Gary Marshall** (Mt.Olive Lutheran, Santa Monica), **The Marshall Family** (friends of Dave Shelton), **Claudia Patton** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Patricia Warren** (mother-in-law of Deborah Warren), and **Pastor Bill and Frances Willms**.

PRAYER LIST NOTE: Our prayer list is an important part of our congregation's prayer mission. We publish prayer requests for individuals and concerns here and in the weekly worship bulletin for everyone to refer to for their personal prayers. You are encouraged to continue to bring persons or concerns to worship in the intercessory petition of the prayer of the church.