

The Master's Notes

November 2015

Lutheran Church of The Master

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
a Reconciling in Christ congregation

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Craig Shepherd 2000

TIME CHANGE: **SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK**



Reminder: Set your clocks one hour back, Saturday, October 31st, before you go to bed. Worship will begin at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time, on Sunday, November 1st !!

FROM THE PASTOR

What I did with my October vacation.

As many of you may know, I went to Hawaii for the start of my vacation. It was totally awesome. I ate fattening food and looked at pretty vistas. I saw sea turtles and Hawaii Five-0 being filmed. As some of you may also know, doing anything on my vacation is unusual for me. I pretty much spend most of my vacations on a couch watching TV and playing video games - broken-up by the occasional night with friends out to dinner or playing board games. This is what I did for the other 20 of my 30 days of vacation. People are usually surprised and somewhat disappointed when they find out how lazy and unexciting I enjoy being on my vacations. "Really?! Your couch? You're just going to stay on your couch?", they ask - disillusioned. "Yeah..." I grin. I try to paint for them a mental picture of me, content to be in a Cheetos-stained snuggly in a well-grooved couch with a 2-liter bottle of coke within reach. (As I write this, that pretty much describes my surroundings.)

On this vacation I've been listening to a song by Bruno Mars called "The Lazy Song" as a kind of inspiration. (If you look it up..., ignore the more risqué lyrics because that's just creepy to think of your pastor in that way). The song goes: "Today I don't feel like doing anything. I just wanna lay in my bed. Don't feel

like picking up my phone so leave a message at the tone 'cause today I swear I'm not doing anything."

My experience of LCM is that you aren't "I'm-not-doing-anything" type people. You're go-getters. You retire and sign up for extra responsibilities in 3 more places. You parent. You work. You volunteer. You exercise. You travel for play and work. You have three destinations on Sundays. You get home from work at 9 p.m. on Mondays. You rescue cats. You serve the elderly. You help the homeless. You take care of a friend. You write plays. You sing in operas. You attend both.

My loving advice to you is take a day and don't do anything. It is awesome! God did it. Try to give that gift to someone you love. Take on whatever extra duties it takes so that person you love can just not do anything for a day. Return that favor when it is done for you.

Ioan Ittu, Pastor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Visitors to the church frequently tell me the choir is extraordinary, especially considering the size of the church. The thanks for that belong to the extraordinary efforts of David York and his choir. The nice thing about having an extraordinary Music program is that it has brought new members to our church. Thank you David.

For the size of our church we have several things that are quite extraordinary - starting with our location, right on Santa Monica Blvd. just off the 405. For this I can only thank Pastor Candow and the others who in 1940 had the foresight to purchase this land and build a church on it.

(Continued on back)

Recently we've done some extraordinary things with computers and surveillance cameras. I'm convinced the cameras have helped thwart vandalism and other problems. Recent modernization to our computer system will help volunteers to work from home on things like church budgets, bulletins and email. Now, when we can, more volunteer work can be done remotely. Again this is a little unusual for a church our size.

Although the church has its problems, it is in remarkably good shape for a structure built in 1940, Joshua and Sara have made extraordinary efforts to keep our building presentable given the budget we have to work with.

To have an extraordinary church of this size requires extraordinary contributions from our members. Without your efforts, this church would fail.

So, I thank everyone who participated in the most recent church workday. And encourage others to volunteer when the opportunity presents itself. Speaking of...

We are still looking for a new administrative assistant. Until we find that person, you could help out by volunteering to man the church office a few hours a week. The office is open four hours a day, Tuesday through Friday. The work consists mainly of answering the phone and receiving packages. Your help would be much appreciated.

But, it requires not just work to make a church. It also requires fellowship. So I challenge you to get off the couch Saturday, November 7th and join us for a Game Night at the church starting at 5:30 p.m. There will be a baked potato dinner followed by board games and lots of laughter.

On any given Saturday you can watch TV, go to a movie, but on game night you get to interact with human beings which is becoming a lost art. Bring your favorite board game and I'll see you there.

Kevin Grant, President

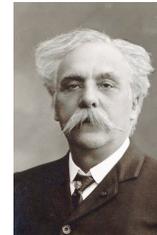
**FROM THE
MINISTER OF MUSIC**



At the **All Saints' Sunday** service on November 1st, the congregation will sing a special musical litany during the Prayers of Intercession while soloists sing the names of our departed loved ones antiphonally throughout the church. Come to remember those who

have contributed so richly to our lives. That morning our special guest will be The Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin, Bishop of the Southwest California Synod, who will preach the sermon.

Also on All Saints' Day the LCM Choir and soloists Ryan Thorn and Katherine Laursen will perform movements from **Gabriel Fauré's Requiem**, composed in 1888. Fauré's setting of the Requiem mass was not composed in memory of a specific person but in his words, "for the pleasure of it." Many consider the Requiem one of the most beautiful and lyrical choral works ever written.



Gabriel Fauré

In his later years, Fauré was considered the leading composer of his day in France. At the age of 9 his musical talents were recognized and he was encouraged to begin training as a church organist. During his early years, as organist at the Church of Saint-Sauveur, at Rennes in Brittany he was bored and had an uneasy relationship with the parish priest, who correctly doubted Fauré's religious conviction. Fauré was regularly seen stealing out during the sermon for a cigarette, and in early 1870, when he turned up to play at Mass one Sunday still in his evening clothes, having been out all night at a ball, he was asked to resign. Fauré went on to hold positions at some of the most important churches in Paris, including Église St. Sulpice and Église de la Madeleine. The Requiem was performed at Fauré's funeral at La Madeline in Paris in 1924.

David York, Minister of Music

FLOWER CHART

- November 1 David York,
in memory of James York.
- November 8 Sara McGah,
in memory of Tom.
- November 15 Bryan and Nancy Yamasaki,
for the fifth anniversary of Bryan's
baptism.
- November 22 Open
- November 29 Open

If you wish to memorialize someone or an event, please note that with your name on the flower chart. **Just a reminder that 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.**

FINANCIAL UPDATE



In October we received \$6,979.02 in General Giving donations. This brings our YTD total to **\$117,158.09**, or **75.59%** of our 2015 goal of **\$155,000**. Thank you for your support of our mission here at LCM.

Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

75TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

As part of our 75th Anniversary Celebration, Lutheran Church of The Master is hosting a special fundraising opportunity. The money will go toward a major capital improvement project for the church, with the balance going to the LCM Foundation. We have exceeded our goal to raise \$75,000 with commitments of \$117,300. Thank You!

It's not too late to participate, however, as we will be accepting donations and pledges through the rest of 2015. Your donation can be given in one of three ways:

1. Outright gifts (please write "75th Anniversary Campaign" on your envelope or on the memo line of your check)
2. Five-year pledges (please fill out a pledge form which are available from the church)
3. Planned bequest/estate trust gift – Please contact Emily Jackson-Yano

Please contact a member of the Stewardship Committee if you have any questions.

God Bless,
The Stewardship Committee

CAPTAIN OF THE BIBLE QUIZ TEAM: A NEW PLAY BY TOM JACOBSON

Everyone is invited to come on November 1st at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary to hear a reading of a new play written by our very own Tom Jacobson. Inspired by sermons at Lutheran Church of The Master, this play for one actor follows an intrepid new pastor in the first months of a call to a small Lutheran church in central Minnesota. Hilariously heartbreaking, the play will explore recent conflicts in the ELCA. Some audience participation, but don't worry, no one will be embarrassed (unless they want to be). This presentation is the very first public reading of the play, so you can be part of its developmental stage. Please join us as we go from Christmas to Easter in less than an hour.

NOVEMBER FUN EVENT: FUN AND GAMES



On November 7th, 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 enjoying 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.

THANKSGIVING PREP DAY



On Wednesday, November 25th at 5:00 p.m. we will meet to do the prep work for our Thanksgiving feast for the following day. The chores will include putting up the tables and chairs, setting the tables, preparing the turkeys, peeling potatoes, cutting up vegetables, and anything else we might need help with. Please come and help and stay as long as you like.

THANKSGIVING NOVEMBER 26, 2015

There will be a Thanksgiving Day worship service at 11:00 a.m. at LCM followed by a traditional Turkey dinner. Turkey, gravy, rolls and potatoes will be provided, and



everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite side dish or dessert to share. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex to indicate what favorite dish you are bringing to our Thanksgiving Feast. And if you forget to sign up that's okay, please come anyway there is always plenty to eat. If you have any questions, please call Barbara at (310) 393-6844 or the church office at (310) 473-1055.

THE LUTHERAN

The Lutheran magazine is subscribed to by LCM for members and friends of the congregation. It is the time of year to make changes in our group subscription. Please email or call the office if you wish to receive the magazine or if you wish your subscription removed from the magazine's mailing list. Please let us know before November 9th.

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 or Pastor. Our next Council meeting will be on Saturday, November 14th starting at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.



We will also continue the process of creating the 2016 budget with a budget-planning meeting on November 14th at 12:00 p.m. after the Council Meeting.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY



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 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!

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.

COMMUNITY LAW CLINIC

We are pleased to continue to host the Khosravi-Malakouti Community Law Clinic on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every Month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish House

Attorneys John Khosravi and Parviz Malakouti are 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. John Khosravi is a California licensed attorney and a graduate of UCLA and Loyola Law School.

COME TO OUR CRAFT DAY

We will meet on November 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.

OUR PRAYER LIST



We keep in prayer: Abbas, Tod Abrams, Ali, Arash, Ardavan, Fariba, Roya, Soraya, Yasaman, David Arriola, Gina Beretta, Barbara Bombach, Francoise Campoverde, Emma Lou Candow, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr, Andrew Crean, Terri Duggan, Ali Farzinkia, Ladante Fisher, John Hunt, Ted and Lynne Jackson, Cpl. Adam Johnson, Betty Johnson, Merle Johnson, Rossen Kirilov, Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, B. J. Lange, Gisela Marx, Steve Newberry, the family of Amber Paul, Rachel and her unborn child, Harley Rockoff, Theodore Roehrs, Millie Rojas, Rosamelida Sandoval, Bryan Sanders, John Savage, Hilary Smith, Alireza Soulati, Helena Stark, Peter Stackhouse, Polina Tashlitskaya, Vi Venter, Kent Weed, William White, Wayne Williams, 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 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Choir Warm-up 10:28 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m.	<h2 style="text-align: center;">NOVEMBER 2015 CALENDAR</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Please refer to CALENDAR at http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org for updates.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church Office Hours: Mondays – Closed Tuesday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</p>						
1 All Saints' Sunday Captain of the Bible Quiz Team 1:00 p.m. Sanctuary	2	3	4 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	5 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	6	7 Fun and Games 5:30 p.m.	
8	9	10 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	11 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	12 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	13	14 Council/Budget and Finance Meeting 9:00 a.m. 2016 Budget Planning Meeting 12:00 p.m.	
15	16	17 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	18 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	19 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	20	21 Crafts Day 11:00 a.m.	
22 String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	23 Masters Notes articles due in office.	24 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	25 Thanksgiving Prep Time 5:00 p.m. AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	26 Thanksgiving Worship and Dinner 11:00 a.m. No Choir Rehearsal	27	28	
29 String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	30				<p style="text-align: center;">November Birthdays</p> <p>Jacob Ahn - November 5th David York - November 7th Griffith Frank - November 18th Mary Savage - November 29th</p>		

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER

NOVEMBER 2015 SCHEDULE

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

USHERS	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
November 1	November 1 All Saints Sunday	November 1	November 1
Kevin Grant	Kenneth Roehrs Isaiah 25:6-9 and Revelation 21:1-6a	Deborah Kovac	Barbara Browning
Bryan Yamasaki			Ronald Nickel
November 8	November 8 24th Sunday after Pentecost	November 8	November 8
Julie Johnson	Charlene Mackenzie 1 Kings 17:8-16 and Hebrews 9:24-28	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano
Carlos Valera			Joshua Nickel
November 15	November 15 25th Sunday after Pentecost	November 15	November 15
Fred Ascher	Fred Ascher Daniel 12:1-3 and Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25	Yalda Riahi	Ronald Nickel
Manny Cabacungan			Tom Jacobson
November 22	November 22 Christ The King	November 22	November 22
Maria Gustafsson Grant	Kimberly Hedlin Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 and Revelation 1:4b-8	Tom Jacobson	Barbara Browning
Julie Johnson			Joshua Nickel
November 29	November 29 1st Sunday of Advent	November 29	November 29
Kevin Grant	Carlos Valera Jeremiah 33:14-16 and 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Bryan Yamasaki			Tom Jacobson