

The Master's Notes

November 2017

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, November 4th, before you go to bed. Worship will begin at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time, on Sunday, November 5th!!

Thoughts from Pastor Peg



November prizewinning newness to you all!

The *Christian Century Magazine* invited submissions of new poems inspired by Reformation thinking: first prize to receive \$1000 and be published in *Christian Century*. It turns out hundreds of poems were submitted. It was sweet they received such a strong response, but the odds weren't good. If you've ever entered a contest and lost, don't be discouraged said poet, pastor and English Professor Jack Ledbetter of Cal Lutheran University. He lined his office with his rejection letters. I now have one. Reading the winning poem, I see why.

The winning poem, *Cutting Away*, was written by Pastor Patrick Hansel from Minneapolis. It recounts a day in a barber shop where "the hairs – like our sins – were not held against us but swept away at the end of the day..." Rich imagery. Congrats Pastor Patrick!

Second place was amazing too, under the memorable title: *The Sin-Boldly-Bulwark-Never-Failing Blues*. Fun stuff.

So I humbly submit my humble offering to you, beloved LCM. It may be a loser, but we are all winners in God's eyes. No matter what, God accepts and loves us, and even promises to use our humble lives for God's good purposes in the world. How can we not leap for joy and be glad!

I've been asked over recent months to describe "grace." What is this "grace-thing" we talk about? This little poem is one attempt. Give it a try yourself. How would you describe or define "grace?" What does "grace" mean to you? How would you describe "grace" to someone new to the Lutheran expression of the Christian faith? I'd love to hear.

GRACE

False selves,
failed insight,
frozen souls
weigh in as if to win,
when all the while
the winsome Spirit wages
a wilder way.

The nimble Christ
surprises,
when freed by love
such fearsome muck
transformed
for world sake,
rises!

+ Pastor Peg (with thanks to John for liking the playful
(and truthful) use of "fearsome muck.")

From the President

Council Meeting Highlights

- Council voted to donate an additional \$450 for hurricane relief efforts.
- Confirmed schedule for budgeting meetings. (Oct 21st and Nov 4th)
- Pastor Peg to be away from Oct 30th to Nov 2nd at a Reformation Service in Washington DC, which will be live streamed.
- Reviewed plumbing problems, we may need to replace a water line to the Working Sacristy.
- Baptismal font to be delivered shortly.
- Reviewed Financial Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report, and cash flow report.

Kevin Grant, President

From the Minister of Music

Most faith communities have customs for remembering family and friends who have died—some leave flowers at the graveside; others may light a candle in church or remember loved ones through Day of the Dead celebrations.

A tradition from the Jewish faith is the remembrance of deceased loved ones at Friday and Saturday Shabbat services on the anniversary dates of their death. Near the end of the service, names are read marking the dates of family members who died during the previous week's time period. Those who have suffered a recent loss are also mentioned and a prayer called The Mourner's Kaddish is recited.

Since the 3rd Century, Christians have gathered on or near All Saints Day, November 1st to commemorate the departed. It is a "Holy Day of Obligation" in the Roman Catholic Church. Martin Luther chose the eve of All Saints Day, October 31st, to post his Ninety-Five Theses on the Wittenberg church door since he knew many people would come to church the next day. One author wrote, "On All Saints Sunday we are reminded that the church is a communion not only of the living and local, but of the dead and distant as well."

We, as a community of faith, will have an opportunity to remember the saints of the church as well as our own "saints" during the All Saints Sunday celebration on November 5th. Names are being collected of those we'd like to commemorate and as part of the prayers we'll all sing a litany as the cantors sing the names. That morning the choir and soloists will sing "In

Remembrance" by Jeffery Ames and an arrangement of the Spiritual "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot".

.....
Former tenor section leader Greg Sliskovich is in Boston, working on a Master's Degree in Vocal Studies at The New England Conservatory of Music. He recently wrote, "I have found myself missing Thursday night rehearsals and Sunday services with you all. Those moments made up a meaningful portion of the last 4 years of my life, and something doesn't feel quite right about not being with you all now.

I hope all is well with you and everyone in the choir. Send my regards to the tenor section (and then also to everyone else, just showing some tenor pride!)"

David York, Minister of Music

Call Committee Update: November

Our Call Committee is moving forward with the direction of the Holy Spirit. Our LCM Ministry Site Profile has been approved for posting by Bishop Erwin. We expect to be interviewing pastoral candidates soon. We want you to be aware that when the interview process begins, all information will be confidential within the Call Committee. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Browning. Her cell number is (310) 850-2682. We ask for your prayers as we continue the call process.

Blessings from the Call Committee, Kevin Grant, Tom Jacobson, Deborah Kovac, Richard Levine and Barbara Browning

Blessing of The Animals

Thanks to everyone that attended the Blessing of the Animals. Twelve furry friends were blessed in person and numerous others by picture. Four guests from the neighborhood stopped by also. Pics are posted on the church website by clicking on the Facebook tab or <https://www.facebook.com/lcmwestla>

The ceremony was held in front of the church's green doors for maximum visibility to the neighborhood (and maximum sunshine).

Watch for announcements next summer for the 2nd Annual Blessing of the Animals to be held in October 2018. If anyone is interested in helping to plan and organize, please see Steve Weiss or Leah Chang.

Flower Chart



November 5 Open
November 12 Sara McGah,
in memory of Tom McGah
November 19 Charles Peruchini
November 23 Open
November 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.

Thanksgiving Prep Day



On Wednesday, November 22nd 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 23rd

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



Thanksgiving Day Offering



The church council has designated LCM's Thanksgiving Day offering to go to Lutheran Disaster Response to help victims of recent fires and hurricanes. To make a donation, you can write a check to LCM with a note designating it for Lutheran Disaster Response.

New Members Sunday

Christ the King Sunday, November 26th will be "New Member Sunday" at LCM! 11:00 am Festive Worship! What a joyful way to gather in for this last Sunday of the Church Year. Please email Pastor Peg if you want to be included: pastorpeg@sbcglobal.net

Financial Update

Happy November to you all!



In October you donated **\$8,422.24** to the general fund. This brings our year-to-date giving to **\$93,690.83**, or **64.23%** of our 2017 goal of **\$145,875**. Thank you! Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

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!

Want to Visit the Holy Lands?



Pastors Peg & Reg are planning a Holy Land trip for April 17-27, 2018. You are heartily welcome too! It will include visits to Caesarea, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Bethlehem, the Mt of Olives, etc. (There is also an optional pre-trip visit to Jordan, Petra, and Mt. Nebo: April 15-18). For more info. email Pastor Peg at pastorpeg@sbcglobal.net.

Holiday Cards for Prisoners



In years past we have gathered cards to send to prisoners. We often don't think of the fact that prisoners have family and friends as we do and like to send cards on holidays, birthdays and other events important to them. Please consider bringing some cards and placing them in the basket on the table in the parish hall or the narthex. We will be sending them to the prison the first part of November in time for the holidays. Thank you for participating in this Charitable Giving Project.

AmazonSmile



Would you like to benefit LCM while shopping online? You can if you have an account with Amazon! AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, etc. as Amazon. However, if you use the AmazonSmile website, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of all eligible purchases to LCM at no additional cost to you. You can "unsupport" at any time.

To register:

- Sign in to www.smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
 - From your desktop, go to "Your Account" from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to "Change your Charity".
 - From your mobile browser, select "Change your Charity" from the options at the bottom of the page.
- Select a new charitable organization to support. Be sure to choose "Lutheran Church of the Master in Los Angeles".

Any questions? Contact Emily or Ken

Helping The Homeless

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.

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 November 1st.

Come to our Craft Day



We will next meet on **November 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.

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, David Arriola, Afsaneh Bazmipour, Karen Beatty, Gina Beretta, Barbara Bombach, Melissa Bomes, Ester Cabacungan, Yuby Calderon, Francoise Campoverde, the family of Emma Lou Candow, Sonia Casas, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr., Andrew Crean, Edita Cabacungan Donnelly and family, Sara Ehrman, Bensiyon Eyice, Mohamad Fatemeh, Emmett Fisher, Badri and Negin Hunold, Ted and Lynne Jackson, Betty Johnson, Rosana Johnson, Malinda Jones, Mary Kay, Rossen Kirilov, Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, Peter Lewis, Ma, Jeff, Lester Mahaffay, 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, Hailing Sun, Polina Tashlitskaya, Sue Tehrani, John Warren, Kent Weed, Steve Weiss, MaryAnn Wright, 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.

Lutheran Church of The Master

Every Sunday	November 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 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	2 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	3	4 2018 Budget Planning Meeting 9:30 a.m.
5 All Saints Sunday	6	7 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	8 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	9 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	10	11
12	13	14 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	15 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	16 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	17	18 Craft Day 11:00 a.m.
19	20	21 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	22 Thanksgiving Prep Time 5:00 p.m. AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	23 Thanksgiving Worship and Dinner 11:00 a.m. No Choir Rehearsal	24 Masters Notes articles due in office.	25
26 Christ The King Sunday New Members Sunday	27	28 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	29 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	30 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	November Birthdays Jacob Ahn - November 5th David York - November 7th Pastor Peg – November 7th Griffith Frank - November 18th Mary Savage - November 29th	

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November 2017 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

USHERS	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
November 5	November 5 All Saints Sunday	November 5	November 5
Charlotte Johnson	Noubar Taykalderanian Revelations 7:9-17 and 1 John:3:1-3	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Julie Johnson			Barbara Browning
November 12	November 12 Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost	November 12	November 12
Fred Ascher	Fred Ascher Amos 5:18-24 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Deborah Kovac	Emily Jackson-Yano
Manny Cabacungan			Joshua Nickel
November 19	November 19 Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost	November 19	November 19
Richard Levine	Charles Peruchini Zephaniah 1:7 and 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Emily Jackson-Yano	Barbara Browning
Carlos Valera			Joshua Nickel
November 23	November 23 Thanksgiving Day	November 23	November 23
Julie Johnson	Charlene MacKenzie Deuteronomy 8:7-18 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Deborah Kovac	No counters
Richard Levine			
November 26	November 26 Christ the King Sunday	November 26	November 26
Kevin Grant	Millie Rojas Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Ephesians 1:15-23	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki			Ronald Nickel