

The Master's Notes

October 2018

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 LCM Friends in Christ,

After worship at lunch, little Paris told me a classmate said, "God is dead."

"Is God?" she asked.

I asked if she loved anyone and is she loved by anyone?

"O yes, I do! I am!" She knew!

"Well then," I said, "God is very much alive, for God makes love possible. God is love."

Jesus promises to love us always – not just me and you, but us all! The church has trusted this promise for over 2000 years. Luther wrote, "If it weren't for the promise, I wouldn't pray."

Most Christians pray. To worship together is to pray. Liturgy is prayer. The Prayers of the Church invite us to offer prayers out loud or silently. Every Sunday we pray the Lord's Prayer.

How often do you pray outside of Sunday worship?

- Every morning when you get up? Before you fall asleep? Before a meal?
- When driving around town? When waiting for the stop light to change?
- When something bad is happening? Or something happy just happened?
- When you just want "Help!" or to say "Thanks!"

Most praying people have had the experience of unanswered prayer, or of disappointment in prayer. When that happens, what keeps you praying? Jacques Ellul, distinguished lay theologian and professor of law, wrote on this years ago in a popular book Prayer and Modern Man. Ellul says most people don't know how to pray, but he encourages us to "keep on praying even

when everything is discouraging, and when we are left with no further motive or taste for praying." He encourages this because he sees prayer as "respiration."

I agree. Prayer is as part and parcel to people of faith as breathing. How do we live without either breathing or praying? Ellul admits we seem to do fine without prayer. People who don't pray can be as successful (or not) as people who do. Prayer isn't a "heavenly telephone," Ellul jokes. But prayer is living in relationship with our loving Maker on good days and difficult, when prayers are answered and when seemingly not. Prayer is staking our lives on God-with-us, no mind what.



God does hear, Psalmists say God's ear is bent in compassion toward us. And, God also honors the created order. We are free. Life is not manipulated. Prayer is trusting God with us – even beyond us – into the eternal love that is God. (1st John 4:7-8)

Breathe in this love. Breathe out toward the world. "Pray constantly" (1st Thess. 5:17) for it is God's will in Christ to be in constant relationship with us. In this we see, God is very much alive.

Breathing with you, prayerfully,

+Pastor Peg

From the President

Highlights of September 8th Council Meeting:

- Geoff Delahanty (Thrivent) joined us to review our investment strategy.
- We Reviewed the Financial Secretary's Report and the Designated Accounts with Emily Jackson-Yano.

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- We reviewed Ken Roehrs Treasurer's Report and current cash flow.
- Joshua spoke about the work he and the restroom committee started. They have involved an engineer's services. We thanked Joshua Nickel for his work.
- Steve Weiss reported on the church's ad for the UCLA Daily Bruin campus newspaper.
- Barbara Browning reviewed the strategic plan.
- Steve Weiss reported on the status of the signboard project.
- We agreed to recognize people and committees for the work that they do in the announcements.
- Barbara Browning is working on a Council documents book and is also working on a policy manual.
- Blessing of the animals is scheduled for October 7th, Reformation Sunday is on October 28th.
- Pastor Peg will be on vacation the first two Sundays in November. Pastor Joshua McGuffie will preside in her place.
- A Budget Meeting is scheduled for October 20th. A Game Night is scheduled for October 27th.
- Ken Roehrs reported that we received a tax bill from the County of Los Angeles for past due taxes. We are checking with the Synod about it.
- The baptismal font bowl replacement has arrived and is installed.
- Emily Jackson-Yano reported that the stewardship committee has set its priorities for the year, and regular meetings will be established.

Kevin Grant, President

From the Minister of Music

Reformation Sunday, October 28, 2018

One of the highlights of the church year is Reformation Sunday—a celebration of our heritage as Lutheran Christians. The festival commemorates the date in 1517 when Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-Five Theses on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, Germany.

This year the choir, soloists and strings will celebrate the day by presenting the cantata "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word" by composer Dietrich Buxtehude. The work is based on the chorale of the same name, found in the hymnal.

You Want Me To Marry Whom?

Dietrich Buxtehude (c.1637-1707) is considered one of the most important and best-known composers of the mid-Baroque. He wrote large quantities of music for the

organ, choir and instruments. Both the year and country of his birth are uncertain although it is thought that he was born in Denmark. He spent many years in Lubeck, Germany at the Marienkirche, succeeding Franz Tunder as organist. Upon taking the job Buxtehude married Tunder's daughter, as was the custom. In his later years as he neared retirement, both Handel and Telemann visited Buxtehude in Lubeck. The Master offered the job to both men, with the condition that they marry his eldest daughter Anna Margareta. Both Handel and Telemann turned down his offer and left the day after their arrival!

Bach and Buxtehude

In 1705 J. S. Bach traveled over 250 miles on foot from Arnstadt to Lubeck to meet and observe Buxtehude. Bach stayed 3 months "to comprehend one thing and another about his art." In fact, Bach received a reprimand from the church authorities in Arnstadt for staying away from his position too long. He too was offered the coveted job in Lubeck but also turned down the opportunity because of the conditions attached.

Please join us on the 28th as we pay tribute to our heritage through music. Additional music that morning will include a festive setting of "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" and a choral paraphrase of Psalm 46: "Be Still, My Soul" by Jean Sibelius, arr. by Mack Wilberg.

We welcome new section leader Justin Birchell

Baritone Justin Birchell is a native of Anchorage, Alaska, currently studying voice and opera at UCLA's Herb Alpert School of Music. As an opera performer, Justin has sung such roles as Silvio (Pagliacci, Opera Fairbanks 2018) and Dr. Falke (Die Fledermaus, PSU Opera 2016). As a music-director and educator he has worked for numerous churches, nonprofits, arts organizations and educational institutions, teaching music and theatre to all ages. At UCLA, Justin is a fellow of the Gluck Fellows Music Outreach Vocal Ensemble, and a recipient of the prestigious Elaine Krown Klein Fine Arts Scholarship. Justin is the 2018 winner of the Young Alaskan Artist Award from the Anchorage Festival of Music.

We also welcome new choir member Collin Schmidt

Collin is a baritone with degrees in vocal performance and marketing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, graduating a little over one year ago. His relatives were long-time members of Lutheran Church of The Master.

David York, Minister of Music

LA Metro Conference Meets Thursday October 4th At 6:30 p.m.

Community Lutheran Church, 650 East 135th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90059. Southwest California Bishop Guy Erwin presenting. LCM members and friends are encouraged to attend. Pastor Peg would love your company!

Blessing of The Animals Sunday, October 7th

We invite everyone to bring photos of your pets, favorite kind of animal, endangered species or any part of creation that concerns you to our worship service on Sunday, October 7th. Children and grownups may bring stuffed animals. We welcome pets in carrying cases or those that are easily managed. Invite your friends!

We are creating a Creation Care table display next to the candle lighting area. In addition to bringing photos of pets and endangered species to worship on Sunday, October 7, you may also help us create a table display by adding photos and other creation-focused items.

Game Night with Special Guests



On October 27th at 5:30 p.m. we will be having another game night in the Parish House. In an effort to reach out to our neighbors, the employees over at Porsche are being invited to join us for Game Night this month. The evening will start at the usual 5:30 p.m. with the baked potato and chili bar. Then we play board games like Uno & Bingo. You can also bring your favorite game and your friends too!

Financial Update



Happy Autumn! In September we donated a total of **\$5,521.12** to the General Fund. This brings our year-to-date total to **\$66,842.71**, which is **60.77%** of our goal of **\$110,000** for 2018. Thank you!

Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

God's Work Our Hands Sunday, October 14th



God's work.
Our hands.

After the worship service on Sunday October 14th we will gather as usual in the Parish House for lunch and then continue with preparing homeless food sack lunches and hygiene kits. As you may know, John Johnson, our Office Manager, gives out food and hygiene kits almost daily, so we need your help. We also would appreciate some food and hygiene items if you are able. Suggested food items: lift-top cans of meat, tuna, beans, fruit, jello, peanut butter, protein bars, cereal bars, small bottles of water. Everything must be in individual and easy-open packages please. Suggested hygiene items: wash cloths, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, small bottles of hotel-size shampoo and bars of soap. We look forward to your help in doing "God's Work with Our Hands!"

Flower Chart



October 7	Open
October 14	Sara McGah, In Memory of Vlasta Kay Krenek
October 21	Open
October 28	Doug Newton

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 2018 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.

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 clinics will be on October 3rd and 17th.**



Come to our Craft Day



We will next meet on **October 20th** 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.

Devotional Booklets



The October - December 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!

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.

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!

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, Karen Beatty, Melissa Bomes, Ester Cabacungan, Yuby Calderon, Francoise Campoverde, the family and friends of Amy Casillas, Greg Casillas, Jane Catchpole, Sonia Casas, Ana Chavez – whose father Sabastian died recently, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr., Andrew Crean, Lindford Dawson, Edita Cabacungan Donnelly and family, the family of Ernie Durston, Sara Ehrman, Sandy Elliot, Bensiyon Eyice, Mohamad Fatemeh, Kevin Field, Emmett Fisher, Dumitra Ittu, Bryan Jackson, Ted and Lynne Jackson, Tom and Lois Jackson, Daryl Johnson, Malinda Jones, Mary Kay, Rossen Kirilov, Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, B.J. Lange, Peter Lewis, Dagny Lund, Charlene MacKenzie, Ma, Jeff, Jean Medina, Frank Nakamura, Erma Nickel, Kaitlyn Nickel, Ronald Nickel, Bobby Orue, the family of Kim Popov, Meghan Reul, Harley Rockoff, Millie Rojas, Tim Rutherford, Rosamelida Sandoval, Hilary Smith, Alireza Soulati, Peter Stackhouse, Hailing Sun, Polina Tashlitskaya, Sophie Umhofer, John Warren, Kent Weed, Steve Weiss, Shawn Willcuts, Mary Ann Wright, Hideto Yano, the plight of 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 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Choir Warm-up 10:28 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 12:15 p.m.	October 2018 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	2 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	3 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	4 LA Metro Conference 6:30 p.m. Community Lutheran Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	5	6
7 Blessing of The Animals	8	9 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	10 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	11 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	12	13 Council Meeting 9:00 a.m. Parish House
14 	15	16 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	17 Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	18 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	19	20 2019 Budget Meeting 8:30 a.m. Craft Day 11:00 a.m. Parish House
21	22 Masters Notes articles due in office.	23 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	24 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	25 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	26	27 Game Night 5:30 p.m. Parish House
28 Reformation Sunday	29	30 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	31 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	October Birthdays Paul Gunderson - October 1 st John Johnson - October 4 th Terrence Jegaraj - October 8 th Jessica Durston - October 12 th David Durston - October 13 th John Rollefson - October 13 th Richard Levine - October 22 nd Sara McGah - October 27 th Bettijune Fanning - October 31 ^s		

Lutheran Church of The Master

October 2018 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

USHERS	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
October 7	October 7 Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost Blessing of the Animals	October 7	October 7
Kevin Grant	Deborah Kovac Job 12:7-10a	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Julie Johnson			Joshua Nickel
October 14	October 14 Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost	October 14	October 14
Amin Shafiei	Alexander Martin Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 and Hebrews 4:12-16	Deborah Kovac	Emily Jackson-Yano
Carlos Valera			Steve Weiss
October 21	October 21 Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost	October 21	October 21
Charlotte Johnson	Leah Chang Isaiah 53:4-12 and Hebrews 5:1-10	Emily Jackson-Yano	Barbara Browning
Doug Newton			Steve Weiss
October 28	October 28 Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost Reformation Sunday	October 28	October 28
Carlos Valera	Charlene MacKenzie Jeremiah 31:7-9 and Hebrews 7:23-28	Fred Ascher	Emily Jackson-Yano
Steve Weiss			Joshua Nickel