

# The Master's Notes

## February 2019

### Lutheran Church of The Master

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

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Craig Shepherd 2000

### From the Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

The LA Rams begin February with a bang! Even before their new stadium is built, our newly re-established home-town football team made it all the way to the Super Bowl. Since Sunday worship and Super Bowl games always share a day, some of us have been playing with metaphors for our LCM street signboard: "Best Pre-game Eucharist In Town" Or "Start Your Pre-game Activities Here!" "All are Welcome: Rams Fans Get Best Seats." Give us a better idea for next year and we'll use it! Thanks!

Good metaphors may be hard to coin, but playing with the LA Rams got me thinking about Jesus' return to his hometown, Nazareth. At first, his hometown folk love him. He preaches good news to the poor. But then it becomes dicey. He calls them to follow him in the way of the cross – a way of winning by losing – and that doesn't get such a rousing response.

As LA's hometown football team, LA is celebrating the Rams' successful beginnings back in LA. I wonder though, how will LA react if the Rams don't always come out on top. Will we still stand by them? That Jesus wins by losing is so counter cultural. Just like it's counter cultural to celebrate Christmas in February, or July. What? Sing Joy to the World in February? Follow Jesus even when he calls us to follow him as light shining in the ambiguities and sorrows of life?

The wonderful late theologian Howard Thurman names our calling as baptized children of God in his poem "The Work of Christmas." Thurman writes:

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
the work of Christmas begins:  
to find the lost, to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among the people,  
to make music in the heart.*

Thank you, LCM folk for sharing in the work of Christmas day in and day out, making music in the heart, bringing peace among people, feeding the hungry, bringing release where people are bound. God is born among us, not just on Christmas Day, but always. Thank you for singing that joy to the world!

Gratefully, Pastor Peg

### From the President

I want to thank everyone who attended our annual reports meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> and especially those of you who got up and presented reports. It was great to hear about what we accomplished in 2018 and where we are headed in 2019 with God guiding our sails.

Joshua Nickel, President

Highlights from the January 12<sup>th</sup> Church Council Meeting:

- Pastor Peg reviewed the role of the council.
- Emily Jackson-Yano and Ken Roehrs spoke on the Financial Reports.
- Barbara Browning reviewed the strategic plan.
- LCM agreed to participate in the LA Marathon by volunteering at the Water Station on March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- LCM will host a Healing Service on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## Save The Evening Date:

Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 is Ash Wednesday  
This is the first day of Lent, which means "springtime for the soul."

Let us join together in worship!

The poet writes in Psalm 51: "Restore unto us the joy of your salvation, and renew in us a willing spirit."

## From the Minister of Music

### Silence

*Be still and know that I am God.* (Psalm 46.)

*Silence is more musical than any song.* (Christina Rosetti)

*Not merely an absence of noise, Real Silence begins when a reasonable being withdraws from the noise in order to find peace and order in his inner sanctuary.*

(Peter Minard)

*We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature - trees, flowers, grass- grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence... We need silence to be able to touch souls.* (Mother Teresa)

I recently attended a service at a Friends Church, which is affiliated with the Quaker tradition. I found myself moved by the extended period of time within the service (or meeting as they call it) devoted to silence. During this "silent communion" I was first aware of others rusting around me, then I focused a bit on the traffic noise and the sounds from outside. After a period of time I let the distractions around me go and allowed myself to "be still", as the psalmist suggests. While two people offered brief statements during the silent period most of the time was devoted to silently "communing" with God.

I later learned that those seeking a more personal experience and greater communication with God formed the Quaker faith in the 1650's in England as a response to the organized religion of the day. The founder, George Fox, believed that persons could have direct communion with God without ritual, ceremony, or the help of ordained clergy. Just as there are many expressions of Lutheran worship so are there many styles within the Friends church. Some churches have a pastor, choirs and organs. Other meetings have no set program or salaried clergy to lead them.

Besides silence in worship, Quaker tradition makes silence a spiritual component of individual personal practice. The overlap with silence as worship is intentional. The same theology guides the individual.

I've found silence meaningful on other occasions. Several years ago on a trip to Paris I made it a point to stop in each church that we passed. After touring the building and admiring the art and architecture I would sit down in a pew and soak up the silence around me. It became one of the highlights of the trip.

Silence can sometimes be uncomfortable. As you sit in the sanctuary at LCM waiting for the organ prelude and service to begin are you ever aware of the silence around you? Next time we pause for a silent time during the confession or after the sermon embrace the silence.



Last month we said thanks and goodbye to choir section leader **Bret Noel**. Bret has been a much-loved member of the LCM Choir over the past 4 years. We've enjoyed and appreciated his horn and trumpet music in addition to his rich bass voice and leadership within the bass section. Bret and his fiancé Samantha plan to be married this coming March and then they'll move to Philadelphia where Samantha will begin graduate work in the fall. We wish Bret all of the best!

## February Fun Day Event



In recognition of Presidents Day this month, LCM will be visiting one of our local Presidential Museums on Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Richard Nixon Museum is located in Yorba Linda with admission cost of \$12-16. The Ronald Reagan Museum is in Simi Valley with admission cost of \$26-29. Learn about the historical events of past times, both good and bad. How has our country changed or stayed the same?

Once it is determined who is interested we'll vote to decide which to visit. A simple popular vote, no electoral college involved. Please RSVP to Steve Weiss at vice-president@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org or 310 493-0633

We will carpool from LCM parking lot leaving around 9-10 a.m. and estimate returning around 2-3 p.m.

Bring your family & friends! Our monthly fun events are a great way to show what LCM has to offer!

## Financial Update

A blessed February to you all!

In January we received **\$7,684.12** in offerings for our General Fund, which is **8.54%** of our 2019 goal of **\$90,000**. Thank you!

*Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary*

## 2019 Offering Envelopes

Would you like a box of offering envelopes but still don't have one? There are still a few 2019 offering envelope boxes available. Please contact Emily Jackson-Yano or an usher to get one!

## Flower Chart

February 3	Open
February 10	Charles Peruchini, in honor of a milestone birthday
February 17	Doug Newton
February 24	Open

Please consider donating the altar flowers for worship. If you wish to memorialize someone or an event, please let the office know. Note: the cost in 2019 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.

## LA Marathon Sunday March 24th



Lutheran Church of The Master will volunteer at Water Station 19 in front of the church on Sunday, March 24th 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.

## Save The Date!

### 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 clinics will be on February 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.**

## 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).

## Come to our Craft Day



We will next meet on **February 16<sup>th</sup>** 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.

## 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:** Tony Avila, Karen Beatty, Melissa Bomes, Ester Cabacungan, Yuby Calderon, Francoise Campoverde, Greg Casillas, Jane Catchpole, Sonia Casas, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr., Andrew Crean, Lindford Dawson, Edita Cabacungan Donnelly and family, Sara Ehrman, Sandy Elliot, Bensiyon Eyice, Mohamad Fatemeh, Kevin Field, Emmett Fisher, Bill Graves, Sue Graves, Dumitra Ittu, Bryan Jackson, Ted and Lynne Jackson, Tom and Lois Jackson, Daryl Johnson, Malinda Jones, Mary Kay, Rossen Kirilov, Lydia Kisha, the family of Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, B.J. Lange, Peter Lewis, the family of Irene Lockwood, Dagny Lund, Charlene MacKenzie, Ma, Jeff, Jean Medina, Frank Nakamura, Kaitlyn Nickel, Bobby Orue, the family of Kim Popov, Meghan Reul, Harley Rockoff, Millie Rojas, Tim Rutherford, Rosamelida Sandoval, Brittany, Brian and baby Beckham Schull, Hilary Smith, Alireza Soulati, Peter Stackhouse, Huiling Sun, Leslie Talt, Polina Tashlitskaya, Sophie Umhofer, John Warren, Kent Weed, Shawn Willcuts, Mary Ann Wright, Hideto Yano, the Syrian people and refugees and immigrants everywhere, all who share the Holy Land, 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.

# Lutheran Church of The Master

Every Sunday	<b>February 2019 Calendar</b>						
<b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Choir Warm-up</b> 10:28 a.m. <b>Worship</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>Fellowship</b> 12:15 p.m.	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>February Birthdays</b>	<b>Jackie Savage – February 4th</b> <b>Jeffrey Fichtner – February 6th</b> <b>Charles Peruchini – February 9th</b> <b>John Dahl – February 12th</b> <b>Alexis Wesley – February 23rd</b>					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Living the Resurrection</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Council Meeting</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Parish House</b>  <b>Craft Day</b> <b>11:00 a.m.</b>	
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Presidential Library</b> <b>Fun Event</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>28</b>			
				<b>28</b>			
				<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>7:30 p.m.</b>			

# Lutheran Church of The Master

## February 2019 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

USHERS	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
<b>February 3</b>	<b>February 3</b> <b>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>February 3</b>	<b>February 3</b>
Carlos Valera	Millie Rojas Jeremiah 1:4-10 and 1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Emily Jackson-Yano	Barbara Browning
Steve Weiss			Joshua Nickel
<b>February 10</b>	<b>February 10</b> <b>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>February 10</b>	<b>February 10</b>
Charlotte Johnson	Charles Peruchini Isaiah 6:1-13 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Deborah Kovac	Emily Jackson-Yano
Julie Johnson			Millie Rojas
<b>February 17</b>	<b>February 17</b> <b>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>February 17</b>	<b>February 17</b>
Douglas Newton	Alexander Martin Jeremiah 17:5-10 and 1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Fred Ascher	Emily Jackson-Yano
Steve Weiss			Joshua Nickel
<b>February 24</b>	<b>February 24</b> <b>Seventh Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>February 24</b>	<b>February 24</b>
Kevin Grant	Deborah Kovac Genesis 45:3-11, 15 and 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	Emily Jackson-Yano	Barbara Browning
Carlos Valera			Maria Gustafsson Grant