

# The Master's Notes

August 2017

Lutheran Church of The Master

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
*a Reconciling in Christ congregation*

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Craig Shepherd 2000

## Thoughts from Pastor Peg



Dear friends in Christ,

Several Sundays in a row we hear parables that compare the reign of God to a sower, to weeds, to mustard seeds and leaven in a loaf. These Matthew 13 parables confound us because this reign of God of which they speak is more beautiful, more unexpected, more life-affirming than we can grasp. Yet the promise is, this beautiful grace grasps us! The church's proclamation is precisely this ongoing grace that saves us.

The conviction of Christian faith is that Almighty God loves us at all costs. This is the message of the cross. The Bible tells us Jesus spent his life doing things we don't quickly understand. He welcomes strangers others fear. He serves neighbors who can't give anything in return. Jesus forgives rather than retaliates. He trusts God to make good out of evil.

A recent *Christian Century* article spoke to me and I read it at the July Church Council meeting, I shared it in a sermon, and now I share it with you here. It speaks of this kingdom of heaven. Sam Wells writes:

"I'm trying to do something beautiful: to run a church. Every day we're seeking to model the way Christ makes us God's companions through fun, fellowship, sacrifice, service and prayer, to draw agile and disabled, privileged and excluded into a company of grace. That's

what gets me out of bed in the morning: a stranger might wander into a church lunch, concert, or (we might add Movie Night) and the stranger asks, "This kingdom you speak of – this turning of society into community, this freedom and flourishing beyond market and state, this company of grace – what does it look like?" And we can sweep our hand over every aspect of our life together and say: 'It looks like this.'"

I hope every decision we make in shaping our life together has this vision behind it. A good benchmark is: Is this decision consistent with what Jesus would have us glimpse about the reign of God, the kingdom of heaven – so we can "sweep our hand over it and say 'God's reign looks like this?'" I give thanks for all the ways this is so beautifully true at LCM. Grace grasps us! Christian community at its best is an outreaching witness to this promise.

In gratitude for life together in this grace, *Pastor Peg*

## From the President

### **We want your opinions:**

As part of the call process, we did a survey of our congregation, but we only got thirteen responses out of ninety sent out. Some people found the wording confusing. So to elicit greater participation, we would like you to send an email to the church office, [churchoffice@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org](mailto:churchoffice@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org). The email can be about anything you want, and it can be as long or as short as you like. We want your opinions about the church and your hopes for its future. We will collect all of these letters and make them an addendum to the call process. Prospective pastors will be able to read as many of the letters as they want.

*(continued on back)*

## Church Council Highlights:

- We watched the first of a series of biblical stewardship videos called "Our Duty and Delight" by Mark Allan Powell. We will continue the series in future meetings.
- Pastor Peg will be on vacation for two weeks, which will include the Sundays of July 30th and August 6th.
- Average attendance is 51 people per Sunday.
- Fred will speak during the announcements about Vanco giving and giving to the church through the Amazon Smile option.
- Barbara is creating talent cards listing the talents of church members for reference in case we need their help.
- Fred volunteered to try creating a press release for the church and see what interest it generates.
- July 29<sup>th</sup> will be a work day devoted to removing the carpeting around the choir loft.
- The next council meeting will be August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Isaac Ironworks will be working on our votive candle holder.
- The Baptismal Font is being manufactured along with an accompanying candle holder.

*Kevin Grant, President*

## Blessing of The Animals Save The Date

All God's  
Creatures



Save the date  
Blessing of the Animals  
Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
At Lutheran Church of The Master  
Music, fun activities & lunch  
Invite friends & bring your critters!

## Flower Chart



August 6	In honor of Kathleen Richard Ricketts.
August 13	Charles Peruchini
August 20	Open
August 27	Open

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. Note: the cost in 2017 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 make sure to write "flowers" on the envelope.

## Financial Update

Greetings! In July we received **\$14,706.38** in donations for the General Fund. This brings our Year-to-Date total to **\$64,296.63**, or **44.08%** of our 2017 goal of **\$145,875**. Thank you!

*Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary*

## AmazonSmile

Would you like to benefit LCM while shopping online? You can if you have an account with Amazon! AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, etc. as Amazon. However, if you use the AmazonSmile website, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of all eligible purchases to LCM at no additional cost to you. You can "unsubscribe" at any time.

To register:

- Sign in to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
  - From your desktop, go to "Your Account" from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to "Change your Charity".
  - From your mobile browser, select "Change your Charity" from the options at the bottom of the page.
- Select a new charitable organization to support. Be sure to choose "Lutheran Church of the Master in Los Angeles".

Any questions? Contact Emily or Ken

## Paint a Picture on Craft Day, Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>

Artists John Johnson, Bilal El Kaissi and George Cortez will lead a group in "Painting from the Source," a technique that involves painting random shapes and lines, looking for what you see in them, then completing the image along those lines. Paints, brushes and canvas boards will be provided, along with lunch. 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Parish House.

## Free Community Law Clinic



Attorney Parviz Malakouti continues to host the Community Law Clinic to provide free legal consultations to individuals, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. **The next clinic will be on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

## Helping The Homeless

John Johnson, our office manager, continues to hand out lunches, hygiene kits and limited items of clothing to the homeless. If you would like to contribute food, we can use individual packaged items such as easy-open cans of tuna, meat, fruit, pudding, cheese and crackers, energy/protein bars, juices and small bottles of water. If you would like to contribute to the hygiene kits, we need travel-size tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes and gallon-size resealable plastic bags. Desired clothing items include new socks, underwear and t-shirts. Thank you for being a part of our ministry to the homeless.

## Invitation to Explore Scripture



Please join us Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the parish house as we preview and discuss one of the scripture passages we'll hear during that day's worship. Leah Chang continues to facilitate; all participants continue as teachers. Added incentives? You can enjoy a donut and a cup of coffee, lemonade, or tea! Hope to see you there!

## Simply Giving



You may wish to consider making your contributions online. Contributions may be made to Lutheran Church of The Master with the secure Electronic Giving service of Vanco Services and Thrivent for Lutherans, using the Simply Giving link on the church website:

**[lutheran.churchofthemaster.org](http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org)**

click on the Give Online tab.

There is no cost to you for this program. You may donate to the church either in one-time contributions or in an ongoing arrangement for regular offerings. You may have your offerings debited directly from your checking or savings account or from your credit card - you manage the donation frequency and the donation amount for each fund you wish to support. Register by clicking on the Give Online tab to communicate directly and securely with Vanco Services. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the church office (310) 473-1055.

## Fellowship Brunch



Are you interested in contributing something to our weekly fellowship brunch such as sandwiches, pizza, dessert, or anything of your liking? If so, please contact Barbara at (310) 393-6844.

## Master's Notes By Email

Do you want to help the environment by saving paper? If you do not already do so, you can still sign up to have your Master's Notes delivered to you through your email? If you would like to be added to the list, contact us at [mastersnotes@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org](mailto:mastersnotes@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org).

## Large-Print Bulletins

Did you know that the worship bulletins are available in large-print format on Sunday mornings? Thanks to John Johnson, who instigated the idea, the large-print bulletins also include the hymns to be sung from the red book. Be sure to ask the ushers for a copy.

## Our Prayer List



**We keep in prayer:** Tony Avila, David Arriola, Karen Beatty, Gina Beretta, Barbara Bombach, Melissa Bomes, Yuby Calderon, Francoise Campoverde, Emma Lou Candow, Sonia Casas, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr., Andrew Crean, Edita Cabacungan Donnelly and family, Sara Ehrman, Bensiyon Eyice, Emmett Fisher, Badri and Negin Hunold, Katherine, Martin and Gloria Hunt, Ted and Lynne Jackson, Betty Johnson, the family of Merle Johnson, the family of Richard Johnson, Rosana Johnson, Malinda Jones, Mary Kay, Rossen Kirilov, Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, Peter Lewis, Ma, Jeff, Lester Mahaffay, Gisela Marx, Frank Nakamura, Steve Newberry, Kaitlyn Nickel, the Nickel Family, Bobby Orue, Meghan Reul, Harley Rockoff, Tim Rutherford, Rosamelida Sandoval, Hilary Smith, Alireza Soulati, Peter Stackhouse, Huiling Sun, Polina Tashlitskaya, John Warren, Kent Weed, Steve Weiss, Hideto Yano, the plight of the Syrian people and refugees and immigrants everywhere, and members of our AA Groups.

Names may be added to the prayer list by filling out a prayer card in the pew racks or by contacting the office by email.

Names will remain on the prayer list for 3 months.

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# Lutheran Church of The Master

<b>Every Sunday</b>  Bible Study      10:00 a.m. Worship            11:00 a.m. Fellowship        12:15 p.m.		<b>August 2017 Calendar</b>  Please refer to CALENDAR at <a href="http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org">http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org</a> for updates.  <b>Church Office Hours:</b> <b>Monday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>					
		<b>1</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>2</b>  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>3</b>  <b>Choir Rehearsals                      Resume in                      September</b>		<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>9</b>  Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  <b>Lutheran Night at                      Dodger Stadium                      6:00 p.m.</b>	
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>Council Meeting                      6:00 p.m.                      Sanctuary</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>16</b>  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>Craft Day - Painting                      11:00 a.m.</b>	
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  <b>Masters Notes                      articles                      due in office.</b>	<b>22</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>23</b>  Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>30</b>  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>August Birthdays</b> <b>Ginger Clower - August 5<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Ernest Durston - August 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Rupik - August 11<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Jessica Durston - August 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Brian Borhani - August 22<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>Madeline Gunderson - August 30<sup>th</sup></b>			

# Lutheran Church of The Master

## August 2017 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

<b>USHERS</b>	<b>READERS</b>	<b>ASSISTANT</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>
<b>August 6</b>	<b>August 6</b> <b>Ninth Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>August 6</b>	<b>August 6</b>
Julie Johnson	Kenneth Roehrs Isaiah 55:1-5 <b>and</b> Romans 9:1-5	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Richard Levine			Ronald Nickel
<b>August 13</b>	<b>August 13</b> <b>Tenth Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>August 13</b>	<b>August 13</b>
Kevin Grant	Charles Peruchini 1 Kings 19:9-18 <b>and</b> Romans 10:5-15	Deborah Kovac	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki			Joshua Nickel
<b>August 20</b>	<b>August 20</b> <b>Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>August 20</b>	<b>August 20</b>
Fred Ascher	Sara McGah Isaiah 55:1, 6-8 <b>and</b> Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Manny Cabacungan			Ronald Nickel
<b>August 27</b>	<b>August 27</b> <b>Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>August 27</b>	<b>August 27</b>
Charlotte Johnson	Barbara Browning Isaiah 51:1-6 <b>and</b> Romans 12:1-8	Maria Gustafsson Grant	Barbara Browning
Julie Johnson			Joshua Nickel