

The Master's Notes

June 2014

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

Why does Lutheran Church of The Master welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and self-identified queer folks? Because God loves lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and self-identified queer folks. Many LGBTQ people have felt particularly excluded from God's love by the church, excluded from being called brothers and sisters. Even the agnostic and atheist LGBTQ folks I meet, who have nothing to do with the church, will mention the hurt, anger, and insecurity instilled in them since childhood by an exclusion from the love of a God that they don't even believe exists. In his ministry, Christ went to the hurting, stayed with and ate with those excluded by society and the religious elite of his time. Lutheran Church of The Master wants to follow Christ's lead by intentionally and especially welcoming all who have been excluded.

As many of you know and will read more about in Kevin's Council President's article, we have been targeted for vandalism. The damage thus far has been admittedly minor, but has also been repeatedly connected to our identity as a LGBTQ welcoming church. I'd like to hope that this causes us to double-down on our welcoming convictions and to fly our welcoming colors all the more proudly. I hope that we are a church that will as proudly welcome our beloved Charlene when we grow with families, rather than begin to shun her as her last church did. I hope that that our LGBTQ ministry continues its trajectory of growth, for our small church has done and is doing great things: We publicly came out as LGBTQ welcoming church before it was cool among Lutherans. We gave critical funding to the organization – Proclaim - in its infancy ensuring it would be around today to support over 140 LGBTQ seminarians and ministers.

We helped start an intentional LGBTQ internship of those preparing to be pastors. We offer preaching opportunities to gay and lesbian pastors during the long wait for a call of their own. We are presenting a benefit concert on June 1st for a non-profit near and dear to the heart of the Los Angeles LGBTQ community – Project Angel Food. We are organizing other Lutheran churches to have a presence at an LGBTQ youth conference happening at USC in October. We do all these things under the simple guidance of God's call to love.

Ioan Ittu, Pastor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Again this month we've had another vandalism incident. The amount of damage done was minor but premeditated and the anti-gay message left behind was more confounding than insulting. We have kept the police informed. It is pretty clear it's an ongoing pattern of behavior by the same person(s). The real concern is that it will escalate.

A couple of months ago we received a warning from the police about an unstable person who might come and disrupt the service. I had mentioned last month the problems with petty drug deals in the alley and people camping out on our property which has no bathroom facilities.

Being on the Boulevard has its perks and its disadvantages. As the church grows and becomes more visible, it will attract more attention, not all of it desirable.

We will fast-track the camera system to deter future problems.

Kevin Grant, President

**FROM THE
MINISTER OF MUSIC**

**Sondheim on Life and Love
Sunday, June 1st at 12:30p.m.**

Join us on Sunday, June 1st as LCM's soloists and friends present a concert of music by Broadway legend Stephen Sondheim.

"Sondheim on Life and Love" concert proceeds will support Project Angel Food, a non-profit agency that provides free, nutritious meals for men, woman and children affected by HIV/AIDS in Los Angeles County. From humble beginnings in 1989 the group currently serves over 10,000 meals daily.

Our goal is to raise \$1,000, which will then be matched dollar for dollar by the LCM Foundation. The concert is also made possible in part by a gift from the Foundation. Even if you are unable to attend, won't you please consider a gift to support the work of Project Angel Food? (Checks may be made out to LCM with concert in the memo line.)

Here is a matching game to test your Sondheim song knowledge. Try to match the singer with a phrase from the song they will sing:

Alexis	I'll drink to that.
Greg	Witches can be right, giants can be good.
Katie	Buried sweetly in her yellow hair.
Kelci	It only gets better and stronger and deeper and nearer and simpler and freer and richer and clearer.
Robaire	Have you decided it's safer in cages?
Ryan	Better a bone.
Terrence	Look, perhaps I'll collapse in the apse right before you all.
Tina	The point is she's really simple!

Winners who correctly identify the singer with their song may be eligible for an all-expenses paid luncheon date with Pastor Ittu at the Jack-in-the-Box restaurant on Santa Monica Bl.

On Pentecost Sunday, June 8th we'll welcome back former baritone section leader Sergey Khalikulov, who will sing a solo by Russian composer Giorgi Sviridov during the Offertory. Sergey has just completed his Masters degree in vocal performance at San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Next year he's been offered a full scholarship to continue his vocal studies toward a post-graduate diploma.

Other special musical guests on June 8th will be Bret Noel, horn and George Bullock, cello.

Did you know that the choir has sung over 70 anthems since September? (That's not including psalms, service music and solos.) **On June 15th**, the last Sunday of the choir year, we will recognize and thank choir members and musicians for all they bring to our worship life. The choir members will choose the choral music of the day. We'll hear their favorites from this past season.

How fortunate we are to have the help of section leaders supporting the work of the choir. I so greatly enjoy working with these fine musicians. I'd like to offer a special thank-you to them and to choir librarians Sara McGah & Joshua Nickel as well as hospitality chairperson Barbara Browning for making our rehearsals and work run smoothly.

Soprano

Tina Appel
Phoebe Dinga
Kelci Hahn
Katie Perkins
Alexis Wesley

Alto

Madeline Barnicle
Barbara Browning
Sara McGah
Michelle Talley
Nancy Yamasaki

Tenor

Tom Jacobson
Joshua Nickel
Greg Sliskovich
Pastor Robert Richards

Bass

Daniel Cheng
Terrence Jegaraj
Kenneth Roehrs
Ryan Thorn

David York, Minister of Music

FLOWER CHART



June 1	Barbara Browning, in honor of David York.
June 8	in honor of Katie's baptism and in memory of Kyle's Parents
June 15	David York, in honor of the choir
June 22	Open
June 29	in honor of Pastor Ittu's anniversary

If you wish to memorialize someone or an event, please note that with your name on the flower chart. **Just a reminder, the cost is \$20 for a single vase and \$40 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 2014

Lutheran Church of The Master celebrates Memory Month, beginning on Mothers' Day, May 11th through Fathers' Day, June 15th, as a time to remember our dearly departed and honor our living loved ones through a gift that makes a lasting physical improvement to the Church's property. This year's goal is to raise an initial \$3000 for the costs of a camera system that will provide both recording of our worship services and security. We traditionally acknowledge those honored or remembered and the donor in the bulletin and the Master's Notes. Anonymous gifts are also welcomed and appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

Barbara Browning
in memory of Albert and Elva Browning

Kevin Grant and Maria Gustafsson Grant

Tom Jacobson
in memory of his father, Eugene Jacobson

Fariba Kharazmi

Richard Levine

Pastor Richards
in honor of Kathleen Richards Ricketts
in memory of Johanna Morgan Richards
in memory of Robert Sterling Richards, Sr.
in memory of Stephen Eddy Richards
in memory of Virginia Richards Rider

Rev. Richard and Carol Schieber
as witness the flags of rainbows and faith

Ty Woodward

FINANCIAL UPDATE

In May general donations totaled \$8,683.26. This brings our year-to-date total to \$75,506.83 or 52.00% of our annual goal of \$145,200. In addition, we have received \$3,190.00 towards our Memory Month project, exceeding our goal of \$3,000. Thank you for your generous contributions to the mission of this church!

Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

SAVE THE DATE! JULY 13TH, 2014 SPECIAL LUNCHEON AFTER WORSHIP!

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of The Reverend Robert Sterling Richards' Ordination. There will be a special luncheon on the grass area outside the parish house. Don't miss this special celebration and an opportunity to share this occasion with Pastor Richards.

HYMNALS

In 2006, a new chapter began when the ELCA introduced a new hymnal, the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book which replaced the Lutheran Book of Worship after almost 30 years of worship. Now in 2014, LCM has come to know the ELW as its primary resource and therefore no longer feels the need to hold on to the old LBW(green) and WOV(blue) hymnals. The church council has voted to discard the old hymnals which have been kept in storage. Before they get discarded however, we are giving anyone who would like a hymnal the chance to have one. If you would like to have your own piece of history, feel free to take a hymnal from the stack in the study while supplies last.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LA PRIDE JUNE 6TH-8TH



Lutherans Concerned is looking for volunteers from RIC congregations to help us make a splash at L.A. Pride, June 6th – June 8th. We need volunteers to set up and tear down booths, staff the booths, march in the parades and help with the street Eucharist at L.A. Pride. This is a great opportunity to have a lot of fun and spread the word about Welcoming Churches in the area. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Lutherans Concerned intern, Becca Seely, at becca.seely@gmail.com or contact Robin in the church office.

COME TO OUR MEETINGS



Everyone is invited to attend our meetings. Our Council/Finance Meeting will be on June 9th at 6:00 p.m. You are also welcome to join us for dinner at around 5:30 p.m., sponsored by one of the council members. All are welcome!

COME TO OUR CRAFT DAY



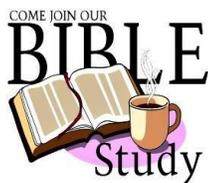
We will meet on June 21st to knit or paint or do any other crafts you may like to do. This is a time to come together and enjoy each other's company while doing crafts we love. Come to the Parish House at 11:00 a.m. - a light lunch will be served. If you are interested or if you have any questions, please contact Barbara Browning at (310) 393-6844.

TO CONTACT PASTOR ITTU



To meet with Pastor, contact him directly at his church e-mail address: iittu@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org. You may also call the church office - Pastor has his own church voice mail - to leave him a private message just call (310) 473-1055 and after the outgoing message begins, press 2 and the # key.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY



Every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish House., you can come and study each week's lessons in advance of the service with Pastor Ittu. Our study of the Bible is in keeping with our Synod's commitment to the ELCA initiative "Book of Faith: Lutherans Read the Bible." Come, grab a donut and a cup of coffee, and experience the power of scripture!

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 the church office by Friday at noon or call Barbara at (310) 393-6844.

SIMPLY GIVING



You may wish to consider making your 2014 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.

OUR PRAYER LIST



We keep in prayer: The family and friends of Peggy Anderson; David Arriola; Joe Barillari; Sister Susannah Bede; Gina Beretta; Barbara Bombach; Emma Lou Candow; Carol Clarke; Faye Daroeian; Chandra Drazich; Robert Duvall; Jane Fan and Alex Lin and family; Scott Ferguson; Karen Friedman; Bennie Goings; Leah Hoffmitz; Lois Jackson; Ted and Lynne Jackson; LCpl. Adam Johnson; Betty Johnson; Jason Johnson; Merle Johnson; Irwin Keyes; Fariba Kharazmi; Elizabeth Kovac; Jonathan Kovac; Amy Manning; Gisela Marx; Steve Newberry; Harley Rockoff; Dr. Alvaro Rojas; John Savage; Hilary Smith; Helena Stark; Millie Ross-Clunis Stephens; Maggie Sutcliffe; Corinne Weitzman; Randy Williams; 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 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Choir Warm-up 10:28 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m.	JUNE 2014 CALENDAR 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 String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:30-7:30 p.m. Sanctuary	2	3 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	4 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Parish House	5 Choir Rehearsals Resume in September	6	7
8 Katherine Clower's Baptism String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:30-7:30 p.m. Sanctuary	9 Council/Budget and Finance Meeting 6:00 p.m.	10 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	11 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Parish House	12	13	14 String Orchestra Project Piano Four-Hand Concert 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary
15 Choir Recognition Sunday Fathers Day	16	17 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	18 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	19	20	21 Craft Day 11:00 a.m. Jouyssance Concert 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary
22	23	24 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	25 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Parish House	26	27	28
29	30				June Birthdays Joshua Nickel – June 10 th Kenny Savage – June 25 th	

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER

JUNE 2014 SCHEDULE

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

USHERS	ACOLYTE	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
June 1	June 1	June 1 Seventh Sunday in Easter	June 1	June 1
Robin Nickel	Jeremy Nickel	Fred Ascher	Yalda Riahi	Barbara Browning
Julie Johnson		Acts 1:6-14		Ronald Nickel
		and		
		1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11		
June 8	June 8	June 8 Day of Pentecost	June 8	June 8
Kevin Grant	Jeremy Nickel	Christy Mattis	Deborah Kovac	Sara McGah
Bryan Yamasaki		Acts 2:1-21		Joshua Nickel
		and		
		1 Corinthians 12:3b-13		
June 15	June 15	June 15 First Sunday after Pentecost	June 15	June 15
Fred Ascher	Jeremy Nickel	Bryan Yamasaki	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano
Manny Cabacungan		Genesis 1:1-2:4a		Robin Nickel
		and		
		2 Corinthians 13:11-13		
June 22	June 22	June 22 Time after Pentecost	June 22	June 22
Maria Gustafsson Grant	Jeremy Nickel	Sheila Stone	Tom Jacobson	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Julie Johnson		Jeremiah 20:7-13		Millie Rojas
		and		
		Romans 6:1b-11		
June 29	June 29	June 29 Time after Pentecost	June 29	June 29
Kevin Grant	Jeremy Nickel	Sara McGah	Yalda Riahi	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki		Acts 12:1-11		Tom Jacobson
		and		
		2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18		