

The Master's Notes

July 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,

How fun that Charles donated flowers for LCM's altar at the end of June with the inscription: "Hurrah for summer!" It reminded me of the old song, "Summer time and the livin' is easy." What does summer conjure up for you?

On the Church Year calendar these months between the Day of Pentecost and Christ the King Sunday in November are called "Ordinary Time." That's the nomenclature, but it doesn't mean "ordinary" in any sense of the word. This "ordinary time" is never ordinary because God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit is endlessly extra-ordinary.

Some of you know my family recently celebrated the marriage of our son Marty to Bobola. One of the highlights for me in their Saturday Nigerian Engagement Ceremony and Sunday Liturgy of the Word for Marriage was singing at both gatherings a song most of us knew. About 70 people attended from African countries. Others came from England, the Netherlands and 100s from across the US. We sang together: "This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

What a joy to sing this simple song with so many from across continents and cultures. There was nothing ordinary about it. Then we prayed the Lord's Prayer.

The pastor led: "Now some of us may pray this prayer placing commas in different places than others. Even if we pray in different languages, God will figure it out. So pray as your heart leads." It was no ordinary moment hearing this well-known prayer belted out with varying accents, versions and languages.

Worship at LCM is this kind of encounter with the holy. People from all over the world gather in our lovely sanctuary for worship. We do not all look alike or sound alike, but we all come to worship God, Creator, Redeemer, and Spirit. And even in these "Ordinary Time" days when the Choir is on recess, the call to worship remains extra-ordinary. Jesus, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the Word and Sacraments that gather us.

What can we expect of summer? We can expect that Jesus is as present as ever in, with and under our gathering near the font to receive the Living Bread from heaven. Wherever two or three gather in Christ's name, there he is, sending us into the world with love and mercy.

My word of encouragement to LCM during these so called days of "Ordinary Time" is to be open to the ever creative surprises of our far from ordinary God. Come be fed with the Bread of Life. Go into God's beloved world "being signs of God's new age coming to birth." (ELW 586)

Nothing is ordinary that God's grace and love doesn't make extra-ordinary. Keep your eyes on this grace. Hurrah for summer! Hurrah for: This is the day the Lord has made! Rejoice! Be glad.

In Christ's extra-ordinary love, *Pastor Peg*

From the President

First, thanks to David York and the choir for a wonderful season. Looking forward to seeing the choir again around Labor Day.

Highlights from the June Council meeting:

- The treasurer's laptop has stopped working. The hard drive was removed and temporarily placed in a loaner computer. We are going to consider replacing the treasurer's computer. A final decision of whether to go with another laptop or a desktop will be made at the July meeting.
- Ken Roehrs suggested going to the Bishops lecture on the Reformation at Mount Carmel Lutheran Church in San Luis Obispo on July 15th as a fun event.
- Joshua Nickel also suggested Lutheran Night at Dodger Stadium August 12th. Both suggestions were approved
- Barbara Browning talked about her meeting with the Westside Coalition and homelessness in Los Angeles. Approximately 44% of homeless people are mentally ill, 26% are in shelters. It seems the church already does what it can do; providing food and hygiene kits. Maybe we could also participate in joint efforts with other churches. John has managed to arrange for one homeless person to get on a waiting list for an apartment.
- Barbara Browning plans on visiting Isaac's ironworks to get an estimate for the votive lighting stand

Kevin Grant, President

From the Minister of Music

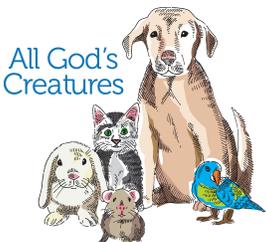
We are fortunate to enjoy the talents of our talented soloists and instrumentalists during the choir's summer break:

- 7/2- John Johnson
- 7/9- Tina Appel
- 7/16- Becca Tomasko
- 7/23- Kelci Hahn
- 7/30- Bret Noel

David York, Minister of Music

Blessing of The Animals Save The Date

All God's
Creatures



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

Flower Chart

July 2	In memory of Robert Sterling Richards, Sr.
July 9	Barbara Browning
July 16	Celebrating the memory and birthday of Carolyn Harthan
July 23	Open
July 30	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.

Memory Month

In June, **\$4,388.00** was donated for this year's memory month project of replacing the baptismal font, bringing our Memory Month total to **\$5,015.00**. The additional funds will allow us to buy a matching candlestick – Thank you so much for your generosity!!



We are thankful for Memory Month donations received so far:

- In honor of the marriage of Bobola and Marty Akerson
- In memory of Joe Baldoza
- In memory of Elva and Albert Browning
- In honor of Emma Lou Candow
- In memory of Pastor Sterling Candow
- In memory of Ken and Kathy Clower
- In memory of Lillian and Don Foltz
- In memory of Stuart and Janet Grant
- In memory of Mike, Peggy and Carolyn Harthan
- In honor of K, S, R, R J, L, B & PP
- In memory of George and Mary Kisha
- In honor of Elizabeth Kovac
- In memory of John Kovac
- In memory of Tom and Russella McGah
- In memory of Richard Nickel
- In memory of Stephen Eddy Richards
- In memory of Julius and Doris Roehrs
- In memory of Norman and Mae Schultz
- In honor of Camille Elisabeth Umhofer
- In memory of Richard and Martha Williams
- In memory of James and Edna York

Contributions received as of June 28, 2017.
Please notify the office of necessary corrections.

Financial Update

Happy Summer! In June we gave **\$6,884.99** towards the General Fund. This brings our YTD giving to **\$49,590.25**, or **34.00%** of our 2017 goal of **\$145,875.00**. Thank you!

Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

Reformation Road trip Saturday, July 15th



Join Bishop Guy Erwin for his final lecture on the Reformation, Saturday, July 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, San Luis Obispo. Cost: \$10 per person. Lunch provided. If interested, contact the church office to arrange a carpool.

Take A Hike Saturday, July 15

In support of Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences (LRCC), Pastor Peg will be leading a hike on Saturday, July 15th, on the Rivas Canyon Park Trail from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. -- three miles roundtrip. Hikers should bring a sack lunch. This hike goes from Will Rogers State Park to Temescal Canyon Park. It is a child-friendly and dog-friendly trail. Invite your friends. Meet in the Will Rogers parking lot at 11:00 a.m. Donations to support LRCC are welcome.

Free Community Law Clinic



Attorney Parviz Malakouti continues to host the Community Law Clinic to provide free legal consultations to individuals, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. **The next clinic will be on July 5th.**

Lutheran Night at Dodger Stadium Saturday August 12th, 6:10 p.m.



Invite your family and friends to join us for a wonderful night of baseball fun as we join other churches in our synod at Lutheran Night at Dodger Stadium. This is a great event which doubles as a fundraising effort to benefit Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Southern California! A donation to LSS is included in the price. The cost for each ticket starts at \$28.00. If you are interested in going to the game, notify the church office or talk with Joshua Nickel for more information.

Helping The Homeless



God's work.
Our hands.

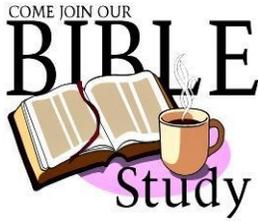
John Johnson, our office manager, continues to hand out lunches, hygiene kits and limited items of clothing to the homeless. If you would like to contribute food, we can use individual packaged items such as easy-open cans of tuna, meat, fruit, pudding, cheese and crackers, energy/protein bars, juices 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.

Devotional Booklets

The July - September edition of the Christ In Our Home devotional booklet is available in the Narthex and in the Parish House. The large-print edition is also available. Be sure to take your copy!



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!

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.

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.

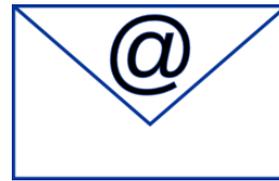
There is no cost to you for this program. You may donate to the church either in one-time contributions or in an ongoing arrangement for regular offerings. You may have your offerings debited directly from your checking or savings account or from your credit card - you manage the donation frequency and 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.

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.

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, Katherine, Martin and Gloria Hunt, Ted and Lynne Jackson, Betty Johnson, the family of Merle Johnson, 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, 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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Southern California West Synod Assembly
June 2nd and 3rd, 2017
Theme: Freed in Christ to Serve

Pastor Peg, Fred Asher, Joshua Nickel and Barbara Browning attended. Thank you for making it possible for us to attend.

The meeting was called to order and led by Bishop Guy Erwin.

Lively singing was led by the staff of Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences.

There were personal testimonies, focused on "Freed in Christ to Serve", given by 3 individuals, a member from St. Pauls, Michael Nelson, whom some of us know; a youth, and a staff member of the Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences.

Business Sessions:

1. There were 2 Resolutions presented and both were adopted.

Sanctuary Synod - The Synod was declared to be a Sanctuary Synod. This means that congregations will strive to be places of radical welcome, refuge and protection to strangers. We will work to protect the dignity, safety and basic human needs of all immigrants and refugees among us, even by resisting policies that seem to turn away and harm the stranger.

Jubilee USA Network - The Synod was declared to be a Jubilee Synod. This means that we are encouraged to pray for the world's poorest countries; designate a contact person to be a liaison with Jubilee USA, study to become a Jubilee USA congregation and take action such as letter-writing to Congress or the Administration for economic justice in each country and especially the world's poorest countries. Leviticus 25:10 "Proclaim liberty throughout the land to all the inhabitants there of."

2. The budget for 2018 was approved.

3. The Vice President for the Synod, Mr. Randall Foster, and other positions for the Synod Council were elected.

4. Amendments to the Constitution for the Synods were adopted.

5. The various Synod committees gave reports. Pastor Peg reported on the "Green Faith Team Committee."

Bible Study:

One of the highlights was the Bible study led by Bishop Patricia Lull, Bishop of St. Paul Area Synod in Minnesota. The Bible study was based on Mark 5:1-14a - please read it. It is about a man with an unclean spirit living in a cave. There were many unclean spirits within him and Jesus drew the unclean spirits out of the man and sent them into the swine on the hill (2,000) and the swine rushed down a steep hill and they drowned in the sea.

Bishop Lull made this study interactive and challenged us to look at our home community and identify who is like this man and how we in our community would treat a man like this. In summary there are 2 quotes she left us with: "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to all" and "A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."

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Worship:

The Reformation Service on Saturday was amazing and spiritually invigorating. The preacher was the Rev. Dr. Ray Pickett, new rector of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. Bishop Guy Erwin presided. There was a volunteer choir of approximately 100 singers, Barbara joined the choir and Fred was an usher. We closed with Communion, what a blessing to share communion with so many fellow Christians.

It was great to renew past acquaintances and friends and spend time with Pastor Peg and Pastor Reg. Here is proof we were there:



This is the picture with Martin and Katie Luther.

Five Year Mission Goals of the Southwest California Synod of the ELCA 2015 - 2019

- Communicating the Gospel message powerfully and clearly
- Shaping the faith of the baptized through education
- Fostering congregations in becoming healthy communities
- Creating opportunities for its rostered leaders to thrive
- Developing at least four geographical area ministry strategies
- Establishing clusters of congregations around similar ministries

Lutheran Church of The Master

Every Sunday Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 12:15 p.m.	<h2 style="margin: 0;">July 2017 Calendar</h2> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">Please refer to CALENDAR at http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org for updates.</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</p>					
July Birthdays Bryan Yamasaki – July 8 th Tina Appel - July 10 th Chris Ah San – July 11 th Greg Sliskovich – July 19 th Charles Bialek – July 24 th Rev. Ioan Ittu - July 30 th Alex Fan - July 30 th Katherine Hunt - July 31 st						1
2	3	4 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	5 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	6 Choir Rehearsals Resume in September	7	8
9	10	11 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	12 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	13	14	15
16	17	18 Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Sanctuary AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	19 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	20	21 Masters Notes articles due in office.	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary			

Lutheran Church of The Master

July 2017 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

USHERS	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
July 2	July 2 Fourth Sunday After Pentecost	July 2	July 2
Julie Johnson	Charlene MacKenzie Jeremiah 28:5-9 and Romans 6:12-23	Deborah Kovac	Barbara Browning
Richard Levine			Joshua Nickel
July 9	July 9 Fifth Sunday After Pentecost	July 9	July 9
Leah Chang	Millie Rojas Zechariah 9:9-12 and Romans 7:15-25a	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Carlos Valera			Emily Jackson-Yano
July 16	July 16 Sixth Sunday After Pentecost	July 16	July 16
Kevin Grant	Charles Peruchini Isaiah 55:10-13 and Romans 8:1-11	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki			Ronald Nickel
July 23	July 23 Seventh Sunday After Pentecost	July 23	July 23
Fred Ascher	Manny Cabacungan Isaiah 44:6-8 and Romans 8:12-25	Deborah Kovac	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Manny Cabacungan			Joshua Nickel
July 30	July 30 Eighth Sunday After Pentecost	July 30	July 30
Charlotte Johnson	Deborah Kovac 1 Kings 3:5-12 and Romans 8:12-25	Maria Gustafsson Grant	Barbara Browning
Julie Johnson			Joshua Nickel