

The Master's Notes

February 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,

Did you know Luther's simple explanations of the Christian faith, called his *Small Catechism*, is printed in our cranberry hymnal (ELW)? It starts on page 1160. But you don't have to own an ELW to enjoy the Small Catechism. I'm inviting you to set your alarm a bit earlier beginning Sunday, March 5th for 4 Sundays (and 1 Saturday) of Lent. I would love to study and discuss this rich treasure with you – hearing your perspectives on the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Commandments, Holy Baptism and Holy Communion - as it guides your lives in following Jesus.

Our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton encourages all ELCA congregations to study the *Small Catechism* sometime between the 2016 Churchwide Assembly (August, 2016) and October 31st, 2017 (the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation). LCM's time will be during Lent for 45 minutes for 5 weeks over coffee, tea, donuts (on Sundays) and I'm adding Granola!

Invite a friend to join you for breakfast on these Sundays beginning March 5th at 10:00 a.m.! 😊

Why study and talk about the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Commandments, Holy Baptism and Communion? Aren't these just old fashioned words from so long ago? Yes, they have been with us all our lives, and they are also a treasure rich enough for renewed engagement. How can the Lord's Prayer shape our daily living? What does the Creed have to do with 21st century questions? Why should we be jumping for joy at the grace of Baptism and Communion? These are ways God

encounters us and when we listen to God's encounter our lives shine anew!

The ELCA says: "For almost five centuries Luther's *Small Catechism* has given Lutheran ears to hear God's mercy in Christ and eyes to see reconciled neighbors in the places where the Spirit is leading them to service." I add to that that our world yearns for God's life-empowering good news and we are called to shine its light through our lives! Come hear from each other, from me and Leah Chang, from the Bible, and from Luther how God empowers us to be Christ's light!

Here's the schedule:

Sundays March 5th and 12th at 10:00 a.m. (before our Sunday worship!)

Saturday March 18th at 4:00 p.m. (before our 5:00 p.m. worship that weekend which is on Saturday because Santa Monica Blvd will be blocked off on Sunday, March 19th for the LA Marathon. We do the servant work of handing out water to runners on Sunday morning! 😊)

Sundays March 26th and April 2nd at 10:00 a.m. (before our Sunday worship!)

And I look forward to seeing you at the Holy Communion worship weekly where Christ is truly present for us in bread and wine and love!

In gratitude for Christ our light!

+Pastor Peg



From the President

Highlights from the January Council Meeting:

- We decided to leave the parish house alarm system as it is.
- Barbara Browning reported on the call process, and the council decided to temporarily suspend the call process. Barbara volunteered to convey this to the congregation.
- The Marathon is March 19th. Joshua Nickel is working on posting a water station sign-up on our website.
- We are still collecting information for an air conditioning system for the sanctuary.
- Barbara Browning reported on the progress of the strategic plan.
- There was a long discussion about which project was most pressing; painting the church versus putting on a new roof. We decided to make painting the church the priority.

Kevin Grant, President

From the Minister of Music

Farewell To Alleluia

Like many Lutheran congregations, we'll conclude our worship on February 26th, the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday, by singing an "Alleluia" text with our final hymn. A banner bearing the word "alleluia" will be carried out in the procession. The tradition holds that we won't sing or say the word "alleluia" again until Easter Day, symbolizing voluntary restraint of praise during the 40-day penitential season of Lent. You'll notice that we won't sing an Alleluia Gospel Acclamation or include hymns or other music with the word "alleluia" during this time period.

The omission of alleluia during Lent goes back at least to the 5th century in the western church. The custom of actually bidding it farewell or even burying a scroll containing the word developed in the middle Ages. In the 15th century, there is a written record of French choirboys carrying a small coffin containing the word "Alleluia" out the church in procession, burying it in the churchyard. A 12th century Bishop wrote "We part from Alleluia as from a beloved friend, whom we embrace many times and kiss before we leave him."

The hymn "Alleluia, song of gladness", which we'll sing on Transfiguration Sunday, contains a translation of an 11th century Latin text that compares an alleluia-less Lent to the exile of the Israelites in Babylon. The text

then anticipates the joy of Easter when glad alleluias will return in their heavenly splendor:

*Alleluia cannot always
Be our song while here below;
Alleluia our transgressions
Make us for awhile forego;
For the solemn time is coming
When our tears for sin must flow.*

*In our hymns we pray with longing:
Grant us, Blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep glad Easter
With the faithful saints on high;
There to you forever singing
Alleluia joyfully.*

David York, Minister of Music

Ash Wednesday March 1st



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. We will commemorate Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes here at Lutheran Church of The Master on March 1st at 7:30 p.m. in worship with our partner congregation, Westwood Hills Congregational Church.

LA Marathon Sunday March 19th



Lutheran Church of The Master will volunteer at Water Station 19 in front of the church on Sunday, March 19th from 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Limited accessibility during the marathon to our property prevents us from having worship at the regular 11:00 a.m. Sunday time. There will be no worship that Sunday and instead we will have a day of community service passing out water. If you would like to help, please go to the church website and follow directions to register, or talk with Joshua Nickel.

Special Saturday Worship Service March 18th

There will be a special evening worship service including communion at LCM on Saturday, March 18th at 5:00 p.m. to compensate for not having a service on Sunday, March 19th due to the L.A. Marathon.

Financial Update



In January we received **\$9,982.03** in General Donations, or **6.84%** of our 2017 goal of **\$145,875**. Thank you for your generosity.

Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

February Fun Event: Game Night

On February 25th, LCM will have another Game Night in the Parish House. The night will start at 5:30 p.m. and will include dinner. For those who have never been to a game night, this is a time that we all get together and play board games, have a good time laughing, and just enjoy each other's company. So please put this date on your calendar and plan on coming out for good food, good friends, and good fun.



Come to Our Meetings



All Council and other Committee meetings are open meetings. Anyone may attend the meetings to observe the proceedings as a guest and is welcome to request voice from the chair. The Council is posting the Council meeting agenda, minutes, and reports in the Parish House for your information. If you have any questions about the meetings or materials, please consult with Kevin. Our next Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 21st at 6:00 p.m.** All are welcome to attend.

Flower Chart



February 5	Badri Hunold, in memory of Ursala Hunold
February 12	Doug Newton, in memory of his wife Lynda.
February 19	Open
February 26	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.**

Helping The Homeless

Thank you so much for all the food and hygiene products you have donated for the homeless. Your response to our requests is overwhelming and no surprise. At the Craft Day in January we devoted our time, with the Charitable Works Committee, to organize our efforts in helping the homeless under the direction of John Johnson who hands out the food and kits to those coming to our doors during the week. We are pleased to say we have more than a sufficient supply of food and products for now. We will keep you posted.

Thank you again for your generosity!
Charitable Works Committee

Call Committee Update

As a part of the Call Process, the Council has decided to take some time to reflect on our mission as a Congregation and our place in the community. We are blessed to have Pastor Peg help us. This announcement comes after prayerful consideration and we believe we are led by the Holy Spirit. We ask that you pray with us as we go through this process.

If you have any questions, please give me a call and one of us on the Call Committee are happy to speak with you. My number is (310) 393-6844. Call Committee members: Kevin Grant, Tom Jacobson, Deborah Kovac, Richard Levine and Barbara Browning

Thank you for your support!
Barbara Browning

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
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.

Come to our Craft Day



We will meet on **February 18th** to knit or paint or do any other crafts you may like to do. This is a time to come together and enjoy each other's company while doing crafts we love.

Come to the Parish House at 11:00 a.m. - a light lunch will be served. If you are interested or if you have any questions, please contact Barbara Browning 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.

Sunday Bible Study

Reminder! You can study the Bible every Sunday morning. We meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish House and study each week's lessons in advance of the service. Leah Chang continues to lead the studies. Come, grab a donut, pour a cup of coffee, and experience the power of scripture.

Community Law Clinic



The Malakouti Community Law Clinic continues on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every Month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish House

Attorney Parviz Malakouti is available to answer your questions regarding your legal problems. Each clinic participant will receive a private 15-minute session to ask questions about a wide variety of civil legal matters. Criminal law issues will not be addressed at the clinic. The service is completely free of charge to participants. Languages spoken include English, Spanish, Persian, and French. Parviz Malakouti is a California licensed attorney and a graduate of UCLA and the University of Miami School of Law.

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.

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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.

Our Prayer List



We keep in prayer: Bobbie Arkoff, the family and friends of Jason Avila, Tony Avila, Yasaman, David Arriola, Norma Barker, Gina Beretta, Barbara Bombach, Melissa Bomes, Yuby Calderon, Francoise Campoverde, Emma Lou Candow, Sonia Casas, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr., Andrew Crean, the family of Estelle Day, Edita Cabacungan Donnelly and family, Sara Ehrman, Ali FarzinKia, Emmett Fisher, Ladante Fisher, Barbara Foss, Bob and Diane Guyett, Badri and Negin Hunold, Katherine, Martin and Gloria Hunt, Malinda J., Ted and Lynne Jackson, Betty Johnson, Merle Johnson, Rosana Johnson, the family of Roy Johnson, Mary Kay, Rossen Kirilov, the family of Daniel Kisha, the family of Doris Kisha, the family and friends of Dottie Knight, Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, Peter Lewis, Ma, Jeff, Debi and the family, Gisela Marx, Frank Nakamura, Steve Newberry, Bobby Orue, the family and friends of Rev. Carlos Paiva, the family and friends of Adam Rambo, the Reul family, Harley Rockoff, Millie Rojas, Rosamelida Sandoval, Lou Scagnelli, Hilary Smith, Alireza Soulati, Helena Stark, Peter Stackhouse, Gordon Stark, Polina Tashlitskaya, John Warren, Kent Weed, Mary Ellen Wollmers, Hideto Yano, the plight of the Syrian people, 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.

Lutheran Church of The Master

Every Sunday	February 2017 Calendar					
Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Choir Warm-up 10:28 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 12:15 p.m.	Please refer to CALENDAR at http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org for updates. Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.					
			1	2	3	4
			Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.		Craft Day 11:00 a.m.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Masters Notes articles due in office.	Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Sanctuary AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.		Game Night 5:30 p.m.
26	27	28	March 1		February Birthdays	
		AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	Choir Rehearsal 6:45 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m. at LCM AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Parish House		Jackie Savage – February 4th Jeffrey Fichtner – February 6th Charles Peruchini – February 9th John Dahl – February 12th Alexis Wesley – February 23rd	

Lutheran Church of The Master

February 2017 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

USHERS	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
February 5	February 5 Fifth Sunday After Epiphany	February 5	February 5
Julie Johnson	Charlene MacKenzie Isaiah 58:1-12 and 1 Corinthians 2:1-16	Deborah Kovac	Barbara Browning
Carlos Valera			Maria Gustafsson Grant
February 12	February 12 Sixth Sunday After Epiphany	February 12	February 12
Leah Chang	Charles Peruchini Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and 1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano
Charlotte Johnson			Joshua Nickel
February 19	February 19 Seventh Sunday After Epiphany	February 19	February 19
Fred Ascher	Fred Ascher Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 and 1 Corinthians 3:10-23	Deborah Kovac	Barbara Browning
Manny Cabacungan			Joshua Nickel
February 26	February 26 Transfiguration of Our Lord	February 26	February 26
Kevin Grant	Deborah Kovac Exodus 24:12-18 and 2 Peter 1:16-21	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki			Ronald Nickel
March 1	March 1 Ash Wednesday	March 1	March 1
Kevin Grant	Kim Hedlin Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 and 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10	Maria Gustafsson Grant	
Richard Levine			
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